



# 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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Riverside County Regional  
Park and Open-Space District

4600 Crestmore Road • Jurupa Valley • CA • 92509

(800) 234-PARK (7275)

[www.RivCoParks.org](http://www.RivCoParks.org)

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**VISION:** To be the regional leader in improving lives  
through people, parks, places and programs.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Kevin Jeffries, Chair, District I  
John F. Tavaglione, District II  
Chuck Washington, District III  
John J. Benoit, District IV  
Marion Ashley, District V

## COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEAM:

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Jay Orr, County Executive Officer  
George Johnson, Chief Asst. County Executive Officer

## EXECUTIVE TEAM:

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Scott Bangle, General Manager/Parks Director  
Kyla Brown, Chief – Parks and Recreation  
Keith Herron, Chief – Resources  
Brande Hune, Chief – Business Operations

## DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMISSION:

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Mark Balys, Vice Chair, District I  
Amie Kinne, District I  
Jon Christensen, District, II  
Daniel Hake, Chair, District II  
Cois Byrd, District III  
Anthony Migliore, District III  
Bob Grady, District IV  
Ryan Stendell, District IV  
Hugh Van Horn, District V  
Martin Rosen, District V  
Bill Zimmerman, District V

## HISTORICAL COMMISSION:

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Ruth Atkins, Chair, District I  
Joyce Hohenadl, District I  
Steve Lech, Vice Chair, District II  
Don Williamson, District II  
Robert Lindquist, District III  
Darell Farnbach, District III  
Marc Hendon, Member at Large  
Anne Phillips, District IV  
Priscilla Porter, District IV  
Bernard (Bernie) Howlett, District V  
(Appointed 9/15)  
John Worden, District V

## TRAILS COMMITTEE:

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Philip Bremenstuhl, District I  
James George, District I  
Robin Reid, District III – (appointed 3/2016)  
Patricia Anderson, District I – (appointed 6/2016)  
Rod Holland, District II  
Amie Kinne, Chair, District II  
John Roberts, District III – (through 6/2016)  
Robin Reid, District III – (appointed 3/2016)  
Noel Ragsdale, District IV  
Brett Valentino, District IV – (through 4/2016)  
Richard Croy, District V  
Gerald Jolliffe, Vice Chair, Member at Large  
Dean Benson, District V – (appointed 9/2015)

## DISTRICT SHINING STARS:

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The District recognizes the accomplishments of employees and volunteers who exemplify the District's values. Individuals and groups were chosen based upon their demonstration of Accomplishments, Connecting, Teamwork, Innovation, Outstanding Service, Networking, and Stewardship.

### Employee of the Year Award:

Robert Williams, Open-Space

### Volunteer of the Year Award:

Marilynn Lorenz, Eddie Dee Smith Senior Center

### General Manager's Award:

Jeanne McLeod, Grants & Contracts

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES:

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### Aquatics International-Best of Aquatics:

Dropzone Waterpark – Marketing and Social Media

### California State Trails and Greenways Conference:

Merit Planning Award – Box Springs Comprehensive Trails Plan

### National Association of County Park and Recreation

**Officials:** Planning Initiative Award – Box Springs Comprehensive Trails Plan

### American Planning Association – Inland Empire Section:

Comprehensive Planning – Box Springs Comprehensive Trails Plan

### American Society of Landscape Architects - San

**Diego Chapter:** Merit Planning Award – Box Springs Comprehensive Trails Plan

The 2015-16 Fiscal Year will be remembered as the single most productive year for the District since its formation. This is especially important considering the County of Riverside continues to struggle with budget challenges, although the overall economy is doing fairly well. Given the volatile economic climate, the District continues to remain resilient focusing on innovation, creativity and efficiency. As more attention continues to be placed upon quality of life providers it remains critical that we continue to operate like a business. Equally important we must remain true to our mission of protecting valuable resources ensuring they are well maintained and operated for generations to come.

It is my hope that our vision, values and priorities shine through in these pages and that certain metrics catch the attention of our readers. For example, the District received a 99% satisfaction rating from our customers who noted that expectations were met or exceeded throughout the year for all but 1% of our customers. This is 14% higher than the industry average and informs the Riverside County taxpayers that the District places customer service as its highest priority. And just like any thriving private business we continue to make improvements that will allow us to maintain our market position and satisfy our customers. This year we continued rolling out internet service at many of our facilities, paving the way for a new point of sale system that will make registration and day use entry even more efficient.

This year we also officially rolled out our non-profit parks foundation that compliments other funding vehicles to advance special one-time causes and programs. In its first year the interim Board for the foundation has raised funds, sponsored a program, prepared marketing materials and began interviewing and placing permanent Board members who will take the foundation to the next level. Coupled with our highly successful volunteer program that noted a 9% increase in volunteer hours and our grant funded recycling program, the District continues to build a sustainable and diverse resource stream built upon the premise of "giving back" as a competitive advantage.

In our Community Recreation Division we have much to be thankful for and proud of. Aquatic staff provided widely successful events throughout the year as well as 3,200 swim lessons to teach people to swim and possibly save lives. Our boxing program providing training for 170 at risk youth and our two senior centers provided over 125 different programs for active seniors. This is in addition the 100+ various community and regional special events that were provided throughout the County by our very lean yet productive team that comprise the Recreation Division.

Our Planning Division has been extremely busy completing the Good Hope Park design, initiating the County Comprehensive Trails plan, preparing plans and specifications for the Lake Skinner Expansion project and breaking ground on the Mayflower Boat Ramp and Restroom project. Staff also completed the Lakeland Village Community Center renovation, McCall Well project and the Box Springs Comprehensive Trails Plan. Noting that the District also values quality as well as quantity we were extremely honored to receive four awards for the Box Springs project, a fitting capstone to a very productive year.

Our Natural Resources, Regional Park, Interpretive Divisions and Business Operations have also been extremely productive this reporting period and their accomplishments are highlighted in the body of the report in greater detail.

We look forward to making an even bigger difference in future years and hope you will enjoy reading about the amazing things happening at the District.

Scott Bangle  
General Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

Once again, RivCoParks proudly supported the Riverside County Health Initiative, working to improve the overall health of Riverside County through four priorities: Healthy Eating, Active Living, Reduced Tobacco Use, and Building Safe and Healthy Communities.

## Healthy Events

RivCoParks hosted the 2nd Annual Healthy Living Extravaganza in partnership with Riverside County Department of Public Health and Healthy Jurupa Valley. The event showcased over 75 health and wellness service providers, attracting more than 3,000 attendees despite inclement weather. The event once again featured the 100 Mile Club fun run, Human Foosball, health screenings, healthy food vendors, children's activities and live performances by local health and wellness instructors.

In addition, RivCoParks co-sponsored several recurring regional events including the American Heart Association Heart and Stroke Walk in Temecula at Lake Skinner and in Jurupa Valley at Rancho Jurupa Park. These events alone brought in over 10,000 guests eager to improve their own health and help raise money for heart disease and stroke prevention.

## Water Safety

In 2016, RivCoParks partnered with the Department of Public Health and First 5 to offer swim lessons and self-rescue lessons for infants. 150 scholarships were initially offered and the program was so successful, an additional 25 scholarships were added for the next fiscal year. A total of 3200 children and adults participated in swim lessons at both DropZone and Cove Waterparks.

## Volunteerism

People who volunteer lead longer, healthier lives. This statement is consistent with a growing body of research over the past two decades which continually supports that volunteerism has health benefits in addition to social ones. According to the Journal of American Medical Association, Pediatrics, a study of the "Effects of Volunteering on Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease in Adolescents" provides the conclusion that "adolescents who volunteer to help others also benefit themselves, suggesting a novel way to improve health." Through numerous studies, some health benefits of volunteerism amongst all groups include decreasing risk of depression, staying physically and mentally active, reduction of stress levels, increased length of life, enjoying a sense of purpose and fulfillment, and provides a natural "high," such as the increased happiness after a physical workout. While the District focuses on health and wellness, understanding that volunteerism is essential for individual health and the health of the community, the comprehensive volunteer program supports all aspects of District operations. During the 2015/2016 year, volunteers provided over 125,000 service hours which translates to value of over \$3,448,750.00. Numbers cannot truly show the full benefit of District volunteers nor the appreciation the District has towards volunteers who support essential programs and services. The true mark of their benefit can be seen through the thousands of children who receive education on environmental sciences and history, the thousands of parkgoers who have rewarding experiences with friends and family in regional parks, the hundreds of people who ride, hike, and bike trails and open-spaces, and all others who are impacted by the works of the District. We truly appreciate the awesome work of District volunteers in fulfilling our mission, focused on improving lives.

# CONSERVATION

## Protecting Habitat

The District manages approximately 63,000 acres of land between the Multi-Species Reserve (MSR), the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). In the 2015/16 fiscal year, MSR staff treated over 750 acres of non-native vegetation, protected 31 species of native wildlife, and conducted surveys and monitoring. The MSHCP system added 33 new properties, removed over 10.0 tons and 160 cubic yards of debris, repaired or replaced more than 770 feet of fencing. In addition, 3 burrows were repaired, the reserve system, 1 wildlife guzzler was installed, 5.50 acres of Delta Wetlands were restored or maintained, and habitat for 146 MSHCP covered species was maintained under year conditions.

## Recycling Efforts

In the spring of 2015, the District received a grant from CalRecycle to develop a program to enhance beverage container recycling efforts and educate the community about recycling. This grant included hiring a District Recycling Coordinator to manage managed sites, and an education campaign promoting the importance of recycling. In June of 2016 740.5 lbs. of plastic, 433.6 lbs. of aluminum, and 2466.5 lbs. of glass have been recycled throughout the District. Additionally, the program has developed a network of parkgoers, community volunteers, and employees through local programs such as the Healthy Living Extravaganza, the Temecula Valley Balloon and Wine Festival, and Parks Edition. Through community education, the District has also recruited volunteers for the program under three new volunteer positions; Trash Talkers, Recycling Coordinators, and Recycling Educators. The Recycling Coordinator has worked with District employees and volunteers to conduct recycling events on trails and trailheads, within open-space areas, and other District operations. Future plans include the erection of interpretive educational signs, community training opportunities, and increased online engagement through social media. Learn more at RivCoParksRecycles.org.



# SOCIAL EQUITY

the Southwest Riverside County Multi-SHCP) and Open Space Reserve. During the grasslands, enhanced habitats for the for endangered species. The Reserve ic yards of illegally dumped refuse, and owling owls were actively relocated into ni Sands Flower Loving Fly habitat was was improved or maintained to previous

develop RivCoParks Recycles, a program nity and customers on the importance or, acquiring recycling bins for District of recycling. Between July of 2015 and lbs. of glass beverage containers have delivered recycling education to hundreds presentations and booths at events such d Wine festival, and "Minute to Win It" uited additional volunteers dedicated to cing Leader, Recycling Facilitator. The eers to ensure that littered recyclables ated sites are diverted from the general onal panels to be added to many sites, through the website and social media.



RivCoParks supports the National Park and Recreation Association's goal of social equity in that "our public parks and recreation services should be equally accessible and available to all people regardless of income level, ethnicity, gender, ability, or age." To that end, RivCoParks has worked to secure grants, increase sponsorships, and develop partnerships to expand the free and low cost programming offered through regional parks and community centers. In 2015-16, RivCoParks offered 150 free swim lessons and self rescue lessons to low-income families, hosted or co-sponsored over 100 free community events throughout the County, and expanded youth and senior programs.

Combined, the Charles Meigs, Sr. Community Center in Mead Valley, The Eddie Dee Smith Senior Community Center in Jurupa Valley, and the Moses-Schaffer Community Center in the Goodhope/Meadowbrook area served over 20,000 hot, freshly made meals to seniors. In addition, over 22,000 commodities packages were distributed to Riverside County residents that otherwise didn't have access to quality foods.

In early 2016, RivCoParks also embarked on development of plans for the first playground designed for accessibility by children of all physical and mental abilities, specifically geared toward meeting the needs of children in the autism spectrum. This playground is planned as part of the splash pad expansion at Lake Skinner and is planned for construction in 2017.

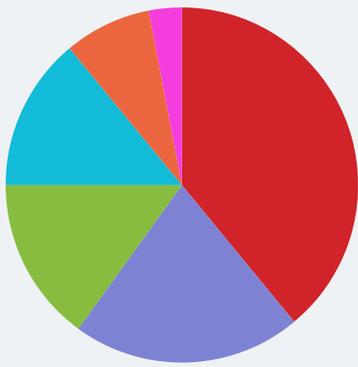


# BALANCED SCORECARD

	FY13-14	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY15-16	DASHBOARD
	RESULTS	RESULTS	TARGET	RESULTS	
<b>CUSTOMER PERSPECTIVE</b>					
Customer Satisfaction Rating	98%	97%	100%	99%	●
Marketing Touchpoints	3,585,874	4,349,236	4,784,159	4,999,956	●
<b>FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE</b>					
Non-Property Tax revenue	\$9,681,270	\$15,169,362	\$17,500,000	\$17,142,711	●
*CIP Met	25	58%	90%	60%	●
Operations Reserve	28%	18.7%	25%	19.8%	●
Expenditure Budget Target	97%	99.5%	95%	92.6%	●
Volunteer Hours	135,772	113,778	125,165	125,904	●
<b>PROCESS PERSPECTIVE</b>					
Active Partnership Agreements	5	5	5	5	●
Acres Under Management	68,529	69,542	71,000	73,462	●
Regional Trails Miles	167	169	166	169	●
Plan Check Review Time Frame	5	5	12	8	●
CAPRA Standards Current	144	143	144	145	●
Tactics Completed	17	17	19	14	●
Recognition Events	4	6	5	6	●
Staff Readiness Index	N/A	N/A	N/A	76%	●
<b>LEARNING &amp; GROWTH PERSPECTIVE</b>					
Preventable Employee Accidents	6	11	10	9	●
Performance Evaluations on Time	99%	99%	95%	100%	●
Training Hours	9,160	13,861	10,000	10,583	●

- 95% OR BETTER THAN TARGET
- 85% TO 94% OF TARGET
- 84% OR LESS OF TARGET
- DATA NOT AVAILABLE OR TARGET NOT SET

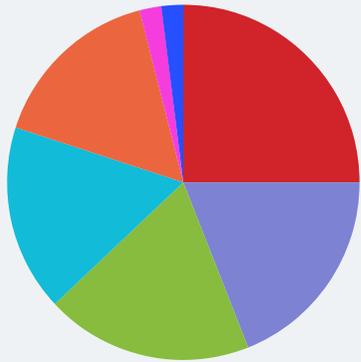
\*METRIC CONVERTED FROM # TO % IN FY14-15.



## PROJECTS

- 39%** Regional Trails
- 21%** Santa Ana River Trail
- 15%** Infrastructure
- 14%** Regional Parks
- 8%** Nature Centers
- 3%** Community Parks

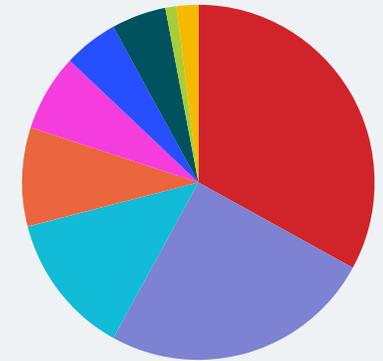
# SOURCES



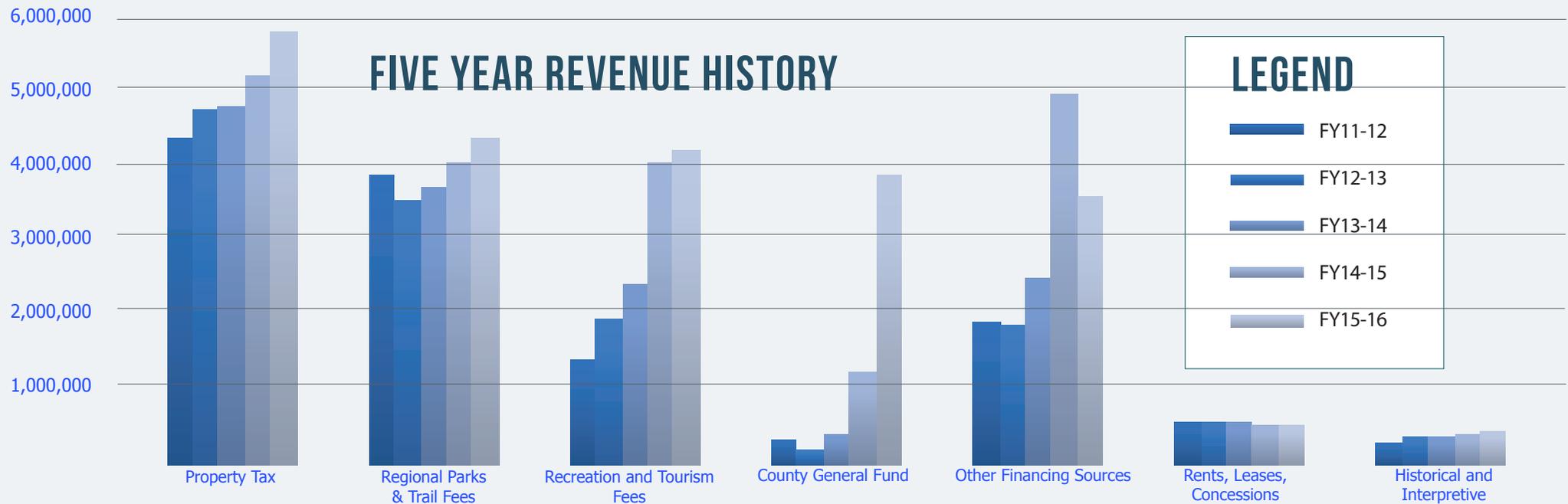
- 25%** Property Tax
- 19%** Regional Parks & Trails Fees
- 19%** Recreation & Tourism Fees
- 17%** County General Fund
- 16%** Other Financing Sources
- 2%** Rents, Leases, Concessions
- 2%** Historical and Interpretive

# USES

- 33%** Recreation and Tourism
- 25%** Regional Parks
- 13%** Community Centers
- 9%** CSA Parks and Recreation
- 7%** Nature Centers/Historic Sites
- 5%** Contractual
- 5%** Habitat and Open-Space
- 2%** Administration
- 1%** Planning



# FIVE YEAR REVENUE HISTORY



### LEGEND

- FY11-12
- FY12-13
- FY13-14
- FY14-15
- FY15-16



# Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District

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