

City of Gilroy
Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 16, 2025 | 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Ramirez at 5:59 p.m.

2.

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Luis Ramirez, Chair Javier Martinez, Vice Chair Jesse Jimenez, Commissioner Emily Miller, Commissioner
Absent	Salvatore Bozzo, Commissioner Jorge Vargas, Commissioner

3. FLAG SALUTE

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The meeting packet was posted on Wednesday, September 17, 2025.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1. August 19, 2025

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Chair Ramirez

SECONDER Commissioner Miller

AYES: Vice Chair Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez

ABSENT: Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Vargas

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Chair Ramirez

SECONDER Commissioner Miller

AYES: Vice Chair Martinez, Commissioner Jimenez

ABSENT: Commissioner Bozzo, Commissioner Vargas

7. INTRODUCTIONS

Jon Shouse – Senior Maintenance Worker for Parks

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mila Krupa – Gilroy Resident

- Concern over how hot the playground equipment is as the local parks and lack of shade
 - West Side parks are too hot to use during the hot months due to lack of shade over the playground equipment
 - Has to go to Morgan Hill for their shaded structures
- Local park restrooms are not close enough to the playgrounds for quick access for the children to use
- Would like to see more inclusive playgrounds for children with disabilities

Benny Krupa – Gilroy Resident

- Does not like that there is no shade at the parks
 - If there is shade, the sun shines through making it uncomfortable
 - Sister is unable to play due to the heat

Theo Krupa – Gilroy Resident

- Hot days makes the shade feel like a sauna
- Sunrise Park – the gazebo feels hot when it is warm outside
- Would like more water fountains at the parks, especially at Carriage Hills Park
- Would like to have a public garden for all to use

Araceli Vaquera – Gilroy Resident

- Las Animas is an isolated park so there is unusual activity that occurs, especially during the evening hours
- Concerned that pickleball will also make people enjoying the park more isolated
- Would like to have more lighting, more walking trails, and more enjoyment so all can enjoy the park, not be so isolated from each other

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Brief Update on Recreation Assessment Project

Bryce Atkins discussed that there is an interim bid for the Aquatics Program, with a one-year extension option

- The funding balance and recreation funding is \$1.5 million
- The draft planning will be coming back in October to get the Commission's input
- The scope of work will be 6 months to a year

Chair Ramirez asked to clarify where the funding for the consultant is coming from

- The funding comes from the general funding and recreation funding, separate from the Recreation Division

The aquatic Program Council gave direction for the city to move forward to get the request for proposal.

9.2. Las Animas Veterans Park Pickleball Courts Project Update

John Doughty discussed an update to the pickleball courts.

- There will be sunshades over the benches, fully lighted
- Costs approximately \$800,000

- Proposing concrete post tension slab
 - Costs is 10-15% more than ground concrete slab but will result in a longer lasting slab
- City Council will be presented the project scope at the October 6, 2025 Council Meeting
 - Summer 2026 construction to begin

Commissioner Miller asked if the post tension slab is worth the extra cost

- John Doughty stated the extra costs is worth it to prevent cracking and settling

Commission Miller asked about the sound issue for the community

- John Doughty responded the courts are far away from the area

Commission Miller asked if there is room for expansion, where would and why

- John Doughty stated the exact number is not known but under 10% of the costs

RESULT: Get a consensus on project

Ramirez: highly in favor of project

Martinez: in favor of bringing park to life

Jimenez: in favor – see courts to come to life

Miller: Four is not enough, stated in pasts – why wait and curious to see if six courts are in the budget plan

ABSENT: Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Bozzo

9.3. **Great Garlic Halloween Event – 5k Fun Run/Walk/Roll**

Recreation has asked if there could be judges. Also, need to have assistance with the registration and raffle prizes are needed

10. **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

10.1 **Public Works Parks Updates**

Story walk has been installed at Christmas Hill Park

- Commissioner Vargas asked is there going to be a dedication ceremony
 - John Doughty will speak with Adam in Recreation to plan a ribbon cutting ceremony

10.2 **Public Works Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Updates**

CIP is working with a landscaping consultant for the San Ysidro project

- Finalizing the design

Commissioner Miller asked will there be shade structures at San Ysidro Park

- John Doughty stated currently not recommended, but there are mature trees for natural shading

11.3 **Recreation Division Updates**

Commissioner Miller asked if Adam was going to give the Recreation updates

- Would like to have him update on how many people were served at the events
- Get feedback such as surveys from community events

11. **COMMISSIONER PARK REPORTS & COMMENTS**

The following comments were made by commissioners:

- **Ramirez**
 - Robles was beautiful
 - Sunrise looking green again
- **Jimenez** – nothing to report
- **Miller**
 - Cydney Casper – See-Click-Fix has been acknowledged
 - Del Rey – improvements needed
 - Christmas Hill – gazebo removed
 - Great Sports Park – swings no longer squeaky
- **Martinez**
 - Rainbow – looks good
 - Las Animas – more activation needed
 - Gourmet Alley - solar lights needed
 - Send email and pictures on concerns to Jon Doughty

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.