



Livermore Area
Recreation and Park District
An independent special district

**GENERAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY UPDATE
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON ISSUES AND PROJECTS
OCTOBER 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

September was highlighted by continued progress on several major District initiatives. The Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan and Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) are currently in a 30-day public review period, which closes October 15. The environmental document has also been submitted to the State Clearinghouse, and staff continue to coordinate with partner agencies and Tribal representatives as part of the review process. Staff anticipates bringing the Master Plan and environmental document to the Board on October 28 for consideration of adoption.

The District is also nearing completion of the FY 2025-26 year-end audit process. Extensive preparation by Finance staff allowed a smooth on-site fieldwork visit, with the final audit anticipated coming before the Board on October 28. The Information Technology team also continue to make progress on the District's technology infrastructure, with hardware procurement and site planning completed for the district-wide network connectivity project and deployment expected to begin across District locations.

September also demonstrated the value of partnerships and volunteerism throughout the community. LARPD partnered with the City of Livermore and LVJUSD for Community Service Day, which brought together 517 volunteers to complete twenty-five projects throughout Livermore, including seven LARPD project sites. LARPD also hosted a Coastal Cleanup project that same day, giving residents another opportunity to support stewardship of local parks and open space. The inaugural season of the Livermore Community Soccer League is also in full swing, with early feedback indicating the program is striking its intended balance between player development and recreation while providing a positive experience for local youth and families.

Trails Update:

Trail	Project	Current Status	Next Milestone
T6-E1/E2	Las Colinas Trail (Arroyo Las Positas Trail)	Design complete.	Construction anticipated April 2027.

T10-B	South Livermore Valley Trail	Design complete.	Construction anticipated Spring 2027
T11	Shadow Cliffs to Del Valle Trail	Staff met with Zone 7 Water Agency to begin coordination on the planned Conveyance System Project and identify opportunities to incorporate the future trail alignment.	Continue alignment coordination.
T13	Arroyo Road Trail	Final design (95%) underway.	Design completion anticipated January 2027; construction anticipated April 2027.
T19	El Charro / Arroyo Mocho Trail	Design and permitting complete.	Construction anticipated Summer 2027.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In September, Board members attended two regular board meetings and four standing committee meetings. 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 Foundation
- Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Alliance

Board actions for the month included:

- Resolution 2851 - authorized the Board Chair to sign a Conflict of Interest Waiver identified by the Renne Public Law Group
- Resolution 2852 - supporting the acquisition of the Wente Ranch Property.

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

- Personnel Committee Meeting: October 12, 2026, West Conference Room
- Regular Board Meeting: October 14, 2026, Sycamore Room
- Program Committee Meeting: October 14, 2026, West Conference Room
- Facilities Committee Meeting: October 20, 2026, West Conference Room
- Regular Board Meeting & Employee Luncheon: October 28, 2026, Cresta Blanca Ballroom
- Finance Committee Meeting: November 2, 2026, West Conference Room

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources and IT brought managers and supervisors together on September 24 to discuss the project topics highlighted below. The training supported consistent leadership practices, stronger employee support, and more efficient District operations.

Workers' Compensation & Return to Work: Chelynn Watkins is developing a streamlined return-to-work process that focuses on taking action within the first 48 hours after an injury and supporting employees in returning safely and promptly when able.

Benefits & Open Enrollment: Open enrollment planning is underway. By changing brokers for several benefits, LARPD expects to achieve District savings and make benefits easier for employees to navigate and use.

Employee Performance Reviews: Employee reviews launched September 25. All benefited employees will complete a self-evaluation and receive a review from their direct supervisor by October 30, 2026.

Human Resources Technology: The District's new applicant tracking system is now live within the existing human resources information system. This upgrade will reduce employee-record errors and move Human Resources toward one centralized source for employee data.

Recruitment & Team Capacity: Recruitment remains active, with nine positions currently open. New Human Resources Technician Jessie Masingale is already strengthening recruitment efforts. Jessie and Chelynn represented LARPD at the Tri-Valley Job Fair on September 24, expanding the District's visibility with prospective candidates.

FINANCE

FY25-26 Year-End Audit: District auditors completed their on-site field work in one day on September 9, rather than the two days scheduled, due to extensive preparation by accounting staff. Staff are reviewing the financial reports for the final audit report, which is scheduled for Finance Committee discussion in October and Board approval on October 28.

August Financials: Preliminary financial results for August show the District is performing slightly ahead of budget, with a favorable net operating variance of \$16,618.

- **Total Revenues:** \$2.062 million, approximately \$101k (5%) below budget.
- **Salary & Benefits:** \$2.949 million, about 2% below budget.
- **Services & Supplies:** \$1.769 million, approximately 7% below budget.
- **Operating Capital:** Year-to-date expenditures remain at \$56,834, as there were no operating capital purchases during the month of August.

Bottom Line: The District is \$16,618, or 1%, favorable to budget through August, as savings in Salary & Benefits and Services & Supplies continue to offset lower-than-budgeted revenues and an unbudgeted operating capital purchase.

Budget 101 Training: Finance staff held a Budget 101 Training course on September 1 for supervisors, managers, and coordinators. The training covered the District's budget process, staff responsibilities, purchasing, budget monitoring, and revenue management, and received positive feedback from participants.

COMMUNITY SERVICES & RECREATION

Youth Services

ESS: On September 21, Youth Services Coordinators and Assistant Site Coordinators attended a networking meeting at Jackson ESS focused on CA State Licensing. Staff reviewed key licensing topics, completed a mock site visit, and shared information and best practices. The information will be made available to site staff for ongoing training. ESS is also working to increase enrollment at multiple sites.

Youth Services and Adaptive also worked together to provide centerpieces, table runners, and a craft for the Morale Committee's Fall Get Together at Ravenswood



Preschool: Preschool children have been learning about the transition from summer to fall, including fall colors and apples. Activities have included tasting and comparing apples, painting, reading, and singing. Children have also fully adjusted to their classrooms and daily schedules.

Senior Services:

Movies: This month's Monday movie was *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, starring Tom Hanks as Mr. Rogers. Only one movie was shown due to the Labor Day holiday. Fourteen guests also attended the Mystery Movie at the Vine on September 10, followed by a buffet at Stampede Grill.

Sausalito Trip: Fifty-three seniors traveled to Sausalito on September 24 for a day of shopping and dining before taking the ferry to the San Francisco Embarcadero and visiting the SF Farmers Market.



Crafting Social: Twenty-four guests participated in a fresh flower arranging activity on September 11, creating petite arrangements featuring roses and spider mums, topped with a miniature American flag.

Chautauqua: Local history enthusiasts attended another Chautauqua performance featuring the life of Elizabeth Packard, a key figure in the early women's rights movement and mental health reform.

Line Dancing: More than 70 guests attended the September 16 line dancing social, showcasing dances learned through LARPD classes and enjoying refreshments sponsored by PACE Center for Elders' Independence.

Upcoming Trip: Registration for the October Apple Hill/Folsom Zoo trip took place September 30 and quickly sold out, with guests looking forward to lunch, apple country treats, and a visit to the Zoo Sanctuary.

For the month of September, a total of 348 adult/seniors registered for classes and programs.

Community Outreach

Community Outreach: The Community Outreach team launched a redesigned Rec Gazette in September, creating a more streamlined monthly newsletter focused on recreation programs and opportunities. The new format saw immediate results, with a 74% open rate and 9.8% click rate, increases of 12.4% and 3.8%, respectively, compared with the previous nine campaigns. More broadly, LARPD's communications channels continued to see strong engagement during the month, with approximately 40,000 website users, 25,000 emails sent, and 183,000 social media views.

To pair with monthly newsletters, staff created new one-page print pieces for the Rec Gazette, Prime Time, and Valley Wilds, giving visitors at the Robert Livermore Community Center and other facilities an easy way to access LARPD's monthly digital communications. Community Outreach Coordinator II Andrea

McGovern also completed her Google Analytics certification to help the team analyze website traffic and how LARPD's various communications channels work together.

LARPD partnered with the City of Livermore and LVJUSD for the annual Community Service Day on September 19. Registration, Mayor's welcome, and the volunteer breakfast were hosted at the Robert Livermore Community Center before 517 volunteers headed to 25 projects throughout Livermore, including seven LARPD project sites.

Staff also distributed a press release highlighting the results of LARPD's 2026 Diaper Drive in partnership with Hively, which collected nearly 8,000 diapers to support local children and families.

Senior Meal Program: As part of LARPD's ongoing senior nutrition partnership, Open Heart Kitchen served 540 meals to fifty-five seniors in August.

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan Update: The Public Review Draft of the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan and the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) were released for a 30-day public review period beginning September 15. Staff also received comments from partner agencies and requests for Tribal Consultation pursuant to AB 52. Staff expects to present the final Master Plan and environmental document to the Board of Directors on October 28 for consideration of adoption.

Upcoming Events

- **10/10** – Explore Holdener Park with a Ranger
- **10/10** – Volunteer Garden Workday
- **10/11** – Ravenswood Docent Tours
- **10/11** – Thoughtful Fire and Prosperous People (LARPD and Livermore Public Library)
- **10/13** – EBRPD/LARPD Liaison Meeting
- **10/14** – LARPD Board of Directors Meeting
- **10/15** – Adaptive Adult and Teen Socials
- **10/16** – Sycamore Scares at Ravenswood Historic Site
- **10/17** – Kids Night Out: Costume Party
- **10/17** – Pumpkin Patch and Splash
- **10/18** – Puzzle Palooza
- **10/18** – Intro to Sourdough
- **10/21** – Planning In-Home Care
- **10/22** – Assistance with Medicare Changes
- **10/24** – Halloween Boo Bash and Sensory Boo Bash
- **10/25** – Creative Pumpkin Carving
- **10/28** – LARPD Board of Directors Meeting
- **10/29** – Apple Hill and Folsom Zoo Sanctuary (Senior Trip)

For more information on these events and to see additional events, please visit www.larpd.org/events.

Sports Facility Rentals

The District continues to be busy with grass and turf rentals. Fusion Soccer Club has games throughout town each weekend at May Nissen, Max Baer, Independence Park, Robertson, Altamont Creek, Bill Payne, and Sunset Park, and will host its Goals and Ghouls Tournament at Robertson Park on October 24 and 25.

LJFL ended its season on October 10 after hosting five home games at Robertson Park. Softball and baseball tournaments, travel ball teams, and local little leagues also continue to use fields at Ernie Rodrigues, Robert Livermore, Bill Payne, Max Baer, and Randy Johnson Field.

Tri-Valley Pickleball Club will host its annual Harvest Crush Tournament on October 17 and 18 at May Nissen Park and Livermore Downs

Information Technology

Building on the momentum of recent network and operational enhancements, Information Technology achieved key milestones across infrastructure modernization, employee support, and facility coordination this month.

Key Accomplishments & Initiatives:

- **SD-WAN Deployment Advances:** Procurement of required hardware is complete, and site lists have been finalized to prepare for deployment across all District locations ahead of the Cyber Security Grant expiration.
- **Internal IT Help Desk Launch:** IT officially launched the new internal ticketing system for all employees, streamlining issue tracking, improving support response times, and centralizing technology assistance across departments.
- **Intranet Knowledge Sharing:** Updated the District intranet with monthly employee tech tips, focusing this month on computer maintenance best practices and the importance of routine software updates.
- **Cross-Departmental Project Management:** Business Systems Supervisor Amber Maugeri expanded leadership duties to serve as Project Manager for office and storage space relocations at the Robert Livermore Community Center (RLCC), optimizing current facility footprint while planning for long-term growth.

Open Space

Programs/Events:

Sycamore Sprouts: Held five sessions at Sycamore Grove Park led by Interpretive Ranger Christine.

Sycamore Science Camp: Held twelve sessions at Sycamore Grove Park led by Interpretive Rangers Christine and Eric.

Roving Rangers: Held two sessions at Pleasanton Ridge and Pillar Point led by Ranger Danny and Naturalist Candance.

Junior Rangers: Held four sessions led by Ranger Danny, Naturalist Candace, and Interpretive Ranger Christine.

Ranger Explorers: Ranger Filbert and Naturalist Candace led a guided hike in Sunol Regional Wilderness.

Ranger Weekend Programs: Programs included Bears, Coyotes, Fall Bird Walk, Small but Mighty, a ranger-led hike, and Fall Flowers, led by District rangers and naturalists.

School Programs: Programs included two Water Flows sessions at Vintage Hills, an Invertebrates program at RSPA, and a CA Indians program.

Apple Fest: Interpretive Ranger Eric led Apple Fest at Ravenswood, with more than 400 attendees.

Blondie's Story: Local community member Vishal Subramanyan premiered his nature documentary about a Sycamore Grove Park bobcat named Blondie at the park amphitheater. Twenty-five guests attended.

UV Night Hike: Interpretive Ranger Christine partnered with the Livermore Library for a UV light night hike at Holdener Park.

Park Updates/Natural Resource Management:

Camp Shelly: Camp Shelly is closed for the off season, and Open Space closing time has moved to 7 p.m. Rangers, Open Space staff, and volunteers continue to remove invasive plants. Rangers also teamed up with Maintenance staff to chip fallen Sycamore trees, with the chips being repurposed as mulch in the native gardens.



Volunteers:

- **Eagle Scout Projects:** Two Scouts completed Eagle Scout projects this month. One built and installed two bee hotels to provide habitat for native Carpenter Bees, while another rebuilt four owl boxes and reinforced three more throughout Sycamore Grove Park.
- **Costal Clean Up Day:** Thirty volunteers participated in Coastal Cleanup Day at Robertson Park, removing trash from the Arroyo Mocho. Another 38 volunteers helped remove invasive plants along the Creek Trail at Sycamore Grove Park
- **Community volunteer day:** Ranger Ian and Naturalist Candace led the community volunteer day. They led 38 Volunteers from the community to remove invasive plants along the Creek Trail in Sycamore Grove Park.
- **Open Space Volunteer Day:** Two Open Space Volunteer Days were also held, including invasive weed removal with high school students and a BioBlitz to document species in the park.
- **Apple Fest:** Twenty volunteers supported Apple Fest.



Upcoming: October will feature several Halloween-themed programs, including Sycamore Scares, Fireside Stories, and Pumpkin Carving.

Rangers will also prepare Open Space parks for the wet season by improving trail drainage and repairing areas prone to standing water.

Residual Dry Matter (RDM) monitoring will evaluate grazing productivity in Upper Sycamore Grove.

Aquatics

Lap Swim: 30 pass holders made 183 visits, and we sold 688 drop-in units.

Water Exercise: 20 pass holders made 132 visits, and we sold 226 drop-in units.

Adult Water Polo: 13 pass holders made 43 visits, and we sold 27 drop-in units.

Rec Swim: 561 visits.

Fall swim Lessons: 65 registrants.

Facility Rentals & Operations

Several large events were held at District facilities in September. The Livermore Community Service Day kickoff was held at Cresta Blanca Ballroom, with the City coordinating volunteer check-in and the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department providing a pancake breakfast. The LARPD Board of Directors Candidate Forum was also held on September 21, featuring all seven candidates. Amos Productions and the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce livestreamed the event.

The Operations Team also welcomed a new Coordinator to provide leadership for the night crew and continue delivering excellent service for events held throughout the District.

PARKS, FACILITIES, and MAINTENANCE

Parks Department

Parks staff focused on preparing for Community Service Day by setting up volunteer work sites and providing the necessary tools, safety supplies, and materials. Volunteer projects included painting benches, litter pickup, raking mulch, and planting at six different parks.



Throughout the month, park maintenance crews also addressed broken branches, completed irrigation repairs, and performed routine pruning at various park locations to support the upkeep, safety, and appearance of the parks. Parks staff also focused on training new Park Technicians and Park Aides.



Sports field staff focused on baseball infield renovations at Ernie Rodrigues and Bill Payne, along with ongoing fertilization, overseeding, and routine maintenance across all sports fields. Staff also applied granular insecticide to help mitigate white grub activity in the fields. Event preparation for large reservation groups and tournaments; field preparation included striping fields for games using the new automated painting robot.

In addition, Ida Holm Park was added to the sports field mowing height standards and maintenance schedule to ensure consistent field care.

Facilities Maintenance

Facilities staff continued routine maintenance and upkeep at ESS sites and throughout District facilities. At all ESS locations, staff vacuumed AC and ceiling vents, installed SDS binders, completed semiannual building inspections, removed a non-operational water fountain at Arroyo Seco, and addressed routine repairs and safety hazards.

Other facility maintenance included building cabinet faces and doors for the Veterans Kitchen, replacing a push bar at the Recreation Building door, repairing non-working urinals and water fountains, securing the Cayetano dumpster to help prevent unauthorized and residential dumping, repairing a sidewalk safety hazard at the RLCC, and installing a water bottle refill dispenser.



Total equipment serviced/repared: 22 pieces of various types.

Respectfully submitted,

Mathew Fuzie
General Manager

MF/rvd

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