



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 20, 2024
TO: Parks and Recreation Department Employees
FROM: Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2024 Second Quarter Employee of the Quarter Selections

It is my pleasure to announce the winners of the Parks and Recreation Department's Employee of the Quarter (EOQ) winners for the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

As you know, winners are nominated by their peers, supervisors, and managers each quarter. Then, each Deputy Director reviews their division's nominations for eligibility, and chooses up to six nominations to forward to the Parks and Recreation Department Rewards and Recognition Selection Committee. Winners are selected by the Rewards and Recognition Selection Committee (see attached roster of committee members) based on some or all the following criteria: exceptional work performance, customer service, professionalism, cooperativeness, work schedule availability and attendance, and dedication.

Each selectee receives one day (8 hours) of Discretionary Leave and a \$300 cash award. Please note that all Discretionary Leave and monetary awards are prorated for part-time and hourly employees, per City policy.

I am excited to recognize the following **Parks and Recreation Department Employees of the Quarter** for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2024:

- **Juan Avalos**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who exemplifies a heart of service in all he does for park and community. Due to his knowledge and experience with irrigation, he was asked to take lead in assisting other GMW's who were new to the area and assisted them with fixing and getting their irrigation systems ready for inspections, all while keeping his areas maintained and up to department and community standards;
- **Armando Banuelos Angulo**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who frequently assists others outside his assigned site, and lends his knowledge and expertise with irrigation issues, while mentoring new hires, and while performing duties with a professional finish. Armando is the ultimate team player and exemplifies the knowledge and work ethic. Thank you, Armando, for the hard work on getting the floors stripped and waxed at the Mira Mesa Rec Center;
- **Marlon Bautista**, Park Ranger, who shares his knowledge of habitat restoration and experience in managing field projects. He has been nominated by his peers for at least six PEAK Awards. He designated and prepped habitat restoration sites, led volunteers in planting 120 native plants, coordinated cleanup sites with I Love A Clean San Diego, and coordinated and installed erosion control measures. Also provided critical support to the San Diego River Park, and assisted with four habitat restoration events. He makes us and our parks better;

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- **Mark Jennings**, Associate Planner, who constantly works effectively to ensure Council and Get It Done Requests for brush management are resolved quickly. He's been instrumental in helping to respond to the recent Brush Management Audit recommendations. Namely he's worked with Transportation Department, and District Managers and management to estimate, develop, and refine a Geographic Information System layer that includes those Department and Divisions' lands that may require regular brush management;
- **Rosa Moore**, Senior Management Analyst, whose leadership, and organizational skills have been instrumental in continuity of payroll operations for three P&R Divisions over the past six months. She volunteered to work out of Torrey Pines during payroll processing weeks to directly assist staff with payroll-related questions. She continues to offer assistance with payroll processing and hiring support to the three Divisions and is the epitome of a team player;
- **Donna Murphy**, Recreation Aide, at Carmel Valley Pool, who is reliable, with an exceptional work performance, and amazing customer service skills. Lately, Aquatics has been struggling to get water fitness instructors, and Donna has volunteered to work at Allied Gardens, Kearny Mesa and Swanson pools no matter how far the commute. She is amazing with the patrons, makes them feel welcomed and valued and has been such a great contribution to the Aquatics team;
- **Lamont Pargo**, Irrigation Specialist, who is diligent, invested, and works hard to make the golfer's experience at Balboa Park Golf Course the best it can be. He is a leader and mentor to younger employees, helping to instill a sense of pride in their work and helping reinforce our ethos of bringing the best possible golf experience to our customers every day. Lamont takes gratification in improving the courses playability and aesthetics. He is a pleasure to be around and helps lift the crew's morale;
- **Theodore Scott**, Recreation Leader I, who started the year as a Rec Aide and was promoted to Rec Leader I last summer. He has coached co-ed 10U and 12U basketball teams through the citywide winter season. The 10U team earned themselves a spot in the city-wide tournament. He also coached a 12U flag football team during the fall season, and now has started coaching for another basketball season, once again coaching two teams. Teddy has done all of this while attending college full time;
- **Abdullah Idris Wahab**, Grounds Maintenance Worker I, who can be counted on when needed. He is very passionate when it comes to his job duties and projects. He often comes through for his team when backup is needed, continually strives to grow within the department and loves to take on new assignments. Idris also has an excellent relationship with the community who often present him with kudos for his hard work. His supervisor has also received calls from the community thanking him for excellent service.

My heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to all these employees who are some of our many, many wonderful employees who exemplify the Parks and Recreation "Heart of Service." I'm proud to say that's why we're the best darned department in the City of San Diego!

A huge thank you, as always, to all of you who took the time to recognize and nominate some of our many exceptional employees, and my sincere appreciation goes out to all of you who work so hard, whether nominated and/or selected this time around or not. Our department is truly fortunate to have so many hard-working and dedicated employees with a true Parks and Recreation "Heart of Service"!

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Thanks to everyone who was involved in this process: Nominators, nominees, the Rewards and Recognition Selection Committee, and, last, but not least, those who were selected as this quarter's Employees of the Quarter. My congratulations to all!

Sincerely,



Andy Field

Director

Parks and Recreation Department

Attachment: Fiscal Year 2024 Parks and Recreation Rewards and Recognition Committee Members

cc Parks and Recreation Department Unclassified Leadership Team
Parks and Recreation Department Rewards and Recognition Committee Members
Division Payroll Specialist



FY24 Rewards and Recognition Committee Members

As of September 19, 2023

- CP I Division: Anna Sonnenburg, District Manager
Adolfo Herrera, Recreation Center Director III
- CP II Division: Sinthya Carranza, Supervising Recreation Specialist
Marcelino Reyes, Grounds Maintenance Worker II
(*Supv. Raul Contreras, Scott Chouinard*)
- Open Space Div: Richard Trisby, Grounds Maintenance Manager
Jon Paetow, Park Ranger
- Golf Division: David Lanni, Golf Course Manager
Lamont Pargo, Irrigation Specialist (Supv. Wayne Carpenter*)
- DRP Division: Zadok Othniel, Park Ranger
Kimberly Stemmermann, Ground Maintenance Manager
- CMS Division: Matthew Benoit, Grounds Maintenance Manager
Cristian Arroyo, Park Utility Supervisor
- CRS Division: Zack McVey, Recreation Specialist
- Admin Svs Div: Jon Richards, Asst. Deputy Director
Sofia Bengel, Office Support Specialist

* Supervisors of members who do regularly check City email are listed so they may print out Rewards and Recognition Committee-related communications and appointments to give to their employees who are Committee members.