



Culver CITY

PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

ParksandRecreationCommission@culvercity.org

Chair
Kay Heineman
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TO: CULVER CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
RE: PRCS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 – COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS
DATE: 17 MARCH 2021

Dear City Council Members:

Our Commission is pleased that we have been invited again to send recommendations to the Council on funding for new programs and capital improvement projects for the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department (PRCS). In light of the ongoing emergency situation and anticipated budget restraints, our recommendations this fiscal year are focused primarily on continued support of our hard-working staff and their ongoing efforts to make our parks facilities available to the community during the pandemic.

With the increase in cleaning requirements required due to the pandemic, staff has had to de-prioritize other field maintenance activities. Based on the findings in the [PRZ Sports Turf Consulting Report on Turf Fields in Culver City](#) presented at the 5 Nov 2019 commission meeting, the staffing levels at the time were inadequate to maintain the turf and irrigation systems and are in worse shape with the additional cleaning requirements. The current team only has the capacity to fix major issues as they arise. We request the following items to support our Parks maintenance team:

- Funding for 4 Field Maintenance positions, including 2 Senior Irrigation Maintenance Technicians – \$375K (Ongoing Cost) – The Commission believes that an increase in staffing will result in improved field maintenance, a reduction in water usage, and manage to sustain our fields.
- Additional turf maintenance equipment – \$90K (One-time Cost) – To allow our maintenance staff to work more efficiently, the turf report has recommended the procurement of a new Aerway Aerator, a new overseeder, and a new mower. This equipment will work with our current tractors to allow dramatically increase staff efficiency and support future recommended maintenance upgrades.
- Irrigation Study – \$100K (One-time Cost) – Our current irrigation systems are 40+ years old and are in need of modernization. Funding an irrigation study will better inform PRCS on the most cost and water effective way to upgrade/replace our irrigation systems to meet the demands of our field usage.

Finally, we want to seek additional funding to continue offering new community-wide park programming:

- Holiday Tree Lighting – \$15K (Ongoing Cost) – The community has appreciated the enhancements to these annual events over the last few years. Continued funding will allow this successful event to continue to attract and delight the entire community.

In the pandemic, Parks and Recreation amenities have provided vital opportunities for residents to take a break from quarantining in their homes and outlets for exercise and relaxation. Even though this year's budget constraints will delay the commission's multiyear improvement plan for the entire PRCS portfolio, we are requesting budget that will provide not only short-term improvements for our staff, but also support future enhancements to for the community.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION