



PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

PALL GUDGEIRSSON, CITY MANAGER



Contact: Aeryn Donnelly, Park Planner
(949) 361-8267
Laura Ferguson, Public Information Officer
(949) 361-8254

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUNDBREAKING SCHEDULED FOR COURTNEY'S SANDCASTLE SENSORY GARDEN

June 9, 2014....San Clemente, California...The City of San Clemente and Courtney's SandCastle Charitable Foundation (CSC) announce a groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, June 28th at 10:00 a.m. for the Sensory Garden project at the Courtney's SandCastle Universally Accessible Playground. Members of the public are invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony at the playground located at the Vista Hermosa Sports Park at 987 Avenida Vista Hermosa.

The San Clemente City Council awarded the construction contract to Micon Construction, Inc. at its meeting on May 20, 2014. This project represents a unique City/non-profit partnership and the culmination of 14 years of planning and fundraising to complete the playground. The Courtney's Sandcastle Foundation raised \$390,000 and donated the funds to the City. The San Clemente City Council allocated \$110,000 towards the project, and an additional \$70,000 was committed by Taylor Morrison, the developer of Marblehead Coastal, where the playground was initially intended to be built.

The Sensory Garden will offer stimulation for multiple sensory experiences, which have proven effective in the healthy growth of children, especially those with physical and developmental challenges such as autism. The Sensory Garden will have an accessible Path of Travel for children and adults of all abilities. The design provides a stimulating journey through the senses, heightening awareness, and bringing positive learning experiences to children. The Sensory Garden will include two (2) interactive water features, a shaded learning area, and musical elements that will enhance this award winning playground.

#