

## **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, January 21, 2026*  
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  
Vacant, 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 November 19, 2025; **APPROVE**
  - II. Miscellaneous Correspondence; **RECEIVE AND FILE**

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

3. General Services Division – 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 UPDATE**
  - 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 FEBRUARY 2026 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 February 18, 2026, 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, November 19, 2025*

6:30 P.M.

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. Commissioner Abler presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Absent:** Commissioner(s): Ucedrah Osby, District V

**Staff:** Brian Van Wyk, Deputy County Counsel; Isaac Preston, Deputy Chief General Services Officer

**Others:** There were 4 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. **CARLA RIVAS** – WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE KERN RIVER PARKWAY NATURE CENTER TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE STANDPIPE PROJECT. TWO STANDPIPES ARE COMPLETE. THE REMAINING THREE ARE DELAYED DUE TO THE WEATHER AND VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES. COMPLETION ANTICIPATED IN DECEMBER
- II. **STEVEN BARRETT**: - WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO EXPRESS SAFETY CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROPOSED WHITEWATER PROJECT DUE TO THE KERN RIVER'S DANGEROUS CONDITIONS, WHILE SUPPORTING RIVERBANK EROSION PROTECTION

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- I. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting on November 19, 2025; **Ce:Ch TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN; MOTION CARRIED. 4 AYES; 1 ABSENT - OSBY**

- II. Miscellaneous Correspondence: No written correspondence was received for November 19, 2025

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

#### General Services – Status Update

- I. **LA COLONIA PARK:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, REPORTED THAT A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY WAS HELD ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 FOR LA COLONIA PARK, A NEW POCKET PARK IN KERN COUNTY. THE EVENT WAS WELL ATTENDED BY THE COMMUNITY
- II. **HART PARK STANDPIPE PROJECT:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, ANNOUNCED THAT A RIBBON CUTTING AND PROJECT OPENING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 3. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT STAFF WILL APPLY A GRAFFITI-RESISTANT COATING TOO THE STANDPIPES TO FACILITATE EASIER CLEANING
- III. **PYLES BOYS CAMP / PANORAMA PARK / ANNE’S TRAIL:** ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO READ A LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SERVICES DIVISION IN RESPONSE TO CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM EDDY LAINE REGARDING MAINTENANCE CONCERNS. THE LETTER CONFIRMED WATER DISCHARGE NEAR PYLES BOYS CAMP WAS IRRIGATION AND STORMWATER RUNOFF WITH NO AGENCY CONCERNS, REPORTED COMPLETED IRRIGATION REPAIRS AND UPDATED SIGNAGE, AND OUTLINED MAINTENANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AT ANNE’S TRAIL AND PANORAMA PARK

#### Park Ranger – Status Update

- I. **JUSTIN SAWASKE:** SERGEANT, KERN COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT, REPORTED THAT FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO PRESENT, PARK RANGERS RESPONDED TO 754 CALLS FOOR SERVICE, GENERATED 201 REPORTS AND MADE 34 ARRESTS, AND PROVIDED A BRIEF UPDATE ON RANGER TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENT

### **NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS**

- I. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **THE COMMISSION ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD IN JANUARY, WITH NO MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER IN OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON. A MOTION WAS MADE AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD THE JANUARY 21, 2026, MEETING AT THE KERN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE. 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

## **COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- I. COMMISSIONER LAIR REQUESTED A REEVALUATION OF COUNTY CHARGES FROM THE LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE EVENT. ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, REPORTED THAT STAFF IS REVIEWING ASSOCIATED COSTS
- II. COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN REPORTED THAT HE DISCUSSED COUNTY FEES FOR THE LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE EVENT WITH HIS DISTRICT SUPERVISOR AND WAS ADVISED THAT THE MATTER IS BEING REVIEWED
- III. COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN COMMENTED THAT HERITAGE PARK HAS SHOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND ATTRIBUTED POSITIVE CONDITIONS IN PART TO THE PRESENCE OF DISC GOLF ACTIVITY

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourn at 6:54 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for January 21, 2026, at 6:30 P.M., at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1115 Truxtun Ave. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Bakersfield, CA. 93301 unless otherwise indicated, changed, and/or canceled by the Commission.

**From:** [Carol Lair](#)  
**To:** [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** NEW, CORRECTED REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR DECEMBER 2025  
**Date:** Monday, January 12, 2026 10:11:32 AM

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**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.

I apologize for the errors in my previous December 2025 report. Please disregard report I sent 1-9-26.

12-1 25 A calico fixed at Critters Without Litters and went to the barn cat program.

12-3-25 A black/white cat fixed at Critters and went to KCAS with a infection at the surgery site.

12-7-25 An orange/white tabby with stomatitis was in foster care briefly and then adopted by a park volunteer.

12-8-25 A black/white cat fixed at Critters and was relocated when returned to the park bit cat returned to it home turf. TNR

12-8-25 A black kittens with ringworm is in foster care being treated.

12-10-25 A big gray cat was in foster care briefly then taken to KCAS.

12-12-25 A brown tabby was in foster care briefly then went to KCAS.

12-16-25 A black/white cat was in foster care briefly before being taken to KCAS. Cat died of Panleukopenia 1-2-26 and the KCAS cat room quarantined for at least 10 days.

12-16-25 A black/white cat in foster care briefly then went to KCAS.

12-18-25 A white chihuahua seen at the park and KCAS called.

12-19-25 A skunk was killed by a car on AHH.

12-21-25 A park visitor picked up two kittens and posted them on Facebook and they were adopted.

12-23-25 A gray/white cat and a calico taken to KCAS both sick with upper respiratory infections.

12-24-25 Three cats picked up and gray cat, a gray/white cat and a black/white cat and remain in foster care due to the quarantine at KCAS.

#### SUMMARY

7 Cats taken to KCAS and 1 cat died from panleukopenia

3 Cats adopted

4 Cats in foster care.

1 Cat to barn cat program

1 Cat TNR

1 Dog abandoned

1 Skunk killed by a car on AHH

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM PARK: 15

The situation at the park is very bad right now right now.

During November and December 46 cats have been dumped at the park--some are friendly, some feral. We think people are clearing out colonies and dumping the cats at the park.

KCAS is under quarantine due to a outbreak of Panleukopenia and we can't take any cats there until quarantine lifted.

There are a number of friendly cats at the park and if they are left they become feral and no longer adoptable. We have started taking friendly cats to the habitat to try and get to hang out in there where they would be fed and can interact with park volunteers and have shelter until we can take them in.

I am reaching out to KCAS and the Park Rangers for more support. The county wants cats out of the park and so do we.

Carol Lair

**From:** [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)  
**To:** [Carol Lair](#); [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** RE: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR DECEMBER 2025  
**Date:** Friday, January 09, 2026 6:46:28 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good morning,

This email has been received and will be placed under the correspondence tab of the January, 21, 2026 Board Book.

Thank you!



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**From:** Carol Lair <carollair@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 08, 2026 8:19 PM  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence <PRC-Correspondence@kerncounty.com>  
**Subject:** REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR DECEMBER 2025

**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.

During December 3 cats went to Critters Without Litters. One cat relocated but returned to home turf TNR; a calico was in foster care briefly and then went to the barn cat program; a black/white cat went to KCAS with an infection at the spay surgery site.

12-7-25 An orange/white tabby with stomatitis was in foster care briefly and then adopted by a park volunteer.

12-10-25 A big gray cat was in foster care briefly then taken to KCAS.

12-12-25 A brown tabby was in foster care briefly then went to KCAS.

12-16-25 A black/white cat was in foster care briefly before being taken to KCAS. Cat died of Panleukopenia 1-2-26 and the KCAS cat room quarantined for at least 10 days from 1-2-26 to 1-12-26.

12-16-25 A black/white cat in foster care briefly then went to KCAS.

12-18-25 A white chihuahua seen at the park and KCAS called.

12-19-25 A skunk was killed by a car on AHH.

12-21-25 A park visitor picked up two kittens and posted them on Facebook and they were adopted.

12-23-25 A gray/white cat and a calico taken to KCAS both sick with upper respiratory infection.

12-24-25 Three cats picked up and gray cat, a gray/white cat and a black/white cat and remain in foster care due to the quarantine at KCAS.

#### SUMMARY

7 Cats taken to KCAS and 1 cat died from panleukopenia

3 Cats adopted

3 Cats in foster care.

1 Dog abandoned

1 Skunk killed by a car on AHH

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM PARK: 13

The situation at the park is very bad right now right now.

During November and December 46 cats have been dumped at the park--some are friendly, some feral. We think people are clearing out colonies and dumping the cats at the park.

KCAS is under quarantine due to a outbreak of Panleukopenia and we can't take any cats there until quarantine lifted.

There are a number of friendly cats at the park and if they are left they become feral and no longer adoptable. We have started taking friendly cats to the habitat to try and get to hang out in there where they would be fed and can interact with park volunteers and have shelter until we can take them in.

I am reaching out to KCAS and the Park Rangers for more support. The county wants cats out of the park and so do we.

Carol Lair

**From:** [Carol Lair](#)  
**To:** [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR NOVEMBER 2025  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 10, 2025 6:56:09 AM

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During the month of November 4 cats were taken to Critters Without Litters to be fixed. They are in foster care.

11-1-25 A gray tabby rescued and taken to KCAS.

11-1-25 A long haired gray tabby rescued and taken to KCAS.

11-1-25 A raccoon killed by a car on AHH.

11-2-25 A gray tabby rescued and taken to KCAS.

11-15-25 A black cat killed by a predator.

11-15-25 Three Canadian geese killed by a car on AHH.

11-18-25 A black cat rescued and is in foster Care.

11-20-25 A multi colored tabby rescued and taken to KCAS.

11-21-25 A sick gray tabby rescued and taken to KCAS.

11-21-25 A gray tabby rescued and is in foster care.

11-21-25 A dog abandoned and KCAS notified.

11-22-25 A dog abandoned and rescued by a park visitor.

11-23-25 A black/white cat killed by a car on AHH.

11-25-25 A black/white cat rescued and is in foster care.

11-29-25 A 4 week old tortie kitten rescued and is in foster care.

#### SUMMARY:

6 Cats taken to KCAS

8 Cats in foster care

1 Cat killed by car AHH

1 Cat killed by a predator

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM PARK: 16

2 Dogs abandoned

3 Geese and 1 raccoon 1 cat killed by cars AHH

Carol Lair

**From:** [Carol Lair](#)  
**To:** [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR OCTOBER 2025  
**Date:** Monday, December 08, 2025 6:35:49 PM

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10-4-25 A cat was killed by a car on River Road.

10-5-25 A beaver was seen with fishing line wrapped around its legs. Apparently it may have been able to free itself. It hasn't been seen since first noticed.

1-6-25 A black cat taken to KCAS but wasn't friendly enough for adoption. TNR back to the park.

10-8-25 A gray tabby was picked up and went to KCAS.

10-14-25 A duck with fishing line around it legs was rescued and fishing line removed.

10-15-25 A ground squirrel killed by a car on River Road.

10-30-25 An 8 week old gray tabby rescued and appeared to have an URI.went to KCAS.

10-31-25 An 8 week old gray tabby went to KCAS.

#### SUMMARY:

3 Cats went to KCAS

1 Cat killed by car

1 Cat TNR back to the park

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 4

1 Duck and 1 raccoon tangled in fishing line. Duck rescued, beaver may have freed itself.

1 Cat and 1 ground squirrel killed by cars on River Road

Carol Lair

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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