



# City of Placentia Press Release

***For Immediate Release***  
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## **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY HELD FOR KOCH PARK**

**PLACENTIA, CA** – The City of Placentia held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 14th at Koch Park to celebrate the grand re-opening of the newly renovated playground at 2210 Valencia Avenue in Placentia.

Koch Park is the second park in the City to be upgraded and themed through the City's newly created Placentia Parks Initiative. Koch Park was named after the City's first paid Fire Chief, George Koch, and because of that, the first phase of the new playground will highlight first responders with a Placentia Fire and Life Safety theme. The playground features the distinctive department colors of red and black, a fire engine climber, and a Fire Department playhouse. There will also be a new swing set, climbing apparatus, and slides. The City will also be working on phase two for Koch Park, which will include Police and Public Works themed play equipment.

The City Council approved the Placentia Parks Initiative Plan on June 1, 2021, as a comprehensive master list of park and building projects. Projects were prioritized by safety, age of equipment, and funding sources. City park renovation projects are funded through State Grants, Development Impact Fees, or Measure U funding.

"I was really excited to participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly unveiled Koch Park playground, and the fact that it's first responders themed made it even better. I'm glad that we could provide this upgraded playground for our residents to use along with all of the upgraded amenities while also honoring our Fire and Life Safety Department," said Placentia Mayor Rhonda Shader.

"This is the second park that we've upgraded through our Placentia Parks Initiative Plan. I'm proud of the staff's hard work in making the City Council's vision for investing in our parks a reality. I look forward to participating in many more ribbon-cutting ceremonies for our parks throughout our great City," said Community Services Director Karen Crocker.

"We know that upgrading our City parks was long overdue. Our Community Services team members are hard at work obtaining concept designs to renovate five more City park playgrounds within the next year, along with resurfacing three playgrounds," said Placentia City Administrator Damien R. Arrula. "The City's goal is to have every park playground in the City renovated within 2-5 years. We look forward to our newly upgraded parks being enjoyed by our residents and bringing continued health and wellness and quality of life to the community for many years to come."

Through this Initiative, the City will be investing \$6.2 million into City parks and facilities over the next two years, making it the largest investment in the last 25 years for Placentia parks and facilities. The City will also be creating a parks and public facilities master brochure for residents to identify each park and the amenities it has available. In addition, through the Placentia Parks Initiative, parks will also have new amenities such as picnic tables, barbecues, benches, water fountains, and trash/recycling receptacles for residents to enjoy.

The next park playgrounds set to be upgraded are Wagner Park, La Placita Parkette, and Santa Fe Park. For more information on the Placentia Parks Initiative, contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

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