



MEDIA RELEASE

Desert Recreation District Receives Urban Greening Grant of \$3,086,000 for North Shore Community Park Project

Funds will mean additional features for the park, which is slated for completion in 2018

Indio, CA (November 29, 2017) – The California Natural Resources Agency (Agency), through the state’s Urban Greening Program, has awarded Desert Recreation District \$3,086,000 for the North Shore Community Park project. The Urban Greening Program is funded by Cap-and-Trade revenues, which awards grants to support projects that aim to reduce greenhouse gases by sequestering carbon, decreasing energy consumption, and reducing vehicle miles traveled. The projects also convert built environments into green spaces that improve air and water quality, and provide opportunities for walking, biking, and recreation.

The North Shore Community Park is a five-acre site designed by local residents with the assistance of Desert Recreation District and Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI). It will be the first and only active greenspace in the community of North Shore.

Desert Recreation District’s General Manger, Kevin Kalman, said “we are thrilled that the park project was selected for funding and we are grateful to all of our partners for their hard work to make our application competitive”. Kalman went on to say, “currently under construction, the additional funding will allow for elements of the park, previously scaled back for budgetary reasons, to be included thereby further enhancing the health and environmental benefits of the project.”



The Agency noted that ninety-two percent of the funding they awarded through the Urban Greening Program was awarded to projects in disadvantaged communities as defined by SB 535 of 2012.

An advocate of the North Shore Community Park project, Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia stated, “This year, we were able to level the playing field so that disadvantaged areas not only become competitive but ensure that they are prioritized for funding.” Garcia further said, “It is no secret that parks are a particular passion of mine. I couldn’t be happier to see these Cap-and-Trade dollars at work improving air quality and providing much needed park access where there was none.”

The North Shore Community Park is the first of three planned parks in the Eastern Coachella Valley to be constructed. Desert Recreation District is also planning the first community parks in the communities of Oasis and Thermal.

About Desert Recreation District

[Desert Recreation District](#) (DRD) is the largest park and recreation district in California, covering over 1,800 square miles and serving more than 385,000 residents throughout the greater Coachella Valley. DRD manages, maintains and assists in maintaining over 30 parks and recreation facilities; creates and delivers quality programs, services and classes; and, facilitates leisure opportunities through partnerships – this community collaborative approach allows us to provide barrier-free and safe recreational activities. DRD strives to ensure the public receives personal benefits such as physical fitness, relaxation and revitalization; social benefits in the form of stronger and healthier families and enriching the lives for persons with disabilities, and economic benefits through more productive and healthier citizens and increased tourism.

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