



CARPD COMMUNICATOR

MAY 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is here! And it feels like we can look to the future with optimism. We've reached the one million vaccination milestone in the United States, Governor Newsom plans to "open up the state" on June 15th, Park and Recreation programs are beginning to restart and CARPD is eagerly looking forward to an "in person" annual conference on June 23 through June 26 in Monterey. CARPD and Hyatt Regency Hotel staff are working diligently to make this year's conference a safe, enjoyable, fun experience and we look forward to a great event. We have a full slate of interesting topics and speakers along with great networking opportunities at our Awards Banquet and nightly social receptions. As of the time of this writing, we have 80 registered attendees, 26 sponsors who have generously contributed \$37,000, given 4 scholarships to deserving members and are offering the opportunity to attend the conference remotely through zoom. There's still time to register. Just check out our website, www.caparkdistricts.org.

I would like to note and honor the retirement of Stephen Fraher, General Manager of Arcade Creek Recreation and Park District. Stephen was a member of the CARPD Board of Directors for nearly 10 years. Stephen was knowledgeable, friendly and a great asset the CARPD family. We wish you the best in your retirement.

The theme for our conference this year is "The Essentials: Everyday Heroes in Your Community". Park and Recreation professionals have proven to be an essential service, there for our communities throughout the pandemic. I would like to acknowledge the great work of the CARPD Staff. Their hard work and resilience throughout this past year is greatly appreciated. I'd also like to acknowledge our Board of Director's who held meetings via zoom, planned the conference, tracked legislation and advocated for Park and Recreation Districts throughout the year. Our sponsors were tremendous, sticking by us and continuing to be valuable partners. And thanks to all the Member Districts for all you do for your communities. It's been an honor and pleasure to serve as your president this past year and I look forward to seeing you in Monterey.

Finally, as we approach the annual CARPD Board of Directors Election, I would like to wish all of the candidates the best of luck and express our sincere thanks for your willingness to serve!

Dennis Waespi,
East Bay Regional
Park District



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- President:**
Dennis Waespi
- Past President:**
Rick Sloan
- President Elect:**
Nick Schouten
- Secretary:**
Michelle Lacy
- CFO:**
Al McGreehan
- Directors:**
Brian Danzl
Michael Seaman
Doug Nickles
Gigi Bannister
Dean Wetter

CARPD BOARD ELECTION

As we do every year during at the CARPD General Membership Meeting, the CARPD Board of Directors Election is scheduled to take place on June 24, 2021 at the Conference in Monterey, California.

In accordance with CARPD Bylaws, Member Districts with qualified candidates interested in serving on the Board of Directors are invited to submit nominees for the ballot by Friday, June 18, 2021. If you have questions about the Board or the nomination process, please contact Matthew Duarte at mduarte@capri-jpa.org.

Additionally, the CARPD Nominations Committee recently put forward the following slate of candidates who will also be appearing on the ballot:

2021 Slate of Candidates for CARPD Board

| | |
|--|---|
| President – Elect | Michelle Lacy, Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District |
| Secretary | Brian Danzl, Cordova Recreation & Park District |
| Director-at-Large (Odd Year) | Two Positions to be Elected: Michael Seaman, Fulton- El Camino Recreation & Park District Rick Sloan, Cordova Recreation & Park District |
| Administrator Rep (Odd Year) | One Administrator Position to be Elected: Colin Miller, Arden Park Recreation & Park District |

CARPD CONFERENCE—VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

At this year's annual CARPD Conference, we will honor the dedicated service of Districts like yours, recognizing your essential role within your community.

It would be great to see you there, but we understand it may not be possible. For those who are not able to attend, CARPD is now offering virtual access to the Conference.

Virtual Conference attendees will have access to the following live sessions:

Friday, June 25

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

"Finding Funds for Fun"

Sara Mares / Tim Seufert / Danielle Wood, NBS

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

"Outdoor Learning in Park Spaces: Thinking Outside the Walls of the Classroom"

Andra Yeghoian, San Mateo County Office of Education,

Michael Seaman, Fulton-El Camino Recreation & Park District

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

"The State of the Law on Homelessness"

Kimberly Chin, Esq., Allen Glaessner Hazelwood Werth



The price for Virtual Admission is \$50 per attendee. For group rates, please contact Matthew Duarte at mduarte@capri-jpa.org. Attendees will receive a unique link to participate in the sessions via Zoom. We may expand our online course offerings depending upon member interest. Visit caparkdistricts.org to register today!

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East Bay 
Regional Park District

Healthy Parks Healthy People

CARPD GUEST ARTICLE

By Kim Turner
Legal Aid at Work

Instilling Gender Equity in Youth Competitive Sports Run and Hosted by Local Districts

Nationwide and across California gender inequity persists in competitive youth sports programming hosted and run by park and recreation departments. Low-income girls of color particularly lack access and equity. In one study conducted by our Fair Play for Girls in Sports nonprofit project, California park and recreation departments reported girls receiving just one-third, or less, of community-based sports opportunities, despite girls' interest in playing far more. Many departments are not tracking gender at all across youth sports. And existing girls' sports too often get inferior facilities, resources, and attention.



California's law AB 2404 (effective as of 2005), also known as the Fair Play in Community Sports Act, mandates gender equity in competitive youth sports run and hosted by park and recreation agencies throughout the state. The law is modeled after the federal statute Title IX. AB 2404 (Section 53080 to the Government Code) has long required equity in opportunity—affording girls athletic slots in line with their community representation and interests—as well as equity in the treatment and benefits experienced by girls in sports. AB 2404 affords a private right of action to individuals to enforce equity in court.

Not only is AB 2404 the law, ensuring gender equity in youth sports is the right thing to do. In addition to the health benefits of athletics, girls who play sports excel academically and in the workplace as adults.

Some of the athletic inequity issues girls face include:

- Second-rate facilities and lesser facilities access, such as girls' teams consigned to shared community areas, while boys' teams have lengthy leases and permits to premier, exclusive-use areas at low to no cost;
- More department-run, subsidized sports for boys, with girls relegated to higher-priced third party league opportunities, as well as co-ed leagues that can be unwelcoming to girls;
- Publicity, banners, and social media featuring few, if any, girls and their teams, suppressing girls' sign-ups and interest;

Here are three simple tips for jumpstarting gender equity in local sports programs:

1. **Count the girls** in department-run sports programs and third-party leagues. If girls' share of sports slots is not comparable to the share of female youth residents, increase opportunity based on girls' input.
2. **Assess girls' teams amenities and experiences**, such as facilities, coaching, budget, and advertising, making adjustments to fix any inequities.
3. **Regularly convene a task force of girls' teams and leagues** to learn of needed improvements, while educating *all* community stakeholders of AB 2404 obligations and remedial action steps.

As youth sports re-open and everyone recognizes how critical athletics are to youth wellbeing, visit the Fair Play web site for more information (including tools such as a model girls' sports interest survey), chart next steps for equity, and make changes to level the playing field for girls.

Note, this article does not contain legal advice. Please contact an attorney as needed.

Kim Turner, J.D., is a Senior Staff Attorney and Director of the nonprofit Fair Play for Girls in Sports project of Legal Aid at Work (kturner@legalaidatwork.org).

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UMPQUA BANK

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Russ Noack
Public Policy Advocates, LLC

The California Legislature is finally in full swing and predictably, activity focusing on COVID-19 continues to top the priority list. The infusion of federal funds from the passage of the American Rescue Plan, coupled with state contributions under the Budget Early Action Item list derived from a modification of the 2020-21 State Budget has created increased funding for families, workers, businesses, and program needs at both the state and local level. The Legislature has also passed an early action item to improve and extend wildfire preparedness and resilience that includes various grant opportunities for local governments to initiate defensible space, structure hardening and fire prevention projects. All of these items will be revisited as the 2021-22 State Budget goes through the annual “May Revise” process.

Recent days have seen an increase in the charged political atmosphere surrounding the Capitol. The supporters for the campaign to recall Governor Newsom submitted over 2 million signatures prior to the deadline. Having since been verified, the best guess is the recall election will occur in November or December of this year.

The significance of the recall movement cannot be underestimated. We only need to look back to 2003 to revisit what happened when Gray Davis was recalled and replaced by Arnold Schwarzenegger. All aspects of government and public policy in the Capitol was materially affected from the moment the recall effort began and there is no reason to expect it to be any different in 2021. Additionally, it is anticipated the campaign will be the most expensive in the history of California. It will be interesting to see how the breadth and scope of legislative efforts are disrupted by recall politics this year.



Legislative committee hearings have commenced since the Legislature returned from its Spring Recess on April 5. The following measures received a support position from CARPD and are being monitored by our team:

Assembly Bill 30 by Ash Kalra would improve access to nature and recreational opportunities with funding for all Californians, with a specific emphasis on economically disadvantaged citizens.

Assembly Bill 118 by Sydney Kamlager would establish a Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems (CRISES) to provide grant opportunities for community organizations who are involved in supporting emergency response activities.

Assembly Bill 418 by Suzette Valladares would establish a Community Power Resiliency Program to provide financial support to local governments concerning emergency planning and preparedness.

Assembly Bill 585 by Luz Rivas is one of a bundle of bills she is authoring seeking to improve conditions for the homeless population. This bill creates grant opportunities to fund an Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program.

Assembly Bill 981 by Jim Frazier would establish the California Fire Safe Council to identify and promote local programs to improve community fire prevention and mitigation activities to minimize the risk of wildfires.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution #17 by Randy Voepel recognizes the contributions of special districts by proclaiming the week of May 16 to be Special District Week.

We look forward to an active summer in the legislature and invite you to join our legislative advocacy calls by contacting Matthew Duarte at mduarte@capri-jpa.org for details.

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W A L S H & ASSOCIATES, APC

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W

AGGRESSIVE DEFENSE PRACTICAL ADVICE PERSONAL ATTENTION

See you at the Conference!

CARPD CONFERENCE SCHEDULE PREVIEW

Wednesday, June 23rd

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 2:30pm | Conference Registration Booth Opens |
| 4:00pm | Hotel Check-In |
| 5:30pm -6:30pm | CARPD President's Reception: Hors d'oeuvres and Drinks |

Thursday, June 24th

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 9:00am - 10:15am | General Membership Meeting |
| 10:30am -12:00pm | Keynote: " <u>Cultivating Leadership in a Multi-Generational Workplace</u> " <i>Jeff Butler</i> |
| 12:00pm – 1:15pm | Lunch – " <u>Service Animals in Public Facilities</u> " <i>Peter Urhausen, Esq. & Dianne Urhausen, Esq.</i> |
| 1:30pm – 3:30pm | <u>Roundtable General Managers</u> <u>Roundtable Board of Directors</u> |
| 5:30pm- 6:30pm | Sponsors' Reception & Social Hour: Hors d'oeuvres and Drinks |
| 6:30pm - 9:00pm | CARPD Awards Banquet & CARPD Board Installation |

Friday, June 25th

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 9:00am - 10:15am | " <u>Finding Funds for Fun</u> " <i>Sara Mares / Tim Seufert / Danielle Wood, NBS</i> " <u>Prevent Defense: Avoiding Dangerous Conditions on Public Property.</u> " <i>Will Camy, Esq., Porter Scott</i> |
| 10:30am - 11:45am | " <u>Risk Management Tools for Public Agencies</u> " <i>Charles Williams, PRISM</i> " <u>Outdoor Learning: Opportunities with Your Local School Districts</u> " <i>Andra Yeghoian, San Mateo County Office of Education,</i> <i>Michael Seaman, Fulton-El Camino Recreation & Park District</i> |
| 12:00pm - 1:15pm | Lunch - <u>Legislative Update</u> , <i>Russ Noack, Public Policy Advocates</i> |
| 1:30pm - 2:45pm | " <u>The State of the Law on Homelessness</u> " <i>Kimberly Chin, Esq., Allen Glaessner Hazelwood Werth</i> |
| 3:00pm – 4:15pm | " <u>Panel: Making the Most of Partnerships Within Your Locality</u> " <i>Kristine Kwong, Esq., Musick Peeler & CARPD GMs</i> |
| 5:30pm -6:30pm | CARPD Incoming President's Reception: Hors d'oeuvres and Drinks |

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