



**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: August 23rd , 2016
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: NA
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Department Director
Director(s) (805) 568-2467
Contact Info: Paddy Langlands, Community Services Department Deputy Director
(805) 568-2475

SUBJECT: Open House Day at Cachuma Lake

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

- a) Authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to select up to four days per fiscal year to waive day use and parking fees to allow visitors free entry into Cachuma Lake for promotional purposes; and
- b) Determine that the above recommended action is not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the action is a creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involved any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment 1).

Summary Text:

Pursuant to Santa Barbara County Code section 26-5, the Director of the Community Services Department recommends that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to waive day use and parking fees for up to four times per year to allow the public free entrance to Cachuma Lake for the purposes of an Open House to promote the park, its recreational activities, amenities and general use. The fee-free day does not include boat entrance, boat launches, tent, recreational vehicle, cabin, or yurt overnight stays.

Background:

The County Parks Division operates the Cachuma Lake Recreation Area, which includes 500 tent camping and RV camping sites, plus cabins and yurts for overnight stays. Cachuma Lake is the only fresh water body in the County available for fishing and boating. Recreational activities at the park include the Neal Taylor Nature Center, a large day use area with views of the lake, full service marina and tackle shop with boats and fishing gear for rent, year-round guided nature cruises, nature hikes, boating, wildlife viewing, hiking trails, a newly remodeled conference and meeting center, general store, seasonal access to swimming pools and a soon to open Marina Café.

The Open House will provide the public an opportunity to visit the park to learn about the facilities, amenities and programs that are available year-round. Parks staff will be on hand to guide the visitors and explain the numerous visitation options. The Open House will include special programming intended to be advertised within the Tri-Counties through newspapers, social media, Visitor Bureaus, Chambers of Commerce, and radio/television if possible.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Based on the last two years' "day use" visitation numbers, it is estimated that the Cachuma Lake Open House will result in an approximately \$350.00 loss in regular revenue per free day use. However, it is anticipated that any potential shortfall would be replaced in the short--term by increased concessionaire sales and long-term revenue increases in visitors and visitor services.

Special Instructions:

Send a copy of the minute order to the Community Services Department, Attention: Natasha Garduno, Community Services (805) 568-2467.

Attachments:

1. CEQA Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Paddy Langlands, Community Services Department Deputy Director (805) 568-2475.