



AGENDA

ORANGE COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023, 6:00 p.m.



IRVINE RANCH HISTORIC PARK
OC PARKS HEADQUARTERS
13042 OLD MYFORD ROAD
IRVINE, CA

DAVID SHAWVER
Chair
Inland Cities

BERT ASHLAND
Vice Chair
First District

HALLIE JONES
Fifth District

RAY DIAZ
Second District

ERIK WEIGAND
Coastal Cities

DAVID HANSON
Third District

VACANT
Fourth District

Executive Officer
Pam Passow

The Orange County Parks Commission welcomes you to this meeting. This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. The Commission encourages your participation and welcomes public comments on items under the purview of the Commission. If you wish to speak on a matter that does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the Public Participation period at the beginning of the meeting. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. When addressing the Commission, please state your name for the record prior to providing your comments. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes. Public speaker request forms will be available onsite.

The OC Parks Commission meeting will be an in-person meeting held at the Mess Hall at OC Parks' Headquarters (13042 Old Myford Road, Irvine, CA 92602). Please be advised that County health guidelines apply to this meeting: <https://ocovid19.ochealthinfo.com/article/oc-health-officers-orders-recommendations>

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodations for this meeting should notify OC Parks 72 hours prior to the meeting at Admin.ocparkscommission@ocparks.com or (949) 585-6431.

All supporting documentation is available for public review at <https://www.ocparks.com/about-us/commissions-and-committees/oc-parks-commission> under the "Agendas and Minutes" link or by calling 949-585-6431 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Orange County Parks Commission Duties and Responsibilities

(O.C. Codified Ordinances Sec. 2-2-19: Paraphrased)

Except as otherwise provided, the Orange County Parks Commission shall be advisory to the Board of Supervisors and to the Director of OC Parks, and shall have the power and duty:

1. To recommend to the Board of Supervisors plans and policies for the acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of the harbors, beaches and regional parks of the County;
2. On request of the Board of Supervisors, to advise the Board and make recommendations on any matter pertaining to harbors, beaches and regional parks, and any other matters referred by the Board;
3. On request of the Director, to advise on any question of administrative policy and regarding any matter to be decided by the Director under this division;
4. On appeal from an administrative decision by the Director, to act as a board of administrative review;
5. To make such investigations as it may deem necessary in the exercise of its powers;
6. To perform the duties and functions of the County Fish and Game Commission assigned by either statute or this code, and consider methods for the propagation and protection of fish and game in the State of California and County of Orange. The Commission shall be advisory body to the Board of Supervisors.

OC Parks Commission Regular Meeting Schedule: First Thursday, Monthly, 6:00 p.m.

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I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission and are not contained in tonight's agenda.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)

The following item(s) on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Commissioner requests to pull a specific item.

A. APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 3, 2023 MEETING

V. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A–B)

A. OC PARKS TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Staff will provide an update to the Commission regarding the August 9, 2023 OC Parks Trails Subcommittee meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Receive and file.

B. SADDLEBACK WILDERNESS OVERVIEW AND SELECTION OF TRAIL NAMES PRESENTATION

Staff will present an overview of Saddleback Wilderness, an OC Parks facility that recently opened to managed public access, and will present information on the proposed trail names for three trails located in this facility that were selected by the Orange County Parks Trails Subcommittee for the Commission's approval.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Approve the names for three Saddleback Wilderness trails, as recommended by the Orange County Parks Trails Subcommittee.

VI. OC PARKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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A. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

B. UPCOMING OC PARKS EVENTS

Halloween Animal Art Preschool Program – OC Zoo – Friday, October 13, Wednesday, October 18, and Friday, October 20 – 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

- Class includes hands-on learning, fun crafts, and meeting zoo creatures up close!

Wilderness Access Day: Limestone Canyon – Irvine Ranch Open Space – Saturday, October 7 – 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- Start your weekend off by exploring numerous opportunities found throughout magnificent Limestone Canyon. Designated trails will be open for self-guided trail use in OC Parks' Irvine Ranch Open Space. Trail routes vary in distance and level of difficulty with choices ranging from easy one-hour walks to strenuous 15-mile cardio treks. Whether traveling by feet or wheels, Wilderness Access Day in Limestone Canyon is a treasure waiting to be discovered by hikers and mountain bikers alike.

Modjeska Birthday Celebration – Arden: Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens – Saturday, October 7 – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- Come celebrate Helena Modjeska's birthday at her historic home of Arden! One of the most famous Shakespearean actresses of the late Victorian era, Modjeska's home designed in 1888 by renowned New York architect Stanford White is one of two National Historic Landmarks in Orange County. Enjoy Shakespearean performances by the Modjeska Shakespeare Players throughout the day as well as live music performances. You can also tour the house and explore the grounds as OC Parks' volunteer docents will be available to share stories and answer questions about the property. You can even taste one of the famous caramel and marshmallow Modjeska candies!

Walk Through Irvine Park's History – Wednesday, October 11 – 9 – 11 a.m.

- Take a closer look into California's first county park and discover the fascinating details that make Irvine Regional Park unique to Orange County. We will explore more than 125 years of the park's history, including its rich native flora and fauna, Early Inhabitants, architectural design, military use, ranching days, and discuss the future of Irvine Regional Park.

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Boo at the Oaks – Santiago Oaks Regional Park – Friday, October 13 – 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

- The night is full of creepy creatures and scary sounds...unless you know what's out there! Visit Santiago Oaks Regional Park after dark to discover critters that call this canyon home. The evening is filled with fun nature stations, creative crafts, scavenger hunts for prizes and night hikes!

Fall-O-Ween – Heritage Hill Historic Park – October 13–15 – 4:30 – 8:30 p.m.

- Join OC Parks at Heritage Hill Historical Park this fall for the third annual Fall-O-Ween! Tour the decorated historical grounds during special park hours and take your picture at a variety of fall and Halloween-themed photo opportunities. Try to find your way through the straw maze and complete a scavenger hunt for ghoulish goodies at this family-friendly event.

Prehistoric OC at Clark Park –Saturday, October 14 – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- Join OC Parks for Prehistoric OC, a free event inviting families to explore the natural and cultural history of Orange County. Enjoy fun and educational activities presented by OC Parks archaeologists and paleontologists along with exhibitors from local cultural, paleontological and geological organizations. Families can enjoy free educational entertainment with hands-on activities, programs and demonstrations.

Annual Solar Eclipse Viewing Party – Caspers Wilderness Park – Saturday, October 14 – 8 – 10 a.m.

- Join us at the Caspers Wilderness Park Nature Center to view an annular solar eclipse where the moon will cover almost 80% of the sun's visible surface. Eclipses happen fairly regularly, but this will be the most coverage of the solar surface visible in Orange County until 2045! Bring lawn chairs, blankets and anything else you might need to enjoy the show.

Living Historian at Civil War Cannon – Irvine Regional Park – Sunday, October 15 – 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Come chat with a Civil War living historian at the cannon in Irvine Regional Park! The volunteer will share the history of the 1853 Howitzer cannon and how it came to be at its current location. Hear recounts of other historical elements found in and around Irvine Regional Park's long history as well as the Civil War. You can find

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the Civil War living historian located at the cannon and Spanish-American War Veterans monument at the lake, near the snack stand and boat house, between parking lots U and T.

Bird Walk in Santiago Oaks – Wednesday, October 18 – 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

- Stroll through the park searching high and low for our fluttering friends. Listen for their sweet song and hear fun associations to help you remember these birds. This program is geared for all levels, though focused for beginner-intermediate level birders.

Preschool Paleontology: Art & Storytime – Clark Regional Park – Thursday, October 19 – 10 – 10:45 a.m.

- Listen to a story, make a craft and enjoy a morning at Clark Regional Park. This month we will dig into sensational shells! Activities are designed for ages 2-5 but all are welcome.

Restorative Bird Watching – Arden: Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens – Friday, October 20 – 8 – 10 a.m.

- Some studies have shown bird watching can have a positive impact on mental health and state of mind. Join OC Parks on the grounds of Arden: Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens for this slow-paced and accessible bird walk that will encourage bird watching practices designed to emphasize these benefits by connecting with nature, guided observation, building community, sharing stories, encouraging creativity and practicing mindfulness.

Fall Bird Walks – Mile Square Regional Park – Saturday, October 21 – 8 – 10 a.m.

- Mile Square Regional Park has some of the highest bird diversity in Orange County and this gentle-paced walk led by highly trained OC Parks volunteers will help bird watchers of all experience levels discover what the park has to offer. All are welcome and loaner binoculars will be available.

Nature Journaling at Santiago Oaks – Sunday, October 22 – 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

- Nature journaling is a wonderful tool for nature observations, creating lasting memories and making deeper connections with nature. Each session will cover the basics of art theory and practices, journal anatomy and maximizing your senses. Monthly prompts will help guide your eyes and ears to the wonders in nature.

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Caspers Park After Dark – Thursday, October 26 – 7:30 – 9 p.m.

- We love the nightlife! Explore the mysteries of Caspers Park after dark as we hit the trails on this leisurely night hike through Nature Loop. From creepy, crawly tarantulas, to graceful owls we'll learn all about the nighttime creatures that call Caspers home!

Nature Journaling at Clark Park – Saturday, October 28 – 8 – 10 a.m.

- Nature journaling is a wonderful tool for nature observations, creating lasting memories and making deeper connections with nature. Each session will cover the basics of art theory and practices, journal anatomy and maximizing your senses. Monthly prompts will help guide your eyes and ears to the wonders in nature.

Create in the Park: Finding the Perfect Composition – Irvine Ranch Historic Park – Saturday, October 28 – 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- This historic park is filled with buildings, vintage homes and even a park with a gazebo. As with many complex sites, it is often difficult to pick a subject for your art. Our professional artist will guide you through how to narrow your frame of reference and find the perfect composition. Will you select a group of buildings or just a single porch where the light is just perfect? Come find out! Oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolor, or drawing – just bring your materials and enjoy a morning of plein air (creating outside).

Halloween Zoo-Tacular at the OC Zoo – Saturday, October 28 – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- Join us for Halloween fun, including a scavenger hunt, trick-or-treating, and spooky crafts! Come see the zoo animals receive treat-filled pumpkins throughout the day!

Boo at the Bay: Family Halloween Party – Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve – Saturday, October 28 – 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Join us at the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center for a fun family Halloween party featuring spooky stories, creepy crafts, weird science experiments, bizarre animals and hair-raising games. All children who attend in costume will receive ghoulish door prizes. The event will also feature booths and exhibits from Orange County Bird of Prey Center, Environmental Nature Center and the OC Parks Archaeology and Paleontology departments.

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORT

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At this time Commissioners may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT