

KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – OCTOBER 2024



HARVEST FESTIVAL 2024 DRAWS RECORD TURNOUT

On October 5, 2024 over 8,000 festivalgoers reveled at the 4th annual Kirkland Harvest Festival! This event featured a lively lineup of live music, a food truck roundup with something for every palate, and a Kids Korral brimming with fun activities like faux cow milking, pumpkin bowling, and pony rides. Attendees explored a bustling marketplace of artisan food and craft vendors, joined in contests for corn shucking and pie eating, and got competitive at an energetic cornhole tournament.

Transportation options were popular this year, with increased usage of the offsite shuttle and a well-received bike valet service provided by Liveable Kirkland. Special thanks to Amazon, Ziplly Fiber, and Neal Smiles Orthodontics for their incredible support — making this celebration truly unforgettable!



DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS 2024 BRINGS TRADITION TO LIFE

The Peter Kirk Community Center came alive during Kirkland's third annual Día de Los Muertos celebration on October 26, 2024. Over 500 attendees came together to enjoy food, music, and dance to celebrate life and to honor the dead.

La Catrina warmly greeted guests while Los Chinelos performers, a symbol of the Mexican state of Morelos, entertained the crowd with their colorful costumes. Latin folk music filled the air as Highland Middle School students showcased their talents on guitar and vocals, and the Everett-based dance group Baile Folklore Colibri performed Aztec dances and Mexican traditional dance baile folklórico. At the heart of the celebration was the ofrenda, an altar adorned with candles, food offerings, and marigolds where community members honored the memories of their loved ones who have passed.



Thanks to Cafecito Mexican Bakery for preparing traditional Mexican holiday treats and Humana for providing favors!



PARK MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

LEAF SEASON IS BACK - BUT WITH A NEW INITIATIVE

Though much of park maintenance is seasonally repetitive, such as managing a lot of leaves every fall, the approach to these tasks is constantly evolving. The department consistently seeks ways to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability. This season leaves collected from the park system are being deposited in the old I-405 borrow pit at Watershed Park rather than being hauled off-site for processing. After a successful pilot of this practice in 2023, the department has fully implemented it this fall. This new practice not only contributes to building topsoil on previously barren terrain but also saves the City thousands of dollars in haul-out fees. Check out more highlights from October below:



BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY

- Aerated and seeded all school sites, ballfields, and the lawn on the north side of Juanita Beach Park.
- Implemented urn and burial services at the cemetery.
- Removed leaves from all lawn and hard surface areas.
- Weeded and chipped beds and tree rings.
- Winterized all irrigation systems.
- Pressure washed buildings and amenities at Crestwoods Park in preparation for AED dedication.
- Repaired broken backstop at Crestwoods Park.

HORTICULTURE

- Planted spring bulbs in park sign beds.
- Removed lake irrigation pumps for winter.
- Inspected trees, completed reports, and updated inventory system.
- Removed leaves from all lawn and hard surface areas.
- Trained in snow and ice response with teams from Public Works.
- Treated knotweed with herbicide per State and County regulations.
- Winterized all irrigation systems.
- Ordered large caliper trees for installation in active use areas.
- Pruned trees at Houghton Beach and O.O. Denny parks.

SUPPORT

- Installed new donated benches at 132nd Square Park.
- Poured new concrete base for park signs at Crestwoods Park.
- Made progress on pool line leak repair in partnership with Public Works.
- Inspected playgrounds at all locations.
- Delivered and spread wood chips at McAuliffe, Mark Twain, Spinney, and North Rose Hill Woodlands playgrounds.
- Delivered and spread wood chips at Snyder's and Jasper's dog parks.
- Installed new, galvanized gates at Crestwoods Park.
- Replaced security lights at Peter Kirk Park.



NATURAL AREAS/GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP

- Received, organized, and delivered thousands of native plants for Green Kirkland restoration.
- Removed leaves from all lawn and hard surface areas.
- Removed blackberry and Scotch broom at Watershed Park to make space for leaves.
- Treated knotweed and invasive trees per State and County regulations.
- Prepared Juanita Beach for Harvest Festival and Samhain Festival.
- The Green Kirkland Partnership is hosting 13 events in November. More information can be found at WWW.GREENKIRKLAND.ORG. We hope to see you there!

CITY FRUIT WRAPS UP SUCCESSFUL SEASON AT MCAULIFFE PARK

City Fruit had a successful season supporting the McAuliffe Park orchard by engaging the community in volunteer events from April through September, alongside continued tree care services. Volunteers participated in pruning, mulching, netting trees and harvesting. A total of seven community events were held in which 60 community members of all ages participated.

This season 636 pounds of apples were harvested from McAuliffe Park. Fruit loads were lower this season due to pruning of some of the larger productive trees done to manage canopy height. This is a normal part of the renovation pruning process. The fruit load is expected to increase over the next couple of seasons.

City Fruit's tree care specialists pruned 14 apple, two Italian plum, one European pear, one Desert King fig, one sweet cherry, and one walnut trees from July through October 2024. Pruning efforts focused on maintaining tree health by removing weak, dead, or diseased branches, reducing canopies, thinning fruit loads, clearing paths for pedestrians and roads, and stimulating growth to encourage future fruiting.



PARK PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Below is a high-level summary and status update of the active Park Planning and Development projects. Please visit the Park Planning and Development [WEBSITE](#) to learn more about these projects.

EVEREST PARK PLAY AREA REPLACEMENT

Everest Park playground has been identified as the next playground to be replaced for the benefit of the community. Staff is working with a playground manufacturer to further refine the baseball concept with installation planned for Spring 2025. *Background of the Project:* This ongoing capital project fund strives to replace aging playgrounds and improve sports courts in the parks throughout the system.

EVEREST RESTROOM REPLACEMENT

The restroom building at Everest Park is planned for design in 2024 and construction in Spring 2025 due to its age and condition. Staff has contracted with a consultant to develop design and construction drawings. Design is underway and has reached 60% design. Construction is planned to begin in August 2025.

Background of the Project: This capital project repairs or replaces park restrooms in the system. Restrooms at Everest Park have been identified for replacement due to their age and condition.

FISK FAMILY PARK

In May 2024, the Park Board and Kirkland Parks and Community Foundation finalized a site plan for the property as well as stabilization of the "little red cottage". Staff has replaced the roof of the cottage and performed other minor security and structural support. This tiny site is highly constrained by stream buffer requirements which limit development, therefore, a soft-surface trail and benches are planned for the site.

Background of the Project: The City acquired new property adjacent to the Cross Kirkland Corridor in late 2023 and will create a plan to guide the future of the new park.

MARINA PARK SHORELINE RENOVATIONS

The project has been refined to focus on repairs to the pier and south fingers along with a few upland repairs and modest path and amenity improvements. The consultant finalized 60% drawings which are now under permit review. Staff received direction to continue designs to 90% and return with refined cost estimates and a funding plan later this year.

Background of the Project: Shoreline structures at Marina Park were evaluated and identified for repairs in the 2019 Kirkland Shoreline Structures Assessment Report. In late 2022, a portion of the sidewalk and stairs at Marina Park experienced significant failure.

O.O. DENNY PARK PICNIC SHELTER

A new additional picnic shelter has been designed and will be constructed in proximity to the existing shelter, adding capacity for the community. The project is currently in permitting with bidding in late fall followed by construction in Spring 2025.

Background of the Project: Addition of a picnic shelter using funds transferred from the Finn Hill Park District.

HUMAN SERVICES

KIRKLAND YOUTH COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS FOR 2024-2025

The Kirkland Youth Council (KYC) completed its new member recruitment process for 2024. It was a record-breaking year, with 95 applications submitted. After a week of interviews with 30 candidates, the KYC Leadership team selected 14 new members. These new members represent six different schools in grades 6-12 from across the City of Kirkland.



RECREATION SERVICES

PEE WEE MONSTER BASH

Nearly 200 preschoolers and their families enjoyed the Pee Wee Halloween Monster Bash on Friday, October 25, 2024 at the North Kirkland Community Center. This event was packed with fun, games, and treats including Monster Ball Bowling, Little Vamp Skee Ball, Swamp Fishing, Meet the Rock Monster, and a Monster Munch Cookie Stroll.



HALLOWEEN FUN AT PETER KIRK COMMUNITY CENTER

The Peter Kirk Community Center got into the Halloween spirit this year with plenty of spooky fun! Community members and staff showed off their creative costumes, making it a day full of festive cheer. A special thank you goes to everyone who dressed up and celebrated with us!

The Halloween festivities didn't stop there—campers in the Peter Kirk After School Camp enjoyed an extra treat with special guests from the Kirkland Youth Council (KYC). KYC members planned and hosted a series of fun activities, including cookie decorating, a mummy wrap game, and several craft stations. A big thank you to the Kirkland Youth Council and the Human Services staff for organizing this exciting event and helping campers celebrate in style!



KIRKLAND TEEN UNION BUILDING

- KTUB reached 200+ followers on Instagram! The KTUB account gained an additional 37 followers in October.
- Enrollment for the Teen Zombie Prom on Friday, October 25, 2024 doubled on the day of the event with nearly 30 teens in attendance.
- KTUB reached a new daily milestone on October 23, 2024 when they had 45 teens drop-in! Teens stayed an average of 1.17 hours per day during the month. Overall KTUB's total monthly drop-ins grew from 133 in September to 492 during October.

SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES



Staff support activities listed below through permitting; coordination with other City departments for street closures, Fire and Police support, safety and sanitary regulations, and banners; City facility use such as parks, parking lots, and streets, evening and weekend on-call logistical support; and communication with the public. Learn more at KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS.

LAKE WASHINGTON HALF

On October 19, over 800 athletes powered through strong winds to compete in the annual Lake Washington Half Marathon. Produced by Anacortes-based Orca Running, the USA Track & Field certified race supported the Blaine High School Booster Club and their efforts to raise funds for upcoming activities. Awards were presented to the top three male, female, and non-binary runners, along with awards for various age groups.



PUMPKINS IN THE PARK

The Kirkland Downtown Association hosted its annual Halloween themed Pumpkins in the Park event on October 26, 2024 at Marina Park. This free, family-friendly celebration featured live music, a dog costume contest, pumpkin patch, balloon twisting and face painting. Kids of all ages delighted in meeting friendly llamas, enjoyed an exciting performance by the Reptile Man, and marveled at the artistic skills on display during an impressive pumpkin carving competition.

SAMHAIN CELEBRATION

The Pacific Northwest Witches' Market returned to Juanita Beach Park on October 27, 2024 for its third annual Samhain Celebration. Despite the torrential rain, a steady crowd armed with sturdy umbrellas gathered to mark the witch's new year. Around 2,000 attendees embraced the mystical atmosphere, exploring an array of enchanting vendors, artisans, and interactive workshops. The celebration featured captivating performances of song and dance, while guests connected with witches, healers, and spiritual counselors. With offerings like Tarot readings, astrology, and Reiki, the event created a day of magic and transformation for all who attended.



FILM PRODUCTION

Film Production Permits are required for commercial filming activities taking place within the city of Kirkland. In October, WAG Entertainment Limited, based in London, UK, received two permits for a documentary project. The crew filmed for two days at various locations, including Marina Park, Juanita Beach Park, the exterior of the Kirkland Justice Center, and along NE 113th Street.

UPCOMING EVENTS

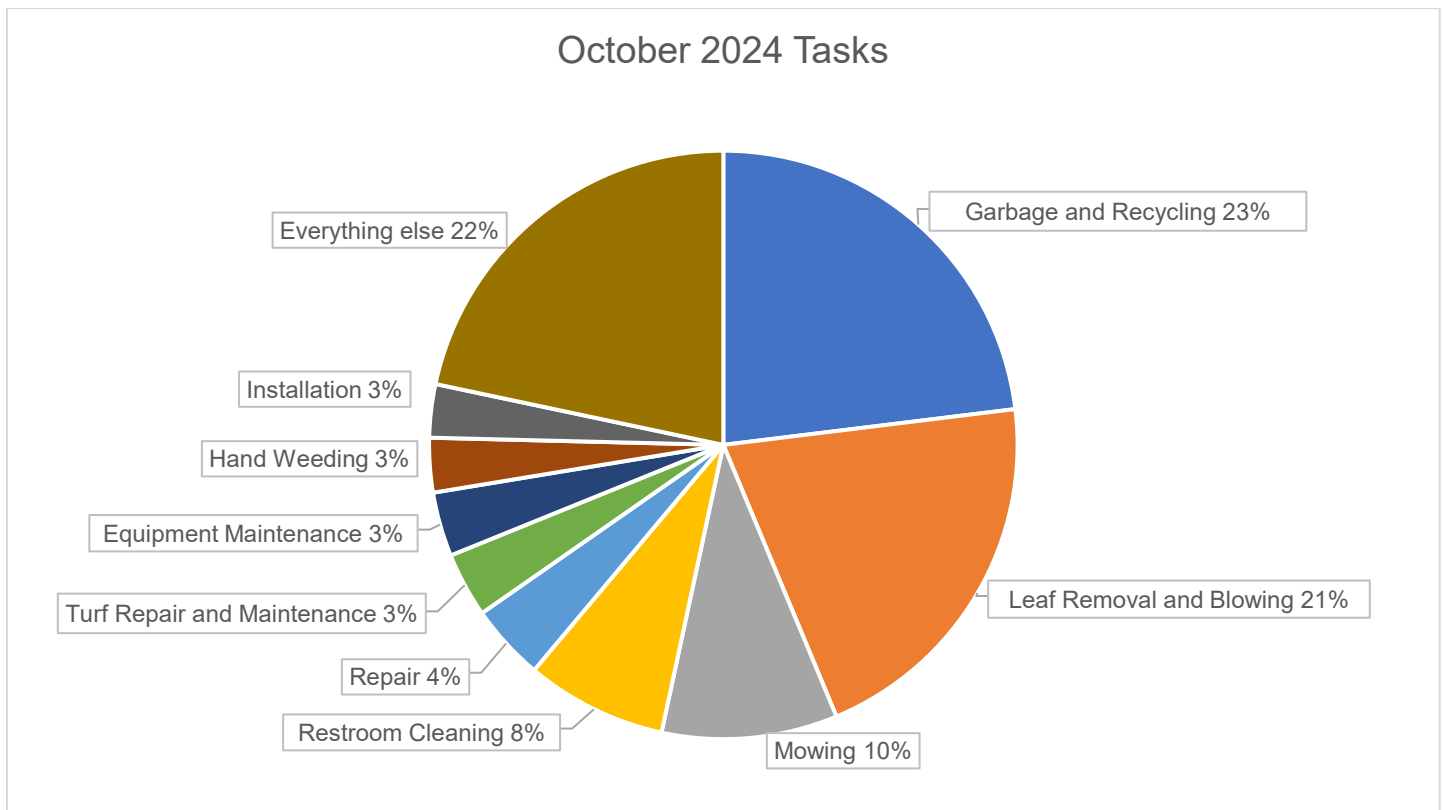
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
Sunday, Nov. 17	Kirkland Turkey Trot	Marina Park	KIRKLANDTURKEYTROT.COM
Friday, Dec. 6	Google Lights	Feriton Spur Park	WWW.EXPLOREKIRKLAND.COM
Saturday, Dec. 7	Winterfest Tree Lighting	Marina Park	KIRKLANDDOWNTOWN.ORG
Sunday, Dec. 15	12ks of Christmas	Marina Park	12KSOFCHRISTMAS.COM

PARKS MAINTENANCE DATA

LABOR HOURS BY TASK

Task	Hours
Brush Clearing	96.5
Cemetery and Burial Services	35
Cleaning	103.5
Contracted Crew Restoration of Natural Areas	4
Edging and Line Trimming	14.25
Equipment Maintenance	156
Event Support	124
Garbage and Recycling	1018
Hand Weeding	132
Inspection	89.25
Installation	129.25
Inventory Management	7.25
Leaf Removal and Blowing	912.25
Mowing	426.25

Task	Hours
Mulching and Soil Amendments	59.75
Nursery Management	82.25
Pesticide Application	49.25
Planting	42
Pool Maintenance	4
Pruning	95
Repair	185.25
Restroom Cleaning	342
Sport Field Game Setup	13.75
Sport Field Maintenance	72.75
Tree Inspection and Inventory	14
Tree Removal and Chipping	11.25
Turf Repair and Maintenance	157
Winterization and Spring Start Up	39.5
GRAND TOTAL	4,415.25



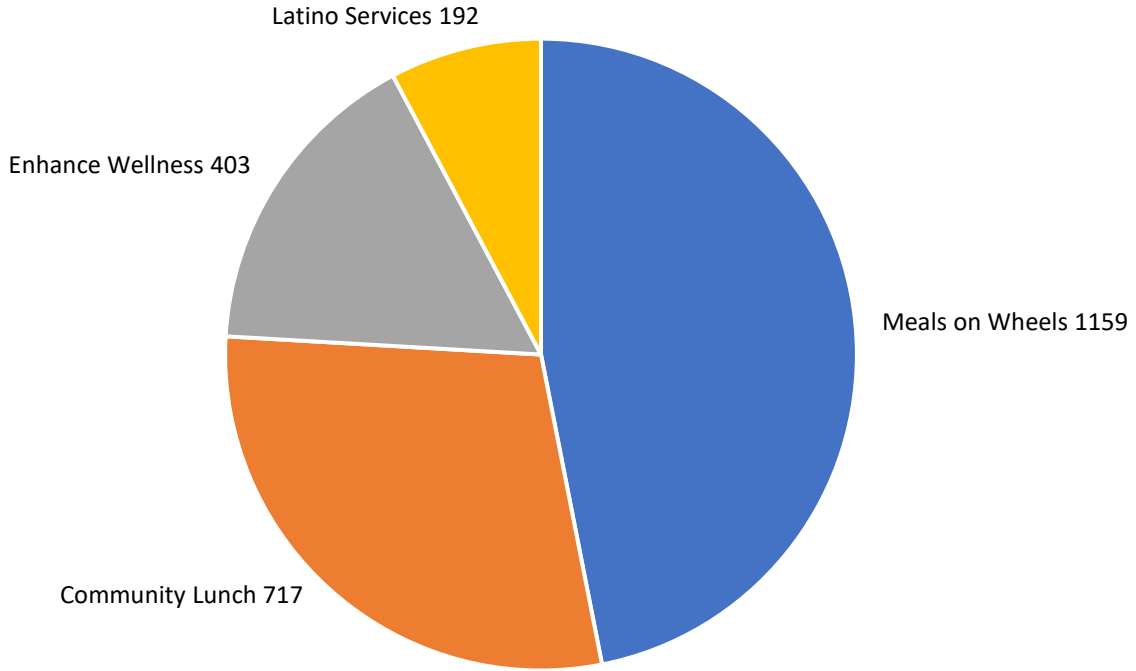
PARKS MAINTENANCE LABOR HOURS BY PARK

Park/Location	Hours
132nd Square Park	216
2nd Avenue South Dock	18.25
Beach Property	1
Ben Franklin Elementary School Field	24
Brookhaven Park	5
Bud Homan Park	5.25
Carillon Woods	26
Cedar View Park	8.25
CKC	1
Cotton Hill Park	4
Crestwoods Park	286.75
David E. Brink Park	34
Doris Cooper Houghton Beach Park	161.75
Edith Moulton Park	66.25
Emerson High School Field	21.75
Everest Park	330.25
FH1, FH2, FH3, FH4, FH5, FH7, FH8, FH9	13
Finn Hill Middle School Field	36
Fisk Family Park	7.5
Forbes Creek Park	32
Forbes Lake Park	4
Gemmill Heights	1
Hazen Hills Park	9.5
Heritage Park	102.75
Heronfield Wetlands	71.75
Highlands Park	17.75
HL1	0.75
Houghton Park and Ride	112.5
Josten Park	17
JU1, JU2, JU4	6
Juanita Bay Park	145.75
Juanita Beach Park	504.5
Juanita Elementary School Field	21.25
Juanita Heights Park	1
KG1 & KG2	5
Kingsgate Park	11.5
Kirkland Cemetery	157.25
Kirkland Middle School Field	19.25
Kiwanis Park	10.75

Park/Location	Hours
Lake Ave W Street End Park	19
Lakeview Elementary School Field	18.5
Marina Park	126.5
Mark Twain Elementary School Field	19.75
Mark Twain Park	25.25
Marsh Park	69.75
McAuliffe Park	177.75
Neal-Landguth Wetland Park	7
North Kirkland Com Ctr & Park	78.25
North Rose Hill Woodlands Park	49.75
NRH1, NRH2, NRH3, NRH4	2.75
O O Denny Park	147
Parks Maintenance Center	200
Peter Kirk Elementary School Field	13.75
Peter Kirk Park	232.25
Peter Kirk Pool	49
Phyllis A. Needy - Houghton Neighborhood	67.25
Public Works	4
Reservoir Park	19.5
Rose Hill Elementary School Field	22.25
Rose Hill Meadows	41.25
Rotary Central Station	5.75
Settler's Landing	17.75
Snyder's Corner Park	21.5
South Norway Hill Park	16.75
South Rose Hill Park	50.25
Spinney Homestead Park	17.5
Terrace Park	10.25
TL1 & TL3	1
Tot Lot Park	22
Totem Lake Park	85.25
Van Aalst Park	29.25
Watershed Park	126
Waverly Beach Park	82.75
Windsor Vista Park	18.75
Winski Parcel	0.75
Wiviott Property	1
Yarrow Bay Wetlands	1
GRAND TOTAL	4,415.25

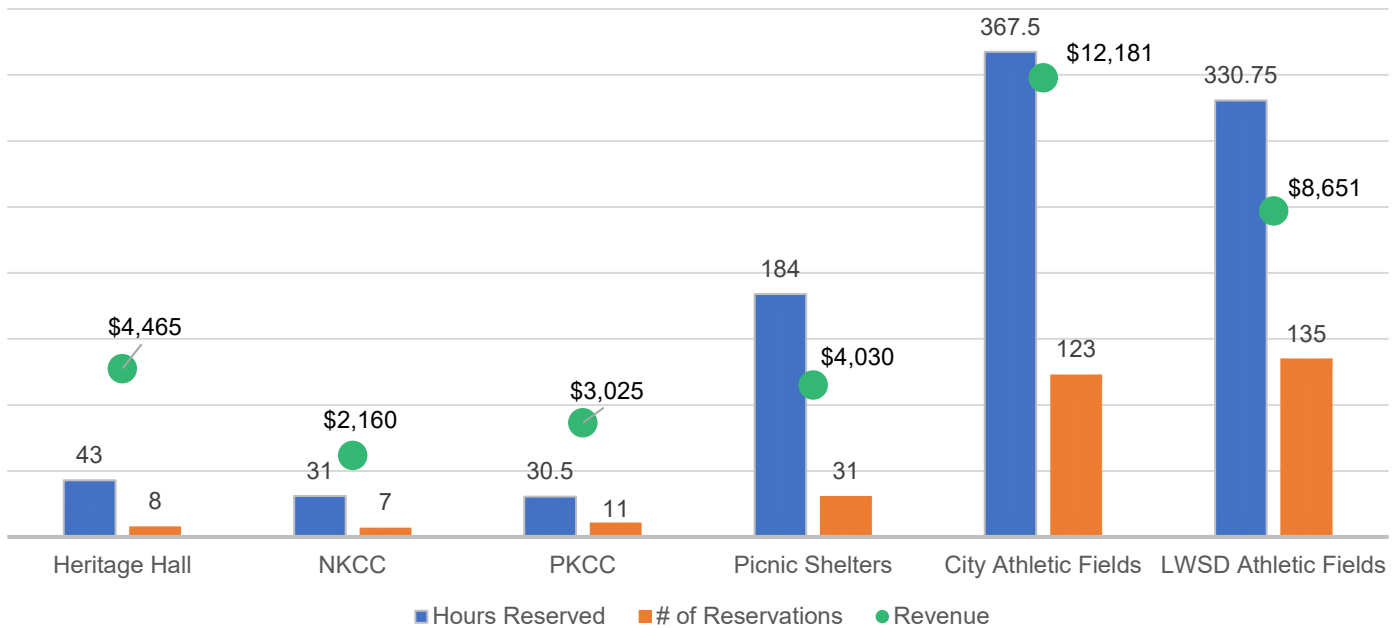
RECREATION DATA

SENIOR SERVICES - SEPTEMBER 2024

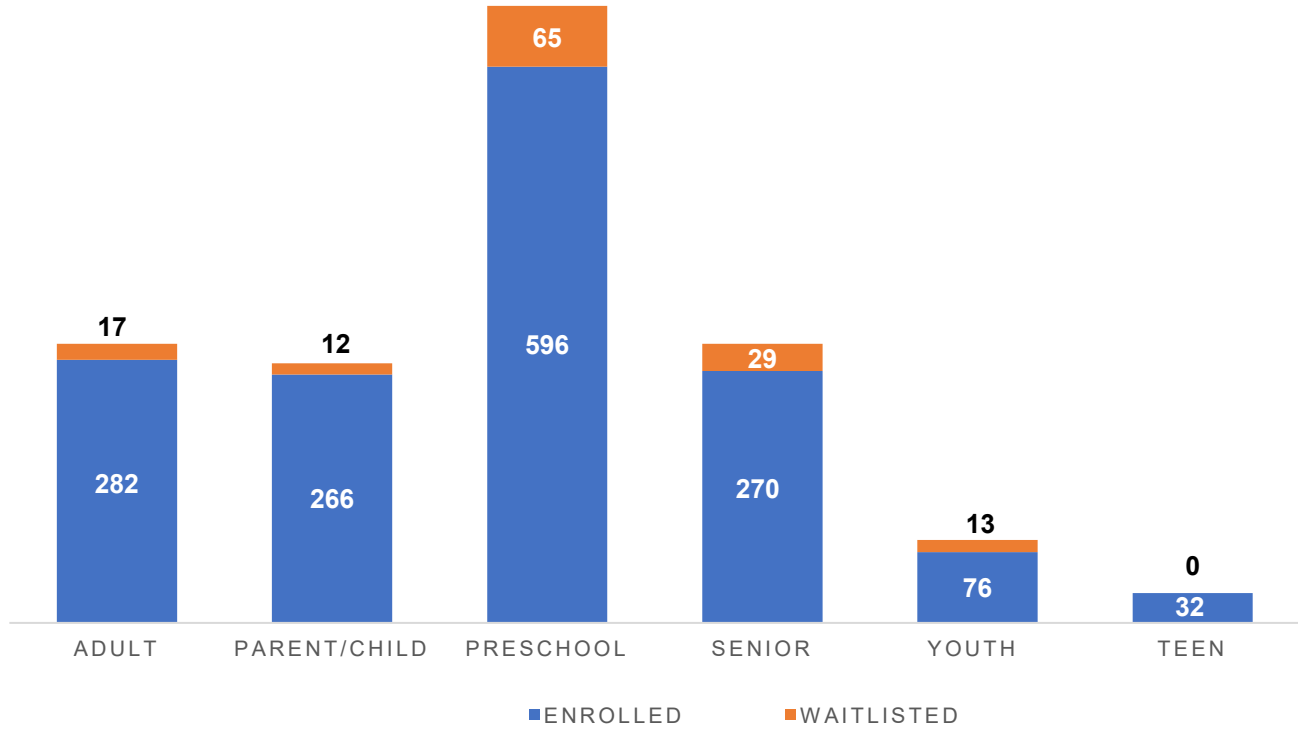


**Senior Services Data reported by agencies the month after services provided*

ALL RENTALS - OCTOBER 2024



PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS BEGINNING OCTOBER 2024



RECREATION SCHOLARSHIPS

	October 2024	YTD
Applications approved	0	63
Donation funds used	\$302.25	\$22,847.82
Donation funds received	\$569.00	\$8,073.00