



City of Naples

City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

Community Services Advisory Board Meeting – May 19, 2026 – 2:30 p.m.

It is noted for the record that all documentation electronically appended hereto is also contained in the file for this meeting with the City Clerk's Office.

1) Call To Order

Chair Muracco called the meeting to order and presided.

2) Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Christina Muracco, Chair

Cassie Barone, Vice Chair

Brian Smith

Laura Oscher

Suzanne Klym, Alternate Member

Staff Members Present:

Danielle Futia, Spec. Events Marketing Supv.

Madeline Secu, Events & Marketing Intern

Nina Scarboro, Events & Marketing Intern

Chad Merritt, Community Services Director

Aaron Hopkins, Community Services Deputy

Jason Collins, Recreation Superintendent

Stephanie McMillion, Administrative Coordinator

Other Present:

Rachel Cotter via Zoom

3) Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Muracco led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) Announcements/Presentations

4.A) Welcome New Members

Special Events & Marketing Supervisor, Danielle Futia welcomed Nina Scarboro and Madeline Secu as the Events and Marketing Interns.

[Welcome New Team Members](#)

5) Public Comment

None.

6) Changes to The Agenda

None.

7) Approval of Meeting Minutes

7.A) Approval of April 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Barone to APPROVE the April 21, 2026 Meeting minutes; seconded by Oscher and carried 4-0 (Barone-yes, Muracco-yes, Oscher-yes, Smith-yes).

[April 21, 2026 CSAB Meeting Minutes](#)

8) Regular Agenda

8.A) A Presentation by Weston & Sampson Engineering, Inc., on the Progress Update for the Community Services Department Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Community Services Director Chad Merritt introduced Rachel Cotter of Weston & Sampson Engineering, Inc., who presented a preliminary summary of findings for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Ms. Cotter explained that the project began in June 2025 and is intended to guide the department over the next five years, replacing the 2019 Master Plan. She reviewed the planning process, which included a community profile, inventory and analysis of existing facilities, and community engagement efforts, including a completed scientific survey.

Ms. Cotter reported that the Park Element System received a score of 2.3 out of 3, identifying opportunities for improvements to furnishings and amenities, while Park Site Evaluations averaged 3.6, reflecting good to excellent conditions throughout the park system. She also highlighted the high maintenance standards achieved by City staff. Ms. Cotter stated that 95 percent of survey respondents rated recreation programming for various age groups highly, while also identifying gaps in health, cultural, and recreational activities.

Ms. Cotter provided an overview of completed and upcoming community engagement efforts, including a second open house and a public opinion survey. She noted that 96 percent of respondents viewed parks as important to quality of life and identified the primary barriers to park use as lack of awareness, parking limitations, and busy schedules. She further discussed community interest in expanded trail networks, additional recreation opportunities, and infrastructure improvements.

In response to the Board, Ms. Cotter confirmed that the final action plan will include short-, medium- and long-term priorities, with an emphasis on achievable near-term improvements. Community Services Director Merritt added that once the draft plan is received, City officials and the Board will determine which recommendations should be prioritized and pursued.

Member Oscher inquired about the target response count for the forthcoming public opinion survey, and Ms. Cotter clarified that no specific numerical goal is required, as the statistically valid scientific survey already provides a 95 percent confidence level of accuracy; however, broad public participation is encouraged.

[Agenda Memorandum](#)
[Master Plan Update - Presentation](#)
[Resolution 2025-15650](#)

8.B) Director and Staff Report

Director Merritt provided an overview of current departmental activities and upcoming projects, including the following highlights:

- **Parks and Recreation Month:** A proclamation will be presented at the June meeting in advance of July celebrations.
- **Internship Program:** The new marketing and special events internship program are underway, with plans to expand to additional recreational program areas.
- **America 250 Essay Competition:** Award winners were to be recognized at the City Council meeting the following day.
- **Naples Pier:** Construction is progressing, with approximately 17 piles installed and cut off.
- **Beach Access Project:** Renovations to all scheduled beach access have been completed. The access at 21st Avenue South, which sustained storm damage, will receive additional upgrades to bring it to the same standard as the others. Director Merritt encouraged the public to use designated pathways and avoid disturbing newly planted vegetation.
- **Banyan Boulevard and Riley Park:** Banyan Boulevard landscaping will be replaced during the summer. The Riley Park project in Aqualane Shores was pending City Council approval the following day.
- **Playground Projects:** Anthony Park will be renovated first, followed by River Park (timed to avoid conflict with summer camp operations), and then Loudermilk Park.

- **Tennis Center:** Clay in May programming is ongoing and well attended.
- **City Dock Fuel Tanks:** The department is in the design phase for replacement of both underground fuel tanks, which will increase fuel storage capacity and revenue generation.

[Agenda Memorandum](#)

[Director and Staff Report - May 2026](#)

9) Member Communications

Chair Muracco inquired about the availability of dedicated parking for golf carts, scooters, and similar vehicles near the beach. Community Services Director Merritt acknowledged the general constraints of available space in the area and noted that parking falls outside the Community Services Department's purview, offering to direct the constituent to the appropriate department.

10) Adjourn

3:13 p.m.

Minutes Approved: 9/15/2026