

Fairview Park Update

Fall 2008

Fairview Park Master Plan

- The Fairview Park Master Plan was originally approved in March 1998 and revised in February 2001 and November 2002.
- Staff is actively seeking grants for funding of Fairview Park's restoration phases pursuant to the Master Plan.



Wetlands and Riparian Habitat Project

- The City has partnered with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (The Corps) and Orange County to help fund restoration of 25 acres of wetlands and riparian habitat located in the historic Fairview Channel. The City's partnership with The Corps and the County will fund and construct a portion of the first phase of the restoration in Planning Areas A and C. This phase includes removal of invasive plant material, grubbing, grading, user-and installation of native/riparian plants. The Corps will begin construction in November 2008 and the project will be turned over to the City for maintenance. The first phase is expected to be completed in the spring. The second phase will include the wetlands installation, picnic and observation areas, and defined trails. The City is currently going after grant funding for that phase. The complete project will provide the community with a unique opportunity of:
 - improved passive recreation on various trails in the lower park;
 - viewing habitat in its natural state; and
 - a distinctive "water treatment" wetlands whereby water will be diverted from adjacent storm channels to be filtered and cleansed naturally.
- The Public Services Department has applied for a grant of \$3,800,000 with the State of California's Wildlife Conservation Board Inland Wetlands Conservation Program for the Fairview Park Wetlands and Riparian Habitat Project. The grant will provide funding to complete Phases Two and Three of restoration. This includes native plant restoration, pond and stream development, wetland plantings, pump station retrofit, installation of nature trails, picnic area development, signage, and plant establishment funding.

Planting Area A - Coastal Sage Scrub Community

- Installation of the sandy coast scrub and coastal strand plants was completed in the northwest Coastal Sage Scrub community (Area A) in December 2006. The establishment of the plantings was completed in January 2007 which launched a five year maintenance period in which the City must meet a 90% success rate. The Department of Fish and

Game requires success rate minimums in order for this area to be considered a successfully established native plant community.

- The City is proud to report that the first annual Restoration and Monitoring Report for the Fairview Park Costal Sage Scrub creation site observed a growth of native species during the first year, and calculates that cover for the site will easily meet or will exceed the Year Five success standards by Year Three.

Fairview Channel Multipurpose Trail

- The Fairview Channel Multipurpose Trail Project (between Placentia Avenue and the Santa Ana River Bike Trail) has been approved to receive a construction grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation Recreational Trails Program in the amount of \$256,000. The design and construction phases are being coordinated with the wetlands and riparian habitat project. This project is within Planning Areas A and C of the Fairview Park Master Plan.

Upper Mesa- Restoration of Area D

- The Costa Mesa Public Services Department has been awarded a grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$225,000 for the restoration of the upper mesa and Planning Area D of Fairview Park. The restoration will include the construction of an interpretive center, decomposed granite trails, observation platforms, benches, trash cans, signage, bicycle racks, and vernal pool protection. In addition, the project will include reconstruction of the asphalt bike path between Placentia Avenue and the west parking lot, and improvements to the Placentia Avenue bridge abutments. Once area D improvements are completed, the Fairview Park Parking lot will be sealed with a new slurry coat to prevent water infiltration.

For further information on the implementation phasing areas of the Master Plan elements at Fairview Park, please contact the Public Services Department at (714) 754-5343.

