

Conejo Recreation & Park District

GENERAL MANAGER Jim Friedl

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nellie Cusworth, Chair Susan L. Holt, Vice Chair George M. Lange, Director Chuck Huffer, Director Doug Nickles, Director

GENERAL MANAGER EMERITUS Tex Ward

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Andrew Mooney Senior Park Planner, Parks and Planning (805) 495-6471

Park improvements and playground renovations at Conejo Recreation and Park District's Thousand Oaks Community Park are complete, open, and ready for play!

The 35.8-acre Thousand Oaks Community Park originally opened nearly half a century ago in 1974 and is located north of Thousand Oaks High School. The community park has a variety of recreation uses such as the community center which includes a gym, various activity rooms and racquetball, soccer and softball fields, tennis and basketball courts, sand volleyball, disc golf course, open turf area, covered picnic area, playground, and walking path with fitness areas. The park is utilized for a variety of District events and year-round recreational programs, camps and rental groups.

The playground equipment is designed with a picnic and insect inspired theme inspired by the park's existing "Ant Hill" play feature – where patrons often climb up and gleefully slide down on cardboard boxes. The play structures are modeled after insects taking over a picnic with picnic basket, food and insect elements incorporated into various structures, swings, climbers, slides, activities, panels, and a renovated "Ant Hill" with new synthetic turf. Additionally, a new reservable picnic structure was installed adjacent to the playground with drinking fountain and bottle filler. ADA improvements are included in the design of the play features as well as access throughout the playground.

The District, a separate governing organization from the City of Thousand Oaks which focuses on recreation and parks, is tasked with maintaining over 50 local parks and over 40 playgrounds. Chair Cusworth stated, "This community park and center served as an emergency shelter during the Woolsey Fire in November 2018. It is vital for the Conejo Recreation and Park District to maintain and improve our parks and centers that ensure kids of all ages have a safe but imaginative place to play that provide fun, accessible outdoor recreational activity that keeps the community fit and healthy, while also providing the ability to serve the entire community in times of emergency."

To celebrate Thousand Oaks Community Park improvements and renovations, the public is invited to a District hosted ribbon cutting with snacks, fun and games from 9:00am to 10:00am on Saturday, April 23, 2022.