

**AGENDA STATEMENT  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Arabo Parseghian, Division Manager  
**DATE:** April 11, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** **Senior Citizen Needs Assessment**

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss and recommend to the City Council an action plan or funding recommendation to address the needs of the senior citizens of the Community.

**BACKGROUND:**

During the City Council's Special Goal Setting meeting, the City Council Discussed a desire to review the services provided within the community addressing both the issues and needs facing Senior Citizens. The City Council requested the issue go before the Parks and Recreation Commission.

At the June 14, 2017, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission decided as part of their Senior Citizen Needs Assessment to invite community groups which provide services to Senior Citizens to present to the Commission. Since then, the Commission has received presentations from community groups and field experts on areas of need for senior citizens.

The goal of the Commission was to bring the item back in April prior to budget consideration items to identify potential funding needs to address any deficiencies in the community service needs for senior citizens.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is fortunate to have a community where civic engagement and community groups activisms are high. Recognizing that fact, the City Council, has partnered with local community groups and non-profits, in providing needed services to the community. These community groups and non-profits, continue to provide excellent programs tailored towards senior citizens. This was demonstrated through the presentations given to the Commission. However, the groups did identify areas where improvements can be made to assist senior citizens.

### **Identified Needs**

Through the months of Senior Needs Assessment, the following is a list of needs identified by both the Commission and community groups.

- Lack of Collaboration between various community groups/organization providing senior citizen services to the community.
- Limited resources to market services provided by various entities within the community
- Lack of meal services at the Community Center
- Targeting of senior citizens by scammers
- Companionship for those who have lost their partner
- Accessibly/mobility
- Technological growth creating barriers
- Lack of Community Events spread geographically throughout the City
- Rising cost of In-Home Care Management due to new State laws on wage requirements
- Lack of centralized location to get information on all services provided throughout the community and beyond (social worker)
- GPS Locators for Elderly
- Lack of Individual Nutritional Programs (Meals on Wheels)
- Lack of check-in programs for those who live alone
- Programming and future planning to meet aging population needs

The list above is a summary of key issues brought up during the assessment period. As part of the discussion, few solutions were introduced for consideration.

### **Ongoing Needs Assessment**

Establish an avenue for all entities to meet annually to discuss senior needs assessment and strategize to address needs.

Similar to what the Commission does with its annual athletic field scheduling meeting, the Commission could form an annual or bi-annual senior citizen needs assessment meeting to invite community groups to discuss current needs and identify potential solutions.

### **Resource Center (Digital Social Worker)**

Establish a central location where citizens can get information about all services offered to senior citizens by various community organizations, including state and federal agencies.

With the City's plan to update its website, there is a potential to incorporate a resource center on the new website where senior citizen service information can be located. The Resource Center will have two phases. The first phase will identify all local services provided through local and nearby community groups. The second phase will identify services provided through state and federal agencies. The second phase could be a project to be worked on by the next Chamber Inter the City hires.

Public Education Campaigns

Create public education campaigns on current topics affecting senior citizens.

The Public Education Campaign can be done in conjunction with the City's Regular Newsletter and/or as a supplemental publication on an as needed basis (\$5,500 per publication).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Parks and Recreation Commission is asked to discuss and recommend to the City Council an action plan based on the results of the needs assessment.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None