

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, September 17, 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 July 16, 2025; **APPROVE**
 - II. 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**
 - a) General Services Division response to Sierra Club correspondence dated August 15 and August 30, 2025
 - II. Kern County Sheriff's Office; **INFORMATIONAL**

NEW, UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

4. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **SET OCTOBER 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 October 15, 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
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.*

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, July 16, 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; 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. **CARL PARK** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS A PROJECT HE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE. A SOLAR OBSERVATION PLACE INCLUDING A PEDESTAL, PINNACLE AND BENCHES. SEEKING GENERAL SERVICES ASSISTANCE TO FACILITATE. DEPUTY CHIEF ISAAC PRESTON IS IN CONTACT
- II. **ELIZABETH CHAVEZ**– WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO BRING PHOTOGRAPHS AND CONCERNS REGARDING WILDLIFE FATALITIES DUE TO VEHICULAR COLLISIONS, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN ADOPT-A-PARK AND ADVOCACY. RECOGNIZED PARK STAFF FOR THEIR EFFICIENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS.
- III. **LOUIS GILLIAM** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST AN UPDATED ON THE OPENING DATE OF FORD CITY PARK FOR PLANNING OF CELEBRATION CEREMONY
- IV. **ABIGAIL RODELA** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST SUPPORT IN APPLYING FOR QUARTER THREE GRANTS

- V. **DANIEL RODELA** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REQUEST SUPPORT IN PRESERVING EXISTING FUNDING FOR PARKS, WHILE EXPLORING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARK FUNDING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT KERN COUNTY
- VI. **RICH O'NEIL** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY FOUNDATION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT PROPOSED BY COMMUNITY MEMBER, CARL PARK FOR THE SOLAR OBSERVATION PLACE AND EXPRESS CONCERN FOR RECKLESS DRIVING IN HART PARK
- VII.

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on April 16, 2025; **Ab:Ce TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; MOTION CARRIED. 3 AYES; 2 ABSENT-CHAPMAN; OSBY**
- II. Miscellaneous Correspondence: Written Correspondence dated April 13, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated April 13, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated June 12, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated July 6, 2025, submitted by Carol Lair; **Ab:Ce TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; MOTION CARRIED. 3 AYES; 2 ABSENT- CHAPMAN; OSBY**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

General Services – Status Update

- I. **ADOPT-A-PARK** – ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON THE KERN COUNTY ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM. REXLAND ACRES PARK, HART PARK, BELLE TERRACE PARK, HERITAGE PARK, FORD CITY PARK AND LAKE MING ARE CURRENT ADOPTED PARKS. STAFF IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN ONGOING COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS
- II. **FRASIER MOUNTAIN PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON THE GRAND REOPENING AND RENOVATIONS
- IV. **ROSAMOND PARK** - ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON THE SUCCESS OF THE ROSEMOND POOL SEASON

- V. **PIONEER PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON UPCOMING RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 1, 2025
- VI. **OHV PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO STATE THAT THERE IS NO FORMAL UPDATE AT THIS TIME. PRELIMINARY, VERBAL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES ARE ONGOING, WITH ONE SITE IDENTIFIED AS APN #051-330-10, LOCATED OFF HIGHWAY 65 AND NOT VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD
- VII. **FORD CITY PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO STATE THAT THE PROJECT COMPLETION DATE IS NEAR AND FAITH IN THE VALLEY WILL BE CONTACTED WITH DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE
- VIII. **VALLEY ACRES PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO STATE THAT A REQUEST FOR BID HAS BEEN SET OUT TO RENEW AND RESURFACE THE BASKETBALL COURT

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

- I. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO HOLD THE AUGUST 20, 2025, MEETING AT THE KERN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE. 1ST FLOOR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- I. COMMISSIONER LAIR PROVIDED INFORMATION REGARDING SICK, INJURED AND EMACIATED BOBCATS AND BOBCAT KITTENS AND STATED THAT THE MONOFILAMENT RECYCLING BINS ARE CURRENTLY IN USE

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 7:30 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for August 20, 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
County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor - Board of Supervisors Chambers
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 20, 2025
6:30 P.M.

MEETING CANCELLATION NOTICE

Due to a lack of quorum, the scheduled Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, has been canceled.

All agenda items will be carried over to the next regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., to be 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 JUNE 2025
Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 7:33:14 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 JUNE 2025

During this month 11 cats were trapped and taken to Critters Without Litters—then 2 went to the coast barn cat program, 1 to a home out of county, 2 in foster care, and 6 were TNR back to the park

6-1-25 A park visitor saw a raccoon kill a kitten and she rescued the other kitten.

6-2-25 A brown tabby taken to KCAS with an injured eye.

6-2-25 A skunk killed by a car on AHH.

6-2-25 Two gray tabbies taken to KCAS.

6-8-25 A 7 week old kitten taken to our sanctuary. Three kittens were abandoned.

6-10-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on River Road.

6-10-25 A duck killed by a car on River Road.

6-11-25 A kitten found dead in the habitat very likely killed by raccoons.

6-12-25 An injured gray tabby taken to KCAS and had to be euthanized.

6-13-25 A brown tabby killed by a predator.

6-16-25 Possible sibling to kitten previously taken to our sanctuary 6-8-25. This cat also taken to our sanctuary. The third kitten that was abandoned is presumed dead.

6-17-25 A brown/black dog abandoned and KCAS called.

6-18-25 A raccoon killed by a car on AHH.

6-19-25 A Blue Heron killed by a car on River Road.

6-21-25 We assisted a member of the public searching for their missing cat believed to have been abandoned at the park. The cat was found and reunited with its very happy owner!!

6-21-25 A raccoon killed by a car on AHH.

6-23-25 A beaver killed by a car on River Road.

6-24-25 An injured brown dog abandoned and outcome unknown.

6-28-25 A Siamese cat relocated from the west entrance to the mill.

SUMMARY:

- 4 Cats taken to KCAS
- 3 Cats killed by predators
- 2 Cats went to our sanctuary
- 2 Cats are in foster care
- 1 Cat was adopted out of the county
- 2 Cats went to a barn cat program on the coast
- 1 Cat rescued by park visitor
- 1 Cat returned to owner
- 1 kitten presumed dead by predator

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 17

- 6 Cats TNR back to the park.
- 2 Dogs abandoned
- 3 Animals killed on AHH-- 1 skunk and 2 raccoons
- 4 Animals killed on River Road-- 1 Blue Heron, 1 beaver, 1 duck and 1 ground squirrel

So far 21 animals have been killed by cars during the first 6 months of this year. Cars are deadly for park animals.

Carol Lair

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR JULY 2025
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 9:55:12 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 JULY 2025

During July 3 cats went to Critters Without Litters. Then two went to foster homes out of county, adoptive homes are being sought for them. One cat TNR back to the park.

7-1-25 A light gray tabby with very bad ringworm picked up and placed in foster care to be treated.

7-4-25 A skunk was killed by a car on AHH.

7-7-25 Two gray tabbies were taken to KCAS.

7-7-25 Two dogs abandoned and KCAS was called and picked them up.

7-8-25 A duck was rescued and fishing line removed from its legs.

7-13-25 A raccoon killed by a car on AHH.

7-16-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on AHH.

7-21-25 A Belgium Malinois abandoned and KCAS called and they picked up the dog.

7-25-25 A skunk was killed by a car on River Road.

7-26-25 A cat was attacked by a raccoon and chased up a tree. It was rescued and is in foster care.

7-28-25 A Doberman was abandoned and KCAS called and picked up the dog.

7-30-15 A goose rescued and fishing line removed from its legs.

7-31-25 A dog was abandoned and rescued by a park visitor.

SUMMARY

2 Cats taken to KCAS

4 Cats in foster care

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM PARK: 6

Four animals killed by cars--A skunk, a raccoon and a ground squirrel killed on AHH. One skunk killed on River Road.

5 Dogs abandoned

2 birds --A duck and a goose tangled in fishing line rescued

This was NOT a typical July. Beginning at the end of June and continuing throughout most of July we could not take cats to KCAS due to lack of space. This year has been one of the worst "kitten seasons" ever. All shelters and rescues are full to the brim with kittens.

Carol Lair



SIERRA CLUB

KERN-KAWEAH

August 15, 2025

Kern-Kaweah Chapter Sierra Club
P.O. Box 3357
Bakersfield, CA 93385
<SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL>>

Hon. Leticia Perez, Chair
Kern County Board of Supervisors
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Dear Chair Perez and Members of the Board:

There has been recent publicity about Kern County parks. As parks are an important quality of life issue for Kern County's residents, our Sierra Club Kern-Kaweah Chapter has long advocated for well-managed and maintained parks—throughout Kern County. We attempt to pay careful attention to all aspects of parks management—from safety and security to maintenance of the grounds and restrooms. We write to request 1) that the following maintenance issues be fully addressed, and 2) that full accounting be provided as to the entirety of taxpayer dollars being allocated to KCSO for parks and how they are actually being used. We ask for a response from you for both requests by September 30, 2025.

In an August 2, 2025 article by Peter Segall in *The Bakersfield Californian* titled "Officials Celebrate New Play Equipment at Virginia Avenue Park" there was mention of the Ranger Program run "through the Kern County Sheriff's Office but paid for by \$5 million from the General Services, which oversees the county's parks."

This is approximately a 500% increase from Park Ranger Program funding when that program was administered by the General Services Division of the Kern County Administrative Office. During FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 the total amount of Kern County General Funds allocated to the Park Ranger Program was under \$1.1 million (each year). This huge increase (\$3.9 million) came during FY 2024-25 when Park Rangers were transferred into the Kern County Sheriff's Office (without an action item being submitted to the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission).

Our Chapter has repeatedly requested that Kern County again establish a separate Parks and Recreation Department—which would include park rangers. One comment from various staff: where is the money? Well...there was nearly \$4 million in additional Kern County funding when this transfer of the Park Ranger Program took place. And, during the last few months Kern County staff have reported that they are "in negotiations" to

purchase property for an Off-Road-Vehicle Park which would surely require a significant level of on-going security (and some maintenance).

Equally important: what is the condition of Kern County parks right now? A portion of the August 2 reads, “Near the playground, a set of bleaches is missing its top bench and an old baseball diamond is showing its age. Large patches of what should be grass are dry dirt.” These are issues which should have been addressed before or concurrent with new playground equipment.

Two other Kern County Parks also show a lack of attention to common sense maintenance. Panorama Park also has large areas of dry grass—and at least eight trees dead because of a lack of water. This beautiful heavily-used park overlooking the Kern River needs serious attention.

And, Hart Park is often discussed as a “gem.” See attached to this letter a series of pictures recently taken (August 1, 2025). They show:

- Acres of dry grass where green grass used to be—in several locations.
- Overwatering with standing water in Section 6.
- Broken bollards--possibly from vehicles—which are often seen parked on the “grass.” Note: there is a specific code against vehicles parking on grass. This is an issue which should be addressed by Park Rangers—who are periodically seen parked and/or patrolling in Hart Park.
- Evidence of the dumping of coals which were used in fires on the ground.
- The bridge over the creek from Hart Lake to the Kern River has no barrier of any kind. This issue was first brought to the attention of the Kern County Administrative Office in December of 2024 and was discussed directly with Kern County Administrative Officer Nancy Anderson during a meeting in February of this year. This is both a safety and liability issue. The fact that this issue has not been addressed shows negligence by the County of Kern.

There is no picture, but a closely related issue is the lack of Park Ranger foot patrols in the park and along the trail bordering the Kern River. The residue from numerous fires near the trail are obvious—yet fires on the ground are not supposed to be allowed. Again, Park Rangers need to be doing foot patrols—especially on weekends.

Our request is that the Hart Park issues just reviewed be addressed—along with the need for green grass in Virginia Avenue and Panorama Parks.

With regard to water for Kern County Parks it needs to be noted that in Kern County’s agreement with the private firm operating the Kern River Golf Course there is no charge for water being pumped through Kern County underground piping onto the greens. Currently those greens look very good. They are green—the way they should look.

Virginia Avenue and Panorama and Hart Park's lawns are of more value to the public-at-large than the greens in the Kern River Golf Course. This specific issue of green grass in parks is an environmental justice issue. Keeping grass green in public parks are clearly more important than providing free water to a privately-operated golf course.

Sincerely,

Eddy Laine
Executive Committee Member
Kern-Kaweah Chapter
Sierra Club

CC: Nancy Anderson, Kern County Chief Administrative Officer
Kern County Parks & Recreation Commission













SIERRA CLUB

KERN-KAWEAH

August 30, 2025

Kern-Kaweah Chapter Sierra Club
P.O. Box 3357
Bakersfield, CA 93385
<SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL>>

Hon. Leticia Perez, Chair
Kern County Board of Supervisors
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Dear Chair Perez and Members of the Board:

This is a follow-up to our August 15, 2025 letter regarding management of Kern County parks. In that letter we noted, "Panorama Park also has large areas of dry grass—and at least eight trees dead because of a lack of water. This beautiful heavily-used park overlooking the Kern River needs serious attention."

During a walk through Panorama Park on August 27, 2025 the number of dead trees is at least 14. As we had provided pictures from Hart Park, we are providing pictures of dead trees, bushes and grass attached to this letter.

Again, our request in our August 15, 2025 letter is for a response to the requests made in that letter by September 30, 2025.

Sincerely,

Eddy Laine
Executive Committee Member
Kern-Kaweah Chapter
Sierra Club

CC: Nancy Anderson, Kern County Chief Administrative Officer
Kern County Parks & Recreation Commission

Panorama Park, Bakersfield, CA August 27, 2025:





September 17, 2025

Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Subject: Response to Correspondence Dated August 15 and August 30, 2025

Dear Members of the Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission,

This letter is in response to letters received from the Sierra Club dated August 15 and August 30, 2025, regarding Ranger presence and maintenance concerns at various parks.

Rangers – Response provided by Lieutenant Jason Nelson

At this time, we do not have the staffing capacity to provide seven-day-a-week coverage. We currently have two Rangers in the Field Training Program—one will be assigned to Hart Park and the other to Buena Vista. Additionally, 11 Ranger Trainees are scheduled to begin the academy later this month. As you are likely aware, the hiring and training process is extensive and may take a year or more for a candidate to progress from background checks through the academy and into patrol-ready status.

Until we are able to build up our staffing numbers, the Rangers assigned to Hart Park are also responsible for patrolling other areas throughout metropolitan Bakersfield. This, unfortunately, may give the impression that no one is patrolling Hart Park at times, as Rangers may be handling calls or conducting patrols at other locations.

Regarding barbecuing and other park activities, Rangers will address any violations of county ordinances or state laws as appropriate. They will use their discretion to determine whether enforcement or education is the best course of action in each situation.

Virginia Park

Kern County General Services recently completed the construction of major improvements at Virginia Park including a new precast concrete restroom building, railroad themed playground equipment, rock climbing wall, safety surfacing, benches, ADA accessible walkways and parking, and landscape and irrigation repairs. All play features are available for use. Within the next couple of weeks, security and custodial services will be in place, and the new restroom building will be open.

In addition to the improvements listed above, the soccer field bleachers and baseball field dugout benches will be refurbished with new seating in the coming months

Panorama Park

Irrigation challenges at Panorama Park have persisted due to weekly, sometimes daily, vandalism. Damage to valve boxes, wiring, solenoids, and sprinklers has led to multiple system failures through the hottest months of the year. During the month of August, Kern County General Services replaced and reprogrammed three irrigation clocks along with booster pump fuses. Repairs are completed, only to be vandalized overnight. Operation of manual irrigation is performed daily to support plant and turf recovery. The necessary repairs to irrigation systems are ongoing.

The health of trees and plants will be assessed. Dead landscape will be removed, and replanting will occur when the weather subsides.

Hart Park

Hart Park, Section 24, was damaged by devastating flood waters in 2023. Kern County General Services is working closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to obligate federal assistance. Meanwhile, sufficient funds have been budgeted to proceed with the permitting, design, and construction of the repair project. Once environmental clearance is received from all regulatory agencies, the project will be issued for bid and construction may begin.

Hart Park, Section 6, continues to experience flooding due to debris, such as rocks, clams, and silt, being pumped from the river, which clogs irrigation valves and sprinklers. The system is monitored daily to mitigate these issues.

Hart Park, Section 13, was designed for parking. This area does not have an irrigation system installed.

Throughout Hart Park, the bollards are being assessed and replaced as needed to prevent unauthorized parking on the grass. Currently, Park Rangers are on duty Thursday through Sunday during the afternoon shift, in alignment with the summer schedule, and additional coverage was provided on Labor Day.

MyKern App

MyKern is Kern County's way of bringing the power of government to the palm of your hand. Through MyKern, you are able to report issues including a map pin and a picture of the problem. Then you can stay updated as we work to resolve the concern.



Kern County remains committed to securing, maintaining, and improving Kern County parks and values the continued partnership and feedback from those we serve.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'ML', is written over a blue oval line.

Michelle Burns-Lusich
Chief General Services Officer



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