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The Community Services Department is comprised of five divisions: Administration, Community Center, Transportation, Recreation and Human Services. The Department delivers services and programs to support citizens' diverse interests in parks, recreation, and culture. This includes operating and maintaining twelve (12) parks and four (4) mini-parks, two (2) aquatic centers and two (2) pools, a sports complex, and a boxing and weightlifting center. The Community Center offers 40,000 square feet of versatile meeting and event space including 12,000 square foot ballroom and meeting rooms that accommodate between 5 and 1,200 guests, and state-of-the-art visual services. And the Transportation Services Division provides citywide transportation programs related to improving the fixed-route public transit system, specialized elderly and disabled transit, transit support of city park programs, and regional air quality issues.

RECREATION DIVISION

PARK FACILITY RESERVATIONS

The Reservations Section has been updating Rules and Regulations to include COVID-19 information and will begin taking reservations for outdoor picnic shelters at all parks beginning in May. The current guidelines from Los Angeles County Public Health regarding gatherings outdoors allow for up to 50 people. As the health guidelines lift, we will look to commence reserving indoor facilities for private gatherings.

ADULT SPORTS

ADULT SPORTS TEAMS

WEEK	BASEBALL	BASKETBALL	COED SOFTBALL	MEN'S SOFTBALL
3/29 - 4/2	0	0	0	0
4/5 - 4/9	0	0	0	0
4/12 - 4/16	23	0	14	7
4/19 - 4/23	23	0	14	7
4/26 - 4/30	23	0	14	7
Month Total	69	0	42	21
FYTD Total	69	0	42	21

Adult Soccer leagues began on Monday, April 12, 2021. The Adult Sports section has the most interest and success in Adult Baseball. There are 23 teams continuing from the previous season that was put on hold in March of 2020. Currently, there are another dozen teams interested in starting the new season which will begin Sunday, April 18, 2021. Staff has received a lot of inquiries for Adult Basketball regarding the basketball league and when it will resume. There are over 30 teams waiting to begin the season when we are authorized to resume.

YOUTH SPORTS

T-ball/Baseball/Softball leagues are in the process of finalizing sign ups and tryouts, with practices starting after April 10, 2021. Tentatively, games will begin around May 8, 2021.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES

WEEK	ENRICHMENT					PARK CLASSES
	GUITAR	PIANO	DRAMA	SPANISH	CSUDH PRAXIS STUDIO ART	ZUMBA
3/29 - 4/2	0	0	0	0	31	10
4/5 - 4/9	0	0	0	0	31	12
4/12 - 4/16	6	14	4	6	31	12
4/19 - 4/23	5	14	4	6	31	13
4/26 - 4/30	5	14	5	6	31	14
Month Total	16	42	13	18	155	45
FYTD Total	76	172	13	18	359	68

The Enrichment Virtual Spring session started on April 12th. California State University Dominguez Hills offers free art classes through the CSUDH Praxis Art Program for children ages eight through eleven. The class takes place Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PREVENTION AND AFTERCARE SERVICES

Week	New Clients	Open Cases	Closed Cases	Referrals Received	Extra Linkages
4/5 - 4/8	4	11	6	4	6
4/12 - 4/15	0	11	0	1	4
4/19 - 4/22	0	11	0	2	8
4/26 - 4/29	0	10	1	1	5
Month Total	4	11	7	8	23
FYTD Total	19	N/A	19	81	84

Prevention and Aftercare services consist of case navigation, resources, and referrals to families with children under the age of 18 in the home. These families are referred by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), other organizations, or can be self-referred. Case navigation consists of one on one communication between the case navigator and the family on a weekly basis to discuss struggles, accomplishments and goals. Extra linkages can be provided to families who do not need case navigation. These linkages may include but are not limited to food giveaways, counseling services, tutoring or housing services. Case navigation takes place via phone/virtually due to COVID restrictions, but is normally in person. Social connection groups that include, Zumba, Yoga, Community Garden and Crafty Club are on hold until further notice due to COVID.

KIDS CLUB AND DAY CAMP

WEEK	CALAS	CARSON	DEL AMO	DOLPHIN	VETERANS	TOTAL
April 5, 2021	17	8	4	13	23	44
April 12, 2021	17	8	4	12	24	45
April 19, 2021	17	5	4	9	23	44
April 26, 2021	17	6	4	10	24	45
Month Total	68	27	16	44	94	178
FYTD Total	465	183	150	411	687	1825

Special Hours of Operation

Prior to the pandemic Kids Club operated four hours, five days per week from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. During the pandemic the State permitted Kids Club to open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. due to schools shut down. Distant learning, at our State licensed sites (Veterans Park, Del Amo Park, Carson Park, Dolphin Park and Calas Park), is offered with an operating capacity of 50 percent.

COVID Protocol

Los Angeles County requires temperature checks daily along with questions answered before children enter rooms. Parents are not allowed in the rooms during this time. Children and staff wear masks all day and equipment/supplies are sanitized before and after every activity. Social distance of 6 feet is required and implemented throughout the day.

Staffing Challenges

As a result of the pandemic, Kids Club staff has worked more hours than usual. Under normal circumstances Kids Club is an afterschool program, which runs August – June, open 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This year due to the pandemic and school closures, all day child care services have been provided to families while children participate in long distance learning at the parks. Kids Club staff are assisting children all day with schooling while also providing a safe and fun environment.

Program Participant Capacity

Kids Club State licensed sites capacity during pandemic is as follows:

Carson Park – 20 participants	Veteran Park – 25 to 30 participants
Calas Park – 20 participants	Del Amo Park – 30 participants
Dolphin Park – 25 participants	

Day Camp capacity during the pandemic is NOT monitored by the State:

Anderson Park – 30 participants	Dominguez Park – 40 participants
Carson Park – 50 participants	Foisia Park – 50 participants
Calas Park – 20 participants	Hemingway Park – 40 participants
Del Amo Park – 50 participants	Mills Park – 20 participants
Dolphin Park – 30 participants	Veterans Park – 50 participants

AQUATICS

The Aquatics program participation has been increasing due to the LA County Guideline restrictions being lifted. Guidelines are changing week by week and more people are coming out to enjoy the aquatic centers. The residents of the City of Carson have been taking advantage of the programs we offer: Family Swim, Lap Swim, Aqua Aerobics, Fitness Swim and Swim Conditioning.

The Fitness Swim program has become more and more popular during the spring session. Residents are enjoying swimming before they start the day. Participants are led by an instructor on deck, during which the instructor corrects swimming form and technique for an hour class workout. Hemingway Aquatic Center has been helping out our seniors with the Aqua Aerobics class in the morning from 7:20 a.m. to 8:20 a.m. This is also getting popular with our seniors. Participant numbers have doubled during the month of April.

As the pandemic continues, the Aquatic facilities have ensured families are safe during their visit at the Aquatic Centers; cleaning at the bottom of each hour, after each program to make sure the facility is clean and safe as well as having patrons properly social distance during family swim. The pool is divided in sections with a maximum of 8 members of the same household per section. Families are able to enjoy the section of the pool they reserved.

With summer approaching and with COVID-19 restrictions being lifted, an increase of resident participation has been seen in each program. The newest update on the Public Health Guidelines allow the use of the shower and changing areas in the locker rooms. Residents may now rinse off prior to

going to work after the early morning workouts or before heading back home. All must continue to wear face masks and remain 6 feet apart while indoors. As of now, these statistics reflect the month of April:

POOL	LAP SWIM (A)	LAP SWIM (SR)	FAMILY SWIM (A)	FAMILY SWIM (C)	AQUA AEROBICS (A)	AQUA AEROBICS (SR)	FITNESS SWIM (A)	SWIM CONDITIONING (C)
Carson Pool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominguez Aquatic Center	26	-	49	64	-	-	-	-
Foisia Pool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hemingway Aquatic Center	30	11	60	63	20	80	120	22
Month Total	56	11	109	127	20	80	120	22
FYTD	184	104	1060	1482	30	105	177	52

(SR) Senior, (A) Adult, (C) Child

Furthermore, throughout the month of March, Aquatics was able to certify 120 Community Services employees with the American Red Cross CPR/AED and Standard First Aid. The course was provided through a Blended Learning format with both an online and in-person portion.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Non-Competitive Prop 68

On February 24, 2021, a site visit at Mills Park was conducted with an on-call architect, Engineering and Recreation staff. The scope of the project was discussed which included shading for three (3) picnic areas, shading around three (3) entrances to the main building and shading around the outdoor fitness area and permanent concrete sign. Also discussed was the installation of two (2) outdoor restrooms (unisex). Staff suggests using the Quimby and Development Impact Fee (DIF) account in the amount of \$302,000 in addition to the \$235,000 available to the City through the Prop 68 non-competitive grant. The deadline to submit the project to the OGLAS Project Officer is December 2021. As of end of April, the architect has provided the scope of work for the project. A staff report has been drafted and the \$537,000 Mills Park project will be submitted for Council review/approval on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article III

An Invitation for Bid (IFB) was completed and staff report was approved on consent at the City Council meeting on March 16, 2021, to approve the purchase of concrete picnic benches, concrete barbecues, and concrete coal collectors for a total of \$85,760. A total of 79 pieces will be divided between Stevenson Park, Mills Park and Anderson Park which are all located along the Carson Master Plan of Bikeways. Part of the funding will come from TDA in the amount of \$61,000 and has to be expended before May 31, 2021 and the remaining \$27,000 will come from the Development Impact Fee (DIF). A purchase order has been completed and sent to the vendor; staff is currently waiting on ETA of delivery. Additional prep work and coordination with the Public Works Department will be needed for the removal of old benches and installation of new concrete items.

Prop 68 Outreach

The City of Carson is pursuing funds from the Prop 68 State-wide Program to renovate Carriage Crest Park and Foisia Park. To facilitate input to improve the facilities, the Recreation Division hosted several events within the community to gain resident conceptual contributions. Interwest, City grant writer, finalized the grant applications and submitted the two grants on the Friday, March 12, 2021 deadline. Notifications of grant recipients are expected to be announced in late summer of 2021.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Upcoming Virtual Events

- Memorial Day – Monday, May 31, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- Philippine Independence Day – Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.
- Juneteenth – Saturday, June 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

HUMAN SERVICES

STROKE CENTER

The Stroke Center remains closed, but virtual Occupational Therapy appointments continue. Dr. Paul Penoliar and his student interns are treating 9 stroke survivors on a weekly basis. Treatment began in January 2021, and each session lasts between 45-60 minutes. Additionally, the Stroke Center Volunteer Association has expressed an interest in leading a ZOOM Social Hour until the Stroke Center itself reopens. Staff is exploring this option.

SENIOR RECREATION

Senior Recreation continues to offer ZOOM fitness and dance classes, Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Class attendance fluctuates with approximately 2 to 17 students per class. In-person classes began on Monday, April 12th at Carson Park on the outdoor basketball court area. Classes include Zumba, Yoga, and Hula Hoop Fitness. These outdoor classes will continue running Monday through Thursday at 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Two designated staff members take participants temperatures, releases waivers and sign-in sheet. Staff members enforce social distancing and that masks are worn properly during the duration of the class.

SENIOR VIRTUAL CLASSES

WEEK	ZUMBA	FUNCTIONAL FITNESS	SALSA	YOGA
4/5 - 4/9	2	15	No class	14
4/12 - 4/16	8	15	No class	16
4/19 - 4/23	5	13	6	16
4/26 - 4/30	4	15	11	17
Month Total	19	58	17	63
FYTD Total	145	373	90	320

SENIOR IN-PERSON CLASSES AT CARSON PARK

WEEK	HULA HOOP FITNESS	ZUMBA TUESDAY	YOGA	ZUMBA THURSDAY
4/5 - 4/9	8	25	11	29
4/12 - 4/16	5	29	19	37
4/19 - 4/23	10	36	19	39
4/26 - 4/30	7	39	7	44
Month Total	30	129	56	149
FYTD Total	30	129	56	149

SENIOR SOCIAL SERVICES

Senior Social Services continues to assist virtually and by reaching out through telephonic communication. Through contactless visits, the Geriatric Aides continue to provide lunches to seniors throughout the week, as well as run errands including trips to the grocery store and pharmacy. Keeping abreast of resources being developed through the county, state, and federal programs has been essential in providing seniors with the latest programs they may be eligible for. Staff continues to do everything possible to ensure older adults can stay at home safely while having their essential needs

met. Welfare checks continue in collaboration with the county's adult protective services and the Carson Sheriff. Many organizations and community partners are offering increasingly more virtual programming that residents can benefit from. Staff works closely with PIO to update information regarding programs and services that will be listed in the Recreation Guide. Seniors of the community were very pleased to see the Silver Cheer program featured in the Recreation Guide. Vaccine administration continues, including assisting seniors with registration and transportation to clinics.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Early Childhood provided educational ZOOM classes for 77 children for the month of April. Early Childhood Education (ECE) staff has been working diligently to prepare the classrooms to meet all new Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. Teachers have hosted Meet-and-Greet opportunities with parents and students. During the Meet-and-Greet, parents were able to ask questions and get a virtual tour of the classrooms. The Meet-and-Greet was a great opportunity for the students to meet their teachers, feel comfortable, and know what to expect on the first day of school.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

WEEK	AM	PM
4/5 - 4/9	43	34
4/12 - 4/16	43	34
4/19 - 4/23	43	34
4/26 - 4/30	43	34
Month Total	172	136
FYTD Total	1066	824

THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

The spring session of virtual programming began this month with classes consisting of Social Club, Exercise, and Art. Registration turnout has been outstanding, reaching maximum enrollment numbers for all programs. To meet the demand of the Exercise program, an additional class time has been added to include more participants. Therapeutic Recreation also held a Virtual Autism Awareness 5K in support of Autism Awareness/Acceptance Month. Over 100 registered participants were able to complete the 5K at their leisure between April 1st – April 8th by walking, running, biking or any other form of movement.

THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

WEEK	SKILL BUILDERS (O.T.)	SOCIAL CLUB	EXERCISE	ART & CRAFTS
4/5 - 4/9	5	No class	No class	No class
4/12 - 4/16	6	6	9	10
4/19 - 4/23	No class	9	10	8
4/26 - 4/30	No class	8	9	9
Month Total	11	23	28	27
FYTD TOTAL	37	40	88	81

SPECIAL INTEREST CLASSES

Start Smart T-Ball classes for kids age 2-5 began on April 12th. Class size was limited to 5 children and 5 adults, and two additional classes had to be added to meet demand. Currently classes are offered Monday-Thursday at Calas Park. A total of 20 children and 20 adults are enrolled.

COVID TASK FORCE

The COVID Task Force was originally created to assist the community with emergency programs and resources needed for the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past year the needs of the community have evolved from assisting and feeding many residents, providing COVID testing, supporting homebound seniors, collaborating with outside organizations, to providing vaccinations.

Staff's biggest challenge was creating innovative ways to deliver these services to an elderly population with little technical knowledge. To solve this issue, staff created call centers to answer questions from the community, provided welfare checks to homebound seniors, and distributed flyers of all current programs, including the daily Grab-N-Go lunch program. Currently, the infection rate has decreased thereby reducing the amount of testing days and increasing the amount of vaccination pop ups.

WEEK	CALL CTR	GRAB & GO MEALS	TEST SITE CALL CTR	TEST SITE TEST GIVEN	TEST SITE HOME VISITS	CETG 2.0
4/5 - 4/9	193	3,000	85	94	0	81
4/12 - 4/16	134	3,000	33	456	12	121
4/19 - 4/23	112	3,000	30	63	0	81
4/26 - 4/30	61	3,000	30	401	0	50
Month Total	500	12,000	178	1,014	12	333
FYTD Total	16,606	169,573	8,970	35,992	102	1,095

Discontinued Programs - Carson Essentials to Go: 1,656; Food Distribution: 300; Meals on Wheels: 11,146

COMMUNITY CENTER

RENTALS

Currently, the Community Center Operations are shut down through the end May 2021 due to the pandemic. This has severely impacted rentals for the facility. However, the Community Center is conducting Inter-Departmental rentals for the various Departments/Divisions such as testing and training. Data for the month of April is as follows:

Inter-Departmental:

No. of Bookings – 5 Human Resources – Testing/Interviews
 No. of Bookings – 2 Public Safety - CPR/AED Training
 No. of Bookings – 1 Public Works – HVAC Training

CATERING

There are no catered events at this time.

Catering Request for Proposal

Staff is beginning to draft the request for proposal for prospective caterers for calendar year 2022. The current contract with Choura Venue Services expires on December 31, 2021. Staff anticipates the selection of vendor(s) by early July.

UPGRADES

Audio Visual and Lighting

Staff completed the audio visual and lighting upgrade request for proposal and it was posted to Planet Bids on April 29th. A site walkthrough is scheduled for May 4th and appointments thereafter will be taken until May 11th. All proposals will be due on May 27th for review, scoring and selection of a vendor and contract for City Council approval at a future meeting.

East Wing Kitchen

Staff has created a requisition for a purchase order through KaTom Restaurant Supply to complete the East Wing Kitchen. Once the items are received, Public Works will install and the kitchen will be fully functionally.

Restroom

A meeting was held on April 21st with Public Works staff to discuss the progress of the Community Center restroom upgrades. Based on the discussion it is anticipated construction will not begin until mid-summer.

Main Halls Coiling Wall

At the April 21st meeting with Public Works staff, an update was asked on the status of the replacement of the coiling walls. Public Works staff stated they were working on costs but the project was one year away from completion. In the interim Public Works staff will retract all the coiling walls to maximize the available space for rentals. This will allow only one booking to occur during a defined time period as opposed to three simultaneous bookings occurring at once. As a result revenues will be impacted.

TRANSPORTATION

The City of Carson’s Transportation Division provides city-wide transportation programs including: fixed-route public bus service, first mile/last mile ride-hail services, specialized elderly and disabled transportation (Dial-A-Ride/Access), and bus transportation in support of City parks and youth programs. Transportation also works directly with LA Metro, South Bay Cities Council of Government (SBCCOG), and South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) on a variety of transportation policies, new initiatives, and funding opportunities.

CARSON CIRCUIT

The Disaster Council suspended the Carson Circuit effective March 28, 2020 out of safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the possibility of spreading the virus to passengers and bus operators. To better prepare for future return of services, staff has worked with consultants to finalize the City’s very first Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) of the Carson Circuit. The report assesses the inefficiencies of the current program, and provides recommendations for future improvements.

Contingent upon future COVID-19 case numbers, fixed-route bus services may return by early Fall 2021, in the form of an interagency agreement with Long Beach Transit. During the meantime, residents and visitors of Carson have access to on-demand ride hail services through Lyft and Dial-A-Ride (Yellow Cab). Riders receive a 50% discount on rides that stay within Carson proper through subsidies from the City’s Prop A and C returns.

CARSON CIRCUIT RIDERSHIP^[1]

	Cash Fare (\$1)	Wheel-Chairs (Free)	Seniors (Free)	Transfer/EZ/TAP	Total Trips
Mar 2021	(Services currently suspended)				
Mar (2020 comparison)	6,064	178	6,293	2,809	15,344
FY 20-21 YTD	(Services currently suspended)				

DIAL-A-RIDE

During the declared COVID-19 pandemic, Dial-A-Ride services are now available to Carson residents of all ages, with or without disabilities. Participants can order on-demand taxi service and receive a 50% discount off their ride. As of early March, Carson residents can take advantage of complimentary no-cost taxi rides TO and FROM any City-designated vaccination site that falls within three (3) miles from City boundaries. Taxi drivers will stay with the rider throughout the entire process to ensure a safe worry-free return.

With the onset of the county-wide COVID-19 lockdowns, ridership took a sharp dip towards the end of March 2020. At its lowest point in April 2020, ridership dropped by over 72% comparatively to the beginning of 2020. As of March 2021, ridership has recovered by nearly 52%, and is on a steady upward swing of recovery.

DIAL-A-RIDE RIDERSHIP^[1]

	Total Rides	Total Passengers	Avg Trips per Day	Avg Cost per Trip
Mar 2021	1,527	2,105	49	\$12.37
Mar 2020 comparison	1,873	3,035	60	\$11.25
FY 20-21 YTD	10,557	14,822	38	\$13.13

LYFT

Carson residents are eligible to receive a 50% discount off the cost of their Lyft ride. Riders pay half and City pays half up to a maximum City subsidy of \$10. Participants must 18 years of age or older to ride alone. Rides must start AND end within City boundaries.

LYFT RIDERSHIP^[1]

	Total Rides	Avg total cost per trip	Avg trip cost to rider
Mar 2021	461	\$8.97	\$4.48
FY 20-21 YTD	3,547	\$7.73	\$3.71
From April 2020 – Present	4,073	\$7.69	\$3.65

Majority of rides took 5-10 minutes in duration, 0-2 miles in distance. Average trip costs are on a rise due to increased ride times stemming from traffic returning to pre-pandemic levels.

FUTURE PLANS

The City is currently in the planning stages of an interagency agreement with Long Beach Transit (LBT) by early Fall 2021, which would mark the return of fixed-route bus services in Carson. Based on findings and recommendations of the COA route study, LBT routes will greatly improve regional travel within Carson for work or pleasure by running exclusively on the City’s main roads in both directions, improving service frequency between stops, and providing more connections to other transit providers. However, compared to the neighborhood-centric routes of the former Carson Circuit, the new routes may require some riders to walk further to a main street in order to access the service. In particular, seniors and/or the disabled may be disadvantaged as a result of challenges related to reaching the bus stop or transit hub.

To help bridge this potential gap, staff is looking into establishing a “middle ground” by creating a new City-operated shuttle service for seniors and/or the disabled. Riders would be shuttled to and from local transit hubs. Examples of transit hubs include, but are not limited to: major intersections in Carson (ex: Del Amo and Avalon), Harbor Gateway Transit Center (access to Metro Silver line for DTLA, six Metrolink rail lines, LADOT DASH, Torrance Transit, Orange County transit + more), and Metro Blue Line Del Amo station (rail service between DTLA and Long Beach). The combination of LBT and the City-operated shuttle would not only help to achieve a newfound level of regional travel for Carson, but allow for equitable mobility all around.

Additionally, staff is working on a capital improvement plan to purchase new bus shelters and benches. The shelters will be similar to the newer silver models along Carson Street and CSUDH. They will also feature side windows for advertising space. With the goal to eventually replace all of the existing blue shelters by FY 24, staff hopes to create a modern and much-needed uniform look throughout the City.

^[1] Data received directly from contractor; statistics delayed due to internal review by contractor before release