



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: March 6, 2012  
Placement: Set Hearing  
Estimated Tme: 10 minutes on April 3,  
2012 on Dept. Agenda  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Herman Parker, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Brian Roney, Community Services Deputy Director (805) 568-2461

**SUBJECT:** Amendments to Chapter 26 of the County Code – Set Hearing

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors set hearing to consider recommendations regarding amendments to Chapter 26 of the County Code, as follows:

- a) Consider the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance amending Chapter 26 of the County Code on April 3, 2012 to clarify various uses at County Parks and adopt new uses at Cachuma Lake Recreation Area consistent with the Resource Management Plan recently completed by the Bureau of Reclamation;
- b) Set hearing for April 10, 2012 on the Administrative Agenda to consider the adoption (second reading) of an Ordinance amending Chapter 26 of the County Code; and
- c) Upon adoption, approve a Notice of Exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3), finding that the Ordinance is not subject to CEQA because of the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and further find that there is no possibility that the enactment of the Ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The recommended actions will provide needed updates to Chapter 26 of the County Code. The proposed changes provide clarification regarding enforcement ability on a variety of issues that include dogs off leash, boating safety, and Department title changes.

The proposed changes to Chapter 26 will amend the Department title from “Parks Department” to the “Community Services Department.” It will change the staff titles throughout the document from “Parks” to “Community Services,” which is consistent with the new Departmental restructuring. In addition, language has been added to Chapter 26, which ensures that dogs must be leashed unless in designated off-leash areas. The proposed changes also include boating and safety enforcement rules and regulations, which include safety equipment, vessel operation and vessel sea worthiness. These additions are consistent with California State Boating Laws and are required in order for County staff to ensure the safety of visitors.

**Background:**

The County operates and maintains 67 parks and various open spaces and preserves. The County is obligated to maintain a safe and enjoyable environment for our visitors. Chapter 26 is designated as the section of the County Code, which authorizes and empowers department staff to enforce various rules and regulations including the authority to issue citations and evict uncooperative visitors from County operated and maintained property. The majority of the changes include adding boating safety so our Ranger staff has the necessary tools to ensure our customers are safe during their visit. These consist of required safety equipment such as adequate number of life jackets on board the vessel. The dog off leash section addresses the ability to restrict dogs at Ocean Beach and Guadalupe Dunes due to Snowy Plover issues. Lastly, it modifies address, title and department name, to reflect the change from Parks to the new Community Services Department.

The proposed changes to Chapter 26 of the County Code do not entail any physical changes and therefore have no potential to have any effect on the environment. As defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3), CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and therefore does not apply to this action, as there is no possibility that the enactment of the Ordinance changes may have a significant effect on the environment.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There is no operational impact to the proposed Ordinance changes.

Budgeted: N/A

There are no negative impacts associated with the proposed changes in terms of additional costs to the Department. However, it is possible additional revenue may be generated to offset the cost of enforcing sections listed in Chapter 26. The changes in boating sections will allow staff to better implement boating and safety enforcement at Lake Cachuma, allowing for visitors to have a more enjoyable recreation experience.

**Special Instructions:**

After the March 6, 2012 Hearing direct the Clerk of the Board to:

1. Publish the a Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code (publish within 10 days) in the Santa Barbara Daily Sound and the Santa Maria Times; and
2. Send a copy of the minute order and a signed copy of the Notice of Public Hearing to the Community Services Department office, attn: Jessica Rauch.

**Authored by:**

Brian Roney, Deputy Director