



# Rancho Simi

RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT RECEIVES \$1 MILLION FIRE RESILIENCY GRANT FOR MEDEA CREEK IN OAK PARK**

At the October 17, 2023 meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), the Board of Directors adopted a resolution authorizing a Wildfire Protection and Resiliency Grant in the amount of \$1 million to the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (RSRPD) to remove fire-prone vegetation in the Medea Creek area of Oak Park. The funding comes from a \$15 million allocation to SMMC through Governor Newsom's 2023 State Budget Bill signed in July of this year.

RSRPD requested grant funding from SMMC to supplement their existing Wildfire Prevention and Resiliency efforts to clear and remove fire-prone vegetation in Medea Creek which rests within close proximity to residential areas that were heavily impacted by the Woolsey Fire in November of 2018.

RSRPD plans to hire an environmental consultant to analyze the existing vegetation for potential special status species and identify locations of important plants and animals. Once environmental permits are obtained, RSRPD will hire a qualified landscape contractor to remove the fire-prone vegetation within 25 acres of central Medea Creek. This is the third Wildfire Protection and Resiliency Grant RSRPD has received from SMMC in as many years to conduct fire resiliency projects in Medea Creek.

RSRPD Board Member and SMMC Advisory Committee Member Brian Dennert states, "Thank you to our partners at the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for supporting this grant. Improving fire resiliency is a top priority in Oak Park and I am thankful our park district is able to do more for this critical need."

The Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District serves the 13,989 residents of Oak Park, including nine parks and approximately 1500 acres of open space. For additional information on this project or other Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District efforts to mitigate fire risk, visit [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org).

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