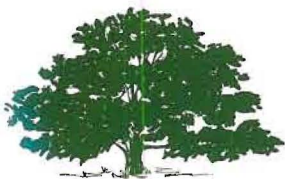




GREAT PARK UPDATE



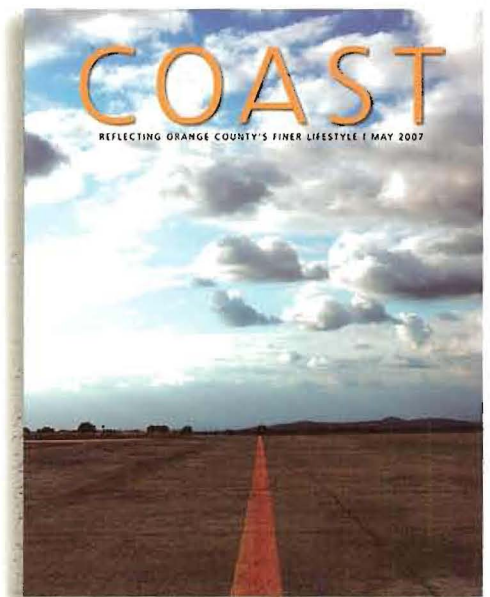
GREAT PARK CONSERVANCY

www.OrangeCountyGreatPark.org

Coast magazine Editor-in-Chief Justine Amodeo recently wrote “For a park to be great, great things need to support it.” That’s why the Great Park Conservancy was formed — to aspire to greatness in helping create one of the world’s most magnificent metropolitan parks. And so far, we’ve achieved our goals far beyond our best expectations. Let’s continue.

This “Great Park Update” is provided as a service of the Great Park Conservancy, a non-profit, public benefit corporation dedicated to supporting the park and its unfolding greatness. For more information about the Orange County Great Park, visit our website at OrangeCountyGreatPark.org.

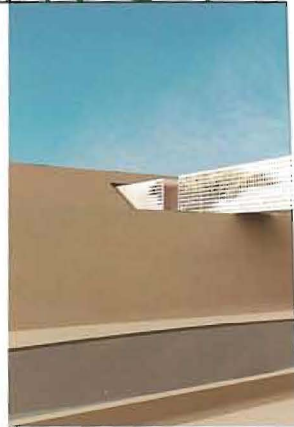
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GREAT PARK CONSERVANCY
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GREAT PARK CONSERVANCY



The Trabuco Entry to the park will feature two huge reflecting pools, fountains, flowering trees, expansive vistas, and a place to grab a quick bite. A monumental gateway structure will "frame" the landscape.

THE GREAT PARK BY THE NUMBERS

1,347

Acres of the Great Park. This is more than twice the size of New York's Central Park.

3

Number of years it will take to fully remove the 50,000 feet (3.3 million tons) of three-foot thick runways and taxiways of the former military base. The project started May 12, 2006 and much of the runway material will be reused onsite.

2009

The projected opening date of the Great Park's first phase, which begins construction in late 2008.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS

With the county's most highly anticipated public space moving from renderings to reality, it's time for a closer look at its inspiring design

BY TERENCE LOOSE

Lead designer Ken Smith has said he was not interested in the “wow” factor when designing the Orange County Great Park. What was most important to him and his team was to represent Orange County's rich past and speak to its bright future, all the while building a place that will serve the community for generations to come. “This has to be a great park,” he says. “Once we settle for a good park, we're lost.” It's a tall order he placed on himself, but as the opening of the park grows near, most think that Smith pulled it off – including the wow factor.

The Big Orange Balloon was one element of Ken Smith's design that distinguished it and intrigued judges. As envisioned, three hot air balloons will serve as attractions for visitors while providing a bird's eye view of the Great Park. The first balloon should be launching this summer.



Irvine is known for one thing above all else: it's a family-friendly town. The Great Park will incorporate Pocket Parks where mom and dad can kick it while the little ones enjoy a small part of the biggest park built this century.



GREAT PARK CONSERVANCY INDEX

- Number of Conservancy Directors: 12
- Number of Great Park Advisory Council Members: 113
- Annual Number of Conservancy's Website Hits: 1,000,000
- Annual Readership of Our Quarterly Publication: 400,000
- Weekly Readers of the Conservancy's Email Blast: 7,300
- Number of "Friends of the Great Park" Members: 15,000

To become a Friend of the Great Park, visit our website at OrangeCountyGreatPark.org or call our office at 949.653.1775.



No park is great without a sporting element, and the Great Park will have one to suit its size: 165 acres of not only the requisite soccer fields and baseball diamonds, but also a skateboard complex, rock climbing wall and field house. An adjoining Great Lawn will entice picnickers, sunbathers and Frisbee throwers, as well as play host to large public events. It will be lined with groves of citrus and acacia trees as a reminder of Orange County's rich agricultural history.



The 50-plus-year history of Marine Corps Air Station El Toro's service as a military base will be remembered at the Great Park Air Museum. Here, vintage aircraft will be displayed on remnants of the former air base's runways and a timeline of historic events will join a veterans memorial honoring those who served.

3,380

Number of people countywide who participated in an online poll regarding features that should be incorporated into the Great Park.

10

The number of winners in the October, 14, 2006 Great Park Master Design Exhibition Opening drawing to be among the first to ride the Big Orange Balloon.

3

The length in miles of the wildlife corridor along the eastern border of the Great Park, which will provide a safe space for wildlife to migrate throughout the park. It is being called the "missing link" between the Cleveland National Forest to the north and Crystal Cove State Park to the south.

GREAT PARK UPDATE



In the Botanic Garden, visitors will be able to get up close and personal with Southern California native plants while learning about the relationship between people and plants, food and health, and society and setting in dynamic displays. A "garden bridge" will link the garden to the Cultural Terrace.



2012

The projected operating date of the Great Park's transit system. Options include a monorail or bus on an elevated platform (price tag: \$78 million) or trolleys running on the ground (price tag: \$29 million).

1,000

Approximate amount of acres that will be dedicated to permanent open space.

\$1.1

Price tag (in billions) for Great Park, \$400 million of which has already been secured. The rest will come in phases: \$200 million from bonds and sales of homes on the site; \$100 million in development agreement fees; \$200 million in tax increments from now to 2013, plus another \$160 million between 2013 and 2020.



GREAT INSPIRATIONS

Measuring in at two miles long and up to 60-feet deep, and featuring a perennial stream connecting a string of small pools and a lake, the Great Canyon is the park's most distinctive element. Heavily planted, the canyon will be dramatically cooler than the nearby urban areas and an oasis where visitors can stroll along paths and trails bordered by native palms, woodlands and Mediterranean ornamentals.

Traversing the Great Canyon will be a series of Canyon Bridges. The most dramatic of these will be the "Bridge of Two Towers," which will zigzag across one of the widest parts of the canyon.



The Cultural Terrace is a 100-foot-wide jacaranda tree-lined urban terrace that will link major cultural features such as a café, library or museum, and a 10,000-seat amphitheater with lake and canyon views.



GREAT PARK CONSERVANCY MISSION STATEMENT

The role of the Great Park Conservancy is to generate and maintain public and private support throughout Orange County and beyond for the development and operation of the Orange County Great Park. The Conservancy envisions the Great Park to be one of the world's great metropolitan parks.