



STAFF REPORT
3/13/2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Maritza Martinez, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Approve recommended adjustments to the Community Field Use Program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve recommended adjustments to the Community Field Use Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2011, facility user fees were adopted and implemented. Since 2011, lighted field use has required users to obtain a facility field use permit and pay the corresponding facility field use and field lighting rates. In response to Council requests community field use options were evaluated by staff. In 2017, City Council approved a Community Field Use Program be established for Fridays at all Bagdouma Park and Saturdays and Rancho Las Flores Park sports fields from dusk to 10pm.

In 2020, the Community Field Use Program was approved as follows:

- Bagdouma Park
 - o Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays
- Rancho Las Flores Park
 - o Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays

In 2017 and 2020 when this program was established it was created to provide free field lighting to league and non-league teams; none of the established Community Field Use days resulted in conflicts to any field use by leagues. At the October 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting both soccer leagues identified that the Community Field Use schedule is restricting league play for youth and adult games.

On November 20, 2023, at the request of both soccer leagues (CVSL and CYSAS) city staff meet with the community group members and leadership from both soccer leagues to discuss amendments to the existing Community Field Use Schedule. The primary concerns discussed during this meeting are listed below:

- Community Field Use Days were originally created when field use and lights were provided based on a fee; these were requested originally to provide practice days for the community without a fee. The use has now changed as no fees are charged to anyone for field or field light use.
- Currently, both leagues are reporting that travel teams (most of which charge youth for team entry) are reserving much of the available community field use days. Thus, the community field use days are not being used by the community as much as it is by organized travel teams that are also members of both soccer leagues.
- CVSL is reporting the current community field use days at RLF are not allowing them to schedule youth games as youth games need to be scheduled in the early evening and CVSL only has Mondays for those games (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are Community days at RLF).

To resolve the above noted concerns, which were also discussed at the February 14th and February 28th City Council Meetings, below are the recommended amendments to the Community Field Use Program days:

1. Community days after 8:15pm field uses would revert to MOU use from 8:15pm-10:30pm at both RLF and Bagdouma.
2. Wednesdays at RLF Park be MOU use.
3. Fridays, field 4, at Bagdouma Park revert to MOU use.
4. Saturdays at RLF Park and Bagdouma Park be MOU use.

Staff supports the above four edits identified to the Community Field Use Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.