



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: APRIL 20, 2010

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: FIELD USE AND ALLOCATION REPORT

DATE: MARCH 25, 2010

FROM: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/RECREATION DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: JANA M. RANSOM, RECREATION MANAGER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JANA M. RANSOM AT (714) 754-5654

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the following change to the Field Use and Allocation Policy (Inclement Weather sub-policy):

- Allow The Farm fields 1 through 4 to be considered separately from fields 5 and 6 when determining playability due to inclement weather.

BACKGROUND

The Field Use and Allocation Policy (FUAP, Attachment 1) is reviewed by staff with youth sports user groups each Spring. Changes suggested are then brought to the Parks and Recreation Commission for approval prior to being sent to Council for ratification.

At their March 24, 2010 meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended one change to the Field Use and Allocation Policy: that the Farm Sports Complex fields 1 through 4 be considered separately from fields 5 and 6 when determining playability due to inclement weather.

The Action Agenda minutes from this meeting is attached (Attachment 2).

ANALYSIS

The Inclement Weather policy, while it is working better, continues to need some “adjustment”.

City fields are opened or closed on a site by site basis. If one field at a facility is not playable, all the fields at that site are closed. In looking at The Farm, however, fields 1 through 4 generally have the same conditions, but fields 5 and 6, being lower, may not be playable when the top four fields could be. For this reason, and at this site, staff recommended that The Farm be considered as a two site location, with fields 1 through 4 considered separately from fields 5 and 6.

Commission moved to support this change.

Another suggestion was to establish “home fields” for groups so that they would be encouraged to invest their own funds in field improvements. This is already being done, in large measure, just not explicitly. Groups generally request and are granted the same fields year after year. There simply are not sufficient fields to give every group a home field year-round. Many of the fields are overlay fields so they are home to soccer or football in the Fall and baseball or rugby in the Spring. Sites with larger soccer fields are used by several groups, because there are not enough large fields to

go around. While staff did not recommend any changes to the current policy, Commissioner Galitski did request that staff continue to work with youth user groups to see if something of this nature could be developed.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- Make no changes to the policy

FISCAL REVIEW

There are no financial impacts to Commission or staff recommendation.

CONCLUSION

The Field Use and Allocation Policy is reviewed annually by staff and user groups to insure that it meets the needs of users, residents, and City officials. The Policy is then reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission and any substantive changes brought to Council for approval. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that Council consider the following change to the Field Use and Allocation Policy (Inclement Weather sub-policy):

- Allow The Farm fields 1 through 4 to be considered separately from fields 5 and 6 when determining playability due to inclement weather.

JANA M. RANSOM
Recreation Manager

STEPHEN N. MANDOKI
Director of Administrative Services

ROBBY WAITE
Acting Recreation Supervisor

ATTACHMENTS: 1 [Field Use and Allocation Policy with recommended revision \(pages 14-15, Inclement Weather Policy\)](#)
2 [Action Agenda of March 24, 2010 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting](#)