

# CORTEZ HILL PARK FEATURING TWEET STREET

## SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



**Client**  
Centre City Development Corporation

**Services**  
Surveying  
Land Planning  
Civil Engineering

**Construction Cost**  
\$1.7 Million

**Completion Date**  
January 2008

**Key Personnel**  
Steven D. Nasland, PE;  
Principal-In-Charge  
Larry Thornburgh, PE, PLS;  
Project Manager

**Project Summary**

The Cortez Hill Park project is located along Date Avenue from 7th to 10th Avenues and along 10th Avenue from Date to Beech Streets. The design proposed to utilize open space obtained through an agreement with Caltrans along the Interstate 5 and SR 163 corridors for a passive park including meandering walkways, tot lot and pet “restrooms.” Half of the park is situated on under-utilized Caltrans right-of-way. This park also features elements of “Tweet Street,” an art program that showcases birdhouses created by various design professionals.

The primary goal of this park was to provide much needed green space as well as a landscape buffer to the noise of the adjacent freeways for the growing number of residents to the area. Previously the area was overgrown and the location of the Caltrans right-of-way fence prohibited police patrols which attracted a crime element to this area. By moving the right-of-way fence to the true top of the slope, all of the unused area was incorporated into the park eliminating the opportunities for homeless and others to house behind the fence.

Nasland Engineering provided civil engineering design services, estimates, bid specifications, and construction assistance for the project. Improvements consisted of paving, curb, gutter, street lighting and detached sidewalk, park landscaping, street re-stripping, and tot-lot. Plans were prepared and processed to meet the City of San Diego park requirements. They were approved by the Design Review Committee, Park and Recreation Board and the Balboa Park Committee. Due to a portion of the park being in the Caltrans right-of-way, the plans were processed through Caltrans for an encroachment permit with a long term zero cost air-space lease for the City of San Diego.

**Awards & Recognition**

- 2009 “Project of the Year” – American Public Works Association
- 2008 “Award of Excellence” – American Society of Civil Engineers
- 2008 “Orchid” Award - Orchids and Onions Community Awareness Program

