



CITY OF FOLSOM
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
50 NATOMA STREET, FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA
www.folsom.ca.us

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**
2. **ROLL CALL:** Commission Members: Matt Hedges, Brian Wallace, Sandy Econome, Jim Ortega, Dustin Silva, Alayna Wagner, Dean Williams
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
4. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Approve the draft meeting minutes from January 6, 2026.
6. **ACTION ITEMS/STAFF REPORTS:**
None
7. **SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS:**
 - A. Wild Nights and Holiday Lights Event – Jocelyn Smeltzer, Zoo Sanctuary Manager
 - B. Benevento Family Park Master Plan Project Update (Informational Only) – Brad Nelson, Parks & Planning Manager
8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A. Budget/Finance (**Ortega**, Hedges, and Silva)
 - B. Planning, Development & Renovations (Econome, Williams, and **Wagner**)
 - C. Operations (Ortega, Silva, and Wallace)
 - D. Zoo Sanctuary Ad Hoc Committee (**Econome**, Hedges, and Wallace)
9. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**
 - A. Monthly Report – Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director
 - B. Parks & Recreation Director Report – Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director
10. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**
11. **ADJOURNMENT:**



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As presiding officer, the Chairperson has the authority to preserve order at all Parks & Recreation Commission meetings, to remove or cause the removal of any person from any such meeting for disorderly conduct, or for making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, using profanity, or becoming boisterous, threatening or personally abusive while addressing said Commission, and to enforce the rules of the Commission.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (916) 461-6606, (916) 351-5931 (fax) or estrawn@folsom.ca.us. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least two full business days before the start of the meeting.

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**CITY OF FOLSOM
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026, 6:30 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parks & Recreation Meeting was called to Order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Commission Members: Chair Matt Hedges, Vice Chair Brian Wallace Sandy Econome, Jim Ortega, Alayna Wagner,

ABSENT: Dustin Silva, Dean Williams

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

4. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Public comment was made by Joanne Brausch giving us an update on the fundraising for Castle Park.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
December 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Econome, to approve the December 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes.

AYES: Commission Members: Hedges, Econome, Ortega, Wagner, Wallace

NOES: Commission Members: None

ABSENT: Commission Members: Silva and Williams

ABSTAIN: Commission Members: None

6. **ACTION ITEMS/STAFF REPORTS:**

A. Benevento Family Park Master Plan – Brad Nelson, Parks Planning Manager

Motion was made by Commissioner Chair Hedges to defer to next month the decision on Benevento Family Park Master Plan to get costs on some of the amenities that were taken out of the final plan (i.e., dock), with the caveat that the Planning, Development & Renovations Subcommittee meet to discuss further Benevento before the next Commission Meeting. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Wagner.



AYES: Commission Members: Hedges, Econome, Wagner, Wallace
NOES: Commission Members: Ortega
ABSENT: Commission Members: Silva and Williams
ABSTAIN: Commission Members: None

The following public comments were made on this matter:

Dan & Zachary Waechter: We have been in the immediate neighborhood for 15 years, waiting for this park. Says he could say he has used this space more than anyone, taking his kids fishing, and dogs running. The main reason I am here is that I saw the original plans and loved them. On the upper tiers were the play structures, it had pickleball courts that a lot of the community knew about and were excited about. It had the sports field as well, as down below. I have been a sports coach for many years, and there has always been a need for more fields. So, when I saw the big reveal, we noticed that everything on the upper tiers had been taken away. For those who are unfamiliar with the space, everything to the right is the neighborhood, where everyone lives, and none of us were notified. So when we saw the big reveal, and none of this space was utilized we were upset. The reason it wasn't developed was because of three neighbors, they want to keep it the same way it has been for 20 years. Didn't want to have noise or see lights. All the kids coming to the park will be coming from above, and Carpenter Hill, there is a neighborhood north, and they will also be coming from the top portion. It is a long walk from the top portion all the way around to the parking lot, into the areas for the kids. We just feel that having the kids' areas above, pickleball courts down below, for the people who are concerned about the noise, is better. The new plan removes half the park. People wanted one phase rather than two, but we will only be getting half the park with the one phase. And I am sure everyone loves the pond, and there is a lot of fishing, so a dock would be a huge plus.

Stephanie Parsons: Absolutely agreed with everything Dan said. Version one of this park was amazing; it had a diverse set of uses for everyone in the community. It had a soccer field that she understands is in great demand; we are growing in population and always need more fields. I don't think how this ended up is consistent with the general plan and recreational plan policies. The way I understand it is supposed to be a community focal point. So, what was initially designed created that focal point. It offered a variety of opportunities that brought together different kinds of people. It also has an exceptional location for soccer fields, which could generate revenue from their use. I also understand the general plan highlights joint advantages that typically include expanding capacity and priority scheduling for adult sports. People love pickleball; only one other place to play pickleball unless you pay. Volleyball, kids are really into volleyball and are having to drive up the hill five miles to use the sand volleyball courts. People are still



looking for places to have volleyball tournaments outside of the City of Folsom because there is nothing within Folsom. We continue to grow, we need more fields, more consistency with these policies. We need night-use facilities. It is part of our policies that we are to develop parks with night use capabilities. I would request a comprehensive inventory of the access sports fields in the City of Folsom. The types and comparing those against the number of residents in Folsom. I found an old census and a total number of parks, which came out to one park for every 2,000 residents. I don't think that is adequate. We can do better. We would like to see these numbers so we can see if this park actually meets the general plan. Are we getting, as residents who are paying for this, what we are promised?

Karen & Truman Gifford: We made the first meeting and missed the second meeting but then were there for the big reveal and were super sad. I agree with everything Stephanie and Dan said. We loved having the park at the top. As it has already been explained, everyone lives above and will be coming from that direction. Right now, coming from the homes, it is a 5-minute walk to the pond, through a back trail that is not part of the plans. But, because three neighbors put up such a fuss, they got what they wanted, while all the busy families who were not able to make the meeting got everything they wanted taken away. I didn't know that everything would be taken away after the first meeting. If I had known I would of spoke up more but thought that it was just a discussion. We really want the playground up top, the pickleball courts and the dock.

7. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS:

A. Folsom Park Development Design Principles – Paul Mewton, Special Project Manager

Paul Mewton, Special Project Manager went over a draft Park Development Design Principle to put in place until a Master Plan can be afforded.

B. Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience Informational Presentation – Tom Hellmann, Recreation Community Services Manager

Tom Hellmann, Recreation Community Services Manager gave the past, present and future of the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience. Showed Commission what the next art piece will be and that the hope is to have it done and installed by end of 2026.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Budget/Finance (**Ortega**, Hedges, and Silva)

B. Planning, Development & Renovations (Econome, Wagner, and Williams)

C. Operations (Ortega, Silva, and Williams)



D. Zoo Sanctuary Ad Hoc Committee (**Econome**, Hedges, and Wallace)

The Planning, Development & Renovations meeting was held to discuss Benevento Park.

9. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

A. Monthly Report – Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director

B. Parks & Recreation Director Report – Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director

Director Kelly Gonzalez provided a brief overview of the aforementioned reports.

10. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Vice Chair Wallace: Walks through Cummings Park weekly. Fantastic work is being done on the bike park. Met Randy and Greg, who are making so much progress in a short amount of time. I can see the kids looking through the fence, just waiting for it to open. Would suggest, if anyone has the time, to go by and see how the bike park is coming along.

Commissioner Wagner: Thanked Kelly for letting her take Derik Perez and Amy Nunez on a tree tour in Folsom Plan Area. She is excited about the Community Outreach meeting coming up, also looking forward to the Planning, Development & Renovations Subcommittee meeting this month on Benevento in order to get this park moving forward. She agreed with Commissioner Ortega that these people need a park.

Chair Hedges: Congratulations to Jocelyn on 25 years, and Holiday Lights, it was fantastic once again. Would go even as far to say that it felt smoother and it was fun to see the nocturnal animals.

Commissioner Econome: Echoed what Commissioner Wagner said, and for staff not being too frustrated with the Commission pushing Benevento off another month.

11. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 P.M.

Respectively Submitted:



Chairperson

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Parks & Recreation Commission

SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

2026-updated on 12.02.25

BUDGET & FINANCE

Chair Jim Ortega

Matt Hedges

Dustin Silva

Staff: Kelly Gonzalez, Jamison Larson, Tom Hellmann, Chris O'Keefe, Brad Nelson

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & RENOVATIONS

Sandy Econome

Dean Williams

Chair Alayna Wagner

Staff: Kelly Gonzalez, Brad Nelson, Chris O'Keefe, Jamison Larson

OPERATIONS

Jim Ortega

Dustin Silva

Brian Wallace

Staff: Kelly Gonzalez, Chris O'Keefe, Jamison Larson, Tom Hellmann

AD HOC COMMITTEE

Zoo Sanctuary

Matt Hedges

Brian Wallace

Sandy Econome

Staff: Kelly Gonzalez, Jocelyn Smeltzer, and Jamison Larson

FOLSOM PARKS & RECREATION

Department Report

JANUARY 2026



CITY OF
FOLSOM
PARKS & RECREATION

PARTICIPATION

Participation in classes, camps, activities, and parties

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Aquatics | 1,838 |
| Community and Cultural Services | 4,435 |
| Sports | 6,639 |
| TOTAL | 12,912 |

Guest Entry at Recreation Facilities

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Aquatics | 148 |
| Zoo Sanctuary (General) | 4,786 |
| TOTAL | 4,934 |

Special Events—Estimated Attendance

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Wild Nights & Holiday Lights | 5,462 |
|------------------------------|-------|

PARTICIPATION GRAND TOTAL 23,308

COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing/PR

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| E-News Articles | 13 |
| Printed Citywide Newsletter | 6 |
| Miscellaneous Print/Digital Media | 51 |

Social Media @FolsomParksandRec

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Facebook Followers | 12,089 |
| Instagram Followers | 8,318 |
| Engagement: 1,984 Reach: 98,440 | |

Top Monthly Post: Castle Park Update, Granite Construction

Social Media @FolsomCityZooSanctuary

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Facebook Followers | 19,464 |
| Instagram Followers | 9,001 |
| Engagement: 1,797 Reach: 68,215 | |

Top Monthly Post: New Year's Post "As We Say Goodbye"

PARTNERSHIPS

Organizations that helped support a community special event, enrichment program, or Parks & Recreation facility.

| | |
|---|---------|
| New Partnerships (In the last 30 days) | 1 |
| Partnership Value (Financial and In-Kind) | \$2,850 |

RENTALS

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Aquatic Center Lane Hours | 728 |
| City Sports Field Hours | 277 |
| Community Facilities | 57 |
| Park Picnic Pavilions | 2 |

VOLUNTEER HOURS

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Adopt-A-Trail | 105 |
| Friends of the Zoo | 126 |
| Sports/Coaching | 578 |
| Teen Council | 418 |
| Zoo Docents | 1,044 |
| Zoo General/Misc | 541 |

VOLUNTEER HOURS GRAND TOTAL 2,812

CUSTOMER SERVICE

| | |
|--|-----|
| Park Maintenance and Municipal Landscape Services | |
| SeeClickFix Work Orders Completed | 100 |

PARK PLANNING

Benevento Park

| | | | | |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Community Engagement | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Castle Park Play Structure Replacement

| | | | | |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Community Engagement | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Folsom Plan Area Neighborhood Park 1

| | | | | |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Community Engagement | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Livermore Park Phase 5A

| | | | | |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Community Engagement | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

TRAIL PLANNING

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of visitors on the Johnny Cash Trail | 9,252 |
|---|-------|

East Bidwell Pedestrian Overcrossing

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Funding | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Folsom Boulevard Bike/Ped Overcrossing Feasibility Study

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Funding | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Folsom-Placerville Rail Trail

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Funding | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Highway 50 Class I Trail Undercrossing & Trail Improvements

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Funding | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Mangini Ranch Trails

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Funding | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

Regency Trails

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Planning | Funding | Design & Engineering | Construction | OPEN! |
|----------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------|

The City of Folsom Adopted the Strategic Plan FY 2023–24 through FY 2027–28

The Parks & Recreation Department is dedicated to supporting the goals and initiatives of the Strategic Plan. The goals identified by the City Council include Financial Stability, Public Safety and Infrastructure, Economic and Community Development, and Organization Effectiveness.

GOAL A: Financial Stability and Sustainability

Support fiscal health through long-term planning, cost control, heightened efficiency, increased revenue, and cost recovery.

- Wild Nights and Holiday Lights was open for 11 of its 12 nights and brought in over \$200,000 with more than 14,400 visitors. It made gross over \$50,000 more than the previous year.
- The Community Cultural Services Division applied for Kaiser Permanente’s Community Event Grant and was awarded the \$5,000 sponsorship to go towards our community events for the 3rd year in a row.

GOAL B: Public Safety and Infrastructure

Enhance provision of public safety resources, invest in technological solutions, and maintain, repair, and improve public facilities and infrastructure.

- The Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary grounds team continues to make improvements throughout the zoo sanctuary, including cleaning up tree limbs and debris from the storms, building ramps and perches for the vulture, taking down old Christmas trees for recycling, repairing leaks, repairing faulty doors, and helping plan for large improvements to existing enclosures.
- Two new drinking fountains were installed at the Steve Miklos Aquatic Center.
- Lighting repairs took place at several parks.
- Cummings Bike Park renovation continues with support from the Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition (FATRAC). They’ve made great progress as the weather has been mild.
- New signage was installed at the Cummings Bike Park.
- Aquatic Center lighting controls have been repaired.
- The Community Cultural Services Division and the Steve Miklos Aquatic Center completed the annual Ellis Lifeguard Training class, training 24 returning lifeguards on December 21 & 22.
- Community Cultural Service Division and the Steve Miklos Aquatic Center completed a filter replacement project from December 29–January 8. The project included replacing the original 8 high-rate sand filters with 8 new tanks and ultra-efficient filtration media to maintain water clarity and chemistry.
- Benevento Family Park: City staff presented the updated master plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission on January 6. The Commission deferred its decision and recommendation to a future meeting and requested that the Planning, Development, and Renovation Subcommittee meet to discuss the project further. The Subcommittee meeting took place on January 16. Staff will continue refining the master plan based on this discussion before returning to public outreach, followed by the Parks and Recreation Commission for further consideration.
- Castle Park: City Council approved two contracts for site work to be completed in addition to the community-build of the play structure. The team met with a playground design representative from Leathers & Associates to plan for the upcoming build. The online portal for volunteer sign-ups was also launched, allowing community members to get involved and help bring this project to life. Behind the scenes, coordination with community partners and volunteer groups continued to ensure everything stays on track for a successful execution.

- Livermore Park Phase 5: The final construction plans are being updated to include a hydromodification basin for the parking lot's stormwater discharge. This basin helps slow down and filter stormwater runoff, reducing downstream erosion, improving water quality, and ensuring compliance with regional stormwater management requirements. The plans are in their final review stage, after which the project will be released for bidding.
- Staff continues to make progress on a GIS project in American River Canyon North. This mapping project involves locating our buried utility conduit runs with specialized equipment, then using GPS equipment to log, compile, and create accurate maps of our underground infrastructure throughout our special districts.

GOAL C: Economic and Community Development

Promote effective use of existing amenities and resources to create future opportunities that enrich the community.

- Wild Nights and Holiday Lights was made possible with the help of over 600 volunteers and over 2,000 hours of their time to help decorate, work, and undecorate for this event. Thank you to Blue Shield, Intel, Antea Group, NCL, Teen Council, Rotary Club of Folsom, Interact Folsom High School, UNICEF Club, Vista Leo Club, CAPS, Garden Club, Folsom Preparatory School, Northern California Children's Choir, Legacy Community Choir, CERTs, Fish and Wildlife, many individual volunteers and their families, and our very own docents.
- Wild Nights and Holiday Lights Quotes:
 - » "There were so many more lights than last year!"
 - » "The amount of Christmas lights and displays was very impressive. The event is very organized."
 - » From a professional light installer: "Hats off to you, I know how hard it is to put that many lights up and manage all of that electricity."
 - » "We came twice this year, it's so beautiful, and we've been to other zoo light shows."
- Tom Hellmann met with staff from Choose Folsom Tourism, along with the Sierra Marlins Swim Team President, to make introductions and for the two organizations to work collaboratively on future visitation as the swim team develops swimming events that invite swimmers and their families to Folsom from out of the area.
- The brand-new Fun Foundations Parent/Toddler program officially launched on January 9 with a great turnout. Nine toddlers and their parents/caregivers joined Ms. Miranda for the very first class, and the room was full of connection, play, and excitement. The day before the program launched, Youth Services staff partnered with Lindsay and the Library team during two of their most popular story times to promote the new program and distribute flyers with QR codes for easy registration. It was a great collaboration and a strong start for this new offering. We also sent out a survey to both current families and families registered for upcoming months to better understand exactly what parents are hoping to get out of the class.

The feedback was incredible. One parent who has not yet started the program shared, "I just want to say how much I appreciate your email!! I'm hoping this program will be similar to a preschool atmosphere. I'm hoping for an opportunity to introduce toddlers to a preschool environment. My toddlers will be 3 in the fall so they will be starting preschool then but haven't had any experience yet with preschool. Hoping for a little structure and socialization with other toddlers! I wish I could sign up for all the months, I'm going to try! Thank you!!"

Families currently enrolled have also shared wonderful feedback, which is a true testament to the strong foundation Ms. Miranda is building. "Mrs. Miranda is truly amazing. My son is very cautious in new environments and she has done such an amazing job fostering a connection with him by getting to know him and his interests. We are very much enjoying the class each week — so much so that my son asks to go every day! We are so grateful for the opportunity to participate in this activity for our toddler, as there are not many affordable, high-quality programs for children of this age. Thank you to all who have put so much time and effort into this class."

- After the holiday season, the Folsom Teen Council selected a youth-focused organization in Folsom to which they wanted to give back. They selected Rainbow Kids Urgent Care and donated over \$1,500 in toys for their patients. Their generosity and commitment to uplifting our community made a meaningful impact, and it was the perfect way to start 2026.

- The final week before winter break was filled with joy and celebration as all four Fun Factory Preschool classes hosted their winter performances. The children did a beautiful job performing their songs. Families loved each moment, and so many sweet memories were made. A big thank-you to Penelope and her team at the Sports Complex for helping us set up and reset The Edge multiple nights around rentals, we truly appreciate the support. Classes also enjoyed a cozy PJ day, complete with favorite stuffies and comfort items from home, which was a perfect way to ease into the holiday break. After returning from winter break, all four preschool classes jumped right back into their routines and are off to a wonderful start to the new year. We were also lucky to have the Folsom Library visit us over two days for short on-site story time sessions so that each class could participate. Ms. Sangeetha brought so much energy and fun. The kids loved the songs, stories, and interactive activities.
- Both the Gallery at 48 Natoma and Community Gallery are in transition as they are preparing for new exhibitions. We said goodbye to *FolPho* in the Community Gallery and are installing the *ZOOM* exhibition. At the same time, the main gallery concluded *Taller Arte de Nueva* and is welcoming new work by Deborah Pittman and Laurie Friedman-Adler in an exhibition titled *Two Inspirations*.
- This past month was a fun and festive one at the Senior Center. Classes and workshops saw strong attendance. Highlights included holiday-themed crafts in our Crafty Friday and Artsy Monday groups, the always popular “Downsizing and Decluttering” workshop, and a joyous holiday party for 66 seniors. The party featured a holiday sing-along with the Valley Ukulele Society, carnival games, lunch, desserts, “Minute to Win It” challenges, and more.

GOAL D: Organization Effectiveness

Build strong connections and support for the community and employees through a commitment to local government best practices and employee development, support, and retention to meet community needs.

- Chad Gunter, Aquatic Center Supervisor, was selected to serve on the Board of Directors for the California Water Safety Coalition. Details about the coalition can be found at www.cawatersafety.org. Chad will serve a 3-year term beginning January 20, 2026, through December 31, 2028. Chad was selected after submitting an application to the coalition from individuals throughout the state. The Board of Directors interviewed and selected Chad from the list of candidates. Chad will represent the City of Folsom and municipal public pool operations as a board member as the coalition strengthens its purpose to prevent drowning and keep California safe in and around the water. Congratulations Chad!
- The Recreation and Community Services Division is currently recruiting for a Recreation Coordinator II in our Community Sports Section. First-round interviews have begun, with the plan to have a coordinator in place by March 1. Additionally, Daniel Kimpel, Recreation Coordinator II with Senior Services, has announced his resignation, effective February 13. Daniel has been instrumental in building a welcoming Senior Center and has been very engaging with our residents. We wish him well and will be working to fill this vacancy as soon as possible. Thank you, Daniel!
- Tom Hellmann has been developing a plan to assist in the approval of community special events from the organization. The fall season is historically quite busy, and he is working with various organizations and city staff to ensure the effective use of facilities, safeguard against overlapping events and their impacts, and ensure that the Special Event application process runs smoothly.
- Folsom Sea Otters funded two new water fountains at the Steve Miklos Aquatic Center that include water bottle stations. This addition to the facility will help all users stay hydrated year-round.
- The Municipal Landscape Services Division is working through vehicle procurement for an EV work truck to add to our fleet. This vehicle will replace a 26-year-old truck and grant us a needed procurement credit for another vehicle purchase that our division will need in the next fiscal year.

MISSION

The Parks & Recreation Department is committed to being a leader in creating and maintaining facilities, parks, programs, and services that enhance the quality of life and reflect the changing needs of our community and environment.

FOLSOM PARKS & RECREATION

Director's Report

JANUARY 2026



CITY OF
FOLSOM
PARKS & RECREATION

City Council Meetings

January 13

- Castle Park – Play Structure Replacement Project:
 - » Resolution No. 11537 – A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Construction Agreement with Granite Construction, Inc. for Concrete Pavement Work for the Castle Park - Play Structure Replacement Project (PK2501) for a Not to Exceed Amount of \$72,356 and Appropriation of Measure A Funds (Fund 276) in the Amount of \$79,592 Including 10% Contingency
 - » Resolution No. 11538 – A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Construction Agreement with KYA for Site Work for the Castle Park - Play Structure Replacement Project (PK2501) For a Not to Exceed Amount of \$308,309 from the Parks & Recreation Equipment and Capital Fund (Fund 609) in the Amount of \$257,755, and Appropriation of Measure A Funds (Fund 276) in the Amount of \$55,609 for a Total Budgeted Amount of \$313,364 Including a 10% Contingency for the Measure A Portion

January 27

- Presentation from the Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition (FATRAC) on the public-private partnership supporting the rebuild of the Folsom Bike Park.

-
- Resolution No. 11540 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Design and Engineering Consultant Services Agreement with Wood Rodgers, Inc. in the Amount of \$1,652,000 for the East Bidwell Pedestrian Overcrossing Project, Project No. PW2605, from a Developer Funding Obligation Outlined in the Developer Agreement Adopted by City Council per Ordinance No. 1354 in the Transportation Improvement Fund (Fund 446), and Approving the Project's Inclusion in the CIP, with project funding budgeted at \$1,852,000, and Appropriation of Funds

February 10

- Presentation to City Council on the Public Private Partnership with FATRAC.
- A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with Brightview Landscape Services for Landscape Maintenance Within the Landscaping and Lighting Districts, and Community Facilities Districts for the City of Folsom Through the Use of Funds from Landscaping and Lighting Districts and Community Facilities Districts (21-L&Ls) (8-CFDs), Extending the Agreement for an Additional Two Years, for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$10,733,242
- A Resolution Approving the Preliminary Engineers Report, Declaring the Intention to Order the Formation of the Natoma Station Maintenance Assessment District No. 2025-2, to Levy and Collect Assessments, to Provide Notice of Public Hearing and Direct the Mailing of Assessment Ballots Within the Proposed District in the City of Folsom

Staffing Updates:

- Recruitment is ongoing for the Recreation Coordinator II vacancies in the Recreation and Community Services Division.

Department Highlights

- Staff held meetings with three community members following the last Parks & Recreation Commission subcommittee meeting on the Benevento Family Park Master Plan. Staff are working on a survey and a follow-up presentation to bring back to the Parks & Recreation Commission.
- FATRAC presented to the City Council on the City's first example of a public-private partnership to support park operations and maintenance. Staff anticipates the park opening in April 2026.
- Adam Green, our new police Chief, gave a presentation at City Council regarding e-bikes. It was an educational presentation on e-bike classifications, restrictions, laws, and pilot programs. The City of Folsom and the Folsom School District are taking a more active approach to the education of the laws regarding e-bikes.
- Thank you to the Parks & Recreation Commissioners who joined us and participated in the Neighborhood Park #1 Community Engagement meeting. For anyone who missed the meeting, staff developed an online survey that was opened for five days following the community outreach meeting, and the presentation is online. Staff received valuable information in moving forward in the design phase of the park.
- Staff met with our consultant, Linda Chue, on the progress of the economic plan for the Zoo Sanctuary. A presentation of the findings will be made at the upcoming Parks & Recreation Commission meeting in March to both the subcommittee and the Parks & Recreation Commission.
- Staff completed Mid-Year Budget reports this month. Overall, the department budget remains on track, with revenues anticipated to exceed projections and no impact to the General Fund subsidy. A presentation will move forward in March on the update to the city budget.
- Planning continues for the 80th Anniversary Celebration of the City on May 9. The City of Folsom is bringing back the Folsom Snail Races which was a fundraiser for the Folsom Athletic Association for over twenty years. The event will include food trucks, carnival games, contests, and other activities to celebrate the milestone event. Staff are seeking partnerships for free admission to the Zoo Sanctuary and free train rides.
- Staff attended the 2026 State of the City at Lakeside Church, bringing together business leaders, community stakeholders, and residents on the city's priorities. The annual event kicks off the year, looking back on accomplishments and outlining priorities for 2026.

Future Potential Agenda Topics

- Economic Impact Study—Zoo Sanctuary
- Sports Tournaments and Economic Impact

Upcoming Special Events

Neighborhood Park Community Workshops at Alder Creek Elementary School

- February 23

Owl Be Your Valentine at the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary

- February 14 & 15

Bike Park Grand Opening at Cummings Family Park

- April [date TBD]

Festival of Eggs at Lembi Park

- April 4

Senior Resource Fair at 48 Natoma

- April 17

80th Birthday Celebration of the City of Folsom at Lion's City Park

- May 9

Parks & Recreation Commissioners, please RSVP to Erin Strawn, Administrative Assistant at estrawn@folsom.ca.us if you are attending these events.