

**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: April 23, 2026

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

FROM: Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Update

Futures on the Field Event at Orange Memorial Park

The Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to share that the City of South San Francisco will be hosting *Futures on the Field – South San Francisco* on April 30, 2026, at the Orange Park Sports Complex, in partnership with the San Mateo County Futures Commission and Samoan Solutions. This collaboration is thanks to an introduction made by Councilmember Nicolas.

South San Francisco was selected to host this innovative youth-centered event. *Futures on the Field* transforms traditional sports fields into interactive learning environments that focus on youth mental health, leadership development, and community connection.

This free, day-long clinic will bring together youth, educators, and community leaders for a unique combination of activities, including soccer and rugby skills clinics, intergenerational community-building opportunities, and a hands-on Futures Design Challenge. Through these activities, participants will collaborate to develop youth-led ideas and solutions aimed at improving mental health outcomes and strengthening community well-being.

A key component of the event is that it is co-created and led by youth, providing participants with opportunities to build resilience, strengthen leadership skills, and engage in peer-to-peer learning. Participants will also have the opportunity to contribute ideas that may help inform future policy and programming at the local and county level.

The event is open to youth and community members across South San Francisco, San Bruno, and Millbrae, with transportation support available for participating schools. Food and additional resources will be provided, and all experience levels are welcome.

Staff is excited to partner on this effort and bring this impactful program to the community. This event aligns with the City's ongoing commitment to youth development, mental health awareness, and inclusive community engagement.

Mental Health Awareness Film Screening: Before the Moon Falls

The Parks and Recreation Department is also partnering on a film screening with Samoan Solutions to further advance mental health awareness efforts, particularly within the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

As part of this collaboration, the Department will host a free public screening of the documentary *Before the Moon Falls* on the evening of June 5, 2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center Council Chambers. This event will include a discussion with the film's director, Kimberlee Bassford, and will mark the film's first tour of community showings outside of traditional theater settings.

Before the Moon Falls is an intimate portrait of acclaimed Samoan writer Sia Figiel. The film offers an in-depth and thought-provoking look at Sia's tumultuous journey and crisis, illuminating the complexities of inconsistently treated mental illness and the devastating toll it can exact on individuals, families and entire communities. The film has received the following awards and honors:

- Winner - Best Feature, 2026 DOCUTAH International Film Festival
- Winner - Grand Jury Prize, 2026 Festival International du Film documentaire Océanien (FIFO)
- Winner - Best Made in Hawaii Feature - 2025 Hawaii International Film Festival
- Special Mention - Best International Feature - 2025 Doc Edge Festival

The June 5 date was intentionally selected to coincide with the film director's availability and Samoan Solutions' *Journey to Empowerment* program, which takes place on the first Friday of each month. Following the screening, the event will feature a culturally grounded "talanoa" discussion panel, bringing together the film director and local Pacific Islander mental health and cultural practitioners to facilitate an open and supportive dialogue.

The event is designed to provide a safe and welcoming environment for community members to engage in conversations around mental health, access resources, and build connections. Samoan Solutions has demonstrated a thoughtful and well-prepared approach to ensuring both meaningful discussion and a positive community experience.

The event will include food and raffle opportunities for attendees. Additional event details will be shared as they become available.

**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: April 29, 2026

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

FROM: Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Update

Aquatics Program Update

Facility Operations Pool Heater Maintenance and Facility Closure Status

The pool has been closed for regular programming since Saturday, April 4 due to a series of mechanical and utility failures involving the pool heater. Within the week, water temperature dropped well below our 83°F set point, making it too cold for comfortable operation. While lower temperatures around 78°F is sometimes tolerable for high-exertion, continuous competitive training, it poses significant safety and comfort issues for most of our patrons, particularly in learn-to-swim classes and recreational programming. Children and novice swimmers are often stationary during instruction, leading them to lose body heat rapidly in sub-80°F water. This quickly leads to shivering and muscle stiffness, rendering swim lessons ineffective and creating an uncomfortably cold environment that does not meet our programmatic standards.

Incident Timeline: Mechanical and Utility Failures

Staff discovered that the pool heater intermittently shut down on Thursday, April 2. Mechanical contractors arrived on Friday, April 3, to diagnose the issue, and replacement parts, including igniters and sensors, were ordered.

Between April 6 and April 20, the facility experienced a series of mechanical repairs. Initial repairs to temperature sensors and igniters revealed a cracked heat exchanger. After the contractor experienced shipping delays for the replacement part, staff independently sourced a compatible part locally to expedite the process. Following installation, the heater still failed to ignite. Contractors determined the root cause was insufficient gas pressure entering the building from the PG&E meter. PG&E arrived the same day and confirmed the commercial regulators needed replacement.

A specialized gas line PG&E technician was dispatched and arrived on April 23. After conducting further testing, the technician confirmed the need for a new gas meter regulator but failed to return to complete the repairs as communicated on April 24 or 25. Staff contacted PG&E for a status update on Monday, April 27. They stated that scheduling had shifted over the weekend and that the estimated repair date had been pushed to Thursday, April 30.

Financial and Programmatic Impact

Staff, coordinated by Cynthia Lin, are actively communicating with affected patrons. Staff have already processed an estimated \$29,782 in account credits and pro-rated refunds through CivicRec for missed learn-to-swim programming. Based on historical attendance from 2025, staff anticipate

an additional loss of approximately \$7,500 in drop-in and general admission revenue during the prolonged closure. Furthermore, the total estimated cost for the unexpected mechanical repairs and replacement parts, including igniters, the heat exchanger, and the gas valve, is approximately \$11,000.

Staff will provide additional updates on the resolution of this issue, and looks forward to opening of the new Orange Memorial Park Aquatic Center this year.

Orange Memorial Park Restroom Renovation Project Update

On Tuesday, May 5, the restrooms at Orange Memorial Park that serve the sports field and picnic meadow will be closed for refurbishment. BEAM Construction, whose contract was authorized by City Council in March, will install construction fencing on Tuesday, May 5 and begin demolition of the interior on Wednesday, May 6. While these restrooms are closed, four ADA-compliant temporary restrooms will be staged for public use, and the single-occupancy restrooms located within the concession building will be open. The project is anticipated to take five to six weeks.

**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: May 14, 2026

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

FROM: Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Update

Cultural Arts Commission

Youth Art Show and Extended Exhibit



Approximately 800 visitors enjoyed the Youth Art Show.

The Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) was once again brimming with art as the 26th Annual Youth Art Show, sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission in partnership with the South San Francisco Unified School District (SSFUSD), opened with exhibits on all three floors and performing arts presentations included in the Council Chambers, Dance Studio and Social Hall.

During the opening weekend, approximately 800 visitors enjoyed this amazing art gallery program. Enthusiastic guests viewed 500 works in painting, ceramics, sketching, watercolors, mixed-media, and sculpture created by SSFUSD students in elementary through high school.

At the Friday opening, attendees enjoyed musical performances by the South San Francisco High School Drama Club, followed by a dance performance by 24 students from the Parks and Recreation Department's South San Francisco Civic Ballet program. Saturday's performing arts demonstrations featured the All Souls Catholic School Choir, with children ranging in age from 8 to 13 years, performing songs including The Star Spangled Banner and Here Comes the Sun. The engaging young dancers from the Parks and Recreation Department's Mexican Folklorico program followed with a lively presentation of seven different regional dances from Mexico. In addition, on Saturday, family members indulged their artistic talents at the self-directed craft activity. Guest comments revealed overwhelming appreciation and delight with the show. One visitor



All Souls children's choir performance at LPR

remarked, “Love the display. I always love the talents we have in SSF.”

One hundred and eight artworks remained on extended exhibit in the third-floor gallery and the second-floor corridors.

Congressional Art Competition – 15th District Limited Exhibition

A limited exhibition was hosted at the LPR with 30 art submissions from the U.S. House of Representatives Congressional Art Competition. The submissions represented high school artwork from California’s 15th Congressional District.

Each spring, a nationwide high school arts competition is sponsored by the members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Kevin Mullin hosted the local competition for high school students who live within the 15th Congressional District. The winning artwork will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol along with artwork from all participating districts from around the country. The winning artwork is also featured on the official House of Representatives website’s [Congressional Art Competition](#) webpage. Information is available at [Congressman Kevin Mullin’s webpage](#) or on the [Congressional Institute](#) website.

The City of South San Francisco is honored to host Congressman Mullin’s exhibit. The timing of this unique opportunity is ideal as it coincides with the Department’s Annual Youth Art Show extended exhibit and highlights the value of fostering and celebrating youth creativity.



California’s 15th Congressional District artwork display showcased through May 4.

Full of Fun Program Update

The Department's Full of Fun Program for young people with special needs held their annual Night of Fun Spring Fling on Thursday, April 16 at the Roberta Teglia Center. The event was a great success, with 22 participants in attendance. Participants enjoyed a fun-filled night of food, socializing, and dancing. The positive atmosphere and strong participation made for a memorable experience for all involved.

Night of Fun events are typically held once a month, running from October through May each year, and continue to be a highlight for participants. Full of Fun Summer Camp will run Monday through Friday during the weeks of June 22, July 20 and August 3.



Campers had a great time participating in a variety of activities.

Movie Night in the Park Film Survey

The Movie Night event planning team launched a Movie Night in the Park public film survey in May. The purpose of the survey is to allow community members to select their top film choices for the Summer Movie Night in the Park series. This year's movie nights are scheduled to take place on Friday, July 17 at Orange Memorial Park and Friday, August 19 at the newly proposed location, Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center. Proposed movie selections include Zootopia 2, Goat, Hoppers, Smurfs, and Lilo and Stitch (Live Action). The survey will run from Friday, May 1 through Friday, May 15, and results will be shared in the Parks and Recreation e-newsletter on Monday, June 1.

Sports Program

Golden State Warriors Basketball Camp

The Golden State Warriors organization were hosted at Terrabay Gymnasium for a youth basketball clinic that took place from March 30 through April 3. Over 20 children enrolled and worked on different fundamental basketball skills. The camp consisted of five different coaches working directly with the children enrolled in the program and concluded with an award and program completion ceremony.



Golden State Warriors basketball camp.

Senior Services

Senior Police Academy

The Senior Police Academy graduation took place in April, marking the completion of a seven-week program featuring a range of informative topics that focused on what matters most to older adults. The curriculum included fraud and scam prevention, first aid, an introduction to the South

San Francisco Police Department K-9 Unit, and a guided tour of the police station. Throughout the program, participants gained valuable insight into how the Police Department operates. They had opportunities to ask questions, learn about available resources, and build confidence in accessing public safety services. The academy helped build meaningful connections between participants and officers, strengthening trust and community relationship. Most importantly, participants left the program with great awareness of the services and support that is available to them.



Senior Police Academy Graduation

AARP Safer Driving Course

The Senior Services team partnered with AARP to offer another Safer Driving Course for seniors at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center. The two-day course had 15 participants in attendance.

The class was highly successful, with participants actively engaged and providing positive feedback. The program continues to be a valuable resource in promoting safe driving habits, supporting independence among older adults, and helping participants stay current with the changes in driving regulations and practices. We look forward to hosting additional AARP Safer Driving courses in the coming year.

Medical Equipment Loan Program (MELP)

Representatives from the Medical Equipment Loan Program (MELP) presented at the Congregate Meal program, with 77 participants in attendance. MELP is a volunteer-run nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting medical equity and improving quality of life by providing gently used durable medical equipment to individuals in need. The program also supports environmental sustainability through the reuse and recycling of medical equipment. Donated items include wheelchairs, rollators, walkers, knee scooters, and more. All equipment is thoroughly inspected, repaired, cleaned, and inventoried prior to being loaned to participants.

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy Presentation and Seniors Parks Rx Program



Recently, representatives from Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy presented at the Congregate Nutrition Program with 91 participants in attendance. Their staff offered a variety of engaging activities, including Nature bingo and distributed wildflower poppy seeds in pots for participants to take home with them. All activities were offered in multiple languages. Everyone was engaged, enjoying laughter and friendly competition. This presentation aimed to promote the beautiful parks in San Mateo County and National Parks.

Golden Gate National Parks provided engaging activities.

The Senior Services Program is partnering with San Mateo County Parks and the San Mateo County Parks Foundation. Through the expansion of the Park Rx Initiative, the Senior Connections Outings Program identified a service gap during its pilot phase.

This population is underserved and would greatly benefit from opportunities to connect with nature and others helping to mitigate loneliness and social isolation. In the coming months, Senior Services staff will coordinate with San Mateo County Parks to offer field trips to Wunderlich Park and Coyote Point. Staff look forward to providing participants with meaningful opportunities to enjoy and connect with nature and others.

Futures on the Field Event at Orange Memorial Park

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A key component of the event was that it was co-created and led by youth, providing participants with opportunities to build resilience, strengthen leadership skills, and engage in peer-to-peer learning. Participants were also given the opportunity to contribute ideas that may help inform future policy and programming at the local and county level.

