

3.6 Public Access Plan

The Randall Preserve is a rare undeveloped coastal parcel south of the Ventura County line. Now protected, its 387 acres are mandated to fulfill twin policy goals. First, it should preserve and protect rapidly disappearing coastal habitats. Second, it should serve as a regional community asset for the public to responsibly learn, experience, view, and protect coastal habitats. The second goal is implemented via the Preserve's Public Access Plan (PAP).

The development of the PAP is shaped by technical analyses and informed by public input. It will emerge in final form once public consultation is complete, ideas have been vetted and shared, and an overall agreement is reached on appropriate circulation networks, access locations, and programmatic elements.

The PAP is developed to be consistent with the all overarching goals PAP-1 and PAP-2 and prioritizes the following:

- PAP-1.1 Limit hours of operation and use of the property to minimize human impacts.
- PAP-1.4 Incorporate multi-lingual educational signage that details site history and context.
- PAP-2.1 Identify barriers and engage in developing solutions to address historical spatial inequities for neighboring communities.
- PAP-2.5 Provide basic facilities on site such as accessible restrooms, parking, seating areas, and recreational paths.

Developing the PAP is a four-step process identified below and detailed in the sections that follow:

- Understanding the profile of potential visitors
- Assessing the barriers to access
- Identifying circulation and access opportunities
- Programming opportunities for public use

3.6.1 POTENTIAL VISITORS

WHO MIGHT VISIT THE RANDALL PRESERVE?

Prioritizing equity in public access to the Preserve requires an assessment of the demographic profiles of potential visitors. This analysis aims to understand typical profiles of future visitors based on their proximity to the Preserve.

- Immediate Neighbor: Residents who live within about a half-mile of the Preserve and can potentially walk to it.
- Local Visitor: Residents who live within five miles of the Preserve and would likely drive, jog, or bike to the Preserve.
- Regional Visitor: A broad group of residents who live within five to 15 miles of the Preserve and would have to drive or take public transit to access the Preserve.

Each visitor profile is composed of these key attributes and indicators:

- Demographics: Income, race, ethnicity, age, and related data.
- Park Access Metrics: park acres per resident.
- Environmental Justice: Census tract level scoring for CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and California's Tax Credit Allocation Committee Housing/Community Development Department high/low resource neighborhoods.

POTENTIAL VISITORS | 15-MILE RADIUS

About 2,104,606 people live within 15 miles of the Preserve in 407 census tracts. (Exhibit 3-2) This radius captures most of the population living in Orange County (3,135,755 people), including many residents of Orange County's most populous cities: Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Irvine. There are 737,962 housing units within this boundary.

People of Hispanic origin represent 37.5 percent of residents. (Exhibit 3-3) People that self-identify as non-Hispanic constitute the following percentages of the total population: 33.4 percent identify as White, and 23.1 percent identify as Asian.

Additionally, 3.5 percent identify as two or more races, 1.5 percent identify as Black, 0.4 percent identify as Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 0.4 percent identify as other race, and 0.15 percent identify as Native American. 32.3 percent were born in a foreign country.

Residents aged 65 or older constitute 14.9 percent of the population. Residents aged under 18 years old constitute 21 percent of the population. The median age in these census tracts ranges from 19.6 to 76.3.

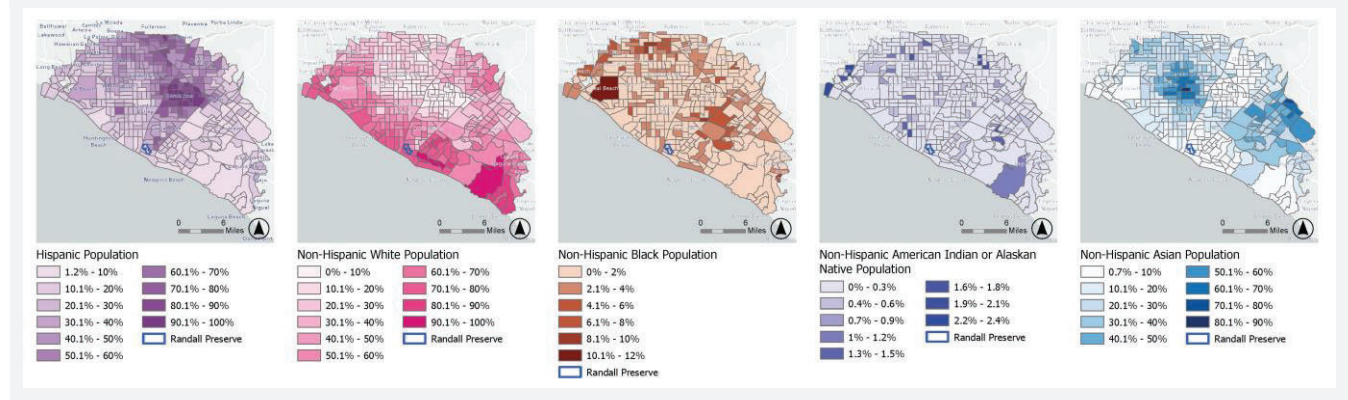
The median household income in these census tracts ranges from \$36,441 to \$250,001. Often, the census tracts with younger median ages also have a lower median household income and additional indicators of adversity. About 18.7 percent of households earn more than \$200,000 annually.

Exhibit 3-2



In terms of housing, 51.7 percent rent and 48.3 percent own their homes. The average household size for census tracts within the 15-mile radius ranges from 1.3 to 5.3. About eight percent of all people are experiencing poverty.

Exhibit 3-3

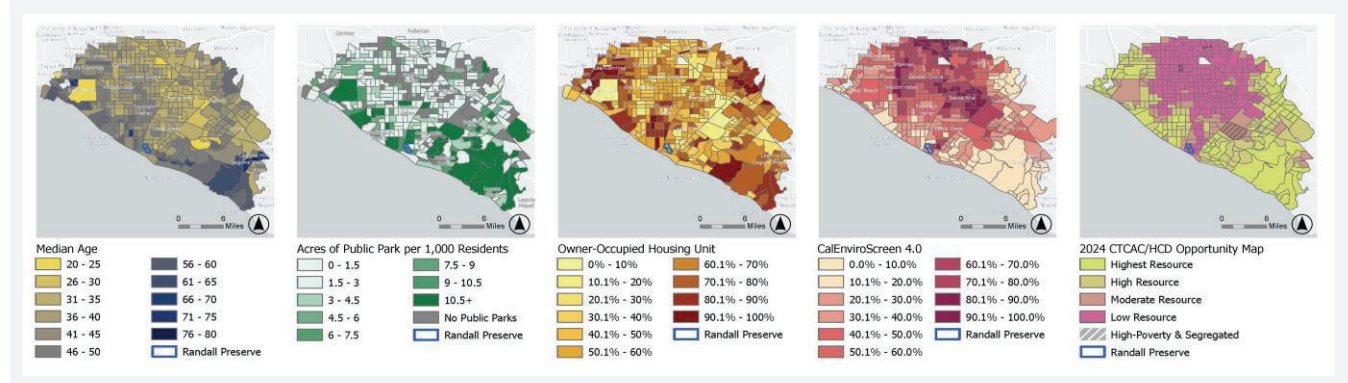


Across all of Orange County, four census tracts out of 580 are in the highest 95 percentile for environmental justice vulnerability per CalEnviroScreen 4.0. (Exhibit 3-4) Three of those tracts are in this radius, reflecting 0.9 percent of residents, about 18,941 people, that are living with very high vulnerability.

Further, 59 percent of residents live in census tracts that are low opportunity and 15.7 percent in the highest opportunity.

Within the 15-mile radius, there are 8.6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

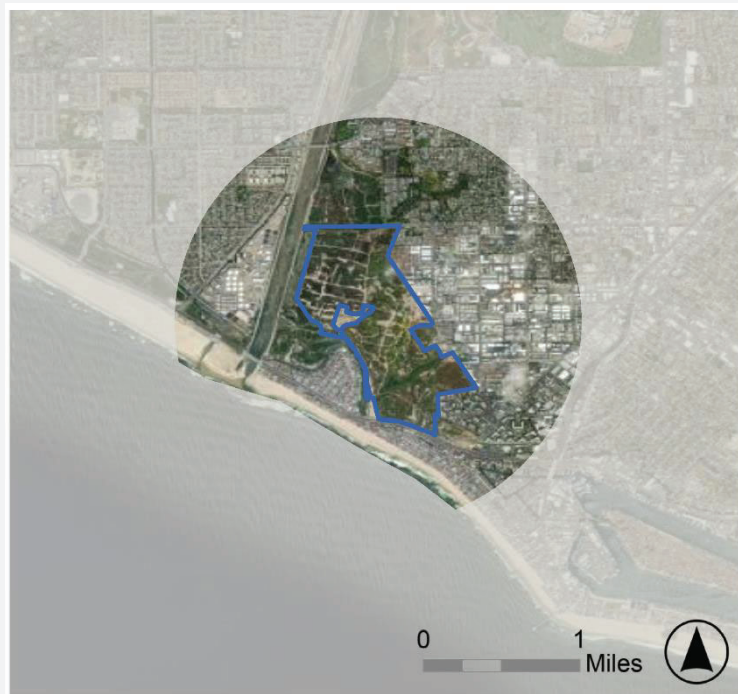
Exhibit 3-4



NEIGHBORS | HALF-MILE RADIUS

About 24,929 people live within one half-mile of the Preserve in 5 census tracts. (Exhibit 3-5) They live in 12,538 homes in the coastal neighborhoods of Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach, and Newport Beach. In this radius, 22.5 percent of people are of Hispanic Origin. (Exhibit 3-6) People that self-identify as non-Hispanic constitute the following percentages of the total population: 67.1 percent identify as White, and 4.7 percent identify as Asian.

Exhibit 3-5



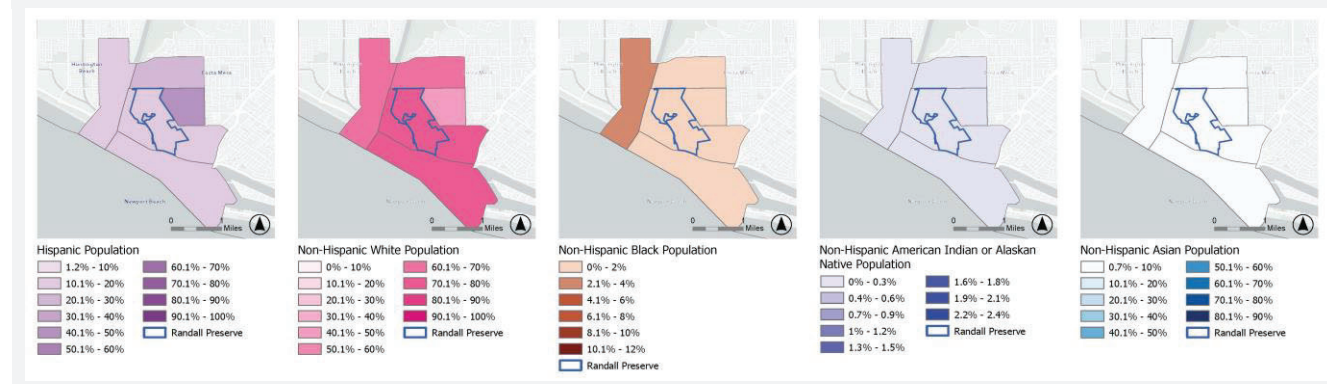
3.9 percent identify as two or more races, 0.8 percent identify as Black, 0.4 percent identify as Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and none identify as Native American. These percentages are typical of the wider region. Within this geography, 12.8 percent were born in a foreign country.

Residents aged 65 or older constitute 19 percent of the population. Residents aged under 18 years old constitute 13.5 percent of the population. The median age in these census tracts ranges from 37.2 to 48.3. The median household income in these census tracts ranges from \$78,698 to \$140,889.

About 22.4 percent of households earn more \$200,000 annually. And, 57.5 percent rent, while 42.5 percent own their homes. The average household size in these tracts ranges from 1.8 to 2.6, significantly lower than the wider region.

About 1.5 percent of all people are experiencing poverty, significantly lower than the regional average of 8 percent.

Exhibit 3-6

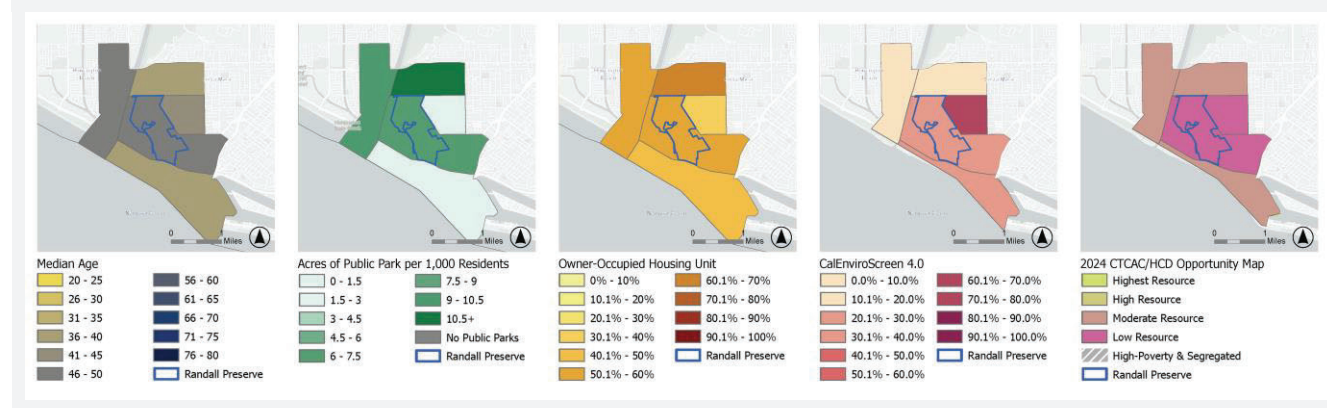


The census tracts in this immediate vicinity have moderate and low environmental justice vulnerability scores per CalEnviroScreen 4.0. The single tract with the highest score is in the 65th percentile of all tracts. (Exhibit 3-7)

About 35.7 percent of residents live in census tracts that are considered low resource, and the remainder live in tracts that are moderately resourced. None live in the highest resource areas.

There are currently 9.6 acres of park per 1,000 residents. While this percentage is already high considering access to public beaches, the addition of the Randall Preserve will result in 25 acres of park per 1,000 residents.

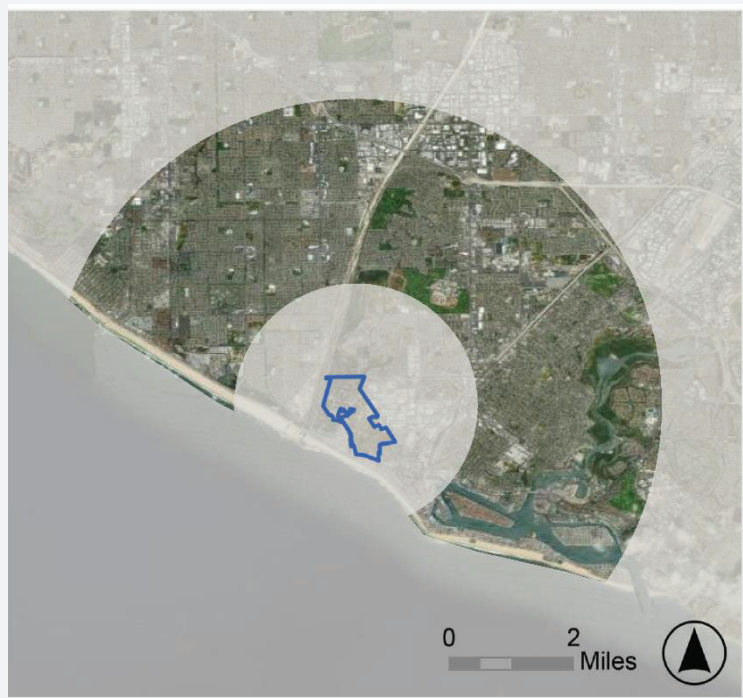
Exhibit 3-7



LOCAL VISITORS | HALF- TO FIVE-MILE RADIUS

About 278,065 people live within the half-mile to five-mile zone of the Preserve in 64 census tracts. (Exhibit 3-8) They live in the coastal and immediately inland neighborhoods of Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Fountain Valley, and Santa Ana. They live in 116,905 housing units.

Exhibit 3-8

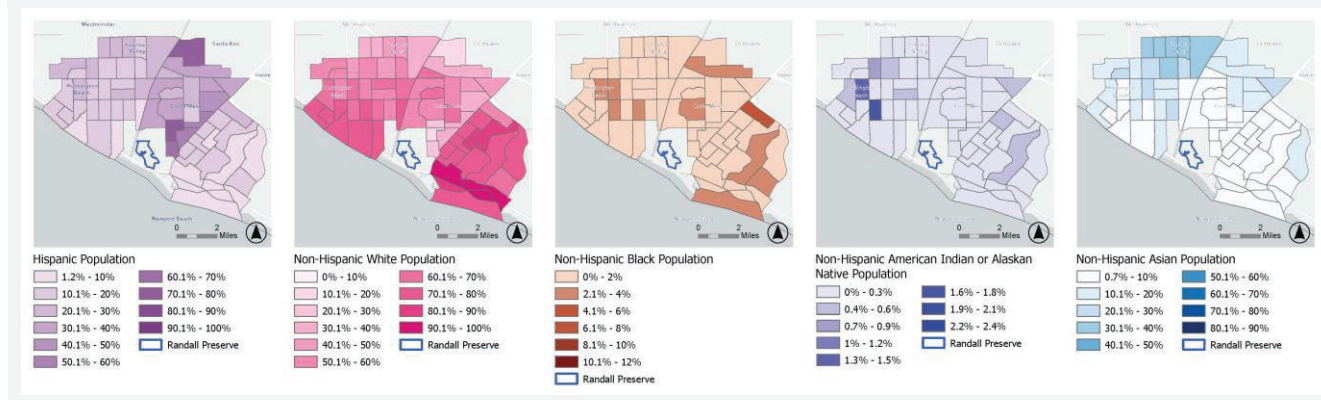


In this radius, 23.7 percent are of Hispanic Origin. (Exhibit 3-9) People that self-identify as non-Hispanic constitute the following percentages of the total population: 57.1 percent identify as White, and 12.3 percent identify as Asian. The larger White population is typical of affluent, coastal communities in Orange County.

4.9 percent identify as two or more races, 0.9 percent identify as Black, 0.6 percent identify as other race, 0.4 percent identify as Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 0.2 percent identify as Native American.

Within this geography, 19.4 percent were born in a foreign country.

Exhibit 3-9



Residents aged 65 or older constitute 18 percent of the population. Residents aged under 18 years old constitute 18.6 percent of the population. (Exhibit 3-10) The median age in these census tracts ranges from 29.8 to 65.1.

The median household income in these census tracts ranges from \$57,058 to \$245,250. This reflects a gap in resources between coastal and inland communities. About 23.1 percent of households earn more than \$200,000 annually. In terms of housing, 51.4 percent rent and 48.6 percent own their homes. The average household size in these tracts ranges from 1.8 to 3.7.

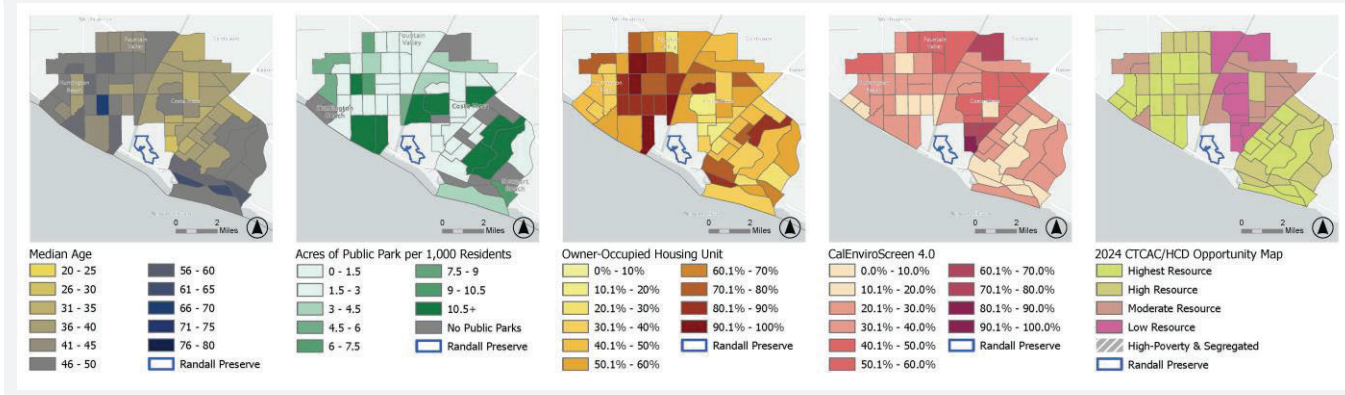
About 4.9 percent of all people are experiencing poverty.

The census tract in this vicinity with the highest environmental justice vulnerability score per CalEnviroScreen 4.0 is in the 82nd percentile of all tracts, and it is among the nearest to the Randall Preserve.

About 16.8 percent of residents live in census tracts that are low resource. Some of the low resource tracts in this radius have a large manufacturing presence or highway-commercial building typologies, while 31.1 percent are in the highest opportunity.

Within the five mile geography, there are 5.6 acres of park per 1,000 residents.

Exhibit 3-10



REGIONAL VISITORS | FIVE- TO 15-MILE RADIUS

About 1,801,612 people live within the 5-mile to 15-mile zone of the Preserve in 338 census tracts. (Exhibit 3-11) They live in the previously named cities as well as Long Beach, Seal Beach, Laguna Beach, Laguna Woods, Aliso Viejo, Irvine, Tustin, Orange, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Westminster, Stanton, Buena Park, Cypress, and Los Alamitos. They live in 608,519 housing units.

Trends are more visible at this scale. In this radius, 42.3 percent are of Hispanic Origin, with a notable concentration near Santa Ana. (Exhibit 3-12), while 29.3 percent identify as Non-

Hispanic White, with higher concentrations along the coastline. Additionally, 25.1 percent identify as Asian, including a notable cluster near Westminster's Little Saigon and Garden Grove's Koreatown.

3.3 percent identify as two or more races. 1.7 percent identify as Black, with an outlier tract in Seal Beach that captures the Naval Weapons Station. 0.4 percent identify as Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 0.3 percent identify as other race, and 0.2 percent identify as Native American.

Exhibit 3-11



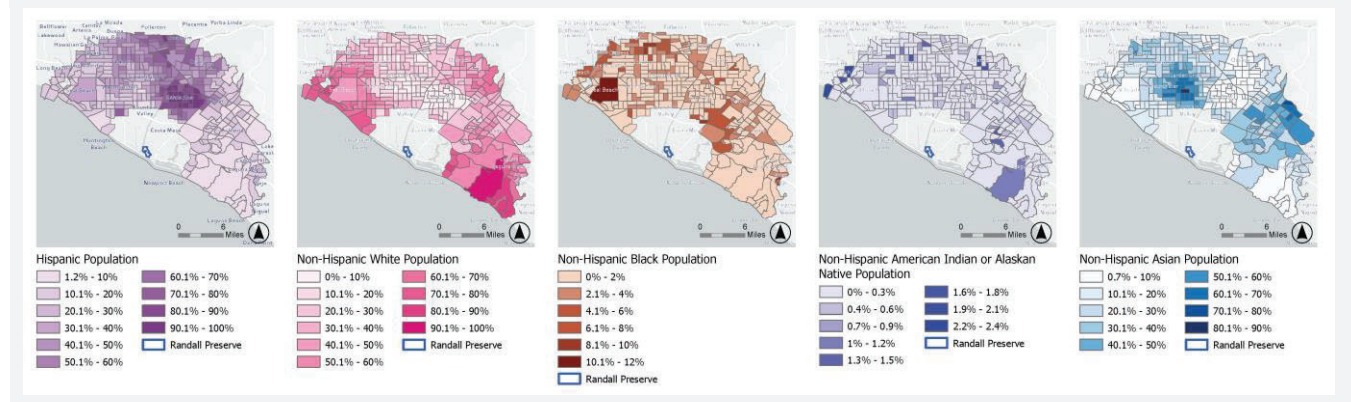
Within this geography, 34.6 percent were born in a foreign country.

Residents aged 65 or older constitute 14.4 percent of the population. Residents aged under 18 years old constitute 21.6 percent of the population. The median age in these census tracts ranges from 19.6 to 76.3.

The median household income in these census tracts ranges from \$36,441 to \$250,001. This reflects a gap in resources between coastal and inland communities.

About 17.8 percent of households earn more \$200,000 annually. In terms of housing, 51.6 percent rent, while 48.4 percent own their homes. The tract with the Naval Weapons Station in Seal Beach has no home ownership. The average household size in these tracts ranges from 1.3 to 5.3.

Exhibit 3-12



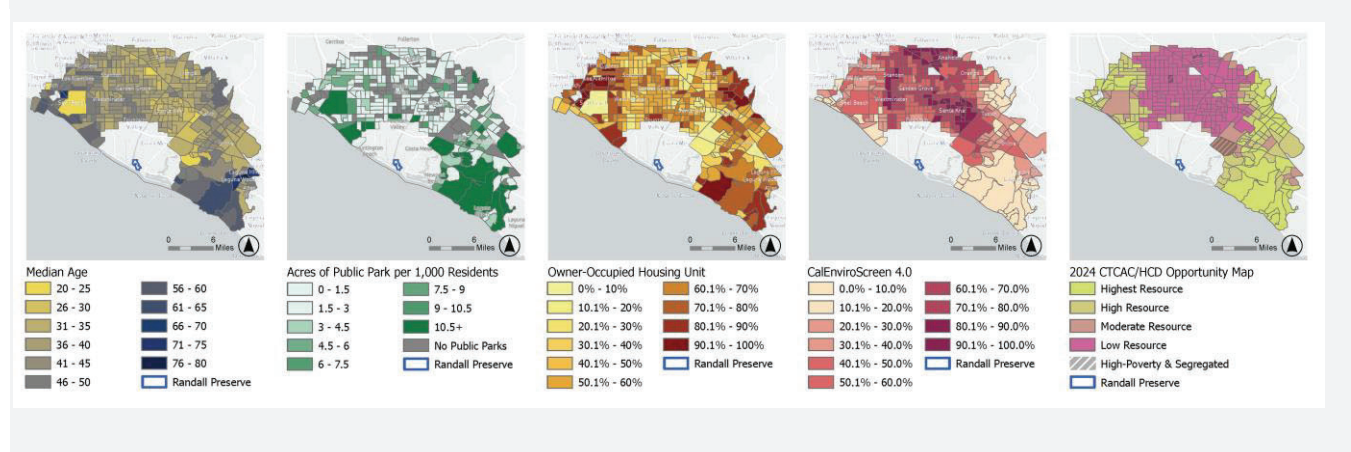
About 8.5 percent of all people are experiencing poverty, just above the total regional percentage.

Across all of Orange County, four census tracts are in the highest 95 percentile for environmental justice vulnerability per CalEnviroScreen 4.0. (Exhibit 3-13) Three of those tracts are in this radius, reflecting 0.9 percent of residents, about 18,941 people, that are living with very high vulnerability

59 percent of residents live in census tracts that are low opportunity, and 15.7 percent in highest opportunity.

Within this geography, there are 7.8 acres of park per 1,000 residents.

Exhibit 3-13



3.6.2 BARRIERS TO ACCESS

The Preserve has great potential to serve as a local and regional amenity and draw visitors that are immediate neighbors as well as residents from across the region. Visitors will use a variety of modes of transportation, depending on their origin location. Typically, the following four modes and their noted characteristics will cover the entirety of access options:

- By foot: Sidewalk conditions, shade trees, crosswalks, and controlled intersections
- Bicycle: Bike lane and trail network, level of protection, on-site bike parking
- Drive: On-site parking, bus parking for groups/schools, traffic impact on surrounding neighborhoods
- Transit: Walkable access to bus stops, potential for dedicated shuttle service

WHAT ARE TYPICAL BARRIERS TO ACCESS?

Common barriers to access include infrastructural deficiencies such as poor-quality sidewalks, missing streetlights, and infrequent or absent transit service. While freeways and main arterial roads might serve the regional visitor, they might also be physical barriers for local, pedestrian visitors.

This study reviews local connections, physical infrastructure, and the quality of the neighboring streets to assess potential barriers for visitors at each of the three scales.

BARRIERS TO ACCESS WITHIN A HALF-MILE RADIUS

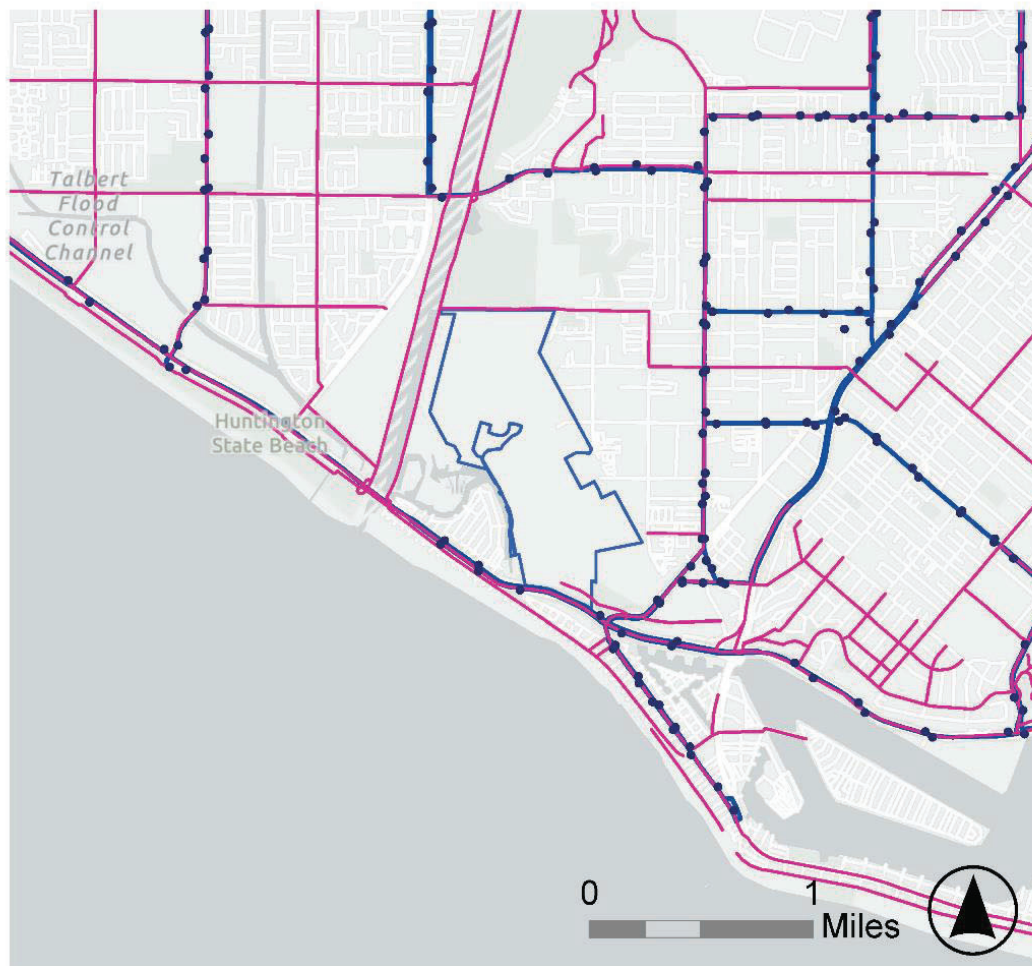
At the neighborhood scale, access for pedestrians and cyclists is the highest priority. The Randall Preserve sits at the intersection of three cities, Costa Mesa, Newport Beach, and Huntington Beach. These cities maintain their public right-of-way to a very high standard, providing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks and curb cuts on neighborhood streets, as well as primary commercial streets in the immediate vicinity of the site.

Streets with capacity for bike infrastructure have implemented lanes and signage, including on several streets with potential access points to the Preserve. (Exhibit 3-14) The presence of a primary school and higher educational institutions contributes to the high quality of bike infrastructure and crosswalks.

Three Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) bus routes have stops within a half-mile from the Preserve. Routes 47 and 55 provide potentially valuable connections to various Regional Transportation Centers, where additional connections can be made, and route 1 follows Pacific Coast Highway, making connections across the beach cities.

The region is very well served by auto access, and this applies equally to the immediate neighbors. The road network nearest to the Preserve is well maintained, all intersections are controlled, and pedestrian crosswalks are marked.

Exhibit 3-14



Transit & Cyclist Access

- OCTA Bus Stops
- OCTA Bus Routes
- Bike Routes
- Randall Preserve Boundary

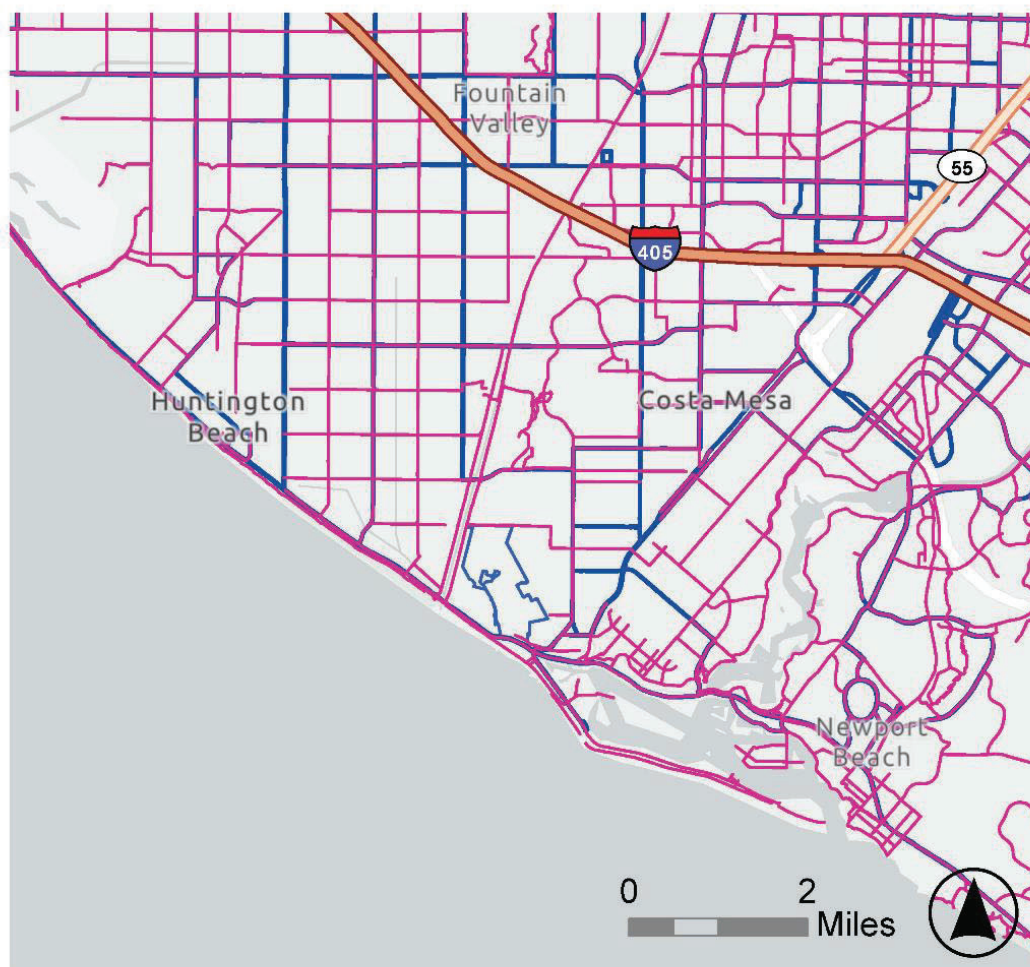
BARRIERS TO ACCESS WITHIN HALF- TO FIVE-MILE RADIUS

At a local scale, the dominance of the vehicle network is visible. Residents or visitors with access to a car in this region should be able to reach the Randall Preserve within 30 minutes at most times of the day. Several prominent regional highways become visible at this scale: the Interstate 405 and State Route 55. (Exhibit 3-15) While neither provide direct access to the Preserve, they place visitors within 15 minutes of the Preserve by car.

Cyclists living in this radius seeking to access the Randall Preserve may be long distance or weekend riders, and use the Santa Ana River Trail or Banning Channel Bikeway to directly access the Preserve. The bike network at this scale appears extensive, though much of the network is a Class II or Class III Bike Lane, which does not provide the utmost security to riders.

Within this radius, Orange County Transportation Authority remains the only public transit option.

Exhibit 3-15



Transit & Cyclist Access

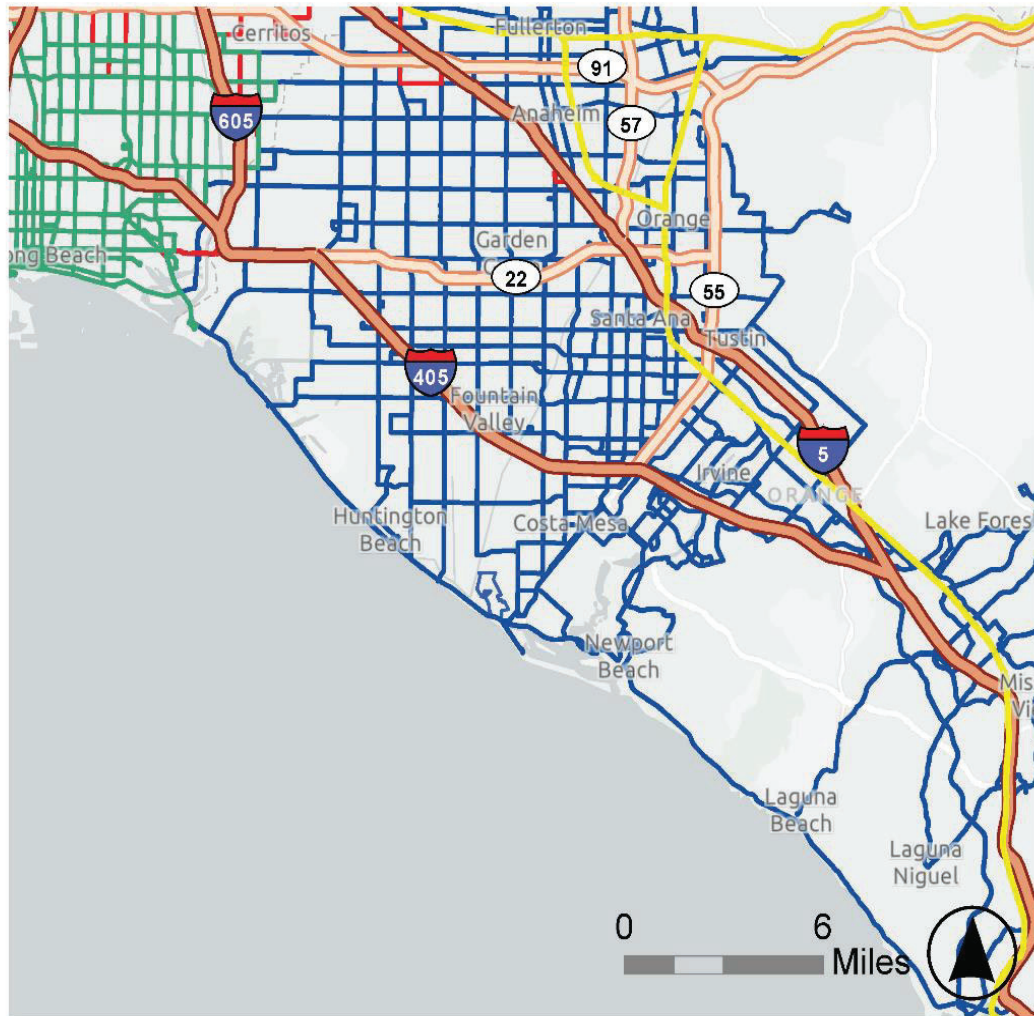
- OCTA Bus Routes
- Bike Routes
- Interstate
- State/County Highway
- Randall Preserve Boundary

BARRIERS TO ACCESS WITHIN FIVE- TO 15-MILE RADIUS

At the regional scale, additional transit networks become visible. (Exhibit 3-16) Amtrak and Metrolink connections can be made at the Anaheim and Fullerton Transportation Centers, easily accessible by the nearest OCTA bus to the Preserve. From this connection point, transit services in Los Angeles and Long Beach appear within reach. That said, the bus ride to either transportation center averages nearly two hours long, while a similar drive would take less than an hour.

Regionally, there are no barriers to accessing the Preserve by car.

Exhibit 3-16



Transit Access

- | | |
|--|---|
| — OCTA Bus Routes | — Interstate |
| — Metrolink Train Routes | — US Highway |
| — LA Metro Bus Lines | — State/County Highway |
| — Long Beach Transit Routes | Randall Preserve Boundary |

3.6.3 CIRCULATION AND ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES

The internal circulation network on the Randall Preserve is a critical element of public access, connecting visitors from proposed entry points to designated areas for recreation within nature. The methodology driving public access on the Randall Preserve maintains that the site is foremost a nature preserve, and all public access must align with initiatives to maximize the restoration and protection of sensitive ecological habitats on-site while also providing critical access for service and emergency vehicles, and for cultural and Tribal uses.

The current landscape has been highly disturbed by the oil operations' vehicular network, and future public access will rely on that already-disturbed network to create trails and public use areas that provide a variety of experiences within the Preserve. Within these factors, the future public access network emerges as a reduced version of existing corridors, allowing for the expansion and coalescence of habitat areas across formerly driven roads while still connecting visitors from the edges of the Preserve to points of interest, use areas, and potentially to additional access points.

Public access on the Randall Preserve intends to connect visitors with the wide range of habitats on-site, from the brackish lowlands to the grassy highlands. There are several opportunities to leverage existing networks to access notable, low-impact public use areas. Along the bluffs in the upper mesa are several overlooks with sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean, Palos Verdes Peninsula, Catalina Island, and of the Preserve's lowlands. Looking north up the Santa Ana River watershed the San Gabriel Mountains can be viewed. The overlooks, trails, public use areas, and potential access points described in this chapter fall within the methodology to reduce potential future degradation or disruption to the landscape.

As the Randall Preserve has never been open to public use, public access across the site will be developed and opened in phases, depending on the managing agencies' abilities to safely oversee a public program in each considered area. The goal is that public access in the Randall Preserve will provide visitors with an intimate connection to an ecosystem that was once abundant in this region and fill an important connection between the abutting open space amenities and areas.

ACCESS POINTS

The Preserve sits between numerous open space amenities at the edge of Costa Mesa, Newport Beach, and Huntington Beach. Its placement suggests that certain visitors may enter and exit the site from the same access point, and others may prefer to use the site as an alternate pathway between their neighborhood and the coast. Given the broad appeal to spend time in the Preserve, as well as interest in passing through it, the maximum number of access points are considered here. As public access will be phased across the site and across time, the first area expected to open to the public will be where the eastern edge of the Preserve meets 17th Street. Access points for utilities, maintenance, and safety have potential to become public access points at a later date.

While we've identified the following locations as potential access points, they would require agreements with the adjacent land managers and other entities before access can be granted.

17th Street - Main Entrance (Figure 3-6): The main entrance is currently the primary access point for the oil remediation team and will be the primary access point for all future public, service, and utility uses. The entrance is at the end of a two-lane street with mixed residential and light industrial uses. (Exhibit 3-17) Upon entering the site, about seven acres of land signal the convergence of all roads leading into the Preserve. This area is highly disturbed, having been used for parking and staging of materials and machinery, and will likely be used as a future parking area as well as for other public programming uses as determined through the outreach engagement process.

Exhibit 3-17



Sunset Ridge Park (Figure 3-6): At the end of the proposed trail network, Sunset Ridge Park is a public amenity with restrooms, outdoor facilities like benches and playgrounds and public parking. This southerly access point would connect visitors to the whole trail network, with nearby access to a viewpoint spur trail.

Pacific Coast Highway (Figure 3-6): The Pacific Coast Highway gate is adjacent to OCTA bus stops, providing a critical access point for the transit-dependent visitors. The extended frontage of the Preserve along PCH might also draw public interest and future visitors. It is anticipated this will be a pedestrian only access with vehicular access reserved for ranger patrols and Tribal elders.

Banning Channel Bikeway (Figure 3-6): At the water's edge, a bridge connects the Banning Channel Bikeway to the Randall Preserve. This access point would be convenient for regional cyclists, joggers, and hikers. It is adjacent to a potential joint Tribal and public use area.

Talbert Regional Park (Figure 3-6): Talbert Regional Park is located at the northern edge of the Preserve, and through access would potentially connect visitors with a much larger trail network.



TRAIL NETWORK

The proposed public circulation diagram embodies the key principles described above, most notably, to connect visitors to nature without further disrupting the landscape (Figure 3-7). The intent of the proposed future trail system is to provide a variety of experiences for visitors, depending on their interests and available time to spend exploring the Preserve – while making use of the already-disturbed oil operations roads on site. Several loop trails of differing lengths and elevations depart and return to the main entrance area. Viewpoint spurs along the trails offer rewarding and out-and-back experiences. Each access point to the Preserve is a connection point to the entire proposed trail network, allowing visitors to explore the site widely within the bounds of the trail system.

Loop 1 – 2/3 mile

Departing from the 17th Street/Main Entrance Area, the First Loop is a trail that touches both the mesa and lowlands, providing a great variety of experiences in a 30-minute walk. This trail accesses two potential overlooks that provide dramatic views across the property and beyond. The First Loop is expected to be available for use when the Preserve first opens to the public.

Upland Loop 1 – 3/4 mile

Just south of the First Loop and 17th Street/Main Entrance Area, the Upland Loop wanders near native grasslands while keeping a safe distance for native habitat to thrive. This trail may be of interest to users that want a longer walk departing from the main staging area.

Lowlands Loop 1a – 1.5 miles

Using the existing oil operations road network, the Lowlands Loop descends from the mesa toward the Santa Ana River, providing a firsthand connection with the salt marsh ecosystem. Named for the approach to resource management that it most closely aligns with, this trail would be the remaining functional road after other roads in the area become grown in with acceptable plant species.

Lowland Loop 1b – 1.75 miles

Named for a more dramatic approach to resource management, the High Touch Loop follows the path that would be created by the significant land movement operations to sculpt new pathways for the freshwater to meet the brackish waters in the salt marsh. This trail is an exception to the methodology that prevents new trails from being built with good reason, considering it would be the result of a dramatic change in the lowlands to contribute to the health of the ecosystem.

North – South Connection – 1 mile

For neighbors and visitors alike, a connection between the Main Entrance Area and the southern edge of the site may be a valuable resource for recreation. The North – South Connection would enable access from two southern points, Sunset Ridge Park and Pacific Coast Highway, as well as opening access to three potential viewpoints with sweeping views of the California coastline.



3.6.4 PROGRAMMATIC OPPORTUNITIES

The Public Access Plan considers opportunities for access and use by the public visitors. Operating within the greater framework of this land conservation effort, the plan establishes goals and principles that minimize public impacts on habitat and wildlife, while providing opportunities for open space, recreation, education, interpretation, Tribal knowledge, and habitat revitalization. The opportunities for visitor-oriented programs and facilities presented here intend to enhance visitor experience and education.

Nature Walks

Nature walks, bird watching, and admiring coastal views are low impact activities that may take place on the Preserve.

Gathering Spaces

Benches along trails and in public use areas can serve as a rest stop and as a meeting point. This may be accompanied by informational signage.

Scenic Overlooks

The Randall Preserve has several natural vista points (Exhibit 3-18) that provide views of the wetlands, Santa Ana River, and coastline. Improving select overlooks to become ADA accessible destinations along the trails will broaden access and improve safety and inclusivity for all visitors.

Exhibit 3-18



Tribal Cultural Significance

California Native American Tribes who are culturally and ancestrally affiliated with the Preserve will be able to once again perform cultural practices on this land. These cultural practices are based on a value system rooted in reciprocity with the land. Implementation of traditional ecological knowledge during ecological restoration activities will increase the overall health of the preserve and these Tribal Communities.

Tribal Use Areas will also exist at the Preserve to be used by multiple or individual California Native American Tribes. When these areas are in use, the Tribe currently using the area will be able to keep their activities private or open to the public at their own discretion.

Multi Use Trails

Multi-use trails could connect to the existing network of trails in the area, including the Banning Channel Trail, Sunset Ridge Park, Talbert Regional Park, Santa Ana River Trail, and Huntington Beach Bike Trail.

Outdoor Classroom

An amphitheater or similar space is an opportunity to learn and collaborate with schools and higher education institutions in the vicinity and regionally.

Low Impact Camping

A small number of campsites in the entrance area, by reservation only, could become a regional attraction. Campsites require supporting facilities, like picnic areas and restrooms. Any facility built would be cold-camping without the use of flames, including stoves, barbecues, or campfires.

Visitor Center

A visitor center could serve as a permanent home for cultural and ecological exhibits, a classroom for group visits, an operational center for the land management team, and supporting facilities like restrooms and a store with interpretive items.

COMPARABLE SITES

Nearby State Parks and Ecological Preserves may provide programmatic insights in terms of the types of outdoor recreational spaces that are abundant or potentially lacking. This list of sites spans from Santa Barbara County to San Diego County, and intends to highlight a range of priorities in placemaking - from visitor centered experiences and active recreation to ecological preservation.

Some of the activities, spaces, and amenities reviewed in this study include:

- Playgrounds
- Campsites
- Restrooms
- Picnic Areas / Scenic Overlooks
- Multi-modal trails (Hiking, cycling, equestrian)
- Auto-Tourism
- Dog Parks
- Interpretive Centers

Talbert Regional Park & Fairview Park: Talbert Regional Park (South) is the Preserve's neighbor to the north. The park is 88.5 acres of unprogrammed landscape, which invites off-road dirt biking and has direct connection to the Banning Channel Trail, serving cyclists from great distances. Above Victoria, Talbert (North) has an additional 91-acres of similar parkland along the Santa Ana River.

Adjacent to Talbert (North) is Costa Mesa's Fairview Park. These 208 acres of open space include several programmed park areas with restrooms, picnic areas, and scenic overlooks. Dogs are permitted on leashes in the park. Fairview Park has over 100 parking spaces near trailheads, and additional parking in the model train area.

Franklin Canyon Park: Nestled between Los Angeles and Beverly Hills in the Santa Monica Mountains, Franklin Canyon Park is 605 acres of conservation, recreational, and educational space. The Park features ADA compliant trails, an outdoor classroom, amphitheater, and interpretive center. Among the exhibits, a replica Tongva hut exists for the public's cultural discovery of the region's Native People. The multiple recreation and interpretive areas have dedicated parking nearby, as well as parallel parking along portions of the park road. The Park is open from sunrise to sunset.

San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve: San Elijo Lagoon has seven miles of pedestrian trails over its 979 acres in Encinitas, San Diego County. This trail system features a nature center with interactive exhibits and live animals, along with restrooms and picnic areas nearby the main parking lot. Several pedestrian bridges provide valuable connections within the Reserve as well as to adjacent neighborhoods and ultimately to the ocean under Amtrak-serving train tracks. The Ecological Reserve is a San Diego County park, but was an effort across multiple agencies, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Nature Center is open from 9 am - 5 pm daily, and the trails are open from sunrise to sunset.

Crystal Cove State Park: Crystal Cove State Park spans nearly 4,000 acres from the inland chaparral canyons to the sea, and is the nearest public campground to coastal Orange County. Amenities on site include: campsites as well as the option for primitive camping, and restrooms with showers. There is plenty of parking and access to the Pacific Ocean underneath Pacific Coast Highway. It is part of the Natural Communities Coalition and has higher standards for protection than most State Parks. It also boasts one of Orange County's protected marine reserves, called a State Marine Conservation Area.

Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park: The Salt Marsh is a 230-acre tidal preserve, including 36-acres of previously graded land that have been re-naturalized and open for public use since 1991. The trail system does not venture into the tidal lowlands, but remains in the upland to provide views across the salt marsh. The Nature Park offers informational signage and prohibits dogs and bikes from using the trails to maintain protection of the sensitive habitat. Nearby public restrooms are available at the beach.

Entrance Area Scale Comparisons

Welcome facilities at regional parks often offer parking, restrooms, and directions toward designated trails. They may also be the site of additional services and amenities, such as a welcome or education center. The Randall Preserve has about seven acres of possible entrance area where such amenities may go. (Exhibit 3-19)

The facilities at similar regional parks shown at the same scale as the approximate possible entrance area at the Randall Preserve illustrate the capacity and ability of the 17th Street Main Entrance Area to accommodate a range of programs. (Exhibit 3-20)

Exhibit 3-19



Randall Preserve
Approximate possible entrance area



0 250 500 1,000 Feet

Exhibit 3-20



San Joaquin Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary
70 parking spots, bus parking & Visitor Center



Fairview Park, Costa Mesa
100 day use parking spaces



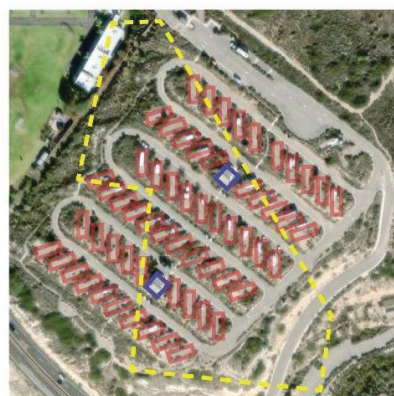
San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego County
50 day use parking spaces & Visitor Center



Trestles Beach, San Diego County
110 day use parking spaces



Doheny State Beach, Dana Point
480 day use parking spaces



Moro Campground, Crystal Cove State Park
60 RV campsites & restrooms