



Elk Grove Park History

Early Establishment

Elk Grove Regional Park has been a gathering place since the late 1800's. The property was sold in 1903 with plans to cut the beautiful Oak trees for lumber. Thankfully, a young woman by the name of Jennie McConnell decided to sell shares to the citizens of Elk Grove for \$5 each in order to purchase the property to turn it into a park. After purchasing, the community built an open-air dance platform, a baseball diamond and horse trough. The park quickly became a place for the community to get-together for picnics and events.

Tax Dollars Funding

In 1936 the Elk Grove Park District was formed, the first in California, by resident votes to maintain the park with a minimal tax. In 1960, the operations and maintenance of the park was transferred to the County of Sacramento and it became known as the Elk Grove Regional Park. Sacramento County acquired 94 more acres and built the Pavilion, softball complex, group picnic areas, the horse arena, Strauss Island and renovated the pool. A 7.5-acre lake was added including a ½-acre island with pirate theme play structures commonly referred to as Pirate's Island.

County Lease

In 1986, the County and the Elk Grove Community Services District, now, Cosumnes CSD, entered into a 30-year lease where the County maintained 87- acres of Elk Grove Regional Park and CSD maintained 40- acres. In 1993 the County entered into an agreement with Southgate Recreation and Park District to operate and maintain the Henry Kloss Softball Complex and Arvid Pauly White Diamond.

CSD Agreement

Finally, in 2003 the County entered an agreement with the CSD for all operations and maintenance of Elk Grove Regional Park's 127-acres to be in the care of CSD.

Improvements & Changes

Many improvements and changes have been made to Elk Grove Regional Park over the years. However, the large Oak trees still give the park the same appearance and the feeling of relaxation and fun. Over the years CSD added an off-leash dog park, a disc golf course, sand volleyball courts and a 1.4-mile multi use trail. In addition, CSD still maintains some favorite community amenities including, sports fields, swimming, picnic sites, horseshoe pits and fishing.

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The information within this document was created at the time of park dedication and may not be current.