



La Carretera Park is located on 3.0 acres at 2040 186th Street. It is adjacent to the San Diego Freeway. Its name appropriately means “the highway”. The park land was acquired in 1966. The land was sold to the City by the State when it became excess freeway land. This acquisition was considered to be an innovative way to secure inexpensive park land for City use.

The City is continually on the look-out for inexpensive land to be developed into parks. In the case of La Carretera Park, the City of Torrance purchased 3.1 acres of excess land, at cost, from the State Division of Highways. The City, then, improved the land, including widening 186th Street, and developing the area adjoining the San Diego Freeway. La Carretera Park was dedicated on June 29, 1968.

In 1968, the park’s play equipment included a metal horse carriage and fort made out of wood. These were replaced with new play equipment in 1996. The multi-purpose play court was added in 1969 and a rededication took place on January 17, 1970. Since then, it has been further developed and landscaped. It contains a sheltered picnic area, children’s play area, and tennis court. In January of 2010, the gazebo was renovated and the basketball game court hoops replaced.