

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since 2006, the Award Winning Department of Recreation and Community Services has successfully implemented several new programs, facilities and efficiencies in operations within the constraints of the current budget, without compensating service or quality. Everyday, Department staff strives to create a community through people, parks and programs.

These accomplishments represent a cohesive City Council and Department staff working together as well as outstanding commissioners, volunteers and other professionals dedicated to improving the quality of life for the community of Baldwin Park as well as throughout San Gabriel Valley.

As a result of collaboration and teamwork, the Department of Recreation and Community Services is recognized as an outstanding statewide organization.



1) BUDGET ANALYSIS FISCAL YEAR 06-07 & 1ST QUARTER OF FISCAL YEAR 07-08

The Department continues to reduce expenditures, exceed revenue goals and provide quality services in an effort to operate within defined budget parameters. In Fiscal Year 06-07, the Department budget reflected a 13% savings totaling \$722,695. This reduction was comprised of \$208,454 in Recreation & Community Services and \$514,241 in Facility Maintenance & Fleet Services. Additionally, the Department managed to generate \$556,972 in revenue during the Fiscal Year 06-07, exceeding its goal by 3.28% totaling \$17,672.

The Department continues to exceed expectations, given the restrictions and limitations in budget and financial resources. This is shown well into the 1st quarter of FY 07-08 with expenditures & revenue looking favorable. Staff will continue to evaluate, refine and modify where necessary to continue to offer high quality programs and services to the community.



2) JULIA MCNEILL SENIOR CENTER EXPANSION

While the Department was under construction with the Arts and Recreation Center (ARC) project, the City Council recognized the number of baby boomers to soon be surging in the next 5 years. The City Council wanted to ensure its senior center facility was ready to handle the increase use of this expanding senior population. With this idea in mind, the City Council voted to have the Julia McNeill Senior Center undergo a major renovation and expansion.

The Julia McNeill Senior Center held its grand opening on September 22, 2007 at 11am. The unexpected rainy weather did not dampen the spirits of the 700 people who attended the grand opening including Assemblyman, Dr. Ed Hernandez. The grand opening was a magnificent event with confetti canons, an open house, live entertainment by Mariachi Divas; two ice sculptures, and a successful and informative resource fair.

Several departments worked together on the Julia Mc Neill Senior Center to provide a new level of service. Over the last 2 years, Department staff has diligently worked with the community through public input meetings to collect feedback and determine the needs of the senior population. Through their interaction with the community, the renovated senior center now features an additional 3,500 square feet of meeting and recreation space. Existing amenities such as the restrooms, patio area and assembly hall were renovated. New amenities for the Senior Center include a lounge area with an LCD television, library/quiet room, additional men's and women's restrooms and meeting rooms. The expansion not only benefits the senior program, but also serves as an additional benefit for the community who will have access to new programs and classes in the new portion of the building.



3) ARTS AND RECREATION CENTER

The \$5.5 million dollar state-of-the-art Arts and Recreation Center (ARC) is now complete and open to the public. On July 21, 2007, over 400 people attended the ARC's grand opening, which featured a dynamic performance from Creative Planet School of the Arts, arts and crafts activities and a Native-American blessing by a representative from the Tongva Nation. To highlight the amenities of the building, the ARC hosted an inaugural art exhibit featuring Southern California artists including two world-renowned painters as well as an outdoor film presentation and chalk art demonstration.

The new 15,270 square foot building features a banquet hall, arts and crafts room, full size kitchen, dance room, exhibit space, indoor amphitheater and outdoor movie area. Additionally, the Baldwin Park Historical Society will be permanently housed at the ARC and will provide tours for the community. The City leveraged all of its resources to fund the project, which included a \$2.5 million dollar state competitive grant, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and refinancing Community Center bonds.

The development of the ARC did not happen overnight, it started with a vision from the City Council almost five years ago to create a multipurpose cultural arts facility in Baldwin Park. Many different departments devoted their time to convert this vision into a reality. From selecting an experienced architect and construction contractor to securing state and federal funds, the work continued all the way until the day of the grand opening. While construction was underway, Department staff engaged in a successful capital campaign that raised over \$100,000 and was responsible for all the inner workings of the facility to include ordering furniture, hiring staff, planning the grand opening and staying within budget parameters. One can definitely assert this project was a team effort. A unique element of the ARC is the passive park, which features numerous Californian native plants such as the California Poppy, Lemon Grass, Avocado Tree and True Lavender.

Since the opening of the ARC, staff has been working to bring high quality cultural arts programs to the City. One of the first programs at the ARC was a traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. From September 8 through November 4, the ARC hosted "A Magic Web: The Tropical Forest of Barro Colorado Island" which made its Californian debut on September 8, 2007. "A Magic Web" featured 40 magnificent photographs of the rainforest in a bilingual (English/Spanish) format that was of interest to children and adults alike. The exhibit allow the Spanish speaking community to enjoy, learn, and discover the rainforest's ecosystem in their native language.

The ARC is already working on hosting additional Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibits and becoming a regional facility that provides cutting edge cultural arts programs to benefit residents of Southern California.



4) NO SMOKING BAN

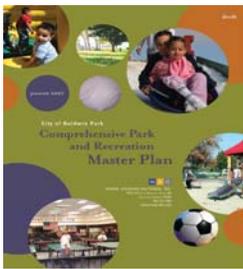
In 2007, the City Council revised a 2004 ordinance that prohibits smoking at all parks and city owned buildings to include outdoor dining areas, bus stops, ATM lines, Metrolink Station and anywhere the public congregates on public premises. Baldwin Park is the first city in the San Gabriel Valley to approve such a policy and follows in the footsteps of other progressive cities such as Calabasas and Santa Monica. Other municipalities such as Beverly Hills, San Dimas and Burbank are also taking the initiative in turning their city into a smoke-free community.

The revised smoking ban took effect on March 9, 2007 and is enforced by the Baldwin Park Police Department. The Recreation Department coordinated the promotion of the ban by launching a comprehensive marketing campaign through an informational letter for businesses from the Chief of Police and Recreation and Community Service Director, articles in the Baldwin Park NOW and City website for residents, coverage of the new ordinance by the local newspaper, and four (4) color informational brochures in English and Spanish. In addition, as a courtesy to business owners, the City offered the opportunity to purchase no smoking signs from the Recreation Department. Over half a dozen of prominent Baldwin Park businesses purchased the signs including Starbucks, Yum Yum doughnuts and In 'N Out burger and have placed them in public view. The no smoking ban will improve the quality of life for thousands of Baldwin Park residents. In addition, visitors to the City will take note of the progress that has been made in Baldwin Park.



5) EAST VALLEY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB LICENSE AGREEMENT

As of July 1, 2007 the Department has entered into a License Agreement with the East Valley Boys & Girls Club (EVBGC). The Department and EVBGC successfully negotiated a license agreement that will generate additional revenue for the Department, while still allowing the EVBGC to utilize their current workspace. In the 18 years that the EVBGC has been operating at a City facility, there has been no agreement in which the EVBGC are required to pay for use of the facility. This has enabled them to offer programs at no cost for facility use, utility use or janitorial services. As the Department of Recreation and Community Services moves forward in many endeavors it was finally time to seek out additional possibilities for revenue. The Department approached the EVBGC with a 5-year term license agreement that will generate \$300,000 of revenue over the next five (5) years. The City will also be additionally insured for 3 million on the EVBGC insurance policy. The monthly rate includes utilities and janitorial services while allowing the Department to offset the facility maintenance cost as well as offset current budget issues within the Department. This license agreement will allow the City and the East Valley Boys and Girls Club to continue to work collaboratively.



6) COMPREHENSIVE PARK MASTER PLAN

Through a generous \$50,000 grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the Department completed a Comprehensive Park Plan, which serves as a recreation-planning tool for the next 20 years. The City worked with the firm Moore, Lacofano, and Goltsman, a leader in the recreation-planning field. Highlights of the plan include a survey of over 1,000 youth and adult participants, telephone survey of over 300 residents, recommendations for additional revenue, strategies for park maintenance, new park locations and additional activities. All of these highlights incorporated responses from the community and their needs or interests for recreation programs.

A park master plan can prove to be very useful when applying for grants and future state bond monies because of the valid documentation that displays the City's commitment to develop and maintain recreation programs that are tailored to the needs of the community. The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy has informed the City they are able to offer assistance in securing state funds to implement recommendations from the Park Master Plan. An electronic version of the plan and executive summary will be made available for viewing and downloading via the City's website in the near future.



7) MORGAN PARK RENOVATION

Beginning in Fall/Winter 2007, the playground area at Morgan Park is going to be receiving a makeover! Through a competitive matching state grant that was awarded in September 2005, the City is going to match the \$600,000 grant with \$200,000 from restricted funds. Funds for this project will go towards replacement of outdated and noncompliant playground equipment and installation of an environmentally friendly spray pool with a recyclable water pump. The playground's sandy surface will be converted in a rubberized surface with various landscape improvements. Removing the ineffectual green space that is located in between aquatic center's parking and main entrance will create thirty-two parking spaces. The playground improvements will provide a healthy, secure, and colorful outdoor venue for Baldwin Park families and visitors of the park.

Over the last 5 years, parking at Morgan Park has been challenging due to the amount of visitors coming to the Community Center and park area on a daily basis. The project is anticipated to be complete by Spring 2008, in time for the heat and Concerts in the Park.

The Department is also exploring funding opportunities with the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, to offset the recyclable water portion of the project.



8) NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT WALNUT CREEK NATURE PARK

In March 2007, the Department of Recreation and Community Services received notification from Kaboom! (a non-profit organization) that the City was a recipient of a community partner grant with Home Depot for \$75,000 worth of playground equipment and over \$5,000 for side projects to beautify Walnut Creek Nature Park. Kaboom's overall mission is to create accessible and fun play spaces through the

participation and leadership of communities and local corporations. As recipients of the grant, one of the stipulations of the grant was to involve residents who live near the park to assist in the building of the playground. On build day, community volunteers from Home Depot, Walnut Creek neighborhood residents, city employees, teachers and students from DeAnza elementary made up the nearly 200 volunteers who helped to build a brand new playground in a single day.

The Recreation and Community Services team had an aggressive timeline from when the grant was awarded to final construction of the playground. As soon as the Department received notice volunteers were recruited, a design day for children was held, and plans to coordinate build day were set into motion. The whole process from notification of award to project completion was approximately 60 days. Walnut Creek Nature Park was officially “a New Place to Play” on May 17, 2007. As a result of this new playground, new after school activities are taking place this Fall, which feature science activities, physical fitness games, and tutoring during the week.

9) EFFICIENCIES IN FLEET & FACILITIES MAINTENANCE



Since the Department absorbed Facilities & Fleet two fiscal years ago, we have streamlined several positions and implemented several cost effective procedures. One of the first strategies to reduce costs was to renegotiate and or replace contracts with outside vendors, reduce overtime, incorporate more part-time and recreation staff & expand responsibilities for facilities maintenance and fleet staff. In addition, the Department deleted several full-time. With these simple restructuring techniques, there has been a substantial savings of \$514,241 to the Department this past fiscal year. The Department will continue to maximize its current resources such as more utilization of the CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) vehicles to reduce dependence on traditional fuel and increase savings.



10) DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Earlier this year, the Department underwent a dramatic transformation. In a 6-week period, the Department added a new Supervisor and three full-time Program Coordinators. Three out of the four positions were vacancies and one was a new position for the Arts and Recreation Center. All of the candidates selected for these positions were in-house employees who competed with outside applicants. The Department has continuously provided opportunities for staff to participate and excel in various projects. These opportunities have in turn developed hard working and well refined staff who are qualified for advanced positions. Thus, reinforcing a positive work atmosphere where staff can learn, grow and evolve.



11) PRIDE OF THE VALLEY RUN

The 13th annual Pride of the Valley 5K Run, Fun Walk, High School Road Race and Little Tike Trot continues to grow each year. Over 600 participants came to the USA Track & Field sanctioned event on Saturday, August 4. Many

of the runners come from across Los Angeles County as well as San Bernardino and Orange County. The run was a successful event attracting 653 youth and adults with 602 crossing the finish line. Following the run, participants were entertained with live music performed by Soto and winners from each division were presented with medals. The records from the run are among the fastest in the nation. The Pride of Valley Run is a high caliber and amazing event that reinforces Baldwin Park's positive image outside of the community.

This year's sponsors included Health Net, Waste Management, Target, AQMD, Allan Company, Baldwin Park Chamber of Commerce, and Dial Corporation (Scottsdale, AZ). Results of the run are posted on www.racedayresults.net and www.runnersimage.com. Information about the run and race day photos was posted on www.dyestatcal.com and high quality promotional materials were distributed prior to the event year.



12) FUNDRAISING

With the ARC opening during the fiscal year 2006-2007, the Department embarked on a Capital Campaign for the ARC, raising over \$100,000. All of the rooms at the ARC were offered as sponsorship opportunities to businesses and corporations. Large sponsors include Wal-Mart, Royal Coaches, Tropical Islands and EMAE International. Each of the rooms has a plaque with the name of the sponsoring business placed at the entrance to each room. All individuals who donated to the facility have their names featured on a permanent donor wall that is located inside the ARC.

Aside from the special Capital Campaign for the ARC, Staff proactively raises funds year round to offset costs associated with the Department's holiday programs. Each year, the Department raises \$20,000 to benefit the Santa Clothes program. Santa Clothes is a community benefits program that assists low-income children who come from families that do not have resources to purchase new clothes for the holidays. The Department collaborates with the school district to identify 325 children that are served each year. In addition to the Santa Clothes program, the Department also raises money to offset the costs associated with the annual Christmas Basket Program that is spearheaded by *Navidad En El Barrio*. *Navidad En El Barrio*, a non-profit organization, which secures large food quantities at a very reduced cost from major food distributors. The Department purchases the food baskets at a low price, partners with the school district to conduct a food drive and distributes applications and assembles the baskets for distribution to residents. Through these annual fundraising efforts, the Department is able to assist residents through the holidays while improving the quality of life for the community.



13) MARKETING

With a general population of over 80,000 residents, it is difficult to guarantee that every resident is informed of all our recreation programs and activities. For these reasons, the Department continues to develop creative methods to promote activities. Visitors and residents can pick up quality promotional materials at all recreation facilities as well as drive along the 10 and 605 freeways to see billboards showcasing special events such as Summer Concerts in the Park or holiday activities. By utilizing innovative methods to reach the community, the Department is able to create a positive image that is unique from other municipalities.

Since its launching last year in 2006, the Department has taken a very active role in the creation, implementation, maintenance and update of the City's website. Working with the IT Department for technical assistance and advanced coding, the Department of Recreation and Community Services has been able to reach new heights in terms of utilizing the website as a valuable tool. Since then, the Recreation Department has been working to keep all pages updated, organize information, utilize online tools and maintain the daily operations of the site. The Recreation Department has also been working with all departments within the City to coordinate and edit updates for **all** pages to make it user friendly. The Department has also been working with each Department to integrate items as a whole and stay consistent with the flow of information as well as the organization of information.

The costs associated with utilizing the website to market the City's programs are significantly less than traditional methods of advertising since printing and postage are omitted. In the next few months, the Department is going to start maximizing the website to notify residents of upcoming events through periodical email notifications.

With a circulation of over 17,000 each month, the Baldwin Park NOW continues to be the most effective and most popular method of reaching residents and businesses in Baldwin Park. The Department is responsible for each issue of the Baldwin Park NOW including designing, editing, printing, and delivering to the Post Office.



14) MEDIA COVERAGE

Perceptions of a community or municipality can be easily created through media exposure. Baldwin Park has strived to create a positive image that is beneficial to residents. As a result of Department accomplishments over the last year, the Department received positive media exposure. Recently, KVEA Telemundo Channel 52 has visited Baldwin Park to cover the story of the no smoking ban.

In addition, the Department regularly works with the San Gabriel Valley Tribune and the local Highlander newspaper to provide information about upcoming events and activities. Working with several media outlets to cover what's happening in Baldwin Park has helped create a more positive image for our City. Below is a list of articles that have been published on the city:

- Senior Scam Stopper -San Gabriel Valley Tribune (10/23/07)
- *Classes kick off recital*-San Gabriel Valley Tribune (10/9/07)
- *City Oks booze at rec facility: Baldwin Park will allow alcohol in arts center under conditions*-San Gabriel Valley Tribune (10/5/07)
- *A Golden Day*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (9/26/2007)
- *Revamps, Renovation Long-awaited senior center about to reopen*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (9/20/07)
- *Polishing An Old Gem*- Metrolink Matters (September 2007)
- *Pride of the Race*-San Gabriel Valley Tribune (8/5/07)
- *Ready, Set, Go*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (8/4/07)
- *City Takes Heart*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (7/24/07)
- *Baldwin Park Arts & Rec. Center Opens*- San Gabriel Valley Neighborhood News (8/07)
- *Baldwin Park Historical Site Opens Today*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (7/21/07)

- *Landscape and Lighting Measure Keeps Gaining Local Support*-San Gabriel Valley Tribune (6/07)
- *Senior Center Revamp Near Completion*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (5/30/07)
- *Polishing An Artistic Gem*- San Gabriel Valley Tribune (4/30/07)

Additionally, this year the Recreation Department worked with Time Warner Cable Company to gain cable television coverage through the local channel of city events such as:

- Julia McNeill Senior Center Grand Opening (9/22/07)
- City Updates – Individual Council Interviews
- Pride of the Valley 5K Run
- Arts and Recreation Center Grand Opening
- State of the City Address 2007

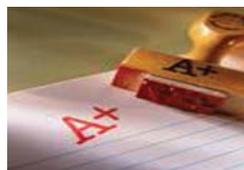


15) CALIFORNIA PARK AND RECREATION SOCIETY AWARD

Over the last two years, the Department has been awarded five (5) Awards of Excellence from the California Park and Recreation Society for its outstanding programs and commitment to bring people, parks and programs to Baldwin Park.

The Department is one of the few departments in the state to receive recognition in three categories in one year and continue the following year with two more prestigious awards. The awards were for best Marketing Campaign, Park Planning, Single Focus Brochure and Logo. In 2006, the Department earned the Marketing Campaign award for the comprehensive 50th Anniversary Celebration promotion that utilized several different methods to market the 50th Anniversary including a freeway billboard sign, three custom made birthday cakes at major City sponsored events, an animated logo on the City website, specially designed letterhead featuring the 50th anniversary logo and an array of giveaways including pens, pencils, stickers, and t-shirts. This is the first time the City was recognized in this category.

The 2005 and 2006 Summer Concerts in the Park logo was also selected for the CPRS Award of Excellence. Both pieces were commissioned by the Department to illustrate the significance of music and parks. This year, Department staff went to the CPRS 2007 Conference in Sacramento on March 10 to receive the awards as well as showcase the winning projects at the Conference.



16) BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL LATCH-KEY PROGRAM

During the 2007-08 school year, the Before and After School Latch-Key program will enter it's eleventh school year of service. The Department will continue to provide services for the 2007/2008 school year at: Bursch, Geddes, Heath, Foster, Kenmore, Santa Fe/Holland, Tracy and Vineland. However, the Baldwin Park Unified School District (BPUSD) asked the Department to expand the program to five additional school sites at: De Anza, Walnut, Central, Elwin, and Pleasant View. Through this expansion, parents will have the opportunity to enroll their student in day care at the same

school where their child attends, thus alleviating any issues with transportation to and from the day care site. This will allow the students and families at each respective school to take advantage of the program.

The Department will continue to accept registration until each respective school has reached its maximum prescribed enrollment per site. The maximum enrollment per site will depend on class or room size of each school and the Department is expected to enroll 190 to 220 students at the thirteen (13) schools combined.



17) 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Last year marked Baldwin Park's 50th anniversary as an incorporated City. To mark this special milestone, the City celebrated year round with several celebrations that included a large colorful birthday cake at the Cinco de Mayo celebration, groundbreaking ceremony for the senior center expansion and the Celebrate Baldwin Park parade. In addition to a birthday cakes, residents living in Baldwin Park for over 50 years were profiled in the Baldwin Park Now and special promotional giveaways such pens, t-shirts, lapel pins, and stickers were distributed at City-sponsored events. Around the City, street banners with the 50th anniversary logo were displayed at the Metrolink station; especially decorated street signs were strategically placed at major entry points into the City and billboard signs along the 605 and 10 freeways highlighting the City's anniversary.



18) CHILDHOOD OBESITY GRANT-PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

The Department is currently collaborating with the People on the Move program, which is a joint partnership with Kaiser Permanente, Baldwin Park Unified School District (BPUSD), Los Angeles County Health Department and California Center Public Health Advocacy to significantly reduce the incidence of childhood obesity. Through this program, a joint effort will be made to impact families on a multi-tiered level that includes empowering residents to help create change, involve restaurants and supermarkets in offering healthier food selections as well as educating elected officials and community leaders about community assets and challenges.

Since the initiative started in 2005, two advisory committees were formed to involve teens and parents achieve policy change around the City. The *Healthy Teens on the Move* advisory committee conducts youth assessments where youth identify improvements that promote healthier eating and physical activity amongst their peers. Through their efforts, the teens created an art display of Baldwin Park assets and challenges to promote dialogue amongst youth, adults and policymakers. In addition to getting students involved at the local level of governments, several teens have worked on implementing state legislation through interacting with various individuals at the school district level as well as elected officials.

The Baldwin Park Resident Advisory Committee (BP-RAC) is a community group that advises the People on the Move on policies and programs that improve the quality of life for the Community. The members of BP-RAC participate in planning community activities and trainings that support youth and parents in leading a healthier lifestyle.

In addition, People on the Move program presented an informative and concise presentation to the Board of Education & City Council. Both presentations were well received and continued the dialog in creating a healthier community. Lastly, a billboard along the 605 freeway will be posted in the near future acknowledging the City's efforts for a healthier community. Once again, reinforcing Baldwin Park is a great place to live, work and play!



19) COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL NON-PROFITS

The Department continues to forge new partnerships and strengthen existing ones. The Department is well known for providing excellent service programs such as the YWCA Intervale lunch services, which is a well-balanced meal for senior citizens. For youth, the free summer lunch program funded by California Department of Education Nutrition Service is provided for children ages 1-17 years with over 72,000 meals served each year.

The Medi-Cal/Healthy Families Registration Program, a service provided at the Family Service Center by the GEMS program from Citrus Valley Health Partners has grown over the years and quarterly Mammogram screenings continue to be very well attended at the Family Service Center. For the first time this year, the Family Service Center conducted dental health screenings for children entering school and is partnering with the Head Start program to hold regular parent meetings and workshops at the Family Service Center.

The Senior Health Fair, an annual health fair focusing on Senior Health issues continues to be very popular amongst the senior population and the Senior Center continues to partner with the American Red Cross to provide weekly on-site blood pressure screenings.



20) COLLABORATION WITH BALDWIN PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

This past fiscal year, the Baldwin Park Adult School continued to offer classes such as yoga, tai chi, ceramics, water aerobics, weight lifting, piano classes and computer technology courses geared specifically for seniors. The amount of classes offered is increasing due to the opening of the Senior Center and Arts & Recreation Center.



21) COLLABORATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The Recreation Department continuously provides support to other City Departments on a year round basis. From providing meeting space for the Housing Department to hold first time homebuyer seminars, contributing staff and equipment assistance to the Police Department such as their National Night Out Events and annual Bicycle Rodeo to coordinating all elements of the annual State of the City. This year, the Department handled the preparation of the speech, set up and tear down, designing and distribution of invitations, press notification, and securing the venue. The Recreation Department is always available to assist our colleagues in order to create an efficient delivery of community services. Over the last several years, the Department has taken the lead on activities that benefit our employees including the End of Summer Employee BQQ and annual

Employee Dinner. As Recreation professionals, we believe we feed the mind, body, and spirit, all of which contribute to the well-being and quality of life for our employees and community.



22) 1ST ANNUAL COMMISSION RETREAT

On Friday, October 26, the Department hosted a successful 4 hour-long training for the Recreation and Community Services Commission at the Arts and Recreation Center. All of the full-time staff presented to the Commission a detailed PowerPoint presentation that included information about programs, responsibilities and goals for their own division. While 7 out of the 8 Commissioners were present, each received a binder full of valuable materials pertaining to the Department.

In addition to the PowerPoint session, Staff worked with the Commissioner's to gain feedback to programs and activities they would be interested to get more involved in while they serve on the Commission. As a consensus, the Commissioner agreed to assist in three (3) programs. With the success of this special session training, the Department hopes to continue this meetings an annual basis.

~~~~~ END ~~~~~