CITY OF RENO

Memorandum

DATE: January 14, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Jackie Bryant, City Manager

FROM: Nathan Ullyot, Director, Parks and Recreation
Matt Brezina, Parks Manager

DEPT: Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Park Vandalism Update

The purpose of this memo is to inform City officials of a recent string of vandalism which occurred at multiple parks across the city over the past week. A combination of graffiti and structure damage were found by Park Rangers, Park Maintenance Staff, and City Security, contributing to significant labor and materials costs. Exhibit A contains photographs of the damage incurred.

Oxbow Nature Study Area Vandalism:

On Thursday, January 1, 2026, at approximately 3:35 a.m. surveillance video at Oxbow Nature Study Area captured footage of a vehicle running into the closed access gate at the entrance of the park. The impact bent the frame of the gate and damaged the locking mechanism. The incident was reported by City Security, and the gate was repaired by City staff on Monday, January 5, 2026.

Double Diamond Park Vandalism:

On Friday, January 1, 2026, park maintenance staff discovered damage to the restroom building at Double Diamond Park. It appears individuals attempted to gain access to the winterized and locked restroom units by damaging the doors. The locks were forced open and taped to prevent them relocking, the automatic closing mechanism and hinges were removed, and propane heaters were found inside the unit. Staff believe the building was being used for temporary shelter. Park Maintenance staff secured the doors to prevent immediate access and are working on door modifications to prevent this type of vandalism in the future.

Horseman's Park Vandalism:

On the morning of January 2, 2026, Allied Security discovered a broken clothes donation box at Horseman's Park. The contents appeared to have been stolen reportedly by individuals in a brown Chevy Blazer. Allied Security was unable to obtain the Nevada license plate number as the vehicle drove off upon their arrival. Staff will contact the donation center to address the damage.

Teglia's Paradise Park Restroom:

On Saturday, January 3, 2026, Park Rangers performed a routine inspection of the restroom near the playground in the northwest corner of Teglia's Paradise Park. They found one of the two interior stalls severely burned by a fire. The fire appeared to have started on the baby changing station, which is a complete loss, and flames and smoke caused damage throughout the unit. The rest of the interior amenities were unharmed, but significant decontamination and cleaning is needed before the restroom is usable again.

Barbara Bennett Park Graffiti:

During regular maintenance on Monday, January 5, 2026, staff found spray paint graffiti on the unpainted back side of the basketball court mural wall. An online police report was filed, and the Graffiti Abatement Team immediately painted over it.

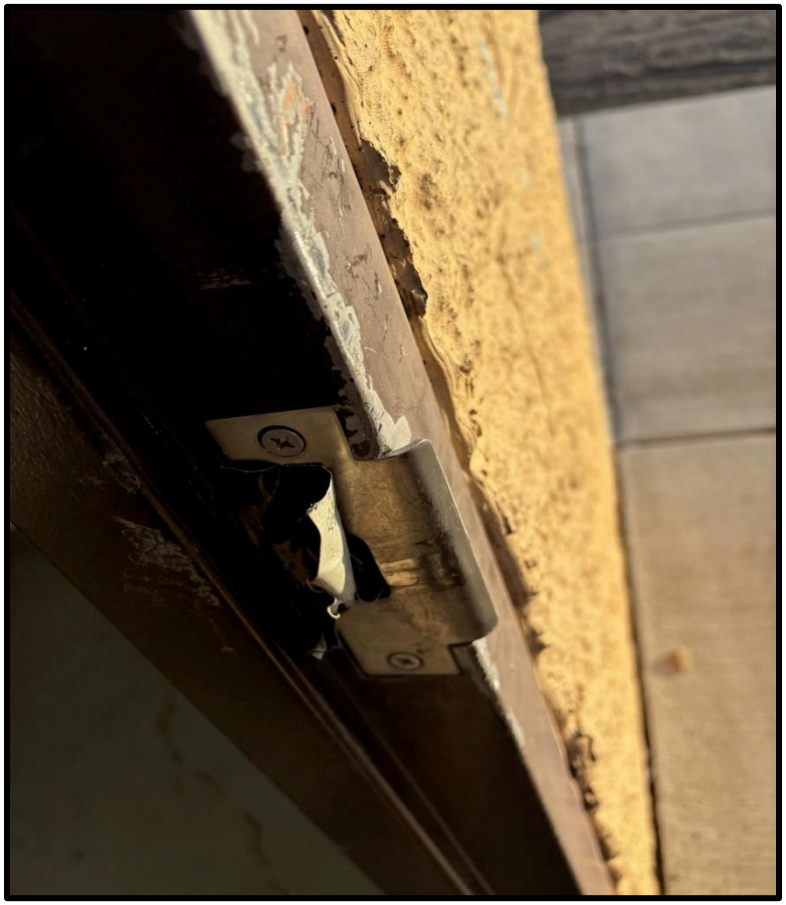
Idlewild Park Graffiti:

During routine maintenance on Monday, January 5, 2026, staff found spray paint graffiti on the monument park sign near the east entrance of Idlewild Park. An online police report was filed, and the Parks Maintenance staff immediately painted over the graffiti.

Exhibit A: Pictures of Graffiti and Vandalism

Oxbow Nature Study Gate Vandalism

Double Diamond Park Door Vandalism



Teglia's Paradise Park Restroom Fire

Barbara Bennett Park Wall Graffiti

Idlewild Park Sign Graffiti