



THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026
701 Carson St.

City Hall- Council Chambers
6:30 PM

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

Commissioners

Chair Shannon Lawrence | Vice-Chair Jesus-Alex Cainglet | Secretary Kisa Hilliard |
Kim Cortado | Cesar Dahilig | Walter Gonzalez | Edwina Hunter | DeAnthony Langston |
Jo Jacqueline Johnson

Alternates

Kelvin Brown (Alternate 1) | Vacant (Alternate 2) | Rudolfo Brillantes (Alternate 3)

Staff

Michael Whittiker, Jr. Director | Tim Grierson, Recreation Superintendent | Bobby Grove,
Community Services Superintendent | Modesto Bolanos, Park Maintenance
Superintendent | Kimberly Madrigal, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC INFORMATION

"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." (Government Code Section 54954.2)

Any members of the public wishing to provide public comment for the items on the agenda may do so as follows:

- 1. Email: You can email comments to p&rcommission@carsonca.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*
- 2. Telephone: You can record your comments at (310) 847-3581 no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Chair Lawrence.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Shannon Lawrence, Vice-Chair Jesus-Alex Cainglet, Secretary Kisa Hilliard, Kim Cortado, Cesar Dahilig, Walter Gonzalez, Edwina Hunter (entered 6:34 PM), Jo Jacqueline Johnson, Kelvin Brown, Rudolfo Brillantes

Excused: It was moved to excuse Commissioner DeAnthony Langston's absence on a motion of Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Cortado, and carried by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by youth athlete Aiden Ace.

PRESENTATIONS

1. PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION RECOGNITION OF 2025 YOUTH SOCCER & FLAG FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

Recreation Superintendent Tim Grierson introduced the item to the audience and acknowledged Council Member Jim Dear, who congratulated the season champions.

Grierson then introduced Program Manager Scott Griffie to read some stats about the season and followed with a slideshow that included each winning teams' photo.

After the slideshow, Griffie announced the park supervisors, which introduced the coaches and presented the athletes with certificates.

2. PARKS/CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UPDATES

Attachments: Parks/Construction Projects Update_PPT

Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance Director Michael Whittiker introduced Superintendent Grierson and praised his team (Administrative Specialist Christina Lutu and Division Secretary Mikala Mulitauaopele) for their assistance in completing the proper documents keep the various construction projects on track.

Grierson shared the progress that has been made at Carriage Crest, Foisia, and Mills Park. Amongst the numerous updates, some of the new features include a splash pad, full-size basketball court, and an electronic marquee.

Park Maintenance Superintendent Modesto Bolanos discussed some of the projects he has completed, including being a part of *Champions for Irrigation*. His team was featured on the

CalSense website for their extraordinary efforts in modernizing Carson's irrigation systems. Bolanos commended his staff for their dedication to the team and community.

Some of the smaller, yet significant projects that have been completed include the removal of sand at the Stevenson park playground and herbicide application on the fields. The sand posed health risks for visitors, as animals tend to use it as a litter box. The herbicide application eliminates invasive species that disrupt a level playing field. By removing them, balls can roll properly on the fields and there are fewer tripping hazards from holes.

3. CARSON EVENT CENTER AMPHITHEATER AND COURTYARD SCHEDULE OF FEES

Attachments: Carson Event Center Schedule of Fees

Community Services Superintendent Bobby Grove stated that fees were compared to venues in Gardena and The Grand in Long Beach. A fee survey will need to be conducted to determine fixed fees. The fees attached are tentative until the survey is completed.

Commissioner Cainglet: Stated that as the community is very diverse, and there are many political opinions and goals. He asked what type of events are allowed in this space.

Director Whittiker: The client has the right to use this private space for whatever reason they wish, if it falls within our limitations. If there is anything we cannot accommodate, we may need to charge an additional fee.

Commissioner Gonzalez: Asked if a client can bring their own catering.

Superintendent Grove: Clarified that Choura is the sole option for catering.

Commissioner Hilliard: Asked how for how long the Choura contract is in place.

Grove: Stated that Choura has a three-year contract with two one-year extensions. They are currently in the first-year extension. They will go back out to bid after the extensions are exhausted.

Commissioner Hilliard: Asked for clarification regarding Choura being the only option for catering.

Grove: Clarified that Choura is in fact the only option for catering services at the Carson Event Center.

Director Whittiker: Stated that the City receives a percentage of Choura's earnings.

Commissioner Cortado: Asked if the fees include security officers. Her concern was due to a 5-minute video she saw involving the Carson Event Center Atrium. A fight broke out and security did not intervene.

Grove: Sheriffs are asked to oversee larger events, including ones that serve guests alcohol. Issues happen occasionally, but staff attempt to keep everyone safe.

Action: It was moved to RECEIVE and FILE this item on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Cortado, and carried by a unanimous vote of 10-0.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The public may address the Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission or on any items on the agenda of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission, prior to any action taken on the agenda. Speakers are limited to no more than three minutes, speaking once. Oral communications will be limited to one (1) hour unless extended by order of the Chair with the approval of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. OCTOBER 30, 2025, PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Attachments: October 30, 2025, PRCAC Minutes

5. DECEMBER 2025 MONTHLY REPORT

Attachments: December 2025 Monthly Report

6. FEBRUARY 2026 PROGRAMS AT-A-GLANCE-THE SPOTLIGHT-PARK ASSIGNMENTS

Attachments: February 2026 Programs At-A-Glance-The Spotlight-Park Assignments

Action: It was moved to accept the Consent Calendar on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Cortado, and carried by a unanimous vote of 10-0.

DISCUSSION

7. DEL AMO PARK BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE

Superintendent Bolanos stated that staff were unable to host a beautification in January due to the ongoing basketball season. The beautification event will instead be held on a Saturday in February or March to allow more volunteers to attend.

Director Whittiker: Stated that upon conducting a site visit last week, staff found that the park might require a construction project to raise the basketball court. The calcium that surfaces from the ground ruins its aesthetic quickly and becomes a waste of taxpayer dollars when having to constantly restripe it. This will have to wait until the foundation is repaired.

Action: It was moved to Receive and File this item on a motion of Commissioner Hunter, and carried by a unanimous vote of 10-0.

8. PID MURAL REQUEST

- Attachments:** 9121.3 Division 1. Uses Permitted Residential_CMC Zoning Code
- 9131.3 Division 1. Uses Permitted Commercial_CMC Zoning Code
- 9141.3 Division 1. Uses Permitted Industrial_CMC Zoning Code
- 9151.3 Division 1. Uses Permitted Open Space Zone_CMC Zoning Code
- Mural Policy Zoning Email- Jacob Collins Assistant Planner

Commissioner Cainglet stated that he asked for this item to be removed from the agenda, however the message did not reach Administrative Secretary Kimberly Madrigal.

Director Whittiker advised that this matter is best left to city council, as he cannot decide on their behalf. He also agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

Commissioner Cainglet asked if the group would still be required to go through council if they raised their own funds.

Director Whittiker confirmed that they would. He suggested the group attend a council meeting and discuss the matter with council.

Commissioner Lawrence advised for this agenda item to be received and filed since it was discussed, although briefly. It would not be pertinent to remove it from the agenda or consider it not discussed.

Director Whittiker agreed.

Action: It was moved to Receive and File this item on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Cortado, and carried by a unanimous vote of 10-0.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The public may at this time address the members of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission. No action may be taken on non-agendized items except as authorized by law. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to no more than three minutes each, speaking once.

COMMISSIONER'S ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PARK REPORT

Commissioner Gonzalez/Veterans Park: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Brillantes/Carriage Crest, Carson Park: Visitors have complained to him about

leaves all over the ground. He is unsure if they are swept up when he is away, but he sees them every time he is at the park.

Commissioner Hunter/Dominguez Park: The basketball courts are being enjoyed by park visitors. She was pleased to find that the grass is leveled and doesn't have to worry about falling in holes. She asked for clarification regarding the water fountain near the baseball field, since she thought it was going to be removed.

Commissioner Johnson/Anderson Park: There are no issues at her park. She recently stopped by Foisia Park and was very impressed with the renovations; it looked beautiful and she is happy to be a resident of Carson.

Commissioner Hilliard/Hemingway Park: She praised Community Services staff for holding the PRCAC meetings regularly at the parks.

Commissioner Cainglet/Foisia Park: Acknowledged the Director and his role in completing the Foisia Park construction project. The Foisia grand reopening event was well attended. Residents have been reaching out to him about pickleball, and he would like to give them an answer if possible.

Director Whittiker confirmed that there are plans to have at least one pickleball court in the next 6-8 months.

(Cainglet exited the meeting at 8:11 PM)

Commissioner Brown/Mills Park: The park supervisor is hurt and has been out for some time. The Martin Luther King event was great. He praised Modesto for the amazing park aesthetics; visitors comment that the grass looks like a carpet, smooth and green.

Commissioner Cortado/Calas Park: She noted that the lights at Calas Park are off and the snack bar ground is very uneven. Visitors have asked when the park will be closing for reclaimed barrels of water since there is a car show in the fall. The wind screens for the tennis courts still have not been installed. She suggested that staff add real event photos on the flyers instead of AI graphics. She stated that the Foisia grand opening QR code did not have a link and asked to make it more user friendly. She noticed that the city's social media accounts have outdated information and can discourage visitors from looking to these accounts for accurate, timely information. Commissioner Cortado suggested that visitors get the choice to sign up for Active Net at the parks instead of the corporate yard.

The Senior Holiday Party had a great turnout. She suggested the group attend one of Gardena's Parks and Recreation Meetings.

Commissioner Dahilig/Dolphin Park: Pickleball is becoming very popular in the community and visitors travel to other parks to play. He asked if there is a possibility of bringing an additional court to the park.

Commissioner Lawrence/Stevenson Park: He is happy to see the playground being renovated. He inquired about the demolition timeline for the shed near the playground. He commended staff for the technology available at the community room at the park.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Park Maintenance Superintendent Modesto Bolanos:

- Carson Park: Has been laser leveled and coated with new infield mix.
 - The basketball courts have been resurfaced, and the contractor will touch up a few areas.
- Dog Feces: Unfortunately, there are some owners that do not pick up after their dogs. Staff will receive training to handle bloodborne pathogens.
- Leaves on Ground: Senior Groundswoker Collins purchased a new vacuum today to take care of the scattered leaves.
- Dominguez Park Fountain: The issue will be discussed internally.
- Mills Park: Residents complained about trash, and staff are resolving the issue. There were mosquitoes in the area and Corky's Pest Control was contacted.
- Pool Restorations: Park Maintenance is seeking proposals and will be going to RFP. The goal is to have the pools ready before summer.
- Staff Training: Attending various training courses. One of them is to learn to manage the fields more effectively and efficiently.

Recreation Superintendent Tim Grierson:

- Carson Lighting: Will reach out to Public Works.
- Dominguez Park Security Cameras: Public safety oversees this and there are cameras here.
- Lights at Calas: Recreation cannot resolve this issue but will relay it to Public Works.
- Social Media: There is a new department in the city, and they manage the social media accounts. These concerns will be relayed to them.
- Active Net: Residents were given plenty of time in advance to re-register. The city wants to ensure that Carson residents have access to these programs before visitors do.
- Spelling Bee: Everyone is invited to this event which will be held on Friday, February 20.
- Track and Field: The fee to join is about \$100 and it includes uniforms.
- Skateboard Extravaganza: This event will be held on February 22.
- Toy Loan Program: The program runs Monday to Friday.
- Stevenson Park: Working on procuring a 20-ton AC unit.
- Foisia Park: Completed repairs in remote restrooms.

Community Services Superintendent Bobby Grove:

- Human Services Senior Luncheons: Attempting to limit seniors to 2 tickets per person to make it fair for everyone and allow more people to participate. The ticket limit used to be 8 tickets, and not many people were able to purchase them before they sold out.
- Uber & Yellow Cab: Seniors now have two options for the Dial-A-Ride program.
- White Linen Event: Will take place in the new Amphitheater in July. Tickets will likely be sold in March once the headliner is secured.

Community Services Director Michael Whittiker:

- Carson Park Playground Tile Repair: All playgrounds in the city will be repaired soon.
- Foisia Park Grand Re-Opening: The park looked beautiful and the community appreciated the renovations.
- Pickleball at Foisia Park: Information regarding this topic was given earlier.
- Snack Bar: A request has been sent to Public Works since this is out of the department's work scope.
- Park Renovation: The park will go under construction within the next 2 years. The Superintendents will provide more information when there is a definitive timeline.
- Stock Photos on Flyers: There is a new social media person who will have new standards, and they are currently working on updating the webpages.
- Sanitation Department: Met with them today to discuss the Clean N Green Festival this year. They do offer tours and provide information on their marsh and wildlife.
- Dolphin Pickleball Courts: Staff completed a survey for the community. 200 people agreed with the idea of converting a tennis court to pickleball courts; 30 were opposed to it. We will be moving forward with the conversion.
- Shed Near Playground: There are ideas for renovations in this area that may include a complex and childcare. There has been discussion with a consultant to write a grant proposal.

Administrative Secretary Kimberly Madrigal:

- Reminder to sign up for the blended learning CPR class if interested

ADJOURNMENT

This Board/Commission/Committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board/Commission/Committees agenda be posted at least 72 hours in advance of each meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Board/ Commission/ Committee and items not on the Board/Commission/Committee agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board/ Commission/ Committee. The Board/Commission/Committee may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

Action: It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 PM on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Cortado, and was unanimously carried on a vote of 9-0.