



CITY OF COSTA MESA

Agenda Report

77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

File #: 25-376

Meeting Date: 7/15/2025

TITLE:

RANDALL PRESERVE DISCUSSION

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

PRESENTED BY: CECILIA GALLARDO-DALY, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

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RECOMMENDATION:

Per the request of Council Member Reynolds, receive input from the City Council and public on the Randall Preserve Draft Plans.

BACKGROUND:

The Frank and Joan Randall Preserve, formerly Banning Ranch, is a 387-acre parcel consisting of a coastal mesa and adjacent coastal lowlands and wetlands with significant cultural resources and a vital habitat for many state and federally-listed species. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MCRA) holds title to the Randall Preserve. The MCRA is committed to developing a property management plan for Randall Preserve. The Property Management Plan (PMP) will include:

- Resource Management Plan (RMP)
- Coastal Resilience Strategy (CRS)
- Public Access Plan (PAP)
- Tribal Access and Engagement Plan (TAEP)

ANALYSIS:

The MCRA has released drafts of the RMP, CRS, and PAP and is currently taking comments on the draft plans. Council Member Reynolds will provide an update on Randall Preserve and discuss City Council input on the following draft plans released for public review:

- **Resource Management Plan** - A critical next step for the Randall Preserve is an evaluation of the site through a Resource Management Plan (RMP), which includes plant and animal, watershed, and other surveys and analysis. [Download the Draft RMP](https://www.randallpreserve.org/files/ugd/1e3f71_063a5f4ef8a0419ababd78875d63453f.pdf)
https://www.randallpreserve.org/files/ugd/1e3f71_063a5f4ef8a0419ababd78875d63453f.pdf

- **Coastal Resilience Strategy** - The Coastal Resilience Strategy (CRS) assesses hazard risk and community vulnerability, identifies nature-based solutions appropriate for this site, quantifies conservation and restoration action, and measures the effectiveness of our actions to reduce hazard risk and build climate resilience. [Download the Draft CRS](https://www.randallpreserve.org/files/ugd/4a263a_593f01a71c7f4cceedf1f2f8b64d2e21.pdf)
<https://www.randallpreserve.org/files/ugd/4a263a_593f01a71c7f4cceedf1f2f8b64d2e21.pdf>
- **Public Access Plan** - The Public Access Plan (PAP) is developed last because all of the other plans inform this one. It will include the types of allowed activities, locations of those activities, and the hours the public can visit the Preserve. The PAP is also a chapter within the RMP. [Download the PAP](https://www.randallpreserve.org/files/ugd/4a263a_4e97e9e594754add9660e2a5299d1e84.pdf)
<https://www.randallpreserve.org/files/ugd/4a263a_4e97e9e594754add9660e2a5299d1e84.pdf>

The Tribal Access and Engagement Plan is in development.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council may determine that no comments are necessary for the three draft plans.

FISCAL REVIEW:

This action has no fiscal impact.

LEGAL REVIEW:

This item is administrative and does not necessitate legal review.

CITY COUNCIL GOALS AND PRIORITIES:

This item supports the following City Council goal:

- Advance Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resiliency.

CONCLUSION:

Per the request of Council Member Reynolds, discuss City Council Comments on the Randall Preserve Draft Plans for submittal to MRCA.