




**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	December 17, 2024
TITLE	Special Recognition Honoring Director Dee Rosario
DIVISION	General Manager's Office
FROM	Erich Pfuehler, Division Lead of Government and Legislative Affairs Sabrina Landreth, General Manager
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item.

BACKGROUND

Dee Rosario began his remarkable journey with the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) in 1975. His career – marked by a series of significant roles, from park ranger and firefighter to fire lieutenant and ultimately park supervisor of Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park – reflects an unwavering commitment to public service. In his distinguished 37-year career, Rosario has made invaluable contributions to the Park District. His tenure included pivotal moments such as his heroic actions during the 1991 Oakland Firestorm, where his bravery and dedication to protecting both people and place were instrumental in mitigating the devastation.

Director Rosario's leadership extended beyond his on-the-ground service. As a Board Director, beginning in November 2016, he has played a thoughtful and compassionate role in advancing the Park District's mission. His tenure on the Board included co-chairing Measure FF, which secured critical funding for park improvements, wildfire prevention and public safety. His governance on the Board was recognized with the prestigious 2024 California Special Districts Association Board Member of the Year award, highlighting his exceptional tireless leadership and effectiveness.

His vision and dedication led to the renaming of Redwood Regional Park in honor of Aurelia Reinhardt, a pioneering figure in the Park District's history. This act not only celebrated Reinhardt's legacy, but also underscored Rosario's commitment to preserving and honoring the heritage of the Park District and the community of which it is a part. Throughout his career, Director Rosario has exemplified the essence of true leadership. He reminds us all that leadership is a privilege – a privilege to cultivate growth, creativity and compassion in others. He has consistently sought to develop future leadership, nurturing the next generation to continue his legacy of service and dedication.

Director Rosario has also contributed his expertise to various organizations beyond the Park District, including serving on the Alameda County Parks, Recreation and Historical Commission, the Board of Directors for the Friends of Sausal Creek, the Regional Parks Association Board of Directors, the Oakland Fire-Safe Council Board and the California Alliance for Retired Americans in Alameda County. Rosario was born in Oakland and raised in the East Bay, he graduated from Mt.

Eden High School in Hayward, earned an associate's degree from Chabot Community College and attended California State University, East Bay. As Director Rosario prepares to retire at the end of 2024, his enduring impact on the East Bay Regional Park District and the countless individuals he has influenced is celebrated. His dedication, achievements and the joyful inspiration he has provided will be remembered and cherished by all who have had the honor to work with him.

Staff and special guests will present recognition items to Director Rosario in appreciation of his 37 years of dedicated service with the East Bay Regional Park District. His remarkable contributions as a Board Director and in honor of his leadership, compassion, positive spirit, joy and laughter, and unwavering commitment to the preservation and enhancement of our community's natural and recreational resources will be acknowledged as an inspiration for current and future generations.