

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	March 25, 2024
TITLE	Informational Update on the Junior Ranger Program
DIVISION	Operations
FROM	Sandi Funke, Chief of Interpretive and Recreation Services Lisa Goorjian, Assistant General Manager, Operations
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item.

BACKGROUND

The Interpretive and Recreation Services Department is seeking to relaunch the Junior Rangers program. Junior Rangers is a legacy program that has served hundreds of children run out of the Environmental Education Center at the Tilden Nature Area since 1947. The program, which requires just under 2.0 FTE for a limited cohort of youngsters, began when the District offered a much more limited scope of public and outreach programs. This was also a time in which appropriate industry-wide guidelines of staffing for children’s programs was non-existent. The purpose of the relaunch is to continue to offer this legacy longitudinal and deep engagement program in a format that is operationally sustainable, meets industry guidelines for staffing and maintains the current youth development objectives for its participants. The relaunch of the JR Ranger program will align the program design, objectives, and delivery with the Park Districts’ mission and values. It will continue to ensure a rich experience for participants, that reflect department-wide staffing models, that allow for a variety of programs to be offered out of this interpretive sector.

ANALYSIS

Staff will share recent input garnered from current participating families via an online survey and in person feedback day. Staff will also share a variety of program formats being considered for moving forward. The goal of this presentation is to have meaningful discussion and receive advisement to inform a relaunch of the program for September 2024.

This presentation aligns with the Park Advisory Committee 2024 Objective #3 – Maintain Understanding of and Engagement on the Park District’s Active Capital Projects and Program which seeks to support the PAC in maintaining a strong understanding and awareness of Park District programs including environmental education and cultural programs.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of this program is unknown until the program design is chosen.

ATTACHMENTS - None