

POLLWOG PARK CANADA GOOSE SANITATION STRATEGY

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FIELD OPERATIONS



BACKGROUND ON POLLWOG PARK

- 18 Acres of Urban Wilderness.
- 1.2 Acre Pond
- Owned by MBUSD.
- Maintained by the City.
- Supports diverse range of local flora and fauna.
- Retention basin during rainy periods.



HISTORY OF CANADA GOOSE

- Through the 1970s, Canada Goose was purely a winter visitor.
- Now, reside in MB year-around.
- Polliwog Park provides a year-round habitat for a variety of water birds such as Canada Geese, Mallards, Domestic Ducks, and American Coots.
- Up to 95 Canada Geese have been recorded at Polliwog Park.



CANADA GOOSE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- Can live upwards of 24 years
- Weight approximately 12 pounds
- Consume up to 4 pounds of grass per day
- Create about 3 pounds of fecal matter per day



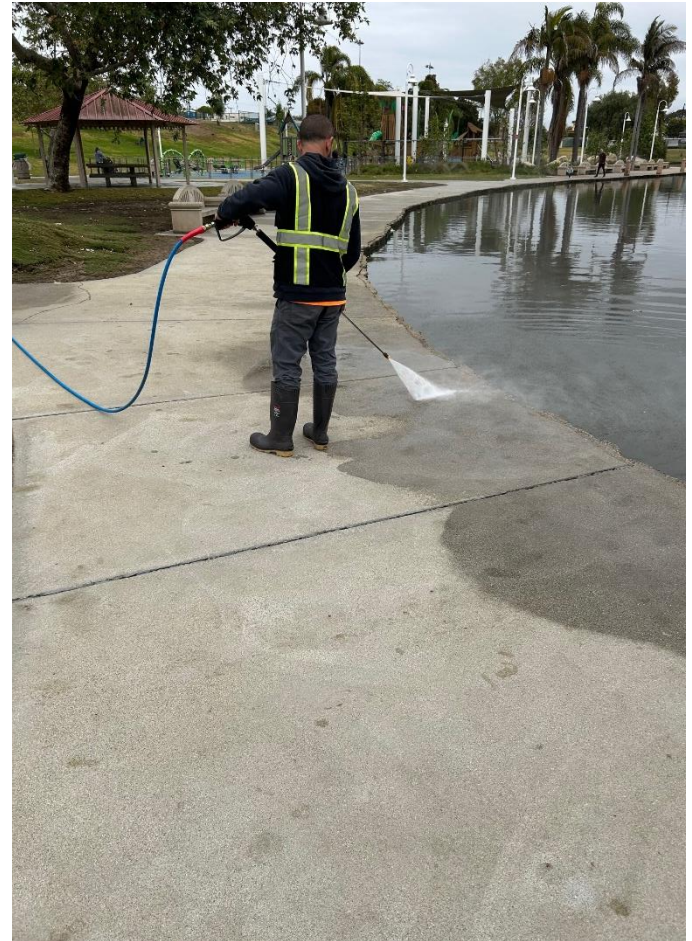
CANADA GOOSE SANITATION STRATEGY

- Disease Concerns
- Unkept Appearance
- Decreased User Experience



CANADA GOOSE SANITATION STRATEGY

- Pressure Washing Area: Weekly every Tuesday and Friday.
- Duration: **2.5 - 3.5 Hours**
- Unfavorable conditions between services
- Often looks unclean



CANADA GOOSE SANITATION STRATEGY

- Contracted with Ornithologist Robert Hamilton
- Final Report received in December 2024
- Recommended Multiple Management Strategies



RECOMMENDATION #1

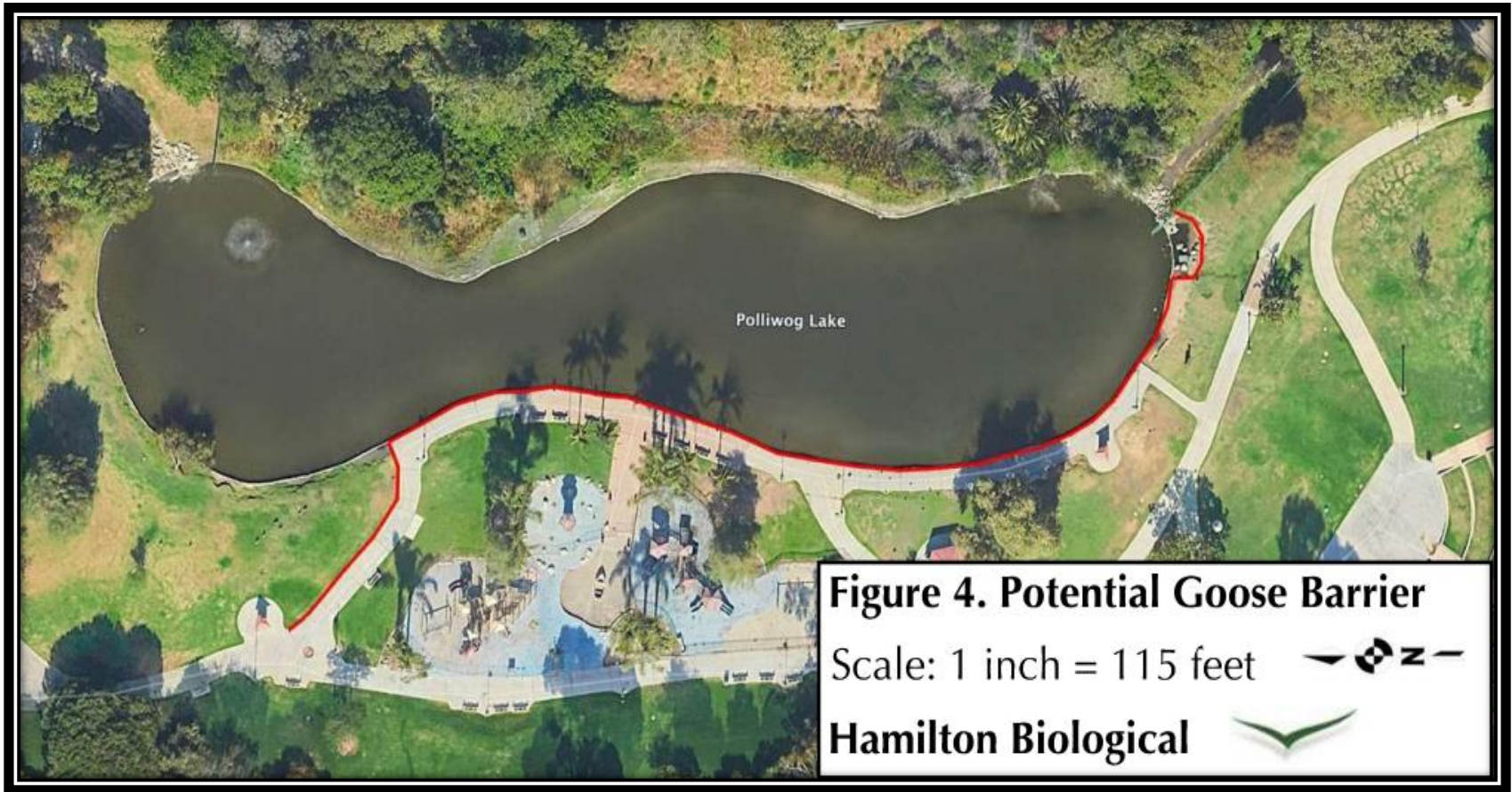
Comprehensive Public Education Program Including:

- Food Reduction
- City web page with information on the program
- City Ordinance prohibiting feeding of wildlife



RECOMMENDATION #2

- Establish a low barrier to modify goose behavior.



RECOMMENDATION #3

Hazing with
Green Laser



RECOMMENDATION #4

Canada Goose Population Control:

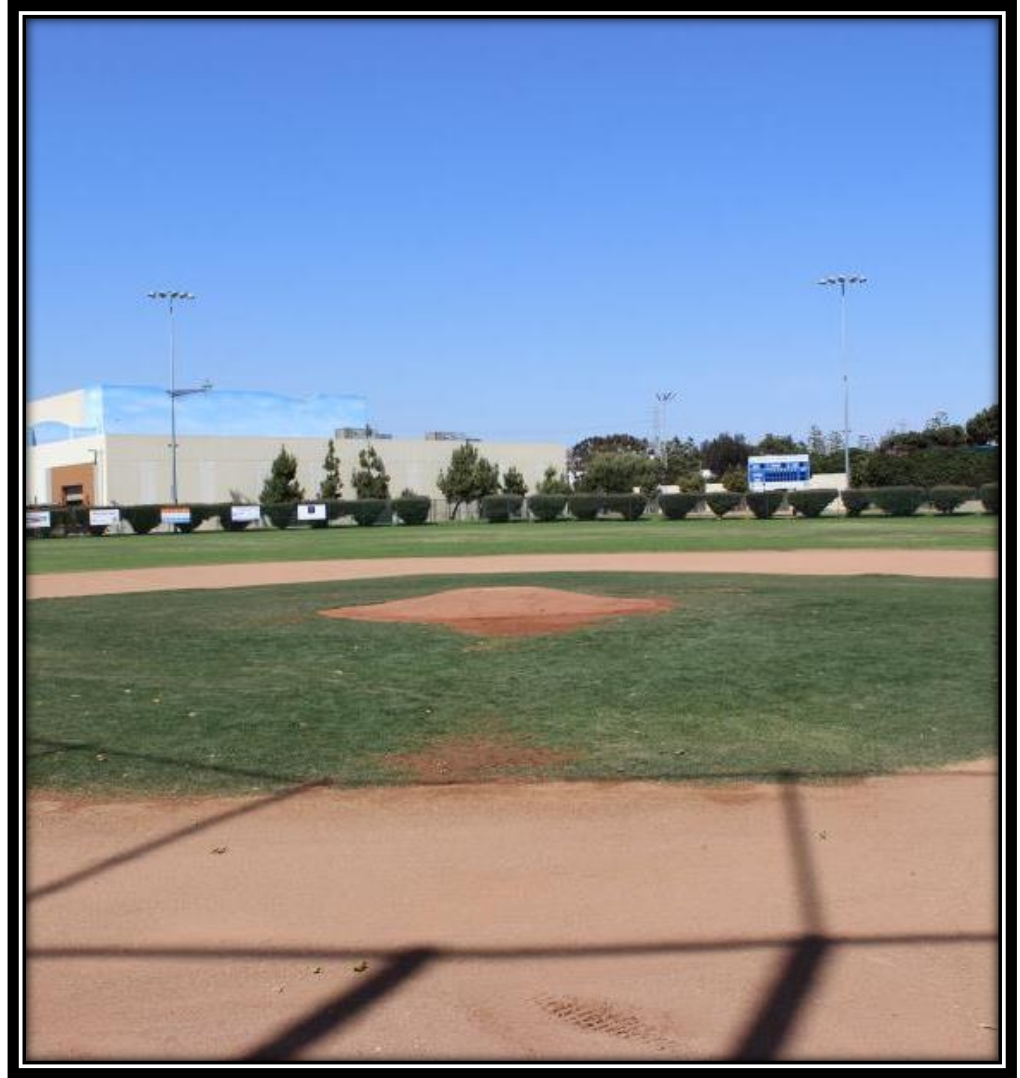
- Eggs can be humanely addled by oiling, removing from the nest, or replacing with dummy eggs.



RECOMMENDATION #5

Make Nearby Sports Fields Less Attractive:

- Goose Repellant
- Heavy Top-dressing of Sand
- Hazing with Laser



RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that if the City Council is interested in pursuing one, or a collection of strategies identified herein, the City Council shall direct staff to evaluate the impacts of that collective strategy on staff resources as well as budget.



Questions and Answers

