



Livermore Area  
Recreation and Park District  
*An independent special district*

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

**DRAFT MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

**Robertson Park  
3200 Robertson Park Road, Livermore**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Chair Faltings and Directors Pierpont, Palajac, Furst and Boswell  
DIRECTORS ABSENT: None  
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mat Fuzie, Jill Kirk, Fred Haldeman, Jeffrey Schneider, Linda VanBuskirk, Pamela Healy, Robin Rasmussen

Chair Faltings called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. All Directors were present and were introduced to the public in attendance.

**1. Update on Current LARPD Projects:**

**Parks and Facilities Manager (PFM) Fred Haldeman** gave updates on various projects including the Robertson Park synthetic fields, upcoming improvements at the rodeo grounds, and a proposal under consideration to relocate the horseshoe pits. General Manager (GM) Mat Fuzie also shared that the District is also reviewing a proposal by Cal Water for a well in Robertson Park.

- One synthetic field is being replaced at a time to allow the public to continue to use the other fields.
- Improvements at the rodeo grounds include improvements to the existing shade structure and grounds.

Questions and Comments from the Public:

- Are there any plans to change out or improve the grass on field 3?
  - No, there are no plans at this time.
- Is it possible to get some of the old turf material for reuse for disc golf?
  - PFM Haldeman will contact the requesting party with further information.

**2. Comments and Suggestions Regarding Robertson Park:**

**Chair Faltings** asked the public "How can our parks serve you better? Questions and comments received included the following:

- What can be done about motorized vehicles speeding on unpaved and paved pathways throughout Robertson Park? What about cars/trucks driving into the unpaved parking lot, doing donuts? What is the District policy on this?

- Can the LARPD post additional signs to prohibit such issues?
  - GM Fuzie explained that District rules and regulations prohibit such activity on park grounds. Violations involving motor vehicles anywhere in the park area should be immediately reported to the Livermore Police Department Traffic Unit at 925-371-4850, or reported online at: [Form Builder List | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](#)
  - Signs are already posted at several locations. Additional sign placement and further review of existing trails and pathways will be conducted by LARPD staff. The public may provide additional feedback via the LARPD website at [Livermore Area Recreation and Park District - Community Feedback \(larpd.org\)](#)

### 3. Questions for Police Officer(s):

Captain Julie Cochran, Lieutenant Paul Mayer and Officer Chris Kutsuris from the Livermore Police Department were in attendance and responded to questions and comments from the public, including the following:

- Are there routine patrols conducted through the park area?
  - Lt. Paul Mayer confirmed that officers do currently patrol the park, however, he will request more frequent patrols in response to this request.
- What can be done about youths congregating in the park after park hours?
- Are fireworks allowed in the park?
  - LARPD's Ordinance No. 8 – District Rules & Regulations covers allowed use of parks and may be viewed here: [LARPD Ordinance 8 Rules and Regs](#)
  - While fireworks are not allowed in any parks, a police officer must observe the violation to issue a citation for it, as it is an infraction. However, **anytime** a member of the public witnesses activity that is clearly unlawful, or even if they are unsure if it is unlawful, please contact Livermore Police Dispatch to report the incident. Be prepared to give the location and the type of emergency you are reporting.
  - To report a non-emergency incident with the Livermore Police Department, call (925) 371-4987. For more information, please visit the Livermore Police Department website at [Police | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](#)
  - LARPD Board members and many staff members are also Livermore residents and are equally concerned with safety issues. Non-emergency reports or other concerns with any of the LARPD parks or facilities can be filed online on the Livermore PD's website at [Report a Problem | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](#)

**a) Questions for Staff and Board of Directors:**

Staff responded to questions and comments from the public concerning the following:

- We love this park and enjoy bringing our dog here every day. However, there continues to be a problem with owners not picking up after their dogs. Can you install signs and bag dispensers to help address this issue? Can you please post additional signs to explain leash laws?
  - GM Fuzie explained that dispensers and bags were discontinued due to the expense. Costs for bags were upwards of \$40-50k. Signage will be reviewed. He also shared, the LARPD has a Park Ambassador program in effect. This program is designed to connect people and parks together to help ensure our parks stay clean, safe, and green. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up! More information is available online at the following link: [Livermore Area Recreation and Park District - LARPD Parks](#)
- Is the LARPD doing anything to maintain the streambed area in the park?
  - GM Fuzie explained that maintenance of streambed areas is outside of the LARPD's operational jurisdiction. Maintenance is primarily done via the Living Arroyos program. More information about the Living Arroyos program can be found here: [What is Living Arroyos? | Living Arroyos](#)
  - Director Philip Pierpont also mentioned the Living Arroyos and Adopt a Creek programs for those who wish to volunteer to help maintain creeks and streams. More information about volunteering for these programs is available at the City of Livermore website: [Creeks and Floods | Livermore, CA \(livermoreca.gov\)](#)
- What about the goats? Will they be used again to help maintain the grass areas?
  - PFM Haldeman explained that while the goats are a welcome addition to our parks, the program may change next year due to a change in the labor laws impacting goat herders. This change may make the program cost prohibitive for the LARPD to continue.
- Do you have any information about the Springtown Golf Course area?
  - For more information on this topic, please contact the City of Livermore.
- Water has been observed flowing into the street from the irrigation near the park area at Christensen. These concerns were reported several times without proper response.
  - GM Fuzie thanked the citizen for sharing the issue. PFM Haldeman will follow up directly with the individual to address the concern.

- Is the LARPD tracking the proposed amendments to the County's rodeo/agricultural use ordinance?
  - Yes, the District is aware and is tracking this information. GM Fuzie explained that the LARPD and the Rodeo Association have an agreement whereby the Rodeo has the exclusive rights to the use of the stadium for 3 weeks every year. If the County passes an ordinance, they could be impacted.
- Can you please explain why the covered arena at the rodeo grounds was shut down suddenly a few years ago? A member of the public stated they were using it for dog trials when it was abruptly closed.
  - GM Fuzie explained that the covered arena was closed due to safety concerns. Moving forward, the LARPD will be considering other uses for the space. The process for public input on proposed changes is to provide feedback, which will be compiled and considered at the appropriate time.
- Has the LARPD ever considered adding speed bumps to the road leading into Robertson Park?
  - Yes, there were previously two speed bumps, one at the entrance and one closer to the large parking lot. They have since been removed based on feedback from the public.
- Most of the LARPD parks are well maintained, however some need updating and improvements, such as shade structures.
  - Play structures and shade structures at our parks are updated by priority based on condition, age and remaining useful life. The cost for each shade structure is currently \$40-60k per structure.
- Are there any plans to continue the trail from Robertson Park to Sunset Park?
  - There are currently no plans to continue the trail.
- Does the LARPD have a memorial program?
  - Yes, the LARPD has an existing memorial donation program. For more information on the LARPD memorial donation program, please refer to our website at the following link: [Livermore Area Recreation and Park District - Memorial Donations FAQ \(larpd.org\)](#)
- Are there any pickleball courts available?
  - Yes, the LARPD has several pickleball courts available, both indoor and outdoor. More information is available at the following link: [Livermore Area Recreation and Park District - Adult Sports and Fitness \(larpd.org\)](#)

Chair Faltings thanked those present for attending and welcomed all to attend the next Public Meeting in the Park.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Lvb/ph