

It's Your Master Plan

In 1952, Feather River Recreation and Park District was established to provide recreation programming with our community parks and facilities. It was an exciting time for the greater community of Oroville. Many of the parks that we enjoy now were built by volunteers, service clubs, and also by a very small tax allocation base. The founders of the District realized that establishing one agency to provide parks and recreation prevented the duplication of services, and thus saved the community's financial resources. Those who were involved in 1952 understood what needed to be accomplished and how, and with minimal financial resources. There was a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement to build facilities for youth and adult sports and programs. Starting in the 1950s and continuing in the '60s and '70s there was robust financial viability and volunteerism.

It wasn't until 1978 that the District's tax allocation was reduced by Proposition 13. Many saw within the District that its economic wherewithal was gone to provide operation and maintenance and capital improvements. For years after that the outcry was consistently, "Since Prop 13, the District is no longer able to provide to the community the high quality O & M and improvements." After sitting through many budgets after 1979, I consistently heard the doom and gloom mantra and could never understand why we had to look at the past, and not at the present and towards the future.

These are hard economic times. You read and hear about and experience the difficulties to do with finances. With these hard economic times for so many, high gas costs, huge homebuilding depression, loss of work by many at small and large companies alike, downsizing in government agencies, schools, it is a tough time for many. But every time like that over generations it is the entrepreneurial spirit and the determination to change the way you think. It's time like these that make you rethink what your core values and responsibilities are.

In the last several years, the District has re-evaluated itself and re-invented itself by looking back at 1952. Our mission today is the same as it was then: to provide a strong recreation program base with the existing parks and facilities and to expand with the developing community. The District is currently in the process of developing a new master plan for recreation programming and development. The District's last master

plan was done in 1984. We invite and encourage the community's input in future local meetings and public hearings to find out what you desire for the present and the future of your parks.

These times are hard economically, they give us time to look at things in a fresh way and think what we can do to improve what we are doing. We look to you, the community, to be that voice of what your desires are for your recreation and park district. It is your input that is needed most. I cannot say that enough. We are here to provide what you want.

FRRPD Master Plan Public Workshops

We need your input! The goal of these workshops is to identify needs, wants and desires, as well as provide citizens with information about the District. All workshops begin at 6:30 p.m.

June 24 – *Public Workshop #1* (South District Areas - Palermo, Bangor, Honcut) will be held at the Palermo Grange.

July 1 – *Public Workshop #2* (North East District Areas) will be held at the Berry Creek School.

July 8 – *Public Workshop #3* (North West District Areas - Oroville/Thermalito) will be held at the Southside Community Center.

July 9 – *Public Workshop #4* (South East District Areas) will be held at the Forbestown Recreation Center.

Quote

You know the day destroys the night
Night divides the day
Tried to run
Tried to hide
Break on through to the other side

The Doors - *Break on Through*

Summer Meal Deal

Here are some helpful ideas of fun things to fill those long summer days, without breaking the bank:

- go to the Thursday Night Concert at Riverbend
- cool off at the Riverbend Park splash pad
- visit the Butte County Library
- play a round of disc golf at Riverbend Park
- visit the Lake Oroville Dam visitor's center

Got any ideas of free or inexpensive things to do in Oroville? Call us at 533-2011 so we can put them in the next article!

Upcoming Events

June 19 – Thursday Concert in the Park. Jim Halsey & the Nighthawks will bring their country western tunes to Riverbend Park from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

June 20 – Flick 'n Float. Bring your floaties or tubes to Nelson Pool and enjoy the movie "Jaws" while floating in the cool water. Showtime is 8:30 p.m.

June 21 – Go Skateboarding Day Skate Competition. Enjoy a full day of skating, contests, live music, food, prizes, vendors, raffles and more at Oroville's 2nd Annual Go Skateboarding Day Skate Competition on June 21 at the Bedrock Skate & Bike Park. Registration: 9:00 a.m./Competition: 11:00 a.m.

June 26 – Thursday Concert in the Park. The Feather River Gypsies will bring their acoustic gypsy swing/bluegrass tunes to Riverbend Park from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

See you in the parks!