PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION REPORT

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2026 ITEM NUMBER: CC 2

SUBJECT: **DEPARTMENT REPORT – OCTOBER 2026**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 5, 2026**

FROM: **BRIAN GRUNER, PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**

CONTACT INFORMATION: **BRIAN GRUNER, PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR, (714) 754 - 5009**

❖ Adult Sports

- **Adult Sports**
  - Softball League – Operated by Major League Softball
    - Fall 20206 began August 31 – December 3
  - Senior Softball League – Operated by City Staff
    - Spring 2026 begins August 29 – December 5

- **Fields**

Field Usage	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
# of Organizations	61	61	61	61	62	63	63
Hours	48,628	44,436	44,436	44,436	18,889	43,752	39,686

❖ Community Gardens

- On Saturday, October 24 the community gardens team held their quarter 4 work parties at the Del Mar and Hamilton gardens. Forty-one renters were in attendance and were able to accomplish weeding of the common areas, fruit tree maintenance and pruning of native plant habitats.

Garden Location	Parcel Quantity	Parcels Rented	Waitlisted
Del Mar*	64*	63	200
Hamilton	42	42	67

*5 raised bed parcels

❖ Contract Classes

	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Youth & Adult Totals:	352	280	317	374	313	246	299

❖ Costa Mesa Senior Center

- On October 24 the Senior Center held its annual Halloween Bash. This year's theme was Hocus Pocus and seniors enjoyed a catered lunch, photo booth, games, raffles, and a spooktacular costume contest.

Senior Programs	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Meals on Wheels OC - Meals	1,449	1,279	1,356	1,467	1,548	1,233	1,375
Meals on Wheels OC - Seniors	1,353	1,188	1,274	1,387	1,496	1,175	1,172
Second Harvest Grocery Boxes	450	440	440	440	480	460	240
Membership Totals	5,536	5,572	5,610	5,650	5,701	5,798	5,854
Wellness Calls	760	784	877	757	768	673	861
Transportation Program Trips	1,754	1,477	1,558	681	505	467	472

❖ Downtown Aquatic Center

Aquatics Programs	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Drop-In Participants	120	123	202	284	228	228	228
Total Drop-In Visits	523	530	750	1,172	1,012	662	330
Instructional Class Participants	266	199	318	549	190	427	427
Instructional Class Attendance	983	741	1,507	1,803	547	1,278	1,278

NMUSD Swim Lessons	Oct.
Voucher Participants	71
Voucher Attendance	257

❖ Downtown Recreation Center

	Oct.	
Gym Programs	Participants	Total Visits
Pickleball	212	562
Youth Open Gym	21	62
Basketball	65	156
Volleyball	75	132

❖ Facility Rentals

	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Number of Rentals	31	36	39	27	39	26	41

❖ Fairview Park

- On Saturday, October 24th the Fairview Park section hosted a Native Bee Talk and Walk with Dr. Tanya Hoerer, Professor of Organismal Biology and Marine Science from Coastline College. Participants got to learned about the species of native bees at the park, their nesting and foraging habits, and how to protect them. Dr. Hoerer also spoke about the bee surveys that are conducted at the park by her and her students.
- Native container plant installation was completed for the Fairview Park Mesa Restoration project this month. While the majority of the project will be seeded to restore native flower fields, approximately 450 native container shrubs were installed along the edge of the project to create a natural weed buffer.
- On Friday, October 30th the Fairview Park section along with the Institute for Conservation Research and Education installed almost approximately 40 native Coastal Sage Scrub plants. These plants are expanding a restoration site that was planted earlier this year.
- The City continues to offer multiple volunteer opportunities for participants to partake in hands-on habitat restoration activities at Fairview Park, in partnership with local non-profit organizations. Please see the table below for the upcoming November scheduled activities.

	Restoration Volunteer Dates	
	Date	Time
Every Thursday	11/5, 11/12, 11/19	7:00 AM
Every other Friday	11/6, 11/13, 11/20	9 AM – 12 PM
2nd Saturdays of the month	11/14	9 AM – 11 AM
3rd Saturdays of the month	11/21	9 AM – 11:30 AM

- For more volunteer information and registration links, visit: https://www.costamesaca.gov/community/fairview-park/volunteer-opportunities

❖ Permits

October - Park Rental Permits			
Park Location	Permits Issued	Park Location	Permits Issued
Brentwood	2	Shiffer	4
Canyon	2	Smallwood	2
Del Mesa	6	Tanager	1
Estancia	4	TeWinkle	10
Heller	7	Vista	10
Jordan	1	Wakeham	6
Pinkley	1		

Film Permits	
	Oct.
Permits Issued for the month	2
Permits at City Facilities	1
Permits at Private Commercial Property	1
Pending Permits on TESSA	1
Total Permits Issued for 2026	17

Special Event Permits	
	Oct.
Permits Issued for the month	7
Permits at City Facilities	4
Permits at Private Commercial Property	3
Pending Permits on TESSA	4
Total Permits Issued for 2026	46

❖ Youth Programs

- **L.E.A.P.**
  - August 17, 2026 – May 21, 2027
  - Held at Balearic Community Center in 2 classrooms of 22
  - Operates Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Age (Days)	Capacity	Oct.
3-5 year old	44	16

- **R.O.C.K.S Afterschool Program**
  - August 17, 2026 – June 3, 2027
  - Registration open now for nine (9) NMUSD school sites

School Site	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Adams	24	24	22
California	125	132	137
College Park	33	58	56
Davis	193	197	188
Killybrooke	40	42	42
Paularino	42	43	42
Sonora	36	39	43
Victoria	41	44	37
Whittier	36	35	29

- **Youth Sports**
  - **BeFIT Pickleball**
    - Free clinic-based instruction at the Downtown Recreation Center
    - Season: September 15 – November 5, 2026

Divisions / Grade level	Capacity	Enrolled	Waitlisted
A. 6th - 8th Grade	20	20	9
B. 4th - 5th Grade	20	20	7
C. 1st - 3rd Grade	20	20	17

- **Youth Sports**
  - Occurs during NMUSD non-holiday school closures
  - Held at Balearic Community Center

Date	Capacity	Enrolled
October 9, 2026	50	45

- **Mobile Recreation**
  - Attends City events to provide interactive games and crafts to the public

Day of the Week	Location	Oct.
Monday	N/A	N/A
Tuesday	N/A	N/A
Wednesday	N/A	N/A
Thursday	N/A	N/A
Friday	N/A	N/A
Weekends	City Events*	50

  - Café Mesa Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (10/24)

- **Teen Program**
  - Free afterschool care for 7th - 12th grades
  - Teen Centers at TeWinkle Middle School and Downtown Recreation Center (DRC)
  - Offers shuttle transportation from Ensign Inter./Newport Harbor High School to the DRC Teen Center and Save Our Youth (SOY)
  - NMUSD end of school year was on June 4, 2026

Program Location	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Downtown Recreation Center (DRC)	138	305	301
TeWinkle Middle School	102	306	304
Shuttle Service	**Aug.**	**Sept.**	**Oct.**
Downtown Recreation Center (DRC)	132	281	264
Save Our Youth (SOY)	102	382	473

Upcoming Events	Dates	Location
Snoopy House	Friday, December 11	Costa Mesa City Hall
Snowball Fight	Thursday, December 3	Downtown Recreation Center Gym