



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

P.O. BOX 190

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California 92648

## CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

### REQUEST FOR ACTION

**MEETING DATE:** October 9, 2019

**SUBMITTED TO:** COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

**SUBMITTED BY:** MARIE KNIGHT, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT:** RODGERS SENIORS' CENTER SITE – TEMPORARY USE

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**Statement of Issue:** Per City Council direction, Community Services Commission is to make recommendation on temporary use of the Rodgers Seniors' Center site.

**Funding Source:** N/A

**Recommended Action(s):**

- 1.) To make recommendation to City Council to consider the temporary use of the Recreation Center building and Seniors Outreach building by the Huntington Beach Police Department for non-visitor serving functions during the Police Department Headquarters modernization project.
- 2.) Recommend that staff also work with the Police Department and the American Legion Post 133 to identify alternative options and/or locations for their meetings and activities during this temporary use by the Police Department.

**Alternative Action:** Do not approve the recommended actions and direct staff on how to proceed.

**Analysis:** The Rodgers Seniors' Center site (RSC) is located at 1706 Orange Avenue. The 2-acre parcel zoned as Park Open Space consists of two community buildings, landscape areas, including two outdoor patios and a parking lot. At previous meetings, Commission has been provided with the history of the site, and potential ways the site could be repurposed. Options discussed, included but were not limited to, creating a neighborhood park on the site by demolishing one or both buildings or, keeping the facility as is and make upgrades as needed.

Since the City's senior programs and services moved from RSC to the new Senior Center in Central Park in July of 2016, the Community Services Department has used the Recreation Center building for recreation programs and for rentals by the public. City recreation programs include day camps and instructional classes. The facilities are also used for the Police Department's LEAD program, the RSVP program and by CERT volunteers. There is also a room in the Recreation Center being used by American Legion Post 133 for their regular meetings.

Recently, the Police Department has identified a need to find a location for non-visitor serving operations during the modernization of Police Headquarters, potentially scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2020. On Thursday, August 15, 2019, the Special Interest Subcommittee of the Commission held a public input meeting on site at the Rodgers Seniors' Center to discuss this potential temporary use of the facility. Approximately 60 people attended this meeting. Police Chief Robert Handy gave a presentation on the need for the modernization project, and the types of operations that would potentially be relocated to the Rodgers site. (Attached) There was considerable question and comment by the public. Attached are the minutes from that meeting.

Members of the public expressed concerns about noise, traffic and their inability to utilize the parking lot at the current site mainly for parking of their own vehicles as well as other ancillary uses such as children riding their bikes or in the parking lot. The Chief and his team answered all of the public's questions and explained why it would be necessary for safety reasons to keep the parking lot secured for PD purposes only during their use. He also made a commitment to be a good neighbor and do all that would be reasonably possible to mitigate their concerns. Additionally, questions were raised about the funding needed to do repairs and potential remodeling to accommodate this use. PD is still working with their contractors and the team in Public Works to identify those potential costs. Should the recommendation to consider the use of this site move forward to the City Council, those costs will be identified and discussed as part of the overall modernization project.

Based on this meeting, staff is asking the Community Services Commission make a recommendation to City Council to consider the Police Department's temporary use of the Recreation Center building and Seniors Outreach building at the Rodgers Seniors' Center site by for non-visitor serving functions during the Police Department Headquarters modernization project. Additionally, staff would request to be included a recommendation that the Police Department and Community Services staff work with the American Legion Post 133 to accommodate their use in consideration with the Police Department uses or identify alternative options and/or locations for their meetings and activities during this temporary use by the Police Department.

On September 28, 2019 a community workshop was held regarding the future use of the site. The outcomes from that meeting will be presented to the Commission at the November 13, 2019 meeting.

**Environmental Status:** N/A

**Attachment(s):**

	No.	Description
	1.	Police Department Modernization Project Presentation
	2.	Minutes from the August 15, 2019 Special Interest SubCommittee