PARK FACILITIES ANALYSIS

Table of Contents I. Purpose and ScopePage 1 II. Park Facilities Analysis InputPage 2 Current Conditions of HBP Park FacilitiesPage 3 III. Utilization of HBP Park FacilitiesPage 5 IV. V. Availability of Amenities Within HBP Park FacilitiesPage 5 VI. Ability of HBP Park Facilities to Meet Existing and Projected Future DemandPage 6 VII. Findings by HBP Park Facility (per Survey of HBP Park Operations Staff)Page 7 Urban Regional ParksPage 8 Wilderness Regional ParksPage 18 Natural Regional ParksPage 26 Historic ParksPage 35 Regional BeachesPage 48 VIII. Park Analysis RecommendationsPage 53

I. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the Park Facilities Analysis is to provide a general assessment of current park and recreational facilities based primarily on available staff information and knowledge. This broad brush portrayal of existing facilities utilized survey instruments and other similar tools to assess current park site and facility information based on the views of those most familiar with those facilities – HBP operations and maintenance staff, as well as Orange County residents and park visitors who use those facilities. Relying on these sources, the park facility analysis was intended to provide a largely qualitative profile of the following:

- Current conditions of HBP park facilities
- Utilization of HBP facilities
- Availability of HBP facilities
- Capacity of HBP facilities to meet existing and projected future demand

The general assessment of park facilities resulting from this analysis will set the stage for a more in depth quantitative analysis based on an actual physical inspection and inventory of all recreational facilities, which is scheduled for implementation in 2007. This upcoming Facilities Inventory and Depreciation Study will provide HBP with specific cost estimates for needed capital improvements and deferred maintenance projects over the next thirty years.

II. Park Facilities Analysis Input

A number of different methods were utilized to gather regional park analysis information and input. One of the primary tools was a survey questionnaire distributed to HBP operations and maintenance staff. These questionnaire surveys were customized for each park facility and included questions regarding the type of facility, hours of operation, general conditions of the facility, critical needs of the facility, maintenance and operations priorities, safety issues, most heavily used facility amenity, peak facility demands and amenities the facility should provide in the future.

As a follow up to the survey, focus groups were later held with park rangers and park maintenance staff to gather more in depth information. The focus group explored opinions regarding how well existing regional park facilities are meeting the needs of Orange County residents, discussed the condition of those facilities, including maintenance and operational needs, and asked for suggested facility improvements that may be needed in the future to better serve the needs of park visitors.

The park facility analysis also relied heavily upon findings from a telephone user survey conducted by Responsive Management to gather information from the park user perspective. Responsive Management was retained by the County to design and implement a resident telephone survey among current households of the County of Orange and its environs to assess their recreation facility and open space needs and current recreational use patterns. Over 1000 interviews were completed. A random digit dialing telephone survey methodology was used to ensure that data was gathered from a representative sample of the general population in Orange County. Interviews were conducted in August 2006.

The Countywide telephone survey provided the basis for determining how the residents of Orange County participate in recreation activities. Regional parks, open space and trail system usage characteristics were explored in a general framework based upon survey questions probing overall recreational facility and open space usage

In addition, a complementary survey questionnaire was prepared and distributed to visitors at each regional park facility. Park visitors voluntarily completed 815 survey questionnaires. The survey asked regional park users to respond to questions regarding the number of times in a year that they use the facility, ranking the condition of the facility and its amenities, if they feel that the facility is safe and what could be improved in the facility to better serve the community. These responses will be used by HBP staff to better understand the usage patterns and needs of the community. Data from these sources was supplemented by additional information gathered through the public outreach process, including stakeholder interviews and community forums held in each of the five supervisorial districts.

III. Current Conditions of HBP Park Facilities

As a result of financial constraints created by property tax diversions, and higher capital and operating costs, HBP has accumulated a significant backlog of deferred maintenance. Despite these challenges, however, the overall assessment from front-line staff and from the general public is positive. Overall responses by HBP park operations staff to survey questions regarding the conditions of HBP facilities ranked the conditions as Good to Very Good. This observation was repeated in a follow-up focus group with park maintenance staff, who despite their belief that there is a growing need for more preventive maintenance, also believe that they have been generally successful in meeting the expectations of park visitors, stating that 85% to 95% of comments received from the public are positive. This observation was corroborated by the opinion poll, where 90% of the respondents rated the quality of appearance and cleanliness at the HBP park they most often visit as excellent or good, while only 1% rated it poor.

Park rangers and maintenance staff also provided specific recommendations for upgrades, renovations and improvements to each of the regional parks and open space facilities in the HBP regional park system. The critical facility and infrastructure needs most frequently identified included:

- Renovation and increased availability of basic amenities such as restrooms and drinking fountains
- Renovation of irrigation and water systems
- Renovation and upkeep of trails
- Repair of buildings and group picnic shade shelters, specifically roofing

- Improve, upgrade and add walking paths (especially near lakes and park roads)
- Improved or expanded parking areas
- Improved lighting, especially in parking areas

Specifically related to the wilderness parks and nature preserves, there were other additional concerns such as the need for better protection of endangered habitats, improved invasive plant control, and improved maintenance of lakes and trails. These concerns were related to general concerns about the potential erosion problems due to insufficient ongoing maintenance. Also, a shortage or lack of amenities, such as restrooms, drinking fountains and shade structures were identified in these parks. A need for additional tractors, mowing equipment and other tools was also cited frequently.

Although the overall response by park operations staff to questions regarding the conditions of HBP facilities was, as mentioned above, Good to Very Good, there were some exceptions to this positive trend.

- A majority of park operations staff cited most of the facilities at Santiago Oaks Regional Park as being in only Fair condition.
- In four parks, a majority of park operations staff stated the park lake or other water feature such as a creek was in only Fair to Very Poor condition.
- Leased areas in two of the urban regional parks were in Fair to Very Poor condition.
- In Yorba Regional Park, most facilities and amenities were rated as being in Fair condition, as were the Riding and Hiking Trails in Laguna Niguel Regional Park.
- A majority rated the restrooms in three of the six wilderness parks as Fair.
- Restrooms in three of the natural regional parks (O'Neill, Wieder, and Peters Canyon) were rated from Fair to Very Poor.
- Restrooms at two of the regional beaches (Salt Creek, Sunset Beach) were rated as Fair or Poor.
- Conditions varied widely at historic parks, with a majority of facilities in Good to Very Good condition, but with the exception of some individual historic structures at three of the historic parks (Irvine Ranch, Modjeska, and George Key).

HBP staff did note that beyond the financial issues previously noted, that there were operational and procedural factors that can and have constrained ongoing maintenance operations. These include contracting practices that enable suboptimal performance by low-bid contractors constructing or maintaining facilities and overly restrictive procurement procedures, among others. Although their individual efforts in the past

have successfully dealt with these problems on a case-by-case basis, there is a strong desire to see them resolved at an organizational level to avoid even the possibility of negative impacts on park facilities in the future.

More detailed current conditions information for each park facility and by type of park facility is provided in the final section of this report - Survey of HBP Park Operations Staff: Findings by HBP Park Facility

IV. Utilization of HBP Park Facilities

According to the opinion poll of Orange County residents, the top rated reason to visit HBP parks was for outdoor recreation. Most visitors of HBP park facilities attended for casual, passive activities (61%), with just 15% of park users visiting specifically to engage in active sports. This finding was reinforced by others, including the result that walking for pleasure and picnicking are the two most popular forms of outdoor recreation, both in terms of past participation and future interest. Other popular activities included accompanying a child to a playground or tot lot, swimming in the ocean, and bicycling on a paved bikeway. The most popular activities engaged in on a regular recurring basis, as defined by the mean days of participation, were jogging or running (mean of 32.1 days), walking for pleasure (31.3 days), walking a dog (31 days) and soccer (21.3 days).

Also, according to the opinion poll, the amenities at HBP park facilities most frequently used by Orange County residents are the more utilitarian, less specialized ones such as restrooms (used by 83% of park visitors), and picnic tables (70%), followed by family picnic areas (66%) and barbecue/fire rings (50%). The top aesthetic/recreational facilities are beaches (68%), hiking trails (58%), and bike trails (51%). The top rated active sport facilities were baseball fields (used by 22% of park visitors).

Most Orange County residents (67%) do not personally, nor does anybody in their household, participate in an organized sports league that uses a City park, HBP park, or school yard. Among those who do participate in active sports, city parks (18%) and schoolyards (13%) were more frequently cited as locations of choice for this activity.

V. Availability of Amenities Within HBP Park Facilities

According to the opinion poll, most Orange County residents appear to be satisfied with the availability of amenities within HBP park facilities, with 80% saying they do

not lack any features they would like to see added. Among those who did state they would like to see something added, more restrooms was most frequently mentioned. This finding is reinforced in the park maintenance staff survey where restroom improvements and expansion were identified as a critical priority in a large number of park facilities.

Overall ratings regarding access to wilderness areas were also positive. Most Orange County residents polled (63%) were satisfied with current levels of access to wilderness areas, and only 12% were dissatisfied. Those who were satisfied stated they had no problems or that access was easy. Common reasons for dissatisfaction include lack of enough roads or trails, not being able to easily find roads and trails, or crowding at the access site.

Park maintenance staff did not cite many park amenity availability problems except for holiday weekends, when parking lots will often fill early in the day, requiring later arrivals to park on nearby roads and streets outside the park.

VI. Ability of HBP Park Facilities To Meet Existing and Projected Future Demand.

At this time there is a perception that the capacity of HBP facilities is sufficient to meet existing demand from park visitors. According to the opinion poll, nearly half of Orange County residents polled (47%) say that there is about the right amount of HBP park facilities. A significant minority (33%) of those polled, however, believe there are too few HBP park facilities. Additionally, Orange County residents polled more often agree (63%) than disagree (17%) that current HBP park facilities meet the needs of Orange County residents. Although a majority of polled residents agree that current HBP park facilities meet the needs of Orange County residents, support (59%) for a bond measure to add more park facilities exceeded opposition (22%) by almost 3 to 1.

The need for parks and recreation facilities are generally expressed as a ratio of the number of facilities (or size in acres) per 1,000 people. Given a current estimated Orange County population of 3,072,336 at the beginning of 2006, and approximately 39,000 acres of park and open space lands owned or managed by the County, results in a ratio of 12.7 acres per 1,000. This ratio does not take into account the significant amount of parklands found in the State Parks, the Cleveland National Forest, private reserves and conservancies, and the many city local parks located throughout Orange County.

The existing ratio provides a baseline to assess changes over time as the population increases. Over the next 34 years the County's population is projected to gradually increase to 3.7 million, after which point is it expected to remain relatively stable. Even if the County were not to acquire additional parklands during that time period, the future level of service would decline only slightly to 10.54 acres per 1,000 people.

VII. Findings by HBP Park Facility (per Survey of HBP Park Operations Staff):

The project team prepared and distributed a questionnaire for the Harbors, Beaches and Parks staff. The survey included questions regarding the type of facility the staff person works at, hours of operation, the general condition of the facility, critical needs of the facility, maintenance and operations priorities, safety issues, most heavily used facility amenity, peak facility demands and amenities the facility should provide but currently does not. The facility staff, including Park Rangers, responded to the surveys. Questionnaire surveys were returned with staff responses for all HBP facilities.

Overall, the top issues raised by the survey were related to staff shortages and facilities in need of repair. Most facilities surveyed reported a need for full time maintenance staff and groundskeepers to maintain parks (esp. lakes within parks) and trails. This was especially true for the larger parks. Individuals also stated that such sites were in need of night security in order to ensure that people do not trespass after hours. More specific issues dealt with the staff compensation as well as the need for improved tools for workers to effectively maintain each site (for example, improved vehicles and equipment).

Facility issues were typically site specific but general concerns included the lack of and poor repair of basic amenities, such as restrooms and drinking fountains. Other infrastructure needs included irrigation and water system repair; more sidewalks and perimeter fencing; and the repair of buildings and shelters, specifically roofing. Other concerns were raised over the condition of each park, specifically regarding the need to clean lakes and trails and improve invasive plant control. These issues were related to the general concern with the potential erosion of parks, trails and bodies of water.

The overarching issue appears to stem from the lack of available funds to administer the needs of each site. Individuals encouraged HBP to seek out other funding sources and made suggestions such as charging for parking at all sites.

Individuals were generally concerned with the public safety of each site and the potential threat of facilities not being available to the public if issues are not properly addressed.

Key results by HBP park facility and by park category are summarized below, using where possible statements as written by survey respondents:

Urban Regional Parks Top Issues

Facilities

- Installing more restrooms.
- Installing more drinking fountains.
- Repairing shelters, roofing, and rotted wood.
- Increasing maintenance of lakes and trails.

Infrastructure

- Repairing/replacing irrigation systems for lakes.
- Providing more sidewalks near lakes and park roads.
- Repairing parking lots.
- Increasing the amount of lighting.

Staff

 Increasing staffing levels of supervisors and maintenance staff, particularly weekend groundskeepers and night security guards.

Carbon Canyon Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Carbon Canyon Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (8 respondents):

Table #1: Carbon Canyon Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities	0	0		ses	
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Picnic Shelters	1	1	6		
Sports Areas	1	2	5		
Playgrounds	8				
4-acre Fishing Lake	1	1	4	2	
Nature Trail	1	1	3	2	1
Carbon Creek	1			2	5
Redwood grove	1	7			
Other					
Programs			1		
Specific Amenities					
Turf	3	3	2		
Rest Rooms	2	3	2	1	
Parking Areas	1	2	3	2	
Security Lighting	2	3	1	2	
Parking Area Lighting	1	1	3	3	
Irrigation Systems	1	2	5		

Most critical current facility needs:

- Cleaning up Carbon Creek Canyon and trails with a new tractor to preventing flooding during rainstorms (5 responses)
- Addressing limited parking, especially on major holidays.
- Repairing gate machine change function.
- Improving office security for staff working alone.
- Providing more groundskeeper staff positions.
- Removing concrete loading ramp at the maintenance yard for extra room.
- Dredging the lake.
- Removing non-native plants.

If the critical needs could be addressed tomorrow, what would be your number one priority?

- Removing silt and dredging Carbon Creek and parking lot (5 responses).
- Increasing parking capacity and capturing lost revenue on major holidays and high volume weekends
- Removing non-native plants.

What is likely to be a maintenance and operation priority if not addressed in the near future?

- Removing silt and dredging Carbon Creek and parking lot (3 responses)
- Improving restroom facilities.
- Repairing rusted containers.
- Removing non-operating old pump house and pump

Likely maintenance and operation priorities five years from now:

- Rebuilding shelters (2 responses).
- Resurfacing tennis courts
- Improving restroom facilities.
- Improving sewer facilities.
- Replacing wood at shelters.
- Updating the tree trimming contract.

Clark Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Clark Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*nine respondents*):

Table #2: Clark Regional Park

General Facilities	Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities										
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor						
Picnic Shelters	8										
Sports Areas	4	4									
Playgrounds	8										
3-acre Fishing Lake	2	6									
Perimeter Trail	7	1									
Clark Interpretive Center	3	5									
Coyote Hills Backdrop	8										
Elephant & Camel Hills	3	5									
Specific Amenities											
Turf	4	4									
Rest Rooms	7	1									
Parking Areas	3	5									
Security Lighting	7	1									
Parking Area Lighting	6	2									
Irrigation Systems	7	1									

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

Most critical current facility needs:

- Installing additional restrooms (primary need, most frequently mentioned).
- Providing a part-time groundskeeper (3 responses).
- Repairing the roof of the interpretive center to prevent water damage to display and research areas.
- Installing a sidewalk next to park road.
- Expanding the interpretive center to create more exhibit and research space.
- Installing a new aeration system for lake.

Other needs

- Installing new amenities, including drinking fountains, shelters, picnic tables, and trash cans.
- Providing new/upgraded tractor and trucks.

Likely maintenance and operation priority if not addressed in the near future:

- Installing 6" gate valves throughout the facility (4 responses).
- Installing a restroom adjacent to the tennis courts.
- Repairing the interpretive center roof.
- Installing a new aeration system for lake.
- Repairing sections of road that show tree root damage.

Likely maintenance and operation priorities five years from now:

- Installing a new aeration system for lake (2 responses).
- Working toward and achieving the goals for the interpretive center will allow the facility to
 evolve dynamically in the areas of research and education. Without real support from the
 County, the potential of the I.C. could stagnate.

Craig Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Craig Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (7 respondents):

Table #3: Craig Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities			Respon	ses	
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Picnic Shelters	5			2	
Sports Areas	6		1		
Playgrounds	6	1			
3-acre Fishing Lake	3	2		2	
Rose Garden	5		1	1	
Trail Area	4	2	1		
Other					
Nature Center		2		1	
Specific Amenities					
Turf	5	1	1		
Rest Rooms	4	1	2		
Parking Areas	5	1	1		
Security Lighting	2	2	2	1	
Parking Area Lighting	1	3	2	1	
Irrigation Systems	2	1	4		

- Upgrading sidewalks throughout the park
 - Pedestrian access from State College
 - Connect from footbridge to west side of lake
- Installing fencing along sidewalk at State College boundary to prevent park entry via steep hill.
- Installing an ADA-compliant entry door at the front office.
- Repairing or replacing shelters.
- Installing a new gate machine at entry.
- Cleaning the fishing lake.
- Installing a new pump system for irrigation.
- Providing new vehicles.
- Installing a counter with storage space in the front office.
- Re-roofing restrooms and maintenance building.

Laguna Niguel Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Laguna Niguel Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (9 respondents):

Table #4: Laguna Niguel Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per of #	of Surve	y Respon	ises				
General Facilities							
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor		
Picnic Shelters	2	4	2	1			
Sports Areas	2	6		1			
Playgrounds	6	2	1				
Kite Hill Model Airplane Field		4	5				
Riding and Hiking Trails			7	1	1		
Leased Area			3	4	2		
Sulphur Creek Reservoir		4	4	1			
Sulphur Creek		6	2	1			
Specific Amenities							
Turf	1	7		1			
Rest Rooms	2	6	1				
Parking Areas	3	3	2		1		
Security Lighting		6	3				
Parking Area Lighting		4	4		1		
Irrigation Systems		5	4				

- Increasing staff levels for supervision and maintenance.
- Expanding parking and lighting to keep pace with attendance growth.
- Installing new gate machines with paper currency change capabilities for all facilities.
- Building another playground.
- Installing additional sport facilities including tennis courts, a volleyball court, and a basketball court.
- Installing two additional shelters, and relocating shelters #1 and #11 to better turf sites.
- Mitigating growing vandalism problems as part of attendance and development growth.

- Building trails off the main road.
- Providing new vehicles and equipment.

Mason Regional Park

General conditions of facilities Mason Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (7 *respondents*):

Table #5: Mason Regional Park

General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Picnic Shelters	1		4	2					
Sports Areas	1	2	3	1					
Playgrounds	2	4	1						
9-Acre Fishing Lake			1	2	4				
Leased Area	1	2	2	1					
Native Vegetation Areas		3	3	1					
Other									
Physical Fitness Stations		1							
Walkways			1						
Roofs				1					
Fee Machine				1					
Specific Amenities									
Turf	1	5	1						
Rest Rooms	2	4	1						
Parking Areas	1	5	1						
Security Lighting	1	3	2		1				
Parking Area Lighting	1	2	3		1				
Irrigation Systems		1	5	1					

- Cleaning the lake to improve fishing experience, the look of the park, and smell.
- Repairing termite damage to shelters.
- Repairing rotted bridges and wood railing.
- Improving night lighting.
- Replacing the money machine for users' fees.
- Increasing staff levels.

- Removing sand from Cascade.
- Addressing deferred maintenance.
- Maintaining the storm drain.
- Controlling the fire threat from homeless camps.
- Mitigating RV park encroachment into wilderness area.
 - o Inspecting Canyon RV lease to validate permits relevant to impact on water quality and wilderness area.
- Removing Arundo.
- Repairing trail surfaces.

Mile Square Regional Park

General conditions of facilities Mile Square Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*9 respondents*):

Table #6: Mile Square Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities							
General Pacifices	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor		
Picnic Shelters	6	2	1				
Sports Areas	6	3					
Playgrounds	8	1					
3 and 4-Acre Fishing Lakes	3	6					
4-Mile Perimeter Path	7	1					
Archery Range	5	2	2				
Bicycle & Boat Rentals	3	5	1				
Fountain Valley Rec. Center	3	3					
Mile Square Golf Course	3	3					
David L. Baker Memorial Golf Course	2	4					
22-Acre Nature Area	8						
Specific Amenities							
Turf	5	4					
Rest Rooms	3	6					
Parking Areas	6	1	1				
Security Lighting	5	3	1				
Parking Area Lighting	3	4	2				
Irrigation Systems	4	4	1				

Most critical current facility needs:

- Providing bottled drinking water for work crews.
- Building two new restrooms to replace deteriorating walls and decrepit plumbing.
- Installing new asphalt in parking areas (Phase I)
- Turning the archery range to the north.
- Building a new ranger office.
- Installing a new roof on maintenance yard 3 to prevent leakages on building materials.
- Install a new playground.
- Update the landscape contract
- Purchasing a new tractor: 650B Fermec
- Improving the nature area.
- Installing a perimeter fence around the park.
- Increasing night security to prevent vandals and graffiti.
- Creating a new position for a groundskeeper.
- Restoring the park reservation system--it is pubic friendly, informative and accurate.
- Installing shelters.
- Expanding tree trimming.
- Creating educational/interpretive/community outreach programs.
- Updating facility structures.
- Replacing front office pump house and ADA sidewalk around playground #1.

Yorba Regional Park

General conditions of facilities Yorba Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (2 *respondents*):

Table #7: Yorba Regional Park

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Picnic Shelters		1	1		
Sports Areas			2		
Playgrounds	2				
4-acre Fishing Lake		2			
Santa Ana River Riding & Trail	2				
4 Ballfield Sports Complex	1				
Santa Ana River	1				
Specific Amenities					
Turf			2		
Rest Rooms	1	1			
Parking Areas			2		
Security Lighting			2		
Parking Area Lighting			2		
Irrigation Systems			2		

- Expanding current irrigation infrastructure.
- Improving the lake recycling pump and filters (Lake #1 and #2).
- Repairing/overlaying asphalt on roads, parking lots and trails.
- Replacing all picnic shelter roofs.
- Repairing restroom doors.
- Providing a tractor with attachments.
- Replacing treads on bridges.

Wilderness Regional Parks Top Issues

Staff

- Increasing staffing levels for maintenance and patrol.
- Increasing staff compensation rates.

Facilities

Shortages

- Providing more tractors for maintenance.
- Installing more restrooms
- Improving maintenance of roads and trails

Infrastructure

- Increasing the number of shade structures and drinking fountains.
- Improving maintenance of infrastructure.
- Installing/improving sewer, electric, and water facilities.

Other

Lack of funding resources (for example, parking)

Aliso & Wood Canyon Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Aliso and Woods Canyon Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*two respondents*):

Table #8: Aliso & Wood Canyons Wilderness Park

Ranking of Facilities per S					
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
30 Miles of Hiking & Riding Trails	1	1			
Orange County Natural History Museum			2		
Native Habitats & Wildlife	1	1			
Aliso Wood & Mathis Canyons	1	1			
Aliso Creeks		1	1		
Pectin Reef		1		1	
Specific Amenities					
Turf					
Rest Rooms			2		
Parking Areas		1	1		
Security Lighting					
Parking Area Lighting					
Irrigation Systems					

Most critical current facility needs:

- Increasing staffing levels to match facility needs—3 staff to manage over 4,200 acres and over 100,000 annual visitors
 - o Improving park users'/visitors' compliance with rules, particularly regarding illegal trails and after-hours use.
 - o Preventing rangers from performing administrative duties.
 - o Assigning a maintenance supervisor.
- Completing the Resource Management Plan
- Protecting and restoring native habitats
 - o Developing systematic exotic plant abatement program.
- Improving public safety with a ranger substation in Wood Canyon or a paramedic station at gate 2

Caspers Wilderness Park

General conditions of facilities at Caspers Wilderness Park as indicated by survey respondents (6 respondents):

Table #9: Caspers Wilderness Park

Ranking of Facilities per			ponses		
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
35 Miles of Hiking & Riding Trails	2	2	2		
Tent, RV, Group & Equestrian Camping	2	1	3		
Picnic Areas/Playgrounds	2	3	1		
Nature Center	5	1			
Native Habitat & Wildlife	5	1			
Bell Canyon	4	1	1		
East &West Ridges	5		1		
San Juan Hot Springs	1	2		2	
Adjacent Starr Ranch	2	1	3		
Other					
San Juan Meadow	1				
Specific Amenities					
Turf		2		1	
Rest Rooms	2	1	3		
Parking Areas		3	1	2	
Security Lighting		3	1		2
Parking Area Lighting		3	1		2
Irrigation Systems		3	3		

- Increasing the number of natural resource staff (primary focus).
- Providing domestic hook-ups to the water system.
- Connecting to city sewer system.
- Adding lights outside of restrooms.
- Maintaining roads and creating a fire break road
- Maintaining trails
- Improving electrical connections at campsites
- Improving building roofs.

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park

General conditions of facilities at Laguna Coast Wilderness Park as indicated by survey respondents (3 respondents):

Table #10: Laguna Coast Wilderness Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities								
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor			
30 Miles of Hiking & Riding Trails	1	2						
Diverse Native Habitat & Wildlife	1	2						
Only Natural Lakes in Orange County	1		2					
Seasonal Waterfall in Laurel Canyon	2			1				
Specific Amenities								
Turf								
Rest Rooms		1						
Parking Areas		1						
Security Lighting								
Parking Area Lighting								
Irrigation Systems								

Most critical current facility needs:

- Increasing staff levels and the number of maintenance equipment.
 - o Providing a tractor for ongoing maintenance needs (trails, erosion, mowing, etc.)
 - o Providing a roving trail crew for wilderness parks
- Controlling increased visitor impact on sensitive species
- Revisiting the GDP regarding roads and trails current plan is not operational staff friendly.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Mitigating trail degradation and loss of accessibility.
- Eradicating invasive plants and protecting critical habitats.
- Increasing maintenance staff levels to maintain new Nix Center and 6,600 acres.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

 Monitoring visitor impact on natural resources, as park visitation increases, and mitigating impact.

- Improving conditions of roads and trails
 - Grading of park roads for easements and emergency responses is creating channels.
 Many roads need to be filled in.

<u>Limestone Canyon & Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park</u>

General conditions of facilities at Limestone Canyon & Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park as indicated by survey respondents (*one respondent*):

Table #11: Limestone Canyon & Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park

Ranking of Facilities per o	0				_ ,,,,,
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
35 Miles of Hiking & Riding Trails		1			
McFadden Ranch House Interpretive Center	1				
Santiago Equestrian Center				1	
Diverse Native Habitat & Wildlife	1				
Red Rock Canyon	1				
The Sinks	1				
Specific Amenities					
Turf					
Rest Rooms		1			
Parking Areas	1				
Security Lighting	1				
Parking Area Lighting		1			
Irrigation Systems		1			

- Increasing staff levels.
- Providing toilets within the facility
 - o Without them, illegal trails will continue to become a bigger problem in the long term.
- Providing equipment for trail maintenance, repair and building (i.e. small tractor).
 - o Current processes and a lack of equipment delay timely maintenance and repair.
 - o Re-mowing trails to cut down on mustard would reduce fire hazard.
- Repairing the ridge on Borrego Canyon Trail.

Riley Wilderness Park

General conditions of facilities at Riley Wilderness Park as indicated by survey respondents (3 respondents):

Table #12: Riley Wilderness Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses								
General Facilities	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor			
5 Miles of Hiking & Riding Trails		3						
Equestrian Staging Area		1	2					
Wagon Week Trail					3			
Butterfly Garden	2	1						
Specific Amenities								
Turf								
Rest Rooms		1	2					
Parking Areas	1	1	1					
Security Lighting		1	1					
Parking Area Lighting								
Irrigation Systems					3			

Most critical current facility needs:

- Mitigating erosion of Wagon Wheel Creek (number one priority).
 - o Enlist the support of a biologist and an engineer.
- Securing more employees for patrol and maintenance (number one priority).
- Improving access to public work crews or contractors for removing invasive species.
- Acquiring a tractor and a mower for resource work.
- Upgrading and maintaining the native garden/visitor center.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Continued erosion of Wagon Wheel Creek will lead to:
 - o Compromising the Visitor Center, and
 - Degrading the trail and South Bend Drive
 - o Losing Grand Old Oaks and the stream bank due to urban run-off
- Invasive plants will ruin natural habitats, the native garden, and the visitor center.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Continued rehabilitation of Wagon Wheel Creek.
- Managing native resources with growing urban population.

Weir Canyon Wilderness Park

General conditions of facilities at Weir Canyon Wilderness Park as indicated by survey respondents (*4 respondents*):

Table #13: Weir Canyon Wilderness Park

Ranking of Facilities per o	of # of Surv	ey Respon	ses		
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Riding & Hiking Trails		1	3		
Weir Canyon		1	3		
Specific Amenities					
Turf					
Rest Rooms					
Parking Areas					
Security Lighting					
Parking Area Lighting					
Irrigation Systems					

- Improving vehicle access on trails to provide access for maintenance and emergencies (number one priority).
- Securing access points from unauthorized vehicles and off-hours entry (number one priority).
 - o Controlling illegal off-road vehicle use.
- Generating revenue through park use.
- Enhancing the environment for visitors by providing new amenities such as shade structures and water.
- Updating and revising fee regulations to accommodate special groups
- Enhancing trail conditions to accommodate the number of visitors
- Improving fire protection.
- Re-classifying operations personnel as status has not been updated since it was classified 40 years ago.
- Providing new funding for the new projects.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Repairing trails, particularly in remote areas with restricted access.
- Controlling brush.
- Providing more specific P&P on procedures regarding reservations.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Developing a means of generating revenue from visitors to offset maintenance costs.
- Improving the environment.

Natural Regional Parks Top Issues

Staff

- Increasing staffing levels, particularly at large parks.
 - o Maintenance/groundskeeping staff.
 - o Park attendance staff, especially when parks are closed.

Facilities

- Increasing the number of restrooms and mowing equipment.
- Improving upkeep of roads.
- Improving trail maintenance including weed abatement, leaf and debris, invasive plant control, etc.

Infrastructure

Repairing parking lots.

Featherly Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Featherly Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*One respondent*):

Table #14: Featherly Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per		vey Respon	ises				
General Facilities							
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor		
Santa Ana River Trail	1						
Ropes Course		1					
Swimming Pool	1						
Canyon Rec. Vehicle Park		1					
Santa Ana River	1						
Specific Amenities							
Turf		1					
Rest Rooms		1					
Parking Areas			1				
Security Lighting		1					
Parking Area Lighting		1					
Irrigation Systems		1					

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

Most critical current facility needs:

- Validate permits relevant to impact on water quality and wilderness area (number one priority)
- Storm drain maintenance
- Fire threat created by homeless camps
- RV park encroachment into wilderness areas
 - o Enforcement Canyon RV lease inspection (*number one priority*)
- Inspection enforcement
- Arundo removal

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Storm drain maintenance
- Trail maintenance
- Patrol staffing

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

Trail surface repair

Irvine Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Irvine Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*One respondent*):

Table #15: Irvine Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities						
General Lacinities	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	
Picnic Shelters		1				
Sports Areas	1					
Playgrounds	1					
2.2-acre Fishing Lake				1		
Orange County Zoo	1					
Harding Nature Trail		1				
Nature Center		1				
Irvine Park Railroad	1					
Rawhide Ponies		1				
Santiago Creek			1			
Riding & Hiking Trails		1				
Native Habitat & Wildlife	1					
Specific Amenities						
Turf	1					
Rest Rooms			1			
Parking Areas		1				

Most critical current facility needs:

- Improving restroom facilities and roofs (i.e., #1, #2, #3), if not demolishing and replacing the facilities (i.e., #4, #9, #11) (number one priority).
- Park office expansion and roof repair/replacement.
- Improving/replacing the maintenance building.
- Repairing/replacing water mains.
- Updating the mowing equipment.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Scout camp runoff/erosion
- Storm drain run off from new housing areas

O'Neill Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at O'Neill Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Seven respondents*):

Table #16: O'Neill Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per		vey Respon	ises				
General Facilities							
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor		
22 Miles of Hiking Trails		2	2	4			
Picnic Areas	2	5	1				
Playgrounds	5	3					
Tent, RV, & Equestrian Camping	1	4	3				
Nature Center	3	5					
Native Habitat & Wildlife	3	5					
Arroyo Trabuco	1	1	3	3			
Specific Amenities							
Turf	4	4					
Rest Rooms	1		4	3			
Parking Areas	1	5	2				
Security Lighting	1	6	1				
Parking Area Lighting	1	3	1				
Irrigation Systems	6	1	1				

Most critical current facility needs:

- Providing 1-2 full-time park attendants to assist with day use, campgrounds, and peak period traffic loads and customer service (number one priority).
- Securing additional mowers.
- Providing a full-time groundskeeper for maintenance support.
- Improving the campground restrooms.
- Controlling of invasive exotic species: Thistle/mustard
- Expanding trail maintenance.
 - o Closing illegal trails and rehabilitating those areas.
 - o Mitigating erosion and overgrowth.
- Empower rangers to do law enforcement in wilderness areas.
- Improving the telephone answering/NFO system.
- Renovating the equestrian campground.
- Developing a park specific strategic plan to address above issues

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Maintaining trails, controlling invasives, and rehabilitating illegal trails.
- Rebuilding/replacing restrooms and adding on shower facilities in campground.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Providing a drivable road leading through the Arroyo in case of emergencies
- Improving the campground infrastructure to increase revenue.
 - o Providing more handicapped camping spots.
 - o Improving bathroom wood work (facia boards)
 - o Providing water at every campsite and full hookups at some.

Other observations:

- Staffing issues prevent us from accomplishing other priorities. All we can do is the
 minimum and other issues get neglected. We could do so much better and be more
 attractive and realistically run, but we few can't do it all.
- Please consider that our facility accommodates thousands of people on a yearly basis. The
 maintenance crew is currently stretching our every drop of effort to meet the fast growing
 demand of the public.
- Full time park attendants would be extremely helpful. Other staff members would be more productive and efficient.

Peters Canyon Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Peters Canyon Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*One respondents*):

Table #17: Peters Canyon Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per of		y Response	es				
General Facilities							
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor		
9 Miles of riding & hiking trails		1					
Canyon Nature Trail			1				
55 Acre Reservoir		1					
Peters Canyon Wash		1					
Prominent East Ridge			1				
Native Habitat & Wildlife	1						
Specific Amenities							
Turf							
Rest Rooms				1			
Parking Areas		1					
Security Lighting							
Parking Area Lighting							
Irrigation Systems			1				

Most critical current facility needs:

- Updating mowing equipment to safely maintain trails and dire breaks (number one priority).
- Building a permanent office structure and restroom.
- Filling the Senior Park Ranger position and a maintenance worker position.
- Providing a maintenance yard for maintenance tools and equipment

Santiago Oaks Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Santiago Oaks Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Five respondents*):

Table #18: Santiago Oaks Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per of			es		
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Picnic Area	1		4		
Playgrounds	2	3			
Nature Center	1		4		
Nature Trails	1		4		
Historic Dam	1	1	3		
26 Miles of hiking & riding trails	2		3		
Santiago Creek	1		4		
Surrounding Ridgeline	1		3		1
Other					
Wedding/Conference Area		1	2		
Specific Amenities					
Turf	1	3	2		
Rest Rooms	1	2	2		
Parking Areas	1		3	1	
Security Lighting	1		4		
Parking Area Lighting	1		3	1	
Irrigation Systems	1		3	1	

- Increasing weed abatement and control for trail improvements and fire control, particularly though increased staff levels (number one priority).
- Constructing gates at several access points (number one priority).
- Maintaining and updating older facilities, buildings and public areas, e.g., septic tank improvements (number one priority).
- Expanding trail maintenance and repair to improve emergency vehicle access to remote areas and prevent erosion.
- Maintaining the orange groves: weed control, irrigation, fertilization and certification.
- Improving wheelchair/handicap access to wedding conference site.
- Updating operation personnel classifications.
- Maintaining developed areas, e.g., leaf and debris control in fall and winter.
- Updating fees to accommodate special groups.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Failed septic/sewer infrastructure
- Environmental/infrastructure degradation due to inadequate staffing levels

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- After hours and illegal vehicles on trails
- Environmental/infrastructure degradation due to inadequate staffing levels

Wieder Regional Park

General conditions of facilities at Wieder Regional Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Six respondents*):

Table #19: Wieder Regional Park

Ranking of Facilities per of		y Response	es		
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Picnic Area		3			
Playgrounds	6				
Trails	1	4	1		
Specific Amenities					
Turf		2	3		
Rest Rooms			2	2	1
Parking Areas		1	3	1	
Security Lighting		1	2	2	
Parking Area Lighting		2	3		
Irrigation Systems		5			

Most critical current facility needs:

- Providing fully operational restrooms (number one priority).
- Paving the entire parking area (number one priority).
- Installing new docks at Newport Harbor (number one priority).
- Increasing staff levels.
- Providing updated equipment (i.e., mower) and vehicles.
- Improving lighting for security

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

Newport Harbor docks

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Restrooms
- Vehicles

Historic Parks Top Issues

Staff

- Increasing staff levels for maintenance/groundskeeping/park attendance staff
 - o Providing attendance staff when parks are closed.
 - o Increasing staff at largest parks

Facilities

- Increasing the number of restrooms and drinking fountains.
- Improving of upkeep/restoration of historic structures
 - o General Repair
 - Stabilization
 - o Re-roofing
 - o Re-painting

Infrastructure

Repairing asphalt.

Other

- Promoting the parks and reaching out to the community.
 - o Providing extended business hours

George Key Ranch Historic Park

General conditions of facilities at George Key Ranch Historic Park as indicated by survey respondents (*3 respondents*):

Table #20: George Key Ranch Historic Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities						
General Facilities	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	
Historic Victorian-Style House		1	2			
1-acre of Orange Trees			3			
Antique Farming Equipment Display			3			
Picnic Shelters	1	1	1			
Large Front Yard for Weddings		1	2			
Self-guided Pathways	1		2			
Dept. of Education-Led Programs & Tours	2		1			
Tours of Orange Grove, Garden & Buildings	1		1			
Orange Day Event						
Specific Amenities						
Turf			3			
Rest Rooms	2		1			
Parking Areas			2	1		
Security Lighting	2				1	
Parking Area Lighting		1	1		1	
Irrigation Systems	2			1		

Most critical current facility needs:

- Rebuilding exhibit sheds.
- Removing pests from historic trees.
- Replacing roof of ranch house.
- Improving quality of drinking water.
- Improving exterior signage.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Water quality.
- Insect infestation and health of historical trees.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

Improving parking facilities

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

Heritage Hill Historic Park

General conditions of facilities at Heritage Hill Historic Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Six respondents*):

Table #21: Heritage Hill Historic Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities									
Early California Structures	2	4							
Saddleback Historical Society Research Library	2	4							
Self-Guided Nature Trail	5	1							
Native American Village	5		1						
Wedding Arbor	1	3	1		1				
Large Picnic Area	2	3	1						
Specific Amenities									
Turf	2	1	2	1					
Rest Rooms	2	3	1						
Parking Areas	2	3	1						
Security Lighting	2	2	2						
Parking Area Lighting	2	3	1						
Irrigation Systems	3	2							

- Repairing and updating facilities with termite damage, old paint, and bad roofs, including the school, church, Serrano adobe and Bennett House (number one priority).
- Increasing staff level, particularly for maintenance and groundskeeping needs (number one priority).
 - Reducing the burden on docents.
- Prioritizing monthly staff meetings (number one priority).
- Providing office space (number one priority).
- Improving security and night lighting (number one priority).
- Improving restrooms.
- Repairing erosion at cribwall in the parking area and railroad tie stairs on pathways.
- Enhancing communication channels among staff.

Purchasing a fork-lift and spraying paint gun.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Improving the back parking lot for staff vehicles.
- Repairing roofs of buildings and parking pad cribwall.
- Increasing staff levels.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Updating and expanding the maintenance shop building.
- Repainting the Bennett house and visitor center.
- Completing perimeter fencing
- Repairing slope erosion on north facing trail.
- Upgrading restrooms.
- Hiring more park staff.

Irvine Ranch Historic Park

General conditions of facilities at Irvine Ranch Historic Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Six respondents*):

Table #22: Irvine Ranch Historic Park

Ranking of Facilities per o	Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses								
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Irvine Ranch Headquarters Buildings		3	2	1					
Large Barn		2	3	1					
3-acre fruit tree orchard	2	4							
3-acre avocado grove	2	4							
Mess Hall		2	2	1	1				
Bunkhouse		2	2	2					
6 Foreman Houses		2	2	2					
Specific Amenities									
Turf	1	4							
Rest Rooms	2	2							
Parking Areas		1	2		1				
Security Lighting			1	2					
Parking Area Lighting			1	2					
Irrigation Systems	2	1	1						

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

Most critical current facility needs:

- Repaving asphalt roads (Myford Rd. and Irvine Blvd.) (number one priority).
- Restoring buildings such as the cook house, Krauss house, and bunk house (number one priority).
- Purchasing new equipment including a 2-ton dump truck, a light tractor, and a large dumpster (number one priority).
- Refurbishing landscaping at the foreman's row and old office bunkhouse areas, and the trees along fence line at back of the park.
- Updating the operations plan and annual tree trimming contract.
- Improving water pressure throughout the ranch.
- Providing more public activities.
- Improving regular upkeep with higher staff level.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Repaving roads and parking areas.
- Remodeling the interiors of buildings.
- Updating the water and sewer/septic systems.
- Controlling the bee population.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Rebuilding foreman houses.
- Maintaining public access in unsafe buildings.
- Establishing operating guidelines for tours and events.
- Restoring historic gardens.
- Creating a museum/interpretive center.

Other observations:

- Site requires a lot of restoration and attention from park staff.
- Need more park staff to support maintenance needs
- This park has a lot of developmental needs but when restoration is completed, it could be one of the busiest sites in the County. It has a lot of great potential.

Modjeska Home & Garden

General conditions of facilities at Modjeska Home & Garden as indicated by survey respondents (*Six respondents*):

Table #23: Modjeska Home & Garden

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses									
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Fully-restored House, by Stanford White	2	3			1				
Meandering Creek & Meadow	2	1	3						
Historic Gardens	2	4							
Stone Building for Theodore Payne		1		2	3				
Other									
Opid Cottage				2					
Nature Trail		1							
General Store		1							
Boice House		1							
Specific Amenities									
Turf									
Rest Rooms	3	2							
Parking Areas	2	1	1	1					
Security Lighting			1						
Parking Area Lighting									
Irrigation Systems	2	2							

Most critical current facility needs:

- Stabilizing the old guest cottage (number one priority).
- Repairing the main house with new paint, a new roof, a new heating/AC system, and even floors (number one priority).
- Installing new perimeter/security fencing (number one priority).
- Restoring all benches in the park.
- Providing extra parking spaces in the overflow lot (Santiago Road).
- Installing a new dumpster enclosure.
- Encouraging more usage of grounds and extending open hours.
- Controlling termites

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Repairing the stone building and guest cottage.
- Controlling termites and other pest damage.

- Installing a new heating/AC system in the main house.
- Repairing the floors and chimney in main house.
- Addressing fire clearance of brush.
- Repairing creek erosion on the north side of property.
- Expanding park access for visitors.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Restoring the old cottage.
- Repairing the uneven floors in main house.
- Woodpecker damage to structures.
- Providing more parking.
- Establishing permanent operating guidelines to include opening park more.
- Repairing the front entrance gate.
- Repairing the roof on main house.

Old County Courthouse

General conditions of facilities at Old County Courthouse as indicated by survey respondents (One *respondent*):

Table #24: Old County Courthouse

General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Old Courthouse Museum		1							
Orange County Archives		1							
County of Orange Marriage Licenses Office		1							
Hearing Rooms of Assessment Appeals	1								
Specific Amenities									
Turf	1								
Rest Rooms		1							
Parking Areas			1						
Security Lighting	1								
Parking Area Lighting	1								
Irrigation Systems	1								

Most critical current facility needs:

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

- Repairing the parking lot (number one priority).
- Hiring a full time maintenance worker.
- Expanding exterior signage.
- Expanding space for exhibit prep, collection and storage.
- Updating the electrical service.

Ramon Peralta Adobe

General conditions of facilities at Ramon Peralta Adobe as indicated by survey respondents (*Three respondents*):

Table #25: Ramon Peralta Adobe

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses									
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Historic Adobe Home	3								
Exhibits with Artifacts from Site	3								
Furnished Period Room	2	1							
Other									
Landscaping		1							
Specific Amenities									
Turf									
Rest Rooms									
Parking Areas	2		1						
Security Lighting	-	2		1					
Parking Area Lighting	2		1						
Irrigation Systems			3						

- Improving restrooms (number one priority).
- Increasing staffing levels.
- Repairing irrigation controllers and valves.
- The management of HBP to decide what it is doing.
- Tending to general maintenance such as termite control and outside lighting.
- Improving security measures.
- Improving curation of collection.

Yorba Historic Cemetary

General conditions of facilities at Yorba Historic Cemetary as indicated by survey respondents (*Three respondents*):

Table #26: Yorba Historic Cemetary

General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Historic Headstones & Monuments		2	1		
Numerous Heritage Trees		2	1		
Other					
Landscaping		1			
Specific Amenities					
Turf					
Rest Rooms			3		
Parking Areas			3	1	
Security Lighting	1		1		1
Parking Area Lighting	1	1		1	
Irrigation Systems			4		

Most critical current facility needs:

- Repairing headstones (number one priority).
- Providing amenities such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and benches/seating.
- Improving landscaping and irrigation of grass.
- Expanding outreach to school and civic groups.
- Extending business hours.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Irrigation
- Headstone repair

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

Parking accessibility

Nature Preserves Top Issues

Staff

- Increasing staff levels for enforcement, maintenance and education.
- Providing full time staff.

Facilities

Repairing restrooms

Infrastructure

- Increasing habitat restoration efforts.
 - o Managing wildlife.
 - o Re-vegetating native plants.
 - o Controlling invasive plants.
 - o Protecting endangered species.

Modjeska Canyon Nature Preserve

General conditions of facilities at Modjeska Canyon Nature Preserve as indicated by survey respondents (*One respondent*):

Table #27: Modjeska Canyon Nature Preserve

Ranking of Facilities per o		y Response	es						
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Varied Native Habitats	1								
Santiago Creek	1								
1.5-mile trail		1							
Other									
Meeting Room			1						
Specific Amenities									
Turf									
Rest Rooms									
Parking Areas		1							
Security Lighting		1							
Parking Area Lighting									
Irrigation Systems									

Most critical current facility needs:

- Restoring/removing aging building (number one immediate priority).
- Increasing staffing levels, particularly for dedicated management or maintenance (near and long term priority).
- Providing parking for school and general public groups.
- Controlling fuel along homes bordering property.

Talbert Nature Preserve

General conditions of facilities at Talbert Nature Preserve as indicated by survey respondents (*Six respondents*):

Table #28: Talbert Nature Preserve

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses General Facilities									
Six separate plant zones		6							
Play Grounds									
Trails		6							
Other									
Meeting Room			1						
Specific Amenities									
Turf		6							
Rest Rooms		6							
Parking Areas									
Security Lighting									
Parking Area Lighting									
Irrigation Systems		6							

- Increasing staff levels (number one immediate priority).
- Improving trails (immediate, near and long term priority).
- Controlling non-native vegetation (immediate priority).
- Securing new vehicles and mowing equipment.
- Improving irrigation.

<u>Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve</u>

General conditions of facilities at Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve as indicated by survey respondents (*Five respondents*):

Table #29: Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve

Ranking of Facilities per of # of	,							
General Facilities								
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor			
Peter & Mary Muth Interpretive Center	4	1	1					
Interpretive Programs	4	2						
Special Events	3	3						
Volunteer Naturalist Training Program	1	2	2					
Regular Meeting Location for HBPC	3	1	1					
Other								
Habitat Enhancement Program		1						
Education Programs	1							
Specific Amenities								
Turf								
Rest Rooms	4							
Parking Areas	-	2	2					
Security Lighting	2	2						
Parking Area Lighting	2	2						
Irrigation Systems		1	1	1				

- Increasing staff levels for enforcement, maintenance and education.
- Removing invasive plants and re-vegetating with native plants.
- Protecting endangered species and habitats.
 - Installing new protective fencing.
 - Installing a boardwalk system.
- Improving wildlife management.
- Creating a multi-agency resource management plan.
- Expanding trail maintenance, construction and erosion control.
- Improving interpretive center exhibits.
- Increasing ranger presence on trails.

- Repairing sump holes.
- Acknowledging commitment by county for stewardship not outside agencies

If it could be addressed tomorrow, the number one priority would be:

- Increasing staff levels for enforcement, maintenance and education.
- Protecting endangered species and habitats.
- Installing new protective fencing and signage along boardwalk.
- Expanding trail maintenance, construction and erosion control.
- Repairing sump holes.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Repairing sump holes.
- Expanding trail maintenance, construction and erosion control.
- Removing invasive plants and re-vegetating with native plants.
- Installing new protective fencing and signage along boardwalk.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Repairing slopes.
- Repairing eroding and unauthorized trials.
- Controlling non-native vegetation.
- Unauthorized trails.
- Repairing boardwalks, particularly along Delhi Channel.
- Repairing the Interpretive Center if maintenance issues are deferred.

Regional Beaches Top Issues

Staff

- Lack of capacity/Shortage, particularly groundskeepers and maintenance staff.
- Increasing compensation and raise increments.

Facilities

Repairing restrooms.

Infrastructure

Repairing infrastructure.

Other

- Securing new vehicles/trucks.
- Securing new funding.

Aliso Beach County Park

General conditions of facilities at Aliso Beach County Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Five respondents*):

Table #30: Aliso Beach County Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses									
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Tide Pool	2	3							
Tot lot	3	1	1						
Food/beach equipment concession stand	2	2	1						
Specific Amenities									
Turf	2	2							
Rest Rooms	2	2							
Parking Areas	2	2							
Security Lighting	3	1							
Parking Area Lighting	3	1							
Irrigation Systems	3	1							

- Increasing staff levels (groundskeeper, maintenance workers) and pay rates.
- Addressing the problems with Aliso Creek
- Building a new concession stand

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Deteriorating infrastructure and public safety.
- Building a new concession stand.
- UKW

Capistrano Beach County Park

General conditions of facilities at Capistrano Beach County Park as indicated by survey respondents (*Eight respondents*):

Table #31: Capistrano Beach County Park

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses									
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Volleyball Courts	2	5	1						
Basketball	2	3	3						
Bicycle & Beach Equip. Rentals	1	3	2	1					
Other									
Picnic Areas		1							
Specific Amenities									
Turf	2	3	1						
Rest Rooms	3	3	1						
Parking Areas	3	3	1						
Security Lighting	3	2	1		1				
Parking Area Lighting	3	2	2						
Irrigation Systems	4	3							

- Securing new vehicles/trucks.
- Increasing staff levels, especially maintenance positions.
- Increasing staff salaries (ceilings and steps).
- Increasing funds for improvements and maintenance.
- Improving efficiency of vehicle management.

Maintaining the current building and beach parking.

If it could be addressed tomorrow, the number one priority would be:

- Increasing staff levels, especially maintenance positions.
- Conducting good faith bargaining for pay increases.
- Replacing fire rings.

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Increasing staff levels, especially maintenance positions.
- Improving infrastructure for public safety.
- Providing after hours and overnight security and increasing police services.
- Requiring payment for public parking.
- Installing more traffic signals for summer and busy holidays.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Maintaining the current building and beach parking.
- Increasing staff levels, especially maintenance positions.
- Addressing parking and traffic control

Salt Creek Beach

General conditions of facilities at Salt Creek Beach as indicated by survey respondents (*Five respondents*):

Table #32: Salt Creek Beach

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses									
General Facilities									
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor				
Surf & Junior Lifeguard Camps	1	2	2						
Specific Amenities									
Snack Bar		4							
Tide Pools		1							
Reservation Area		1							
Specific Amenities									
Turf	1	3							
Rest Rooms			4						
Parking Areas		4							
Security Lighting		1							
Parking Area Lighting		4							
Irrigation Systems		4							

Most critical current facility needs:

- Increasing staff levels for groundskeepers and maintenance workers (number one priority).
- Re-landscaping parking lot planters
- Repairing/replacing gazebos
- Replacing stairs

Likely maintenance and operational priorities if not addressed in the near future:

- Repairing/replacing gazebos.
- Upkeep and maintenance of park amenities due to lack of staff.

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Providing metal fixtures in the restrooms
- Addressing the maintenance back log

Sunset Beach

General conditions of facilities at Sunset Beach as indicated by survey respondents (*Six respondents*):

Table #33: Sunset Beach

Ranking of Facilities per of # of Survey Responses					
General Facilities					
	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Surf & Junior Lifeguard Camps		6			
Specific Amenities					
Turf		3			
Rest Rooms				3	
Parking Areas		2	1		
Security Lighting			1		
Parking Area Lighting			1		
Irrigation Systems		3			

Most critical current facility needs:

- Securing new vehicles (immediate and near term priority).
- Installing new restrooms (immediate and near term priority).
- Increasing staff levels.
- Expanding beach improvements and maintenance, including a new beach sanitizer.
- CRP
- Parking
- Turf
- Irrigation

Likely maintenance needs five years from now:

- Installing a new maintenance facility.
- Building a new office.
- Securing a new truck.
- Installing new restrooms.

PARKS ANALYSIS RECOMMENDATIONS

As the County continues to grow, it will be imperative that the County continue to strengthen the delivery of recreation facilities, open space and trails for the benefit of Orange County residents. An analysis of current recreation facilities was completed as part of the strategic plan process. The findings were developed using information from stakeholder interviews, meetings with staff, focus groups, questionnaire surveys and data provided by the County staff.

The following are specific recommendations for upgrades, renovation and improvements to each of the Regional Park and Open Space facilities for the HBP Regional Park system:

Aliso Beach County Park

- Renovate rest room / concession building.
- Renovate lifeguard structure

Aliso & Wood Canyons Regional Park

- Renovate trail
- Creek repair

Capistrano Beach County Park

Carbon Canyon Regional Park

- Group picnic shelter renovation
- Renovation to two (2) rest room buildings
- Dredging of the lake
- Renovation of tennis courts
- Replace four (4) playground equipment structures

Caspers Wilderness Park

- Renovation to four (4) rest room buildings Electrical upgrades
- Replacement of rest room leach fields
- Renovation to administration building Replacement of office windows
- Creek repairs
- Nature Center renovation
- Water and wastewater service connections
- Roadway repairs and maintenance
- Trail system repairs
- Service connections for camping sites
- Security lighting

Clark Regional Park

- General site improvements / repairs
- Interpretive Center repairs
- Expansion of the Interpretive Center
- Renovation of the lake aeration system
- Replace two (2) playground equipment structures
- Renovation of two (2) rest room buildings
- Renovation of group picnic shelters
- Addition of site amenities including drinking fountains and picnic tables
- New rest room building
- Separate pedestrians walkways from vehicular roadways
- Increase staffing at the Interpretive Center
- Upgrade maintenance equipment
- Additional parking areas

Craig Regional Park

- Rest room buildings general repairs to three (3) facilities
- General site improvements / repairs
- Park Office Building general repairs
- Nature Center Building general repairs
- Replace two (2) playground equipment structures

Featherly Regional Park

- General site repairs and renovation
- Evening patrols
- Storm drain repairs and upgrades
- Trail system repairs

George Key Ranch Historic Park

- Install security system
- Exhibit sheds general repairs
- General site repairs
- ADA accessibility
- Additional parking area
- Improve facility sign

Heritage Hill Historic Park

- Serrano Adobe general repairs and renovation
- El Toro Grammer School Building general repairs
- General site repairs and renovation
- Install security lighting
- Need additional park staff
- Rest room upgrades and renovation.
- St. George Episcopal Church general repairs

- Repair crib walls
- Expand office space
- Expand maintenance shop
- Repair pathways
- Bennet Ranch House general repairs

Irvine Regional Park

- Nature Center general repairs
- Band Shell structure general repairs
- Headquarters Building general repairs
- Concession Building general repairs
- Maintenance Building general repairs
- Water Fountain Pavilion general repairs and renovation
- Enhancements to the Main Entry
- Upgrade wastewater service
- Replace one (1) rest room building

Irvine Ranch Historic House

- General building repairs
- Building preservation and stabilization
- Relocate HBP Headquarters to facility
- Roadway repaving and repairs
- Additional parking areas needed
- Landscape renovation
- Tree trimming maintenance
- Restore historic gardens

Laguna Niguel Wilderness Park

- Replacement of lake aerators
- General site improvements and repairs
- General repairs seven (7) rest room buildings
- Renovation and repairs to five (5) group picnic shelters

Limestone Canyon & Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park

- Roadway repairs
- Replace septic tank
- General site renovation and repair
- New Interpretive Center

Mason Regional Park

- General site renovation and repair
- Office Building general repairs
- Maintenance Building general repairs
- Clean up of the lake
- Replace park entry monument sign

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

- Repairs to the pedestrian lake bridge
- Replace group picnic shelters with prefabricated picnic shelters
- Replace one (1) playground equipment structure
- Add security lighting
- Increase park staff

Mile Square Regional Park

- Replace the park's pump house
- Group picnic shelters repairs and renovation
- General roadway repairs
- Replace group picnic shelters
- Replace three (3) rest room buildings
- Replace two (2) playground equipment structures
- Park Office general repairs
- Renovation of Youth Camping facility

Modjeska Canyon Nature Preserve

- Repair pedestrian bridge
- Repair bank erosion at creek
- Seismic repairs to the Fleming House
- Fleming House general repairs and renovation

Modjeska Home & Garden

- Modjeska House general repairs and renovation
- Restore Opid Cottage
- Replace pedestrian bridge
- Install new security / perimeter fencing
- Repair walking paths

Old County Courthouse

- General site improvements
- General site repairs and renovation
- Courthouse Building general repairs and renovation

O'Neill Regional Park

- Repairs and renovations to park trail system
- Rest room building general repairs
- Wastewater services conversion
- Replace one (1) rest room building

Peters Canyon Wilderness Park

- Trail and bikeway system repairs
- Install new rest room building
- Parking area repairs

Ramon Peralta Adobe

- General site repairs
- Addition of site amenities including drinking fountains and seating
- Addition of a rest room facility
- Irrigation system repairs

Riley Wilderness Park

- Creek crossing repairs
- Trail system repairs
- Resurfacing of parking area
- Increasing maintenance staff
- Mitigating erosion along Wagon Wheel Creek
- Upgrades to native garden area

Salt Creek Beach

- Replace group picnic shelter
- Rest room buildings (3) repairs
- General site improvements and repairs
- Roadway repairs
- Landscape renovation to parking area and roadway edge

Santiago Oaks Regional Park

- Roadway repair
- Trail system repairs
- Nature Center general repairs
- Improve ADA access
- Wastewater service connection
- Security lighting

Sunset Beach

- Replace five (5) rest room buildings
- Repair pedestrian decking
- Install Harbor Patrol Modular Building
- Perform dredging operations

Talbert Nature Preserve

- Wetlands Enhancement
- Habitat Restoration

Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve

- Repair Bay View Bridge
- Parking area repairs
- Habitat restoration
- Complete Trails Master Plan Update
- Addition of walkway system (broad walk) to protect habitat

Park Facilities Analysis County of Orange Harbors, Beaches and Parks Draft Strategic Plan – Appendix D

- Increase and add technical facility staff
- Trail system repairs and maintenance
- Addition of fencing and signage along trail system

Weir Canyon Wilderness Park

- General site improvements
- Controlling park access when park is closed
- Trail system repair and renovation
- Add parking area
- Addition of site amenities including shade shelters and picnic tables
- Improve maintenance vehicle access onto trail system
- Controlling trail system from public vehicle access

Wieder Regional Park

- Install one (1) new rest room building
- Install interpretive panel exhibit

Yorba Historic Cemetery

- General site repairs
- Irrigation system repairs
- Repairs to headstones
- Add rest room facility
- Add parking area

Yorba Regional Park

- Group picnic shelters repairs and renovation
- Parking area repairs
- Repair vehicular bridge
- Repair and / or renovate lake pumping system
- Replace four (4) playground equipment structures
- Rest room buildings repair and renovation

With limited resources of staff and resources the County of Orange has done a good job providing recreational opportunities to its residents. The challenge will be how to best use existing resources to renovate and repair current facilities and develop new facilities that will continue to respond to the needs of a very diverse and growing community.