
Park Board

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jessica Martinez, Deputy Director of Parks

MEETING: August 21, 2025

SUBJECT:

Receive a report and presentation regarding the proposed implementation of naturalized no-mow areas within select parks and right-of-way (ROW) medians for environmental, operational, and educational purposes. *(Staff Contact: Jessica Martinez, Deputy Director of Parks)*

SUMMARY:

As part of the City's ongoing efforts to improve sustainability and operational efficiency, staff is proposing the introduction of naturalized no-mow areas within targeted parkland and right-of-way medians. These designated areas will reduce mowing frequency, lower fuel use and emissions, promote native plant growth, and support biodiversity—including pollinator habitat.

The program is also expected to reduce overall maintenance strain by reallocating labor hours to other seasonal or high-priority tasks. Proposed no-mow zones will be strategically selected to avoid conflicts with access and active recreation areas. Interpretive signage may be placed at key locations to educate the public on the ecological benefits of this approach.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a report and presentation on the proposed implementation of naturalized no-mow areas. No action is required at this time; staff will incorporate feedback into the next phase of planning.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

N/A

REFERENCE:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

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