

# AGENDA



## Recreation & Parks Commission

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 6:00 p.m.

DUE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY, THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA TELECONFERENCE PURSUANT TO THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20

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- <https://zoom.us/j/96718877966?pwd=dWw3YnJqWFFUeDI5UkNIRU80aVRYdz09>

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**MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chairperson Motta

**C. ROLL CALL**

**D. PRESENTATION**

**E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS** - *(Related to Commission business only and that is within the subject matter under the jurisdiction of the Commission – 5 minutes per person; 30 minutes total. The Brown Act does not allow the Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda.)*

**F. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting of March 17, 2021.** (Commission Action Required)

**Recommendation:** (1) Approval

**G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Consideration and possible action regarding tree removal at 309 E. Mariposa Avenue

**Recommendation:** (1) Approve Ficus tree removal at 309 E. Mariposa Avenue

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consideration and possible action related to the selection of a final conceptual design for the Urho Saari Swim Stadium (“The Plunge”)

**Recommendation:** (1) Review proposed options and provide a recommendation to City Council to move forward with Mithūn’s preferred conceptual design for the Irho Saari Swim Stadium

**I. REPORTS**

**1. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

- a. Aquatics Subcommittee
- b. Gateway Committee
- c. Transportation Subcommittee
- d. Youth Sports Council

**2. STAFF REPORTS**

- a. Arecia Hester, Recreation Superintendent – Written Report only
- b. Christopher Hentzen, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

**3. DIRECTOR REPORTS**

- a. Melissa McCollum, Community Services Director

**J. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Watson  
Commissioner Stolnack  
Commissioner Lubs  
Vice Chairperson Davis  
Chairperson Motta

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourn to the next Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.  
at City Council Chambers, 350 Main Street, El Segundo, CA 90245.

Posted by:  
Date:  
Time:



**CITY OF EL SEGUNDO  
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

*This meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom conferencing*

**A. CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairperson Motta at 6:03 p.m. via zoom.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Chairperson Motta

**C. ROLL CALL – via teleconference**

Commissioner Kelly Watson	Present
Commissioner Julie Stolnack	Present
Commissioner Dave Lubs	Present
Vice Chairperson Lee Davis	Present
Chairperson Bob Motta	Present

**All Commissioners were present via Zoom teleconference**

**ALSO PRESENT – via teleconference**

Melissa McCollum, Community Services Director  
Elias Sassoon, Public Works Director  
Arecia Hester, Recreation Superintendent  
Christopher Hentzen, Parks Superintendent  
Monse Palacios, Senior Administrative Analyst

**D. PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS –**

1. Acacia Park update  
Play equipment arrived the week of March 8<sup>th</sup>. It will be finalized in 3-4 weeks.
2. Teen Advisory Committee  
26 applications were received. The committee currently has 25 Teens from 7-11<sup>th</sup> grade. The current goal is to create a Mission & Vision statement.
3. Aquatics Highlights for 2019-2020, including operations and financials  
Recreation Superintendent, Arecia Hester presented on the Aquatic financials.

**E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS –**

Mrs. Dottie Allison commented on the tree removal item.

## **F. CONSENT CALENDAR –**

### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting of January 20, 2021. (Commission Action Required)**

MOTIONED by Vice Chairperson Davis and SECONDED by Chairperson Motta to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2021 meeting. MOTION CARRIED 5-0. Voice vote followed.

## **G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

None

## **H. NEW BUSINESS –**

### 1. Consideration and possible action regarding tree removal at 309 E. Mariposa Avenue

Elias Sassoon, Public Works Director would like to request a report from West Coast Arborist and share with William and Dottie Allison before making a final decision.

Motioned by Chairperson Motta and SECONDED by Commissioner Lubs to hold this over until next meeting pending a report from WCA on the condition of the tree.  
MOTION CARRIED 5-0. Voice vote followed.

## **I. REPORTS –**

### **1. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

- a. Aquatics – Met with Mithun and reviewed the drawings.
- b. Gateway Committee – The committee did not come to an agreement regarding the design. The City Manager's office will work with City staff and the designers to see if a compromise design can be developed.
- d. Transportation Committee – Will meet in the next month.
- e. Youth Sports Council – Working on gathering all documents needed for renewal. Groups were told no fees would be collected, but that has changed and leagues are now expected to pay their annual fee. Chairperson Motta suggested this matter be taken to City Council.

### **2. DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORTS -**

- a. Arcia Hester, Recreation Superintendent
  - Written report submitted.
  - Welcomed Joseph Lormans to the Aquatics team as the Aquatics Coordinator.
  - Staff is working on Spring Camp Pods as well as various programs.
- b. Christopher Hentzen, Park Maintenance Superintendent
  - Written report submitted.
  - Public Works website is now updated with the Parks Division information.

**3. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR REPORT – Melissa McCollum, Community Services Director**

- Written report submitted.
- City Council voted to extend the youth groups License Agreements for one more year with the current rate.
- Recreation & Park needs assessment will be reviewed by City Council on April 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Trapeze group will not proceed with the program as they were unable to meet city insurance requirements.
- Invited the commissioners to be part of the upcoming Nature Fix Book to Action program.

**J. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS –**

Commissioner Watson: Welcomed Joseph. Highlighted the Nature Fix and author talk.  
Commissioner Stolnack- Welcomed Joseph. Thanked staff for their hard work. Thanked Elias for green watchtower lights.

Commissioner Lubs: None

Vice Chairperson Davis: Excited for the opening of Acacia Park.

Chairperson Motta: Thanked staff for their hard work. Specifically dealing with the pandemic throughout the entire year.

**K. ADJOURNMENT –**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via zoom.

**AGENDA DESCRIPTION:**

Consideration and possible action regarding tree removal at 309 E. Mariposa

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**RECOMMENDED COMMISSION ACTION:**

1. Approve Ficus tree removal at 309 E. Mariposa.
  2. Alternatively, discuss and take other action related to this item.
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**BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION:**

Santos Haro, Tree Park Supervisor sent a tree removal notification letter dated November 10, 2020 to William and Dottie Allison at 309 E. Mariposa Ave and surrounding neighbors per city policy. William and Dottie responded within the 14 day appeal period requesting no tree removal. This tree is a mature Ficus tree that has been on the city's radar for several years due to the severe pruning the tree has endured because it is located under utility lines. This type of pruning has accelerated the decline of the tree which includes fungus growth on the support roots indicating internal decay.

The notification letter was initiated by a Public Works sidewalk and curb replacement project throughout the city. The large support roots have lifted the sidewalk creating a hazard for pedestrians and additionally have broken the street curbing. Reconstruction of the walk and curb would require cutting of major support roots of the tree which would undermine the structural integrity of the tree.

Per discussion/direction at the March 17,2021 meeting, an arborist report has been prepared. The tree was given a high-risk rating and recommended tree and stump removal. The arborist report has been given to William and Dottie Allison.

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**ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

1. Arborist Report March 24,2021 prepared by West Coast Arborist
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**ORIGINATED:**

Christopher Hentzen, Park Maintenance Superintendent

DATE: March 21,2021

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**REVIEWED BY:**

Elias Sassoon, Public Works Director on

DATE: March 21,2021

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# CITY OF EL SEGUNDO

## Level 2 Risk Assessment

309 E. Mariposa Avenue, *Ficus microcarpa*

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SUBMITTED TO:

MR. CHRIS HENTZEN  
Parks Superintendent  
City of El Segundo

PREPARED BY:

REBECCA MEJIA  
ISA Certified Arborist WE-2355A  
ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor  
Consulting Arborist, WCA Inc.



MARCH 24, 2021





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### West Coast Arborists, Inc.



## Summary

On March 18, 2021, a request was received by our Plant Health Care Department for a **Level 2 Basic Risk Assessment\*** for one Indian Laurel Fig (*Ficus microcarpa 'Nitida'*), identified in the tree inventory as 309 E. Mariposa Ave, Front-1. The risk assessment returned a rating of **high** risk.

## Introduction

### Background & History

West Coast Arborists, Inc., (WCA) was contacted by Mr. Chris Hentzen, Parks Superintendent for the City of El Segundo to provide arborist services and a Level 2 Basic Risk Assessment.

### Assignment

The City contracted with WCA to provide the following arborist services:

- Visually inspect one Indian Laurel Fig.
- Perform a Level 2 Basic Risk Assessment with a one-year time frame.
- Submit one certified arborist report summarizing the findings of the assessment, including images and any maintenance recommendations (mitigation).
- Perform all work in accordance with American National Standards Institute A300 (Part-9)-2011 Tree Risk Assessment Standard and the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) **Best Management Practices** for Tree Risk Assessment.

### Limitations of Assignment

The assignment, being a visual assessment of the subject tree, was limited to that which could be observed from the ground. Only exposed or easily exposed parts above ground level were inspected. Subsurface soil conditions and tree parts below ground were not disturbed or observed except as noted. It was a clear cloudless day, with no visual obstructions. The report is not intended to be legal advice and does not represent legal advice as such.

### Purpose and Use of the Report

The purpose of this report was to provide as complete and unbiased an opinion as possible with regards to the health, condition, and maintenance recommendations of the inspected tree. The content of this report is intended to be used by City of El Segundo staff that have jurisdiction and are responsible for the maintenance of the tree.

*\*Terms appearing in boldface type are defined in the Glossary at the end of this report.*

## OBSERVATIONS:

The subject tree was inspected on the morning of March 19, 2021 beginning at 7:30 am. The weather was cool and clear with little wind and no visual obstructions. The tree was inspected by observing the upper canopy and proceeding down the tree to the root flare and visible surface roots. Information about the health and structural integrity of the tree was gathered using a rubber mallet (used to check for hollow sounds around the accessible areas of the trunk and root flare), a steel probe to inspect cavities along the anchorage roots and trunk base, a standard diameter measuring tape, and a Samsung Galaxy Note8 to obtain images of the tree.

### Site Description

- The site is in the City of El Segundo's public right-of-way see Map 1, below.
- The tree is growing in a semi-irrigated parkway area in front the project address. The site consists of a pedestrian walkway along the northside of the tree and an asphalt roadway on the southside of the tree.

### Map 1: Site location



## Tree Conditions

- The tree has a trunk diameter of 32-inches (DSH) and is roughly 25-feet tall. Image 1
- The **canopy** is thin with visible dead twigs and branches. Images 2-4
- The tree has been repeatedly topped over the years to provide clearance for overhead utility lines. This has resulted in numerous, small secondary sucker growth concentrated at the branch ends.
- There are large buttress and anchorage roots present along the curb side of the parkway. The bark on top of these roots is pulling away in several places. Images 5 and 6
- There are remnants of Ganoderma root rot along all the large support roots and at the base of the tree. Images 7-11
- Two cavities were found, one on the southside of the tree and the other on the eastside. A steel soil probe was inserted into both cavities and it extended below ground level. Images 12 & 13
- When comparing images obtained from Google Maps, tree dieback appears to have begun sometime after December of 2017. This is the last time where the canopy was full and the tree showed no sign of disease. This time frame would fit the normal expected progression of dieback for a tree infected with Ganoderma. Images 14 and 15

## RISK ASSESSMENT

### Risk Assessment Methodology

Data collection for this project was used to derive a level of **risk** based on the matrices found in the ISA Best Management Practices (BMPs) for tree risk assessment (see Appendix B Tree Risk Matrices tables 1 and 2). The level of risk determined (*low, moderate, high, or extreme*) is to be used by risk managers to help in tree management decisions. When assessing risk, the value of **targets** is taken into consideration to categorize the consequences of failure (*negligible, minor, significant, or severe*). The people who use and frequent the target zone are generally the most important targets. The **time frame** for this assessment is one-year.

### Limitations of Tree Risk Assessment

Any change in the site usage, damage to the tree from biotic or abiotic causes, and/or construction work within the dripline of the tree(s) alters the conditions which this risk assessment was performed, and thus would require that a new assessment be performed.

According to the *Tree Risk Assessment Manual*, published by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), it is impossible to maintain trees free of risk: “There is no way to guarantee

that a tree will not fail. Tree benefits increase as the age and size of trees increase; however, some level of risk must be accepted to experience the benefits provided. The goal in assessing and managing trees is to strike a balance between the risk that a tree poses and the benefits that individuals and communities derive from trees.”

“A considerable level of uncertainty is typically associated with tree risk assessment due to our limited ability to predict natural processes (rate of decay, response growth, etc.), weather events, traffic and occupancy rates, and potential consequences of failure.”

“Condition affecting trees change constantly; none of us will ever be able to predict every tree failure. Conducting a tree risk assessment neither ensures nor requires perfection. Risk assessment should, however, ensure that all reasonable efforts have been made to identify the *likelihood of failure*, the *likelihood of impact*, and the *consequences of failure* present at the time of assessment.”

“Abnormally extreme storms such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and heavy freezing rain are not predictable and, in most cases, are not considered for categorizing *likelihood of failure*.”

## **Risk Assessment Results**

### **Likelihood of Failure**

To determine the likelihood of **failure** of parts of the tree, the conditions and site factors such as load on defects, rain, and wind events common to the region, **response growth** in the tree, previous failure history, tree health and soil attributes have all been considered. For the subject tree, the impact of loading on the crown and branches is moderate, with a **probable** likelihood of dead branch failure in the next year. Loading on the trunk, roots, and root collar is high with a probable likelihood of failure in the given time frame. This is especially true given the widespread presence of the decay fungus.

### **Likelihood of Impacting Target**

When assessing the likelihood of impact, factors such as occupancy rates, direction of fall in the **target zone**, and target protection were considered. The targets assessed were pedestrians, moving cars, parked cars, people in the cars, and a residential building. Occupancy rates range from rare to constant depending on the target and time of day. Targets and access to the target zone cannot be restricted due to site usage design. In the event of a root plate failure, the likelihood of impacting a known target during a period of frequent occupancy is **high**. Combining the probable likelihood of failure with the high likelihood of impacting a known target, the likelihood of failure and impact is likely.

## Consequences of Failure

To assess the consequences of a failure, factors such as target value, tree part size, and protection from the failed part were considered. For the subject tree, if a full tree failure were to occur the consequences would be **severe** for people, and minor to significant for all other identified targets.

## Risk Rating

By combining the consequences of failure with the likelihood rating, a risk rating is assigned and is based on the categorization of the above risk factors. The subject tree has an overall risk rating of **high** for the one-year time frame.

## DISCUSSION:

**Ganoderma trunk and root rot** are conditions caused by *Ganoderma sp.* on numerous landscape plants and trees. This decay fungus infects the roots and lower trunk of the infected plant. It often enters the root via a wound in the bark and will weaken the plant over time. Trees infected with *Ganoderma* fungus often display fruiting bodies, referred to as conks which will form on the lower trunk and exposed roots, and can be found in the soil as well. The fungus attacks the lower heartwood, and at advanced stages, will cause damage to the structural integrity of the host tree, often resulting in wind-throw (the potential to be uprooted or broken by wind). Trees suffering from root rot often fall over or break during storms and high winds. There is no chemical or cultural treatment available for trees infected with *Ganoderma* root rot. Trees affected by *Ganoderma* root rot may exhibit yellowing, wilting, or undersized leaves and dead branches. Tree vigor will decline as decay of the sapwood advances. The first visible sign of infection is often the formation of fruiting bodies (single or in clusters) on the lower trunk and exposed root areas. Unfortunately, by the time the conks are noticed immediate removal is the only option available. The rate of decay can lead to death in as little as 3 to 5 years from the time of infection and appears to be determined by tree vigor, which is often influenced by environmental stresses.

## CONCLUSIONS & MITIGATION:

Based on my observations and the assessment presented above, I conclude that the subject *Ficus* has a high-risk rating. Given the advanced level of dieback, the noted structural weaknesses, and the widespread presence of *Ganoderma*, I recommend the following risk mitigation:

- Full tree and stump removal.
  - **Residual risk** following removal is “none.”



- Due to the poor overall health and condition of this tree and the potential to cause harm, no other mitigation is offered.

The **controlling authority** defined the assignment and how many parts/situations were to have the risk assessment be performed upon. The controlling authority is responsible for determining the level of risk they are willing to accept and for scheduling of recommended work. All tree work shall be done in compliance with current industry standards and specifically the criteria as provided in: *ISA Best Management Practices, ANSI A300 Part 1: Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Maintenance, Standard Practices, Pruning. Third Edition.*



## APPENDIX A – PHOTOS





Image 1. Showing the subject Indian Laurel Fig. Note the advanced level of canopy dieback.



Images 2-4. Showing the dead trigs and branches present canopy-wide on the subject tree. This tree has been repeatedly topped over the years, resulting in the sucker growth seen at the branch ends.



Image 5. Showing the buttress along the curb edge, note the bark is peeling from the top portions.



Image 6. Showing the bark peeling from the top of one of the large anchorage roots.



Images 7 -9. Showing some of the Ganoderma remnants found along the large anchorage roots.





Image 10. This image was captured by Google Maps in November of 2020. Note the appearance of the Ganoderma, with the creamy-whitish tops.



Image 11. This image was captured by Google Maps in November of 2020. Note the appearance of the Ganoderma, with the creamy-whitish tops.



Image 12. Sowing the cavity in the buttress, the probe was inserted 10-inches.





Images 12 & 13. Showing the cavity on the northside of the trunk base, the probe was inserted 12-inches.



Images 14. Showing the tree as it appeared in December 2017. Note the full, dense, and healthy-looking canopy as compared to the images taken on the day of this risk assessment.



Images 15. Showing the tree as it appeared in December 2019. Note the canopy was beginning to show progressive dieback including thinning and chlorotic foliage, and canopy-wide branch dieback. Although no fungal conks are visible in these images, based on the manner of disease progression, and the current presence of the conks, this is believed to be the main cause of the tree's decline.

## APPENDIX B - TREE RISK MATRICES

The International Society of Arboriculture tree risk assessment matrices were used for the subject tree to determine the level of risk for a one-year timeframe. Table 1 is used first to determine the likelihood of failure, (by categorizing the likelihood of impact to a target by a tree part in the timeframe. Table 2 references the consequences of the failure with the likelihood from Table 1 to give a risk rating for the tree.

Table 1.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impacting Target			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat Likely	Likely	Very Likely
Probable	<del>Unlikely</del>	<del>Unlikely</del>	<del>Somewhat Likely</del>	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat Likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

Likelihood of Failure and Impact	Consequences			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	<del>Low</del>	<del>Moderate</del>	<del>High</del>	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

The risk rating matrix above shows the rating for the subject tree. The tree part and conditions of concern is a root plate failure due to Ganoderma root rot.

## GLOSSARY

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)** – The International Society of Arboriculture has developed a series of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the purpose of interpreting tree care standards and providing guidelines of practice for arborists, tree workers, and the people who employ their services.

**Consequences of failure** – **Minor** (low to moderate property damage or small disruptions to traffic or a communication utility), **Significant** (property damage of moderate to high value, considerable disruption, or personal injury), **Severe** (serious personal injury or death, damage to high value property, or disruption of important activities).

**Controlling Authority** - An agency, organization, or corporate entity with the legal authority and/or obligation to manage individual trees or tree populations.

**Failure** – Breakage of stem, branch, roots, or loss of mechanical support in the root system.

**Level 2: Basic Assessment** – The standard assessment performed by arborists in response to most client requests for tree risk assessments. It consists of a detailed visual inspection of a tree and its surrounding site and a synthesis of the information collected.

**Likelihood of target impact** – **High** (the failed tree part will most likely impact the target).

**Probable** - in the context of risk assessment, this term is used when a failure may be expected under normal weather conditions within the specified time frame.

**Residual risk** – assessed risk remaining after mitigation measures.

**Response growth** – New wood produced in response to loads to compensate for higher strain in outermost fibers; includes reaction wood, flexure wood, and woundwood.

**Risk** – The combination of the likelihood of an event and the severity of the potential consequences. In the context of trees, risk is the likelihood of a conflict or tree failure occurring and affecting a target, and the severity of the associated consequence—personal injury, property damage, or disruption of activities.

**Risk Rating (of part)** – the risk rating of the individual part for a specified target; the risk rating is categorized using Matrix 2: Risk rating matrix. Risk rating terms are *low*, *moderate*, *high*, and *extreme*.

**Target** – People, property, or activities that could be injured, damaged, or disrupted by a tree or one of its parts.

**Target Area** – The area where a tree or branch is likely to land if it were to fail.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dunster, Julian A., E. Thomas Smiley, Nelda Matheny, and Sharon Lilly. *Tree Risk Assessment Manual (Second Edition)*. Illinois: International Society of Arboriculture, 2017. Print.

Harris, Richard W., James R. Clark, and Nelda P. Matheny. *Arboriculture: Integrated Management of Landscape Tree, Shrubs, and Vines. Fourth Edition*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2004. Print

Smiley, Thomas E., Nelda P. Matheny, and Sharon Lilly. *Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment*. Illinois: International Society of Arboriculture, 2011. Print.



## ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITING CONDITIONS

1. Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified insofar as possible; however, the Consultant can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others. Standard of Care has been met with regards to this project within reasonable and normal conditions.
2. The Consultant will not be required to give testimony or to attend court by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of an additional fee for such services as described in the fee schedule and contract of engagement.
3. Loss or alteration of any part of this report invalidates the entire report.
4. Possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply right of publication or use for any purpose by any other than the person to whom it is addressed, without the prior written consent of the Consultant.
5. This report and any values expressed herein represent the opinion of the Consultant, and the Consultant's fee is in no way contingent upon the reporting of a stipulated result, a specified value, the occurrence of a subsequent event, nor upon any finding to be reported.
6. Unless expressed otherwise: 1) information contained in this report covers only those items that were examined and reflects the condition of those items at the time of inspection; and 2) the inspection is limited to visual examination of accessible items without dissection, excavation, or coring, unless otherwise stated. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the tree(s) or property in question may not arise in the future.
7. Arborists are tree specialists who use their education, knowledge, training, and experience to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance the beauty and health of trees, and attempt to reduce the risk of living near trees. It is highly recommended that you follow the arborist recommendations; however, you may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations and/or seek additional advice.
8. Arborists cannot detect every condition that could possibly lead to the structural failure of a tree. Trees are living organisms that fail in ways we do not fully understand. Conditions are often hidden within trees and below ground. Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances, or for a specific period of time.
9. Any recommendations and/or performed treatments (including, but not limited to, pruning or removal) of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of the arborist's services, such as property boundaries, property ownership, site lines, disputes between neighbors, and any other related issues. Arborists cannot take such considerations into account unless complete and accurate information is disclosed to the arborist. An arborist can then be expected to consider and reasonably rely on the completeness and accuracy of the information provided.
10. The author has no personal interest or bias with respect to the subject matter of this report or the parties involved. He/she has inspected the subject tree(s) and to the best of their knowledge and belief, all statements and information presented in the report are true and correct.
11. Unless otherwise stated, trees were examined using the tree risk assessment criteria detailed by the International Society of Arboriculture's publications *Best Management Practices – Tree Risk Assessment* and the *Tree Risk Assessment Manual* and *A Photographic Guide to the Evaluation of Hazard Trees (Matheny & Clark)*.



## Certificate of Performance

**Premises:** 309 E. Mariposa Avenue, El Segundo California

I, Rebecca Mejia, Certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. The statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct.
2. I have personally inspected the tree(s) and property referenced in this report and have stated my findings accurately.
3. I have no current or prospective interest in the tree(s) or the property that is/are the subject of this report and I have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved.
4. The analysis, opinions, and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted arboricultural practices and standards.
5. No one provided significant professional assistance to me, except where may be noted within the report.
6. My compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of conclusions that favors the cause of my client or any other party nor upon the results of the assessment, the attainment of stipulated results, or the occurrence of any subsequent events.

I further certify that I am a member in good standing with the International Society of Arboriculture, an ISA Certified Arborist, and an ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry and Natural Resources Management, with a minor in Urban Forestry. I have been a Certified Arborist since 1996, and in the practice of arboriculture for over 25 years.

Signed:

*Rebecca Mejia*

Rebecca Mejia  
ISA Certified Arborist # WE-2355A  
ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor  
West Coast Arborists, Inc.

Date: March 24, 2021



# Recreation and Parks Agenda Statement

Meeting Date: April 21, 2021

Agenda Heading: New Business

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## TITLE:

Consideration and possible action related to selection of a final conceptual design for the Urho Saari Swim Stadium ("The Plunge").

## RECOMMENDATION:

1. Review proposed options and provide a recommendation to City Council to move forward with Mithūn's preferred conceptual design for the Urho Saari Swim Stadium

## BACKGROUND:

Partnering with the Mithūn Architect agency, the Community Services Department has hosted a community survey, one virtual community meeting and three meetings with stakeholders and Recreation and Parks Commission members to assist in guiding the renovation design process for the Urho Saari Plunge. The City has budgeted \$3.5 million over 3 years for the study, design, construction and completion of this project along with another \$500,000 match from Chevron combined with community fundraising. Additionally, the City and El Segundo Unified School District (ESUSD) executed a facility use agreement where ESUSD will contribute the lesser of 24% of the renovation costs up to \$1 million. The purpose of the community engagement sessions was to hear from the residents who use the Plunge facility what amenities they would prioritize to be included or enhanced and identify programming priorities for the facility.

Most of the community feedback focused on the entryway, changing rooms, bathrooms, American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, and lighting. After examining the responses, the architects were able to produce a preliminary design concept which is inclusive of Mithūn's assessment along with community and stakeholder input. Presentation of the concept will also show differences in how the space can be used as well as estimated project costs.

## DISCUSSION:

Although the Urho Saari Plunge has been highly used over the years, the facility has had challenges due to some of the following reasons: (a) failing pool equipment, (b) less than desirable changing rooms, (c) inconsistent temperatures within the facility, (d) poor lighting, and/or (e) ADA challenges. The pool closes often due to equipment failure and closures which can last from one week to approximately 2 months. Unforeseen closures cause cancelation of programs, refunds, and loss of revenue. In 2019, the Plunge closed January 29- April 11<sup>th</sup> for heater problems (72 days), September 3<sup>rd</sup>-September 9<sup>th</sup> for filter issues (6 days), November 27<sup>th</sup>-December 11<sup>th</sup> for the heater recirculation pump (15 days) and December 26<sup>th</sup>-January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 for a gas leak (6 days) totaling 99 days closed due to mechanical failure. The Public Works Department reported spending \$38,500 to repair Plunge equipment. In 2019, the department replaced a pool heater for \$33,000, repaired pool decking due to a water leak for \$2,000, welded a sand filter for \$2,000 and repaired a fuel pump for \$1,500.

The conceptual design addresses the code compliance issues known to exist due to the age of the structure and observed during the inspection and addresses issues that were raised in the community outreach survey and meeting. Outdated gutters, drains, water circulation issues and

failure to meet ADA requirements were identified as items that needed immediate repair in order to make the facility code compliant. Additional items as part of the scope in updating the facility are paint and provide fire protection of trusses, potential fire sprinkler system, mechanical features, such as pumps, filters, piping and electrical panels. Needed enhancements for CO2 systems and pool system controllers as well as improvements for entering and exiting the pool are included as well.

After surveys and community meetings, Mithūn found that the community desired some additional enhancements which would assist in improving the overall feeling of the facility, making the Urho Saari a more enjoyable place to visit. Through community and staff interaction, it was discovered that these groups envisioned the Plunge as a family recreation swim facility where the community could enjoy lap swimming, swimming lessons, and family swim time. Due to the existing El Segundo Wiseburn Aquatics Center programming being much more competitive in nature, the desire was not to focus on another competitive pool but more of a fun, community focused environment.

The feedback also showed an interest in improving seating areas, restrooms, lighting, painting (inside and outside), level of comfort (temperature) both in and out of the pool, acoustics, ventilation, and a more welcoming lobby area. Additional feedback included ideas about a universal restroom which could accommodate individuals regardless of gender as well as the addition of family restrooms. There was also community interest in having an open area for parties or for parents to sit who were waiting for children to complete lessons or practices.

Staff felt that it would be particularly useful to remove the bleachers on one side of the facility and create an open space that could be used for various activities, including dry land exercises team meetings, and staff training. Due to findings during the initial site walk and assessment of the facility building systems, it is Mithūn's recommendation that a more extensive whole building retrofit of the HVAC system should be completed which is beyond the original MEP scope assessment.

Staff is requesting that the Recreation and Parks Commission approve moving forward with Mithūn's preferred conceptual design for the Urho Saari Swim Stadium.

### **CITY STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

Goal 1: Enhance Customer Service and Engagement

Objective A: El Segundo provides unparalleled service to internal and external customers.

Goal 5: Champion Economic Development and Fiscal Sustainability

Objective B: El Segundo approaches its work in a financially strategic and responsible way.

**PREPARED BY:** Arcia Hester, Recreation Superintendent

**REVIEWED BY:** Elias Sassoon, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** Melissa McCollum, Community Services Director



**CITY OF EL SEGUNDO  
RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT**

**INTER-DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE**

**DATE:** April 21, 2021  
**TO:** Recreation and Parks Commission  
**FROM:** Arecia Hester, Recreation Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** Recreation Division Report

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**Aquatics- March**

The Plunge continues to be closed through the COVID-19 pandemic.

\*\*Please see attached report to review aquatic center activity.

**Joslyn Center- March**

Outreach volunteers helped deliver a total of **805** meals in the month of **March**.

**Transportation**

Dr. Dial-A-Ride- March
6

**Farmers Market**

Farmers Market has been back on track and slowly growing. There were approximately 1115 visitors attending the market during the month of March.

**Skate Park**

The El Segundo Skate Park continues to operate as a staffed facility on a reservation basis with COVID-19 guidelines and procedures in place.

March Skate Park Reservations	March Revenue from Skate Park Reservations
413	<b>\$270</b> <b>(Approx. 25 Paid Reservations)</b>

## **Contract Classes**

### Park Pods with Champ Camp

The March session of Park Pods began on March 2 and concluded on March 25. There was a total of 9 participants who met twice per week for an hour to play outdoor games and activities in Recreation Park in a safe environment with COVID-19 guidelines in place. With Spring Break in April, and the end of the school year approaching, Park Pods will be taking a hiatus to ramp up other programming with Champ Camp for summer. There was a total of 8 weeks of programming offered through Park Pods and a total of 15 participants. The Park Pods program brought in **\$1,515** in registration receipts in the month of March.

### Skateboard Classes with Champ Camp

The March session of skateboard classes with Champ Camp began on March 7 and concluded on March 28. Three different pods met weekly at the skate park to learn skateboard basics and tricks in a supervised environment. Lessons were offered for participants ages 4 to 14 years old. There was a total of 24 participants registered for the month of April which brought in **\$2,040** in registration receipts. Champ Camp is offering a spring break skateboard camp in April, followed by a 6 week skateboard class session through May.

## **Teen Center**

### Teen Advisory Committee (TAC)

The first TAC meeting took place on March 1 via zoom, where the members met for the first time and played fun ice breaker games, and reviewed expectations for their terms. The TAC next meeting will be on Monday, April 12 where the focus will be to establish the leadership roles among the current members and talk further about the goals and mission of the committee.

## **Spring Break Camps**

Registration for Spring Break Hyper Camp and Skateboard Camp opened the weeks of March 15 and March 22. Spring Break Hyper Camp is an affordable Recreation Staff led camp option where campers will be split into small pods to play games and crafts in Recreation Park each day. Skateboard camp is contracted through Champ Camp and will include 3 hours of skateboard activities in the skate park each day throughout the week. There are a total of 46 participants enrolled in spring break camp offerings.

## **Hiring**

Four new Recreation Leaders were onboarded during the month of March and will begin working in the Community Services Department. The Recreation Leaders participated in a group Community Services Department orientation via zoom, where they received and reviewed the new-hire employee handbook. The group orientation took about one hour to complete.

## **Sports**

Campus El Segundo: AYSO continued the use of both fields for the month of March. Additionally, Campus ES was opened for El Segundo High use, for a variety of sports.

As of March 15<sup>th</sup>: Checkout no longer offers the free one (1) hour complimentary reservations for Racquet Sports Courts.

Softball, Stevenson and Richmond Field: Games for both Softball and Baseball begun the week of March 15<sup>th</sup>; approved by LA County.

### Softball Field

- ESGS
  - o Friday 5 – 9 pm
  - o Saturday 8 am – 5 pm
- ESHS Girls Softball
  - o Mon – Thu 3 – 5 pm

### Stevenson Field

- ESHS Baseball
  - o Mon – Thu 2 – 6 pm
- Games Fridays and Saturdays

### Richmond Field

- ESGS
  - o Mon - Fri 5 – 9 pm
  - o Saturday 8 am – 5 pm
- ESHS Girls Softball
  - o Mon – Thu 3 – 5 pm
- ESLL
  - o Sunday 9 am – 9 pm

Additional facilities El Segundo High School were approved to use:

- Volleyball Courts- For practice only
  - o Mon- Thu 2:45 – 4:30 pm
- Basketball Courts – For Practice only
  - o Mon, Tue, Thu 2 – 6pm

Additional facilities opened to the public (Free reservations) for the month of March:

- Roller Hockey Rink
- Batting Cages (Walk-ins only)
- Lawn Bowling Green
- Shuffleboard
- Bag-O

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b># RESERVATIONS</b>
Pickle Ball	1119
Tennis	1190
Basket Ball	354

### **Social Media Stats-**

**Facebook – March 2021 –26 New Followers, 2475 Followers**

**Instagram – March 2021 – 10 New Followers, 1838 Followers**



## AQUATICS CENTER March Report

**Water Aerobics** \$ **Number of Participants**  
 Water Aerobics made it's return on March 1st! We are running 10 classes a week with a maximum participation of 16 people per class. We are hoping to grow our program to a lunch time program soon!

Water Aerobics		\$	Number of Participants
	March Registered	\$2,943.00	658
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$2,943.00</b>	<b>658</b>

**Public Lap Swimming** \$ **Number of Customer Lane Reservations**  
 On March 15th we increased our lap swimming to 2 people per lane. The lap swimmers split the lane and each has a specific side to take their breaks on. If someone is uncomfortable splitting a lane, they are able to book out the entire lane and be charged as two people.

Public Lap Swimming		\$	Number of Customer Lane Reservations
	March Lap Swimming	\$8,582.00	5904
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$8,582.00</b>	<b>5904</b>

**Family Swim** **Number of Families** \$ **Number of Individual Participants**  
 On March 15th, we welcomed back Family Swim! We are starting back with the instructional pool only, and hoping to grow with more options sduring Spring Break, and when it starts getting warmer out.

Family Swim		Number of Families	\$	Number of Individual Participants
	March Family Swim	81	\$1,148.00	304
<b>Totals</b>		<b>81</b>	<b>\$1,148.00</b>	<b>304</b>

Annual Membership Sales at the Aquatics Center		\$	Memberships sold
Wiseburn Rec IDs	Adult ID	\$75.00	6
Wiseburn Rec IDs	Senior ID	\$5.00	1
Wiseburn Rec IDs	Youth ID	\$20.00	2
El Segundo Rec IDs	Adult ID	\$295.00	19
El Segundo Rec IDs	Senior ID	\$40.00	8
El Segundo Rec IDs	Youth ID	\$90.00	9
El Segundo Rec IDs	Infant ID	\$5.00	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$530.00</b>	<b>46</b>

Membership Sales		Passes Purchased to use towards Lane Rentals	
Punch Passes			
	10 Punch Pass	\$2,094.00	22
	20 Punch Pass	\$1,509.00	22
	30 Punch Pass	\$5,320.50	55
Membership Passes			
	30 Day	\$620.00	13
	90 Day	\$1,040.00	11
	Annual	\$1,800.00	7
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$12,383.50</b>	<b>130</b>

**Permit Groups** **Short Lane Hours** \$ **Estimated Participants (4 to 5 per lane)**  
 This month swim teams are back to 4 to 5 swimmers per lane and had the 50% off discount for youth swim and water polo clubs removed. The water polo clubs were able to return to game playing and scrimmaging which was the first time since Covid began! El Segundo High School was practicing all month, and Davinci returned on 3/25. Cancellations only occurred when water polo games went long and when we did a four hour filter maintenance on March 17th.

Permit Groups		Short Lane Hours	\$	Estimated Participants (4 to 5 per lane)
	Alpha	1046.00	\$14,693.00	4184
	Beach Cities	1097.50	\$16,591.25	4390
	SCAQ	550.00	\$5,775.00	2750
	South Bay United	732.00	\$5,240.00	2928
	Tower 26	351.75	\$3,693.38	1758.75
	Trojan	586.50	\$5,906.00	2346
	Coastal	80.00	\$688.00	240
<b>Totals</b>		<b>4443.75</b>	<b>\$52,586.63</b>	<b>18596.75</b>

Events		\$	Number of Events & Participants
	ESHS Water Polo Games	\$0.00	12
	Swim Meet 3/26 Alpha vs. Beach Cities	\$55.00	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$55.00</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>Estimated Amount of Visitors in March</b>
\$78,228.13	25462.75



**CITY OF EL SEGUNDO**  
**RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT**  
*"El Segundo's Backyard"*

**INTER-DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE**

**DATE** April 21,2021  
**TO** Recreation and Parks Commission  
**FROM** Christopher Hentzen, Park Maintenance Superintendent  
**SUBJECT** Parks Division Report

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**Parks, Projects, Improvements**

- Routine maintenance continues throughout the parks.
- Acacia Park installation is nearly complete.
- The Softball Field bleachers installation is completed. Restroom work is pending.
- Ball fields prepped and ready for sport leagues.

**Tree Report**

- The city tree crew performed trimming and tree removals per requests.
- West Coast Arborist in town for the next 2-3 weeks trimmi9ng at various locations throughout city.



**CITY OF EL SEGUNDO  
RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT**

**INTER-DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE**

**DATE:** April 16, 2021  
**TO:** Recreation and Parks Commission  
**FROM:** Melissa McCollum, Community Services Director  
**SUBJECT:** Community Services Updates

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**Recreation and Parks Commission Appointments**

The Recreation and Parks Commission has one expired term. Two terms expire on May 30, 2021. As interviews with the City Council are tentatively scheduled for May 11, commissioners and other El Segundo community members are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Please contact Executive Assistant to the City Council Mishia Jennings for more information (310-524-2302/mjennings@elsegundo.org).

**Capital Improvement Projects**

Acacia Park should be ready for reopening by the end of the month! Pick up a commemorative sticker at the Checkout Building and stay tuned for a virtual ribbon-cutting to be shared on the City's website and social media.



(Photos from April 13, 2021)

**COVID-19 Update: Vaccinations**

The City of El Segundo in partnership with the All-Hazards Incident Management Team and the County of Los Angeles offered a Vaccine Clinic at the Recreation Park Clubhouse on April 15, 2021. Thank you to Recreation Supervisor Ryan Delgado for his ongoing efforts to help with the City's vaccination efforts. This week's event led to an additional 200 people receiving their first dose. LA County Public Health reported on April 9, 2021 that 44% of El Segundo residents have received at least their first dose of the vaccine (6339 residents).

**Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Recommendations**

ACC Chair Neal Von Flue will present Fiscal Year 2021-2022 recommendations during the City Council Meeting on April 20, 2021 for public art and programming to be implemented by Community Services staff with the support of the ACC if approved.



The ACC's five Cultural Development Fund recommendations and corresponding budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 include:

- **Outdoor Dining Enhancements:** Artistically enhance temporary outdoor dining spaces on Main Street, Grand Avenue, 200 block of Richmond Street, and City Hall Plaza (\$55,000)
- **Festival of Holidays:** A two-day community event in El Segundo's Civic Plaza celebrating winter cultural holidays through food and music (\$60,000)
- **Poet Laureate Program:** Visible advocate for poetry, language, and the arts while actively inspiring and promoting civic pride (\$8,000)
- **TEDx El Segundo:** Showcase the innovation and creativity of our community and bring people together (\$50,000)
- **IDEA After School Arts Program:** Created in partnership with local student Gabriella Desch-Obi and ESMoA (\$10,000)

The Cultural Development Fund currently has \$198,628 of unallocated funding from five developers who selected to pay 1% of their project costs rather than commission public artwork on-site of an equal value.

### Eagle Scout Project

Jack Crawford is in the process of building a viewing station for John Van Hamersveld's DWP Water Tank Mural for his Eagle Scout project. Construction is scheduled to be complete on Grand Avenue across from the Water Tank on April 17, 2021. Jack also developed a website with additional information about the artist and mural that is available at <https://www.elsegundolibrary.org/services/arts-and-culture/john-van-hamersveld-dwp-water-tank-mural>. Jack worked with City of El Segundo staff, including Senior Librarian Julie Todd, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Boy Scout leaders and scouts from Troop 860, and project mentor John Holliday to complete his project.



### El Segundo Public Library Reopens for Essential Services

The El Segundo Public Library opened to the public on April 12, 2021. During the initial phase of reopening, the Library is providing essential services – browsing the collections, checkouts, computer use and research assistance – based on hourly reservations between 10 AM-5 PM Monday-Saturday. Virtual and curbside services continue. For more details, please see the City's website or call 310-524-2728.

### Looking Ahead

The City Council will consider a recommendation to authorize an agreement with RJM Design Group for the Recreation Park Needs Assessment at their meeting on April 20, 2021. RJM was selected as the best qualified firm based on team composition; relevant experience with similar projects, including Needs Assessments and Master Plans for San Dimas, Temecula, Riverside, Costa Mesa, and Huntington Beach; knowledge and familiarity with the City of El Segundo; and overall proposal quality and ability to meet the scope of work. City staff and RJM expect the Recreation Park Needs Assessment will take approximately nine months from project kickoff in May 2021. The Recreation and Parks Commission will be an essential partner in this effort. Regular updates and check-ins regarding the Needs Assessment will begin at next month's Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting.