



CITY OF HERCULES
PARKS & RECREATION MONTHLY REPORT
December 2025

**Parks
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Project/Program:	Parks & Recreation Department Activities
Lead Staff:	Christopher Roke, Parks & Recreation Director

Description: The Parks and Recreation Department leads and/or is involved with many community activities and events all year long. We also collect fees for various classes and services provided to the community.

Status: Through December of the 2025-26FY the department brought in \$95,825.76 in revenue, compared to \$83,540.00, and an overall total of \$758,258.34, compared to \$706,512.97 through the first six months last FY. These numbers suggest we are tracking ahead of last year's pace.

Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- Received (2) Grants from GameTime (MRC), for playgrounds.
 1. Foxboro: received grant for playground equipment of approx. \$90,000. The job includes refurbishing the basketball court and replacing the playground. The work is anticipated to be performed mid-March through April.
 2. Hanna Ranch: the playground grant will be in the range of \$94,000.
 3. Refugio Valley Park update: Shade structures have been purchased. The job is currently out to bid. Anticipated work approx. mid-May through June. In addition, the dredging project for the lake is scheduled to go out to bid early 2026.
- Applied for the LWCF (Land Water Conservation Fund) grant through the State of CA. If successful, the award would be three million dollars. The funds would go towards the Hanna Ranch Park improvements including a synthetic turf soccer field, a new playground, updated bathrooms, and more. Anticipated award announcement in May.

Projects:

- Refugio Valley shade structure project: should be completed before end of CY2025.
- Beechnut Mini Park: Prop 68 project; PG&E easement approved. Anticipated build CY2026
- Foxboro Park Basketball Court: scheduled to be renovated in 2025-26FY as part of the Parks System Master Plan; with new playground added (see above).

Project/Program:	Community & Library Services Commission Happenings and Events
Lead Staff:	Christopher Roke, Parks & Recreation Director

Description: The Community and Library Services Commission goes dark in August. September through November are busy with presentations from the 14 City recognized Nonprofit groups. Applications for the 2025CY were due in November and approvals were done in December.

Status: The city recognized nonprofit organizations will participate in upcoming events like the annual Trunk or Treat and PUMPKATAAZ events, Tree Lighting featuring the 125th Anniversary celebration (1st Sunday in December) and the Citywide Clean-up Day.

Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- City Recognized Nonprofit Group renewals were approved at December's CSLC Meeting.



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- City Recognized Nonprofit Group presentations for 2025CY were held during the September, October and November commission meetings.
- Tu, 8/5: held successful National Night Out event & final movie in the park (IF).
- July: successful 4th of July fireworks show; 2nd movie night 7/18 (The Wild Robot).

Project/Program: **Hanna/Lupine/Ohlone Childcare & Summer Day Camps**

Lead Staff: **Ambra Garfield, Recreation Manager**

Description: Childcare and Camps are extremely popular in Hercules including options Before school = Dyno AM, After school = Kaleidoscope Kidz (RAP), and Camps = Camp Dynamite.

Camp Dynamite: Our traditional summer camp program that runs M-Th for the 9 weeks of summer, and features games, cooking, arts and crafts, weekly themes, swimming, and more. In 2021, coming out of the pandemic we averaged between 75-85 campers/week. In 2022, the average went up to 115/week; 2023, camp averaged 120/week; and 2024, camp averaged 150/week; and in 2025, we averaged 169/week.

Status: Summer Camp registration will open again in March with the launch of our 2026 Summer Guide. Revenue for camp will vary annually due to when payments are collected. For example, if more families make payments March through June, the current year numbers will be higher. Conversely, if more revenue is collected in July-August, the camp revenue will be lower. The greatest barometer is to look at the total number of registered campers. **NOTE: number of campers fluctuates based on school calendar.*

For December, camp revenue was \$1,166.00, compared to \$418.00 last year; with a year-to-date total of \$154,316.81, compared to \$92,844.79 at the same time last FY.

Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- 2025 Summer Camps: 9 weeks - held at Lupine for Sparklers; Ohlone for Firecrakers; and Hanna held the Dynamite campers. Camp featured weekly entertainment, field trips, games, cooking, arts and crafts, weekly themes, & more. Prep for 2026 to begin in December.

Kaleidoscope Kidz is our **Recreation Afterschool Program** (or what we call **RAP** for short). The focus of RAP is about homework and stations. RAP focuses on monthly themes featuring a combination of arts and crafts, science, cooking, passive and active games and more. RAP is held at all 3 elementary sites. Staffing continues to be a challenge, but numbers are up at all 3 sites.

Status: In December, Child Care programs brought in \$47,747.32, compared to \$47,158.13, and \$240,165.54 through the first five months compared to \$284,723.30 at the same time last FY.

RAP	Enrollment	Space Available	RAP	Enrollment	Space Available
Hanna	74	8	Ohlone	74	8
Lupine	42	14			190 Total



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Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- August: RAP programs began.

Project/Program: **Tiny Tots Programs-Little Learners/Pre-Kinder/Jr. Kinder/Multi-Age**

Lead Staff: **Ambra Garfield, Recreation Manager**

Description: Our Tiny Tots Program introduces children to their "First Learning Experiences". They make their first school friends, learn through play, games, arts, crafts and healthy snacks. Our qualified staff guide them with socialization and self-help skills. The program runs concurrently with the school year from late August through June. The big news is that Tiny Tots is now inside the Teen Center for this school year.

Status: In December, the Tiny Tot Programs brought in \$10,683.46, compared to \$7,468.00; with a year-to-date total of \$43,191.94, compared to \$50,088.55 at the same time last FY.

**NOTE: We believe preschool participation has leveled out after the growth of TK programs.*

Preschool	Enrollment	Space Available
Multi-Age	20	1
Junior Kinder	3	29 Combined class
Friday Fun	9	10

Accomplishments/Items in Progress: Preschool program is at the Teen Center building.

- August: Preschool programs began.

Project/Program: **Aquatics**

Lead Staff: **Bryce Halliday, Recreation Supervisor & Joe Kaput, Rec Technician**

Description: The Aquatics program flourished this summer and early fall. We continue to offer seasonal swim lessons, lap swimming/water walking, lifeguarding courses, and of course Swim and Water Polo Teams including: the East Bay Silver Dolphins (EBSD), the Piranhas, and Hercules High School Swim and Water Polo teams.

Status: In December, Aquatics brought in \$10,147.50 compared to \$9,989.00; with a year-to-date total of \$92,042.35 compared to \$91,635.62 at the same time last FY.

Program	Enrollment	Program	Enrollment
EBSD	70	Lap Swim/water walking	56
EBSD Fall Programs	8 (5, 3)		

Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- November: Competitive Fall Program had 16 total participants.
- October: EBSD offering 4 separate swim programs in addition to the year-round program,
 - Fall Swim Technical Development = 26 enrolled
 - Competitive Fall Program = 9 enrolled



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- Winter Program option #1 = 5 enrolled
- Winter Program Option #2 = 0 enrolled to date
- Water Polo had 19 total participants, and competed against Albany, Pinole, SPSV, and El Cerrito High Schools.
- September: EBSD hosted annual swim meet September 13 & 14. Fall lessons going well.
- August: Piranhas wrapped up their season with the County Swim Championships, and summer swim lessons came to an end.
 - 754 individual swim lessons in 2025 (808 in 2024; 792 in 2023; & 779 in 2022).

Project/Program: Recreation Classes

Lead Staff: Jeff Jew, Recreation Supervisor & Samantha Cole, Recreation Leader III

Description: The department has been working to find new contract class instructors to help increase the variety of programs, as well as the quality of programs that the community has become accustomed to. Our recreation classes cater to all ages and help to promote a healthy lifestyle. Our classes vary from season to season. We hope you will give them a try.

Status: In December, Rec Classes brought in \$2,536.75 in revenue, compared to \$1,802.98; with a year-to-date total of \$20,219.79 compared to \$24,910.05 at the same time last FY.

Program	Enrollment	Program	Enrollment
Omni Muay Thai	1	Jazzercise	26
Omni Boxing	1	Xtreme Hip Hop	5
Omni Jui Jitsu	2	Zumba Gold	33
Hercules Karate Dojo	25		

Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- August: Contract Classes and Camps continue to increase.

Project/Program: Senior Center

Lead Staff: Bryce Halliday, Rec Supervisor & Kristina Griffith, Recreation Leader III

Description: The Senior Center averages a 150-200 members annually. Friends, food, fun and companionship is what the Hercules Senior Center is all about. We strive to ensure a physically and emotionally comfortable environment for all and encourage socialization with peers.

Status: In December, the Senior Center brought in a year-to-date total of \$7,593.00 compared to \$4,571.00. The meal plan brought in \$2,299.00 compared to \$2,330.00 for December, and a year-to-date total of \$10,995.00 overall compared to \$10,353.00 last FY at the same time.

**NOTE: Beginning January 2026, the Federal Government has reduced funding for meals affecting number of meals provided, and those being served. A formal Staff Report will be provided in the near future to provide more in-depth info about this action.*

Total Senior Center active memberships: **248 active members (currently)**



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Program	Enrollment	Program	Enrollment
Aloha Hula	65	Line Dance	89
ARC Blood Drive	36	Low Impact Dancersize	198
Art	16	Movin' In Line	61
Belly Dance	36	Senior Food Program	160
Café Costa Lunch	636	Sing - Along	15
Chi Kong	34	Special Event/Day Trip	120
Computer Lab	10	Tai Chi	177
Community Produce	300	Tap	23
Fit Troop	45	Ukulele	35
Game Board & Bond	0	Yah Strength Training	95
Goodie Store	40	Yuen Ji & Dance	40
HICAP	3	Zumba Gold	50

Accomplishments/Items in Progress/Status: The Senior Center continues to hold blood drives with the American Red Cross, as well as the FREE Food program, and County Food Bank.

- December: held Holiday Brunch Friday, December 19. 120 Senior members enjoyed a delicious seasonal meal, and lively holiday performances by our talented senior classes.
- November: Featured a Thanksgiving breakfast on Sat 11/22 with 90 seniors in attendance. Pancakes, bacon, eggs, sausage, coffee and juice were served. In addition, 65 seniors one a turkey at the turkey raffle this year.
- October: ARC blood drive on 10/2, had 18 donors, 1 deferral, 2 QNS (Quantity Not Sufficient). 19 units collected reaching 95% of our goal. Next drive will be December 11. In addition, Ohana Day held 10/6, with 95 senior members. Successful event.
- September: Held day trip to Sausalito on 9/18; 30 members participated. Enjoying a ride on the Ferry, dining, shopping, exploring. And 60 members attended a Fraud and Scam presentation at the Senior Center on 9/5.

Project/Program: **Sports**

Lead Staff: **Jeff Jew, Recreation Supervisor**

Description: The department offers sports and other positive leisure activities for patrons of all ages. Sports programs help promote a healthy lifestyle, while providing an environment in which people can enjoy themselves. We are continuing to work with a multitude of sports groups.

Status: In December, Sports brought in \$5,463.00 compared to \$8,969.50 last year, and a year-to-date total of \$51,185.50 compared to \$46,768.68 at the same time last FY.

Program	Enrollment
Align Basketball Skills Training	61
Align Lil' Hoopers League	54



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Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

- Fall: Sports continue to increase in popularity.

Project/Program: **Teen/Youth**

Lead Staff: **Jeff Jew, Recreation Supervisor**

Description: In general, we strive to help give Teens a sense of ownership and belonging to the community. Unfortunately, teen programs and activities have not returned since the pandemic.

Status: Not currently running. *Registration for the Teen afterschool program has not rebounded. We are continuing to look for ways to get Teens involved for the 2025-26 school year.*

Program	Enrollment
T.Y.C	18

Accomplishments/Items in Progress:

Hercules Parks and Rec “re” launched the Teen Youth Council (T.Y.C.) program! TYC is designed for students in the 6th through 12th grade looking for leadership opportunities to give back to the Hercules community through programs, activities, and events. Participants in TYC will gain valuable experiences that can be used in potential job opportunities and/or as a letter of recommendation for their college applications.

- October: Friday, October 24, TYC participated in their first community event of the school year at the City of Hercules, Trunk or Treat! This annual family event was a great opportunity for the T.Y.C. members to interact with the community by running carnival style games for the kids to play while in line, passing out candy, and to help record votes for the Pumpkataaz and trunk decorating contest. This event was a huge success as we estimated over 2,500 people in attendance. T.Y.C. had a great time and they look forward to the next community event!
- September: On September 17, we held our first TYC meeting of the 2025-26 school year. We had a total of 12 participants ranging from 6th-12th grade. Our topic of discussions included the benefits of being a TYC member and to “save the date” for our upcoming Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 24th. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th at 3pm.

Project/Program: **Facilities/Rentals**

Lead Staff: **Bryce Halliday, Rec Supervisor & Karin Nestor, Rec Specialist**

Description: The City of Hercules offers many of the City's facilities for rent when not being used for City sponsored programs or services. Facility attendants also prepare facilities for the department's classes and city meetings. Picnic rentals have done well, but the return to the indoor rentals, since the pandemic, has been slow. We don't anticipate this picking up until the weather gets cold and rainy.



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Status: In December, facility rentals brought in \$4,570.50 compared to \$5,362.75.00 last year during the same period. And year to date, facilities has collected \$61,809.88, compared to \$45,101.04 at the same time last FY.

Indoor Facilities	# Rentals	Picnic Rentals	# Rentals
Community Swim Center	5	Refugio – 50+ Lg Gather	0
CSC - Gym	33	Refugio - Gems	0
CSC - Press Room	1	Refugio - Birds	0
CSC - Dynamite Room	7	Refugio - Flowers	0
CSC - Resource Room	0	Refugio - Astronauts	0
Council Chambers	5	Foxboro - Islands	0
Senior Center	23	Foxboro - Trees	0
Ohlone Comm Center	3	Shoreline - Dolphins	0
Foxboro Comm Center	9	Shoreline - Seals	0
Large Library	12	Woodfield	0
Small Library	5	Shasta	0
Samara	28	Sierra	0
		Pool	0

Accomplishments/Items in Progress: With the mask mandate going away in February, we received more calls about facility rentals. Staff is starting to prepare for more programs, activities and rentals in the Community/Swim Center.

- December highlights include the City's Employee Awards, Breakfast with Santa, Chinese Association Holiday Party, a gender reveal, baby shower, and 16th birthday party.
- November: (5) baby showers, (3) 1st bdays, a baptism, gender reveal, and 50th birthday.
- October: Baby showers are among the most frequent rentals with 11 happening this month! Picnic rentals have slowed due to the changing of the season.
- September: (2) Quinceañeras, (6) baby showers, (4) first birthdays, and a memorial for a former council member. Picnic rentals were on par. Pool - held large swim meet (EBSD).
- July/August: Revenue increase more than double from last year at this time. Pool rentals were very popular again this summer.