



# Cordova Shooting Center Information Sheet

## **What is the Cordova Shooting Center?**

The Cordova Shooting Center was established in 1979. It was built on federal land that was deeded to the Cordova Recreation and Park District (CRPD) by the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in 1977. The outdoor range has a 30-acre skeet and trap shooting area and a 4-acre pistol and rifle range area. Marksmanship Consultants Inc. has operated the Cordova Shooting Center since its opening.

## **Why, after almost 40 years, is the range closing?**

Last year, with the help of the Cordova Shooting Center's operator, CRPD determined a real need to update the range due to safety issues. CRPD staff and consultants found that the Cordova Shooting Center's needs for upgrades were significant, which brought the feasibility of this type of recreation activity into question. It was determined fiscally irresponsible to renew the contract as it was.

In May of 2017, the Cordova Shooting Center's needs for \$2 million in renovations were met with a variety of financial, safety, environmental, and legal issues that have led to its closing. Prior to the closure, an RFP (Request for Proposal) was released to give both the current operator and any other interested and qualified party the opportunity to begin a 10-year shooting range contract. The proposal noted that due to the condition of the property, a "substantial investment would be needed to restore infrastructure to support proposed use." There were no bidders on the RFP.

### **What efforts were made to keep the Cordova Shooting Center open?**

CRPD intended to enhance the safety of the range, not to close it. CRPD led many efforts to keep the range open, they included: hiring firms to assess the cost of renovation, presenting findings, studying case studies of similar sites, holding multiple Board meetings and a Special Meeting that were open to the public for public comment, and releasing an open RFP for potential operators to bid on. The contract would have granted a 10-year lease to the qualified proposal.

### **What financial concerns did the Cordova Shooting Center present?**

As Fox 40 stated in an article titled "Special Meeting Regarding Shooting Center Draws Large Crowd" and dated June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, "the facility is in need of major repairs and fixes to make it safe and compliant."

CH&D Architects assessed the Cordova Shooting Center against the CRPD's requirements for safe operation and found that the cost of renovations approached \$2 million. Alone, the pistol and rifle range renovation was estimated at \$1,642,000 and included the cost of a: concrete slab to cover the pistol range, retractable target retrieval system, septic system, retaining wall, fence, and rangemaster building. The cost of ADA compliant restrooms and parking was estimated somewhere between \$300,000 - \$400,000, bringing the total estimated renovation costs to about 2 million.

### **What health and safety concerns did the Cordova Shooting Center present?**

The property currently doesn't meet Federal health or safety codes for the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and isn't ADA compliant.

An architectural firm and accessibility consultant assessed the need for \$2 million to make the range safe to operate successfully long term. This renovation plan was discussed with Marksmanship Consultants Inc. CRPD found there was no interest on the operator's part to contribute financially toward the \$2 million renovation the property.

Due to these health and safety concerns and to the operator's disinterest in assisting with renovation costs, CRPD began to consider not extending the Cordova Shooting Center's contract beyond the June 30, 2018 term. Instead, CRPD tried to renegotiate the operational contract to address the safety concerns brought forward by the operator. Due to financial reasons and after several meetings with CRPD, the operator decided it would not be in their best interest to renew the contract. CRPD then released an open RFP to allow all qualified individuals and organizations to respond to the proposal. No parties responded. As a result, the Cordova Shooting Center will close its doors at the end of June 2018.

### **What environmental concerns did the Cordova Shooting Center present?**

Along with health and safety issues, the Cordova Shooting Center also presents environmental concerns. Portions of the property will need lead reclamation (to derive useable materials from waste), lead stabilization (to protect the public from exposure, to manage hazardous waste, and to keep lead from traveling to other sites) and lead remediation (removing or capping of contaminated lead soil). Lead and other contaminants associated with shooting centers pose public health hazards. The cleanup process of these sites is complicated and highly regulated, requiring the involvement of multiple oversight agencies.

### **What potential liability concerns did the Cordova Shooting Center present?**

The original Federal land deed designated the property for recreational use, which does not permit the sale of retail items. The sale of firearms or other weapons has been determined to violate the conditions of the property deed and is prohibited.

### **What is next?**

CRPD will need to work with agencies to stabilize the lead on site and to plan for clean-up of the site. The site may be considered for re-purposing and other recreational activities at a future Board Visioning Session. Currently, there are no plans to replace the Cordova Shooting Center for another recreation purpose.

### **Where do I go for firearm classes? To practice shooting?**

If you visit [www.wheretoshoot.com](http://www.wheretoshoot.com), you will find 10+ facilities listed within 20 miles of Rancho Cordova.

This sheet will be updated as we receive questions from the public. If you have a question, please feel free to reach out to: [communications@crpd.com](mailto:communications@crpd.com).