

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: Deborah S. Traffenstedt, Deputy City Manager *DST*

PREPARED BY: Stephanie Shaw, Recreation Superintendent

DATE: February 10, 2011 (CC Meeting of February 16, 2011)

SUBJECT: Consider Resolution Adopting Park Restroom Hours of Operation

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Ordinance No. 392 amending Chapter 12.16, Parks and Open Space, became effective on August 21, 2010. The ordinance includes section 12.16.020, Hours of Operation. Per the ordinance, parks with lighted facilities close at 10:00 p.m. and parks without lighted facilities close at sunset. The ordinance also states that council may approve by resolution more restrictive hours of operation for certain facilities or structures, including restrooms.

Attached is a draft resolution that would establish the park restroom hours of operation from eight (8:00) a.m. until five (5:00) p.m. for Pacific Standard Time and from eight (8:00) a.m. until seven (7:00) p.m. for Pacific Daylight Savings Time. The resolution also states that the park restrooms shall be closed when needed for maintenance and repair, and that notice of park restroom hours of operation shall be posted at each restroom building in accordance with Section 12.16.030, Signs (of the MMC).

Staff's opinion is that setting specific times to open/close restrooms lets the public know more precisely when the park restrooms will be open and closed. In practice, some restrooms will be open prior to 8:00 a.m., because the assigned personnel (landscape contractors or City staff) generally open the first location beginning approximately one hour before the posted time and then move on to subsequent sites for opening. The same practice would be followed for closing parks, with the first location closed no sooner than 5:00 or 7:00 p.m. (depending on the time of year) and then moving to the next location until all restrooms are closed. The total time involved in opening or closing of restrooms is approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours when accomplished by one person.

Currently, the park restrooms are all scheduled to be opened before 7:00 a.m., but in practice, this does not always occur. Typically, landscape contractors open the park

restrooms on weekdays, and City staff open the park restrooms on weekends and holidays and also close and lock them everyday. With relatively a small staff and budget, the current practice of utilizing both landscape contractors and City staff to accomplish opening and closing responsibilities is most efficient. Staff is proposing to have all parks opened prior to 8:00 a.m. With this change, the parks would begin to be opened by approximately 6:15 a.m. and would all be open by 8:00 a.m.

A private security company is currently responsible to lock the Home Acres Buffer gate and the tennis courts at Miller and Mammoth Highlands Park beginning at 10:00 p.m. (or later depending upon which park is locked first and which is locked last), as well as the Arroyo Vista Community Park (AVCP) tennis courts on weekends and holidays. The tennis court lights become inoperative at 10:00 p.m. The tennis courts are locked to deter vandalism to the nets and court surfaces. Excluding AVCP, where the restrooms are closed independently, the restrooms at the other nine parks (and soon to be ten with the addition of the Glenwood Park restrooms), are opened and closed sequentially by either landscape contractors or City staff. For the closing of restrooms for parks without lighted tennis court facilities, the restrooms are currently closed beginning at 5:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. (depending on the time of year). At AVCP, the park restrooms are currently being closed at the standard closing time when no City sport league activities are scheduled. The restrooms in the recreation center building at AVCP are open until 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, and until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Even though the City has had lighted basketball courts at College View Park for many years and at Mountain Meadows and Peach Hill Parks since about one year ago, the restrooms at these parks are locked by City staff at the standard closing time.

Staff is recommending having City staff lock all of the restrooms at 5:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. (including those with lighted tennis courts or other lighted facilities). Staff feels that the users of these facilities generally live relatively close, and in any event, will know from the signs that will be posted that the restroom facilities will not be available after the designated closing time. Closing the restrooms at a specified time and at the end of the daylight hours will be done for general public safety reasons. The more extensive vandalism typically occurs after dark, and having the restrooms open after dark is an attractive nuisance which may result in vandalism or other criminal activity. Captain Nelson of the Moorpark Police concurs with staff's public safety recommendation for locking the restrooms at 5:00 p.m. during Pacific Standard Time and 7:00 p.m. during Pacific Daylight Savings Time.

The attached draft resolution does include the authority for the City Manager or his/her designee to approve different opening or closing hours of operation for park restrooms for a City sponsored special event, a City operated sports league at a lighted facility when a city staff member is present, and for park and facility rentals for which payment is received to compensate City for the staff time to open and close the facility and monitor the rental.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 2011-_____.

Attachment: Draft Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOORPARK, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING PARK RESTROOM HOURS OF OPERATION

WHEREAS, Section 12.16.020 of Chapter 12.16, Parks and Open Space, of the Moorpark Municipal Code states that the City Council may by resolution approve more restrictive hours of operation for certain facilities or structures, including restrooms.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOORPARK DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby determines that the City's park restroom hours of operation shall be from eight (8:00) a.m. until five (5:00) p.m. for Pacific Standard Time and from eight (8:00) a.m. until seven (7:00) p.m. for Pacific Daylight Savings Time. Park restrooms shall be closed for maintenance or repairs as needed. The City Manager or his/her designee may approve different opening or closing hours of operation for park restrooms for a City sponsored special event, a City operated sports league at a lighted facility when a city staff member is present, and for park and facility rentals for which payment is received to compensate City for the staff time to open and close the facility and monitor the rental.

SECTION 2. Notice of park restroom hours of operation shall be posted at each park restroom building in accordance with Section 12.16.030, Signs.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and shall cause a certified resolution to be filed in the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2011.

Janice S. Parvin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Maureen Benson, City Clerk