

Written materials relating to an item on this agenda that are distributed to the legislative bodies within 72 hours before the item is to be considered at its regularly scheduled meeting will be made available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 300 West Third Street 4th Floor during customary business hours. Agenda reports are also on the City of Oxnard web site at www.oxnard.org.



AGENDA
OXNARD CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Council Chambers, 305 West Third Street
January 22, 2019
Regular Meeting – 6:00 to 7:15 PM

A. ROLL CALL / POSTING OF AGENDA

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

At this time, the legislative body will consider public comments for a maximum of fifteen minutes. A person may address the legislative body only on matters not appearing on the agenda and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Speaker cards will not be accepted after the beginning of the general public comment period. Based on the number of speaker cards submitted, the presiding officer may impose time limits per speaker. Typically, speakers are limited to two minutes, but shorter time may be established as deemed necessary. A person not able to address the legislative body at this time because the fifteen minutes expires may do so just prior to adjournment of the meeting. The legislative body cannot enter into a detailed discussion or take action on any items presented during public comments at this time. Such items may only be referred to the City Manager for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion.

C. REPORTS

Cultural and Community Services Department

1. SUBJECT: Update on Equitable Use of City Soccer Fields. (10/15/10)
RECOMMENDATION: That the Community Services Committee receive the informational report.

Contact: Terrel Harrison

Phone: (805) 385-7994

D. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

E. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special assistance to participate in a meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 385-7803. Notice at least 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to reasonably arrange for your accessibility to the meeting.

Agenda Item time estimates: (Staff Presentation / Committee Discussion / Public Comment)



**COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

AGENDA REPORT

TYPE OF ITEM: Report

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 1

DATE: January 22, 2019

TO: Community Services Committee

FROM: Terrel Harrison, Interim Cultural and Community Services Director
terrel.harrison@oxnard.org, (805) 385-7994

SUBJECT: Update on Equitable Use of City Soccer Fields. (10/15/10)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Community Services Committee receive the informational report.

BACKGROUND

The City of Oxnard (City) Recreation and Community Services Division oversees the allocation of field use for the designated play areas operated and maintained by the City. In 2016 Recreation staff, along with a community representative recommended by the Parks & Recreation Commission, developed the “Athletic Field/Facility Allocation Policy and Rental Use Procedures” for the allocation of soccer field use (the manual). After numerous meetings and revisions, the manual was approved by the Parks and Recreation and Community Services Commission by a 7-0 vote on March 23, 2016. The manual became active in the Fall of 2016. The manual includes the procedures which the City follows to ensure equitable use of fields, maintenance schedules, code of conduct, City of Oxnard insurance requirements and rules for use of public parks. Recreation and Community Services only schedules use of playfields for games and practices are first come first serve.

The City designates field spaces as either “premium” fields or “general” playfields. There are four (4) “premium” locations with a total of ten (10) fields, and four (4) “general” locations with eight (8) fields, for a total of eighteen (18) fields. Premium fields are defined by the type of turf on the fields which is bermuda. The premium fields are preferred by the users because of the speed of the turf. General fields are a variation of types of grasses and are less desired. The different designations aide in defining the management of field space, as well as the management of maintenance, to maximize the condition and life of each field during the playing season. Because field wear is influenced by so many variables, there is not a definitive way to predict when a field will begin showing signs of wear, or when it will fail altogether.

The demands for field use outweigh the available space when you take all the challenges into account. The biggest factor in space allocation is the need for maintenance and rest periods. The City is tasked with maintaining turf soccer fields and due to shortage of soccer fields, the City struggles to accommodate all participating groups without damaging the fields. Repetitive action on the same area of the field accelerates wear. Field wear may also lead to liability issues such as injuries associated with poorly designed, poorly maintained and/or mismanaged fields. The City has put best maintenance practices in place to minimize damage and liability. These practices include:

- Restrict use when the soil is very wet.
- Restrict use when the soil is very dry and turf is wilted.
- Always rotate heavy play areas during practices.
- Move portable goals in 10-foot increments around the field.
- Move soccer field sidelines during the season
- If space is large enough to accommodate field rotation, periodically rotate the entire field.
- Reduce game schedules when grass is dormant.
- Have regularly scheduled rest times that are used to repair damages.
- Rotate activities and practices between fields. This allows the grass “time off” to grow and repair itself

The most common problem with over usage is soil compaction, which is when soil particles are compressed into a smaller volume. This decreases the pore space (the space between particles) and causes many problems:

- Water cannot infiltrate the soil. The roots won’t get the water they need, and pools of water will form on the field. Grass growth will be limited because it is essentially experiencing a drought.
- The roots can’t grow because the soil is too condensed.
- Oxygen and other nutrients cannot flow throughout the soil. Without nutrients, the grass will start to thin out and die.

One of the other large challenges with space allocation is the number of teams participating in soccer. The City does not run soccer leagues; all leagues and teams are private. The City of Oxnard simply processes reservations for field space for each league for games only. Practices are not regulated or reserved through the City.

There are four youth soccer leagues. Within these leagues, there are approximately 185 youth teams that play from September to November; 420 youth teams that play February to April; and 220 youth teams that play from June to August. In addition, there are 6 adult soccer leagues, with an uncounted number of teams.

The current leagues using City playfields are:

1. Youth League: Coast Soccer League
2. Youth League: Oxnard County Soccer League
3. Youth League: Oxnard Youth Premier Soccer League

4. Youth League: Pacific Coast Soccer League
5. Adult League: Oxnard Soccer Association
6. Adult League: La Gran Liga
7. Adult League: Clubes Unidos de Oaxaca
8. Adult League: United Premier Veterans Soccer League
9. Adult League: Clubes Unidos
10. Adult League: Oxnard County Soccer League (6 vs. 6)

In 2017 the premium fields were used for a total of 3,830 hours. Listed below are the premium locations with the number of hours used per location for games only in 2017 by the various leagues:

1. Premium Field: College Park
 - a. 5 fields*
 - b. 2,155 hours
2. Premium Field: Del Sol Stadium
 - a. 1 field*
 - b. 495 hours
3. Premium Field: River Ridge
 - a. 2 fields
 - b. 826 hours
4. Premium Field: Rio Vista
 - a. 2 small fields *only available September – November*
 - b. 384 hours

*Fields have stadium lights

In 2017 the general fields were used for a total of 2,695 hours. Listed below are the general locations with the number of hours used per location for games only in 2017 by the various leagues:

5. Del Sol East
 - a. 1 field, 335 hours
6. Southwest Park
 - a. 5 fields, 1,637 hours
7. Via Marina Park
 - a. 1 field, 666 hours
8. Colonia Park
 - a. 1 field, 57 hours

The Recreation and Community Services Division has developed a long-standing method to provide a rotation of equal field use between the leagues. Each league is placed on the balanced rotation to allow them to utilize both the premium and general play spaces throughout their season. The leagues reserve play fields, *in person*, at the Recreation Division, no later than a week in advance.

The lack of the ability for online reservations for play fields is another challenge. To address the technology deficiency the Recreation and Community Services Division has actively pursued online reservation formats and hopes to launch the online capacity in Spring 2019. This would allow the City to save staff and customers time by not doing reservations manually; be more transparent (everyone is able to see when a space is reserved); and allow for the possibility of moving all city facilities and reservation onto one program. Staff will present the online reservation program to the Parks and Recreation Commission in February, then return back to the Community Service Committee in March 2019.

Lastly, to address the soccer field demands the Recreation and Community Services Division is currently developing a plan with a subcommittee led by Commissioner Tejada to compose a more comprehensive strategy for soccer that will better serve the soccer playing community. Staff will bring this plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission for input in Spring 2019.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This agenda item is a routine operational item or does not relate to the four strategic plans adopted by the City Council on May 17, 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None

Prepared by Terrel Harrison, Interim Cultural & Community Services Director

ATTACHMENTS

Presentation on Equitable Use of City Soccer Fields.

(This page is intentionally blank.)

Equitable Use of City Soccer Fields

City Council: Community Services Committee

By: Terrel Harrison, Interim Cultural & Community Services Director

Erik Garwick, Parks Manager

January 22, 2019

SOCCER FIELDS - BACKGROUND

- Recreation & Community Services Division handles the field reservations for soccer fields for game only
- Parks Division handles field maintenance year round
- All soccer leagues and teams are private (not run by the city)
- A Sports Facility Allocation Procedure Manual was approved by PRCSC March 23, 2016 (7-0) and instituted in fall season
 - The manual is provided to all users, the document includes maintenance closures, code of conduct, insurance requirements, and rules for use of public parks.
 - Soccer field spaces are designated as either “premium” or general play areas.

SOCCER FIELD LOCATIONS

1. Premium Field: College Park (5)*
2. Premium Field: Del Sol Stadium (1)*
3. Premium Field: River Ridge (2)
4. Premium Field: Rio Vista (2 small)
fields only available September – November
5. General Play Field: Del Sol East (1)
6. General Play Field: Southwest Park (5)
7. General Play Field: Via Marina Park (1)
8. General Play Field: Colonia Park (1)

**Fields have stadium lights*

2017 Hours of Use of Soccer Fields by Park

1.	College Park (5 play fields).....	2155 Hours
2.	Del Sol Stadium (1 play field).....	495 Hours
3.	River Ridge (2 play fields).....	826 Hours
4.	Rio Vista (2 small play fields)	384 Hours
5.	Del Sol East (1 play field)	335 Hours
6.	Southwest Park (5 play fields)	1637 Hours
7.	Via Marina (1 play field)	666 Hours
8.	Colonia Park (1 play field).....	57 Hours
TOTAL		6,555 Hours



CURRENT LEAGUES

Youth Leagues

COAST Soccer League

Oxnard County Soccer League

Oxnard Youth Premier Soccer League

Pacific Coast Soccer League

Adult Leagues

Oxnard Soccer Association

La Gran Liga

Clubes Unidos de Oaxaca

United Premier Veterans Soccer League

Clubes Unidos

Oxnard County Soccer League (6-on-6)

CHALLENGES

- High demand for all soccer fields
- Maintenance budget and equipment
- Scheduled rest periods
- Lighting at field spaces
- Limited practice and game space
- Demand for year-round play
- In-Person Reservation required
- Regulating field use for practices

MAINTENANCE

- Field resting periods and maintenance is on a rotating schedule to preserve the designated play areas.
- Many of the Oxnard play spaces are multipurpose areas used for various sports and events resulting in unplanned maintenance needs arising at any time.
- With limited play spaces available, damage to turf is very likely to occur during scheduled sports seasons.

MAINTENANCE

Healthy



Overused



TYPES OF MAINTENANCE FOR SOCCER FIELDS

SPRAY PROGRAM

- Removal of invasive grasses
- Growth Regulators
- Pigmentations
- Introduction of nutrients

TURF MAINTENANCE

- Aeration
- Irrigation management
- Fertilization
- Sanding
- Soil Amendments

SCHEDULED REST PERIODS - the most important!

BEST PRACTICES FOR MAINTENANCE

- Restrict use when soil is very wet or very dry.
- Rotate heavy play areas during practices.
- Move portable goals, sidelines, and rotate entire field (if space permits).
- Reduce game schedules when grass is dormant.
- Have regularly scheduled rest times.
- Only permit mandatory activities to take place on the field.
- Rotate activities and practices between fields.
 - This allows the grass “time off” to grow and repair itself

WEATHER

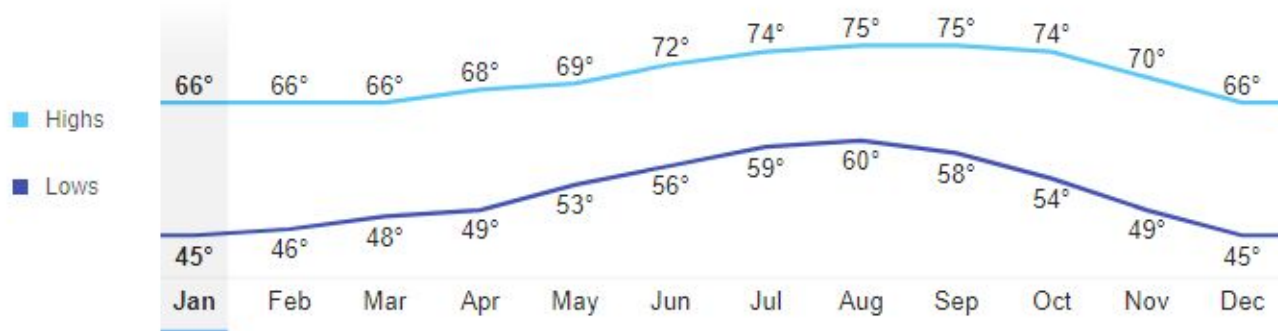
Oxnard, CA

Weather averages

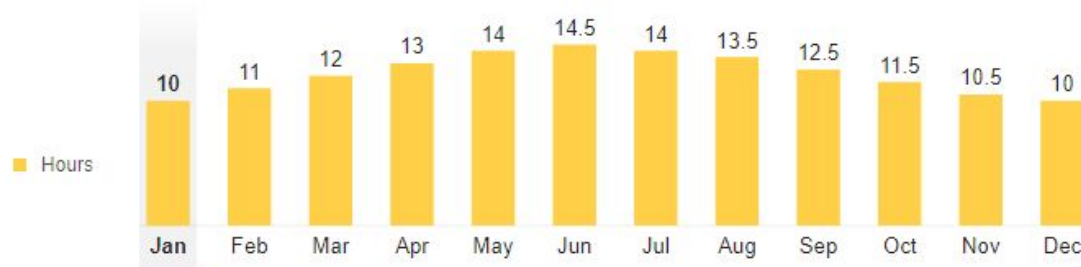
Overview

Graphs

Temperatures (°F)



Daylight



Source: NOAA

MOVING FORWARD

- The Recreation & Community Services Division will present a digital platform to the Parks Recreation & Community Services Commission (PRCSC) for field reservations.
- In Spring 2019 the Recreation & Community Services Division will develop a more comprehensive strategy for soccer to better serve the soccer playing community.



QUESTIONS?