

ULLERTON • LA HABRA • LA PALMA • ORANGE • PLACENTIA • SANTA ANA • STANTON • VILLA PARK • YORBA LINDA

Brea to hire sports park builder

The City Council is expected to pick a contractor for the 26-acre project June 19, with construction to begin in summer.

By **JAIMEE LYNN FLETCHER**
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

BREA • The City Council is expected to hire a construction company this month to build the much-anticipated Brea Sports Park - a project five years in the making.

Twelve contractors have

submitted bids to build the 26-acre park at Birch Street and Valencia Avenue.

City officials estimate that park construction costs could reach \$17 million.

Plans include four fields for football, baseball, softball and soccer; a concessions stand, restrooms, a practice field, a

playground, an open area and more than 200 parking spaces.

A walking trail will surround the park.

The City Council first began discussing the sports park more than 15 years ago.

City Manager Tim O'Donnell said Friday he expects a contractor to be hired at the council's June 19 meeting.

In December 2002, the city paid \$15.3 million to the Chevron Corp. for 26 acres for the park.

Three years later, the city hired a design group for \$1.1 million to draw up the plans.

A groundbreaking ceremony is planned for July 24, with construction beginning in late July or early August.

The park is expected to open by spring 2009.

CONTACT THE WRITER:

714-704-3730 or

jfletcher@ocregister.com