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Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-2937, or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

Security procedures: Members of the public will be directed enter the West Annex at the front of the building through the sliding door. All other entrances will remain locked for entry. Oversized bags or backpacks will not be allowed in the Council Chamber or Commission meeting room. All bags are subject to search.

Any correspondence received after 2:00 p.m. on WEDNESDAY on any item on the agenda will be provided to the Commission electronically and available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office. A copy of the correspondence will be available for public inspection in a binder at the back of the Council Chamber or Commission Meeting room.

**TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 P.M. IN THE WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BLVD.**

**THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members Craft, Habel, Hoover, Mayfield, Muhammed, Wright, and Chair: Mele

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, March 5, 2026.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited up to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comments on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 2 minutes per speaker**. If presenting handout material to the Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a commission member from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approve Commission Minutes: February 11, 2026

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – RECEIVE PRESENTATION OF THE 2025 MADRONA MARSH PRESERVE AND NATURE CENTER ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a presentation on the 2025 Madrona Marsh Preserve and Nature Center annual report.

7B. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – RECEIVE AND FILE STATUS UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH PLAN FOR THE POSSIBLE RENAMING OF COLUMBIA PARK

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file status update on the community outreach plan for the possible renaming of Columbia Park to Ted T. Tanouye Park.

7C. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – RECEIVE AND FILE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file updates for the Community Services Department.

7D. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – ACCEPT AND FILE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS.

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Commission accept and file the Department Monthly Reports for:

- Administrative Services
- Park Services
- Recreation Services

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting to Wednesday April 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at the West Annex Commission meeting room, Torrance City Hall 3031 Torrance Boulevard

ROLL CALL/MOTION FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Habel, Hoover, Mayfield, Muhammad, Wright and Chair Mele

Absent: Commissioner Craft

Also Present: Recreation Services Manager Craig

MOTION: Commissioner Habel requested an excused absence for Commissioner Craft; Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a vote of 6-0 with Commissioner Craft absent.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hoover.

3. REPORT ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Recreation Services Manager Craig stated that the agenda for the Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission was posted on the Public Notice Board and the City's website on Thursday, February 5, 2026.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Recreation Services Manager Craig announced that there was supplemental material for Item 7A, for Attachment 1.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Senior Business Manager Covarrubias introduced Brent Rivas, Administrative Analyst.

Park Ranger Supervisor Arevalo introduced Park Rangers: Eric Imporial, Mark Coup and Dario Guerrero.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 14, 2026

MOTION: Commissioner Mayfield moved to approve the minutes of January 14, 2026, Commissioner Wright seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a vote of 4-0, with Commissioner Craft absent and Commissioners Hoover and Muhammad abstaining.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH PLAN FOR THE POSSIBLE RENAMING OF COLUMBIA PARK TO TED K. TANOUYE PARK

Management Aide Abelson presented the report for the item, outlined the history of the item and discussed the recommendations from the Council. He listed the items that could be included in a community engagement program.

- Creation of a Landing page to include proposed names and history of Park and Ted T. Tanouye
- Survey to gather public input (April-September)
- QR code to provide access to the landing page /survey
- Citywide outreach events, such as July 4th, Cherry Blossom Festival, Armed Forces Day Parade and July 4th Celebration
- City social media outreach campaign managed by Communications Division

The Commission discussed the elements that could be in the survey, such as the cost of the two projects, their concerns on how successful the survey would be, who would actually be completing the survey and how the Commission would be able to make a recommendation based on valid survey results. The Commission requested that they receive monthly updates on the surveys and a list of the community events where information on the surveys would be offered.

Recreation Services Manager Craig stated at there would be only three options available for respondents to choose from: rename Columbia Park to Ted K. Tanouye Park, create a new Ted K. Tanouye Park at a different location or make no changes. He noted that the Council wanted to ensure that the public had ample time to express their opinions on the issue and be able to go to the City's website to read the information and take the survey. He explained that the Commission would not be making a recommendation to the Council, but had been tasked with creating a plan to assure that the largest number of community members would be aware of the proposed changes.

Recreation Services Manager Craig confirmed that the goal of outreach sessions would be to combine the outreach with already scheduled community events, through summer events and added that the outreach would also take place through Citicable, City e-newsletters, digital boards and other Commissions. He added that the cost estimates for the projects would be added to the survey before it was released.

The Commission requested the following additions to the outreach plan:

- Monthly updates: on number of surveys completed and outreach statistics
- Outreach to HOA meetings
- Addition of Comment Section
- Ensure that cost estimates for option 2 appear in the outreach information

MOTION: Commissioner Habel moved to accept and approve the Community Outreach Plan for the possible renaming of Columbia Park to Ted K. Tanouye Park., with the following additions: monthly updates, outreach to HOA meetings, addition of Comment Section and the inclusion of cost estimates for option 2 in the outreach information. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Habel, Hoover, Wright and Chair Mele

Noes: Commissioner Muhammed

Abstain: Commissioner Mayfield

Absent: Commissioner Craft

7B. APPROVE THE EL NIDO PARK REVISED REDEVELOPMENT CONCEPTUAL PLAN

Recreation Services Manager Craig presented the report for the item and discussed the public outreach and noted that the end goal was 2028.

In response to questions, Senior Business Manager Covarrubias stated that the concept design could be tweaked for allowable changes and noted that currently a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was being conducted, which would include a traffic study.

There was no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Mayfield moved to approve the El Nido Park revised redevelopment conceptual plan, Commissioner Muhammed seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a vote of 6-0, with Commissioner Craft absent.

7C. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – RECEIVE AND FILE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Recreation Services Manager Craig presented the report for the item:

- Library had begun a system-wide Needs Assessment
- Federal funding of \$850,000 for playground surfacing had been approved
- Wilson Ballfields #3 and #4 re-opening ceremony would take place on February 17 at 2:00 p.m.

Capital Projects Update:

- Wilson Park pickleball court construction documents approved, waiting for start date from contractor
- Columbia Park WWII Monument construction documents have been approved. Construction RFP will be forthcoming
- Guenser Park walking path replacement construction documents have been submitted for plan check approval
- LED Lighting upgrades at Wilson Park tennis courts had been completed.

MOTION: Commissioner Hoover moved to receive and file the Community Services Department Updates. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a vote of 6-0, with Commissioner Craft absent.

7D. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR - ACCEPT AND FILE PROGRAMMING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

Administrative Services

Park Ranger Supervisor Arevalo presented the January 2026 report and discussed the coyote sightings and noted that 465 pet licenses had been purchased in January.

Recreation Services Manager Craig discussed the Farmer's Market, Community Gardens information and HIP Program. There was a discussion on providing more sweepers for the parking lot area of Wilson Park.

Park Services

Recreation Services Manager Craig presented the report for January by districts and discussed events and volunteer hours at Madrona Marsh.

Recreation Services

Recreation Services Manager Craig presented the Recreation Services Monthly Report for January 2026, included in the material of record. He noted that Youth Basketball had begun with a total of 1063 participants and added that the drop-in pickleball was popular. He announced that on February 1 the last tee-off time at Sea-Aire had been moved out to 4:30 p.m. and discussed donations from the Hollywood Rivera Sportsman Club.

MOTION: Commissioner Hoover moved to accept and file the monthly staff reports. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a vote of 6-0, with Commissioner Craft absent.

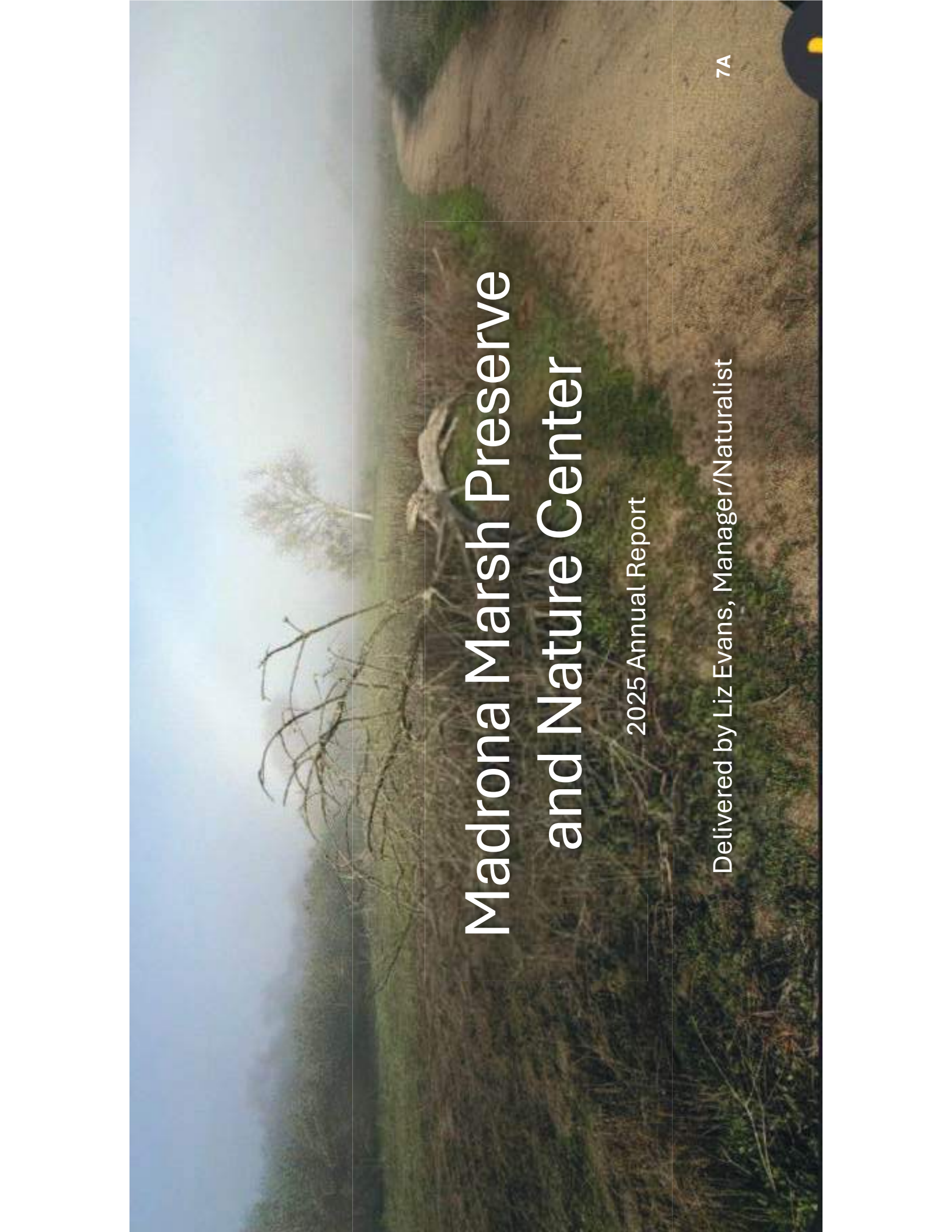
8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Commission requested a method to indicate which Commissioners were waiting to speak and a presentation explaining the Adopt-A-Park program.

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to Wednesday, March 11, 2026

MOTION: At 8:25 p.m., Commissioner Habel moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., at the West Annex Commission meeting room, Torrance City Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright and a roll call vote reflected a vote of 6-0, with Commissioner Craft absent. The motion passed.

A photograph of a marshy landscape. In the foreground, there is a large, gnarled tree trunk lying on the ground. The middle ground shows a field of tall grasses and some smaller trees. The background is a misty, hazy landscape with more trees. The sky is overcast.

Madrona Marsh Preserve and Nature Center

2025 Annual Report

Delivered by Liz Evans, Manager/Naturalist

The Staff



Liz Evans,
Nature Center Manager
and Naturalist



Steve Ash,
Senior Program Specialist



Miriam Taeubel,
Instructor II (California Earth
Science)



Morgan Griffin,
Lead Grounds Maintenance Worker



Tracey Dunn,
Program Specialist
(ARC Lead)



Jonathan Nakai,
Program Specialist
(ARC Lead)



Tina Garcia,
Program Specialist
(Volunteer Coordinator)



Genia Colton-Donaldson,
Program Specialist
(Animal Care Coordinator)



Mark Christiansen,
Program Specialist

A close-up photograph of a small, light green tree frog with dark brown spots on its back, perched on a vibrant green leaf. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural, forest-like environment.

Visitor Attendance for 2025

22,515 people visited the Madrona Marsh Preserve

The Wildlife

- eBird.org: 276 species of birds documented at the Madrona Marsh
- iNaturalist.org: 906 species documented:
 - 176 species of birds
 - 320 species of insects
 - 261 species of plants
 - 11 species of amphibians and reptiles
 - 11 species of mammals
 - 5 species of mollusks
 - 40 species of arachnids
 - 59 species of fungi
 - 6 species of protozoans



Conservation Activities

- Replacing the Sump Pumps
- Repairing and Servicing the Modular Wetland Biofiltration System
- Creeping Water Primrose IPM Removal Plan
- Trash Cleanups
- Hand tools instead of mechanized tools, to preserve insects
- Phytoremediation (tules, telegraph weed)
- Southern Tarplant Preserve seed collection
- Fairy Shrimp Identification and Collection Permit Class
- Species Counts
 - Audubon Christmas Bird Count
 - Audubon Butterfly Counts
 - Invertebrate surveys in the vernal pools and ponds
 - Bat detectors adding to our ability to survey bats in the Preserve!





The Volunteers

531 volunteers donated **9,948** hours of service, the equivalent of **\$397,920** in salary. That's equal to **4.78** full-time staff members!

All the ways our volunteers contribute

Role	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours
Habitat Restoration (long-term, ARC, and short-term)	470	3303.03
Special Assignment (murals, Board duties, events, etc.)	30	1607.10
Front Desk	22	1215.15
Front Gate	22	1156.52
Education Programs	25	602.08
Docents	28	580.72
Gift Shop	12	461.6
Nature Center Maintenance	6	373.5
Habitat Support and Maintenance	9	198.33
Native Plant Propagation	10	162.17
Animal Care	7	124.35
Outreach	12	107.68
Research Assistant	5	51.97

Education Activities by the Numbers

47 people took Saturday nature walks with a docent.

1,783 students participated in study tours with docents.

215 visitors explored the Preserve after dark on docent-led Night Hikes.

12 outreach events were hosted throughout the community.

3 students were awarded scholarships.

764 visitors came for special events.

636 participated in Saturday Science.

84 guests enjoyed Songs on the Marsh.

168 visitors explored the heavens at Star Parties.

291 children and parents came for Nature Story Time.

1,198 children and parents attended the long-time favorite, Friday Fun.

And 72 of our youngest visitors, aged 3 months to 3 years old, came for Tyke Hikes.

Early Childhood Education Programs

- **Friday Fun**, every Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., for ages 3-6. Focuses on teaching a different science or nature theme based on what is happening in the Marsh, with story time, arts and crafts, and a guided walk in the Preserve.
- **Tyke Hike**, every 1st Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., for ages 3 months to 6 years. An experienced docent leads the littles and their adults through a slow, gentle, fun exploration of the Marsh. Trails can accommodate strollers.
- **Nature Stories**, every 2nd Thursday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., for ages 2-5. Topics change to reflect the seasons and wildlife of the Preserve, with story time, puppetry, arts and crafts, and age-appropriate science activities.
- **Discovery Zone for Kids**, a drop-in program where kids 10 and under can practice nature journaling, check-out nature-themed activity backpacks, and do animal life-cycle puzzles. Runs seasonally on Saturdays (summer, Halloween, Thanksgiving break, winter break, spring break).



School Tours



- **TK, K, and 1st Grade:** Field trips include story time with district-approved science story books
- **2nd Grade:** An Adventures-in-Art option where students do plein-air sketching in the Marsh
- **5th Grade:** Field trips include building a great horned owl food web model and a lab dissecting owl pellets, aligned with TUSD Owl Pellet Dissection Core Lab
- **5th Grade and up:** Field trips may include an optional water lab activity, where students learn to identify aquatic invertebrates and connect what they observe to water quality and ecosystem health
- **7th Grade:** An all-outdoor experience where students learn about and debate the challenges presented by human impacts on a nature preserve
- **College Tours:** Wildlife biology, microbiology, ornithology, environmental science, hydrology, landscape architecture, Tongva history and ethnobotany





High School Environmental Field Study Experience

- **Created for High School AP Biology and AP Environmental Science classes:** Students observe and create dynamic ecosystem models of different microhabitats in the Preserve. They learn to identify water invertebrate life using a dichotomous key and stereomicroscopes. They discuss and analyze their observations.
- **Redondo Union High School's AP Environmental Science** classes piloted this program in 2025. Surveyed participants reported that their favorite part was using the stereomicroscopes because many of them had never used microscopes before (despite being in upper-level science classes!).

Other Specialty Tours and Experiences

- Nature Walks (guided walks every Saturday at 10 a.m.)
- Night Hikes (guided walks at night, 2nd Saturday of the month)
- PV/SB Audubon Bird Walks (guided walks, 4th Saturday of the month at 9 a.m.)
- Girl Scout Merit Badges (Eco Learner, Bug Badge, Animal Habitat Badge, Night Owl Badge)
- Star Party with the Riverside Astronomical Society



Madrona Marsh Science Expo 2025

In 2025, our student researchers presented their work to the public during the first Madrona Marsh Science Expo.



In May 2026, we will hold the second Madrona Marsh Science Expo featuring the incredible work of this year's cohort of student scientists!

Student Science Researchers, 2026 Cohort

Eva Ojo & Charlotte Moo
(West High School)



*Mulfat and Heavy Metal
Removal*

Kai Terada
(El Camino College)



*Lupine Seeds and Fire
Effects*

Andrea Deneux
(West High School)



*Bioremediation Potential
of Duckweed*

Anika Savai
Palos Verdes High School



*Primrose Identification
with Flavonoids*

Marcus De Silva & Chelsea Fukuka
West High School



*Effects of Microplastic
Exposure on Daphnia*

Aaron Miller
(South High School)



*Isopod Gut Health and
Heavy Metals*

Riley Coleman
South High School



*Natural Herbicides
on Primrose*

Grace Choi
(West High School)



*Bacterial Communities
in Lichens*

Restoration Activities

- Thursday Propagation Society
 - Friday Primrose Crew
 - Advanced Restoration Crew
 - Saturday Habitat Restoration
 - Group/Corporate Restoration
 - Henrietta Basin Restoration
-





Propagation Society meets every Thursday to collect, process, store and grow seeds from the Preserve. These plants are put directly back into the Marsh and planted in open spaces around Torrance.



The **Primrose Crew** is our dedicated group of habitat restoration volunteers that come every Friday to help remove **Creeping Water Primrose** (*Ludwigia peploides* ssp.).

Creeping Water Primrose is one of the most invasive aquatic plants in the world and is easily the biggest challenge on the Preserve today. If left unchecked, it would spread across the wetlands, smother and kill native plants (including the tules!), and reduce the overall depth of the ponds.

Advanced Restoration Crew

- Ages 15-18 with 12+ hours of habitat restoration
- Lead Saturday Habitat Restoration workdays
- Train and supervise volunteers
- Assist with tool use, setup, and cleanup
- Complete a habitat restoration, research, or land management project
- Scholarship opportunity for high school seniors pursuing STEM or environmental studies
- Roughly 20 members all year round, from all 4 TUSD high schools, Bishop Montgomery, Redondo Union, and California Academy of Math and Science



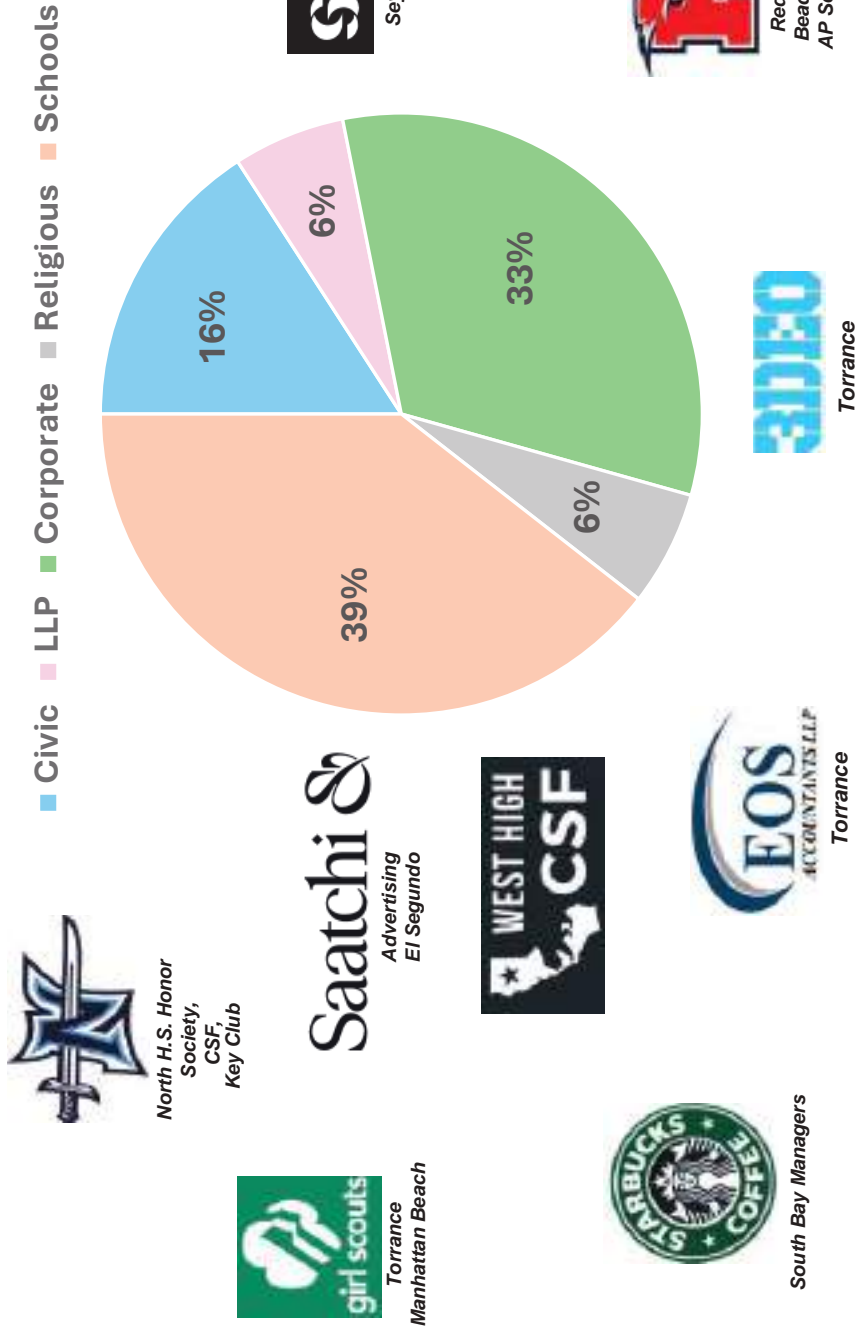


Saturday Habitat Restoration

23 ARC volunteers worked for 1176:55 hours.

364 short-term volunteers worked for 1484:26 hours.

Group/Corporate Volunteering: % Participation




 North H.S. Honor Society, CSF, Key Club


 girl scouts
 Torrance
 Manhattan Beach


 Saatchi & Advertising
 El Segundo


 WEST HIGH
 CSF


 Starbucks
 South Bay Managers


 EOS
 ACCOUNTANTS LLP
 Torrance


 SANYODENKI AMERICA
 Electronics Torrance


 ACON
 Torrance


 Seyfarth
 Seyfarth Shaw LLP
 Chicago, Ill.


 Hawthorne Junior Youth Group


 Redondo Beach H.S.
 AP Sciences


 Fracht GROUP
 Freight Forwarding
 Torrance


 3DDEO
 Torrance

230 individuals donated 630 hours

Collaborations with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy

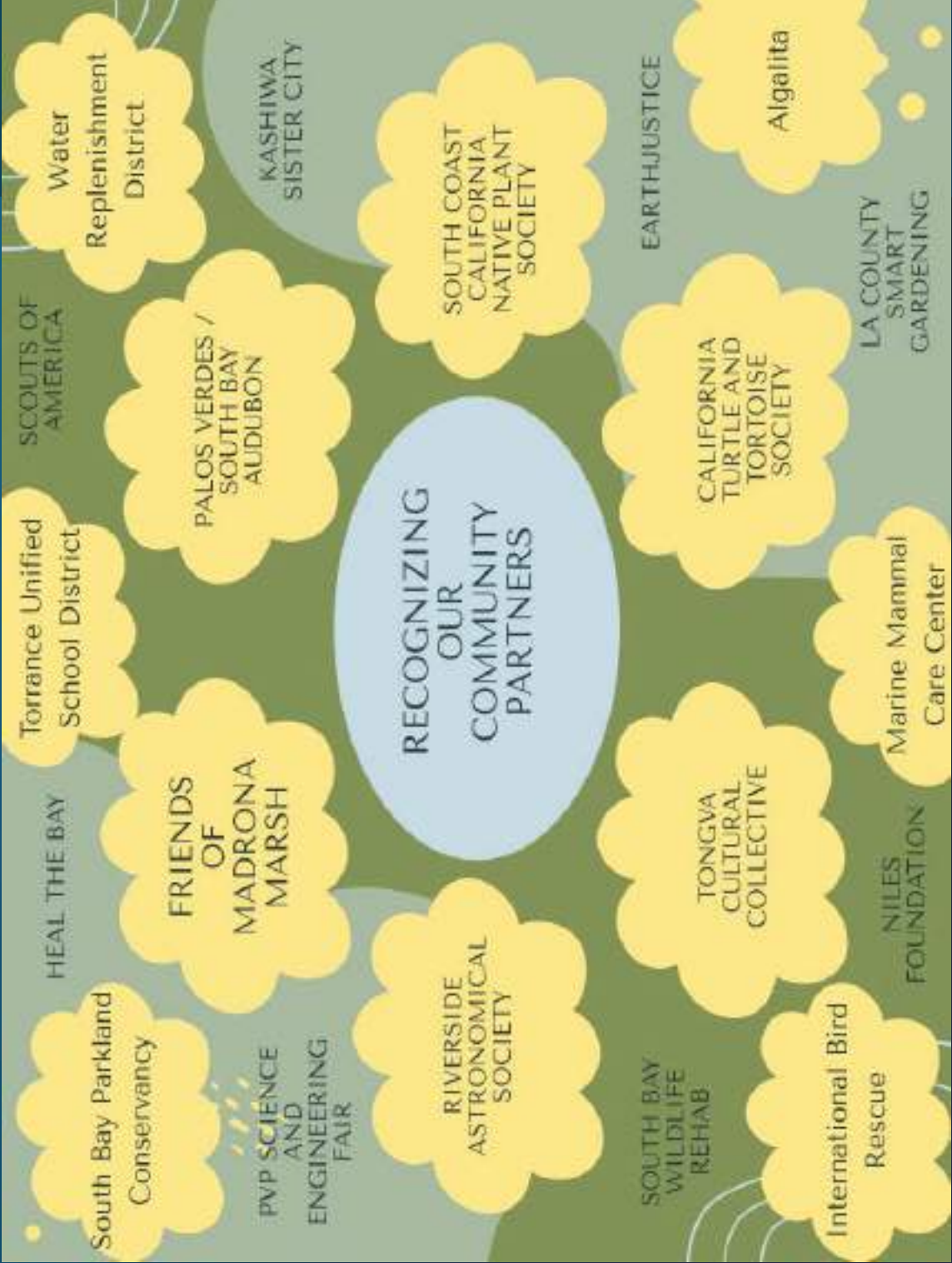
- Madrona Marsh staff and volunteers have been working with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy throughout 2025 to bring more native plants to open spaces in Torrance
- Henrietta Basin volunteer habitat restoration workdays, every 3rd Saturday of the month
- Seaside Heroes park beautification, every 2nd Saturday of the month
- Madrona Marsh propagation nursery, every Thursday at 10 a.m.



Henrietta Basin Restoration

- Henrietta Basin is a stormwater retention basin located off of Henrietta St, next to West High School
- The basin was planted out with native plants over a decade ago as part of a grant
- In mid-2025, Marsh staff began a collaboration with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy to bring in volunteers to perform much needed plant maintenance at the Henrietta Basin
- Planted almost 200 plants this fall and winter
- Performed fire abatement and weed clearance between Henrietta fenceline and resident properties





Madrona Marsh Outreach Events

Volunteers and staff attended **12 outreach events** in 2025!

- Madrona Marsh Nature Festival (Torrance)
- Whale of a Day (Palos Verdes)
- International Bird Rescue Open House (San Pedro)
- City Yard Open House (Torrance)
- Movies in the Park (Wilson Park)
- Evening at Rancho Los Alamitos (Long Beach)
- iCAN Halloween Celebration (Torrance)
- Wreathmaking at the Nature Center (Torrance)
- Roots and Shoots with the Jane Goodall Foundation (Gardena)
- Snow Day at the Park (Wilson Park)
- TUSD DELMAC Conference for families of English Second Language Learners (Torrance)





2025 Nature Festival

- Despite a little rain, we had an amazing turnout at this year's Nature Festival! Over 600 guests participated in our many activities.
- We were thrilled to welcome several local environmental groups to participate, including the Audubon, Sierra Club, California Native Plant Society, California Turtle and Tortoise Society, South Bay Parkland Conservancy, Gardena Willows Preserve, Marine Mammal Care Center, and International Bird Rescue!



Eagle/Gold Award Scouts

Scout Spencer Shea achieved Eagle Scout status with a refurbishment of the native plant nursery plus a rebuild of the pot storage shed. Valued at \$3.6K

Additional projects in process: Prairie irrigation refurbishment, Potting bench replacement, Composting bin, Marsh Phenology.



Tongva, Acjachemen, and Greater Los Angeles Native Community Connections

Supporting public and private programs that
promoted the cultural and material history of
our local Native communities



- Our local Native elders gave a public performance of song, drum, and story on the Preserve, tucked in the middle of the willows
- We were joined by Louis Robles (Acjachemen), Linda Gonzales, her daughter, and her grandchildren (Tongva), and members of the Cal State Long Beach Community Drum (Tongva, Cree, Navajo, Lakota, and other Nations)
- CSULB Community Drum will be performing at the CSULB Pow Wow on March 14 and 15, 2026

Songs on the Marsh



Plant Harvesting for Rancho Los Alamitos

- Marsh staff and volunteers assisted with harvesting tule, willow, and elderberry for our local Tongva elders
- Materials were used to build a recreation of a kiich, a traditional Tongva house structure, that is on display to the public at Rancho Los Alamitos in Long Beach



Tongva Basketweaver Collective

- Our local Tongva community participates in the Tongva Basketweaver Collective, part of the Tongva Cultural Collective, an organization that educates members on the spiritual, material, and cultural history of Tongva people
- The TBC spent a weekend at the Nature Center, learning about different weaving and material preparation techniques, working on their basketry and other weavings, and connecting with family and friends from the community



California Native Plant Society Fall Plant Sale



- The South Coast chapter of the California Native Plant Society held their annual fall plant sale at the Nature Center!
- Plants were provided by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy and Tree of Life Nursery
- This year's plant sale ended 2.5 hours early because CNPS had completely sold out of plants!

Turtle and Tortoise Day

- The Nature Center welcomed the California Turtle and Tortoise Society for Turtle and Tortoise Day at the Marsh
- Members of CT&TS showcased a variety of turtles and tortoises, educated visitors on proper care for these creatures, and adopted out 20 turtles and tortoises to community members
- Over 700 people attended, a record year for Turtle and Tortoise Day!



Wishing peaceful passage onto the next plane, our beloved animal ambassador snakes, Scooby (Gopher Snake) and Nala (California King Snake)





When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world. – John Muir

When you wake up and you see that the Earth is not just the environment, the Earth is us, you touch the nature of interbeing. – Thich Nhat Hanh

What's Coming Up in 2026

Nature Festival on Saturday, April 25



2nd Madrona Marsh Science Expo on
Saturday, May 23



Thank You



TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: TED STEVENS, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

BY: BRENT ABELSON, MANAGEMENT AIDE

SUBJECT: Receive and file status update on the community outreach plan for the possible renaming of Columbia Park.

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file status update on the community outreach plan for the possible renaming of Columbia Park to Ted T. Tanouye Park.

Background

At the February 11, 2026, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the following concerns were raised by members of the Commission:

- The ability for users to complete multiple surveys and skew the numbers
- The ability for users to lie about their residency status
- Civil discussion in the Comments section
- Lack of community meetings with residents
- Missing cost estimate of Option 2
- Available data
- Our ability to adjust our outreach strategy if necessary

Community Outreach Plan Update:

- Zen City uses deduplication to invalidate multiple survey attempts from the same user.
- Zen City is unable to geolocate responses and cannot confirm a user's residency status.
- Users will need to create an account using a valid email address to post comments.
- The page will have AI moderators to screen out inappropriate and offensive comments.
- Recreation Services has compiled a list of homeowners and neighborhood associations and is prepared to start planning meetings after the page is live.
- A new section "Outreach Events" will include the Cherry Blossom Festival, the Summer Concert Series, and meetings with homeowners and neighborhood associations.
- The estimated project cost of Option 2, \$75,000 - \$350,000 has been added to the page.
- Available data includes survey responses, trends, and how the survey was accessed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Stevens

Ted Stevens
Community Services Director

Attachments:

1. Landing page screen shots

City of
TORRANCE



Columbia Park Renaming

We invite the community to help us find an inspiring way to honor Torrance resident Ted T. Tanouye. Below, you can review the proposed options and share your thoughts by clicking the survey button. You can also learn more about Ted and the history of Columbia Park.

Option 1: Rename Columbia Park to Ted T. Tanouye Park

On April 7, 2025, the City Manager's Office staff submitted a Naming Facilities Application on behalf of Councilmember Jon Kaji. The application requested City Council's consideration to rename Columbia Park to Ted T. Tanouye Park. The Ad Hoc Naming of Public Facilities Committee met on Tuesday September 2, 2025. The Committee voted 3-0 for the item to be brought to council for further considerations. The item to rename Columbia Park was introduced at the October 7, 2025 City Council meeting, where the City Council voted to defer the item to the Parks and Recreation Commission for further comment and discussion. At the November 12, 2025 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (6-0) to recommend further research and increase community outreach.

Staff did not identify any conditions in Resolution 68-164 which would prevent the City from renaming Columbia Park.

Estimated Project Cost \$20,000 - \$55,000

Option 2: Create Ted T. Tanouye Park in an alternative location

This was proposed by Councilmember Dr. Gerson at the January 13, 2026 City Council meeting, as an option for consideration.

This option would establish a new park titled, "Ted T. Tanouye Memorial Park"

The triangle featuring the Ted T. Tanouye Memorial would be combined with the identical triangle on the north side of Carson Street. This would become Ted T. Tanouye Memorial Park.



The section of El Prado Avenue that runs between Torrance High School and the existing memorial, would be renamed Ted T. Tanouye Memorial Drive. This means that the park address would be on Ted T. Tanouye Memorial Drive. The section of Manuel Avenue at the southwest end of El Prado park, that runs between the park and the triangle would be renamed to Go for Broke Way. This would honor Ted's Army unit, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT).



A new memorial monument honoring the 442nd RCT would be established at the triangle on the north side of Carson Street.

A new memorial monument honoring the 442nd RCT would be established at the triangle on the north side of Carson Street.



Estimated Project Cost \$75,000 - \$350,000
(Wide price range is dependent on selection of final monument.)

Option 3: Do not implement either proposal

Make no changes to Columbia Park and area around the current Ted T. Tanouye Memorial.

Existing Ted T. Tanouye Recognition

Currently, Ted Tanouye is honored at the Ted T. Tanouye Memorial located at 220 W. Carson Street, Torrance, CA 90501, near Torrance High School.

Additionally, the National Guard Armory at 2505 Cabrillo Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501, was renamed the Ted Tanouye National Armory on May 19, 2002. Mr. Tanouye is also honored on the Veterans Memorial Wall in front of City Hall at the corner of Torrance Boulevard and Maple Avenue.

▼ Ted T. Tanouye Biography

Ted T. Tanouye was born on November 14, 1919 in Torrance. He was a lifelong resident of Torrance, and part of Torrance High School's graduating class of 1938. Despite the passage of Executive Order 9066, which incarcerated Japanese Americans, Tanouye enlisted in the U.S. Army in February 1942 and served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. On July 7, 1944, he was wounded in action at Hill 140. After receiving medical attention, Ted was back in the field and wounded again two months later. He died of his wounds after five days and was honored with the Distinguished Service Cross. This honor was later upgraded to the Medal of Honor on June 21, 2000, during a ceremony held at the White House, where President Bill Clinton honored 22 Japanese American veterans of World War II, primarily from the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Additionally, Tanouye was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on October 5, 2010, following Public Law 111-254, signed by President Barack Obama, which granted the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service the Congressional Gold Medal.

▼ "Go for Broke" Ted T. Tanouye's Time in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team

Even before the start of World War II, thousands of Japanese American patriots had enlisted in the United States Army and the Hawaii Territorial Guard. On February 1, 1943, the War Department reclassified Nisei men, ending their status as enemy aliens, making them eligible for the draft. That day, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was formed. The War Department called for 4,000 volunteers for the 442nd RCT, and over 10,000 enlisted.

On April 22, 1944, the 442nd RCT departed for Europe and saw their first action at the Anzio beachhead on June 6, 1944. The 442nd RCT played a pivotal role in liberating Rome, liberating French prisoners of war at Moribach and liberating holocaust survivors at Dachau. After VE Day, members of the 442nd volunteered to serve in the Pacific to defeat the Japanese. The 442nd RCT had a motto of "Go For Broke", a Hawaiian phrase for giving it your all, and became known as the Go For Broke Regiment.

▼ History of Columbia Park

In June 1968, Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc. donated 17.2 acres of land to the City of Torrance, to be used for physical activity and recreation. This was the largest single public land donation in the history of the City. On July 23, 1968 the City Council passed a unanimous resolution (Resolution No. 68-164) to name this land, Columbia Park.

Columbia Park was not fully realized until 1978, but it remains the largest and one of the most utilized parks in Torrance. The park continues to be the home of the KNX radio tower, originally installed by Columbia Broadcasting. The park features a thriving community garden program beginning with 52 plots in January 1975 and has expanded to 125 individual plots. Columbia Park features 4 lighted soccer fields, regularly used by AYSO. The 1.33 mile exercise path is very popular with local residents.

In April 2025, the Torrance City Council approved the construction of a World War II Camp Wall Monument at Columbia Park. This wall will honor the 125,000 unjustly incarcerated Japanese Americans. Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi secured a \$5 million state grant to educate the public on mass incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.



Stay notified

Sign up to receive email notifications about upcoming engagements, reports and the latest project related news.

Your Name

Your E-mail

Stay informed about

- Columbia Park Renaming**
- All Torrance, CA Projects**

This form collects your name and email so that we can send you updates about your idea. Check out our [Privacy Policy](#) to see how we protect and manage your submitted data.

I consent to having Torrance, CA collect my name and email address.*

Sign up for notifications

[Cancel](#)

← Project Page

Join the Conversation

Share your feedback, ask questions, and join the conversation about the 2026 Armed Forces Day Parade celebration. We want to hear from you!

Log in or sign up to leave a comment

Log In

Sign Up

0 Comment

Sort by : Newest ▼

Stay Informed

Get notified on upcoming engagements and the latest project related news.

Sign up for notifications

Note: This screen shot is from the Armed Forces Day Parade page. The “Join the Conversation” section will look identical for the Columbia Park Renaming page.

Columbia Park Renaming

Thank you for taking time to consider the different options of honoring Ted T. Tanouye. No we'd like to hear from you! Please fill out this quick survey and let your voice be heard.

Did you read everything above?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do you live or work in Torrance?

<input type="radio"/> Live
<input type="radio"/> Work
<input type="radio"/> Both
<input type="radio"/> Neither

Do you visit Columbia Park?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do you support renaming Columbia Park to Ted T. Tanouye Park and any additions associated with the proposal? (Option 1)

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: TED STEVENS, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

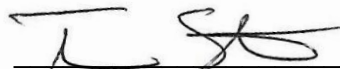
Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file Community Services Department updates.

- City Librarian Recruitment
- Movie Night Soccer Clinic - Saturday, March 7 at 4 pm at Wilson Park
- Cherry Blossom Festival – Sunday, March 29 11 am to 4 pm at Columbia Park
- Torrance Dodger Day – Sunday, August 16 at 1:10 pm vs Brewers

Capital Projects Update:

- Wilson Park/Jefferson Street Frontage Improvements project is being advertised for bid by Public Works later this month
- Columbia Park WWII Monument naming update
- Paradise Park has reached 30% in design, and the CEQA will be kicked off soon.
- El Nido Park is in the CEQA process

Respectfully submitted,



Ted Stevens
Community Services Director

Attachment:

1. Movie Night Soccer Clinic Flyer
2. Cherry Blossom Festival Flyer

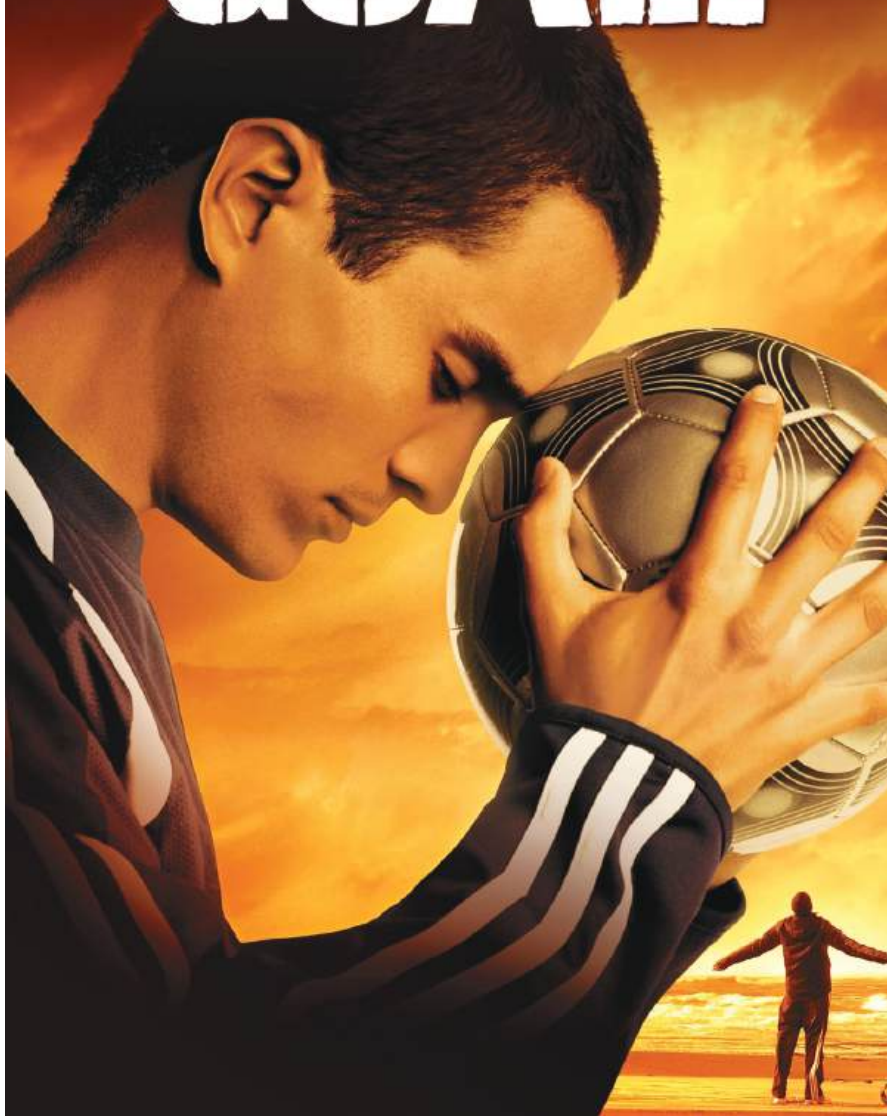
MOVIE NIGHT SOCCER CLINIC



Saturday, March 7, 2026
Wilson Park Amphitheatre
 2200 Crenshaw Blvd. Torrance, CA



GOAL!



PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF
 TORRANCE & LA GALAXY

City of
TORRANCE
 California



FREE

Soccer Clinic

4 – 5 p.m.

Check-in: 3:30 p.m.

Age groups:

5–8 and 9–12

50 participants per group
 (100 total)

Registration required

Followed By:

Outdoor Movie Night

GOAL!
The Dream Begins

5:30 p.m.

Scan the QR code or visit
<https://bit.ly/3ZGjKBT>
 to register

First come, first served. Parent/Guardian
 account required for each child.



City of
TORRANCE
California

Community Services Department Presents

CHERRY BLOSSOM CULTURAL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

11 AM - 4 PM

COLUMBIA PARK

4045 190TH ST, TORRANCE 90503

*FREE Community Event
Family Friendly
Free Art Projects
Pan-Asian Performances
Arts and Crafts Fair
Food Trucks*

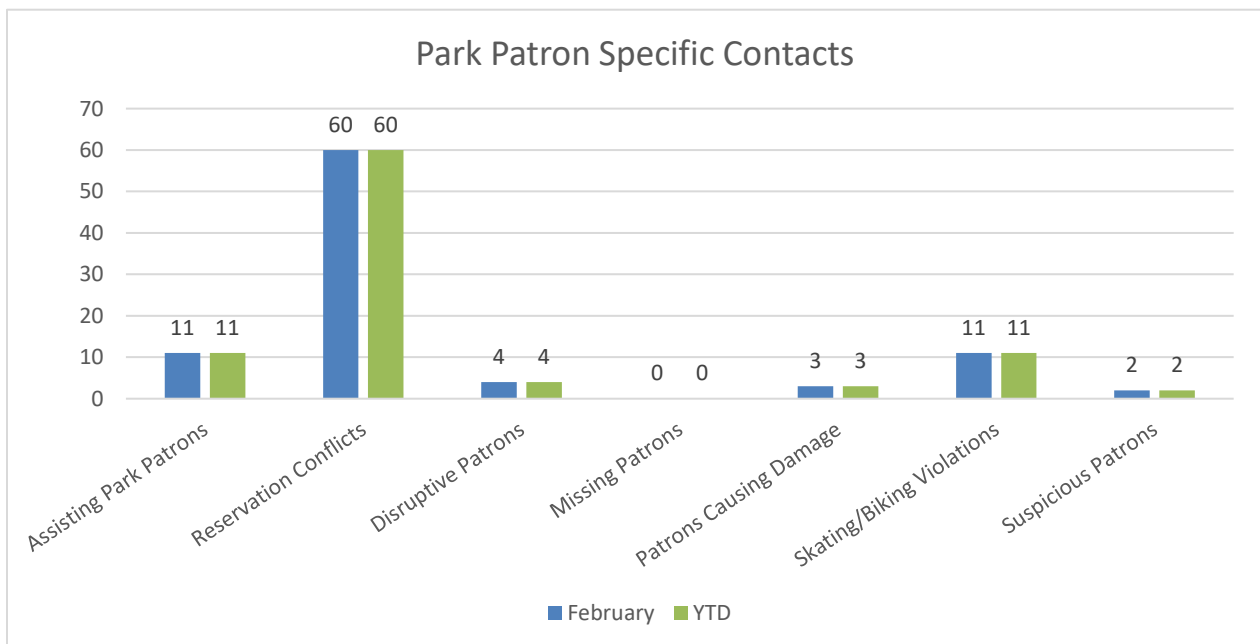
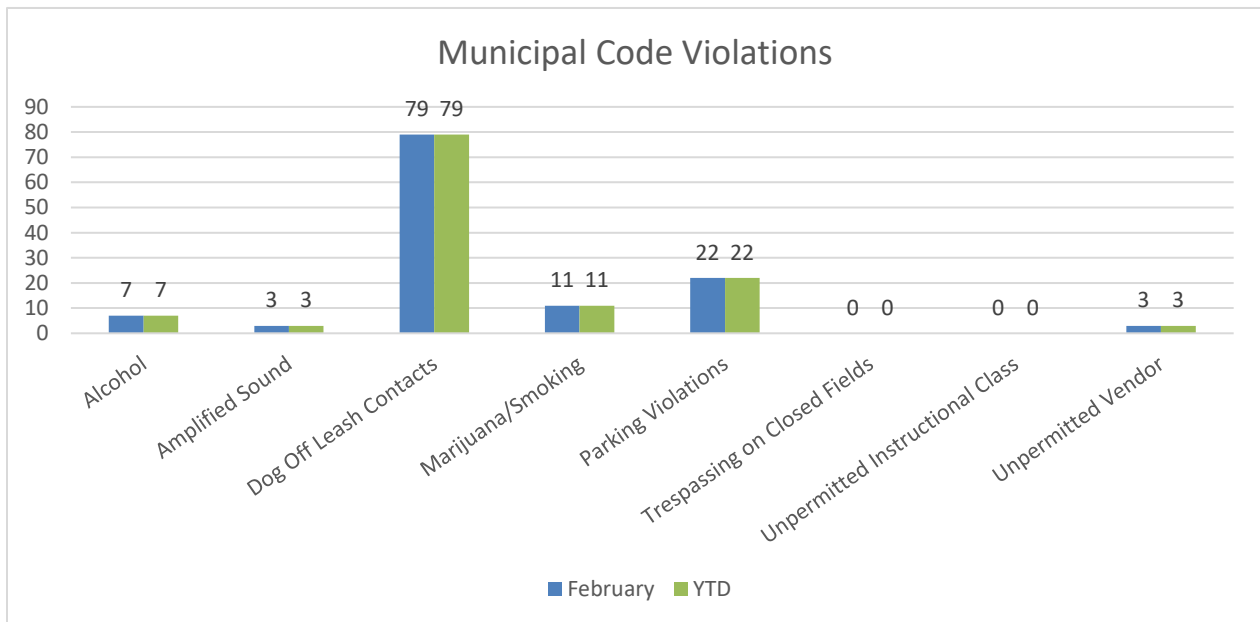
**FREE PARKING AND SHUTTLE SERVICE
PROVIDED AT 20420 MADRONA AVE.**

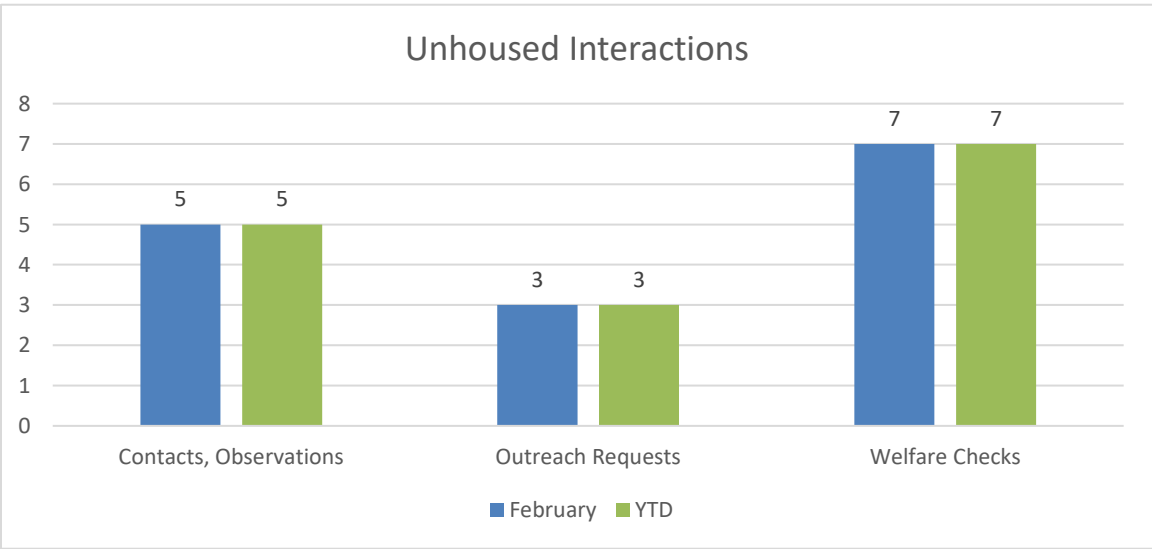
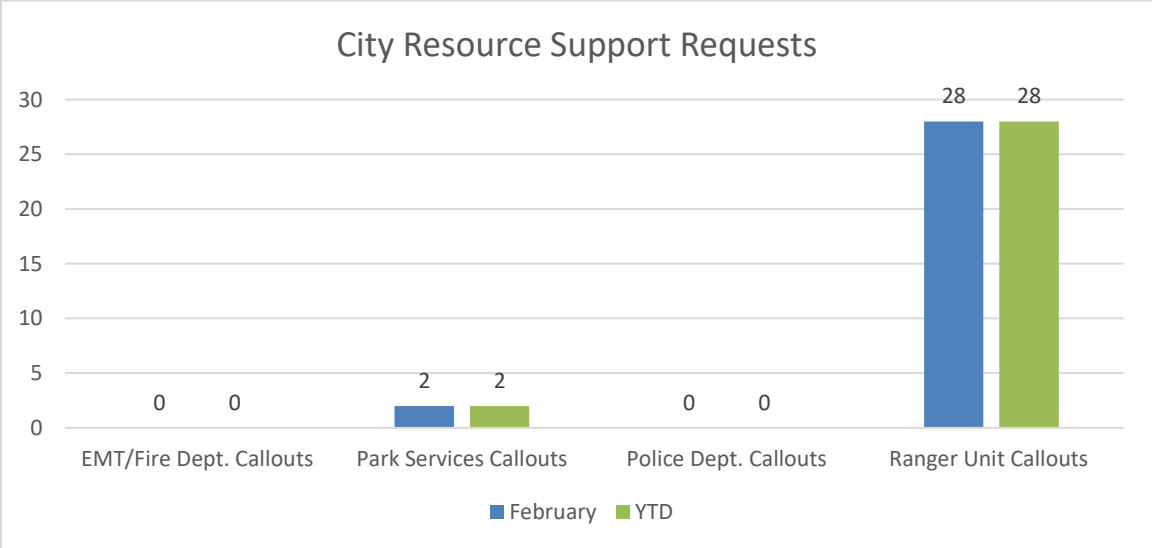
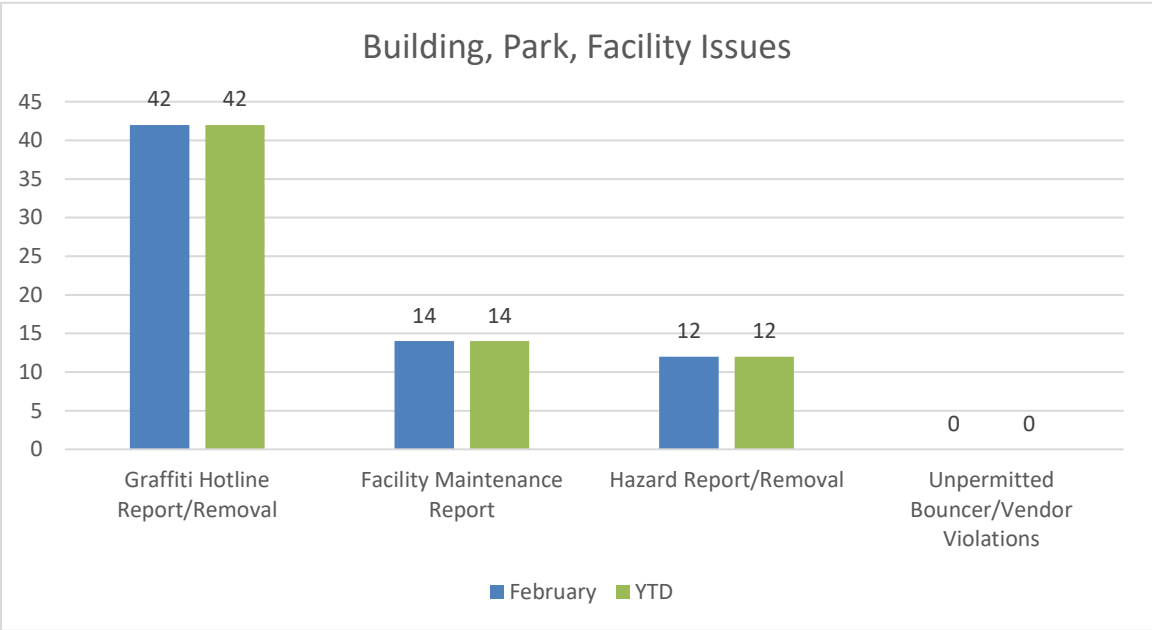
TorranceCa.Gov/CherryBlossomFestival

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: TED STEVENS, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – February 2026

PARK RANGER PROGRAM – Victor Arevalo, Program Supervisor

During the month of February, the Ranger Unit maintained a consistent deployment schedule, not including holidays.



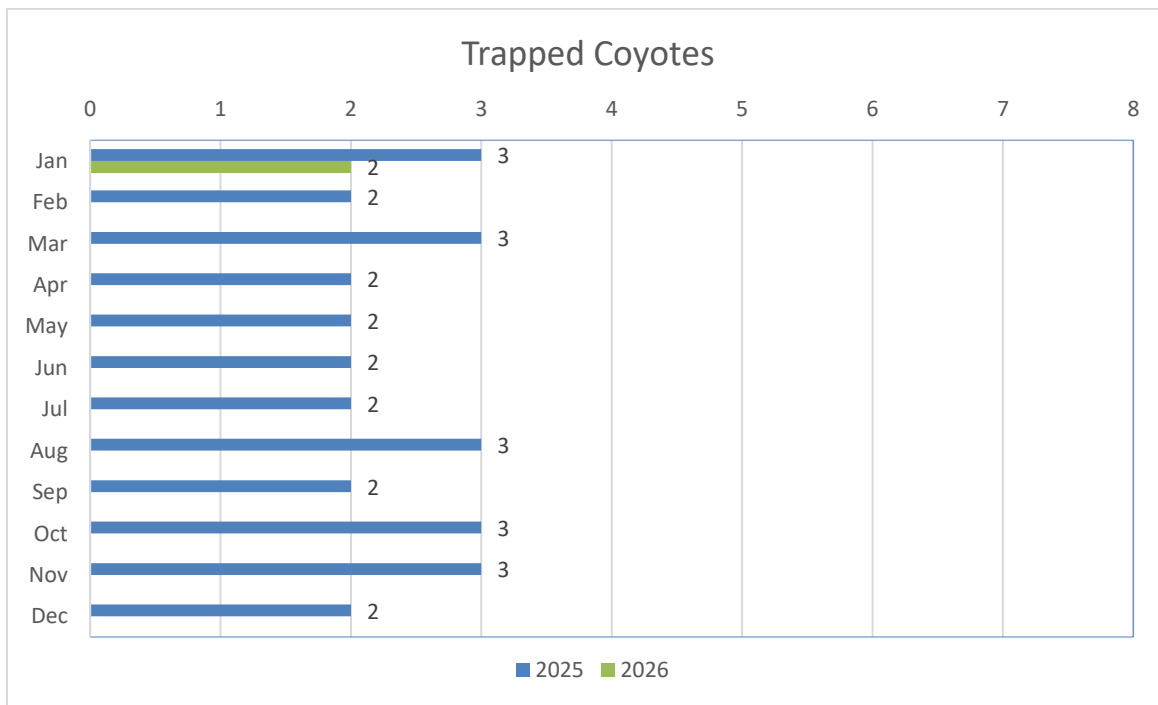
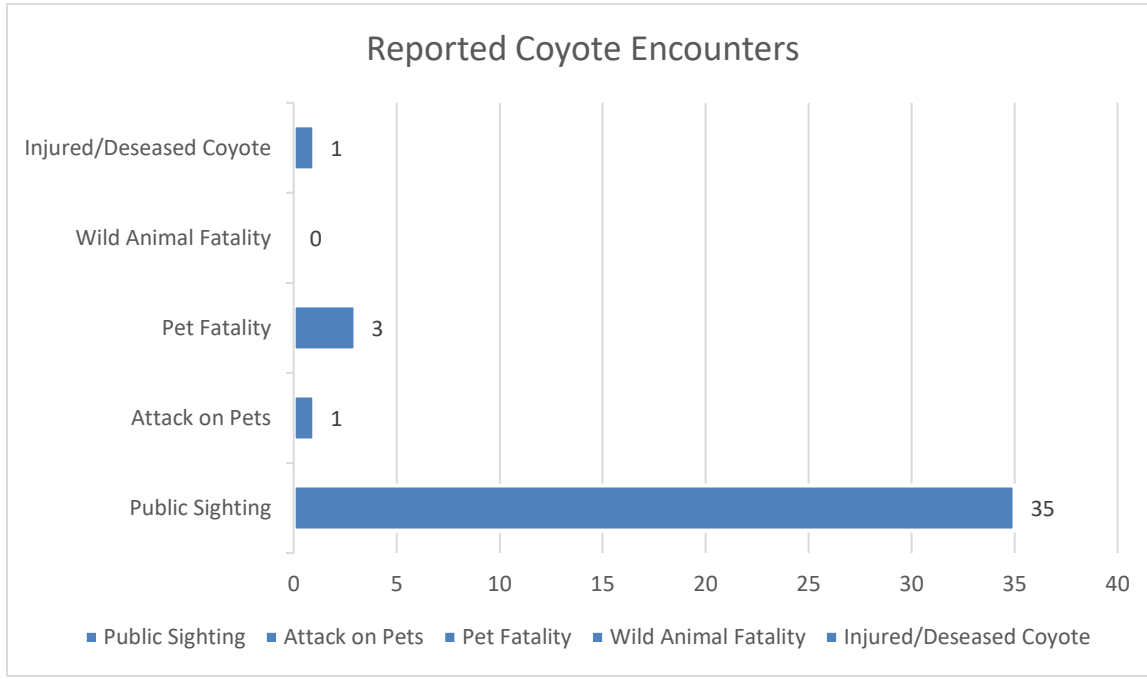


ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAMS – Victor Arevalo, Program Supervisor

Coyote abatement facilitates trapping Monday through Sunday.

Coyote Report:

This month, 40 coyote encounters were reported by the public, with 2 captured by the vendor.



Pet Licensing: Elizabeth Pose, Administrative Assistant

The City’s pet licensing program with DocuPet continues servicing Torrance residents.

*Licenses purchased in DocuPet	Licenses purchased offline	Total Licenses Sold	Year to Date
348	47	395	860

**Statistics provided may not be finalized as the official pet licensing data is received from DocuPet at the end of the second week every month.*

FARMER’S MARKET PROGRAM – Joyce Chan, Farmer’s Market Manager

Seasonal produce highlights:

- Citrus Abundance:
 - Ken Lee’s Top Notch Daisy Mandarins
 - Burkdoll Farms’ Golden Nugget Tangerines
- Fresh Produce:
 - English Peas from Smith Farms

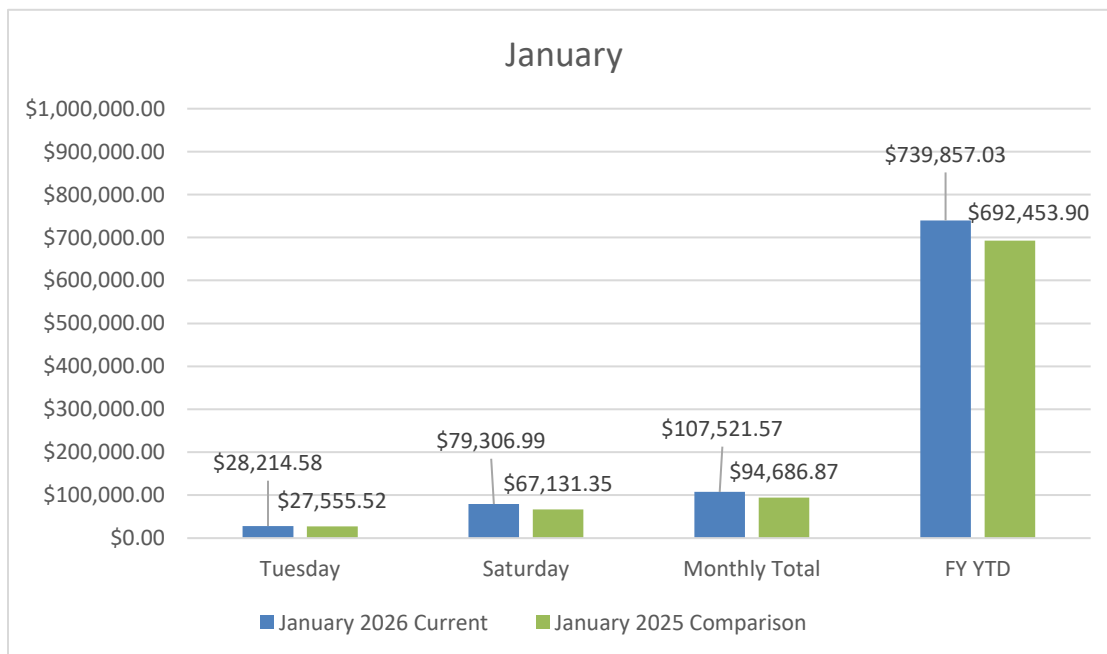
New Vendor:

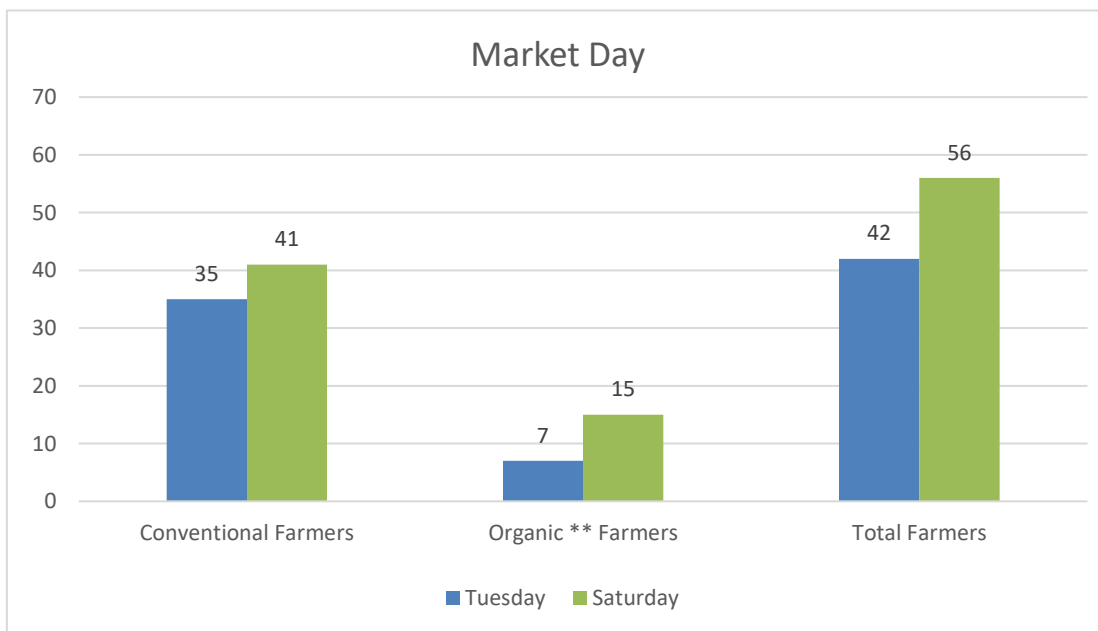
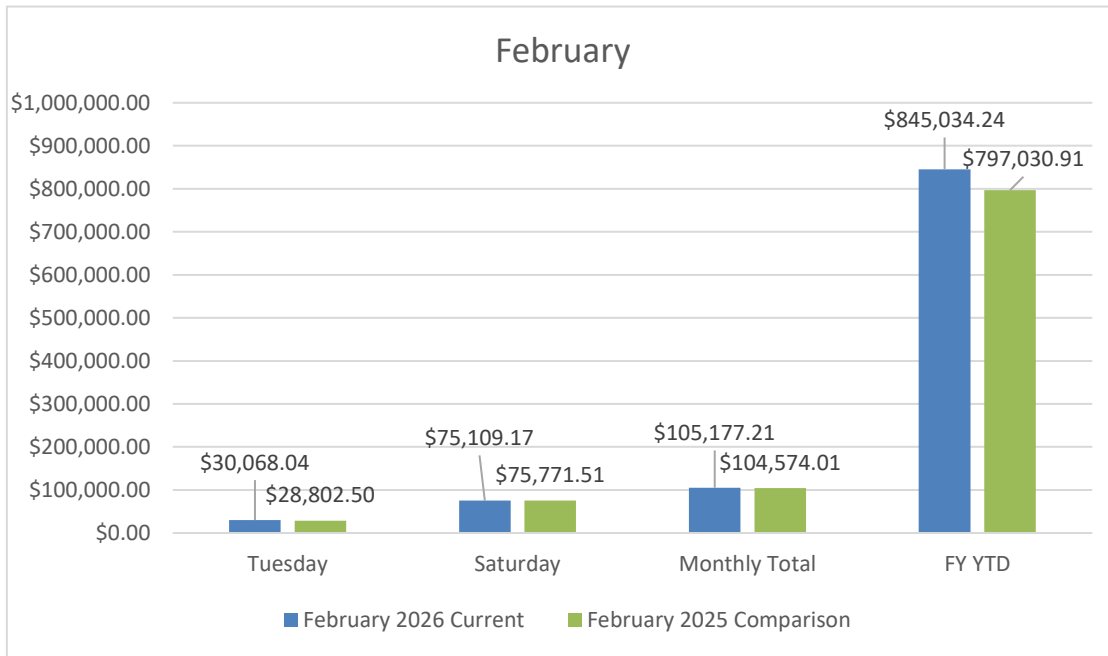
- Oasia Farms specializes in spirulina, a nutrient-rich superfood that may boost energy and support immune health.

The Market also embraced the season with community-focused celebrations.

- Valentine’s Day:
 - Children decorated Valentine cards.
- Lunar New Year:
 - Partnered with Piizaa for horseshoe-shaped pizzas, symbolizing good fortune.
 - Coloring activities for kids added to the festivities.

As always, Market remains a vibrant hub for local produce and specialty products, fostering community connections and celebrations.





***Certified Organic Farmers require additional permits, soil tests, additional 3rd party organic registration, etc. Additional permitting can be quite costly for small family farmers. Thus, some farmers who do not use pesticides may not identify as a “Certified Organic Farmer,” because of the high costs involved.*

COMMUNITY GARDENS PROGRAM – Joyce Chan, Farmer’s Market Manager

Community Gardens has implemented a new waitlist system designed to enhance the efficiency of filling available plots. Staff members are actively reaching out to residents on the waitlist, offering them the opportunity to secure a garden plot. Residents can also conveniently sign up for the waitlist through the Torrance website. This initiative is expected to significantly reduce wait times and ensure that empty plots are filled more quickly. In addition, staff have been diligently

weeding the plots on a weekly basis, maintaining the gardens' attractiveness and readiness for new gardeners.

Staff are now working on the bi-annual registration of Columbia Park Gardens for March, 2026. We look forward to Spring planting and new gardeners!

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – Shawn Plunkett, Program Supervisor

Ongoing Projects	Completed Projects	Total Completed Projects YTD
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential: 6• Modular: 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential: 5• Modular: 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential: 12• Modular: 3

**Projects include but not limited to: ADA upgrades, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, etc.*

Respectfully submitted,



Ted Stevens
Community Services Director

TO : PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: VINCENT STANOJEVIC, PARK SERVICES MANAGER
SUBJECT: PARK SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026

ALL PARKS

During February 2026, the members of Park Services maintained a consistent schedule of Park Maintenance represented below:

* MONTHLY PARKS & PARK FACILITY MAINTENANCE	Qty	Hours
Tree limbs picked up	9	n/a
Mow crew service to 33 parks. Note: Rain delays	251	Acres
Projects crew completed projects for June	9	Projects
Weed & Gopher abatement	17	Jobs

**Daily Park Maintenance includes restrooms, trash, irrigation, debris cleanup, landscapes, safety and playground checks.*

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROJECTS COMPLETED BY DISTRICT

District 1 – Descanso, Guenser, La Carretera, Mc Master, Osage

- Guenser Park - One large Pine tree trimmed.
- Osage Park - Sandboxes were rototilled for safety under the playground area.

District 2 – Entradero, La Romeria, Paradise, Sunnyglen, Victor

- Entradero Park - New landscaping done on the south entrance, Hallison side.
- Paradise Park - A new Rainbow Eucalyptus Tree planted for a Tree Dedication on the west side of the park. Completed restoration and installation of new main entrance park sign. Installed a new dedication bench and new plaque west of playground area.

District 3 – City Yard, Civic Center, Columbia, Delthorne, El Nido, Greenwood, Pequeno

- Columbia Park - Sandboxes were rototilled for safety under the playground area.
- Pequeno Park - Sandboxes were rototilled for safety under the playground area, and 4 trees were planted along the south fence line.
- City Yard - Completed cleanup of Parks Bay and workshop areas for City Manager visit.
- El Nido - Completed delivery of diamond dirt to baseball field for leveling project.

District 4 – Bartlett/Historical, Downtown, El Prado, Pueblo, Southeast Library, Sur la Brea, Torrance, Torrance Scout Center, Wilson Park

- Southeast Library - Location sign revamped and building planters were relandscaped with new irrigation installed.

- Torrance Park - Five (5) Juniper Trees removed near the horseshoe pits due to degradation.
- Wilson Park - Three (3) softball tournaments held and staff provided maintenance services. Provided two pallets of field drying agent, pumped all fields to dry after the heavy rains. Completed another section of the Annenberg treehouse lower rail repairs.
- Downtown - Drained the Kennedy Keller fountain & prepped site for conversion to an organic planter.

District 5 – El Retiro, Lago Seco, La Paloma, Los Arboles, Miramar, Riviera, Seaside Heroes, Sea Aire Golf Course

- Lago Seco – All trees in the park were trimmed and given crown reductions.
- La Paloma – All trees trimmed including crown reduction for large pine tree.
- Los Arboles – Two (2) new trees planted by staff for a tree dedication. Continued hillside restoration north of playground. Installed 10 cubic yards of base rock and dirt.
- El Retiro - Domestic water supply line repaired.

District 6 - Alta Loma, De Portola, Discovery, Hickory, Waltheria

- De Portola – WCA finished the first phase of tree trimming.
- Alta Loma - Completed lower gate repair at park entrance.

VOLUNTEERS

Assignment	Volunteers	Hours
Live Steamers	28	410
Wilson Horseshoe Pits	1	14
Madrona Marsh Preserve /Nature Center	107	686
Cherry Trees (city wide)	9	9
Seaside Heroes Park	12	30
Civic Center Veteran’s Memorial and Rose Garden	8	8
Civic Center Pine Wind Garden	0	0
Entradero Park	2	18
Wilson Park	107	142
Guenser Park	5	27
Los Arboles Park	3	4.5
Pequeno Park	1	7
Lago Seco Park	4	12
TOTAL	287	1367.5

MADRONA MARSH PRESERVE and NATURE CENTER (MMP)

February Attendance Numbers:
 Preserve: 2086 people
 Nature Center: 599 people

Precipitation:
 Precipitation: 2.83”
 Seasonal total (Oct.1, 2025 to present): 13.15”

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Regularly Scheduled Programs:

Program	Dates & Attendance				
Friday Fun (Every Friday)	Feb. 6 16	Feb. 13 16	Feb. 20 35	Feb. 27 25	
Nature Storytime	Feb. 12 28				
Tyke Hike	Feb. 5 8				
Nature Walk (Every Saturday)	Feb. 7 8	Feb. 14 5			
Henrietta Basin Walk	Feb. 21 8				
Night Hike	Feb. 14 15 (full)				
South Bay Parkland Conservancy Restoration at Henrietta Basin	Feb. 21 17				
PV/South Bay Audubon Chapter Meeting	Feb. 17 20				
PV/South Bay Audubon Bird Walk	Feb. 28 12				

Events and Projects:

- On Feb. 28, Eagle Scout Kadin Heise completed his Eagle Scout Project to overhaul and repair the Preserve’s irrigation quick couplers and replace the potting bench in the propagation nursery. He brought 35 kids and parents from Troop 860 of Hermosa Beach to help with the installation.
- Over 50 children participated in the Discovery Zone for Kids nature-themed arts program on Feb. 21. This program is on a walk-in basis once a month through the school year and occurs more frequently during spring, summer, and winter break.
- Several standing dead trees – “snags” – fell over in the Preserve following the period of heavy rain and strong winds in mid-February. Hazardous limbs and trail clearance have been addressed. More cleanup remains once the waters in the ponds recede, but some of the larger tree specimens will be allowed to decompose in place, to regenerate the soil with nutrients and to serve as a teachable moment for visitors.

Preserve and Facility Maintenance:

Maintenance Activity	Description	Hours
Trash Removal	Repeated cleaning down Madrona and Sepulveda	10
Tree Maintenance	Removing dead wood, broken branches	10
Irrigation Maintenance	Irrigation breaks + repairs near restoration sheds and biofilter	8
Seasonal Maintenance	Weeding (curly dock, wild radish, chrysanthemum, sow thistle)	250

VOLUNTEERS

Assignment	Volunteers	Hours
Advanced Restoration Crew	19	120:23
Animal Care	3	3:57
Docent (tours/outreach)	12	55:09
Education Programs	5	35:13
Gift Shop Clerk (21 yrs or older)	9	48:31
Habitat Support & Maintenance	1	7:27
Native Plant Propagation	3	7:39
Nature Center Maintenance Support	0	0
Preserve Entrance Greeter	15	103:47
Reception Desk Greeter	9	85:54
Restoration Program	51	135:13
Research Assistant	0	0
Special Assignment	5	76:30
Outreach (events & schools)	3	4:19
Total	107	686:22

Respectfully submitted,



Vincent Stanojevic
Park Services Manager

CONCUR:



Ted Stevens
Community Services Director

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: GARRETT CRAIG, RECREATION SERVICES MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECREATION SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2026

The following is information regarding Recreation Division programs and facilities for February.

FACILITY BOOKING AND REGISTRATION –*Veronica Minter, Sr. Recreation Supervisor, Kenita Trinidad, Facility & Registration Recreation Supervisor and Suzy Corzine, Sr. Program Specialist*

Facility Booking:

Park	Picnics	Guests
Columbia Park	7	350
El Nido Park	2	75
El Retiro Park	1	50
Hickory Park		
Lago Seco Park	2	90
McMaster Park	2	50
Paradise Park	2	100
Torrance Park	3	75
Victor Park	1	50
Walteria Park		
Wilson Park	10	425
Total	30	1265

Facilities Revenue Report:

	February 2026	2026 YTD	February 2025
Attic	\$ 100.00	\$ 414.00	
Facility Reservations	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 15,310.00	\$ 240.00
Field Lights/Support	\$ 2,025.00	\$ 8,245.00	\$12,122.00
Field Prep	\$ 105.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 210.00
Filming Permits			\$ 500.00
Hockey Rink	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,550.00	\$3,128.00
Picnic Reservations	\$ 13,695.00	\$ 25,475.00	\$12,470.00
Pool Rental	\$ 16,721.25	\$ 16,721.25	\$9,820.00
Special Events	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$3,650.00
Sports Center	\$ 225.00	\$ 10,275.00	\$7,464.00
LA Galaxy Sports Complex	\$ 29,205.00	\$ 36,025.00	\$35,580.00
Weddings	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00	
Total	\$ 74,576.25	\$ 126,495.25	\$85,184.00

Registration:

Registration processed a total of 982 transactions for a total of \$186,058.41 during the month of February:

	Resident	Non-Resident	Total Transactions	February 2026 Total Fees	February 2025 Total Fees
Staff	78	104	182	\$43,482.01	\$72,638.00
Web	518	282	800	\$142,576.40	\$287,900.00
Total	596	386	982	\$186,058.41	\$360,538.00

YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS / AQUATICS / SEA-AIRE – Allison Saufua, Senior Recreation Supervisor; Justin Ferneau, Recreation Supervisor; Jacob Castillo, Recreation Supervisor, Traci Fuentes, Senior Program Specialist–Youth Sports and Darius Holmes, Senior Program Specialist– Adult Sports

Aquatics:

- February was a steady and productive month for Aquatics as we continued preparing for the upcoming summer season. Swim lesson enrollment remained strong despite colder weather, with most classes near capacity and positive participant feedback from session 1.
- Torrance Torpedoes has officially returned and will be offered for the remainder of the year.
- Lifeguard in-service training focused on summer readiness and operational consistency. Staff reviewed surveillance techniques, rescue scenarios, CPR/AED skills and emergency action plans.
- Rec. Swim - 70
- Masters - 80
- Swim Torrance - 2,350
- Lap Swim - 1,400

Youth Sports:

- Winter basketball is set to finish the season on March 10. This year, championship games for 7th grade and up, for both the boys and girls, will be played at Dee Hardison’s full court.
- The TUSD gymnasiums helped a lot with indoor practices and games.
- This has been a successful season of hiring officials and scorekeepers. Huge shout out to Lyndsay McAngus and Ireland Rogers for stepping up and working the move up shift as Senior Program Specialist.
- Volleyball registration is set to open registration the first week of March.
- The co-ed volleyball program will start in April and will continue throughout June.

Adult Sports:

- The Adult Softball winter season has started. This is a 6-week program due to the weather and is scheduled to conclude in April.
- The Roller Rink rentals took a bit of a hit with the rain that occurred during the month. Staff have been working really hard to keep it dry and safe for the skaters. The Zamboni is scheduled to be serviced in March. The squeegees need to be replaced.
- Drop in Pickleball increased from 2 days to 3 days. Fridays are now available for drop in. The time will remain the same from 10am to 2pm at the Dee Hardison Sports Center.
- Private gym and field rentals for basketball, baseball, softball and AYSO soccer have also continued to be strong throughout the month, and all patrons have shown, or expressed their satisfaction. Rentals have also been affected by the weather and several were moved to other fields or cancelled.

- Judo and youth cheerleading have been using the MPR frequently this month, and all have been enjoying their time at our facility. Kendo has also returned to the MPR this month and has expressed their happiness to be back at our facility.

Sea-Aire Golf Course:

- With February having only twenty-eight days and plenty of rainy windy cold days total attendance at Sea-Aire was less than most months. Total rounds played in February at Sea-Aire golf course were 2,016. The Sea-Aire Thursday Women's golf club and Friday Seniors golf club helped attendance for the month.
- The golf course is in some of the best shape we have seen in many months. The greens and fairways are improving and looking nice and green.
- The early February tree trimming project went well. They focused on a deep trim of the problem tree in front of number four green.
- Early plans are underway to hold another glow golf night at Sea-Aire in mid-June.
- With the start of Daylight Savings Time beginning March 8, the last tee-off time will be 5:30 p.m.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB / PARK DROP-IN / DAY CAMPS / VIRTUAL RECREATION – *Veronica Minter, Senior Recreation Supervisor; Nicole Madera, Recreation Supervisor and Alora Alvarado, Senior Program Specialist*

After School Club Program:

- Total enrollment is at 279 participants.
- The After School Club has been confirmed to return for the 2026-2027 school year. Our program will be offered at our same 10 school sites again, which we are excited about.
- The After School Club provided Valentine's Day cards to the Meals on Wheels recipients in Torrance. These are always well received.
- Each site is participating in a Social Media challenge and has created a video showcasing our program! The site with the most likes, shares, comments will get a pizza party.
- Wellness Wednesdays continue at the program, aiming to provide the participants with outlets to channel emotions and feelings.
- Eight staff members received a Staff of the Month award in February. These will be highlighted on social media in the coming weeks.

Day Camps:

- Spring Day Camp and Spring Teen Camp will be held Monday to Friday, March 30- April 3. Registration begins on March 3 for Torrance residents and March 10 for non-residents.

Social Media:

Torrance social media continues to gain followers and provide content and program information to residents. This month's social media content included:

- Bartlett Senior Center Employee of the Quarter— program spotlight
- Spring Seasons— program spotlight and story
- Trend Alert: Arnold ASC— program reel
- Centenarian Recognition – program spotlight
- Trend Alert: Victor ASC – program reel
- (2) Youth Sports Staff of the Week – program spotlight
- Happy Valentine's Day Cards – program spotlight
- TYC Senior Talent Show – program reel
- (2) ECE Winter Magic – program spotlight
- Updated Schedule for Indoor Pickleball – program spotlight and story
- WALTERIA Senior Center Mahjong and Bridge Games— program spotlight

TEENS / CO-REC / YOUTH COUNCIL / SENIOR CITIZENS / COMMISSION ON AGING
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION / ADAPTIVE PROGRAMS / SPECIAL EVENTS

Jesus Castro, Senior Recreation Supervisor; Sal Campos, Recreation Supervisor; Charlene Walker, Recreation Supervisor; Linda Wilson-Gray, Senior Program Specialist; Cindy Tapp, Senior Program Specialist; Nena Mitchell, Senior Program Specialist

Special Events:

- None for the month of February.

Early Childhood Education (ECE):

- February was a fun and engaging month for ECE participants, filled with learning activities and holiday celebrations.
- The Fun and Friends class focused on letters N, O, and P, practicing tracing, and learning each letter’s sound.
- Students created Valentine’s crafts to share with their families, showcasing their creativity.
- The Early Explorers class learned about nocturnal winter animals and completed themed crafts featuring snowy owls, foxes, and raccoons, along with additional Valentine’s projects.
- Both classes celebrated together with a Valentine’s Day party, exchanging cards and treats, enjoying crafts and Bingo, watching a short Valentine’s movie, and sharing snacks. The event created a joyful and memorable experience for all participants.

Adaptive Recreation:

- On February 2, a lively group of PALS gathered at the McMaster Park Facility for an energetic and laughter-filled Bingo Night, bringing excitement and friendly competition to the evening.
- On Monday, February 9, a large group of friends came together at Hammer & Stain in Torrance for a festive Valentine’s craft session, spending the evening creating heartfelt projects in a fun and welcoming environment.
- On February 23, participants met at McMaster Park for Valentine’s themed movie night, complete with popcorn and a welcoming environment that encouraged connection and shared enjoyment.
- The Adaptive Sports and Special Olympics programs are in full swing, with four basketball teams training twice a week on Sundays and Wednesdays. Practices emphasize skill-building, strategy, and teamwork as athletes prepare for competition. In addition, 25 swimmers participated in Sunday morning practices, focusing on technique, endurance, and personal goal achievement. Both programs provide structured, supportive environments where athletes can thrive physically and socially.

PROGRAM	ATTENDANCE
Game Night	22
Basketball	55
Pickleball	28
Swim	25
Hammer and Stain	16
Movie Night	17
TOTAL	163

THE ATTIC Teen Center:

- THE ATTIC was closed to students on February 9 and 16, 2026.
- Regular after-school hours continued from 3:30–7:00 p.m. Throughout February, THE ATTIC Teen Center recorded a total attendance of 673, including both guests and members.

- Staff hosted board game days every Monday, featuring games such as Chess and UNO.
- Additional monthly activities offered to enhance recreation included DIY Valentine cards, fuse beads, ping pong, Hot Shot, Pictionary, and volleyball. These activities were led by Thomas French, Victoria Bustamante, and Nena Mitchell.
- Every Friday, Ryan Locano continued to lead the “Dungeons and Dragons Campaign.”
- Friday Movie Days were held, with screenings of *Good Will Hunting*, *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*, *In Her Shoes*, and *The Last Kiss*.
- THE ATTIC gym remains closed until further notice.
- On Saturday, February 21, THE ATTIC hosted a facility rental that generated strong revenue.

ATTIC Advisory Committee:

- The ATTIC Advisory Committee held its monthly meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026, with 18 members in attendance. Agenda topics included the Glow Sports Night debrief, the MADD event, the Pancake Breakfast, and planning for the upcoming February event.
- On Friday, February 13, from 5:30–6:30 p.m., the Advisory Committee hosted a “Hearts and Crafts” workshop. Students participated in an act of kindness by decorating placemats and engaging in rapid-fire questions—an activity designed to help participants get to know one another. The completed placemats were donated to the lunch program at the Bartlett Center. Students enjoyed collaborating for a meaningful cause, along with music, snacks, and the opportunity to meet new peers. A total of 25 youth attended the workshop.
- The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in THE ATTIC multi-purpose room.

Torrance Youth Council (TYC):

- The Youth Council held its regular scheduled meetings on Wednesday, February 4, and 18 in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.
- The Commission hosted its Second Annual Senior Center Talent Show at the Bartlett Senior Center on Monday, February 9, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The event was well attended with over 30 seniors and provided seniors with an enjoyable hour of outstanding performances by talented students from the Torrance High Schools which include North, South, West, Torrance, CAMS and Bishop Montgomery.
- The Torrance Youth Council held their third Senior Tech Day at the Bartlett Senior Center on Saturday, February 28, from 8:30 to 11:30am. The turnout was great, with over 20 seniors in attendance throughout the morning. This program continues to be one of the most popular ones. The commission will hold another event on Saturday, March 21.
- Committees continue to meet before and after the meeting to discuss and plan the upcoming Youth Forum, ASB Bowl, Beat the Odds and pancake breakfast events.

Commission on Aging (COA):

- The Commission met on Tuesday, February 3, at 9:30 a.m. in the West Annex Commission meeting room.
- A presentation by the University of Southern California on the study of The Alzheimer’s Savvy Caregier Program, presented by Yvette I. Cordero, B.S., from the Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging.
- The Commission officially announced its annual Older Americans Award Program. Nomination forms are now available, and the Commission is currently accepting nominations. This program recognizes outstanding older adults in our community who have made significant contributions through volunteerism, leadership, advocacy, and service. It is a wonderful opportunity to honor and celebrate the positive impact seniors continue to make in our city. The deadline to submit nominations is March 19, 2026.

Focal Point on Aging:

- The monthly meeting was held on Friday, February 20, 2026.
- Guest speaker Janet Ramirez from Geriatric Solutions Unlimited provided an overview of her services, which include assisting seniors with placement in appropriate housing based on individual needs. Her support is offered at no cost and includes coordinating tours, meeting with clients, assisting with medical paperwork, negotiating pricing, and providing ongoing follow-ups.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2026.
- Volunteers: 8
- Volunteer Hours: 116

Senior Citizens Programs (Bartlett Center, Tillim, Walteria)

- Vendor recruitment has begun for the Spring Arts and Crafts Fair, scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
- The Torrance Travelers excursion to the Getty Villa on Wednesday, February 25, is fully booked, and participants are excited for the first trip of 2026.
- Staff is working to secure new health, wellness, and financial presentations for seniors at Tillim Center. These offerings are expected to be well received, as presentations are currently held only at Bartlett.
- AARP is currently providing free federal and state tax preparations at the Russ Nolte Annex during tax season for anyone who meets the filing criteria.

Bartlett Center Activities:

- On Wednesday, February 18, the Foundation for Senior Services presented “*Senior Wellness: A Step-by-Step Guide to Medication Management*” to 10 attendees. Hadas Abouaf, a Gerontological Certified Nurse, explained practical strategies to prevent errors, improve safety, and support better health outcomes.
- Our festive Valentine’s Day Luncheon was held on Friday, February 13. Each senior received a special Valentine’s Day card from our After-School-Program participants and sweets, along with a special dessert.
- Our Crafts Workshop on Fridays, and our Beading Workshop on Tuesdays have seen a consistently strong crowd of 15-20 people weekly.

BARTLETT SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS AND CLASS ATTENDANCE

PROGRAM	ATTENDANCE
Beading Workshop	60
Cards	41
Craft Workshop	62
Drop-ins	33
Lapidary	28
Line Dancing	72
Paid Lunches	418
Pool	18
Senior Discussion (Friday afternoon)	13
Telephone Log	269
OLEF Chair Fusion	56
OLEF Fitness Difference	64
Salsa for Seniors	0
Walking Club	70
Gardening Club	0
Mini-Fitness Center	6

Coffee with Maxine	63
Meditation	13
English/Spanish Book Club	7
Volunteers	2
Wisdom Wednesday	5
Karaoke	16
Movies	37
Salsa for Seniors	51
TOTALS:	1,404

TILLIM SENIOR CENTER

PROGRAM	ATTENDANCE
Bingo	26
Cards	39
Creative Crafters	48
Drop-ins	5
Games	35
Pool	0
Telephone	4
Volunteers	0
Watercolor workshop	26
We Empower One Another	0
TOTALS	183

WALTERIA SENIOR CENTER

PROGRAM	ATTENDANCE
Cards	0
Games	0
Ping Pong	127
Drop-ins	0
TOTALS	127

Respectfully Submitted,


 Garrett Craig
 Recreation Services Manager

CONCUR:


 Ted Stevens
 Community Services Director



Afterschool participants during Wellness Wednesdays



Early Childhood Education classes enjoying a special Valentine's Day themed party!



PALS' program participants working on their Valentine craft project at Hammer & Stain in Torrance.



The Torrance Youth Council at Senior Tech Day at the Bartlett Senior Center.



Torrance High School students performing at the Bartlett Senior Center Talent Show.



Teens at THE ATTIC creating Spring themed placemats for Bartlett Center's Spring Luncheon