



THE CITY OF MONTEREY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 20, 2023

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NEIGHBORHOOD TOWN HALL AND SURVEY ON FUTURE CASANOVA OAK KNOLL PARK CENTER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES Town Hall, Monday, May 8, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Monterey, CA. – The City of Monterey’s Parks and Recreation Department is hosting a neighborhood charrette-style town hall with interactive activities to gather ideas and feedback on the future of the currently mothballed Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center. The town hall, scheduled Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., will focus on hearing from residents of Casanova Oak Knoll, Del Monte Beach, Del Monte Grove/Laguna Grande, and the Villa Del Monte neighborhoods to learn what programs and services are most in-demand. The Community Center has been in operation in the Casanova Oak Knoll neighborhood serving all four neighborhoods since it first opened in 1993.

Parks and Recreation Director Karen Larson said, “Our goal is to better understand what programs and services residents would like to see at a reopened Community Center and how likely they would participate in programs if they were offered. We hope neighbors will participate in the town hall as well as the survey.”

The City of Monterey continues to be intentional in how, where, and what services are provided to residents given the limited fiscal resources available for ongoing programs and facilities. Changes in student enrollment, summer camps, after-school and preschool programs offered by the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District have also impacted demand for youth and teen programs at all community centers and the Monterey Sports Center.

(more)

Residents in the four mentioned neighborhoods will receive a print survey in their mailbox by early May, and are encouraged to return the survey by mail - postage prepaid. The longer online survey is posted at <https://surveymonkey.com/r/COKPC>. The survey is available in English, and the Spanish version will be posted soon. The survey will remain open through Friday, May 12, 2023. To follow this project, please visit <https://haveyoursaymonterey.org/cokpc>

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic adversely impacted the City financially and operationally. The State and Federal stay at home and shelter in place orders shut down several city facilities, including all of park (community) centers in Monterey. The City's loss of \$32 million in revenue due to the pandemic forced the City to stave off fiscal insolvency by eliminating over 100 positions, reducing services at facilities, and rethinking operations. Although Casanova Oak Knoll Park, including the playground and picnic areas have reopened, the Park Center building remains closed.

THE CITY OF MONTEREY **MONTEREY RECREATION**

NEIGHBORHOOD TOWN HALL

For residents of Casanova Oak Knoll, Del Monte Beach, Del Monte Grove/Laguna Grande, and Villa Del Monte

A charrette style town hall with interactive activities to gather ideas and feedback on future services at Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

CASANOVA OAK KNOLL PARK CENTER

735 RAMONA AVENUE **MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023 6:00PM**

email: suggest@monterey.org | haveyoursaymonterey.org/cokpc

DISABILITY ACCESS
The City of Monterey is committed to including the disabled in all of its services, programs and activities. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at cityclerk@monterey.org or (831) 646-5955. Notification 30 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting [28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

[Town Hall Flyer](#)

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