

MINUTES - DRAFT

City of Orange

Park Planning and Community Events Commission

May 19, 2026

The Park Planning and Community Events Commission of the City of Orange, California convened on May 19, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in a Regular Meeting the Council Chamber, 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, California.

1. OPENING/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Romero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Perez.

1.2 ROLL CALL

Present Ahlswede, Fields, Perez, Kushon, Lozano, and Romero

Absent Litwin

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Approval of minutes of the City of Orange Park Planning and Community Events Commission Regular Meeting held on March 17, 2026

A motion was made by Vice Chair Ahlswede, seconded by Commissioner Kushon, to approve the minutes as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ahlswede, Fields, Perez, Kushon, Lozano, and Romero

Noes: None

Absent: Litwin

4. COMMISSION BUSINESS

4.1. Grijalva Park Masterplan Update

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, presented a staff report on the Grijalva Park Masterplan Update. Consultant Cassie Bretschger of Kimley-Horn gave a presentation with a brief history of the site along with the proposed vision, objectives, and anticipated next steps with a focus on findings from a community input meeting that took place on March 31, 2026 as well as a community wide survey.

Public Speakers:

The following spoke in support of installing a BMX/pump track as part of the Grijalva Park Masterplan: Colton Ferguson, Lisa Landau, Sean Kading, Jeff Corley, and David Browning.

Staff and consultant responded to Commissioner questions on future parking options, funding sources, and viable locations for various amenities.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Robert Ambriz Jr., Parks and Facilities Manager, presented updates on completed park projects and plans for approved Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 projects, including breaking ground on the construction of a skatepark at Grijalva Park, updating playground equipment, and refurbishing the Veterans War Memorial Fountain at Santa Fe Depot Park.

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, presented an update on the completion of the Pickleball & Fitness Circuit Project at Hart Park.

Chair Romero provided an update on the USA250 Celebration in the Park event on July 3, 2026. The Fundraising Subcommittee was able to raise more than \$15,000.00 toward the event but was unable to meet the financial goal to safely stage the event. The decision was made to cancel the proposed event. City staff is currently preparing community communication and working on alternate ways to celebrate USA250 throughout the City.

Staff invited Commissioners to an updated guided tour of City parks.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

The next Regular Park Planning and Community Events Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Emily Bustamante
Assistant Community Services Director