



**California Special
Districts Association**

Districts Stronger Together

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cordova Recreation and Park District Honored at Statewide Conference

Rancho Cordova, CA — The Cordova Recreation and Park District received the Innovative Program of the Year award for a large district by the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) during the association's Annual Conference and Exhibitor Showcase, which was held in Indian Wells from September 24-27, 2018.

The Cordova Recreation and Park District was awarded for their "Heron Landing Community Park" project. The district identified the need to support the growth that is expected in the Rancho Cordova community and through a decade-long planning, design, stakeholder engagement and construction process created this 20-acre park in the Anatolia neighborhood of the Cordova Recreation and Park District, the only community park in this resident area. The park is intended to support and serve a growing community with amenities ranging from programmed athletics facilities to wildlife observation to multi-generational play areas. The District anticipates programming for soccer, lacrosse, softball, flag football, tennis, bocce ball, basketball, turf volleyball, kickball, and ultimate frisbee. During seven community outreach events, stakeholders provided input and direction regarding the selection and implementation of programming elements and desired amenities; additionally, a community meeting was held to specifically discuss the proposed sports field lighting. Throughout the project, Cordova Recreation and Park District worked closely with the City of Rancho Cordova, the County of Sacramento, and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District to create an accessible and safe community space. This park demonstrates a 21st century ethic of sustainability and technology, provides a myriad of opportunities, and furthers the District's mission to "lead the region in recreation and parks through excellence and transparency in serving the needs of our diverse and growing community."

Since the park opened on December 16, 2017 it has been praised by community members and professional association alike. Resident Google postings on the park give it a score of 4.8 out of 5.0. In February 2018, it received a Facility Design and Park Planning award from the California

Parks and Recreation Society District 2. In March 2018, it received an award from the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts for Outstanding New Facility.

The criteria for this CSDA annual award included originality of project, tangible and positive results produced and a documented decrease in district costs or a demonstrated improvement in the district's quality of service without significantly increasing costs.

The California Special Districts Association is a 501c(6), not-for-profit association that was formed in 1969 to promote good governance and improved core local services through professional development, advocacy and other services for all types of independent special districts.

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