

AGENDA

**Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission
County Administrative Center - 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Bakersfield, CA 93301**

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 15, 2024
6:30 P.M.

All agenda items and supporting documentation are available for public review at the Kern County General Services Division, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 3rd Floor, in Bakersfield, CA 93301 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, following posting of the agenda. Any supporting documentation that relates to an agenda item that is distributed after the agenda is posted and prior to the meeting will also be available at the same location.

Commissioners: Ryan Abler, District I;
William Chapman, District II;
Carol Lair, District III;
Lorena Cervantes, District IV; and
Ucedrah Osby, District V

Disclaimer: This agenda includes the proposed actions and activities with respect to each agenda item as of the date of posting. As such, it does not preclude the Commission from modifying the recommendations of staff or taking different actions than those proposed.

Salute to the Flag

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS, COMMENTS, AND REQUESTS

1. This portion of the agenda is reserved for persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter not on this agenda and over which the Commission has jurisdiction. No response is required from the Commission or staff, and no action can be taken on items not on the agenda; however, Commissioners may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. Commissioners may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Commission at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD.**
 - I. Public Comments and Requests

CONSENT AGENDA

2. All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by staff. Consent items will be considered first and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Commission or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If discussion is desired, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence.
 - I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on April 17, 2024; **APPROVE**
 - II. Miscellaneous Correspondence; **RECEIVE AND FILE**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3. This portion of the meeting is reserved for General Services staff to provide a report regarding new and ongoing projects, programs, and plans relating to Kern County Parks
 - I. General Services Division; **INFORMATIONAL**
 - II. Park Ranger – Status Update; **INFORMATIONAL**

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

4. This portion of the meeting is reserved for the Ad Hoc Subcommittee appointed by the Commission for the purpose of supporting, identifying priorities and projects regarding the Parks Master Plan update to provide a report; **INFORMATIONAL**

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

5. Referral by Commissioner Lair requesting staff provide an update on reported sink holes at west exit of Hart Park; **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES**
6. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting information regarding Arborists and/or Landscapers responsible for the tree care and management at Hart Park; **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES**
7. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting information regarding the use and type of weed killer utilized at Hart Park; **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES**
8. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting update regarding Boron Park Skatepark and Rosamond Park Skate Park; **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES**
9. Referral from Commissioner Chapman requesting information regarding a ribbon cutting at Ford City Park – Splashpad; Referral from Commissioner Chapman requesting information regarding a ribbon cutting at Ford City Park – Splashpad; **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES**

10. Referral by Commissioner Chapman to request funding for basket at Hart Park
INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES; DISCUSS; TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY REQUEST; CONTINUE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR MAKE RECOMMENDATION TO DEPARTMENT OR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
11. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **SET JUNE 2024 MEETING LOCATION**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. On their own initiative, Commission members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. Commissioners may request that an item be agendaized at a future meeting, make a referral to staff for factual information, or request that staff report back to the Commission at a later meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

13. Adjourn to next regular meeting, scheduled for June 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., to be conducted at the County Administrative Center - 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor, Board of Supervisors Chambers, Bakersfield, CA 93301, unless otherwise indicated, changed, and/or cancelled by the Commission.

**Americans with Disabilities Act
(Government Code Section 54953.2)**

The Kern County Administrative Center is accessible to persons with disabilities. Disabled individuals who need assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission may request assistance at the Kern County Parks and Recreation Division, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bakersfield, or by calling (661) 868-7000. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in alternate formats. Requests should be made five (5) working days in advance whenever possible.

To obtain past [Agendas or Minutes](https://www.kerncounty.com/gsd/parks/), please visit our website at:
<https://www.kerncounty.com/gsd/parks/>



Kern County

Parks and Recreation Commission

Public Presentations, Comments and Requests



Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

Consent Agenda

MINUTES

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission
1115 Truxtun Ave, 1st Floor
Bakersfield, CA. 93301
Board of Supervisors Chambers

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 17, 2024
6:30 P.M.

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Commissioner presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioner(s): Ryan Abler, District I; William Chapman, District II; and Carol Lair, District III; and Lorena Cervantes, District IV

Staff: Brian Van Wyk, Deputy County Counsel; Isaac Preston, Senior CAO Manager, General Services Division; and David Kessler, Chief Deputy, Kern County Sheriff

Others: There were 10 others present

Note: Ab, Ch, La, Ce, and Os are abbreviations for Commissioners Abler, Chapman, Lair, Cervantes, and Osby. As an example, Ab-La denotes Commissioner Abler made a motion and Commissioner Lair seconded the motion.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: LEAD BY COMMISSIONER ABLER

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS, COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

- I. **JOHN KNOX**, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE COMMENTS REGARDING DISC GOLF AT AW NOON
- II. **KATHLEEN ARNOLD-CHAMBERS**, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO ANNOUNCE EARTH DAY ACTIVITIES BEING HELD BY THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY NATURE CENTER
- III. **KATIE WESTMORLEN**, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON DISC GOLF AND REQUEST A STOLEN BASKET REPLACEMENT AT HART PARK

- IV. **ABIGAIL RODELA**, VOLUNTEER YOUTH ORGANIZER, FAITH IN THE VALLEY, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION WITH A PRESENTATION REGARDING FORD CITY PARK AND VALLEY ACRES PARK
- V. **DANIEL RODELA**, FAITH IN THE VALLEY, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION WITH A PRESENTATION REGARDING FORD CITY PARK AND VALLEY ACRES PARK

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on February 21, 2024; Ce;Ch TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 21, 2024 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; Cancelled meeting on March 20, 2024; Ce;Ch TO APPROVE THE MARCH 20, 2024 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN. MOTION CARRIED. **5 AYES**
- II. Miscellaneous Correspondence: RECEIVE AND FILE WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE DATED MARCH 13, 2024, SUBMITTED BY CAROL LAIR; DOCUMENT TITLED "KERN RIVER PATROL PRESENTATION" SUBMITTED ON FEBRUARY 21, 2024. MOTION CARRIED. **5 AYES**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

General Services – Status Update

- I. **ISAAC PRESTON**, SENIOR CAO MANAGER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATES ON COMPLETED OR SOON TO BE COMPLETED PARK CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR 2024 CALENDAR YEAR.
- a. **BELLE TERRACE PARK** - CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE
 - b. **CASA LOMA PARK** - ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE, MAY 2024
 - c. **HERITAGE PARK** - ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE, AUGUST 2024
 - d. **BELLE TERRACE PARK** - SOCCER FIELD RENOVATIONS, ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE, FEBRUARY 2025
 - e. **PATOMAC PARK** - PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT, ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE, FEBRUARY 2025
 - f. **LAMONT PARK** - ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE, DECEMBER 2025

g. LINDA KISSACK SKATE PARK - ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION
COMPLETION DATE, AUGUST 2024

Park Ranger – Status Update

- I. DAVID KESSLER, CHIEF DEPUTY, KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON PARK RANGER TRANSITION TO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

AH HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. NO REPORT FROM THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING, IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS REGARDING THE PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE; CONTINUED TO A FUTURE MEETING.

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

- I. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO HOLD THE MAY 15, 2024 MEETING AT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER LOCATED AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE., 1ST FLOOR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- I. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting information regarding sink holes at the west exit of Hart Park from Commissioner Lair – CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING FOR INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES
- II. Commissioner Chapman requested information regarding grants to local entities – REFERRED TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION GRANT PROGRAM
- III. Commissioner Abler requested information on possible Pickle Ball Courts – THERE ARE NO PLANS CURRENTLY IN PLACE
- IV. Commission Osby requested information regarding profits from the sale of the African American Veterans Hall – COMMISSIONER OSBY WILL REACH OUT TO GENERAL SERVICES FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- V. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting information regarding Arborists and/or Landscapers responsible for the tree care and management at Hart Park – CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING FOR INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES
- VI. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting information regarding the use and type of weed killer utilized at Hart Park – CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING FOR INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES
- VII. Referral from Commissioner Lair requesting update regarding Boron Park Skatepark and Rosamond Park Skate Park – CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING FOR INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES
- VIII. Referral from Commissioner Chapman requesting information regarding a ribbon cutting at Ford City Park – Splashpad – CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING FOR INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES
- IX. Referral from Commissioner Chapman regarding the request to purchase a replacement Disc Golf Basket stolen from Hart Park – CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING FOR INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FROM GENERAL SERVICES

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 7:32 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for May 15, 2024, at 6:30 P.M., at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1115 Truxtun Ave. 1st Floor, Bakersfield, CA. 93301 unless otherwise indicated, changed, and/or cancelled by the Commission.

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR MARCH 2024
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 7:20:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or provide information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

3-18-24 A gray tabby and a black cat were picked up and taken to KCAS. The black cat was not adoptable and was returned to the park TNR.

3-18-24 A small raccoon was hit by a car on AHH.

3-19-24 Dilute calico was picked up and taken to KCAS.

3-19-24 A black cat picked up and taken to KCAS.

3-19-24 A Skunk was hit by a car on AHH

3-21-24 We tried trapping cat at the west exit and at Elk and River Roads. No luck.

3-22-24 We were alerted that someone had dumped some kittens on River Road. Someone had stuffed 9 kittens into an old pair of jeans and left them in the sun. They had been there 2-3 hours and all but one had crawled out of the jeans. They were hot and panting. They were quickly picked up and went to a foster home. We believe they were from 2-3 different litters due to their varying sizes and degrees of socialization. Seven were taken to KCAS over several days and two others are still in foster care.

3-25-24 A large gray tabby and white cat taken to KCAS.

3-27-24 A ground squirrel was hit by a car on AHH.

11 Cats taken to KCAS

2 Cats in foster care and they will go to KCAS.

1 Cat returned to the park TNR

1 Cat hit by a car on River Road

1 Raccoon, 1 skunk, and 1 ground squirrel hit by a cars on AHH

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 12

Beginning at the end of November we gradually began to notice cats missing with which we were familiar. By the end of this month we identified about 20-25 cats missing. Most of these were cats not friendly enough to have been picked up by park

visitors. We are not finding dead cats We are at a loss to explain what happened but it is very, very concerning.

Carol Lair

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR APRIL 2024
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2024 7:25:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links, open attachments, or provide information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

4-2-24 A white cat with black ears picked up and taken to KCAS.

4-3-24 A possum was killed by a car on River Road.

4-7-24 A young black/white cat was picked up and briefly in foster care and then taken to KCAS.

4-8-24 A gray tabby had been picked up by a park visitor and cat had URI and was briefly in foster care then taken to KCAS.

4-9-24 A black cat picked up and taken to KCAS. Not friendly enough for adoption but a home was found with a park volunteer.

4-14-24 A beaver was killed by a car near the west exit on River Road.

4-12-24 Picked up a very pregnant pale calico and she was in foster care when she had her 5 kittens. She and the kittens will go to our sanctuary.

4-14-24 A raccoon was killed by a car near the Nature Center on River Road.

4-16-24 A gray cat with white chest and feet picked up by a park visitor and was adopted.

4-16-24 A goose was killed by a car on Canal Road.

4-16-24 A peacock was attacked by a dog not on leash. The peacock survived though missing some feathers.

4-19-24 A cat was killed by a car on Alfred Harrell Highway.

4-20-24 A badly injured white cat picked up and taken to KCAS.

4-20-24 A dog was killed by a car on AHH.

4-22-24 Two cats-- a calico and a tortie were picked up and taken to KCAS.

4-24-24 A black cat and a gray cat picked up and taken to KCAS.

4-30-24 A mother cat and her 4 kittens picked up and are in foster care.

4-30-24 An orange tabby died at the park.

10 Cats taken to KCAS

11 Cats in foster care

2 Cats homes found for them

1 Cat died

1 Cat killed by car on AHH

1 Possum, 1 beaver and 1 raccoon killed by cars on River Road

1 dog killed by car on AHH

1 Goose killed by car on Canal Road

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 25

Carol Lair

Taft Youth Organizing Committee



April 17, 2024

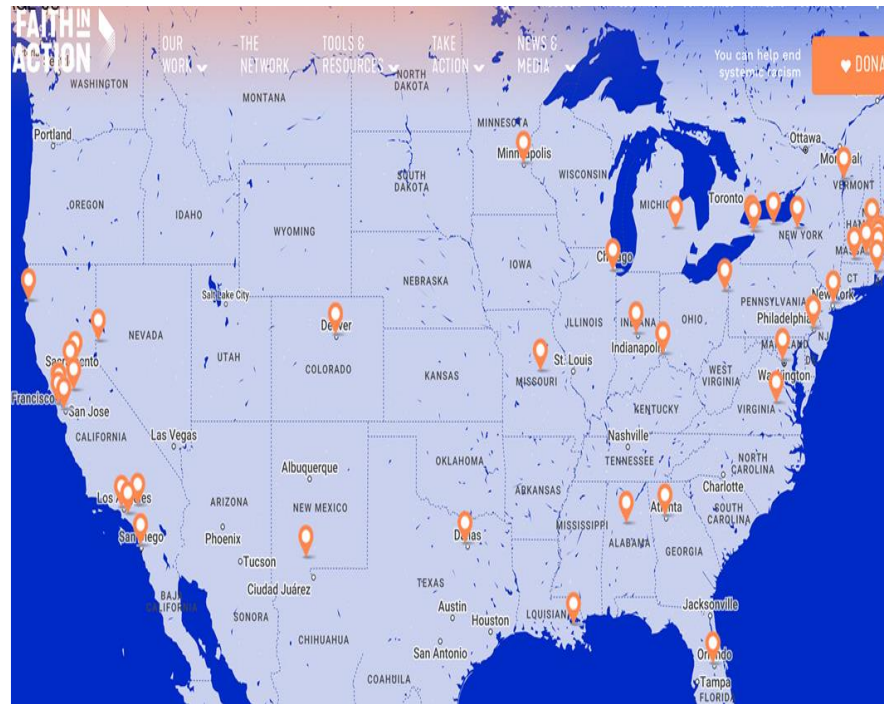
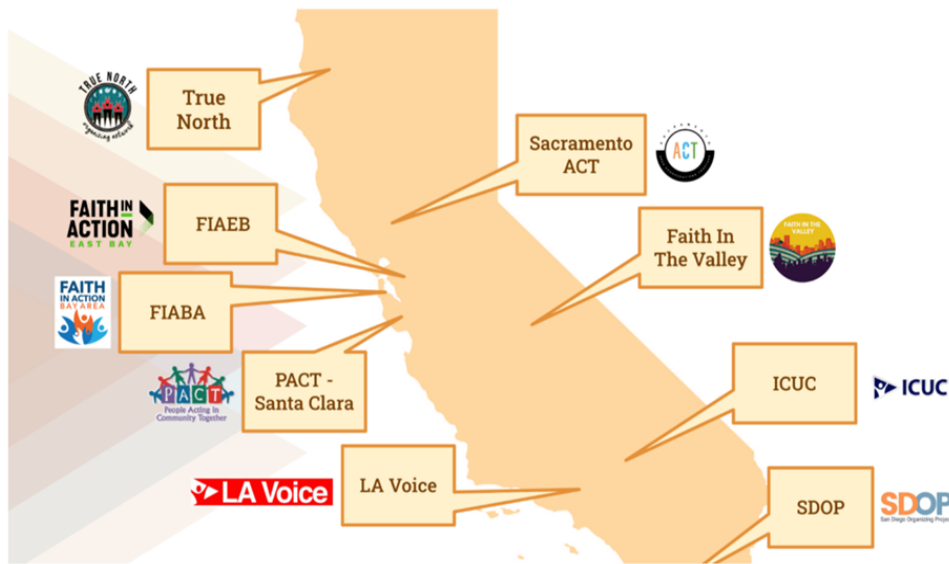
POWER CREDENTIAL

- **Organization:** Faith in the Valley
- **Model:** Faith-based and grassroots
- **Lense:** Love, justice, power and racial justice
- **Central Valley:** 5 counties, 120 congregations, 100,000 people
- **Base:** Multi-faith/racial, youth, immigrants, formerly incarcerated, and others
- **Issues:** Economy, immigration, housing, restorative justice, and others
- **Pico CA Network:** Represents 500 congregations, 650,000 people, 12 faith traditions and 9 federations throughout California
- **Faith in Action National Network:** Represents 1000 congregations, in 200 cities, via 46 federations, and has presence in Haiti, Central America, Africa and Europe



FEDERATIONS & NETWORKS

PICO California (CA) is the largest multi-racial faith-based community organizing network in the state. We believe we are radically interconnected and that together we can build Beloved Community, a just society where everyone belongs.



PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

Goals for today:

- Share a brief overview of our work
- Advocate for additional funding
- Share updates



A collage of two photographs showing significant litter and trash in a park setting. The left photo shows a large plastic bottle, a discarded cigarette pack, a crushed can, and various pieces of trash on the ground. The right photo shows two discarded milk cartons and a crushed can. The background features a stylized city skyline graphic.



GRAFFITI @ FORD CITY PARK



DARKNESS @ FORD CITY PARK



PARKS ARE SACRED CAMPAIGN



STRENGTH IN SOLIDARITY



LIGHTS ON @ FORD CITY PARK



BASKETBALL @ VALLEY ACRES PARK



FUNDING FOR DISTRICT 2 PARKS ASKS

Ford City & Valley Acres Park Improvements:

- Over 40% of 300 people survey want:
- New restrooms, lights, splash pad, new
- basketball courts, new play areas, new tables,
- new shading areas, new exercise areas, cultural
- murals, among other things at Ford City Park.
- Valley Acres Park survey outreach underway
- We've been told \$ is not available for FY 23/24
- **We expect funding will be available for FY24/25**



ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM

Update:

- Thank you for the clean-up materials
- Park clean-up underway
- We will submit for Valley Acres and Noon Park





Faith in the Valley

faithinthevalley.org

Tell Us: What's Your Vision for Ford City Park?

Join Us

Tuesday, April 23
6:30 PM

“It’s never been about slides, swings, or other things needing improvement at the park. It’s about the people and what these changes mean to them.”

**Ford City Park
Cedar St. & Tyler St.
Taft, CA**

Your ideas matter, and together, we can transform Ford City Park! Come enjoy tasty food and drinks at Ford City Park as we discuss pending improvements and gather your input for further enhancements. This is your chance to ask questions, share your thoughts, and learn how you can get involved.

The event is open to everyone, from children to the elderly. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of our community's journey towards a better Ford City Park, because parks are sacred!



For More Information, Please Contact:

Daniel Rodela
(661) 800-7566, daniel@faithinthevalley.org

CONCLUSION



Daniel Rodela

Community Organizer
Faith in the Valley-Kern

M: 661.800.7566

W: www.faithinthevalley.org E: daniel@faithinthevalley.org





Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

Department Staff
Report(s)



Kern County
Parks and Recreation Commission

New/Unfinished/
Other Business



Kern County

Parks and Recreation Commission

Commission Member Presentations or Announcements