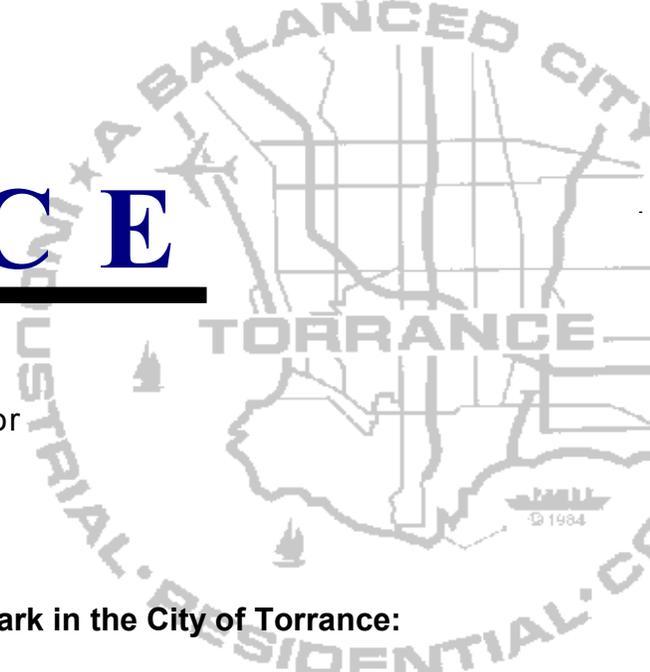


# T O R R A N C E



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** John Jones  
Recreation Services Administrator  
(310) 618-2945  
jjones@torrnet.com

### **Mayor and Council Mark Opening of Newest Park in the City of Torrance: Discovery Park**

Torrance, Calif., May 6, 2005 – Torrance City Council announced today a ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled, Tuesday, May 10, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. to mark the official opening of Discovery Park, 226<sup>th</sup> Street and Ocean Avenue. Discovery is the newest park constructed in Torrance in over twenty years.

This half-acre land that once held an old water tank has been transformed to a fully accessible park since its official groundbreaking in November 2004. Through its design and development, Discovery Park provides a place for everyone to explore and enrich their senses.

City staff carefully considered the diverse needs of the nearby community of seniors, young families, and the physically challenged, ensuring every element in the park is functional and fun. “It’s kind of unique in that we consider it universally accessible,” said Gene Barnett, Director of Community Services Department.

To provide accessibility for the elderly and disabled, staff used decomposed granite for wider concrete pathways, and installed cutouts near benches and installed spacious picnic tables. They also chose a variety of plants for aesthetic pleasure – including fragrance, texture and sound. For families with children, the park also contains a tot lot.

“Our park plan began with the concept of providing an all-encompassing sensory experience that is fully accessible with a little something for everyone,” said Mike Witzansky, Sr. Administrative Analyst, Community Services Department. “I am confident that this new addition to our community will be beneficial for all,” he said.

The construction of the park was made possible through City funds and Los Angeles County Proposition A funds.

###

**3031 TORRANCE BLVD. TORRANCE, CA 90503  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**