



Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUBLIC MEETING IN THE PARK**

**MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2022
6:00 P.M.**

**Mocho Park
1130 Mocho Street, Livermore**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Chair Faltings and Directors Pierpont, Furst and Boswell
DIRECTORS ABSENT: Director Palajac
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Jill Kirk, Fred Haldeman, Jeffrey Schneider, Linda VanBuskirk, Pamela Healy, Robin Rasmussen

Chair Faltings called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Directors were present, except Director Palajac, and were introduced to the public in attendance.

1. Update on Current LARPD Projects:

Parks and Facilities Manager (PFM) Fred Haldeman gave updates on various projects including the Robertson Park synthetic fields, upcoming improvements at the rodeo grounds, improvements to water and sewer lines on Trevarno Road, the Bike Pump Track project at Sunken Gardens and the proposed smaller sized Community Garden installation at Mocho Park.

- **Director Furst** commented that the Synthetic Turf Replacement Project at Robertson Park is a worthy endeavor. The project cost is \$1.6 million. One field is being replaced at a time to allow the public to continue to use the other fields.

2. Comments and Suggestions Regarding Mocho Park:

Chair Faltings asked the public "How can our parks serve you better? Comments received included the following:

- a) Request for improved street access to Mocho Park, along Holmes Street. Currently, there is a small gap adjacent to the fence that is used.
 - LARPD staff will review this issue.
- b) Can you replace the groundcover/bark? This is done periodically.
- c) Can you please install a small circular strip of asphalt for kids to ride on?
 - **PFM Haldeman** commented that the proposed Community Garden installation may provide an opportunity to add something along these lines.
- d) What do I do about cars/trucks driving into park and doing donuts on lawn area? Can something be done about the excessive speeders on Mocho Street?

- Issues such as these may be reported by contacting the Livermore Police Department Traffic Unit at 925-371-4850, or reported online at: [Form Builder List | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](https://livermoreca.gov)
- e) Can you please install a shade structure over the playground area? It gets direct sunlight most of the day and gets very hot. When is the existing play structure going to be replaced?
 - **PFM Haldeman** explained the process for replacement of aging play structures and installation of shade structures. This is done by priority and considers age of the structure and remaining useful life. Mocho Park is on the replacement list for each of these.
- f) Can we get a path or grading installed that leads into the creek so children can play in the creek?
 - **PFM Haldeman** commented that staff will review and consider a graded path to the creek, but the creek area itself cannot be altered.
- g) Can we get a backstop installed at the park for sports practices?
 - LARPD staff will consider this request.

Director Furst commented that anyone present who would like direct feedback from any Board Member or LARPD staff is welcome to provide their contact information. A contact sheet was passed around for those who wished to provide this information.

Chair Faltings added, those who wish to can also provide feedback via the LARPD website at [Livermore Area Recreation and Park District - Community Feedback \(larpd.org\)](https://livermorearearecreationandparkdistrict.org)

3. Questions for Police Officer(s):

Chief Young, Lieutenant Draghi, Sergeant Williams and Officer Perlman from the Livermore Police Department were in attendance and responded to questions and comments from the public, including the following:

- a) Thank you for the recent arrest of the suspect in the bowling alley homicide.
- b) What is being done/can be done about homeless issues along the creek?
 - Chief Young responded that Livermore PD is working with community partners to address the issue. He noted, they have also been making a concerted effort to resolve the issues along Stanley Blvd. as well as the area to the rear of Home Depot and Walmart.
 - Additional non-emergency reports or other concerns regarding unhoused/homeless individuals can be filed online on the Livermore PD's website at [Report a Problem | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](https://livermoreca.gov)
- c) Kids and families really enjoy the park during the daytime, but often neighbors have safety concerns at night due to suspicious behavior by people loitering after park hours.

- If the public witnesses an activity that is clearly unlawful, or even if they are unsure if it is unlawful, please feel free to contact Livermore Police Dispatch to report the incident. Be prepared to give your location and the type of emergency you are reporting. To report a non-emergency incident with the Livermore Police Department, call (925) 371-4987. For more information, please visit the Livermore Police Department website at [Police | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](https://www.livermoreca.gov/police)
- LARPD's Ordinance No. 8 – District Rules & Regulations covers allowed use of parks and may be viewed here: [LARPD Ordinance 8 Rules and Regs](#)

Director Pierpont commented on the need for community partnerships to resolve issues such as these. LARPD Board members and many staff members are also Livermore residents and are equally concerned with safety issues. The public should feel free to contact LARPD with any questions and/or concerns.

4. Questions for Staff and Board of Directors:

Staff responded to questions from the public concerning the following:

- a) There is a safety issue pertaining to the trail that goes under Holmes. The gravel needs to be cleared out. This is owned by the City of Livermore; the request is for LARPD staff to raise the issue with COL.
 - Chair Faltings will bring this up at the next Intergovernmental Liaison Committee meeting.
- b) Where will future shade structures be installed and how is it determined which parks get precedence?
 - PFM Haldeman explained that installation of shade structures is currently determined by use of a replacement list, by age/useful life. Mocho Park is on the list. The cost per structure is currently \$40-60k per structure.
- c) Can you install signs and bag dispensers to address ongoing problem of owners not picking up after their dogs?
 - PFM Haldeman explained that dispensers and bags were discontinued two years ago due to the expense. Costs for bags were upwards of \$40-50k. LARPD staff will consider placement of signs in "hot spot" areas.

Chair Faltings thanked those present for attending and encouraged all to "bring a friend" to the next Public Meeting in the Park.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Lvb/ph