



# THE CITY OF MONTEREY

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CITY MANAGER NAMES MIKE PACHECO AS NEW CITY OF MONTEREY PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR**

Monterey, Calif. – City Manager Hans Uslar announced today the hiring of Mike Pacheco as the new City of Monterey Parks & Recreation Director. Mr. Pacheco comes to the City of Monterey as the former Recreation & Community Services Director for the City of Vista, California, where he managed a \$13.5 million budget and a team of 31 full-time and 300 part-time positions across six divisions. The City of Monterey's [Parks & Recreation Department budget](#) is nearly \$19 million with a total of about 47 full-time and 350 part-time seasonal positions across five divisions. Former Parks & Recreation Director, Karen Larson, retired in July 2025.

Mr. Pacheco has extensive experience in spearheading and developing master plans, securing funding for recreation-focused capital improvement projects, modernizing new software systems, and developing unique recreation programs like the first Age-Friendly Plan, a strategic framework to enhance the quality of life for residents of all ages and abilities. He has had leadership roles in the municipal recreation and community services field since 1997, working for several Southern California cities including the City of Carlsbad and beginning his career at the City of Albuquerque as an Assistant Pool Manager.

City Manager Hans Uslar said, "We are thrilled to have Mike join the City's executive team and be a part of the City of Monterey community. His strengths, experience, and qualifications will help our rich and robust recreation programs continue to flourish, and our expansive parks and forestry areas stay well-maintained and healthy."

*(more)*

"I'm excited to join the City of Monterey's Parks and Recreation team and look forward to working alongside the dedicated staff to ensure the City's continued success, and to contribute to the vision of Monterey as a beautiful, special place to live, work, and visit," said Mr. Pacheco.

The Parks & Recreation Director annual salary is \$205,656. Mr. Pacheco's first day will be November 3, 2025. He will offer community meet and greet opportunities in the coming months.



[Mike Pacheco](#)

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