



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Community Services  
**Department No.:** 057  
**For Agenda Of:** November 6, 2018  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** NA  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department George Chapjian, Director of Community Services (805) 568-2467  
Director(s) 2467  
Contact Info: Jeff Lindgren, Cachuma Lake Operations Manager (805) 568-5076  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Adjustment to Parks Fee Schedule – Fee Reduction for Veteran’s Annual Pass at County Parks

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a resolution adjusting County Parks Fees to reduce the Annual Pass fee for Veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces or reserves (the “Resolution”) (Attachment A) from a fee of \$50 for Santa Barbara County resident Veterans and \$60 for non-County resident Veterans, to \$10 for all Veterans irrespective of residence; and
- b) Determine that the adoption of the Resolution is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 21080(b)(8) of the California Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines Section 15273(a)(1), (2), (3) and (4) since CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, or other charges by public agencies which the public agency finds are for the purpose of: (1) Meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, (2) Purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials, (3) Meeting financial reserve needs and requirements, (4) Obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors to consider reducing fees for the Santa Barbara County Parks Veteran’s Annual Pass. The Parks Annual Pass allows unlimited day use access to Jalama Beach and Cachuma Lake Recreation Area for the period for which the Annual Pass is issued. Currently, the Veteran’s Annual Pass is available for \$50 for Santa Barbara County resident Veterans and \$60 to non-county resident Veterans who hold the California State Parks Distinguished Veteran Pass. The Community Services Department continually reviews its fees and is proposing a reduction to the Veteran’s Annual Pass fee to \$10 for those Veterans who hold either the California State Parks Distinguished Veteran Pass or the new Veteran’s Administration Veterans Identification Card. Based on customer feedback and study of Veteran’s discount programs at other parks, staff recommends the Board reduce the Veteran’s Annual Pass Fee.

On August 23, 2018, the Santa Barbara County Park Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the reduced fee for the Veterans Parks Annual Pass

If approved by the Board of Supervisors, the fee adjustment would take effect **November 6, 2018**.

**Background:**

Every two years the Community Services Department brings forward proposed County-wide fee adjustments for County Parks and services. On May 16, 2017, the Board of Supervisors approved the most recent adjustments of fees for use of park facilities including a new discounted Veteran’s Annual Pass that allowed Veterans who held the California State Parks Distinguished Veteran Pass to purchase a Parks Annual Pass at a discount – the \$120 non-County resident Annual Pass was reduced to \$60 and the \$90 county resident Annual Pass was reduced to \$50 for Veterans. The recommend action would further reduce the fee for the Veterans Annual Pass to \$10 regardless of residency.

Community Services intends to bring a complete list of proposed Parks fee adjustments to the Park Commission in early 2019. However, this fee reduction has been fast tracked to make the new pass available prior to Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2018, and to broaden eligibility for the pass.

The California State Parks Distinguished Veteran Pass is issued by California State Parks but is only available to Veterans who meet certain criteria. In early 2018, the Federal Veteran’s Administration (VA) began issuing the VA Veterans ID card as a way for Veterans who have a discharge of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) to show proof of service. The new Veterans ID card is available to a much wider population of Veterans, and County Parks will now be accepting either card in honor of our Veterans’ service. In order to purchase the County Parks Veterans Annual Pass the purchaser shall show the Veterans ID Card or the Distinguished Veteran Pass at time of purchase. The Parks Annual Pass allows unlimited day use access to Jalama Beach and Cachuma Lake Recreation Area for the period for which the Annual Pass is issued.

California State Parks offers free day use to Veterans who are eligible for their Distinguished Veteran Pass, and this proposal will align more closely with State Parks while opening the program to all Veterans and not only those with California or County residency.

No other changes to the existing fee schedule are proposed at this time.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The following adjustment is proposed to the current Parks use fee structure:

<b>Park Veteran’s Annual Pass</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
County Resident	\$50	\$10
Non-resident	\$60	\$10

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Parks Annual Pass revenue changes due to the Veterans fee reduction is expected to be partially offset by additional sales at Jalama and Cachuma Lake concessionaires and other in-park facility use fees.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send a copy of the signed resolution to the Community Services Department, Attention: Natasha Garduno.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Resolution