

2024-11-19 CC AGENDA  
PUBLIC COMMUNICATION - MISC. - ESYD STORAGE

**From:** Mancini, Aly <amancini@elsegundo.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 2:50 PM  
**To:** jenmw7184@hotmail.com <jenmw7184@hotmail.com>  
**Cc:** \*ALL CITY COUNCIL <allcouncil@elsegundo.org>; 'Bob Motta (bmotta@elsegundoccb.org)' <bmotta@elsegundoccb.org>; Marc Cavagnolo <mcavagnolo@elsegundoccb.org>; 'Stolnack, Julie' <jstolnack@elsegundoccb.org>; 'Dave Lubs (dlubs@elsegundoccb.org)' <dlubs@elsegundoccb.org>; 'Kelly Watson' <kwatson@elsegundoccb.org>; George, Darrell <dgeorge@elsegundo.org>  
**Subject:** ESYD Storage

Good Afternoon,

I have been forwarded an email that you sent to the City Council and Rec and Park Commissioners regarding the storage for El Segundo Youth Drama.

I wanted to clarify my request for ESYD to relocate materials from the lower level storage area at the Clubhouse.

As you may know, the Drama program currently occupies approximately 90% of the available storage areas at the Gordon Clubhouse including a large, lower level storage room, and multiple closets and cabinets throughout the facility. Staff estimates that the program currently occupies close to 1100 sq feet of space to store hundreds of costumes, props and equipment.

As you probably know, the Recreation Department offers hundreds of programs and activities each year that serve thousands of residents. All of these programs and activities have related materials and equipment that need to be stored safely, securely and in a central location for the most efficient inventory tracking of these resources.

In your email you stated:

*It has come to my attention that the Director of the Parks & Rec Department has required all of the costumes and theatrical props (which have been used and reused over the last 35 years of theatrical productions) be relocated to another location, far away from the Clubhouse where most of the rehearsals and shows take place.*

This is not accurate and I am sorry if that is the perception. I certainly value the drama program and understand the tremendous amount of work that goes into community arts programs. My daughter, who is now 15, participated in community theatre in Orange County from 4 years old until 13 years old and I was one of the most active parent volunteers in the company. I helped make costumes, ran fundraisers and volunteered backstage. I am well versed in the passionate work of parents and drama staff and the creative ways in which challenges are managed to ensure the children have a meaningful experience in the arts.

In July, staff met with Natalie Kahn to discuss the need for centralized storage for Department supplies and equipment. At that time, Rec staff and Natalie agreed that the drama team would work to relocate the items in the storage area to **any or all of the following locations:** the Sunroom at the Clubhouse, the storage area behind the curtains of the auditorium or in any of the sheds currently located on the handball courts in Recreation Park. Drama will retain the use of multiple cabinets and closets in the Clubhouse that are currently storing costumes. I understand there are concerns about supplies being exposed to the elements while being stored in the sheds

offered to drama, but the sheds are brand new, protected from the elements and have shelving. There are hundreds of plastic bins storing props that will fare very well in the storage sheds.

I understand that the drama program has been collecting and procuring props and costumes for many, many years and that this move will require some downsizing. Similarly, the Department will be doing some downsizing of supplies and equipment as well. As more programs and events are added to the Department's schedule, all parties will need to work together to meet storage needs.

I understand that this move may cause some additional planning for gathering props and costumes for shows. However, my team stands willing and able to assist as needed. I believe that the move will also allow drama to get a clean inventory of what is on hand so items needed for shows can be quickly and easily located and accessed.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please reach out to me directly and I would be glad to talk further.

Thank you.

**Aly Mancini**

Director

Department of Recreation, Parks and Library

City of El Segundo

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