Conference Room A

214343 Civic Drive
Victorville, CA
www.victorvilleca.gov

COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Agenda **4:00 p.m. Regular Session**
Monday, November 16, 2026

The Community Services Advisory Committee holds its business meetings in public in accordance with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act, its established policies and procedures, and its adopted parliamentary authority. The Community Services Advisory Committee strives to carry out its meetings in an atmosphere of professionalism with full participation by members of the body and the public. As such, the Presiding Officer is empowered to govern Committee meetings to foster the efficient and fair administration of City business and reserves the right to enforce (or cause to be enforced) the Meeting Rules of Conduct and Decorum as set forth in Resolution No. 13-049, Adopting Rules and Procedures for the Various Advisory Committees.

The Community Services Advisory Committee welcomes and encourages public participation and invites the community to attend in person. Participants are invited to address the Committee on agendized and non-agendized items at the beginning of the meeting. Public comments will be no longer than three (3) minutes per community member. Should a speaker conclude their comments prior to the expiration of three (3) minutes, the speaker waives the right to speak for any remaining amount of time. Members of the public may submit comments electronically to csadmin@victorvilleca.gov before 2:00 p.m. the day of the meeting to be distributed to the Committee. If your comment does not apply to a specific Agenda Item, please write General Public Comment in the subject line.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the office of the Community Services at 760.243.1969 no later than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Introduction to Public Comments

Public Comments

NEW BUSINESS

1. Minutes of the August 17, 2026, Regular Community Services Advisory Committee Meeting
   Recommendation:
   That the Community Services Advisory Committee approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 17, 2026.

2. Civil Rights Memorial Essay Contest Winner
   Recommendation:
   That the Community Services Advisory Committee review and score the submitted essays and select a winner for the 2026 Civil Rights Memorial.

3. Park Adoption Reports from Committee Members (Oral Reports)

4. Community Service's Department Reports (Oral Reports)

5. Community Services Director Report (Oral Report)

6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Upcoming Agenda Items (Oral Reports)

7. Reports from Committee Members (Oral Reports)

Adjournment

Item Number: 1

Community Services Advisory Committee

New Business

Meeting of: November 16, 2026

Submitted By:
Donna Meester, Community Services Director

Subject:
Minutes of the August 17, 2026, Regular Community Services Advisory Committee meeting.

Recommendation:
That the Community Services Advisory Committee approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 17, 2026.

Fiscal Impact:
There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Attachments: A. Minutes of the August 17, 2026, Regular CSAC Meeting

Attachment A

Minutes of the August 17, 2026, Regular Meeting

Training Rooms 1 & 2
14343 Civic Drive
Victorville, CA
www.victorvilleca.gov

Community Services Advisory Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 17, 2026

4:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Community Services Advisory Committee was called to order by Vice Chair McDonald at 4:07 p.m.

Roll Call
Present: Vice Chair McDonald, Member Mehrhof, Member Amaral
Absent: Chair Smith, Member Temple
Also Present: Daysi Oxley, Eddie Gleason, Arnold Castro, Seth Gemel, Liset Lagunas, Nicole Banks, Lathresia Ballou, Kelsey White Funkhouser, Tony Camargo, Donna Meester

Introduction to Public Comments
Donna Meester provided opening statement regarding public comments

Public Comments
No Public Comment

NEW BUSINESS

1. **May 18, 2026, Regular Community Services Advisory Committee Meeting**

   Recommendation:
   Approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026, Regular Meeting.
   Motion was made to approve minutes
   Moved: Member Mehrhof
   Seconded: Member Amaral
   Motion passed 3-0
   Ayes: Vice Chair McDonald, Member Mehrhof, Member Amaral
   Nayes: No Nayes
   Absent: Chair Smith, Member Temple

2. **Doris Davies and Sunset Ridge Park Concept Design Presentation (Wallace Group)**

   Matt Wilkins of Wallace Group provided a presentation and discussion on the concept designs for Sunset Ridge and Doris Davies Park beautification strategies.

A summary of survey results was presented with Sunset Ridge with 64 surveys, and the top five requests were a splash pad, dog park, walking trail, sports courts, and shade. Concept design overview presented two options incorporating various activities. Doris Davies had 133 surveys with the top five requests mirroring those of Sunset Ridge. Concept design overview incorporated a parking lot with drop off and pick up location, pickle ball, additional parking, and shade trees. Additionally, the design includes an Aquatic Center and a Community Center with a gym. Safety recommendations for both parks include better lighting, cameras, and increased presence of law enforcement.

3. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Upcoming Agenda Items**

   Meester, Community Services Director: Outlined process for adding items to CSAC, next meeting November 16, 2026. No Agenda item was presented.

4. **Report from Committee Members**

   None at this time

Adjournment
Vice Chair McDonald adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Item Number: 2

Community Services Advisory Committee

New Business

Meeting of: November 16, 2026

Submitted By:
Donna Meester, Community Services Director

Subject:
Civil Rights Memorial Essay Contest Winner

Recommendation:
Staff recommend the review and selection of a winner of the Civil Rights Memorial Essay Contest.

Fiscal Impact:
There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Discussion:
Essay submissions were due on November 9, 2026, and five (5) essays were submitted for consideration, zero (0) were eliminated that did not meet essay guidelines. Therefore, there is a total of five (5) essays for consideration. Please read and select your winning essay.

Attachments: Attachment A: Civil Rights Memorial Essays

Attachment A

Civil Rights Memorial Essays



CURRENT PLAQUES

Abraham Lincoln
Asa Philip Randolph
Claudette Colvin
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Ella Josephine Baker
Frances EW Harper
Federick Douglass
Harriet Tubman
Katherine Johnson
Lucy Burns
Jackie Robinson

Criteria for Judging 2026 Civil Rights Memorial Essays:

Representatives of the Community Services Advisory Committee will read and evaluate essays based on the criteria listed below:

A. Understanding of the topic.
B. Original thinking relative to the topic.
C. Effectiveness in presenting a personal point of view.
D. Literary style, grammar and spelling.

Cast Your Vote at the Next CSAC Meeting November 16, 2026

Select Top Three Essays:

ID #	Student Name	Civil Rights Leader	School	Grade	#1	#2
1	McKenzie Robinson	Rosa Parks	Galileo Academy	5th		
2	Greyson Silva	Wilma Rudolph	Galileo Academy	5th		
3	Felicitas Jones	Thurgood Marshall	Galileo Academy	5th		
4	Tracey Barahona	Diane Nash	Galileo Academy	5th		
5	Shakur Hurndon	Fannie Lou Hamer	Galileo Academy	5th		
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

#1

A Seat That Changed History

By: McKenzie Robinson

Rosa Parks was an important leader in the Civil Rights Movement. She was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama. People remember her because she stood up against unfair rules and helped others fight for equal rights. Rosa Parks deserves to be remembered because she was brave, believed in fairness, and helped change history.

Rosa grew up in Alabama when Black and White people were separated by unfair laws called Jim Crow Laws. Segregation was an unfair system that treated people differently because of their race. Black people did not have the same rights and opportunities as White people. As an adult, Rosa worked with the NAACP, an organization that fought against unfair treatment and helped protect people's rights. She wanted everyone to be treated fairly.

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks was riding a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. The bus driver told her to give up her seat to a White passenger. Rosa refused because she believed the rule was unfair. The police arrested her. Rosa knew she might get in trouble, but she still stood up for what she believed was right. I think Rosa was brave because she did not let fear stop her from standing up against unfair treatment.

Rosa's arrest helped inspire the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Black residents stopped riding the buses to protest segregation. The boycott lasted 381 days, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. helped lead the movement. People walked long distances, shared rides, and helped one another get to work and school. They worked together because they wanted fair treatment. Their peaceful protest helped bring an end to segregation on public buses.

Rosa Parks should be remembered because she helped many people fight for equal rights. She showed that one person can make a difference and inspire others to take action. Her bravery gave people hope and helped make the Civil

Rights Movement stronger. People today should learn about Rosa Parks because her story teaches us to treat everyone fairly, even when others disagree with us.

I believe Rosa Parks deserves a bronze plaque in the Victorville Civil Rights Memorial because she helped make life better for many people. She stood up for what was right and helped inspire others to fight for fairness. Her actions remind us that everyone deserves respect, no matter what they look like or where they come from.

Rosa Parks teaches us to be brave and stand up against what isn't right. Even though she was one person, her actions helped change history. We should remember her courage and the difference she made in the fight for equality.

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GREYSON SILVA
10/22/26

THE LEGACY OF WILMA RUDOLPH

When Wilma Rudolph was little, she almost lost her leg. This had a great impact on her life, but it did not stop her. Growing up in the south during times of segregation, Wilma refused to let others tell her who she was going to be.

Wilma Glodean Rudolph was born June 23, 1940 and grew up in poverty in St. Bethlehem, Tennessee. Her father had two wives; Wilma was one of 22 children. She was five years old when she got polio, which partially paralyzed her left leg. Wilma had to do physical therapy and wear a metal brace. Anytime she traveled to Nashville for doctor appointments, she would have to sit in the back of the bus. Doctors wondered if she would ever walk again. But this did not stop her from being the best runner ever!

Wilma's family called her “Skeeters" because she was quick like a mosquito; her fans referred to her as, “The Black Gazelle" because of her long stride; and others dubbed her as “The Tornado" for her explosive speeds.

Wilma attended Burt High School and, at age 16, qualified for the 1956 Summer Olympics Games. She was the youngest member on the U.S.A. team and won a bronze medal. In 1958, she gave birth to her first daughter, Yolanda. After graduating, she received a scholarship to

Tennessee State University. In 1960, Wilma Rudolph qualified for the Olympics again. Her favorite event was the relay because she got to stand on platforms with her teammates.

The world went wild when Wilma Glodean Rudolph won three gold medals in the 100, 200, and 400 meter relay because she was the first woman in history to do it.

After the Olympics, Wilma graduated, and her home town threw her a parade. She went on to have three more children, coached, and served as a goodwill ambassador in French West Africa.

Wilma was inducted into the Black Athletes Hall of Fame in 1973 and the National Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1974. In 1977, NBC made a movie based on Wilma's autobiography about her life and accomplishments. She was later inducted in the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1980, and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 1983.

Wilma Glodean Rudolph died of brain cancer on November 12,1994 at age 54 in Nashville Tennessee. She taught us that we can do remarkable things even if we face challenges, look or do things differently, or have a disability. Through her life, Wilma shows us that it is not our struggles, or other people's expectations, that determine who we are, but the steps we take to become who we were always meant to be.

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#3

Thurgood's Way of Making Things Better

By Felicitas Jones

Thurgood Marshall is a very important man in our history. He has been a great influence for the people who have followed his footsteps. He worked until his retirement. Thurgood would always try to save as many people as possible so we could have a chance of getting a better future. Many people are very lucky to live under no law that says, "You must not go to schools that have different races or religions.". He did this to make important changes in society. Thurgood Marshall helped many people go to good schools.

Thurgood's real name is Thoroughgood. He was born on July 2,1908. He got tired of writing his own name that is too long. He shortened it to Thurgood so it would be easier to write in second grade. He was poor and had very little money. He was also a storyteller who loved making funny bits in it. He was raised in Baltimore, Maryland. His school was Howard University School of Law. In 1933, he graduated first in his class. His first wife, Vivian Burey Marshall, passed away due to lung cancer in 1955. Then, he married Cecilia Suyat Marshall and had two sons, Thurgood Marshall Jr. and John Marshall. In 1993, Thurgood Marshall passed away at age 84 due to heart failure.

He worked at NAACP as a chief counsel. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy nominated Thurgood Marshall to the court of the US Court of Appeals Second Circuit. In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to serve the government's chief advocate then nominated him as an Associate Justice in the US Supreme Court in 1967. Thurgood Marshall fought 32 cases and won 29 of them. He had worked hard to make a good life and a good fortune. Thurgood Marshall's

work was on how to fight for justice,liberty, freedom so people could be able to do and try new things. He also believed that the death penalty was unnecessary torture and punishment and succeeded in temporarily halting it.

One of his most famous work was the Brown v. Board of Education. It ruled racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional. Thurgood Marshall defeated it by explaining more than just underfunded schools. He also used the famous doll test. The doll test is what they called the white doll good while the black dolls are bad, cruel, and ugly. He argued that the senate court was doing that to measure their way of the separate halves.

Thurgood Marshall is an important part of our society and his legacy continues to inspire us today. No matter what color skin we have, we are all equally important. Marshall stated, "Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out, because this is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on.". Just like Thurgood, we can also make a difference. Thus, Thurgood Marshall was a great man who changed history.

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Diane Nash

By Tracey Barahona

Imagine being a young student sitting at a lunch counter staying calm while an angry crowd screams at you just because of the color of your skin. Diane Nash was a fearless student leader who rescued the civil rights movement when it was about to fail, proving that you are never too young to change history.

Diane Nash was born on May 15, 1938 in Chicago Illinois. She grew up in a big northern city, so she did not experience severe segregation laws on a daily basis when she was a little girl. Everything changed when she moved to the south to attend college at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee in 1959. She felt shocked and angered when she first experienced public segregation. She refused to accept being treated like a second class citizen and immediately joined a group that taught students how to protest peacefully.

One day Nash became the chairperson of the Nashville Student Movement leading students to sit at "whites - only" lunch counters. Even when people attacked them, she stayed calm. After a bomb destroyed a black lawyer's home, Nash led four thousand people to march to City Hall. She fearlessly confronted the Mayor of Nashville, Ben West, right on the steps. She looked him in the eye and asked if he felt it was wrong to discriminate against someone just because of their skin color. The mayor admitted it was wrong, and Nashville became the very first major city in the south to open its lunch counters to everyone!

In 1961, the "Freedom Rides" became very dangerous and the older leaders were terrified and wanted to give up. However, Diane Nash insisted that they kept going. She bravely told the older leaders that if they let violence stop them, it would show that the violent mobs could always win just by hurting others. Nash even stayed up late trying to persuade the adults to help fund the bus tickets. Her stubborn courage saved the project and kept the fight for equality moving forward.

Diane Nash did not stop fighting for justice after the bus protests. She moved to Alabama and became a key leader for the famous voting rights marches in Selma. She worked hard behind the scenes to make sure thousands of black citizens could safely register to vote. Because of her endless bravery throughout the movement, she was later awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Diane Nash's incredible life reminds us that history is not just made by the famous adults we see on posters. If we forget her name, we forget that young college students were the ones who actually rescued the civil rights movement when it mattered most. Her story proves that true courage does not care about age. By remembering Nash's legacy, we keep the spirit of justice alive and inspire the next generation of young citizens to speak up fearlessly, demand equality, and successfully change our nation.

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Shakur Hurndon

Mrs. Anderson

ELA

October 24, 2026

Fannie Lou Hamer: A Voice For Freedom

Fannie Lou Hamer was a women rights activist who helped black women vote, She was the vice chair of the Freedom Democratic Party. When Fannie Lou Hamer tried to vote her boss fired her and her husband was required to stay on the land until the end of the harvest. On September 10, 1962 while staying with a friend, Hamer was shot at 15 times in a drive-by by racist, luckily no one got hurt at the event. Fannie and her family moved nearby to Tallahatchie County in fear of retaliation by the Ku Klux Klan because she tried to vote. Fannie Lou Hamer co-founded the Mississippi Democratic Party. It was the same year that she said her famous quote, ”You can pray until you faint, but if you don’t get up and try to do something, God is not going to put it in your lap.”

Fannie was born as Fannie Lou Townsend to Lou Ella and James Lee Townsend in 1917, October 6 in Montgomery, Mississippi. In 1919 she and her family moved to Ruleville Mississippi to work as sharecroppers on a plantation. From her early years at the age of just 6 she had to pick cotton for her family. She was the youngest child of 20 kids, her parents had 6 girls and 14 boys. Her education was so limited that she went to a one room school. Even though her education was limited to a one room school, she still excelled in spelling bees. At age 12 she had

to stop attending school to help her aging parents. By the age of 13 she picked up 200-300 pounds of cotton every day while living with polio, still continuing to persevere.

Fannie Lou was so excellent in reading, writing, and speaking skills the plantation owner hired her to be his time and record keeper. During this time she married her husband Perry Pap Hamer they were married for 18 years. She was unable to have children biologically due to health reasons, but later adopted 2 girls. Unfortunately, her daughter Dorthy Jean died at the young age of 22 because of internal bleeding and the fact that she was denied health care because of her mothers activism. At that time she began to get interested in the civil rights movement in the 1950s.

Fan Lou joined the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1962 to help Black Mississippians register to vote. While attempting to register, she was immediately fired from her plantation job and evicted from her home. A year later in 1963 upon returning from a voter training workshop she and fellow activists were arrested and severely beaten by police and inmates in Winona, Mississippi. Causing her permanent kidney damage, a blood clot in her eye, and chronic physical disabilities. After co-founding the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in 1964 she delivered a nationally televised speech detailing the violence and disenfranchisement that Black Mississippians faced. Her speech was so powerful that President Lyndon B. Johnson tried to block it, only to attract more media attention to her words. Her hard work and advocacy were pivotal in pushing for the passage of the landmark Voting Rights Act Of 1965, which disassembled the Jim Crow voting barriers.

I believe Fannie Lou should be recognized for her perseverance, resilience, and activism for people of all colors. She endured years of debilitating police brutality to help others. Lou

should be remembered as a defining leader of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement who transformed her life as a Mississippi sharecropper into a powerful force for voting rights, economic justice, and human dignity.

Works Cited

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