



# AGENDA

ORANGE COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024, 6:00 p.m.



IRVINE RANCH HISTORIC PARK  
OC PARKS HEADQUARTERS  
13042 OLD MYFORD ROAD  
IRVINE, CA

DAVID SHAWVER  
Chair  
Inland Cities

**BERT ASHLAND**  
Vice Chair  
First District

**JOHN WARREN**  
Fourth District

**RAY DIAZ**  
Second District

**HALLIE JONES**  
Fifth District

**DAVID HANSON**  
Third District

**ERIK WEIGAND**  
Coastal Cities

Executive Officer  
Pam Passow

The Orange County Parks Commission welcomes you to this meeting. This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. The Commission encourages your participation and welcomes public comments on items under the purview of the Commission. If you wish to speak on a matter that does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the Public Participation period at the beginning of the meeting. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. When addressing the Commission, please state your name for the record prior to providing your comments. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes. Public speaker request forms will be available onsite.

The OC Parks Commission meeting will be an in-person meeting held at the Mess Hall at OC Parks' Headquarters (13042 Old Myford Road, Irvine, CA 92602).

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodations for this meeting should notify OC Parks 72 hours prior to the meeting at [Admin.ocparkscommission@ocparks.com](mailto:Admin.ocparkscommission@ocparks.com) or (949) 585-6431.

*All supporting documentation is available for public review at <https://www.ocparks.com/about-us/commissions-and-committees/oc-parks-commission> under the "Agendas and Minutes" link or by calling 949-585-6431 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.*

## **OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

### **Orange County Parks Commission Duties and Responsibilities**

(O.C. Codified Ordinances Sec. 2-2-19: Paraphrased)

Except as otherwise provided, the Orange County Parks Commission shall be advisory to the Board of Supervisors and to the Director of OC Parks, and shall have the power and duty:

1. To recommend to the Board of Supervisors plans and policies for the acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of the harbors, beaches and regional parks of the County;
2. On request of the Board of Supervisors, to advise the Board and make recommendations on any matter pertaining to harbors, beaches and regional parks, and any other matters referred by the Board;
3. On request of the Director, to advise on any question of administrative policy and regarding any matter to be decided by the Director under this division;
4. On appeal from an administrative decision by the Director, to act as a board of administrative review;
5. To make such investigations as it may deem necessary in the exercise of its powers;
6. To perform the duties and functions of the County Fish and Game Commission assigned by either statute or this code, and consider methods for the propagation and protection of fish and game in the State of California and County of Orange. The Commission shall be advisory body to the Board of Supervisors.

OC Parks Commission Regular Meeting Schedule: First Thursday, Monthly, 6:00 p.m.

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**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission and are not contained in tonight's agenda.

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)**

The following item(s) on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Commissioner requests to pull a specific item.

**A. APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 30, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING**

**V. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A–C)**

**A. RANGER ACADEMY 9 TRAINING PRESENTATION**

Staff will provide a presentation that details the recruitment and training process for Park Rangers.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file.

**B. OC PARKS TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE**

Staff will provide an update to the Commission regarding the January 11, 2024 OC Parks Trails Subcommittee meeting.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file.

**C. APRIL FIELD TRIP SELECTION**

In November 2023, the Commission approved its 2024 meeting and field trip schedule. Pursuant to the 2024 meeting and field trip schedule, the field trip dates and locations would be selected in the month(s) preceding the field trip.

Proposed date options for a morning field trip:

1. Friday, April 5, 2023

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2. Saturday, April 6, 2023

Proposed field trip location options:

1. George Key Ranch
2. Craig Regional Park

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

1. Select a field trip date.
2. Select a field trip location.

**VI. OC PARKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**B. UPCOMING OC PARKS EVENTS**

Wilderness Access Day: Gypsum Canyon Wilderness – March 9 – 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- Come explore OC Parks' newest trails at Gypsum Canyon Wilderness through this self-guided opportunity. Located within OC Parks' Irvine Ranch Open Space, Gypsum Canyon Wilderness features 6 miles of new trails for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. Two lookout points offer sweeping views of the surrounding canyons and unique prehistoric rock formations, while seven new trails provide multiple loop options that vary in distance and range from easy to moderate in difficulty. Visitors will have the opportunity to provide voluntary feedback about Gypsum Canyon Wilderness through on-site participation surveys and offer naming suggestions for several unnamed trails.

Birding by the Creek – Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park – March 16 – 8 – 10:30 a.m.

- Aliso Creek is one of the best riparian birding sites in Orange County and gives access for a lovely morning hike. OC Parks staff and volunteers will lead an easy 3-mile loop with 50 feet of elevation gain on uneven terrain. Travel along the creek on a dirt trail and return on a paved road while birding within the wilderness park. No experience necessary.

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Biking the Bay – Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve – March 16 – 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Join OC Parks for an interpretive bike ride around Upper Newport Bay! Participants will have the opportunity to get their heart rate up and pedal around the Bay, all while learning about local ecology and history. This moderately-paced ride will cover a 10-mile section of the Back Bay Loop Trail over the course of 2.5 hours. We will remain on the paved portion of the trail and will have interpretive stops along the way.

Wilderness Access Day: Saddleback Wilderness – March 23 – 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- Come explore 3.3 miles of new trails at Saddleback Wilderness, part of OC Parks' Irvine Ranch Open Space, through this self-guided opportunity. Designated trails will be open for self-guided hiking, biking and equestrian use. There are multiple trail loop options which vary in distance and level of difficulty. Choices range from an easy one-mile loop to multiple figure-8 configurations for those looking to maximize their mileage. Regardless of distance, nearly all options feature scenic views including a destination vista point offering 360-degree perspectives from the mountains to the sea.

Explore! Fossils of the Ancient Sea Floor – Clark Regional Park – March 30 – 8:30 – 10 a.m.

- Come along for the fun, we're going on a paleo run! Don't be late, it won't be drab - we're going to look for shells and crab! Join us for a guided tour of the Clark Regional Park hillside fossil bed, followed by a trip to the Interpretive Center. Closed-toe shoes are required due to uneven terrain, and sun protection and water are recommended. The tour will meet next to parking lot A for a brief introduction. We will then walk north across Rosecrans Avenue to visit the fossil bed. After the hillside exploration we will return to the south side of Rosecrans Avenue and visit the Interpretive Center.

Guided Beach Walk and Clean-Up – Salt Creek Beach – March 30 – 1 – 3 p.m.

- There's more to the beach than relaxing in the sun or playing in the waves on a hot summer day! Join OC Parks staff and volunteers for a casual walk along the sand at Salt Creek Beach to learn about the different flora and fauna that live along southern California beaches. The beach is a dynamic habitat, so no two walks are the same! This program will also include a discussion on marine pollution and a brief beach cleanup. World commissioner comments and report.

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**VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORT**

At this time Commissioners may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**