

**CITY OF IONE**  
**IONE, CA 95640**



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

*Sheldon Windley, Chairman*

*Fern White, Vice Chairman*

*Angie Avila, Commissioner*

*Dan Traxler, Commissioner*

*Demi Wright, Commissioner*

**Tuesday, August 29, 2023**

**Ione City Hall**

**1 E. Main Street, Ione, CA 95640**

**City Council Chambers**

**6:00 PM**

**THIS MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2351961316?pwd=d3lWTW0zbVJLb1pQNXBDQWtpZkRyUT09>

Meeting ID: 235 196 1316

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**THE CITY OF IONE IS A GENERAL LAW CITY DEDICATED TO  
PROVIDING LEADERSHIP, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND FISCAL  
INTEGRITY WHILE PROMOTING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND  
MAINTAINING A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR CITIZENS**

**PLEASE LIMIT PUBLIC COMMENT/TESTIMONY TO FOUR MINUTES**  
**California Government Code Section 54954.3**

**Commissioner Traxler is participating via Zoom. He is currently located at 2408  
Wentworth Drive, Crofton, MD 21114**

The Ione Park & Recreation Commission welcomes, appreciates, and encourages participation in their Meeting. The Park & Recreation Commission reserves the right to reasonably limit the total time for public comment on any particular noticed agenda item as it may deem necessary.

Full staff reports and associated documents are available for public review at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1 E. Main Street, Ione, CA. Hard copies may be obtained for \$3.60 for pages 1-5 and \$.45 for each additional page. Documents that are not available when the agenda is posted will be made available for public review at the meeting.



## **AGENDA**

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

### **B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **C. ROLL CALL**

### **D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

EACH SPEAKER IS LIMITED TO 4 MINUTES.

*NOTE: This is the time for members of the public who wish to be heard on matters that do not appear on the Agenda. Persons may address the Park & Recreation Commission at this time on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Park and Recreation Commission.*

*Please be mindful of the **4 minute time limit per person**. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the Park & Recreation Commission may not take action or engage in a detailed discussion on an item that does not appear on the Agenda. However, matters that **require Commission action** will be referred to staff for a report and/or recommendation for possible action at a future Commission meeting. Is there anyone in the audience who wishes to address the Commission at this time?*

### **F. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None**

### **G. CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. May 23, 2023 Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes\*  
*Recommendation: By motion approve the Minutes.*

### **H. REGULAR AGENDA**

1. ACRA Strategic Plan Proposal for Ione.\*  
*Recommendation: For information and staff direction.*
2. 2023 Addendum to the Howard Park Master Plan.\*  
*Recommendation: Resolution No. 2023-\*\* A Resolution of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Ione Approving a Revised Conceptual Map for the Howard Park Master Plan Update.*

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**I. COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS**

**J. ADJOURNMENT TO SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

**ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact City Clerk, Janice Traverso at 209-274-2412. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

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**CITY OF IONE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Meeting of May 23, 2023**

**Vice Chairman Day called meeting to order at 6:00 PM**

**A. ROLL CALL:**

Present: Fern Day, Vice Chairman  
Angie Avila, Commissioner  
Demi Wright, Commissioner  
Dan Traxler, Commissioner

Absent: Sheldon Windley, Chairman

Staff: Amy Gedney, Interim City Manager  
Jordan Doerksen, Executive Assistant to City Manager  
Kasey Guevara, Administrative Analyst  
Garrett Rogers, Maintenance Tech II  
Chris Hancock, Finance Manager

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Vice Chairman Day led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

It was moved by Commissioner Avila, seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve the agenda.

**AYES: Day, Avila, Wright, Traxler**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Windley**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**D. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**1. Stakeholder's Workshop Flyer**

- Jordan Doerksen: City is still on track to hold the Stakeholder's meeting on June 8, 2023
- Commissioner Wright: Asks how the flyer is being distributed to the public
- Discussion: Flyers are being posted around the City, Howard Park and it was included in the monthly news letter

**2. ACRA Information Update**

- Justin Howard: Executive Director of Amador County Recreation Agency discusses summer youth programs that ACRA will have going on in Ione during the summer. After

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school program for children that attend Ione Elementary School. Another summer program at Amador High School. Youth Soccer camps at Howard Park for June, July and August. Trying to grow adult programs such as bingo. Looking for places that can host these activities. Launched updated website which is easier to navigate. Focus for the upcoming fiscal year is to bring more programs to the south part of the County. Happy to answer questions.

- Commissioner Avila: Asks how much money ACRA has right now that they're willing to spend in Ione.
- Justin Howard: ACRA has their regional impact fees account, money for Capital Improvements.
- Commissioner Avila: Asks if he knows off the top of his head how much money there is.
- Justin Howard: Responds about \$38,000 in old Nexus fees. Can get specific number.
- Commissioner Traxler: Asks if they are doing anything with Pickleball.
- Justin Howard: They started a drop in pickleball league at Argonaut High on Sundays from 9:00AM-12PM. Three courts and about 30 participants. Sees need for more.
- Commissioner Traxler: Wants to know if ACRA is affiliated with the pickleball group that meets at Detert Park.
- Justin Howard: States they promote the activity of Amador Pickleball. Working on plans with them and the City of Jackson long-term to bring some more pickleball courts two to three years down the road.
- Commissioner Wright: Asks if the coaches for the Challenger Soccer Program are more local this year because coaches wouldn't always show up last year because they were coming from areas like Sacramento. Parents got refunded because of the cancellations. Wants to know if there is any improvement this year.
- Justin Howard: Not local instructors. Challenger contracts with instructors from the UK. Knows there was a hiccup last few year with flights because of Covid but states that the Coaches are all here now.
- Councilmember LaFayne: Commission requested in February to have Justin Howard attend a Parks and Rec meeting and states she made numerous attempts to get him there. Requested that the Commissioners be provided with a detailed report of what's going on in Ione, impact fees, where things are spread out and that was the purpose of asking him to be here. Give the Commissioners a good idea of how money is being spent, where's it going, and how does Ione weigh against cities and towns higher up the hill.
- Justin Howard: Happy to provide a scope of how the JPA works. Discussion continues clarifying what information the Commission and Councilmember LaFayne are looking for.
- Commissioner Avila: Recommends Justin Howard come to Parks and Rec meetings every 3-6 months and break down for Commission and Community where funds are going
- Justin Howard: Last project approved in Ione was a \$59,000 shade structure. In terms of up to date that is where ACRA is, in terms of impact fees \$3,500 roughly from every new development goes into a regional parks account. Collectively as a county ACRA has about \$800,000 in that account. Money has to fall under CIP projects. Where they stand



fiscally but in terms of actual projects in Ione the shade structure was the last project funded

- Amy Gedney: Thinks the City can work together with ACRA on the impact report, work through it with the Howard Park Master Plan. Annually City pays \$750 per capita to ACRA. Thinks Commission is looking at how those funds are spent on programs and services and what's being done in each community. Provide Commission with a report to let them know that Ione is being served by ACRA and it's a point for advertising to get it out into the community to illustrate what services are being provided. Would be helpful if ACRA could provide that on a monthly basis for the Committee. What activities are being programmed here in Ione.
- Discussion continues on the specifics of what the fees have been going toward and the Nexus study

### 3. Amador County Girls' Softball Association

- Darrick Baker: President of the Amador County Girls Softball Association. Been to these meetings a handful of times. Discusses issues with Saint Sava fields the Association uses. Only three softball fields in the County other than the high schools. Pays \$5,000 every season for the Saint Sava fields which he maintains. Letter from Stacy Rhodes and full back of Parks and Rec. States they were granted the property at the South end of Howard Park to continue to work upon building those fields. Was happy to have support from Commission and Council. Two years have gone by. The program has been successful but the fields they have to practice on are inadequate but enough to get by. Looking for great Softball fields and waiting for the Stakeholder's meeting. Discusses Fair Play Act. States there are a lot of Baseball fields in this community that are gorgeous. Where are the softball fields? Proposes the new contract for baseball where softball has access to one of the five baseball fields once their contract is up for renewal. Asks if it's fair that everyone in Ione has to go to Saint Sava. Discusses additional sources of funding and support for getting the softball fields built.
- Commissioner Traxler: Asks how much would be needed to complete the fields.
- Darrick Baker: Probably around \$300,000.
- Fern Day: Asks what is next step
- Darrick Baker: June 8, 2023 meeting and will bring a lot of support.
- Amy Gedney: Next step is the Master Plan. The City has said they would like to have softball fields. Everything needs to be planned out and the infrastructure needs to be laid out.
- Commissioner Traxler: Frustration comes from letting this project sit for two years. Will not sit on this for another two years.
- Commissioner Day: Softball has already been approved for the area.
- Amy Gedney: Has not been incorporated into the Master Plan yet. Need to incorporate everything into the Master Plan and get it adopted
- Discussion continues on specifics of Master Plan and Stakeholder's workshop.
- Darrick Baker: Discusses the Baseball contract and wants to be notified once the contract is back in negotiations.



**E. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Larry Rhoades: Could put facilities out on available land by the lake. Already two tennis courts there that are not being used.

**F. PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

For the record: Action minutes provide the necessary documentation of Parks and Recreation Commission action. Audio recordings are retained for those desiring more detail on particular agenda item discussions. These audio recordings provide an accurate and comprehensive backup of City Council deliberations and citizen discussions.

**G. CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2023; February 28, 2023; April 25, 2023

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

It was moved by Commissioner Traxler, seconded by Commissioner Avila to approve Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2023; It was moved by Commissioner Traxler and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve meeting minutes for February 28, 2023; It was moved by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Avila to approve meeting minutes for April 25, 2023.

**AYES: Day, Avila, Traxler (January 24, 2023)**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Windley**

**ABSTAIN: Wright**

**AYES: Day, Avila, Wright, Traxler (February 28, 2023)**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Windley**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**AYES: Day, Avila, Wright (April 25, 2023)**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Windley**

**ABSTAIN: Traxler**



## **H. REGULAR AGENDA:**

### **1. FY 23-24 DRAFT Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan**

- Chris Hancock: These are proposed numbers and included numbers from previous years to give context. Budget is broken down to see where costs are going. Broke numbers down based on the size of the parks. Rough number but can revisit them. Give Commission an idea on where the City is at.
- Commissioner Avila: Thanks staff for the information. Asks how many public works employees there are currently with the City.
- Chris Hancock: Currently have three maintenance workers
- Commissioner Wright: Asks how many maintenance vehicles does the City have.
- Chris Hancock: Have four vehicles and Public Works Superintendent that is currently out on leave. Looking to hire a seasonal person.
- Clarification on what the seasonal worker will do and the application process. Will fill that position soon.
- Jordan Doerksen: States the Parks and Rec CIP spreadsheet has been included with this item so the Commission has a better idea of the projects the City is in the process of or thinking about. What goes into the daily maintenance of these parks.
- Commissioner Traxler: Clarifies the change in the grant process for Train Depot Park. Asks how far along the City is in that grant process.
- Amy Gedney: Working on that process. Trying to transfer the Depot building over to a nonprofit group, City Engineer putting together the phasing plan and working with the volunteers.
- Commissioner Traxler: Clarifies that storm drain is one of the main items for the grant to be used.
- Amy Gedney: Confirms
- Discussion: Continues on Train Depot Park
- Discussion: Restroom hours behind City Hall

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

### **1. ACRA Pool Agreement Review**

- Justin Howard: Introduces the pool contract for the summer. Goes over the specifics of the contract. Ready to execute. Moving forward with \$25,000 not \$29,000. Here to answer questions about contract.
- Commissioner Day: Wants to know why swim lessons are not being done this year at the pool
- Justin Howard: Lost some staff that were certified to teach swim lessons. Recommending swim lessons happen at the Jackson Pool. Just don't have the staff that has the certification needed to teach swim lessons in Ione. Continues to discuss lifeguard certification process.
- General discussion on the approval of the contract and the dates that it is valid for.





- Contract went to Council and then was kicked back to the Commission where it will go back to Council. Discussion continues on specifics of the contract and if other cities have approved their contract.
- Justin Howard: Pool management contract will take effect in June.
- Commissioner Traxler: Expresses frustration on how items go to the Council and then back to the Commission for approval.
- Justin Howard: Confirms that future items will go through Parks and Rec first.
- Commissioner Day: Would like to see the contract in March next year.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

### **Motion to Approve Item #2**

It was made by Commissioner Wright, seconded by Commissioner Traxler to approve the ACRA Pool Agreement go up for Approval by the City Council

**AYES: Day, Avila, Wright, Traxler**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Windley**

**ABSTAIN: None**

#### **2. Ed Hughes Memorial Arena**

##### **A. Ed Hughes Memorial Arena Operations Update/Ed Hughes Memorial Arena Future Plans**

- Jordan Doerksen: Introduces the item. States the City is establishing what are its duties vs the duties of Kathy Van Steyn, the arena caretaker. City wanted to bring an update. Kathy is here to answer questions as well. Working together to clarify the contract.
- Amy Gedney: Working with Kathy and the Public Works Department to determine the responsibility of the Caretaker. Discusses what the provisions in the contract are. Wants to discuss with the Commission what they want the future to be for that arena. Kathy gave 90-day notice which will be up July 7, 2023. Indicated she would like to stay on but it would probably be a different contract. Wants a bigger picture of what could be done for the arena in the future. Different type of contract with Kathy or a different vision on what could be done out there. Everyone in the community seems to have a different opinion on what that area is supposed to be used for. Area needs to pay for itself because money used to support it will take away from other projects. Brainstorming session. Get a handle on what the community wants to see.
- Discussion about what the financial breakdown surrounding the arena does and does not include.
- Kathy Van Steyn: Discusses what she does on a daily basis out at the arena.
- Commissioner Avila: Asks why the City is not actively recruiting to see if people want to keep their horses in the stables at the arena.

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- Kathy Van Steyn: Responds that she has brought that up a couple times but that that is completely up to the City and something for the Master Plan.
- Discussions on whether there are horses at the stable currently. Kathy Van Steyn states there are not any horses currently and the ones that were there over the winter were hers.
- Dan Steyn: Kathy Van Steyn's husband comes up and speaks on additional tasks that she does at the arena.
- Kathy Van Steyn: A lot of positive feedback coming in for the arena. Gymkhana ready to come back to the arena next year. Two barrel racers want to come in right now but it's on hold since she gave her 90 days.
- Kathy Van Steyn: Issues in the winter some flooding. January and February were cancelled. Had someone who wanted to come in for roping but that was cancelled.
- Discussion on flooding issues and if it's common at horse arenas.
- Commissioner Wright: Asks how Ione stacks up against other arenas such as Rancho Murrieta.
- Kathy Van Steyn: Responds that Ione has been receiving some of the riders from Rancho Murrieta because of footing issues at Rancho Murrieta. Still Murrieta is huge and can hold more events.
- Amy Gedney: Gives Councilmember LaFayne the floor on some of the thoughts and ideas that have been discussed.
- Councilmember LaFayne: Arena needs additional amenities. Won't make money on dirt. Will be costly to update. Can hold events in the arena that aren't horse related. Community events such as farmers market, evening events, harvest fairs in the fall. A lot of competition with other arenas in the area.
- Commissioner Avila: How much do vendors pay now for the arena use.
- Councilmember LaFayne: Describes what is usually done out at the arena. Discussion continues on if water is included in the rental and how much is costs to rent the truck. Also discusses how other arenas charge.
- Commissioner Traxler: Suggests another entity be created to give suggestions on the arena. Doesn't think it's productive for Parks and Rec to be making these decisions.
- Amy Gedney: Thinks it's a good idea to have another Committee to walk through these issues. Maintaining parks is expensive and City is tapped out labor wise being able to allocate time to maintaining the arena. Fantastic idea to have a subcommittee that could brainstorm and come back with a recommendation.
- Discussion continues on arena being difficult to manage for a City. Defer to a specialized Committee.  
Commissioner Day: Definitely hear the community use. Has been to some events there. Concerned that tying the arena to the community could take away from a horse producer coming in. Think about what is more lucrative. Where we want to push.

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- Councilmember LaFayne: Discusses issues with the arena and ideas that have been kicked around for years. Backlash against the arena that is just bizarre. Competition with other arenas and amenities that the arena would need but doesn't have. Disagrees with bringing community members in because horse people differ. Would just be chaotic. Need to look at it from a financial standpoint.
- Commissioner Day: Asks opinion on whether it is more beneficial for the arena to be run through the City as opposed to private.
- Councilmember LaFayne: Responds that paying \$3,000 a month on top of the 10 free days, free board at the barn and other expenses. Said the City never used to provide water. Continues to discuss how arena prep is done by the event holders that come in. City could incorporate arena grooming and prep into its pricing. Arena needs to be numbers at this point.
- Commissioner Day: Asks Garrett Rogers how many hours should be allotted to the arena if it is City run.
- Garrett Rogers: Responds that it would depend on the usage. If the City were to go for a multipurpose arena area, would almost need to dedicate a person for a few hours for scheduling and planning. If the arena were to stay horse focused, you would almost need another person just to be there full-time.
- Commissioner Day: Discusses possibility of working with organizations like home schooling groups and Girl Scouts.
- Councilmember LaFayne: Responds by stating the City is still renting the arena. City is not going to be a producer where they would get part of the entry fees unless it's put in the contract.
- Amy Gedney: Asks for a motion to be made back to the Committee to move this along and get more done at that level. Think we've gotten some good ideas but need to understand more about the operational issues first.
- Commissioner Wright: Clarifies that if this is moved to a committee but Kathy Van Steyn has stated that she will stay on, there won't be an answer by July 7<sup>th</sup>. So, Kathy Van Steyn is being kept in limbo by this choice too. Amy Gedney responds that that is correct.
- Commissioner Traxler: Asks Kathy Van Steyn what she would like to do.
- Kathy Van Steyn: States that she would like to stay. Understands that the pay may not be sustainable with the arena slowing down. Describes what she likes about working out there.
- Commissioner Avila: Clarifies that Kathy Van Steyn is willing to take a pay cut from \$3,000 down to \$1,500. Kathy Van Steyn responds in the affirmative.
- Kathy Van Steyn: Would change a little bit about the contract. City does not have the revenue coming in to pay her \$3,000 per month.
- Amy Gedney: Describes how the contract could be changed such as month to month rather than being locked in for a certain amount of time. Still a lot of issues that need to be resolved at the committee level. Understanding of what we want



to do so there's no more controversy about the arena. Frustrating for staff the controversy they've been hearing about and it's distracting from other business.

- Kathy Van Steyn: Discusses other activities that she was able to schedule out at the arena but now that she's put in her 90 days those have been put on hold.
- Commissioner Day: Clarifies that Kathy Van Steyn's contract is up on July 7<sup>th</sup> and if a new contract needs to be drawn up. Describe previous contracts that have been brought up and other options moving forward. Asks if that is what the City is looking at for July 7<sup>th</sup> is redoing the contract and rehiring someone.
- Amy Gedney: What the City is looking at is staying everything for a moment while brainstorming. Don't want to lock into a contract. Would be in the City's best interest to have a long-term commitment.
- General discussion about making the contract a month-to-month and bring back to council.
- General discussion about regular events versus ones that are horse related.
- Councilmember LaFayne: Discusses the reason she was originally hired as the arena caretaker in the past and the reason the position exists now is it takes the responsibility of it off of City staff.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Larry Rhodes: Picnic Association used to run Howard Park for years and always had money till the City took it over. One maintenance man was hired to take care of Howard Park. Stables used to make money. Wonder why people are mad about everything. Brings up instance where California Rodeo Queen wasn't allowed to access the park at midnight. Thinks Horse Association of California was going to rebuild the track but it was turned down by Kim Kerr. Can thank some of the City Managers for these issues. Wishes someone would bring all this out once in a while.

**Motion to Recommend that City Council Develop an Ad Hoc Committee to Look at the Best Opportunities for the Arena Including Separate Ownership and While the Committee is Being Developed and Doing Their Work, We Recommend to The Staff to Work on a Quarterly Contract with KD Horsemanship to Keep Things as They are but in a More Realistic Way Until the Committee Makes a Decision.**

It was made by Commissioner Wright, seconded by Commissioner Day to approve the motion.

**AYES: Day, Avila, Wright, Traxler**

**NOES: None**

**ABSENT: Windley**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**3. Walking Trails – Endorsement of Citywide Walking Project**

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- Kasey Guevara: Introduces this item brought to staff's attention by Commissioner Wright. Have had some interest for a while to make Ione a more walkable/bikeable City. Looking for Community feedback on areas that are most desired for walking/biking paths. Two being routes for students to and from Ione Elementary and the area between Wildflower and Howard Park. Discusses the conceptual maps that were provided with the staff report that staff received from the City Planner. Some of these improvements could be done just using paint and some would have to be done with the assistance of an engineer. Reiterates that the City is just looking for feedback right now to prepare for grant opportunities next year.
- Commissioner Wright: Started looking at grant programs that take railroad tracks and make them into walking or biking trails. Started doing that because she walks every day and main street scares her. Discusses what she sees. Wants to encourage movement and accessibility. Thinks Ione can be a walkable City. Relatively flat compared to other Cities. Continues on about how it's not safe for kids and residents now. A lot of it can be done with paint. Adding walking lanes or changing curbs. Excited if this is something the City can look into.
- Amy Gedney: Intent here is a grassroots effort to come up with walking paths. When City is ready to do a grant application, City will have to have a map, will have to know the areas that the engineer will need to modify for ADA accessibility. Will have to know slopes to adjust. This is the first effort to be able to map it out and come up with a plan and have a list of where some of those improvements would be and then we would be able to apply for grant funding or be ready to apply for grant funding. The other options are that we have some CDBG funding that can be used to add sidewalks to certain areas. What Demi's wanting to do too is create a Facebook page to get feedback to create that baseline map and then start putting this plan together. Maybe the City will create an app to apply for funding. Basically, have to have a roughed-out plan that the City can submit something in the future. Brainstormed a number of ideas Commissioner Wright is going to create the social media account. Discusses blue zone which is promoting a healthier community. Putting together a base line walking map.
- Commissioner Wright: Discusses groups in the community that can help get the project off the ground.
- Discussion continues on the logistics of the project moving forward and areas to look at.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Larry Rhodes: States that between the school and the pathway around Howard Park is a 10ft easement that would be very easy, and you would never get Caltrans to put a sidewalk where the two cemeteries are.
4. Community Garden Park Location
- Jordan Doerksen: Introduces this item. Staff did some research and found each property to be incompatible for various reasons.

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**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

Adjourned by Vice Chairman Day.

Respectfully submitted,

Kasey Guevara  
Administrative Analyst



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**Agenda Item #H1**

**DATE: AUGUST 29, 2023**

**TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**FROM: KASEY GUEVARA, ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST**

**SUBJECT: ACRA STRATEGIC PLAN PROPOSAL FOR IONE**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

For information and staff direction.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact currently associated with this item.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Ione is currently in an agreement with Amador County Recreation Agency, ACRA a joint powers authority that runs recreation programs throughout the county. The current recreation programs taking place in the City of Ione include running the City's pool, bingo on the third Wednesday of the month at Castle Oaks Golf Club, and the KAP after-school program at Ione Elementary School that started on August 16, 2023. Membership in the JPA was \$34,450.00 for FY23/24 based on population. The last time impact fees were allocated to Ione were for a shade structure that totaled \$59,656.

ACRA has provided a proposed strategic plan for the 2023/2024 fiscal year shown in Attachment A. Goal 1 is currently being implemented through the KAP afterschool program. Goal 2 is to work with third party organizations such as Little Leapers and Challenger sports. A location for these third-party activities has not been determined. Goal 2 would be directed at Pre-K age children in the community. Goal 3 would be enrichment/recreation programs that occur on a weekly basis at EB hall. The demographic target would be those in middle school. ACRA would supervise these activities and suggested activities to include table tennis, cornhole or other similar games. Goal 4 would be resurfacing and repainting the tennis courts out at Howard Park to make them suitable for playing pickleball. Goal 5 is expanding recreation activities for adults in the community. Activities would be similar to ones that ACRA is currently operating in the eastern part of the county such as Bingo, Trivia and Art classes.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the City Council have suggested that the community of Ione is not reaping the benefits of its total participation fees. Attachment A is a plan by ARCA to address these concerns.

ACRA is proposing a number of things that seem to be beneficial; however, given past “no responses” and inconsistencies from ACRA staff, staff is dubious of ACRA’s ability to carry out these types of programs consistently. For example, the Interim City Manager has asked repeatedly for documents from the ACRA Executive Director, and has received no response. Additionally, the Parks and Recreation Commission has also requested information from ACRA and has also not received a consistent response. And, no information was provided to city staff either on the absence of swimming lessons this year.

After reviewing the “Strategic Plan” as presented, staff believes that a more robust set of programs and recreation offerings could be offered to the community through the City directly. Staff would like to explore starting a City operated Parks and Recreation Program. Potential programs could include both youth and adult sports leagues, walking groups, monthly family activities such as movie nights at the park, seasonal activities such as a 5K “Color run” as well as a summer youth program.

While ACRA is funded county-wide and offers a variety of programs throughout the County, not many of the programs sponsored directly relate to the Ione community.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

- ACRA Proposed Strategic Plan FY 2023-2024 – Attachment A
- ACRA Membership Invoice – Attachment B
- Mitigation Fees Report FY 2021/22 – Attachment C



# Amador County Recreation Agency (Ione)

## *Proposed* STRATEGIC PLAN FY 2023-2024

	GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3	GOAL 4	GOAL 5
GOALS	KAP Afterschool Programs	Youth Programs (Younger age groups)	Youth Programs (older age groups)	Pickleball/Tennis Resurface/Paint	Expanding Adult Programs
Why It's Important	There is high demand for afterschool care in Ione, secured MOU with ACOE for school year 23/24.	Demand for Pre-K children to have enrichment activities in the community.	Children in the middle school age range would benefit from a weekly program for enrichment/recreation activities.	With Pickleball popularity increasing at an exponential rate, there are not enough permanent pickleball courts.	Bingo has proven to be successful in Ione, more relationships in community to provide more events/activities would be well attended.
Strategy / Action Steps	Continue KAP program at Ione Elementary.	Work with 3 <sup>rd</sup> party organizations (Little Leapers, Challenger Sports). Location TBD	ACRA supervised activities (Table Tennis, cornholes, games, etc.). Location EB Hall.	ACRA will contract resurfacing/repainting of tennis courts at Howard Park.	Bingo, Trivia Nights, Art Classes Location TBD
Success Metrics	Increased Attendance.	General Interest and attendance.	Retention of students weekly/monthly.	Increased Use of courts, potential for higher volume events with three courts.	Attendance and mutual benefit if hosted at local business.
Budget	\$14,000-\$16,000	Dependent on Third Party	\$1500-\$3000	\$11,000-\$15,000	\$4,000-\$5,500
Start and End Dates	In congruence with school year	TBD	In congruence with school year	TBD	Year Round

Invoice No. **MF-2324**

Amador County Recreation Agency

**INVOICE****Customer**

Name City of Ione  
 Address 1 East Main Street  
 City Ione State CA ZIP 95640  
 Phone

**Misc**

Date 7/15/2023  
 Order No.  
 Rep  
 FOB

Pop	Description	Membershi	TOTAL
5300	Membership Fees for FY23/24 5300 population @ \$6.50 per capita	\$ 6.50	\$ 34,450.00
Pleas Pay By 8/15/2023			
Thank you for your continued support of ACRA			
Justin Howard and Amador Rec staff			
		SubTotal	\$ 34,450.00
		Shipping	
		Tax Rate(s)	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 34,450.00</b>

**Payment** Select One...

omments

Name  
 CC #  
 Expires

Tax Rate(s)

Office Use Only

ACRA 10877 Conductor Blvd., Suite 100, Sutter Creek, Ca. 95685 (209)223-6349

Everybody gets to PLAY!

## Mitigation Fees Report for FY 2021/22

## Old Nexus

Park Area	Balance July 1, 2021	Fees Collected	Unused Allocated Fees	Project	Balance June 30, 2022
South County	\$ 109,106.73		\$ (59,656.73)	Howard Park	\$ 49,450.00
Jackson	\$ 108,089.14				\$ 108,089.14
Pine Grove/Volcano	\$ 208,030.61				\$ 208,030.61
High Country Pioneer	\$ 10,123.12				\$ 10,123.12
North County	\$ 199,408.86	\$ (4,300.00)		Refund of Fees	\$ 195,108.86
Mid County/ Sutter Creek	\$ 192,746.73				\$ 192,746.73
Interest	\$ 49,661.74	\$ 2,717.07			\$ 52,378.81
Total Value	\$ 877,166.93	\$ (1,582.93)			\$ 815,927.27



**CITY OF IONE**  
**IONE, CA 95640**

**Agenda Item #H2**

**DATE: AUGUST 29, 2023**

**TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**FROM: KASEY GUEVARA, ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST**

**SUBJECT: 2023 ADDENDUM TO THE HOWARD PARK MASTER PLAN**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Resolution No. 2023-\*\* A Resolution of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Ione Approving a Revised Conceptual Map for the Howard Park Master Plan Update.

**BACKGROUND:**

Charles Howard Park, located within the City of Ione on Highway 124, south of W. Plymouth Highway and north of Brickyard Road is an 89 acre city park site. The Park Master Plan was created in 2010, and over the years, some minor updates have been made to the Plan. Physical changes have been made at the park, but the Master Plan has not been updated to reflect those changes. As a result, an Addendum to the Howard Park Master Plan is being presented to reflect the changes that have been made as well as proposed additional facilities to be included as a part of Howard Park. The concept map and Master Plan are being revised to show the existing facilities in their correct locations as well as conceptual locations for proposed and planned facilities.

It is important to note that improvements over the years have been made by volunteer groups and associations. For example, the baseball fields were constructed by volunteer groups associated with the baseball league using their own funds. While the City does own the park and does much of the maintenance, the majority of the facilities in the park have been constructed by various community groups. The City has agreements in place with several of the community groups regarding maintenance and operations responsibilities.

**DISCUSSION:**

During the past year, community concerns have been raised regarding uses at the Park and consistency with the Master Plan. To address those issues, on June 8, 2023 the City of Ione hosted workshop to address the community's concerns regarding existing and future uses at Howard Park. The results of that workshop are incorporated as an Addendum to the Howard Park Master Plan.

***Community Input***

The workshop was attended by roughly 100 participants representing a variety of interests. The workshop began with a presentation of how the evening would be structured and included an overview of Howard Park.

The second half of the evening included a facilitated discussion regarding what the community would like to see added to the park in the next Master Plan. Participants provided a variety of responses of how they would like to see the park improved in the coming years. Many of the responses centered on updating and improving existing facilities.



**CITY OF IONE**  
**IONE, CA 95640**

The final portion of the evening offered participants an opportunity to fill out a questionnaire where they were able to provide additional feedback for what they wanted to see in the next Master Plan. The questionnaire asked them a variety of questions such as what park features they would like to see stay the same and which ones they would like to see improved. The questionnaire also asked demographic information such as city of residence and age of children in household if applicable.

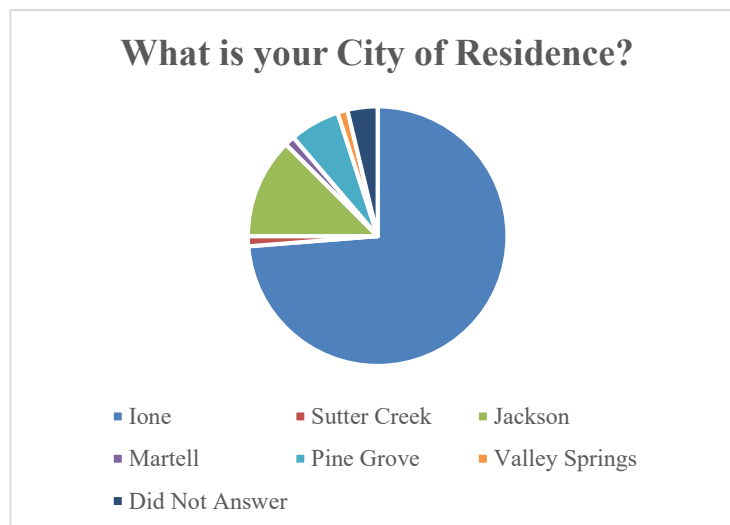
The results below were calculated based on the responses received to the questionnaire:

### *Demographics*

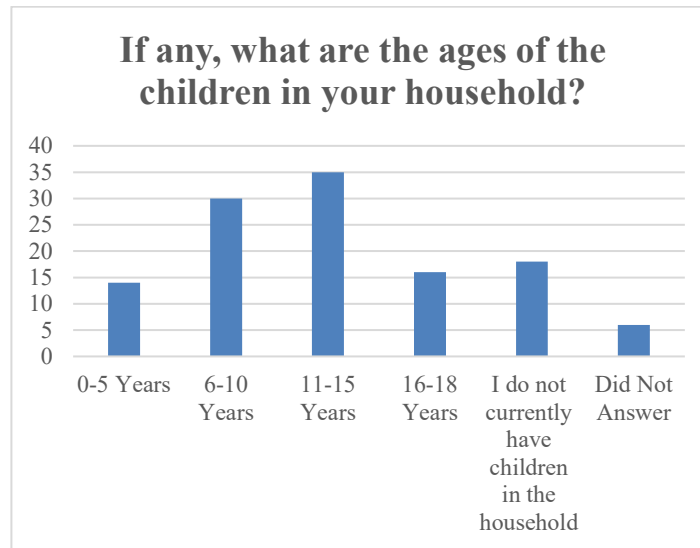
Responses from the June 8, 2023 have been tabulated based on the questionnaires received. Based on the analysis, most participants in attendance that submitted feedback were City residents with 74% being residents of Ione. Second was Jackson with 13% and the remaining 13% being split between Sutter Creek, Pine Grove, Martell, Valley Springs and 4% of responses that did not answer.

Household composition was also fairly split among respondents. Most households reported having children in the household between the ages of 11-15 years old at 29% followed closely by households with children between the ages of 6-10 years old at 25%. Remaining household compositions were split fairly evenly between 0-5 years, 16-18 years and no children currently in the household at 12%, 13% and 15% respectively. The remaining 5% did not answer. Figures 1 and 2 below illustrate the demographic results.

**Figure 1. City of residence for respondents.**



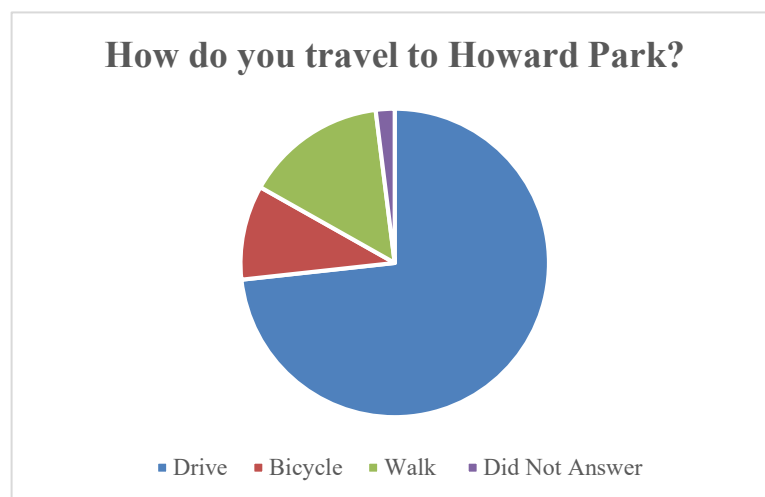
**Figure 2. Ages of households responding to survey.**



### *Transportation*

Most respondents overwhelmingly travel to the park by car with 73% reporting they drive to Howard Park. 15% of respondents reported walking to the park and 10% reporting biking. When entering the park, 60% reported using the North entrance by the dog park and 35% reported they use the South entrance by the arena. The remaining 5% was split between those that did not answer and those that come in another way, responses are shown in Figure 3.

**Figure 3. Transportation to Howard Park.**

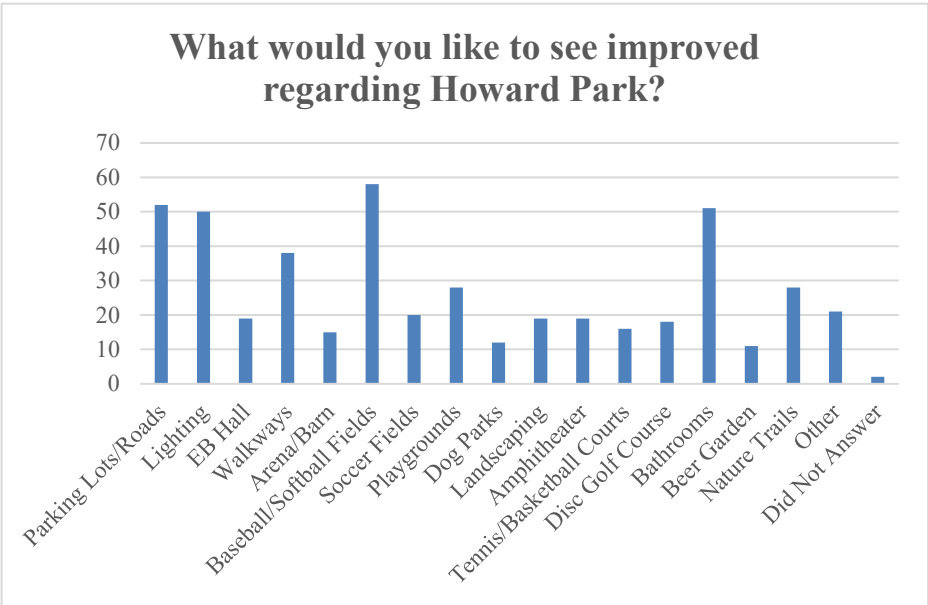


### *Park Improvements*

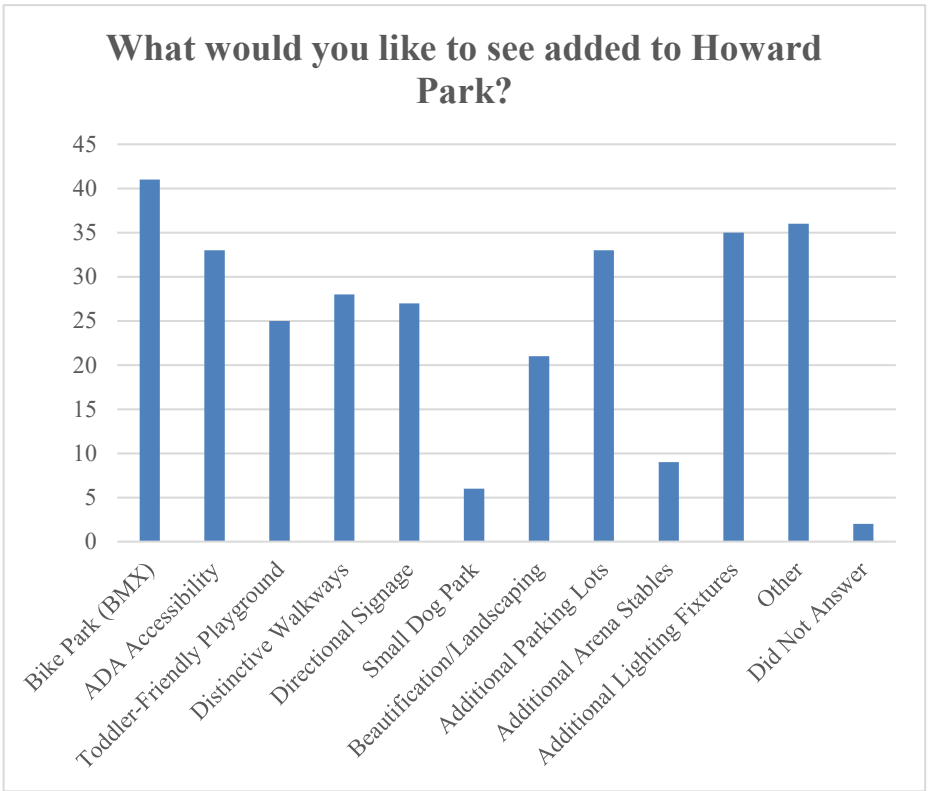
Improvements that respondents desired to see were evenly split; however, there were four specific improvements noted that received the greatest number of responses that respondents desired to see. Improved baseball and softball fields received the most responses at 12% with improved parking and roads following closely at 11%. Improved bathrooms and lighting followed with 11% and 10% respectively. These results reflect that participants demonstrated a strong preference for infrastructure improvement.

Park additions followed a similar theme with the top choices being ADA accessibility, additional lighting features and additional parking lots. The top addition request however was a bike park with 14% of the votes. Figures 4 and 5 shows desired improvements.

**Figure 4. Desired Park Improvements to existing facilities.**



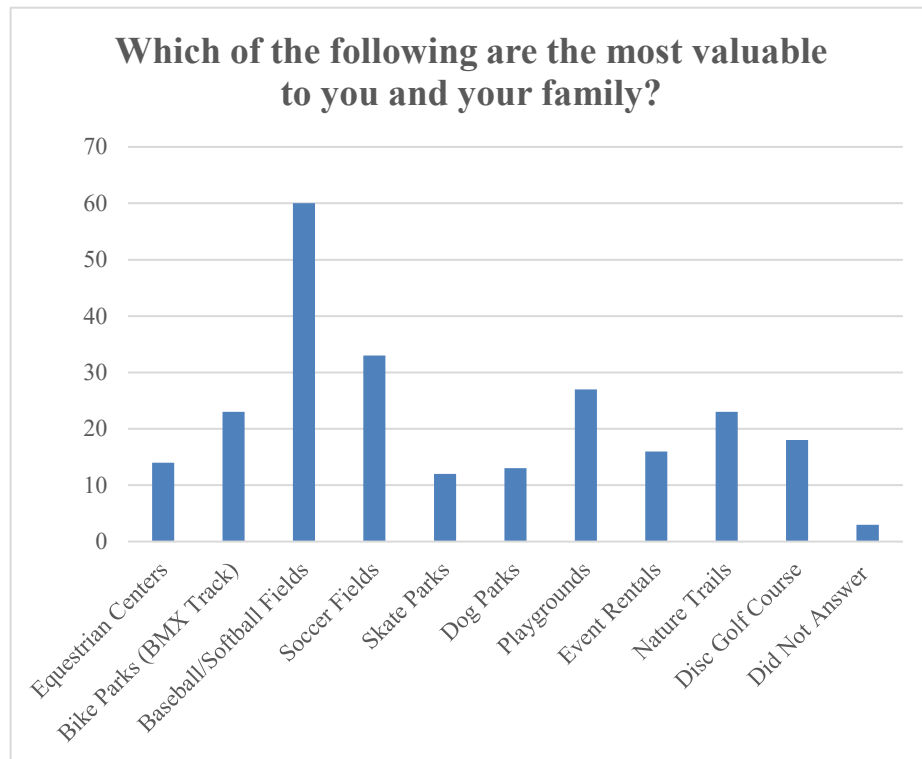
**Figure 5. Desired additions at Howard Park.**



*Current Valued Facilities:*

The baseball/softball fields took the top spot for the most valued facility. Soccer fields came in second with 14%, and the playgrounds rounded out the top three with 11%. The remaining facilities were split fairly in votes among participants.

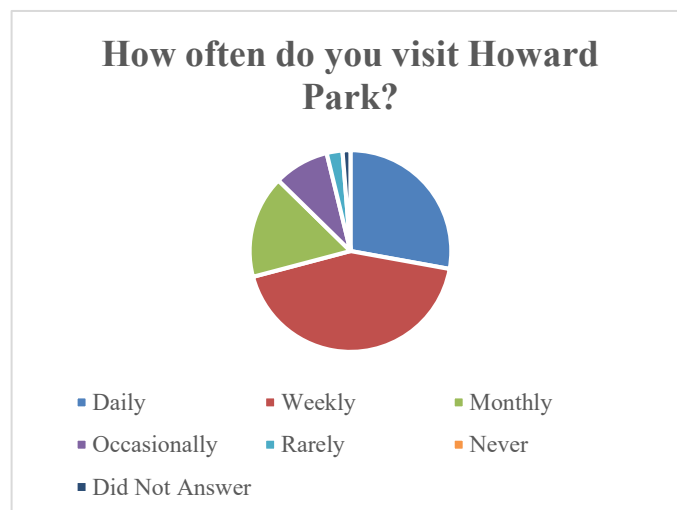
**Figure 6: Current Valued Facilities**



### *Visitation/Event Hosting*

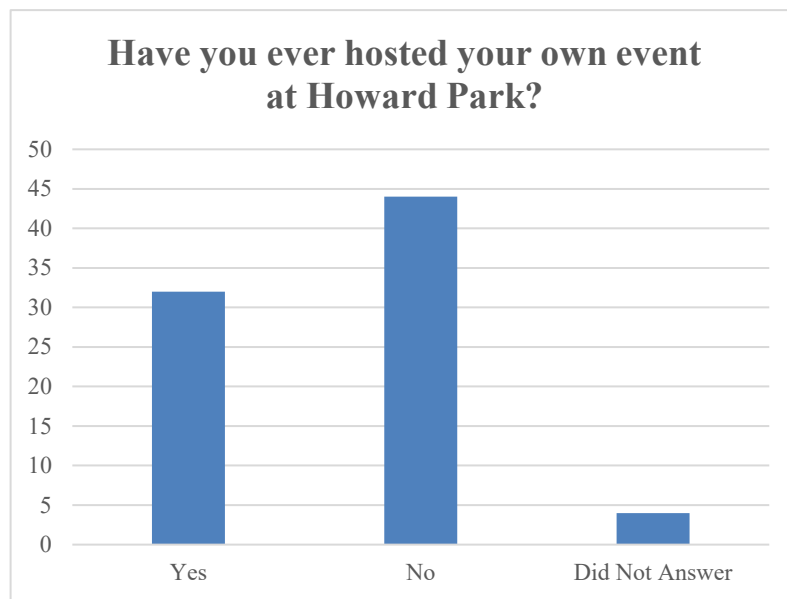
Forty-three percent of participants responded that they visit Howard Park on a weekly basis. Twenty-eight percent responded that they visit the park daily and 16% reported monthly visitation. A majority of 55% reported that they never have hosted an event at the park. Forty-five percent reported that they had while 5% did not answer. These results are shown in Figures 7 and 8.

**Figure 7: Visitation at Howard Park.**





**Figure 8. Event Hosting at Howard Park.**



*Workshop Conclusions:*

Increased accessibility and improvements to existing facilities were primary concerns. In general, the community was quite receptive to additional facilities and improvements at the park. And finally, it was also noted that Howard Park is the only regional park that has both soccer and baseball facilities serving the entire county.

**SUMMARY:**

As development of Charles Howard Park has occurred, the actual locations of facilities has varied from the concept map that was included in the 2010 update to the Howard Park Master Plan. The map was always intended to be conceptual in nature, but as the City moves forward with additional development in the park, it has become more important to create a concept map that more closely reflects both planned and existing development. Additionally, inclusion of formerly constructed facilities are included in the Plan.

The Disc Golf Course and the Dog Park, for example, have never been formally added to the Master Plan. The intent of the Addendum is to update the elements of the Master Plan to show its current facilities and those the City desires to add in the future. In addition to adding these two existing facilities to the Howard Park Master Plan, the addition of softball fields is also included at the southeastern portion of the Concept Map as well as a “BMX course” on the northeastern portion of the park that would border where the disc golf course currently resides.

Additionally, several other adjustments to facilities illustrated in the 2009 Howard Park Conceptual Map need to be made. As stated earlier, the dog park needs to be added to the north west corner of the park that was previously labeled as maintenance facilities which do not exist in the park. The horse shoe pits were also moved from just south of Evelyn Bishop Hall to slightly north east of their original location. The pond that is listed between the livestock corral and the horseshoe pits also

needs to be removed as it does not exist in the park. At the north end of the park, the disc golf course needs to be formally added and the bike park needs to be added to the eastern portion of that area. For the southern portion of the park, the city has updated the map to include three (3) softball fields.

There are also a number of other improvements to add in the coming years and have added those to the map as well including: improved infrastructure and expanding parking facilities; improving the south entrance and north entrances with a new entrance gate and expanded parking and additional landscaping for beautification along the perimeter of the south entrance.

In summary the following are added to the plan:

- Formally add the disc golf course to the master plan and conceptual map in the northernmost portion of the park
- Formally add the dog park to where the maintenance facilities are currently listed in the conceptual map and delete the maintenance facilities since none exist in that location.
- Formally shift the horseshoe pits location that is listed as just south of Evelyn Bishop Hall in the conceptual map to just north east to where they are currently located.
- Formally add the basketball/tennis court complex which is located just south of Evelyn Bishop Hall.
- Delete the pond that is listed between Ed Hughes Memorial Arena and Evelyn Bishop Hall as it does not currently exist in the park.
- Add bike park (BMX Course) to north eastern section of the map. This will border the baseball fields and disc golf course.
- Add 3 softball fields to southern portion of the map. Directly south of the soccer fields.
- Add a pickleball court to just south of the basketball court and include a gate to separate the two.
- Add additional parking to high traffic areas in the park.
- Add new landscaping around the south entrance by the arena and add a new entrance way to the south entrance

The Addendum to the Master Plan is included as Attachment A to the Resolution. In addition, specific infrastructure requirements to accommodate each of these additions will be needed.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Adoption of the Howard Park Master Plan Addendum does not impose immediate fiscal impacts. Implementation of the facilities will create fiscal impacts. Those facilities will ultimately be addressed in a future Capital Improvement Plan. Maintenance and operation agreements will also need to be addresses with each community group going forward to ensure consistency and costs of operations. City staff has begun that process. City staff will also be examining other possibilities as well and expects to return at a future date with those options for consideration.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A: 2023-\* Resolution of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of lone recommending that the City Council approve the 2023 Addendum to the Howard Park Master Plan.

**CITY OF IONE  
2023 ADDENDUM  
to the  
HOWARD PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE (November 2010)**

**PURPOSE OF THIS ADDENDUM**

The purpose of this addendum is to update the 2010 Howard Park Master Plan and conceptual map that was adopted by the City of Ione on February 2, 2010. Howard Park is located in the City of Ione in western Amador County. The park is comprised of about 89 acres in southern Ione and is bordered by State Route (SR) 124 (Church Street) on the west, residential development, a cemetery and an elementary school on the north, residential development and undeveloped land planned for residential development on the east, and undeveloped unincorporated land and railroad tracks on the south. The site is designated PR (Parks and Recreation) in the General Plan and is zoned PCS (Parks and Community Services).

In 2009 an updated Howard Park Master Plan was developed and approved. The City proposes to amend the document by revising the list of proposed and existing facilities at the park. Below are the listed proposed amendments to the Master Plan and Howard Park Concept Map.

**2023 ADDENDUM TO MASTER PLAN/CONCEPTUAL MAP**

- A. Formally add the disc golf course to the master plan and conceptual map in the northernmost portion of the park
- B. Formally add the dog park to where the maintenance facilities are currently listed in the conceptual map and delete the maintenance facilities since none exist in that location.
- C. Formally shift the horseshoe pits location that is listed as just south of Evelyn Bishop Hall in the conceptual map to just north east to where they are currently located.
- D. Formally add the basketball/tennis court complex which is located just south of Evelyn Bishop Hall.
- E. Delete the pond that is listed between Ed Hughes Memorial Arena and Evelyn Bishop Hall as it does not currently exist in the park.
- F. Add bike park (BMX Course) to north eastern section of the map. This will border the baseball fields and disc golf course.

## Attachment A

- G. Add three (3) softball fields to southern portion of the map. Directly south of the soccer fields.
- H. Add a pickleball court to just south of the basketball court and include a gate to separate the two.
- I. Add additional parking to high traffic areas in the park.
- J. Add landscaping around the south entrance by the arena and add a new entrance way to the north and south entrances.
- K. The attached Concept Map is hereby included as a part of the 2023 Addendum.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PARKS AND  
RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF  
IONE APPROVING THE 2023 ADDENDUM TO  
THE HOWARD PARK MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted the Howard Park Master Plan Update in 2010 which included a conceptual map to describe the location of existing and proposed facilities within the park; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has determined that the best location of certain facilities has changed over time and the proposed location of other facilities should be modified; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to add additional facilities to the Howard Park Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, such revisions necessitate the preparation and approval of a revised conceptual map; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Commission, at its regular meeting of August 29, 2023, heard a staff presentation of information and the public was given the opportunity to provide public comment regarding the proposed revised conceptual map and current and planned facilities Addendum; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Commission considered all public testimony and information presented.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, based upon the information presented and testimony received, the Parks and Recreation Commission hereby recommends to the City Council the 2023 Addendum to the Howard Park Master Plan Update.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission also finds that the 2023 Addendum to the Howard Park Master Plan falls within a Class 1 CEQA exemption.

The foregoing resolution was duly introduced and recommended to the City Council of the City of Ione by the Parks and Recreation Commission at their regular meeting held on August 29, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Sheldon Windley, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kasey Guevara, Secretary to the Commission

*CITY OF IONE*  
*IONE, CA 95640*



The Revised Conceptual Map for Howard Park Master Plan  
Update Will be Available Tuesday, August 29, 2023.