



Lake Oswego Parks & Recreation Director Report January 1 - January 13, 2023

Lake Oswego Parks & Recreation's mission is to Build Community, Enrich Lives and Care for the Urban and Natural Environment. This report is a look back and summary of operations supporting our mission and promise of excellent services to the people of Lake Oswego.

Management Services Report

Pre-production efforts began to begin coordination of the 2023 Summer Activity Guide. The 48-page guide and the camp guide go to print and are distributed in the spring months of March/April. The Printing Services Request for Proposal also went out, and we have six printers interested in bidding. Our surveys show that over 75% of Parks & Recreation customers find out about activities from the guide.

Some of the Marketing duties, such as the City and Department Highlights, Factbook, and the Director Report (this report), are now coordinated by Robin Krakauer, Communications & Sponsorship Coordinator.

We are delighted to have support in this area!

Annual reviews and previews for Leadership Team members have begun. Supervisors are tasked with providing Divisional and Professional Goals and giving performance feedback for the past year.

The January Living Well Dance was coordinated and presented on Friday, Jan. 13, at CCP, and January is Healthy Eating/Active Living Month! Lake Oswego is making healthy choices and selections for food consumption and moving more, and feeling better!

Get out and walk!



CAPRA website is coming along: <https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/capra>

Just a few more Standards to go and the website will be complete with evidence of compliance.

Our Self-Evaluation must be complete by March 3, and the CAPRA visit Team will be coming for the week of May 15-19.

Adult Community Center (ACC)

- Ten people signed up for the first “Friendship Connection” class. “Friendship Connection” meets every Thursday until the end of April, and the intent is to foster new friendships with an in-depth discussion on various topics.
- Our lunch group went to Filbert’s Farmhouse Kitchen in Aurora, many ACC trip-goers favorite.
- We are continuing to receive entries for our poetry contest.
- The Bridge (card game) instruction classes are busting at the seams.
- The grocery shopping program took 10 shoppers to the new Trader Joe’s in King City. It was spacious and easy to shop.



Parks Planning & Projects

- Capital Projects:
 - **LORAC** – Currently working on permitting strategy for project. Phased approach to permitting with demolition, erosion control & tree removal permits as priority. Mobilization should happen end of January / early February. Hazmat study done 1/11/23, waiting on report.
 - **LOMGC** – Erosion Control installation completed, waiting for inspection and application submittal (due Friday). Permits are ongoing.
 - **LOMGC Clubhouse** – Interior demolition for the building is complete. The servers and remaining IT equipment have been removed from the building and will remain in storage for the remainder of the construction phase. Framing for the new exterior tri-fold door will begin the week of January 16.
 - **GRP Shelter** – Delivery of the new shelter has been delayed to March 2023 due to supply chain issues.

- **Rassekh Park and Skatepark** – City Council directed staff to put the project on hold while we continue to identify alternative funding streams, value engineering options, and explore the possibility of phasing development. Staff are working to cancel or suspend the related Field Turf and California Skateparks contracts as well identify a new owner for the artificial turf being stored at the Maintenance Center.
- **Roehr Park Pathway / GRP Connection** –The project is expected to occur in phases, with first phase being the portion of the trail located on city-owned property that will provide ADA access to the river. Metro Local Share funds are being pursued for the first phase of development.
- Planning & Policy Projects:
 - **Pickleball** – Staff will return to Council on January 17 with additional information on costs and timelines for alternate sites (including another look at existing park properties) as well as more information about covering the courts at George Rogers Park.
 - **Parks Plan 2040** – A preliminary scope outline is being drafted and an RFP is expected to be released in early 2023. The effort is expected to take 2-3 years to complete.
 - **Clackamas County LAMP Adoption** – The first project report outlining the purpose, process, and applicable County and State regulations is being reviewed by Clackamas County staff. County and City staff are meeting with County residents on January 13 to discuss the public engagement process, which is expected to begin in early spring 2023.

Parks

- The Habitat Management Plan was adopted by The Lake Oswego City Council.
- Holiday Lights and Decorations from Millennium Plaza Park and Foothills Park have been taken down, inspected, sorted, cleaned, and stored.
- The LORAC project tree protection has been completely installed.
- Wind storm clean-up continues in many areas. Natural areas specifically have had large amounts of cleanup in various locations.
- Staff has begun disassembling the CSA greenhouse to move to a new location.
- Staff re-chipped the Hazelia Lusher Farm trail next to Hazelia Field.
- The Golf Course cleanup and move have been a main priority for staff. This includes all equipment (there's a lot) and tools being moved, clean-up of Gervis for storage, and moving of concrete blocks from the golf course to the Farr property.
- The new Athletic Field Request Application has been sent to Recognized Local Youth Sports Organizations and the LOSD. For spring (March 1 – May 31) it is due by January 16. These user groups will receive field allocations/permits in the first week of February.
- The new Premier Park Reservation and Special Event Permit applications have been posted to their respective websites.
- Leaf clean-up and removal have been ongoing, leaf removal on Curly Cue 2 pathway.
- Park staff has been working through landscape shrub bed Winter pruning in preparation for the vigorous Spring push of new growth. This work also involves digging out blackberry vines that get established when birds fly into these areas depositing seeds with their droppings. Thanks, birds!

- Blackberry vine removal is generally done in the Winter months because when deciduous shrubs lose their leaves it makes it much easier to identify the evergreen blackberry vines that get established at the base of the shrubs and grow up through them. Digging out the blackberry root crown is much easier done in with the softer soil conditions that exist in the Winter season.
- At the Tennis Center, staff is continuing support for the grand opening and continued maintenance such as installing owner-supplied fixtures. Staff also dealt with a drain line back up caused by a pre-construction contractor installed testing equipment.
- Staff replaced a toilet at West Waluga Park as a result of an explosive device used for vandalism.
- Staff repaired restroom doors at Sundeleaf Park fixtures. Staff also dealt with a drain line back up caused by a pre-construction contractor installed testing equipment.
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Teen Programs

- Lounge has already taken three 2023 reservations for facility rentals. Excited to host birthday parties and private events for the community members!
- Despite the short month, the Lounge still accumulated over 400 visits in December.
- Teen Lounge is having our annual “Everybody’s Birthday Party” event on January 13. We have party favors and cupcakes waiting.
- Staff is communicating with LOSD middle schools to bring back the in-person and in-school promotional activities that existed pre-covid. If successful, it should boost daily Lounge attendance and generate interest for summer programs. Hope to be back in schools in February/March.
- Staff has started to contact new and old community partners for TSC volunteer dates. Have already earmarked 5+ days of volunteering directly within LOPR parks and natural areas.
- The Youth Action Council held a virtual Gingerbread House Contest in December and announced winners on January 3. There were 18 entries and 450 individual votes submitted – the grand prize winners were Eliza and Kenzie James who received a gift certificate to Parks & Rec plus some Farmer’s Market goodies and a gift certificate to Kyras.

- The Youth Action Council also wrapped up its Covers for Kids campaign, collecting fleece and donations to make blankets for Clackamas Children’s Center. The program raised \$650 to purchase fleece and made close to 50 blankets set to be delivered 1/19. Each high school had an opportunity to help tie blankets during their lunch breaks before winter break, with the help of both school libraries, so that students could spread out!



Cultural Programs

- Indoor Playground is seeing record numbers now that the rain has set in; parents are happy their kiddos (ages 0-4) are getting their wiggles out with Parks & Rec again! Indoor Playground birthday party rentals are also in full swing, with several requests coming in a week for Saturday rental slots.
- New art classes have started, including Calligraphy, Watercolor, Drawing, and Printmaking.
- YAC and the Library are partnering up for the annual Book Swap event on January 28, 10a-2p at CCP. The library will donate books for attendees to swap and provide a bookish craft for youngsters. This will be the 4th book swap YAC has coordinated. [Event info >>](#)
- Summer 2023 Camp planning is underway for art, music, dance, STEM, sports, and outdoor camps!

Outdoor Programs

- Staff has contacted outdoor contractors and instructors for summer camp and adult class plans.
- Outdoor contractors offering guided community trips are being contacted for programs this summer. Summer 2022 was still severely affected by wildfires and road closures, but we should see the return of whitewater rafting trips and activities at Estacada Lake in '23.
- Hikes and Rambles hosted their summer planning meeting at the ACC on January 13
- LOCR is offering its indoor collection of [exercise and training classes](#).

Fitness

- Winter/Spring 2023 is in full swing. The highest-class participation so far is Zumba Gold with 18 participants!
- A new class began this season with Nicole Nohner, an occupational therapist, offering “Posture & Movement”. This class is well loved already at the ACC!
- Finished Fall 2022 with **130 more participants** than 2021! A **23% increase**.



Tennis Center

- Our Teaching staff hosted hitting sessions for new players in preparation for our Junior Excellence program to resume. Over 20 players participated in these sessions and are joining the program set to start next week.
- The Tennis Center continues to be popular with the community as we await classes to begin on January 16th. Since the New year, over 200 hours have been purchased on CourtReserve in addition to our seasonal and City league practices and matches.
- The Winter 2023 USTA season kicks off on Saturday, January 14th, with our first set of matches. We have 5 teams calling the facility home this winter, with each team hosting 4 matches during the season.
- *LO Review* had an article highlighting the renovated facility and open house coming in a few weeks. [Lake Oswego's new indoor tennis facility boasts improved lobby, resurfaced courts | News | lakeoswegoreview.com.](https://www.lakeoswegoreview.com/news/lake-oswego-s-new-indoor-tennis-facility-boasts-improved-lobby-resurfaced-courts)

Community Events

The Events team is busy preparing for the MLK Day commemorative celebration, which takes place at Lake Oswego High School on Sunday, January 15, at 2pm. The Library leads the event with Parks & Recreation support. The commemoration includes a keynote from Dr. Shirley Jackson (a Portland State professor specializing in race, social movement & gender), remarks from Mayor Joe Buck, musical performances by Alonzo Chadwick Sr., and more.



- The event is followed by a car rally led by Lake Oswego Police.
- Applications for the 2023 Lake Oswego Farmers' Market opened on January 5 and are due February 17. Applications are accepted through the online market management platform, Manage My Market (used by most local markets). Applicants must grow, gather, raise, catch, produce, or craft products in the Pacific Northwest (with emphasis on farmer/growers and hot food refreshment; nonprofits and artists are accepted on a limited basis).

Luscher Farm

- The Luscher Farm Community Gardens completed registrations of returning gardeners for the 2023 season, with a renewal rate of 89%. The team will offer relinquished plots to new gardeners from the waitlist beginning mid-January and hold orientations on February 1 and 18.
- The Luscher team is working with the Lake Oswego Public Library to develop programming for the 2023 LO Reads since the book ties directly to horticulture! This includes a seed-starting open house in the new greenhouse scheduled for April 22.