COUNTY SERVICE AREA-81 (CSA-81)
Fallbrook Local Parks Advisory Committee
— MEETING MINUTES —
Thursday, August 20, 2026 | Time: 9:00 AM
Live Oak Park Visitors Center
2746 Reche Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028

In Attendance:

Committee Members in Attendance: *Chair Stephani Baxter, Committee Members Sean O'Callaghan, Jim Loge, Kari Hoyer, Sue Reed, and David Throop, Bryan Hanewinkel*

County Staff Present: *Jake Enriquez, Riley Dewitt-Rickards, Nancy Santillan, Park Ranger Lauren Raduc*

Public: FSA Presidents - Josh Guerrettaz, Park Manager

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Stephani Baxter called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Open Agenda

Chairperson Baxter thanked County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) staff for their partnership with the Kids in the Park program and acknowledged the committee members and volunteers who support local parks. Members were reminded to use the correct CSA email addresses for committee communications.

The committee received brief updates regarding the Stagecoach Lane project, which remains queued for funding, and the Bonsall Equestrian Staging Area, where planning, outreach, and design work are underway.

4. Approval of June 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes

The committee discussed minor wording corrections to the June 18, 2026, meeting minutes.

Motion: Approve the June 18, 2026, meeting minutes as corrected.
Second: Received.
Vote: Approved unanimously.

5. Financial Report

David Throop presented the July 2026 financial report.

PLDO Report — July 31, 2026

PLDO balance: $57,060

Cash received: $1,595

Total disbursements: $45,259

Encumbrances: $925,851

New funds: $1,798,448

Total balance plus new funds: $1,855,508

Maintenance Account — Year-to-Date Totals

Fund balance: $761,141

Expenses: $9,708

Revenue: $29,563

Net cost: -$19,855

The committee discussed park program revenue, park rental fees, and recreation revenue. Staff noted that revenue from these activities, including rentals at the Fallbrook Community Center, contributed to a strong fiscal year. The committee recognized CSA-81 as a fiscally responsible and financially sound service area.

Chairperson Baxter questioned why Village View Park continued to show an encumbrance despite the project having been closed out. Riley Dewitt-Rickards will contact the County Fiscal Review Department to review the report and make any necessary adjustments.

Sean asked how any remaining funds from the original capital project, including funds potentially available for shade structures, would be reflected. Riley explained that remaining funds and unused contingency would be accounted for before any balance was returned. Chairperson Baxter requested clarification regarding the remaining project contingency. Staff noted that funds are not encumbered for a proposed project until the required County approval has occurred.

Motion: Jim moved to approve the financial report.
Second: Bryan.
Vote: Approved.

6. Proposed Golden Pacific Powerlink Transmission Project

The committee discussed the proposed 500-kV Golden Pacific Powerlink transmission line project and the potential for its route to affect community parks and open spaces in Fallbrook.

Discussion identified potential impacts to Willow Glen, Horse Creek Ranch Park and open space, Rainbow Park, the Santa Margarita River, and the Wildlands Conservancy project area.

The committee discussed submitting a letter to SDG&E and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) expressing opposition to the proposed project and concern about its potential impacts on local parks and open spaces.

Motion: Jim moved to prepare a draft letter in opposition to the proposed Golden Pacific Powerlink project for committee review.
Second: Kari.
Vote: Motion passed; Bryan abstained.

The draft letter is to be circulated for committee review and brought back for consideration of final approval and submission.

7. Park Updates — DPR Staff

Fallbrook Community Center — Nancy Santillan

Summer camps and programs were wrapping up, averaging approximately 35 campers per week.

The park and facility continued to experience heavy use.

Tennis courts remained popular.

A recent Movies in the Park event was successful, and another event was planned.

Early planning was underway for Halloween and Christmas tree-lighting festivities.

Rainbow Park

Staff reported ongoing park maintenance and landscaping activities.

Clemmens Lane

Restroom improvements and general maintenance continued.

Don Dussault Park

Routine park maintenance continued.

Live Oak Park

In partnership with the Live Oak Park Coalition, a new concrete ping-pong table was added near the bag-toss area.

The park continued to serve as a site for the County's tree-planting program.

Nearly 250 trees and mulch were distributed to community members. The next distribution event was scheduled for September 19.

Installation of a new dual-split heating and air-conditioning unit at the information building was underway.

Tree-growing and stewardship activities continued.

Village View Park

The committee discussed vegetation management and preparation for anticipated weather. A request was made for the conservation crew to address vegetation that had been removed and recycled and to assist with site preparation ahead of potential storm activity.

8. Village View Park Improvements

Riley Dewitt-Rickards provided updates on dog park decomposed granite (DG), playground drainage, and shade amenities.

Playground drainage: A small project was scheduled for the following week to address drainage in the area near the slide.

Dog park DG: The dog park was scheduled to receive lighter-colored California gold decomposed granite in response to requests for a color that is less red.

Shade amenities: The project was anticipated to be completed in early 2027, subject to approvals, scheduling, and other project requirements.

9. Park Land Search Update

Riley Dewitt-Rickards provided an update on potential park land acquisitions. No significant new developments were reported.

Chairperson Baxter asked whether any properties on the previously discussed priority list—including the baseball field, Ivy Street property, and Bonsall fields—were still being considered. Riley indicated that the County was awaiting further direction from the Board of Supervisors before proceeding.

Jake Enriquez explained that the County was not actively searching for additional park land because available funding was insufficient to support new acquisitions and development. The current land acquisition funds were reported at approximately $291,000, and the County's immediate priority remained maintaining existing parks.

The committee discussed the Ivy Street property, noting that following its transfer to surplus under the Surplus Land Act, the County had become the new leaseholder.

Sean noted that Rio Prado remained on the committee's priority list.

Bonsall Community Park and Equestrian Staging Area

The committee received an update that the County supervisor had secured $2 million for the planned equestrian staging area adjacent to Bonsall Community Park. Phase 1 was projected for early 2027. The timing of Phases 2 and 3 remains dependent on future funding and project direction.

10. Other Business

County Cannabis Ordinance

The committee discussed the Board of Supervisors' 3–2 vote to adopt the socially equitable cannabis program affecting unincorporated areas. The discussion noted significant opposition from community members and environmental groups.

Concerns raised included the proposed 600-foot setback from trails, parks, and other areas, as well as potential effects on surrounding open space and communities. The committee discussed concerns regarding the practical implications of setbacks and property changes over time.

No formal committee action was recorded on this item.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Next Meeting: September 17, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
[Secretary's Name]
Secretary, CSA-81 Local Parks Advisory Committee