



---

## Public Amenities Committee Summary

---

May 13, 2009

10:30 a.m.

Conference Room 391

**Committee Members Present:** Lehmann, Madison, Johnson

**Other Council Present:** Hancock, Nevitt, Robb

---

*Agenda: Police Activities League Sponsorship Agreement for Ball Fields  
Water Conservation*

---

### 1. Police Activities League (PAL) Sponsorship Agreement for Ball Fields

#### Committee Action

The Committee approved filing the agreement with Police Activities League regarding ball fields at Val Verde and Parkfield parks.

#### Summary of Discussion

Gordon Robertson, Director of Parks Planning; Fred Weiss, Director of Parks & Recreation Finance & Administration; and Jake Schroeder, President of the Police Activities League (PAL), presented the \$3.6 M agreement between the City and PAL regarding Val Verde and Parkfield ball fields.

PAL received funding from Bill Daniels, with the stipulation that fields be named for fallen police officers. The ball field master plan recommends more Tier A fields, and this agreement will provide Tier A fields. PAL has about 7,000 kids per year playing in its league (some play football and baseball so are counted twice).

The agreement specifies that:

- PAL receives priority use (defined in the agreement).
- Fields are owned by the City and are available for permitting.
- City waives PAL's permit fees up to \$150,000 over 15 years (current use is 8,000 to 10,000 annually).
- City maintains the fields.
- Replacement of the synthetic turf, if needed, is to be shared by the City and PAL.
- City has design and construction approval.
- PAL has rights to name the fields and to include its logo, per the policies regarding substantial gifts; City and/or Parks & Recreation logos will also be used.

Val Verde Park improvements (\$1.8 M)

- Ground breaking June 12; estimated completion October.

- Renovation of the entire park and basketball court (to be named for Chauncy Billups, who was a PAL kid out of Montbello Recreation Center).
- Four baseball fields, two football fields, all synthetic turf (main field to be named for Officer Donny Young; one already named for fallen Officer Walt Weiss).
- New fencing, scoreboards, backstops, dugouts, bleachers, and lighting.
- New irrigation, landscape and turf, benches, walks and water fountains.

#### Parkfield Park improvements (\$1.8 M)

- Estimated completion Spring 2011
- One football field, one or two soccer fields, all synthetic turf.
- New fencing, scoreboards, bleachers, lighting, press box, and concession building.

## 2. Water Conversation

Scott Robson, Deputy Manager, Parks & Planning; Jill Wuertz, Water Conservation Program Administrator; Doug Woods, Director of Maintenance; and the Committee discussed water. Some of the points:

- 66% of the Parks Operating Budget goes to its 2 billion gallons of water annually.
- Order of watering priority, in descending order:
  - Trees, long-lived plants
  - Turf areas for youth activities (balanced geographically)
  - Swimming pools
  - Regional park high activity areas
  - Golf courses
- Irrigation systems vary across the system; newer ones are designed with hydro-zones sensitive to various plant materials.
- Current initiatives include:
  - Conversion to reuse water where possible; i.e. conifers don't thrive on reuse water due to its higher levels of sodium.
  - Sustainable landscape conversions, where appropriate (4 in 2009).
  - \$17 M Bond Funds: 7 irrigation projects.
- SW Parks District saved 21M gallons (\$40K) with management practices.
- Water budget goal of 18 gallons per square foot, or 30 inches per acre
- Dryness can lead to weeds, requiring spot spraying and more frequent mowing.
- Enhanced relationship with Denver Water:
  - standing monthly meetings;
  - DPR committed to focus on conservation; in exchange DW committed to work with DPR on its water budget;
  - Denver Water contributed \$1.7M (10% match of bond funds) for system upgrades.
- Conservation efforts based on plans and policies including:
  - Water Conservation Plan 2003 (will be updated soon)
  - The Game Plan
  - Natural Resource Stewardship: The City as a Park.
- DPR is moving toward a more sustainable infrastructure by employing water conservation methods and practices, which is the right thing to do.