



SMRPD's Mission Statement - "To promote community well being through programs and activities that protect, preserve and enrich the canyons' heritage, open space and unique way of life."

P.O. Box 8, Silverado California 92676 • www.smrpd.org

Congratulations on your candidacy for the Silverado Modjeska Recreation and Park District!

We are excited to share with you a quick overview of the responsibilities of the SMRPD and provide insight into the responsibilities you are interested in acquiring as an elected official of our special district.

The Silverado-Modjeska Recreation and Park District (SMRPD) was established on March 22, 1961 as a Recreation and Park District under authority of Resolution 61-305 of the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

It is an independent special district with a locally elected board of five members whose members serve overlapping four-year terms with elections every two years in even-numbered years. Special districts are public agencies created to provide one or more specific services to a community. The enabling act for SMRPD is the Recreation & Park District law, *Public Resources Code Section 5780 et seq.*

The SMRPD is the public state agency with the authority to provide local recreation and parks programs and services within its boundaries. Our area encompasses 46,825 acres or 73.16 square miles, from the boundary of Orange County/Riverside County in the Trabuco District of the Cleveland National Forest on the east to Irvine Lake and Loma Ridge on the west. Specifically, SMRPD serves the communities of Silverado, Modjeska, Ladd, Black Star, Williams, Harding and Baker Canyons.

SMRPD owns and/or operates five facilities: two community parks, two community centers and a children's center with two buildings on land leased from Orange County Parks. We also oversee the Silverado Children's Center operations, a nature preschool located adjacent to the Library of the Canyons.

Members of the Board of Directors are public officials and are bound to uphold the Constitution of the United States and carry out the laws of the State of California. District officials are required to carry out their acts with the highest standards of morality and discharge faithfully the duties of their offices, recognizing that the public interest must be their primary concern.

Prior to taking office, each elected or appointed director takes an official oath. Preferential consideration of the request of any individual citizen, or group of citizens, cannot be given. SMRPD is a steward of public funds utilized by the park district. With this fiduciary responsibility

the representatives of SMRPD must always be cognizant that public funds may not be used for private purposes.

The Board powers are defined in Article 7 of the Public Resources Code (*Sections 5786 et seq.*). In developing District policies, the Board:

1. Defines the District's objectives and goals.
2. Carries out its legal responsibility and adopts procedures for the operation of the District.
3. Maintains its existing properties.
4. Contracts with staff/workers to provide strong management and support.
5. Approves financial plans and budgets.
6. Encourages the development of a broad variety of recreation programs, within District budgetary limitations, that meets community needs and demands.
7. Informs and educates residents of the District about the importance of recreation and park programs, facilities, and services in the community.
8. Works with community agencies and local residents cooperatively to provide economical recreation.
9. Works with local, state, and federal agencies and organizations on disaster or crisis response on a temporary basis.

By *Government Code §53234, et seq.*, board members are required to take ethics training courses as required under AB 1234 once every two years. The training must cover both ethics laws and ethics principles. In addition, Board members are required to take Sexual Harassment training, as well as file a Form 700 Statement of Economic Interest disclosing financial interests required by all public officials.

The Board must adhere to the Brown act and determine District policy subject to statutory requirements. SMRPD coordinates with other local planning authorities, parks and recreation departments, nonprofit agencies and local community groups to ensure the continued provision for community parks and recreation while striving to represent the interests of the entire community responsibly and responsively.

Currently the SMRPD Board of Directors do not receive stipends for their work on behalf of the special district.

We look forward getting to know you better during this election period. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us.

Good luck!

Respectfully,
The SMRPD Board of Directors
Smpd.org

