

## Construction Has Begun on the Oakridge Estate Park

The Friends of Oakridge is excited to announce that the City of Los Angeles has begun construction on The Oakridge Estate Park. This hidden sanctuary, just a stone's throw away from one of the busiest intersections in Northridge, will have an entrance on Devonshire Street and occupy the 8.5 acres between the former Stanwyck/Oakie residence and the Wilbur Creek. The unique park, with logs and rocks for imaginative play, will include an adventure area with horses for climbing and a bouncy tractor. A meandering, looped walking path, picnic areas and a gathering/classroom space are planned. The site has a vast number of mature trees, with more to be added, providing shady recreational activities near a large open meadow. The site will be managed and maintained by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks.

The Oakridge Estate Park adjoins the decades-long home of famous comedic actor Jack Oakie and his wife, Victoria. Designed in 1937 for Barbara Stanwyck by renowned architect Paul R. Williams, the English Tudor style residence with tennis court and pool occupy the remaining 1.5 acres of the 10 acre space. The entire parcel was originally part of the 120 acre Marwyck Ranch developed by Barbara and Marion and Zeppo Marx in 1936. It became the finest Thoroughbred horse breeding and training operation west of the Mississippi. The Stanwyck/Oakie home and grounds, designated a City Historic-Cultural Monument in 1990, are to be rehabilitated and adapted for public use.

It has been a long journey from plan to park. The Oakridge Park Advisory Board (PAB) was formed in 2010 to seek input from community stakeholders on the usage of the entire 10 acres. Councilmember Mitchell Englander of Council District 12 submitted an application for \$1.3 million in Prop K funds in 2013. Prop K, known as The LA for Kids Program, earmarks funds for youth recreation and park facilities. A Local Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee (LVNOC) was formed and held public meetings to collect additional community ideas for the usage of the park land. The City Bureau of Engineering (BOE) was tasked with the park design and development. The designs are now finalized and contractor selected. The long-awaited Oakridge Estate Park is now a reality.

In 2011, Friends of Oakridge a 501 (c) 3 non-profit was formed to rehabilitate and preserve this unique cultural landmark. Friends encourage you to frequently visit our website for updates on park construction and news of upcoming events at Oakridge. While viewing the website, please sign up for our newsletter which automatically places you onto our email list. Please help us spread this exciting Oakridge Estate Park news! For additional Oakridge information, please visit [www.theoakridgeestate.org](http://www.theoakridgeestate.org)

# Oakridge Park Construction Begins



10-30-2017



## **NEW PARKING AREA**

Looking South from Devonshire Street

10-30-2017

# Oakridge Estate Park

## Display Board Bureau of Engineering



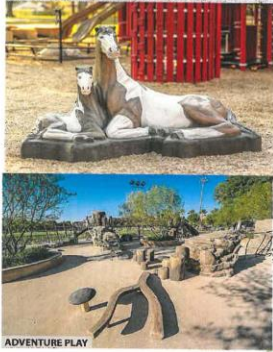
OAKRIDGE ESTATE PARK WILL BE DEVELOPED ON THE SITE OF HISTORIC MARWICK RANCH, ORIGINALLY OWNED BY FILM STAR BARBARA STANWYCK AND HER AGENT ZEPPO MAXX. THE RANCH WAS ESTABLISHED TO BREED, BOARD AND TRAIN KENTUCKY THOROUGHBRED RACE HORSES. A TEN-ACRE PORTION OF THE RANCH, WHERE STANWYCK'S HOME STILL STANDS, HAS REMAINED OPEN SPACE AND IS NOW OWNED BY L.A. DEPT. OF RECREATION AND PARKS.



OAKRIDGE PARK IS CURRENTLY IN THE DESIGN PHASE. THE SLOPING SITE IS ENVISIONED AS A PASSIVE PARK WITH MEANDERING WALKING PATHS, PICNIC AREAS, A CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE PLAY AREA, AND A GATHERING/CLASSROOM SPACE ALL SURROUNDING A LARGE OPEN MEADOW.

THE ADVENTURE PLAY AREA HAS A RURAL/EQUESTRIAN THEME WITH HORSES FOR CLIMBING, A BOUNCING TRACTOR, AND LOGS AND ROCKS FOR IMAGINATIVE PLAY. THE LOOP PATHS AND PICNIC AREAS ARE ALL SURFACED WITH DECOMPOSED GRANITE. THE SEATING IN THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM IS LOG BENCHES AND BOULDERS. THE SITE HAS A WEALTH OF MATURE TREES AND EVEN MORE WILL BE PLANTED FOR SHADING AND SCREENING. RESTORATION OF THE HOME, TENNIS COURT AND SWIMMING POOL WILL BE DONE IN A LATER PHASE.

DEVONSHIRE STREET



# OAKRIDGE ESTATE PARK

BUREAU OF ENGINEERING  
ARCHITECTURAL DIVISION