



PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION REPORT

MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2026

ITEM NUMBER: CC 2

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2026

FROM: BRIAN GRUNER, PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
DIRECTOR

CONTACT INFORMATION: BRIAN GRUNER, PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
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❖ **Adult Sports**

• **Adult Sports**

- Softball League – Operated by Major League Softball
 - Fall 20206 began August 31 – December 3
- Senior Softball League – Operated by City Staff
 - Spring 2026 begins August 29 – December 5

• **Fields**

Field Usage	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
# of Organizations	61	61	61	61	61	62	63
Hours	52,574	48,628	44,436	44,436	44,436	18,889	43,752

❖ **Community Gardens**

Garden Location	Parcel Quantity	Parcels Rented	Waitlisted
Del Mar*	65*	65	198
Hamilton	42	42	68

*5 raised bed parcels

❖ **Contract Classes**

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Youth & Adult Totals:	316	352	280	317	374	313	246

❖ **Costa Mesa Senior Center**

- From September 14–18, the Senior Center celebrated Spirit Week with daily themes, including Alma Mater, Western, Pajamas and Coffee, Throwback/Eras, and Sports. Participants received raffle tickets for a chance to win a gift card.
- On September 23, eight Senior Center members competed against Westminster and Fountain Valley senior centers in the second annual Tri-City Billiards Tournament, earning third place.

- On September 24, the Senior Center hosted its 11th Annual Knowledge and Health Fair Expo, featuring 35 community organizations and approximately 350 attendees. The event provided health, legal, financial, transportation, and other resources, with support from CalOptima Health and Five Star Bath Solutions.

Senior Programs	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Meals on Wheels OC - Meals	1,457	1,449	1,279	1,356	1,467	1,548	1,233
Meals on Wheels OC - Seniors	1,417	1,353	1,188	1,274	1,387	1,496	1,175
Second Harvest Grocery Boxes	460	450	440	440	440	480	460
Wellness Calls	985	760	784	877	757	768	673
Transportation Program Trips	1,838	1,754	1,477	1,558	681	505	467

❖ **Downtown Aquatic Center**

Aquatics Programs	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Drop-In Participants	121	120	123	202	284	228	228
Total Drop-In Visits	608	523	530	750	1,172	1,012	662
Instructional Class Participants	184	266	199	318	549	190	427
Instructional Class Attendance	695	983	741	1,507	1,803	547	1,278

NMUSD Swim Lessons	Sept.
Voucher Participants	71
Voucher Attendance	257

❖ **Downtown Recreation Center**

	Sept.	
Gym Programs	Participants	Total Visits
Pickleball	141	692
Youth Open Gym	36	111
Basketball	75	229
Volleyball	108	229

❖ **Facility Rentals**

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Number of Rentals	37	31	36	39	27	39	26

❖ Fairview Park

- On September 24, the Senior Center hosted its 11th Annual Knowledge and Health Fair Expo, featuring 35 community organizations and approximately 350 attendees. The event provided health, legal, financial, transportation, and other resources, with support from CalOptima Health and Five Star Bath Solutions.
- On Saturday, October 24th the Fairview Park section will be hosting a Native Bee Talk and Walk with Dr. Tanya Hoerer, Professor of Organismal Biology and Marine Science. Join us to learn about the native bees that nest and forage at Fairview Park!
- The City continues to offer multiple volunteer opportunities for participants to partake in hands-on habitat restoration activities at Fairview Park, in partnership with local non-profit organizations. Please see the table below for the upcoming October scheduled activities.

	Restoration Volunteer Dates	
	Date	Time
Every Thursday	10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29	7:00 AM
Every other Friday	10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30	9 AM – 12 PM
2nd Saturdays of the month	10/10	9 AM – 11 AM
3rd Saturdays of the month	10/17	9 AM – 11:30 AM

- For more volunteer information and registration links, visit:
<https://www.costamesaca.gov/community/fairview-park/volunteer-opportunities>

❖ Permits

September - Park Rental Permits				
Park Location	Permits Issued		Park Location	Permits Issued
Brentwood	3		Shiffer	3
Canyon	1		Tanager	1
Del Mesa	6		TeWinkle	20
Estancia	5		Vista	3
Heller	4		Wakeham	8

Film Permits	
	Sept.
Permits Issued for the month	0
Permits at City Facilities	0
Permits at Private Commercial Property	0
Pending Permits on TESSA	0
Total Permits Issued for 2026	15

Special Event Permits	
	Sept.
Permits Issued for the month	5
Permits at City Facilities	2
Permits at Private Commercial Property	3
Pending Permits on TESSA	6
Total Permits Issued for 2026	39

❖ **Youth Programs**

• **L.E.A.P.**

- August 17, 2026 – May 21, 2027
- Held at Balearic Community Center in 2 classrooms of 22
- Operates Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Age (Days)	Capacity	Sept.
3-5 year old	44	14

• **R.O.C.K.S Afterschool Program**

- August 17, 2026 – June 3, 2027
- Registration open now for nine (9) NMUSD school sites

School Site	Aug.	Sept.
Adams	24	24
California	125	132
College Park	33	58
Davis	193	197
Killybrooke	40	42
Paularino	42	43
Sonora	36	39
Victoria	41	44
Whittier	36	35

• **Youth Sports**

○ **BeFIT Pickleball**

- Free clinic-based instruction at the Downtown Recreation Center
- Season: September 15 – November 5, 2026

Divisions / Grade level	Capacity	Enrolled	Waitlisted
A. 6th - 8th Grade	20	20	9
B. 4th - 5th Grade	20	20	7
C. 1st - 3rd Grade	20	20	17

- **Mobile Recreation**

- Attends City events to provide interactive games and crafts to the public

Day of the Week	Location	Sept.
Monday	N/A	N/A
Tuesday	N/A	N/A
Wednesday	N/A	N/A
Thursday	N/A	N/A
Friday	N/A	N/A
Weekends	City Events*	100

- Hispanic Heritage Celebration (9/19)

- **Teen Program**

- Free afterschool care for 7th - 12th grades
- Teen Centers at TeWinkle Middle School and Downtown Recreation Center (DRC)
- Offers shuttle transportation from Ensign Inter./Newport Harbor High School to the DRC Teen Center and Save Our Youth (SOY)
- NMUSD end of school year was on June 4, 2026

Program Location	Aug.	Sept.
Downtown Recreation Center (DRC)	138	305
TeWinkle Middle School	102	306
Shuttle Service	Aug.	Sept.
Downtown Recreation Center (DRC)	132	281
Save Our Youth (SOY)	102	382

Upcoming Events	Dates	Location
Scarecrow Festival	Saturday, October 10	Lions Park Event Lawn
Access Costa Mesa Spooks and Spirits Dance Party	Friday, October 23	Norma Hertzog Community Center
Teen Scream	Friday, October 23	Downtown Recreation Center
Monster Bash Luncheon	Wednesday, October 21	Costa Mesa Senior Center