



PARKS, RECREATION AND BEAUTIFICATION STAFF REPORT

TO: Parks, Recreation and Beautification Commission **DATE:** June 17, 2021

FROM: Parks & Recreation Program Director Kathy Petker

PREPARED BY: Parks & Recreation Program Director Kathy Petker

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Response Update for Parks & Recreation

RECOMMENDATION

Receive an update on the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BACKGROUND

The City continues its work in addressing the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic following the direction of the County Public Health Department in coordination with other local agencies.

Countywide Status

As of June 9, San Luis Obispo County has 21,387 confirmed COVID-19 cases with six current hospitalizations and 39 individuals at home and 21,081 individuals recovered (approximately 99%). This is only a 1.4% increase in new cases over the past three weeks and a 40% decrease in the number of active cases. These numbers continue the positive trends in case numbers and as a reference, there were approximately 3,500 active cases at the peak of the holiday surge in mid-January compared with 45 currently. Approximately 37% (8,039) of the confirmed cases in this county are in North County with 4,200 in Paso Robles and 3,839 in Atascadero, Templeton, and elsewhere. Approximately 33% (7,106) of cases are in the central part of the county with the vast majority (4,039) in San Luis Obispo.

In South County, there has been a total of 5,007 confirmed cases (approximately 23% of countywide cases) with 1,502 in Arroyo Grande, 1,582 in Nipomo, 887 in Grover Beach, 692 in Oceano, and 344 in Pismo Beach. Case numbers in Grover Beach per 1,000 residents (65) continue to be lower than Arroyo Grande (83) and Oceano (96) though higher than Pismo Beach (42). There has also only been an increase of two cases in Grover Beach over the past three weeks similar to the countywide trends in case numbers.

Parks & Recreation Response Update

Unfortunately, over the last year due to COVID restrictions many classes, events and rentals were cancelled or limited. The Parks & Recreation Department offered creative virtual programming including 4th of July – Holiday Spirit, Community Bingo, Get Moving with Grover Beach, Spring Spirit Contest Decorating Contest, Carved Pumpkin Contest, Dune Run & Walk, and Arbor Day.

On June 9, San Luis Obispo County was moved to the “yellow” or “Minimal” tier based on the *Blueprint*. The county currently has an adjusted case rate of 1.6 new cases per day per 100,000 population on a rolling seven-day average and a positivity rate of 1.0% and health equity metric of 1.0%. Attachment 1 shows the comparison of restrictions under each tier for the Council’s reference. The State has announced that it plans to lift remaining restrictions for businesses and other activities including the face coverings mandate beginning on June 15. This plan is entitled *Beyond the Blueprint* and would effectively end the four-color tiers of restrictions and allow normal business operations and activities assuming vaccine supply remained sufficient and hospitalizations remained low.

With the restrictions being lifted the Parks & Recreation Department was able to have the Mother & Son event was an in person which was a success and the Sizzlin’ Summer Concert Series will kick off in person on the 4th of July . Additional programming will include a Movie in the Park, Holiday Parade & Santa’s Workshop, and Garden Tour.

Revenue losses related to impacts of COVID-19 include the cancellation of parks and facilities rentals from May 2020 through May 2021 that were scheduled for graduations, weddings, memorial dinners, etc.

The Tiny Tots preschool enrichment program classes were cancelled from March 2020 to April 2021 and restarted this May. Adult classes restarting include painting, Zumba, Tai Chi, kick boxing, yoga, dog training, roller skating and Ukulele. This Fall and Winter season in person events will include 9/11 Ceremony; Halloween Carved Pumpkin Contest and Grover Beach Holiday Parade.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ALTERNATIVES

The Commission has the following alternative to consider:

1. Receive an update on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic; or
2. Provide alternative direction to staff.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The agenda was posted in accordance with the Brown Act.

ATTACHMENTS

None
