

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Park Code - Recreation Program Fees]

Ordinance amending the Park Code to allow the Recreation and Park Department to set fees for recreation programs based on the Department's operating costs for those programs and various other factors, including whether the program is designated for youth, seniors, or persons with disabilities, subject to approval of the Recreation and Park Commission; directing the Commission to update its scholarship policy to provide for further discounts for recreation programs based on financial need; making certain clarifying changes; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

The Park Code sets fees for various recreation programs offered by the Recreation and Park Department.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would allow the Recreation and Park Department to set recreation program fees based on the estimated operating costs of those programs. The Department generally could set fees intended to cover the programs' full operating costs, but for programs designated for youth or seniors or persons with disabilities could set fees that recovered only 75% of the operating costs. In addition, the ordinance urges the Department to set fees for programs that benefit the community at large based on only 50% of the operating costs. All fees would require approval from the Recreation and Park Commission and once approved would be published on the Department's website.

The ordinance also directs the Recreation and Park Commission to update its scholarship policy to provide for further discounts for recreation programs based on financial need.

Background Information

The current recreation program fees would continue to apply pending the Department setting new fees based on cost recovery under the proposed ordinance.

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