



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: JULY 25, 2012

ITEM NUMBER: 8a

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PORTABLE LIGHT UNITS ON HARPER SCHOOL FIELDS

DATE: JULY 2, 2012

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT/RECREATION DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: LISA MCPHERSON, RECREATION SUPERVISOR

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LISA MCPHERSON AT (714) 754-5322

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission provide direction to staff on the use of portable light units on Harper School fields.

BACKGROUND

Youth Sports organizations may make a request to use portable light units on Newport Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) fields. Once City staff has received in writing a Youth Sports organization's request to place portable light units on a school field, City staff then forwards the initial request to NMUSD for their review and approval. Once NMUSD approves the field for consideration, City staff then sets the date and time for a Public Lighting Demonstration. Residents within 500 feet of the school field are notified of the demonstration as well as the Public Hearing (regarding the request for lights) at an upcoming Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. At the Public Hearing, residents have the opportunity to make comments regarding the proposed use of portable light units. After taking public comment, Commissioners will determine conditions such as limiting the number of portable light units as well as days and hours the portable light units can be used. The decision of the Commission is final.

The Commission has approved the following locations for use of portable light units:

- Costa Mesa High School
- Davis Elementary School
- Estancia High School
- Fairview Developmental Center
- Parsons School
- Sonora Elementary School

The City owns a total of 16 portable light units. During the 2011-2012 field allocation period, the portable light units were placed at the fields listed below and used by the following Youth Sports organizations:

Fall/Winter Allocation Period

- Eight (8) at Parsons Field; used by Pop Warner (August through November), and Back Bay Rugby (December)
- Four (4) at Fairview Development Center (August through December); used by AYSO

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- Four (4) at Estancia High School (August through November); used by Pop Warner
- In December 2011, two (2) lights were removed off of Estancia High School and placed at Fairview Development Center for AYSO 97 usage, and the other two (2) were removed off of Estancia High School and placed at Davis School for Newport Mesa Soccer Club usage

Winter/Spring Allocation Period

- Eight (8) at Parsons Field (January through April); used by Back Bay Rugby
- Six (6) at Fairview Development Center (January through April); used by AYSO 97
- Two (2) at Davis School (February through April); used by Newport Mesa Soccer Club

ANALYSIS

On May 17, 2012, AYSO 97 President, Brett Eckles, e-mailed City staff a letter (Attachment 1) requesting that eight (8) portable light units be used on Harper School fields from dusk to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the months of October through March. On May 31, 2012, City staff received approval from NMUSD for AYSO 97 to use portable light units on Harper School fields.

On June 8, 2012, public notices were mailed to residents in the neighborhood surrounding Harper School; residents were informed of the June 20, 2012 Public Light Demonstration being conducted from 8:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m., as well as the Public Hearing to be held at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on July 25, 2012.

On June 20, 2012, City staff, twenty (20) AYSO 97 representatives, and five (5) residents attended the Public Light Demonstration. Those in attendance were informed that a Public Hearing would be held at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on July 25, 2012, and at that meeting, Commissioners would receive public input and make a final determination on the use of the portable lights.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The Commission may choose to approve the request for portable light units on Harper School fields.
2. The Commission may choose to not approve the request for portable light units on Harper School fields.
3. The Commission may conditionally approve the request for the use of portable light units on Harper School fields. Conditions may include:
 - Specific days of the week
 - Specific times of use
 - Specific individual dates
 - Specific number of units used

FISCAL REVIEW

Specific funding for additional portable light units, maintenance, cages and staff time was not included in the adopted Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget. AYSO 97 has indicated that they would purchase and donate the approved number of portable light units and cages to the City. However, funding and personnel is not available at this time for the maintenance and fueling of the portable light units, as well as the delivery and pick-up of the units. It will cost about \$2,623 for the Field Ambassadors to move and refuel the extra eight (8) lights and \$4,272 for Maintenance to repair and maintain the extra eight (8) lights. The Finance Department would have to allocate undesignated funds to cover the Maintenance and Recreation costs. If the use of portable lights at this school is approved, staff will seek authorization to appropriate additional funding to cover these costs.

LEGAL REVIEW

No legal review is required for this item.

CONCLUSION

NMUSD approved the placement of portable light units on Harper School fields and City staff has conducted the Public Lighting Demonstration. Staff recommends that the Commission provide direction to staff on the use of portable light units on Harper School fields.

LISA MCPHERSON
Recreation Supervisor

ERNESTO MUNOZ
Public Services Director

ATTACHMENT: 1. [AYSO 97 Letter Requesting Portable Lights on Harbor School Field](#)