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Copper Creek Park Upgrades Unveiled



Perris Mayor Michael Vargas addresses a crowd of residents, elected officials and City administrators at the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Copper Creek Park. "This is a great day for our City, especially for our kids," he said.

The City of Perris unveiled a pair of new play areas at Copper Creek Park, replacing worn out equipment with new slides, climbing bars, shade areas and a foam rubber surface to prevent scrapes and bruises from falls.

Perris Mayor Michael Vargas and City Council members Tonya Burke, Malcolm Corona and Rita Rogers were on hand when the upgrades were unveiled on March 2. The upgrades cost \$65,000.

Vargas said expanding and upgrading Perris parks is a top priority among elected officials and City administrators.

"This is a great day for our City, especially for our kids," Vargas said. "We need places for our kids to go play. To drive by a City park in use is a great sight. It tells us we're doing the right thing."

Vargas said he will be among the residents making use of the improved Copper Creek Park.

"I can't wait to bring my grandkids here and bounce off the playing surface," he said.

Burke said "our community loves its parks and families and kids need these outlets."

"As a kid, I lived on parks," Burke said. "It is always good to be able to improve our parks."

Corona said he grew up near Copper Creek Park as a youngster and was delighted with the upgrades.

"I am very pleased to see the improvements," Corona said. "It's good to see this park revitalized."

Rogers called the ribbon-cutting ceremony "a wonderful example of what we do in the City of Perris to improve the lives of our residents."

"It doesn't get any better for us," Rogers said. "I expect to see kids coming here for many, many years."



Perris Mayor Michael Vargas prepares to cut the ribbon at the newly renovated Copper Creek Park. Next to him are City Councilwoman Tonya Burke, City Councilman Malcolm Corona and City Councilwoman Rita Rogers.

City officials said the play equipment at Copper Creek Park had not been replaced in many years. The new renovations constitute a "top to bottom" makeover, said Daryl Hartwill, Assistant Director of Public Works. A new drainage system was installed below ground. The foam rubber surface replaces a hardscape that increased the likelihood of cuts and abrasions. The two new play areas include equipment for children 2 to 5 years of age and from 5 to 12 years old.

Additional renovations like a volleyball court and a small soccer field also are in the works at Copper Creek Park, Hartwill said.

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