

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Turner, Jennifer@Wildlife <Jennifer.Turner@wildlife.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 7:37 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Comments on the draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Attachments: Fairview_Park_Letter_CDFW.docx.pdf

Hello,

Please see attached for CDFW's comments on the technical documents provided for the draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. CDFW requests that our letter is addressed at the upcoming City Council meeting where this item is agendized.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Turner

Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



September 25, 2025

Brenda Green
City Clerk's Office
77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
brenda.green@costamesaca.gov

Subject: DRAFT FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE, COSTA MESA, CA

Dear Brenda Green:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the technical reports which provide the framework for the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan (Plan) from the City of Costa Mesa (City). Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding those activities that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Plan that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines¹ (Fish & Game Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a)). CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (Fish & G. Code, § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW may also act as a Responsible Agency under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration

¹ CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

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regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 *et seq.*). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in “take” as defined by State law² of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA; Fish & G. Code, § 2050 *et seq.*) or the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA; Fish & G. Code, § 1900 *et seq.*), the City may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW also administers the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) program, a California regional habitat conservation planning program (Fish & G. Code, § 2800 *et seq.*). The City is a participating landowner under the Central/Coastal Orange County NCCP/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

PLAN DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Objective: According to the City’s website, the objective of the Fairview Park Master Plan Update (Update) is to revise the 1998 Fairview Park Master Plan, last updated in 2008. In addition to the goals of aligning the existing Plan with current biological assessments, land uses, and environmental regulations/policies, it will also be used to create priorities and strategies for long-term management, preservation of natural resources, and future park projects. Future projects include, but are not limited to, restoration projects, trail improvements, park amenities, and special events.

Location: Fairview Park is in the City, and its address is 2525 Placentia Avenue. It is bordered by residential areas to the north and east, Talbert Regional Park to the south, and the Santa Ana River to the west. The park itself is bisected by Placentia Avenue, which runs north/south.

Biological Setting: The regional biological significance of Fairview Park cannot be overstated. The Park is the northernmost parcel of a rare, contiguous undeveloped natural open space, which stretches from Fairview Park southward through Talbert Regional Park and terminates at the Randall Preserve. The 208-acre, topographically diverse Park contains a multitude of habitat types and micro-habitats, including one of the last coastal terrace vernal pools complexes in Orange County (USFWS 2007) on its mesa. Vernal pools in Fairview Park also support several plant species that are locally rare (City 2008 and Chung 2010). The artificial ponds in the lowlands provide nesting and foraging habitat for riparian species. Other natural and sensitive habitats include native grasslands, coastal bluff scrub, alluvial scrub, riparian woodlands, and coastal sage scrub. These habitats serve as foraging and reproductive habitat, providing refugia for many sensitive species in an otherwise developed watershed. Approximately 12-acres of the Park is landscaped.

According to the Biological Technical Report (BTR; Hamilton Biological 2025), 222 vascular plants and over 262 wildlife species have been documented in the Park, a remarkable number of flora and fauna for an area with just under 200 acres of habitat.

² “Take” is defined in Section 86 of the Fish and Game Code as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.”

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Several listed species have been observed on site or have high or moderate potential to occur on site which include:

Invertebrates

- San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*; Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed endangered),
- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*; CESA Candidate for Threatened or Endangered Listing; CBB),

Birds

- Coastal California gnatcatcher [*Poliophtila californica californica*; ESA- listed threatened; CDFW Species of Special Concern (SSC); gnatcatcher],
- Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*; ESA-listed endangered; CESA-listed endangered; vireo),
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*; CDFW Fully Protected Species),
- Belding's Savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi*; CESA-listed endangered),
- Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; SSC; CESA Candidate for Threatened or Endangered Listing),
- Coastal cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegonensis*; SSC),
- Coopers hawk (*Astur cooperii*; SSC),

Plants

- San Diego button celery (*Eryngium aristulatum* var. *parishii*; California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Rank 1B.1), and,
- Southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *Australis*; California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Rank 1B.1).

Please see Attachment A for a complete list of sensitive species present or with potential to occur at Fairview Park (Hamilton Biological 2025).

Prior CDFW Engagement: CDFW has a long history of engaging with the City on natural resources matters at Fairview Park, most notably vernal pool complex management issues, historic violations, and ongoing impacts to areas subject to Fish and Game Code 1600 *et seq.* Additionally, fulfillment of outstanding mitigation obligations regarding compensatory mitigation obligations at Fairview Park for off-site projects with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and the Department of Toxic Substances Control continue to languish and remain incomplete (OCTA 2018 and CDFW 2019). Despite repeated engagement with the City on natural resources matters at the Park, our attempts to partner with the City on these outstanding issues are largely ineffective. As outlined below, many of these obligations are incomplete or their status is unknown.

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In 2014, CDFW partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to provide comments on vernal pool restoration after the installation of a path in the Park that was routed within and adjacent to vernal pools occupied by the federally endangered San Diego fairy shrimp (USFWS 2014). Impacts to these pools from the installation of paths and parking areas, improvements to Estancia High School stadium, and the operation of motorized vehicles during the wet season were mitigated through restoration efforts at pools 2, 5, 6, and 7 (Glen Lukos Associates 2015). It is unclear to CDFW and the USFWS (hereafter referred to as the Wildlife Agencies) as to whether the stated mitigation and restoration efforts were achieved in full.

In 2016, CDFW investigated the City's fill of Little Canyon as a possible violation of Fish and Game Code, section 1602, when soil stockpiles from the artificial pond creation were used to fill Little Canyon for purposes of trail creation and realignment. CDFW concluded the unauthorized activities were subject to Fish and Game Code; however, the statute of limitations to issue a Notice of Violation had passed and no action was taken. (City 2015)

In 2018, the City contacted CDFW regarding clearing of vegetation in and around the artificial pond complex during the nesting season for coastal California gnatcatcher. At that time, CDFW communicated that a Routine Maintenance Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) per our Lake and Streambed Alteration program was required to move forward with the clearing. To date the City does not have a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement to authorize the work in those areas (Comment 3).

In 2019, the Wildlife Agencies and OCTA met with the City several times to discuss their outstanding mitigation obligations to OCTA and ACOE (OCTA 2018). These issues remain unresolved (Comment 4).

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the City in reaching the stated goals of the Plan update; namely, aligning the existing Plan with current biological assessments, land uses, and environmental regulations and policies, while adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Plan's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

1. **Fly field Relocation.** CDFW strongly supports relocation of the model airplane fly field, as its continued operation in the vernal pool complex is in direct conflict with preservation and management of this important park feature. The goals of the Master Plan Update, as stated in the publicly available technical documents, cannot be achieved while private citizens continue take it upon themselves to grade and mow these sensitive habitats to maintain fly field runways on City property. Additionally, while these recreational activities have largely been considered passive, the degradation and improper maintenance of the pools is leading to a long-term reduction in vernal pool function and degradation.

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Not only would relocation of the model airplane fly field reduce habitat degradation and risk of unauthorized take of CESA candidate species, but it would also reduce the regulatory burden for the City. Based on current seasonal survey data, operation and maintenance of the fly field in its current location would likely require a CESA Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for western burrowing owl and Crotch's bumble bee. Western burrowing owl over-winters regularly on the Park's mesa, within proximity of the existing fly field. Mowing, grading, or any other maintenance of the fly field could cause unauthorized take of these species.

On October 15, 2024, the Fish and Game Commission published a Notice of Findings that designates western burrowing owl as a CESA candidate species. If the fly field is not relocated, no avoidance measures are implemented, and regular survey data is not collected, unauthorized take could occur. Furthermore, without Park enforcement, inadvertent attempts to flush western burrowing owl from the site may lead to indirect impacts to the species. Crotch's bumble bee has also been recently observed in Fairview Park (Endemic Environmental Services 2024). The California Fish and Game Commission accepted a petition to list Crotch's bumble bee as threatened or endangered under CESA, determining the listing, "may be warranted" and advancing the species to the candidacy stage of the CESA listing process. At the fly field's current location, its operations and ongoing maintenance will substantially modify habitat and potentially reduce or impair the viability of future populations of bees. The Project may also reduce the number and range of the species without considering the likelihood that special status species on adjacent and nearby natural lands, such as Talbert Regional Park or Randall Preserve, may rely upon the habitat that occurs on the proposed Project site.

Finally, there is scientific evidence to support that the fly field activities lead to harassment of sensitive avian species, including raptors. Behavioral responses to model aircraft disturbances add to the daily energy expenditure of birds. When birds are disturbed, they can react with altered behaviors, such as agitation or flushing. Also, a bird may exhibit no outward signs of distress but experience an elevated heart rate (Ellenberg, Mattern and Seddon 2013), increased oxygen consumption, and change in metabolic rate, thus disrupting the bird's energy budget (Kempf and Hüppop 1998). Even outside breeding season, such disturbances can have a high impact to the individual bird as well as to the population. During the non-breeding season birds need to forage as much as possible to build up fat stores for migration, upcoming breeding activity, or harsh winter conditions (Kempf and Hüppop 1998). Birds that rely on Fairview Park for food and shelter could temporarily abandon these habitats during fly field use, leading to a loss of critical resources during key times, such as during migration or overwintering periods. This disruption can have significant consequences for their overall health, survival, and reproductive success. Depending on a species' breeding cycle, disturbances can have varying results (Ellenberg, Mattern and Seddon 2013). For fly field activities that occur at the beginning of nesting season, birds may choose not to nest in the area at all.

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As southern California's rare coastal open spaces are important stopovers for annual migration, model aircraft disturbances in those areas will affect many birds. Migratory birds rely on specific cues, including environmental factors such as light, temperature, and quiet, to guide their journeys. The presence of even lower-decibel noise and physical disturbances from fly field can interfere with these cues, potentially delaying or disrupting migration. This disruption could affect the birds' ability to arrive at their destination on time, impacting their survival and reproductive success (Schummer and Eddleman 2003). It can also interfere with the birds' flight paths, leading to potential collisions or forced changes in migration patterns. Noise and physical presence of model aircraft also affect the landscape and vegetation used by birds for cover and nesting. This is particularly concerning considering the known grading and mowing activities associated with the fly field maintenance.

2. **Enforcement.** To meet the stated goals of the Master Plan Update, CDFW strongly recommends that the Update include a discussion regarding the necessity for Park enforcement of adopted policy. Park enforcement is necessary to ensure the City complies with Fish and Game Code, as well as conditions as described in any forthcoming CDFW-issued permits (e.g., CESA ITP or LSAA). Without enforcement, continued habitat degradation through off-trail activity is likely, and unauthorized take under CESA is possible. We strongly recommend the City includes line-item funding for this purpose in its annual budget.
3. **Permitting Obligations.** The Fairview Park Master Plan Update should address in specific terms how and when it will meet its prior and ongoing wetland permitting obligations. CDFW has been engaging with the City since 2018, when CDFW was contacted regarding vegetation clearing in the artificial pond complex. Five years later in 2023, the City submitted a notification for routine maintenance in and around the ponds (EPIMS-ORA-38510-R5). On July 3, 2024, CDFW deemed that notification incomplete. To date, the City has not responded to CDFW regarding the outstanding items in our Notification Incomplete letter. It can only be assumed that, despite our efforts to negotiate in good faith with the City regarding wetland permitting obligations, seven years' worth of unauthorized impacts are likely to have occurred to areas subject to Fish and Game Code Section 1602. A Master Plan Update would not be complete without addressing the outstanding Routine Maintenance Agreement notification and any other one-time projects in the Park; this includes how they will be completed, funded, when, and by whom.

Given the City continues to disregard our requests for compliance, CDFW is within our rights to issue a Notice of Violation associated with the ongoing unauthorized impacts. FGC Section 1602 requires an entity to submit a written Lake and Streambed Alteration Notification to CDFW before: 1) substantially diverting or obstructing the natural flow of a river, stream, or lake; 2) substantially changing the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; 3) using any material from the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; and/or 4) depositing or disposing of debris, waste, material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into a river, stream, or lake. Hence, any entity who engages in an activity

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subject to FGC Section 1602 without first notifying CDFW violates Section 1602. However, we continue to assert that it is in the best interest of the wetland resources, the City, and CDFW to issue an LSAA to authorize the impacts, if possible.

CDFW is available to meet regarding wetland permitting issues at the City's earliest convenience.

4. **Mitigation Obligations.** It is CDFW's understanding that restoration efforts associated with the Fairview Park Mesa, for which the City applied for a Restoration Management Plan (RMP) under CDFW's Cutting the Green Tape Program, were approved at the City Council meeting held on September 16, 2025. This restoration is aligned with the stated goals of the Master Plan Update and would fulfil the City's outstanding OCTA mitigation obligations. The draft restoration plan and the proposed CEQA addendum, prepared by the City, provide a sufficient level of detail regarding the work which will be authorized by the RMP, such that a contract can be bid in the absence of an issued permit.

In 2010, the City nominated the subject 23-acre Fairview Park Restoration Project (Restoration) for funding consideration to the OCTA. The Wildlife Agencies supported the recommendation for OCTA to fund the Restoration within Fairview Park. This Restoration was planned to be integrated into the OCTA Measure 2 (M2) NCCP/HCP as it has high potential to support similar vegetation communities to mitigate for identified M2 freeway construction activities; restores sensitive species listed under the California Natural Diversity Database; and should result in ecological benefits to the NCCP/HCP Covered Species. Once the Restoration is completed and approved by the Wildlife Agencies, OCTA will be able to use the restored habitat for mitigation as part of the OCTA M2 NCCP/HCP. The City agreed to ensure the long-term conservation of the natural resources at Fairview Park through verification of a conservation easement or other approved conservation instrument.

Below are the outstanding concerns pertaining to the Restoration that we have communicated to the City during meetings and phone calls over the past several years:

- a. Failure to restore the agreed upon habitat restoration acreage and implement a solution to resolve this shortcoming;
- b. Lack of documentation to demonstrate that adjacent mitigation for other projects does not overlap with the Project;
- c. Lack of progress on developing and recording a conservation easement or other approved conservation instrument over the entire project area; and,
- d. Lack of Lake and Streambed Alteration Notification for one-time work and ongoing maintenance of the Fairview Park ponds subject to Fish and Game Code section 1600 *et seq.*

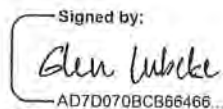
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CDFW is committed to assisting the City in fulfilling its outstanding obligations. We look forward to working with the City to provide a complete RMP application package so that issuance of the RMP can move forward.

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the technical documents associated with the Master Plan Update to advise the City of Costa Mesa in identifying and mitigating the Updates' impacts on biological resources. Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Jennifer Turner³, Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

AD7D070BCB66466...

Glen M. Lubcke
Environmental Program Manager
South Coast Region

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Sensitive Species at Fairview Park

cc: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Jennifer Turner, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)
Cindy Hailey, Staff Services Analyst

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REFERENCES

CDFW. 2019. RE: Remedial Action Plan for Ascon Landfill Site Project, Huntington Beach, CA (SCH# 2013041010). Electronic mail received by X. Zhai from J. Turner on April 17, 2019. On file at CDFW.

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CDFW. 2025. Incomplete Notification of Routine Maintenance Agreement No. EPIMS-ORA-38510-R5, Fairview Park Wetlands Maintenance Project. Issued July 3, 2024 to the City of Costa Mesa. On file at CDFW.

ACOE. 2010. Personal Communication. Electronic mail received by C. Medak from J. Chung on April 16, 2010. On file at Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office.

City of Costa Mesa. 2008. Fairview Park Master Plan March 1998, Revised February 2001 and November 2002, Updated November 2008. Online at <https://www.costamesaca.gov/community/fairview-park/fairview-park-master-plan>.

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USFWS. 2007. Endangered and threatened wildlife and plants; Designation of critical habitat for the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*). Federal Register 72:70648-70714.

USFWS. 2014. Restoration, Management, and Protection of Vernal Pools within Fairview Park, City of Costa Mesa. Prepared by the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, Carlsbad, California.

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Attachment A: Sensitive Species at Fairview Park

Latin name Common name	Fed.	Global/ State	CNPS	Habitat/Regional Status	Potential to Occur in Fairview Park
Plants					
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i> Chaparral Sand-Verbena	—	G5T2/S2	1B.1	Open sandy soils in alluvial washes, chaparral, and coastal sage scrub. Mainly in Riverside and San Diego Counties. Last extant Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Possibly Extirpated. Small numbers found in northern lowlands in recent years; not detected in 2023, possibly due to brush clearance in area.
<i>Atriplex coulteri</i> Coulter's Saltbush	—	G3/S1S2	1B.2	Clay soils on bluffs, mesas and open coastal areas. San Luis Obispo County south.	Moderate. Occurs within 5- 10 miles of park.
<i>Atriplex pacifica</i> South Coast Saltscale	—	G4/S2	1B.2	Clay soils on bluffs, mesas and open coastal areas. Santa Barbara County south.	Moderate. Historically occurred within 5-10 miles of park.
<i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i>davidsonii</i> Davidson's Saltscale	—	G5T1/S1	1B.2	Coastal cliff faces and bluffs. Santa Barbara County south to Orange County.	Moderate. Historical records within 5-10 miles of park.
<i>Calystegia sepium</i> ssp. <i>binghamiae</i> Santa Barbara Morning- Glory	—	G5TXQ/SX	1A	Coastal saltmarshes and stream banks. Localized populations in western Central Valley and southern California.	None. Name misapplied erroneously to plants in Orange County.
<i>Camissoniopsis lewisii</i> Lewis's Evening-Primrose	—	G4/S4	3	Sandy or clay soils on bluffs, mesas, and open coastal areas. San Luis Obispo County south.	Present. Scattered small populations along trail margins and other open areas.
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>australis</i> Southern Tarplant	—	G3T2/S2	1B.1	Disturbed ground in saltmarshes and coastal sage scrub. Santa Barbara County south.	Present. Occurs along disturbed margins of trails; numbers fluctuate from year to year; more abundant in the park before creation of ponds in the northern lowlands.

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<i>Chaenactis glabriuscula</i> var. <i>orcuttiana</i> Orcutt's Pincushion	—	G5T1/S1	1B.1	Coastal dunes, bluffs, and mesas. Ventura County south; mostly in San Diego County.	Low. Potentially suitable habitat present, but species not known to occur within 15 miles of the site.
<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> Many-stemmed Dudleya	—	G2/S2	1B.2	Clay banks, slopes, and sandstone outcrops. Kern County south to northwestern San Diego County.	Moderate. Occurs within 5–10 miles of the park.
<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i> San Diego Button-Celery	E	E	1B.1	Vernal pools. Mainly in San Diego County; the only Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Present. Found in Ponds 4a, 4b, 4c. Numbers have declined over time; in recent years, plants appear to have been intentionally removed.
<i>Hordeum intercedens</i> Vernal Barley	—	G3G4/S3S4	3.2	Grasslands and vernal pools. Santa Barbara County south; scattered populations in the Central Valley.	Present. Occurs in grasslands and vernal pools; numbers in 2023 greatly reduced from previous years, probably due to increasing competition from non-native species.
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>puberula</i> Mesa Horkelia	—	G4T1/S1	1B.1	Sheltered coastal chaparral. San Luis Obispo County south to northwestern San Diego County.	Low. Occurs within 5–10 miles, but park lacks coastal chaparral habitat.
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i> Coulter's Goldfields	—	G4T2/S2	1B.1	Alkali soils and vernal pools. San Luis Obispo County south; scattered populations in the Central Valley.	Present. Pools 5 and 6 hold the County's largest population, with 100s to 1000s of plants; smaller numbers occur in a vernal wet half-pipe feature in the central mesa, adjacent to a large, disturbed area.
<i>Lycium californicum</i> California Boxthorn	—	G4/S4	4.2	Scrub habitats, mainly along the coast. Los Angeles County south.	Present. Occurs in coastal bluff scrub on the park's western slope.
<i>Microseris douglasii</i> ssp. <i>platycarpa</i> Small-flowered Microseris	—	G4T4/S4	4.2	Vernal pools and seasonally wet plains. Los Angeles County south; one record from southern Central Valley.	Present. Occurs in vernal pools and grasslands in the park on both sides of Placentia Avenue.

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<i>Myosurus minimus</i> <i>ssp. apus</i> Little Mousetail	—	G5T2Q/ S2	3.1	Alkali soils and vernal pools. Mainly in the Central Valley and western Riverside County; the only Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Present. Occurs around the margins of Pool 1; very few plants recorded in 2023, apparently due to competition from non-native plants and trampling.
<i>Nama stenocarpa</i> Mud Nama	—	G4G5/ S1S2	2B.2	Vernal pools and seasonally wet plains. Los Angeles County south; one record from southern Central Valley.	Present. Occurs in deepest parts of Pool 1.
<i>Nasturtium gambellii</i> Gambel's Watercress	E	T	1B.1	Freshwater marshes, streams, and drainage areas. San Luis Obispo County south to Orange County.	Low. Potentially suitable habitat present, but no extant populations known in Orange County.
<i>Navarretia prostrata</i> Prostrate Vernal Pool Navarretia	—	G2/S2	1B.2	Seasonally wet alkali soil and vernal pools. Central Valley; coastal slope from Alameda County south; one of two Orange County populations is at Fairview Park.	Present. Occurs around the margins of Pool 1, but fewer plants than expected were recorded in 2023, apparently due to competition from non-native plants and trampling.
<i>Orcuttia californica</i> California Orcutt Grass	E	E	1B.1	Vernal pools. Ventura County south; scattered populations in the Central Valley; the only Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Present. Found in Pool 4a; several dozen plants emerged in 2023 after exceptional rains.
<i>Pentachaeta aurea</i> ssp. <i>alleni</i> Allen's Daisy	—	G4T1/S1	4.3	Clay grasslands and openings in coastal sage scrub. Known from San Joaquin Hills and Santa Ana Mountains of Orange County.	Low. Occurs within 5-10 miles of the park, but suitable habitat may not be present.
Saltspring Checkerbloom <i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i>	—	G4/S2	2B.2	Alkali springs and marshes. Ventura County south.	Low. Potentially suitable habitat present, but species not known to occur within 15 miles of park.
Invertebrates					
San Diego Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i>	E	G2/S1		Vernal pools and other ephemeral wetlands. Orange County south,	Present. Documented in seasonal pools on both sides of Placentia Avenue.

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Riverside Fairy Shrimp <i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i>	E	G1G2/ S2		Vernal pools and other ephemeral wetlands. Ventura County south.	Present. Documented in seasonal pools on west side of Placentia Avenue.
<i>Bombas crotchii</i> Crotch's Bumble Bee	—	C/S1S2	—	Many habitats. California and northwestern Baja California; most records from southern California.	Present. Uses native and non-native flowering habitats in the park (Endemic Environmental Services 2024). Nests in burrows, tufts of vegetation, cavities, rock piles, etc.
<i>Danaus plexippus</i> Monarch	C	G4T1T2 Q/S2	—	Breeds in areas with milkweed from Mendocino County south. In southern California, overwinters mainly in large stands of eucalyptus near the coast.	Present. Occurs as a transient; not known to breed or overwinter in the park.
<i>Panoquina errans</i> Wandering Skipper	—	G4G5/ S2	—	Coastal salt marsh with the required food plant, salt grass (<i>Distichlis spicata</i>). Santa Barbara County south.	Present. James Bailey observed one in the northern lowlands, but scarcity of salt grass in the park may preclude the species from becoming established.
<i>Helminthoglypta traskii traskii</i> Trask Shoulderband	—	G1G2T1 /S2S3	—	Many habitats. Coastal slope from Ventura County south.	High. Likely occurs in the less disturbed parts of the park.
Amphibians					
<i>Spea hammondi</i> Western Spadefoot	PT	SSC	—	Seasonal pools with nearby uplands suitable for aestivation. Shasta County south, excluding deserts.	Low. The species likely occurred at Fairview Park historically, because suitable habitat is present, but no records exist.
Reptiles					
<i>Actinemys pallida</i> Southwestern Pond Turtle	PT	SSC	—	Expansive natural areas that include permanent water and generally lack non-native turtles or exotic predators. Alameda County south, excluding deserts.	Present. One reported in Pond D in the northern lowlands (Endemic Environmental 2021).
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> Coast Horned Lizard	—	SSC	—	Expansive natural areas with sandy openings and native harvester ants. Shasta County south, excluding deserts.	Low. Unlikely to occur due to degradation and fragmentation of habitat, including presence of

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					Argentine ants.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> Coastal Whiptail	—	SSC	—	Widespread, in various habitats. Coastal slope from Santa Barbara County south.	Present. One reported at base of the park's western slope (Dudek 2003).
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> Southern California Legless Lizard	—	SSC	—	Various habitats with sandy soil or deep leaf-litter. Coastal slope from Ventura and Kern Counties south.	Moderate. May occur in areas with loose soils.
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California Glossy Snake	—	SSC	—	Widespread, but uncommon, in habitats with loose soil. Coastal slope from Contra Costa County south.	Moderate. May occur in areas with loose soils.
<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgulata</i> Coast Patch-nosed Snake	—	SSC	—	Brushy and rocky habitats. Coastal slope from San Luis Obispo County south.	Low. Unlikely to occur due to degradation and fragmentation of habitat.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> Two-striped Garter Snake	—	SSC	—	Widespread in the region, in and around perennial water.	Moderate. May occur in and around perennial water.
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> Red Diamond Rattlesnake	—	SSC	—	Various rocky habitats. Coastal slope from Los Angeles County south.	Low. Along the coast, not recorded west of the San Joaquin Hills. Records from Seal Beach area reportedly involve released animal(s).
Birds					
<i>Aythya americana</i> Redhead	—	SSC	—	Nests in various freshwater habitats; winters on lakes and bays. Range includes most of North America.	Present. A few have been recorded during winter. Some potential exists for nesting in the northern lowland ponds.
<i>Plegadis chihi</i> White-faced Ibis	—	G5/S3S4	—	Various freshwater habitats. Breeding range includes most of western North America; winters south to Central America.	Present. Up to several dozen non-breeders occur in the park in fall, winter, spring; small numbers have been recorded breeding in the northern lowland ponds.
<i>Sternula antillarum browni</i> California Least Tern	E	E	—	Breeds on sandy beaches, and in similar open coastal habitats, from Solano County south. Winters in western Mexico.	Present. Not expected to nest in the park, but local breeders occasionally forage in ponds in the northern

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					lowlands.
<i>Nannopterum auritum</i> Double-crested Cormorant	—	G5/S2	—	Freshwater and nearshore marine environments across most of North America. Nests in trees and snags near water.	Present. Non-breeders regularly forage in ponds in the northern lowlands. Could nest there as trees around the ponds mature.
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> Least Bittern	—	SSC	—	Resident of freshwater marshes with extensive emergent vegetation across large parts of North and South America.	Present. Small number of records from ponds in the northern lowlands; may nest in tules.
<i>Elanus leucurus</i> White-tailed Kite	—	FP	—	Nests in trees within expansive open space areas; more widespread during migration and winter. Forages in rangelands and marshy areas. Range includes large parts of North and South America.	Present. Forages regularly in the park. Could potentially nest in riparian woodlands.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> Golden Eagle	—	FP	—	Extensive open areas across a cosmopolitan range; nests on cliffs and in tall trees away from settlements. In Orange County, occurs mainly in the foothills and mountains.	Low. Transients could occur rarely.
<i>Circus hudsonius</i> Northern Harrier	—	SSC	—	Nests on the ground in expansive open space areas; more widespread during migration and winter. Range includes most of North America.	Present. Small numbers regularly forage in the park's grassland and scrub habitats in fall, winter, and spring. Could possibly nest in the local area.
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> Bald Eagle	—	E	—	Nests in tall trees, usually near water; forages in lakes, rivers, and marine environments. Range includes most of North America.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.
<i>Buteo regalis</i> Ferruginous Hawk	—	G4/S3S4	—	Breeds in central North America and winters mainly in expansive rangelands and agricultural areas to the south.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.

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<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's Hawk	—	G5/S4	—	Breeds in Canada and western North America and winters from western Mexico to southern South America.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> Burrowing Owl	—	C/SSC	—	Occurs across large parts of North America; nesting population west of the deserts nearly extirpated. Rare winter visitor in coastal southern California.	Present. Up to three often winter in Fairview Park, using open habitats on either side of Placentia Avenue. Not known to nest in the park.
<i>Asio flammeus</i> Short-eared Owl	—	SSC	—	Extensive open areas across a cosmopolitan range; nests in northern North America. Very rare fall/winter visitor across most of southern California.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	E	E	—	Formerly a widespread breeder in southern California but now highly localized in areas of extensive riparian woodlands. Uncommon during migration.	Low (as a breeder). Habitat is marginal; no recent nesting records from Orange County. Occurs regularly, but uncommonly, as a transient.
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> Vermilion Flycatcher	—	SSC	—	Open country with trees. Formerly nested in the desert Southwest and into Mexico; now nests sparingly across southern California, including Orange County.	Present. Now apparently resident in small numbers; courtship behavior by a pair on 3/25/25.
<i>Vireo bellii bellii</i> Least Bell's Vireo	E	E	—	Nests uncommonly in riparian scrub and woodlands from Ventura County south; winters in western Mexico.	Present. Small numbers nest in riparian habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> Loggerhead Shrike	—	SSC	—	Occurs in open habitats across most of North America; nesting population on coastal slope of southern California nearly extirpated. Rare winter visitor in coastal southern California.	Present. Occurs rarely in fall and winter; does not nest.
<i>Poliioptila californica californica</i> Coastal California Gnatcatcher	T	SSC	—	Resident of coastal sage scrub habitat, favoring shallow slopes and elevations below 1,500 feet; Ventura County south.	Present. Small numbers resident in scrub habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.

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<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus</i> Cactus Wren, coastal populations	—	SSC	—	Rare and declining resident of cactus scrub habitat on the coastal slope from Ventura County south.	Extirpated. Small numbers formerly resident along the western bluff and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River have died out in recent years.
<i>Cistothorus palustris clarkae</i> Clark's Marsh Wren	—	SSC	—	Resident of marshes with extensive emergent vegetation; Los Angeles County to San Diego County.	High. A few late spring and summer records of Marsh Wren in the lowland ponds likely refer to <i>C. p. clarkae</i> , the local breeder. Records of Marsh Wren in fall and winter may involve migrant subspecies from elsewhere.
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i> Grasshopper Sparrow	—	SSC	—	Nests in expansive grasslands and rangelands across most of North America. In Orange County, breeds mainly in the San Joaquin Hills and Lomas de Santiago; occurs rarely in fall and winter.	Low (as a breeder). Occurs rarely as a transient or winter visitor. Nesting unlikely, but possible, east of Placentia Avenue.
<i>Poocetes gramineus affinis</i> Oregon Vesper Sparrow	—	SSC	—	Breeds in the Pacific Northwest and winters mainly in expansive open areas on the coastal slope of California.	High. Vesper Sparrows of unknown subspecies recorded in the park; <i>P. g. affinis</i> likely to occur occasionally in fall and winter.
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis rostratus</i> Large-billed Savannah Sparrow	—	SSC	—	Breeds in the northern Gulf of California; winters on the coast of southern California.	Present. Occurs rarely in fall and winter.
<i>Icteria virens</i> Yellow-breasted Chat	—	SSC	—	Nests uncommonly and locally in riparian woodlands with dense tangles across most of North America.	Present. Small numbers nest in riparian habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> Tricolored Blackbird	—	T	—	Nests in wetlands near expansive grasslands and rangelands required for foraging, mainly in California. Winters in rangelands and parks.	Low (as a breeder). Occurs rarely as a transient or winter visitor. Nesting unlikely, but possible.

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<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> Yellow-headed Blackbird	—	SSC	—	Nests in wetlands with tall emergent vegetation across much of central and western North America. Winters mainly in Mexico.	Low (as a breeder). Occurs rarely as a transient or winter visitor. Nesting unlikely, but possible.
<i>Setophaga petechia</i> Yellow Warbler	—	SSC	—	Nests in woodlands across most of North America. Winters mainly from Mexico to South America.	Present. Small numbers nest in riparian habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.
Mammals					
<i>Microtus californicus stephensi</i> South Coast Marsh Vole	—	SSC	—	Wetland communities and associated grasslands along the coast from southern Ventura County to northern Orange County (Sunset Beach).	None. Fairview Park lies seven miles southeast of the described range of this taxon; voles along the Santa Ana River should be <i>M. C. sanctidiegi</i> (Hall 1981).
<i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i> Pacific Pocket Mouse	E	SSC	—	Shrublands, coastal dunes, coastal sage scrub, and river alluvium habitats with loose, sandy soil. Coastal areas from Los Angeles County to San Diego County.	Low. Not recorded in Fairview Park or elsewhere along the Santa Ana River but may have occurred there historically. Very little sandy habitat potentially suitable for this species remains in the northern lowlands.
<i>Sorex ornatus salicomicus</i> Southern California Salt Marsh Shrew	—	SSC	—	Coastal salt marshes, and nearby freshwater wetlands, from Ventura County to Orange County.	Low. Fairview Park lacks the coastal salt marsh habitat with which this species is most closely associated.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego Desert Woodrat	—	SSC	—	Widespread in scrub habitats, especially those with cactus, but sensitive to habitat fragmentation. Coastal slope from Monterey County south.	Moderate. Suitable cactus scrub occurs in the park, but this species may not be present due to fragmentation of the habitat.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego Black-tailed Jackrabbit	—	SSC	—	Occurs in various open settings, usually in expansive open space areas, from Santa Barbara County south.	Extirpated. Formerly recorded in the park (Hamilton 1995) and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River, but no recent observations known.

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<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i> Mexican Long-tongued Bat	—	SSC	—	Ventura County south to Central America, often in coastal areas. Roosts in caves, crevices, under tree roots, and in man-made structures. Forages on nectar and pollen of agaves.	Low. Fairview Park generally lacks suitable roosting habitat and the agaves associated with this species.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> Western Mastiff Bat	—	SSC	—	Roosts in crevices in cliffs and in tall buildings; feeds aerially. Widely distributed in California and Desert Southwest.	Low. The species may occasionally fly over the site while foraging, but suitable roosting is absent.
<i>Lasiurus frantzii</i> Western Red Bat	—	SSC	—	Roosts in foliage of many types of trees; feeds over a wide variety of habitats, often close to water in coastal lowlands. Widespread from western North America south to northern South America.	High. Riparian woodlands in the park appear suitable for roosting, and the park contains ample water and suitable foraging habitat.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> Western Yellow Bat	—	SSC	—	Roosts primarily or entirely in palms; often forages over water but also grasslands and scrub habitats. Southwestern United States south to Central America.	Moderate. Fairview Park lacks the palm trees most closely associated with this species, but Western Yellow Bats could roost in riparian woodlands and/or forage in the park.
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> Pallid Bat	—	SSC	—	Widespread in western North America, in chaparral and similar habitats. Forages on the ground and in vegetation. Roosts in rock crevices and under tree bark.	Low. Fairview Park lacks extensive rocky areas or oak woodlands that would provide suitable roosting habitat, but Pallid Bats from other areas could potentially forage in the park.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American Badger	—	SSC	—	Occurs in expansive open space areas across most of western and central North America. In Orange County, recent records from the mountains and foothills.	Low. American Badgers have not been recorded at Fairview Park or elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River. It is likely that the natural habitat is too reduced and fragmented to support a population.

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September 25, 2025
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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Fairview Park Alliance <info@fairviewparkalliance.org>
Sent: Sunday, November 2, 2025 4:03 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Fairview Park Alliance Comments
Attachments: 2005 PACS ruling on fly field.pdf

Please accept Fairview Park Alliance's comments for the Fairview Park Master Plan update.



Nov. 3, 2025

Dear City of Costa Mesa,

Fairview Park Alliance (FPA) thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the Fairview Park Master Plan (FPMP) update Draft.

FPA was very impressed with how much background research was done to understand the site from the beginning of time. The details are very extensive and thorough and show why the site is what it is today; biologically and archaeologically. (Appendix B,C,D)

Our first comment is a format one.

1. Add technical reports to the end of the FPMP update.

The Technical Reports that were released months ago, are the meat of the FPMP update since they contain the history, surveys, and reports. There has been an incredible amount of science-based research, investigating, and outreach to produce these reports and recommendations. The reports are referenced in the FPMP update but not included. It would be easier and more efficient for people to have the information available that is being referenced in the update. This was partially done in the 2008 FPMP and was very helpful.

Fairview Park is a unique park in Costa Mesa biologically and archaeologically. It is a biodiversity hotspot that supports a variety of special-status plant and wildlife species, several of which are listed as threatened or endangered and protected by state and/or federal governments. (pg.8) Archaeologically, the entire park should be considered a single unified Native American protected site that is sensitive and should be preserved. (pg. 22, 24,39,40)

“As the entire site has extremely high sensitivity for buried Native American origin cultural resources.” (pg.40)

2. Change name to Fairview Nature Park or Fairview Park Preserve

A name change is mildly suggested in the update when talking about the Open Space and Recreation Element of the Costa Mesa General Plan, but it is not really stressed. (pg. 28) FPA would like to stress that a name change would identify the uniqueness of the park and help people understand what Fairview Park has to offer. It would allow for grant and funding opportunities and offer the whole community the beautiful nature park they want. A name change was recommended by the Fairview Park Steering Committee (FVPSC) and Parks and Community Services Commission (PAC's).

FPA likes that the update states the goals and objectives adopted during the City Council meeting of Jan. 17, 2023, when the contract was approved, and the outline of the 'Regulatory Framework' to ensure those goals are met legally. (pg.12, 24)

This is very important since goals of Jan. 17, 2023 may not align with past direction by city council on Jan. 28, 2025 or regulatory requirements. At the Jan. 28, 2025 city council meeting, City Council was very unhappy that MIG did not recommend gliderplanes in Fairview Park due to the negative high-impact it had on Fairview Park. City Council told MIG consultants that they (City Council) wanted a flyfield in Fairview Park so put one in somewhere. So now this update has included a flyfield on the east side. (pg. 67,69) The Fairview Park Steering Committee had voted months ago to recommend no gliderplanes in Fairview Park, but unfortunately their recommendations were not included in the update. USFW, CDFW, and all the biologists and restoration experts working in Fairview Park recommend no gliderplanes in Fairview Park.

3. Remove gliderplane flying from Fairview Park.

Although getting the high-impact gliderplane activity off of a vernal pool watershed is an obvious good thing, inserting it on the east side is not solving the problem. There are sensitive and threatened species on the east side that use that area for hunting and nesting. Flying

gliderplanes would kick them out. Putting a flyfield anywhere on the east side does not support the City's commitment to preserving sensitive resources, balance community access, environmental restoration, or long-term park sustainability. Archaeologically, all of Fairview Park is sensitive and should be protected.

If the city council is determined to keep gliderplane flying in Costa Mesa, then why not give the gliderplanes a home where they can really thrive at and relocate it to Fairview Developmental Center or another park without endangered and threatened species? That way they would be able to fly more than their gliders and have more days of flying. In fact, the small gliderplane club's disregard for the vernal pool watershed and the creatures they're kicking out should never have been allowed by the city. In 2005 when the city proposed moving the gliderplanes to PACs it shows they are next to the restrooms NOT in a vernal pool watershed. (see attached 2005 PACs Ruling) This mishap needs to be finally corrected and the gliderplanes need to find a home outside of Fairview Park. This would be a balanced approach and I hope everyone listens to the PAC's Special Meeting Oct. 30, 2025 on YouTube to hear what is said about balance by Ms. Kelly Brown and how Ms. Liz Dorn Parker starts off the commissioner comments recognizing the overused and misused piece of unique nature we call Fairview Park, but gives us a kind of inspirational message by Maya Angelou about doing the best you can until you know better. When you know better you do better. I really hope City Council has strived to know more so they can do better.

Our next comment has to do with the vegetation communities suggested in the update. Since grasslands are an essential component to Fairview Park's unique ecosystems, we think they should be identified in detail and proposed as a more dominant ecosystem to be carried over from the 2008 FPMP.

4. Native grasses need to be identified with a plant palette and planned for the west side mesa and the east side hills and mesa.

Although the update recognizes grasslands as existing and although being mostly nonnative, they still retain many species of native grasses and support wildlife. (pg.14, 22, 71) FPA's concern is that the grassland areas restored on the west and east side of Placentia do not have vegetation communities with grasses being dominant. If these areas are talked about as being grasslands, then why aren't the grasses dominant in the vegetation communities suggested? FPA understands the difference between a "vegetation community" and a "plant palette" – the former being more general containing different percentages of plants and a plant palette calls out specific plants.

The 2008 FPMP update clearly called out for Purple Needlegrass, Vernal Barley, Meadow Barley, or grassland flowers like Coastal Goldfields, Common Tidy Tips, Bicolored Lupine, or Blue-eyed Grass. (pg. 40 FPMP 2008)

In the updates Technical Report, '2023 Vegetation Map', it talks about seeding the area on the east side near the railroads with high rates of perennial grasses and forbs, and low rates of native shrubs tolerant of mowing

“...in order for it to be suitable for burrowing owls and other grassland birds”(pg. 81)

That is great! But, what about the hills and mesa on the east side and the mesa on the west side?

The east side mesa also has Habitat Restoration Opportunity suggested to be Clustered Tarplant Fields and of Coast Goldenbush *seed mix with 3 native grasses included* in the seed mix on page 42. Those grasses aren't identified and their percentage in the seed mix isn't identified. FPA thinks the grasses should be identified and if in a seed mix with other dominant plants, the percentage of grasses should be identified.

The next comment is about bicycle riding on the bluffs. (pg. 75,76) The update says the bluff top trail is a primary pedestrian trail and does not accommodate bicycle traffic and that bicycle traffic should be limited to asphalt or concrete surfaces only to protect damage and degradation of the site. FPA wonders if there is any way to protect the bluff trail and still allow bicycle traffic (not ebikes).

5. Is there any way to protect the bluff trail and allow bicycle traffic (not ebikes)

6. FPA does not think a Secondary Pedestrian Trail should be constructed down the canyon. because there are already Secondary Pedestrian Trails on either side of the canyon not identified on page 75. The Secondary Pedestrian Trails were established long before the city filled and graded the canyon area unlawfully. The canyon area was a nesting place for a California Gnatcatcher before it was graded. The canyon is finally starting to recover and doesn't need more human traffic.

Fairview Park Alliance supports everything else in the update and hopes it is passed with these few amendments.

Thank you,

Kim Hendricks

Fairview Park Alliance – President



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 26, 2005

ITEM NUMBER: 9b

SUBJECT: FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN - SILENT FLYER LAUNCH/LAND SITE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 2004

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT/ENGINEERING DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: BART MEJIA, PARKS PROJECT MANAGER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BART MEJIA, PARKS PROJECT MANAGER
(714) 754-5291

RECOMMENDATION

Confirm that improvements to the Silent Flyer Launch/Land Site conform to the intent of the approved Fairview Park Master Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Fairview Park Master Plan (Attachment 1) was originally approved in March 1998, revised in February 2001, and revised again in November 2002. The latest version designates a portion within Area D as a Silent Flyer Launch/Land Site. The location of the site is directly north of the elementary school, and west of the park's restroom facility. The future site will provide a safe recreational facility designed for the launch and landing of model airplanes such as those flown by members of the Harbor Soaring Society Model Glider Club.

ANALYSIS

The Harbor Soaring Society requested in their correspondence dated September 22, 2004 that the City of Costa Mesa assist in the grading of a portion of the area within Fairview Park designated for a landing site and provide irrigation water for the maintenance of said site (Attachment 2).

Staff met with members of the Harbor Soaring Society on Friday December 3, 2004, to examine the current conditions of the proposed launching and landing site. The current conditions of the site consist of a non-irrigated area of park land made up of compacted earth, non-native annual grasses, and small mounds of imported soils. Upon discussion, a conclusion was reached that City Maintenance staff could rough grade the site as per specifications detailed in the Fairview Park Master Plan, and the working drawings prepared by David Evans and Associates, and that the installation of irrigation improvements would be performed by members of the Harbor Soaring Society under the supervision of Maintenance Services staff.

The implementation of this portion of the master plan will have little to no effect on other elements of Fairview Park. The intent is to create a designated area for launching and landing of model airplanes, while maintaining the integrity of the surrounding areas, including vernal pools, bike trails, and passive use turf areas.

The proposed improvements have been submitted to various City departments as described in Section C-2 of Council Policy 500-11 (Attachment 3). Since staff believes that the proposed improvements are consistent with the approved Master Plan, this element would not require City

Council review. Staff, therefore, recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission confirm that the requested improvements are in conformance with the approved Fairview Park Master Plan.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Parks and Recreation Commission may give input or suggestions regarding the proposed improvement projects, and/or deem the improvement projects inconsistent with the approved Fairview Park Master Plan. If deemed inconsistent with the approved Fairview Park Master Plan, the proposed improvement project should be processed as a "substantial amendment to the Fairview Park Master Plan" pursuant to Council Policy 500-11 (Attachment 3).

FISCAL REVIEW

It is estimated that the cost to rent grading equipment and dispose of non-native fills will not exceed \$4,000. Funding for this work is available from existing allocations for Fairview Park improvements.

LEGAL REVIEW

A legal review is not required.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends the Parks and Recreation Commission confirm that the improvements to the Silent Flyer Launch/Land Site conform to the intent of the approved Fairview Park Master Plan.

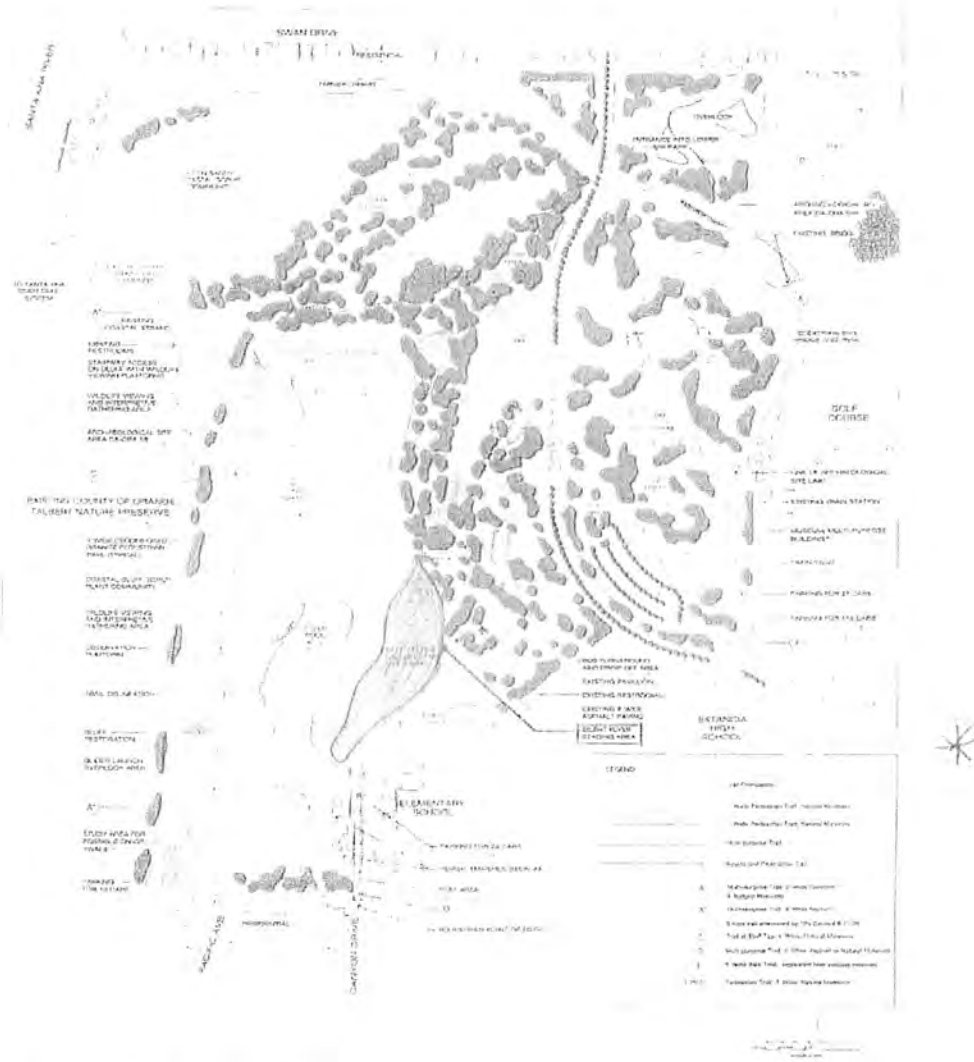
WILLIAM J. MORRIS
Director of Public Services

ERNESTO MUNOZ
City Engineer

BART MEJIA
Parks Project Manager

Attachments: 1. Fairview Park Master Plan
 2. Letter from Harbor Soaring Society
 3. Council Policy 500-11, Section 2.a.

cc: Bruce Hartley, Maintenance Services Manager
 Jana Ransom, Recreation Manager
 Kyle Quatman, Administrative Intern
 Harbor Soaring Society



MASTER PLAN
FAIRVIEW PARK
CITY OF COSTA MESA

Approved by The Editors: March 1997
 Decline February 1997

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HARBOR SOARING SOCIETY

Karl V Hawley
296 16 th Place #B
Costa Mesa, Ca. 92627
Phone 949 574 9379

To the Parks and Recreation Commission

Harbor Soaring Society, Would like to make two request.

#1. For water for the glider landing area at Fairview Park.
(See attach map, red # 1)

#2. To have a smooth area, North of the asphalt walkway, about 150 feet by 300 feet long for a runway for the electric airplanes.
(See attach map, red #2)

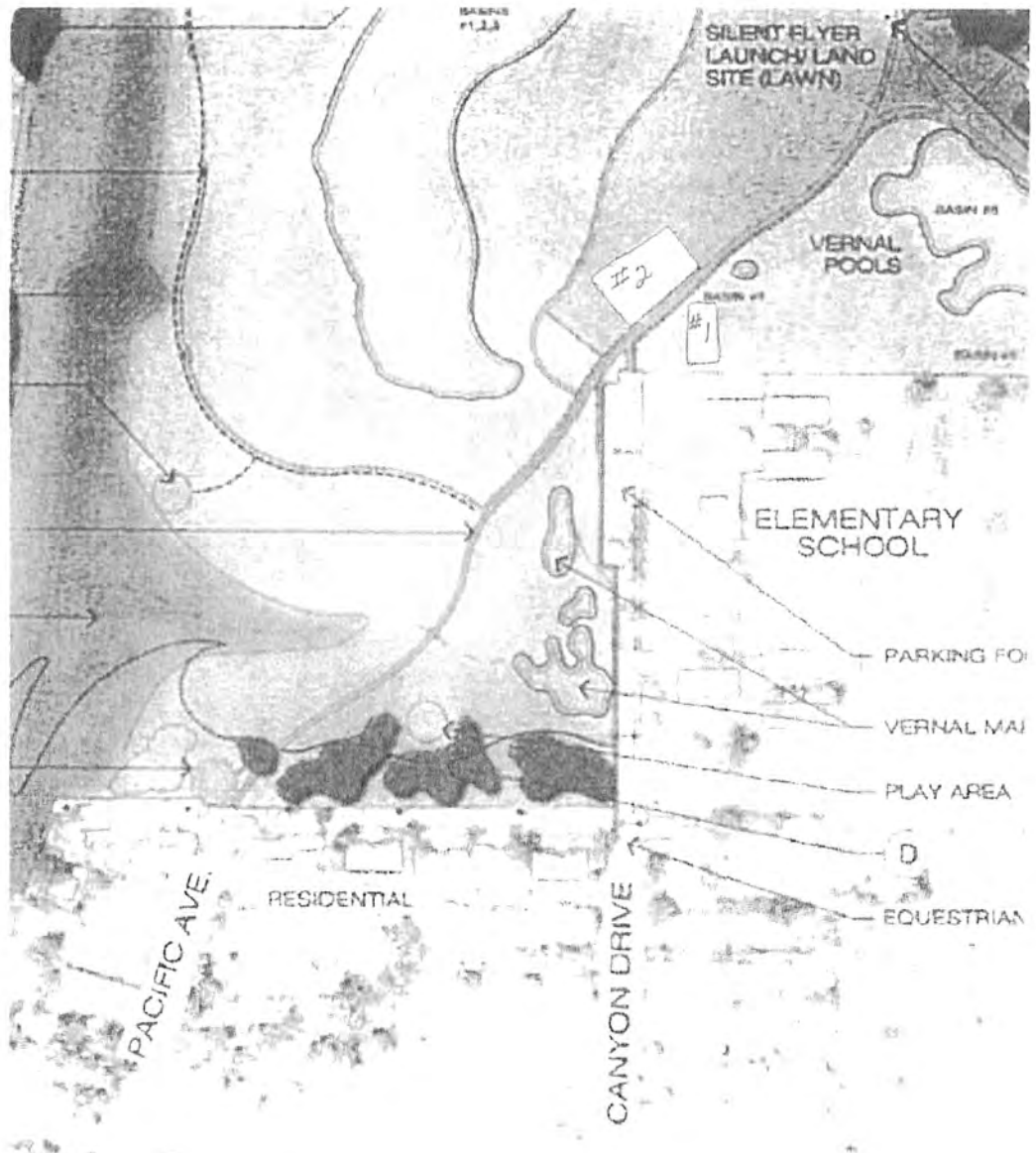


Right now the electric airplanes are taking off and landing right over the walkway. I feel that moving electric flyer to area #2 would make it more compatible with the user of the walkway. Plus it would give more parking area for the Summer Concerts in the Park.

Sincerely Karl Hawley

Karl V Hawley
07/02/02

Fig. 2 Attach 2



Meeting Minutes *at 794 0011014 #*

**CITY OF COSTA MESA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

January 26, 2005

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Costa Mesa met in regular session at 6:30 p.m., January 26, 2005, at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Harris, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Burciaga.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present:

Mark Harris, Chairman
Byron de Arakal, Vice Chairman
Mirna Burciaga, Commissioner
James Fisler, Commissioner
Wendy Leece, Commissioner

Also Present:

William J. Morris, Public Services Director
Jana Ransom, Recreation Manager
Bart Mejia, Parks Project Manager

MINUTES

Motion made by Vice Chairman de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Leece and carried five to zero to approve the minutes of October 27, 2004 and November 17, 2004.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No Oral Communications.

CONSENT CALENDAR

No Items.

PUBLIC HEARING

No Items.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

**FAIRVIEW PARK – ORANGE
COUNTY MODEL
ENGINEER'S PROJECTS
UPDATE**

Mr. Bart Mejia made a power point presentation and introduced Terry Cummings, an OCME representative, to provide additional information and answer any questions or concerns.

In response to questions from Commissioner Leece, Mr. Mejia stated that the life expectancy of the canopy was approximately ten years but that a five-year life expectancy was more realistic.

Mr. Terry Cummings, Vice President for Facilities of OCME, 3046

Capri Lane, Costa Mesa, stated that the premise of the Club, when it was first established and continues to this day, is to create a first rate facility for public use and, in the process, improve the park. He continued to mention that the trees were planted by people in the Club, who are volunteers, and that they operate on a volunteer basis. The OCME members have put in over 10,000 hours of time over the past few years. Also, a great deal of that time was dedicated to serving the public with train rides and maintaining the park facility.

In response to questions from Commissioner Leece regarding the expense to get a green canopy, Mr. Cummings mentioned that the blue canopy sticks out and that OCME is willing to purchase a better color canopy.

In response to questions from Chairman Harris regarding the use of the canopy when work is being done on the trains in the area, Mr. Cummings stated that, at the moment, they are not working on any major track construction but that, in the future, they would place construction benches under there, on a temporary basis.

In response to questions from Vice Chairman de Arakal, Mr. Cummings mentioned that they currently have five to six portable shade structures, roughly ten or twelve feet square, which they move around. He also stated that they are not very effective because they are usually too small.

In response to Vice Chairman de Arakal's questions regarding the gates for the loading dock, Mr. Cummings described the requirements needed for the rail. He mentioned that there would be four chain link gates or two pairs, that would be 42" wide and swing open to give access for the trains.

In response to questions from Commissioner Fisler, directed to Mr. Bill Morris, regarding what type of control the City may have over what goes on at the Fairview Park in reference to the Fairview Park Master Plan, Mr. Morris mentioned that there is an agreement between the City and the OCME, which lays out what can and cannot be done out at the site. He stated that City staff are the curators and overseers of the park; however, in the past and in a few cases, there have been a few things that have been put up where the City was not involved. If the Commission approves the master plan, there would be control.

In response to Chairman Harris' question on whether or not the canopy is permanently mounted, Mr. Mejia stated that the City was aware of the canopy being constructed in the area and was fortunate to find out that it was not permanently attached to any structure.

In response to Vice Chairman de Arakal's question, which was directed to Mr. Bill Morris, regarding whether this is the first 10-Year Master Plan that was received from OCME over the course of the agreement between OCME and the City, Mr. Morris stated that there has been none since he took over responsibility for the implementation of the Fairview Park in 1999 and that he is not aware of any other master plan, prior to 1999.

Vice Chairman de Arakal stated that a master plan should be done and brought to the Commission before any type of improvement is done. He feels that these improvements are great, except for the canopy because everywhere else in the City canopies are frowned upon.

Commissioner Leece agreed with changing the color of the canopy from blue to a green one but wondered if maybe a few trees might solve the problem.

Chairman Harris fully supported the request for a canopy but would prefer that the OCME pay for a different color. He believes that trees planted in the area would not provide enough shade for the people who work in the area and that, as the trees mature, the canopy would be less noticeable.

Commissioner Fisler agreed with Chairman Harris' statement and believes that, because it is a work area, the canopy would be appreciated by the people working there.

Commissioner Burciaga also agreed with Chairman Harris' statement but would prefer that the color be changed from blue to a different shade of green.

MOTION

Motion made by Commissioner Leece, seconded by Chairman Harris, and carried four to one, with Vice Chairman de Arakal voting no, to confirm that the following improvements conform to the approved Fairview Park Master Plan: to construct a shade structure with the understanding that the canopy color should be other than blue and to work with staff to select an appropriate color; the Safety Gate at the Loading Dock; the Concrete Walkway Expansion; and the future 10-Year Improvement Projects, subject to detailed approval by the Public Services Department.

A discussion by Vice Chairman de Arakal as to his decision to not support the motion was due to the canopy issue. He does not believe that a canopy would match the intent of the Fairview Park Master Plan.

FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN – SILENT FLYER LAUNCH/LAND SITE

Mr. Bart Mejia made a power point presentation and introduced Karl Hawley, President of the Harbor Soaring Society, to provide additional information and answer any questions or concerns.

Karl Hawley, 296 16th Place, Apartment B, Costa Mesa, briefly summarized the types of planes that are being flown and the path used by flyers at Fairview Park.

In response to questions by Vice Chairman de Arakal regarding the quantity of electric planes being flown in the park since the closure of Mile Square Park, Mr. Hawley mentioned that there are approximately 60 or more flyers and roughly six to eight of them being flown at one time. Mr. Hawley went on to say that the electric planes fly in a condensed area.

In response to Chairman Harris' questions about the height of electric planes and if there are any federal laws restricting the height, Mr. Hawley stated that the electric planes would normally fly as high as it can be seen and that, currently, there are no federal laws restricting model airplanes from flying below 500 feet. He continued to say that the Harbor Soaring Society has a verbal agreement with the FAA that nobody would fly over 500 feet within a certain distance and, when there is a contest, he does notify the police department about the contest.

In response to questions from Chairman Harris on the growth of the electric planes being flown at Fairview Park, Mr. Hawley admitted that he is unable to answer Chairman Harris' question.

In response to Chairman Harris' question about the proposed irriga-

tion improvement, Mr. Mejia stated that it is proposed that it will tie in to the existing irrigation system and that it is a provision of the Maintenance Services staff.

In response to questions by Chairman Harris, which were directed to Mr. Bill Morris, on whether or not the two groups, Harbor Soaring Society and the Orange County Model Engineers, would be closely monitored by City staff, Mr. Morris shared his concern with anybody going out and moving dirt around on Fairview Park, other than City staff or under contract with the City. Mr. Morris also stated that any type of work being done is very sensitive and that he is under the direction of the Planning Department. He continued to say that, in some cases, the City would require an archeologist on the site to monitor the work being done. Mr. Morris feels comfortable that the responsibility of the City is to maintain control and closely monitor any type of work being done at Fairview Park.

In response to Vice Chairman de Arakal's question on whether the Planning Department needs to work on the grading because of its extent or to have an archeologist on site, Mr. Morris stated that the Planning Department would closely monitor the work being done and they would make the final decision.

MOTION

Motion made by Vice Chairman de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Fidler and carried five to zero to confirm that the requested improvements to the Silent Flyer Launch/Land Site conform to the intent of the approved Fairview Park Master Plan.

BICYCLE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF GISLER AVENUE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AVENUE AND SANTA ANA RIVER

Mr. Bart Mejia made a power point presentation.

Chairman Harris stated that this would be a nice improvement and that the improvements could be made to the City in part utilizing grant monies.

In response to Chairman Harris' question on the expected date for the bid advertisement, Mr. Mejia stated that the Transportation Services Department had completed the design of the project and has scheduled to advertise the project sometime next month, which would place the project under construction towards the beginning of the Summer.

Chairman Harris recommended that City staff contact Relief Costa Mesa, to have some trees planted in conjunction with this project. Mr. Mejia reminded the Commission that the plant palette for this section at Gisler has already been approved by this Commission.

MOTION

Motion made by Chairman Harris, seconded by Commissioner Burciaga and carried five to zero to approve the removal of six (6) trees to allow the construction of a proposed bicycle trail and associated drainage improvements along the south side of Gisler Avenue between the Santa Ana River and Washington Avenue, and to contact Relief Costa Mesa about putting some trees into the location as desired by City staff.

RECREATION MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Jana Ransom made the presentation.

Ms. Ransom stated that there were not many field ambassador issues because of the rains at the end of December.

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Sandra Zelasko <slzphoto@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 12:06 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,
Sandy Zelasko

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Robin Ikeda <robin.ikeda@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 8:54 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Robin Ikeda, Ontario

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Report any suspicious activities to the Information Technology Department.
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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Paul Waggoner <paul@coastalcorridor.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 4:39 PM
To: CITY CLERK
Cc: FVPMP;STEPHENS, JOHN;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Re: Attn: Costa Mesa City Council: CCA Letter for Fairview Park Master Plan UPDATED W/ ATTACHMENT
Attachments: 100125 Fairview Park Master Plan Update 2nd Letter.pdf

Apologies for not including the attachment with our letter initially. Here is the updated letter with the attachment.

Thanks

Paul Waggoner

Community Engagement Manager

Cell: (949) 820-9094



Follow: [Website](#), [Subscribe](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [BlueSky](#)

On Tue, Sep 30, 2025 at 4:15 PM Paul Waggoner <paul@coastalcorridor.org> wrote:
Honorable Mayor and City Council,

Please find Coastal Corridor Alliance's comment and recommendation letter attached, regarding the Fairview Park Master Plan considerations.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Paul Waggoner

Community Engagement Manager

Cell: (949) 820-9094





September 30, 2025

Mayor John Stephens and City Council
City of Costa Mesa
77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

SUBJECT: Comments on the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

Coastal Corridor Alliance (CCA) is writing with comments on the upcoming Fairview Park Master Plan Update and to provide recommendations for the City Council to consider as it deliberates.

Fairview Park has seen enormous change in its existence. Less than 200 years ago, the land was a thriving ecological community. Since then, it has been used by agriculture, industry, and as a waste disposal site. For the last 30 years, it has been returning as a safe haven for plants and animals and a recreational destination for residents. Because of thoughtful policies, the land is coming full circle and is headed back toward a thriving ecological community.

CCA urges the Council to respect the plight of the rare plant and animal species that are living on this land and to uphold the public's designation (via the City's Conservation Element, the 1998 Master Plan, and Measure AA) of Fairview Park as natural habitat with passive human recreation. Habitat restoration at Fairview Park has made some strides, but there is much more to do to combat invasive non-native wildlife and human impacts. These are the main issues harming species, which we now know are more consequential to wildlife than once thought. The Council must decide how these priorities (and legal responsibilities) will be stewarded.

We urge the Council to view Fairview Park as what it once was—a thriving ecological community. Protecting habitat and species at Fairview Park creates a legacy that many cities no longer have the chance to make. What kind of legacy would you like to leave?

Why is Fairview Park so special within Costa Mesa?

The 125 natural acres in Fairview Park are the City's last remaining area containing suitable habitat for hundreds of species, and represent just 1% of Costa Mesa's total land area. It is smaller than the adjacent golf course. Fairview Park is also part of a larger network of protected lands and waters that extends from the coast along the Santa Ana River, providing key range areas for wildlife in the area.

This region has been recognized by scientists as containing a large diversity of plants and animals threatened with extinction due to development pressures. In fact, it is just one of 20 locations on the globe that has this level of species richness. It is also special because of the regular community investment in making it a more natural environment which encourages wildlife species to return to this park to make it their home.

Recommendation: Support the preservation and restoration of Fairview Park that encourages the protection of the suite of species that live, forage, nest, and migrate there as a first priority. Include low-impact human recreation as a secondary goal.

How has the science at Fairview Park progressed?

In the last few decades, the science and understanding of ecosystems, species needs, and habitat requirements have evolved and matured. Now with the 2025 Master Plan Update, the City funded scientific studies from MIG/Land IQ to better understand the environmental baseline. This led to an evolution in understanding about ecological needs and systems—and not just at Fairview Park. As the late great poet Maya Angelou once said, "Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

For example, we now know, due to these studies and the evolution of science, that each vernal pool is a piece of a larger vernal pool watershed. The entire complex and its plants and animals are legally protected features. Studies also indicate that there is increased bird nesting and foraging for permanent and migratory birds. We also understand more about individual species requirements for habitat, foraging, nesting, and just how sensitive wildlife is to human presence and our activities in the Park. All of this information has progressed due to new science since the original plan was conceived. This equates to the evolution of policy positions for Fairview Park as well.

Recommendation: Implement greater protections to reduce impacts to the suite of species so they remain as functional populations with enough space and peace to not just

survive, but thrive.

Where else can native plants and animals go?

Fairview Park offers space and resources to a wide array of species. Since other suitable areas and resources are already being used by other individuals, the plants and animals at Fairview Park have nowhere else to go and will cease to exist if evicted. Reducing functional habitat areas at Fairview Park becomes a housing crisis for hundreds of species of plants and animals. One unintended consequence of not providing enough room to roam is that coyotes, raccoons, and opossums—all of which are highly adaptable and opportunistic—head into neighborhoods to satisfy their daily survival needs. Residents don't like that and will ask for the City to step up to stop this. Less adaptable plants and animals, on the other hand, are unable to translocate and adjust, and instead must face impacts head-on, usually resulting in their demise.

Recommendation: Prioritize the restoration of the western 125 acres of Fairview Park to functional habitat for wildlife to thrive, while allowing compatible human recreation, thereby limiting direct, indirect, and cumulative human-use impacts.

What direction should the Master Plan Update take?

Following in the footsteps of the 1998 Master Plan, its updates, the Costa Mesa General Plan Conservation Element¹, and Measure AA, CCA supports continued use of the Park for low-impact recreational purposes and its designation as a natural park. To better serve the intent of a passive public park, we'd encourage a name change to one that supports the Master Plan goals and uses allowed.

Recommendations: Change the park's name to Fairview Nature Preserve.

How do people 'interact' with nature in Fairview Park in 'balance'?

It's not easy for humans to see how simply walking on a trail can cause an interruption in the life cycle of wildlife. Through ongoing science, we're learning that most wildlife are highly sensitive to disruptions, and already work so hard to stay alive, feed their young, and disperse plant seeds. CCA is invested in understanding the high, medium, and low impacts of human activity on ecosystems. This includes direct (social trails cutting through sensitive habitat), indirect (disrupted feeding sessions during peak visitor use that lead to lower survival rates), and

¹ General Plan Policy: CON-1.A.3: "Coordinate with the United States Fish and Wildlife service, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other regulatory agencies to mitigate project impacts affecting open and natural spaces." and CON-1.A.4: "Promote and protect native plant species within Fairview Park."

cumulative impacts (permanent nest abandonment after multiple human interactions). We recommend further review to gain more insights on this topic.

Recommendations: Create a matrix of potential uses and locations at Fairview Park and categorize impacts into high, medium, and low categories (recreational impact analysis) to understand conflict points. Define which human activities and locations are allowed and prohibited based on those scientific findings, to preserve thriving ecosystem function and compatible human uses. Abandon the use of terms like “passive” and “active” human use or recreation unless it is clearly defined in the Master Plan Update.

What steps need to be taken to protect sensitive species?

CCA supports ensuring legal protections and requirements are followed for all ecological systems such as plants, animals, and watersheds. This includes laws such as: the California Environmental Quality Act, the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, the state and federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and water regulations. We also support regular habitat and biological monitoring at Fairview Park. We support the scientific findings of the studies completed by City contractors and the recommendations contained within them.

Recommendations: Follow all state and federal laws that govern Fairview Park. Follow the recommendations of the agencies and Costa Mesa contract biologists’ Fairview Park studies. Establish a regular species and habitat monitoring schedule.

What restoration is appropriate on the site?

Restoration has been going on for years at Fairview Park, and it is in line with the existing Master Plan and aligned with Measure AA. CCA supports continued restoration at Fairview Park. As part of this restoration work, we encourage the decommissioning of unauthorized trails (trails of convenience) as they bisect the park at irregular intervals, aren’t properly designed, and encroach on plants and animals. This work should come with proper trail signage so visitors know what is and what isn’t an authorized trail. We also support enforcement of these rules to reduce unauthorized trail re-establishment, vandalism, and encampments.

Recommendation: Fully restore Fairview Park’s 125 acres. Decommission unauthorized trails. Incorporate authorized trail and visitor signage. Enforce posted rules regularly and consistently.

What about 30x30 and durably protected lands?

Senate Bill 337 (Min) was approved by Governor Newsom in 2023. It put into law the state's goal to protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030 (30x30). It prioritizes protecting biodiversity, building climate resilience, and providing equitable access to nature. While the General Plan Land Use designation and Zoning Maps for the City indicate Fairview Park is public/institutional, it doesn't appear to be permanently protected. If the City wishes to help meet 30x30 goals, it could durably protect the 125 natural acres and submit it to the State for incorporation into the 30x30 database.

Recommendation: Record durable protections (conservation easement, deed restriction, or restrictive covenant) onsite.

Do we have a position on HSS and off-trail biking?

As noted previously, CCA supports the protection of ecological systems and has sent a letter to Harbor Soaring Society (HSS), asking its members to follow their existing rules posted on their website (See **Attachment 1**).

Recommendation: We urge the City to always follow the recommendations and directions of biological consultants and wildlife agencies in determining which activities have too-high an impact for the mesa and vernal pool watershed habitats at Fairview Park.

To summarize, CCA supports science-driven, nature-based decisions for Fairview Park that prioritize the plants and animals and support their protection over impactful human uses.

Should you have questions, we can be reached at (949) 216-0880.

Sincerely,



Terry M. Welsh, MD
President

Attachments: 1 - Harbor Soaring Society Flyfield Rules

HSS FLYING FIELD RULES

1. Field Rules:

The intent of these rules is to promote flying safety, financial responsibility and environmental protection by maintaining order, controlling frequency usage, educating and training fliers, and to act as good neighbors to the community. Rules are based upon the AMA Safety Code, FAA Advisory Circular AC 91-57B, and ordinances as established by the City of Costa Mesa. All pilots must follow these rules to fly at Fairview Park.

2. Environmental Protection:

Vernal pools are large, shallow depressions in the ground that acquire several inches of water during rainy seasons. These pools contain Fairy Shrimp that are an endangered species and are protected by Fairview Park ordinances. Everyone is restricted from walking in the vernal pool areas, whether wet or dry. Pilots should fly over the vernal pools only at an altitude that ensures they will not land in the pool area. In the event of an unavoidable landing in the vernal pool area, the pilot shall call the park ranger and wait for their arrival prior to recovering the model. Launching or landing aircraft equipped with floats is not permitted in the pools. Harassment of animals and birds is not allowed in the park. Do not disturb native plants.

3. Safety:

All pilots must follow the Official AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code, which is posted at the flying site, in addition to the following field rules.

4.1 Before Turning on Transmitter: Before turning on a transmitter, each pilot must first check the frequency control board to ensure no other pilot is using the frequency the pilot wishes to use. The pilot must then place an identification clip on that frequency on the board. Identification clips are to have the channel number and the pilot's first and last name. Only then may the pilot turn on the transmitter and fly the aircraft. Radios using 2.4 GHz are excluded from frequency board requirements.

When finished flying, the pilot must remove the clip from the control board. No clip may be attached to an existing clip. A pilot may use only one frequency channel at a time. When other flyers are using the frequency the pilot wishes to use (and they have their clip on the frequency number), a pilot must make every reasonable attempt to locate those flyers. Check all cars in the parking lot and also flyers on the slope soaring area. Once the pilot using the desired frequency is identified, and if shared usage is agreed upon, flight reservations should be limited to no more than 20 minutes by each pilot. All pilots must display their City issued permit above their waist.

4.2 New Aircraft: All new aircraft must have a radio range check performed before its first flight. Any crashed aircraft should also be radio range checked after repair. Initial "Maiden Flight's" must be done by experienced pilots only, and/or, at other locations.

4.3 Model Aircraft Must Be Identified: All aircraft must have FAA registration visible on the outside of aircraft.

5. General Field Rules:

5.1 Approved types of planes: Approved types of planes include Radio-Controlled gliders, Free-Flight gliders, DGL Gliders (No electric powered aircraft), other types of model's that may not be flown include fuel (gas) powered internal combustion engines, rockets, and any aircraft exceeding the weight limit (10 pounds) set in the Costa Mesa Model Aircraft Ordinance.

5.2 Rules applicable to all model aircraft: Every pilot shall perform a pre-flight inspection prior to each launching of their aircraft to ensure that the aircraft is safe to fly and no unobserved damage was sustained from the previous flight.

5.3 All pilots must register with the FAA and aircraft must have FAA registration number visible on the outside of aircraft.

5.4 Excluded Flying Areas: Aircraft must not be flown over the Waldorf School, nor the parking lot, residences, and pedestrians on or off the paths. The approved flying area is shown on the maps near the flightline and frequency kiosk.

5.5 Altitude Limitations: Flying is limited to 400' above ground level.

5.6 Flying Methods: No Combat flying allowed. No high speed passes at low altitude over the runway. Flying near people is not allowed.

5.7 Days of Use: The field may be used during the first and third Saturdays of the month.

5.8 Pedestrian Traffic: Pilots MUST NOT fly close to pedestrians, skaters and bicyclists using the park. Maintain a safe distance between your aircraft and park users.

6. Specific Flying Areas and Rules. Consult Flying Field Map:

6.1 Gliders: Gliders shall be launched from the designated area marked on the map, using electric winches, or bungee hi-starts. Gliders should use the area north of the runway with care. Gliders in flight have the right-of-way over gliders being launched. Do not fly behind the flight line, (over the paved pedestrian path) or anywhere south of the winchline.

6.2 Hand launched gliders: Hand launched gliders are to be flown from the area designated on the map.

6.3 Free flight model aircraft: Free flight models are currently being flown on a grassy area within the developed part of the park.

7. Large Events

Harbor Soaring Society (HSS) is authorized to hold model aviation events that are scheduled by HSS and a Special Event Permit has been issued by the City. This applies to events anticipating the attendance of 25 or more participants. During these one 1 day events, the field will be closed to the general public flying for part of each day. The hours must be announced and posted at least two (2) weeks in advance.

8. Regulations Enforcement

Members of the Harbor Soaring Society are empowered by the city of Costa Mesa to enforce these rules by requesting an offender to cease inappropriate behavior. If the offender refuses to change his behavior, the HSS member will contact a Park Ranger who will cite the offender.

Furthermore... All model aircraft pilots must obey the aforementioned regulations, and cooperate with the Park Rangers, Police Officers, or City appointed enforcement delegates.

9. Emergencies. Who to contact

Medical emergency or injury or crimes: Call 911

Flying Field Rules violations and unauthorized activities:

Contact: Costa Mesa Police Communications at (714) 754-5252 and request Park Ranger.

Harbor Soaring Society: Officer: Vice President, Mike Costello

Address: P.O. Box 1673, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
harborsoaringsociety@gmail.com

Pilots who cause damage to another person's aircraft, the private property of another individual or to public property must pay for the damage.

From: mlrscz@icloud.com
To: [FVPMP](#); [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 11:17:33 AM

To: fvpmp@costamesaca.gov, pacscomments@costamesaca.gov,
cityclerk@costamesaca.gov, citycouncil@costamesaca.gov

Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

I lived in Huntington Beach for over twenty-five years and therefore still care very much about what happens along the coast. Fairview Park is a lovely place and I would hate to see it become degraded by activities that would ruin it as a natural area. I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities. These activities would ruin the quiet enjoyment of those people who wish to walk there.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Rosczyk

24435 Village Walk Place, #304, Murrieta, CA 92562

Thank you!

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Mike Kelly <kelly.mike8388@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 5:47 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a San Diego concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation. I'm personally very familiar with endangered habitats, especially vernal pools.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Mike Kelly, San Diego

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Melanie Schlotterbeck <melanie@hillsforeveryone.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 9:21 PM
To: FVPMP;dphu@octa.net;lhill@octa.net
Subject: Fwd: SUPPORT: Fairview Park Restoration
Attachments: M2 Coalition letter Costa Mesa and the Fairview Park Mitigation Requirement 082825 FINAL.pdf

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Melanie Schlotterbeck** <melanie@hillsforeveryone.org>
Date: Thu, Aug 28, 2025 at 9:13 PM
Subject: SUPPORT: Fairview Park Restoration
To: <cityclerk@costamesaca.gov>

Greetings,

Attached is a letter submitted by Hills For Everyone, on behalf of the Environmental Coalition that Supported Renewed Measure M. Please provide this to the City Council.

The Coalition supports the City completing its requirements for the restoration of Fairview Park Mesa immediately.

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you,

Melanie

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Report any suspicious activities to the Information Technology Department.



Submitted via email to the Costa Mesa City Clerk: cityclerk@costamesaca.gov

Mayor John Stephens
City of Costa Mesa
77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

RE: **SUPPORT** - Costa Mesa and the Fairview Park Mitigation Requirement

Dear Honorable Mayor Stephens and Council,

The Environmental Coalition that Supported Renewed Measure M (M2 Coalition) is writing to support the approval by the City of Costa Mesa for the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Endemic Environmental Services, Inc. (Endemic) for restoration work at Fairview Park. The M2 Coalition consists of more than 30 organizations involved in the passage of the half cent sales tax measure managed by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). This Coalition covers a broad range of organizations and interests that specifically supported OCTA's Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP).

As you know, the City of Costa Mesa successfully applied for and was awarded \$2.0 million of EMP funding to restore the Fairview Park Mesa. During this application process, the City committed to restoring 23 acres and owes a remaining 9.5 acres of restoration to fulfill that commitment. City staff, specifically Kelly Dalton (Fairview Park Administrator), has gone to extraordinary measures to not only meet the requirements of the M2 funding requirements, but to also solicit additional funds to complete the remaining acreage. It is clear about staff's intent to make good on the promise made to voters to complete this mitigation. It is now up to the Council to demonstrate the same commitment.

OCTA relied on both acquisition and restoration projects to get the permits it needed for the 13 freeway projects covered under M2 (now called OC Go). The permitting agencies, including the United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and two Regional Water Quality Control Boards, have all agreed to the list of acquisition and restoration projects, including the Fairview Park restoration. This means beyond OCTA, five regulatory agencies are counting on the City to complete its required actions for fulfilling the remaining 9.5 acres of restoration.

CA-ORA-58 is a large pre-contact village and burial site in Fairview Park that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Native American Heritage Commission's sacred sites inventory. The restoration is supposed to include the removal of construction and paving debris that was deposited on CA-ORA-58 as a misguided protection measure. California Cultural Resource Preservation Alliance and Acjachemen and Tongva descendants have worked together for years to fend off numerous development plans that threatened the site. The restoration and proper capping of CA-ORA-58 must be supervised and monitored by a qualified professional archaeologist and a culturally related Native American.

The M2 Coalition is writing to urge the City to follow staff recommendations as outlined in the August 5, 2025 memo to City Council to:

1. Approve the Addendum to the 1997 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Fairview Park;
2. Award the PSA to Endemic;
3. Authorize a 10% contingency; and,
4. Authorize staff to execute the PSA and future amendments.

Immediate action assures all agencies, boards, and residents that Costa Mesa will fulfill its obligations under the EMP. Please do not risk Costa Mesa's good name by ignoring your obligations for this mitigation requirement. Please do not risk losing the California Department of Fish and Wildlife grant award by delaying action any further. The residents—and especially the Orange County voters—that approved M2 are awaiting completion of this work.

Since the City has been out of compliance for several years and the Environmental Oversight Committee and full OCTA Board are awaiting the City's action, we urge you to swiftly approve the staff recommendations without delay.

Sincerely,

Endangered Habitats League • Friends of Coyote Hills • Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks
• Hills For Everyone • California Cultural Resource Preservation Alliance • Saddleback Canyons
Conservancy • Wild Heritage Planners • Women For: Orange County • Amigos de Bolsa Chica •
Orange County Coastkeeper • Orange County Interfaith for the Environment • The Trust for
Public Land • Canyon Land Conservation Fund • Inter Canyon League • Laguna Greenbelt, Inc.
• Chino Hills State Park Interpretive Association • Laguna Canyon Conservancy • Newport Bay
Conservancy • Stop Polluting Our Newport/Still Protecting Our Newport • The Conservation
Fund • The Nature Conservancy • California Wildlife Foundation (California Oaks
Fund/California Oaks Coalition) • Inland Empire Waterkeeper • Latino Health Access • Planning
and Conservation League

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Lori Whalen <lori@encenter.org>
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 3:36 PM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan Update – Public Comment

Mayor and Members of the Costa Mesa City Council,

My name is Lori Whalen, a Costa Mesa resident and Vice President of the Environmental Nature Center (ENC) and ENC Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. I'm writing in strong support of the Fairview Park Master Plan Update's emphasis on passive recreation, habitat protection, and restoration. This direction reflects best practices we see across Southern California for balancing public access with ecological integrity.

What I Support

- Passive, nature-forward use as the guiding policy, with no night lighting in restoration areas and park hours limited to dawn–dusk.
- Habitat restoration at scale, including removal of improper fill on the mesa, bluff stabilization with living systems (not hardscape), and targeted Coastal Sage Scrub/flower-field restoration that benefits California gnatcatcher, pollinators, and grassland birds.
- Protection and interpretation of vernal pools, with boardwalk access that avoids puncturing the hardpan; fencing/signage to keep visitors on trail; and seasonal considerations. Protection of the vernal pools would be incomplete without relocation of the glider launch out of the vernal pool watershed and onto an appropriate surfaced pad.
- Trail hierarchy and delineation that concentrates bikes on designated multi-use/paved corridors and keeps the bluff-top trail pedestrian-only.
- Updated interpretive program that integrates Tribal history, archaeology, and local ecology with low-profile, place-sensitive design.
- Long-term invasive species management and an adaptive monitoring framework.
- Parking-lot shade trees and native planting at entries to reduce heat and reinforce a sense of place.

Recommendations to Strengthen the Plan

1. Ecological Monitoring & Transparency
Commit to a simple, public annual "State of Fairview Park" update (native cover, target-species presence, invasive control acres, trail compliance). Clear metrics help sustain funding and community trust.
2. Seasonal Protections
Allow temporary seasonal trail closures/reroutes during wet periods (vernal pool hydrology) and sensitive breeding/nesting windows.
3. Dog & Bike Management
Reiterate leash-only in natural areas and expand wayfinding so riders clearly see where bikes are and aren't permitted. Consider periodic ranger/volunteer patrols during peak seasons.
4. Railroad Area Enhancements
Where full restoration isn't possible, seed and manage for mow-tolerant natives to support burrowing owl winter use and other grassland species; pair with targeted invasive control.
5. Fuel-Modification Zones
Adopt native, fire-wise palettes (e.g., spaced shrubs with native bunchgrasses) to meet safety codes while contributing habitat and reducing re-seeding of invasives.
6. Access & Inclusion
Maintain ADA-compliant routes and consider quiet hours/sensory-friendly walks. Where feasible, include benches at overlooks and water-bottle fillers at developed nodes—not within restoration zones.

7. Operations & Enforcement

Plan for ongoing staffing (or formal volunteer ranger programs) to address off-trail use, rogue bike lines, and dumping—issues that can rapidly undermine restoration gains.

Overall, this Master Plan charts a thoughtful path that celebrates Fairview Park as living coastal open space first, and a place for low-impact recreation and learning second. With the refinements above, I believe the City can deliver a park that measurably improves biodiversity, safeguards cultural resources, and welcomes residents for generations.

Thank you for your leadership and for prioritizing nature in Costa Mesa.

Gratefully,

Lori Whalen
Costa Mesa Resident
Vice President, Environmental Nature Center

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: John Green <bewickwren@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 11:04 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a professional wildlife biologist and a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities. It would set a bad precedent to reward illegal usage of the park by legalizing these harmful activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Jay Humphrey <jvhumphrey@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 5:31 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: DALTON, KELLY M.
Subject: Comments on Draft of the Fairview Park Master Plan
Attachments: Comments on Draft Master Plan 10-26-25.docx

October 26, 2025

City of Costa Mesa

Re: Fairview Park Master Plan Draft 09-29-25

Sirs:

As a long time advocate for Fairview Park to be established as a nature park to preserve and protect the unique habitats, species, and cultural treasures found therein, I have read this draft of the Fairview Master Plan Update 09-29-25 draft and generally find it a solid plan that can work as a "working document" for guidance in future activities and projects. I do have a few comments:

1. If the purpose of the plan is to "reflect current conditions and concepts for the restoring and preserving the park as an environmental resource for study, interpretation, and education as well as a passive recreation" (Pg 7 FVPMP) (also see pg 8-10 and Goals and Objectives PG 12) as further evidence of focus of this plan) then it seems odd that there is no mention of a name change to reflect that community supported vision. All of the guidance in this plan are recommendations, to be handled by appropriate parts of the city personnel. However, to augment the purpose, the public needs visible signs of the intended future of this park to recognize that some activities and behaviors are not compatible with that intent. A simple name change, connoting a nature focus will further the goals of this master plan will help the public actively understand the intent of this plan and help city staff achieve the goals stated in the plan. (Page 12, Goal 04)

Recommendation: Addition of a goal to change the name of Fairview Park to Fairview Nature Park or some other name that reflects the natural resource value of the park.

2. Pg. 11—Sub heading—Manage recreational impacts: Most experts recommend removal of Fly Fields as impacts in current area are significant, impacts in all area may also be significant due to the very nature of the activity and habitats associated with the area to be used. (i.e Burrowing owls seen nesting in the East side of Fairview Park and the grass lands are regular foraging area of many birds, some of which also protected.

3. Pg 18—Sub heading--Museum and field house— building of such would require footings, excavation for plumbing and electricity, etc, not to mention building of structures. Nowhere in this plan is there any discussion of the potential to use other government owned and abutting land for any of the suggested structures. While there are a number of hurdles to pass for such use, if it's not planned as an option or even a discussion with the relative agencies for future options, we are left with only "in the box" thinking and not necessarily achieving the best results for all our hard work. The golf course is recreational land owned by the city and managed by a contractee. Land within that facility, not currently in direct use for the activities of that facility, and abutting the Park

could be used to minimize any negative impact on cultural and natural resources. (note vernal pool north and west of parking lot for the model trains, etc. and ORA 506) Also, such use of abutting lands outside the confines of Fairview Park would not trigger a public vote per measure AA.

Recommendation: Add such wording to look for alternative abutting sites to provide structures for park use.

4. Pg 19-Sub heading--Opposition and conflicting feedback focused primarily of following items:

First note is re BMX bikes and impacts on cultural and biological resources and should be relocated to other park facilities, Also use the descriptor of "Some" attendees) indicating community support level. In paragraph 2 stated : "Attendees expressed strong desire...", which indicates community at large wanted model airplane flying to continue: I attended most of the outreach meetings and did not note any "strong" desire for such. Yes, members of the Harbor soaring society strongly wanted to continue, but I did not note the public at large recommending that the model airplane flying should continue, if anything just the opposite.

Recommendation: the wording in paragraph 2 be changed to "Some Attendees expressed a desire to continue...." And an additional statement following that sentence added that includes language consistent with State of California, Natural resources agency—Department of Fish and Wildlife letter of Sept. 25, 2025 PG 5 bottom of paragraph 1 "Mowing, grading, or any other maintenance of the fly field could cause unauthorized take of these species" referring to Burrowing Owls and Crotche's Bumble Bees.

5. Pg. 21 at the end of sub section—The bluffs area, south to Pacific Ave.— **Recommendation** -- needs addition of comment like above Fish and Wildlife letter of Sept. 25 2025 and other experts re the damage to protected habitat and species.

6. Pg. 27—**Recommendation**—add small discussion about impacts on necessary grants and donations to fulfill this plan from enforcement actions by Federal or State regulatory agencies for non-compliance

7. Pg. 55 4th bullet point, column 1—(Note re item 6 above)—"engage shareholders, users, and the community at large n developing a blueprint to manage the park, which accounts for passive use recreation, environmental restoration and preservation and **funding** considerations for years to come." Clearly funding and possible lose of funding is a consideration and should be actively addressed in this plan.

8. Pg. 57 sub section—Vernal Pools--**Recommendation** – add "and their Watersheds"

9. Pg. 58—Opportunities-Sub section Trail linkage—no discussion of possible use of already existing paved roadway along side of the flood canal as an option to minimize impacts on sensitive areas in Fairview Park.

Recommendation: Add such information. (see Item 3 above)

10. Pg. 64—Public Use—sub section 3- Bullet point 3

Recommendation: Define Resource Agency(s)

11. Pg. 68—Appears to be no commentary about Placentia Ave. While Placentia Ave. is not part of the park specifically, it is completely encapsulated by Fairview Park and so its environment interfaces with the rest of Farview Park both on the west and east sided of Placentia, depending on the wind direction. Therefore any plants in the planted median will eventually spread to both sides of the park. Currently, the median is planted with a number of non native (to Fairview Park) plants. The

median should only be planted with plants that are consistent with the flora of Fairview Park.

Recommendation: Add language to insure replacement of non-native plants in the median of Placentia Ave contained within the borders of Fairview Park.

12. Pg. 69—sub section Glider Launching Site: Paragraph 2—no definition of "should be provided". All funding for any "facilities" or their maintenance should be completely at the expense of the organization using said facilities. If the city decides to fund such facilities, it should charge reasonable use fees on a per use basis, as it does with swimming pools, picnic structure reservation, etc.

Recommendation: remove paragraph 2 of this sub section entirely.

13. Pg. 79-- **Recommendation:** Include a short section about funding sources for these activities. The public as well as staff need to be aware of any issues to make better expectations of timing, etc.

14. I will leave any specific recommendations to Appendixes A-D to the respective staff, scientific, and regulatory entities and rely on their expertise to add to your guidance. However:

Recommendation: all members of any affected city group (ie. Council, commissions, and committees), read Appendix A in its entirety. You may come to additional insights other than what is presented in the Draft.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. Should you require further information, I can be reached as below.

Jay Humphrey
1620 Sandalwood St.
Costa Mesa, Ca 92626

jvhumphrey@att.net

714-287-0558

A copy of above is attached

Jay Humphrey
1620 Sandalwood St.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Phone: 714-751-6552
Cell: 714-287-0558

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October 26, 2025

City of Costa Mesa

Re: Fairview Park Master Plan Draft 09-29-25

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Recommendation: all members of any affected city group (ie. Council, commissions, and committees), read Appendix A in its entirety. You may come to additional insights other than what is presented in the Draft.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. Should you require further information, I can be reached as below.

Jay Humphrey
1620 Sandalwood St.
Costa Mesa, Ca 92626

jvhumphrey@att.net

714-287-0558

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Georgia Goldfarb <georgia.goldfarb@healthequality.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 2:30 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

I strongly support preservation and restoration of wildland.

Georgia Goldfarb

Malibu, CA

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Debby Koken <deborah.koken@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 1:46 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan

To: Costa Mesa City Council

I write as a long-time resident of Costa Mesa and supporter of Fairview Park.

I support the Fairview Park Master Plan update, and I urge you to accept the conservation recommendations of the biologists who researched and surveyed the Park.

As you know, many species throughout Fairview Park are threatened and endangered, and the city of Costa Mesa has a legal obligation to protect them from human impacts. Fairview Park is a key part of a wider area of connected open spaces that includes Talbert Park, Randall Preserve, Semeniuk Slough, the Santa Ana River and Huntington Beach Wetlands. This makes Fairview the only place in Costa Mesa where a complete ecosystem can thrive. Please protect Fairview Park for its ecological value and unique passive recreation opportunities.

Please prioritize the scientific findings and recommendations to defend our natural resources.

I urge you to recognize the significance of Fairview Park and step up to protect it, for Costa Mesa and for all Californians.

Sincerely,

Deborah Koken
1778 Kenwood Pl.
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

GREEN, BRENDA

From: debra marsteller <debmarst@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2025 5:52 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Fairview Park Master plan

Thank you so much for the opportunity to comment and help support such a fabulous place in Costa Mesa. We are so lucky for the people who have worked hard to maintain this beautiful treasure. Please keep it wild. I am opposed to any additional man-made structures or development of any kind. We need to limit any activities that interfere with wildlife. I would go so far as making dogs illegal. Most preserves do not allow dogs even on a leash -this needs to be considered, and I am speaking as a dog owner.

Thank you again for your consideration

Debbie Marsteller
2878 Boa Vista Dr.
Costa Mesa, 92626

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: David Carr <DWCBio@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 9:50 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a wildlife biologist and former Orange County resident of nearly 20 years, I am writing to express my support for the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. The plan reflects a thoughtful, science-based approach that aligns with both the ecological significance of Fairview Park and the long-standing community commitment to protect its rare coastal resources.

The Master Plan appropriately prioritizes habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation—values that reflect the broader public interest and the intent of multiple conservation policies and regulations. The continued presence of activities such as unauthorized trail use and model airplane flying has measurable impacts on sensitive habitats and protected species, and is inconsistent with these conservation goals.

I support the recommendations made by the City's environmental planning consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the Parks, Arts & Community Services Commission, and relevant state and federal resource agencies to discontinue destructive uses and preserve the existing seven miles of designated trails for low-impact recreation.

Additionally, I encourage the City to increase funding and staffing for enforcement to ensure compliance with conservation measures and to prevent illegal activity within the park.

Fairview Park is one of the last remaining examples of coastal mesa habitat in Southern California, and it deserves to be managed with the highest level of care and stewardship.

Thank you for your time and your continued efforts to protect this unique natural resource for current and future generations.

Respectfully,

David W. Carr

Principal Biologist

Mobile: 714.376.4357

Email: dwcbio@outlook.com

[David W. Carr | LinkedIn](#)

 [Book a time to meet with me](#)

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Dan Silver <dsilverla@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:17 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

Endangered Habitats League (EHL) is concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park and supports the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. For your reference, EHL is a Southern California regional conservation group active in Orange County since 1991.

The Master Plan presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation. Unfortunately, airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

We support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Please let me know of questions.

Yours truly,

Dan Silver

NOTE NEW MAILING ADDRESS

Dan Silver, Executive Director
Endangered Habitats League
505 S Flower St #71001
PO Box 71001
Los Angeles CA 90071

213-804-2750
dsilverla@me.com
<https://ehleague.org>

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Costa Mesa First <costamesa1st@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:52 AM
To: FVPMP;DALTON, KELLY M.
Cc: PETTIS, JEFF;REYNOLDS, ARLIS;CHAVEZ, MANUEL;STEPHENS, JOHN;MARR, ANDREA;GAMEROS, LOREN;BULEY, MIKE;cecilia.garado-daly@costamesaca.gov;GRUNER, BRIAN
Subject: Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Attachments: Ltr to City of CM re Fairview Park Master Plan Update.pdf

Dear Mr. Dalton,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Costa Mesa's Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update (FPMPU). Attached is a letter with our complete comments.

Fairview Park is a unique ecological and cultural resource that must be preserved and managed responsibly. We urge the City to:

- Prioritize restoration and protection of sensitive habitats, including vernal pools, in compliance with CDFW and USFWS guidance.
- Relocate the fly field outside Fairview Park to prevent further habitat degradation and align with legal requirements and expert recommendations.
- Incorporate a Long-Term Management Plan with clear actions and timelines for habitat restoration, enforcement, and public education.
- Address additional concerns: mowing limits, fencing adequacy, noise restrictions (including concerts and drones), and improved enforcement for dogs and off-trail activities.
- Provide missing references, maps, and appendices noted in the FPMPU.

Fairview Park offers a rare opportunity for ecological stewardship. We strongly recommend revising the FPMPU to reflect these priorities, recirculating the draft for public comment, and holding additional public meetings to ensure transparency and community engagement.

Richard Huffman
Cynthia McDonald
Costa Mesa First
PO Box 2282
Costa Mesa, CA 92628
costamesa1st.com
(714) 549-5884



Costa Mesa First's mission is to educate Costa Mesans about planning policies in Costa Mesa so they make knowledgeable choices when voting. We encourage residents to choose walkable, bikeable, and inclusive neighborhoods, and the land use and transportation policies and investments needed to make Costa Mesa flourish. Our primary objective is to require Costa Mesa's leaders to put the residents of Costa Mesa first.

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COSTA MESA



October 30, 2025

VIA EMAIL ONLY –fvmpm@costamesaca.gov

Mr. Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator
City of Costa Mesa
77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Re: Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Mr. Dalton:

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to the City of Costa Mesa's Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update ("FPMPU").

Fairview Park is a rare and irreplaceable 208-acre parkland and conservation area. It is a cultural and ecological treasure that supports numerous special status plant and wildlife species, including several listed as threatened or endangered under federal and state laws. Fairview Park's riparian habitats, coastal scrub, grasslands, and vernal pools are among the few remaining in Orange County—and are virtually unmatched along California's coast.

It is important that the City restore, preserve, and protect the park as an environmental resource for study, interpretation, and education, as well as passive recreation and low-impact activities that connect the community to the natural environment. "Balancing resource protection and public use, which reflects the vested interests of the community and the City, is the essential purpose of this plan update."¹

¹ Master Plan Update, Executive Summary, Page 7.

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The FPMPU is meant to build upon the original plan and maintain the momentum of recent restoration work which established a strong set of strategies to facilitate the continuing improvement of Fairview Park. Scientific data in the technical reports clearly demonstrate the urgent need for a **Long-Term Management Plan** to safeguard cultural resources and conserve biological resources—especially the essential vernal pool habitat. The FPMPU must be used as the primary tool for informed decision-making and planning to ensure the preservation and enhancement of Fairview Park’s unique ecological features and cultural significance.

Goals and Objectives. In general, the FPMPU supports the goals and objectives adopted by the City Council on January 17, 2023:

- Protect, preserve, and enhance the unique natural and cultural resources of Fairview Park.
- Restore and enhance the park as an environmental resource, and provide interpretive opportunities to educate users of the park’s unique ecology, cultural history, and resources.
- Manage the park as a passive recreational opportunity.
- Engage stakeholders, users, and the community at large in developing a blueprint to manage the park, which accounts for passive use recreation, environmental restoration and preservation, and funding considerations for years to come.

Threats to Sensitive Biological and Cultural Resources. Through the years, there have been threats to the sensitive biological and cultural resources found in the park. The biggest threat comes from the users. As stated on in the FPMPU, “Page 10: Threats to sensitive biological and cultural resources in Fairview Park come from human actions that destroy, degrade, and fragment the park’s natural communities and erode protective soil cover. These threats should be mitigated with a combination of education, management and physical protection measures and actions.”²

² Master Plan Update, Introduction, Page 10.

Mr. Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator
City of Costa Mesa
October 30, 2025
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Protection of Vernal Pools. Applicable laws protecting vernal pool species and their habitat include the California Endangered Species Act and the Federal Endangered Species Act, each of which require conservation of threatened and endangered species, as well as their ecosystems. These Acts prohibit the take of threatened and endangered species except under certain circumstances and only with authorizations from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (“CDFW”) and/or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“USFWS”). Under CESA and ESA, a take is defined as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.

Prior actions by park users and the City have drawn attention by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (“CDFW Letter,” dated September 25, 2025, attached as Exhibit A) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“USFWS Letter,” dated July 24, 2014, attached as Exhibit B) due to the takes of threatened and endangered species. Both agencies have pointed out the City’s actions and inactions have caused detrimental impacts to Fairview Park that required the City to improve its practices of restoration, protection, and management of the park. In particular, this applies to the fly field currently used by the Harbor Soaring Society.

The Biological Resources Technical Report prepared by Hamilton Biological supports relocation of the fly field, and cites Barry Nerhus of Endemic Environmental Services:

“As an airplane pilot, I have a passion for aviation and the continued growth of the aviation community (even as a tool for conservation). However, I do not think the recreational activities at the fly field is a part of the mission of managing Fairview Park for the natural resources and recovery of endangered species.”

The Fairview Park Steering Committee (“Steering Committee”), a committee that the City Council formed in 2017 after the passage of Measure AA, and whose scope and criteria includes “provide advice to the City Council regarding the implementation of the Fairview Park Master Plan,” made the recommendation is to relocate the fly field outside of Fairview Park:

“6. Relocate the fly field activity currently located within the vernal pool watershed to outside Fairview Park, due to detrimental impacts to sensitive biological resources associated with the activity and required maintenance of the fly field.”

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The CDFW Letter states:

“CDFW strongly supports relocation of the model airplane fly field, as its continued operation in the vernal pool complex is in direct conflict with preservation and management of this important park feature. The goals of the Master Plan Update, as stated in the publicly available technical documents, cannot be achieved while private citizens continue take it upon themselves to grade and mow these sensitive habitats to maintain fly field runways on City property. Additionally, while these recreational activities have largely been considered passive, the degradation and improper maintenance of the pools is leading to a long-term reduction in vernal pool function and degradation.”

The CDFW Letter goes on to state:

“Finally, there is scientific evidence to support that the fly field activities lead to harassment of sensitive avian species, including raptors. Behavioral responses to model aircraft disturbances add to the daily energy expenditure of birds.”

Despite the fact that all of Fairview Park contains sensitive habitat and endangered species, the FPMPPU suggests relocating the flying field to within the park:

“The Master Plan Update recommends moving the current site to another portion of the park to comply with resource agency recommendations. To avoid regular mowing and prevent colonization by ground-dwelling species, a compacted and stabilized decomposed granite paving area should be provided for the relocated launch site. Proposed improvements for the relocation site include an approximately 300-by-50-foot runway (partially surfaced with decomposed granite), pilot stations and pit area, a storage shed, an information kiosk, and installation of a low post-and-cable barrier.”³

³ Master Plan Update, The Master Plan, Page 69.

Mr. Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator
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This section of the FPMPU contradicts the CDFW's, the expert's, and the Steering Committee's recommendations. The FVPMP must be revised to align with agency guidance and legal requirements.

We note that Harbor Soaring Society is not the only user of the fly field and that others use the field and the vernal pools for unpermitted flying activities. **It is critical that the fly field be relocated to outside of Fairview Park to meet the goals of the City Council and to comply with applicable laws.**

Further, the Steering Committee's recommendations should be added as an Addendum to the FPMPU.

In addition, as the USFWS Letter directs, the City must:

“Include in an update to the Fairview Park Master Plan specific and ongoing management actions that will be implemented to ensure high quality habitat for San Diego fairy shrimp is maintained and that the species is protected.”

The “Other Management Opportunities” section on Page 81 must be revised to include language that complies with this important direction from the USFWS. While we note that Appendix C refers to the need for such a Long-Term Management Plan, no plan or description of such management plan has been included in the FPMPU.

We note that **relocating the fly field to any other part of Fairview Park would require a vote of the people under Measure AA**. The work to establish a new fly field would cause a “significant change,”⁴ as it would involve grading, compaction and importing of soil or decomposed granite, and the addition of buildings, all of which will not be done for restoration or preservation purposes.

Finally, no other public park in Orange County permits the flying of motorized aircraft or the cable-assisted launching of gliders—and for good reason. These activities pose significant safety risks. For example, Aliso Viejo, which allows limited aircraft use, requires operators to pass a proficiency test to ensure they can avoid losing planes in neighboring yards. In stark contrast, Costa Mesa permits glider launches using cables that

⁴ See City of Costa Mesa Code of Ordinances, Title 12, Chapter V, Section 12-87 (Definitions).

Mr. Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator
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extend into the sensitive vernal pool watershed (see Exhibit C for photo for launch cable and extension into vernal pool/watershed) and allows individuals to enter these protected areas to retrieve lost gliders. This practice not only endangers public safety but also violates the integrity of critical habitats. It is no surprise that both CDFW and USFWS have expressed serious concerns about the City's failure to prevent these harmful activities..

Mowing. On Page 8 of the USFWS Letter, the USFWS directed the City to limit mowing as follows:

“Mowing should be conducted outside the limits of the vernal pool basins to avoid direct impacts to San Diego fairy shrimp. In addition, we recommend that mowing be restricted within approximately 50 feet of the basin area to avoid restored habitat and sensitive plant species surrounding the basin area. The mowing limits should be periodically reevaluated to compensate for changes in the size and location of the basin area and corresponding zone of sensitive plant species. Please coordinate with the Service regarding use of pesticides and herbicides within the vernal pool watersheds to ensure chemicals harmful to San Diego fairy shrimp are avoided.”

Ceasing to mow in areas where sensitive habitat or species are location should be included as part of habitat restoration projects and included as part of any future management plan or the “Other Management Opportunities” on Page 81.

Fencing. On Page 8 of the USFWS Letter, USFWS commented on the City's intent to install cable fencing as follows:

“Cable wire fencing is proposed in the Fairview Park Master Plan to protect the pool basins. If this type of fencing is not adequate to prevent the public from regularly entering the basin areas, additional fencing or a different type of fencing may be required.”

Please include similar language to this in the “Trail Delineation/Fencing” sections.

Noise. While we appreciate the prohibition of the use of motorized aircraft by the Harbor Soaring Society, there are still several noise sources that impact the endangered species in the park. The CDFW Letter states on Page 6:

Costa Mesa First (FPPC 1332564), P.O. Box 2282, Costa Mesa, CA 92628
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“The presence of even lower-decibel noise and physical disturbances from fly field can interfere with these cues, potentially delaying or disrupting migration. This disruption could affect the birds’ ability to arrive at their destination on time, impacting their survival and reproductive success (Schummer and Eddleman 2003). It can also interfere with the birds’ flight paths, leading to potential collisions or forced changes in migration patterns. Noise and physical presence of model aircraft also affect the landscape and vegetation used by birds for cover and nesting. This is particularly concerning considering the known grading and mowing activities associated with the fly field maintenance.”

Is the CDFW aware that the City allows amplified music in Fairview Park during the summer Concerts in the Park? Even if it is not aware, it clear that the CDFW does not intend that any intentionally loud noises be allowed in Fairview Park. **The Concerts in the Park must be relocated to a more suitable venue.**

In addition, from time to time a drone is flown over the park. Drones are noisy and disturb avian species. Likewise, the radio-controlled vehicles on the ground. **Please ban drones in Fairview Park and all other City parks.**

Enforcement. As noted on Page 6 of the CDFW Letter, the City must provide for more enforcement and funding for such. The USFWS Letter notes on page 4 that the “[r]estored Complex 4 has multiple paths running through it and shows signs of frequent use by dogs.” Dogs must be on leash and feces must be removed. In addition, off trail bicycle and ebike riding has taken a great toll on the habitat in the park and needs to be more closely monitored. **At least one park ranger should be assigned to be at the park at all times during operating hours.**

Miscellaneous.

- On Page 16 of the FPMPU (“Introduction”), at the bottom of the center column it states, “Source information will be referenced,” but there is no source information provided. Please provide.
- Page 31 of the FPMPU (“Existing Planning Conditions”) should reference the Active Transportation Plan (“ATP”) adopted by the City in June 2018. In addition,

Mr. Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator
City of Costa Mesa
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the Map on that page needs to be replaced with the map on Page 65 of the ATP.

- Reference is made on page 86 of the FPMPU to Appendix E, however, that Appendix has not been provided. Please let us know when you have uploaded it to the City's website.
- Provide the Long-Term Management Plan, or description of said management plan, as referred to in Appendix C. Please include a description of proposed projects and a timeline.

Conclusion.

Fairview Park offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity for ecological stewardship. The City must follow the guidance of USFWS, CDFW, the Steering Committee and technical experts. We urge the City to revise the FPMPU to incorporate these recommendations, to recirculate the draft for public comment, and hold additional public meetings to ensure transparency and community engagement.

Thank you for your attention. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

/s/ *Richard J. Huffman*

Richard J. Huffman Treasurer

/s/ *Cynthia McDonald*

Cynthia McDonald Assistant Treasurer

cc: City of Costa Mesa – Mayor, City Council, Parks and Community Services
Commission, and City Manager

Costa Mesa First's mission is to educate Costa Mesans about planning policies in Costa Mesa so they make knowledgeable choices when voting. We encourage residents to choose walkable, bikeable, and inclusive neighborhoods, and the land use and transportation policies and investments needed to make Costa Mesa flourish. Our primary objective is to require Costa Mesa's leaders to put the residents of Costa Mesa first.

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Attachment A

CDFW Letter



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



September 25, 2025

Brenda Green
City Clerk's Office
77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
brenda.green@costamesaca.gov

Subject: DRAFT FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE, COSTA MESA, CA

Dear Brenda Green:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the technical reports which provide the framework for the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan (Plan) from the City of Costa Mesa (City). Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding those activities that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Plan that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines¹ (Fish & Game Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a)). CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (Fish & G. Code, § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW may also act as a Responsible Agency under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration

¹ CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

Brenda Green
September 25, 2025
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regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 *et seq.*). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in “take” as defined by State law² of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA; Fish & G. Code, § 2050 *et seq.*) or the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA; Fish & G. Code, §1900 *et seq.*), the City may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW also administers the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) program, a California regional habitat conservation planning program (Fish & G. Code, § 2800 *et seq.*). The City is a participating landowner under the Central/Coastal Orange County NCCP/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

PLAN DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Objective: According to the City’s website, the objective of the Fairview Park Master Plan Update (Update) is to revise the 1998 Fairview Park Master Plan, last updated in 2008. In addition to the goals of aligning the existing Plan with current biological assessments, land uses, and environmental regulations/policies, it will also be used to create priorities and strategies for long-term management, preservation of natural resources, and future park projects. Future projects include, but are not limited to, restoration projects, trail improvements, park amenities, and special events.

Location: Fairview Park is in the City, and its address is 2525 Placentia Avenue. It is bordered by residential areas to the north and east, Talbert Regional Park to the south, and the Santa Ana River to the west. The park itself is bisected by Placentia Avenue, which runs north/south.

Biological Setting: The regional biological significance of Fairview Park cannot be overstated. The Park is the northernmost parcel of a rare, contiguous undeveloped natural open space, which stretches from Fairview Park southward through Talbert Regional Park and terminates at the Randall Preserve. The 208-acre, topographically diverse Park contains a multitude of habitat types and micro-habitats, including one of the last coastal terrace vernal pools complexes in Orange County (USFWS 2007) on its mesa. Vernal pools in Fairview Park also support several plant species that are locally rare (City 2008 and Chung 2010). The artificial ponds in the lowlands provide nesting and foraging habitat for riparian species. Other natural and sensitive habitats include native grasslands, coastal bluff scrub, alluvial scrub, riparian woodlands, and coastal sage scrub. These habitats serve as foraging and reproductive habitat, providing refugia for many sensitive species in an otherwise developed watershed. Approximately 12-acres of the Park is landscaped.

According to the Biological Technical Report (BTR; Hamilton Biological 2025), 222 vascular plants and over 262 wildlife species have been documented in the Park, a remarkable number of flora and fauna for an area with just under 200 acres of habitat.

² “Take” is defined in Section 86 of the Fish and Game Code as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.”

Brenda Green
September 25, 2025
Page 3 of 21

Several listed species have been observed on site or have high or moderate potential to occur on site which include:

Invertebrates

- San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*; Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed endangered),
- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*; CESA Candidate for Threatened or Endangered Listing; CBB),

Birds

- Coastal California gnatcatcher [*Polioptila californica californica*; ESA- listed threatened; CDFW Species of Special Concern (SSC); gnatcatcher],
- Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*; ESA-listed endangered; CESA-listed endangered; vireo),
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*; CDFW Fully Protected Species),
- Belding's Savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi*; CESA-listed endangered),
- Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; SSC; CESA Candidate for Threatened or Endangered Listing),
- Coastal cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegonensis*; SSC),
- Coopers hawk (*Astur cooperii*; SSC),

Plants

- San Diego button celery (*Eryngium aristulatum* var. *parishii*; California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Rank 1B.1), and,
- Southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *Australis*; California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Rank 1B.1).

Please see Attachment A for a complete list of sensitive species present or with potential to occur at Fairview Park (Hamilton Biological 2025).

Prior CDFW Engagement: CDFW has a long history of engaging with the City on natural resources matters at Fairview Park, most notably vernal pool complex management issues, historic violations, and ongoing impacts to areas subject to Fish and Game Code 1600 *et seq.* Additionally, fulfillment of outstanding mitigation obligations regarding compensatory mitigation obligations at Fairview Park for off-site projects with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and the Department of Toxic Substances Control continue to languish and remain incomplete (OCTA 2018 and CDFW 2019). Despite repeated engagement with the City on natural resources matters at the Park, our attempts to partner with the City on these outstanding issues are largely ineffective. As outlined below, many of these obligations are incomplete or their status is unknown.

Brenda Green
September 25, 2025
Page 4 of 21

In 2014, CDFW partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to provide comments on vernal pool restoration after the installation of a path in the Park that was routed within and adjacent to vernal pools occupied by the federally endangered San Diego fairy shrimp (USFWS 2014). Impacts to these pools from the installation of paths and parking areas, improvements to Estancia High School stadium, and the operation of motorized vehicles during the wet season were mitigated through restoration efforts at pools 2, 5, 6, and 7 (Glen Lukos Associates 2015). It is unclear to CDFW and the USFWS (hereafter referred to as the Wildlife Agencies) as to whether the stated mitigation and restoration efforts were achieved in full.

In 2016, CDFW investigated the City's fill of Little Canyon as a possible violation of Fish and Game Code, section 1602, when soil stockpiles from the artificial pond creation were used to fill Little Canyon for purposes of trail creation and realignment. CDFW concluded the unauthorized activities were subject to Fish and Game Code; however, the statute of limitations to issue a Notice of Violation had passed and no action was taken. (City 2015)

In 2018, the City contacted CDFW regarding clearing of vegetation in and around the artificial pond complex during the nesting season for coastal California gnatcatcher. At that time, CDFW communicated that a Routine Maintenance Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) per our Lake and Streambed Alteration program was required to move forward with the clearing. To date the City does not have a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement to authorize the work in those areas (Comment 3).

In 2019, the Wildlife Agencies and OCTA met with the City several times to discuss their outstanding mitigation obligations to OCTA and ACOE (OCTA 2018). These issues remain unresolved (Comment 4).

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the City in reaching the stated goals of the Plan update; namely, aligning the existing Plan with current biological assessments, land uses, and environmental regulations and policies, while adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Plan's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

1. **Fly field Relocation.** CDFW strongly supports relocation of the model airplane fly field, as its continued operation in the vernal pool complex is in direct conflict with preservation and management of this important park feature. The goals of the Master Plan Update, as stated in the publicly available technical documents, cannot be achieved while private citizens continue take it upon themselves to grade and mow these sensitive habitats to maintain fly field runways on City property. Additionally, while these recreational activities have largely been considered passive, the degradation and improper maintenance of the pools is leading to a long-term reduction in vernal pool function and degradation.

Brenda Green
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Not only would relocation of the model airplane fly field reduce habitat degradation and risk of unauthorized take of CESA candidate species, but it would also reduce the regulatory burden for the City. Based on current seasonal survey data, operation and maintenance of the fly field in its current location would likely require a CESA Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for western burrowing owl and Crotch's bumble bee. Western burrowing owl over-winters regularly on the Park's mesa, within proximity of the existing fly field. Mowing, grading, or any other maintenance of the fly field could cause unauthorized take of these species.

On October 15, 2024, the Fish and Game Commission published a Notice of Findings that designates western burrowing owl as a CESA candidate species. If the fly field is not relocated, no avoidance measures are implemented, and regular survey data is not collected, unauthorized take could occur. Furthermore, without Park enforcement, inadvertent attempts to flush western burrowing owl from the site may lead to indirect impacts to the species. Crotch's bumble bee has also been recently observed in Fairview Park (Endemic Environmental Services 2024). The California Fish and Game Commission accepted a petition to list Crotch's bumble bee as threatened or endangered under CESA, determining the listing, "may be warranted" and advancing the species to the candidacy stage of the CESA listing process. At the fly field's current location, its operations and ongoing maintenance will substantially modify habitat and potentially reduce or impair the viability of future populations of bees. The Project may also reduce the number and range of the species without considering the likelihood that special status species on adjacent and nearby natural lands, such as Talbert Regional Park or Randall Preserve, may rely upon the habitat that occurs on the proposed Project site.

Finally, there is scientific evidence to support that the fly field activities lead to harassment of sensitive avian species, including raptors. Behavioral responses to model aircraft disturbances add to the daily energy expenditure of birds. When birds are disturbed, they can react with altered behaviors, such as agitation or flushing. Also, a bird may exhibit no outward signs of distress but experience an elevated heart rate (Ellenberg, Mattern and Seddon 2013), increased oxygen consumption, and change in metabolic rate, thus disrupting the bird's energy budget (Kempf and Hüppop 1998). Even outside breeding season, such disturbances can have a high impact to the individual bird as well as to the population. During the non-breeding season birds need to forage as much as possible to build up fat stores for migration, upcoming breeding activity, or harsh winter conditions (Kempf and Hüppop 1998). Birds that rely on Fairview Park for food and shelter could temporarily abandon these habitats during fly field use, leading to a loss of critical resources during key times, such as during migration or overwintering periods. This disruption can have significant consequences for their overall health, survival, and reproductive success. Depending on a species' breeding cycle, disturbances can have varying results (Ellenberg, Mattern and Seddon 2013). For fly field activities that occur at the beginning of nesting season, birds may choose not to nest in the area at all.

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As southern California's rare coastal open spaces are important stopovers for annual migration, model aircraft disturbances in those areas will affect many birds. Migratory birds rely on specific cues, including environmental factors such as light, temperature, and quiet, to guide their journeys. The presence of even lower-decibel noise and physical disturbances from fly field can interfere with these cues, potentially delaying or disrupting migration. This disruption could affect the birds' ability to arrive at their destination on time, impacting their survival and reproductive success (Schummer and Eddleman 2003). It can also interfere with the birds' flight paths, leading to potential collisions or forced changes in migration patterns. Noise and physical presence of model aircraft also affect the landscape and vegetation used by birds for cover and nesting. This is particularly concerning considering the known grading and mowing activities associated with the fly field maintenance.

2. **Enforcement.** To meet the stated goals of the Master Plan Update, CDFW strongly recommends that the Update include a discussion regarding the necessity for Park enforcement of adopted policy. Park enforcement is necessary to ensure the City complies with Fish and Game Code, as well as conditions as described in any forthcoming CDFW-issued permits (e.g., CESA ITP or LSAA). Without enforcement, continued habitat degradation through off-trail activity is likely, and unauthorized take under CESA is possible. We strongly recommend the City includes line-item funding for this purpose in its annual budget.
3. **Permitting Obligations.** The Fairview Park Master Plan Update should address in specific terms how and when it will meet its prior and ongoing wetland permitting obligations. CDFW has been engaging with the City since 2018, when CDFW was contacted regarding vegetation clearing in the artificial pond complex. Five years later in 2023, the City submitted a notification for routine maintenance in and around the ponds (EPIMS-ORA-38510-R5). On July 3, 2024, CDFW deemed that notification incomplete. To date, the City has not responded to CDFW regarding the outstanding items in our Notification Incomplete letter. It can only be assumed that, despite our efforts to negotiate in good faith with the City regarding wetland permitting obligations, seven years' worth of unauthorized impacts are likely to have occurred to areas subject to Fish and Game Code Section 1602. A Master Plan Update would not be complete without addressing the outstanding Routine Maintenance Agreement notification and any other one-time projects in the Park; this includes how they will be completed, funded, when, and by whom.

Given the City continues to disregard our requests for compliance, CDFW is within our rights to issue a Notice of Violation associated with the ongoing unauthorized impacts. FGC Section 1602 requires an entity to submit a written Lake and Streambed Alteration Notification to CDFW before: 1) substantially diverting or obstructing the natural flow of a river, stream, or lake; 2) substantially changing the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; 3) using any material from the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; and/or 4) depositing or disposing of debris, waste, material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into a river, stream, or lake. Hence, any entity who engages in an activity

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subject to FGC Section 1602 without first notifying CDFW violates Section 1602. However, we continue to assert that it is in the best interest of the wetland resources, the City, and CDFW to issue an LSAA to authorize the impacts, if possible.

CDFW is available to meet regarding wetland permitting issues at the City's earliest convenience.

4. **Mitigation Obligations.** It is CDFW's understanding that restoration efforts associated with the Fairview Park Mesa, for which the City applied for a Restoration Management Plan (RMP) under CDFW's Cutting the Green Tape Program, were approved at the City Council meeting held on September 16, 2025. This restoration is aligned with the stated goals of the Master Plan Update and would fulfil the City's outstanding OCTA mitigation obligations. The draft restoration plan and the proposed CEQA addendum, prepared by the City, provide a sufficient level of detail regarding the work which will be authorized by the RMP, such that a contract can be bid in the absence of an issued permit.

In 2010, the City nominated the subject 23-acre Fairview Park Restoration Project (Restoration) for funding consideration to the OCTA. The Wildlife Agencies supported the recommendation for OCTA to fund the Restoration within Fairview Park. This Restoration was planned to be integrated into the OCTA Measure 2 (M2) NCCP/HCP as it has high potential to support similar vegetation communities to mitigate for identified M2 freeway construction activities; restores sensitive species listed under the California Natural Diversity Database; and should result in ecological benefits to the NCCP/HCP Covered Species. Once the Restoration is completed and approved by the Wildlife Agencies, OCTA will be able to use the restored habitat for mitigation as part of the OCTA M2 NCCP/HCP. The City agreed to ensure the long-term conservation of the natural resources at Fairview Park through verification of a conservation easement or other approved conservation instrument.

Below are the outstanding concerns pertaining to the Restoration that we have communicated to the City during meetings and phone calls over the past several years:

- a. Failure to restore the agreed upon habitat restoration acreage and implement a solution to resolve this shortcoming;
- b. Lack of documentation to demonstrate that adjacent mitigation for other projects does not overlap with the Project;
- c. Lack of progress on developing and recording a conservation easement or other approved conservation instrument over the entire project area; and,
- d. Lack of Lake and Streambed Alteration Notification for one-time work and ongoing maintenance of the Fairview Park ponds subject to Fish and Game Code section 1600 *et seq.*

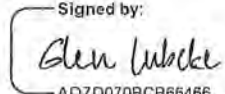
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CDFW is committed to assisting the City in fulfilling its outstanding obligations. We look forward to working with the City to provide a complete RMP application package so that issuance of the RMP can move forward.

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the technical documents associated with the Master Plan Update to advise the City of Costa Mesa in identifying and mitigating the Updates' impacts on biological resources. Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Jennifer Turner³, Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

AD7D070BCB66466
Glen M. Lubcke
Environmental Program Manager
South Coast Region

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Sensitive Species at Fairview Park

cc: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
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Cindy Hailey, Staff Services Analyst

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Attachment A: Sensitive Species at Fairview Park

Latin name Common name	Fed.	Global/ State	CNPS	Habitat/Regional Status	Potential to Occur in Fairview Park
Plants					
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i> Chaparral Sand-Verbena	—	G5T2/S2	1B.1	Open sandy soils in alluvial washes, chaparral, and coastal sage scrub. Mainly in Riverside and San Diego Counties. Last extant Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Possibly Extirpated. Small numbers found in northern lowlands in recent years; not detected in 2023, possibly due to brush clearance in area.
<i>Atriplex coulteri</i> Coulter's Saltbush	—	G3/S1S2	1B.2	Clay soils on bluffs, mesas and open coastal areas. San Luis Obispo County south.	Moderate. Occurs within 5- 10 miles of park.
<i>Atriplex pacifica</i> South Coast Saltscale	—	G4/S2	1B.2	Clay soils on bluffs, mesas and open coastal areas. Santa Barbara County south.	Moderate. Historically occurred within 5-10 miles of park.
<i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i>davidsonii</i> Davidson's Saltscale	—	G5T1/S1	1B.2	Coastal cliff faces and bluffs. Santa Barbara County south to Orange County.	Moderate. Historical records within 5-10 miles of park.
<i>Calystegia sepium</i> ssp. <i>binghamiae</i> Santa Barbara Morning- Glory	—	G5TXQ/SX	1A	Coastal saltmarshes and stream banks. Localized populations in western Central Valley and southern California.	None. Name misapplied erroneously to plants in Orange County.
<i>Camissoniopsis lewisii</i> Lewis's Evening-Primrose	—	G4/S4	3	Sandy or clay soils on bluffs, mesas, and open coastal areas. San Luis Obispo County south.	Present. Scattered small populations along trail margins and other open areas.
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>australis</i> Southern Tarplant	—	G3T2/S2	1B.1	Disturbed ground in saltmarshes and coastal sage scrub. Santa Barbara County south.	Present. Occurs along disturbed margins of trails; numbers fluctuate from year to year; more abundant in the park before creation of ponds in the northern lowlands.

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<i>Chaenactis glabriuscula</i> var. <i>orcuttiana</i> Orcutt's Pincushion	—	G5T1/S1	1B.1	Coastal dunes, bluffs, and mesas. Ventura County south; mostly in San Diego County.	Low. Potentially suitable habitat present, but species not known to occur within 15 miles of the site.
<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> Many-stemmed Dudleya	—	G2/S2	1B.2	Clay banks, slopes, and sandstone outcrops. Kern County south to northwestern San Diego County.	Moderate. Occurs within 5- 10 miles of the park.
<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i> San Diego Button-Celery	E	E	1B.1	Vernal pools. Mainly in San Diego County; the only Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Present. Found in Ponds 4a, 4b, 4c. Numbers have declined over time; in recent years, plants appear to have been intentionally removed.
<i>Hordeum intercedens</i> Vernal Barley	—	G3G4/ S3S4	3.2	Grasslands and vernal pools. Santa Barbara County south; scattered populations in the Central Valley.	Present. Occurs in grasslands and vernal pools; numbers in 2023 greatly reduced from previous years, probably due to increasing competition from non-native species.
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>puberula</i> Mesa Horkelia	—	G4T1/S1	1B.1	Sheltered coastal chaparral. San Luis Obispo County south to northwestern San Diego County.	Low. Occurs within 5-10 miles, but park lacks coastal chaparral habitat.
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i> Coulter's Goldfields	—	G4T2/S2	1B.1	Alkali soils and vernal pools. San Luis Obispo County south; scattered populations in the Central Valley.	Present. Pools 5 and 6 hold the County's largest population, with 100s to 1000s of plants; smaller numbers occur in a vernal wet half-pipe feature in the central mesa, adjacent to a large, disturbed area.
<i>Lycium californicum</i> California Boxthorn	—	G4/S4	4.2	Scrub habitats, mainly along the coast. Los Angeles County south.	Present. Occurs in coastal bluff scrub on the park's western slope.
<i>Microseris douglasii</i> ssp. <i>platycarpa</i> Small-flowered Microseris	—	G4T4/S4	4.2	Vernal pools and seasonally wet plains. Los Angeles County south; one record from southern Central Valley.	Present. Occurs in vernal pools and grasslands in the park on both sides of Placentia Avenue.

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<i>Myosurus minimus</i> ssp. <i>apus</i> Little Mousetail	—	G5T2Q/ S2	3.1	Alkali soils and vernal pools. Mainly in the Central Valley and western Riverside County; the only Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Present. Occurs around the margins of Pool 1; very few plants recorded in 2023, apparently due to competition from non-native plants and trampling.
<i>Nama stenocarpa</i> Mud Nama	—	G4G5/ S1S2	2B.2	Vernal pools and seasonally wet plains. Los Angeles County south; one record from southern Central Valley.	Present. Occurs in deepest parts of Pool 1.
<i>Nasturtium gambelii</i> Gambel's Watercress	E	T	1B.1	Freshwater marshes, streams, and drainage areas. San Luis Obispo County south to Orange County.	Low. Potentially suitable habitat present, but no extant populations known in Orange County.
<i>Navarretia prostrata</i> Prostrate Vernal Pool Navarretia	—	G2/S2	1B.2	Seasonally wet alkali soil and vernal pools. Central Valley; coastal slope from Alameda County south; one of two Orange County populations is at Fairview Park.	Present. Occurs around the margins of Pool 1, but fewer plants than expected were recorded in 2023, apparently due to competition from non-native plants and trampling.
<i>Orcuttia californica</i> California Orcutt Grass	E	E	1B.1	Vernal pools. Ventura County south; scattered populations in the Central Valley; the only Orange County population is at Fairview Park.	Present. Found in Pool 4a; several dozen plants emerged in 2023 after exceptional rains.
<i>Pentachaeta aurea</i> ssp. <i>alleni</i> Allen's Daisy	—	G4T1/S1	4.3	Clay grasslands and openings in coastal sage scrub. Known from San Joaquin Hills and Santa Ana Mountains of Orange County.	Low. Occurs within 5-10 miles of the park, but suitable habitat may not be present.
Saltspring Checkerbloom <i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i>	—	G4/S2	2B.2	Alkali springs and marshes. Ventura County south.	Low. Potentially suitable habitat present, but species not known to occur within 15 miles of park.
Invertebrates					
San Diego Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i>	E	G2/S1		Vernal pools and other ephemeral wetlands. Orange County south.	Present. Documented in seasonal pools on both sides of Placentia Avenue.

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Riverside Fairy Shrimp <i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i>	E	G1G2/ S2		Vernal pools and other ephemeral wetlands. Ventura County south.	Present. Documented in seasonal pools on west side of Placentia Avenue.
<i>Bombas crotchii</i> Crotch's Bumble Bee	—	C/S1S2	—	Many habitats. California and northwestern Baja California; most records from southern California.	Present. Uses native and non-native flowering habitats in the park (Endemic Environmental Services 2024). Nests in burrows, tufts of vegetation, cavities, rock piles, etc.
<i>Danaus plexippus</i> Monarch	C	G4T1T2 Q/S2	—	Breeds in areas with milkweed from Mendocino County south. In southern California, overwinters mainly in large stands of eucalyptus near the coast.	Present. Occurs as a transient; not known to breed or overwinter in the park.
<i>Panoquina errans</i> Wandering Skipper	—	G4G5/ S2	—	Coastal salt marsh with the required food plant, salt grass (<i>Distichlis spicata</i>). Santa Barbara County south.	Present. James Bailey observed one in the northern lowlands, but scarcity of salt grass in the park may preclude the species from becoming established.
<i>Helminthoglypta traskii traskii</i> Trask Shoulderband	—	G1G2T1 /S2S3	—	Many habitats. Coastal slope from Ventura County south.	High. Likely occurs in the less disturbed parts of the park.
Amphibians					
<i>Spea hammondi</i> Western Spadefoot	PT	SSC	—	Seasonal pools with nearby uplands suitable for aestivation. Shasta County south, excluding deserts.	Low. The species likely occurred at Fairview Park historically, because suitable habitat is present, but no records exist.
Reptiles					
<i>Actinemys pallida</i> Southwestern Pond Turtle	PT	SSC	—	Expansive natural areas that include permanent water and generally lack non-native turtles or exotic predators. Alameda County south, excluding deserts.	Present. One reported in Pond D in the northern lowlands (Endemic Environmental 2021).
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> Coast Horned Lizard	—	SSC	—	Expansive natural areas with sandy openings and native harvester ants. Shasta County south, excluding deserts.	Low. Unlikely to occur due to degradation and fragmentation of habitat, including presence of

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					Argentine ants.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> Coastal Whiptail	—	SSC	—	Widespread, in various habitats. Coastal slope from Santa Barbara County south.	Present. One reported at base of the park's western slope (Dudek 2003).
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> Southern California Legless Lizard	—	SSC	—	Various habitats with sandy soil or deep leaf-litter. Coastal slope from Ventura and Kern Counties south.	Moderate. May occur in areas with loose soils.
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California Glossy Snake	—	SSC	—	Widespread, but uncommon, in habitats with loose soil. Coastal slope from Contra Costa County south.	Moderate. May occur in areas with loose soils.
<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgulata</i> Coast Patch-nosed Snake	—	SSC	—	Brushy and rocky habitats. Coastal slope from San Luis Obispo County south.	Low. Unlikely to occur due to degradation and fragmentation of habitat.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> Two-striped Garter Snake	—	SSC	—	Widespread in the region, in and around perennial water.	Moderate. May occur in and around perennial water.
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> Red Diamond Rattlesnake	—	SSC	—	Various rocky habitats. Coastal slope from Los Angeles County south.	Low. Along the coast, not recorded west of the San Joaquin Hills. Records from Seal Beach area reportedly involve released animal(s).
Birds					
<i>Aythya americana</i> Redhead	—	SSC	—	Nests in various freshwater habitats; winters on lakes and bays. Range includes most of North America.	Present. A few have been recorded during winter. Some potential exists for nesting in the northern lowland ponds.
<i>Plegadis chihi</i> White-faced Ibis	—	G5/S3S4	—	Various freshwater habitats. Breeding range includes most of western North America; winters south to Central America.	Present. Up to several dozen non-breeders occur in the park in fall, winter, spring; small numbers have been recorded breeding in the northern lowland ponds.
<i>Sterna antillarum browni</i> California Least Tern	E	E	—	Breeds on sandy beaches, and in similar open coastal habitats, from Solano County south. Winters in western Mexico.	Present. Not expected to nest in the park, but local breeders occasionally forage in ponds in the northern

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					lowlands.
<i>Nannopterum auritum</i> Double-crested Cormorant	—	G5/S2	—	Freshwater and nearshore marine environments across most of North America. Nests in trees and snags near water.	Present. Non-breeders regularly forage in ponds in the northern lowlands. Could nest there as trees around the ponds mature.
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> Least Bittern	—	SSC	—	Resident of freshwater marshes with extensive emergent vegetation across large parts of North and South America.	Present. Small number of records from ponds in the northern lowlands; may nest in tules.
<i>Elanus leucurus</i> White-tailed Kite	—	FP	—	Nests in trees within expansive open space areas; more widespread during migration and winter. Forages in rangelands and marshy areas. Range includes large parts of North and South America.	Present. Forages regularly in the park. Could potentially nest in riparian woodlands.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> Golden Eagle	—	FP	—	Extensive open areas across a cosmopolitan range; nests on cliffs and in tall trees away from settlements. In Orange County, occurs mainly in the foothills and mountains.	Low. Transients could occur rarely.
<i>Circus hudsonius</i> Northern Harrier	—	SSC	—	Nests on the ground in expansive open space areas; more widespread during migration and winter. Range includes most of North America.	Present. Small numbers regularly forage in the park's grassland and scrub habitats in fall, winter, and spring. Could possibly nest in the local area.
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> Bald Eagle	—	E	—	Nests in tall trees, usually near water; forages in lakes, rivers, and marine environments. Range includes most of North America.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.
<i>Buteo regalis</i> Ferruginous Hawk	—	G4/S3S4	—	Breeds in central North America and winters mainly in expansive rangelands and agricultural areas to the south.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.

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<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's Hawk	—	G5/S4	—	Breeds in Canada and western North America and winters from western Mexico to southern South America.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> Burrowing Owl	—	C/SSC	—	Occurs across large parts of North America; nesting population west of the deserts nearly extirpated. Rare winter visitor in coastal southern California.	Present. Up to three often winter in Fairview Park, using open habitats on either side of Placentia Avenue. Not known to nest in the park.
<i>Asio flammeus</i> Short-eared Owl	—	SSC	—	Extensive open areas across a cosmopolitan range; nests in northern North America. Very rare fall/winter visitor across most of southern California.	Present. Occurs rarely as a transient.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	E	E	—	Formerly a widespread breeder in southern California but now highly localized in areas of extensive riparian woodlands. Uncommon during migration.	Low (as a breeder). Habitat is marginal; no recent nesting records from Orange County. Occurs regularly, but uncommonly, as a transient.
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> Vermilion Flycatcher	—	SSC	—	Open country with trees. Formerly nested in the desert Southwest and into Mexico; now nests sparingly across southern California, including Orange County.	Present. Now apparently resident in small numbers; courtship behavior by a pair on 3/25/25.
<i>Vireo bellii bellii</i> Least Bell's Vireo	E	E	—	Nests uncommonly in riparian scrub and woodlands from Ventura County south; winters in western Mexico.	Present. Small numbers nest in riparian habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> Loggerhead Shrike	—	SSC	—	Occurs in open habitats across most of North America; nesting population on coastal slope of southern California nearly extirpated. Rare winter visitor in coastal southern California.	Present. Occurs rarely in fall and winter; does not nest.
<i>Poliophtila californica californica</i> Coastal California Gnatcatcher	T	SSC	—	Resident of coastal sage scrub habitat, favoring shallow slopes and elevations below 1,500 feet; Ventura County south.	Present. Small numbers resident in scrub habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.

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<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus</i> Cactus Wren, coastal populations	—	SSC	—	Rare and declining resident of cactus scrub habitat on the coastal slope from Ventura County south.	Extirpated. Small numbers formerly resident along the western bluff and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River have died out in recent years.
<i>Cistothorus palustris clarkae</i> Clark's Marsh Wren	—	SSC	—	Resident of marshes with extensive emergent vegetation; Los Angeles County to San Diego County.	High. A few late spring and summer records of Marsh Wren in the lowland ponds likely refer to <i>C. p. clarkae</i> , the local breeder. Records of Marsh Wren in fall and winter may involve migrant subspecies from elsewhere.
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i> Grasshopper Sparrow	—	SSC	—	Nests in expansive grasslands and rangelands across most of North America. In Orange County, breeds mainly in the San Joaquin Hills and Lomas de Santiago; occurs rarely in fall and winter.	Low (as a breeder). Occurs rarely as a transient or winter visitor. Nesting unlikely, but possible, east of Placentia Avenue.
<i>Poocetes gramineus affinis</i> Oregon Vesper Sparrow	—	SSC	—	Breeds in the Pacific Northwest and winters mainly in expansive open areas on the coastal slope of California.	High. Vesper Sparrows of unknown subspecies recorded in the park; <i>P. g. affinis</i> likely to occur occasionally in fall and winter.
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis rostratus</i> Large-billed Savannah Sparrow	—	SSC	—	Breeds in the northern Gulf of California; winters on the coast of southern California.	Present. Occurs rarely in fall and winter.
<i>Icteria virens</i> Yellow-breasted Chat	—	SSC	—	Nests uncommonly and locally in riparian woodlands with dense tangles across most of North America.	Present. Small numbers nest in riparian habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> Tricolored Blackbird	—	T	—	Nests in wetlands near expansive grasslands and rangelands required for foraging, mainly in California. Winters in rangelands and parks.	Low (as a breeder). Occurs rarely as a transient or winter visitor. Nesting unlikely, but possible.

Brenda Green
September 25, 2025
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<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> Yellow-headed Blackbird	—	SSC	—	Nests in wetlands with tall emergent vegetation across much of central and western North America. Winters mainly in Mexico.	Low (as a breeder). Occurs rarely as a transient or winter visitor. Nesting unlikely, but possible.
<i>Setophaga petechia</i> Yellow Warbler	—	SSC	—	Nests in woodlands across most of North America. Winters mainly from Mexico to South America.	Present. Small numbers nest in riparian habitats in Fairview Park and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River.
Mammals					
<i>Microtus californicus stephensi</i> South Coast Marsh Vole	—	SSC	—	Wetland communities and associated grasslands along the coast from southern Ventura County to northern Orange County (Sunset Beach).	None. Fairview Park lies seven miles southeast of the described range of this taxon; voles along the Santa Ana River should be <i>M. C. sanctidiegi</i> (Hall 1981).
<i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i> Pacific Pocket Mouse	E	SSC	—	Shrublands, coastal dunes, coastal sage scrub, and river alluvium habitats with loose, sandy soil. Coastal areas from Los Angeles County to San Diego County.	Low. Not recorded in Fairview Park or elsewhere along the Santa Ana River but may have occurred there historically. Very little sandy habitat potentially suitable for this species remains in the northern lowlands.
<i>Sorex ornatus salicomicus</i> Southern California Salt Marsh Shrew	—	SSC	—	Coastal salt marshes, and nearby freshwater wetlands, from Ventura County to Orange County.	Low. Fairview Park lacks the coastal salt marsh habitat with which this species is most closely associated.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego Desert Woodrat	—	SSC	—	Widespread in scrub habitats, especially those with cactus, but sensitive to habitat fragmentation. Coastal slope from Monterey County south.	Moderate. Suitable cactus scrub occurs in the park, but this species may not be present due to fragmentation of the habitat.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego Black-tailed Jackrabbit	—	SSC	—	Occurs in various open settings, usually in expansive open space areas, from Santa Barbara County south.	Extirpated. Formerly recorded in the park (Hamilton 1995) and elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River, but no recent observations known.

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<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i> Mexican Long-tongued Bat	—	SSC	—	Ventura County south to Central America, often in coastal areas. Roosts in caves, crevices, under tree roots, and in man-made structures. Forages on nectar and pollen of agaves.	Low. Fairview Park generally lacks suitable roosting habitat and the agaves associated with this species.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> Western Mastiff Bat	—	SSC	—	Roosts in crevices in cliffs and in tall buildings; feeds aerially. Widely distributed in California and Desert Southwest.	Low. The species may occasionally fly over the site while foraging, but suitable roosting is absent.
<i>Lasiurus frantzii</i> Western Red Bat	—	SSC	—	Roosts in foliage of many types of trees; feeds over a wide variety of habitats, often close to water in coastal lowlands. Widespread from western North America south to northern South America.	High. Riparian woodlands in the park appear suitable for roosting, and the park contains ample water and suitable foraging habitat.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> Western Yellow Bat	—	SSC	—	Roosts primarily or entirely in palms; often forages over water but also grasslands and scrub habitats. Southwestern United States south to Central America.	Moderate. Fairview Park lacks the palm trees most closely associated with this species, but Western Yellow Bats could roost in riparian woodlands and/or forage in the park.
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> Pallid Bat	—	SSC	—	Widespread in western North America, in chaparral and similar habitats. Forages on the ground and in vegetation. Roosts in rock crevices and under tree bark.	Low. Fairview Park lacks extensive rocky areas or oak woodlands that would provide suitable roosting habitat, but Pallid Bats from other areas could potentially forage in the park.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American Badger	—	SSC	—	Occurs in expansive open space areas across most of western and central North America. In Orange County, recent records from the mountains and foothills.	Low. American Badgers have not been recorded at Fairview Park or elsewhere along the lower Santa Ana River. It is likely that the natural habitat is too reduced and fragmented to support a population.

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Brenda Green
September 25, 2025
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Attachment B

USFWS Letter



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, California 92008



In Reply Refer To:
FWS-OR-13B0443-14TA0229

JUL 24 2014

Mr. Baltazar Mejia
Senior Engineer, Public Services Department
City of Costa Mesa
77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Subject: Restoration, Management, and Protection of Vernal Pools within Fairview Park, City of Costa Mesa, Orange County, California

Dear Mr. Mejia:

This letter has been prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to provide the City of Costa Mesa (City) with information on the actions needed to restore, protect, and manage vernal pool habitat and associated species within the City at Fairview Park, Orange County, California. This information is provided in response to: (1) the installation of a path in Fairview Park that was routed within and adjacent to vernal pools occupied by the federally endangered San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), (2) your written request received September 4, 2013, for our review of restoration alternatives for vernal pools impacted by the installation of the path (LSA 2013), and (3) recommendations provided by Finium Environmental (2013) following removal of the path. Although the City's primary focus is on restoration of vernal pools impacted by the path, this letter includes actions the Service considers necessary to protect all vernal pool habitat and associated species within Fairview Park. This letter addresses future actions the City may take; it does not address or resolve issues relating to past actions, including the path construction, or the "take"¹ of listed species associated with those past actions. This letter does not constitute authorization for future "take" of listed species.

Background

San Diego fairy shrimp were first identified in Fairview Park in 1994 (Michael Brandman Associates 1995), 3 years prior to the Federal listing of the species (62 FR 4933). Seven vernal pool basins (numbered 1 through 7) and a "vernal marsh" were delineated in 1995 (Michael Brandman and Associates 1995) (Figure 1). San Diego fairy shrimp have since been identified in all but Basin 7

¹ Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act and associated regulations prohibit the take of endangered and threatened species without special exemption. Take is defined as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Harm is further defined by the Fish and Wildlife Service to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing essential behavior patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

(City 2008, Appendix C, Simovich 2005). Three additional vernal pools were observed in Fairview Park, east of Placentia Avenue in 2002 (Glenn Lukos 2002 in LSA 2007). To our knowledge, no surveys for fairy shrimp have been completed in these pools.

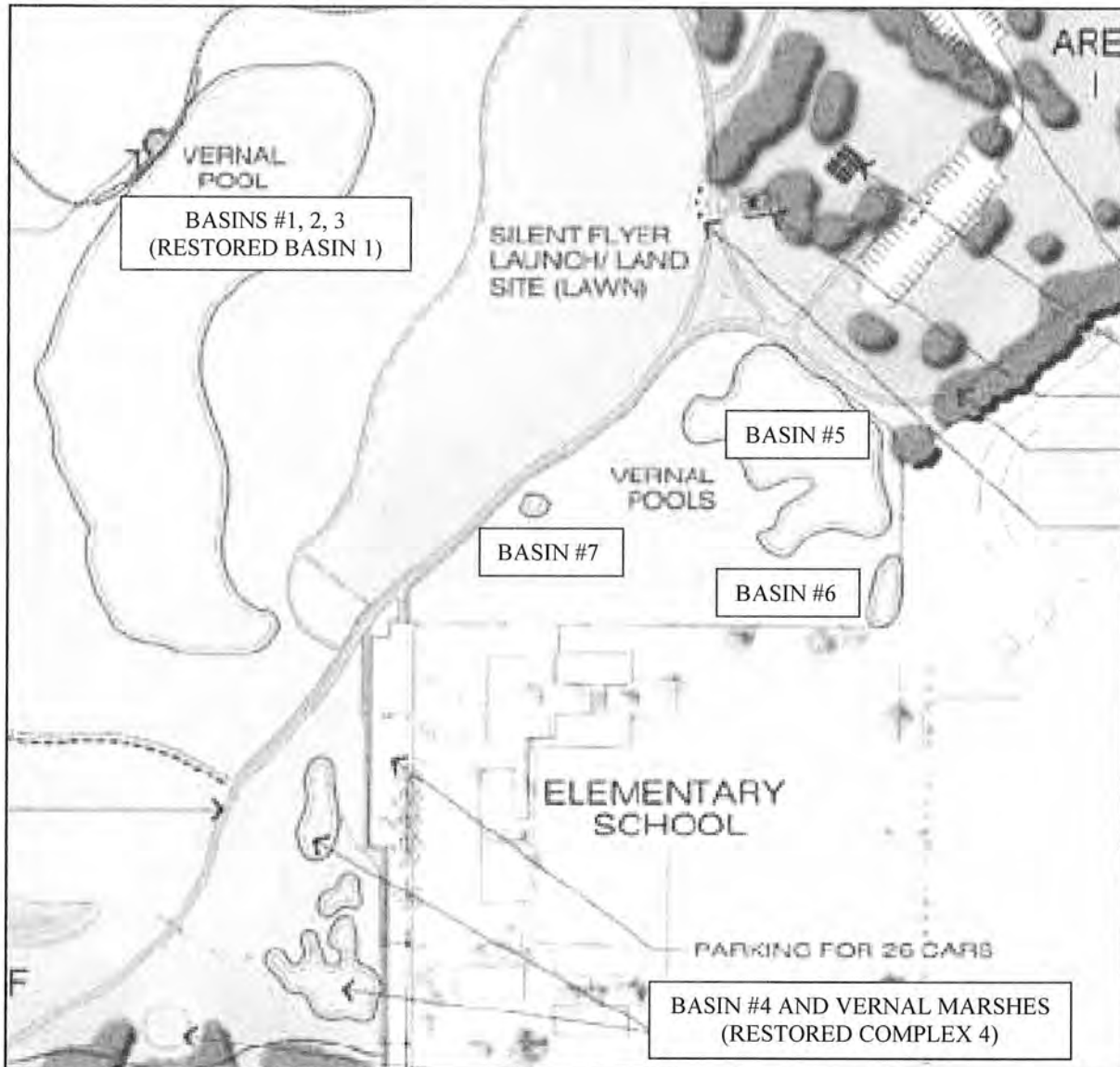


Figure 1. Location of vernal pool basins at Fairview Park.

Source: Michael Brandman Associated (1995) and Fairview Master Plan (November 2002 revision). Pool basins relabeled for clarity.

Restoration projects to improve the quality of habitat for San Diego fairy shrimp and sensitive plant species were completed in Fairview Park as mitigation for impacts to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdictional waters of the United States (Michael Brandman Associates 2002; Glenn Lukos Associates 2006). As a result of these projects, Basins 1, 2, and 3 were combined (Restored Basin 1), and Basin 4 and the “vernal marsh” were restored into a vernal pool complex (Restored Complex 4).

In above average rainfall years, it is likely that the watersheds of Restored Basin 1 and Restored Complex 4 are connected across the path that artificially separates the watersheds (Figure 2). It is also likely that Basins 5, 6, and 7 are part of a vernal pool complex with a shared hydrological connection during high rainfall years. Monitoring during previous restoration efforts identified the connection between Basins 5 and 6 (Michael Brandman Associates 2002), and the boundary between the watersheds of Basin 5 and 7 was coincident with a row of logs that have since been removed (Finium Environmental 2013).

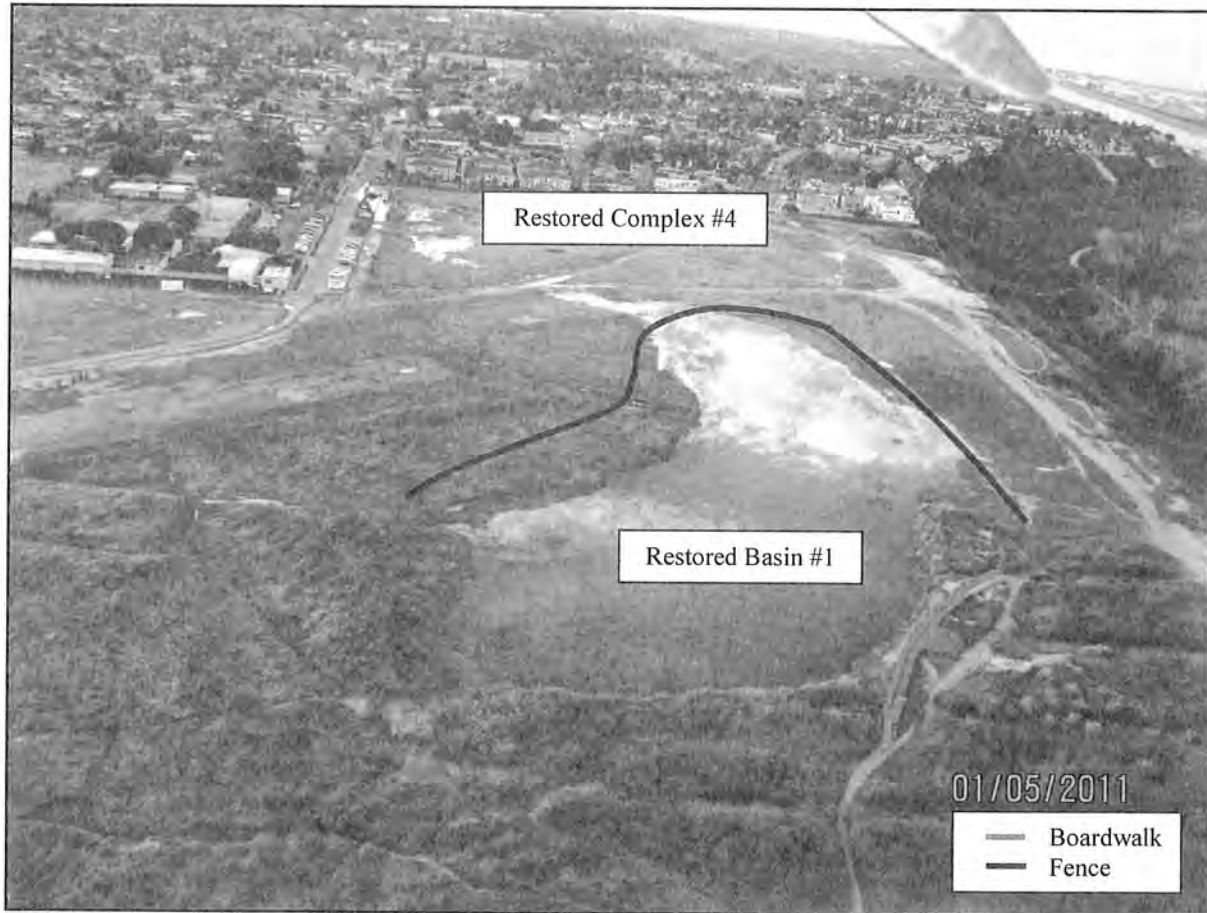


Figure 2. Vernal pools in Fairview Park during an above average rainfall year (facing south). Paths bisect the basins in several locations, and the fencing is in the water.

Photo source: <http://www.savefairviewpark.org/documents/fpcac-pack-5-29-13.zip>. Labels added.

Fairview Park supports one of the last coastal terrace vernal pools complexes in Orange County (Service 2007). Conservation and management of the San Diego fairy shrimp and its habitat in Fairview Park and other vernal pool complexes in the Los Angeles Basin-Orange Management Area is one of the criteria identified for recovery of the San Diego fairy shrimp in the Service's Recovery Plan for Vernal Pools of Southern California (Service 1998). Vernal pools in Fairview Park also support several plant species that are locally rare (City 2008; Chung 2010).

In the past, the City has supported restoration of the vernal pools and other sensitive habitat in Fairview Park, and the Fairview Park Master Plan (City 2008) includes a commitment that “the pools and basins [in Fairview Park] are to be retained, restored, and protected.” Specific actions in the plan anticipated to benefit the San Diego fairy shrimp include, but are not limited to: (1) restoration of vernal pool habitat; (2) development of a formalized path system to avoid sensitive areas to the extent feasible; (3) installation of educational signage and observation platforms in the vernal pool restoration area; (4) installation of fencing to protect the vernal pools; and (5) cessation of mowing within the vernal pools or, if necessary, mowing only late in the season after annual forbs and grasses have set seed.

We agree that the general measures identified in the Master Plan are appropriate to maintain the vernal pools. We are concerned, however, that some measures have not been implemented and others have been implemented in ways that may have impacted the San Diego fairy shrimp. More specific details are needed to ensure that the San Diego fairy shrimp and its habitat are protected. Activities that may have impacted or have the potential to impact the San Diego fairy shrimp and its habitat at Fairview Park include the following:

Installation of paths and parking areas: A path was installed in late 2013 that may have resulted in direct and indirect impacts to San Diego fairy shrimp, as described in our letter, dated November 14, 2013 (13B0443-14TA0039). While the path has been removed, grading associated with path installation altered the hydrology of the watershed supporting Basins 5 and 6 so that water may not pond to the extent it did historically (Finium Environmental 2013). As a result, fairy shrimp cysts may not hatch to their historical capacities until changes in topography are corrected (Finium Environmental 2013). The portion of the watershed supporting Basin 7 (including the basin area) has been used as a temporary parking area, and logs were placed in the watershed to delineate the parking boundary. A portion of the watershed of Restored Complex 4 was impacted by the installation of permanent parking along Canyon Drive. Grading for the parking area changed the topography so that water now ponds in the parking area (Figure 2).

Improvements to Estancia High School Stadium: The installation of fencing and a field events area impacted a significant portion of the watershed area supporting Basin 6 and altered the hydrology by re-grading the site. The changes in topography may limit the potential for the City to restore the basin within the boundaries of Fairview Park.

Pedestrians, dogs, and bicycles: While substantial resources have been focused on restoring and protecting Restored Basin 1, the unfenced northern end has informal paths leading directly into the basin and allowing bicycle access. Bicycle tracks and paths encroach within the northern end of the basin. Because the fencing was installed only around the restored basin area, the paths leading to the boardwalk are within the watershed of the basin. In January 2011 (an above average rainfall year), it was apparent that several paths and the fence are located in the basin (Figure 2). Restored Complex 4 has multiple paths running through it and shows signs of frequent use by dogs.

Operation of motorized vehicles during the wet season: In Restored Complex 4, deep tire tracks are evident due to motorized vehicle encroachment when the basins were inundated. The deep tracks may have altered the hydrology of the basins by causing water to pool first in the tracks, potentially concentrating fairy shrimp cysts within smaller portions of each basin.

Installation of landscaping and associated irrigation systems: Ornamental landscaping and turf areas border Basins 5 and 6 to the north, south, and east. Irrigation systems installed to support the landscaping are contributing to conversion of the vegetation communities within the watershed where water is now available throughout the year. The perennial water source is supporting wetland species such as mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), curly dock (*Rumex crispus*), and sedges (*Cyperus* sp.) (Finium Environmental 2013). The conversion of the vernal pool habitat to wetland can result in the permanent loss of habitat for San Diego fairy shrimp.

Mowing and pesticide and herbicide application: We have little information regarding the current timing and location of mowing activities or the application of pesticides and herbicides, but these activities have the potential to impact San Diego fairy shrimp and their habitat. Mowing equipment can crush cysts, spread invasive plant species, and cause ruts if mowing is conducted when the ground is damp. Pesticides and herbicides could potentially harm San Diego fairy shrimp cysts and adults.

Restoration, protection, and management of vernal pools in Fairview Park

While accommodating public uses within Fairview Park, it is the City's responsibility to ensure that its actions comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). In consideration of the degraded condition and management needs of the vernal pool habitat within Fairview Park, implementation by the City of the following measures would help ensure that the San Diego fairy shrimp population within the coastal terrace vernal pools at Fairview Park remains viable. Some of these restoration actions can be implemented immediately without further authorization under the Act, but others have the potential to result in take of listed species for which additional authorization under the Act would be required. To ensure that the City's future actions are appropriately authorized under the Act, we recommend that the City coordinate closely with our office to ensure that any incidental take associated with these actions is appropriately exempted under the Act. As indicated above, this letter does not exempt future take of listed species.

The following measures apply to Restored Basin 1, Restored Complex 4, and the vernal pool complex consisting of Basins 5, 6, and 7.

1. Watershed Restoration – Prepare and implement a restoration plan to address damages to the hydrological function of the vernal pool watersheds. The plan should be prepared by a biologist with a minimum of 5 years of experience restoring vernal pools in southern California and should identify actions that are necessary to restore hydrological function to the vernal pools. The plan should be reviewed and approved by the Service prior to implementation. Measures that should be included in the restoration plan include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Corrections to the watershed topography, as necessary, to ensure the basins will pond for a sufficient duration during an average rainfall year to support the life history of the San Diego fairy shrimp.
 - b. Management of the irrigation systems to prevent runoff from entering the watershed of Basins 5, 6, and 7. The City should coordinate with Newport-Mesa Unified School

District to ensure irrigation supporting landscaping at Estancia High School Stadium does not enter Fairview Park. We are available to assist the City with this coordination, as necessary.

- c. Removal of landscaping, turf, and non-vernal pool associated wetland plants (e.g., mulefat, curly dock) that were supported by irrigation systems in the watersheds and replacement with appropriate native vegetation.
 - d. Removal of non-native plant species (e.g., annual grasslands and mustards) if needed to re-establish hydrological function.
 - e. Restoration of native vegetation around the vernal pool basins and along informal and unauthorized paths, as appropriate (e.g., outside the basin area).
 - f. Removal of trash or other debris from the vernal pool watershed.
2. Permanent Protection – Record a conservation easement over the vernal pool basins and watersheds. Consistent with the Fairview Park Master Plan, the conservation easement should provide for the protection of the San Diego fairy shrimp and its habitat while allowing appropriate public access and enjoyment of the park.
 3. Fencing and Paths – The Service generally recommends fencing a sufficiently large habitat buffer (i.e., at least 100 feet from the outer edge of the watershed in most cases) to reduce encroachment by pedestrians and off-road vehicles, trash accumulation and dumping, and other indirect effects of development (Service 2008). A large buffer is necessary to account for natural changes in the basin dimensions over time in response to varying hydrological conditions and to prevent alterations to the watershed that could impact the duration and extent of ponding. To ensure the watersheds in Fairview Park are protected, the fencing should limit entry to the majority of the watershed area. Pets should be kept on leash in the park to prevent entry into fenced areas. Formal paths that will pass through the watershed of vernal pools should be placed on boardwalks, above the water surface elevation of the basins, to minimize changes in hydrology and the introduction of contaminants into the basins. Suggested locations for fencing are provided for discussion purposes (Figure 3).
 4. Public Education – The Service would like to partner with the City to develop educational materials and signs that can highlight the importance of biological resources in Fairview Park. The preservation of remaining coastal terrace pools in the City of Costa Mesa should be considered a source of pride for the City and its citizens. Educational signs, located along primary access routes (e.g., Figure 3), can help to enhance and contribute to the public's use and enjoyment of the vernal pool area. A "nature path" with stopping points where users can learn more about vernal pools and the plants and animals they support can highlight species that are not readily seen and can maintain a public awareness of the rarity of these biological resources for generations to come.



5. Trash – Provide trash receptacles and pet waste stations in convenient locations to minimize the potential for trash to be discarded in the vernal pool watersheds.
6. Mowing, Weed Control, and Pesticide Use – Mowing should be conducted outside the limits of the vernal pool basins to avoid direct impacts to San Diego fairy shrimp. In addition, we recommend that mowing be restricted within approximately 50 feet of the basin area to avoid restored habitat and sensitive plant species surrounding the basin area. The mowing limits should be periodically reevaluated to compensate for changes in the size and location of the basin area and corresponding zone of sensitive plant species. Please coordinate with the Service regarding use of pesticides and herbicides within the vernal pool watersheds to ensure chemicals harmful to San Diego fairy shrimp are avoided.
7. Employee Education – Provide an on-site education program for current and new employees of the City that will have assigned duties in Fairview Park to review sensitive biological resource areas and the City's responsibilities for management of these areas.
8. Patrol – Include as part of regular patrol duties, inspection of the fencing surrounding the watersheds and reporting of any damage to the fences or signs of encroachment within the fenced boundary.
9. Biological Monitoring – Regular biological monitoring is necessary to determine the efficacy of management measures to preserve and protect the San Diego fairy shrimp. Biological monitoring should include:
 - a. Annual watershed inspection – A biologist who has experience with San Diego fairy shrimp and its habitat should prepare a brief summary of the status of the habitat and a list of any additional management actions needed to protect and/or restore damages to the habitat.
 - b. Surveys for fairy shrimp – The City should conduct periodic surveys once every 5 years when there is sufficient rainfall to document the status of the San Diego fairy shrimp in each of the pools in Fairview Park.
10. Adaptive Management – Review the effectiveness of management actions annually to determine if additional measures are needed to protect San Diego fairy shrimp from harm. Cable wire fencing is proposed in the Fairview Park Master Plan to protect the pool basins. If this type of fencing is not adequate to prevent the public from regularly entering the basin areas, additional fencing or a different type of fencing may be required. If the degradation of the pools has already impacted the viability of the San Diego fairy shrimp, additional inoculation of the pools with cysts may be necessary.

Three additional vernal pool areas, located east of Placentia Avenue, require additional surveys to determine if San Diego fairy shrimp and/or sensitive vernal plant species are present. We recommend the City delineate the watershed of the three pools in the near future and avoid impacts to the watershed areas until protocol surveys (Service 1996) can be completed. Positive survey results may require changes in management actions to address

San Diego fairy shrimp. The City should coordinate adaptive management with the Service prior to implementation.

11. Fairview Park Master Plan Update – Include in an update to the Fairview Park Master Plan specific and ongoing management actions that will be implemented to ensure high quality habitat for San Diego fairy shrimp is maintained and that the species is protected.

These are the measures that are needed to protect San Diego fairy shrimp and their habitat in Fairview Park and are not intended to offset the damage caused by path construction. Issues relating to take that may have been caused by path construction remain under investigation by the Service at this time and will be addressed separately in the future.

We look forward to meeting with the City to further refine the details and timing of restoration, protection, and management actions. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Christine Medak of this office at 760-431-9440, extension 298.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen A. Goebel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" being more prominent.

Karen A. Goebel
Assistant Field Supervisor

cc:

Marilyn Fluharty, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Literature Cited

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Mr. Baltazar Mejia (FWS-OR-13B0443-14TA0229)

11

Simovich, M. 2005. Collecting report for 2004 for collecting permit TE87037-2. Prepared for U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad, California.

Personal Communication

Chung, J. 2010. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, electronic mail received by C. Medak, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, April 16, 2010.

Attachment C

Launch Cable Photos



Launch Cable



Depressed Ground at End of Cable

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Brad Barr <bradleygbarr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 6:56 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Bradley G. Barr

el Cajon, CA 92021



Virus-free. www.avast.com

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Bruce Horowitz <bruce.horowitz@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 10:06 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Bruce Horowitz

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Bo Glover <bo@encenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 12:10 PM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Park Draft Master Plan

Dear Mayor and Members of the Costa Mesa City Council,

I have been a Costa Mesa resident for many years, serve on the Fairview Park Advisory Committee and have been the President of the Environmental Nature Center (ENC) for over three decades. In my role at the ENC, it has been an honor to serve tens of thousands of students and visitors from Costa Mesa over the years, providing them with transformative experiences through connection with nature. It is my hope, with the adoption of the Fairview Park Master Plan, that Fairview Park will continue to provide transformative experiences for the citizens of our City.

We have not always been the best stewards of this precious city resource. The draft Master Plan provides us with the blueprint to be better stewards. The City leadership and staff should be proud of the process, community involvement and plan presented to us for adoption.

The three most important components within the draft Master Plan include:

1. The protection of the federally protected vernal pool watershed with the relocation of Harbor Soaring Society's glider launch facilities outside of the vernal pool watershed. In addition, the construction of boardwalk access and fencing/signage to keep visitors on trail is essential for the health of this fragile and vitally important ecosystem.
2. The protection of the culturally significant and nationally registered archaeological sites located throughout the park which include the removal of detrimental fill to prevent further deterioration of the resources which will honor the tribal history of the area through proper preservation.
3. The restoration of the habitat through weed abatement, clear trail delineation and native plantings to benefit wildlife and spark inspiration for the conservation ethic of community visitors to the park.

We have a tremendous community asset. Let's protect it to the best of our ability by adopting the Master Plan and putting it into action. I look forward to the next steps in enhancing this community treasure we call Fairview Park. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to have any additional discussion.

-Bo

Bo Glover

President & CEO



**Environmental
Nature Center**

1601 E. 16th Street

Newport Beach, CA 92663

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: bethany <vallastere@protonmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 10:48 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

bethany vallastere
Huntington Beach

Sent from Proton Mail Android

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Betsy Densmore <betsydensmore52@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:48 PM
To: FVPMP;ParkDistrict1;ParkDistrict2;ParkDistrict3;ParkDistrict4;ParkDistrict5;ParkDistrict6;WRIGHT, SHAYANNE;GRUNER, BRIAN
Subject: Comments re Fairview Park Master Plan

Hello Gracious Parks Commissioners,

I write to reinforce the importance of your support for the Fairview Park Steering Committee recommendations, which are based on a lot of input from those of us who care deeply about this very valuable treasure's future.

I would also ask special emphasis for:

- the need for ASAP removal of the dangerous and ill-place hunks of concrete that are leftovers from treating the area as a dump;
- the need to fix the walking path on the south end of the park, to match the other three sides of the mesa trail, which will require resolving the flooding problems that occur whenever we have heavy rain and grading it.

Please hear us!

Best Regards,
Betsy

Betsy Densmore
betsydensmore52@gmail.com
949-500-2381

"The difference between winning and losing is most often not quitting." — Walt Disney

God has given inner strength for the tree to survive the harshest winters. You are no less endowed. The wintertimes of life come not to destroy you, but to stimulate you to fresh enthusiasm and constructive effort." - Paramahansa Yogananda

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Bill Hatch <hatchling9@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 6:38 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Park Comments

The best thing for Fairview Park is to focus on the habitat restoration. Removal of the Mustard, Tumbleweed, Curly Dock, and Sweet Fennel. Planting of the native coastal sage scrub plants. Accelerate the process to complete in a reasonable timeframe (5 years?). Make this priority one.

Most everything else will take care of itself

Leave all the major trails that exist. Don't need fencing except for very limited during planting.

Ban e-bikes on the dirt trails

Let the flyers fly their planes and the bike riders ride up and down the hills in the very limited areas where they are now.

Widen the support for the restoration efforts.

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: all4won@ca.rr.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 4:05 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan

Greetings,

I read through to p.69 to find the mention that I was most curious about - glider planes in the park.

"The Master Plan Update recommends moving the current site to another portion of the park to comply with resource agency recommendations. To avoid regular mowing and prevent colonization by ground-dwelling species, a compacted and stabilized decomposed granite paving area should be provided for the relocated launch site. Proposed improvements for the relocation site include an approximately 300-by-50-foot runway (partially surfaced with decomposed granite), pilot stations and pit area, a storage shed, an information kiosk, and installation of a low post-and-cable barrier."

Reading this statement tells me that the City does not fully understand & appreciate the treasure it has in Fairview Park. The gliders are in and of themselves not compatible with passive uses, since this "passive" use deters birds from using the area. Covering the ground with decomposed granite to deter those darned rodents - a food source for hawks - is not natural.

The significant difference between the gliders & the railroad is that on the trains, thousands are exposed to the beauty of the area. The gliders is setting aside a chunk of land for a few.

All of this you've heard, from me for 25 years & from others. To say that I'm disappointed is an understatement. This plan is what's been holding me to the area. That you chose to endorse the idea of continuing to fly the gliders - I can only pray that seasonal restrictions (nesting season) would apply. I long time waiting for this, and what I see is that unlike so many other sites in the area I love that have been preserved and restored, this plan sets the bar low & wildlife - the reason we bought our home on Darrell St. by Estancia HS - takes a backseat to a few people who apparently have the ear of council. I sure hope they're paying dearly for this precious opportunity & the city is not giving it away for a nickel.

Amy Litton
874 Darrell St.

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From: [StandUpForMotherEarth](#)
To: [FVPMP](#); [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 8:05:29 AM

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Ruth Brissenden, J.D.
Stand Up For Mother Earth
<https://standupformotherearth.org>

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From: [Trudy Reed](#)
To: [EVPMP](#); [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Date: Sunday, November 9, 2025 12:37:59 PM

Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners,

I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents clear, scientific findings that uphold the public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact human use.

Glider airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible, destructive activities at Fairview Park.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect habitats by stopping high impact glider and off-trail activities, and preserve the 7 miles of trails for low-impact human recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you,

[Your Name, City]

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [VIOLET OUYANG](#)
To: [FVPMP](#); [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025 9:30:13 PM

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners:

As a Californian concerned about the rare coastal natural resources of Fairview Park, I support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. It presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities.

I support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of Federal law, to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation in the Master Plan Update.

Please also allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase illegal activity enforcement.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Violet Ouyang

Arcadia, CA 91006

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From: blush1996@aol.com
To: [FVPMP](#); [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Date: Monday, November 10, 2025 11:51:43 AM

Costa Mesa Mayor, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and PACS Commissioners,

I'm writing in support of the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. The wishes of the public are clear regarding Fairview Park. They want habitat protection, restoration, and low impact human use prioritized, and the Draft Master Plan, as written, achieves those important goals.

I also support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS Commission, the resources agencies, and the requirements of Federal law, to protect habitats by stopping high impact glider and off-trail activities, and I agree that the 7 miles of trails for low-impact activities in the Master Plan Update should be preserved.

Finally, I strongly urge the allocation of more funding to Fairview Park to increase the enforcement of illegal activity.

Thank you,
Suzanne Forster, Newport Beach

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From: [Kent Morris](#)
To: [FVPMP](#)
Cc: [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Fairview Park...
Date: Monday, November 10, 2025 9:51:43 AM

To All Concerned:

I—as well as a majority of the public---support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update...

Please prioritize habitat protection by forbidding the Harbor Soaring Society from using this sensitive habitat..

Do the right thing—don't give in to a small minority whose actions will eliminate the purpose of this Park...

Biologists, State and Federal resource agencies, and Federal law all agree on Fairview Park's designation as natural habitat for "passive" human use and that HSS activities will disrupt and destroy this natural habitat...

Please find or direct HSS to another appropriate area for their activities...

Sincerely,

Kent Morris

Fullerton Resident & Retired College Professor

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From: [Susan Harker](#)
To: [CITY CLERK](#)
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan(FPMP) draft, my thoughts
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 4:15:05 AM

Dear Park and Community Services Commissioners:

My name is Sue Harker and live at 1930 Monrovia Avenue. I am responding to draft of FPMP, Public Use Section, objectives 3 & 4, page 64 and Appendix "Archaeological..." Page 33.

Glider, model planes and drones (planes) are not an activity for continued inclusion in FPMP. Prior to closure of plane area in 2020, I observed downed planes in bush west of take off area resulting in retrieval through unauthorized areas. I observed motorized planes flying over both Fairview and Talbert Parks. On several occasions, motorized planes chased flying birds. The planes group, in my observation, were not good and appropriate stewards of Fairview Park.

Note: Say's Phoebe, winter migrant, lives among bush west of planes area. Redwing blackbirds and especially swallows, spring, summer migrants, hunt in planes area.

I support narrow gauge railroad as it provides visitors an opportunity for east Park overview and probably prevents unauthorized trail walking.

Thank you for letting me respond to the FPMP draft.

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From: [Priscilla Rocco](#)
To: [CITY CLERK](#)
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan Update
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 12:21:32 PM

Dear Costa Mesa Planning Commission,

We are living in dangerous and illogical times. Instead of scientists directing our nuclear warheads, we have TV hosts. Instead of doctors and immunologists determining the healthcare for Americans, we have cultists. And in Costa Mesa, the city council - who are not scientists or experts on the health and restoration of fragile native habitats and ecosystems - based their decisions regarding the health, restoration, and protection of Fairview Park on a small group of plane hobbyists who have threatened their political lives.

In California we're blessed to have more species of plants and animals than any other state - about one-third of ALL species in the nation. Our soils hold more than ONE Quarter of the WORLD's biodiversity, boasting more than 2,500 different different types of soil. Because of this, we're trying to protect biodiversity in 30% of our land and water by 2030.

Fairview Park is one of Costa Mesa's greatest treasures. It's a federally recognized Native American archeological site going back 3,500 years; home to thousands of native plants and animals, including many protected species; and the largest vernal pool complex west of the Mississippi. Yet the Harbor Soaring Society - who regularly flies at other venues - has bulldozed sacred ground altering the vernal pools and trampled burrowing owl habitat has convinced the council to allow them to remain in Fairview Park.

Aerial photographs going back 100 years document this destruction. Every major authority - U.S. Fish and Wildlife, California Fish and Wildlife, independent scientists, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the City's own biologist, and 70.9% of Costa Mesa voters - has urged the city to protect and restore Fairview Park. But the council ignores all these scientists and experts; the laws regarding endangered and protected species; and California Administrative Code, Title 14, Section 4308(c), "No person shall remove, injure, deface or destroy any object of paleontological, archaeological, or historical interest or value."

HSS has been in Fairview Park about 50 years before the science was known. Native Americans have called this sacred ground home for 3,500 years. It's time the city council listens to the scientists, government agencies, and a majority of the residents to protect, preserve, and restore Fairview Park from vandals like HSS, and assign a park ranger to oversee this unique environmental gem.

Respectfully,
Priscilla Rocco
Costa Mesa

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From: [Michael Wellborn \(FHBP\)](#)
To: [FVPMP](#); [PACS Comments](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Fairview Park Letter
Date: Friday, November 7, 2025 7:49:34 AM
Attachments: [11-7-25 Fairview Park.pdf](#)

Greetings Costa Mesa ~

Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks (FHBP) respectfully submits the attached letter regarding Fairview Park.

Regards,

Michael Wellborn

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November 7, 2025

To: fvpmp@costamesaca.gov, pacsccomments@costamesaca.gov,
cityclerk@costamesaca.gov, citycouncil@costamesaca.gov

Subject: Support for the Fairview Park Master Plan Update

Dear Mayor Stephens, City Council, City Staff, Fairview Park Steering Committee, and
PACS Commissioners:

Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks (FHBP) is an Orange County nonprofit organization with a stated mission "to promote, protect, and enhance the harbors, beaches, parks, trails, open spaces, natural preserves, and historic sites in Orange County." We respectfully submit this letter regarding the proposed Fairview Park Master Plan Update. The update presents scientific findings that uphold the general public's wishes for Fairview Park to prioritize habitat protection, restoration, and low-impact recreation.

Airplane flying and illegal trail use have high impacts on habitats and are incompatible activities for Fairview Park.

We support the recommendations made by the City's Master Planning expert consultants, the Fairview Park Steering Committee, the PACS commission, the resource agencies, and requirements of federal law to protect rare wildlife by stopping destructive glider and off-trail use and to preserve the seven miles of trails for low-impact recreation as proposed in the Master Plan Update.

Also, we urge the City to allocate more funding to Fairview Park to increase enforcement against illegal activities.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,

Michael Wellborn, President

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Stewart Ramsey <stewart@rad.agency>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 3:50 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK
Subject: Fairview Master Plan Feedback
Attachments: Screenshot 2025-10-20 at 3.30.47 PM.png

Hello Fairview Park Team,

I regretfully cannot attend the upcoming Nov. 18th city council meeting for public feedback – please take this email below as feedback in lieu of my absenteeism.

Thank you for the extensive work that's gone into the Fairview Park Master Plan Update (Draft 2025). It's clear how much effort and care have been invested in protecting sensitive ecological and cultural resources.

After reviewing the plan, I believe the proposed scope — including large-scale grading, elevated walkways, new drainage systems, and permanent interpretive structures — constitutes **major physical change and new uses** that likely trigger **Measure AA**.

Before moving forward, I respectfully request a **formal legal determination** confirming whether these actions meet that threshold.

If Measure AA applies, then Costa Mesa has a once-in-a-generation opportunity: not just to vote on compliance, but to re-imagine Fairview Park as a bold synthesis of ecology and human creativity.

Why This Moment Deserves a Bigger Vision

Across the world, there are parks that show how nature and humanity can thrive together — not in opposition, but in dialogue.

- Think of **The High Line in New York**, where native grasses and art installations rewild the city's skyline while eating ice cream while you stroll.
- Or **Gas Works Park in Seattle**, where industrial relics became sculptural landmarks surrounded by meadows.
- Or **Balboa Park in San Diego**, where drought-tolerant plantings and playful topography connect people to the coastal landscape.
- Or **Golden Gate Park in San Fran**, which fuses native ecology, community play, and culture in a space that feels both wild, welcoming, and uniquely San Franciscan.

These parks prove that environmental restoration doesn't require human absence — it flourishes through thoughtful design and creative participation.

Costa Mesa has that same opportunity with Fairview Park: to create something iconic, imaginative, and deeply rooted in both nature and community.

If It Goes to a Vote — Let's Make It Worth Voting For

If the community is being asked to decide, then let's invite them to dream:

- A **pump track or adventure cycling loop** that gets kids outdoors.
- **Shade-canopy trees** and pollinator gardens for comfort and climate resilience.
- **Artist-designed installations and community art nodes** celebrating Costa Mesa's creative DNA.
- A **small craft brewery and café pavilion on the bluff**, offering views and connection while honoring the landscape.
- **Outdoor learning and event space** for ecology, music, drama, and storytelling.

These ideas would turn Fairview Park into a place that protects habitat *and* draws people into relationship with it — a space of stewardship, not separation.

My Requests

1. Conduct and publicly release a **Measure AA applicability review**.
2. If a vote is required, broaden the ballot concepts to include visionary community amenities and cultural integration.
3. Engage local artists, cyclists, educators, and small businesses in co-creating a plan that reflects Costa Mesa's unique spirit.

Thank you for considering these perspectives and for your dedication to the future of our city's most remarkable landscape.

Warm regards,



Stewart William Ramsey

President

The R&D Dept.



[509-570-2002](tel:509-570-2002)

stewart@rad.agency

www.rad.agency

1945 Placentia Ave, F-1, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

[Schedule Some Time](#)

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: jonathan outfar10.com <jonathan@outfar10.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 4:56 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Pathway from upper to lower Fairview Park and reckless e-Bike use.

The e-bikes are a wonderful means of transporting people who otherwise would not be able to travel through the park. However, the use by teenagers is unregulated and they are using the mounds in front of the parking lot from Placentia as a jump challenge, coming down onto the pedestrian walkway. Further the speed that they travel down the pathway from upper to lower Fairview Park is dangerous. **It is suggested the SPEED BUMPS be installed.** The challenge of teen use is that they flee when the park rangers appear.

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Jonathan Krupka <jonathankrupka@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2025 7:10 AM
To: FVPMP
Subject: FV Park Plan

Hi!

My name is Jonathan Krupka. My wife, son and I live off 19th street near In N Out.

Within the park, I would like to see more trails for hiking and running. Along the trail, more CA native plants similar to back bay.

Having a meeting place / education center for kids and youth programs would also be great.

Reviewing your initial plan, sounds like those are all a focus as of now so great to hear!

Jonathan Krupka | [\(805\) 368-8517](tel:8053688517)

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Viviana Jelinek <viviana.jelinek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 12:35 PM
To: PACS Comments;FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan
Attachments: CM- I do not support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan.pdf

Please include my attached letter in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

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October 29, 2025

Dear Costa Mesa Mayor, Council Members, PACS Commissioners, and City Staff,

I do not support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

I am writing to express my strong support for the Harbor Soaring Society (HSS) and their ongoing activities at Fairview Park, as well as to emphasize the importance of maintaining community programs like the beloved concerts in the park. As a homeowner living adjacent to Fairview Park, I deeply value the positive contributions these programs bring to our community and the enriching experiences they offer to families and children in Costa Mesa.

The Harbor Soaring Society has been an integral part of Fairview Park for many years, providing a safe and engaging environment for the flying of remote-control glider airplanes. HSS members demonstrate the utmost respect for the park and its natural surroundings, maintaining a collaborative and cooperative relationship with the City of Costa Mesa. Their efforts extend beyond recreational activities, as they actively contribute to educating our youth through interactive and hands-on learning opportunities. By introducing children to the science, engineering, and artistry involved in model aviation, HSS fosters curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning qualities that benefit the entire community.

HSS has shown a strong commitment to working alongside the city to ensure their activities respect wildlife at Fairview Park. Their dedication to preserving the park's ecological integrity while offering unique educational and recreational opportunities exemplifies their value as stewards of this cherished community resource.

In addition to supporting HSS, I would like to highlight the tremendous value of the concerts in the park hosted at Fairview Park. These events are a cornerstone of our community, bringing together Costa Mesa public agencies, families, friends, and neighbors to share in the joy of live music and fellowship. As a family, we look forward to these concerts every year, as they create a strong sense of community and provide a space for people of all ages to connect and celebrate together. The enjoyment of children playing, the shared smiles among neighbors, and the uplifting music all contribute to the vibrant spirit of Costa Mesa.

Fairview Park is not just a piece of land; it is a hub of learning, recreation, and community building. The flying field used by HSS and the concerts in the park are vital components of what makes this space so special. They provide opportunities for education, entertainment, and connection that are difficult to replicate elsewhere.

Eliminating these activities would not only diminish the cultural and educational richness of our city but also leave a void in the hearts of many residents who cherish these traditions.

I urge the City Council to recognize the invaluable contributions of the Harbor Soaring Society and the concerts in the park to our community. Preserving these activities in Fairview Park will ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy the unique and enriching experiences they provide. Let us work together to uphold the values of education, community, and shared joy that make Costa Mesa such a wonderful place to call home.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Viviana Jelinek

Costa Mesa Homeowner and Fairview Park Neighbor

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Wendy Laurie <lauriewendy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 5:45 PM
To: Wendy
Cc: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park.

The best way to ensure that our community continues to value and support Fairview Park is to continue allowing us to access and enjoy it.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Wendy Russo

Costa Mesa

949-322-7925

Sent from my iPad

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Sue Garcia <sgarcia1229@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:06 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I am a member of the Audubon Society and frequent visitor to Fairview Park. I do NOT support what is happening at Fairview Park or in this draft Master Plan. Take vernal pools 5, 6, and 7 for example. They are hard to look at. Volunteers and City staff walk through it so often, there are trails blazed all over it. We do not need more poorly managed, fenced off, eye sore restoration projects. My grandkids need a place to play outside. How much time and money were spent on this effort? The City should consider possible changes to park management.

Fairview Park is a community park. This draft Master Plan will make it more difficult for most of the community to use and enjoy the park in ways that are good for the community. The wildlife is there and so is the community, and we have coexisted together in the park for decades. Please do not let one group of people kick the rest of us out of the park.

Please do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes to the draft Master Plan so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

Please do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,
Suzanne
Fairview Park Visitor and Supporter

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Tara Underwood <tostheim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 3:04 PM
To: FVPMP;CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK
Subject: I do Not support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

City Staff and City Council,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. Sprcifically, the Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle/dog - walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad - and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly. I also do not support any fencing off of any area of the park. Any revisions should honor the community intent reflected in Measure AA's declarations and protect existing community uses that have occurred for decades.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank You,
Tara Ostheimer Underwood
Costa Mesa, 92627

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Todd Rosene <todd.rosene@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 5:16 PM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Cc: Info@1hss.org
Subject: Public Statement – Fairview Park Master Plan Update

From: Todd Rosene, Pledging Member - Harbor Soaring Society

To: Mayor, City Council-members, and City Staff

Subject: Opposition to the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan.

I began flying at this site as a pre-teen in the late 1970s with much the same guidance as Harbor Soaring Society provides to this day. For generations, Fairview Park has been a living classroom where young people learned to think, build and problem-solve. Today, the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan would eliminate one of the few spaces where those skills are still cultivated.

By restricting access and eliminating activities like model aviation, we risk echoing voices that lament the loss of hands-on skills among younger generations. We become the “old-people” denying the next generations opportunities to test ideas, make mistakes and learn.

The Harbor Soaring Society’s flying field is more than a recreational site; it is a STEM incubator. The math, physics, electronics and aerodynamics behind radio-controlled modeling provide a gateway into science and engineering. The field teaches persistence, mentorship and accountability—skills that cannot be learned from screens or textbooks alone. The City of Costa Mesa could wear this as a jewel in its crown.

The current draft plan represents what Jonathan Haidt and Greg Lukianoff have called “the coddling of the American mind.” By over-protecting nature from people, and people from nature, it shields children from challenge and stifles the development of resilience, curiosity, and independence—the very qualities our society needs most.

I respectfully urge the City to make major changes to the draft plan so that Fairview Park continues to serve all members of the community. Specifically, the final plan should:

1. Explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current, historic location.
2. Protect and support long-standing community activities such as Concerts in the Park, Goat Hill Junction Railroad, and family-friendly bicycle and dog-walking trail access.
3. Reject new fencing or design elements that reduce public access or fragment shared space.
4. Honor the intent of Measure AA, ensuring that Fairview Park remains open, balanced, and community-driven—not exclusionary or tailored to a single interest group.
5. Direct staff to work with resource agencies to develop mitigation strategies that protect habitat while allowing continued human use, consistent with best environmental practices.

Fairview Park should remain a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities. It has always been both an ecological treasure and a civic commons—and with thoughtful management, it can continue to be both.

Respectfully,
Todd Rosene
Pledging Member - Harbor Soaring Society
949-322-4996

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Ross Minion <ross@minionsales.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:54 AM
To: PACS Comments;FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan Update DRAFT

I am writing regarding my concerns with Fairview Park Master Plan Update DRAFT.

This updated draft plan removes huge amounts of vital recreation open space from the community. Trails are labeled as unauthorized, bike mounds and the fly field are to be removed and relocated, and fences will be constructed to keep residents out.

Some of the recommendations to dismantle and remove a coveted recreational space that has been utilized and loved for generations come from a letter from The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). That letter references several studies which supposedly support their "ban all use" approach to Fairview Park. For example, the letter references a journal article from 2003 by Schummer and Eddleman: *Effects of Disturbance on Activity and Energy Budgets of Migrating Waterbirds in South-Central Oklahoma*.

The CDFW letter states "The presence of even lower-decibel noise and physical disturbances from fly field can interfere with these cues, potentially delaying or disrupting migration. This disruption could affect the birds' ability to arrive at their destination on time, impacting their survival and reproductive success (Schummer and Eddleman 2003).

The CDFW letter does not mention that the Schummer and Eddleman article was based on a National Wildlife Refuge that has 16,464 acres. They recorded 240 disturbances in 477.5 hours of observation throughout the 16,464 acres. They found that different species of birds were disturbed (or not) by different activities. The letter from the CDFW fails to mention Schummer and Eddleman's conclusion, which is to considering the habits of the birds when scheduling seasonal recreation dates.

"Rates of disturbance differed between species and appeared to be correlated to foraging strategies, habitat requirements, and type of disturbance. Therefore, managers of public lands should consider habits and migration chronologies of waterbirds when setting seasonal recreation dates. Modifying recreation policy could reduce rates of disturbance to some waterbirds."

If the CDFW's concern about "the presence of even lower-decibel noise and physical disturbances from fly field" is genuinely cause for removal of the Fly Field and all recreational activities in that section of the park, then why have they not recommended the removal of the Waldorf School, which is only 300 feet from the Fly Field, or the Jim Scott Stadium at Estancia High School at 600 feet away? Surely the cheering from a football game, or baseball game (only another 50 feet further) would also be disruptive.

There are too many issues with the reasoning for removal of recreational space in Fairview Park to address here. Please do not approve this DRAFT plan. It is bad for the City of Costa Mesa.

Ross Minion

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Paula Hong <paulajeanhong@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 3:07 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad-and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS, together, and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Paula Cool

Costa Mesa, 92626

714-788-8631

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Phil G <philgarcia2@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 8:22 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan
Phil Garcia

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Monica Hernandez <hdez-lizzy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 4:13 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS, together, and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,
Liz Rios
949-231-7014

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: mikeftre <mikeftre@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:23 AM
To: FVPMP
Subject: FW: Fairview Park Master Plan

----- Original message -----

From: mikeftre <mikeftre@gmail.com>
Date: 10/30/25 12:50 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: fvpmp@costamesacs.gov, pacscomments@costamesaca.gov, citycleek@costamesaca.gov, citycouncil@costamesaca.gov
Subject: Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Council members, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad. Please direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly. I believe it is not reasonable to restrict public access based on some CDFW suggestions some wildlife and plants "might" be harmed by public access. **If this access is so harmful, why are the birds and plants thriving in the park after 60 or more years of this public access?**

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. **I believe it is possible to work out a compromise allowing continued public access as well as making portions of the park into a preserve.**

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Resources:

1. Fairview Park Master Plan Revision Website: <https://www.costamesaca.gov/community/fairview-park/fairview-park-master-plan>
2. Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan
PDF: <https://www.costamesaca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/61230/63895102412490000>

Thank you,
Mike Costello
714-875-7994
mikeftre@gmail.com

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Michael Moses Nolf <michael.moses.nolf@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 2:56 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS, together, and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Michael Moses Nolf
West Side Costa Mesa, 92627

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Michelle Henke <michellehenke@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:34 PM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Opposition to the Fairview Park Master Plan

Good Evening,

I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan.

I live in the Freedom Homes of Westside Costa Mesa. Our family has enjoyed the following at Fairview park over the years. Some over our favorite activities have been:

- Walking and Exploring the trails
- Taking my children to ride bikes on the mounds
- Participating and flying gliders with HSS who have been positive and welcoming community members. They have taught both our children about flying, engineering, and being a good neighbor.
- Riding bikes on trails that connect Canyon, Talbert, and Fairview Park together
- Concerts in the Park
- Lion's Fish Fry
- Run Club
- Flying a kite
- Trains

Fairview Park is a special place because we live in a suburban environment where there are few spaces where people can participate and engage in such activities. This is the key participation and engagement of the citizens. Fairview is not a *preserve*. It was never intended to be utilized *passively*. I understand we need to be good stewards of the area and environmentally conscientious to ensure it is a place for future generations. But, it has been my observation that Fairview park is becoming increasingly regulated and altered.

If this Master Plan were to become a reality I believe that many of the activities my family has enjoyed will be different and even no longer. I do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park.

Please consider this email when moving forward in your decision making. I believe a majority of Costa Mesa citizens share my beliefs, but we have a small group of LOUD citizens and agenda driven city staff that are driving this home over the last couple of years. LISTEN to your community!

Michelle Erickson
971 Union Ave
Costa Mesa 92627

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Marc McReynolds <marcmcreynolds@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 9:10 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Why I don't support the draft Fairview Park Master Plan

As a user of the park for several decades, I have seen how it stands up well to sustained public use. The interior trails in particular are narrow, well-defined, hardened ground -- quite "stable" in terms of any ecological impact. This shouldn't be surprising, since the mesa has seen constant foot traffic for some thousands of years. Rome was still an empire when people were walking throughout the mesa, going about their daily business. Heck, kids were playfully running across the mesa even before the start of the Roman Empire... and yet it's still here, with its resilient and evolving ecology. Ongoing long-term bluff erosion is the real concern.

Wetland sections should rightly be protected in light of modern concerns, but denying the public enjoyment of broad swaths of the park to chase after government money, or catering to the whims of extremists with no real understanding of dynamic ecosystems, is not in the overall public interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter, Marc McReynolds

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: mark jelinek <mark_jelinek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 12:02 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: PACS Comments;cityclerck@costamesaca.gov;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS, Commissioners and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long standing uses at Fairview Park. The plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad- and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Master Plan Update and the October 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,
Mark Jelinek
Westside Costa Mesa, 92627
(949) 413-5122

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Mat Garcia <mgarcia@1hss.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:59 AM
To: PACS Comments;FVPMP
Cc: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK
Subject: HSS does NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City Staff,

The Harbor Soaring Society (HSS) does not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan Update. The Master Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, *Concerts in the Park*, and the *Goat Hill Junction Railroad*.

Any revisions to the Plan should honor the community's intent under Measure AA and preserve the park's open, shared character. Fairview Park should remain a shared space that protects wildlife while providing room for people, families, and community activities.

Please review below our latest communications with City staff regarding the topic of the flying field. Please include this letter in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Mat Garcia
Harbor Soaring Society | President | +1 714-287-5757
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit | mgarcia@1hss.org

October 27, 2025, Email between HSS and City staff

Hi Brian,

Thank you for meeting with the HSS officers on Monday, October 13, 2025. This meeting was requested by City staff.

In attendance was:

1. Brian Gruner (City)
2. Kelly Dalton (City)
3. Joni Whitsitt (HSS)
4. John Rittenhouse (HSS)
5. Mike Costello (HSS)
6. Henry Smith (HSS)
7. Dan Vozenilek (HSS)
8. Mat Garcia (HSS)

The meeting was from 5:00pm to 7:20pm. Thank you for providing pizza and soda.

Here is a summary of the most significant points discussed during the meeting. Please provide any edits or comments.

1. **Kelly Dalton and Brian Gruner agreed that HSS "by and large" has followed the rules that HSS has been asked to follow.**
2. The City released the Master Plan Update Draft on September 29, 2025.
3. HSS officers explained the challenges (environmental impact, Measure AA, geographical constraints, infrastructure cost) of relocating the flying field to the east side of Fairview Park.
4. City Staff insisted the current location does not work.
5. HSS pointed out that we never discussed mitigation measures that could help keep the flying field in the current location.
6. HSS again offered to pay for a credible / independent biologist's assessment of potential impacts and mitigation measures associated with the flying field at its current location. HSS again asked for names of biologists that the City would find credible.
7. **Kelly Dalton and Brian Gruner met with CDFW at Fairview Park in March of 2025.**
8. The City received a letter from CDFW recently, but the letter was not shared with HSS at the meeting.

Point 1 is important because it establishes HSS as a rule following organization that has worked hard to earn the trust of the City and the community.

Point 7 is important because it demonstrates staff's continued actions to exclude HSS from meetings with regulatory agencies. HSS has been told by staff not to engage with regulatory agencies and to communicate to them only through City staff. Since 2022, HSS has repeatedly expressed a desire to participate in conversations between the City and regulatory agencies regarding the flying field. While City staff has held numerous meetings, both in-person at the park and online, with both USFWS and CDFW, HSS has not once been invited to participate. Kelly Dalton has publicly advocated for closing the flying field since he authored his report to the City Council in March of 2023. We have all read what Park Administrator Kelly Dalton has inaccurately written to regulatory agencies in order to solicit an opinion supporting closure of the current flying field. At the January 28, 2025, City Council meeting, HSS conveyed again that we are ready to meet with any regulatory agency at any time. The mayor and council supported this. We now know, only two months later, our request was ignored. The HSS members and I do not trust Park Administrator Kelly Dalton to fairly or accurately communicate the flying field operations to anyone, let alone entities as influential as USFWS and CDFW. **To date, neither USFWS or CDFW has met with HSS or witnessed a flight day at the flying field since the field re-opened in July of 2023.** The technical report which the Master Plan Update Draft is based on was released in March of 2024, one full year **before** the author, Travis Brooks, met with HSS for the first time (March 1, 2025) outside one of the three public outreach meetings.

Point 8 is important because it demonstrates either assumptions by CDFW or City staff communicating inaccurate information to regulatory agencies. **What information was provided to or verbally shared with CDFW by City staff?** We are concerned that actions by staff have created unnecessary risk for the City, harm to HSS' reputation, and damage to / loss of a community resource, the flying field. For example, CDFW writes, *"The goals of the Master Plan Update, as stated in the publicly available technical documents, cannot be achieved while private citizens continue take it upon themselves to*

grade and mow these sensitive habitats to maintain fly field runways on City property." To me, this statement does not sound like City staff communicated to CDFW that every time runway maintenance was performed, it was approved by Kelly Dalton. That every time runway maintenance was performed, it was supervised by City staff. That every time runway maintenance was performed, a biological survey was performed ahead of time. It does not sound to me like City staff communicated to CDFW that the flying field has not been graded since 2005, and that this area has been a runway since 1964 and has successfully shared the space with the wildlife in those 6 decades, or that HSS has offered to pay for professionally trained workers to remove the weeds.

Please let me know what conclusions you or Kelly felt are noteworthy following our meeting.

For your reference, HSS has started tracking off-runway landings. Please let me know if any of the information below is disputed by the observers.

Flight Day	City Observer	Off Runway Landings	Landing Location	No
10/18/2025	Bequi	1	Approx. 15' off the runway opposite the pits.	
10/11/2025	Bequi	2	First within 20', second within 10' off the runway opposite the pits.	Be we
9/20/2025	Diana	1	Landed short 10ft on final approach to the runway, center-right.	

Lastly, I will note that comments, both from staff and others, at the Fairview Park Steering Committee Meeting on October 15, 2025 were quite concerning and reinforced our understanding that staff does not actually believe that the east side flying field location is feasible.

Thank you,
Mat

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Matthew Schweitzer <matt@m85.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 9:57 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I cannot support the current draft of the Fairview Park Master Plan, and urge you to consider revising in a way that does not alter the longstanding uses of the park. The intent of Measure AA is to require significant public support before making any alterations to the use of the park, and attempts to circumvent this by other policy action not only potentially violates the law, it more importantly violates the trust of the community you are hired to serve.

There will always be complaints from various small interest groups about the use of the park, some of which may be more sympathetic to you than others. But in the absence of overwhelming public demand for a change, the best course of action is to maintain the nature of the park the way it has been for decades. This is a community park, and an excellent resource that has been shared by everyone, and it can remain that way. There is plenty room for concerts, trail walkers, bike riders, dogs, model aircraft enthusiasts, nature lovers, and others, in the park, and everyone is aware of the limitations and requirements to share the space among these different activities. The proposed changes in the master plan will intentionally or unintentionally harm some of these groups significantly, which is unacceptable for a park operated for the public benefit. Nothing brought to the public's attention to date justifies the construction of new fences in our community, either physical ones or administrative ones.

Thank you for your consideration,
Matthew Schweitzer

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Mel Hitchcock <mel@consolidatedlabs.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 3:01 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Council Members, PACS Commissioners, and City staff:

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS, together, and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you, Mel Hitchcock

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Laura M. Van de Merghel <laura@kuci.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:22 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: [SPAM] I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, Staff, and City Staff,

As someone who enjoys riding my bike throughout Fairview Park, it concerns me that the current draft of the Fairview Master Plan will change the way residents of Costa Mesa and the surrounding community will interact with the park. I do not support the current draft of the Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, concerts at the park, bicycle and dog walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad, and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS together and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any fencing that reduces public access. Any revision should honor the community's intent behind Measure AA and preserve the park's existing open and shared character. An exclusionary master plan update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and maintains open space for all people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Laura Van de Merghel
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Lisa S. <lisa.snowden73@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:25 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK;PACS Comments;FVPMP
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear Mayor Stephens, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I live on the westside and am a long-time user of Fairview Park, mainly for exercising, walking the trails, spending time in nature, and attending Concerts in the Park. I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Lisa Snowden

Costa Mesa Resident

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Joseph Quilico <jquilico77@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 11:18 AM
To: REYNOLDS, ARLIS;GRUNER, BRIAN;DALTON, KELLY M.
Cc: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;STEPHENS, JOHN
Subject: FairView Park - Proposed Changes

I'm writing to express serious concerns that the proposed Fairview Park changes may not reflect community priorities and could fundamentally alter the park's character, specifically the proposed removal of the "dirt mounds" to save on remediation costs.

The mounds serve as irreplaceable recreational infrastructure used daily by our community. Families use them for children learning to ride bikes, dog owners for exercise, and residents for informal gatherings and play. While this usage may appear "informal," it represents the authentic, grassroots way our community has embraced this space for decades. Removing these features would eliminate activities that cannot be replicated elsewhere in the park—or anywhere else in the city, for that matter.

This approach prioritizes grant eligibility and cost-savings over Measure AA's clear mandate to preserve Fairview as a "passive, multi-use park." The mounds exemplify this vision perfectly—they require no maintenance, support diverse activities, and allow natural, unstructured recreation. Their removal would directly contradict the community's original commitment to maintaining Fairview's unique character.

The claim that the public "desires" more fencing and restricted trails contradicts the experiences of regular park users. This narrative appears to prioritize the voices of select stakeholders over the broader community that relies on Fairview's current open access. Before proceeding with irreversible changes, we need genuine community engagement that includes all user groups, not just those aligned with predetermined outcomes.

While grants provide needed funding, they often come with restrictions that could permanently alter the park's accessibility. We risk transforming Fairview from a community-centered space into a managed nature preserve with limited public access—a fundamental departure from what residents voted to protect under Measure AA.

I urge you to pause these plans and conduct comprehensive community outreach before making changes that cannot be undone. Fairview's greatest value lies in its accessibility and informal recreation opportunities—qualities that would be lost under the current proposal. I'm committed to ensuring Measure AA's vision is honored and that all community voices are heard in this critical decision-making process.

Regards

Joe Quilico

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: kari nieblas <knieblas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 2:18 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK;FVPMP
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,
Kari

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--

GREEN, BRENDA

From: Katie Van Berckelaer <kwestenhaver@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 4:47 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

City staff and City Council,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. Specifically, the Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle/dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any fencing off of any area of the park. Any revisions should honor the community intent reflected in Measure AA's declarations and protect existing community uses that have occurred for decades.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank you,

Katie Van Berckelaer
Freedom Home Neighborhood

Sent from my iPhone

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Lana Nguyen <lanameade@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:27 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City Staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. While I appreciate the City's challenging task of balancing recreational opportunities with the conservation and enhancement of open space, I believe that the existing recreational uses were not adequately evaluated using sound data to support the conclusions and recommendations within the Plan.

The Master Plan should **explicitly preserve** the model glider field in its current location, *Concerts in the Park*, and the *Goat Hill Junction Railroad*.

I would like to see studies and data demonstrating the actual impacts of glider use at its current location under the conditions that have been in place for more than a year. The current draft references differing community opinion regarding glider activity and regulatory recommendations, but does not reference any study or data collected. When issues have arisen in the past, the Harbor Soaring Society has implemented all recommendations from the City and regulatory agencies to minimize impacts to sensitive wildlife, including eliminating motored aircraft, reducing flying days and times, and closely coordinating with City representatives when gliders need to be recovered, among other measures.

The gliding activities should be evaluated based on these current conditions in their current location and analyzed for potential conflicts with wildlife and habitat—while also considering additional mitigation measures that could further reduce any such conflicts. HSS has also indicated that relocating to the east side of Placentia Avenue would be detrimental to glider operations due to different wind conditions and other factors. It would be fiscally irresponsible to spend thousands of City dollars on new infrastructure in a location unsuitable for glider activity, particularly when there are only *perceived* impacts at the current site and activity level.

Any revisions to the Plan should honor the community's intent under Measure AA and preserve the park's open, shared character.

Fairview Park should remain a shared space that protects wildlife while providing room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this letter in the public record for the **Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update** and the **October 30, 2025 PACS meeting**.

Thank you,
Lana Nguyen
92627 Resident

GREEN, BRENDA

From: johnnritt@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:14 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK
Cc: CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Master Plan Does Not Reflect the Needs and Wants of CM Residents...

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

As a longtime resident of Costa Mesa, I have had the opportunity to submit comments during the 1998, and 2008 FVP Master Plan update process. At the time, I felt those revisions reflected the needs, wants, and best interest of the residents of Costa Mesa. Regrettably, the same cannot be said of this latest incarnation (in my opinion). Those of you who have resided in Costa Mesa for some time, have probably become aware of the lack of civility in council meetings and increasingly strident demands of various "special interest" groups. Unfortunately, the FVP Master Plan has garnered more than its share of controversy. Frankly, I am concerned that a small group of... uncompromising "environment only" proponents are demanding a VERY exclusionary direction for the current MP update. This group has made some outlandish claims that are completely unsupported by unbiased study.

Costa Mesa is not a "cookie cutter" city like Irvine... we are unique, and special... not a city of exclusionary of fences. In my opinion that is the direction we are going in this MP update... More fences and less public access. It's more than my opinion... over the years I have attended many Fairview Park Steering Committee meetings and various other "environmental" related FVP meetings. The participants have explicitly stated their "ultimate goal" of turning the park into a preserve... without compromise. Costa Mesa is a growing city, with increasing population. Now more than ever, Costa Mesa residents need public access to Fairview Park, in a way that is mindful of the environment... as has been done for the past seventy-two years. Therefore, it is my hope that the Council will support a revision to the proposed Master Plan update that directs a "reasoned" balanced approach that favors the current level of public access.

Thank you, John Rittenhouse

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Jim Erickson <jimwerickson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 5:29 PM
To: PACS Comments;FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Comments on the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan
Attachments: Fairview Park Letter Jim Erickson.pdf

Hello,

Please include my attached letter in the public comments of meetings of the PACS Commission, City Council, and in public feedback regarding the Fairview Park Master Plan. Please respond so I am certain this has been done. I am pasting the text of the letter below for reference.

Thank you,
Jim Erickson

Hello Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners and City Staff,

I'm writing to raise my concern over the details of the draft plan for Fairview Park. The draft plan goes too far to close the park off to human interaction with the park, and contradicts Measure AA in the process.

For decades people flew gliders and RC airplanes off the western slope and on the western side of the park. This is an existing use and language indicates it is an approved use in Measure AA. The draft recommendation that the flying area be moved to the east side of the park would require additional infrastructure (grading, concrete, ADA access etc) and this is in conflict with Measure AA.

Of more concern: there is no solid empirical evidence that glider flying causes damage to the park or its natural features.

Especially, there is no evidence glider flying damages the park over and above other approved uses. Which creates a slippery slope for the other approved uses.

Example: we are told that glider flying impacts sensitive species on the west side of the park. Burrowing owls were found on the east side of the park years ago. Yet, we allow extensive mowing, model trains, cycling, walking, and dogs on the east side of the park. Now, we want gliders on the east side of the park too?

OC Parks and CA State Parks don't allow dogs on trails where species of special interest exist. Why is this best practice not recommended...yet...for Fairview Park? Is staff simply choosing a scapegoat (gliders) to get the ball rolling on closing the park to most human interactions?

There are other precedents here: we used to do a community 5K run, and hold the Fish Fry at Fairview Park. Those events have been canceled or re-homed in the last decade. Quite soon, our kids won't be able to ride bicycles on the dirt mounds as they will be fenced off.

Fairview Park is just that: a park. For decades nature has been a celebrated center point while people are still allowed to experience the park in their own way.

Enforcement is necessary against irresponsible users, but picking winners and losers amongst user groups is a violation of Measure AA, which itself defined appropriate use.

Thank you for reading my comments,

Jim Erickson

Costa Mesa resident, mobile phone: 949-274-1817

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Hello Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners and City Staff,

I'm writing to raise my concern over the details of the draft plan for Fairview Park. The draft plan goes too far to close the park off to human interaction with the park, and contradicts Measure AA in the process.

For decades people flew gliders and RC airplanes off the western slope and on the western side of the park. This is an existing use and language indicates it is an approved use in Measure AA. The draft recommendation that the flying area be moved to the east side of the park would require additional infrastructure (grading, concrete, ADA access etc) and this is in conflict with Measure AA.

Of more concern: there is no solid empirical evidence that glider flying causes damage to the park or its natural features.

Especially, there is no evidence glider flying damages the park over and above other approved uses. Which creates a slippery slope for the other approved uses.

Example: we are told that glider flying impacts sensitive species on the west side of the park. Burrowing owls were found on the east side of the park years ago. Yet, we allow extensive mowing, model trains, cycling, walking, and dogs on the east side of the park. Now, we want gliders on the east side of the park too?

OC Parks and CA State Parks don't allow dogs on trails where species of special interest exist. Why is this best practice not recommended...yet...for Fairview Park? Is staff simply choosing a scapegoat (gliders) to get the ball rolling on closing the park to most human interactions?

There are other precedents here: we used to do a community 5K run, and hold the Fish Fry at Fairview Park. Those events have been canceled or re-homed in the last decade. Quite soon, our kids won't be able to ride bicycles on the dirt mounds as they will be fenced off.

Fairview Park is just that: a park. For decades nature has been a celebrated center point while people are still allowed to experience the park in their own way.

Enforcement is necessary against irresponsible users, but picking winners and losers amongst user groups is a violation of Measure AA, which itself defined appropriate use.

Thank you for reading my comments,

Jim Erickson

Costa Mesa resident, mobile phone: 949-274-1817

GREEN, BRENDA

From: isaac techwasterecycling.com <isaac@techwasterecycling.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:48 AM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK
Cc: CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly. I feel time and money would be better spent adding a beautiful large playground for children to enjoy. Our parks and playgrounds on the Westside are in horrible condition versus the parks and playgrounds on the eastside. Let's put the time, energy and funds where it truly belongs. Not on fencing Fairview Park.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Isaac Villeneuve

865 Senate St

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

714.813.5390

Kind Regards

Isaac Villeneuve

TechWaste Recycling, LLC.

1940 E Occidental St

Santa Ana, CA 92705

P: 714.813.5390

isaac@techwasterecycling.com

techwasterecycling.com



GREEN, BRENDA

From: Henry Stockdale <henrykevinstockdale@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:16 PM
To: FVPMP
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, Staff, and City Staff,

As someone who visits Fairview Park often, I do not support the current draft of the Fairview Park Master Plan. I ask if you are to make major changes to allow the community to maintain long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, concerts at the park, bicycle and dog walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad, and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS together and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

As someone who loves to go to HSS and ride my bike, I also do not support any fencing that reduces public access. Any revision should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary master plan update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Henry Stockdale

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

949-779-0655

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From: Henry Smith III <henry_ccs@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 5:12 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK
Cc: CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Council-members, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad. Please direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly. I believe it is not reasonable to restrict public access based on some CDFW suggestions some wildlife and plants "might" be harmed by public access. **If this access is so harmful, why are the birds and plants still in the park after 60 or more years of this public access?**

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. **I believe it is possible to work out a compromise allowing continued public access as well as making portions of the park into a preserve.**

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Respectfully,

Henry A. Smith III

Tustin

714-322-6537

Resources:

1. Fairview Park Master Plan Revision Website: <https://www.costamesaca.gov/community/fairview-park/fairview-park-master-plan>
2. Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan
PDF: <https://www.costamesaca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/61230/63895102412490000>
- 3.

GREEN, BRENDA

From: dnoon6@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 9:52 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK
Cc: CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City Staff,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan and my concern for what its adoption would mean for the Harbor Soaring Society and the flying field at Fairview Park.

For the past six months, I've been bringing my son, who is diagnosed with Autism and ADHD, to the flying field almost every weekend that it is open. What started as a simple father and son outing has turned into something truly special. He has fallen in love with flying and with the science behind how things soar. The members of the Harbor Soaring Society have gone above and beyond to welcome him, teaching him patience, problem solving, and a love of STEM.

This field has become more than a hobby spot. It's an outdoor classroom that has completely changed my son's relationship with learning. Science and math, which used to be his hardest subjects, are now his favorites. He spends hours building, experimenting, and asking thoughtful questions about aerodynamics and flight. The environment at the field is quiet, safe, and supportive, and it represents the best of what community learning can be.

I've read the report and the references to "Resource Agency recommendations" about noise, but those concerns are greatly overstated. These are model gliders, not gas powered planes. They are quieter than a kite on a breezy day.

Please make significant changes to the Draft Master Plan so that the community can continue long-standing and meaningful uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad. I also do not support any new fencing or barriers that would reduce public access. Any revisions should respect the intent of Measure AA and keep Fairview Park open and shared, as it was meant to be.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dan Noon
949-735-7141
Dnoon6@gmail.com

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From: Don Wittenberg <drwittenberg@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:08 AM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;citycouncil@costamesaca.go;PACS Comments
Subject: FW: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS, together, and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

The use of the park to allow for gliders at the current location has negligible impact on the ecology of the park. This is evidenced by the flourishing flora and fauna at the park for the past fifty years that flying of model airplanes has been allowed. The present rules allow only very restricted dates and times for glider flying when weather conditions permit.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Donald Wittenberg

714 321 3944

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Dan Vozenilek <dv92627@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 6:36 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: carol.cormaci@latimes.com;CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK
Subject: Draft Fairview Park Master Plan should NOT be adopted

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I urge you not to adopt the Draft Fairview Master Plan as written because it proposes relocating the Harbor Soaring Society fly field and the existing dirt mounds from the west side of Fairview Park to the east side near the Goat Hill Junction model railroad, a change that materially alters long-standing park uses. That relocation appears to convert established, as-built recreational features into new "Model Glider and Train Area" amenities, which raises a serious legal and procedural question about whether Measure AA requires voter approval for this significant change. The Draft Plan's language about reusing "fill material" to create play mounds in the proposed footprint does not resolve the Measure AA issue and instead creates the appearance of a backdoor alteration of park uses without public consent. Moving these activities into areas identified as sensitive or repurposing existing features without clear, funded mitigation and a public vote risks undermining community trust and sets a troubling precedent. The Council should require meaningful community engagement with the users and neighbors most affected and mandate enforceable mitigation measures for traffic, noise, and ecological impacts. Please protect the integrity of Fairview Park and the public's right to decide significant changes by withholding adoption until these issues are fully addressed.

Some good points are raised in this blog:

[What Does the Draft Master Plan Mean for the Future of Fairview Park? – Goat Hill Rodeo](#)

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank you,

Dan Vozenilek
Costa Mesa, 92627

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Daiquiri Scherer <daiquirischerer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:16 PM
To: PACS Comments
Cc: CITY CLERK;FVPMP
Subject: I do not support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

City staff and City Council,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. Specifically, the Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle/dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any fencing off of any area of the park. Any revisions should honor the community intent reflected in Measure AA's declarations and protect existing community uses that have occurred for decades.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank you,
Daiquiri C. Scherer
Canyon Park, 92627
Sent from my iPhone

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Cassidy Flynn <cassidycflynn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 7:00 AM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK
Cc: CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support | Comments on Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear City Staff and City Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. I'd like to see major changes so the community can keep enjoying the long-standing activities that make Fairview Park special. I urge the City to make significant revisions so that the community can continue the long-standing and valued uses of Fairview Park. Specifically, the Plan should:

- Clearly preserve Concerts in the Park, the model glider field, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad.
- Direct staff to work with the CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue in a safe and compliant manner.

I also oppose any proposal to fence off portions of the park. Any revisions should reflect the community intent expressed through Measure AA and protect the recreational and cultural activities that have been part of Fairview Park for decades.

Please include this message in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Cassidy Flynn

(Freedom Homes resident)

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: charmaine laurie <charmaineofhearts@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 9:34 AM
To: FVPMP
Subject: Fairview Master Plan

I do not want any changes to Fairview Park. The community loves it and uses it the way it is. We do not want any fenced spaces.

Charmaine Laurie, Mesa Verde resident for 42 years
1658 Oahu Pl, Costa Mesa
9493227923

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Bob Sliff <bsli40@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 8:50 AM
To: FVPMP;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Cc: info@1hss.org
Subject: Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Message: I am a long time active user of the Fairview park area mainly as a flyer of RC model glider Aircraft.

Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank you,

Robert A. Sliff, LTC USAF (retired)
Currently, employed as an instructor of Philosophy at Cerritos College and at Coastline College
Former resident of Costa Mesa, but now rent a workshop at 872 18th St, Costa Mesa 92627, while I live at a resident in Huntington Beach on 16751 Arbor Circle, 92547
949-554-9835

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Angus Boundy <angus.boundy@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 3:34 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

Please record the following comment for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting:

I do not support the current Draft Master Plan. It must be substantially revised to preserve long-standing community uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly retain the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad. It should also direct staff to collaborate promptly and jointly with the relevant resource agencies and HSS on a mitigation approach that allows these activities to continue safely and in compliance.

I also oppose any new fencing that would diminish public access. Revisions should honor the voter intent of Measure AA and protect the park's open, shared character. An exclusionary update—designed primarily to secure future grant funding or to satisfy a single special-interest group—should be avoided.

Fairview Park should remain a shared space that safeguards wildlife while welcoming people, families, and community events.

Angus Boundy

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Art Sheckman <art@elephantventures.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 4:10 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS, together, and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

Our family makes regular use of the park, and the proposed restrictions will negatively impact our ability to enjoy the shared community space and engage in activities that are open to the public and create unique experiences (namely the model glider field and support for the club)

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Additional fencing will undercut the communities ability to enjoy the park. I can share that our many walks, runs, bike rides and dog rambles would be negatively impacted.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Art Sheckman
Costa Mesa, 92627

This email is confidential and may be privileged. If you have received it in error, please notify us immediately and then delete it. Please do not copy it, disclose its contents, or use it for any purpose.

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Benjamin Tigner <benjamin.tigner@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2025 4:47 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK;FVPMP;DALTON, KELLY M.;GRUNER, BRIAN
Subject: Please Vote NO on Agenda Item 3, Sept 16, 2025 Council Meeting

Dear Mister Mayor, Members of the City Council, and Costa Mesa City Staff:

I write today in support of the Harbor Soaring Society (HSS) and their efforts to retain access to the flying field at Fairview Park.

I am urging the city not to accept City Staff's recommendations regarding Agenda Item 3 during the Sept 16, 2025, Council meeting (recommendation to enter into a professional services agreement with Endemic 25-425 Environmental Service, Inc). Acting on this recommendation is not in the City's best interest.

HSS's use of the Fairview Park flying field is part of the broad benefit that the park's current multi-purpose use brings to Costa Mesa. As it currently operates, Fairview Park is an asset to the entire community, balancing public recreation with nature conservation in a thoughtful, rational way.

HSS's use of the flying field, in particular, supports Costa Mesa youth access to STEM-related mentoring while creating little to no negative impact on the Park's natural environment. HSS's extremely light footprint is a credit to its disciplined membership and their responsible stewardship of the land around the field. Unlike many other park users, they release no toxic chemicals, use no carbon-based fuels, make very little noise, operate only when/where they are approved by the city, meanwhile providing educational opportunities to the city's entire youth population. Costa Mesa should be encouraging more organizations like HSS to enrich the community by providing access to low-environmental-impact STEM-based activities. Access to model aircraft, and appropriate areas to operate them, was an important part of my development as an engineer; please do not deprive Costa Mesa youth of this opportunity.

I urge you to follow HSS's recommendations, summarized below:

1. **Do not fence off more sections of Fairview Park. Especially ones with small trails that large amounts of the community use and enjoy.**
2. **Select a different area for restoration. There are many options in Fairview Park.**
3. **Move this item to after the Fairview Park Master Plan Revision topic is completed so that Council can give direction on the entire park before signing a \$1.44M, 7-year commitment.**
4. **Stop accepting mitigation grant or off-set grant funds so that the City of Costa Mesa maintains control of Fairview Park.**
5. **Do NOT restore the optional acreage but only restore the OCTA contracted minimum amount of acreage in an area that is not the mesa.**

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this issue!

Best regards,

-Ben Tigner
Business Operator, Engineer, Entrepreneur
(949) 813-9405

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Andreas Arpiarian <aarpiarian@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 3:03 PM
To: FVPMP;PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, and City Staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. I respectfully urge major revisions to ensure the community can continue its long-standing and valued uses at Fairview Park.

The Plan should **explicitly preserve** the following:

- The **model glider field**
- **Concerts in the Park**
- **Bicycle and dog-walking trail access**
- The **Goat Hill Junction Railroad**

Additionally, I urge the City to **work promptly with CDFW** on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and in compliance with environmental standards.

I also **oppose any new fencing** that would reduce public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of **Measure AA** and protect the open, shared character that defines Fairview Park.

Please include this comment in the **public record** for the **Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update** and the **October 30, 2025 PACS meeting**.

Thank you for your consideration

Andreas Arpiarian
Costa Mesa Resident

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: ada706@cs.com
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2025 9:50 AM
To: FVPMP;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Park - No Nature Preserve

To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to my attention, as a member of the Costa Mesa community for over 25 years, that there is a committee that is trying to change Fairview Park and take out walking trails and the mounds of dirt.

I would like you to reconsider these changes. We have all fought long and hard to keep the park the beautiful open space it current is. There is no reason for all these changes. The kids love riding on those mounds of dirt. It keeps them busy, safe and out of trouble. My grandson grew up riding his bike on those hills. I would like you to reconsider these changes to the generations coming up can enjoy the same wonderful childhood that others have had the opportunity to enjoy at OUR beautiful Fairview Park. My grandson loves to bring his cousins here to ride bikes with him. I personally walk the trails and go on different ones all the time.

We don't want a Nature Preserve, we want a park we can take our kids to, to hike at and enjoy our time. Please do not approve any changes to the dirt mounds or walking trails.

Feel free to contact me if you'd like to.

Thank you,
Ada Thornton
(949)903-0466

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: Adam Van Berckelaer <vonbeek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:38 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: CITY COUNCIL;CITY CLERK
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

City staff and City Council,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. Specifically, the Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field, Concerts in the Park, bicycle/dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with CDFW promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any fencing off of any area of the park. Any revisions should honor the community intent reflected in Measure AA's declarations and protect existing community uses that have occurred for decades. Fairview park is one of my favorite parts of Costa Mesa. My kids have grown up flying planes with the HSS and I run or walk through the park several times a week.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank you,

Adam Van Berckelaer
Cost Mesa Resident
West Side, Freedom Homes tract.

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GREEN, BRENDA

From: airseamach@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:03 PM
To: FVPMP
Cc: PACS Comments;CITY CLERK;CITY COUNCIL
Subject: Fairview Park Planned Changes

City of Costa Mesa and Parks and Recreation

Sometimes what you have in a park by design or by spontaneous transformation, is good the way it is. You must ask what you intend to gain. Will the park after planned changes serve a larger community or is this just spending money to make changes.

I attend this park a half dozen or more times a year to meet with Orange County students involved in Science Olympiad. One of the teams from Irvine, Sierra Vista MS, won the National Championship for Science Olympiad 2025. Other school students have benefited from attending the Harbor Area Soaring Club, located in the Fairview Park.

While attending the park I have noticed a happy crowd of park patrons. Many walking the dirt trails and enjoying the company of others. I must ask, what more could the city ask for? Your parking lot is often full. Many patrons walk in from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Unless your plan is to destroy the symbiotic relationship of the park as it stands. It makes little logical sense, to change what is already one of the most successful parks I have attended.

Ronnie Espolt
"Youth and Education, Model Aviation Group"
(310)344-3140

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

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From: MUNOZ, SANDY
To: GREEN, BRENDA; TERAN, STACY; GONZALEZ, GLADYS
Subject: FW: I DO NOT support the master plan
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:24:18 PM

From: Dean Peiten <deanp9970@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:28 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL <CITYCOUNCIL@costamesaca.gov>
Subject: I DO NOT support the master plan

Dear Costa Mesa City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Fairview Park Master Plan and any actions that would lead to the closure or restriction of public access to this treasured open space. Fairview Park is one of the last remaining natural areas in our region—a place where generations have come together to appreciate the outdoors, wildlife, and community activities that reflect Costa Mesa's character and values.

One of the park's most unique and enduring features is the Harbor Soaring Society (HSS), a volunteer-run RC glider club that has called Fairview Park home for over 60 years. The club embodies education, innovation, and community engagement, introducing people of all ages to the principles of flight, engineering, and environmental stewardship. Members maintain the field at no cost to the city, host youth outreach events, and contribute to the park's safety and vitality.

Eliminating or displacing the Harbor Soaring Society would not serve the public interest—it would destroy a long-standing educational and recreational asset that aligns perfectly with the city's commitment to open space, STEM education, and civic pride. Fairview Park should remain a

place for learning, recreation, and connection—not another victim of overdevelopment.

I urge you to reject the Fairview Park Master Plan as currently proposed and to preserve the Harbor Soaring Society's access to the field at Fairview Park. This club and this park are part of Costa Mesa's living history. Once lost, they cannot be replaced.

Please stand with your community. Protect Fairview Park. Keep the Harbor Soaring Society flying.

Respectfully,

Dean Peiten

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From: [Patrick Flynn](#)
To: [PACS Comments](#); [FVPMP](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Subject: Protect Fairview Park as a Shared Community Space
Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 2:44:54 PM

Dear City Council Members and Fairview Park Staff,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the direction of the Fairview Park Master Plan Update Draft. Fairview Park has long been a shared space — a place where families, nature enthusiasts, and community members come together to enjoy Costa Mesa's most unique open space. The current draft, however, shifts heavily toward an exclusionary, fenced "nature preserve" model that would drastically restrict public access and eliminate many beloved activities.

The proposed plan repeatedly emphasizes fencing (mentioned 22 times in the document) and outlines restrictions that would limit access to only the perimeter of the mesa. This would effectively close the small trails many residents use for peaceful walks, fence off the mounds where countless kids learned to ride their bikes, and permanently eliminate the flying field area. These are not "unauthorized" uses — they are long-standing traditions that define the park's community spirit.

Equally troubling is the ongoing discussion to impose noise thresholds that would jeopardize or end Concerts in the Park at Fairview Park. This event is one of Costa Mesa's signature community gatherings and should be celebrated, not silenced.

Any update to the Fairview Park Master Plan must honor the intent of Measure AA, which protects the park's open, shared character. The park should continue to balance conservation with responsible public access — not become an exclusionary space catering to a single interest group or future grant requirements.

I urge the City, the Parks, Arts & Community Services Commission, and the Fairview Park Steering Committee to revise the Master Plan to reflect the community's longstanding vision: a park for people and wildlife alike.

Please ensure that the final plan preserves:

- Access to small trails and open recreation areas
- Space for family activities and community events
- The continuation of Concerts in the Park
- Balanced stewardship that respects both nature and public enjoyment
- Keeping the flying field in the current location, where it has been since 1964

Thank you for your attention and for considering the voices of those who love and care for Fairview Park.

Sincerely,
Patrick Flynn

From: [Bob Sliff](#)
To: [FVPMP](#); [CITY CLERK](#); [CITY COUNCIL](#)
Cc: info@lhss.org
Subject: Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan
Date: Friday, October 31, 2025 8:49:58 AM

Message: I am a long time active user of the Fairview park area mainly as a flyer of RC model glider Aircraft.

Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff,

I do not support the current Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The Plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, Concerts in the Park, bicycle and dog-walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad—and direct staff to work with resource agencies promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

I also do not support any new fencing that reduces public access. Any revisions should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary Master Plan Update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group, should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan Update.

Thank you,

Robert A. Sliff, LTC USAF (retired)

Currently, employed as an instructor of Philosophy at Cerritos College and at Coastline College

Former resident of Costa Mesa, but now rent a workshop at 872 18th St, Costa Mesa 92627, while I live at a resident in Huntington Beach on 16751 Arbor Circle, 92547 949-554-9835

From: MUNOZ, SANDY
To: GREEN, BRENDA; TERAN, STACY; GONZALEZ, GLADYS
Subject: FW: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan
Date: Friday, October 31, 2025 8:55:56 AM

From: Phil G <philgarcia2@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 8:23 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL <CITYCOUNCIL@costamesaca.gov>
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Phil Garcia

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From: MUNOZ, SANDY
To: GREEN, BRENDA; TERAN, STACY; GONZALEZ, GLADYS
Subject: FW: I do not support the Draft Fairview park master plan!
Date: Monday, November 3, 2025 7:57:39 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: rebejoel14@gmail.com <rebejoel14@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 2, 2025 12:00 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL <CITYCOUNCIL@costamesaca.gov>; cityclerk@costamesaca.gov
Subject: I do not support the Draft Fairview park master plan!

I do not support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan. Please make major changes so the community can continue long standing uses at Fairview park. The plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, concerts in the park, bicycle and dog walking trail access and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad. I do not support any new fencing that reduces public access.

Please include this comment in the public record for the Draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan update and any future PACS meetings.

Rebecca Solorzano

92627

(714) 576-0259

Sent from my iPhone

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From: MUNOZ, SANDY
To: GREEN, BRENDA; TERAN, STACY; GONZALEZ, GLADYS
Subject: FW: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:35:14 PM

From: Henry Stockdale <henrykevinstockdale@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:18 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL <CITYCOUNCIL@costamesaca.gov>
Subject: I do NOT support the Draft Fairview Park Master Plan

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, PACS Commissioners, Staff, and City Staff,

As someone who visits Fairview Park often, I do not support the current draft of the Fairview Park Master Plan. I ask if you are to make major changes to allow the community to maintain long-standing uses at Fairview Park. The plan should explicitly preserve the model glider field in its current location, concerts at the park, bicycle and dog walking trail access, and the Goat Hill Junction Railroad, and direct staff to work with resource agencies and HSS together and promptly on a mitigation approach that allows these uses to continue safely and compliantly.

As someone who loves to go to HSS and ride my bike, I also do not support any fencing that reduces public access. Any revision should honor the community intent of Measure AA and protect the existing open, shared character of the park. An exclusionary master plan update for the purpose of securing future grant funding or satisfying one special interest group should be avoided.

Fairview Park should stay a shared space that protects wildlife and keeps room for people, families, and community activities.

Please include this comment in the public record for the draft 2025 Fairview Park Master Plan update and the October 30, 2025 PACS meeting.

Thank you,

Henry Stockdale

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

949-779-0655

From: MUNOZ, SANDY
To: GREEN, BRENDA; TERAN, STACY; GONZALEZ, GLADYS
Subject: FW: Faurview Park Master Plan Revision
Date: Friday, September 19, 2025 1:29:20 PM

From: Janet Barker <jntlee2001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2025 10:29 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL <CITYCOUNCIL@costamesaca.gov>
Subject: Faurview Park Master Plan Revision

Hello,

My name is Janet Barker, and I wanted to comment on the Fairview Park changes. We take our dogs to the park every weekend. They love it there! However, I'm concerned about the planned changes. I don't understand why it needs to be changed to a bird sanctuary or an environmentally friendly park. There are paths in the park that have been blocked with signs stating to take a different route. Why? I haven't seen any reports that show damage that has been done, or animals/birds, or any creatures close to extinction in the park. The park needs upkeep, getting rid of weeds/dead grass, etc, but that's standard for any city park. Please take into consideration how many people, families, and animals use the park daily. I know others agree with me, but just haven't spoken up. We've been going there for over 40 years, and changing it to anything other than a park where kids can ride their bikes, families can walk their dogs, or have a picnic, would be devastating to so many people. Thanks for taking the time to read my concerns. If you could please keep me posted on the progress, or let me know where I can access the information, I would appreciate it. Fairview Park is a family place, please don't change it.

Janet Barker

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From: MUNOZ, SANDY
To: GREEN, BRENDA; TERAN, STACY; GONZALEZ, GLADYS
Subject: FW: Fairview Park Keep Access Open For Silent Gliders
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:26:08 PM

From: k evin <kev380@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:04 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL <CITYCOUNCIL@costamesaca.gov>
Subject: Fairview Park Keep Access Open For Silent Gliders

Dear Mayor, and Council,

As a Costa Mesa resident of more than 30 years
I would like for you , to keep Fairview Park open...
For silent gliders, Concerts in the park, and kids to be kids,
playing in our wonderful city park.

Thank you For taking the time to include my E-mail In the minutes.
Kevin Koch

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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From: [charmaine laurie](#)
To: [CITY CLERK](#)
Subject: Fairview Master Plan
Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 9:39:40 AM

Please do not make any changes to this park. The community loves it and uses it as it is. We do not want any fenced spaces or restrictions to the uses we now have.

Charmaine Laurie, Mesa Verde resident for 42 yrs
1658 Oahu Pl, Costa Mesa
949 322 7923

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