

# MISSION VIEJO'S SMART INVESTMENTS



## **LINKING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH OSO CREEK TRAIL**

Mission Viejo has a wonderful community asset – Oso Creek Trail. The trail began in 1997 as a community collaboration for Earth and the Arts. While on the trail visitors can enjoy views of Oso Creek, native plant life, and sit among the beautiful sycamore trees. It includes 5.5 miles of trails and is considered a walking garden where the spirit of the community is alive and where people gather for a common cause.



## **LANDSCAPING WITH DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS**

City staff has brought new, native landscaping to both the road medians and around City Hall. Roadway medians, which once had grass, now include plants that require significantly less water. City Hall is also decorated with multi-colored plants that complement both the architecture and the walkways. In fact, the City's courtyard is now a gathering place for residents during city functions and events.



## **CREATING A NEW SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING POLICY**

To reduce consumption, waste, and provide more guidance on sustainable purchasing, the City adopted a new sustainability policy. This policy helps direct staff when making municipal purchases including those for paper, supplies, and other office essentials.



## **HOSTING AN ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR FOR 3RD GRADERS**

Collaborating with the local schools, the City of Mission Viejo has coordinated several Environmental Fairs for the city's 3rd grade population. Children learn about the Oso Creek Trail, water conservation, trash and recycling, and much more! This annual event brings kids to the City for a fun day that celebrates and improves the community's environmental awareness.



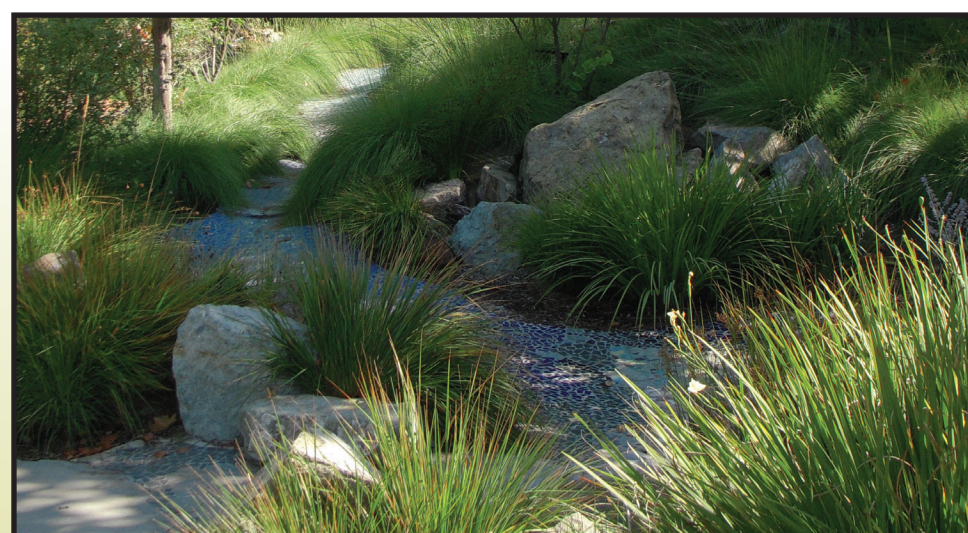
## **PURCHASING IPADS FOR ALL COUNCILMEMBERS**

To reduce paper, thereby saving trees, the City of Mission Viejo provided each Councilmember with an iPad. Instead of thumbing through hundreds of pages of a Council Agenda, Councilmembers can now find everything they need electronically. This single purchase has made quite a difference and due to its uniqueness other agencies and entities are providing their agendas electronically as well!



## **IMPLEMENTING CITY WIDE RECYCLING PROGRAMS**

To reduce waste and ensure appropriate materials were recycled, the City has implemented a community-wide recycling program. The city staff actually took this program to the next level and resized trash enclosures to ensure the new recycling bins would fit.



For more information on the City of Mission Viejo's Smart Investments, please contact: Keith Rattay at 949-470-3018.

Photos provided by the City of Mission Viejo.

FHBP works to protect the natural lands, waterways, and beaches throughout Orange County. Learn More at: [www.FHBP.org](http://www.FHBP.org)

