

**RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT**  
**MEETING**  
**OAK PARK – PARK AND RECREATION PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA**

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.

OAK PARK COMMUNITY CENTER & GARDENS  
1000 N. KANAN ROAD, OAK PARK, CA 91377

**Meeting To Be Held Via Zoom**

Chair Derek Ross [OPUSD Appointee], Vice-Chair Dan Cooper  
Members; Dani Brusius, Harry Medved, Ning Rosenthal, Sherri Wentworth  
JL Diaz [MAC Appointee]

The “Oak Park Committee” meets regularly in Oak Park on park and recreation matters specific to the community of Oak Park. The Committee is advisory to the elected members of the Board of Directors for the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. Additional information may be found on the District’s website at [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org) or by contacting the District at (805) 584-4400.

In compliance with revised Public Meeting laws enacted by the State of California, as well as Ventura County Public Health Orders’ social distancing requirements which restricts gatherings to slow the spread of the novel Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held via Zoom by Board Members, District Staff, and the Public. There will be no in-person attendance.

Members of the public who wish to listen, speak or provide comments are encouraged to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom by clicking the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84196412625?pwd=Y1E5eHc3eTluZVFhTno0ajlSNG1udz09>

Meeting ID: 841 9641 2625. Passcode: 345384. You may also access the meeting telephonically by calling 1-669-900-6833. Meeting ID: 841 9641 2625. Passcode: 345384.

At the appropriate time, in accordance with the agenda, the Chair of the Committee will request that individuals who wish to speak identify themselves and make their comments.

Members of the public may also participate by providing written comments to the Committee by sending an email to [sandee@rsrpd.us](mailto:sandee@rsrpd.us) by Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 5:00pm. The Committee Chair will read the comments during the meeting at the appropriate time for up to three (3) minutes for each comment.

If you have any questions regarding this public meeting, please call Sandee Covone at 805-823-0971.

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee Special Meeting – March 24, 2022
- VI. PRESENTATIONS
  - a. Presentation by the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains
  - b. Presentation by the Oak Park Fire Safe Council
- VII. CONTINUED BUSINESS
  - a. Recommendation Regarding Possible Drone Usage Locations on District Property in the Oak Park Area of the District
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Recommendation Regarding Possible Sand Volleyball Court Construction in Oak Park
  - b. Discussion Regarding Assessment Revenue Possibilities in the Oak Park Area of the District – Verbal Report
  - c. Oak Park Recreation Programs Report
  - d. Report on Oak Park Planning and Development Issues in Oak Park, Including Recommendation Regarding Possible Telecommunication Installation at the Conifer Water Tower Located at 330 Conifer Circle, Oak Park, CA.
  - e. Grounds Maintenance Report
  - f. Items Requested by Committee Members to be Added to the Agenda
    - 1. Timeline on Revising RSRPD Trail Guide to include Area Maps, Trailhead Directions and clear division between Simi Valley and Oak Park Trails (Medved)
    - 2. Update on Designated (Voting or Non-Voting) RSRPD Board Seat for an Oak Park Committee Member (Medved)
    - 3. Start date of the invasive plant/tree removal at Oak Canyon Community Park (Wentworth)

- g. Park Inspection List – Committee Assignments
- h. Selection of 2022 Committee Chair and Vice Chair

- IX. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE
- X. COMMITTEE MEMBERS: BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEF REPORTS REGARDING THEIR ACTIVITIES
- XI. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT
- XII. ADJOURNMENT



Dan Paranick, District Manager

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The agenda and staff reports are posted on the District’s web page at [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org). Individuals with a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact Kelly Negrete via email at [KellyN@rsrpd.us](mailto:KellyN@rsrpd.us) or phone (818) 865-9304. Upon advance notification of the need for accommodation reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

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**RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
OAK PARK / PARK AND RECREATION PLANNING COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MINUTES**

THURSDAY, March 24, 2022, 7:00PM

OAK PARK COMMUNITY CENTER & GARDENS  
1000 N. KANAN ROAD, OAK PARK, CA 91377

Chair Derek Ross [OPUSD Appointee], Vice Chair Dan Cooper  
Members; Dani Brusius, Harry Medved, Ning Rosenthal, Sherri Wentworth  
JL Diaz [MAC Appointee]

Meeting held via Zoom

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Vice Chair Cooper called the meeting to Order at 7:07pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dan Cooper.

II. ROLL CALL - Members Brusius, Wentworth, Medved, Rosenthal, and Vice Chair Cooper were present. District Board Members Dennert and Freeman were present. District Staff in attendance included: Nikki Davy, Kelly Negrete, Zach Miller, Wayne Nakaoka, Dan Paranick.

Guests attended tonight’s meeting via Zoom. Those who made public comments are listed under the appropriate Item below.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Tonight’s Agenda was approved on a motion by Chair Wentworth and seconded by Member Brusius. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) - NONE

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee Meeting – January 13, 2022 – Motion: Member Wentworth moved to approve the Minutes as written. Member Rosenthal seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

a. Recognition of Outgoing Committee Member John Watts – Director of Recreation Zach Miller thanked John Watts for his four years of service since 2018 and for assisting the committee through the Woolsey Fire, Lagoon Restoration and the Medea Creek Clean Up. Board Member Freeman thanked John as well and stated he will be missed. Member Medved thanked John and stated he will be missed, and he appreciates that John could see both sides of every issue and kept his cool. Member Wentworth valued the time spent as Vice Chair while John was Chair and thanked John for his attendance at events and support of the members. Member Cooper thanked John for his leadership and sharing his time and knowledge, especially during the Woolsey Fire. Board Member Dennert thanked John for his knowledge and collaboration. John Watts thanked Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District and stated it was an honor to be on the committee and to serve the community.

- b. Introduction of Incoming Committee Member Ning Rosenthal – Verbal - Director of Recreation Zach Miller welcomed Ning Rosenthal to the Committee. Member Ning Rosenthal thanked everyone and stated she has lived in Oak Park for 6 ½ years and has two children who attend Brookside. Member Rosenthal also stated she has a PhD and is passionate about the environmental issues and it is an honor to be part of this group.

## VII. CONTINUED BUSINESS – NONE

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Recommendation Regarding Drone Usage on District Property in the Oak Park Area of the District. District Manager Dan Paranick presented the report submitted to the Board regarding drones and stated no developed parks have been identified yet as drone approved, only in open space.

Vice Chair Dan Cooper opened the item for questions.

Member Medved stated that letters submitted to Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District become public comment in the packet, and anything received after 5pm will be read in.

Member Wentworth inquired about Rule 62., last sentence in reference to the ‘originally designed purpose by other park patrons. Paranick responded with a scenario at Deerhill, if soccer is playing on the fields, which is a designated purpose, no drones will be allowed. Therefore, drones are not permitted when a designated activity is happening in the park.

Wentworth also inquired as how this came to the Committee and Paranick responded the Board of Directors requested the Committee review the item and provide a recommendation. Wentworth inquired about size of drones, Paranick responded that it would apply to the definition of recreational drones specified in Federal Aviation Authority regulation.

Vice Chair Dan Cooper closed questions and opened up comments from the general public.

Cyndi Vorkink runs the 805 goats which clears dead brush on hillsides and stated drones are a potential fire hazard and is against them.

Liz Folb submitted her comments in writing.

Chad S is a past Chair of the Oak Park Committee. Requests to restrict the use of drones in open space in Oak Park, including take off and delivery. There is a risk of fire from overheated batteries upon takeoff and landing. Reactional use of drones while enjoyable to some, does not offset the disruption to many, in addition to the privacy issues. The number of responses included in tonight’s packet represent the opposition to drone use. Concerns for Oak Canyon Community Park and the area burnt during the Woolsey Fire. Was not aware of the weight restriction in Rule 62 or 63, however the FAA has an exceedance of no more than 55 pounds, so they do come in all sizes. Regarding Rule 33, which allows drone filming for commercial or educational purpose, absence of a Park Ranger on site is self-enforcement and is concerning. Who will distinguish between commercial, education and hobbyist use and who has a license? Request the Oak Park Committee restrict the use of drones in District open space and parks including take off

and landing.

David Ibarra attended the past meeting and is a subject matter expert for the FAA on drones. Lives in Oak Park. Community based rules and guidelines that are worked out with the FAA are important in designated areas. FAA frowns on dual use activities in order to keep everyone safe and this is hard to enforce. There is a community of people that need to practice their drone skills however, guidelines are crucial. Member Medved asked why people would not be in open space, Ibarra responded in would need to be specified in the rules, so they didn't fly there.

Diane Gideon attended meeting in Simi last month and is from the Montgomery Ranch Equestrian community. In reference to Rule 62, Coyote Hills Park is an equestrian center and monitoring drones would be hard to accomplish. With regards to open space, has concerns for equestrians and liability.

John Watts stated he has concerns and would be against.

JL Diaz joined the meeting at 7:45pm.

Carolyn Cass Barton is opposed to drones in any parks and open space. Difficult to policy and privacy issues. Concerned about fire hazards and impacts to wildlife and horses.

Michael Honeyman provided an email which stated he was opposed to drones in open space due to the increased risk of fire damage, after the Woolsey fire the mitigation measures which are now in place would seem to be contrary to the use of drones. There are serious privacy concerns with drones as they can live stream and the existing Rule 62 and Rule 33 do not address this. Drone use also interferes with the 'get back to nature/escape technology' that open space is used for. Suggests allowing limited operation in one or two parks for a limited time span to gauge any issues or concerns the community may have.

No other public comments recorded. Matter will now go back to the Board for deliberation and discussion for the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Public can send emails to Sandee Covone.

Paranick stated the threshold question should consider whether the committee would allow or not allow recreational drone usage on District property in the Oak Park Community area of the District. Ban altogether or allow in certain areas?

Board Member Freeman commented that both sides on the issue are represented here today and that it was not a unanimous decision. Board Member Dennert stated they are open to amendments.

Member Wentworth inquired if there are any more detail on recreational drones causing fires? David Ibarra replied no report of wildfires yet. Also stated once a drone takes off, FAA owns air space and Community Guidelines can state how high and to keep in line of sight.

Vice Chair Cooper reviewed the supplemental information and noted 23 letters from Oak Park/Simi residents opposed to drone use, and one letter for from a Westlake Village resident. Did research in a 10-mile radius of Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for drone usage on various agency owned lands, including parks, and drones are banned.

Conejo District and Canejo Open Space bans drones. Pleasant Valley bans drones. MRCA bans drones. LA County Parks and Recreation bans drones, except in portions of two parks which also allows radio-controlled planes. LA City Parks and Recreation bans drones in some areas, specifically Griffith Park and Sepulveda Basin Wildlife area. State Parks recently issued an order to ban drones in the entire Angeles District of California State Parks. Also bans motorized equipment including drones in all wildness, cultural and natural reserves. Wording in the Ordinance points out the numerous negative impacts by drones which are inconsistent with the park experience. Negative impacts on wildlife, they are noisy and intrusive, and interfere with emergency operations. Calabasas City is highly regulated, and Malibu allows only for filming. Agoura Hills bans in all City parks. Outside of our region, Golden Gate Natural Recreation Area bans drones and will issue citations. USCB is the only university that allows drones, and all users must submit written requests and flight plans. Radio Controlled Planes can be flown in Thousand Oaks South, at the top of Wendy there is a private club. Paramount Ranch allows as does the new park at the top of Westlake Blvd. In research, found two fires that were started by drones, one in Oregon and the other in Flagstaff, Arizona. In disturbance with wildlife, found 80% interference in aerial wildlife, low for aquatic. Supports the total ban of drones in all open space within Rancho Simi Parks and Recreation District. Recommends the Ordinance be rescinded immediately.

Member Medved stated staff communicated to the Board however the concerns were not incorporated. Main goal is to show Oak Park has unique geography and homes back up onto open space and two sides of the city back into National Parks, China Flats and Cheeseboro. Has beautiful scenery and wouldn't want the intrusion of drones in those areas. Drone users cannot differentiate between Simi Valley area and Oak Park open spaces. A drone user was in Chaparral Park this week and this park has not been designated as drone friendly. Hard to differentiate between open space and parks in Oak Park. Do not have enough Rangers to patrol. Issues needs to be taking to the community first, noted in the Acorn before Ordinances pass. Recommends the Ordinance be rescinded immediately.

Member Rosenthal agrees with Member Cooper and Medved, especially with the issues with Oak Park not being fully communicated to residents. Even though the risk of a fire from drones is small, it is not an acceptable risk within Oak Park, especially after the Woolsey Fire. Is concerned about impact to wildlife and can break the ecological cycle. No matter how many rules are in place, they still have to be enforced and we do not have resources. Is concerned about safety and the number of break-ins that are already happening and drones being used for that. Is opposed to drones in open space and in parks in Oak Park.

Member Brusius is against drones in open space. Residents do not have control over a drone being launched in front of a home or being flown over their property. Is concerned that if drones are banned altogether kids will fly around homes instead. Drones can use the airspace above the park so can fly there if launched elsewhere. Would provide something for middle aged kids to do in an under-utilized park, and in specific times. Drones are not going away.

Member Wentworth feels drones in Open Space are not a good idea. Agrees with Member Brusius to stipulate a place where drones can be flown safely. Walks Oak Canyon Community Park and sees drones every day. Does not know how we could patrol.

Recommends no drones in Open Space.

MAC Appointee Diaz agrees that Open Space is off limits. Has not seen studies that say recreational drones are detrimental in developed parks so supports. Recommends no drones in Open Space.

Motion: Vice Chair Cooper made the motion to recommend no drones be allowed in all Open Space on District lands and the Board rescinds the recently passed Ordinance allowing drones in Open Space. Member Wentworth seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes	Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Rosenthal, Member Wentworth, MAC JL Diaz.
Noes:	None
Abstains:	None
Absent:	Chair Ross

JL Diaz asked for clarification on a developed park, Paranick responded parks that include grass, picnic tables, other recreation uses. Member Medved asked what classification Medea Natural park is; Nakaoka responded Open Space.

Vice Chair Cooper reiterated Committee involvement in designating the parks, rather than reviewing specified parks from the Board.

Member Rosenthal can survey the general public in Oak Park and submit results to the District at a meeting.

Motion: Vice Chair Cooper made the motion for Park District to undertake a thorough investigation of sites for drones in the District, taking into account Committee members and public comments, including, but not limited to, fire, enforcement, equestrian, privacy and wildfire and the Committee participate in the site selection prior to the suggestion of suitable sites. MAC Appointee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes	Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Rosenthal, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz.
Noes:	None
Abstains:	None
Absent:	Chair Ross

- b. Youth Appointee – Status Update – Verbal Report. Director of Recreation Zach Miller stated an application was created for a Youth Appointee and sent to the high school and shared on social media. One application was received in three months; however, the student cannot be reached. As we are near the end of the school year, is seeking recommendation from the Committee.

Member Medved thanked Miller and recommended waiting until the new year in the Fall and asked the application to be included in the Talen school newsletter.

- c. Oak Park Recreation Programs Report – The Staff Report was provided by Kelly Negrete,

Oak Park Recreation Supervisor II. Digital links for summer registration will be begin April 29<sup>th</sup> and reporters mailed out May 6. Facility rentals are doing well with two more rentals happening per weekend. More staff has been added to facilitate. Rattlesnake Avoidance training is open for Registration on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Music in the Park will be on July 9<sup>th</sup> and feature Bruno & The Hooligans.

Member Diaz inquired about having a Junk in the Trunk at Oak Park, Negrete replied it has been discussed and we would need a larger parking lot for the event; Miller suggested contacting the high school.

- d. Report on Oak Park Planning and Development Report – The Staff Report was provided by Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance. Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon and Picnic Pavilion Project will accept Project bids until March 29, 2022 and will be tentatively awarded on Board of Directors meeting on April 20, 2022. Paranick stated any Committee Members can comment. For the Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency Grant, Nakaoka stated a standard permit was submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife who informed staff that a permit would not be issued during the bird nesting season, therefore the starting date of this project has been postponed until September 2022. Vice Chair Cooper inquired if the contract can be completed then, Nakaoka replied the contractor has agreed to keep the contract open. For the Tree Mitigation Fund Application by the ‘Friends of Oak Park’ for the line of trees along the northern boundary will move forward once approval has been granted.
- e. Grounds Maintenance Report – Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance stated Report was a read and file.
- f. Discussion and selection of Committee Members for Park Inspection Sites – Verbal Report. Zach Miller, Director Recreation stated that if the Committee Members would like to adopt a park, we can formalize. Vice Chair Cooper said for tonight, it can be ad hoc and prepare recommendations for next meeting.
- g. Items Requested by Committee Members to be Added to the Agenda

- 1. Possible Clean Up of Medea Creek Trail between Kanan and Oak Hills (Brusius)

Member Brusius inquired about the removal of dead vegetation caused by fire and winds. The palm trees are invasive and a fire hazard.

Motion: Member Brusius made the motion to recommend removal of dead vegetation and invasive species of palm trees in the Medea Creek, between Kanan and Oak Hill and to recommend to the Board to include in budget for this fiscal year. MAC Appointee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes	Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz.
Noes:	None
Abstains:	None
Absent:	Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

2. Discussion Ensuring Oak Park Committee review of District Items Impacting the Oak Park Community and Upcoming District Board Election (Medved)

Member Medved is concerned about Board of Directors making decisions for Oak Park and would like to have representation on the Board. For the election coming up in November would like to see more information about running for the Board in the Oak Park calendar. There are 13,000 residents in Oak Park and 130,000 for Simi Valley so not sure about having a representative being elected to the Board. Rather than just an advisory Committee, have more say for residents of Oak Park.

Board Member Dennert noted that Member Brusius was on the Board meeting regarding drones. Member Brusius noted Committee meets four times a year, while the Board meets twice a month. Dennert further inquired if a designated person is assigned to attend every Board meeting can be elected tonight. Member Medved states he would like two motions, one for the designated person to attend each Board meeting and another motion to re-do the rules and have a designated seat on the Board for a Oak Park Committee Member.

Motion: Member Medved made the motion to encourage every Rancho Simi meeting to have an Oak Park Committee Member attending, either via Zoom or in person. Member Brusius seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth  
Noes: MAC Appointee Diaz  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

Motion: Vice Chair Cooper made the motion have the Board research the feasibility of a designated Oak Park represented on the Board. MAC Appointee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz  
Noes: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

In response to a question from Board Member Dennert, Member Medved stated there would continue to be an advisory Committee in Oak Park as well as a designated person from Oak Park on the Board.

h. Selection of 2022 Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Decision carried over to next meeting.

i. Approval of 2022/23 OP Committee Meeting Schedule

Motion: Member Wentworth made the motion to approve the 2022/23/OP Committee

Meeting Schedule. Vice Chair Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz.  
Noes: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

- j. Oak Park Committee Communication Protocol – Verbal Report. District Manager Dan Paranick stated responsibilities are changing from Sandee Covone to Nikki Davy for Administrative Support, Kelly Negrete for day-to-day issues and Zach Miller for Policy issues.

- k. Discussion and Decision Regarding Return to In-Person Committee Meetings

District Manager asked the Committee if the State Government extends the hybrid meeting option which option is preferable, in person or Zoom.

Member Wentworth, Medved, Vice Chair Cooper and MAC Appointee Diaz all stated Zoom.

IX. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – NONE

X. COMMITTEE MEMBERS: BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEF REPORTS REGARDING THEIR ACTIVITIES

Member Medved will share the ACT Plan from Ventura Public Works, thinks it may apply for crosswalks where street crosses Medea Creek.

MAC Appointee Diaz is on the Fire Safe Council. Is doing the wildfire risk assessment for all of Oak Park and is raising money and with two grants has \$15,000 to do assessment by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.

XI. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT – Comments were provided by Dan Paranick.

Paranick stated the Board Meeting in May is in Oak Park.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cooper adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m with Member Medved seconding.

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Dan Paranick, District Clerk

**RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 14, 2022  
**TO:** Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee  
**FROM:** District Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendation Regarding Possible Drone Usage Locations on District Property in the Oak Park Area of the District

**BACKGROUND**

At its regular meetings on October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021 and December 2, 2021, the Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and adopted an ordinance which allowed for the use of drones in all open space areas of the District, and in specific areas within designated developed parks. On February 16, 2022 and April 20, 2022, the Board received public input and provided direction to staff regarding the previously approved ordinance. Additionally, on March 24, 2022, the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Committee reviewed the item and recommended that the Board not allow drone usage in any open space areas of the District. The Committee also recommended that it be provided the opportunity to review and provide a recommendation to the Board as to whether or not drone usage should be allowed in any developed park areas in Oak Park at a future Committee meeting date, including a detailed investigation addressing specific possible impacts of the drone usage in designated park areas.

At the April 20, 2022 Board meeting, following additional public input and in consideration of the March 24, 2022 recommendation of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee, the Board directed that staff return to the Board with a modified ordinance further limiting the use of drones as was originally approved in the previously adopted ordinance. The Board also directed staff to develop a process where limited use of drones in specifically designated areas could be reviewed and considered by the Board.

On June 15, 2022, the Board of Directors introduced an ordinance which revised the previously adopted ordinance that generally prohibits drone usage in the open space areas of the District, including Oak Park as recommended by the Committee. The revised ordinance also includes a provision allowing for the development of a Board policy which is intended to identify specific designated locations and other rules regarding drone usage as directed by the Board. On June 15, 2022, the Board also directed staff to develop the policy for consideration at a future meeting.

**DISCUSSION**

As a part of the June 15, 2022 discussion, as recommended by the Committee, the Board also requested the Committee consider providing a recommendation to the Board as to whether or not

drone usage should be allowed in any developed park areas in Oak Park which could be included in the policy to be considered by the Board at a future meeting. Suggested locations for consideration in the Oak Park area include: Oak Canyon Community Park, the Oak Park Community Center – Archary Range Area, and/or other areas as desired by the Committee. In addition, the Committee may also want to recommend suggested day(s)/time of day uses for drones that can also be included in the policy if desired. Note that the previous action by the Committee on March 24, 2022 included a recommendation to provide a detailed investigation addressing specific possible impacts of drone usage in designated park areas. It is recommended that the Committee discuss and provide further direction regarding that portion of its March 24, 2022 recommendation.

An excerpt of the June 15, 2022 draft meeting minutes specific to the topic, previous staff reports, minutes and correspondence regarding drone usage discussions are provided as Attachment A to this report.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee provide an advisory recommendation regarding the designation of specific locations and day(s)/times of use, if any, to be included in the development of a policy regarding drone use to be considered by the Board of Directors.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

## ATTACHMENT A

Excerpt of June 15, 2022 Draft Board Meeting Minutes, Previous Reports, Minutes  
and Correspondence Regarding Drone Usage

# **Excerpt from the June 15, 2022 Draft-Unapproved Meeting Minutes of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting Regarding Agenda Item 8.a.**

## **8. CONTINUED BUSINESS**

- a. Introduction of Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 and Consideration of the Development of a Policy Regarding the Usage of Drones in the Simi Valley and Oak Park Areas of the District – The Staff Report was presented by Dan Paranick, District Manager. Due to input from the local community, as well as Oak Park, further discussion regarding the Ordinance and areas of Drone usage was requested by the Board.

Freeman asked if there is parking available at the Tapo Canyon location. Paranick replied some limited parking.

Dennert is looking forward to hearing from the Public tonight.

Several Board members asked about the process to obtain a permit. Paranick responded it would be a simple process, they would provide their information and the District would provide a permit.

Gray inquired about using Corriganville as there is so much filming. Miller replied, it may not be the best location but was added for the Board's consideration.

Chair O'Brien opened this Item to public comment at 7:18pm.

Dean Wageman Vice President of the HOA at Bridle Path would like the Ordinance to include language to address horses and avoid areas that are equestrian. They currently have an issue with Drone usage by their neighbors.

Oak Park resident Liz Folp stated permitting seems to be a good idea for use in designated areas. There are other concerns with drones such as fire danger, not just equestrians.

George is against Drones in equestrian areas. He added a designated area would just be for taking off and landing, once they are in the air it would be hard to monitor. He suggested drones that do not have cameras.

Dave Matthews is a volunteer Open Space Monitor. A conservation easement deed protects the lands of Alamos Canyon, he suggests this location be removed.

Harry Medved from Oak Park thanked the Board for reconsidering this Ordinance. He stated there is no support for the unpermitted usage of drones in the area. He suggested the Archery Range as a possibility but would like the Oak Park Committee to evaluate. They'd like to see permits issued.

Douglas Bamforth does a lot of photography, while walking through Corriganville a Drone buzzed over his head about 20 feet and gave him quite a start. He feels drones are okay but suggested a minimum height for flying.

Pete Abbey added the FAA has a lot of guidelines and rules and the District should be aware of their jurisdiction. He is a drone supporter and flies in the Bridle Path area, he does have horses and is very cautious. He feels drones will get quieter and safer to use. He added the FAA has an online safety course the District could recommend.

Chair O'Brien closed Public Comment at 7:40pm.

Gray stated these proposals are for rule followers and having an established area to fly could create a community. The FAA has jurisdiction over drone usage. He doesn't see a need for permits if drones are flown in designated areas. He suggested collecting the FAA authentication number from drone user's certificate as opposed to permits.

Abele feels permits are virtually meaningless and is against the District issuing them. He doesn't feel drone usage is a problem, he would possibly remove Alamos Canyon from the list.

Freeman asked if Chumash Park was listed as a possible location. Abele responded it would not bother him (personally), people are doing it anyway, he doesn't feel it should be limited to just one spot.

Freeman would like verbiage added to restrict flying in equestrian areas. She is concerned about Corriganville as a location.

O'Brien suggested signage in the drone approved areas to warn equestrians. She feels as long as the FAA provides permits (we don't need to.)

Dennert would like to see safer drone usage and feels designated areas will help. He would like to remove Alamos Canyon and Las Lajas (too busy) from the list. He suggested adding the Arroyo in the Tierra Rejada area, Big Sky with limited hours, and Chumash Park. He suggested an online permit where the user can input their FAA number.

Paranick clarified the Ordinance bans drones and the Policy will allow usage in designated areas only. Based on tonight's discussion Alamos Canyon will be removed, the Arroyo near Tierra Rejada will be considered, Corriganville and Chumash Park will be considered, as well as limited hours at Big Sky. Staff will discuss with the Oak Park Committee for locations in their area.

District Counsel Pierik does not recommend permits issued by the District as the FAA has jurisdiction. Pierik read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to waive further readings of the Ordinance. Vice Chair Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray, O'Brien

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion: Director Freeman moved to direct Staff to develop a drone usage policy to present to the Board. Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray, O'Brien

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

Chair O'Brien called a 10-minute recess at 8:05pm. Chair O'Brien called the Meeting back to order at 8:18pm.

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 15, 2022  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Introduction of Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 and Consideration of the Development of a Policy Regarding the Usage of Drones in the Simi Valley and Oak Park Open Areas of the District

**BACKGROUND**

At its regular meetings on October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021 and December 2, 2021, the Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and adopted an ordinance which allowed for the use of drones in all open space areas of the District, and in specific areas within designated developed parks. On February 16, 2022 and April 20, 2022, the Board received public input and provided direction to staff regarding the previously approved ordinance. Additionally, on March 24, 2022, the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Committee reviewed the item and recommended that the Board not allow drone usage in any open space areas of the District. The Committee also recommended that it be provided the opportunity to review and provide a recommendation to the Board as to whether or not drone usage should be allowed in any developed park areas in Oak Park at a future Committee meeting date, including a detailed evaluation of the possible impacts of the drone usage in designated park areas.

At the April 20, 2022 Board meeting, following additional public input and in consideration of the March 24, 2022 recommendation of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee, the Board directed that staff return to the Board with a modified ordinance further limiting the use of drones as was originally approved in the previously adopted ordinance. The Board also directed staff to develop a process where a limited use of drones in specifically designated areas could be reviewed and considered by the Board.

**DISCUSSION**

Proposed Ordinance Revision

As directed, staff has drafted a proposed amendment to the ordinance which limits the use of drones as compared to the previously adopted ordinance, but allows for the development of a Board Policy which could allow for the use of drones in specific, more limited designated areas of the District than was previously approved.

Specifically, the following amendment to Rule 62 of the District's Ordinance No. 3 – Rules and Regulations is recommended for consideration and introduction as follows:

Rule 62: “No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities. ~~except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use.~~ Remote control gliders, and airplanes, ~~and drones,~~ but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons. Drones for recreational purposes may be operated in specifically designated areas of the district upon approval of a policy by the Board of Directors identifying those specifically designated areas and in compliance with related rules and regulations established by the policy.”

Additionally, as it related to the discussion and in order to confirm and clarify that drones are allowed to be used throughout the District for commercial purposes, the following amendment to Rule 33 of Ordinance No. 3 was adopted on December 2, 2021 and is not proposed for modification.

Rule 33: “No person may film, videotape or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space, for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial or educational purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract.”

#### Proposed Policy Development

Should the Board introduce the attached amended ordinance for first reading, staff also recommends that the Board provide direction to staff regarding the development of a policy as proposed in the amended ordinance that would allow for drone usage in more limited, select areas of the District than previously proposed. Staff would also recommend that the proposed policy be subject to the review and recommendation of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee prior to consideration by the Board as previously requested by the Committee.

If the Board directs that staff develop the policy as proposed in the ordinance, staff recommends that the Board consider and provide the following direction regarding development of the policy.

- Possible locations that would allow for drone usage to be considered as a part of the policy.

Suggested locations for consideration in the Simi Valley area include: Big Sky Park (from dawn until 2 p.m.), Chumash Park and surrounding area, Corriganville Park, Alamos Canyon, Chivo Canyon, Las Llajas, Tapo Canyon, and/or other areas as desired to be considered by the Board.

Suggested locations for consideration in the Oak Park area include: Oak Canyon Community Park (subject to review/recommendation of the Oak Park Committee), the Oak Park Community Center – Archary Range Area (subject to review/recommendation), and/or other areas as desired to be considered by the Board and the Committee.

- The possible time of day that the use may be allowed or not allowed at the selected locations.
- Whether or not the proposed policy should include a requirement that recreational drone users obtain a permit from the District.
- Any other items, specific rules or regulations that the Board may want to include in the proposed Board policy.

The proposed draft amendment to the ordinance to consider introducing for first reading is provided as Attachment 1 to this report. The April 20, 2022 staff report, which includes the previous staff reports, minutes and correspondence received from prior meetings is provided as Attachment 2 to this report. The April 20, 2022 meeting minutes and previous correspondence and information received from Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee Member Dan Cooper is provided as Attachment 3 to this report.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

The following alternatives are available for Board consideration:

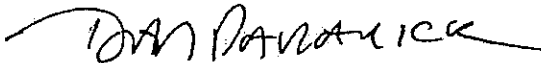
- 1) Introduce the ordinance as amended for first reading and/or direct staff to develop a policy for Board review and consideration at a future meeting;
- 2) Modify the ordinance as proposed, introduce for first reading and/or direct staff to develop a policy for Board review and consideration at a future date;
- 3) Not introduce the ordinance for first reading and/or not direct staff to develop a policy for future board review; or
- 4) Provide further direction to staff.

Staff recommends Alternative No. 1. If introduced, the second reading and adoption of the amended ordinance would be scheduled for the July 20, 2022 Board meeting, with the amended ordinance becoming effective 30 days after adoption. Also, if approved, staff would draft a policy based on Board direction this evening for consideration by the Board at a future meeting date following the review and development of a recommendation at a meeting of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Committee.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors:

- 1) Introduce for first reading the attached ordinance amending Rule No. 62 regarding the recreational use of drones within the District; and
- 2) Direct staff to develop a policy regarding drone usage for consideration by the Board at a future meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Paranick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dan Paranick  
District Manager

ATTACHMENT 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 3

JUNE 15, 2022

**ORDINANCE NO. 3**  
**Amended**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ESTABLISHING RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF DISTRICT PARKS AND FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

The Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors ordains as follows:

**SECTION 1. Findings.**

A. It is the policy of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District ("District") that residents receive maximum benefit and enjoyment from District facilities and recreation programs.

B. In furtherance of the District's policy, this ordinance establishes rules and regulations governing the use of District parks and facilities as well as rules for participation in District programs to ensure that all persons using District parks and facilities and participating in District programs receive maximum benefit and enjoyment.

C. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by California Public Resources Code section 5786.1.

**SECTION 2. Violation of Ordinance.**

A. Any violation of the rules and regulations set forth in this ordinance is a misdemeanor unless the park ranger issuing the citation specifies on the citation that the violation is an infraction. The District's legal counsel may reduce a misdemeanor charge to an infraction. Prosecution of a person pursuant to this section will not preclude prosecution of that person pursuant to the California Penal Code or other provisions of California law or pursuant to the provisions of the Simi Valley Municipal Code.

B. A new and separate offense occurs for each day that a violation of, or failure to comply with, any provision or requirement of this ordinance is committed, continued, or permitted by any person.

C. Any unlawful act or omission in this ordinance includes causing, permitting, aiding, abetting, suffering, or concealing the act or omission.

D. No person may refuse to leave a District park or facility after being ejected. Any person who has been ejected from District property may not return to the same park or facility, or any other District park or facility, during the calendar day in which that person is ejected.

E. Parents are responsible for the actions of minor children. Damage to District property resulting from the actions of minors will be imputed to parents having custody or control of the minor (California Civil Code § 1714.1).

### **SECTION 3. Enforcement.**

A. The District Manager and park rangers of the District and all other law enforcement officers possessing authority to act within the boundaries of the District (collectively, "enforcement officers") may enforce all of the rules and regulations contained in this ordinance. Enforcement mechanisms include issuing citations, arresting individuals without a warrant whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that the individuals committed a misdemeanor in the enforcement officer's presence, which constitutes a violation of these provisions, and ejecting or causing to be ejected from District parks and facilities any person acting in violation of this ordinance. Further, the District Manager and park rangers may deny use of District parks and facilities and participation in District programs to individuals and groups who fail to comply with this ordinance. A person ejected from a District park or facility may also be excluded from the park or facility in lieu of being cited for violation of this ordinance, but ejection or exclusion will not preclude the person from being cited or arrested for conduct in violation of this ordinance or other provisions of California law.

B. Park rangers may issue citations for violations of District rules and regulations, Simi Valley Municipal Code, Ventura County Ordinance, and for violations of State and Federal law.

C. Enforcement officers may take into custody any item which is used in violation of this Ordinance or which may cause damage to park property, to any person, or to the property of any person if its use is permitted to continue. Specific items which may be taken into custody by enforcement officers include, but are not limited to air/spring guns, firearms, crossbows, archery equipment, explosive devices, skateboards, skates, bicycles, radios, tape and compact disc players, sound amplification equipment, powered or line attached model crafts, hang gliders, air balloons, barbeques, cooking devices, and combustible fuel or electric operating devices. Such items will be impounded for safekeeping and will be retained by the District for a period not exceeding 30 calendar days. The items impounded will then be returned to the owner, to the person in possession of the item at the time of the violation, or in the case of a minor, to the minor's parent or legal guardian.

D. The District has the authority to establish and enforce additional rules and regulations that are necessary to implement District's policies and to meet needs as situations may require.

**SECTION 4. Rules and Regulations for Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs.** The following rules and regulations, attached as Exhibit "A" as amended, and incorporated by reference, apply to the use of all parks and facilities owned, managed, controlled or operated by the District, as well as to participation in District programs. Citations issued for a violation of a rule or regulation must include a notation formatted as follows: 3-4.x. In this example, the "3" refers to District Ordinance No. 3, the "4" refers to the Section of

Ordinance No. 3 that incorporates each and every rule and regulation, and the “x” refers to the actual number of the rule or regulation. Therefore, a citation issued for possession or consumption of alcohol in the park without a permit would read as follows: 3-4.4.

**SECTION 5. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of the ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 6. Effective Date.** This ordinance will take effect 30 days after its adoption. .

**SECTION 7. Publication.** The Secretary of the Board of Directors is directed to cause this ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this    day of            2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kate O’Brien, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Paranick, District Clerk

EXHIBIT A  
RULES & REGULATIONS

Rule No.	Category	Section 4. Rules and Regulations
1.	After Hours	No person may remain in a district park or open space after or before posted park hours without a district approved facility use permit or contract. Park hours are between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted. Unescorted minors must observe curfew laws.
2.	Airspace	No person may use hang gliders, air balloons or similar apparatus, or land or take off such apparatus on or from park property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
3.	Aggressive Panhandling	No person may aggressively panhandle in or on any district facility, park or property. For purposes of this section, "aggressively panhandle" means an immediate request for funds accompanied by verbal or physical threats or coercion, or persisting in requesting funds following a negative response from the individual being solicited.
4.	Alcohol	No person may drink any malt, spirits or vinous liquor containing more than one-half (1/2) of one percent of alcohol by volume, and no person may hold or exercise control over any open container containing such beverage in or upon any district park or facility, or in or around District permitted activities or athletic events unless such actions have been authorized by the district by special permit or other action of the Board of Directors or District Manager. Persons who bring coolers or similar containers must allow cursory inspection of such items upon request of a Park Ranger.
5.	Animals	No person may cause animals (including dogs, ferrets and snakes) owned or controlled by the person to be let loose in district parks and facilities, except at such times and under such conditions as may be expressly permitted by the district.
6.	Animals	No person may bring pets or animals, except guide dogs or other service dogs or in connection with a district approved activity, into a district building without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
7.	Animals	No person may chase, grab, shoot, throw rocks or other objects at or attempt to capture or injure wildlife on district property.
8.	Animals	No person may feed wildlife, including ducks and geese, in violation of rules that are posted at specific District parks and facilities.

9.	Bicycles	Persons are permitted to bike within District property on concrete and dirt paths during designated park hours only. No person shall bicycle in any area where signs are posted prohibiting such activity. Bicycles must yield to pedestrians at all times. Bike riders must travel at a reasonably safe speed and may not exceed 15 mph in speed at any time or location. All state and local regulations regarding helmet and other protective gear for minors or adults must be followed. No person shall operate a bicycle in a reckless manner so as to damage public property, or endanger the life, limb or property of any person or animal, or to cause a public nuisance. Bicycles are not permitted on any courts to include, but not limited to, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts. Electric, battery operated bicycles with no pedal assist feature are prohibited.
10.	Buildings	No person may use a district building, equipment, or materials without first obtaining district approval for the use.
11.	Buildings	No person may ride a bicycle, scooter, skateboard, skates, or in-line skates within a district building, and no person may wear skate shoes or shoes with cleats within a district building.
12.	Buildings	District restroom sinks may not be used to wash body parts other than hands and arms unless a medical circumstance requires it.
13.	Buildings	A person or their personal property may be inspected by designated district staff members as a condition to being granted admission or entrance into a district facility, activity or event.
14.	Business	No vendors, including but not limited to ice cream, balloon, hotdog, or candy vendors, may operate on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
15.	Business	No person may conduct or solicit for any trade, occupation, business or profession on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
16.	Business	No person may distribute any commercial circulars, cards, or written advertising matter, and no person may post, paste, or affix any placard, notice or sign on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
17.	Business	No person may sell, offer or solicit for sale any goods, vehicles, food, beverage, merchandise, or services on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
18.	Camping	No person may erect an enclosed tent or similar structure on any district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
19.	Camping	No person may sleep in sleeping bags or under blankets in or on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract. No person may camp or engage in camping activities on any district property except in areas specifically designated for such use, or specifically authorized by a district issued facility use permit or

		contract. In the absence of a district issued facility use permit or contract, or upon failure to produce the permit or contract when requested, such camping will be declared unlawful and must cease when so ordered by a Park Ranger, Police Officer or other enforcement officer. For purposes of this section, "camping activities" means the laying down of bedding for the purposes of sleeping for prolonged or repeated periods of time, the storage of personal belongings such as clothing, foodstuff/beverages, sleeping bags, bedrolls, luggage, backpacks, kitchen utensils, cook ware, and similar materials on district property, the erecting of tents or any structure providing shelter (including but not limited to trees, paper, metal, wood, shrubs or bushes), starting or maintaining a fire, or regularly cooking or preparing meals.
20.	Camping	Otherwise permissible camping is unlawful where it is conducted in such a manner so as to create a nuisance resulting from noise, or inadequate sanitation, or any other activity that otherwise disturbs persons of reasonable sensitivity.
21.	Damage	No person may cut, pick, disturb, damage, mutilate, destroy, injure, graffiti, deface, remove, or disturb any animal, tree, shrub, bush, flower, plant, rock, wall, gate, post, pole, building, fence, bench, table, or other structure, apparatus or property in or on district property.
22.	Damage	No person may alter or modify the natural state of parks, open space and trails, or create dirt ramps, dug-outs, or holes, including for the purpose of creating a bike course or embankment, without district staff approval.
23.	Damage	No person may use a metal detector on any district park or facility without a district issued facility use permit.
24.	Design Use	No person may walk, climb, stand, or sit upon any district property not designated or customarily used for such purposes.
25.	Design Use	No person may play baseball except on designated baseball fields expressly set aside for this activity. No person may play softball except on designated softball fields expressly set aside for this activity.
26.	Design Use	No person may engage in activities which are inconsistent with the intended use or design of a specific area, equipment or apparatus within any park or facility. No person, while in or on district property or facilities, may engage in conduct which is or may be harmful or hazardous to district property, to any person, or to the property of any person.

27.	Dogs	Dogs must remain on a leash no more than six feet long held continuously in the hands of a person able to control the dog on all district property except within district provided off-leash dog parks. The owner or controller of an animal that defecates (except for guide dogs) must pick up and properly dispose of any feces no more than five minutes thereafter.
28.	Dogs	The only type of animals allowed in district provided off-leash dog parks are dogs.
29.	Dogs	No children under the age of 6 are allowed in district provided dog parks, and children between the ages of 6 and 12 are allowed into a district provided dog park only with adult supervision.
30.	Dogs	Dogs entering district provided dog parks must wear a current license issued by the city or county in which the dog's owner resides.
31.	Dogs	No more than 4 dogs at one time may be brought into a district provided dog park by any one person.
32.	Dogs	A person or group using a district facility pursuant to a district issued facility use permit or other contract may exclude dogs from the portion of the facility that is the subject of the district issued permit or contract.
33.	Filming	No person may film, videotape, or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial, educational, or special event purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulation for commercial drone use with a district approved permit, facility use permit or contract.
34.	Fires	No person may make or kindle an open fire on district property except in picnic stoves or fire circles provided by the district for that purpose, and no person may operate a barbeque or other cooking device in a manner which will damage turf or district property. No person may make or kindle an open fire in a fire circle without first obtaining a district issued facility use permit, which permit will not be issued and may be revoked on red flag days. Ashes in district furnished picnic stoves or fire circles must be left in place. Ashes in private barbeques brought into a park must be removed from the park or deposited into district provided ash cans if available. Ashes may not be deposited into trash cans, or on the ground. Fires of any kind are not allowed in natural parks or open space without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
35.	Fireworks	No person may possess or use fireworks, including firecrackers, rockets or other similar items customarily associated with Independence Day celebrations, without a district approved facility use permit or contract.

36.	Food & Beverage	No person may bring into a district building any food or beverages unless that person has been given specific authorization to do so by district staff, a district approved facility use permit or contract has been issued, or the person is participating in a program or event approved by the district that provides for or allows the use of food and beverages.
37.	Gambling	No person may maintain gambling equipment in or on district property, except equipment that is incidental to the playing of bingo by organizations that have qualified for and obtained a permit for such purposes from the City of Simi Valley or the County of Ventura.
38.	Gatherings	No person may hold or conduct any public assemblage, meeting, gathering, group picnic, athletic activity, celebration, parade, service or exercise of 50 or more persons in or on any district property without first having obtained a district approved facility use permit or contract.
39.	Gatherings	Youth or adult sports groups that come together to play or practice a sport or activity such as, but not limited to, football, soccer, softball, or lacrosse, must use district facilities designed for the sport or activity that they are engaged in.
40.	Gatherings	A person or group using a district facility pursuant to a district issued facility use permit or other contract may exclude persons from entering the portion of the facility that is the subject of their district issued permit or contract if those persons are not invitees of the permit or contract holder.
41.	Golf	No person may play golf or otherwise hit any type of golf balls on district property, with the exception of district owned golf courses, without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
42.	Graffiti	No person may use or possess a graffiti implement including, but not limited to, aerosol paint containers, indelible markers, paint sticks, etching tools or other similar devices, to apply graffiti upon any district property.
43.	Gyms	No person may use any shoes on the gymnasium playing floor except soft-sole basketball or tennis-type shoes. No person may use black sole shoes on the gymnasium floor that may leave marks on the gymnasium playing floor.
44.	Gyms	No person may use the community center gymnasium showers unless that person is a participant in a recreation program at the community center immediately before or after using the shower and that person's use of the showers has been approved by the community center supervisor. Shower room lockers are for day use only. Persons using a locker must provide their own lock and remove it and the contents of the locker before leaving. Any items left in the locker at the time of normal closing hours are subject to seizure by the district.

45.	Gyms	No person may enter or remain in the community center building unless that person is wearing clothing and shoes customarily used for the sport or activity in which that person is participating , which will protect that person, other persons, and district property from injury or damage resulting from that person's participation in the sport or activity. No person may wear shoes with cleats, stubs, or spikes inside the community center building. No person may wear leather sole or leather heel soles on wood floors in the community center building.
46.	Horses	No person may ride a horse or animal of any description onto or over land owned, managed, controlled or operated by the district except upon areas , such as trails, designated by the district for such use and at times designated by the district for such use.
47.	Horses	No person may permit a horse that is owned or controlled by that person to enter turf grass, planters, or other planted areas within district property.
48.	Horses	No person may permit a horse that is owned or controlled by that person to be unattended and unsupervised within district property, at any time except in designated areas, tethered or otherwise approved by the district with a facility use permit or contract.
49.	Horses	Horses must be kept at a walking pace when horseback riding is occurring on district trails.
50.	Horses	No person may use a corral used for a turn-out for a continuous period in excess of one hour.
51.	Horses	No person may place a horse port-a-stall or other temporary corral on district property without a written permit from the district.
52.	Horses	No person may wash horses or related equipment on district property without an approved facility use permit.
53.	Inflatables	Inflatable jumpers, slides and movie screens, dunk tanks and other similar types of items may not be placed on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract. If a use is approved, any generators must be placed on plywood and in a way that reduces the likelihood of damage or injury from heat or moving parts, and electrical cords must be laid to reduce tripping hazards. Refilling gas operated generators must be done without spilling fuel on grass.
54.	Language Conduct	No person may use toward any other person any abusive, insulting or obscene language or gesture, or any language or gesture naturally tending to create a breach of the peace, or to be guilty of conduct tending to provoke a breach of the peace, or to make any loud and offensive noises tending to disturb the peace.
55.	Loiter	No person will loiter inside or outside a district building.
56.	Loiter	Loitering is prohibited under bridges.

57.	Nudity	No person may appear nude in district facilities or on district property. For purposes of these regulations, "nude" means unclothed or in such a state of undress as to expose any part or portion of the pubic or anal region or genitalia of any person, or any portion of the breast at or below the areola thereof of any female person.
58.	Nuisance	Whenever any person creating, causing, committing, or maintaining a public nuisance as defined under State law or other ordinance or regulation, has been given notice by a Park Ranger or other authorized district employee to abate such nuisance or cease and desist from continuing such nuisance or violation of law, and such person who was given notice fails, refuses, or neglects to comply with the notice within the time specified therein, or if such a time is not specified, then within a time reasonably sufficient to enable compliance, the person will be liable to the district for any and all costs and expenses that the district incurs as a result of abating the nuisance and obtaining compliance with or enforcing the law. Costs and expenses may include but are not limited to direct costs and expenses of personnel, operational overhead, fees for experts or consultants, legal costs or expenses, including attorneys' fees, claims against the district arising as a consequence of the nuisance or violation, and procedures associated with collecting moneys due hereunder.
59.	Parking	No person may park, abandon or otherwise allow to remain on district parks or facilities between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. automobiles, trailers, campers, motor homes, recreational vehicles, unless district permission has been expressly granted or parking is required for attendance at a district activity.
60.	Parking	No person may violate the following curb markings within district parks, facilities, and parking areas: Red indicates no stopping, standing or parking, whether the vehicle is attended or unattended. Yellow indicates stopping only for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers or freight for no more than ten minutes. White indicates stopping for the purpose of loading or unloading of passengers for no more than five minutes. Green indicates 30 minute parking. Blue indicates parking limited exclusively to the vehicles of physically handicapped persons as described in the California Vehicle Code.
61.	Parking	No person may park motorcycles or other motorized vehicles (with the exception of wheelchairs or similar devices), whether attended or unattended, on district parks or facilities except at parking lots provided by the district or as otherwise permitted by a district approved facility use permit or contract.

62.	RC	No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities, <del>except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use.</del> Remote control gliders, and airplanes, <del>and drones,</del> but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons. <u>Drones for recreational purposes may be operated in specifically designated areas of the district upon approval of a policy by the Board of Directors identifying those specifically designated areas and in compliance with related rules and regulations established by the policy.</u>
63.	Recycling	The collection of recyclable materials by any person must be completed without impacting the use of district facilities by other park patrons, and all recyclable items collected must be promptly removed from the park.
64.	Restrooms	No person may loiter in or about any toilet facility or restroom.
65.	Restrooms	No person over the age of seven years may enter or use restrooms other than those provided for that person's gender. Personal health care providers or assistants may enter restrooms to provide assistance to their patient after first announcing their intent to enter the restroom and then obtaining permission to enter from those already in the restroom. No person may encourage or invite another person over the age of seven years to enter or use a restroom which is not provided for the gender of the person so encouraged or invited.
66.	Restrooms	No person may urinate or defecate in or on district property except in toilets or urinals located in portable or restroom buildings.

67.	Skateboards, etc.	Persons are permitted to skateboard, roller skate, roller blade, non-motorized scooter and ride one wheelers within District property on concrete and dirt paths during designated park hours only. No person shall skateboard, roller skate, roller blade, scooter or one wheel in any area where signs are posted prohibiting such activity. Skateboarders, roller skaters, roller bladers, scooters and one wheelers must yield to pedestrians at all times. Skateboarders, roller skaters, roller bladers, scooters and one wheelers must travel at a reasonably safe speed and may not exceed 15 mph in speed at any time or location. All state and local regulations regarding helmet and other protective gear for minors or adults must be followed. Any person riding a skateboard at Berylwood Skate Plaza or any Rancho Simi skating facility is required to wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads at all times. No person shall utilize a skateboard, roller skates, roller blades, scooter or one wheeler in a reckless manner so as to damage public property, or endanger the life, limb or property of any person or animal, or to cause a public nuisance. Skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, scooters and one wheelers are not permitted on any courts to include, but not limited to, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts.
68.	Smoking	No person may smoke or vape which includes the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs and electronic smoking devices such as e-cigarettes and vaping pens within a district park, building or open space; provided, however, that persons may smoke cigars, cigarettes or other tobacco products on a district golf course or in designated smoke zones.
69.	Sound	No person may use sound-amplifying equipment without a district approved facility use permit. The users of sound equipment must abide by any specific limitations noted upon the use permit, and must abide by the orders and directions of District employees in the operation of the sound-amplifying equipment.
70.	Sound	No person may use their voice or make noise in a district park or facility (which includes but is not limited to buildings, parking lots, sidewalks, walkways, parks) in a loud, unusual, penetrating or boisterous manner that results in discomfort or annoyance to a reasonable person of normal sensitivity where there is no substantial effort to communicate with any such individual or to communicate at a lower volume of sound or in a more reasonable manner. The standards that will be considered in determining whether a violation of this section exists include the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The volume of the noise;</li> <li>2. The intensity of the noise;</li> <li>3. Whether the noise can be heard from a distance of 50 feet or more from the noise source; or from a distance determined to be reasonable under the circumstances by the officer at the scene;</li> </ol>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates;</li> <li>5. The time of the day or night the noise occurs;</li> <li>6. The duration of the noise;</li> <li>7. The extent to which nearby persons and the activities of such persons are disturbed by the noise; and</li> <li>8. The extent to which the individual making the noise was requested to cease the disturbance or lower the volume of the noise and such person failed to do so.</li> </ol> <p>No person will be cited under this section unless the person engages in conduct prohibited by this section after having been notified by an enforcement officer that the conduct violates this section.</p>
71.	Trash	No person may leave the shells of seeds or nuts such as sunflower, peanut and pistachio on the ground, on a bleacher, bench or other park amenity as they are considered to be garbage and must be properly disposed of in a trash can or otherwise removed from the district facility.
72.	Vehicles	No person may repair, renovate or paint any vehicle on district property, unless the repairs performed are of an emergency nature, and they are required in order to permit the vehicle to be moved.
73.	Vehicles	No person may drive any vehicle on district property (including parking lots, trails, walkways, park entrances) at a speed greater than the posted speed limit.
74.	Vehicles	No person may drive a vehicle on turf grass without an approved district facility use permit.
75.	Waters	No person may swim, wade, or enter into any park waters which are not designated for public swimming and no parent, legal guardian, or any other person in charge of any minor child may permit the minor child to enter any pond, lake, lagoon, or other water feature on or in district parks that is not designed and operated as a swimming pool or children's splash pad.
76.	Waters	No person may place or operate any boat, canoe, kayak, raft, or other watercraft that may hold one or more person in any park waters.
77.	Weapons	No person may carry or discharge firearms, gas or air-powered weapons, rockets, axes, hatchets, offensive knives, weapon replicas, training weapons, slings or slingshots or throw stones or other missiles on or in district property. Bows and arrows may be used on district property only in district designated areas.

ATTACHMENT 2

APRIL 20, 2022 STAFF REPORT WITH ATTACHMENTS  
ON PREVIOUS DRONE RELATED MATTER

JUNE 15, 2022

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 20, 2022  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Continued Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property

**BACKGROUND**

At its regular meetings on October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021 and December 2, 2021, the Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and adopted an ordinance which allows for the use of drones in open space areas of the District and in specific areas within designated developed parks. While the ordinance currently allows drone usage in open space areas, drone usage in specific areas within designated developed parks is not currently allowed as those possible locations have not been determined to date.

To allow for the recreational use of drones, the following amendment to Rule 62 of the District's Ordinance No. 3 – Rules and Regulations was adopted on December 2, 2021 as follows:

Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities, except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use. Remote control gliders, ~~and~~ airplanes, and drones, but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

Additionally, in order to confirm and clarify that drones are allowed to be used throughout the District for commercial purposes, the following amendment to Rule 33 of Ordinance No. 3 was adopted on December 2, 2021 as follows:

Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space, for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial or educational purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract."

More recently, on February 16, 2022, the Board reviewed additional correspondence and received public input expressing concern regarding the use of drones on District property in various areas of the District. At the February 16, 2022 meeting, following receipt of additional public input, the Board directed that the ordinance be brought back for further review and requested that the topic be reviewed by the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee and requested that the Committee provide the Board with a recommendation regarding drone usage in the Oak Park area of the District.

On March 24, 2022, the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee reviewed the item and recommended that the Board not allow drone usage in any open space areas of the District and to review whether or not drone usage should be allowed in any developed park areas in Oak Park at a future Committee meeting date, including a detailed evaluation of the possible impacts of the drone usage in designated park areas.

### **DISCUSSION**

Accordingly, this item provides the opportunity for the Board to receive additional input, to consider the recommendation of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee and to provide direction regarding possible changes to the ordinance, if any. To the extent that the Board directs that any changes be made to the existing ordinance, a revised ordinance will be brought back to Board at a future meeting date for consideration.

The October 7, 2021 (Attachment A) , November 18, 2021 (Attachment B), December 2, 2021 (Attachment C) and February 16, 2022 (Attachment D) reports with attachments, minutes and related written correspondence (Attachment E) on the subject received by the District and the March 24, 2022 (Attachment F) Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee report without attachments, supplemental correspondence and unapproved draft minutes are provided as a part of this report for background and informational purposes to facilitate the Board's discussion and review of the item.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive additional public input and provide direction regarding drone usage on District property.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

ATTACHMENT A

OCTOBER 7, 2021

STAFF REPORT AND MINUTES

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 7, 2021  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property

**DISCUSSION**

This item is being presented to the Board for discussion and direction regarding drone usage on District property.

The existing District ordinance currently includes the following rule related to the use of aerial crafts and aerial vehicles:

Rule 62: No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities. Remote control gliders and airplanes, but not helicopters, may be operated only in areas set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons.

The existing rule does not contemplate the use of drones specifically and, as written, is currently construed to mean that drone usage is not currently allowed on or over any District owned property.

This item provides the Board an opportunity to provide direction regarding the use of drones on District property as follows:

1. Does the Board want to allow recreational drone usage in the District?
2. If so, what areas of the District would the use of drones be allowed (i.e., open space, developed parks, specific designated areas, etc.)?

Attachment A to this report provides a memorandum from District Counsel which includes an analysis of the law pertaining to the use of drones. As the matter is discussed, it is recommended the Board consider: 1) the impacts that drone usage may have on others users and patrons of open space/parks; 2) fire prevention/safety; and, 3) potential liabilities.

If the District directs that the existing ordinance be amended, the Board may also want to take the opportunity to also amend the rules clarifying the use of drones for commercial purposes (filming companies). Although the District has been allowing film companies to use drones on District property by permit within the construction of our current ordinance and applicable federal and state laws, the use of drones for commercial use could use some clarification in the ordinance.

Staff notes, locally, the Mountains Recreation Conservation Agency (MRCA), the Conejo Park District, the Conejo Open Space Conservation Authority and the Pleasant Valley Park District currently do not allow recreational use of drones.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board discuss drone usage in the District and consider directing staff to revise the existing ordinance for consideration by the Board at a future meeting.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager



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www.bwslaw.com

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board Members of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District      **CC:** Dan Paranick, District Manager

**FROM:** Brian Pierik, District Counsel

**DATE:** September 30, 2021

**RE:** Regulation of Drones

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I am submitting this Memorandum to you with regard to whether the District has authority to regulate or ban the flight of drones within District-owned parks and whether there are any federal, or state, or local prohibitions or restrictions with respect to:

- (1) the District's use of drones for safety or security purposes;
- (2) the use of drones by others (members of the public) on District property; and
- (3) the use of drones for commercial purposes.

### Executive Summary

In general, any use of drones is subject to federal regulations established by the FAA. The District also has the authority pursuant to Public Resources Code section 5786.1(j) to establish rules and regulations with respect to drone operations on its own property, provided that they do not conflict with applicable federal law.

In the absence of a District enacted ban on the use of drones in its parks, such use would be deemed permitted. The District currently has rules in place that may be construed as prohibiting the use of drones. However, if the Board wishes to continue the ban on drones on District property, the Board should consider authorizing staff to return to the Board with revisions to these rules to provide further support for the prohibition on the use of drones on District property.

### Applicable Federal Law

The FAA has adopted regulations for the licensure and commercial use of drones in 14 C.F.R. part 107 to govern the use of small unmanned aircraft systems, commonly called drones, that authorize and govern use of drones weighing less than 55 pounds. Commercial use rules require that the operator obtain a remote pilot certificate with appropriate UAS rating, obtain air traffic control authorization for flights in restricted airspace, fly below 400 feet in altitude (unless certain requirements are met), avoid

manner aircraft, not operate drones from moving vehicles, and avoid flights over people who are not participating in the drone activities.

Recreational flights are permitted without preauthorization or licensure from the FAA pursuant to the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations of Unmanned Aircraft, 49 U.S.C. section 44809 (the "Recreation Exception"), but this statute and enabling regulations require that the drone operator fly purely for recreational purposes, fly below 400 feet in height, main visual line of sight with the drone, carry proof that they have passed a recreational drone safety test, and operate the drone in a safe manner.<sup>1</sup> FAA rules, under 14 CFR part 48, also require that all drone operators, whether commercial or recreational, maintain current registration for their drones if they weigh more than 0.55 pounds and that such drones bear unique identifiers.

The scope of federal preemption of local regulation is particularly unclear. The FAA has declined to state whether their rulemaking pre-empts state or local regulations of drone flight. In its 2016 rulemaking, the FAA stated it will conduct a "case-specific analysis" to determine if federal preemption applies. The FAA further noted that "certain legal aspects concerning small UAS use may be best addressed at the State or local level. For example, State law and other legal protections for individual privacy may provide recourse for a person whose privacy may be affected through another person's use of a [drone]."<sup>2</sup>

The FAA suggested state or local officials hoping to restrict flight paths or altitudes or institute operational bans consult with the FAA, as such regulations will likely be pre-empted. Any local ban on drones, or the equivalent of an airspace or safety regulation (e.g. limits on altitude, prohibiting flights in certain locations) or an operator licensure requirement were deemed likely to be pre-empted by federal law. However, the FAA has acknowledged that local laws related to land use, zoning, privacy, and law enforcement operations are generally not subject to federal regulation, assuming that such laws do not enter the sphere occupied by federal regulation.

Additionally, the FAA has publicly indicated to local jurisdictions that they may at least regulate permitted take-off and landing locations without facing a pre-emption challenge.<sup>3</sup> Only two federal trial courts have directly considered the validity of a local

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational\\_fliers/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers/)

<sup>2</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 42063 § (III)(K)(6); see also

[https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/policy\\_library/media/UAS\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_Final.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/policy_library/media/UAS_Fact_Sheet_Final.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> See

[https://www.faa.gov/news/press\\_releases/news\\_story.cfm?newsId=22938&omniRss=press\\_releasesAoc](https://www.faa.gov/news/press_releases/news_story.cfm?newsId=22938&omniRss=press_releasesAoc)

regulations. One invalidated local restrictions on flying over public property and private property without permission. See *Singer v. City of Newton* (D. Mass. 2017) 284 F.Supp.3d 125, 131 (overturning as federally preempted a local ordinance prohibiting flying drones below 400 feet over private property without permission of owner, or flying drones over city property without prior permission). That court assumed that based on the FAA's position some local regulation would be permissible, but then found that any wholesale ban or any additional local registration or safety requirements would be federally preempted. *Id.* Another trial court determined that a Texas law prohibiting overflights of critical infrastructure facilities, correctional facilities, and sports stadiums was not federally preempted because they did not regulate a broad area of airspace and was limited to prohibiting flights over specific structures. See *National Press Photographers Association v. McCraw* (W.D. Tex. 2020) 504 F.Supp.3d 568, 575.

Notwithstanding federal law specifically authorizing drone flights, the law is unsettled about whether and under what circumstances a private landowner may bring suit for trespass when a drone flies into the low-altitude airspace above his land and if so, whether the landowner can exclude drone flights over his property regardless of these federal rules.<sup>4</sup> The exact scope of federal authority to regulate airspace is also somewhat unsettled — including whether the federal government may regulate anything flying solely in-state or whether federal jurisdiction covers all flights higher than a blade of grass. In light of this, public agencies have often ignored the FAA and enacted regulations under their general police powers for the protection of wildlife, property, and safety in a manner that has the effect of prohibiting drone use in certain areas. See, e.g., 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 4351 (prohibiting all motorized vehicles or other forms of mechanical transport in a wilderness area, cultural preserve or natural preserve in any state park, including planes and drones); Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Park Ordinance § 3.17 (prohibiting drones in any park without a permit issued by the Executive Director).<sup>5</sup> While such regulations have not been challenged, there are significant risks that they might not survive a federal preemption challenge. Numerous laws have recently been introduced by Congress to address the lack of regulatory clarity

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[&cid=102\\_P\\_RPress; see also https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/community\\_engagement/no\\_drone\\_zone/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/community_engagement/no_drone_zone/)

<sup>4</sup> See U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Current Jurisdictional, Property, and Privacy Legal Issues Regarding the Commercial and Recreational Use of Drones," available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/d22178>.

Questions about protection of personal privacy from surveillance by drones also remain unresolved by the courts, and efforts by the Uniform Law Commission's Uniform Tort Law Relating to Drones Act Drafting Committee to draft a UAS privacy model law were suspended in January 2020.

<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://mrca.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/MRCA-REVISED-ORDINANCE-2019.pdf>.

about federal preemption, but none were enacted.<sup>6</sup> It is unclear what position the FAA or other affected federal agencies may ultimately take on these types of state and local regulations.<sup>7</sup>

### State Law

California state law appears to have only a few relevant provisions regarding drone operation. First, Civil Code section 1708.8 provides civil liability for invasions of privacy by entering "into the land or airspace" of another person without permission for the purpose of recording someone engaging in "private, personal or familial activity." This provides a private right of action in civil court by the aggrieved party against the drone operator. Second, Government Code section 853 et seq. provides immunity to government employees for damage to drones that interfere with the public entity's provision of emergency medical, fire, and search and rescue services. Lastly, Penal Code section 402 makes it a misdemeanor to use a drone at the scene of an emergency in a manner that impedes emergency personnel. None of these provisions will likely apply to a casual hobbyist flying a drone in a public park, nor limit the District's ability to use drones for its own purposes.

### Local Law / Current District Rules

In the absence of specific local law, use of drones over public and private property is generally authorized in compliance with FAA registration rules and requirements. The District may use drones for its business purposes either by complying with commercial rules in 14 C.F.R. part 107 or by obtaining a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization ("COA") to operate a public aircraft.

The District currently has a few adopted rules which regulate the use of drones.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., Advanced Unmanned Delivery Services Act, H.R. 6943, 116th Cong. (2020); Drone Integration and Zoning Act of 2019, S. 2607, 116th Cong. (2019); Drone Federalism Act of 2017, S. 1272, 115th Cong. (2017); Drone Innovation Act, H.R. 2930, 115th Cong. (2017).

<sup>7</sup> There are a number of unresolved questions related to the scope of federal preemption and concerns over the formation of a regulatory patchwork. The federal government's position has been in development since 2017 by a Joint Lawyers Working Group on Federal Preemption and the Regulation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems convened by the FAA and the US Department of Transportation.

<sup>8</sup> District Ordinance No. 3, as amended, available at <https://cms1files.revize.com/revize/franchosimi/Staff%20and%20Board/Ordinance%20No%203%20revised%20080521.pdf>

- Rule 2: "No person may use hang gliders, air balloons or similar apparatus, or land or take off such apparatus on or from park property without a district approved facility use permit or contract."
- Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape, or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved facility use permit or contract."
- Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities. Remote control gliders and airplanes, but not helicopters, may be operated only in areas set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

With respect to the first rule, the phrase "similar apparatus" is so vague that imposing any penalty District enforcement of any penalty against a drone operator may raise due process concerns. Thus this first restriction should be revised to clearly apply to drones, if that is the regulatory intent. However, since the regulations ban *flight* in park airspace, there is a risk of a preemption challenge. Thus, the District should consider revising the prohibition to apply to only take-off and landing, which the FAA has indicated would be a permitted regulation. Since most small recreational drones may travel only a short distance, this type of prohibition is likely to be effective.

The second restriction on commercial filming can be applied to prohibit the use of drones for filming, and is also unlikely to expose the District to any preemption challenges since it does not specifically regulate the use of drones.

The third restriction also could be construed as a regulation of drones because it applies to prohibit "motorized or self-propelled vehicles" – yet it specifically allows remote control gliders and airplanes to be operated in designated areas. There is no definition in the rules as to what constitutes a remote control glider or airplane. This takes on new importance, as the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 repealed the Special Rule for Model Aircraft<sup>9</sup> which allowed model planes to be flown without any FAA regulation. Now, such craft are subject to the same federal rules as drones and can be flown only with FAA licensure or compliance with the Recreation Exception. Since federal law makes no distinction between such craft and all other drones, the District should

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<sup>9</sup> See <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/17/2019-10169/exception-for-limited-recreational-operations-of-unmanned-aircraft>

consider re-drafting this rule to be a regulation of take-off and landing, as discussed above.

### CONCLUSION

The District may both use drones for its own purposes, provided that the operator is licensed, or the District has obtained a COA to operate a drone. The District can also permit drones to be flown on its property.

If the District desires to limit the use of drones, it can enact regulations limiting the use of drones for specific purposes, or restrict or prohibit take-off and landing on District property, without facing any significant risks of a federal preemption challenge. The District likely can prohibit the use of drones in a manner that harasses wildlife. Some state and local agencies have enacted restrictions on flying in certain airspace, but these types of regulations have the potential to be challenged as federally preempted. Additionally, local regulations that impose additional safety or permit requirements are likely to be federally pre-empted.

# Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting M I N U T E S

Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 6:30pm

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District • Activity Room 3  
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • (805) 584-4400

A video recording of tonight's meeting is available on  
the District Website at [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org).

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Dennert called the Meeting to Order at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eagle Scout Joshua Decker.

2. ROLLCALL – Directors Abele, Freeman, Gray, Vice Chair O'Brien, and Chair Dennert were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Douglas Duran, Wayne Nakaoka, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Alex Stumfall, Gina Viecco, and District Counsel Brian Pierik.

Guests attended tonight's meeting in-person and via Zoom. Those who made public comments are listed under the appropriate item below.

3. AGENDA REVIEW – There were no requested changes to tonight's Agenda.

4. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) – NONE

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting - September 15, 2021  
– Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Minutes as written. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

6. CONSENT AGENDA (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director's request.)

a. Approval of 9/15/21 Accounts Payable Check Register and 9/10/21 Payroll Check Register – Motion: Director Gray moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

7. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Eagle Scout Joshua Decker for the Completion of the Chess Table Installation Project at Rancho Simi Community Park – Presented by Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance. Nakaoka was very impressed by the workmanship of Joshua's project, it is possibly the best Eagle Scout project he has seen. Joshua thanked everyone for the recognition, he loves playing chess and wanted to be able to play with friends and new acquaintances. The Board agreed the project looks great and the craftsmanship is very good.

- b. Status of the Districts Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – The Verbal Report was provided by Dan Paranick. There have been no recent COVID related complaints. There was one positive case amongst District Employees which was contracted outside of the workplace. Recreational programming continues to increase and is doing well. Staff is still waiting on direction from OSHA or the Federal Government regarding COVID testing of non-vaccinated employees.

8. CONTINUED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Adoption of Resolution No. 2012 Regarding Holding Public Meetings During the Continued COVID-19 Pandemic State of Emergency Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) – The Staff Report was provided by Dan Paranick, District Manager. Assembly Bill 361 will allow the District to continue offering a teleconferencing option for Board Meeting attendance. A Resolution will be required for Board approval every 30 days.

The Board discussed the item and whether or not to continue in person or via zoom and decided to continue with the optional hybrid model allowing for in person and zoom attendance.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012. Chair Dennert seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray, O'Brien

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

- b. Review and Approval of Preliminary Master Plan for the Activity Center Recreation Area Construction Project – The Staff Report was provided by Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance. On June 2, 2021, the Board approved an Agreement with Heney Dong & Associates, Inc. to provide architectural design and engineering services for Phase 3 of the Activity Center Recreation Area Construction Project. Nakaoka, Douglas Duran, and designers from Heney Dong & Associates provided an overview of the modifications to the District's Conceptual Floor Plan as recommended by the architect's design team.

Paranick added the original Budgeted amount for this project is \$3.3 million, due to the proposed changes the project amount is likely to come in higher.

Freeman likes the design but is concerned about some of the costs, such as moving the elevator. She is also concerned about the use of building during construction. Nakaoka replied the second elevator will alleviate the need for the public to use the elevator located in the Administrative area and the existing areas will not be effective by the construction.

Abele thinks the plans look great, but he would like to have an estimate of the costs for the modifications. He feels the updated plan is going to cost quite a bit more. Joe Fernandez from Heney Dong replied, the biggest impact would be additional bathrooms, but these are required by code. He added they could bring back a cost estimate in a couple of weeks. Abele asked if there would be any delay in the project completion. Fernandez replied, he does not see these

O'Brien was concerned about the elimination of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor emergency corridor. Fernandez replied with the addition of the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of stairs, it is no longer required by code, 2 sets of stairs is sufficient.

Freeman asked if the request for additional parking would be submitted with this permit. Nakaoka replied, yes, at least for street parking on the weekends.

Dennert asked if there could be an area to breastfeed a baby, such as an alcove near the restrooms. Fernandez stated that can be looked at.

Abele is concerned that the Fitness Room is smaller in these proposed plans, he feels this will be a popular location. He would like to see this area stay the same size or possibly become larger. Fernandez replied, the Gym has been split to accommodate the Virtual Lounge as well. Paranick suggested the possibility of designing the room to be bigger or smaller depending upon usage.

The Board agreed they would like to see a cost estimate for the proposed changes before approving the plans. The Board directed Staff to provide a cost estimate of the proposed changes and additional options for a larger Gym area at a future Board Meeting.

- c. Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property – The Staff Report was presented by Dan Paranick, District Manager. As requested by Director Gray, Staff has reviewed District policy with Legal Counsel and recreational or hobbyist drone use is not currently allowed on District property. Drone use has been allowed by permit only for commercial filming purposes. The current Ordinance can be modified if the Board would like Staff to move in that direction.

Gray has started experimenting with this as a hobby himself. The possibility of using drones in open space areas or trails would allow enthusiasts an opportunity to practice and could be used to promote the District.

Dennert is in favor of allowing drone use on District property. He asked if there have been any complaints or current enforcement by the District and if there is an associated fire hazard. Paranick is not aware of any complaints or previous enforcement.

Abele added there are already Federal Regulations in place for drones and their operators, so he doesn't feel it should be prohibited within the District.

Freeman feels usage should not be allowed throughout the District, she suggested using the same location as the model airplanes enthusiasts currently use.

Gray would like a non-permitted area for hobbyists to fly, either a specific zone or designated hours and allow use in open spaces and trails. Commercial use would still require permitting through the District.

Motion: Director Gray moved for Staff to return to the Board with an updated Ordinance regarding drone usage including allowing drone usage in open space areas and in some designated developed park areas. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 4 to 1 Vote, with Director Freeman voting no.

Chair Dennert called a Recess at 8:15pm.

Chair Dennert called the Meeting Back to Order at 8:20pm.

- d. Approval for the Purchase of Six (6) New Park District Vehicles Through California Multiple Award Schedules (CMAS) – The Staff Report was provided by Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance. In 2015 the District started earmarking funds as part of the annual budget process to replace old and antiquated vehicles in the fleet. To continue the vehicle replacement program, staff is requesting authorization to purchase 6 new vehicles.

Dennert asked if it is possible to reduce the number of District vehicles overall, such as the Ranger vehicles. Nakaoka responded we need more like 7 vehicles for Rangers due to coverage of both parks and events.

Freeman noted this is quite a savings, purchasing through CMAS. Nakaoka, replied yes, this is about a one-third savings.

Motion: Vice Chair O'Brien moved to authorize the purchase of 6 new District vehicles through CMAS. Director Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

- e. Approval for the Purchase of a New Skid-Steer Loader (Bobcat) Through California Multiple Award Schedules (CMAS) – The Staff Report was provided by Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance. The District was awarded a Grant as part of California's Wildfire Prevention Early Action Plan. The application included the procurement of a Bobcat with axillary attachments needed for trail maintenance and fire fuel reduction.

Gray asked if this will be used to build fire breaks. Nakaoka replied, it will be used mostly for weed abatement and to widen trails providing access for fire crews. Gray added he would like to see the Bobcat in action. Nakaoka replied Gray is welcome to attend the training day for Supervisors and Crew Leaders.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the purchase of a new Skid-Steer Loader through CMAS. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## 10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – NONE

## 11. REPORTS BY BOARDMEMBERS

Director Freeman attended the National Association of State Park Foundations Annual Conference. There was a lot of valuable information shared, one great thing about conferences is collaborating with the larger community. She attended the Historical Society meeting with O'Brien; things are moving along with the completion of maintenance items. There are several upcoming events in 2021 including: Día de los Muertos on 10/24, Annual Membership Meeting on 11/5, On the Tapo book signing on 11/7, and the Holiday Open House on 12/5. Events in 2022 include: Retirement Party for Pat Havens on 3/5, and Civil Wars Days on 4/1 through 4/3. She attended the CSDA Meeting, which was held here at the Guardian Building, Paranick and Staff did a great job with the event. She added the Zoom option for meetings is really nice, but there is something special about the Board meeting and working together in person.

Director Abele volunteered as a Server with Dennert for the Simi Valley Soroptimist's Little Black Dress event. He has been meeting with the different Directors at the District and appreciates their time and input. He and his wife Jill thanked Staff for the nice flowers, Jill is recovering but still in a lot of pain.

Director Gray attended the Share the Road Ride that ended at Rancho Tapo Community Park and then passed out free ice cream to children in the park. This Saturday, the Simi Morning Rotary is hosting Oktoberfest, the proceeds go to support the local community, charities, and causes.

Vice Chair O'Brien attended the National Association of State Park Foundations Conference, there was a lot of great information. She attended the Historical Society meeting and the CSDA meeting. She attended a On the Tapo book signing, which was nicely organized. She had her ear surgery; everything went well, and she should see improvement over the next few weeks.

Chair Dennert stated the School District is working hard to keep kids in school and are currently looking for staff, especially substitute teachers. The Simi vs. Royal game is a go, the Board is invited to the game. The next graffiti removal will be 10/18 at Hummingbird Trail. He attended the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy meeting. He was contacted by a community member regarding an issue on the hillside at Sycamore Park. Paranick replied he and Nakaoka met with the resident and are researching this issue. He participated in a fun guided Nature Hike at Corriganville with Nikki Collier. He thanked Staff, especially Collier and Paul Friedeborn for helping to organize the graffiti cleanup and volunteer events.

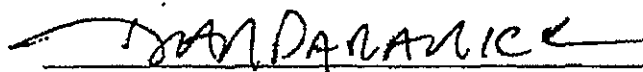
12. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – Comments were provided by Dan Paranick. There was a small group of kids getting rambunctious at the Skate Plaza, the Rangers handled the issue right away. There will be an article in The Acorn regarding self-contained water sources in open spaces to provide for wildlife during these drought conditions. The District's new Registration System, Amilia, went live, thanks to Staff for facilitating the rollout. \$100 million in emergency relief funds have been identified for Special Districts, the District has applied for the funding. Paranick and Miller met with the new Oak Park Superintendent. Staff is working with the Simi Valley School District to provide additional pickleball courts and playing time. He and Nakaoka met with the County and City to clarify who is responsible for maintenance items along the Arroyo. Also, on October 14<sup>th</sup> Paranick and Nakaoka will be touring the Arroyo with the Rotary group. The Simi vs. Royal game has special seating for invited community members.

Future Agenda Items: Phase 4 conceptual plan for Rancho Santa Susana Park, the Final 2021/22 Budget, golf cart leases, weed abatement, the Birdie Bar lease renewal, Earth Day plans, and Resolution for Per Capita Grant.

Committee Activity: Soccer Foundation will meet 10/13, Oak Park Planning Committee Meeting will be held on 10/14 via ZOOM. Topics will include Lagoon restoration, Tree trimming, and Fumitoxin use for rodent control. A Youth Services Committee meeting still needs to be calendared.

13. CLOSED SESSION – NONE

14. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Dennert adjourned the Meeting at 8:55pm, in honor of District Employee Craig Lamm who recently passed away.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAN PARANICK

ATTACHMENT B

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

STAFF REPORT AND MINUTES

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 18, 2021  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 Allowing the Use of Drones in Various Areas of the District

**BACKGROUND**

At its October 7, 2021 meeting, the Board of Directors discussed and considered allowing the use of drones in various areas of the District. Following the discussion, the Board directed that staff bring forth necessary amendments to the District's Rules and Regulations Ordinance which would allow for the use of recreational drones in District owned open space and in specifically designated developed parks. The October 7, 2021 report on the subject is provided as Attachment A to this report.

**DISCUSSION**

Accordingly, to effectuate the direction regarding the recreational use of drones, the following amendment to Rule 62 of the District's Ordinance No. 3 – Rules and Regulations is proposed as follows:

Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities, except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use. Remote control gliders, ~~and~~ airplanes, and recreational drones, but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set-aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

Additionally, in order to confirm and clarify that drones are allowed to be used throughout the District for commercial purposes, staffing is also recommending changes to Rule 33 of Ordinance No. 3 as follows:

Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape or photograph in district parks, building or open space, for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial or educational purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract."

By process, the proposed Ordinance and revised rules must be introduced at a regular meeting of the Board and be adopted at a second meeting of the Board, no less than 5 days later. Upon introduction and adoption, the Ordinance must be read in full unless a full reading of the order is waived by the Board. Ordinances become effective 30 days after the second reading and adoption. If introduced, the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance will be scheduled for the December 2, 2021 regular board meeting.

### ALTERNATIVES

1. Introduce first reading of amended Ordinance No. 3 with the proposed rule changes;
2. Make revisions to the proposed rule changes and introduce the amended Ordinance for first reading;
3. Make revisions to the proposed rule changes and direct staff to bring the amended Ordinance back to the Board at a future meeting;
4. Not introduce the amended Ordinance, thereby not approving the proposed rule changes;  
or
5. Provide other direction to staff.

Staff recommends Alternative No 1.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Request a reading of the title of amended Ordinance No. 3; and
2. Following a reading of the title of the Ordinance, move to waive further reading and introduce amended Ordinance No. 3, an Ordinance of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Establishing Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

**ATTACHMENT A**

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 7, 2021  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property

**DISCUSSION**

This item is being presented to the Board for discussion and direction regarding drone usage on District property.

The existing District ordinance currently includes the following rule related to the use of aerial crafts and aerial vehicles:

Rule 62: No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities. Remote control gliders and airplanes, but not helicopters, may be operated only in areas set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons.

The existing rule does not contemplate the use of drones specifically and, as written, is currently construed to mean that drone usage is not currently allowed on or over any District owned property.

This item provides the Board an opportunity to provide direction regarding the use of drones on District property as follows:

1. Does the Board want to allow recreational drone usage in the District?
2. If so, what areas of the District would the use of drones be allowed (i.e., open space, developed parks, specific designated areas, etc.)?

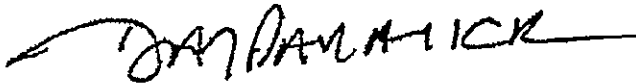
Attachment A to this report provides a memorandum from District Counsel which includes an analysis of the law pertaining to the use of drones. As the matter is discussed, it is recommended the Board consider: 1) the impacts that drone usage may have on others users and patrons of open space/parks; 2) fire prevention/safety; and, 3) potential liabilities.

If the District directs that the existing ordinance be amended, the Board may also want to take the opportunity to also amend the rules clarifying the use of drones for commercial purposes (filming companies). Although the District has been allowing film companies to use drones on District property by permit within the construction of our current ordinance and applicable federal and state laws, the use of drones for commercial use could use some clarification in the ordinance.

Staff notes, locally, the Mountains Recreation Conservation Agency (MRCA), the Conejo Park District, the Conejo Open Space Conservation Authority and the Pleasant Valley Park District currently do not allow recreational use of drones.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board discuss drone usage in the District and consider directing staff to revise the existing ordinance for consideration by the Board at a future meeting.



Dan Paranic  
District Manager



2310 East Ponderosa Drive - Suite 25  
Camarillo, California 93010-4747  
voice 805.987.3468 - fax 805.482.9834  
www.bwslaw.com

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board Members of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District      **CC:** Dan Paranick, District Manager

**FROM:** Brian Pierik, District Counsel

**DATE:** September 30, 2021

**RE:** Regulation of Drones

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I am submitting this Memorandum to you with regard to whether the District has authority to regulate or ban the flight of drones within District-owned parks and whether there are any federal, or state, or local prohibitions or restrictions with respect to:

- (1) the District's use of drones for safety or security purposes;
- (2) the use of drones by others (members of the public) on District property; and
- (3) the use of drones for commercial purposes.

### Executive Summary

In general, any use of drones is subject to federal regulations established by the FAA. The District also has the authority pursuant to Public Resources Code section 5786.1(j) to establish rules and regulations with respect to drone operations on its own property, provided that they do not conflict with applicable federal law.

In the absence of a District enacted ban on the use of drones in its parks, such use would be deemed permitted. The District currently has rules in place that may be construed as prohibiting the use of drones. However, if the Board wishes to continue the ban on drones on District property, the Board should consider authorizing staff to return to the Board with revisions to these rules to provide further support for the prohibition on the use of drones on District property.

### Applicable Federal Law

The FAA has adopted regulations for the licensure and commercial use of drones in 14 C.F.R. part 107 to govern the use of small unmanned aircraft systems, commonly called drones, that authorize and govern use of drones weighing less than 55 pounds. Commercial use rules require that the operator obtain a remote pilot certificate with appropriate UAS rating, obtain air traffic control authorization for flights in restricted airspace, fly below 400 feet in altitude (unless certain requirements are met), avoid

manner aircraft, not operate drones from moving vehicles, and avoid flights over people who are not participating in the drone activities.

Recreational flights are permitted without preauthorization or licensure from the FAA pursuant to the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations of Unmanned Aircraft, 49 U.S.C. section 44809 (the "Recreation Exception"), but this statute and enabling regulations require that the drone operator fly purely for recreational purposes, fly below 400 feet in height, main visual line of sight with the drone, carry proof that they have passed a recreational drone safety test, and operate the drone in a safe manner.<sup>1</sup> FAA rules, under 14 CFR part 48, also require that all drone operators, whether commercial or recreational, maintain current registration for their drones if they weigh more than 0.55 pounds and that such drones bear unique identifiers.

The scope of federal preemption of local regulation is particularly unclear. The FAA has declined to state whether their rulemaking pre-empts state or local regulations of drone flight. In its 2016 rulemaking, the FAA stated it will conduct a "case-specific analysis" to determine if federal preemption applies. The FAA further noted that "certain legal aspects concerning small UAS use may be best addressed at the State or local level. For example, State law and other legal protections for individual privacy may provide recourse for a person whose privacy may be affected through another person's use of a [drone]."<sup>2</sup>

The FAA suggested state or local officials hoping to restrict flight paths or altitudes or institute operational bans consult with the FAA, as such regulations will likely be pre-empted. Any local ban on drones, or the equivalent of an airspace or safety regulation (e.g. limits on altitude, prohibiting flights in certain locations) or an operator licensure requirement were deemed likely to be pre-empted by federal law. However, the FAA has acknowledged that local laws related to land use, zoning, privacy, and law enforcement operations are generally not subject to federal regulation, assuming that such laws do not enter the sphere occupied by federal regulation.

Additionally, the FAA has publicly indicated to local jurisdictions that they may at least regulate permitted take-off and landing locations without facing a pre-emption challenge.<sup>3</sup> Only two federal trial courts have directly considered the validity of a local

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational\\_filers/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_filers/)

<sup>2</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 42063 § (III)(K)(6); see also [https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/policy\\_library/media/UAS\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_Final.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/policy_library/media/UAS_Fact_Sheet_Final.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> See [https://www.faa.gov/news/press\\_releases/news\\_story.cfm?newsId=22938&omniRss=press\\_releasesAcc](https://www.faa.gov/news/press_releases/news_story.cfm?newsId=22938&omniRss=press_releasesAcc)

regulations. One invalidated local restrictions on flying over public property and private property without permission. See *Singer v. City of Newton* (D. Mass. 2017) 284 F.Supp.3d 125, 131 (overturning as federally preempted a local ordinance prohibiting flying drones below 400 feet over private property without permission of owner, or flying drones over city property without prior permission). That court assumed that based on the FAA's position some local regulation would be permissible, but then found that any wholesale ban or any additional local registration or safety requirements would be federally preempted. *Id.* Another trial court determined that a Texas law prohibiting overflights of critical infrastructure facilities, correctional facilities, and sports stadiums was not federally preempted because they did not regulate a broad area of airspace and was limited to prohibiting flights over specific structures. See *National Press Photographers Association v. McCraw* (W.D. Tex. 2020) 504 F.Supp.3d 568, 575.

Notwithstanding federal law specifically authorizing drone flights, the law is unsettled about whether and under what circumstances a private landowner may bring suit for trespass when a drone flies into the low-altitude airspace above his land and if so, whether the landowner can exclude drone flights over his property regardless of these federal rules.<sup>4</sup> The exact scope of federal authority to regulate airspace is also somewhat unsettled — including whether the federal government may regulate anything flying solely in-state or whether federal jurisdiction covers all flights higher than a blade of grass. In light of this, public agencies have often ignored the FAA and enacted regulations under their general police powers for the protection of wildlife, property, and safety in a manner that has the effect of prohibiting drone use in certain areas. See, e.g., 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 4351 (prohibiting all motorized vehicles or other forms of mechanical transport in a wilderness area, cultural preserve or natural preserve in any state park, including planes and drones); Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Park Ordinance § 3.17 (prohibiting drones in any park without a permit issued by the Executive Director).<sup>5</sup> While such regulations have not been challenged, there are significant risks that they might not survive a federal preemption challenge. Numerous laws have recently been introduced by Congress to address the lack of regulatory clarity

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[&cid=102\\_P\\_RPress](#); see also [https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/community\\_engagement/no\\_drone\\_zone/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/community_engagement/no_drone_zone/)

<sup>4</sup> See U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Current Jurisdictional, Property, and Privacy Legal Issues Regarding the Commercial and Recreational Use of Drones," available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/d22178>.

Questions about protection of personal privacy from surveillance by drones also remain unresolved by the courts, and efforts by the Uniform Law Commission's Uniform Tort Law Relating to Drones Act Drafting Committee to draft a UAS privacy model law were suspended in January 2020.

<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://mroa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/MRCA-REVISED-ORDINANCE-2019.pdf>.

about federal preemption, but none were enacted.<sup>6</sup> It is unclear what position the FAA or other affected federal agencies may ultimately take on these types of state and local regulations.<sup>7</sup>

### State Law

California state law appears to have only a few relevant provisions regarding drone operation. First, Civil Code section 1708.8 provides civil liability for invasions of privacy by entering "into the land or airspace" of another person without permission for the purpose of recording someone engaging in "private, personal or familial activity." This provides a private right of action in civil court by the aggrieved party against the drone operator. Second, Government Code section 853 et seq. provides immunity to government employees for damage to drones that interfere with the public entity's provision of emergency medical, fire, and search and rescue services. Lastly, Penal Code section 402 makes it a misdemeanor to use a drone at the scene of an emergency in a manner that impedes emergency personnel. None of these provisions will likely apply to a casual hobbyist flying a drone in a public park, nor limit the District's ability to use drones for its own purposes.

### Local Law / Current District Rules

In the absence of specific local law, use of drones over public and private property is generally authorized in compliance with FAA registration rules and requirements. The District may use drones for its business purposes either by complying with commercial rules in 14 C.F.R. part 107 or by obtaining a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization ("COA") to operate a public aircraft.

The District currently has a few adopted rules which regulate the use of drones:<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., Advanced Unmanned Delivery Services Act, H.R. 6943, 116th Cong. (2020); Drone Integration and Zoning Act of 2019, S. 2607, 116th Cong. (2019); Drone Federalism Act of 2017, S. 1272, 115th Cong. (2017); Drone Innovation Act, H.R. 2930, 115th Cong. (2017).

<sup>7</sup> There are a number of unresolved questions related to the scope of federal preemption and concerns over the formation of a regulatory patchwork. The federal government's position has been in development since 2017 by a Joint Lawyers Working Group on Federal Preemption and the Regulation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems convened by the FAA and the US Department of Transportation.

<sup>8</sup> District Ordinance No. 3, as amended, available at <https://cms1files.revize.com/revize/ranchosimi/Staff%20and%20Board/Ordinance%20No%203%20revise%20080521.pdf>

- Rule 2: "No person may use hang gliders, air balloons or similar apparatus, or land or take off such apparatus on or from park property without a district approved facility use permit or contract."
- Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape, or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved facility use permit or contract."
- Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities. Remote control gliders and airplanes, but not helicopters, may be operated only in areas set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

With respect to the first rule, the phrase "similar apparatus" is so vague that imposing any penalty District enforcement of any penalty against a drone operator may raise due process concerns. Thus this first restriction should be revised to clearly apply to drones, if that is the regulatory intent. However, since the regulations ban *flight* in park airspace, there is a risk of a preemption challenge. Thus, the District should consider revising the prohibition to apply to only take-off and landing, which the FAA has indicated would be a permitted regulation. Since most small recreational drones may travel only a short distance, this type of prohibition is likely to be effective.

The second restriction on commercial filming can be applied to prohibit the use of drones for filming, and is also unlikely to expose the District to any preemption challenges since it does not specifically regulate the use of drones.

The third restriction also could be construed as a regulation of drones because it applies to prohibit "motorized or self-propelled vehicles" – yet it specifically allows remote control gliders and airplanes to be operated in designated areas. There is no definition in the rules as to what constitutes a remote control glider or airplane. This takes on new importance, as the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 repealed the Special Rule for Model Aircraft<sup>9</sup> which allowed model planes to be flown without any FAA regulation. Now, such craft are subject to the same federal rules as drones and can be flown only with FAA licensure or compliance with the Recreation Exception. Since federal law makes no distinction between such craft and all other drones, the District should

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<sup>9</sup> See <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/17/2019-10169/exception-for-limited-recreational-operations-of-unmanned-aircraft>

consider re-drafting this rule to be a regulation of take-off and landing, as discussed above.

### CONCLUSION

The District may both use drones for its own purposes, provided that the operator is licensed, or the District has obtained a COA to operate a drone. The District can also permit drones to be flown on its property.

If the District desires to limit the use of drones, it can enact regulations limiting the use of drones for specific purposes, or restrict or prohibit take-off and landing on District property, without facing any significant risks of a federal preemption challenge. The District likely can prohibit the use of drones in a manner that harasses wildlife. Some state and local agencies have enacted restrictions on flying in certain airspace, but these types of regulations have the potential to be challenged as federally preempted. Additionally, local regulations that impose additional safety or permit requirements are likely to be federally pre-empted.

ATTACHMENT B

ORDINANCE NO. 3  
Amended

AN ORDINANCE OF THE RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK  
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ESTABLISHING RULES AND  
REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF DISTRICT PARKS AND  
FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT PROGRAMS

The Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors ordains as follows:

**SECTION 1. Findings.**

A. It is the policy of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District ("District") that residents receive maximum benefit and enjoyment from District facilities and recreation programs.

B. In furtherance of the District's policy, this ordinance establishes rules and regulations governing the use of District parks and facilities as well as rules for participation in District programs to ensure that all persons using District parks and facilities and participating in District programs receive maximum benefit and enjoyment.

C. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by California Public Resources Code section 5786.1.

**SECTION 2. Violation of Ordinance.**

A. Any violation of the rules and regulations set forth in this ordinance is a misdemeanor unless the park ranger issuing the citation specifies on the citation that the violation is an infraction. The District's legal counsel may reduce a misdemeanor charge to an infraction. Prosecution of a person pursuant to this section will not preclude prosecution of that person pursuant to the California Penal Code or other provisions of California law or pursuant to the provisions of the Simi Valley Municipal Code.

B. A new and separate offense occurs for each day that a violation of, or failure to comply with, any provision or requirement of this ordinance is committed, continued, or permitted by any person.

C. Any unlawful act or omission in this ordinance includes causing, permitting, aiding, abetting, suffering, or concealing the act or omission.

D. No person may refuse to leave a District park or facility after being ejected. Any person who has been ejected from District property may not return to the same park or facility, or any other District park or facility, during the calendar day in which that person is ejected.

E. Parents are responsible for the actions of minor children. Damage to District property resulting from the actions of minors will be imputed to parents having custody or control of the minor (California Civil Code § 1714.1).

### **SECTION 3. Enforcement.**

A. The District Manager and park rangers of the District and all other law enforcement officers possessing authority to act within the boundaries of the District (collectively, "enforcement officers") may enforce all of the rules and regulations contained in this ordinance. Enforcement mechanisms include issuing citations, arresting individuals without a warrant whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that the individuals committed a misdemeanor in the enforcement officer's presence, which constitutes a violation of these provisions, and ejecting or causing to be ejected from District parks and facilities any person acting in violation of this ordinance. Further, the District Manager and park rangers may deny use of District parks and facilities and participation in District programs to individuals and groups who fail to comply with this ordinance. A person ejected from a District park or facility may also be excluded from the park or facility in lieu of being cited for violation of this ordinance, but ejection or exclusion will not preclude the person from being cited or arrested for conduct in violation of this ordinance or other provisions of California law.

B. Park rangers may issue citations for violations of District rules and regulations, Simi Valley Municipal Code, Ventura County Ordinance, and for violations of State and Federal law.

C. Enforcement officers may take into custody any item which is used in violation of this Ordinance or which may cause damage to park property, to any person, or to the property of any person if its use is permitted to continue. Specific items which may be taken into custody by enforcement officers include, but are not limited to air/spring guns, firearms, crossbows, archery equipment, explosive devices, skateboards, skates, bicycles, radios, tape and compact disc players, sound amplification equipment, powered or line attached model crafts, hang gliders, air balloons, barbeques, cooking devices, and combustible fuel or electric operating devices. Such items will be impounded for safekeeping and will be retained by the District for a period not exceeding 30 calendar days. The items impounded will then be returned to the owner, to the person in possession of the item at the time of the violation, or in the case of a minor, to the minor's parent or legal guardian.

D. The District has the authority to establish and enforce additional rules and regulations that are necessary to implement District's policies and to meet needs as situations may require.

**SECTION 4. Rules and Regulations for Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs.** The following rules and regulations, attached as Exhibit "A" as amended, and incorporated by reference, apply to the use of all parks and facilities owned, managed, controlled or operated by the District, as well as to participation in District programs. Citations issued for a violation of a rule or regulation must include a notation formatted as follows: 3-4.x. In this example, the "3" refers to District Ordinance No. 3, the "4" refers to the Section of

Ordinance No. 3 that incorporates each and every rule and regulation, and the "x" refers to the actual number of the rule or regulation. Therefore, a citation issued for possession or consumption of alcohol in the park without a permit would read as follows: 3-4.4.

**SECTION 5. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of the ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 6. Effective Date.** This ordinance will take effect 30 days after its adoption. .

**SECTION 7. Publication.** The District Clerk of the Board of Directors is directed to cause this ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this      day of      , by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Dennert, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Paranick, District Clerk

EXHIBIT A  
RULES & REGULATIONS

Rule No.	Category	Section 4. Rules and Regulations
1.	After Hours	No person may remain in a district park or open space after or before posted park hours without a district approved facility use permit or contract. Park hours are between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted. Unescorted minors must observe curfew laws.
2.	Airspace	No person may use hang gliders, air balloons or similar apparatus, or land or take off such apparatus on or from park property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
3.	Aggressive Panhandling	No person may aggressively panhandle in or on any district facility, park or property. For purposes of this section, "aggressively panhandle" means an immediate request for funds accompanied by verbal or physical threats or coercion, or persisting in requesting funds following a negative response from the individual being solicited.
4.	Alcohol	No person may drink any malt, spirits or vinous liquor containing more than one-half (1/2) of one percent of alcohol by volume, and no person may hold or exercise control over any open container containing such beverage in or upon any district park or facility, or in or around District permitted activities or athletic events unless such actions have been authorized by the district by special permit or other action of the Board of Directors or District Manager. Persons who bring coolers or similar containers must allow cursory inspection of such items upon request of a Park Ranger.
5.	Animals	No person may cause animals (including dogs, ferrets and snakes) owned or controlled by the person to be let loose in district parks and facilities, except at such times and under such conditions as may be expressly permitted by the district.
6.	Animals	No person may bring pets or animals, except guide dogs or other service dogs or in connection with a district approved activity, into a district building without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
7.	Animals	No person may chase, grab, shoot, throw rocks or other objects at or attempt to capture or injure wildlife on district property.
8.	Animals	No person may feed wildlife, including ducks and geese, in violation of rules that are posted at specific District parks and facilities.

9.	Bicycles	Persons are permitted to bike within District property on concrete and dirt paths during designated park hours only. No person shall bicycle in any area where signs are posted prohibiting such activity. Bicycles must yield to pedestrians at all times. Bike riders must travel at a reasonably safe speed and may not exceed 15 mph in speed at any time or location. All state and local regulations regarding helmet and other protective gear for minors or adults must be followed. No person shall operate a bicycle in a reckless manner so as to damage public property, or endanger the life, limb or property of any person or animal, or to cause a public nuisance. Bicycles are not permitted on any courts to include, but not limited to, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts. Electric, battery operated bicycles with no pedal assist feature are prohibited.
10.	Buildings	No person may use a district building, equipment, or materials without first obtaining district approval for the use.
11.	Buildings	No person may ride a bicycle, scooter, skateboard, skates, or in-line skates within a district building, and no person may wear skate shoes or shoes with cleats within a district building.
12.	Buildings	District restroom sinks may not be used to wash body parts other than hands and arms unless a medical circumstance requires it.
13.	Buildings	A person or their personal property may be inspected by designated district staff members as a condition to being granted admission or entrance into a district facility, activity or event.
14.	Business	No vendors, including but not limited to ice cream, balloon, hotdog, or candy vendors, may operate on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
15.	Business	No person may conduct or solicit for any trade, occupation, business or profession on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
16.	Business	No person may distribute any commercial circulars, cards, or written advertising matter, and no person may post, paste, or affix any placard, notice or sign on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
17.	Business	No person may sell, offer or solicit for sale any goods, vehicles, food, beverage, merchandise, or services on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
18.	Camping	No person may erect an enclosed tent or similar structure on any district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
19.	Camping	No person may sleep in sleeping bags or under blankets in or on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract. No person may camp or engage in camping activities on any district property except in areas specifically designated for such use, or specifically authorized by a district issued facility use permit or

		contract. In the absence of a district issued facility use permit or contract, or upon failure to produce the permit or contract when requested, such camping will be declared unlawful and must cease when so ordered by a Park Ranger, Police Officer or other enforcement officer. For purposes of this section, "camping activities" means the laying down of bedding for the purposes of sleeping for prolonged or repeated periods of time, the storage of personal belongings such as clothing, foodstuff/beverages, sleeping bags, bedrolls, luggage, backpacks, kitchen utensils, cook ware, and similar materials on district property, the erecting of tents or any structure providing shelter (including but not limited to trees, paper, metal, wood, shrubs or bushes), starting or maintaining a fire, or regularly cooking or preparing meals.
20.	Camping	Otherwise permissible camping is unlawful where it is conducted in such a manner so as to create a nuisance resulting from noise, or inadequate sanitation, or any other activity that otherwise disturbs persons of reasonable sensitivity.
21.	Damage	No person may cut, pick, disturb, damage, mutilate, destroy, injure, graffiti, deface, remove, or disturb any animal, tree, shrub, bush, flower, plant, rock, wall, gate, post, pole, building, fence, bench, table, or other structure, apparatus or property in or on district property.
22.	Damage	No person may alter or modify the natural state of parks, open space and trails, or create dirt ramps, dug-outs, or holes, including for the purpose of creating a bike course or embankment, without district staff approval.
23.	Damage	No person may use a metal detector on any district park or facility without a district issued facility use permit.
24.	Design Use	No person may walk, climb, stand, or sit upon any district property not designated or customarily used for such purposes.
25.	Design Use	No person may play baseball except on designated baseball fields expressly set aside for this activity. No person may play softball except on designated softball fields expressly set aside for this activity.
26.	Design Use	No person may engage in activities which are inconsistent with the intended use or design of a specific area, equipment or apparatus within any park or facility. No person, while in or on district property or facilities, may engage in conduct which is or may be harmful or hazardous to district property, to any person, or to the property of any person.

27.	Dogs	Dogs must remain on a leash no more than six feet long held continuously in the hands of a person able to control the dog on all district property except within district provided off-leash dog parks. The owner or controller of an animal that defecates (except for guide dogs) must pick up and properly dispose of any feces no more than five minutes thereafter.
28.	Dogs	The only type of animals allowed in district provided off-leash dog parks are dogs.
29.	Dogs	No children under the age of 6 are allowed in district provided dog parks, and children between the ages of 6 and 12 are allowed into a district provided dog park only with adult supervision.
30.	Dogs	Dogs entering district provided dog parks must wear a current license issued by the city or county in which the dog's owner resides.
31.	Dogs	No more than 4 dogs at one time may be brought into a district provided dog park by any one person.
32.	Dogs	A person or group using a district facility pursuant to a district issued facility use permit or other contract may exclude dogs from the portion of the facility that is the subject of the district issued permit or contract.
33.	Filming	No person may film, videotape, or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved <u>film permit, facility use permit or contract.</u> <u>Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial or education purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract.</u>
34.	Fires	No person may make or kindle an open fire on district property except in picnic stoves or fire circles provided by the district for that purpose, and no person may operate a barbeque or other cooking device in a manner which will damage turf or district property. No person may make or kindle an open fire in a fire circle without first obtaining a district issued facility use permit, which permit will not be issued and may be revoked on red flag days. Ashes in district furnished picnic stoves or fire circles must be left in place. Ashes in private barbeques brought into a park must be removed from the park or deposited into district provided ash cans if available. Ashes may not be deposited into trash cans, or on the ground. Fires of any kind are not allowed in natural parks or open space without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
35.	Fireworks	No person may possess or use fireworks, including firecrackers, rockets or other similar items customarily associated with Independence Day celebrations, without a district approved facility use permit or contract.

36.	Food & Beverage	No person may bring into a district building any food or beverages unless that person has been given specific authorization to do so by district staff, a district approved facility use permit or contract has been issued, or the person is participating in a program or event approved by the district that provides for or allows the use of food and beverages.
37.	Gambling	No person may maintain gambling equipment in or on district property, except equipment that is incidental to the playing of bingo by organizations that have qualified for and obtained a permit for such purposes from the City of Simi Valley or the County of Ventura.
38.	Gatherings	No person may hold or conduct any public assemblage, meeting, gathering, group picnic, athletic activity, celebration, parade, service or exercise of 50 or more persons in or on any district property without first having obtained a district approved facility use permit or contract.
39.	Gatherings	Youth or adult sports groups that come together to play or practice a sport or activity such as, but not limited to, football, soccer, softball, or lacrosse, must use district facilities designed for the sport or activity that they are engaged in.
40.	Gatherings	A person or group using a district facility pursuant to a district issued facility use permit or other contract may exclude persons from entering the portion of the facility that is the subject of their district issued permit or contract if those persons are not invitees of the permit or contract holder.
41.	Golf	No person may play golf or otherwise hit any type of golf balls on district property, with the exception of district owned golf courses, without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
42.	Graffiti	No person may use or possess a graffiti implement including, but not limited to, aerosol paint containers, indelible markers, paint sticks, etching tools or other similar devices, to apply graffiti upon any district property.
43.	Gyms	No person may use any shoes on the gymnasium playing floor except soft-sole basketball or tennis-type shoes. No person may use black sole shoes on the gymnasium floor that may leave marks on the gymnasium playing floor.
44.	Gyms	No person may use the community center gymnasium showers unless that person is a participant in a recreation program at the community center immediately before or after using the shower and that person's use of the showers has been approved by the community center supervisor. Shower room lockers are for day use only. Persons using a locker must provide their own lock and remove it and the contents of the locker before leaving. Any items left in the locker at the time of normal closing hours are subject to seizure by the district.

45.	Gyms	No person may enter or remain in the community center building unless that person is wearing clothing and shoes customarily used for the sport or activity in which that person is participating , which will protect that person, other persons, and district property from injury or damage resulting from that person's participation in the sport or activity. No person may wear shoes with cleats, stubs, or spikes inside the community center building. No person may wear leather sole or leather heel soles on wood floors in the community center building.
46.	Horses	No person may ride a horse or animal of any description onto or over land owned, managed, controlled or operated by the district except upon areas , such as trails, designated by the district for such use and at times designated by the district for such use.
47.	Horses	No person may permit a horse that is owned or controlled by that person to enter turf grass, planters, or other planted areas within district property.
48.	Horses	No person may permit a horse that is owned or controlled by that person to be unattended and unsupervised within district property at any time except in designated areas, tethered or otherwise approved by the district with a facility use permit or contract.
49.	Horses	Horses must be kept at a walking pace when horseback riding is occurring on district trails.
50.	Horses	No person may use a corral used for a turn-out for a continuous period in excess of one hour.
51.	Horses	No person may place a horse port-a-stall or other temporary corral on district property without a written permit from the district.
52.	Horses	No person may wash horses or related equipment on district property without an approved facility use permit.
53.	Inflatables	Inflatable jumpers, slides and movie screens, dunk tanks and other similar types of items may not be placed on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract. If a use is approved, any generators must be placed on plywood and in a way that reduces the likelihood of damage or injury from heat or moving parts, and electrical cords must be laid to reduce tripping hazards. Refilling gas operated generators must be done without spilling fuel on grass.
54.	Language Conduct	No person may use toward any other person any abusive, insulting or obscene language or gesture, or any language or gesture naturally tending to create a breach of the peace, or to be guilty of conduct tending to provoke a breach of the peace, or to make any loud and offensive noises tending to disturb the peace.
55.	Loiter	No person will loiter inside or outside a district building.
56.	Loiter	Loitering is prohibited under bridges.

57.	Nudity	No person may appear nude in district facilities or on district property. For purposes of these regulations, "nude" means unclothed or in such a state of undress as to expose any part or portion of the pubic or anal region or genitalia of any person, or any portion of the breast at or below the areola thereof of any female person.
58.	Nuisance	Whenever any person creating, causing, committing, or maintaining a public nuisance as defined under State law or other ordinance or regulation, has been given notice by a Park Ranger or other authorized district employee to abate such nuisance or cease and desist from continuing such nuisance or violation of law, and such person who was given notice fails, refuses, or neglects to comply with the notice within the time specified therein, or if such a time is not specified, then within a time reasonably sufficient to enable compliance, the person will be liable to the district for any and all costs and expenses that the district incurs as a result of abating the nuisance and obtaining compliance with or enforcing the law. Costs and expenses may include but are not limited to direct costs and expenses of personnel, operational overhead, fees for experts or consultants, legal costs or expenses, including attorneys' fees, claims against the district arising as a consequence of the nuisance or violation, and procedures associated with collecting moneys due hereunder.
59.	Parking	No person may park, abandon or otherwise allow to remain on district parks or facilities between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. automobiles, trailers, campers, motor homes, recreational vehicles, unless district permission has been expressly granted or parking is required for attendance at a district activity.
60.	Parking	No person may violate the following curb markings within district parks, facilities, and parking areas: Red indicates no stopping, standing or parking, whether the vehicle is attended or unattended. Yellow indicates stopping only for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers or freight for no more than ten minutes. White indicates stopping for the purpose of loading or unloading of passengers for no more than five minutes. Green indicates 30 minute parking. Blue indicates parking limited exclusively to the vehicles of physically handicapped persons as described in the California Vehicle Code.
61.	Parking	No person may park motorcycles or other motorized vehicles (with the exception of wheelchairs or similar devices), whether attended or unattended, on district parks or facilities except at parking lots provided by the district or as otherwise permitted by a district approved facility use permit or contract.

62.	RC	No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities, <u>except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use.</u> Remote control gliders <del>and</del> airplanes, <u>and drones</u> , but not helicopters, may be operated only in <u>developed park areas specifically designated</u> set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons.
63.	Recycling	The collection of recyclable materials by any person must be completed without impacting the use of district facilities by other park patrons, and all recyclable items collected must be promptly removed from the park.
64.	Restrooms	No person may loiter in or about any toilet facility or restroom.
65.	Restrooms	No person over the age of seven years may enter or use restrooms other than those provided for that person's gender. Personal health care providers or assistants may enter restrooms to provide assistance to their patient after first announcing their intent to enter the restroom and then obtaining permission to enter from those already in the restroom. No person may encourage or invite another person over the age of seven years to enter or use a restroom which is not provided for the gender of the person so encouraged or invited.
66.	Restrooms	No person may urinate or defecate in or on district property except in toilets or urinals located in portable or restroom buildings.
67.	Skateboards, etc.	Persons are permitted to skateboard, roller skate, roller blade, non-motorized scooter and ride one wheelers within District property on concrete and dirt paths during designated park hours only. No person shall skateboard, roller skate, roller blade, scooter or one wheel in any area where signs are posted prohibiting such activity. Skateboarders, roller skaters, roller bladers, scooters and one wheelers must yield to pedestrians at all times. Skateboarders, roller skaters, roller bladers, scooters and one wheelers must travel at a reasonably safe speed and may not exceed 15 mph in speed at any time or location. All state and local regulations regarding helmet and other protective gear for minors or adults must be followed. Any person riding a skateboard at Berylwood Skate Plaza or any Rancho Simi skating facility is required to wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads at all times. No person shall utilize a skateboard, roller skates, roller blades, scooter or one wheeler in a reckless manner so as to damage public property, or endanger the life, limb or property of any person or animal, or to cause a public nuisance. Skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, scooters and one wheelers are not permitted on any courts to include, but not limited to, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts.

68.	Smoking	No person may smoke or vape which includes the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs and electronic smoking devices such as e-cigarettes and vaping pens within a district park, building or open space; provided, however, that persons may smoke cigars, cigarettes or other tobacco products on a district golf course or in designated smoke zones.
69.	Sound	No person may use sound-amplifying equipment without a district approved facility use permit. The users of sound equipment must abide by any specific limitations noted upon the use permit, and must abide by the orders and directions of District employees in the operation of the sound-amplifying equipment.
70.	Sound	<p>No person may use their voice or make noise in a district park or facility (which includes but is not limited to buildings, parking lots, sidewalks, walkways, parks) in a loud, unusual, penetrating or boisterous manner that results in discomfort or annoyance to a reasonable person of normal sensitivity where there is no substantial effort to communicate with any such individual or to communicate at a lower volume of sound or in a more reasonable manner. The standards that will be considered in determining whether a violation of this section exists include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The volume of the noise;</li> <li>2. The intensity of the noise;</li> <li>3. Whether the noise can be heard from a distance of 50 feet or more from the noise source; or from a distance determined to be reasonable under the circumstances by the officer at the scene;</li> <li>4. The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates;</li> <li>5. The time of the day or night the noise occurs;</li> <li>6. The duration of the noise;</li> <li>7. The extent to which nearby persons and the activities of such persons are disturbed by the noise; and</li> <li>8. The extent to which the individual making the noise was requested to cease the disturbance or lower the volume of the noise and such person failed to do so.</li> </ol> <p>No person will be cited under this section unless the person engages in conduct prohibited by this section after having been notified by an enforcement officer that the conduct violates this section.</p>
71.	Trash	No person may leave the shells of seeds or nuts such as sunflower, peanut and pistachio on the ground, on a bleacher, bench or other park amenity as they are considered to be garbage and must be properly disposed of in a trash can or otherwise removed from the district facility.

72.	Vehicles	No person may repair, renovate or paint any vehicle on district property, unless the repairs performed are of an emergency nature, and they are required in order to permit the vehicle to be moved.
73.	Vehicles	No person may drive any vehicle on district property (including parking lots, trails, walkways, park entrances) at a speed greater than the posted speed limit.
74.	Vehicles	No person may drive a vehicle on turf grass without an approved district facility use permit.
75.	Waters	No person may swim, wade, or enter into any park waters which are not designated for public swimming and no parent, legal guardian, or any other person in charge of any minor child may permit the minor child to enter any pond, lake, lagoon, or other water feature on or in district parks that is not designed and operated as a swimming pool or children's splash pad.
76.	Waters	No person may place or operate any boat, canoe, kayak, raft, or other watercraft that may hold one or more person in any park waters.
77.	Weapons	No person may carry or discharge firearms, gas or air-powered weapons, rockets, axes, hatchets, offensive knives, weapon replicas, training weapons, slings or slingshots or throw stones or other missiles on or in district property. Bows and arrows may be used on district property only in district designated areas.

# Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting

## MINUTES

Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 6:30pm

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District • Activity Room 3  
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • (805) 584-4400

A video recording of tonight's meeting is available on  
the District Website at [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org).

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Dennert called the Meeting to Order at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kevin Born and Scout Troup 3605.
2. ROLL CALL – Directors Abele, Freeman, Gray, Vice Chair O'Brien, and Chair Dennert were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Danielle June, Zach Miller, Shana Moore, Wayne Nakaoka, Kelly Negrete, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Brian Reed, Alex Stumfall, Gina Viecco, Brittany Wilson, and Legal Counsel Brian Pierik.

Guests attended tonight's meeting in-person and via Zoom. Those who made public comments are listed under the appropriate Item below.

3. AGENDA REVIEW – There were no requested changes to tonight's Agenda.
4. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)

Simi Valley Veteran Douglas Banforth thanked the Board, District Manager, and Staff for another wonderful Veteran's Day celebration.

Dylan Johnston thanked the Board for the abundance of parks and recreational programming here in Simi Valley. His boys recently joined a Soccer Club, he is concerned there are far fewer soccer fields as opposed to other sports. The fields are shared with other groups, and it seems to have caused more wear and tear. He is requesting staff to analyze the amount of soccer activity and offer more fields.

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting – November 4, 2021 – Motion: Vice Chair O'Brien moved to approve the Minutes as written. Director Freeman seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

6. CONSENT AGENDA (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director's request.)

- a. Approval of 10/31/21 Accounts Payable Check Register and 11/5/21 Payroll Check Register – Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## 7. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Presentation of the Full-Time Employee of the Month for October 2021 to Brittany Wilson – Director of Administration Theresa Pennington presented Brittany with her plaque, and she will receive a paid day off. Brittany is the District's Human Resource Coordinator. She has been with the District for 5.5 years; this is her third award. Pennington added, this nomination is extra special as it was submitted from another Department. Her door is always open, and she provides a great combination of support and advocating for employees. Brittany thanked everyone; she appreciates the recognition.

Dennert commended Brittany for also managing the ever-changing COVID protocols during the last year.

Abele added, he thinks Brittany does an amazing job. He agrees the nomination coming from a different department makes it more special. Congratulations and well deserved.

Freeman, Gray, and O'Brien agreed with all the previous comments.

- b. Introduction of the New Oak Park Recreation Supervisor Kelly Negrete and Appreciation to Interim Oak Park Recreation Supervisor Bryan McQueen – Director of Recreation Zach Miller provided the verbal report. Miller officially announced that Negrete will be moving over to the Oak Park Community Center. Unfortunately, McQueen was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but his support as the Interim Supervisor was appreciated.

The entire Board congratulated Negrete and are looking forward to working with her in Oak Park. They also thanked McQueen for his work during the transition in Oak Park.

- c. Presentation of Award in Honor and Appreciation of Wayne Nakaoka's 35 Years of Service to the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District – District Manager Dan Paranick provided the verbal report. Nakaoka has been the heart and soul of the District during his 35 years at the District. He cares passionately about the parks, residents, and employees. The District is lucky to have him, he is a true public servant. His service and commitment to the District has been outstanding.

Nakaoka stated it has been quite a fun journey working at the District for 35 years. He has enjoyed working with the Board members, both present and past and his fellow employees.

Freeman added, she doesn't know what the District would do without Wayne. She is so grateful for the many years of working together.

Abele stated, Wayne's knowledge is at 35 years, but his enthusiasm for the job is still like a new kid on the block. He appreciates the honest and open communication with him. Wayne has headed the Planning Department during numerous projects, plus his leadership during the tough time of the Pandemic has been invaluable.

O'Brien congratulated Wayne on the achievement of 35 years with the District. She doesn't know what the District will do without him.

Gray congratulated Wayne, adding there has not been a year of his life that Wayne hasn't contributed to the District. Gray is looking forward to working with Nakaoka more and will gladly buy lunch

Former Board Member Mark Johnson stated, Wayne has always been top-notch and has contributed so much to the District. The Public thanks you for doing an excellent job.

Chair Dennert thanked Wayne for all of his work with the District. There are so many great family memories made here in parks that Wayne designed. Dennert congratulated Wayne again and presented him with a plaque and check.

- d. Status of the Districts Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – District Manager Dan Paranick presented the Verbal Report. Staff received a complaint regarding non-compliance with masking near recreational classes. There was one positive COVID case amongst employees. The After School Clubs are currently holding steady. The mandate requiring COVID testing for all employees is currently on hold.

## 8. CONTINUED BUSINESS

- a. Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 Allowing the Use of Drones in Various Areas of the District – District Manager Dan Paranick presented the Staff Report. After discussion at the October 7, 2021, Board of Directors meeting, the Board directed District staff to amend Ordinance No. 3 to allow recreational Drone usage in specific park areas and open space.

Gray questioned the wording of Rule 33, it mentions commercial and educational events only. Paranick replied “special events” can be added to the verbiage.

Freeman cannot support this change, three of the local agencies do not allow the use of drones. She feels people using the parks should not be bothered with Drones flying overhead, she feels it is a violation of privacy. She wishes the Board would consider not allowing Drones.

O’Brien suggested contacting the other agencies to find out why they do not allow Drones.

Douglas Banforth agreed with Freeman’s point, people are concerned about their privacy.

Abele doesn’t feel privacy in a public park is an issue. He is in favor of allowing Drone use and appreciates the changes. Our District could set a trend for the other agencies.

Gray has not heard of any other agencies denying the use of Drones. Rule 62 was crafted to maintain privacy. Usage will not be at all parks and staff can use their discretion on usage. He added cell phones are more common and widely used than Drones.

Freeman respects the other opinions, adding the Board Members don’t always have to agree.

Dennert doesn’t feel the Ordinance change will cause a noticeable difference in the actual usage of Drones and the Board can be open to adjusting in the future if needed. He thanked Gray for bringing the item to the Board.

Paranick requested District Counsel read the Ordinance title.

Motion: Director Gray moved to approve the Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 including the addition of “Special Events” to Rule 33. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 4 to 1 vote, with Freeman voting no.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approval of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board Schedule for 2022 Meetings, Workshops and Conferences – District Manager Dan Paranick provided the Staff. The proposed Board Meeting Schedule for 2022 was discussed by the Board. Paranick highlighted any adjustments caused by other events.

Abele suggested removing the meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> as there are already 2 this month with the Budget Meeting.

Dennert suggested removing the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in July (the 6<sup>th</sup>) as the meeting is usually cancelled.

Motion: Director Abele moved to the approve the Meeting Calendar as amended by removing the May 17<sup>th</sup> and July 6<sup>th</sup> meetings. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion, the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

- b. Approval of Award of Contract for Tree Trimming and Pruning Services at Various District Parks in Simi Valley – Director of Planning and Maintenance Wayne Nakaoka presented the Staff Report. During its September 2, 2021 meeting, the Board authorized staff to solicit bids for Tree Trimming and Pruning at District parks in Simi Valley. Staff recommends awarding the contract to the apparent lowest bidder, West Coast Arborists, Inc. of Anaheim, CA. This Company has a great reputation and handle many other local areas.

Dennert asked what is done with the wood chips and when would the trimming start. Nakaoka replied, certain types of wood can be used in parks, the others are disposed of. The trimming would start the beginning of 2022 and will take approximately 30 days.

Freeman asked if Oak Park would go to bid separately. Nakaoka responded yes, and the bids will be brought to the Oak Park meeting.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to award the Contract to West Coast Arborists, Inc. with a \$5K contingency. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## 10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE - NONE

## 11. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Gray attended Snowfest which was an incredible event. There were a lot of people and children having fun, thanks to staff for a great job. He attended the Soccer and Youth Services Committee meetings. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Director Abele attended the Youth Services Committee meeting with Gray. He feels it could and should have been held as a regular Board Meeting. He feels the Fee Study conducted by the District was flawed and he is not in favor of raising fees. He attended Veteran's Day, it was a great and important ceremony, this is always his favorite. He thanked Jeannie Liss for doing a great job with the event planning.

Director Freeman attended the Strathearn Volunteer dinner, there was an interesting presentation about aprons. She attended Snowfest, Staff did a great job, and it was fun to watch the children enjoying the snow. She complimented Staff on the Veterans Day event, the replica of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was a great addition this year, She thanked Staff for her birthday remembrance, it was a great day. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Vice Chair O'Brien complimented Staff for Veterans Day; it was a great event. She agreed with Freeman, the Apron Presentation at Strathearn was very interesting. She heard that Director Gray recently got engaged and congratulated him. She also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chair Dennert participated in a graffiti cleanup last weekend. They are making a lot of progress; the next scheduled cleanup is on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. The Veteran's Day was especially moving with the replica of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier onsite. He thanked staff for their work on Snowfest, it was a massive and fun event. Miller added Danielle June's team took the lead along with Dave DeMaio. Dennert added the Library is hosting a Book Club, if anyone is interested, he has an extra book. He also donated books written by Alan Salazar to the After School Clubs. Salazar is a local resident of Chumash descent, for over 25 years, he has worked with youth and adult groups for the purpose of sharing and saving Native American culture and beliefs. Dennert wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, enjoying time with family.

12. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER - Dan Paranick provided comments. All reports from the Skate Plaza have been good. Regarding the tree near Mae Boyar Park in Oak Park, the County has agreed to fund the additional amount needed to not remove the tree. Staff is currently waiting on Southern California Edison for the lighting at the Apollo Fields, they should be ready next week. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round of interviews for the Senior Analyst position in Planning and Maintenance was held this week. The Auditors are here this week, the results are good, thanks to Pennington and her Staff. Paranick attended a Community Council meeting and made a lunch presentation, the group had a lot of good things to say about the District.

Upcoming Events: District Job Fair on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Future Agenda Items: Pickleball discussion, Part-Time minimum wage increase, conceptual Activity Center design, Chair and Vice-Chair appointments for 2022, agreement with the Historical Society, Land/Water Conservation Grant application, Facility Rental Fees, and Athletic Field contracts.

Committee Activity: Historical Society meeting in the beginning of December.

Chair Dennert called a 5-minute Recess at 7:59pm.

Chair Dennert called the Meeting back to Open Session at 8:05pm.

13. CLOSED SESSION - Chair Dennert announced Closed Session at 8:05pm.

- a. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6  
CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Agency Designated Representative:	District Manager
Employee Organization:	Unrepresented Part Time Employees

There was no reportable action taken by the Board tonight.

14. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Dennert adjourned the Meeting from Closed Session at 8:15pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Paranick, District Manager / District Clerk

ATTACHMENT C

DECEMBER 2, 2021

STAFF REPORT AND MINUTES

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 2, 2021  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Second Reading and Adoption of Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 Allowing the Use of Drones in Various Areas of the District

**BACKGROUND**

At its October 7, 2021 meeting, the Board of Directors discussed and considered allowing the use of drones in various areas of the District. Following the discussion, the Board directed staff to bring forth necessary amendments to the District's Rules and Regulations Ordinance which would allow for the use of recreational drones in District owned open space and in specifically designated areas of developed parks. The October 7, 2021 report on the subject is provided as Attachment A to this report.

The first reading of the proposed amendment to the Ordinance was approved on November 18, 2021 by a 4 to 1 vote. At that meeting, the Board also directed that Rule 33 be modified to indicate that drones would also be allowed to be used at Special Events with an approved District permit. Rule No. 33 has been modified below and is included in the amended Ordinance to allow for the use of drones at special events by permit. The November 18, 2021 staff report is provided as Attachment B to this report.

**DISCUSSION**

Accordingly, to effectuate the direction regarding the recreational use of drones, the following amendment to Rule 62 of the District's Ordinance No. 3 – Rules and Regulations is proposed as follows:

Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities, except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use. Remote control gliders, and airplanes, and recreational drones, but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

Additionally, in order to confirm and clarify that drones are allowed to be used throughout the District for commercial purposes, staff is also recommending changes to Rule 33 of Ordinance No. 3 as follows:

film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial, educational or special event purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract."

Ordinance No. 3, as amended, with the proposed changes to Rule 62 and Rule 33, is provided as Attachment C to this report.

By process, the proposed Ordinance and revised rules must be introduced at a regular meeting of the Board and be adopted at a second meeting of the Board, no less than 5 days later. Upon approval of the second reading and adoption, the Ordinance must be read in full unless a full reading of the order is waived by the Board. Ordinances become effective 30 days after the second reading and adoption.

### ALTERNATIVES

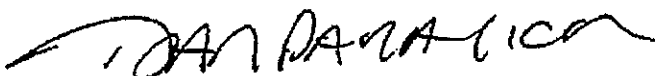
1. Approve the second reading and adopt amended Ordinance No. 3 with the proposed rule changes;
2. Make modifications to the proposed rule changes and direct staff to bring the amended Ordinance back to the Board at a future meeting;
3. Do not approve the second reading and adoption, thereby not approving the proposed rule changes; or
4. Provide other direction to staff.

Staff recommends Alternative No 1.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Request a reading of the title of amended Ordinance No. 3; and
2. Following a reading of the title of the Ordinance, move to waive further reading and adopt amended Ordinance No. 3, an Ordinance of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Establishing Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

ATTACHMENT A

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 7, 2021  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property

**DISCUSSION**

This item is being presented to the Board for discussion and direction regarding drone usage on District property.

The existing District ordinance currently includes the following rule related to the use of aerial crafts and aerial vehicles:

Rule 62: No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities. Remote control gliders and airplanes, but not helicopters, may be operated only in areas set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons.

The existing rule does not contemplate the use of drones specifically and, as written, is currently construed to mean that drone usage is not currently allowed on or over any District owned property.

This item provides the Board an opportunity to provide direction regarding the use of drones on District property as follows:

1. Does the Board want to allow recreational drone usage in the District?
2. If so, what areas of the District would the use of drones be allowed (i.e., open space, developed parks, specific designated areas, etc.)?

Attachment A to this report provides a memorandum from District Counsel which includes an analysis of the law pertaining to the use of drones. As the matter is discussed, it is recommended the Board consider: 1) the impacts that drone usage may have on others users and patrons of open space/parks; 2) fire prevention/safety; and, 3) potential liabilities.

If the District directs that the existing ordinance be amended, the Board may also want to take the opportunity to also amend the rules clarifying the use of drones for commercial purposes (filming companies). Although the District has been allowing film companies to use drones on District property by permit within the construction of our current ordinance and applicable federal and state laws, the use of drones for commercial use could use some clarification in the ordinance.

Staff notes, locally, the Mountains Recreation Conservation Agency (MRCA), the Conejo Park District, the Conejo Open Space Conservation Authority and the Pleasant Valley Park District currently do not allow recreational use of drones.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board discuss drone usage in the District and consider directing staff to revise the existing ordinance for consideration by the Board at a future meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "DAN PARANICK". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dan Paranick  
District Manager



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Camarillo, California 93010-4747  
voice 805.987.3468 - fax 805.482.9834  
www.bwslaw.com

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board Members of the Rancho Simi  
Recreation and Park District

**CC:** Dan Paranick, District  
Manager

**FROM:** Brian Pierik, District Counsel

**DATE:** September 30, 2021

**RE:** Regulation of Drones

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I am submitting this Memorandum to you with regard to whether the District has authority to regulate or ban the flight of drones within District-owned parks and whether there are any federal, or state, or local prohibitions or restrictions with respect to:

- (1) the District's use of drones for safety or security purposes;
- (2) the use of drones by others (members of the public) on District property; and
- (3) the use of drones for commercial purposes.

### Executive Summary

In general, any use of drones is subject to federal regulations established by the FAA. The District also has the authority pursuant to Public Resources Code section 5786.1(j) to establish rules and regulations with respect to drone operations on its own property, provided that they do not conflict with applicable federal law.

In the absence of a District enacted ban on the use of drones in its parks, such use would be deemed permitted. The District currently has rules in place that may be construed as prohibiting the use of drones. However, if the Board wishes to continue the ban on drones on District property, the Board should consider authorizing staff to return to the Board with revisions to these rules to provide further support for the prohibition on the use of drones on District property.

### Applicable Federal Law

The FAA has adopted regulations for the licensure and commercial use of drones in 14 C.F.R. part 107 to govern the use of small unmanned aircraft systems, commonly called drones, that authorize and govern use of drones weighing less than 55 pounds. Commercial use rules require that the operator obtain a remote pilot certificate with appropriate UAS rating, obtain air traffic control authorization for flights in restricted airspace, fly below 400 feet in altitude (unless certain requirements are met), avoid

manner aircraft, not operate drones from moving vehicles, and avoid flights over people who are not participating in the drone activities.

Recreational flights are permitted without preauthorization or licensure from the FAA pursuant to the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations of Unmanned Aircraft, 49 U.S.C. section 44809 (the "Recreation Exception"), but this statute and enabling regulations require that the drone operator fly purely for recreational purposes, fly below 400 feet in height, main visual line of sight with the drone, carry proof that they have passed a recreational drone safety test, and operate the drone in a safe manner.<sup>1</sup> FAA rules, under 14 CFR part 48, also require that all drone operators, whether commercial or recreational, maintain current registration for their drones if they weigh more than 0.55 pounds and that such drones bear unique identifiers.

The scope of federal preemption of local regulation is particularly unclear. The FAA has declined to state whether their rulemaking pre-empts state or local regulations of drone flight. In its 2016 rulemaking, the FAA stated it will conduct a "case-specific analysis" to determine if federal preemption applies. The FAA further noted that "certain legal aspects concerning small UAS use may be best addressed at the State or local level. For example, State law and other legal protections for individual privacy may provide recourse for a person whose privacy may be affected through another person's use of a [drone]."<sup>2</sup>

The FAA suggested state or local officials hoping to restrict flight paths or altitudes or institute operational bans consult with the FAA, as such regulations will likely be pre-empted. Any local ban on drones, or the equivalent of an airspace or safety regulation (e.g. limits on altitude, prohibiting flights in certain locations) or an operator licensure requirement were deemed likely to be pre-empted by federal law. However, the FAA has acknowledged that local laws related to land use, zoning, privacy, and law enforcement operations are generally not subject to federal regulation, assuming that such laws do not enter the sphere occupied by federal regulation.

Additionally, the FAA has publicly indicated to local jurisdictions that they may at least regulate permitted take-off and landing locations without facing a pre-emption challenge.<sup>3</sup> Only two federal trial courts have directly considered the validity of a local

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational\\_filers/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_filers/)

<sup>2</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 42063 § (II)(K)(6); see also [https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/policy\\_library/media/UAS\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_Final.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/policy_library/media/UAS_Fact_Sheet_Final.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> See [https://www.faa.gov/news/press\\_releases/news\\_story.cfm?newsId=22938&omniRss=press\\_releasesAoc](https://www.faa.gov/news/press_releases/news_story.cfm?newsId=22938&omniRss=press_releasesAoc)

regulations. One invalidated local restrictions on flying over public property and private property without permission. See *Singer v. City of Newton* (D. Mass. 2017) 284 F.Supp.3d 125, 131 (overturning as federally preempted a local ordinance prohibiting flying drones below 400 feet over private property without permission of owner, or flying drones over city property without prior permission). That court assumed that based on the FAA's position some local regulation would be permissible, but then found that any wholesale ban or any additional local registration or safety requirements would be federally preempted. *Id.* Another trial court determined that a Texas law prohibiting overflights of critical infrastructure facilities, correctional facilities, and sports stadiums was not federally preempted because they did not regulate a broad area of airspace and was limited to prohibiting flights over specific structures. See *National Press Photographers Association v. McCraw* (W.D. Tex. 2020) 504 F.Supp.3d 568, 575.

Notwithstanding federal law specifically authorizing drone flights, the law is unsettled about whether and under what circumstances a private landowner may bring suit for trespass when a drone flies into the low-altitude airspace above his land and if so, whether the landowner can exclude drone flights over his property regardless of these federal rules.<sup>4</sup> The exact scope of federal authority to regulate airspace is also somewhat unsettled — including whether the federal government may regulate anything flying solely in-state or whether federal jurisdiction covers all flights higher than a blade of grass. In light of this, public agencies have often ignored the FAA and enacted regulations under their general police powers for the protection of wildlife, property, and safety in a manner that has the effect of prohibiting drone use in certain areas. See, e.g., 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 4351 (prohibiting all motorized vehicles or other forms of mechanical transport in a wilderness area, cultural preserve or natural preserve in any state park, including planes and drones); Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Park Ordinance § 3.17 (prohibiting drones in any park without a permit issued by the Executive Director).<sup>5</sup> While such regulations have not been challenged, there are significant risks that they might not survive a federal preemption challenge. Numerous laws have recently been introduced by Congress to address the lack of regulatory clarity

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[&oid=102\\_P\\_RPress](#); see also

[https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/community\\_engagement/no\\_drone\\_zone/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/community_engagement/no_drone_zone/)

<sup>4</sup> See U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Current Jurisdictional, Property, and Privacy Legal Issues Regarding the Commercial and Recreational Use of Drones," available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/d22178>.

Questions about protection of personal privacy from surveillance by drones also remain unresolved by the courts, and efforts by the Uniform Law Commission's Uniform Tort Law Relating to Drones Act Drafting Committee to draft a UAS privacy model law were suspended in January 2020.

<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://mrca.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/MRCA-REVISED-ORDINANCE-2019.pdf>.

about federal preemption, but none were enacted.<sup>6</sup> It is unclear what position the FAA or other affected federal agencies may ultimately take on these types of state and local regulations.<sup>7</sup>

### State Law

California state law appears to have only a few relevant provisions regarding drone operation. First, Civil Code section 1708.8 provides civil liability for invasions of privacy by entering "into the land or airspace" of another person without permission for the purpose of recording someone engaging in "private, personal or familial activity." This provides a private right of action in civil court by the aggrieved party against the drone operator. Second, Government Code section 853 et seq. provides immunity to government employees for damage to drones that interfere with the public entity's provision of emergency medical, fire, and search and rescue services. Lastly, Penal Code section 402 makes it a misdemeanor to use a drone at the scene of an emergency in a manner that impedes emergency personnel. None of these provisions will likely apply to a casual hobbyist flying a drone in a public park, nor limit the District's ability to use drones for its own purposes.

### Local Law / Current District Rules

In the absence of specific local law, use of drones over public and private property is generally authorized in compliance with FAA registration rules and requirements. The District may use drones for its business purposes either by complying with commercial rules in 14 C.F.R. part 107 or by obtaining a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization ("COA") to operate a public aircraft.

The District currently has a few adopted rules which regulate the use of drones:<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., Advanced Unmanned Delivery Services Act, H.R. 6943, 116th Cong. (2020); Drone Integration and Zoning Act of 2019, S. 2607, 116th Cong. (2019); Drone Federalism Act of 2017, S. 1272, 115th Cong. (2017); Drone Innovation Act, H.R. 2930, 115th Cong. (2017).

<sup>7</sup> There are a number of unresolved questions related to the scope of federal preemption and concerns over the formation of a regulatory patchwork. The federal government's position has been in development since 2017 by a Joint Lawyers Working Group on Federal Preemption and the Regulation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems convened by the FAA and the US Department of Transportation.

<sup>8</sup> District Ordinance No. 3, as amended, available at <https://cms1files.revize.com/revize/ranchosimi/Staff%20and%20Board/Ordinance%20No%203%20revised%20080521.pdf>

- Rule 2: "No person may use hang gliders, air balloons or similar apparatus, or land or take off such apparatus on or from park property without a district approved facility use permit or contract."
- Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape, or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved facility use permit or contract."
- Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities. Remote control gliders and airplanes, but not helicopters, may be operated only in areas set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

With respect to the first rule, the phrase "similar apparatus" is so vague that imposing any penalty District enforcement of any penalty against a drone operator may raise due process concerns. Thus this first restriction should be revised to clearly apply to drones, if that is the regulatory intent. However, since the regulations ban *flight* in park airspace, there is a risk of a preemption challenge. Thus, the District should consider revising the prohibition to apply to only take-off and landing, which the FAA has indicated would be a permitted regulation. Since most small recreational drones may travel only a short distance, this type of prohibition is likely to be effective.

The second restriction on commercial filming can be applied to prohibit the use of drones for filming, and is also unlikely to expose the District to any preemption challenges since it does not specifically regulate the use of drones.

The third restriction also could be construed as a regulation of drones because it applies to prohibit "motorized or self-propelled vehicles" – yet it specifically allows remote control gliders and airplanes to be operated in designated areas. There is no definition in the rules as to what constitutes a remote control glider or airplane. This takes on new importance, as the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 repealed the Special Rule for Model Aircraft<sup>9</sup> which allowed model planes to be flown without any FAA regulation. Now, such craft are subject to the same federal rules as drones and can be flown only with FAA licensure or compliance with the Recreation Exception. Since federal law makes no distinction between such craft and all other drones, the District should

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<sup>9</sup> See <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/17/2019-10169/exception-for-limited-recreational-operations-of-unmanned-aircraft>

consider re-drafting this rule to be a regulation of take-off and landing, as discussed above.

### CONCLUSION

The District may both use drones for its own purposes, provided that the operator is licensed, or the District has obtained a COA to operate a drone. The District can also permit drones to be flown on its property.

If the District desires to limit the use of drones, it can enact regulations limiting the use of drones for specific purposes, or restrict or prohibit take-off and landing on District property, without facing any significant risks of a federal preemption challenge. The District likely can prohibit the use of drones in a manner that harasses wildlife. Some state and local agencies have enacted restrictions on flying in certain airspace, but these types of regulations have the potential to be challenged as federally preempted. Additionally, local regulations that impose additional safety or permit requirements are likely to be federally pre-empted.

**ATTACHMENT B**

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 18, 2021  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 Allowing the Use of Drones in Various Areas of the District

**BACKGROUND**

At its October 7, 2021 meeting, the Board of Directors discussed and considered allowing the use of drones in various areas of the District. Following the discussion, the Board directed that staff bring forth necessary amendments to the District's Rules and Regulations Ordinance which would allow for the use of recreational drones in District owned open space and in specifically designated developed parks. The October 7, 2021 report on the subject is provided as Attachment A to this report.

**DISCUSSION**

Accordingly, to effectuate the direction regarding the recreational use of drones, the following amendment to Rule 62 of the District's Ordinance No. 3 – Rules and Regulations is proposed as follows:

Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities, except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use. Remote control gliders, and airplanes, and recreational drones, but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

Additionally, in order to confirm and clarify that drones are allowed to be used throughout the District for commercial purposes, staffing is also recommending changes to Rule 33 of Ordinance No. 3 as follows:

Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape or photograph in district parks, building or open space, for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial or educational purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract."

By process, the proposed Ordinance and revised rules must be introduced at a regular meeting of the Board and be adopted at a second meeting of the Board, no less than 5 days later. Upon introduction and adoption, the Ordinance must be read in full unless a full reading of the order is waived by the Board. Ordinances become effective 30 days after the second reading and adoption. If introduced, the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance will be scheduled for the December 2, 2021 regular board meeting.

### ALTERNATIVES

1. Introduce first reading of amended Ordinance No. 3 with the proposed rule changes;
2. Make revisions to the proposed rule changes and introduce the amended Ordinance for first reading;
3. Make revisions to the proposed rule changes and direct staff to bring the amended Ordinance back to the Board at a future meeting;
4. Not introduce the amended Ordinance, thereby not approving the proposed rule changes;  
or
5. Provide other direction to staff.

Staff recommends Alternative No 1.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Request a reading of the title of amended Ordinance No. 3; and
2. Following a reading of the title of the Ordinance, move to waive further reading and introduce amended Ordinance No. 3, an Ordinance of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Establishing Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

**ATTACHMENT C**

**ORDINANCE NO. 3**  
**Amended**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK  
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ESTABLISHING RULES AND  
REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF DISTRICT PARKS AND  
FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

The Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors ordains as follows:

**SECTION 1. Findings.**

A. It is the policy of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District ("District") that residents receive maximum benefit and enjoyment from District facilities and recreation programs.

B. In furtherance of the District's policy, this ordinance establishes rules and regulations governing the use of District parks and facilities as well as rules for participation in District programs to ensure that all persons using District parks and facilities and participating in District programs receive maximum benefit and enjoyment.

C. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by California Public Resources Code section 5786.1.

**SECTION 2. Violation of Ordinance.**

A. Any violation of the rules and regulations set forth in this ordinance is a misdemeanor unless the park ranger issuing the citation specifies on the citation that the violation is an infraction. The District's legal counsel may reduce a misdemeanor charge to an infraction. Prosecution of a person pursuant to this section will not preclude prosecution of that person pursuant to the California Penal Code or other provisions of California law or pursuant to the provisions of the Simi Valley Municipal Code.

B. A new and separate offense occurs for each day that a violation of, or failure to comply with, any provision or requirement of this ordinance is committed, continued, or permitted by any person.

C. Any unlawful act or omission in this ordinance includes causing, permitting, aiding, abetting, suffering, or concealing the act or omission.

D. No person may refuse to leave a District park or facility after being ejected. Any person who has been ejected from District property may not return to the same park or facility, or any other District park or facility, during the calendar day in which that person is ejected.

E. Parents are responsible for the actions of minor children. Damage to District property resulting from the actions of minors will be imputed to parents having custody or control of the minor (California Civil Code § 1714.1).

### **SECTION 3. Enforcement.**

A. The District Manager and park rangers of the District and all other law enforcement officers possessing authority to act within the boundaries of the District (collectively, "enforcement officers") may enforce all of the rules and regulations contained in this ordinance. Enforcement mechanisms include issuing citations, arresting individuals without a warrant whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that the individuals committed a misdemeanor in the enforcement officer's presence, which constitutes a violation of these provisions, and ejecting or causing to be ejected from District parks and facilities any person acting in violation of this ordinance. Further, the District Manager and park rangers may deny use of District parks and facilities and participation in District programs to individuals and groups who fail to comply with this ordinance. A person ejected from a District park or facility may also be excluded from the park or facility in lieu of being cited for violation of this ordinance, but ejection or exclusion will not preclude the person from being cited or arrested for conduct in violation of this ordinance or other provisions of California law.

B. Park rangers may issue citations for violations of District rules and regulations, Simi Valley Municipal Code, Ventura County Ordinance, and for violations of State and Federal law.

C. Enforcement officers may take into custody any item which is used in violation of this Ordinance or which may cause damage to park property, to any person, or to the property of any person if its use is permitted to continue. Specific items which may be taken into custody by enforcement officers include, but are not limited to air/spring guns, firearms, crossbows, archery equipment, explosive devices, skateboards, skates, bicycles, radios, tape and compact disc players, sound amplification equipment, powered or line attached model crafts, hang gliders, air balloons, barbecues, cooking devices, and combustible fuel or electric operating devices. Such items will be impounded for safekeeping and will be retained by the District for a period not exceeding 30 calendar days. The items impounded will then be returned to the owner, to the person in possession of the item at the time of the violation, or in the case of a minor, to the minor's parent or legal guardian.

D. The District has the authority to establish and enforce additional rules and regulations that are necessary to implement District's policies and to meet needs as situations may require.

**SECTION 4. Rules and Regulations for Use of District Parks and Facilities and Participation in District Programs.** The following rules and regulations, attached as Exhibit "A" as amended, and incorporated by reference, apply to the use of all parks and facilities owned, managed, controlled or operated by the District, as well as to participation in District programs. Citations issued for a violation of a rule or regulation must include a notation formatted as follows: 3-4.x. In this example, the "3" refers to District Ordinance No. 3, the "4" refers to the Section of

Ordinance No. 3 that incorporates each and every rule and regulation, and the "x" refers to the actual number of the rule or regulation. Therefore, a citation issued for possession or consumption of alcohol in the park without a permit would read as follows: 3-4.4.

**SECTION 5. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of the ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 6. Effective Date.** This ordinance will take effect 30 days after its adoption. .

**SECTION 7. Publication.** The Secretary of the Board of Directors is directed to cause this ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Dennert, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Paranic, District Clerk

EXHIBIT A  
RULES & REGULATIONS

9.	Bicycles	Persons are permitted to bike within District property on concrete and dirt paths during designated park hours only. No person shall bicycle in any area where signs are posted prohibiting such activity. Bicycles must yield to pedestrians at all times. Bike riders must travel at a reasonably safe speed and may not exceed 15 mph in speed at any time or location. All state and local regulations regarding helmet and other protective gear for minors or adults must be followed. No person shall operate a bicycle in a reckless manner so as to damage public property, or endanger the life, limb or property of any person or animal, or to cause a public nuisance. Bicycles are not permitted on any courts to include, but not limited to, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts. Electric, battery operated bicycles with no pedal assist feature are prohibited.
10.	Buildings	No person may use a district building, equipment, or materials without first obtaining district approval for the use.
11.	Buildings	No person may ride a bicycle, scooter, skateboard, skates, or in-line skates within a district building, and no person may wear skate shoes or shoes with cleats within a district building.
12.	Buildings	District restroom sinks may not be used to wash body parts other than hands and arms unless a medical circumstance requires it.
13.	Buildings	A person or their personal property may be inspected by designated district staff members as a condition to being granted admission or entrance into a district facility, activity or event.
14.	Business	No vendors, including but not limited to ice cream, balloon, hotdog, or candy vendors, may operate on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
15.	Business	No person may conduct or solicit for any trade, occupation, business or profession on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
16.	Business	No person may distribute any commercial circulars, cards, or written advertising matter, and no person may post, paste, or affix any placard, notice or sign on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
17.	Business	No person may sell, offer or solicit for sale any goods, vehicles, food, beverage, merchandise, or services on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
18.	Camping	No person may erect an enclosed tent or similar structure on any district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
19.	Camping	No person may sleep in sleeping bags or under blankets in or on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract. No person may camp or engage in camping activities on any district property except in areas specifically designated for such use, or specifically authorized by a district issued facility use permit or

Rule No.	Category	Section 4. Rules and Regulations
1.	After Hours	No person may remain in a district park or open space after or before posted park hours without a district approved facility use permit or contract. Park hours are between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted. Unescorted minors must observe curfew laws.
2.	Airspace	No person may use hang gliders, air balloons or similar apparatus, or land or take off such apparatus on or from park property without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
3.	Aggressive Panhandling	No person may aggressively panhandle in or on any district facility, park or property. For purposes of this section, "aggressively panhandle" means an immediate request for funds accompanied by verbal or physical threats or coercion, or persisting in requesting funds following a negative response from the individual being solicited.
4.	Alcohol	No person may drink any malt, spirits or vinous liquor containing more than one-half (1/2) of one percent of alcohol by volume, and no person may hold or exercise control over any open container containing such beverage in or upon any district park or facility, or in or around District permitted activities or athletic events unless such actions have been authorized by the district by special permit or other action of the Board of Directors or District Manager. Persons who bring coolers or similar containers must allow cursory inspection of such items upon request of a Park Ranger.
5.	Animals	No person may cause animals (including dogs, ferrets and snakes) owned or controlled by the person to be let loose in district parks and facilities, except at such times and under such conditions as may be expressly permitted by the district.
6.	Animals	No person may bring pets or animals, except guide dogs or other service dogs or in connection with a district approved activity, into a district building without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
7.	Animals	No person may chase, grab, shoot, throw rocks or other objects at or attempt to capture or injure wildlife on district property.
8.	Animals	No person may feed wildlife, including ducks and geese, in violation of rules that are posted at specific District parks and facilities.

		contract. In the absence of a district issued facility use permit or contract, or upon failure to produce the permit or contract when requested, such camping will be declared unlawful and must cease when so ordered by a Park Ranger, Police Officer or other enforcement officer. For purposes of this section, "camping activities" means the laying down of bedding for the purposes of sleeping for prolonged or repeated periods of time, the storage of personal belongings such as clothing, foodstuff/beverages, sleeping bags, bedrolls, luggage, backpacks, kitchen utensils, cook ware, and similar materials on district property, the erecting of tents or any structure providing shelter (including but not limited to trees, paper, metal, wood, shrubs or bushes), starting or maintaining a fire, or regularly cooking or preparing meals.
20.	Camping	Otherwise permissible camping is unlawful where it is conducted in such a manner so as to create a nuisance resulting from noise, or inadequate sanitation, or any other activity that otherwise disturbs persons of reasonable sensitivity.
21.	Damage	No person may cut, pick, disturb, damage, mutilate, destroy, injure, graffiti, deface, remove, or disturb any animal, tree, shrub, bush, flower, plant, rock, wall, gate, post, pole, building, fence, bench, table, or other structure, apparatus or property in or on district property.
22.	Damage	No person may alter or modify the natural state of parks, open space and trails, or create dirt ramps, dug-outs, or holes, including for the purpose of creating a bike course or embankment, without district staff approval.
23.	Damage	No person may use a metal detector on any district park or facility without a district issued facility use permit.
24.	Design Use	No person may walk, climb, stand, or sit upon any district property not designated or customarily used for such purposes.
25.	Design Use	No person may play baseball except on designated baseball fields expressly set aside for this activity. No person may play softball except on designated softball fields expressly set aside for this activity.
26.	Design Use	No person may engage in activities which are inconsistent with the intended use or design of a specific area, equipment or apparatus within any park or facility. No person, while in or on district property or facilities, may engage in conduct which is or may be harmful or hazardous to district property, to any person, or to the property of any person.

27.	Dogs	Dogs must remain on a leash no more than six feet long held continuously in the hands of a person able to control the dog on all district property except within district provided off-leash dog parks. The owner or controller of an animal that defecates (except for guide dogs) must pick up and properly dispose of any feces no more than five minutes thereafter.
28.	Dogs	The only type of animals allowed in district provided off-leash dog parks are dogs.
29.	Dogs	No children under the age of 6 are allowed in district provided dog parks, and children between the ages of 6 and 12 are allowed into a district provided dog park only with adult supervision.
30.	Dogs	Dogs entering district provided dog parks must wear a current license issued by the city or county in which the dog's owner resides.
31.	Dogs	No more than 4 dogs at one time may be brought into a district provided dog park by any one person.
32.	Dogs	A person or group using a district facility pursuant to a district issued facility use permit or other contract may exclude dogs from the portion of the facility that is the subject of the district issued permit or contract.
33.	Filming	No person may film, videotape, or photograph in district parks, buildings or open space for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved <u>film permit, facility use permit or contract.</u> <u>Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial educational or special event purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract.</u>
34.	Fires	No person may make or kindle an open fire on district property except in picnic stoves or fire circles provided by the district for that purpose, and no person may operate a barbeque or other cooking device in a manner which will damage turf or district property. No person may make or kindle an open fire in a fire circle without first obtaining a district issued facility use permit, which permit will not be issued and may be revoked on red flag days. Ashes in district furnished picnic stoves or fire circles must be left in place. Ashes in private barbeques brought into a park must be removed from the park or deposited into district provided ash cans if available. Ashes may not be deposited into trash cans, or on the ground. Fires of any kind are not allowed in natural parks or open space without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
35.	Fireworks	No person may possess or use fireworks, including firecrackers, rockets or other similar items customarily associated with Independence Day celebrations, without a district approved facility use permit or contract.

36.	Food & Beverage	No person may bring into a district building any food or beverages unless that person has been given specific authorization to do so by district staff, a district approved facility use permit or contract has been issued, or the person is participating in a program or event approved by the district that provides for or allows the use of food and beverages.
37.	Gambling	No person may maintain gambling equipment in or on district property, except equipment that is incidental to the playing of bingo by organizations that have qualified for and obtained a permit for such purposes from the City of Simi Valley or the County of Ventura.
38.	Gatherings	No person may hold or conduct any public assemblage, meeting, gathering, group picnic, athletic activity, celebration, parade, service or exercise of 50 or more persons in or on any district property without first having obtained a district approved facility use permit or contract.
39.	Gatherings	Youth or adult sports groups that come together to play or practice a sport or activity such as, but not limited to, football, soccer, softball, or lacrosse, must use district facilities designed for the sport or activity that they are engaged in.
40.	Gatherings	A person or group using a district facility pursuant to a district issued facility use permit or other contract may exclude persons from entering the portion of the facility that is the subject of their district issued permit or contract if those persons are not invitees of the permit or contract holder.
41.	Golf	No person may play golf or otherwise hit any type of golf balls on district property, with the exception of district owned golf courses, without a district approved facility use permit or contract.
42.	Graffiti	No person may use or possess a graffiti implement including, but not limited to, aerosol paint containers, indelible markers, paint sticks, etching tools or other similar devices, to apply graffiti upon any district property.
43.	Gyms	No person may use any shoes on the gymnasium playing floor except soft-sole basketball or tennis-type shoes. No person may use black sole shoes on the gymnasium floor that may leave marks on the gymnasium playing floor.
44.	Gyms	No person may use the community center gymnasium showers unless that person is a participant in a recreation program at the community center immediately before or after using the shower and that person's use of the showers has been approved by the community center supervisor. Shower room lockers are for day use only. Persons using a locker must provide their own lock and remove it and the contents of the locker before leaving. Any items left in the locker at the time of normal closing hours are subject to seizure by the district.

45.	Gyms	No person may enter or remain in the community center building unless that person is wearing clothing and shoes customarily used for the sport or activity in which that person is participating , which will protect that person, other persons, and district property from injury or damage resulting from that person's participation in the sport or activity. No person may wear shoes with cleats, stubs, or spikes inside the community center building. No person may wear leather sole or leather heel soles on wood floors in the community center building.
46.	Horses	No person may ride a horse or animal of any description onto or over land owned, managed, controlled or operated by the district except upon areas , such as trails, designated by the district for such use and at times designated by the district for such use.
47.	Horses	No person may permit a horse that is owned or controlled by that person to enter turf grass, planters, or other planted areas within district property.
48.	Horses	No person may permit a horse that is owned or controlled by that person to be unattended and unsupervised within district property at any time except in designated areas, tethered or otherwise approved by the district with a facility use permit or contract.
49.	Horses	Horses must be kept at a walking pace when horseback riding is occurring on district trails.
50.	Horses	No person may use a corral used for a turn-out for a continuous period in excess of one hour.
51.	Horses	No person may place a horse port-a-stall or other temporary corral on district property without a written permit from the district.
52.	Horses	No person may wash horses or related equipment on district property without an approved facility use permit.
53.	Inflatables	Inflatable jumpers, slides and movie screens, dunk tanks and other similar types of items may not be placed on district property without a district approved facility use permit or contract. If a use is approved, any generators must be placed on plywood and in a way that reduces the likelihood of damage or injury from heat or moving parts, and electrical cords must be laid to reduce tripping hazards. Refilling gas operated generators must be done without spilling fuel on grass.
54.	Language Conduct	No person may use toward any other person any abusive, insulting or obscene language or gesture, or any language or gesture naturally tending to create a breach of the peace, or to be guilty of conduct tending to provoke a breach of the peace, or to make any loud and offensive noises tending to disturb the peace.
55.	Loiter	No person will loiter inside or outside a district building.
56.	Loiter	Loitering is prohibited under bridges.

57.	Nudity	No person may appear nude in district facilities or on district property. For purposes of these regulations, "nude" means unclothed or in such a state of undress as to expose any part or portion of the pubic or anal region or genitalia of any person, or any portion of the breast at or below the areola thereof of any female person.
58.	Nuisance	Whenever any person creating, causing, committing, or maintaining a public nuisance as defined under State law or other ordinance or regulation, has been given notice by a Park Ranger or other authorized district employee to abate such nuisance or cease and desist from continuing such nuisance or violation of law, and such person who was given notice fails, refuses, or neglects to comply with the notice within the time specified therein, or if such a time is not specified, then within a time reasonably sufficient to enable compliance, the person will be liable to the district for any and all costs and expenses that the district incurs as a result of abating the nuisance and obtaining compliance with or enforcing the law. Costs and expenses may include but are not limited to direct costs and expenses of personnel, operational overhead, fees for experts or consultants, legal costs or expenses, including attorneys' fees; claims against the district arising as a consequence of the nuisance or violation, and procedures associated with collecting moneys due hereunder.
59.	Parking	No person may park, abandon or otherwise allow to remain on district parks or facilities between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. automobiles, trailers, campers, motor homes, recreational vehicles, unless district permission has been expressly granted or parking is required for attendance at a district activity.
60.	Parking	No person may violate the following curb markings within district parks, facilities, and parking areas: Red indicates no stopping, standing or parking, whether the vehicle is attended or unattended. Yellow indicates stopping only for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers or freight for no more than ten minutes. White indicates stopping for the purpose of loading or unloading of passengers for no more than five minutes. Green indicates 30 minute parking. Blue indicates parking limited exclusively to the vehicles of physically handicapped persons as described in the California Vehicle Code.
61.	Parking	No person may park motorcycles or other motorized vehicles (with the exception of wheelchairs or similar devices), whether attended or unattended, on district parks or facilities except at parking lots provided by the district or as otherwise permitted by a district approved facility use permit or contract.

62.	RC	No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters, or facilities, <u>except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use.</u> Remote control gliders <u>and airplanes, and drones,</u> but not helicopters, may be operated only in <u>developed park areas specifically designated</u> set aside for those activities, and only at times those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons.
63.	Recycling	The collection of recyclable materials by any person must be completed without impacting the use of district facilities by other park patrons, and all recyclable items collected must be promptly removed from the park.
64.	Restrooms	No person may loiter in or about any toilet facility or restroom.
65.	Restrooms	No person over the age of seven years may enter or use restrooms other than those provided for that person's gender. Personal health care providers or assistants may enter restrooms to provide assistance to their patient after first announcing their intent to enter the restroom and then obtaining permission to enter from those already in the restroom. No person may encourage or invite another person over the age of seven years to enter or use a restroom which is not provided for the gender of the person so encouraged or invited.
66.	Restrooms	No person may urinate or defecate in or on district property except in toilets or urinals located in portable or restroom buildings.
67.	Skateboards, etc.	Persons are permitted to skateboard, roller skate, roller blade, non-motorized scooter and ride one wheelers within District property on concrete and dirt paths during designated park hours only. No person shall skateboard, roller skate, roller blade, scooter or one wheel in any area where signs are posted prohibiting such activity. Skateboarders, roller skaters, roller bladers, scooters and one wheelers must yield to pedestrians at all times. Skateboarders, roller skaters, roller bladers, scooters and one wheelers must travel at a reasonably safe speed and may not exceed 15 mph in speed at any time or location. All state and local regulations regarding helmet and other protective gear for minors or adults must be followed. Any person riding a skateboard at Berylwood Skate Plaza or any Rancho Simi skating facility is required to wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads at all times. No person shall utilize a skateboard, roller skates, roller blades, scooter or one wheeler in a reckless manner so as to damage public property, or endanger the life, limb or property of any person or animal, or to cause a public nuisance. Skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, scooters and one wheelers are not permitted on any courts to include, but not limited to, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts.

68.	Smoking	No person may smoke or vape which includes the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs and electronic smoking devices such as e-cigarettes and vaping pens within a district park, building or open space; provided, however, that persons may smoke cigars, cigarettes or other tobacco products on a district golf course or in designated smoke zones.
69.	Sound	No person may use sound-amplifying equipment without a district approved facility use permit. The users of sound equipment must abide by any specific limitations noted upon the use permit, and must abide by the orders and directions of District employees in the operation of the sound-amplifying equipment.
70.	Sound	<p>No person may use their voice or make noise in a district park or facility (which includes but is not limited to buildings, parking lots, sidewalks, walkways, parks) in a loud, unusual, penetrating or boisterous manner that results in discomfort or annoyance to a reasonable person of normal sensitivity where there is no substantial effort to communicate with any such individual or to communicate at a lower volume of sound or in a more reasonable manner. The standards that will be considered in determining whether a violation of this section exists include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The volume of the noise;</li> <li>2. The intensity of the noise;</li> <li>3. Whether the noise can be heard from a distance of 50 feet or more from the noise source; or from a distance determined to be reasonable under the circumstances by the officer at the scene;</li> <li>4. The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates;</li> <li>5. The time of the day or night the noise occurs;</li> <li>6. The duration of the noise;</li> <li>7. The extent to which nearby persons and the activities of such persons are disturbed by the noise; and</li> <li>8. The extent to which the individual making the noise was requested to cease the disturbance or lower the volume of the noise and such person failed to do so.</li> </ol> <p>No person will be cited under this section unless the person engages in conduct prohibited by this section after having been notified by an enforcement officer that the conduct violates this section.</p>
71.	Trash	No person may leave the shells of seeds or nuts such as sunflower, peanut and pistachio on the ground, on a bleacher, bench or other park amenity as they are considered to be garbage and must be properly disposed of in a trash can or otherwise removed from the district facility.

72.	Vehicles	No person may repair, renovate or paint any vehicle on district property, unless the repairs performed are of an emergency nature, and they are required in order to permit the vehicle to be moved.
73.	Vehicles	No person may drive any vehicle on district property (including parking lots, trails, walkways, park entrances) at a speed greater than the posted speed limit.
74.	Vehicles	No person may drive a vehicle on turf grass without an approved district facility use permit.
75.	Waters	No person may swim, wade, or enter into any park waters which are not designated for public swimming and no parent, legal guardian, or any other person in charge of any minor child may permit the minor child to enter any pond, lake, lagoon, or other water feature on or in district parks that is not designed and operated as a swimming pool or children's splash pad.
76.	Waters	No person may place or operate any boat, canoe, kayak, raft, or other watercraft that may hold one or more person in any park waters.
77.	Weapons	No person may carry or discharge firearms, gas or air-powered weapons, rockets, axes, hatchets, offensive knives, weapon replicas, training weapons, slings or slingshots or throw stones or other missiles on or in district property. Bows and arrows may be used on district property only in district designated areas.

# Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting M I N U T E S

Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 6:30pm

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District • Activity Room 3  
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • (805) 584-4400

A video recording of tonight's meeting is available on  
the District Website at [www.rsprd.org](http://www.rsprd.org)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Dennert called the Meeting to Order at 6:31pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kim May.
2. ROLL CALL – Directors Abele, Freeman, Gray, Vice Chair O'Brien, and Chair Dennert were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Laura Ballantoni, Bryan Horstmanshof, Danielle June, Frank Miller, Zach Miller, Wayne Nakaoka, Kelly Negrete, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Brian Reed, Alex Stumfall, Gina Viecco, and District Counsel Brian Hamblet.

Guests attended tonight's meeting in-person and via Zoom. Those who made public comments are listed under the appropriate Item below.

3. AGENDA REVIEW – Under Item 6.b the Resolution number needs to be changed to 2016. Staff received Supplemental information for Item 8.a which has been distributed to the Board.
4. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) – NONE

Chris DeSantis, representing Sycamore BMX, stated they submitted a list of local BMX riders, operating hours, and their Board contact list to the District about 4-5 months ago. Currently they have not received any response from the District. They were told the BMX track is on the 5-year budget plan and are concerned it is now 3 years into this stated timeframe. They are anxious to meet with staff and get the project back on track.

## 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting - November 18, 2021 – Motion: Director Abele moved to approve the Minutes as written. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director's request.)

- a. Approval of 11/15/21 Accounts Payable Check Register and 11/19/21 Payroll Check Register.
- b. Adoption of Resolution No. 2016 Regarding Holding Public Meetings during the Continued COVID-19 Pandemic State of Emergency Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 – The written staff report was provided by Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration.

- c. Approval of Fiscal Year 2022/23 District Budget Calendar – The written staff report was provided by Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the resolution # amended in item 6 b. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray, O'Brien

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

## 7. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Presentation of Appreciation to Interim Oak Park Recreation Supervisor Bryan McQueen – Director of Recreation Zach Miller thanked McQueen for stepping in and helping to keep Oak Park on track. All Board members thanked McQueen for his efforts in Oak Park, especially during these difficult times.
- b. Presentation of the Part-Time Employee of the Month for November 2021 to Frank Miller – Director of Administration Theresa Pennington presented Frank with his plaque and check. Frank is a Maintenance Worker IV at the Simi Valley Golf Course. He has been with the District for almost 14 years; this is his 2<sup>nd</sup> award. Frank thanked everyone for this award, it's been an exciting 14 years. He took a Master Gardening class after retirement and wanted to utilize his knowledge, working at the Golf Course was a perfect fit. He is excited to see the results of the water conservation project.

Golf Course Manager Brian Reed can't say enough nice things about Frank, he does a tremendous job at the Golf Course. He is kind and friendly to everyone at the course and a great asset to the District.

Dennert congratulated Frank, he especially appreciates his efforts with water conservation.

Abele added the pandemic has brought to his attention how important Maintenance workers are at the District. He congratulated Frank on his great work.

Freeman added all of Frank's efforts are impacting the entire district, she appreciates the skills he has brought to the job.

- c. Presentation of the Full-Time Employee of the Month for November 2021 to Bryan Horstmanshof – Director of Administration Theresa Pennington presented Bryan with his plaque, and he will receive a paid day off. Bryan is a Recreation Program Specialist in the Recreation Department. He has been with the District for 7 years; this is his 2<sup>nd</sup> award. Bryan thanked everyone, it's quite an honor. He thanks God every day for being able to work with the District. It's been a great opportunity to work with the 50+ population in Simi Valley.

Recreation Supervisor Danielle June added Bryan brings so much energy and joy to the District and he is passionate about the Senior demographic. Most people are not aware that he works 2 jobs because he always brings such a positive attitude to work.

Director of Recreation Zach Miller added Bryan's attitude is infectious. He jumps into any needed task, even driving van loads of children.

Freeman congratulated Bryan adding the Senior Games is such a great event and he is terrific in his work with the Seniors.

All Board members thanked Bryan for his work with the District.

- d. Status of the Districts Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic -- The verbal report was provided by Dan Paranick, District Manager. There have been no complaints or positive COVID cases amongst District employees. Currently the Federal mandate for employee COVID testing have been put on hold.

Dennert is happy to hear there have been no COVID positive cases. He thanked Staff for keeping the community engaged and active.

Chair Dennert called a 10-minute recess at 7:01pm.

Chair Dennert called the Meeting back to order at 7:11pm.

## 8. CONTINUED BUSINESS

- a. Review and Provide Direction Regarding Pickleball and Tennis Court Usage and Facilities in Simi Valley -- The Staff Report was provided by Zach Miller, Director of Recreation. After discussion at the September 15, 2021, meeting, the Board directed Staff to explore options for increasing pickleball court availability. Staff provided additional information on upgrading or adding lighting at 2 locations, increasing available hours at Sinaloa Middle School, and the possibility of converting 2 existing tennis courts to pickleball. The Board discussed the different Alternatives #1-7 as presented; Staff responded to questions from the Board.

Naveen Vijayakumar thanked the Board, reading through the packet shows the passion in the Community for both pickleball and tennis. Their children take tennis lessons through the Park, and he feels we must consider the future for the children and not take away what we already have.

Sridhar stated their children enjoy playing tennis and are having to wait for courts. The kids need to play in the evenings and weekends due to their schedules. His humble request is to leave tennis courts for children.

Guru spoke on behalf of tennis players; he is wondering why not upgrade the tennis lights as well at Rancho Tapo Community Park. There is no lighting at the schools and students will play at the parks as well.

Raj Malpani stated a significant amount has been spent to have pickleball courts on the school campus. It would be a shame not to use those.

Satish Shah is in favor of tennis. It is a centuries' old sport and is currently growing. Pickleball is a new sport and moving fast, but it does not have the longevity that tennis has enjoyed.

Saravanan Mottaiagounder is requesting tennis courts be kept in the current configuration.

to keep the spirit of tennis alive.

Suresh would like to keep the tennis courts in the current configuration.

Sivalyar is in favor of keeping tennis courts. He feels there are a lot of pickleball courts not being used, route those players there and do not convert existing courts. He added the lines are confusing for multi-purpose sports and the pickleball balls are damaging to the courts.

Al Lakshaman is a tennis player who plays 5-6 times per week and coaches his kids. That is just himself using the courts for 10 hours per week. He requests tennis courts not be converted.

Rajan would like to save the tennis courts, especially for the kids. Lighting at the courts is an issue.

Scott Christie stated there are 3 US Tennis Teams who will resume playing in February. Tennis is gradually increasing, not decreasing. They can live with the dual use, even though it is not ideal as the lines are confusing. He does not see a lot of kids playing pickleball, but they do play tennis.

Unhi Krishna has a 6-year-old playing tennis through the District, there are 12 students per class. Rancho Madera is always full, so they play at the Rancho Simi park. He plays 3 days a week and is happy to see people and kids out playing sports.

Maxim Ralis urges the Board to not decide until reading his report in favor of expanding pickleball that was submitted today. There are statistics and facts in the report that support the need for additional courts.

Victoria Ralis stated opening courts at Sinaloa Middle School does not help currently with the time change. She wants to know how the District can help during the Winter. Pickleball is not just for retired people, kids are being taught in school.

Paranick read into the record 2 emails received today: 1 was in favor of additional pickleball courts, 1 was in favor of keeping tennis courts.

Chair Dennert called a Recess at 8:27pm.

Chair Dennert called the Meeting back to Order at 8:34pm.

Vicky Israel spoke in favor of Alternative #1 to extend additional courts, suggested moving forward with #3, #4 is doable and affordable in her opinion. She suggested #6 to look at new construction where there is land available. There are a lot of youth and families playing together, it has become a family activity, it is great to see grandparents, children, and grandchildren playing together. Multi-use courts are not ideal as the portable nets do chip the surface. She also does not feel the lighting at Rancho Tapo is safe enough to play at night.

Dennert stated he has played a lot of pickleball and agrees it does build community. He would like to see more kids playing. He commended the community for coming together and offering suggestions. He suggests improving lighting at Rancho Tapo park.

Freeman is in favor of opening the courts at Sinaloa and adding lighting at Rancho Tapo park.

O'Brien agrees with Freeman. In response to the Sinaloa Courts being situated East / West, she suggested hats or sunglasses for playing against the Sun.

Gray doesn't see value in adding lights at Sinaloa due to the high cost. He suggests upgrading lighting at Rancho Tapo park and would like to see additional courts open at Valley View Middle School.

Abele added he played tennis at Royal High School and the courts at Rancho Simi were his home outside of school. The District does have budget limitations and it is not possible to do all projects. Even though there has been a resurgence in tennis during the pandemic, pickleball is still far more popular. However, tennis is the more youth-oriented sport.

Motion: Chair Dennert moved to approve Alternative #1 with Staff requesting additional time during school closures and opening additional courts at Valley View and/or Hillside Middle Schools as needed. Vice Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with Director Abele abstaining.

Motion: Director Abele moved to approve Alternative #5 with a priority use schedule created at that location with staff's discretion. Chair Dennert seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 4 to 1 vote with Director Freeman voting No.

Dennert requested staff issue a press release announcing the expanded availability of courts at Sinaloa and to thank the School District for expanding the available courts and times. He encouraged the pickleball community to fundraise for new courts in the future.

- b. Second Reading and Adoption of Amendment to Ordinance No. 3 Allowing the Use of Drones in Various Areas of the District – The Staff Report was provided by Dan Paranic, District Manager. Chair Dennert requested District Counsel provide the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance No. 3.

Motion: Director Gray moved to waive further readings and adopt the amended Ordinance No. 3. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with Director Freeman abstaining.

Dennert requested Staff to issue a press release with this information.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approval and Adoption of Part-Time Employee Pay Schedule effective December 24, 2021, and Review and Approval of Recruiting Incentives – The Staff Report was provided by Theresa Pennington, Director of Recreation. Due to State minimum wage increases, the District's current \$14 per hour will increase to \$15 on January 1, 2022. Other positions were increased by a minimum of 3% to provide a cost-of-living adjustment and to maintain the integrity of the part-time classification schedule. Staff is also recommending incentives to help attract new employees.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Part-Time Pay Schedule and Recruiting Incentives. Director Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

- b. Selection of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors and Extend Privilege of the Floor to the Outgoing Board Chair and the Incoming Board Chair – The Staff Report was

for selecting the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board. In keeping with that rotation, Vice Chair O'Brien is in line for Chair and Director Gray for Vice Chair.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to select Vice Chair O'Brien for the position of Board Chair. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Motion: Director Abele moved to select Director Gray for the position of Vice Chair. Director Dennert seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Dennert thanked Staff for working during these difficult times, even when asked to do more with less at times. We've accomplished so much together over the year by creating opportunities for the community to come together and volunteer through Earth Day, Martin Luther King Day In-Service, and graffiti removals. He appreciates all the projects completed by scouts this year, youth programs are important to prepare them for the future. He appreciates all the good work done during his year as Chair.

Abele commended Dennert for a great job; he enjoyed his year as Chair. He added Dennert will hold the Chair record for the most 3 hours (plus) meetings. Dennert is dedicated to the youth in the community and has really brought that, along with fun, to the Board. He appreciates that they've been able to learn from each other and share ideas. Especially Dennert's great way of dealing with the public, making sure they were always heard and appreciated.

Gray appreciated how Dennert incorporated the Civics Teacher in him and fun while leading the Board the past year. His attitude of fun, engagement, and passion matters now more than ever.

Freeman added his dedication to the District, innovative ideas, and bringing youth into the meetings was great, plus all of the good work done in the community.

O'Brien appreciated Dennert's energy and passion, great job as Chair this year. She is looking forward to her upcoming year as Chair.

Gray appreciates the vote of confidence and is looking forward to working together.

## 10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – NONE

## 11. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Gray was thankful for the help with the Education Foundation fundraiser, they did quite well, and he promoted the District and MRCA hiking trails. He thanked Paranick and Terrie Ogarkow for helping to organize the Simi Valley Housing Resource Fair from 11 to 2pm this Saturday at Rancho Simi Community Park.

Director Freeman had no activities to report.

Director Abele stopped by the Office for Nakaoka's 35-year Anniversary celebration.

Vice Chair O'Brien was the guest on the Ranch Radio show the day before Thanksgiving; it was a lot of fun. She received her booster yesterday and added if everyone is fully vaccinated maybe this Pandemic will go away for good.

Chair Dennert thanked Gray for helping to organize the Housing Fair. December 11<sup>th</sup> will be the next graffiti cleanup. He is excited to volunteer at the Reagan National Defense Forum this weekend. He attended the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy Meeting with Paranick. He joined a Simi Hike group and thanked Staff again for the work on the Trail Guides, everyone is always so impressed with them. He also met a hiking group from Los Angeles who organized a Sunrise hike and trail cleanup, it is always great to see people outside of the area helping. He is looking forward to the Holiday Party and thanked Staff for the extra work with the planning.

12. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – Comments were provided by Dan Paranick. He will work with the new Chair on Committee assignments. There have been no recent issues at the Skate Plaza. The District has received a Grant from MRCA. The funds will be used for Bridle Path cleanup, a water truck, a second Chipper, a Bobcat, and an emergency generator. October financials have flattened out a bit due to Recreation participation increases slowing down. City Council will be looking to provide Grant funds to the District, staff has submitted the pool rehabilitation project for funding consideration. CAPRI will be conducting their annual Safety Inspection onsite with staff this month. Staff met with a Board Member from the Pioneer Cemetery and authorized them to place their sign on District property. Simi Valley Youth Baseball, as a donation, will be rehabilitating the fields at Santa Susanna and the Knolls fields. Paranick announced that Brian Reed is a new Grandpa and congratulated him. Reed thanked everyone and showed a picture of his adorable new granddaughter.

Upcoming Events: Job Fair at Guardian on December 8<sup>th</sup>, and District Holiday Party on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, entertainment this year will be a magician.

Future Agenda Items: updated plans for the Activity Center and Rancho Santa Susanna, Facility Rental Fees, Sports Fields contracts, new Golf Cart lease, and update to District Refund policy.

Committee Activity: Historical Society meeting on Monday December 6<sup>th</sup>.

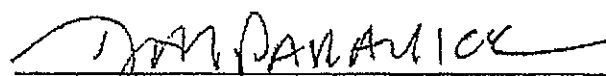
13. CLOSED SESSION – Chair Dennert called the Meeting to Closed Session at 10:11pm.

- a. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95  
Claimant: Jeremy Rivette  
Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
- b. Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95  
Claimant: Michael Kessler  
Agency Claimed Against: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

Chair Dennert called the Meeting back to Open Session at 10:19pm.

District Counsel announced Items 13.a and 13.b were both rejected unanimously by the Board.

14. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Dennert Adjourned the Meeting at 10:20pm.



Dan Paranick, District Manager / District Clerk

ATTACHMENT D

FEBRUARY 16, 2022

STAFF REPORT AND MINUTES

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 16, 2022  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property

**SUMMARY**

At its regular meetings on October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021 and December 2, 2021, the Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and adopted an ordinance which allows for the usage of drones in open space areas of the District and in specific areas within designated developed parks. While the ordinance currently allows drone usage in open space areas, drone usage in specific areas within designated developed parks is not currently allowed as those possible locations have not been determined to date.

Recently, the District has received additional correspondence and input regarding the ordinance. This item provides the opportunity for the Board to receive additional public input and provide direction to staff regarding the subject, if desired.

Correspondence received by the District is provided as Attachment A to this report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board receive additional public input and provide direction regarding drone usage if desired.



Dan Paranic  
District Manager

Subject:

FW: Drones

-----Original Message-----

From: ..

Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2022 3:27 PM

To: info@rsrpd.us

Subject: Drones

I noticed that drones are allowed in park and rec areas. I would hope you would consider challenger park as well as coyote park off limits for such activities given that these spaces are shared with the equestrian community.

Horses are flight animals. What that means is that they are hard wired to run off if they are frightened. The noise that drones make frightens horses.

I would hate for someone to get seriously hurt because of a drone.

Additionally my property borders challenger park, and I consider the noise and invasion of my privacy extremely annoying.

Michele Goyette

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From: Liz Folb  
Sent: Sunday, February 6, 2022 11:32 AM  
To: Zach Miller <[zachm@rsrpd.us](mailto:zachm@rsrpd.us)>

February 5, 2022.

Board of Directors Simi Valley Parks and Recreation District

Re: Approval of drones in parks and open space

The February 5, 2022 issue of The Acorn newspaper announced that the Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District approved a measure effective January 2, 2022 to allow the use of drones in certain parks and open space. It said that the particular parks allowing this were to be discussed. The article said the issue was brought up in October, approved in December and made effective January. I believe that such a fundamental change should have been not only scrutinized much more carefully but also put out to comment to the public before it was allowed to undo restrictions that have been in place for very important reasons. Even if Board meetings are open to the public ( I don't know if they are) no one with an interest in this matter would have been aware that it was on the agenda.

After reading the article, I checked the park rules sign at Coyote park. On the line that previously had language prohibiting radio controlled devices a piece of tape covered that rule. Personal experience is that when people operated radio control airplanes, despite the rules, I observed out of control radio controlled planes crashing into trees and the pilots climbing the trees to recover their objects. Not only did this endanger the participants but the trees were damaged with multiple large broken limbs.

That is the least of the worries. Did not the Board consider the legal liability and other safety and privacy concerns? Did not the Board consider the needs of other park and open space users to recreate in peace and safety? Did not the Board consider that an alternative is to allow the drone pilots a dedicated area to learn and practice that does not encroach on others privacy and safety? I think the Board's decision was made without proper input from knowledgeable sources, and interested parties. The Board should roll back the measure until the public input is heard and all of the provisions of the measure are well thought out. Here are some issues that would need to be discussed.

1. Why was a long standing rule about prohibiting radio controlled devices in place? And why would it be changed?
2. Does a measure allowing drones cause a liability to the district?
3. Are open space users safe on the trails when drones are present?
4. Is the use of drones in open space in line with a mission statement of a parks and recreation department to provide a atmosphere of enjoyment of nature?
5. Are plants and wildlife resources affected by the use of drones in open space and parks
6. Are horses, bikes and hikers compatible on narrow trails with drones.
7. Is the district prepared to be faced with a lawsuit when a frighten horse goes off the cliff of a trail when it suddenly encounters a drone?
8. Is the district prepared to face a lawsuit from neighbors when drones are flown over there property from the district's open space and parks.
9. Is the district prepared to face a wildfire caused by a drone? **Drones have the potential to start wildfires** in number of different ways. One risk is from overheated motors or batteries igniting dry grasses upon landing. They can also be used to **intentionally start controlled burns by dropping fire igniters, called "dragon eggs"**, in localized areas. (source: [droneblog.com](http://droneblog.com)),

Subject:

FW: Please, NO DRONES!

From: Brenda Chew

Sent: Sunday, February 6, 2022 11:58 PM

To: [info@rsrpd.us](mailto:info@rsrpd.us)

Subject: Please, NO DRONES!

Dear Mr. Paranick and Board of Directors,

I was horrified when I read in the Acorn article that drones had already been approved to be used in specific park areas and open space areas. Why was the public not allowed to be heard on this subject before approval was granted?

Since the article mentioned that specific locations are still under consideration, please, please, hear us now.

Please do not allow drones to be flown at parks such as Coyote Park or Challenger Park where there are many horses and riders enjoying the trails.

I have been fortunate enough to be able to ride Simi's beautiful trails for the last 20 years, but unfortunately in the recent years I have also seen the hazards on the trails increase. Despite Simi Valley's leash laws, only about 10-20% of the dogs are on leash when on the trails. The majority of bike riders are friendly and thoughtful and will slow down when riding by the horses, but there are those that still speed by while ignoring the panicking horses.

Being chased by loose dogs and encountering inconsiderate bike riders is dangerous enough, please do not add loud whining flying objects into this mix!

There are many cliffs and drop offs in both Coyote Park and Challenger Park, if one of these drones were to veer off course while someone was riding near a ledge....I can't even imagine the liability!

Please, please, no drones in Coyote park or Challenger park!

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Brenda Chew

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**From:** Diane Snodgrass  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 7:24 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Drones in our open space

Dear Sandee

We spoke on the phone this afternoon regarding this topic. I want to thank you for your professionalism while we spoke, I am sure you must have to take many calls from residents that may not be happy with a board of directors decision. You suggested I send a email with my concerns and you would forward it on to The Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District board of directors. I normally don't send e-mails like this, they intimate me due to the fact that I am not good with words especially writing them down but here we go.

I recently saw in the Acorn that the board of directors of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District has given the okay for drones to be flown in district owned park area open space. I feel, as many other equestrians, that this has been done without consideration for the backyard horse owners.

This is a quote from Josh Gray, in the Acorn, "It's gratifying that the district is able to meet the needs and desires of our residents and provide space for recreation, hobbies and the development of employable skill sets for residents while maintaining quality and reasonable degree of privacy in our public spaces". This all sounds great but I am concerned with the needs, desires and safety of the equestrian residents that have been riding this same open space area for years, taking in the beauty and quiet that our open space provides us. Have you ever been on a horse that gets frightened? Well, it's not the most pleasant of moments, especially on a narrow trail. Horses are flight animals, they get frightened and they may try to run from what has frightened them. You know what its like when someone comes around a corner and scares you? you jump, now imagine being on a 1000lb animal. It can be pretty scary and sometimes dangerous.

I live near Coyote Hills Park which is in an equestrian community. The park has its own arena and trail that leads the open space which also connects to Challenger Park. I can't begin to tell you how excited the horse owners were when our park district dedicated these areas to our city. I am requesting that the board of directors please take these two open space areas off the list for drones to be flown.

Thank You  
Diane Snodgrass

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**From:** Liz Folb  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 3:18 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** procedure next meeting

Hi Sandee-

I have an interest in attending and discussing the drone matter with the Board at the next meeting. I spoke to Dan about this but at the time I had not had a chance to get to up to speed at all on how things are done at the meetings or had a chance to look up the history of the issue decisions on the matter by the Board.

My goal is to ask questions and get answers from the Board as to how they made their decision, give them addition input, and ultimately ask that they put the implementation of the revised ordinance on hold until they have listened to the public and have all the details worked out.

How do I get the issue on the Agenda?

It appears that being on the agenda for discussion is the appropriate way to have a record of exactly what is done. I don't think just making comments allows me to ask questions and have a discussion.

What is the best way to handle this>?

I have reviewed the minutes from any meetings I could find where drones were discussed. I feel that when any of the Board asked a question about why there might be a problem with having drones in open space their questions were answered incorrectly. They therefore do not have accurate facts to make a decision. I also feel one Board member's objections were not heard. There seems to be a conflict of interest as well.

Thanks for any assistance.

Liz Folb

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**From:** Medved, Harry  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 6:24 AM  
**To:** Dan Paranick; waynen@rsrpd.us  
**Cc:** Sandee Covone; Alex Barsky; Zach Miller; Nikki Davy  
**Subject:** Requesting urgent RSRPD 2/16 Board agenda item re: New Drones Ordinance

Dear Dan & Wayne: hope you're having a good morning.

I just saw today's THE ACORN (Conejo edition) and you know I am a reasonable man. I love working with you guys and appreciate your support and all you do for our community. We are lucky to be part of RSRPD and your team provides excellent service taking care of our sensitive environment in Oak Park. That's why this ACORN story below was a shock to me, to say the least:

### **Drones get flight path OK in Oak Park**

***TAKE OFF—Officials cleared this wide open field at Oak Canyon Community Park for drone usage.***

Please add a new item to the 2/16 Board meeting re: NEW RSRPD DRONE ORDINANCE IN OAK PARK. if it's too late to add it to the agenda, I will address it in public comments right at the top of the meeting.

I don't know that Oak Park residents had a chance to discuss this recent Board action, which according to today's ACORN apparently turns the famed Oak Park "Peace and Quiet" (that was our community slogan) – specifically the upper fields of Oak Canyon - into a designated drone area.

I was surprised to first discover this news by reading about it in THE ACORN and then finding the news was distributed in a press release and on RSRPD's website. I don't recall the Oak Park Committee getting this information or getting a chance to vote on the ordinance and on the specific areas it affects.

Aside from Oak Canyon, can you let us know which other areas of Oak Park's open space were selected as drone zones?

Here's why I'm concerned: this specific area is a high fire danger area, nearby upscale homes seeking peace and quiet along Bromely Dr and Napoleon Avenue, a haven for bird watchers and fans of threatened plant species, and may impact upon visitor experience privacy, including yoga, tai chi and boot camps, synagogue, church, 12-step-group rentals of the amphitheater. All of these are reasons why other communities have banned drones in their areas.

It may also hurt film production. Nikki Davy's done an excellent job of bringing in RSRPD revenue via filming permits...but we know from history that it just takes one disgruntled local to interrupt a shoot and chase them away forever, losing money for RSRPD. What happens if some old-timer wants to fly his drone into the middle of a secret celebrity-filled production and then claims we can't stop him because he is protected by the new public ordinance?

Have other agencies like the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, COSCA or MRCA been consulted on their policies? We are also close to Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area land, where drone use is forbidden without written permission (see description below):

*"Unmanned Aircraft: Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent."*

In the Oct. 7 RSRPD minutes, the Board asked staff to *"return to the Board with an updated ordinance,"* but it's not clear to me that the staff returned to the Board with any clear details affecting Oak Park. Did the RSRPD Board vote on the specific locations? I believe the choice of Oak Canyon was a mistake.

I'd like to get more clarity on all of this at the 2/16 Board meeting, and see if the decision affecting Oak Park can be reversed.

With thanks for your time, Harry Medved

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**From:** info <info@rsrpd.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 12:07 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** FW: Concerned Simi Valley Resident  
**Attachments:** RSRPD Press Release - Board Votes to Allow Drones in Select Areas.pdf

**From:** Danielle Stelter  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:15 AM  
**To:** info@rsrpd.us  
**Subject:** Concerned Simi Valley Resident

Good Morning ~

Thank you in advance for reading my inquiry.

Was this topic open for discussion for Simi Residents?

What are the guidelines for "legal" use?

Do navigators have to pass some sort of test – to assure proficiency as an operator and acknowledge potential safety concerns as well as liability?

Do you have a map available to show where drones can be used? How will enforcement be handled?

Do I need to be concerned for my personal safety and privacy – in my home and on the trails while riding my horse?

Please understand that I'm a very reasonable person and freedom is a #1 concern of mine – safety is above all. Will Rancho Simi & Recreation be responsible for mishaps or injury caused by drones?

I look forward to your response. Thank you.

Subject:

FW: Drones in open spaces

From: Amy Shennum

Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 4:52 PM

To: info@rsrpd.us

Subject: Drones in open spaces

To Board of directors

FIRST, thanks for serving our community! Next, I am writing about my concern regarding the new ruling to allow drones to be flown at all park open spaces. I am coming from a family that flies Odrones, hikes and are horse riders in our open spaces.

I am very concerned about mixing horses and drones in the same location. Horses are instinctively frightened by the quick approach of objects. Their reaction is flight! This is an accident waiting to happen.

When operating a drone you may not be in hearing distance of a rider who is in danger. The rider thus, can not ask the drone operated to change directions.

Will drones get lost in chaperal? Is this a way to encourage off trail walking? Fire danger?

I love the idea of drone flying in our parks, just please, please make the change back to no drones in open areas!!!

THE PAPER ARTICLE WAS RIGHT, IT'S GREAT TO OFFER SUPPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY. LET'S DO IT SAFELY!!

PS We are now seeing electric bikes on open space trails.

Amy Shennum

## Dan Paranick

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**From:** Liz Folb  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 6:27 PM  
**To:** Dan Paranick  
**Subject:** drones- letters to individual directors

Good evening Dan-  
These are the letters I sent to the individual Directors this evening  
Wanted you to have them all together  
Thank you for your time and concern.

Director Dennert- By now you have read the letter I sent regarding the rule changes pertaining to drones. I'd like answers to the points I made in the letter from you and each Director. You asked a couple of pertinent questions when the discussion began on Oct 7th. I don't believe you received complete answers. You asked about complaints or previous enforcements. Perhaps there were none on record. However there have been numerous problems with drones in the district.  
Now that the public is aware of the rule change I am certain you will learn of very real problems with drones in the open space. And yes, to your question as to if there is a fire hazard. It has been shown that the heat from the motor or battery if a drone lands on dry grass can spark a wildfire. Wildfires have been started by drones. I am sure the citizens of simi valley and the neighboring communities would be worried about that. Why would you be in favor of take such a risk? You need more information before allowing drone use in open space. Please put the drone discussion on the agenda so it can be discussed further.  
Liz Folb

Director "OBrien By now you have read the letter I sent regarding the rule changes pertaining to drones. I'd like answers/responses to the points I made in that letter from you, and, each Director. You made the suggestion to contact other agencies to find out why they don't allow drones. That is a very important point and would be the reasonable research to do before passing and changing the ordinance. As it turns out none of the surrounding agencies allow drones. They have some very good reasons for it too. I contacted one of them. They had not heard about the change by Simi. They realize, and simi should also, that the borders between the agencies are not solid walls. It would be the right thing to discuss and have all the facts. Perhaps talk to the fire department too. There are many loose ends here. This ordinance was push through by a Director (Gray) that by his own admission had a self interest in changing the ordinance. The requested counsel came September 30, 2021. It appears he requested that. The press release did not go out until January. The ordinance was not even fully figure out (which parks) for the press release. There is a great interest in the issue from the public. I believe you as Chair have a duty to make sure all the information for the best decision is heard. I know that there are numerous items on the agenda and you can't take forever deciding ever issue. In this case many facts were either left out or incorrect. Please put this back on the Agenda to allow further discussion before there is a very big problem.  
Liz Folb

Director Abele. By now you have read the letter I sent regarding the rule changes pertaining to drones. I'd like answers/responses to the points I made in that letter from you, and, each Director.  
As you are an attorney I am sure you understand all the documentation about the FCC drone rules better than me. Still, I don't think you have all the information necessary to make the best decision on this issue. I'd like you to put the drone issue back on the agenda. Some of your comments regarding privacy would be hotly debated by the public. There some key points that were overlooked and there are compromises that can be made to allow everyone to enjoy the open space. Please be open minded enough to hear what the public has to say. Please put the drone issue back on the agenda.  
Liz Folb

Director Freeman  
I think you bowed out of this debate before you should have. I think the other directors need to be pressed for answers, know all the facts, and hear from the public before the drone issue is put to rest. I will be at the meeting with others that feel that the drones are not compatible with use in open space. I have asked each other Director to put the matter back on the agenda. I am not convinced any will do that. I am not sure if you need one of them to second the motion in order to get it back on the agenda. If so I will keep trying to change at least one of their minds.  
Liz Folb

Director Gray, By now you have read the letter I sent regarding the rule changes pertaining to drones. I'd like answers/responses to the points I made in the letter from you, and, each Director. I am very unhappy with the proceedings regarding this issue- at least as far as I can see from reading the minutes. I was not aware of the significant changes you made until I saw a press release that was published after the fact. Not only that, its apparent

you took on this issue as it was a personal one and requested counsel to present to the Board. I don't think you realize what blinders you have on. It is hard to reconcile allowing drones in open space with a person who wrote as one of the reasons they were interested in serving on the Board was to "seek to safeguard our open space". It appeared that you were not interested in checking out the validity of the points of the one dissenting Director. You gave mis-information to questions. I am sure you did not know the facts. To clarify to you- all the surrounding agencies and many others closely have very well researched reasons for not having drones in open space. The public too has many reasons you should allow to be heard, and should have been allowed to be heard before this significant change was made. How can a cell phone be compared to a drone as regards privacy? Yes, there is a fire danger.

I am not looking to deny anyone their hobby. I think there is plenty of room for compromise. Taking a park off the list of allowable areas is not a solution. The open space is where the hikers, horse riders and bike riders are impacted. And its not a freedom of use issue. There are designated areas for activities for a reason. No hitting golf balls in the park. Why? you might hit someone on the head. No horses galloping across the playing fields. Why? Someone may get run over by horse or sit in a pile of poop while picnicking. Why no drones in open space- lots of reasons. I will be happy to discuss them with you with all the facts. Please put the drone issue back on the agenda. Its the right thing to do. Boy Scout's honor.

There are alternative places where drones can be safely used by hobbyists. Why was there a dedicated place for the radio controlled planes and why can't some kind of arrangement like that work for the drone hobbyists?

Liz Folb

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**From:** noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info on behalf of noreply@revize.com  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 12:39 AM  
**To:** comments  
**Subject:** Board of Directors Submit Form

Everyone on the Board = true

Name = Judi Fields

City\_Town = Oak Park

Email =

Comments for the Board = Would love to keep Oak Park a No Drone Zone. I have friends & family living in parts of Texas, New Jersey & Colorado who say that once you give folks the OK on drones, it becomes a nightmare and something that is hard to reverse once it pits neighbors against neighbors. I'm sure there are many other spaces for folks to fly these, just not in our backyards please. Appreciate the consideration.

Client IP = 162.206.25.26

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**From:** Ibarra, David (FAA-AFS300)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 10:33 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Drone Recreational Flights Guidance

Good Day Sandee,

It was a pleasure speaking with you today. As you requested, I'm emailing you to provide you a point of contact for drone flights in the commercial (FAR part 107) and recreational (USC 44809) arenas. I am an Oak Park resident, a subject matter expert in the drone world for the FAA at AFS-330, and an unmanned aerial systems (UAS) pilot. I can be available for questions and/or comments, in person or Zoom, for the board members, if you like. Please let me know how I can help the board members.

As I stated over the phone with you, for recreational drone flying, there are regulatory guidelines that need to be met and be aware of if you are designating an area to fly drones recreationally. The rule for operating unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) or drones under 55 pounds in the National Airspace System (NAS) is 14 CFR Part 107, referred to as the Small UAS rule. However, if you want to fly a drone for purely recreational purposes, there is a limited statutory exception ("carve out") that provides a basic set of requirements.

The Exception for Limited Operation of Unmanned Aircraft (USC 44809) is the law that describes how, when, and where you can fly drones for recreational purposes. Following these rules will keep people, your drone and our airspace safe:

- Fly only for recreational purposes (enjoyment).
- Follow the safety guidelines of an FAA-recognized Community Based Organization (CBO).

**Note:** We have not yet begun officially recognizing CBOs. Recreational flyers are directed to follow the safety guidelines of existing aeromodelling organizations or use the FAA provided safety guidelines per Advisory Circular 91-57B.

- Keep your drone within the visual line of sight or use a visual observer who is co-located (physically next to) and in direct communication with you.
- Give way to and do not interfere with manned aircraft.
- Fly at or below 400 feet in controlled airspace (Class B, C, D, and E) only with prior authorization by using LAANC or DroneZone (web-based programs).
- Fly at or below 400 feet in Class G (uncontrolled) airspace.

**Note:** Flying drones in certain airspace is not allowed. Classes of airspace and flying restrictions can be found on our B4UFLY app or the UAS Facility Maps webpage (<https://www.faa.gov/exit/?pageName=UAS+Facility+Maps&pgLnk=https%3A%2F%2Ffaa.maps.arcgis.com%2Fapps%2Fwebappviewer%2Findex.html%3Fid%3D9c2e4406710048e19806ebf6a06754ad>).

- Take The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) and carry proof of test passage ([https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational\\_fliers/knowledge\\_test\\_updates/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers/knowledge_test_updates/)).
- Have a current registration, mark (PDF) your drones on the outside with the registration number, and carry proof of registration with you.
- Do not operate your drone in a dangerous manner. For example:
  - Do not interfere with emergency response or law enforcement activities.
  - Do not fly under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Individuals violating any of these rules, and/or operating in a dangerous manner, may be subject to FAA enforcement action.

For more information, read Advisory Circular 91-57B.

I can be reached by email or phone

.. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

*David Uriel Narva*

Aircraft Maintenance Specialist  
Commercial Aviation Branch, AFS-330  
Duty Station: Van Nuys FSDO

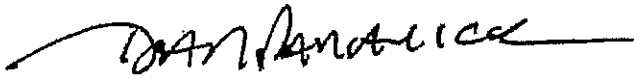


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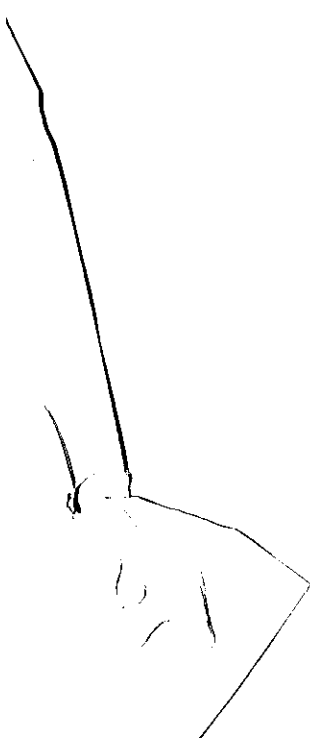
RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 16, 2022  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property -  
Supplemental Information

For your review, attached please find correspondence that was received subsequent to the posting of the February 16, 2022 Board Meeting agenda and staff report related to the subject item.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager



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**From:** Samantha Folb  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 13, 2022 5:34 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Comment for 2/16 board meeting

Hello,

Please read the following comment at the 2/16 board meeting:

The Board's recent decision to allow drones in Simi Valley's open spaces will negatively impact the mental health of our community. Multiple studies suggest beneficial associations between access to green open spaces and reduced stress, positive mood, less depressive symptoms, better emotional well-being, improved mental health and behaviour, and decreased psychological distress.

Drones can be invasive and noisy. Allowing them to fly over and through our open spaces makes these spaces less peaceful and relaxing, thus preventing our community from enjoying many of the mental health benefits our open spaces can provide. The world is a stressful place right now. It would be nice if we could keep the few places that provide a respite from the chaos of daily life as spaces for all to rest and relax.

Please consider reversing your decision to allow drones to fly unrestricted throughout our open spaces.

Thank you,  
Samantha



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**Subject:**

FW: To Board of Directors re Drones in open spaces

**From:** Lisa Darin

**Sent:** Saturday, February 12, 2022 9:54 AM

**To:** [info@rsrpd.us](mailto:info@rsrpd.us)

**Subject:** To Board of Directors re Drones in open spaces

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing in response to the article in the Acorn regarding allowing drones in Rancho Simi open spaces. I am an avid horseback rider, and my friends and I often ride in those same open spaces. We are extremely appreciative of the park district's maintenance of the trails for riding and our ability to access those trails directly from the residential areas where we keep our horses, Bridle Path and Country Lane.

I am extremely worried about drones being allowed to fly in areas frequented by horses and riders as horses can be terrified of drones. Drones create sight and sound that is unfamiliar to horses, and this can cause a horse to spook and throw the rider. Many of our open space trails are narrow or on the side of cliffs, and a horse accident could be deadly.

I understand the people that wish to fly drones have a right to use the open spaces, however, drones and horseback riding areas cannot coexist without deadly consequences. I recommend that drones not be allowed in the Challenger Park area and the Coyote Park hills area as those open spaces are used frequently by horseback riders. Other open space areas could be open to drones, with a caution to not fly close to horses for any reason.

Thank you,

Lisa Darin  
Simi Valev

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**From:** noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info on behalf of noreply@revize.com  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 8:56 AM  
**To:** comments  
**Subject:** Board of Directors Submit Form

Everyone on the Board = true

Name = Deet Ezra

City\_Town = Oak Park

Email =

Comments for the Board = I object to the approval of drone usage over our open spaces in Oak Park I request that you immediately repeal said permission as drone usage interfere with our neighborhood privacy, and poses a fire risk in our VHFH-designated area (which literally backs up to our homes) Thank you!

Client IP = 75.83.81.0

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**From:** Laura Pasetta  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 9:39 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Concern on Drones

Dear Sandee,

I'm a resident of Simi Valley, an outdoor trail guide to families, children, and adult groups. I do many guided hikes through the trails in Simi Valley, teaching our residence about the plant and animal life that live and grow in our local area. Our trails are some of the most beautiful trails in Ventura County, some say the last frontier of the quiet outdoors which is being currently enjoyed by hundreds local Simi Valley residences.

I'm also an equine owner and my husband and I frequently ride many of Simi Valley trails, where horses are allowed. We are concerned and afraid for our safety when it comes to drones flying over our horses. Horses are creatures that are easily frightened and the liability to myself and other equine riders warrants a NO to drones in our open space areas.

The most concerning, is emanant protentional risk of drones creating a wildfire! It's a known fact that LIPO batteries are known for their instability and risk of combustion, how could you take even the slightest risk to our community when we have seen more fires than we can count in our Simi Valley area over the past 10 years! This increased risk is not worth the loss of a residence home or property and again NO to drones in our area.

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Laura Pasetta

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**From:** noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info on behalf of noreply@revize.com  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 4:54 PM  
**To:** comments  
**Subject:** Board of Directors Submit Form

Everyone on the Board = true

Name = Terri Smith

City\_Town = Simi Valley

Email =

Comments for the Board = I was shocked to hear that Rancho Simi Parks and Recreation has approved the use of drones in park areas where equestrians share trails. I live in the Bridlepath community and ride my horse nearly everyday in either the Coyote Park open space and Challenger Park areas. Horses can easily be spooked (scare) by sudden and strange objects flying by or hovering in the air. When a horse is fearful their natural instincts are flight or fight. Flight would cause a horse to run at sudden speeds up to 40+mph without a rider being able to control the fearful horse. It feels like a freight engine that has gone out of control. They can also start bucking or rearing causing their rider to fall. I am sincerely hoping that the Council will take this into consideration and not allow the use of drones where equestrians share the trail. Thank you!

Client IP = 76.170.232.6

**Sandee Covone**

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**Subject:** FW: Drones in Open Space

**From:**  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 12:12 PM  
**To:** Dan Paranick <[danp@rsrpd.us](mailto:danp@rsrpd.us)>  
**Subject:** Drones in Open Space

Mr Paranick,

I was shocked to hear that Rancho Simi Parks and Recreation has approved the use of drones in park areas where equestrians share trails. I live in the Bridlepath community and ride my horse nearly everyday in either the Coyote Park open space and Challenger Park areas. Horses can easily be spooked (scare) by sudden and strange objects flying by or hovering in the air. When a horse is fearful their natural instincts are flight or fight. Flight would cause a horse to run at sudden speeds up to 40+mph without a rider being able to control the fearful horse. It feels like a freight engine that has gone out of control. They can also start bucking or rearing causing their rider to fall. I am sincerely hoping that The Rancho Simi Park District will take this into consideration and not allow the use of drones where equestrians share the trail. Thank you!

Terri Smith

Sent from my iPhone

**Sandee Covone**

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**From:** info <info@rsrpd.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 9:28 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** FW: Drone usage

-----Original Message-----

**From:**  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 6:38 PM  
**To:** info@rsrpd.us  
**Subject:** Drone usage

To Whom It May Concern,

The Acorn Newspaper has an article stating that you may be approving drone usage at Oak Canyon park in Oak Park. As a member of the community I strongly disapprove of this decision going forward. Parks are for leisure, quiet walks, children playing and picnics. I and many others in my community would like our park to remain free of recreational drone usage. We do NOT want the noise and possible danger to our community. We live in a vulnerable place. A crash could lead to another Woolsey Fire incident or someone being hurt.

Thank You,  
Debbie Hume

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**From:** Harry Medved  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 11:56 AM  
**To:** sandeec@rsrpd.org; Dan Paranick  
**Subject:** Letter for the Board from a glider fan

Here's a letter from Conejo Valley resident Brett Jaffe. He wanted to get it to the Board, but he said the form would not allow him to send the entire letter...and he didn't want to chop it up. Best, Harry

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I've been living in the Conejo Valley for forty years. Through a lot of those years, I've participated in a great hobby that a lot of people don't know about...radio control slope soaring. Slope soaring involves flying model R/C gliders (also known as sailplanes) in the updrafts created when the wind hits a slope, hill, cliff, or mountain. There are a few hills in our area that offer the perfect mixture of geography, wind exposure, and access for our sport, and we have made use of those for decades.

Now, the reason you might not have heard of slope soaring (or slope gliding) is because of the nature of the models we fly. They are QUIET. They have no motor or engine, or indeed any method of self propulsion, unlike drones and other radio control vehicles. You would probably not even know we were near you flying unless you looked up and saw one swooping around a hill (and even then you might mistake the gliders for birds).

In addition, slope soaring models use safe and proven nickel metal hydride batteries (NIMH) for their controls, which, unlike the lithium polymer batteries that drones and powered electric models use, do not present a fire danger in a crash.

Also, unlike drones, we are not carrying cameras. We aren't looking down at the houses and taking pictures...we are flying for the simple joy of flying in the lift created by nature.

The reason I am writing this is that I understand there are new regulations being proposed restricting the flying of drones and other powered radio control vehicles to specific areas like parks. I am worried that this might impact our ability to fly slope sailplanes at the places we've traditionally been able to fly at for nearly four decades.

I think our little corner of the hobby has a proven safety record. We don't make noise, and we aren't looking into people's houses or properties, and we have very little impact in general. I hope this letter has raised awareness of this, and that you will keep it in mind.

Thanks for your time.

# Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting

## MINUTES

Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District • Activity Room 3  
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • (805) 584-4400

A video recording of tonight's meeting is available on  
the District Website at [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair O'Brien called the Meeting to Order at 6:29 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by staff member Theresa Pennington.

ROLLCALL - Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Vice Chair Gray and Chair O'Brien were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Sandee Covone, Danielle June, Richard Lemmo, Zach Miller, Wayne Nakaoka, Kelly Negrete, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Alex Stumfall and District Counsel Brian Pierik. Others who made public comments on other agenda items are listed under the appropriate Agenda Item below.

2. AGENDA REVIEW – Two additional emails were received this afternoon regarding the pickleball courts at Deerhill Park in Oak Park. Additional information was also received for agenda item 9 regarding drone usage on District owned property. The Board may want to revise the order of the agenda to hear agenda item 9a first. Director Freeman agreed and felt it would be beneficial to hear agenda item 9a before item 8a since there were several members of the public present who wished to provide comments. Director Abele agreed.

3. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)

Susan Fleczyk from Simi Valley inquired about a letter she sent last March to the Board and never heard back from anyone. She noted that she read the meeting minutes and it was briefly noted in the minutes. Inquired as to why the equestrian center near the Arroyo isn't being maintained and stated it looks like a construction site. She has a petition with 50 signatures asking that it be maintained so they can have horse shows there. Director Abele recalled the letter and the issue. Paranick noted there were changes to the entryway and recalled there were some maintenance concerns. He will reach out to her to meet in person.

Harry Medved who is a member of the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee informed us of his recent appointment to the AT (Active Transportation) Committee by Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks to assist in creating active transport features in unincorporated communities of Ventura County. The Friends of Oak Park Open Space volunteer group planted a butterfly garden last Sunday at Deerhill Park. Medved thanked Director Dennert for coming out to help and digging holes. Medved stated he feels the Board needs an appointed representative from Oak Park on the Board since one-fifth of the open space and parks that the District owns is located in Oak Park therefore they should be represented on the Board and have a vote.

Chair O'Brien invited members of the public who were in attendance regarding pickleball to speak.

John Dechene, a resident of Oak Park, reported maintenance issues on the courts and stated that the light blue pickleball lines on the courts are very hard to see in contrast to the tennis lines. Additional lighting would be helpful and the parking lot needs to be repaved.

Katie Morgan stated she'd like contrasting color lines on the courts. She sent in the letter with photos showing the lines and how easily you can see the tennis lines, however the blue pickleball lines are barely visible which affects their game.

Miguel Encisco is the United States Pickleball Ambassador for Oak Park and teaches pickleball at Deerhill Park for RSRPD and noted his students are often confused about which lines are for pickleball. It's difficult to see the boundaries. Would like the lines to be repainted in a contrasting color.

Tracy Dash invited an RSRPD staff member to walk the courts to get a visual of the courts and the lines. It's difficult to see the lines as they currently are.

Steven Hoffman spends time every morning cleaning the courts and has purchased more than a dozen nets over the years. Reiterated the issue of not having contrasting color lines which are on the interior of the tennis court and will not affect them.

Jeff Williams stated he assists with maintenance and noted there are 20 tennis courts and only 4 pickleball courts which are always full. They are out growing the courts which are in need of repair. He commends the Park District on being so responsive when he submits a request.

Angelo asked if the District could assist with the striping of the courts.

Dennert stated we can't discuss it at length tonight since it's not on the agenda but recommended that those in attendance tonight also attend the next Oak Park Committee Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in April and will possibly add it to the agenda.

Paranick stated that the District is in the process of hiring a contractor to repair the condition of the courts and will have staff inspect the parking lot. Paranick asked Director of Planning and Maintenance, Wayne Nakaoka, how long it will take to resurface the courts, to which he replied to it will take 3 days, during which time the District will not have an alternative location in Oak Park while it's being completed.

Freeman asked how the color of the striping is determined. Paranick stated the color of the striping is a standard color recommended by the U.S. Pickleball Association and is intended to not interfere with tennis play. Freeman stated it's not an arbitrary decision and wanted to clarify the color selection process using industry standards.

Dani Brusius stated all the parking lots are really bad at Deerhill Park and said that the Pennisetum grass was taken out and it looks amazing. Commended the District on doing a good job.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting - February 2, 2022 - Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the minutes as written. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Mayor: Director Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Abstain:

Absent:

5. CONSENT AGENDA (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director's request.)

- a. Approval of 1/31/22 Accounts Payable Check Register and 1/28/22 Payroll Check Register
- b. Renewal of Contract Agreement for Use of a Portion of Tierra Rejada Park as a Portable Communications Test Site by L3 Technologies, Datron Advanced Technologies - Director Dennert asked what they use it for. Nakaoka stated that there is an asphalt pad on top of the hill that Datron built 30 years ago. They conduct microwave testing approximately 3 times per year for 3 days at a time.

Motion: Director Dennert moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Abele seconded the Motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

## 6. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Presentation of the Part-Time Employee of the Month for January 2022 to Bryn Kropp, Site Director - Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration, presented Bryn with a plaque and a check for \$75. Bryn has worked for the District for 19 years. This is her first award. She cares for the children in the ASC program and helps them to flourish. During her time in Oak Park she educated children on the benefits of animal adoption through a local animal shelter.

Bryn thanked everyone for the award. She spent 17 years in Oak Park and came to Simi right before COVID. Receiving the award is very important to her and she appreciates it.

- b. Status of the Districts Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – The verbal report was provided by District Manager Dan Paranick. No complaints received since the last meeting. One new positive case among the staff. New mask mandate went into effect today. Vaccinated staff no longer need to wear a mask indoors. Unvaccinated staff still do. Director Freeman asked if the state of emergency has changed, and if so, how the Board can meet. Paranick stated that the change in the mask mandate has no relation to how the Board conducts meetings. Director Dennert asked if the Board will continue with hybrid meetings. Paranick stated the Board decided to continue hybrid meetings as long as the state of emergency is in effect and may want to consider continuing hybrid meetings in the future after the state of emergency ends. Director Abele asked if the Board would have the option of attending Board meetings via Zoom after the state of emergency ends. Paranick stated that the public will be able to attend via Zoom, however the Board will be required to attend in person or provide public notice of the location of where the Board Member will be attending from.

The Board agreed to skip to Agenda Item 9a.

- a. Review and Provide Direction Regarding Before and After School Club and Teen Club Proposed Fee Increases for School Year 2022-2023 – Director of Recreation, Zach Miller summarized the staff report. On February 2, 2022 the Board considered afterschool club fees and creating a scholarship / grant program for the 2022-2023 school year. Staff was given direction to bring back alternatives including a tiered scholarship program that could expand eligibility or give deeper discounts to families near or below the Federal poverty level. Staff considered budgetary impacts of fee increases and provided information showing revenues associated with each proposed fee increase in each of the alternatives that were presented to the Board for consideration. Staff also presented alternatives for the scholarship program. Miller read one additional public comment that was received via email after the last board meeting.

Director Abele asked if the alternatives were based on \$30k scholarship/grant allocation. Miller replied yes. Paranick stated the amount could be increased to serve additional children and/or provide greater discounts. Paranick provided information on the Districts budget as it relates to decisions regarding the after school club program.

The District can opt to roll back some part time positions in recreation or maintenance, cancel the contract with Mustang Marketing, or hold off on implementing the new internship program. Optimally, the scholarship program would be built into the base budget. The District also has some one time money from savings in the budget as well as COVID relief funds. Regarding the scholarship allocation, Staff is unsure of how many families will apply.

O'Brien asked if we reached out to raise money. Paranick reached out to Kiwanis who might be interested in donating to help fund the program for at-risk youth.

Director Freeman spoke with SVUSD Superintendent who is expecting a large sum of money for afterschool programs. He hopes the District can help as it's a sizeable sum and the School Board is not interested in operating it. Paranick said staff would reach out to the School District.

Director Dennert does not want to cut the quality of the ASC program. He wants to bend the cost, not shift it. He suggested the Board consider eliminating the intern program if revenues don't increase. Miller said he would consider ASC enrollment of 550 students a success and anticipates that enrollment will remain flat during the next school year. Current enrollment is 450 children, which is significantly less than the 700 students that were enrolled in the program pre-COVID. Paranick stated he's planning to use one time money to make up for the shortfall. Director Dennert commented that no pay raises is really a pay cut considering how much the cost of living is going up.

Director Freeman foresees enrollment going up because people want to get back to normal and we have a great program, with great staff, and a great reputation in the community. We are subsidizing \$2000 per student in the program at a total subsidy of \$519k last year therefore we are helping the students and their families. She'd like to see an increase in ASC revenues in order to maintain the quality of the program. She is fine with offering a greater number of scholarships. We need to look at the actual operational costs of the program.

Director Dennert would like to maintain the quality of the program and doesn't want to increase the cost significantly all at once. Gradually increasing fees is preferable in order to give families time to adjust. He feels that if we do receive funds from the School District, those funds should go toward the scholarship program.

Vice Chair Gray felt the District should not budget scholarships with one time money and consider it an ongoing cost. He prefers Alternative 3 which helps students who need it most. He wouldn't support anything below \$30k and would like to see the amount allocated toward scholarships be a lot higher. If he agreed to a 6% or 9% fee increase, he'd want to see a \$40k scholarship allocation. He encouraged his fellow board members to go out into the community and raise funds for the scholarship program.

Director Dennert would like to address something that's not in the report - If a teacher feels that a child really needs to be in the afterschool program, but they can't pay a penny, how would that be addressed. Paranick stated it can be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Staff Danielle June said the District has made accommodations for special cases like that in the past.

Director Abele agrees with Alternative 3 and reluctantly agrees to no more than a 3% fee increase only because we are offering \$30k in scholarships which is the minimum amount of scholarship funding we should allocate. He feels those are the types of programs (i.e. afterschool clubs and youth sports) the District should subsidize. We should look at raising fees for golf and weddings where the demand is high and where the income is discretionary which he feels is a missed opportunity.

Dennert requested that we look at it again if the budget looks better in June. Paranick said he would bring it back as an item for consideration in the budget balancing process.

Motion: Director Dennert moved to approve fee increase Alternative No. 3 as well as Scholarship Alternative No. 3. Director Dennert rescinded this motion.

Paranick asked if the Board would like to designate the number of children who will receive scholarships in each tier or leave it up to staff. O'Brien would leave it to staff. Abele stated that if demand is significantly greater than the available scholarship funds, that he would like the Board to be informed so they can bring it back for further review and discussion. Director Gray wants to support the children who are most in need.

Miller stated that Alternative No. 3 provides a total of \$30k in scholarship funds, including \$19k for the 15 current students that are currently receiving \$10k in scholarship funding, and would open up \$11k in scholarship funds to new students.

Vice Chair Gray made a motion to approve Alternative No. 3 with a 3% increase in Before and After School Club and Teen Club Fees, and Alternative No. 3 for the Grant / Scholarship Program, prioritizing the children most in need and allowing for principal / teacher referrals of students who they feel need the program but cannot afford it. Director Dennert seconded the motion.

Director Freeman stated that she cannot support the motion and supports Alternative No. 1 with a 6% fee increase since we already are very generous to the children who need our help and be more cognizant of the increased cost of operation and still be generous with the scholarship program.

Chair O'Brien likes the idea of reaching out to Dr. Peplinski and the local service organizations and increasing golf and wedding fees some.

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Gray and O'Brien

Noes: Director Freeman

Abstain:

Absent:

Vice Chair Gray supports lower fees for youth sports.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property – Dan Paranick gave report. At its regular meetings on October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021 and December 2, 2021, the Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and adopted an ordinance which allows usage of drones in open space areas of the District and in specific areas within designated developed parks, however developed park locations have not yet been determined.

The photo in the Oak Park Acorn showing a developed park that was open for drone usage was inaccurate. The Board received public input on this item after the press release was issued and it was put on this meeting agenda so the Board could receive and consider additional public input on the topic.

Chair O'Brien opened the public comment period for this item.

Tammy Purdue has an equestrian business that has spent a lot of time training and desensitizing horses to natural obstacles which takes years. Introduction of drones does not give them an opportunity to prepare. She feels drones should not be allowed in open space. Abele asked if she has had any issues with drones and she said no.

Amy Shuman lives in the bridal path in Simi Valley and use Challenger Park and Coyote Park regularly. Her husband flies drones and she is an equestrian. When she saw the article she was concerned about allowing drones in open space noting that it takes skill to fly them. Horses and other wildlife live by fight or flight and drones can be dangerous and can be a fire hazard as well.

Brenda Chew from Simi Valley expressed concern regarding drones in open space near equestrian trails including Challenger and Coyote Parks which could be disastrous. She asked the Board to please consider extending the no-fly zone to the open space trails near those two parks.

Liz Folb thanked the Board for listening to their concerns and thanked director Dennert for putting it on the agenda. She uses the trails and rides every day. Use of drones without a permit is very concerning to her. Drone users cannot maintain the required line of sight. Hot drone motors and batteries have caused fires. Wants to ensure preservation of native plants and wildlife. Feels people should be able to recreate in peace and safety without external distractions. Suggested the District provide drone users with specific areas for drone use. Abele asked if she has had issues with drones. She replied that others have had complaints and she had a drone fly overhead prior to COVID.

Julie Huber asked what is more important – drone flying in our open space or the safety of our riders. She had a serious injury as a result of a drone that spooked her horse. Asked the

Diane Gideon is President of the Montgomery Ranch HOA which is an equestrian community with 630 homes near Coyote Hills and Challenger Parks. They have a profound concern about allowing drones to fly in those two areas. Horses are fight or flight animals – horses and drones are not compatible. Drones are a potential fire hazard as well. Asked the Board to re-evaluate and reverse their decision. Director Abele asked if she has had any incidents with drones. She said yes, on two occasions, one was last week, the other a year ago.

George lives in the Bridal Path and would like to see options including a designated location like a drone park (similar to a skate park, BMX park, or the model airplane field near Moorpark). Drones are a hazard for open space, batteries get hot and can short out and cause a fire. Not all drone flyers are responsible.

Harry Medved thanked everyone for what we do. How are people supposed to know if where they are flying is open space. Asked to please consult with the Oak Park Committee and work together and gather public opinion before making a decision that affects their community.

David Ibarra is an Oak Park resident who works for the FAA and is an expert on drones and drone regulations and shares the concerns of everyone who has spoken this evening. Sent an email to the District detailing the requirements of setting up an area for recreational drone use, which must follow community based guidelines to fly in a specific area that has been approved by the FAA and must be monitored. Drone flyers have to take a test and be registered and must fly them within a visual line of sight. Offered his assistance to help guide the District on designating an area to fly drones.

Samantha Folb sent an email to the Board and enjoys hiking in Challenger Park and Coyote Park and doesn't want drones in those areas and asks the Board to reconsider their decision in allowing drones in those areas.

Tim Gray is a horse owner and a drone owner. Went through the drone certification process. There are irresponsible horse owners and drone owners. Horse owners have responsibilities as well. We should provide a few places that hobbyists can enjoy their hobby. Abele asked if he was a horse owner in Simi. Tim said no, his horses are located in Tujunga Canyon.

Dan Cooper is a Senior Conservation Biologist with the Research Conservation District in the Santa Monica Mountains. He lives in Oak Park and is on the District's Oak Park Committee and was not consulted about this. Drones cause uninterrupted noise, which is disturbing to wildlife and people. Drones have caused fires and crashed into bird nesting colonies. Asked if the risk to birds was considered before making this decision. Asked the Board to reconsider the use of drones in Oak Park. Abele asked if there has been any noticeable increase in drone usage since the decision has been made. Cooper stated he had just learned drones were allowed after reading the article in the paper. Paranic stated that drones are not allowed in Oak Canyon Community Park and that the article in the Oak Park Acorn was incorrect.

Dani Brusius is a member of the Oak Park Committee and feels that large grassy areas like parks are ok places to fly drones as long as the parks are not busy.

JL Diaz was surprised by the article. He is also a member of the Oak Park Committee and suggested finding middle ground where people can enjoy drones and equestrian activities.

Chair O'Brien concluded the public comment period.

currently allows drone usage in open space areas that are not developed parks and in compliance with federal regulations. Within developed parks, the ordinance allows District staff to designate specific areas in consideration of drone flyers' preferred location(s). Staff is able to designate specific areas within 2 or 3 parks where drones could be flown. To date those developed park locations have not been decided. Abele asked how many public meetings we had on the subject. Paranick responded the Board had 3 meetings, December 2<sup>nd</sup> being the most recent.

Director Freeman thanked everyone for coming out and said that she was the one dissenting voice on the matter, stating "you only need one accident to make it a bad idea." She feels strongly that our park locations are not the appropriate place for drones and feels sharing the model airplane location would an appropriate location. She also feels it's an invasion of privacy and is not a good idea for the Park District in any situation.

Director Dennert apologized to the speaker that was injured and thanked the public who attended. The Board can adjust the guidelines based on community feedback. He was the one that asked that the press release be issued because he felt the public was adequately notified. He was trying to create rules for rule followers. We need to have young people who are trained properly on how to use drones and who follow the rules. For the ones who don't follow the rules we have to enforce the rules. Dennert asked if our insurance company will cover drones. Paranick said that we would be covered as long as we are following the rules and regulations. Dennert's investigation of drones that caused fires resulted in findings of drones monitoring fires, not causing them. Regarding the Oak Park Committee, he would like to hear more from the Committee on their ideas at the next Oak Park Committee meeting. He would like to adjust the policy, not necessarily overturn the policy.

Director Abele commented that when it was previously discussed the Board knew they might have to make adjustments which they are willing to do. Invasion of privacy doesn't apply since the parks are open to the public. We wanted to reward responsible drone users by passing the ordinance. He is open to change and feels it's his job to give people what they want and agrees we may need to make adjustments based on the feedback received tonight. He loves animals and it bothers him that they can be scared by drones. Irresponsible usage was going on before we passed the ordinance. He will consider everyone's comments.

Vice Chair Gray agrees with Directors Dennert and Abele and wants to reward people who want to be good users. Drone users don't have many places to fly right now, and the industry is growing in use. He had a difficult time finding any information of them causing fires but found helpful information that resulted from drone usage for fire surveillance and monitoring. He was the one that introduced the ordinance change to allow drones and understood there would need to be some flexibility in the guidelines. He agrees that the Open Space connecting Challenger and Coyote Parks is not the proper location to allow drone usage. He is open to addressing the issues with the community and is flexible and open to change.

Director Freeman agrees with Director Abele that our parks are for everyone to use, but we have to look at the negative impacts to users as well and take that into consideration when making policy. Drones are used commercially by businesses for specific issues and are regulated and can't be compared with recreational use. We need to find a place for them so they do not interfere with others.

Chair O'Brien offered her condolences to the people that were injured and saw animals injured. She likes director Freemans idea of the model plane location. Or possibly the gentleman with the FAA can teach a class that people would have to take before they could fly a drone in our parks. Suggested we reach out to the model plane location operator.

Director Dennert likes the idea of the class and asked District Counsel Brian Pierik if the Board or Staff has the authority to not allow drones in Challenger Park and Coyote Hills Park and in the surrounding open space areas of those parks.

Pierik stated that the Board and/or Staff cannot make amendments to the ordinance without going through the legal process of changing it. Since the ordinance says drones are allowed in open space areas, the Board will need to amend the ordinance to say that they are not allowed in the open space areas surrounding Challenger Park and Coyote Hills Park. Legally, to amend an ordinance, it requires a first reading and second reading and cannot be changed with a motion or a resolution.

Paranick stated that the District can direct the Rangers to monitor those particular open space locations more frequently in the interim period until the ordinance has been reviewed and possibly revised.

Director Abele confirmed with Paranick that the District does not allow nor have we ever allowed improper use of drones in any space. Paranick said that is correct. Abele agreed to direct Staff to monitor the open areas more closely.

Director Freeman stated that removing a bad drone flyer from open space doesn't solve the problem and feels we need to bring the ordinance back. O'Brien agreed that we need to bring the ordinance back and monitor the open space areas of concern.

Director Dennert is open to acknowledging that they are incompatible in certain areas, not all areas. Alamos Canyon might be a good area to fly drones, but not in an equestrian area.

Director Freeman made a motion to bring the ordinance back for review and for possible modification. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Director Dennert asked about the timeline since he feels it's best to gather all of the feedback first, including from the Oak Park Committee, before the Board reviews the ordinance again and makes any further decisions. Paranick responded that it could be placed on the next regular meeting Oak Park Committee agenda. Or any of the members of the Oak Park Committee could attend our next regular board meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to express their position, or the Oak Park Committee could hold a special meeting. Director Abele asked not to bring the item back on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Dennert asked if Paranick could ask the Oak Park Committee if they would like to have a special meeting regarding the topic. Paranick said he would notify all of those that were in attendance tonight that we have a record of to let them know when the item would be discussed again at a future Board meeting.

Director Dennert made a motion to have the Park Rangers available to monitor the open space areas surrounding Challenger Park and Coyote Hills Park for safe drone usage. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Gray and O'Brien

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Paranick also stated he would provide a direct number for residents to call to report misuse of drones to the District.

Chair O'Brien called a 7 minute recess, to reconvene at 8:45pm.

Chair O'Brien called the meeting back to order at 8:48pm.

9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – Director Abele read the recent letter to the editor in the Acorn Newspaper regarding a park bench that the District installed at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park at the request of an out of state family on behalf of their 90 year old father who frequents the park. Abele stated that Wayne Nakaoka and his staff make him so proud, and he commends them. Dennert seconded Abele's sentiments and expressed his appreciation of Wayne and his staff and their attention to detail.

#### 10. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Freeman – She attended the Strathearn joint meeting and reviewed their items, repairs, and future events. They will have a problem digitizing all the information they have and asked if there are government, foundation or historical grants available to assist with that effort. They anticipate it may take a year. She met with Jacqui Irwin and gave her an update on the Park District. She toured the Tierra Rejada property with Dan and Zach and give the District her recommendations on what the District might do with it from a development perspective. Director Freeman would like to adjourn the meeting in honor of Bruce Strathearn who passed away.

Vice Chair Gray highlighted a new local non-profit "For The Need" who work with homeless kids. They will be launching model rockets at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park this Saturday after lunch. He offered his assistance in finding grants to assist the Historical Society with digitizing records, and suggested contacting Moorpark College or Cal Lutheran History Departments and the Reagan Library. He thanked staff and Board for their hard work on the Before and After School Club Fees and Grant / Scholarship Program and feels it will positively impact a lot of kids and families in our community and he is very proud of that.

Director Abele reported that he attended the Soccer Foundation meeting. Two areas of concern include 1) The condition of fields #2 and #3 at RSSCP and at Madera. Wayne indicated it will take until the next down time to get it to where it needs to be. And concern 2) The progress at RSSCP. They are hoping it will be done within the next 4 years and Wayne said it would be done in 3 years.

Director Dennert reminded the Board that there are cards for both the new and retiring SVUSD superintendents in the Board office if they'd like to sign them. He toured Corriganville with Harry Medved who has an expertise in film history. He volunteered in Oak Park for the pollinator garden along with Disney volunteers and Friends of Open Space group and was impressed with the number

soon as April which will be agendized and plan on hosting a youth council meeting here at the District main office. We have a Facebook page for filming as well as RSRPD. Suggested that everyone Like and Share RSRPD posts to be a top fan. Will be at Hummingbird again this week to do graffiti cleanup with new groups. Asked Paranick for an update on the possible Native American remains found at Hummingbird. Paranick stated he's received no additional information but that staff continues to track the issue.

Chair O'Brien attended the Historical Society meeting with Director Freeman. Regarding the Historical Society's need of assistance with digitizing their documents, she asked Director Freeman if they've reached out to the California Historical Society or the Ventura County Historical Society. Freeman said they have. She expressed interest in touring the pickleball courts in Oak Park. Paranick and Miller offered to accompany her.

11. REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER - Comments were provided by Dan Paranick. The skate park is good. The Sycamore Park erosion issue is being addressed and he has spoken with the resident. Dual use court striping is finished at Rancho Simi and nets arrive tomorrow morning. Met with Kiwanis regarding assistance for the ASC program. Summer concerts in the park are scheduled and will be sent to the Board. Staff met with new Oak Park Committee Member Ning Rosenthal gave her an orientation. Golf usage is softening from mid-COVID. Almost finished with the hiring process for the Districts 2<sup>nd</sup> full time Ranger. Working on changes to the trail guide including providing it in Spanish. Friends of Oak Park volunteer group is applying for grant funding for trees from the County of Ventura for Oak Park. They will do the work and we'll give them permission to plant the trees. There was a significant medical issue at one of the courts a few days ago including lifesaving efforts related to a cardiac issue. As a result, we received calls from two residents who asked that AED's be placed at the courts and within parks. We have five currently that are tied to buildings. January financials look good. Our CalPERS funded status went from 75 to 88 which is very good news and is attributable to the market doing well. Dan and Wayne will be giving a presentation to the Simi Valley City Council on March 14<sup>th</sup> with an update on the Arroyo. Director Freeman requested a copy of the Arroyo Specific Plan to take to the meeting to share with them. Paranick stated that all Board members are welcome to attend. The presentation will be approximately ten minutes.

Future Agenda Items: 3/2/22 BMX, financial statements, Boy Scout certificate presentation, and possibly the drone discussion. 3/16/22 meeting is light right now. Director Abele noted that he may be out that day. Director Dennert asked if Paranick would make himself available to tour Sapwi bike track in Thousand Oaks before the 3/2/22 Board meeting. Paranick stated he would.

Committee Activity: No committee meetings are currently scheduled other than the regular Historical Society and Soccer Foundation committee meetings.

12. CLOSED SESSION - NONE

13. ADJOURNMENT - Chair O'Brien adjourned the Meeting at 10:01pm in honor of Bruce Strathearn.



Dan Paranick, District Manager / District Clerk

ATTACHMENT E

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED  
SINCE FEBRUARY 16, 2022

## Sandee Covone

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**From:** Masoud Mirfendereski  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2022 3:46 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Drones in District open area - Attn. all RSRPD Board Members

Dear Ms. Sandee Covone,

I reside at Oak Park, CA 91377.

I am writing this Email to request ceasing of drone flying over our residence and into our airspace. My concern and reason for this request is that these drones pose wildfire risk as well as an invasion of our privacy.

Our residence has previously seen massive wildfire risk during the Woolsey Fire a few years ago. Although drones are meant to enhance wildfire safety, they also remain a wildfire hazard in the case that they malfunction and breakdown into the surrounding brushes which remain as potential wildfire zone.

Please take this concern into consideration in future decisions to continue drone activity.

Thank you for your time and attention to this Email.

Sincerely,

Masoud Mirfendereski, MBA

## Sandee Covone

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**From:** Chad Skopp  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:45 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Attn: All RSRPD Board Members (re. Drones in District Open Spaces)

I'm a past chair of RSRPD's Oak Park Committee, and am deeply appreciative for what the park district offers our community. But I'm concerned about RSRPD's recently passed ordinance, permitting hobbyist use of drones in the district's open spaces. Our community -- including the park district, of course -- suffered terribly from the Woolsey Fire. As such, my neighbors and I are worried about heightened wildfire risks as well as potential privacy infringements to homes bordering those areas. Per a hobbyist site, "Drones have the potential to start wildfires in a number of different ways. One risk is from overheated motors or batteries igniting dry grasses upon landing," ([Droneblog.com](http://Droneblog.com)). These risks certainly are intensified by our continually dry and windy hillside conditions. Accordingly, I ask that you please reconsider this ordinance, for the safety of our community as well as the greater liability it poses for the district. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Chad Skopp, Ph.D.

## Sandee Covone

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**From:** noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info on behalf of noreply@revize.com  
**Sent:** Friday, February 25, 2022 9:58 AM  
**To:** comments  
**Subject:** Comments/Suggestions

Administration (park rangers, human resources, board of director, billing.....) = true

Name = Brenda Cowan

City = Simi Valley

Email =

Comments = In recent months I have encountered a few issues while hiking on the local trails. I hike weekly and having access to the open space to hike is one of my great pleasures living here in Simi Valley. But in the past several months some issues have arisen. First, electric powered off road bikes. They are starting to use the trails more frequently and ride at excessive speed. They also are not good at giving right of way. My second issue are drones. I have seen the drones in the open space areas and the noise is irritating. But the worse is twice I have been "buzzed" by a drone. One was quick and moved on but the second time it happened I was on a single track trail with a sheer drop off and it startled me so bad I lost my footing and almost fell. I understand that the drones now have permission to fly in the open space areas but I feel this is an irresponsible and dangerous decision. They can too easily spook animals (I keep thinking about the horses I see on the trails) and if they crash they can cause a fire to start. I really believe tighter restrictions need to be put in place in regards to drones and electric powered (or gas powered) off road bikes in our open space area.

Client IP = 23.240.37.92

**Sandee Covone**

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**From:** [noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info](mailto:noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 10:30 PM  
**To:** comments <[comments@rsrpd.us](mailto:comments@rsrpd.us)>  
**Subject:** Board of Directors Submit Form

Everyone on the Board = true  
Name = Harry Medved  
City\_Town = OAK PARK  
Email =

Comments for the Board = Thank you all for hearing our concerns. Toward the meeting's end, Dan & Ed said, "NO PARKS will be considered as part of this drone ordinance." That's a good first step if I heard it right, but your press release still reads, "the Board of Directors has approved recreational drone usage in specific park areas." It does not say "specific park areas to be determined." Also, the CORRECTED copy in THE ACORN reports, "Rancho Simi...told The Acorn that the upper fields at Oak Canyon Park in Oak Park could be among the areas approved for the devices." The latest issue says, "Oak Canyon could be among those parks where the devices are allowed, the district said." Do you need a third correction? Or better yet, please send our Oak Park Committee the full ordinance so that we can read it ourselves. The only thing that's clear is that there is a lot of miscommunication out there on this issue.  
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ATTACHMENT F

MARCH 24, 2022

OAK PARK – PARK AND RECREATION  
PLANNING COMMITTEE

STAFF REPORT, SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET  
AND DRAFT MINUTES

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 24, 2022  
TO: Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Recommendation Regarding Drone Usage on District Property in the Oak Park Area of the District

**BACKGROUND**

At its regular meetings on October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021 and December 2, 2021, the Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and adopted an ordinance which allows for the use of drones in open space areas of the District and in specific areas within designated developed parks. While the ordinance currently allows drone usage in open space areas, drone usage in specific areas within designated developed parks is not currently allowed as those possible locations have not been determined to date.

To allow for the recreational use of drones, the following amendment to Rule 62 of the District's Ordinance No. 3 – Rules and Regulations was adopted on December 2, 2021 as follows:

Rule 62: "No person may operate powered or line-attached model crafts of any kind or description or motorized or self-propelled vehicles on or over district parks, park waters or facilities, except recreational drones may be operated in areas designated as open space in compliance with applicable federal regulations for recreational drone use. Remote control gliders, and airplanes, and drones, but not helicopters, may be operated in developed park areas specifically designated areas set aside for those activities, and only at times that those facilities are not being used for their originally designed purpose by other park patrons."

Additionally, in order to confirm and clarify that drones are allowed to be used throughout the District for commercial purposes, the following amendment to Rule 33 of Ordinance No. 3 was adopted on December 2, 2021 as follows:

Rule 33: "No person may film, videotape or photograph in district parks, building or open space, for commercial or educational purposes without a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract. Drones may be used to film, videotape or photograph in district parks or open space for commercial or educational purposes in accordance with applicable federal regulations for commercial drone use with a district approved film permit, facility use permit or contract."

More recently, on February 16, 2022, the Board reviewed additional correspondence and received public input expressing concern regarding the use of drones on District property in various areas

of the District. At the February 16, 2022 meeting the Board requested that the topic be reviewed by the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee and requested that the Committee provide the Board with a recommendation regarding drone usage in the Oak Park area of the District

## DISCUSSION

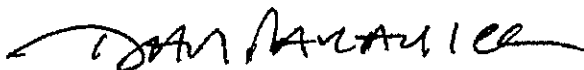
Accordingly, this item provides the opportunity for the Committee to receive additional input, to discuss the item and to provide a recommendation to the Board. To facilitate the discussion, staff recommends that the Committee consider the following questions:

1. Does the Committee want to recommend allowing or not allowing recreational drone usage on District property in the Oak Park area of the District?
2. If the Committee would like to recommend allowing drone usage, what properties in the Oak Park area of the District would the use of drones be allowed; open space and/or developed parks?
3. If the Committee would like to recommend allowing drone usage within open space, are there specific designated locations of the Oak Park area open space properties that the Committee would recommend?
4. If the Committee would like to recommend allowing drone usage within developed parks, are there specific designated locations within Oak Park developed parks that the Committee would recommend?
5. Does the Committee want to recommend allowing or not allowing Drone usage on District property in the Oak Park area for commercial purposes by permit, such as commercial filming, commercial photography, or other commercial activity?

The October 7, 2021, November 18, 2021, December 2 2021 and February 16, 2022 reports with attachments, minutes and related written correspondence on the subject received by the District are provided as attachments to this report for background and informational purposes to facilitate the Committee's discussion and review of the item. It is anticipated that the Board of Directors will review the item again at its April 20, 2022 meeting.

## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Committee receive public input, review, discuss and provide a recommendation regarding drone use on District property in the Oak Park area of the District to the Board of Directors.



Dan Paranic  
District Manager

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 24, 2022  
TO: Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Recommendation Regarding Drone Usage on District Property in  
the Oak Park Area of the District- **Supplemental Information**

For your review, attached please find correspondence that was received subsequent to the posting of the March 24, 2022 Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee meeting agenda and staff report related to the subject item.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

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-----Original Message-----

From: Anita Stewart

Sent: Friday, March 18, 2022 12:42 PM

To: info@rsrpd.us

Subject: Drones In Oak Park

I have lived in Oak Park for 38 years and I enjoy the peace and quiet that we have at our parks. I am totally against drones in the park. Besides the noise, lack of privacy and the risk of being injured, I find it would draw people who don't live in our community. Please do not allow them.

Anita Stewart=

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**From:** David Mathews  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2022 4:04 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Oak Park Committee meeting March 24, 2022  
**Attachments:** 20220322 Oak Park committee meeting comments.doc

Hi Sandee,

I have attached a written comment for the Oak Park Committee meeting on March 24, 2022. I am unable to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom due to a prior commitment.

I request my comment be read at the meeting at the appropriate time.

Thank you.

Dave Mathews

March 22, 2022

For Oak Park Committee meeting March 24, 2022

Comment regarding Drone use on district property:

My name is Dave Mathews, and I am a volunteer Open Space Patroller for the park district.

I am writing to express my concerns about the recent board action permitting drone use in all district open space. Many of our open space areas are home to an abundance of wildlife and natural resource values. These values attract human users to experience wildlife viewing and natural area solitude. Drone use is incompatible with these pursuits.

I believe that drone use could be accommodated in some parks and/or open space areas. I also acknowledge the desire of some individuals to fly drones for personal enjoyment or to gain experience that could lead to employment as a drone operator. However, the blanket permission for drone use in all open space areas should be revised to consider the unique character of individual open space areas and the needs of all open space users, including equestrians, hikers, and wildlife.

By way of example, drone use could be permitted in Tierra Rejada Park open space. It is the historic site of intensive human uses, including a now closed landfill and a former radio controlled aircraft takeoff and landing strip. Conversely, drone use should be prohibited in Alamos Canyon open space. It was purchased and set aside for its natural area values, and as a wildlife movement corridor for the protection of wildlife traversing the canyon from other regional open space preserves.

I urge the board to rescind the blanket permission for drone flights in all open space areas. Instead, select a few parks and/or open space areas whose historic and present day use lend themselves to drone use, while maintaining minimal disturbance to the traditional uses of our most pristine and natural open space areas. Then permit drone use only in these specifically designated parks and/or open space areas.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Dave Mathews

Simi Valley, CA 93094

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**From:** noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info on behalf of noreply@revize.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2022 5:53 PM  
**To:** comments  
**Subject:** Comments/Suggestions  
**Attachments:** drone small.jpg

Recreation (events, classes, programs, rentals....) = true

Administration (park rangers, human resources, board of director, billing.....) = true

Name = Lawrence Meresman

City = Westlake Village

Email =

Comments = Regarding Oak and Simi Parks and Recreation departments considering allowing drones in some of their parks, here is some information that may be helpful.

Having been in this hobby for over 35 years I can vouch for the safety of park sized drones and flying park airplanes. The airplanes are made from foam and the drones are made from flexible plastic. The propellers in the park drones are generally shielded or caged to prevent injury. Although the propeller on a foam park airplane is not shielded, it is light and runs on a battery.

People have a tendency to be afraid or mistrust things they aren't familiar with. To give you perspective, imagine being hit by a hard baseball at a ball game in the park. Now compare that with being struck with a slow flying foam airplane weighing about 1/2 of what a banana weighs.

I belong to a group of seniors including young remote control pilots that fly in the San Fernando Valley and at Paramount Ranch in the Agoura/Malibu area. We fly in a designated area for park pilots and it is not close to baseball fields, kids jungle gyms or doggy areas. We fly in an area about the size of a football field.

I am enclosing photographs so anyone concerned about drones or park airplanes can see for themselves that they are not a threat.

In conclusion I think it is a great hobby for kids and seniors and am glad to see our Parks and Recreation Departments considering this endeavor.

In conclusion I would be happy to bring a plane and drone to a meeting for anyone's inspection.

I have also enclosed pictures.

Lawrence Meresman  
Westlake Village  
Client IP = 23.243.247.117



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**From:** Janna Orkney  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 11:01 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Against drone zone in Oak Park

Hi Sandee,

Please forward this to RSRPD board members, and Oak Park Park Committee members:

I am asking that drones not be allowed to fly in RSRPD Open Space in Oak Park. It is a bad idea, especially because a lot of Oak Park is in an Extreme Fire Zone according to the map from Cal Fire. That includes at least some of Oak Park Open Space and the state of California does not allow drones to fly in such zones.

Janna Orkney

Oak Park, CA

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**From:** noreply=revize.com@turbo-smtp.info on behalf of noreply@revize.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 11:20 AM  
**To:** comments  
**Subject:** Comments/Suggestions  
**Attachments:** RC Pics copy.jpg

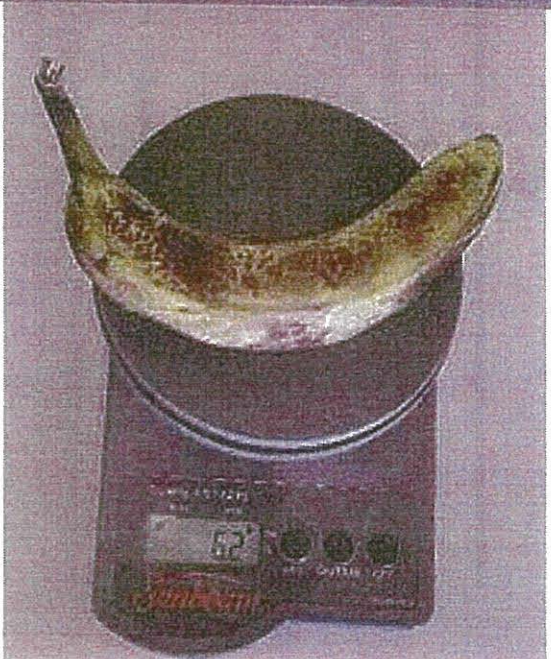
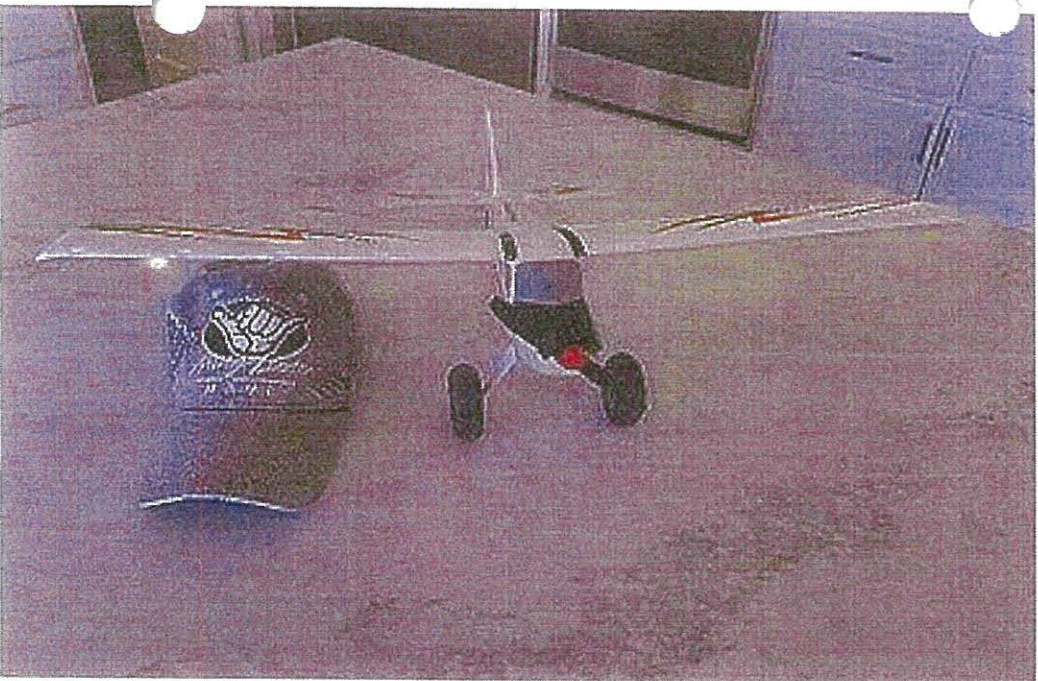
Recreation (events, classes, programs, rentals...) = true  
Administration (park rangers, human resources, board of director, billing.....) = true  
Name = Lawrence Meresman  
City = Westlake Village  
Email =

Comments = Yesterday I commented on the proposed flying park site(s). I was only able to send one picture to illustrate the types of flyers and drones that are reasonably safe for parks.

I am enclosing another picture for review that illustrates my point.

As far as concerns regarding privacy, limiting the size of drones permitted to fly will limit the ability to carry cameras that can take detailed photos or videos. Additionally, if an area is set aside for only for this activity the only privacy that can be "invaded" would be the pilots who are on the field.

Client IP = 23.243.247.117



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**From:** Jeffery Sun  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:41 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Oak Park Drone

Dear Sandee,

I am a resident on Churchwood, Oak Park.

I was recently told that drones were allowed to fly in Oak Park area and I am deeply concerned about this.

As we all know, there are many dry bushes around Oak Park. With drones allowed to fly, there will definitely some failures resulting in the drones landing on the bushes which can cause fire. We experienced Woosely fire a few years ago and we definitely do not want that to happen.

Secondly, with drones flying around Oak Park, it will disturb the quiet community and makes Oak Park an unfriendly place to live.

Therefore I am strongly against allowing drones to fly in Oak Park.

Thanks for your consideration.

Jeff Sun  
Oak Park Resident

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**From:** genie dovar  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 7:00 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Drone concern...

Hello,

I am a concerned citizen living in Oak Park and after living through the terrible experience of the Woolsey fire I sincerely hope that Drones will not be permitted. As you know we are currently experiencing severe drought conditions in our area and it is my understanding that Drones can be a source of combustion that could pose a hazard. I appreciate your help in the above matter.

Thank you for your time,  
Genie Dovar-Ting

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**From:** Debbie Sharpton  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2022 8:03 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Comment Letter for March 24 Oak Park Committee Special Meeting  
**Attachments:** FOPOS Drone comment.pdf

Dear Sandee,

Please accept this comment letter for the meeting tonight.

Thank you.

Debbie Sharpton



March 22, 2022

Board of Directors and the Oak Park - Park Planning Committee  
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

RE: Rescission of Pro-Drone Ordinance in Oak Paek

Dear Board and Committee members,

I cannot personally be at the March 24 Oak Park meeting so please accept this letter as my comment on New Business Item VIII.a. Discussion and Recommendation on Drone Use in the Oak Park area:

I am asking the Committee to recommend, and the Board to vote, in favor of rescinding any ordinance allowing the use of recreational or commercial drones on Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District lands within the Oak Park community. You are the voice of these public resource lands as well as the residents within your special district. Please follow the lead of all the surrounding resource agencies and ban the use of drones.

Twenty-six years ago, I moved to a home in Oak Park fronting open space for its peace and quiet. I've devoted my life to organizing grass roots campaigns to protect and care for Southern California's natural areas and Oak Park was a community that shared my values and love of nature.

Today, for the first time since moving here, I heard the disquieting sound of a drone hovering above my home and above Chaparral Park, our neighborhood park. I went to see what was going on, and sure enough, some guy was standing in the middle of our park, manipulating a drone. He flew the drone over the Oak Park Unified School property, and adjacent higher density homes of Country Vista II and III. These homes are built with large picture windows to allow viewing of our surrounding hills! Who knows what the drone operator was looking at!

With this new law that allows drone enthusiasts in our open space (but seemingly prevents them in community parks for now), did this guy realize he may have been in violation of the new ordinance? Probably not. Most people cannot tell the difference between our open space and our rustic community parks. It's all connected. Is Middle Creek Natural Park open space or a developed park? It's not clear and regardless, we clearly don't have enough rangers to patrol our parks to enforce such an ordinance in our community parks.

Allowing drones above Rancho Simi land does not make sense when all other resource agencies ban the use. The boundary lines between the adjacent National Park Service are on paper only. How are you going to protect our adjacent public lands from being violated? There are sensitive archeological resources, endangered species, and migration routes throughout these hills with no regard to ownership. Sensitive species are pushed to the edge of our built environment because they are reclusive. There needs to be safe places for these species to survive in peace, particularly in breeding season (Feb-Sept).



Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District is a public agency and accountable to the public. Your website has a document describing what a special district is. It states " Special districts provide the public services that the public wants." Were Oak Park residents consulted before Rancho Simi instituted this new pro-drone ordinance and promoted it in our local newspaper as great news? Nope. Clearly, the Board made a mistake and in the future, the people of Oak Park would appreciate the opportunity to formally weigh in on any new ordinance that affects our community.

Please rescind this pro-drone ordinance and rethink what you are doing to our open space and privacy. The longer you keep this law in effect, the worse it could get.

Thank you.

Debra Sharpton  
Chair, Founder  
Friends of Oak Park Open Space

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**From:** Tony Jones  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** March 24, 2022 -- Special Meeting -- Drone Use

I have reviewed the Agenda and Board packet for this evening's – March 24, 2022's – Special Meeting.

As an 8-year resident of Oak Park (and nearby Fountainwood, Agoura Hills resident for several years before that), I share my fellow neighbors' serious concerns about the ordinance the RSRPD Board of Directors recently adopted permitting the use of drones in open spaces and parks in Oak Park.

First, as a preliminary matter, I stay well informed about developments like this in the Oak Park Community. Yet, somehow, the passage of this ordinance slipped by me. While that could have been on my end, I do question whether there was adequate Notice of the proceedings leading to the adoption of this ordinance.

Second, like many others, my overarching concern is the risk of wildfire. As it should, the Woolsey Fire remains fresh in the minds of residents. As a homeowner whose property abuts open space, we nearly lost our home to the Woolsey Fire and had to file a property damage claim for *flame-related* damage, not just smoke damage. Oak Park's open spaces consist largely of chaparral and other dried vegetation that is highly combustible. It is precisely for this reason the Board sends out fire abatement crews – hired as part of an RFP process – in May and June. (Incidentally, on this subject, given that the purpose of the work these crews perform is fire prevention, it should be a "quality of work" metric, rather than "lowest bidder," that drives the vendor selection process. And I can assure you as an eyewitness that the quality of service has varied significantly from contractor to contractor over the years, with some contractors being downright bad.) In addition to the fire abatement crews, there is the fledgling Oak Park Fire Council whose principal aim, like that of the California Fire Safe Council, is "wildfire risk reduction." And, of course, there are the goats! Given all the money, time, effort, and mental energy spent on reducing wildfires/worrying about wildfires, why would the Board turn around and permit the use of drones *in open spaces* with the known, attendant fire risk that brings? Objectively, that decision is difficult to square.

Third, the use of drones raises serious privacy concerns. Many drones are equipped with some sort of camera equipment capable of streaming or capturing images. Beyond that, because the nature of open space is different from that of a park, the respective activities that take place in the two are likewise different. Most activities that take place in open spaces – horseback riding, hiking, bike riding, walking, running, etc. – by their very nature involve motion, meaning that participants are constantly on the move, as opposed to lingering in one place. Not so with drone use. Also, there is something inherently antithetical between drone use and the "get back to nature"/"escape technology" ethos of an open space.

Fourth, as an attorney, I am genuinely confused by portions of Rule 62 and Rule 33 as written. Rule 62 seems to permit "recreational" drone use, as distinguished from Rule 33's "commercial or educational" use. Reading the two Rules together, it would appear that the things prohibited by Rule 62 absent a permit – like filming, videotaping, and photographing – would be permitted under Rule 33 for recreational purposes. Is that interpretation correct? If so, that compounds the serious privacy concerns raised by drones. If that

interpretation is not correct, and filming, videotaping, and photographing are not allowed even for recreational drone use, then, Rule 33, at a minimum, should be amended to state that.

But beyond that, ironically, even though all of this is about a newer technology – drones – Rule 33's language (e.g., "videotaping") is remarkably antiquated. It is my understanding that drones with the proper equipment can "stream" or "relay" or "transmit" images without capturing or storing them. Such uses would seem to be permitted under Rule 33 and Rule 62, meaning a drone operator could, for example, fly their drone and stream images of properties or people, including children, in their yards. It is an understatement to say that this is disconcerting.

In sum, open spaces and parks are inherently different. Respectfully, drones should not be allowed in Oak Park open spaces and I would encourage the Board to rescind the language of both Rules 62 and 33 allowing the use of drones in open spaces.

And, as for the use of drones in parks, perhaps even there, the Board should proceed incrementally, by, for example, designating one or two parks. Moreover, this could be done on an interim, rather than permanent, basis – as sort of an experimental period. The provision could sunset after, say, six months or a year unless renewed. This would allow all stakeholders to see how things go.

Respectfully,

Michael Honeyman



# RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT OAK PARK / PARK AND RECREATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

## DRAFT MINUTES

THURSDAY, March 24, 2022, 7:00PM

OAK PARK COMMUNITY CENTER & GARDENS  
1000 N. KANAN ROAD, OAK PARK, CA 91377

Chair Derek Ross [OPUSD Appointee], Vice Chair Dan Cooper  
Members; Dani Brusius, Harry Medved, Ning Rosenthal, Sherri Wentworth  
JL Diaz [MAC Appointee]

Meeting held via Zoom

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Vice Chair Cooper called the meeting to Order at 7:07pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dan Cooper.
- II. ROLL CALL - Members Brusius, Wentworth, Medved, Rosenthal, and Vice Chair Cooper were present. District Board Members Dennert and Freeman were present. District Staff in attendance included: Nikki Davy, Kelly Negrete, Zach Miller, Wayne Nakaoka, Dan Paranick.

Guests attended tonight's meeting via Zoom. Those who made public comments are listed under the appropriate Item below.

- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Tonight's Agenda was approved on a motion by Chair Wentworth and seconded by Member Brusius. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) - NONE

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee Meeting – January 13, 2022 – Motion: Member Wentworth moved to approve the Minutes as written. Member Rosenthal seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Recognition of Outgoing Committee Member John Watts – Director of Recreation Zach Miller thanked John Watts for his four years of service since 2018 and for assisting the committee through the Woolsey Fire, Lagoon Restoration and the Medea Creek Clean Up. Board Member Freeman thanked John as well and stated he will be missed. Member Medved thanked John and stated he will be missed, and he appreciates that John could see both sides of every issue and kept his cool. Member Wentworth valued the time spent as Vice Chair while John was Chair and thanked John for his attendance at events and support of the members. Member Cooper thanked John for his leadership and sharing his time and knowledge, especially during the Woolsey Fire. Board Member Dennert thanked John for his knowledge and collaboration. John Watts thanked Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District and stated it was an honor to be on the committee and to serve the community.

- b. Introduction of Incoming Committee Member Ning Rosenthal – Verbal - Director of Recreation Zach Miller welcomed Ning Rosenthal to the Committee. Member Ning Rosenthal thanked everyone and stated she has lived in Oak Park for 6 ½ years and has two children who attend Brookside. Member Rosenthal also stated she has a PhD and is passionate about the environmental issues and it is an honor to be part of this group.

## VII. CONTINUED BUSINESS – NONE

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Recommendation Regarding Drone Usage on District Property in the Oak Park Area of the District. District Manager Dan Paranick presented report submitted to the Board regarding drones and stated no developed parks have been identified yet as drone approved, only in open space.

Vice Chair Dan Cooper opened the item for questions.

Member Medved stated that letters submitted to Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District become public comment in the packet, and anything received after 5pm will be read in.

Member Wentworth inquired about Rule 62., last sentence in reference to the 'originally designed purpose by other park patrons. Paranick responded with a scenario at Deerhill, if soccer is playing on the fields, which is a designated purpose, no drones will be allowed. Therefore, drones are not permitted when a designated activity is happening in the park.

Wentworth also inquired as how this came to the Committee and Paranick responded the Board of Directors requested the Committee review the item and provide a recommendation. Wentworth inquired about size off drones, Paranick responded that it would apply to drones specified in Federal Aviation Authority regulation.

Vice Chair Dan Cooper closed questions and opened up comments from the general public.

Cyndi Vorkink runs the 805 goats which clears dead brush on hillsides and stated drones are a potential fire hazard and is against them.

Liz Folb submitted her comments in writing.

Chad S is a past Chair of the Oak Park Committee. Requests to restrict the use of drones in open space in Oak Park, including take off and delivery. There is a risk of fire from overheated batteries upon takeoff and landing. Reactional use of drones while enjoyable to some, does not offset the disruption to many, in addition to the privacy issues. The number of responses included in tonight's packet represent the opposition to drone use. Concerns for Oak Canyon Community Park and the area burnt during the Woolsey Fire. Was not aware of the weight restriction in Rule 62 or 63, however the FAA has an exceedance of no more than 55 pounds, so they do come in all sizes. Regarding Rule 33, which allows drone filming for commercial or educational purpose, absence of a Park Ranger on site is self-enforcement and is concerning. Who will distinguish between commercial, education and hobbyist use and who has a license? Request the Oak Park Committee restrict the use of drones in District open space and parks including take off and landing.

David Ibarra attended the past meeting and is a subject matter expert for the FAA on drones. Lives in Oak Park. Community based rules and guidelines that are worked out with the FAA are important in designated areas. FAA frowns on dual use activities in order to keep everyone safe and this is hard to enforce. There is a community of people that need to practice their drone skills however, guidelines are crucial. Member Medved asked why people would not be in open space, Ibarra responded it would need to be specified in the rules, so they didn't fly there.

Diane Gideon attended meeting in Simi last month and is from the Montgomery Ranch Equestrian community. In reference to Rule 62, Coyote Hills Park is an equestrian center and monitoring drones would be hard to accomplish. With regards to open space, has concerns for equestrians and liability.

John Watts stated he has concerns and would be against.

JL Diaz joined the meeting at 7:45pm.

Carolyn Cass Barton is opposed to drones in any parks and open space. Difficult to policy and privacy issues. Concerned about fire hazards and impacts to wildlife and horses.

Michael Honeyman provided an email which stated he was opposed to drones in open space due to the increased risk of fire damage, after the Woolsey fire the mitigation measures which are now in place would seem to be contrary to the use of drones. There are serious privacy concerns with drones as they can live stream and the existing Rule 62 and Rule 33 do not address this. Drone use also interferes with the 'get back to nature/escape technology' that open space is used for. Suggests allowing limited operation in one or two parks for a limited time span to gauge any issues or concerns the community may have.

No other public comments recorded. Matter will now go back to the Board for deliberation and discussion for the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Public can send emails to Sandee Covone.

Paranick stated the threshold question should consider whether the committee would allow or not allow recreational drone usage on District property in the Oak Park Community area of the District. Ban altogether or allow in certain areas?

Board Member Freeman commented that both sides on the issue are represented here today and that it was not a unanimous decision. Board Member Dennert stated they are open to amendments.

Member Wentworth inquired if there are any more detail on recreational drones causing fires? David Ibarra replied no report of wildfires yet. Also stated once a drone takes off, FAA owns air space and Community Guidelines can state how high and to keep in line of sight.

Vice Chair Cooper reviewed the supplemental information and noted 23 letters from Oak Park/Simi residents opposed to drone use, and one letter for from a Westlake Village resident. Did research in a 10-mile radius of Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District for drone usage on various agency owned lands, including parks, and drones are banned. Conejo District and Conejo Open Space bans drones. Pleasant Valley bans drones. MRCA bans drones. I.A County Parks and Recreation bans drones, except in portions of two parks

which also allows radio-controlled planes. LA City Parks and Recreation bans drones in some areas, specifically Griffith Park and Sepulveda Basin Wildlife area. State Parks recently issued an order to ban drones in the entire Angeles District of California State Parks. Also bans motorized equipment including drones in all wildness, cultural and natural reserves. Wording in the Ordinance points out the numerous negative impacts by drones which are inconsistent with the park experience. Negative impacts on wildlife, they are noisy and intrusive, and interfere with emergency operations. Calabasas City is highly regulated, and Malibu allows only for filming. Agoura Hills bans in all City parks. Outside of our region, Golden Gate Natural Recreation Area bans drones and will issue citations. USCB is the only university that allows drones, and all users must submit written requests and flight plans. Radio Controlled Planes can be flown in Thousand Oaks South, at the top of Wendy there is a private club. Paramount Ranch allows as does the new park at the top of Westlake Blvd. In research, found two fires that were started by drones, one in Oregon and the other in Flagstaff, Arizona. In disturbance with wildlife, found 80% interference in aerial wildlife, low for aquatic. Supports the total ban of drones in all open space within Rancho Simi Parks and Recreation District. Recommends the Ordinance be rescinded immediately.

Member Medved stated staff communicated to the Board however the concerns were not incorporated. Main goal is to show Oak Park has unique geography and homes back up onto open space and two sides of the city back into National Parks, China Flats and Cheeseboro. Has beautiful scenery and wouldn't want the intrusion of drones in those areas. Drone users cannot differentiate between Simi Valley area and Oak Park open spaces. A drone user was in Chaparral Park this week and this park has not been designated as drone friendly. Hard to differentiate between open space and parks in Oak Park. Do not have enough Rangers to patrol. Issues needs to be taking to the community first, noted in the Acorn before Ordinances pass. Recommends the Ordinance be rescinded immediately.

Member Rosenthal agrees with Member Cooper and Medved, especially with the issues with Oak Park not being fully communicated to residents. Even though the risk of a fire from drones is small, it is not an acceptable risk within Oak Park, especially after the Woolsey Fire. Is concerned about impact to wildlife and can break the ecological cycle. No matter how many rules are in place, they still have to be enforced and we do not have resources. Is concerned about safety and the number of break-ins that are already happening and drones being used for that. Is opposed to drones in open space and in parks in Oak Park.

Member Brusius is against drones in open space. Residents do not have control over a drone being launched in front of a home or being flown over their property. Is concerned that if drones are banned altogether kids will fly around homes instead. Drones can use the airspace above the park so can fly there if launched elsewhere. Would provide something for middle aged kids to do in an under-utilized park, and in specific times. Drones are not going away.

Member Wentworth feels drones in Open Space are not a good idea. Agrees with Member Brusius to stipulate a place where drones can be flown safely. Walks Oak Canyon Community Park and sees drones every day. Does not know how we could patrol. Recommends no drones in Open Space.

MAC Appointee Diaz agrees that Open Space is off limits. Has not seen studies that say recreational drones are detrimental in developed parks so supports. Recommends no drones in Open Space.

Motion: Vice Chair Cooper made the motion to recommend no drones be allowed in all Open Space on District lands and the Board rescinds the recently passed Ordinance allowing drones in Open Space. Member Wentworth seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Rosenthal, Member Wentworth, MAC JL Diaz.  
Noes: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Chair Ross

JL Diaz asked for clarification on a developed park, Paranick responded parks that include grass, picnic tables, other recreation uses. Member Medved asked what classification Medea Natural park is; Nakaoka responded Open Space.

Vice Chair Cooper reiterated Committee involvement in designating the parks, rather than reviewing specified parks from the Board.

Member Rosenthal can survey the general public in Oak Park and submit results to the District at a meeting.

Motion: Vice Chair Cooper made the motion for Park District to undertake a thorough investigation of sites for drones in the District, taking into account Committee members and public comments, including, but not limited to, fire, enforcement, equestrian, privacy and wildfire and the Committee participate in the site selection prior to the suggestion of suitable sites. MAC Appointee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Rosenthal, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz.  
Noes: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Chair Ross

- b. Youth Appointee – Status Update – Verbal Report. Director of Recreation Zach Miller stated an application was created for a Youth Appointee and sent to the high school and shared on social media. One application was received in three months; however, the student cannot be reached. As we are near the end of the school year, is seeking recommendation from the Committee.

Member Medved thanked Miller and recommended waiting until the new year in the Fall and asked the application to be included in the Talen school newsletter.

- c. Oak Park Recreation Programs Report – The Staff Report was provided by Kelly Negrete, Oak Park Recreation Supervisor II. Digital links for summer registration will be begin April 29<sup>th</sup> and reporters mailed out May 6. Facility rentals are doing well with two more

rentals happening per weekend. More staff has been added to facilitate. Rattlesnake Avoidance training is open for Registration on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Music in the Park will be on July 9<sup>th</sup> and feature Bruno & The Hooligans.

Member Diaz inquired about having a Junk in the Trunk at Oak Park, Negrete replied it has been discussed and we would need a larger parking lot for the event; Miller suggested contacting the high school.

- d. Report on Oak Park Planning and Development Report – The Staff Report was provided by Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance. Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon and Picnic Pavilion Project will accept Project bids until March 29, 2022 and will be tentatively awarded on Board of Directors meeting on April 20, 2022. Paranick stated any Committee Members can comment. For the Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency Grant, Nakaoka stated a standard permit was submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife who informed staff that a permit would not be issued during the bird nesting season, therefore the starting date of this project has been postponed until September 2022. Vice Chair Cooper inquired if the contract can be completed then, Nakaoka replied the contractor has agreed to keep the contract open. For the Tree Mitigation Fund Application by the ‘Friends of Oak Park’ for the line of trees along the northern boundary will move forward once approval has been granted.
- e. Grounds Maintenance Report – Wayne Nakaoka, Director of Planning and Maintenance stated Report was a read and file.
- f. Discussion and selection of Committee Members for Park Inspection Sites – Verbal Report. Zach Miller, Director Recreation stated that if the Committee Members would like to adopt a park, we can formalize. Vice Chair Cooper said for tonight, it can be ad hoc and prepare recommendations for next meeting.
- g. Items Requested by Committee Members to be Added to the Agenda

- 1. Possible Clean Up of Medea Creek Trail between Kanan and Oak Hills (Brusius)

Member Brusius inquired about the removal of dead vegetation caused by fire and winds. The palm trees are invasive and a fire hazard.

Motion: Member Brusius made the motion to recommend removal of dead vegetation and invasive species of palm trees in the Medea Creek, between Kanan and Oak Hill and to recommend to the Board to include in budget for this fiscal year. MAC Appointee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes	Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz.
Noes:	None
Abstains:	None
Absent:	Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

- 2. Discussion Ensuring Oak Park Committee review of District Items Impacting the Oak Park Community and Upcoming District Board Election (Medved)

Member Medved is concerned about Board of Directors making decisions for Oak Park and would like to have representation on the Board. For the election coming up in November would like to see more information about running for the Board in the Oak Park calendar. There are 13,00 residents in Oak Park and 130,000 for Simi Valley so not sure about having a representative being elected to the Board. Rather than just an advisory Committee, have more say for residents of Oak Park.

Board Member Dennert noted that Member Brusius was on the Board meeting regarding drones. Member Brusius noted Committee meets four times a year, while the Board meets twice a month. Dennert further inquired if a designated person is assigned to attend every Board meeting can be elected tonight. Member Medved states he would like two motions, one for the designated person to attend each Board meeting and another motion to re-do the rules and have a designated seat on the Board for a Oak Park Committee Member.

Motion: Member Medved made the motion to encourage every Rancho Simi meeting to have an Oak Park Committee Member attending, either via Zoom or in person. Member Brusius seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth  
Noes: MAC Appointee Diaz  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

Motion: Vice Chair Cooper made the motion have the Board research the feasibility of a designated Oak Park represented on the Board. MAC Appointee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz  
Noes: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

In response to a question from Board Member Dennert, Member Medved stated there would continue to be an advisory Committee in Oak Park as well as a designated person from Oak Park on the Board.

h. Selection of 2022 Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Decision carried over to next meeting.

i. Approval of 2022/23 OP Committee Meeting Schedule

Motion: Member Wentworth made the motion to approve the 2022/23/OP Committee Meeting Schedule. Vice Chair Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Aves Vice Chair Cooper, Member Brusius, Member Medved, Member

Wentworth, MAC Appointee Diaz.  
Noes: None  
Abstains: None  
Absent: Member Rosenthal, Chair Ross

- j. Oak Park Committee Communication Protocol – Verbal Report. District Manager Dan Paranick stated responsibilities are changing from Sandee Covone to Nikki Davy for Administrative Support, Kelly Negrete for day-to-day issues and Zach Miller for Policy issues.

- k. Discussion and Decision Regarding Return to In-Person Committee Meetings

District Manager asked the Committee if the State Government extends the hybrid meeting option which option is preferable, in person or Zoom.

Member Wentworth, Medved, Vice Chair Cooper and MAC Appointee Diaz all stated Zoom.

IX. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE – NONE

X. COMMITTEE MEMBERS: BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEF REPORTS REGARDING THEIR ACTIVITIES

Member Medved will share the ACT Plan from Ventura Public Works, thinks it may apply for crosswalks where street crosses Medea Creek.

MAC Appointee Diaz is on the Fire Safe Council. Is doing the wildfire risk assessment for all of Oak Park and is raising money and with two grants has \$15,000 to do assessment by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.

XI. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT – Comments were provided by Dan Paranick.

Paranick stated the Board Meeting in May is in Oak Park.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cooper adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m with Member Medved seconding.

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Dan Paranick, District Clerk

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 20, 2022  
TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: District Manager  
SUBJECT: Continued Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property  
- **Supplemental Information**

For your review, attached please find correspondence that was received subsequent to the posting of the April 20, 2022 Board Meeting agenda and staff report related to the subject item.



Dan Paranick  
District Manager

## Sandee Covone

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**From:** info <info@rsrpd.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2022 8:55 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** FW: Drone ordinance

**From:** Jodi Slotar  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 16, 2022 7:41 PM  
**To:** info@rsrpd.us  
**Subject:** Drone ordinance

To: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Officials

Re: Drone usage in county parks ordinance

I have recently heard about the ordinance passed allowing drone usage over our county parks. While I appreciate this is a hobby enjoyed by some; I specifically would ask that the Parks and Rec re-examine the drone usage rules in parks where there are already horse facilities and trails in use. Horses are by nature a flight animal and the characteristics of drones being able to hover and come down close to horses being ridden on our public trails is a dangerous combination for the riders and the other people in the park. If a horse is spooked by a drone, they could easily unseat their rider and run randomly in an attempt to escape what is perceived as a threat. This could endanger children and adults enjoying the park. Specifically, Coyote Park and Challenger Park come to mind as the Bridle Path, Country Lane, Meadowbrook, Sinaloa Estates and other homes with horse property use that park frequently as there is an equestrian arena and trails nearby and in those hills.

Thank you for considering the safety of the horse communities that have already had a long established relationship with the Parks and Rec in these areas.

Jodi Slotar

**Sandee Covone**

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**Subject:** FW: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District - 4/20/22 Board Meeting - Agenda Item 8.a - Drones

**From:** Jeffery Sun  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 16, 2022 7:09 AM  
**To:** Sandee Covone <sandeec@rsrpd.us>  
**Cc:** Dan Paranick <danp@rsrpd.us>  
**Subject:** Re: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District - 4/20/22 Board Meeting - Agenda Item 8.a - Drones

Thanks Sandee for informing us.

I am strongly against flying drones in Oak Park area. It increases fire danger and disturbs the quiet neighborhood. A few days ago, I saw people flying drones along Churchwood residential area. This is completely unacceptable.

Fengzhu (Jeff) Sun  
Oak Park Resident

Sandee Covone

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**From:** Tony Jones  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** 4-20-2022 RSRPD Board Meeting - Drone Use

April 20, 2022

Good day, Ms. Covone. Please find below a written comment in connection with item 8 (drone usage) on the Agenda for this evening's RSRPD Board Meeting. If I am unavailable to read this comment myself this evening, I would appreciate it being read into the record by someone else at the appropriate time. Thank you.

Dear Board of Directors –

By email submitted on March 24, 2022 in connection with the Special Meeting held on drone use that evening – which email I also read into the record – I previously expressed my strong opposition to the ordinance permitting drone use in the open spaces of Oak Park. With respect to drone use in parks, I recommended an incremental approach, perhaps designating 1 or 2 parks on a temporary basis to see how things go.

I remain of the view that the ordinance permitting drone use in open spaces should, at a minimum, be rescinded as to Oak Park. Having had additional time to consider and research the issue, however, I am now of the view that drone use should be prohibited in/on all open spaces in both Oak Park and Simi Valley (or any other District Property).

Although there are others, the principal reason for my position remains fire risk. *Just this week*, various news outlets (including one just yesterday afternoon) reported on a 25-acre brush fire in Oregon that was caused by an Amazon drone that failed in flight, lost power, and crashed to the ground from 160-feet up. The fire started because when the drone collided with the ground, its lithium battery exploded. Links to three articles reporting this story (from Forbes, NY Post, and Retail Wire) are below.

What is particularly disconcerting to me about this story is that this was an Amazon drone. This was not some low quality, fly-by-night outfit. To the contrary, as reported by the articles, Amazon has been working on its drone program for a decade and has invested over \$2 Billion into its drone program. And yet, for a host of reasons, including safety, Amazon's program is nowhere near ready. If Amazon, with its literally limitless financial, technological, and human capital resources (per the article over 1,000 people worldwide are worker on

Amazon's drone program) cannot figure out drone safety after 10 years and \$2 Billion, how can anyone have confidence in any other manufacturer's drones?

Also disconcerting is the fact that this 25-acre brush fire happened in Oregon, where the statewide average annual rainfall is 41 inches and it rains 134 days per year. As we here in Southern California know all too well, we are desperate for rain. I shudder to think what would have happened had that drone crashed here.

As for my position that the drone ordinance should be rescinded as to Simi Valley in addition to Oak Park, that's an easy one. Fire does not recognize any map boundaries between Simi Valley and Oak Park. The hills and open spaces around here are contiguous and literally connect these two wonderful towns. So, to permit drone use in open spaces in Simi Valley is functionally to permit it in Oak Park as well.

The overwhelming majority of Ventura County residents who have taken the time to attend these public meetings and prepare comments are strongly opposed to drone use. Indeed, it is nearly unanimous opposition. While I appreciate the Board's openness to innovation and change, to permit drone use is to invite potentially catastrophic consequences. That is not hyperbole. That is the reality of the physical environment in which we live. Put simply, we live in a proverbial tinderbox and regrettably we cannot afford even one incident here. And I know that no one on the Board would ever want to be considered responsible for potentially (and knowingly) permitting the next Woolsey Fire.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Michael Honeyman, Esq.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/retailwire/2022/04/19/crash-raises-doubts-for-amazons-2-billion-drone-program/?sh=1be5f52237c6>

<https://nypost.com/2022/04/13/amazon-30-minute-flying-deliveries-delayed-after-drone-crash-sparks-forest-fire/>

<https://retailwire.com/discussion/will-amazon-have-to-ground-its-drone-program/>

ATTACHMENT 3

APRIL 20, 2022 MEETING MINUTES AND  
CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

JUNE 15, 2022

# Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting

## MINUTES

Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at 6:30pm

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District • Activity Room 3  
4201 Guardian Street, Simi Valley, CA 93063 • (805) 584-4400

A video recording of tonight's meeting is available on  
the District Website at [www.rsrpd.org](http://www.rsrpd.org).

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair O'Brien called the meeting to Order at 6:32pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Theresa Pennington.
2. ROLL CALL – Directors Abele, Dennert, Freeman, Vice Chair Gray, and Chair O'Brien were in attendance. Staff in attendance included: Laura Ballantoni, Ashley Danko, Danielle June, Courtney Kanagi, Richard Lemmo, Jeannie Liss, Zach Miller, Wayne Nakaoka, Dan Paranick, Theresa Pennington, Brian Reed, Alex Stumfall, Gina Viecco, and District Counsel Brian Pierik.

Guests attended tonight's meeting in-person and via Zoom. Those who made public comments are listed under the appropriate Item below.

3. AGENDA REVIEW – There were no changes to tonight's Agenda. Paranick reported 3 emails regarding Item 8.a were received and distributed to Board Members today.
4. PUBLIC STATEMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)

Jim Nagle an Equestrian rider in Simi Valley reported there is damage due to erosion at Challenger Park. The trail that runs up and over the top of mountain needs to be addressed.

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors Meeting – April 6, 2022 – Chair O'Brien abstained from voting on the Minutes from April 6, 2022, which was recorded incorrectly. Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Minutes as amended. Vice Chair Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### 6. CONSENT AGENDA (Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon without discussion by one motion approving the Consent Agenda. If discussion is desired the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon a Director's request.)

- a. Approval of 3/31/22 Accounts Payable Check Registers 3/25/22 Payroll Check Registers – Staff responded to questions from the Board. Motion: Director Freeman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Abele seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### 7. PRESENTATIONS, SCHEDULED ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Presentation of the Transparency Certificate of Excellence to the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District by the California Special Districts Association (CSDA)– District Manager Dan

Paranick introduced Charlotte Holifield the District's local liaison from CSDA. Ms. Holifield stated it is a pleasure being here to present this Certificate to the Board. The award was created in 2013 and focuses on 3 points: basic transparency, website requirements, and outreach. The District is 1 of only 5 to have received this honor in the local area.

Paranick commended Director of Administration Theresa Pennington and her team for the work done on this submission.

Abele is huge on transparency and commended Staff and his fellow Board members. He is proud of the steps taken during his time on the Board that resulted in this honor.

Freeman expressed her gratitude to Staff for the work done on the submission. She thanked Holifield for the presentation of the Certificate.

O'Brien and Dennert both congratulated Staff, acknowledging it takes a lot of work to achieve the award.

- b. Presentation of the Full-Time Employee of the Month for March 2022 to Fidencio Ceja, Groundskeeper II – Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration, presented the Staff Report. Fidencio has worked with the District for 10 years; this is his 2<sup>nd</sup> award. He was unable to attend tonight's meeting and will be presented with his plaque during work hours.

Dennert thanked Fidencio for his hard work, he added our parks look better than anywhere else.

- c. Presentation of the Part-Time Employee of the Month for March 2022 to James Pratt, Maintenance Worker III – Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration, presented the Staff Report. James has worked with the District for 14 years; this is his 2<sup>nd</sup> award. He was unable to attend tonight's meeting and will be presented with his plaque and check during working hours.

Golf Course Manager Brian Reed added James is a dedicated worker, a top-notch guy and excellent employee.

- d. Acknowledgement of Park Ranger Courtney Kanagi, Recipient of the Simi Valley Elks Lodge First Responder of the Year Award – The Verbal Report was provided by Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration. Kanagi was awarded for her work as a Ranger and Homeless Liaison for 2022. Congratulations to Kanagi on the recognition and well-deserved award. Kanagi thanked the Board, the Elks, and the local community.

Paranick added this is a prestigious award and Kanagi is very deserving.

Abele agreed the award is so well deserved and thanked Kanagi for her service.

Dennert added Kanagi always does the job with kindness and works to keep the City safe.

- e. Presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to the Santa Susana Baseball League in Honor and Celebration of Their 60 Year Anniversary – Verbal Report provided by Zach Miller, Director of Recreation. Miller congratulated the League on their great work and longevity. The League is run as a family with numerous volunteers and is committed to providing quality programming.

SSBL Vice President Grove Anderson accepted the certificate and thanked the District for being a partner in doing this for the kids. District Staff has been instrumental in supporting their league.

Freeman added it has been a great partnership for 60 years.

- f. Youth Council Presentation – Verbal Report provided by Danielle June, Recreation Supervisor who welcomed the Council to tonight’s meeting. The students from the Council provided a presentation on the function of the group, fundraising, collaboration with the District, and their future plans. They are currently looking for volunteers as well.

Freeman asked how often they meet. The group responded on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month.

Dennert asked if there has been a location selected for the Battle of the Bands. June responded Staff is focusing on Berylwood as a Teen Hub and that would be the first choice.

Gray encouraged the members to apply for jobs with the District and provide feedback on our programs.

Paranick thanked the City of Simi Valley for working together with the District and facilitating the Board’s request for enhanced involvement with the Youth Council.

- g. Report on the District’s 2022 Summer Special Events Schedule – The Verbal Report by Richard Lemmo, Recreation Coordinator. Staff is looking forward to a full schedule this year. Lemmo reported the schedule includes Youth Power Wheels race, Artsfest, Movies in the Park, Family Campout in the Park, Music in the Park, Movie Classics at Corriganville, and events at the Pool.

Both Dennert and Gray were very impressed by the Recreation team and the summer event schedule.

## 8. CONTINUED BUSINESS

- a. Continued Discussion and Direction Regarding Drone Usage on District Property – The Staff Report was provided by Dan Paranick, District Manager. The Board adopted an Ordinance for Drone usage in Open Space, however specific parks where drone usage will be allowed have not yet been selected. The Oak Park Committee voted against allowing drones anywhere in Oak Park open space and could possibly designate a specific location in Oak Park where drones would be allowed, subject to Committee approval. There has been concern among community members in Simi Valley, especially those in equestrian areas.

Gray asked if it would take three additional meetings to amend the ordinance. Paranick stated it could possibly take two more meetings, maybe three.

O’Brien asked if drone users are required to obtain a permit. Paranick responded no, permits are not required by the District for recreational drone usage, however permits are required for commercial purposes. O’Brien also asked how the District is monitoring drone users’ credentials. Paranick stated it’s being done on a case-by-case basis in the field.

Dennert asked if the District's ordinance only addresses drone usage on District-owned property (referring to parks and open space, and not residential neighborhoods). Paranick confirmed that is correct, it only applies to District property. Dennert suggested Staff could designate a location where drones are allowed which can be changed, if necessary.

Jim Nagle stated as an equestrian, he prefers being cautious and considers the dangers. There is a liability issue, horses can be spooked and injured. There are also issues with mountain bike and e-bike riders who don't respect horse riders and go too fast. He is requesting a designated area for drones away from equestrian areas.

George Kreider asked for an update on drone concerns including new research, liabilities, enforcement, wildlife impacts, location options, fires, and invasion of privacy. He asked the Board to consider negative impacts on riders and horses.

Liz Folb spoke against drone usage and suggested selecting one safe location where recreational drone usage is allowed.

Julie Huber was injured by a horse that was spooked by a drone. She presented and provided research on safety issues with drones and horses.

Diane Gideon is representing the Montgomery Ranch West HOA equestrian community. She asked the Board to look at the issue through the lens of the equestrian community and consider all aspects including fire, safety, and privacy. She suggested allowing responsible drone operators to fly in a safe, designated area.

Michael Honeyman read his email into the record. He strongly discourages drone usage in open space areas in both Oak Park and Simi Valley due to fire hazards. He recounted an incident that occurred yesterday in Oregon where an Amazon drone crashed and caused a 25-acre fire because the lithium battery exploded.

David Ibarra stated he is an FAA employee. He stated Air Space over parks is owned by the FAA and suggested the Board contact the FAA to obtain/create community-based guidelines. He reviewed air space rules and offered to answer any questions.

Dan Cooper, member of the Oak Park Committee, submitted 18 pages of comments to Staff which weren't included in the agenda packet. He researched the effect of drones on wildlife and fire ignition and suggests that the Board rescind the ordinance and not allow drones on any lands owned by RSRPD, adding all other local agencies ban drones.

Chair O'Brien read 9 Comment Cards into the record, all were submitted against allowing drones.

Freeman stated from the beginning she had trepidation about allowing drones and feels it's a liability and an intrusion on park patrons. She strongly opposes drone usage in the parks and open spaces. It only takes one incident or fire to cause great damage. She is in favor of rewriting the ordinance to not allow drones in District parks and open space areas, except for the model airplane park location. She noted that no one has spoken in favor of flying drones.

Gray stated that at the last meeting there were drone proponents that spoke in favor of drones being allowed and did receive input from the community in favor of drones.

Dennert feels there is a need for drones which provide jobs for operators. He suggested designating a place where they can be flown. We want to create rules for rule followers. Regarding film permits, he suggested allowing drones to scout an area without having to go through the permit process.

Abele added drones are a recreational activity and we are a recreation organization. Having the ordinance allows us to designate specific areas where rule followers will fly. He's also concerned if drones are banned will mountain bikes be included. He doesn't have a problem with changing the ordinance, but he is against eliminating drone use completely.

Freeman agreed with Abele that we are a recreation organization for everyone, however we must look at the impacts of what we are allowing. As a Board, we must consider the liability and risk as well as the position of other agencies that have banned drones.

Chair O'Brien asked if Staff has reached out to the FAA. Paranick stated that Staff has not, however a legal analysis of the issue was included in a prior board agenda packet on the topic and provides greater detail.

District Counsel Brian Pierik concurred there is some ambiguity in the FAA's regulations regarding drones. The ordinance, as it is now, is consistent with the powers the District holds under the law. If the Board wishes to change the ordinance, they can provide direction tonight and legal counsel will conduct a legal analysis based on the revised drone usage direction given by the Board.

JL Diaz, member of the Oak Park Committee stated we cannot ban items to avoid potential issues. If there is a safe way to allow drones, there are benefits that recreational drones can provide.

Tamara asked the Board to designate a safe place to fly drones. Guns and archery both have shooting ranges where it is safe and allowed.

Danielle Stelter is an Equestrian rider in the Bridal Path area. There should be a way to manage the risk of drones, mountain bikers and equestrians but she's not sure what that is.

Lori Langford is an avid hiker, mountain biker, and equestrian. Combining horses with mountain bikes and motorized e-bikes is very dangerous, adding drones to that is overload. Need to keep trails safe for all to use.

Grove Anderson added the difference between a drone operator and a mountain biker is an accountability issue. If there's an accident, the bike rider is there, the drone operator may not be in the near vicinity.

O'Brien stated if flown in designated areas, drones can be used safely. She agrees with Freeman on designating the model airplane field. Paranick stated that location is not under Rancho Simi's jurisdiction, it's a County-controlled space and there may be potential conflicts with the remote-control plane flyers. He will have Staff research areas where horses are not allowed.

Gray wants to promote proper and safe usage including photography and allow Staff flexibility. He appreciates the comments from tonight's speakers and would like a solution to make all happy.

Motion: Director Dennert moved to have Staff bring back the Ordinance, removing the wording "allowing in Open Space" and adding "allowing Staff to determine" with Staff providing possible locations for use of drones (avoiding horse areas.) Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chair O'Brien called a Recess at 8:53pm.

Chair O'Brien called the Meeting back to Order at 9:00pm.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consideration of Permanent Remote Public Attendance at Board Meetings – The Staff Report was provided by Theresa Pennington, Director of Administration. This would allow more efficiency in the setup of the Board Meetings.

Motion: Chair O'Brien moved to approve the option of future permanent remote public attendance at Board Meetings. Vice Chair Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chair O'Brien recused herself from the following Item 9.b.

- b. Approval of Amendment to Site Lease Agreement Between Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC for the Installation of a Back-Up Power Supply Generator at the Conifer Water Tank Site – The Staff Report was provided by Ashley Danko, Administrative Assistant. This would allow the wireless company to add a small 4' x 10' concrete pad to house a backup generator at the site.

Oak Park Committee member Harry Medved feels this item should be brought to the Oak Park Committee for their review in the spirit of solidarity. He suggested waiting at least two weeks for the next regular RSRPD Board meeting which will be held in Oak Park.

Oak Park Committee member Dan Cooper was not prepared to comment on this item tonight. He feels that the agreement was to bring these items before the Oak Park Committee for consideration.

Nakaoka stated this is a routine item for the Board to approve and is not something that would normally be brought to the Committee.

There was no action taken on this Item tonight, the Board directed Staff to bring this Item back at a future meeting.

- c. Review and Possible Selection of Earth Day Awards – The Staff Report was provided by Zach Miller, Director of Recreation. After discussion at the November 4, 2021, Board Meeting, it was determined the Board would award nominees in the following categories: Community Champion (Individual), Youth Champion Award (under 18 years old), and Organization/Business. Miller reviewed this year's nominees with the Board, noting there was no nomination in the Organization/Business category.

O'Brien suggested awarding all the Nominees, they all did such good work.

Dennert asked when the Awards will be presented. Miller replied they will all be invited to Friday's Earth Day Event at Berylwood Park.

Motion: Director Freeman moved to award nominees. Chair O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

- d. Call for Nominations of Candidate(s) to serve on the Board of Directors of the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD) – The Staff Report was provided by Dan Paranick, District Manager. There are 2 positions for consideration this year: Administrative Representative and Member at Large.

The Board discussed the item. Director Freeman noted the District's involvement in the CARPD Board and activities in the past.

The Board took no action.

#### 10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS OF NOTE - NONE

#### 11. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Freeman was on a family cruise and had no meetings to report. She did report that Calleguas Water will be acting on allowing only 1x per week for watering. She suggested a meeting with them and look at removing non-functional turf and replace with drought tolerant landscaping.

Director Abele attended the Boys and Girls Club event. April 8<sup>th</sup> was the 2-year anniversary of his wife Jill's surgery, they celebrated with her kidney donor. He commended O'Brien on her talk at the State of City. Abele also attended the farewell lunch for Bryan McQueen, he is a great guy, and he is sorry to see him leave.

Director Dennert hiked Hummingbird Trail just for fun. There was some trash on the trail, he was impressed to see volunteers show up and cleaned it up. Good job to O'Brien on the State of the City presentation. He would like to see a Press Release announcing the acquisition of Open Space located between Simi Valley and Chatsworth. He would like the topic of turf reduction added to a future Agenda. Simi Challenger Baseball celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, he suggested recognizing them at a future meeting.

Vice Chair Gray reported during softball on Thursday at Rancho Santa Susana there was excessive use of the handicapped spots with no plaque visible. Staff will reach out to the Police Department for enforcement. Gray suggested a hosting a Board Meeting in a park to kick off Summer. He is in favor of reducing turf if possible.

Chair O'Brien attended the farewell for Bryan McQueen. She reported she will not attend the next 2 meetings as she will be traveling.

REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER – Comments were provided by Dan Paranick. There was no activity related to COVID since the last meeting. The Skate Plaza has been stable with no issues. The HOA near the Equestrian Center has concerns about the possibility of replacing it with a BMX track. It has been difficult to locate a pyro-technician for a Fireworks celebration on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The Chamber planning group is looking at the possibility of hosting the event on a different night. March financials have been reviewed and are on track. The bid for the Oak Park Lagoon project came in higher than anticipated. There will be a Tri-Agency meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>, Board members please forward any items you'd like to discuss prior to the meeting. The Tierra Rejada Landfill sustained additional damage during December rains which will likely require funds from the District.

Alex Barsky has created some very nice maps of the District's Open Space areas. Paranick has been working with new Oak Park Superintendent on some joint use projects. The Community Response Team received a new trailer with the District's help and expressed their gratitude. Staff has wrapped up the loan document for the Simi Valley Youth Baseball turf project. The Friends of Oak Park group are applying for an additional grant. Staff has hired a Geo-Technical Group to look at the erosion issue at Sycamore Park.

Upcoming events: Earth Day Event this Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Staff will be attending a Job Fair this Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Future Agenda items: Oak Park Committee meeting follow up, Oak Park Lagoon bid, Emergency Generator, Appropriation Limits, Legal notice for property tax assessment, BMX track, the Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be a Budget Workshop.

Committee Activity: Historical Society meeting will be held the first Monday in May.

12. CLOSED SESSION – NONE

13. ADJOURNMENT – Chair O'Brien adjourned the Meeting at 9:52pm.



Dan Paranick, District Manager / District Clerk

**Sandee Covone**

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**Attachments:**

Drone statement and background.docx

**From:** Dan Cooper/Cooper Ecological  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2022 10:59 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** add'l drone info

Hi Nikki,

Here's that info I summarized during the Oak Park Committee meeting. Would you be the person to see that this gets entered into the record, and provided to the RSRPD board and relevant staff? I'm including my earlier correspondence (page 1) as well as the additional info I researched. Or if it's better if I send it to staff/board myself, let me know and I can.

Thanks!!

Daniel S. Cooper, Ph.D.  
Cooper Ecological Monitoring, Inc.

Additional Material re: RSRPD drone ordinance  
Prepared by Daniel S. Cooper, PhD  
March 24, 2022

I'm Dan Cooper, a Sr Conservation Biologist with the RCD-SMM, and I live within a mile of drone-free Oak Canyon Community Park, and hike there every week. I am an elected member of the Oak Park advisory committee and we as a committee were never consulted about drone use by either staff or board, and I still haven't heard from Rancho Simi about the issue.

Drones are banned from most natural areas of California, and most of our parks are nestled within natural areas. They cause nearly un-interrupted noise, similar to every neighbor on your block leaf-blowing one after the other, potentially all day. I think we can all recall of examples from our own lives where drones have disrupted peace and quiet. For me, it was a beach in Kauai two weeks ago.

Drone noise isn't predictable, but varies loud and quiet; this unpredictability of artificial sound and movement that disturbs wildlife, as well as people.

Drones cause unintentional wildfire -- the idea that people would fly their drones only over lawn areas is hopelessly naïve. Google it. Drones have crashed into bird nesting areas, most famously in 2021 in Orange Co., when two drones crashed on separate days into the largest nesting colony of Elegant Tern, the second one causing them to abandon eggs that season. Note that they are banned at Bolsa Chica ER, but allowed just across PCH at Bolsa Chica State Beach -- obviously, drones don't follow political boundaries. The last time I was at Bolsa Chica last fall, I watched someone get out of their car and begin flying a drone over the lagoon in the 30 minutes I was there. In front of a "no drones" sign.

Numerous large birds, including nesting raptors such as hawks and owls, nest and forage in the open space of Oak Park, including Oak Canyon CP -- was risk to them assessed before the decision to dramatically change the outdoor use of our open space was made?

Please reconsider the use of drones anywhere in Oak Pak -- it appears this discussion needs to continue.

## WHO PERMITS/BANS DRONES?

Within 10 mi. of RSRPD

See also: <https://drone-laws.com/drone-laws-in-california/>

Westlake Village and Thousand Oaks allow (or don't ban) drones (e.g., in city parks), except on agency-owned lands, as described below.

**From Oct. 21 RS board minutes (p. 15):**

**MRCA:** bans

**Conejo Park District:** bans

**COSCA:** bans

**Pleasant Valley Park District:** bans

Also...

**Los Angeles Co. Parks and Rec:** bans (except for portions of Santa Fe Dam and Whittier Narrows, \*same as radio-controlled planes)

**Los Angeles City Rec and Parks:** bans?

**Griffith Park and Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area** bans (but *city* Rec and Parks appears to be a patchwork, banning in certain places and "allowing" in others – all link to the same article. **Muni code seems to ban within entire city unless where allowed** Article 3, Section 63.44).

**State Parks:** bans in Angeles District of CSP (Leo Carrillo, Malibu Creek SP, Malibu Lagoon SB, Pt. Dume SB, Robert H. Meyer SB – cliff access areas e. of Leo Carrillo).

<https://www.allthingsmalibu.com/new-drone-laws-set-in-place-for-state-parks/>  
<https://allthingsmalibu.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Drone-Posted-Order.pdf>

Also, "State Park regulations prohibit the use of motorized equipment (including UASs) within wilderness areas, cultural preserves, and natural preserves (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 4351.) Therefore, drone users should always check the designation of the park unit before operating a drone."

Note wording:

LEO KIOSK



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Parks Recreation - Angeles District

District Superintendents Order No. 915-16-002

**Posted Order- Model Aircraft/Unmanned Aircraft Systems  
(UAS)/Glider Use**

**Whereas:** The dramatic growth and popularity of UAS within the Angeles District has numerous negative impacts to the special resources, park operations, and the unique visitor experiences afforded by the District. UAS are an emergent technology generally inconsistent with the park experience. UAS can have negative impacts on the regional wildlife found with in the Angeles District. UAS can be noisy and intrusive to natural soundscapes and vistas. Further, UAS can interfere with emergency rescue operations.

**Therefore:**

1. To protect wildlife and cultural resources, and for the safety and welfare of visitors and staff; the Park Units in the Angeles District are closed to the use of Model Aircraft, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and Gliders in flight.
2. The District Superintendent, or his designee, may grant exemptions to this order as determined necessary for the proper administration of the park, and to protect the safety and welfare of its visitors, employees, wildlife and resources. All exemptions, except for emergency personnel, must be obtained in writing. Requests for exemptions may be made by contacting the District Superintendent, Angeles District, 1925 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, California 91302.
3. Nothing herein shall affect any existing private, contractual, and residential or property rights.
4. This order shall remain in effect until the adoption of model aircraft/unmanned aircraft systems/glider regulations by the Department.

**Calabasas:** Highly regulated: <https://www.cityofcalabasas.com/home/showdocument?id=16155>

**Malibu:** Much of surrounding land is NPS (where banned).

By permit when filming (<https://malibucity.org/DocumentCenter/View/407/Film-Application-and-Permit?bidId=>)

**Agoura Hills** (not included in drone-laws.com): Bans in “any city park”:

4910. - Motorized craft and unmanned aircraft.

(a) No person shall operate any radio or remote controlled cars, boats, rockets, model airplanes, or other similar motorized craft in any city park, except in an area specifically designated for such activity.

(b) No person shall take off or land an unmanned aircraft in any city park, including, but not limited to, Chumash Park, Forest Cove Park, Morrison Park, Old Agoura Park, Reyes Adobe Park, Reyes Adobe Historical Site, Sumac Park, the City Hall and Library property, and the Recreation and Event Center property.

(c) This section shall not apply to the use of a public unmanned aircraft system, the use of which is required to protect the public health and safety.

(Ord. No. 18-437, § 4, 2-28-18) Editor's note— Sec. 4 of Ord. No. 18-437, amended § 4910 in its entirety to read as herein set out. Former § 4910 pertained to model airplanes, and derived from Ord. No. 48, adopted Oct. 3, 1984.

**MRCA:** bans:

<https://mrca.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/MRCA-REVISED-ORDINANCE-2019.pdf>

“(c) Drones. No person shall cause any unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), drones, or unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) (collectively “Drones”) to enter or fly in, on or above any park without a permit issued by the Executive Officer or Executive Officer’s designee. Violation of this section is punishable pursuant to § 5.0(a) and § 6.2.1(b)(3).”

**NPS:** bans:

“No drone pilots can operate radio-controlled UAS in national parks other than designated areas. Exceptions are with written authorization from a city manager or his/her designee. The authorization is not guaranteed and depends on local factors. That may include the time of day, anticipated crowding of the requested areas, public safety, and other factors.”

REGULATIONS IN OTHER/SIMILAR URBAN CENTERS IN CA:

**GGNRA:**

“The public may not launch, land, or operate unmanned aircraft at Golden Gate National Recreation Area\*. Beyond the nuisance they may pose to other visitors, our primary concern is for public safety and protection of park resources. Drone users are subject to a citation of \$125 plus fees. To report a drone being flown within GGNRA, please call 415-561-5505. \*The following areas are open to model airplane flights and operations: Fort Funston (only when hang gliders and para-gliders are not in the air), Shoreline Muir Beach Overlook”

**UCSB:** Requires users to submit request and register flight plan, etc.

<https://www.ehs.ucsb.edu/riskmanagement/recreational-drones#approving>

**FAA drone laws:**

<https://drone-laws.com/usa-drone-laws-in-usa/>

No mention of wildlife issues/avoidance

**Where to fly RC planes in RSRPD area (w/in 10 mi.):**

<https://www.rcgroups.com/places/1568131-rc-flying-fields-in-california>

Thousand Oaks: Conejo Creek Park South, Top of Wendy Dr. (club), Rancho Conejo Playfield, Redwood School, Wildflower Playfield

Agoura Hills: Paramount Ranch, 2 sites in Camarillo (club)

**ONLINE RESEARCH ON DRONES + OPEN SPACE**

Drone crash starts fire in Oregon

<https://wildfiretoday.com/tag/drone-causes-fire/>

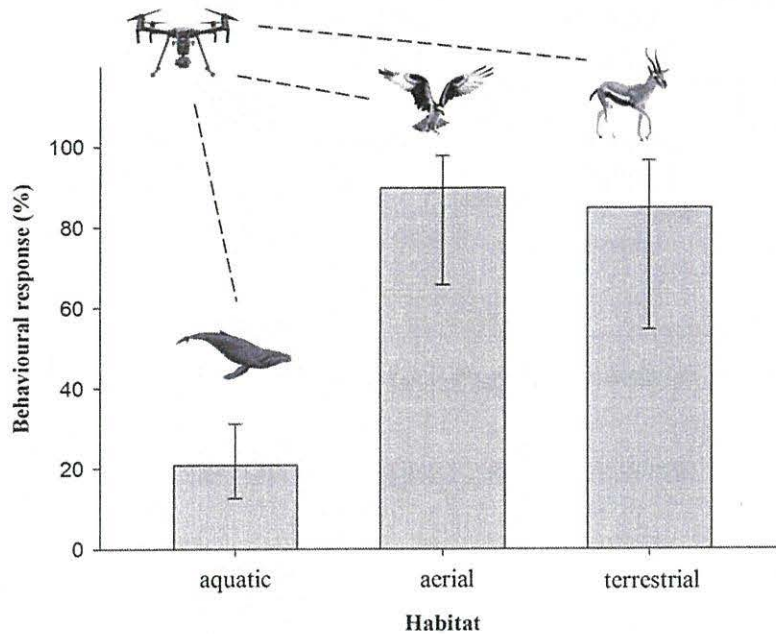
Drone catches fire, ignites wildfire north of Flagstaff

<https://wildfiretoday.com/2018/03/06/drone-catches-fire-ignites-wildfire-north-flagstaff/>

Drones as a Threat to Wildlife: YouTube Complements Science in Providing Evidence about Their Effect

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/environmental-conservation/article/drones-as-a-threat-to-wildlife-youtube-complements-science-in-providing-evidence-about-their-effect/E433B815520AE5EE10C9168A5CEEEFA8>

Target	Altitude (m)	Behavioural response	Other response	References
<i>Birds</i>				
Adélie penguin	10-50	Escape and intraspecific agonistic behaviour	Not measured	Rümmler et al. (2016)
Tristan albatross, Atlantic yellow-nosed albatross, sooty albatross, Tristan skua	20-150	Approach flights	Not measured	McClelland et al. (2016)
Greater sage-grouse	37-91	Stop display and crouch	Not measured	Hanson et al. (2014)
Black-headed gull	30-40	Flight	Not measured	Sardà-Palomera et al. (2012)
Snow and Canada geese	183	No response	Not measured	Chabot and Bird (2012)
Common tern	91-122	Upflights or fly away from the colony followed by calls	Not measured	Chabot et al. (2015)
Flamingo, mallard ducks	4-30	Fly off	Not measured	Vas et al. (2015)
Hooded crow	6-25°	Adults: alarm calls, flights over of the nest and dive-bomb the UAV; nestlings: remain still and cower in the nest	Not measured	Weissensteiner et al. (2015)
Waterfowl (63 species)	40-120	Flight away from the UAV	Not measured	McEvoy et al. (2016)
Adélie penguin	350	Vigilance (look up and around) and a slight increase in activity level	Not measured	Korczak-Abshire et al. (2016)
Waterfowl (11 species)	16-146	Flush behaviour	Not measured	Dulava et al. (2015)
Arctic cliff-nesting seabirds (4 species)	15-80	Alarm calls and flush behaviour	Reproductive output	Brisson-Curadeau et al. (2017)
Lesser snow geese	75-120	Head-cock and off-nest behaviours	Not measured	Barnas et al. (2018b)
Passerine, raptor species and ibis (3 species)	10-120	Passerine: fly aggressively towards the drone, nest out when approaching the drones; ibis: flush from the nest	Not measured	Lyons et al. (2018)
Shorebirds, waterfowl and seabirds	20-122	Flush behaviour	Not measured	Drever et al. (2015)
Penguins	23-60	No response	Not measured	Goebel et al. (2015)
Sub-Antarctic seabirds (11 species)	3-50	Vigilance, agonistic behaviour and escape depending on the species and the altitude of drone	Physiological	Weimerskirch et al. (2018)
Peregrine falcon and silver gull	40-80	No response	Not measured	McIntosh et al. (2018)
<i>Marine mammals</i>				
Killer whale	35-40	No response	Not measured	Durban et al. (2015)
Bowhead whale	120-210	No response	Not measured	Koski et al. (2015)
Grey and harbour seals	5-50	Move towards water	Not measured	Pomeroy et al. (2015)
Ribbon and spotted seals	90-200	Head up or fore-flippers extended	Not measured	Moreland et al. (2015)
Leopard and fur seals	23-60	No response	Not measured	Goebel et al. (2015)
Grey seal	75-80	No response	Not measured	Arona et al. (2018)
Polar bear	75-120	Head up	Not measured	Barnas et al. (2018a)
Australian fur seal	40-80	From non-response to raise head and move towards the ocean, depending on drone model and flight height	Not measured	McIntosh et al. (2018)
<i>Terrestrial mammals</i>				
Black bear	20	Increased movement rates and displacement distance away from the area of UAV	Physiological	Ditmer et al. (2015)
Elephant	100-300	No response	Not measured	Vermeulen et al. (2013)
Rhino	10-260	No response	Not measured	Mulero-Pázmány et al. (2014)
Elephant	50	Group and flee	Not measured	Hahn et al. (2017)
Tibetan antelope	150-200	No response	Not measured	Hu et al. (2018)
<i>Reptiles</i>				
Sea turtle	20-30	No response	Not measured	Bevan et al. (2015)



“Only a very small proportion of the millions of drones are flown with scientific aims, and generally researchers are careful regarding the use of such surveying tools. Here, we found that the most common behavioural response of birds recorded in scientific articles was escape (57.1%), while in videos it was attacking the aerial vehicle (62.1%). Furthermore, while no scientific articles reported collisions of wild animals and drones, this was recorded in 6% of the videos. This could be due to laypeople perhaps flying the drone in order to generate an encounter with an animal, thus shortening the distance between them, which could lead to greater disturbance (Mulero-Pázmány et al. [Reference Mulero-Pázmány, Jenni-Eiermann, Strebel, Sattler, Negro and Tablado2017](#)). This suggests that recreational activities could be a greater source of impact to wildlife than scientific studies, which should be more cautions when approaching an animal.”

#### Supplementary Material

Title: Drones as a threat to wildlife: YouTube complement science in providing evidence about their effect

Table S1. Animals from different localities that interacted with drones as showed in YouTube videos.

Target	Behavioral response	Location	Interaction type	Source
Birds				
American black vulture	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	San Antonio, Texas, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zjfh9TBi7bQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zjfh9TBi7bQ</a>
American cliff swallow	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reYD8IL02T4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reYD8IL02T4</a>
Atlantic puffin and Black-legged Kittiwake	Puffin: fly into the water, Black-legged Kittiwake: fly off	Latrabjarg, Iceland	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwrJlhUZVBk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwrJlhUZVBk</a>
Australian Magpie	Attack (take down the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbi38QVUOsw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbi38QVUOsw</a>
Black kite	Chase, fly circling around and attack (hit the drone)	Western Australia's Kimberley region	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_d8PPMEp_8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_d8PPMEp_8</a>
Brown-and-yellow Marshbird	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Salinas Victoria Nuevo Leon, Mexico	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xy_70qm5aJ8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xy_70qm5aJ8</a>
Common buzzard	Attack (take down the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CECuJjRrbos">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CECuJjRrbos</a>
Common swift	Attack (chase and take down the drone)	Italy	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7VZKVBesV4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7VZKVBesV4</a>
Crow	Alarm call, chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Byron Bay, Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaCIVCK91KM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaCIVCK91KM</a>
Crow	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIBVaVgrZgA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIBVaVgrZgA</a>
Crow	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8nJ2zFtuVo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8nJ2zFtuVo</a>
Crow	Fly off and evasive behaviour	Tbilisi, Georgia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8jf_-ZuOiy">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8jf_-ZuOiy</a>
Dove	Collision with drone	Spisska Nova Ves, Slovakia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHNdt1_-Bc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHNdt1_-Bc</a>

Dove	Near collision	Florida, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qQRLl0PaMI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qQRLl0PaMI</a>
Duck	Swim away from drone	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmZ7_8M_mAc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmZ7_8M_mAc</a>
Eagle	Attack (hit the drone)	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhIQnsigkAc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhIQnsigkAc</a>
Eagle	Attack (take down and capture the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FX3uOOiZs0A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FX3uOOiZs0A</a>
Eagle	Curious approach	Salzkammergut, Austria	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFdDv2UWXrQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFdDv2UWXrQ</a>
Egyptian goose	Attack (hit the drone)	Port Sheston, South Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_fkOI8aMdY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_fkOI8aMdY</a>
Galah	Collision with drone		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwwh9RBwkQg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwwh9RBwkQg</a>
Golden eagle	Attack (take down the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1twPgao4th8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1twPgao4th8</a>
Gull	Approach and then fly off and evasive behaviour		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVNpTaWCGXE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVNpTaWCGXE</a>
Gull	Chase		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCf6kx9ZVOK">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCf6kx9ZVOK</a>
Gull	Chase	Guincho, Portugal	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMIM1BfAwRU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMIM1BfAwRU</a>
Gull	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	PCH, Newport Beach, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUihh24YRXM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUihh24YRXM</a>
Gull	Fly off and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Sweden	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wuKb5EFWAc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wuKb5EFWAc</a>
Gull	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjHceH-XiCM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjHceH-XiCM</a>
Hartlaub's Gull	Escape, fly off	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah82A_6Ov5Y">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah82A_6Ov5Y</a>
Heron	Escape, fly off	Hutan Mangrove Nguling, Java, Indonesia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaF8yWXvrok">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaF8yWXvrok</a>
Heron	Fly off	Japan	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THzJymJ5c7U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THzJymJ5c7U</a>
Heron	Fly off of the lagoon	Japan	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzESb6b0umw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzESb6b0umw</a>
Heron and stork	Fly off	Mozambique	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOEWjNafgX0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOEWjNafgX0</a>

Magpie	Attack (take down the drone)	Melbourne, Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMxfblu7tc8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMxfblu7tc8</a>
Magpie	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Israel	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3D6iEB-118&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3D6iEB-118&amp;feature=youtu.be</a>
Masked lapwing	Attack (hit the drone)		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJ9gl2FqeGs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJ9gl2FqeGs</a>
Mississippi kite	Chase and attack (hit the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pyf8e0omsQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pyf8e0omsQ</a>
Osprey	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26zqb3u4AtU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26zqb3u4AtU</a>
Osprey (adult) and their chick in the nest	Adult: fly off the nest and alarm behavior (watch the drone); chick: watch and stay in the nest	Florida, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzojejDHGVI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzojejDHGVI</a>
Osprey (adult) and their chick in the nest	Adult: fly off the nest and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone); chick: stay in the nest	Long island, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jkmWBSVz54">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jkmWBSVz54</a>
Osprey chick	Watch (risk of falling from the nest)	Alberta, Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRviiw43PagQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRviiw43PagQ</a>
Oystercatcher	Approach flight to the drone	Mill Beach, Heybridge, Essex, UK	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JP7jTAoBI1k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JP7jTAoBI1k</a>
Oystercatcher	Attack (hit the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5t-CgxCyOTE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5t-CgxCyOTE</a>
Oystercatcher	Attack (take down the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzfiLmbhvqg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzfiLmbhvqg</a>
Oystercatcher	Chase and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS28eyqZFwM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS28eyqZFwM</a>
Oystercatcher	Fly circling around and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Saksun, Faroe island, Denmark	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VMeb1jntqE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VMeb1jntqE</a>
Oystercatcher and Turnstone	Oystercatcher: attack (hit the drone); Turnstone: fly circling around	Iceland	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRUIFSp6CDg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRUIFSp6CDg</a>
Pelicans	Fly circling around		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwHDQZATqXo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwHDQZATqXo</a>

Peregrine falcon	Alarm call and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3uymJq45Q8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3uymJq45Q8</a>
Pheasant *	Fly off and refuge		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySXN0O5O6do">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySXN0O5O6do</a>
Red kite	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZJMHV4pPU0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZJMHV4pPU0</a>
Red kite	Curious approach		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJzOtfbjpM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJzOtfbjpM</a>
Red-Tailed Hawk	Attack (take down the drone)	Massachusetts, USA	incidental	<a href="https://youtu.be/AhDG_WBIQgc">https://youtu.be/AhDG_WBIQgc</a>
Saddle-billed stork *	fly off	Tanzania. Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2BNPisG9dc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2BNPisG9dc</a>
Snow Goose	Collision with drone		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zmdt2Uk7pAc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zmdt2Uk7pAc</a>
Swallow	Chase and attack (fly circling around)	Jakarta, Indonesia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OlbH2bkbMfY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OlbH2bkbMfY</a>
Swan in a sanctuary	No response	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBXgPJGbwYY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBXgPJGbwYY</a>
Turkey vulture	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEei-oh7AhM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEei-oh7AhM</a>
Wedge-Tailed Eagle	Attack (take down the drone)	Melbourne, Australia	incidental	<a href="https://youtu.be/Hr-xBtVU4lg">https://youtu.be/Hr-xBtVU4lg</a>
White-bellied Sea-eagle	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Singapore	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C40FrViQpKA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C40FrViQpKA</a>
White-bellied Sea-eagle	Fly circling around and attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d1Gp0f_GEGU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d1Gp0f_GEGU</a>
Wild turkeys	Takes refuge in the woods		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qtKhZ7-jSw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qtKhZ7-jSw</a>
Unidentified	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)	Irvine Ca, turtle rock, California. USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2i72ajneEmU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2i72ajneEmU</a>
Unidentified	Attack (fly aggressively towards the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsmp2aH7CjM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsmp2aH7CjM</a>
Unidentified	Attack (hit the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQtIifFmhG8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQtIifFmhG8</a>
Unidentified	Attack (hit the drone)	Vitoria, Brazil	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2hnJfMfMik">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2hnJfMfMik</a>
Unidentified	Attack (take down the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUWNKb0aOt8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUWNKb0aOt8</a>

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Marine mammals

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Arctic wildlife	No response	Arctic	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClaZaBdYXx4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClaZaBdYXx4</a>
Blue whale	No response	San Diego, California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpFWkP2OOL8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpFWkP2OOL8</a>
Blue whale	No response	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeP2PLBOdPQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeP2PLBOdPQ</a>
Blue whale	No response	San Diego, California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmtJSdfL42k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmtJSdfL42k</a>
Blue whale and Bottlenose dolphin	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dbyKDw27h8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dbyKDw27h8</a>
Dolphin	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pMFEmdhKE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pMFEmdhKE</a>
Dolphin	No response	Rhode island, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0xkyeGdRhU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0xkyeGdRhU</a>
Dolphin	No response		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5tf_cIPvmk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5tf_cIPvmk</a>
Dolphin	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ljo-LC9gMA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ljo-LC9gMA</a>
Dolphin	No response	Florida, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1g_WMuIhNY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1g_WMuIhNY</a>
Dolphin, Humpback whale, tortoise	No response	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLMQuRvAI0g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLMQuRvAI0g</a>
Fin whale	No response	Chile	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdsJDmhc7rQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdsJDmhc7rQ</a>
Fin whale	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOyywJx760w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOyywJx760w</a>
Gray and Humpback whale	Gray whale: dive into the water; humpback whale: no response	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo_f8mV5khg&amp;t=106s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo_f8mV5khg&amp;t=106s</a>
Gray whale	Dive into the water	San Diego, California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78M5YwwMniQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78M5YwwMniQ</a>
Gray whale	Dive into the water	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S88eypQVARI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S88eypQVARI</a>
Gray whale	Dive into the water	Oregon, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1YGPaNrGdo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1YGPaNrGdo</a>
Gray whale	Dives into the water	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlSim2nVJ94&amp;t=14s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlSim2nVJ94&amp;t=14s</a>

Gray whale	Dives into the water	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yd7ct4RCJWM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yd7ct4RCJWM</a>
Gray whale	No response	California, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvmUleDJln8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvmUleDJln8</a>
Gray whale	No response	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omE1fRQPTdM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omE1fRQPTdM</a>
Gray whale	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTlZjK4VvmY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTlZjK4VvmY</a>
Gray whale	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjn1XLL8IDM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjn1XLL8IDM</a>
Gray whale	No response	Oregon, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nEG5WnHIgw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nEG5WnHIgw</a>
Gray whale	No response	Pacific ocean	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIZWndaoFkw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIZWndaoFkw</a>
Gray whale and Common dolphins	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDI3NYJzWA4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDI3NYJzWA4</a>
Gray whale and dolphins	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQgXYSfFu-w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQgXYSfFu-w</a>
Gray whale and Pacific white-sided dolphin	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1yu9S3u9lc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1yu9S3u9lc</a>
Harbour seal	Head up and watch drone	Puget Sound, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FdxTPepAfdw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FdxTPepAfdw</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Mozambique, Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMybn5NtbtQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMybn5NtbtQ</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Monterey bay, California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nv9ytEO2MRk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nv9ytEO2MRk</a>
Humpback whale	No response	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjPOSSU0PHE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjPOSSU0PHE</a>
Humpback whale	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MymvM7dQ8Z8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MymvM7dQ8Z8</a>
Humpback whale	Start to move when drone approach		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S39_IHxXOIk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S39_IHxXOIk</a>
Humpback whale	Dive into the water	Hawaii, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8e5d6MkxgQE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8e5d6MkxgQE</a>
Humpback whale	Dive into the water	Mauritius, Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp7nXksWnpo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp7nXksWnpo</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Newfoundland, Canada	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPFV0_5sDm4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPFV0_5sDm4</a>

Humpback whale	No response	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CF1XvUF9cqQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CF1XvUF9cqQ</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Bermuda	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3w9Bdr41II">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3w9Bdr41II</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Maui, Hawaii, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79yZ7nE-rtU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79yZ7nE-rtU</a>
Humpback whale	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWGYU1viBgA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWGYU1viBgA</a>
Humpback whale	No response	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6snxouNdubg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6snxouNdubg</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbRRdNfP6mo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbRRdNfP6mo</a>
Humpback whale	No response		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zf6usozCIV0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zf6usozCIV0</a>
Humpback whale	No response	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9hokuyct7tM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9hokuyct7tM</a>
Humpback whale	No response	Najarit, Mexico	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRj-WtGZVGg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRj-WtGZVGg</a>
Humpback whale	Start to move when drone approach	Russia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SL5AKm21Npc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SL5AKm21Npc</a>
Indo-Pacific Humpbacked Dolphin	No response	Australia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnQHYmoY0Wk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnQHYmoY0Wk</a>
Killer whale	No response	San Diego, California, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nijLk7jEERI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nijLk7jEERI</a>
Killer whale	No response	Kamchatka, Russia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSqYV7WbXil">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSqYV7WbXil</a>
Killer whale	No response	British Columbia, Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y93M4oELV_E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y93M4oELV_E</a>
Killer whale	No response	Argentina	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI34uGu5Gpw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI34uGu5Gpw</a>
Killer whale	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHNZmJhhqPI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHNZmJhhqPI</a>
Risso's dolphin	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDars6W1d5Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDars6W1d5Q</a>
Sea lion	Head up and watch		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3R7VIIcPgi8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3R7VIIcPgi8</a>
Sea lion	No response	California, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1pvQMDeDcgc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1pvQMDeDcgc</a>
Sea lion	Refuge into the water	Peru	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stMjO0sS_6E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stMjO0sS_6E</a>

Southern right whale	No response	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkjlslvBDg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkjlslvBDg</a>
Southern right whale	No response	South Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0myGw79NHg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0myGw79NHg</a>
Southern right whale	No response	Sudáfrica	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRRzHnx7rIw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRRzHnx7rIw</a>
Southern right whale	No response	South Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMJJaWo8QgGA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMJJaWo8QgGA</a>
Southern right whale	No response	Australia	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogJR9KnnhXQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogJR9KnnhXQ</a>
Southern Right Whale	No response	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5OAmwZIDww&amp;t=24s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5OAmwZIDww&amp;t=24s</a>
Southern Right Whale	No response	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWHFN9zrxFE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWHFN9zrxFE</a>
Southern Right Whale	No response	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tp6oaOL3GEA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tp6oaOL3GEA</a>

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Terrestrial mammals

African elephant	Start to move		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YpROBAOEYc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YpROBAOEYc</a>
African elephant	Watch, chase and alarm posture	Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yloIOZn3T_Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yloIOZn3T_Q</a>
African wild dog	No response	Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPqQMbP4OWA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPqQMbP4OWA</a>
African wild dog	No response	Tanzania	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZB0S9PIAhQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZB0S9PIAhQ</a>
American black bear	Approach and curious behavior (touch the drone)	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_FD4r9PcSgg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_FD4r9PcSgg</a>
American black bear	Watch and flee	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgfuPRf97Kc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgfuPRf97Kc</a>
Antelope *	Run away from drone		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySXN0O5O6do">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySXN0O5O6do</a>
Brown bear	Chase and attack (try to capture the drone)	Kamchatka, Russia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gj8BYBKKWF4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gj8BYBKKWF4</a>
Buck	Run away from drone		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XSwjKpHe00">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XSwjKpHe00</a>
Cheetah in a zoo	Attack (take down the drone)	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eC2QpruaH0g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eC2QpruaH0g</a>
Chimpanzee	Attack (take down drone)	Netherlands	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wPidiaiovL4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wPidiaiovL4</a>
Coyote	Escape		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zU6UTYhNYCY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zU6UTYhNYCY</a>

Coyote	Watch and alert behavior		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9USy1u2hSc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9USy1u2hSc</a>
Coyote	Watch and avoid drone		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xk6XMcC7VnA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xk6XMcC7VnA</a>
Deer	Run away from drone	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iVnkhAm0TE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iVnkhAm0TE</a>
Deer	Run away from drone		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aM0dKKjemA0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aM0dKKjemA0</a>
Deer	Watch and run		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwzS4-3jiV0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwzS4-3jiV0</a>
Deer	Flee	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odqYHCnomfQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odqYHCnomfQ</a>
Dingo	Watch and avoid contact	Fraser Island, Australia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p15zePtfVug">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p15zePtfVug</a>
Giraffe, gazelle and zebra	Flee	Kenia, Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJM66C0Z_6E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJM66C0Z_6E</a>
Kangaroo	Attack: Take down the drone	Australia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFWUIObSgn0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFWUIObSgn0</a>
Lion	Watch and curious approach	South Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVkgbdpi-nY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVkgbdpi-nY</a>
Lion	Watch while rest	Tampa, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0Funv-U1Wk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0Funv-U1Wk</a>
Moose	Move away from drone		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHK_ShTFRnE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHK_ShTFRnE</a>
Moose	Move away from drone	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Y7oRDdakik">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Y7oRDdakik</a>
Moose and Wolf	Moose: watch; wolf: watch and stop chase the moose	Ontario, Canada	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akGWOpCWfrQ&amp;t=53s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akGWOpCWfrQ&amp;t=53s</a>
Mule deer	Alert behavior (stop feed and watch) and flee	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92MfFcyjRSQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92MfFcyjRSQ</a>
Mule deer	Stop move and watch		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIctYXrQtyc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIctYXrQtyc</a>
Siberian tiger	Chase and attack (try to capture the drone)	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xfk6QcfyxKE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xfk6QcfyxKE</a>
Siberian tiger in a zoo	Chase and attack (take down the drone)	China	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hprjgcec9C8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hprjgcec9C8</a>
Siberian tigers in an enclosure	Chase and attack (take down the drone)	China	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VxhL84imo4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VxhL84imo4</a>

Springbok	Alert (watch and stop feeding) and flee	South Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XaerahuaEec">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XaerahuaEec</a>
Wild animals	Buffalo, wildebeest and rhino: Run away from drone; lion: watch, hypho: start to move and dive into the water	Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxIZEo7GjdA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxIZEo7GjdA</a>
Wild animals	Cape buffalo and Lion: watch the drone, elephant: stop move and watch; Hippo: alert and attack posture;	Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjUiHGZoJLo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjUiHGZoJLo</a>
Wild animals	No response	Africa	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcNMrdLRHjE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcNMrdLRHjE</a>
Wild animals in a reserve *	Elephant: watch; Giraffe: flee; Lion: watch while rest; Deers and Hippo: watch the drone	Tanzania. Africa	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2BNPisG9dc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2BNPisG9dc</a>
Wild animals in a zoo	Tiger, Giraffe: watch and chase; Rhino: watch; Red panda: watch and alert behaviour; Wildebeest: flee; Snow leopard: flee and refuge in a tree; Black bear: flee and refuge into the water; Lion: watch and agressive behaviour (roar); Lemurs: flee and refuge in tree	France	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDdJrHyZ94U&amp;t=4s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDdJrHyZ94U&amp;t=4s</a>
Wild chamois	Watch and alert behavior	Italy	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbPGU1L8kdg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbPGU1L8kdg</a>
Woodchuc	Run away from drone	Canada	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IlinMGg1GE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IlinMGg1GE</a>
Zebra	Stop feed and watch the drone	Kenya	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmZr-sdyWU4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmZr-sdyWU4</a>

#### Reptiles

American crocodile	No response	Rio Tarcoles, Costa Rica	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCDbLEp-3rw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCDbLEp-3rw</a>
Alligator	Attack (try to capture the drone)		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIBE_nwRGs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIBE_nwRGs</a>

Alligator	Chase and attack (try to capture the drone)		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xT-5dF0RhYo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xT-5dF0RhYo</a>
Alligator	No response	USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVo4ZNF-Nkw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVo4ZNF-Nkw</a>
Rattlesnake	Escape, alarm behavior (coil and warning rattle) and attack (hit the drone)	Montana, USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERMA1NLFh2k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERMA1NLFh2k</a>
Turtle	Hasty dive when drone approach		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbXdro9ribs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbXdro9ribs</a>
<hr/>				
Fish				
<hr/>				
Longtail tuna	No response		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8sdUZqOoAq4&amp;t=81s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8sdUZqOoAq4&amp;t=81s</a>
Fish	No response	Texas, USA	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_tfhgpd0g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_tfhgpd0g</a>
Fish	No response	Peterborough, England	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mrp7jA5VmA8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mrp7jA5VmA8</a>
Fish	No response	England	incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dwgkMQDgkY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dwgkMQDgkY</a>
Fish	Increased movement	Australia	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9K0pltdZY9s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9K0pltdZY9s</a>
Chinook Salmon	Increased movement	USA	provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkvHHVcQSx0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkvHHVcQSx0</a>
Manta ray	Hasty change of movement direction		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxXNzjJcO2M">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxXNzjJcO2M</a>
<hr/>				
Insects				
<hr/>				
Hornet**	Fly, attack camera while the honeycomb is broken		provoked	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQnnw8ZV4vY&amp;t=1s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQnnw8ZV4vY&amp;t=1s</a>
Flying insect	Attack		incidental	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0rVojR2qol">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0rVojR2qol</a>

\* Videos showing more than one taxa.

\*\* Wasp attack response results from the drone attack on the wasp nest.

## Sandee Covone

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**From:** Tony Jones <mhcls97@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To:** Sandee Covone  
**Subject:** Drone Use -- June 15, 2022 Board Meeting

I'd like to thank the Board for its thoroughness and receptiveness to public comment regarding the topic of drone use in parks and open spaces in Oak Park and Simi Valley. Given the serious fire risk, I appreciate the Board revising the ordinance to prohibit drone use in open spaces.

As the Board and Staff continue to develop policy and rules and regulations regarding drones, please consider the following. Whether it be a law, regulation, ordinance, or rule, it is important that the language used be clear so that people reading it can understand what is and is not permitted, what is and is not covered, etc.

As I raised previously at the March 24, 2022 Board meeting, I have concerns about whether the drone ordinance/Rules are sufficiently clear and current. For example, Rule 33 speaks of "filming, videotaping, and photographing." Drones equipped with cameras, however, can "stream," "relay," or "transmit" images without capturing them or storing them. In other words, drones can stream, relay, and transmit without filming, videotaping, or photographing.

Based on a plain reading of Rule 33 as written, it is a legitimate interpretation that streaming, relaying, or transmitting images via drone is permissible for recreational, commercial, or educational purposes, and does not require a permit. I doubt the Board intends for that to be the case. This is not a loophole. This is what Rule 33 says.

I also continue to have concerns about the consistency between Rule 62 and Rule 33 when the two Rules are read together.

I doubt the Board has in mind that it would be proper for a drone operator to fly a drone over a homeowner's backyard and stream images of who or what the drone "sees." Yet, this may be perfectly permissible under these Rules.

Your consideration of these sorts of issues, perhaps in consultation with the Board's/District's legal counsel, would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Michael Honeymar, Esq.

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 14, 2022

TO: Oak Park -Park and Recreation Planning Committee

FROM: Director of Recreation

SUBJECT: Recommendation Regarding Possible Sand Volleyball Court Construction in Oak Park

**BACKGROUND**

Sand Volleyball is a growing sport that has exploded in participation over the last few years. It is now recognized as a high school CIF Sport for both boys and girls. It is also the fastest growing NCAA sport over the last five years in Division I.

**DISCUSSION**

As the sport grows, so does the need for adequate space to play. Oak Park currently has one sand court at Indian Springs Park. Oak Park High School is currently offering Beach Volleyball programs for both boys and girls, but teams travel to practice outside of Oak Park. Oak Park Unified School District has been in conversations with RSRPD about the possibility of constructing a 2-3 court complex at a local park that would allow the community and students the opportunity to play and practice locally. This project would allow for a place for residents to play the game recreationally, while also allowing use by the School District during pre-determined times during the school year. A proposed joint use agreement with OPUSD for use of the courts has also been discussed in meetings with OPUSD. RSRPD could use this agreement to use campus facilities such as tennis courts, expanding pickleball court space, and marketing efforts through the school district. RSRPD would also be able to rent the courts and generate revenues for recreational or team play at the discretion of the staff.

The construction of the courts can be included into the 2022-2023 capital and operating budget for Oak Park. The construction of the courts would be at Deerhill Park, in the north east area of the park. Inclusion at a different park may require the elimination of other amenities or trees, which staff is not recommending at this point. The proposed courts could also include lights for evening play, which would be comparable to tennis court and basketball court lighting at existing parks in Oak Park.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Provide direction on construction of sand volleyball courts in Oak Park, with recommended park location and if lights should be included in the project.



Zach Miller  
Director of Recreation

**RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: July 14, 2022  
TO: District Manager  
FROM: Recreation Supervisor II – Oak Park  
SUBJECT: Oak Park Recreation Programs Report

**Summer 2022**

- I. Summer classes and camps are going well for the most part. We still have some cancellations but scheduled a lot of activities and many have double digit enrollment.
- II. Partial day enrichment camps are the most popular for youth and exercise/fitness continues to be popular for adults including yoga and pickleball. Virtual classes and camps are still being offered with some enrollment for those that may be hesitant to return in person or have a varied schedule.
- III. We did not offer an RSRPD full day camp but a contract instructor does offer an 8am-5pm weekly camp for most of the summer, so that's been a good option for some parents.

**Fall 2022**

- I. Activity guide production has begun for Fall 2022/Winter 2023 programming. Online registration will begin August 12<sup>th</sup> and guides will be mailed to residents August 19<sup>th</sup>.
- II. We have many returning instructors as well as some that are adding activities or returning after a brief hiatus.

**Facility and Pavilion Reservations**

- I. Indoor and outdoor rentals continue to be busy and popular. Most outdoor park rentals are booked for the summer. Almost all Saturdays are booked through the end of the year and many weekends have two private rentals booked, keeping staff busy. We are already booking 2023 dates.

- II. Some of our usual groups are returning for repeat weekly or monthly rentals at various locations for 2022, including the Conejo Homeschool group as well as monthly meetings from local sports and community groups.

### **Events**

- I. Volunteers and staff assisted at the OCCP Lagoon Turtle Round-Up on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- II. Music in the Park was held at OCCP on July 9<sup>th</sup>, with Bruno and the Hooligans performing.
- III. Due to popular demand, have added another Rattlesnake Avoidance Training to be held on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at Indian Springs Park.
- IV. The Halloween Carnival will be held on October 31<sup>st</sup> at the Oak Park Community Center.



Zach Miller

Director of Recreation

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 14, 2022

TO: District Manager

FROM: Director of Planning and Maintenance

SUBJECT: Report on Oak Park Planning and Development Issues in Oak Park, Including Recommendation Regarding Possible Telecommunication Installation at the Conifer Water Tower Located at 330 Conifer Circle, Oak Park, CA.

Listed below is a brief summary of the planning and development projects in Oak Park:

**Conifer Water Tank Site:**

AT&T Emergency Back-Up Generator Installation: On May 4, 2022, the Park District's Board of Directors approved an Amendment with AT&T (New Cingular Wireless PCS) to install an emergency back-up generator at the Conifer Water Tank Site. Work on this project started on June 16, 2022, with all aspects of construction to be completed by July 22, 2022.

Dish Network: The Park District has received a request from Dish Network to install a telecommunication array at the Conifer Water Tank Site. The proposed installation includes a thirty-six feet (36') high mono-broadleaf tree antenna array with a 14' x 11' equipment pad. Plans for the proposed installation are attached as Exhibit "A". If approved and constructed, any revenue generated from this telecommunication array will be deposited into the Oak Park General Fund.

**Oak Park Recreation and Planning Committee Action Requested:**

1. Based on the plans provided, discuss and determine if it is the Committee's desire to allow Dish Network to construct a telecommunication array at the Conifer Water Tank Site.

**Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon Renovation Project (Woolsey Fire Recovery Projects):** At its meeting on May 14, 2022, the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District's Board of Directors awarded a construction contract for the Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon Renovation Project to The Adjul Corporation dba Lee Construction Company of Simi Valley in the amount of \$2,731,142. A Groundbreaking Ceremony for the project was held at the park on June 17, 2022.

A turtle round-up was held by the Park District on June 30, 2022. The Park District would like to thank the Oak Park Community volunteers who participated in the event. The collected turtles were safely transported to the "Turtle and Tortoise Sanctuary in Arroyo Grande" by Park District

staff on July 1, 2022. The fish (carp) collected from the Oak Park lagoon were either donated to private ponds or transported to the Rancho Simi Community Park Lagoon.

Lee Construction will be mobilizing equipment and materials at the Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon during the week of July 18, 2022. The official start of construction is scheduled for Monday, July 25, 2022. All necessary governmental, regulatory, and environmental permits for construction have been obtained by the Park District.

**Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency Grant:** In May of 2021, the Park District was awarded a grant by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) to provide additional wildfire resiliency within the community of Oak Park. As written, the Park District's grant application/agreement has three major components, which are summarized as follows:

1. Removal of burnt and dead vegetation within high-risk fire areas along Medea Creek and removal of invasive plant species which could serve as high combustible fuel during wildfires.
2. Procurement of a Skid-Steer Loader (Bobcat) for fire trail maintenance and fuel reduction.
3. Design and installation of a natural Oak tree fire break within the Park District's open space along the northerly limits of Oak Park.

To initiate the work, staff prepared two separate bid packages titled: (1) Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency Palm Tree Removal Project, and (2) Medea Creek Wildfire Resiliency – Fire Damage Debris and Invasive Species Removal Project. In combination, both of these projects will fulfill the requirements listed under Grant Item No. 1.

On February 2, 2022, the Park District's Board of Directors awarded a contract to SGD Enterprises dba Four Seasons Landscaping of Van Nuys, California, for the palm tree removal portion of the work. Upon filing a standard permit with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the CDFW informed the Park District that additional field studies and environmental monitoring will be required prior to permit issuance. Since the intent of the project is to remove invasive palm trees within a riparian corridor and the resulting work will cause little or no damage to the existing habitat, staff contacted the CDFW to ask if alternative arrangements could be made to satisfy the permit requirements. The CDFW informed staff that a permit for the project would not be issued until after the bird nesting season. It should be noted that the CDFW takes no exception to the Park District's removal of the palm trees after the bird nesting season, which ends on September 15, 2022. The contractor for the project has agreed to postpone the starting date of this project until after the bird nesting season.

On October 7, 2021, the Park District's Board of Directors authorized the purchase of the Skid-Steer (Bobcat) Loader and axillary attachments, thus fulfilling the requirements of Grant Item No. 2. Due to manufacturing delays, the Park District has not received the Bobcat to date.

Staff is still working on the logistics for the Invasive Species Removal Project and the design and installation of the natural Oak tree fire break within Park District open space along the northerly limits of Oak Park (Grant Item No. 3). Once the design is complete, staff anticipates requesting

the assistance of the “Friends of Oak Park Open Space” to perform a portion of the invasive species removal and planting of the Oak trees as part of a community-based service project.

**Weed Abatement Service Contract for Oak Park:** On May 4, 2022, the Park District’s Board of Directors awarded this year’s annual weed abatement services contract to Western Venco Inc., from Oxnard, California. Work in the Oak Park area is still on-going, with many areas requiring remedial/additional work as prescribed by the Ventura County Fire Protection District.

**Tree Trimming and Pruning Contract for Oak Park:** At its meeting on June 1, 2022, the Park District’s Board of Directors awarded a tree trimming and pruning services contract for the Oak Park area to SGC Enterprises dba Four Seasons Landscaping of Van Nuys, California. Work on this project is scheduled to start on July 11, 2022, with a tentative completion date of August 1, 2022.

**Medea Creek Vegetation Removal Project:** As part of this year’s annual budget (*FY 2022-23*), the District Manager for the Park District has earmarked funding in the amount of \$100,000 for additional vegetation and invasive species removal along that portion of Medea Creek which resides within the Park District’s open space south of Kanan Road and west of North Oak Hills Drive. The actual scope-of-work for the project will be determined once the Park District’s Consultant Biologist has performed a Preliminary Biological Resource Assessment and Jurisdictional Delineation Study to determine what permitting will be required for the project.



Wayne Nakaoka  
Director of Planning and Maintenance

# **Exhibit “A”**

**Dish Network**

**Proposed Cellular Telecommunication Array**

**Conifer Water Tank Site**



DISH WIRELESS SITE NAME:  
CONIFER HILL

DISH WIRELESS SITE NUMBER:  
LALAX02065A - MONOBROADLEAF

DISH WIRELESS SITE ADDRESS:  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
OAK PARK, CA 91377

### CODE COMPLIANCE

ALL WORK AND MATERIALS SHALL BE PERFORMED AND INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT EDITIONS OF THE FOLLOWING CODES AS ADOPTED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNING AUTHORITIES. NOTHING IN THESE PLANS IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED TO PERMIT WORK NOT CONFORMING TO THESE CODES.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. 2019 CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE | 6. 2019 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE             |
| 2. 2019 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE       | 7. ANY LOCAL BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS    |
| 3. 2019 CALIFORNIA ELECTRIC CODE       | 8. CITY/COUNTY ORDINANCES                |
| 4. 2019 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE     | 9. ANSI / TIA-222 STRUCTURAL CODE        |
| 5. 2019 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE       | 10. NFPA 780 - LIGHTNING PROTECTION CODE |

**HANDICAP REQUIREMENTS:**  
FACILITY IS UNMANNED AND NOT FOR HUMAN HABITATION, AND IS EXEMPTED FROM ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH 2016 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE SECTION 11B-203.5.

THIS FACILITY IS UNMANNED AND NOT FOR HUMAN HABITATION. A TECHNICIAN WILL VISIT THE SITE AS REQUIRED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE. THE PROJECT WILL NOT RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT DISTURBANCE OR EFFECT ON DRAINAGE. NO SANITARY SEWER SERVICE, POTABLE WATER, OR TRASH DISPOSAL IS REQUIRED AND NO COMMERCIAL SIGNAGE IS NEW.

### SCOPE OF WORK

THIS IS NOT AN ALL INCLUSIVE LIST. CONTRACTOR SHALL UTILIZE SPECIFIED EQUIPMENT PART OR ENGINEER APPROVED EQUIVALENT. CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY ALL NEEDED EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE A FUNCTIONAL SITE. THE PROJECT GENERALLY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:

- SCOPE OF WORK:
- INSTALL (6) 6' TALL 8-PORT ANTENNAS ON EXISTING MONOBROADLEAF
  - INSTALL (12) RADIOS AT ANTENNAS
  - INSTALL (1) SURGE SUPPRESSORS AT ANTENNAS
  - INSTALL (1) HYBRID CABLES
  - INSTALL (2) EQUIPMENT CABINET ON CONCRETE PAD
  - INSTALL (1) H-FRAME W/ PPC AND TELCO CABINET
  - INSTALL (1) GPS ANTENNA
  - INSTALL (1) GENERATOR AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH (ATS)
  - INSTALL (1) STAND-BY GENERATOR ON CONCRETE PAD
  - INSTALL NEW 200A 120/240V ELECTRICAL METER SERVICE

### SITE INFORMATION

PROPERTY OWNER:	RANCHO SMIR REC & PARKS DIST.
ADDRESS:	4201 GUARDIAN STREET SMI VALLEY, CA 95063
TOWER TYPE:	MONOBROADLEAF
TOWER CO SITE ID:	25751
TOWER APP NUMBER:	N/A
COUNTY:	VENTURA
LATITUDE (NAD 83):	34° 10' 13.20" N 34.170333°
LONGITUDE (NAD 83):	118° 46' 06.92" W -118.768598°
ZONING JURISDICTION:	COUNTY OF VENTURA
ZONING DISTRICT:	CUP MOD
PARCEL NUMBER:	800-0-400-025
OCCUPANCY GROUP:	U
POWER COMPANY:	SCE
TELEPHONE COMPANY:	AT&T / TWC

### PROJECT DIRECTORY

APPLICANT:	DISH WIRELESS 16812 ARMSTRONG AVE, STE 200 IRVINE, CA 92606 RAQUEL BARNAS (714) 937-9401 raquel.barnas@dish.com
ROOFTOP MANAGER:	N/A
SITE DESIGNER:	EUKON GROUP RICH BRUNET 65 POST, SUITE 1000 IRVINE, CA 92618 (949) 553-8566
LEASING MANAGER:	JERRY AMBROSE (805) 637-7407 jambrose@wireless01.com
PLANNING MANAGER:	JERRY AMBROSE (805) 637-7407 jambrose@wireless01.com
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:	FUMHIKO ITOKAZU (626) 290-4928 fumhiko.itokazu@dish.com
RF ENGINEER:	CRAIG STANZIANO craig.stanziano@dish.com



16812 ARMSTRONG AVE  
SUITE 200  
IRVINE, CA 92606



65 POST, SUITE 1000  
IRVINE, CA 92618  
TEL: (949) 553-8566  
www.eukongroup.com

### SHEET INDEX

SHEET	TITLE SHEET	DESCRIPTION
T-1	TITLE SHEET	
C-1	SITE SURVEY	
C-2	SITE SURVEY	
C-3	SITE SURVEY	
A-1	SITE PLAN	
A-2	ENLARGED SITE PLAN	
A-3	ANTENNA PLAN AND SCHEDULE	
A-4	ELEVATIONS	
A-5	ELEVATIONS	
A-6	EQUIPMENT PLAN AND DETAILS	

### SITE PHOTO



UNDERGROUND SERVICE ALERT  
UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER OF CALIFORNIA  
(800) 422-4133  
WWW.CALIFORNIA811.ORG  
CALL 24 HOURS DATE UTILITY NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION



### GENERAL NOTES

THIS FACILITY IS UNMANNED AND NOT FOR HUMAN HABITATION. A TECHNICIAN WILL VISIT THE SITE AS REQUIRED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE. THE PROJECT WILL NOT RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT DISTURBANCE OR EFFECT ON DRAINAGE. NO SANITARY SEWER SERVICE, POTABLE WATER, OR TRASH DISPOSAL IS REQUIRED AND NO COMMERCIAL SIGNAGE IS NEW.

IF CONTRACTOR ENCOUNTERS CONDITIONS IN FIELD, EITHER UNFORESEEN OR IN SOME MANNER IN CONFLICT WITH THESE DRAWINGS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL OF SUCH CONDITIONS IN WRITING AND SHALL ACKNOWLEDGE ANY WORK DONE OUTSIDE OF JURISDICTIONAL PERMITTED PLANS IS DONE AT CONTRACTORS OWN RISK.

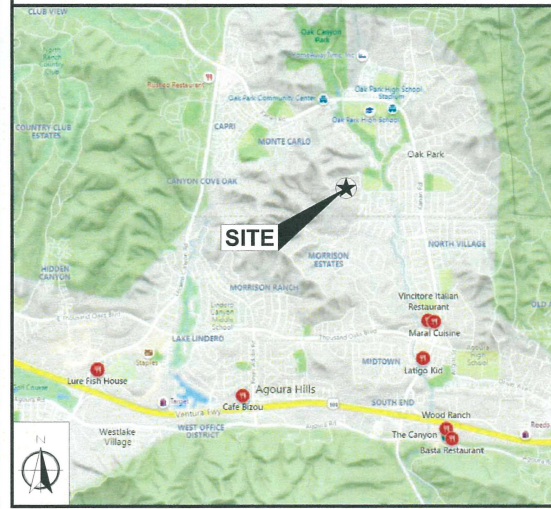
11"x17" PLOT IS HALF SCALE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

FULL SIZE = 24"x36". ANY OTHER SIZE PRINT IS NOT ORIGINAL SCALE.  
ALL INDICATED DIMENSIONS SHALL TAKE PRECEDENT OVER SCALED DIMENSIONS.

### DIRECTIONS

- DIRECTIONS FROM DISH WIRELESS OFFICE:
- HEAD NORTHWEST TOWARD ARMSTRONG AVE
  - TURN LEFT ONTO ARMSTRONG AVE
  - TURN RIGHT ONTO ALTON POYV
  - USE THE LEFT 2 LANES TO TURN LEFT ONTO RED HILL AVE
  - TURN RIGHT ONTO MACARTHUR BLVD
  - USE THE RIGHT LANE TO MERGE ONTO CA-55 SIBATE RTE
  - 56 S VIA THE RAMP TO NEWPORT BEACH
  - MERGE ONTO CA-65 SIBATE RTE 56 S
  - USE THE RIGHT 2 LANES TO TAKE EXIT 6A TO MERGE ONTO I-405 N
  - KEEP LEFT TO STAY ON I-405 N
  - USE THE RIGHT 3 LANES TO TAKE EXIT 638 TO MERGE ONTO US-101 N TOWARD VENTURA
  - TAKE EXIT 36 FOR KANAN RD
  - USE THE RIGHT 2 LANES TO TURN RIGHT ONTO KANAN RD
  - TURN LEFT ONTO CONIFER ST

### VICINITY MAP



IT IS A VIOLATION OF LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS THEY ARE ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT.

DRAWN BY:	UTILITIES CHECKED BY:	A/E CHECKED BY:
KV	GD	RB

RFDS REV #: 0

### ZONING DRAWINGS

SUBMITTALS

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
0	06/03/2021	90% ZONING DRAWINGS
1	11/02/2021	100% ZONING DRAWINGS

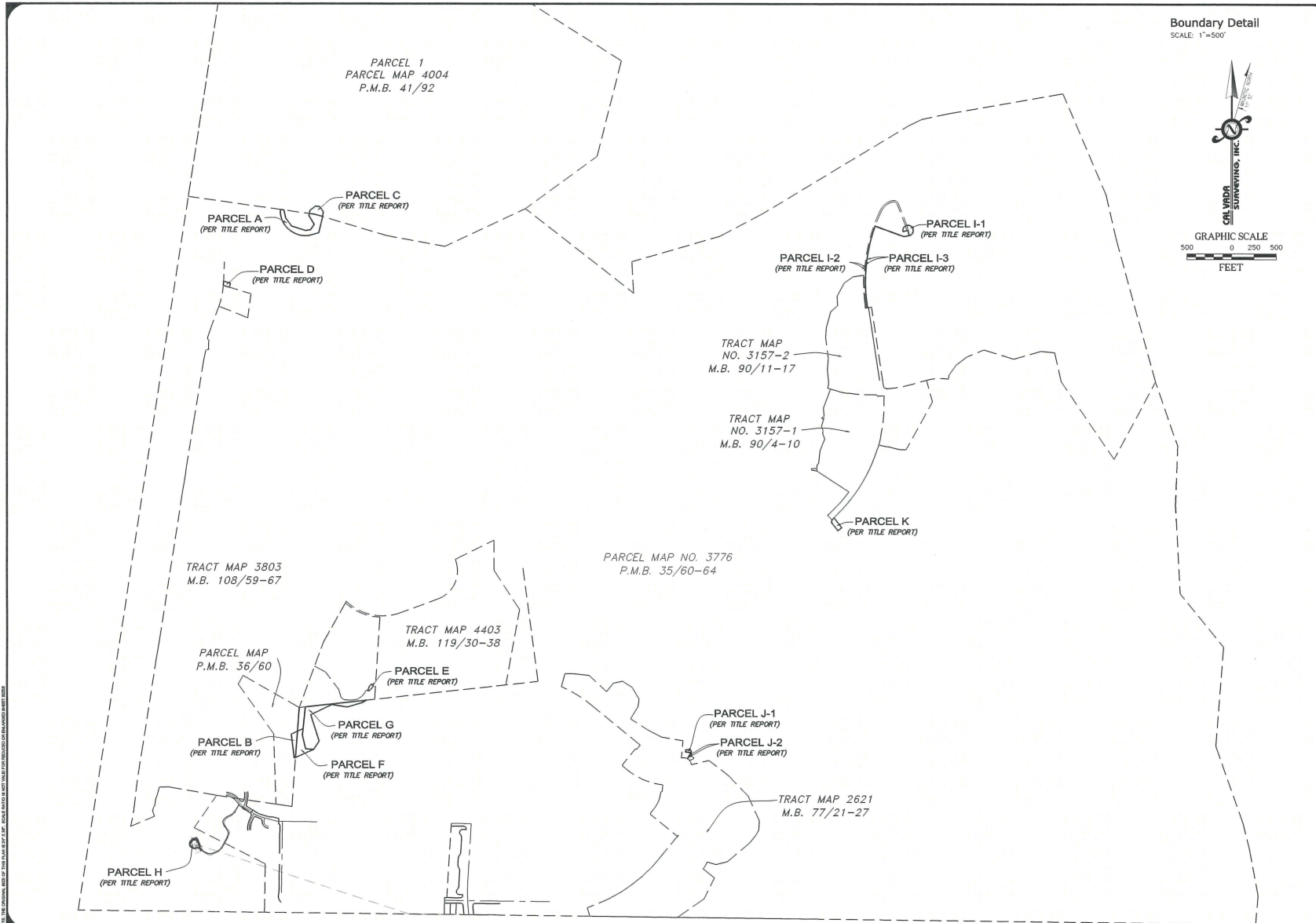
DISH WIRELESS PROJECT INFORMATION

CONIFER HILL  
LALAX02065A  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
OAK PARK, CA 91377

SHEET TITLE  
TITLE SHEET

SHEET NUMBER  
T-1





**ISSUE STATUS**

REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY
06/17/21		SUBMITTAL	DM
09/15/21		FINAL	HP

**Eukon**  
www.eukongroup.com

65 POST, SUITE 1000  
IRVINE, CA 92618  
TEL: (949) 553-8566

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IRVINE, CA 92606

**CAL VADA SURVEYING, INC.**

481 AMES CO., SUITE 305, COSTA, CA 95026  
951-280-2990 Fax: 951-280-9476  
1005 CAL VADA www.cvsdss.com

JOB NO.

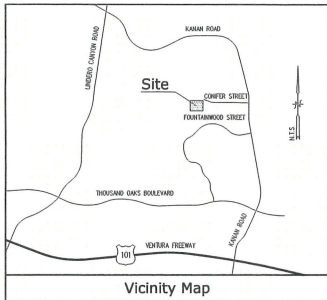
LALAX02065A

300 CONIFER CIRCLE,  
OAK PARK, CA 91377  
VENTURA

SHEET TITLE:  
SITE SURVEY

C-2

NOTE: THE ORIGINAL SET OF THIS PLAN IS AT 1"=500'. SCALE PLANS IN THIS SET ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION.



**Title Report**

PREPARED BY: TREET TITLE NATIONAL TITLE & CLOSING SERVICES  
 ORDER NO: CA094704  
 DATE: AUGUST 4, 2021

**Legal Description**

SEE SHEET CI

**Assessor's Parcel No.**

800-0-400-025 & 800-0-400-015

**Easements**

SEE SHEET CI

**Utility Routes/Lease Area**

AS SHOWN

**Geographic Coordinates at Existing Monobroadleaf**

1823.520N LATITUDE, 34° 00' 13.07N LONGITUDE 118° 40' 06.92W ELEVATION = 1171.7 FEET ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL.

**CERTIFICATION:**  
 THE LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE SHOWN ABOVE ARE ACCURATE TO WITHIN +/- 15 FEET HORIZONTALLY AND THAT THE ELEVATIONS SHOWN ABOVE ARE ACCURATE TO WITHIN +/- 3 FEET VERTICALLY. THE HORIZONTAL DATUM (GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES) IS IN TERMS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD 83) AND IS EXPRESSED IN DEGREES (°), MINUTES (') AND SECONDS ("). TO THE NEAREST HUNDREDTH OF A SECOND. THE VERTICAL DATUM (ELEVATIONS) IS IN TERMS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD 88) AND IS EXPRESSED TO THE NEAREST TENTH OF A FOOT.

**Date of Survey**

MAY 11, 2021

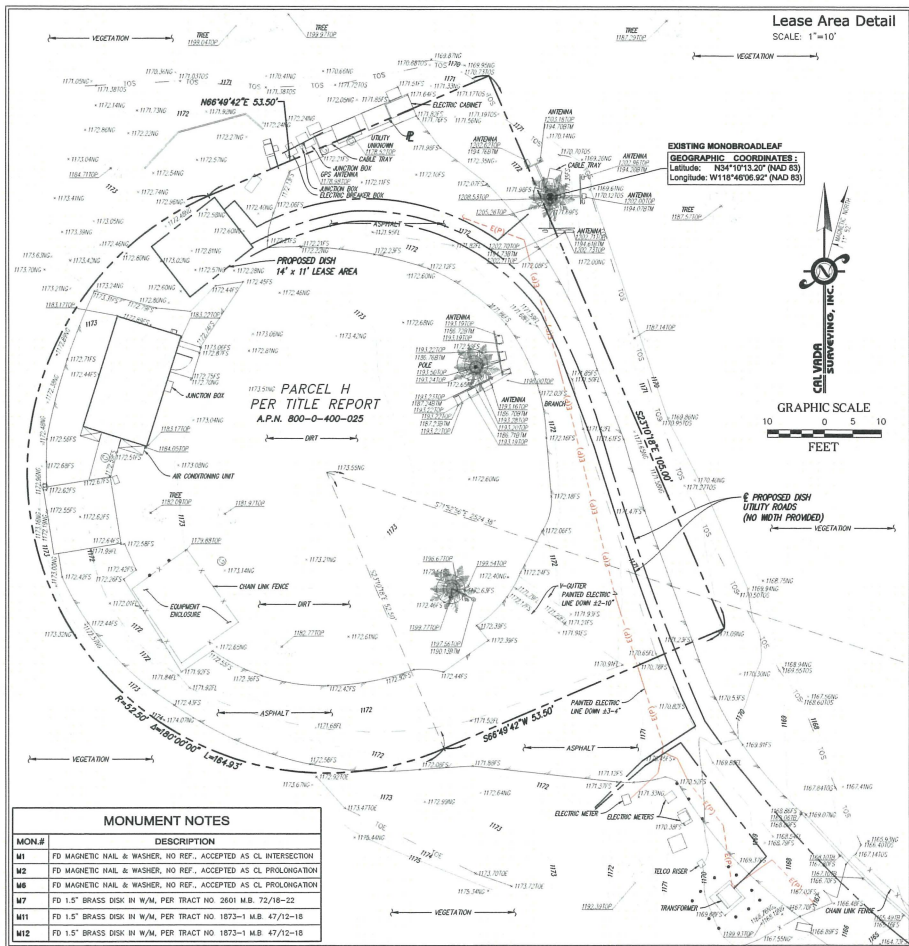
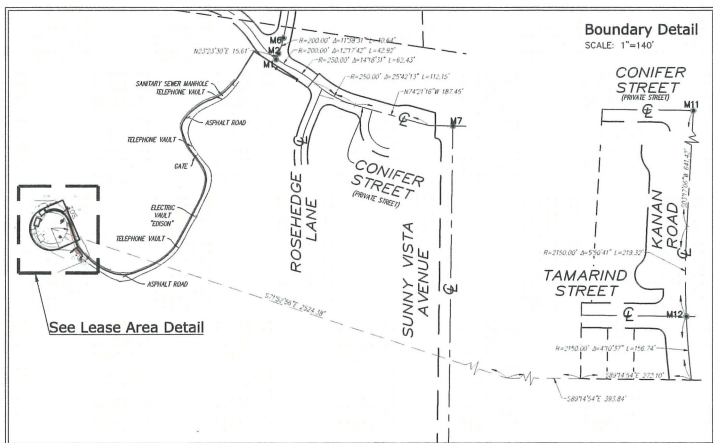
**Basis of Bearings**

THE BEARINGS SHOWN ABOVE ARE BASED UPON THE CALIFORNIA COORDINATE SYSTEM OF 1983, COEGL ZONE 4, (2014.75) IN ACCORDANCE TO THE CALIFORNIA RESOURCE CODE SECTIONS 8000-8099. SAD BEARINGS ARE DETERMINED LOCALLY FROM FIELD-OBSERVED TIES TO THE FOLLOWING LEICA SMARTRH NORTH AMERICA REFERENCE NETWORK STATIONS (CORS-LS):

S.M.A. CANY  
 NORTING = 189397.25 EASTING = 630744.87  
 S.M.A. CANY  
 NORTING = 1973004.07 EASTING = 639465.52

**Benchmark**

THE SMARTRH NORTH AMERICA C.O.R.S. CANY, ELEVATION 929.53 FEET (NAVD 88)



**MONUMENT NOTES**

MON #	DESCRIPTION
M1	FD MAGNETIC NAIL & WASHER, NO REF., ACCEPTED AS CL INTERSECTION
M2	FD MAGNETIC NAIL & WASHER, NO REF., ACCEPTED AS CL PROLONGATION
M6	FD MAGNETIC NAIL & WASHER, NO REF., ACCEPTED AS CL PROLONGATION
M7	FD 1.5" BRASS DISK IN W.M., PER TRACT NO. 2601 A.B. 12/18-22
M11	FD 1.5" BRASS DISK IN W.M., PER TRACT NO. 1873-1 M.B. 47/12-18
M12	FD 1.5" BRASS DISK IN W.M., PER TRACT NO. 1873-1 M.B. 47/12-18

**Legend**

	AIR CONDITIONING UNIT		CABLE TV W/LET		CENTERLINE
	ANTENNA COLL		CENTERLINE		CHAIN LINK FENCE
	CONCRETE PAVEMENT		DIAMETER OF EXISTING TREE		EASEMENT LINE
	CONTROL POINT		EDGE OF PAVEMENT		EDGE OF PAVEMENT
	DOOK		ELECTRIC LINE PINNED		ELECTRIC LINE PINNED
	FLOW LINE		ELECTRIC METER		ELECTRIC METER
	GROUND ELECTRIC		EQUIPMENT ENCLOSURE		EQUIPMENT ENCLOSURE
	GUARD POST		INTERIOR LOT LINE		INTERIOR LOT LINE
	METER MANHOLE		NATURAL GROUND		NATURAL GROUND
	TREE (FRUITFUL)		PROPERTY LINE		PROPERTY LINE
	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER		RIGHT-OF-WAY		RIGHT-OF-WAY
			TOP OF SLOPE		TOP OF SLOPE
			TOP OF STRUCTURE		TOP OF STRUCTURE

**ISSUE STATUS**

REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY
06/17/21		SUBMITTAL	DM
08/19/21		FINAL	HP

**Eukon**  
 65 POST, SUITE 1000  
 IRVINE, CA 92618  
 TEL: (949) 553-8568

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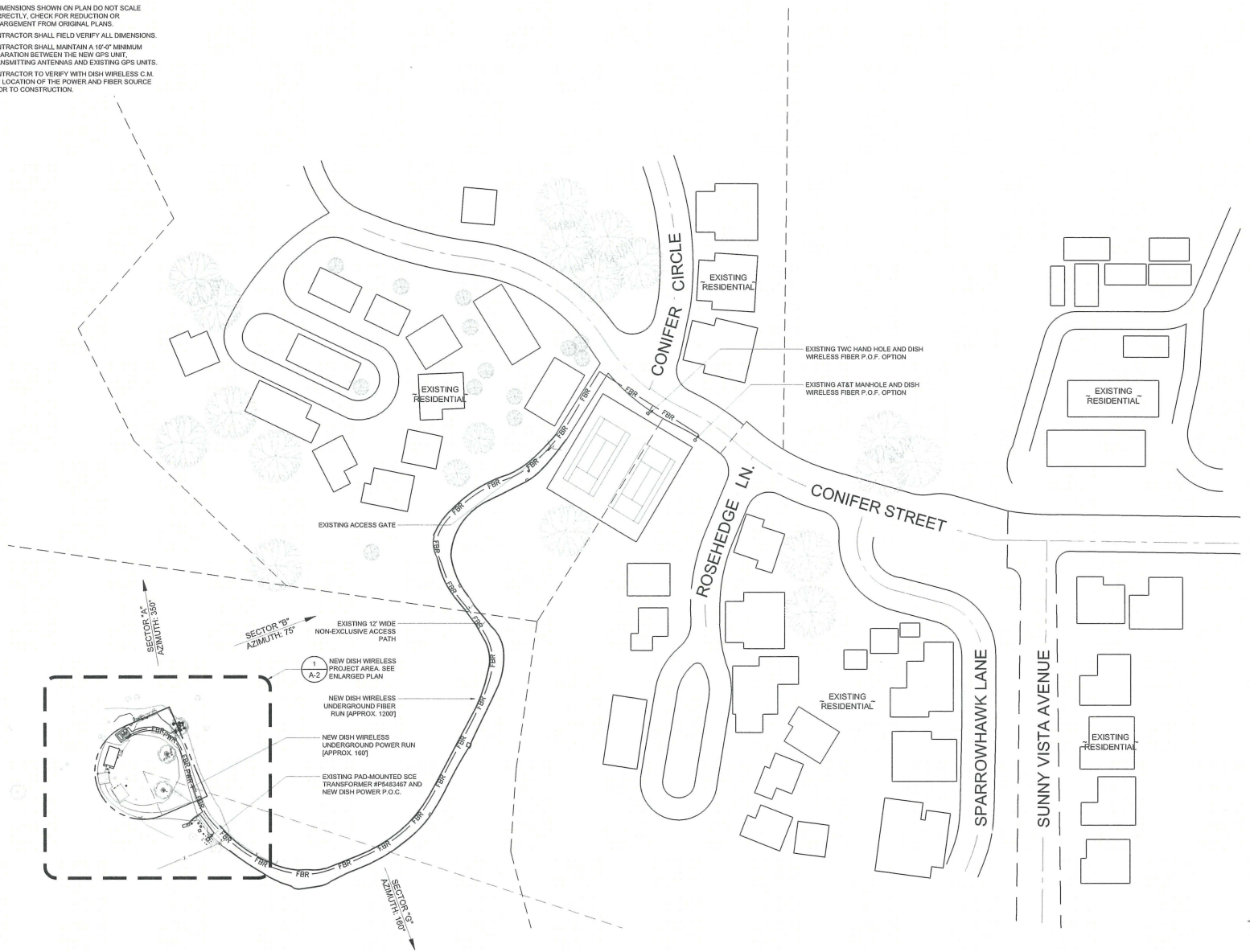
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 18812 ARMSTRONG AVE., SUITE 200  
 IRVINE, CA 92606

**CAL VADA SURVEYING, INC.**  
 415 Arroyo Ct., Suite 200, Corona, CA 92608  
 951-289-2960 Fax: 951-289-9146  
 100 CAL VADA www.cvsur.com  
 JOB NO.

**LALAX02065A**  
 300 CONIFER CIRCLE,  
 OAK PARK, CA 91377  
 VENTURA

SHEET TITLE:  
**SITE SURVEY**  
**C-3**

- NOTES:
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  - CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN A 10'-0" MINIMUM SEPARATION BETWEEN THE NEW GPS UNIT, TRANSMITTING ANTENNAS AND EXISTING GPS UNITS.
  - CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY WITH DISH WIRELESS C.M. THE LOCATION OF THE POWER AND FIBER SOURCE PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.



16812 ARMSTRONG AVE  
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IRVINE, CA 92606



an SFC Communications, Inc. Company  
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[www.eukongroup.com](http://www.eukongroup.com)

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DRAWN BY:	UTILITIES CHECKED BY:	A&E CHECKED BY:
KV	GD	RB

RFDS REV #: 0

**ZONING DRAWINGS**

SUBMITTALS

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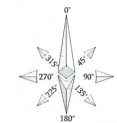
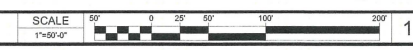
DISH WIRELESS PROJECT INFORMATION  
**CONIFER HILL**  
**LALAX02065A**  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
OAK PARK, CA 91377

SHEET TITLE  
**SITE PLAN**

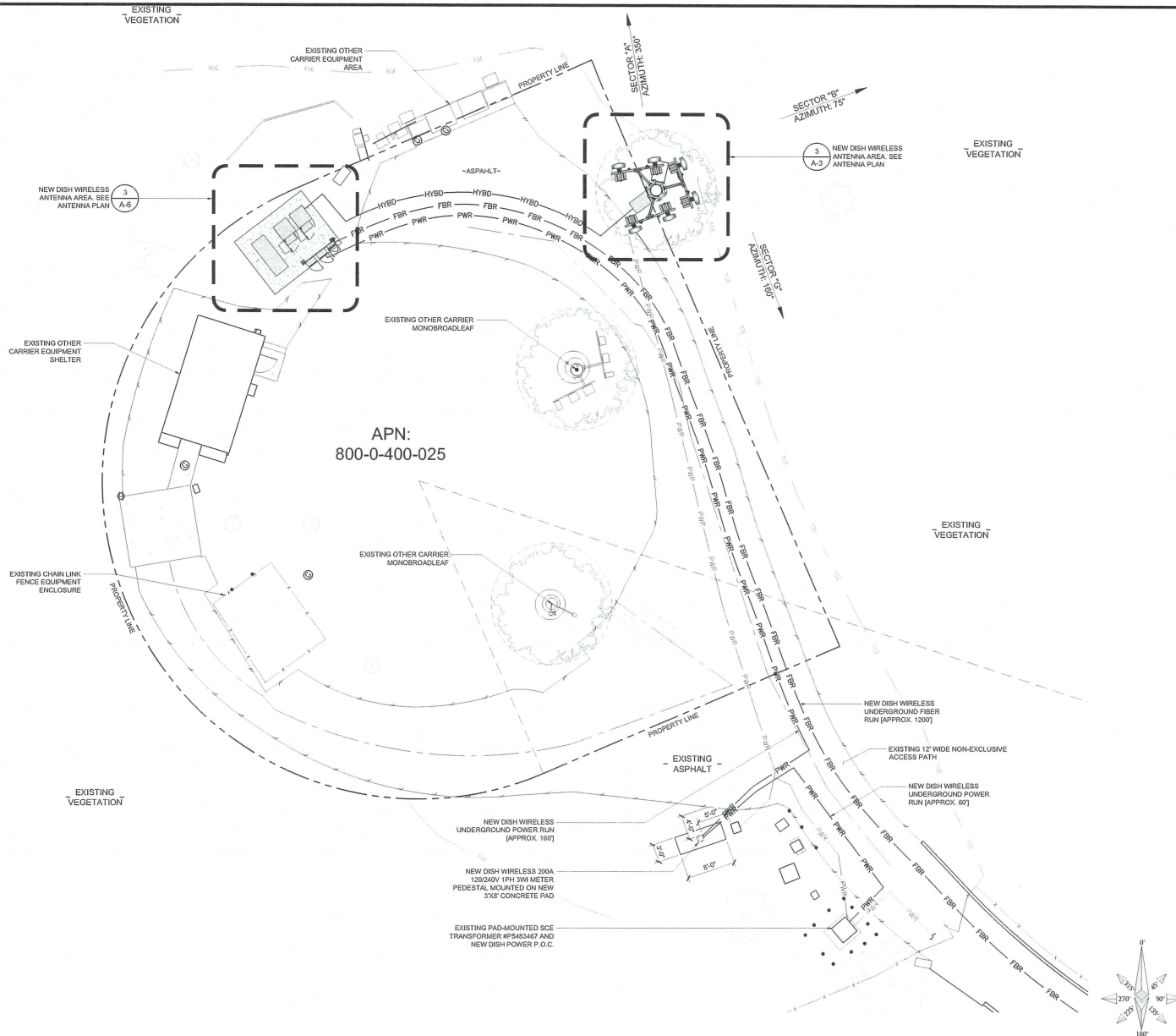
SHEET NUMBER  
**A-1**

EUKON, DISH TEMPLATE, US 07-21-21

SITE PLAN



- NOTES:
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IRVINE, CA 92606



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TEL: (949) 553-8566  
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DRAWN BY:	UTILITIES CHECKED BY:	A&E CHECKED BY:
KV	GD	RB

RFDS REV #: 0

ZONING DRAWINGS

SUBMITTALS

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
0	08/03/2021	90% ZONING DRAWINGS
1	11/02/2021	100% ZONING DRAWINGS

DISH WIRELESS PROJECT INFORMATION

CONIFER HILL  
LALAX02065A  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
OAK PARK, CA 91377

SHEET TITLE  
ENLARGED SITE PLAN

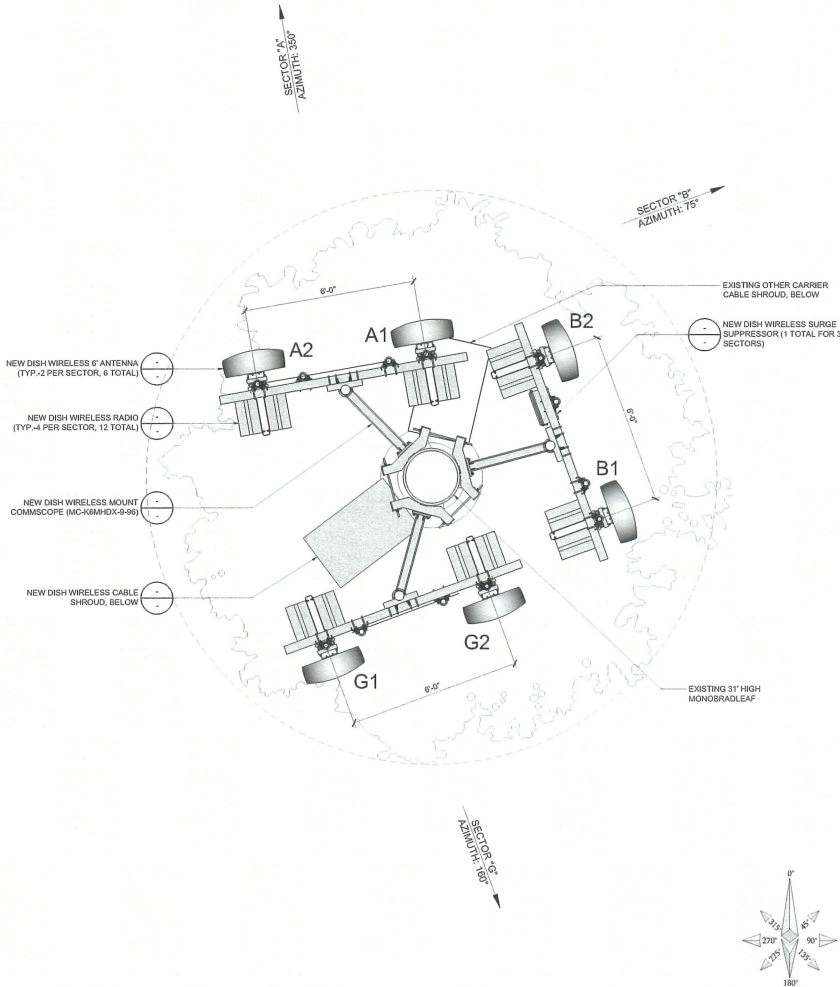
SHEET NUMBER

A2

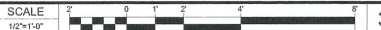
EUKON DISH TEMPLATE US 02-21-21

ENLARGED SITE PLAN

- NOTES:
- IF DIMENSIONS SHOWN ON PLAN DO NOT SCALE CORRECTLY, CHECK FOR REDUCTION OR ENLARGEMENT FROM ORIGINAL PLANS.
  - CONTRACTOR SHALL FIELD VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS.
  - CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN A 10'-0" MINIMUM SEPARATION BETWEEN THE NEW GPS UNIT, TRANSMITTING ANTENNAS AND EXISTING GPS UNITS.
  - CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY WITH DISH WIRELESS C.M. THE LOCATION OF THE POWER AND FIBER SOURCE PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
  - EXISTING OTHER CARRIER ANTENNAS NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.



ANTENNA PLAN



NOT USED

SCALE NONE 2

SECTOR	POSITION	ANTENNA								TRANSMISSION CABLE	
		EXISTING OR NEW	MANUFACTURER - MODEL NUMBER	TECHNOLOGY	SIZE (HxWxD)	AZMUTH	RAD CENTER	MECH TILT	ELEC TILT	COAX QTY. AND LENGTH	HYBRID QTY. AND LENGTH
ALPHA	A1	NEW	MANUF. - XXXX	NR	72.4" x 28.7" x 7.7"	350°	16'-0"	--	--	--	--
	A2	NEW	MANUF. - XXXX	NR	72.4" x 28.7" x 7.7"	350°	16'-0"	--	--	--	--
	A3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
BETA	B1	NEW	MANUF. - XXXX	NR	72.4" x 28.7" x 7.7"	75°	16'-0"	--	--	--	(1) HIGH-CAPACITY HYBRID CABLE (80' LONG)
	B2	NEW	MANUF. - XXXX	NR	72.4" x 28.7" x 7.7"	75°	16'-0"	--	--	--	--
	B3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
GAMMA	G1	NEW	MANUF. - XXXX	NR	72.4" x 28.7" x 7.7"	160°	16'-0"	--	--	--	--
	G2	NEW	MANUF. - XXXX	NR	72.4" x 28.7" x 7.7"	160°	16'-0"	--	--	--	--
	G3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SECTOR	POSITION	EXISTING OR NEW	MANUFACTURER - MODEL NUMBER	TECHNOLOGY	DIAMETER	AZMUTH	RAD CENTER	MECH TILT	ELEC TILT	COAX QTY. AND LENGTH	HYBRID QTY. AND LENGTH
DELTA	MW1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SECTOR	POSITION	RRH			OVP JUNCTION BOX		NOTES:				
ALPHA	A1	MANUF. - XXXX	MULTIBAND	2	--		1. CONTRACTOR TO REFER TO FINAL CONSTRUCTION RFDS FOR ALL RF DETAILS. 2. ANTENNA AND RRH MODELS MAY CHANGE DUE TO EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY. ALL EQUIPMENT CHANGES MUST BE APPROVED AND REMAIN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NEW DESIGN AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSES. 3. NO FRP STRUCTURAL CROSS MEMBERS SHALL TRANSITION ACROSS ANTENNA FACES IN ALL LOCATIONS.				
	A2	MANUF. - XXXX	MULTIBAND	2	--						
	A3	--	--	--	--						
BETA	B1	MANUF. - XXXX	MULTIBAND	2	MANUF. - XXXX						
	B2	MANUF. - XXXX	MULTIBAND	2	--						
	B3	--	--	--	--						
GAMMA	G1	MANUF. - XXXX	MULTIBAND	2	--						
	G2	MANUF. - XXXX	MULTIBAND	2	--						
	G3	--	--	--	--						

ANTENNA SCHEDULE

SCALE NONE 1



16812 ARMSTRONG AVE  
SUITE 200  
IRVINE, CA 92606



65 POST, SUITE 1000  
IRVINE, CA 92618  
TEL: (949) 553-8566  
www.eukongroup.com

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DRAWN BY: UTILITIES CHECKED BY: A&E  
KV GD RB

RFDS REV #: 0

ZONING DRAWINGS

SUBMITTALS

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
0	08/03/2021	90% ZONING DRAWINGS
1	11/02/2021	100% ZONING DRAWINGS

DISH WIRELESS PROJECT INFORMATION

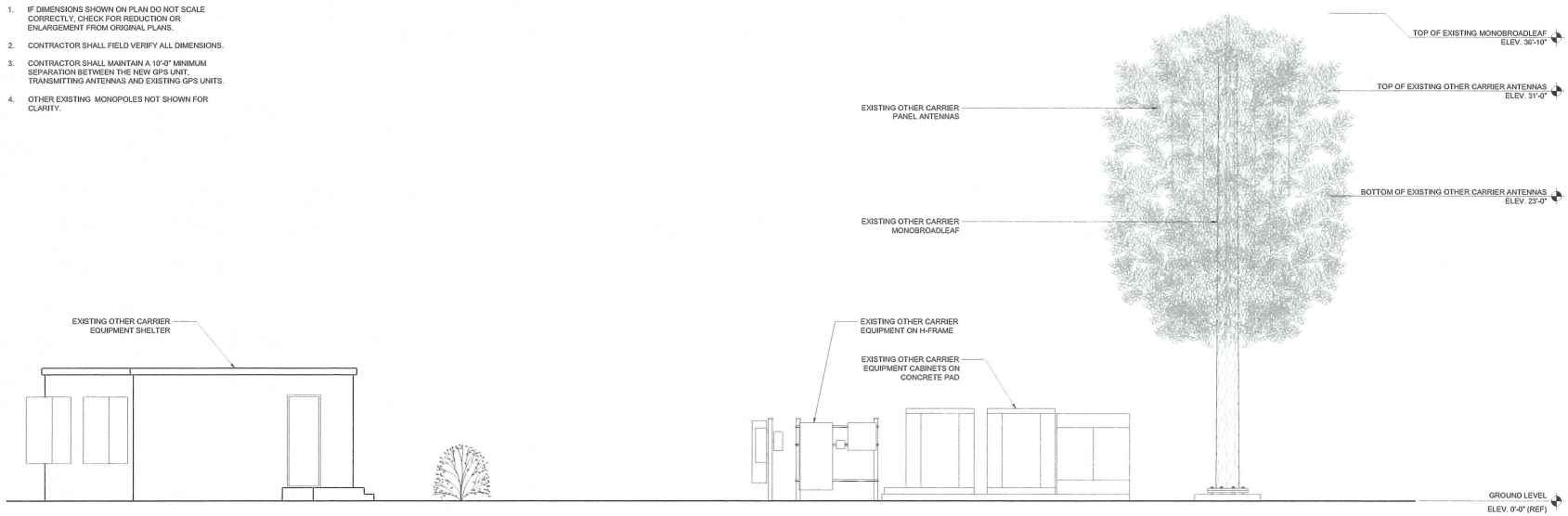
CONIFER HILL  
LALAX02065A  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
OAK PARK, CA 91377

SHEET TITLE  
ANTENNA PLAN AND SCHEDULE

SHEET NUMBER

A-3

- NOTE:**
- IF DIMENSIONS SHOWN ON PLAN DO NOT SCALE CORRECTLY, CHECK FOR REDUCTION OR ENLARGEMENT FROM ORIGINAL PLANS.
  - CONTRACTOR SHALL FIELD VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS.
  - CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN A 10'-0" MINIMUM SEPARATION BETWEEN THE NEW GPS UNIT, TRANSMITTING ANTENNAS AND EXISTING GPS UNITS.
  - OTHER EXISTING MONOPOLES NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.



**EXISTING SOUTHEAST ELEVATION**

SCALE 1/4"=1'-0" 1

**dish wireless**

16812 ARMSTRONG AVE  
SUITE 200  
IRVINE, CA 92606

**Eukon**  
an SFC Communications, Inc. Company

65 POST, SUITE 1000  
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DRAWN BY:	UTILITIES CHECKED BY:	A&E CHECKED BY:
KV	GD	RB
RFDS REV #: 0		

**ZONING DRAWINGS**

SUBMITTALS

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
0	08/03/2021	90% ZONING DRAWINGS
1	11/02/2021	100% ZONING DRAWINGS

DISH WIRELESS PROJECT INFORMATION

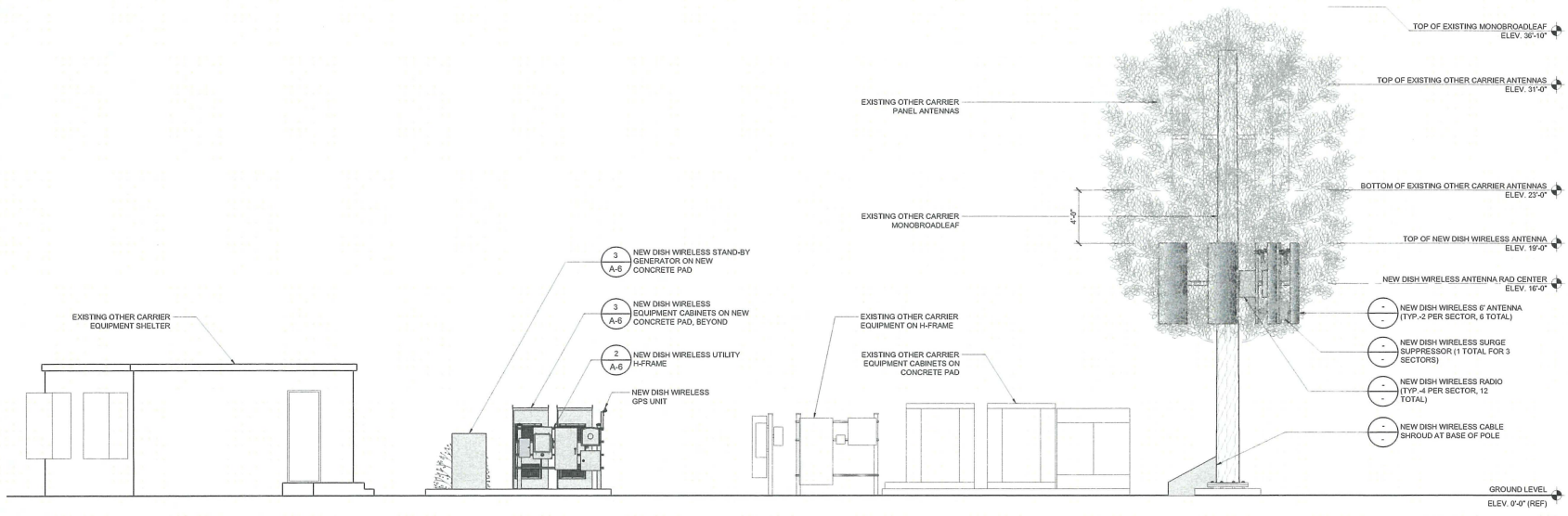
**CONIFER HILL**  
**LALAX02065A**  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
OAK PARK, CA 91377

SHEET TITLE

**ELEVATIONS**

SHEET NUMBER

**A4**

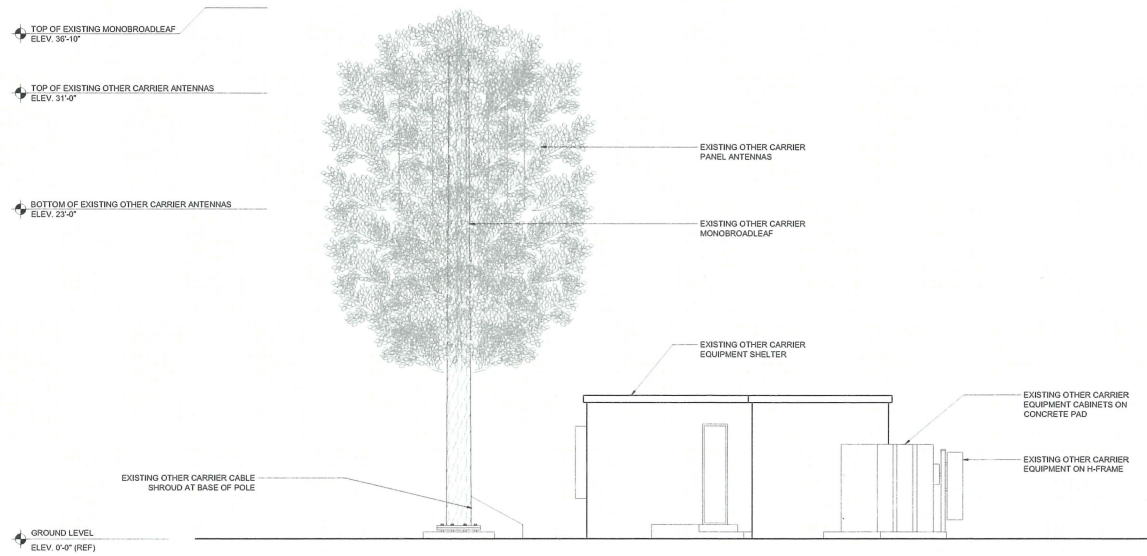


**NEW SOUTHEAST ELEVATION**

SCALE 1/4"=1'-0" 1

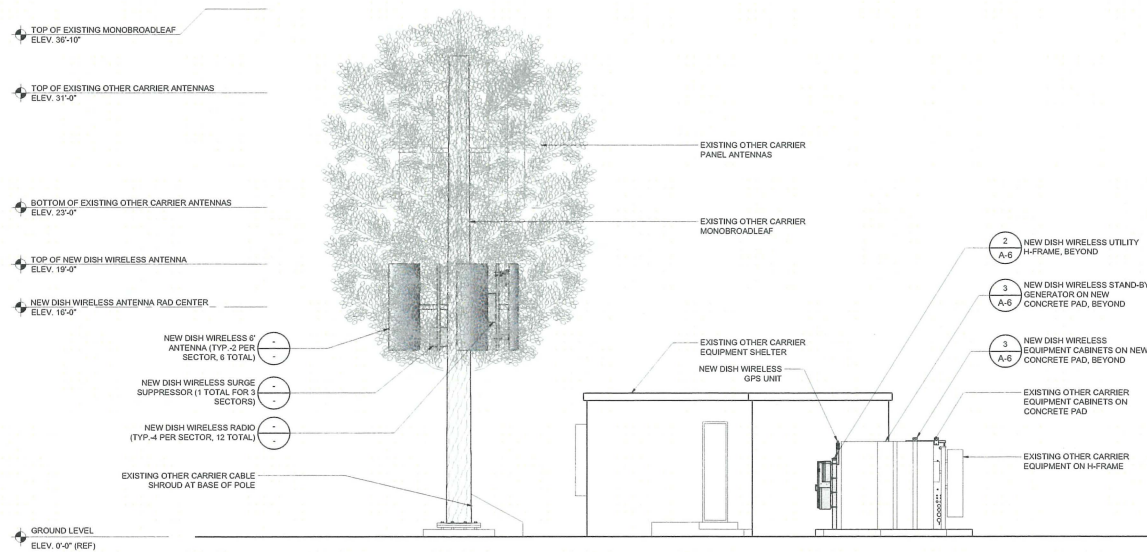
EUKON\_DISH\_TEMPLATE\_V02-21-21

- NOTE:**
- IF DIMENSIONS SHOWN ON PLAN DO NOT SCALE CORRECTLY, CHECK FOR REDUCTION OR ENLARGEMENT FROM ORIGINAL PLANS.
  - CONTRACTOR SHALL FIELD VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS.
  - CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN A 10'-0" MINIMUM SEPARATION BETWEEN THE NEW GPS UNIT, TRANSMITTING ANTENNAS AND EXISTING GPS UNITS.
  - OTHER EXISTING MONOPOLES NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.



EXISTING NORTHEAST ELEVATION

SCALE 1/4"=1'-0" 1



NEW NORTHEAST ELEVATION

SCALE 1/4"=1'-0" 1

**dish**  
wireless.

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KV	GD	RB

RFDS REV #: 0

**ZONING DRAWINGS**

SUBMITTALS

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
0	08/03/2021	90% ZONING DRAWINGS
1	11/02/2021	100% ZONING DRAWINGS

DISH WIRELESS PROJECT INFORMATION

**CONIFER HILL**  
**LALAX02065A**  
300 CONIFER CIRCLE  
CIVIC PARK, CA 91377

SHEET TITLE  
**ELEVATIONS**

SHEET NUMBER

**A-5**



**RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: July 14, 2022  
TO: District Manager  
FROM: Oak Park Sr. Maintenance Supervisor - Grounds  
SUBJECT: Grounds Maintenance Report

**Activity Period: March 24, 2022 – July 14, 2022**

**1. Maintenance Items**

- a. The pickleball courts at Deerhill Park were patched and striped on 6/16/22.
- b. Painting of the parking lot at the Oak Park Community Center and Garden has been completed. This project was subcontracted out.
- c. Painting of the Deerhill Park parking lots has been completed. This work was performed in-house by the Buildings Maintenance Department.
- d. All parks have been aerated and fertilized.
- e. A work party was held on 5/3/22 at the Deerhill Park native plant demonstration garden located at the corner of Deerhill and Doubletree. Oak Park Grounds Maintenance staff performed the removal of invasive grasses and weeds. Some thinning and pruning of approved vegetation also took place. Work was overseen and monitored by the Department of Fish and Wildlife along with a representative from the County. While on site, the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the County representative did an inventory of plant specimens along with a separate count of the protected Brauntons's Milk-vetch plants.
- f. Weed abatement is underway, and the contractor is presently working towards completion.
- g. The Oak Canyon Community Park Pond has been drained by Buildings and Grounds Maintenance staff. Fish and turtles were caught and transferred to other habitat locations.

**2. Athletic Fields**

- a. All athletic fields have been aerated and fertilized.
- b. Soccer field renovations have been completed at Deerhill and Valley View parks.

**3. Safety**

- a. The following tailgate safety meetings were held: Africanized Bees; Do You Know What to do in an Electrical Emergency; Tractors, Riding Mowers and Push Mowers; Respiratory Protection; Heat Illness and First Aid; Poison Oak; Emergency Evacuation; Checklist for Hazardous Materials; and Weed Eaters, Blowers, etc.

**4. Park Inspections:**

- a. Chaparral and Valley View Parks were inspected during this reporting period, and both received an “Excellent” rating.

**5. Future Projects**

- a. Contractor to begin the Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon Renovation Project.
- b. Continue trail maintenance work throughout the open space trail system.
- c. Continue to repair irrigation damage caused by the Woolsey Fire at impacted parks, including replacing the irrigation repeater system, irrigation valves, and the wiring as needed.
- d. Replace the fire-destroyed Oak Canyon Community Park signs.
- e. Prepare Oak Canyon Community Park for the *Music in the Park* event on July 9, 2022.

*Eugene Molnar*

Eugene Molnar  
Senior Grounds Maintenance Supervisor

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 14, 2022  
TO: Oak Park -Park and Recreation Planning Committee  
FROM: Director of Recreation  
SUBJECT: Park Inspection List – Committee Assignments

**BACKGROUND**

Over the last year, the Oak Park- Park and Recreation Planning Committee has discussed the concept of assigning Committee members to routinely inspect specific parks based on a specific assignment from the Committee. Committee members would be asked to notify the maintenance staff of any issues related to non-routine maintenance of the parks to which they were assigned.

**DISCUSSION**

If the Oak Park – Park and Planning Committee would like to assign members to inspect parks, the following locations should be under consideration.

- 1) May Boyer Park
- 2) Chaparral Park
- 3) Indian Springs Park
- 4) Deerhill Park
- 5) Oak Canyon Park
- 6) Eagle View Park
- 7) Valley View Park

Other locations to consider would be:

- 1) Medea Creek Natural Park
- 2) Oak Park Community Center
- 3) Oak Park Community Gardens

Staff is not providing a recommendation to assign parks to committee members but will work with the committee should they want to formalize this idea with staff.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Provide direction on assigning Committee members specific parks for routine inspection and provide staff with assignments if necessary.



Zach Miller  
Director of Recreation

RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 14, 2022  
TO: Oak Park -Park and Recreation Planning Committee  
FROM: Director of Recreation  
SUBJECT: Selection of 2022 Committee Chair and Vice Chair

**SUMMARY**

In keeping with the history of selecting a Chair and Vice Chair to serve the Board of Directors, action is taken each year by the Committee to select members to fill the Chair and Vice Chair positions in the coming year.

Derek Ross is the current Committee Chair and Dan Cooper is the current Vice Chair of the Oak Park–Park and Planning Committee.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Staff recommends that the Committee select a Chair and Vice Chair for 2022.



Zach Miller  
Director of Recreation