

# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

(Action Items Displayed in Italics)

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025 — 6:00 p.m.

## I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Bui.*

## II. ROLL CALL

*Vice Chair Warren, and Commissioners Bui, Diaz (arrived during Item V.A), Hanson, and Jones were present. Chair Shawver and Commissioner Gabbard were absent.*

## 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.

*Ed Maurer, Sierra Club, provided a comment thanking OC Parks for its hard work on maintaining its lands.*

## 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 MARCH 6, 2025 MEETING

*Motion: Commissioner Hanson*

*2nd: Commissioner Jones*

*Approved 4-0 (Commissioner Diaz was absent for the vote)*

## V. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A-D)

### A. NATURAL COMMUNITIES COALITION CONSERVATION GRAZING STUDY PRESENTATION

Natural Communities Coalition staff will present on its Conservation Grazing Study that will take place in select areas within the Irvine Ranch Open Space.

*Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff presenting on the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.*

*Travis Brooks, Land IQ, presented on the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.*

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file.

*Motion: Commissioner Jones*

*2nd: Commissioner Diaz*

*Approved 5–0*

### **B. OC PARKS SUMMER EVENT PREVIEW**

Staff will present a preview of upcoming OC Parks summer events.

*Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff presenting on the item and answered the Commissioner's question.*

*Kristi Quon, OC Parks Strategic Communications Manager, presented on the item.*

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file.

*Motion: Commissioner Jones*

*2nd: Commissioner Bui*

*Approved 5–0*

### **C. OC PARKS TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE**

Staff will provide an update to the Commission regarding the April 10, 2025 OC Parks Trails Subcommittee meeting.

*Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff providing information on the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.*

*Jeaniene Casiello, OC Parks Planning and Design Manager, provided information on the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.*

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file.

*Motion: Commissioner Jones*

*2nd: Commissioner Hanson*

*Approved 5–0*

### **D. ELECTRIC BICYCLE PRESENTATION AND COMMISSION CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT OF EXPLORING POSSIBLE**

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

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THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025 — 6:00 p.m.

### **ALLOWANCE OF CLASS I ELECTRIC BICYCLE USE ON UNPAVED, NATURAL-SURFACE TRAILS IN OC PARKS FACILITIES**

Staff will provide an overview of electric bicycles and their interface with OC Parks and the Commission will consider support of whether OC Parks staff should explore the possibility of allowing Class I electric bicycles on unpaved, natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities and engage with relevant regulatory agencies on this subject.

*Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff providing information on the item, presented the item, and answered the Commissioners' questions.*

*Jennifer Naegele, OC Parks Natural Resources and Trails Manager, presented the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.*

*Steve Emter commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as it allows him to get into nature.*

*Will Skeeters, Bike Industry, commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they allow access to injured and disabled persons.*

*Matt Ford, Specialized Bicycle Components, Inc., commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they allow people more access to the parks.*

*Belén Ramirez, Project Bike Love, commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they close fitness gaps and promote health.*

*Matt Simanski, Orange County Mountain Bike Association, commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they allow more people to go on the trails.*

*Michael Wellborn, Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks, commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing safety, courtesy, and other concerns.*

*Willis Boyd commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing that there is no difference between them and mountain bikes.*

*Brian Darney commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they have positive effects on riders' health.*

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*Fred Galante commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing the changing shift in how electric bicycles are seen.*

*Brian Taylor commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as it enables him to get outdoors despite an injury.*

*Sean Ramirez commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as it enables him to get outdoors despite an injury.*

*Mansoor Vakili commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they provide access to nature for certain people.*

*Margaret Dennis commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing safety concerns for those on the trails.*

*Mitch Baxter commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as he can access the parks despite injuries.*

*Jeff Curie commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities claiming that there is no fire risk due to electric bicycles.*

*Faith Morris commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing the user conflict that arises between those who ride electric bicycles and other users.*

*Sherri Sisson, Sierra Club, commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing safety concerns for other trail users.*

*John Sisson, Sierra Club, commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing safety concerns for other trail users.*

*Helen Maurer, Sierra Club, commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing conservation and enforcement concerns.*

*Ed Maurer, Sierra Club, commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing safety concerns.*



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*Steven Sheffield, Trabuco Hills Mountain Bike Team, commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they need them for adult leaders to engage youth in mountain biking.*

*Randee Tolentino commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they give access for people to the trails and they have the same impacts to trails as tradition bikes.*

*Jim Foley, Orange County Mountain Biking Facebook Group, commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities claiming that there are no trail impacts and no fire risks.*

*Marcia Garten, Sierra Club, commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities to avoid congestion on trails and in parks and for safety reasons.*

*Christine Daily commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as they give access to trails and that she does not want to suffer consequences of citations.*

*Chris Murphy commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing legal framework in support of viewing electric bicycles as bikes.*

*Bob Kanne commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities as it would limit who could be on trails due to safety issues and also cited enforcement issues.*

*Joshua Pierce commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing conservation concerns for wilderness areas.*

*Dylan Price commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing accessibility reasons.*

*Lisa Lundquist, Sierra Club, commented by asking people to think about the purpose of parks in considering use of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities.*

*Mercedes Natvig commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing accessibility reasons.*

*Henry Roten commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing accessibility reasons and that they do not significantly impact trails.*

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*William Doyle commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities asking for motors and bikes with motors to be kept out of unpaved trails.*

*Holly Jarvis commented in opposition to electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities citing enforcement issues but suggesting something other than an all or nothing policy as a possible solution.*

*Scott M. commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities and cited issues with lack of signage and lack of open space.*

*Ed Becker commented in support of electric bicycles on natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities but cited that there should be age limits or designated times for people to use electric bicycles.*

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

OC Parks Commission to select and recommend one of the following actions:

- A. The OC Parks Commission recommends OC Parks staff explore the feasibility of allowing Class I electric bicycles on unpaved, natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities.

or

- B. The OC Parks Commission does not recommend OC Parks staff explore the feasibility of allowing Class I electric bicycles on unpaved, natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities.

*Motion to recommend OC Parks staff explore the feasibility of allowing Class I electric bicycles on unpaved, natural surface trails in OC Parks facilities: Commissioner Diaz*

*2nd: Commissioner Jones*

*Approved 4–0 (Commissioner Hanson recused himself)*

## **VI. OC PARKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT (ITEM(S) A–B)**

### **A. DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

*Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, provided updates.*

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

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THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025 — 6:00 p.m.

### B. UPCOMING OC PARKS EVENTS

Annual Rancho Days Fiesta – Heritage Hill Historical Park – Saturday, May 3, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Come explore the rich history of Orange County's rancho era through hands-on activities, crafts, music, dance and more! Activities and performances include Native American and Folklorico dancing, early California ranching hands-on activities and exhibitors, music, piñata breaking and crafts for children, charro horse riding and roping demonstrations.

Endangered Species Day: Paint Night – Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve – Friday, May 16, 6 – 8 p.m.

- In recognition of Endangered Species Day, join us for a guided painting program to learn more about the threatened and endangered species that call Orange County home. This fun and engaging program will include a brief discussion and time to paint your own canvas to take home.

Modjeska's Spring Open House – Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- Join OC Parks at the annual spring open house at Arden: Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens! Enjoy Shakespearean performances by the Modjeska Shakespeare Players, live music performances by The Orange Town Revival and docent-led tours of the iconic home and grounds.

Create in the Park: Start Creating Outside – George Key Ranch Historic Park – Saturday, May 24, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Professional artist, Dawn Buckingham, will guide you through the basics of plein air painting and provide tips on selecting and packing art supplies. A guided tour about the history of George Key Ranch will also be included.

Spring into Summer – Old Orange County Courthouse – Saturday, May 31, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Bring your blankets and chairs and kick off the summer season with OC Parks with live performances from The Como La Flor Band: A Tribute to Selena and Yari Moré Latin Band on the historic Courthouse lawn and enjoy tasty treats from the food trucks. The event will also include step-by-step art demos, a native plant and animal exhibit in the Third Floor Exhibit Gallery, tours of the

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courthouse, hands-on paleontology and interpretive activities, crafts for kids and much more!

### **VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORT**

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 *8:00 p.m.***



Park Ranger Program Recruitment and Training  
Orange County Parks Commission — June 5, 2025





# RECRUITMENT PROCESS



Application

Written  
Assessment

Selection  
Interviews

Background  
Investigation  
Process

Final  
Interview  
with OC  
Parks (Meet  
and Greet)

Conditional  
Job Offer

Start Date



Park Ranger Program Recruitment and Training  
Orange County Parks Commission — June 5, 2025





# 2024 RECRUITMENT

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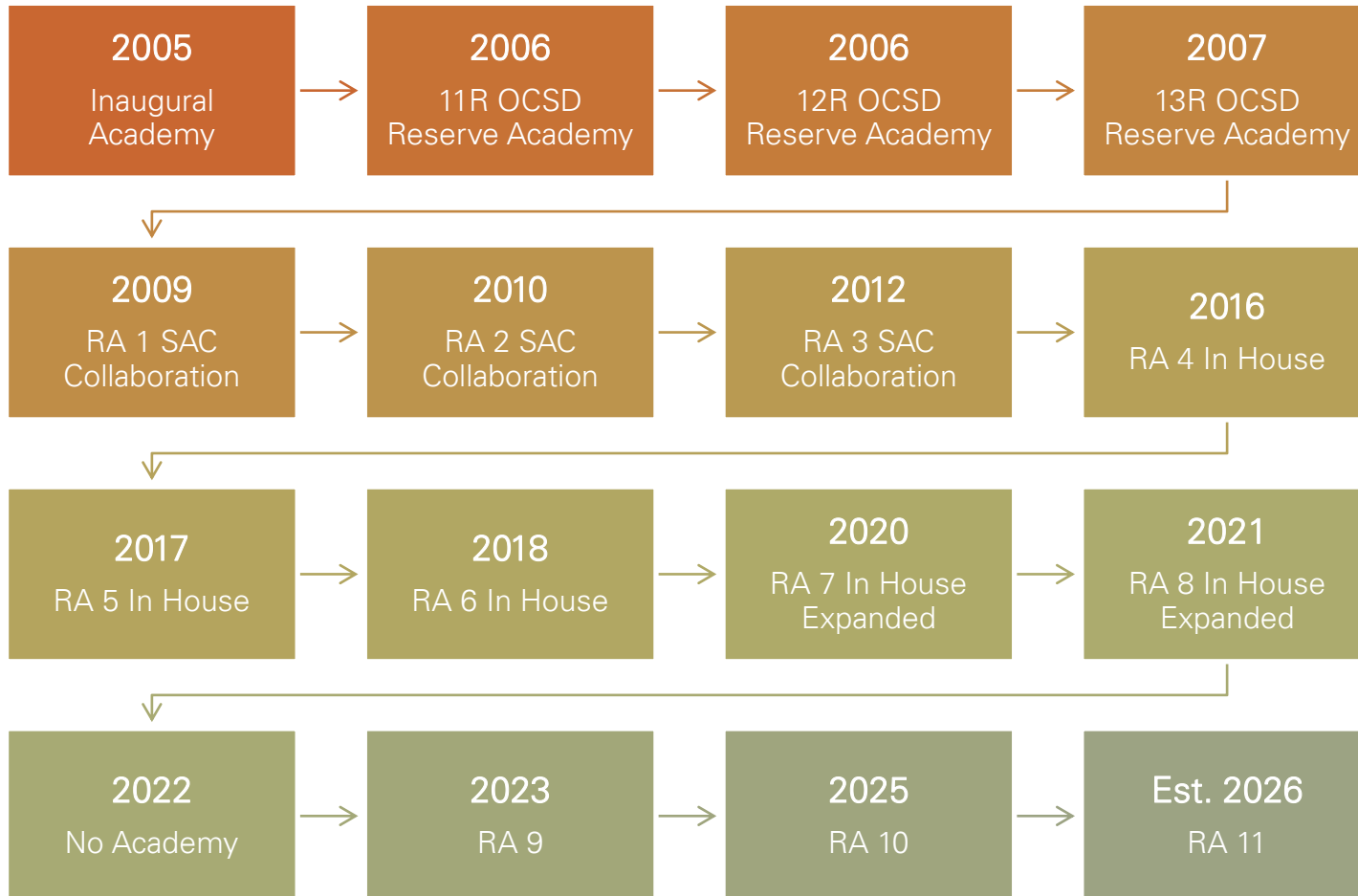
- 929 Applications Received
- 9 Candidates Graduated Ranger Academy 9 on January 25, 2024

# 2024–25 RECRUITMENT

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- 786 Applications Received
- 10 Candidates Graduated Ranger Academy 10 on May 1

# ACADEMY HISTORY







# ACADEMY TRAINING

- The OC Parks Ranger Academy is a moderate-stress academy designed to expose recruits to the realities of the job, as well as provide the legally required and supplemental training to start them on the path to success.
- BOS Required and Standard P.O.S.T. Courses
  - PC 832
  - Title-22
  - Chemical Agents
  - Emergency Vehicle Operations
  - CLETS
- OC Parks Specific Courses
  - Focus on scenario-based exercises, public speaking, leadership training, and composure under pressure

# OC PARKS RANGER ACADEMY COURSES

- Natural Resource Management
- Southern California Ecology
- Off Road Vehicle Training
- Education and Interpretation
  - National Association for Interpretation
- Wildland Fire Training
- Radio Communication and Protocols
- Animal Behavior and Handling
- Trail Maintenance
- Critical Incident Stress Management
- Mental Health First Aid
- Command Presence
- Practical Field Scenarios
- Agency/Department Familiarization



Park Ranger Program Recruitment and Training  
Orange County Parks Commission — June 5, 2025





# FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM



- Park Ranger I (PRI) recruits are paired with one or more Field Training Rangers (FTRs) for mentorship and observation.
- 2025 FTP will last for 6 weeks per Candidate
  - 2 weeks at regional parks
  - 2 weeks at wilderness and coastal facilities
  - 2 weeks at other camping or coastal facilities

# RECURRING AND ADVANCED TRAININGS

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- Wildland Fire
- Incident Command System ICS-300
- Title-22 Recertification
- Trail Maintenance
- Chainsaw Use and Safety
- Bike Patrol
- Mobile Dispatch Software
- Critical Incident Stress Management
- Domestic Animal and Wildlife Incidents
- De-escalation Techniques
- Mental Health
- Leadership Training



**Park Ranger Program Recruitment and Training**  
**Orange County Parks Commission — June 5, 2025**





# RANGER ACADEMY 10

## ➤ RA 10:

- Began: January 15, 2025
- Graduated: May 1, 2025
- Over 600 hours of training
- 3 days/week
- 10 Recruits

## ➤ Recruit Introductions:

- Henvy Chanthavong
- Tait Hermanns
- James Kim
- Maya Lenrow
- Troy Nishimoto
- Gerard Rushe
- Jory Sandoval
- Justin Stannard
- Kyle Tyson
- Nicole Witzigman





# THANK YOU

Park Ranger Program Recruitment and Training  
Orange County Parks Commission — June 5, 2025







# 2025 – 26 PROPOSED BUDGET



# FUND 405

## OC Parks Operations



	FY 23–24 Actuals	FY 24–25 Modified Budget	FY 24–25 Projections (2nd AFN)	FY 25–26 Baseline Budget	FY 25–26 Augments	FY 25–26 Proposed Budget
Positions	354	354	354	354	-	354
Salaries & Employee Benefits	40,601,424	43,070,832	44,406,300	46,072,856	-	46,072,856
Services & Supplies	73,271,973	96,517,679	88,274,372	104,898,783		104,898,783
Other Charges	498,756	755,015	525,008	708,108	-	708,108
Fixed Assets	385,366	862,000	862,000	1,028,500	-	1,028,500
Other Financing Uses (Transfers-out)	12,362,456	19,256,000	16,028,893	23,850,803	-	23,850,803
Increase to Reserves	89,500	89,500	417,777	20,779,427	-	20,779,427
Total Expenditures	127,209,475	161,469,322	150,514,349	197,338,477	-	197,338,477
Revenues	152,801,303	149,948,183	150,514,349	158,421,012	-	158,421,012
FBU	-	11,521,139	-	38,917,465	-	38,917,465
Decrease to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-



# FUND 406

## OC Parks Capital Projects



	FY 23–24 Actuals	FY 24–25 Modified Budget	FY 24–25 Projections (2nd AFN)	FY 25–26 Proposed Budget
Services & Supplies/Other	993,681	2,431,774	2,237,415	2,513,000
Capital Projects	4,839,645	23,173,236	21,425,152	42,588,500
Increase to Reserves	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	5,833,326	25,605,010	23,662,567	45,101,500
Revenues	16,830,800	20,027,179	18,084,736	22,443,516
Other Financing Sources (Transfers-in)	-	-	-	-
FBU	-	3,000,000	3,000,000	7,834,259
Decrease to Reserves	-	2,577,831	2,577,831	14,823,725
Balance	-	-	-	-

# FUND 106

## Newport Tidelands



	FY 23-24 Actuals	FY 24-25 Modified Budget	FY 24-25 Projections (2nd AFN)	FY 25-26 Proposed Budget
Services & Supplies	3,811,088	6,069,066	3,737,787	5,927,533
Services & Supplies (Harbor Patrol)	2,178,355	3,383,687	3,392,652	3,392,652
Other Charges	11,506	15,000	11,923	2,000,000
Increase to Reserves	1,844,100	374,200	374,200	452,784
Total Expenditures	7,845,048	9,841,953	7,516,562	11,772,969
Revenues	8,414,375	7,424,719	6,808,190	7,358,147
Other Financing Sources (Transfers In - Fund 405)	-	-	-	-
FBU	-	1,417,234	708,373	3,990,959
Decrease to Reserves	-	1,000,000	-	423,863
Balance	-	-	-	-

# FUND 108

Dana Point Harbor



	FY 23-24 Actuals	FY 24-25 Modified Budget	FY 24-25 Projections (2nd AFN)	FY 25-26 Proposed Budget
Services & Supplies	3,920,435	4,914,472	4,370,588	5,358,100
Services & Supplies (Harbor Patrol)	7,420,350	8,376,280	8,376,280	8,376,280
Other Charges	-	-	-	14,035
Capital Projects	49,193	1,206,023	994,353	11,845,000
Operating Transfers Out	-	34,128	-	-
Increase to Reserves	25,729	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	11,415,706	14,530,903	13,741,221	25,593,415
Revenues	5,618,344	5,297,858	5,563,015	5,070,592
Other Financing Sources (Transfers In Fund 405)	-	-	-	-
FBU	-	9,233,045	3,902,288	1,230,067
Decrease to Reserves	-	-	4,275,919	19,292,756
Balance	-	-	-	-

# OC PARKS OTHER FUNDS



Expenditures	FY 23-24 Actuals	FY 24-25 Modified Budget	FY 24-25 Projections (2nd AFN)	FY 25-26 Proposed Budget
FUND 459 – N. Tustin Landscape & Lighting	4,342,667	3,918,526	2,301,011	1,128,432
FUND 477 – East Yorba Linda CSA #22	104,905	191,171	131,157	164,584
FUND 15K – Limestone Regional Park	16,489	15,323	17,535	13,807



# BASELINE BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS



Maintaining Service Levels



Historical Trends



Current Year Projections



CEO Budget Rates

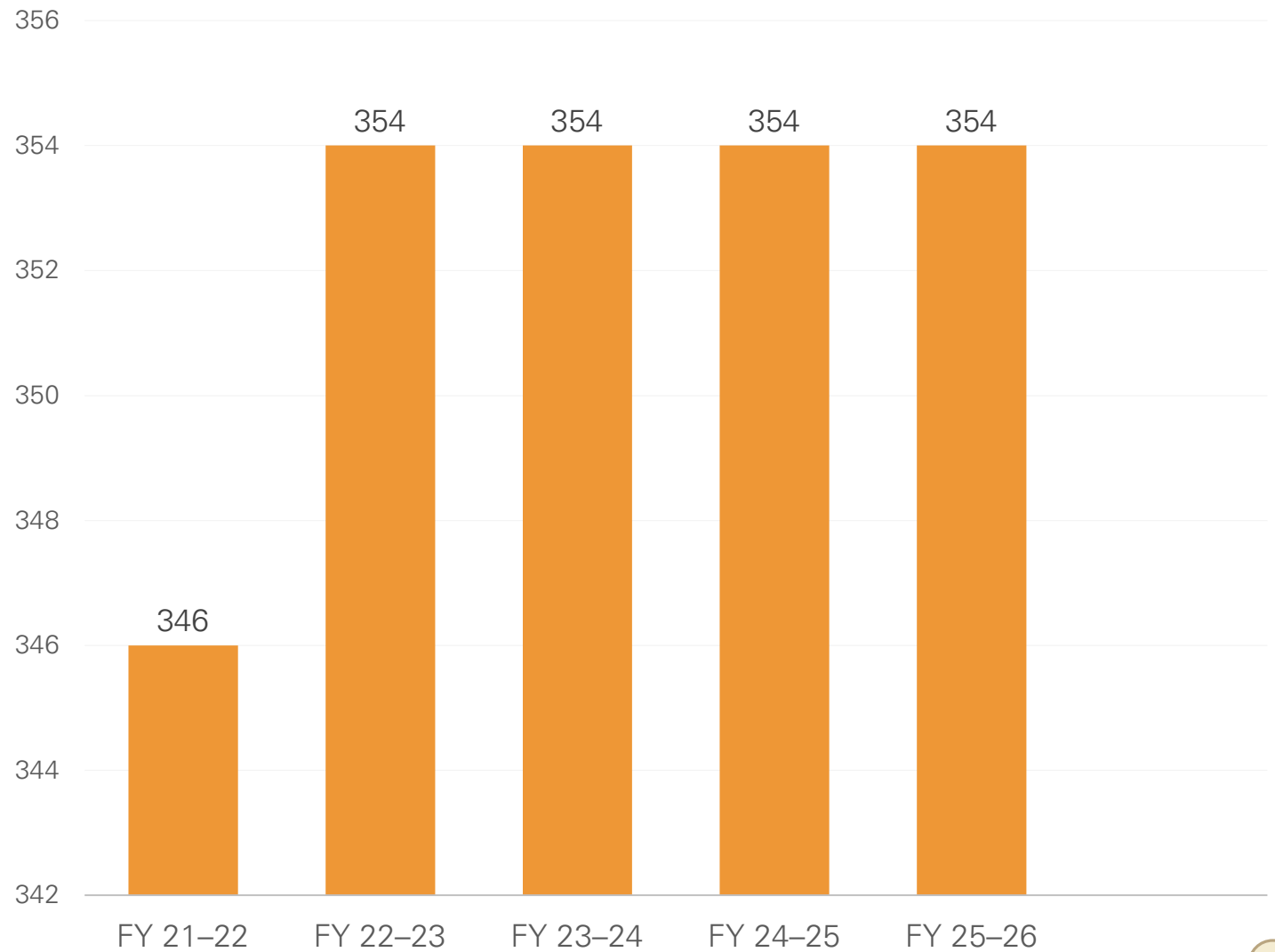


Vacancy Rate of 8.91 %



Property Taxes Growth Rate: 4%

# POSITION HISTORY





# CHALLENGES



Maintaining Service  
Levels/Service Increase



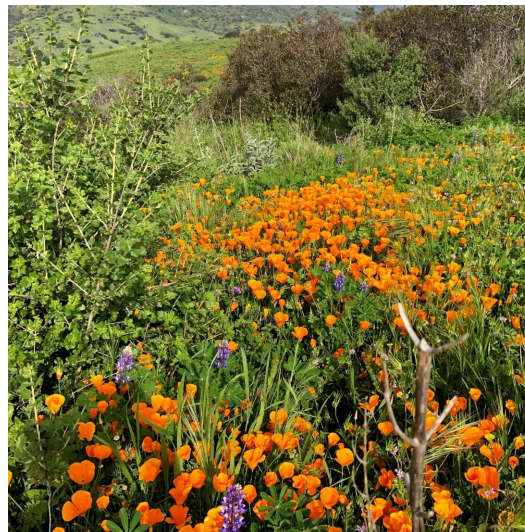
Increasing Costs



Natural Disasters  
Environmental Hazards



Funding Constraints







# OC PARKS HIGHLIGHTS

## FY 24–25 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Graduation of OC Parks Ranger Academy #10
- Completed new playground at Harriet M. Wieder Park
- Completed Niguel Shores Revetment Restoration Project





## TED CRAIG REGIONAL PARK BIKE FACILITY



# OC PARKS HIGHLIGHTS

## FY 25–26 ACTIVITIES

- Crawford Canyon Park
- Dana Point Harbor OC Sailing and Events Center Dock Replacement
- Ted Craig Regional Park Bike Facility

Select a language: English (US)

中文

한국어

Español

Tiếng Việt

فارسی

العربية



# ORANGE COUNTY CFO'S OFFICE

Orange County, California

WELCOME TO THE COUNTY BUDGET & FINANCE OFFICE



A vibrant landscape photograph featuring a hillside covered in a dense field of bright yellow poppies. The flowers are interspersed with green foliage and some dry, brown grass. In the background, a line of dark green trees sits atop the hill under a bright blue sky filled with fluffy white clouds. A white rectangular box is superimposed horizontally across the middle of the image, containing the text "THANK YOU" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

THANK YOU