Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

GENERAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY UPDATE
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON ISSUES AND PROJECTS
NOVEMBER 2026

TO: **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

FROM: **MATHEW FUZIE, GENERAL MANAGER**

The information contained in this report is intended to help keep the Board of Directors informed on current projects and study issues. Reported below is the most current and available information. Since work on these items is ongoing, the information is subject to rapid change. If a project or issue has not changed from the previous month's report, the information provided may be the same as was previously reported. Please note that some projects are not directed at or managed by LARPD, but they are included below as informational only.

GENERAL SUMMATION

October flew by like The Great Pumpkin! The District office was decorated by staff in preparation for the annual Trick-or-Treat visit from our preschoolers. Staff always have fun thinking of new ways to celebrate and bring some fun into the workplace.

This month, we held our employee luncheon, followed by a Board meeting. Thank you to all the Directors who attended the luncheon.

Following the election, we will welcome one new Board member. Welcome, Larry Bird! David Furst, our longtime Board Director, will be leaving us at the end of his term in December. Thank you, David, for your service and dedication.

November is going to be very busy. We anticipate one regular meeting and at least two special meetings to wrap up this Board's work.

Trails Update:

Trail	Project	Current Status	Next Milestone
T1	Cayetano Creek Trail	LARPD received an offer for a trail easement associated with the Aramis Solar Project's environmental mitigation requirements.	Staff will meet with the Aramis project team in November to discuss next steps.
T6-E1/E2	Las Colinas Trail (Arroyo Las Positas Trail)	Design complete.	Construction anticipated April 2027.
T10-B	South Livermore Valley Trail	Cemex began construction on its portion of the trail in October.	Construction underway.
T11	Shadow Cliffs to Del Valle Trail	Stakeholder coordination underway with the City of Livermore, Zone 7 Water Agency, and adjacent property owners.	Continue trail alignment coordination.

T13	Arroyo Road Trail	The City of Livermore's final design is 95% complete. Alameda County is restarting work on its proposed Dry Creek bridge project along Arroyo Road. Coordination between the two projects has resumed among LARPD, the City, County, and adjacent property owners to align project planning and implementation.	Design completion anticipated January 2027; trail construction anticipated April 2027.
T19	El Charro / Arroyo Mocho Trail	Design and permitting complete.	Construction anticipated summer 2027.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In October, Board Members attended two regular board meetings, four standing committee meetings, a luncheon before the October 28 board meeting, the Alan Frank Community Room ribbon cutting on October 27, and the Livermore Chamber of Commerce Wine Country – State of the State luncheon on October 29. Additionally, members of the Board of Directors have joined meetings at the following:

- Alameda County Special Districts Association
- Alameda County Agricultural Subcommittee on Trails
- LARPD/EBRPD Liaison Committee
- LARPD Foundation
- Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Alliance

Board actions for the month included:

- Resolution 2853: Approved amendments to the Conflict of Interest Code.
- Approved the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 audit.
- Approved the sale of surplus assets.

Upcoming Board Schedule: (All meeting locations are held at 4444 East Avenue, Livermore, unless otherwise noted.)

a. Facilities Committee Meeting: November 17, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., West Conference Room
b. Program Committee Meeting: November 18, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., West Conference Room
c. Regular Board Meeting: November 18, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., Sycamore Room

HUMAN RESOURCES

Notable Transitions: October brought several meaningful transitions across the District. Community Services Manager Jill Kirk is preparing for retirement, and longtime Parks employee Scott Hill is also concluding many years of dedicated service. We thank Jill and Scott for their contributions and wish them the absolute best in this next chapter.

Benefits and Open Enrollment: Chelynn Watkins developed a comprehensive Benefits Guide that also clarified leave and benefits policies. Open enrollment is well positioned to begin in November with a new benefits broker and new supplemental benefits providers. The transition is designed to be seamless for employees while reducing District costs and administrative processing time. The behind-the-scenes configuration needed to prepare UKG for benefit elections is also complete.

Recruitment: Jessie Masingale continues to keep recruitment and core HR processes moving efficiently. The District currently has eight open requisitions, primarily in Youth Services. As part of ongoing recruitment efforts, Jessie attended the Livermore High School Fall Job Fair with Rachel Shelnut and Candace Rho, where they connected with numerous high school students (150+) to share information about employment opportunities at LARPD and encourage interest in joining the District.



Parks Leadership: Parks continues to expand thoughtfully, recently promoting two Field Supervisors, Michael Garza and Eric Morales, through the District's internal talent pipeline. Field Supervisors dedicate approximately 30% of their time to administrative responsibilities while maintaining field workloads and providing direct support to staff.

Systems and Workforce Analytics: Thank you to Amber Maugeri for advancing the implementation of Workforce Analytics and Bryte AI. These tools connect with our HR system and data to strengthen reporting, benchmarking, and workforce insights. They are also expected to make it easier for employees to find answers in uploaded District documents, particularly for common questions about benefits and policy.

Employee Reviews and Development: Employee reviews are wrapping up. The process began in early October with self-assessments from all benefited employees, followed by manager comments and feedback. Beyond documenting performance, the review process helps identify meaningful development priorities and focus areas for the District in the coming year.

FINANCE

FY25-26 Year-End Results: The District increased its General Fund balance by $1,118,158 during FY25-26. A portion of this increase has already been allocated, including the $101,197 trust donation deposited into a reserve account for Sycamore Grove and $145,669 in interest income allocated directly to the District's reserve accounts. Staff plans to recommend allocating the remaining $871,292 as follows: $273,989 to the ESS Reserve, representing the department's year-end surplus, and $597,303 to the Deferred Maintenance Reserve. Staff will bring the formal recommendation to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

September Financials: Preliminary financial results for September show the District is slightly behind budget, with a negative net operating variance of $69,345 (2%). Results were impacted by approximately $102k in equipment purchased for a cybersecurity grant project during September, for which reimbursement has not yet been received.

- **Total Revenues:** $3.470 million, approximately $132k (4%) below budget. This includes lower-than-budgeted operating revenues, partially offset by higher tax revenues.
- **Salary & Benefits:** $4.179 million, about 2% below budget.

- **Services & Supplies:** $2.693 million, approximately 2% below budget. These expenditures include the $102k in equipment purchased for the cybersecurity grant project, with reimbursement still pending.
- **Operating Capital:** Year-to-date expenditures remain at $56,834, as there were no operating capital purchases during the month of September.

Bottom Line: The District's net operating results reflect a $69,345 negative variance to budget through September. Savings in Salary & Benefits and Services & Supplies have helped offset the impact of lower-than-budgeted revenues and unbudgeted operating capital expenditures. The pending reimbursement for the cybersecurity grant equipment purchase will help offset project costs once received.

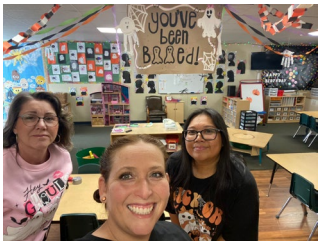
COMMUNITY SERVICES & RECREATION

Youth Services

ESS: ESS enrollment totaled 614 children in October; with November enrollment projected at 645 children and a December enrollment goal of 705 children. Newly hired staff have expanded capacity, enabling enrollment increases at nearly every ESS program. Programs implemented several special events throughout October and have additional events planned for November. These activities include participation in school Trunk or Treat events, Parents' Night Out, Spooky Carnival, Día de los Muertos celebration, and an annual soup cook-off.

Our ESS coordinators and Assistant Site Coordinators had a networking meeting/training that focused on full-day programming, rainy days, or spare-the-air days. Since high temperatures continued into our early release days during the 2 weeks of conferences, the information shared at this meeting will be beneficial on future days like these, when our outside time is limited. The specific items discussed were attention getters, group area games, indoor group games, long-term curriculum activities, and team-building activities.

Preschool: Our preschool programs participated in activities that included corn, pumpkins, fall leaves, and farm animals. These tied in well with their annual pumpkin patch field trip to our local Joan's Pumpkin Patch. Families also got to participate in animal feeding, rides, and some storytelling. Some of our Early Explorers classes even had the pumpkin patch brought to them! LARPD parks staff picked up a crate of pumpkins and hay bales from Livermore Feed & Farm Supply to set up our own pumpkin patch at Jane Addams. All our preschoolers participated in a parade, trick-or-treating, a party, or a combination of each. Big shout-out to our RLCC staff and Recreation Department for putting on our annual trick-or-treating through the East and West Wings for our Poppy Room classroom.







Senior Services:
This month's Movie Madness Mondays featured "9 to 5" with Dolly Parton and Dennis Quaid in the inspiring film "The Long Game," based on true events.

On October 14th, sixteen seniors saw the riveting film, "The Social Reckoning," for our Mystery Movie at the Vine. They enjoyed a delicious, happy hour buffet at Stampede Grill afterward.

Seniors trekked to the Sierra Foothills on October 29th to experience lunch, handmade craft shopping, and "all things apple" at High Hill Ranch in Apple Hill. The 53 seniors then spent time at the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary with local docents leading tours through the lovely, expansive grounds.

On October 2nd at the monthly crafting social, 24 guests made their own Fall décor, starting with free-standing pumpkin-shaped baskets and whimsical embellishments to welcome the season.

Thanks to the Museum on Main and the Pleasanton Firehouse, a group of our local history buffs attended another impressive Chautauqua performance depicting the life of Audrey Hepburn, adored actress of the 50s and 60s.

For 28 Livermore history buffs, Heritage Guild docent Susan Canfield once again led the Downtown Livermore Historical Walk. These informative walks are always a hit and full of local history.

Registration for the November Hilmar Cheese Co. & Duarte's Poinsettia Trip took place at the end of this month. It was another one-day sellout crowd excited to enjoy lunch and the Cheese tour, with a finale of poinsettia shopping in the vast Duarte greenhouses.

LARPD staff enjoyed an enjoyable afternoon with the Board on October 28th, as they were treated to a luncheon. It was an excellent opportunity to watch our esteemed Special District governing action.

In October, a total of 281 adults/seniors registered for classes and programs.

Community Outreach

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan Update: The public review period for the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan and associated environmental document closed on October 15. Staff is completing final revisions based on comments received from community members, partner agencies, and other stakeholders, with the goal of presenting the final document to the Board of Directors on November 18 for consideration of approval.

Staff also initiated AB 52 Tribal Consultation in October, with ongoing coordination anticipated throughout the planning process and, as appropriate, during future project implementation. Additionally, staff met with several community groups and stakeholders to gather final feedback before bringing the Master Plan back to the Board.

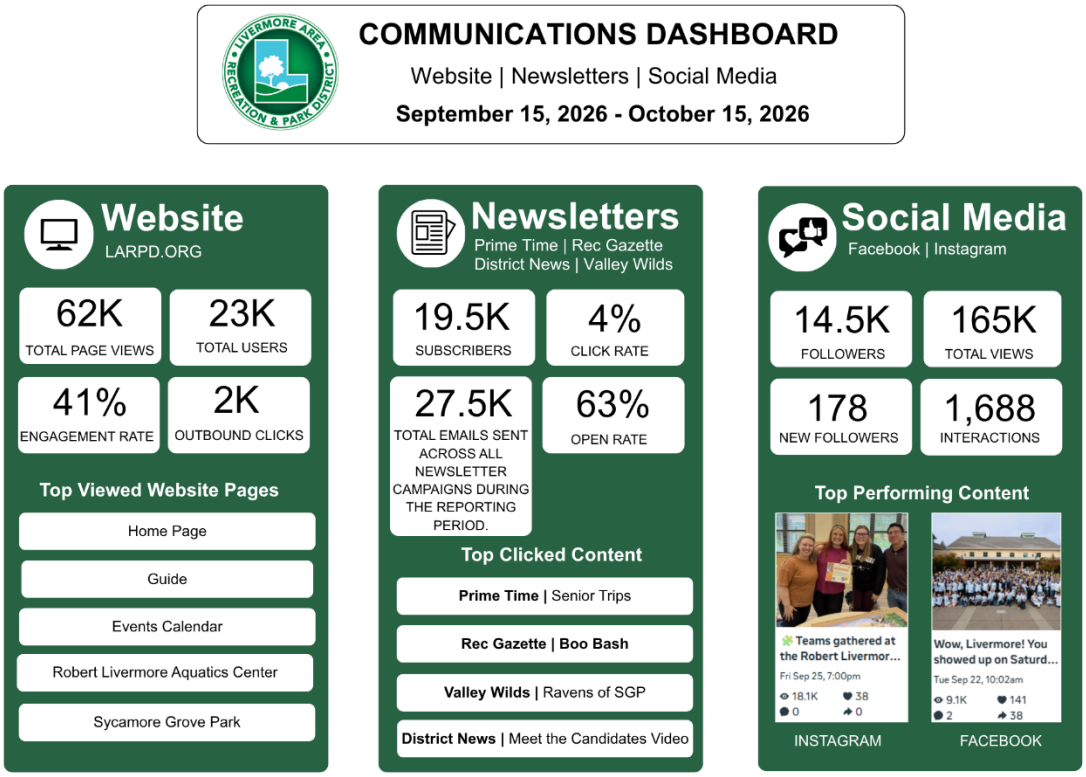
LARPD Foundation: The LARPD Foundation is preparing for its fall membership event on Saturday, November 14, in partnership with the Livermore Heritage Guild. The event will feature a tour of historic homes in downtown Livermore, followed by an ice cream social at Meadowlark Dairy. The Foundation is also preparing to launch its fall membership drive in November to encourage continued community support for its programs and initiatives.

Senior Meal Program: As part of LARPD's ongoing senior nutrition partnership, Open Heart Kitchen served 523 meals to 57 seniors in October and 524 meals to 50 seniors in September.

Community Outreach: The Community Outreach team worked across departments to prepare the Winter/Spring Recreation Guide, which is scheduled to be released online Wednesday, November 23, at

www.larpd.org/guide. Staff is also coordinating with the City of Livermore on the ribbon cutting for Springtown Community Park and Disc Golf Course, scheduled for Saturday, November 7th ribbon-cutting

LARPD's communications channels continued to reach residents through the District's website, newsletters, and social media. Between September 15 and October 15, the District's website recorded approximately 23,000 users and 62,000 page views, while social media content generated 165,000 views. The District also sent approximately 27,500 emails across its newsletter campaigns, with an average open rate of 63%. Additional communications metrics and highlights are provided in the accompanying dashboard.



Data sources: Google Analytics 4, Constant Contact, Streamline and Meta Business Suite

Upcoming Events

- November 2 – Holiday Donation Drive Begins
- November 3 – Golden Circle Holiday Boutique
- November 7 – Springtown Community Park and Disc Golf Ribbon Cutting
- November 7 – Native Garden Workday
- November 8 – Ravenswood Docent Tours
- November 9 – Native Gardening for Families
- November 11 – Veterans Day (LARPD Offices Closed)
- November 15 – LARPD Foundation Fall Membership Event
- November 17 – Crafting Social (50+)
- November 18 – LARPD Board of Directors Meeting
- November 21 – Kids Night Out: Glow Night
- November 23 – Adaptive Recreation Camp
- November 23 – Thanksgiving Break Camp
- November 25 – Livermore Youth Council Turkey Trot

- November 26 – Thanksgiving Holiday (LARPD Offices Closed)
- November 28 – Ho Ho Ho Holiday Carnival
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For more information on these events and additional District activities, visit www.larpd.org/events.

Sports Facility Rentals: The fall sports season wraps up by mid-November, when all grass fields close for offseason maintenance. Fields are expected to reopen in February or March.

Information Technology: This month, Information Technology balanced foundational user support with key infrastructure milestones, successfully transitioning recent planning into active deployment and facility improvements across the District.

Key Accomplishments & Initiatives:

- **Internal IT Help Desk Adoption:** The newly launched internal IT ticketing system successfully went live and operational, with employees submitting 36 tickets to date. This centralized platform has streamlined issue tracking and enhanced support responsiveness across all departments.
- **SD-WAN Project Milestone:** The Information Technology department completed the first physical installation for the Software-Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) project at the Robert Livermore Community Center (RLCC), marking a major step forward in establishing direct, secure connectivity across all District sites ahead of the upcoming Cyber Security Grant expiration.
- **Cross-Departmental Project Management:** Successfully finalized and completed the office move project, optimizing current workspace layouts and supporting long-term operational efficiency.

Open Space



Programs/Events:

- Open Space continues to have a steady stream of **in-class and field trip school programs.**
- Volunteers and visitors had a lot of fun and some good scares while walking the grounds of Ravenswood Historic Site for **Sycamore Scares**. Friday had sign-ups for every group except for 6:00 PM, and Saturday was completely sold out.
- October saw **3 partnership programs with Livermore Public Libraries.** Thoughtful Fire & Prosperous People was held for all ages on the afternoon of Sunday, October 11th at the Civic Center Library. 30+ attendees joined Naturalist Candace Rho to learn about human history, including common human ancestors (hominins) from millions of years ago; how global environmental conditions and megafauna shaped the lives of early humans; the complex relationship between hominins and fire; and Indigenous uses of fire. On Saturday, October 3rd, teens met with Field Supervising Park Ranger Seth Eddings and Librarian Molly O'Donnell at Sycamore Grove Park to learn the art of campfire storytelling. Teen attendees all took turns telling their scary stories to the crowd before sharing s'mores around the fire.

- Naturalist Candace hosted the **Livermore High School (LHS) Field Biology Class for their 2nd Annual Field Trip to Sycamore Grove Park** on October 22. To connect with their recent bird unit, the field trip highlighted local birds and investigations into specimens and taxidermy. A professional falconer educated the group on falconry, his birds, and other bird-related topics such as the avian flu before allowing everyone to become a perch and let one of his raptors stand on their forearm.
- As with every Fall, **photography use in the park** has seen an uptick. Administrative staff continue to help commercial photographers purchase photo permits, while ranger staff enforce park rules and sell day-of permits on busy weekends.

Park Updates/Natural Resource Management:

- As a **potentially historic El Niño winter storm season** approaches, Open Space is preparing for erosion, trail damage, fallen trees, and flood releases from Del Valle Reservoir. Staff are reviewing or receiving training on flood-release procedures, including partial or full park closures, trail closures, and damage documentation. Potential proactive measures are under evaluation..
- **Sycamore Sapling Monitoring**: The last major floods occurred in winter 2022/23, when they also led to notable recruitment of Western sycamores. Natural Resource Technician Justin Emery, with support from ranger staff, has monitored these recruits and is completing a survey to assess this winter's impacts on the saplings.
- The parking fee machine at the Wetmore Entrance to Sycamore Grove Park went down in mid-October and has remained out of service as of 10/29. Staff is awaiting a replacement part from the manufacturer.

Volunteers: With the cooler weather, **Native Garden Work Days & Open Space Work Days** have returned. Volunteers helped reset both the Wetmore and Arroyo Native Gardens for the rainy season, pruning back shrubs and spreading mulch. Volunteers also worked with Ranger Ginger Gonzalez to remove invasive plants from secondary channels at Sycamore Grove.

A huge thank you to the wonderful volunteers who participated in Sycamore Scares. About 30 incredible volunteers joined each night, many returning from previous years.

Staff Updates & Development:

- Open Space **staff visited Brushy Peak** to familiarize new staff with the site and build the team.
- Natural Resource Technician Justin Emery participated in the **California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) Symposium**, attending workshops and presentations on up-to-date best practices from experts and researchers.

Upcoming:

- November programs will include the HO HO Holiday Carnival, an overnight campout at Sycamore Grove Park for tweens and teens, and public tours of Brushy Peak Regional Preserve.
- Open Space Interpreters Eric Whiteside and Christine Cardosi will attend the **National Association for Interpretation National Conference** in Oakland in early November.
- Open Space Interpreter Christine is collaborating with Anne Giancola with Livermore Valley Arts to run a handful of educational programs in November connecting the current **Great Elephant Migration** display in downtown with local California conservation stories.
- Open Space will hold the **Parking Pass Pre-sale** during the last weekend in November.

September & October Snapshot: Provided 101 programs and rentals to the community, with a total of 3,127 participants.

Aquatics

Lap Swim: 33 pass holders made 135 visits, and we sold 561 drop-in units.
Water Exercise: 22 pass holders made 124 visits, and we sold 144 drop-in units.
Adult Water Polo: 0 pass holders made 0 visits, and we sold 6 drop-in units.

Evening lap swim returned Monday, November 9 to RLAC and May Nissen opened for LAC's swim practice that same day.

Facility Rentals & Operations: We held our staff luncheon and board meeting at the end of October, as well as the Chamber of Commerce's State of the State event. The holiday season has begun, with several organizations holding company gatherings. Photo permits are popular out at Ravenswood.

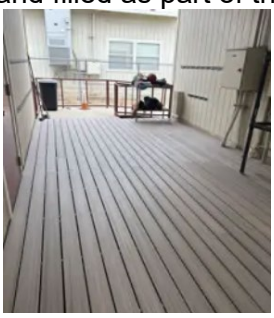
PARKS, FACILITIES, and MAINTENANCE

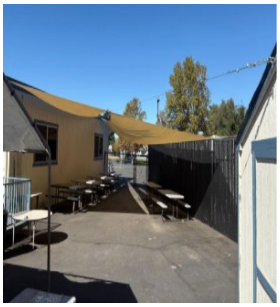


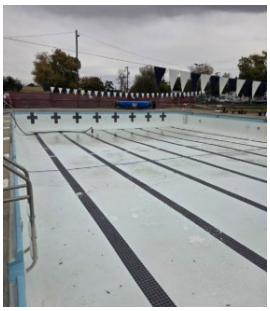
Parks: Park staff assisted Recreation Maintenance with cleaning the pickleball courts in preparation for the upcoming tournament. Stabilizer was applied along Wetmore Trail to help maintain trail conditions. Staff performed ongoing trash cleanup at picnic rental areas to keep the facilities clean and presentable. Inspections and labor-hour calculations were also conducted to assess maintenance needs for the new Springtown Park and golf course.



Facilities: Repairs were completed on the drinking fountain at Summit Park to ensure proper operation. The center deck at Jackson ESS was replaced, and shade sails were installed to provide additional shade for visitors. The large pool at May Nissen was drained and filled as part of the repair process.









Maintenance: Transported 5 Dodge trucks to Dealership for recalls; installed 4 new tires on Trailer #15; performed vehicle inspection and tire rotation on 27BQ4Q; installed spray rig onto Gator cart E094.

Total equipment serviced/repaired: 27 pieces of various types.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Fuzie
General Manager

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