

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, July 16, 2025
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 16, 2025; APPROVE
 - II. Approval of Minutes: Cancelled meeting on May 21, 2025; APPROVE
 - III. Approval of Minutes: Cancelled meeting on June 18, 2025; APPROVE
 - IV. Miscellaneous Correspondence; **RECEIVE AND FILE**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3. General Services – 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. Kern County Sheriff's Office; PARK RANGER INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

NEW, UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

4. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **SET AUGUST 2025 MEETING LOCATION**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. 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

6. Adjourn to next regular meeting, scheduled for August 20, 2025, 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
Kern River Parkway Nature Center
8000 River Road
Bakersfield, CA 93308**

Regular Meeting

*Wednesday, April 16, 2025
6:30 P.M.*

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025. Commissioner Abler presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Commissioner(s): William Chapman, District II; and Ucedrah Osby, District V

Staff: Brian Van Wyk, Deputy County Counsel; Michelle Burns-Lusich, Interim Chief General Services Officer; Isaac Preston, Deputy Chief General Services Officer

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. **KATHLEEN ARNOLD-CHAMBERS** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY NATURE CENTER TO WELCOME MEETING ATTENDEES TO THE NATURE CENTER
- II. **GREG DEWITT** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE BAKERSFIELD SKATEBOARD FOUNDATION TO EXPRESS TO THE COMMISSIONS THE NEED FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION AND UPKEEP OF KERN COUNTY SKATE PARKS
- III. **NATALIE TAYLOR** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO ADVOCATE FOR THE PLANNED SPLASH PAD AT HART PARK, EMPHASIZING ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING AND SAFETY
- IV. **CARLA RIVAS** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY NATURE CENTER DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE RIVER AND ITS SURROUNDING HABITAT, AS WELL AS THE STEPS BEING TAKEN BY THE NATURE CENTER TO ENSURE CONSERVATION EFFORTS

- V. **JEREMY ROWEL** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST AN UPDATE ON THE PLANNED OHV PARK

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on March 19, 2025; **Ce:La TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; MOTION CARRIED. 3 AYES; 2 ABSENT-CHAPMAN; OSBY**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

General Services – Status Update

- I. **WOFFORD HEIGHTS** – ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING PARK PROJECTS INCLUDING NEW CONCRETE AND PICKLE BALL COURTS
- II. **FRASIER MOUNTAIN PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING PARK RENOVATIONS AND RESTORATIONS
- III. **PANORAMA PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING PARK UPDATES INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS
- IV. **DISTRICT IV PARK UPDATES** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING DISTRICT FOUR PARK UPDATES INCLUDING PARKING LOT RESURFACING, SOLAR LIGHTING AND BASEBALL FIELD RENOVATIONS
- V. **BELLE TERRACE PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING PARK UPDATES INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF PARK LIGHTING, SHADE STRUCTURES AND PICNIC AREA REPAINTING

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

- I. **KERN COUNTY OHV 2025 GRANT CYCLE APPLICATIONS**; STAFF PROVIDED THE COMMISSION WITH THE 2025 OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) FUNDING REQUEST APPLICATION FROM STEWARDS OF THE SEQUOIA; REVIEWED GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL; DISCUSSED; SUBMIT GRANT AWARD RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; **Ab-Ce TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THAT \$42,000 BE GRANTED TO STEWARDS OF THE SEQUOIA. MOTION CARRIED. 3 AYES, 2 ABSENT - CHAPMAN; OSBY**
- II. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO HOLD THE MAY 21, 2025, MEETING AT THE KERN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE. 1ST FLOOR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**
- III. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO HOLD THE JUNE 18, 2025, MEETING AT THE DAVID HEAD CENTER, 10300 SAN DIEGO STREET LAMONT, CA 93241**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- I. COMMISSION MEMBERS ABLER AND CERVANTES TO BE ABSENT FROM THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 21, 2025
- II. COMMISSIONER PROVIDED INFORMATION REGARDING THE GROUP CRITTER COALITION AND THEIR GOALS TOWARD ANIMAL RESCUE AND SERVICES

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 7:06 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for May 21, 2025, 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 canceled by the Commission.

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission
1115 Truxtun Ave, 1st Floor
Bakersfield, CA. 93301
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Wednesday, May 21, 2025
6:30 P.M.

NOTICE OF MEETING CANCELLATION

Due to a lack of quorum, the scheduled Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, is canceled. All agenda items will be addressed at the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the David Head Center, 10300 San Diego Street, Lamont, CA 93241, unless otherwise indicated, modified, or canceled by the Commission.

**Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission
David Head Center - 10300 San Diego Street
Lamont, CA 93241**

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 18, 2025
6:30 P.M.

NOTICE OF MEETING CANCELLATION

Due to a lack of quorum, the scheduled Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, has been canceled. All agenda items will be addressed at the next meeting on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., held at the County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Ave., 1st Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301, unless otherwise indicated, modified, or canceled by the Commission.

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR FEBRUARY 2025
Date: Sunday, April 13, 2025 8:14:13 PM

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.

REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR FEBRUARY 2025

2-1-25 A black cat rescued and taken to KCAS.

2-3-25 Five Chihuahua dogs abandoned, 4 rescued, 1 could not be found, outcome unknown.

2-4-25 Two Boxer dogs abandoned, outcome unknown.

2-4-25 A large black cat taken to KCAS.

2-4-25 A brown tabby taken to KCAS.

2-6-25 A brown tabby taken to KCAS.

2-8-25 A black/white cat taken to KCAS.

2-9-25 Three cats went to CWL and then were placed in homes out of the county.

2-10-25 A gray tabby taken to KCAS.

2-12-25 A Siamese was in foster care briefly and then taken to KCAS.

2-16-25 On this Sunday afternoon we were alerted by a park visitor that there was a owl entangled in a tree by by fishing line hanging upside down. Members of the Hart Park Working Group responded with rope and a ladder as well and some park visitors stopped to help also. A young man climbed the tall tree and cut the branch with the entangled owl and lowered it to the ground. Fishing line and hooks were removed. Another park visitor volunteered to take the owl to an animal rehabilitation out of the county. This was a very successful team effort. There were two articles in The Bakersfield Californian about this rescue providing some valuable information to the public about the danger of fishing line and hooks to wildlife at the park.

2-19-25 A gray cat with white markings taken to KCAS.

2-21-25 Two Canadian Geese seen with fishing line around their legs.
SUMMARY:

8 Cats taken to KCAS

3 Cats went to homes out of county

7 Dogs abandoned, 1 Great Horned Owl rescued, 2 Canadian Geese seen with fish line around their legs

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 11

Carol Lair

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES AND KCAS FOR MARCH 2025
Date: Sunday, April 13, 2025 8:07:30 PM

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- 3-3-25 A young gray tabby was picked up and taken to KCAS.
- 3-3-25 A long haired orange tabby was picked up and is in foster care.
- 3-3-25 A long haired calico picked up and is in foster care.
- 3-7-25 Three dogs abandoned and were rescued by a park visitor.
- 3-7-25 Two ground squirrels killed by cars on AHH.
- 3-8-25 A black cat was killed by a car on AHH.
- 3-8-25 A skunk was killed by a car on AHH.
- 3-12-25 A black cat was picked up and taken to KCAS.
- 3-14-25 Three friendly park cats went to Canada 3-22-25!
- 3-13-25 A black and white cat was picked up and taken to KCAS.
- 3-21-25 One of the maintenance worker alerted me to a newly abandoned young gray tabby. I picked up the cat and took him to KCAS.
- 3-21-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on AHH.
- 3-23-25 A tortie was picked up and was in foster care and gave birth to 5 kittens the next day. She and kittens remain in foster care.
- 3-24-25 A white and black cat picked up and taken to KCAS.
- 3-25-25 A goose was helped that had fish line and a treble hook in it wing and beak.
- 3-25-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on AHH.
- 3-28-25 Three more dogs abandoned and KCAS was trying to get them.

SUMMARY

- 5 Cats taken to KCAS
- 8 Cats in foster care
- 3 Cats went to Canada
- 1 Cat killed by car on AHH
- 6 Dogs abandoned

6 animals killed by cars on AHH -- 4 Ground squirrels, 1 skunk, 1 cat

1 Goose rescued with fish line around its legs and treble hook in its wing and beak

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 17

Carol Lair

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR APRIL 2025
Date: Thursday, June 12, 2025 7:01:10 PM

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REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES AND KCAS FOR APRIL 2025

4-1-25 An orange/white tabby taken to KCAS.

4-4-25 Two dogs abandoned and were picked up by a park visitor.

4-1-25 through 4-21-25 8 cats taken to Critters Without Litters and altered. Six cats TNR back to the park. One cat went to KCAS and one cat placed in a home out of town.

4-8-25 Four cats taken to KCAS

4-9-25 Four kittens picked up. They were reunited with their mother and all 5 went to Canada.

4-12-25 A gray tabby taken to KCAS.

4-15-25 A Siamese picked up and taken to KCAS.

4-15-25 A long haired orange tabby with health issues placed in foster care. He ultimately had to be euthanized.

4-15-25 A baby Red Eared Slider turtle died of unknown cause.

4-16-25 A ground squirrel killed by car on AHH.

4-22-25 A ground squirrel was killed by a car on AHH.

4-22-25 A skunk was killed by a car on AHH.

4-23-25 A black cat killed by a car on AHH.

4-24-25 Four gray tabby kittens were picked up and taken to KCAS. They had ringworm and are in foster care.

4-25-25 A small brown dog abandoned and KCAS called.

4-26-25 Two dogs abandoned unknown what happened to them.

4-30-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on AHH.

SUMMARY

8 Cats taken to KCAS

5 Cats in foster care

5 Cats went to Canada

1 Cat went to an adoptive home out of county

1 Cat killed by a car on AHH

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 20

6 Cats TNR

5 Animals killed by cars on AHH-- 3 ground squirrels. 1 skunk, 1 cat

5 Dogs abandoned

An injured goose was seen limping but could not be caught

Carol Lair

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR MAY 2025
Date: Sunday, July 06, 2025 8:02:39 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.

REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR MAY 2025

5-1-25 A 7 week old gray tabby/white kitten picked up and is in foster care.

5-1-25 A black/white cat killed by a predator.

5-2-25 A mother cat and her 4 kittens picked up and were in foster care until local homes were found for them.

5-3-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on AHH.

From 5-6-25 to 5-20-25 6 cats were taken to Critters Without Litters and then back to the park. TNR

5-6-25 A brown/white bunny caught and taken to KCAS.

5-9-25 A mother cat and her 4 kittens picked up and went to Canada 5-19-25.

5-10-25 An adult gray tabby picked up and was in foster care before being taken to KCAS.

5-11-25 to 5-13 Ten, yes 10 kittens were picked up. They were all dumped at the same time and were from different litters. They are in foster care being treated for serious eye infections, parasites and ringworm. They were very under weight. Two addition kittens could not be caught and due to the number of raccoons in the area they are presumed dead.

5-11-25 A light gray tabby adult taken to KCAS.

5-12-25 A black kitten and a tortie kitten killed by predator attacks.

5-12-25 A black/white adult cat taken to KCAS.

5-13-25 A black cat was taken to CWL and then to a barn cat program out of county.

5-15-25 An orange tabby in foster care briefly then to KCAS.

5-16-25 A black cat was taken to KCAS but wasn't friendly enough for adoption and went to a barn cat program out of county.

5-16-25 A dark gray tabby kitten is in foster care.

5-17-25 A deceased pelican was found along the river. Cause of death unknown.

5-18-25 An sick orange tabby was in foster care briefly and then taken to KCAS.

5-18-25 A deceased gray cat found and cause of death unknown.

5-27-25 An orange tabby in foster care briefly before being taken to KCAS.

5-27-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on AHH.

5-28-25 A raccoon killed by a car on AHH.

5-28-25 A young adult orange tabby was in foster care briefly and then taken to KCAS.

5-29-25 A 7 week old long haired Tortie kitten picked up and is in foster care.

5-31-25 We were notified by a park visitor that he had rescued a kitten from one of the big green trash containers. We discovered that 2 kittens had been put in a black garbage bag and put in the trash container and the lid closed. A calico kitten was found deceased. The surviving kitten is in foster care and doing well.

SUMMARY:

7 Cats taken to KCAS

5 Cats went to Canada

14 Cats in foster care

2 Cats went to barn cat program out of county

5 Cats went to local homes

7 Cats killed by predators or unknown causes

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 40

3 Animals killed by cars—2 ground squirrels, 1 raccoon all 3 on AHH

1 Bunny abandoned and taken to KCAS

1 Pelican died of unknown cause

6 Cats went to CWL and returned to the park TNR

This was a very, very stressful and busy month, We are seeing several cats and many kittens abandoned. This year appears to be the beginning of one of the worst "Kitten Seasons " ever. The city and county shelters and rescues are full and over flowing with kittens. We are struggling along with others trying to keep up with the wave after wave of abandoned animals.

Carol Lair



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