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Search begins for a Great Park CEO Hired in January, Marty Bryant retires.

BY SONYA SMITH IRVINE WORLD NEWS

The pay is good, the office is environmentally friendly and the job is to create a park twice the size of Central Park in the heart of Orange County.

And so the search begins, again, for a Great Park chief executive officer.

Marty Bryant, after 20 years of working for the city, became the park's second lead officer in late January.

He handed in his papers to City Manager Sean Joyce a week ago.

Marsha Burgess, a spokeswoman for the Great Park Corp., said Bryant is stepping down due to health issues.

Bryant did not return calls for comment.

But he did say his decision to retire is "bittersweet" in a prepared statement through the city.

"The time is ripe for me to welcome the next chapter of my life with the same energy and enthusiasm that served me in my professional life. I wish Sean (Joyce) and my fellow employees continued success in their service to this great city," Bryant said.

Bryant's retirement will take effect June 15. He began working for the city in 1985. He headed efforts to find \$50 million for a project to build Jeffrey Road under the railroad tracks to improve safety, and he led the way on a deal to extend the Dorman Landfill – netting the city more than \$100 million through 2040.

Joyce said he has organized an "immediate search for an interim CEO." He said that a recruitment process for a permanent park leader will "unfold over the coming weeks."

Bryant came from directing public works to replace Wally Kreutzen. He was the park's first CEO and switched over to become assistant city manager of capital projects.

Kreutzen worked to build the Great Park Corp. – structuring the organization, hiring staff, leading an international design competition, communicating with the surrounding land developer (the Lennar Corp.), and managing the day-to-day planning of the park.

As assistant city manager Kreutzen oversees city capital projects, including a transit system for the Great Park and Irvine Spectrum area, updating the Irvine Transportation Center and building a possible police sub-station in the Great Park.

GREAT PARK CEO

Salary: \$ 1 40,356-\$ 1 96,209 **Hours:** City employees, including Great Park Corp. employees, work 1 0 hours a day – allowing them to take off every other Friday. **Direction:** The CEO oversees the execution of tasks ordered by the Great Park Board of Directors. The board is comprised of all five council members and four directors chosen by the board. **The job:** First CEO Wally Kreutzen helped to build the Great Park Corp. and oversaw a competition to pick a designer. The next CEO will oversee finalizing of the park plan, finding money to build the park and the actual building of the park – starting with the orange, passenger-carrying balloon.

Source: Great Park Corp.



FILE PHOTO: ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

MATERIAL RECYCLED from the runways at the old El Toro base will be used in construction of roadways and sidewalks for Great Park development. Lennar Corp. will present its plans for roads as well as electrical, sewer and water lines for approval at tonight's Planning Commission meeting.