

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, March 18, 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 January 21, 2026; **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 APRIL 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 April 15, 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, 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.

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<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, January 21, 2026

6:30 P.M.

The Kern County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026. 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): Vacant: District V

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

Others: There were 6 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. **DAVID SCHAD:** WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING THE AUDUBON SOCIETY TO REPORT THAT NINE MONOFILAMENT RECYCLE BINS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AT HART PARK AND TWO MORE ARE NEEDED. THIS PROGRAM HELPS PREVENT WILDLIFE ENTANGLEMENT. HE THANKED THE COUNTY FOR ITS SUPPORT.
- II. **CARLA RIVAS:** WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO REPORT FOUR OF THE FIVE STANDPIPES AT THE NATURE CENTER ARE COMPLETED. THE LAST STANDPIPES WAS DELAYED BY WEATHER BUT IS NEARLY FINISHED, AND PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY BY LATE FEBRUARY.
- III. **BROOKE HOLLAND:** WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING KERN ENERGY EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE COMMISSION, ESPECIALLY COMMISSIONER CERVANTES, AND ANNOUNCED THAT KERN ENERGY WILL ADOPT FULLER ACRES PARK, EMPHASIZING THEIR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP.

- IV. **DANIEL RODELO**: WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION REPRESENTING FAITH IN THE VALLEY THANKING THE COMMISSION FOR THEIR SUPPORT. HE NOTED ONGOING CLEANUP EFFORTS AT FORD CITY PARK, AND ANNOUNCED A COMMUNITY-WIDE PARK CLEANUP SCHEDULED FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY, EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION.
- V. **SANTIAGO LIZARRAGA**: WAS PRESENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION, A CONSTITUENT OF DISTRICT 2 AND A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL, REQUESTING PERMISSION TO USE FORD CITY PARK FOR A FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT FUNDRAISER ON JANUARY 31, 2026, TO SUPPORT HIS SCHOOL'S BAND AND CHOIR TOUR EXPENSES.

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 VACANT**
- II. Miscellaneous Correspondence: Written Correspondence dated January 12, 2026, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated January 08, 2026, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated January 10, 2026, submitted by Carol Lair; Written Correspondence dated January 08, 2026, submitted by Carol Lair; **Ce:Ch TO APPROVE THE WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE; MOTION CARRIED. 4 AYES; 1 VACANT**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

General Services – Status Update

- I. **ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM**: ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, PROVIDED A REPORT STATING FAITH IN THE VALLEY ADOPTED FORD CITY PARK AND VALLEY ACRES PARK. KERN ENERGY IS ADOPTING FULLER ACRES PARK. HE STATED THE PROGRAM ENCOURAGES INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS TO HELP MAINTAIN PARKS WITH A MINIMUM 1-YEAR COMMITMENT, 8 HOURS PER MONTH AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDE LITTER REMOVAL, RAKING, GRAFFITI REMOVAL, PLANTING, AND SPECIAL PROJECTS
- II. **PARK UPDATES**: ISAAC PRESTON, DEPUTY CHIEF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, PROVIDED KERN COUNTY PARK UPDATES:
- A. **BUENA VISTA LAKE**: BOAT RAMP COMPLETED AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- B. **DISTRICT 1:** LEROY JACKSON AND WOFFORD HEIGHTS – RESTROOM AND SPORT COURT IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY
- C. **DISTRICT 2:** SPORT COURT READY; ROSAMOND AND BORON BASEBALL FIELDS TO BE RENOVATED BEFORE LITTLE LEAGUE SEASON
- D. **DISTRICT 3:** CONSTRUCTION ONGOING AT HART PARK AND ADVENTURE PLAY AREA (WEATHER DELAYS)
- E. **DISTRICT 4:** FULLER ACRES AND LA COLONIA – PUPPY PARKS COMPLETED
- F. **DISTRICT 5:** BELLE TERRACE – SHADE STRUCTURES, WALKING PATHS, RESTROOMS, SOLAR LIGHTING IN PROGRESS

- 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. **DAVID NELSON:** LIEUTENANT, KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, REPORTED THAT THE PARK RANGER UNIT IS NOW FULLY STAFFED AND OPERATING SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, WITH EXPANDED COVERAGE PLANNED FOR BUENA VISTA AND KERN VALLEY BY MAY; SINCE NOVEMBER, RANGERS HAVE HANDLED 1,250 CALLS, MADE 57 ARRESTS, AND COMPLETED 427 REPORTS, AND TWO NEW BOATS FOR BUENA VISTA ARE EXPECTED WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

NEW, UNFINISHED, AND OTHER BUSINESS

- I. Upcoming Commission meeting locations as per code §2.50.060(D); **THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO HOLD THE FEBRUARY 18, 2026, MEETING AT THE KERN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER AT 1115 TRUXTUN AVE. 1ST FLOOR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- I. COMMISSIONER LAIR NOTED THAT THE GARDEN AREA BEHIND THE NATURE CENTER IS PROGRESSING WELL AND WILL LOOK EVEN BETTER ONCE PLANTS ARE ESTABLISHED
- II. COMMISSIONER LAIR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO STOP SPEEDING ON ALFRED HARRELL HIGHWAY, WHICH HAS BEEN A CONCERN IN THE AREA
- III. COMMISSIONER CERVANTES THANKED KERN ENERGY FOR ADOPTING FULLER ACRES PARK AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT BASED ON PAST COLLABORATION
- IV. COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN ASKED ABOUT RESTROOM ISSUES AT A.W. NOON PARK, AND ISAAC PRESTON EXPLAINED REPAIRS ARE UNDERWAY DUE TO A WATERLINE BREAK AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED SOON
- V. COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN ASKED IF THE COUNTY WILL TAKE OVER FRANKLIN FIELD, AND ISAAC PRESTON CONFIRMED IT IS ONLY A RUMOR WITH NO CURRENT PLANS
- VI. COMMISSIONER ABLER ASKED ABOUT THE OHV PARK STATUS, AND ISAAC PRESTON STATED THE PROPERTY ACQUISITION DEADLINE IS EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 31, 2026, WITH OPTIONS STILL BEING EXPLORED; PUMP TRACK IDEAS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT NO CURRENT PROJECTS ARE UNDERWAY

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 7:05 P.M. to the next regular meeting, scheduled for February 18, 2026, 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.

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [Parks and Recreation Commission Correspondence](#)
Subject: REPORT TO GENERAL SERVICES & KCAS FOR JANUARY 2026
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 9:56:35 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.

A A cat taken to KCAS died 1-2-26 of panleukopenia (feline distemper) and the cat room quarantined until 1-14-26.

1-6-26 Three kittens in foster care until they can go to Canada 2-14-26.

1-8-26 A black/white cat was in the habitat briefly then foster care finally taken to KCAS.

1-10-26 A Calico was taken from the habitat. Calicos are almost always female due to a genetic trait linked to the color of their fur. However, this one appeared to be possibly a male. Exam by vet confirmed she was a pregnant female. She is in foster care. FYI: One in 3000 Calicos are male but usually sterile. A Calico male capable of reproducing is one in 30,000.

1-10-26 Two ground squirrels killed by hawks. This was witnessed by a park visitor.

1-13-26 A black/white cat from the habitat taken to KCAS.

1-13-26 The body parts of a Red Tailed Hawk found and was likely killed by a predator.

1-13-26 A black/white cat taken to KCAS.

1-14-26 Two ground squirrels killed by a car on AHH.

1-14-26 Two dogs abandoned near the maintenance yard and KCAS was trying to trap them.

1-14-26 A tortie cat taken to KCAS.

1-14-26 A gray/white cat from the habitat taken to KCAS.

1-15-26 A black cat with a wound on its neck was in foster care then taken to KCAS.

1-16-26 A light gray tabby from the habitat was in foster care before being taken to KCAS.

1-16-26 A black/white cat from the habitat taken to KCAS but not friendly enough for adoption. He was in foster care until he could be returned to the park. TNR

1-16-26 A bunny seen at the park.

1-20-26 An orange tabby from the habitat taken to KCAS.

1-20-26 A black/white cat taken to KCAS.

1-24-26 A pale orange tabby/white cat from the habitat taken to KCAS.

1-28-26 A tortie was removed from the habitat. May not be friendly enough for adoption, She is in foster care.

1-28-26 A very pale orange tabby removed from the habitat and taken to KCAS.

SUMMARY:

11 Cats taken to KCAS (Note: Six cats removed from the park in the prior 2 months finally went to KCAS this month.)

5 Cats in foster care

1 Cat TNR

2 Dogs abandoned

1 Red Tailed Hawk killed by predator

2 Ground Squirrels killed by hawks

2 Ground Squirrels killed by a car on AHH

1 Bunny abandoned unknown what happened to it

TOTAL CATS REMOVED FROM THE PARK: 16

Since we started using the habitat to shelter friendly cats until they could go to KCAS, 11 cats have been sheltered. Two did escape while we were in the process of securing the habitat.

I met with four Park Rangers for an hour on 1-22-26 and talked with them about the problem of abandoned cats and other animals at the park. I showed the the spots where the most cat dumping was happening. They will keep an eye out at these places. They said what would really help them catch the dumpers would be cameras positioned to capture a license plate number and a picture of the dumper.

I also reached out to KCAS and I was allowed to take in 6 cats on the 15th and then several others during the month. This was greatly appreciated and helped clear the backlog of cats in foster care and the habitat.

All in all and very busy stressful month.

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