







# PARKS AND RECREATION PARK POST





# December 2024



Parks and Recreation

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Greetings!

Welcome to our new employee newsletter, the *Park Post*. We are glad you are here! We hope that you will find good and meaningful content in these pages. If you have suggestions to improve the newsletter or topics you would like to see covered, please email <u>SDVolunteer@sandiego.gov</u>.

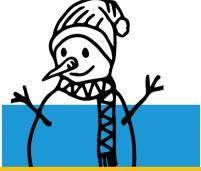
As we start the new year together, it is a good time to reflect on the many accomplishments achieved throughout our park system in 2024. Some of these highlights include the following:

- Many parks opened over the past year, including the first-ever AIDS Memorial at Olive Street Park, Riviera del Sol Park in Otay Mesa, Canon Street Park in Point Loma, Carmel Mountain Ranch Pool, and the long-awaited reopening of the Botanical Building in Balboa Park.
- Come Play Outside expanded to include even more free and low-cost programming to recreation centers in historically disadvantaged communities.

Andy Field, Director

- The Parks After Dark Program added Silver Wing as its fifth site, adding to the existing roster which includes City Heights, Linda Vista, Memorial, and Skyline Hills parks.
- The seasonal City sports leagues continue to experience high levels of participation and demand beyond the gymnasium space that is available.
- A new cheer program was started, culminating with a performance at the flag football championships.
- Numerous seasonal events were held throughout the park system including San Diego's largest free holiday festival, December Nights, in Balboa Park.
- The Annual Harvest Ball returned to the Bahia Resort Hotel in Mission Bay Park and was well-attended.





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# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR continued

While we celebrate these successes, we must also acknowledge the budgetary challenges that continue to face the City of San Diego. The recently issued Five-Year Financial Outlook suggests a projected \$258.2 million deficit in Fiscal Year 2026. In an email to employees last month, Mayor Gloria announced several measures to address this deficit, including:

- A strategic hiring freeze that will only allow the City of San Diego to fill the most mission-critical roles.
- Suspension of non-essential overtime and expenditures like travel and training.
- Reduction of outside contracts for professional and consulting services.
- Evaluation of outside leases for opportunities to reduce General Fund expenditures.
- Examination of fees and fines to ensure adequate cost recovery of services.

Further, several departments, including ours, has been asked to prepare a scenario that outlines how we would reduce up to 20% from our budget. This proposal is currently in development and could result in significant service level impacts across the park system if implemented. Since our department has had numerous budget reductions over the last 25 years, there are no remaining cuts that do not impact service delivery. Every reduction to our budget means there is a service that we can no longer provide. As this remains an evolving situation, we will strive to keep everyone informed.

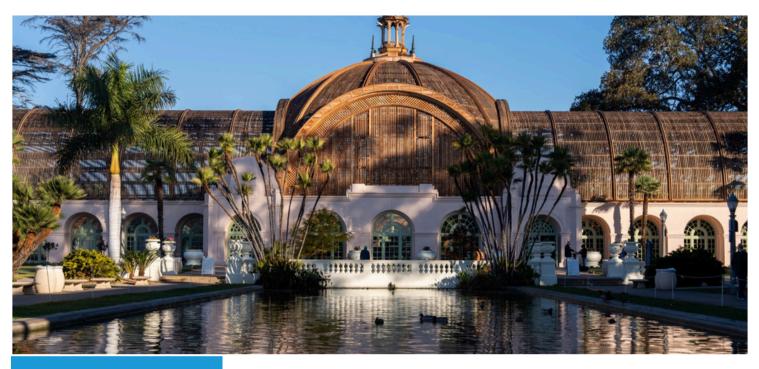
However, I am confident that we can get through this by staying together and demonstrating the importance and essential nature of parks and recreation: We change lives by offering great programs and parks. We build community for our existing patrons and new patrons as the City continues to grow. We bring a heart of service and willingness to help, as evidenced our response to last year's terrible floods. Our recreation programs and sports programs help steer youth in a positive direction. We plan inclusive programs and events designed for people with various types of disabilities. Our swimming lessons can prevent drowning, which is a leading cause of death for children. We provide public safety through active park ranger support and removal of dangerous issues in the parks. We preserve our natural resources so that our open space system can be enjoyed by future generations.

These are among the many messages I hope to convey to decision makers as we chart the course for our next chapter. You all are instrumental in demonstrating our collective commitment to serving San Diego.

In closing, I extend my sincere gratitude and thanks for your hard work, dedication, and professionalism. It is an honor and a privilege to work alongside of you, bringing high-quality parks and programs to all San Diegans. I am proud of the work you do each day and appreciate your commitment to the "heart of service" daily. Thank you for all that you do. I wish you all a happy and fulfilling 2025.



# **BOTANICAL BUILDING**



The Botanical Building is now open to the public Monday - Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is FREE After almost three years, the Botanical Building reopened to the public on the opening day of December Nights. The Botanical Building was originally constructed as part of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition and is one of only four structures designed to remain a permanent feature of Balboa Park. Completion of the building wrapped up phase one of the project. Phase one included a full building restoration, structural improvements, replacement of



redwood lath, reconstruction of the historic window arcades, accessibility improvements, expansion of the maintenance area, and planting of new and historic plants. Phase two of the project will be managed by Forever Balboa Park, and that will include exterior landscaping, irrigation, and the reconstruction of the historic pergola.



## **BOTANICAL BUILDING**

#### What's Next?

Phase II Scope of Work:

- Reconstruction of historic pergola
- Improve accessibility
- Refresh planting and irrigation
- Restore fountains, urns and balustrades
- Improve exterior lighting





"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." -Hellen Keller

# BALBOA PARK'S DECEMBER NIGHTS

Balboa Park again hosted the largest free holiday festival in San Diego on Friday, December 6th and Saturday, December 7th. The ceremonial kick-off of the event was the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the Organ Pavilion. This two day, family friendly event hosted over 100 performances, 250 vendor and food options, and free holiday movies located next to the Comic-Con Museum. For the second year, Municipal Gym hosted the Family Zone where families could enjoy crafts, live music, and meet Santa. It was estimated that over 300,000 attended December Nights. This successful event would not be possible without the Office of Special Events, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the various stakeholders throughout Balboa Park.



"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." -Pele

San Diego Civic Dance Arts Performances at December Nights



# **PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Mira Mesa Recreation Center

## Olive Grove Park



The next phase of improvements to Mira Mesa Community Park broke ground in September. Improvements will include a new aquatic center, an all-wheel plaza, turf areas, and more.



In September construction begun on improvements to the Olive Grove Park in Clairemont. New play areas, walkways, and resurfaced basketball courts.

## "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."

-Phil Jackson

#### Riviera Del Sol Neighborhood Park

#### Mission Bay Park Playgrounds



Grand opening of Riviera del Sol Neighborhood Park in October. Some amenities include playgrounds, fitness equipment, and picnic areas.



Playground designs began in 2018 and completed in 2024. Total project cost increased by \$4.1 million due to added playground scope. Playground Image: Tecolote South Shore

# **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Citywide Fall and Winter Events



# SAFETY AND TRAINING

#### Safety Tips



Wet weather is here! Stay safe by slowing down while driving and checking that your tires and wipers are in good condition. Prevent slips by keeping walkways and entrances dry and clear of water. And while cold stress is rare in San Diego, wearing layers on chilly mornings and evenings can help keep you comfortable. Let's work together to stay safe this winter!



Stay safe, and let's make this a great start to 2025!

"If you create value in employees, you get three things from an employee, a safer, more self-aware, and an employee with pride in their job." -Eazy Ocegueda, Safety and Training Manager



#### **Training Updates**

It's that time of year again for our annual AED (Automated External Defibrillators) maintenance trainings. We will host two in-person trainings. Please send one of your site liaisons to the trainings. They only need to attend one date. Please register through Success Factors.

January 21, 2025, from 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm January 22, 2025, from 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Location: 9485 Aero Drive, 92123



#### Director's Award Nominations

We are now accepting nominations for Director's Awards in both Individual and Group Categories.

Nominations are due from each Division's Appointing Authority no later than January 31, 2025.

Winners will be announced at the 2025 Annual Department Meeting.

#### Employee of the Quarter Nominations

Nominations for Employee of the Ouarter for FY25 are due from each Division's Appointing Authority no later than January 13. Please consider an employee who excels in providing extraordinary job performance, and who has made a significant positive contribution to the City during the previous three months. Employees must demonstrate sustained high-quality work performance during the entire nomination period. Isolated,

short-term projects done exceptionally well can be used as some of the basis to support this nomination; however, this award should be given to employees who display and maintain both long term and sustained high level of work performance.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

THE 2025 ANNUAL DEPARTMENT MEETING COMING SOON!



**Register on Success Factors:** Attend the day indicated by the first letter of your last name, or based on operational needs for your work area:

Wednesday, February 19 - Last names A - K Thursday, February 20 - Last names L - Z

We **<u>need staff pictures</u>** to be posted during the ADM- follow the instructions below.

- Take a Selfie in your work area
- Take a group picture of staff in your work area. If you want to have more fun, take a group picture in your best western outfit!
- Email pictures to SDPRADC@sandiego.gov by January 31, 2025.

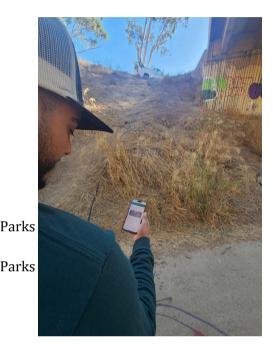
# **GET-IT-DONE: Four Months of Impact**

As we reflect on the last four months, we're proud to share the tremendous progress our Parks and Recreation team has made in addressing community concerns and maintaining the beauty and safety of our public spaces. Through your hard work and commitment, we've successfully tackled over 3,000 reports, making a real difference for the residents of San Diego. This section highlights the most common issues reported, showcases our accomplishments, and shares words of appreciation from the community we serve.

#### Most Reported Cases by Park Site

Our parks are the heart of our community, and your efforts have been particularly impactful in these high-traffic areas. Below is a summary of the parks with the most cases addressed over the past four months:

	# of Cases	Division
Otay Valley Regional Park	208	Open Space
Balboa Park Central Mesa	88	Balboa Park
Balboa Park West Mesa	79	Balboa Park
Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park	59	Community Parks II
City Heights Community Recreation Center	50	Community Parks II
Colinal del Sol Park & Recreation Center	45	Community Parks II
Lomita Neighborhood Park	41	Community Parks II
Balboa Park East Mesa	39	Balboa Park
Shorline - Beach Mechanized	36	Mission Bay/Shoreline P
Presidio Park	35	Balboa Park
Ocean Beach Park (Dog Park)	30	Mission Bay/Shoreline P
Old Trolley Barn Neighborhood Park	27	Community Parks II
Camino Ruiz Neighborhood Park	26	Community Parks I
Grape Street Dog Park	26	Balboa Park



#### **Most Reported Case Types**

Graffiti remains our most reported issue, representing 35% of all submissions with 1,076 cases. Your quick actions have been instrumental in resolving these cases and ensuring our parks remain welcoming and free from vandalism. Here is a breakdown of the most common case types over the past four months:



	Case Type	# of Cases	
	Graffiti	1,076	
Get It Done	Other	721	
Illegal Dumping		247	
Sprinkler/Irrigation		200	
Encampment		144	
Trash/Litter		124	
Potential Tree Issue		91	
Restrooms		77	
Broken Playground Equipment		75	
Brush Management/Weeds		55	
Drinking Fountain		53	
Dog Off Leash		44	
Fencing		44	
	Park Sign	43	
P	avement/Path	40	
		_	

# GET-IT-DONE: Four Months of Impact Continued

Each case resolved in these parks contributes to safer, cleaner, and more enjoyable public spaces. Your efforts are truly making a difference.

#### Improved Accountability Through After-Photo Pilot Program

Since implementing our pilot program requiring after photos before closing graffiti cases, we've achieved a dramatic improvement. Previously, only 33% of cases included both before and after photos; now, that number has risen to an impressive 85%.

This initiative has been a game-changer for both our team and the community. By providing clear visual proof of completed work, we've streamlined the process, improved transparency, and built greater trust with residents. A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who has embraced this change and consistently uploads photos—your efforts are essential in maintaining accountability and demonstrating the value of our work.

#### **Recognizing Excellence**

Your dedication does not go unnoticed, and neither does the community's appreciation for your hard work. Here are some of the positive comments we've received:

- "Thank you for the efficient follow-up on this issue! Much appreciated!"
- "Very quick and responsive. Thanks for your hard work! Restroom issue."
- "The city was QUICK to address the issue and fix the swing!"
- "Excellent prompt response maintains hard-fought deterrent to competitive vandalism of tagging. Thanks for all you do every day to make San Diego a safer, more economically and environmentally sustainable community for all."

These words reflect the pride and gratitude our community feels for the work you do every day. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to excellence.



Your attention to these concerns not only resolves immediate issues but also enhances the overall experience for park visitors. Thank you for your continued diligence!

#### We Value Your Feedback

Your input is vital in helping us improve and better serve our community. We encourage you to share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on how we can enhance Get It Done and support your efforts in the field. Together, we can continue to make our parks and recreation services the best they can be.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Conrad Wear (cbwear@sandiego.gov) or Kartiki Pande (<u>kpande@sandiego.gov</u>) with feedback—your voice matters, and our GID Team is here to listen. Thank you for your dedication and hard work. Let's keep making a positive impact, one case at a time!

Payroll

#### Earned Sick Leave

Employees who are in a non-standard hour position (hourly, seasonal, etc.): Remember that you may only use up to 40 hours or 5 days, whichever is more, of Earned Sick Leave in any fiscal year. Please keep track of the number of hours used in one fiscal year (July 1 through June 30); if unsure, supervisors can contact their Payroll Specialist.

#### W-2, Wage and Tax Statement

The City will mail paper W-2s on or before Friday, January 31, 2025. If you elect to receive a paper W-2, it will be mailed to the permanent residence address on file. Otherwise W-2's can be downloaded via the SAP portal in late January by clicking on the Access Payment Info tile.



## Volunteer and Intern Office

Volunteer fingerprint clearances can take six to eight weeks and are valid for five years. Please submit your requests early to allow time for processing. Click **here** for application.

A three-part training is required for supervising interns and volunteers. Two of which are self-directed via Success Factors, and the third is a live instructor led training via Teams. Please note that after your first two trainings you will receive access to Better Impact.

Intern requests are project based ONLY. Submit all Intern Requests to SDVolunteer@sandiego.gov. The Volunteer and Intern Office will submit request to Payroll.

January is a great time to update your emergency contact information in SAP.



Helpful P&R Links

**Recreation Services** 

<u>CityNet</u>

P&R Website

**Personnel** 

**Inside SD** 

**<u>Get-It-Done</u>** 

P&R Event Calendar

## BETTER IMPACT

#### Continued

## **Outstation Program**

Supervisors: Certification list requests and increases are now being handled by the two Personnel Analysts assigned to the department and no longer by Payroll Specialists. Once you've submitted a certification request, the Personnel Outstation Analyst will obtain a verbal confirmation from the Appointing Authority and move forward with your request. Personnel Outstation Analysts can answer any questions related to certifications, hiring process, forms and anything related to hiring. Your Personnel Liaison will continue to handle all other personnel processes, such as salary upon appointment, career advancement, special leave without pay, etc.



Karl Kosmas Senior Personnel Analyst Kkosmas@sandiego.gov (619) 687-5973

DIVISIONS SUPPORTED: Administrative Services Citywide Recreation Services Community Parks I Community Parks II Tara Robinson

Personnel Analyst tbrobinson@sandiego.gov (619) 236-6328

#### **DIVISIONS SUPPORTED:**

Balboa Park Citywide Maintenance Services Open Space/MADs Golf Operations Park Rangers Mission Bay/Shoreline



## "Great vision without great people is irrelevant." -Jim Collins



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New Hires		
<u>Division</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Classification</u>
CP II	Edel Ahrens	Water Safety Instructor
CP II	Juan Alcala	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Malaea Benedicto	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Myles Caldwell	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Christopher Chancoy Zamora	Recreation Aide
Golf	Ryan Currie	Golf Operations Assistant
CRS	Ahmad Curry	Therapeutic Recreation Leader
CP II	Filip Dedoevic	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Anthony Di Giulio	Student Intern
CP II	Thomas Ducom	Recreation Aide
CP II	Kimberly Garcia	Recreation Leader 2
CP II	Eddie Gonzalez	Pool Guard 1
BP	Rocio Gurrola	Recreation Leader 1
CP II	Jesse Ha	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Heather Hackett	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Roberto Hernandez-Delgado	Student Intern
BP	Bryan Landeros Santoyo	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CRS	Sean Lee	Recreation Aide
CP I	Vanessa Limon	Student Intern
CP II	Anya Lundeberg	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Tucker Masek	Recreation Aide
CP II	Leonardo Melendrez	Student Intern
CP II	Keenan Melia	Pool Guard 1
BP	Sherika Miller	Recreation Leader 1
BP	Keegan Mitchell	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CRS	Jolee Nieberding-Swanberg	Recreation Aide
CP I	Oscar Ortega	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP II	Amie Parks	Water Safety Instructor
CP II	Auburn Pendleton	Water Safety Instructor
CP II	Brenda Reyes Orozco	Recreation Aide
CP II	Gabriel Rodriguez	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Jayden Rogers	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Rosemary Sais	Student Intern
BP	Michael Serpa	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP II	Julie Shamon	Pool Guard 1 .
CP II	Christine Sigle	Pool Guard 1
OS	Celina Thibeault	Clerical Assistant 1
CMS	Jason Thomas	Pesticide Applicator
CP II	Diego Valladolid	Recreation Aide
CP II	Julieta Valladolid	Water Safety Instructor
CP II	Molly Vu	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Khristopher White-Robinson	Recreation Aide
BP	Sook Wilson	Recreation Leader 1
CP II	Sergio Zepeda	Pool Guard 1 Page 1

## Promotions

<b>Division</b>	Namo	<u>Classification</u>
CP II	<u>Name</u> Manuel Abeyta	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CMS	Eddie Aguiluz Meza	Equipment Operator 2
CMS	Michael Alba	Light Equipment Operator
CP II	Jasmin Allen	Recreation Leader 1
CMS	Cristian Arroyo	Grounds Maintenance Manager
CP I	Juan Avalos	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP I	Armando Banuelos Angulo	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP I	Juan Banuelos Angulo	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Isaiah Barton	Recreation Leader 1
CP II	Joel Bird	Public Information Clerk
CP II	Daniel Blankevoort	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP I	Lacy Bradshaw	Area Manager
OS	Hector Cardenas	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CRS	Kimberly Carroll	Associate Management Analyst
CP II	Audrey Carter	Pool Guard 1
MBSL	Emanuel Chavez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
PR	Nathan Collins	Sr Park Ranger
CP II	Jose Corrales	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CRS	Carmen Coutee	Recreation Leader 1
MBSL	Lazaro Cruz Perez	Equipment Tech 1
CP II	Aleksandar Cucak	Pool Guard 2
CP I	Richard David	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Ashley De Lao-Ratcliffe	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
BP	Nicolas Diaz	Recreation Leader 1
CP I	Jaime Diez	District Manager
CP I	Urbano Estoque	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Gregory Flores	Pool Guard 2
MBSL	Ricardo Flores	Grounds Maintenance Worker2
AS	Carolyn Galvan	Payroll Supervisor
CP I	Joseph Garcia	Assistant Recreation Center Director
CP II	Samuel Gardner	Swimming Pool Manager 1
CMS	David Gaspar	Equipment Tech 3
CP II	Laila Gomez-Esquivel	Pool Guard 2
MBSL	Doreen Gonzales-Kuper	Grounds Maintenance Manager
PR	Brenda Gonzalez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP II	Arnulfo Gonzalez Alonso	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
BP	Steven Guzman	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP I	Allison Hernandez	Assistant Recreation Center Director
CP I	Daniela Hernandez Oaxaca	Assistant Recreation Center Director
CP I	Adolfo Herrera	Area Manager

#### Continued

## **Promotions Continued**

<b>Division</b>	Name	<u>Classification</u>
Golf	Kristin Hunter-Behbahani	Light Equipment Operator
CP II	Marco Jones	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP II	Karissa Keith	Pool Guard 2
CRS	Irma Lara	Recreation Leader 1
MBSL	Marcela Lara-Valenzuela	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP I	Ignacio Lucy	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP I	JGuadalupe Lupian Godinez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Antonio Macias Valdez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Quetzalli Maldonado	Pool Guard 2
MBSL	Luis Mandujano Cubillas	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP I	Javon Martin	Recreation Leader 1
BP	Cristian Martinez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2
CP II	Miguel Mateo	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CMS	Robert Modell	Aquatics Tech 2
CP II	Donna Murphy	Water Safety Instructor
CP II	Nicholas Nguyen	Pool Guard 1
BP	Mike Nguyen	Supervising Management Analyst
CMS	Minh Nguyen	Light Equipment Operator
AS	Danielle Nourie-Burns	Supervising Management Analyst
OS	Columbus Palmer	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
OS	Aiga Poumele	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
PR	Joel Prospero	Senior Park Ranger
CP II	Edgar Rascon Flores	Pool Guard 2
CP II	Marcelino Reyes	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP I	David Richard	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Dana Robinson	Swimming Pool Manager 1
CP II	Raul Rodriguez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Rafael Rodriguez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Rachel Ruiz	Administrative Aide 1
MBSL	Ramiro Ruiz	Equipment Operator 2
Golf	Manny Sanchez	Light Equipment Operator
CP I	Dulce Sandoval	Assistant Recreation Center Director
CP I	Juliette Suleiman	Area Manager
Golf	Carlos Transito Mendoza	Light Equipment Operator
MBSL	Maria Valenzuela	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3
CP II	Uzziah Varela	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Margaret Vittori	Water Safety Instructor
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#### Continued

### Service Retirements

<b>Division</b>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
CP II	Gabriel Ayala	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	29
CP II	Kathleen Castello	Area Manager	22
CMS	Andrew Duran	Tree Trimmer	34
AS	Evelyn Gozum	Payroll Specialist 2	22
BP	Stacey Harris	Public Information Clerk	23
CP I	Roger Hughes	<b>Recreation Center Director 3</b>	37
BP	Soledad Morris	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	23
CP I	Macha Rodriguez	Assistant Recreation Center Director	36
MBSL	Ty Santineau	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	33
PR	Sylvia Sowadski	Park Ranger	40

### Service Awards

<b>Division</b>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Classification</u>	Years of Service
AS	Lakisha Alomar	Payroll Specialist 2	10
OS	Lauren Baker	Recreation Center Director 2	20
CMS	Alberto Cortez	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	15
CP II	German Fimbres	Area Manager	25
OS	Carey Goldstein	Supervising Park Ranger	10
CMS	Hilario Grande	Irrigation Specialist	30
CP I	Benjamin Greene	Recreation Leader 1	10
BP	Victor Johnson II	Area Manager	25
CMS	Luis Martinez	Seven-Gang Mower Operator	30
CP I	Sidney Michael Jr	Recreation Leader 1	5
OS	Columbus Palmer IV	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3	25
CP I	Rafael Perez Jr	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	15
CP II	Irving Santos	Recreation Leader 1	5
OS	Steven Smith	Senior Park Ranger	10
Golf	Carlos Transito Mendoza	Light Equipment Operator	5
CP II	David Vizcarra	Recreation Leader 1	25
CP II	Latoya White	Recreation Leader 1	5

## Transfers to P&R

<u>Division</u>	<u>Name</u>
CP II	Wendy Inman
CMS	Fabian Leon
CRS	Jasmine Mayhew
BP	Merissa Johnson
AS	Justin Nguyen
AS	Salina Villegas

#### **Classification**

Clerical Assitant 2 Utility Worker 2 Clerical Assistant 2 Custodian 1 Management Intern Account Clerk



# **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LATEST RETIREES**

Evelyn Gozum Payroll Specialist II



22 years of dedicated service.

Kathy Castello Area Manager



22 years of dedicated service.

Stacey Harris Public Information Clerk



23 years of dedicated service.

*"We have to remember what's important in life: friends, waffles, and work. Or waffles, friends, and work. But work has to come third."* 

-Leslie Knope



33 years of dedicated service.

Andrew Duran Tree Trimmer



34 years of dedicated service.

Roger Hughes Recreation Center Director III



37 years of dedicated service.

## REMEMBERANCE

## Robert "Bubbly" Titus Jr.

Robert dedicated over ten years of his life to serving the community of Southeast San Diego and City Heights. His commitment and love for the community shone through in his work. Starting as a Recreation Aide at Azalea, he continued to make a positive impact as a Recreation Leader 1 at Park de la Cruz and, most recently, as the OCA Assistant Center Director. His selfless service and open arms will forever be remembered by those he touched.

It is with great sadness that I share with you the passing of Robert Titus, Jr. Robert "Bubbly" Titus was a beloved son, brother, and friend to many. Robert's infectious personality and larger-than-life smile touched the hearts of everyone who had the pleasure of crossing his path. His laughter was contagious, and his love for life was evident in everything he did.

A native of San Diego, Robert was a proud graduate of Crawford High School. His love for baseball and his unwavering support for the Padres were just a few of the many passions that filled his life. Outdoor adventures, especially fishing, brought him great joy, but nothing compared to his love for his family. Robert's family meant the world to him, and he cherished every moment spent in their company.

We will miss Robert deeply, but his impact on each one of us will continue to shine brightly. His memory will live on in the hearts of the countless lives he has touched.





Robert Titus Jr. Recreation Leader I

-Gina Dulay, Deputy Director, Community Parks II Division



Ronnell Green Grounds Maintenance Worker II

### **Ronnell Green**

Ronnell began his City career in August 2000 as a Recreation Leader I in the Inland Parks Division. In 2005, he transferred to Reservoir Concessions, then later that year promoted to a Grounds Maintenance Worker II with the Coastal Parks Division. Throughout the years, he worked at various sites including Linda Vista, Serra Mesa, Nobel and more.

"It is with great sadness that we share that our colleague and friend Ronnell Green passed away unexpectedly [in] 2024. Ronnell was a legacy employee, having been introduced to the department by his mother, now retired GMW II. Ronnell followed in his mother's footsteps, also becoming a GMW II. He was assigned to Nobel Recreation Center were his infectious smile always brought joy and comfort to his co-workers and the patrons."

-Steve Palle, Deputy Director, Community Parks I Division



# **AROUND THE DEPARTMENT**

## Keeping San Dieagans spirit alive



## LETS GO PADRES !!

In October 2024, the Children's Park was awarded an Orchid by the San Diego Architectural Foundation.





## **AROUND THE DEPARTMENT**

## Open Space/MADs Division holiday luncheon event



Golf Division Annual staff appreciation event in DeAnza Cove





County Supervisor, Nora Vargas' office presents a proclamation formally recognizing SDCDA as a partner of Live Well San Diego. December 6 is now Civic Dance Arts day.





## "Great things in business are never done by one person; they're done by a team of people."

-Steve Jobs







## "Collaboration allows us to know more than we are capable of knowing by ourselves."

-Paul Solarz



# **RECOGNIZED EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS**



#### **Employee Organizations**

<u>EAP</u>

<u>Benefits</u>



#### Municipal Employees Association (MEA)

9620 Chesapeake Dr Ste 203 San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: 619-264-6632 Fax: 858-300-3898 Web: <u>www.sdmea.org</u>

#### American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (Local 127)

3737 Camino Del Rio South Ste 400 San Diego, CA 92108

Phone: 619-640-4939 Fax: 619-640-8171 Web: <u>http://www.afscme127.org</u>

## MY SAN DIEGO

#### San Diego Public Employee Benefit Association

9620 Chesapeake Dr., Suite #104, San Diego, CA 92123 Main: (888) 315-8027 | Fax: (619) 431-3078 <u>support@sdpeba.org</u> <u>info@sdpeba.org</u>

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### San Diego City Employees' Retirement System

401 West A Street, Suite 800, San Diego, CA 92101 Phone: (619) 525-3600 Toll Free: (800) 774-4977 FAX: (619) 595-0513

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



**Additional Links** 

**SDPEBA** 

**Fiscal/Annual Calendar** 

**SDCERS** 















# THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING YEAR





