



David Hiner

Annual Report

2018

R I V E R P A R K W A Y T R U S T

Relationships, Restoration, Revenue and the River



Dinner on the Trail event to celebrate the River Parkway Trust's 30th Anniversary.

the habitat enhancement work we've completed at Fresno River West over the last half dozen years. Guests traversed through the revegetation area for cocktails and then to sites nearer the river for dinner and dessert. Over the course of the evening numerous people commented on the beneficial impact of the Trust's work to improve the land for local wildlife, and the importance of getting more people out to see and experience the great San Joaquin River.

Shortly after the party we broke ground on the new barn at the River Center, built to the same size and shape of the Dairy Barn that stood on the site for approximately 100 years before it failed. Trenching of utilities at the site was one of the first construction tasks and created a challenging few days for River Camp parents and Trust staff. I spent a few mornings in the parking lot with a couple of key colleagues directing traffic around open trenches, so that we could keep our River Camp program running while keeping the barn construction project on schedule. Construction brings many kinds of challenges, but we're thrilled with the final result.

Later in the year we had our second special party, a dinner on the trail at the River Center. This was the first opportunity for our supporters to take a look inside the new barn, which was nearing the end of construction at that time. The dinner on the trail event was a great opportunity to gather with friends old and new and celebrate our progress creating the San Joaquin River Parkway.

Throughout the year our board, staff and many supporters and volunteers were immersed in the effort to create a new Parks funding measure in Fresno. Although Measure P didn't receive 2/3 of the vote in November, it did

2018 was a year of big events and big accomplishments for the River Parkway Trust.

It was our 30th Anniversary as an organization, and we celebrated with two special parties along the Parkway.

The first was the Sunset at Spano River Ranch walking cocktail party. This party introduced about 100 guests to



Volunteers help plant native trees at Fresno River West.

funding for parks in our community in the years ahead.

Our most lasting accomplishment in 2018 is the creation of our new Operations and Maintenance Endowment. Operations and maintenance funding addresses needs such as restroom cleaning, trash removal, staffing of park sites when required, and dealing with intermittent vandalism of fences and signage. In addition to advocacy for local and state legislation that will create more funding to operate the Parkway, the Trust has created a new endowment specifically to fund this need. With a challenge grant from The Whitney Foundation and contributions from many generous supporters, we were able to generate the first \$50,000 of endowment funds by the end of 2018. At the time of this report in mid-2019, our endowment balance is \$293,000. We're excited about this new source of revenue that will be a permanent funding source for the San Joaquin River Parkway, and invite you to consider a gift to this endowment in your estate planning process. With help from supporters like you, the San Joaquin River Parkway will continue to thrive as the primary open space asset in the Fresno-Madera Metropolitan Area.

2018 was filled with new relationships, continued restoration projects, new revenue sources, and great times along the river. As a member, supporter, volunteer, or park advocate, thank you for doing your part to make it a great year.

Sharon Weaver
Executive Director



Dinner on the Trail guests get a sneak peak at construction progress for the River Center Barn.



Access for All



Valley Children's Adaptive Sports Program participants enjoy a paddling clinic at Sycamore Island.

On the first day of fall 2018, I drove in to the River Center to attend a Party for the Parkway celebrating the River Parkway Trust's 30th anniversary. A long table lined the Eaton Trail. There was music, fun, great wine, and many River Parkway Trust supporters who came to enjoy a beautiful evening near the Hidden Homes Pond. There was something special about the celebration that evening. Of course there were the old friends

retelling 30 years of stories about the Parkway development. But there on the other side of the pond loomed the brand new barn. Almost completed by then, we all strolled over to sneak a peak and enjoy the excitement of another step in the progress of the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust.

In September, 2018, we only hoped people would be attracted to the River Center and its new barn as a place to enjoy a wedding, a meeting, a fun event, or whatever they wished to do. Now we know how popular this barn has become. This past year, we tripled the number of people visiting the River Center through facility rentals. Most had never been to the River Center before and many have come back to enjoy this place again. I think our creative placemaking is working!

In 2018 the Trust continued park operations at Sycamore Island and added the adjoining Van Buren property to provide a total of 620 acres of outdoor playground for our community. That effort has increased the annual visitor count at Sycamore Island to almost 12,000. It has also helped us create a new partnership with Valley Children's Healthcare to connect more patients, families, and hospital staff to the natural resources available at Sycamore Island. I have no doubt that the number of visitors will grow as more people see the opportunities for hikes, picnics, kayaking, canoeing, and fishing.

And there is more to come. In 2018, we began offering monthly walks on Parkway properties for Trust members. It is immediately obvious that we need to find ways to increase funding for management and operations of the properties so we can open much more open space to the community. Through a grant from The Whitney Foundation in 2018, we were able to start an endowment fund to generate revenue for Parkway operations in perpetuity. It will take discipline on our part to find ways to grow the principal in the endowment, but the payoff will be great in terms of finally having the ability to open more Parkway lands to the public on a regular basis.

In 2018, we made some great new friends as well. Through the efforts on Measure P, we are now part of a coalition trying to find ways to support parks in Fresno. Assemblyman Arambula made a first effort to include the Parkway in the State Park system, and Proposition 68 passed, creating funding for land acquisition and future improvements.

Each month I volunteer as a host at the River Center. Every time I am there, someone, and usually more than one person or family, announces that this is their first visit. They are excited about their new find and that means they will be back. They can be counted on to help extend our reach in the community.

We have discovered that if we build it or open it, they will come. Our community needs the Parkway and will use it. We must continue to find ways to make access available to all.

Julia O'Kane

River Parkway Trust Board President

Conservation

Your support in 2018 helped conserve open space land, restore riparian forests and critical wildlife habitat, and create service learning opportunities to connect people to the issues affecting the river.

5,000

Native trees and shrubs planted at
Fresno River West

1,500

Plants propagated in partnership with the
Scout Island Outdoor Education Center

500

Pounds of trash collected

280

Native trees planted along the
San Joaquin River Floodplain

85

Acres of invasive plant species removed

33

Miles of river mapped
and monitored for
invasive plant species
(Friant Dam to
Skaggs Bridge)

River Center

32

Local Conservation
Corps (Fresno EOC)
members trained

16

California Conservation
corps members trained

2

AmeriCorps
Watershed Stewards
Program members

4,089 Acres
Stewarded
by the River Parkway Trust

Education

You helped connect local children to the natural world found along the San Joaquin River through field trips, lively classroom presentations, and week-long summer day-camps.

7,896 Students

Participated in a River Field trip at
Lost Lake Park, Sycamore Island, or the River Center

865 Education Docent

Volunteer hours

833 River Buddies

Preschoolers learning about wildlife at the River Center

1,217 River Campers

River Camp Scout Island and Young Explorers Program

258 River Campers

River Camp Firebaugh

297 Scholarships

Provided for children to attend
River Camp in Fresno and Firebaugh



Recreation



You helped provide managed public recreation access to open space lands in the Parkway. Through park operations at Sycamore Island, guided downriver canoe and kayak tours, and guided nature walks thousands of Valley residents were connected to the rich natural resources found along the San Joaquin River.

Sycamore Island **11,931** Visitors
Open first weekend of February through Veterans Day

River Tours **671** People



Nature Walks **438** People

Volunteers make a difference in the Parkway effort

In 2018, individuals like you contributed

18,500 Hours

towards the River Parkway Trust's
conservation, education, and recreation programs.

We'd like to thank every volunteer who gave the gift of their time
to advance the Parkway effort.



Social Media Engagement

9,447

Followers



@SJR PCT
@SycamoreIslandPark

3,511

Followers



@riverparkwaytrust

508

Followers



@sjrparkwaytrust

6,645

Email Subscribers



River Center

At the Coke Hallowell Center for River Studies (River Center) you can connect to the cultural and natural history of the river through art and educational exhibits, community programs, gardens, and links to pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trails.

22,290

River Center Visitors



4,085

Students on
River Center Field Trips

3,450

River Center
Rental Guests

850

Respite by the River
Attendees

356

Days Open
to the Public

The new River Center Barn is available for your special event.

For more information about renting the River Center visit

riverparkway.org/river-center/river-center-rentals

Parties for the Parkway

All revenue generated through Parties for the Parkway supports the effort to create and protect the San Joaquin River Parkway.

1,557 Tickets Sold

640

Individual
Guests

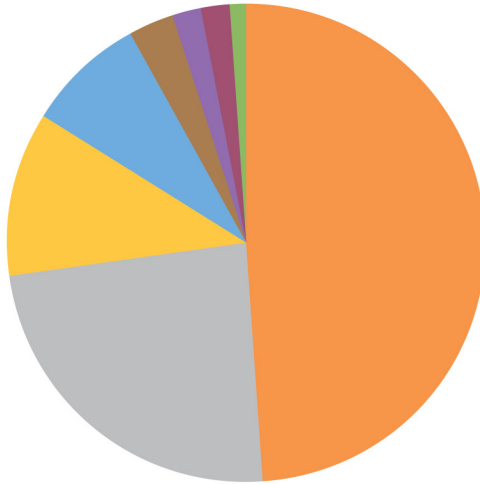
53

Donating
Artists

182

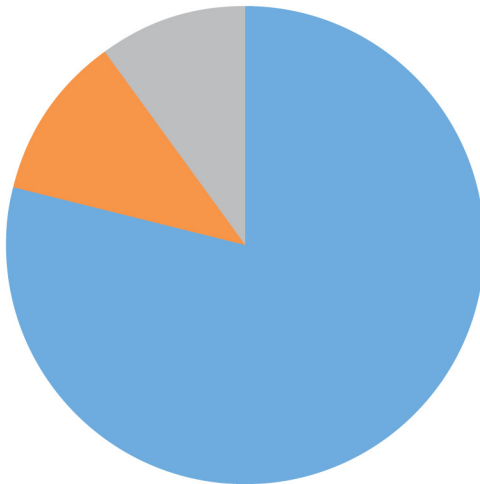
Party
Hosts

2018 Financials



Revenue

<div></div>	Contributions and Donations	49%	\$1,449,593
<div></div>	Grant Income	24%	\$724,308
<div></div>	Program Services	11%	\$327,090
<div></div>	Memberships	8%	\$253,073
<div></div>	Park Operations	3%	\$77,220
<div></div>	Educational Scholarships	2%	\$56,652
<div></div>	Other Revenue	2%	\$53,013
<div></div>	Special Events	1%	\$39,884
	Total		\$2,980,833



Expenses

<div></div>	Program Expenses	79%	\$1,395,327
<div></div>	Management Expenses	11%	\$198,614
<div></div>	Fundraising Expenses	10%	\$175,655
	Total		\$1,769,596

The financial information included in this report is from our Audited Financial Statement.

You can view the River Parkway Trust's Audited Financial Statements at riverparkway.org/about-us/irs-form-990.

\$150,000+ LIFETIME DONORS

We'd like to thank these individual donors who have generously supported the River Parkway Trust through the years.

Frank and Florence Caglia Family
Dr. Virginia S. Eaton
Mary and Gerald Finch
George and Jackie Folsom
Paul Gibson and Joan Eaton
Roger and Terry Glaspey
Coke and James Hallowell
Margaret Hunsberger
Margaret and Rodger Jensen
Norman and Nancy Liddell
Edward K. Martin Trust
Jim and Carrie Moen
The Everett Rank Sr. Family
Bud and Evelyn Rank
Thomas and Louise Richardson
Joseph T. Ring
Vic and Bernie Roznovsky
The Slater Family
Rolein Smith
Raymond and Oweta Wicks

2018 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

We're proud to acknowledge these individuals who contributed to the River Parkway Trust between January and December 2018.

\$50,000+

Coke and James Hallowell
Edward D. Mesple
The Ivan Mesple Family

\$25,000+

Tom and Sheri Bohigian
Paul Gibson and Joan Eaton

\$10,000+

Virginia Eaton
Elise Moir
Ted Morgan and Alicia Bennett
Louise Richardson
Robert Truxell
O. James Woodward III Family

\$5,000+

Sharon Hanley
Ellen and Lynn Hemink
Michael Linton
Eldon and Diana Marks
Michael and Ellen Patton
W. E. and Anna Wattenbarger
Sharon Weaver
Raymond and Oweta Wicks

\$2,000+

Bart and Suna Bohn
Donna and Leroy Bollinger
Jeff and Julie Carroll

Debbie and Charles Doerksen
Greg and Susan Estep
George and Jackie Folsom
Janell Gaertig
Sarah Hedrick
Barbara and Neal Lehman
Julia O'Kane
Mary and Rudy Savala
Susan and Newton Seiden
Jennifer and Hugh Williamson

\$1,000+

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Jean and William Thompson
Francis and Nancy Weaver
Laura Weyant
Kathleen Wosika and David Fox
Phyllis G. and Robert G. Wright Fund
Tom Zimoski
Marilyn Zitterkopf

\$500+

Anonymous
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Nader and Shirin Assemi
Linda and Cliff Baker
Stefan and Mary Biskup
Janice and Paul Bissonnette
Patricia Bitter
Robert Boro
Bonnie Brewer
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Elizabeth and Ron Manfredi
Greg Markarian
Nick Martin
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Dr. Valerie Tavares
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Rosemary and Gerry Waters
Charles and Catherine Wieland
Donald Williams
Jane Willson and
Malcolm MacDonald
Stuart and Lisa Woolf
Paul and Lisa Zylka

2018 DONATIONS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS

Sheri Bohigian
Gavin Gladding
The Honorable Gene Gomes
Dottie Harkness
Margaret Jensen
Lydia Jean Kuhn
Edward D. Mesple
Robert Scott Patton
Malcolm F. Rice
Dick Van Rozeboom
Mark Sethre
Harold and Barbara Tokmakian
Pam Vallett
Joan Young

2018 AGENCIES, BUSINESSES, FOUNDATIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE RIVER PARKWAY TRUST

We're proud to acknowledge the agencies, businesses, foundations, and organizations that made contributions to the River Parkway Trust between January and December 2018.

\$100,000+

State of California, Wildlife Conservation Board
The Whitney Foundation
US Bureau of Reclamation

\$20,000+

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Central Region - Region 4
The Community Foundation, Strengthening Inland Southern California through Philanthropy
Leon S. Peters Foundation

\$10,000+

Educational Employees Credit Union
J.P. Lamborn Co.
John and Pam Lamborn
Olam SVI
Penny-Newman Grain Company, Inc.
Valley Children's Healthcare
Vulcan Materials Company Foundation

\$5,000+

20/20 Optometric of Fresno,
Dr. Thomas Casagrande
Busseto Foods
California Wildlife Foundation
Donaghy Sales
Johanson Transportation Svc.
Pacific Ginning Company, LLC
Ultra Gro Plant Food

\$2,500+

Anonymous
Beneficial State Bank Foundation
Black Eye, Inc.
California Bank & Trust
Central Valley Community Foundation
Doerksen Taylor LLP
Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau
Friant Ranch LLP
The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Recreational Equipment, Inc.
Sierra Pacific Orthopedic & Spine Center Medical Group, Inc.,
Dr. Connor Telles
The Tides Foundation
United Security Bank
Westlands Water District

\$1,000+

C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc.
Caglia Environmental
California State University, Fresno Foundation
Carlucci Transport
Central Valley Community Bank

Coleman Farming Co., LLC
E & J Gallo Winery
Fig Garden Woman's Club
Firebaugh Rotary Club
Gage Farms
Granville Homes, Inc.
Guarantee Real Estate
Hammonds Ranch, Inc.
Hedrick's Chevrolet
Hyatt Real Estate
LJL Farming
Lyles Diversified Charitable Fund
Michael Giffen Ranch, Inc.
Noble Credit Union
Norman S. Wright Duckworth Mechanical Equipment Company
Realty Concepts
River View Financial
San Joaquin Running
Shasta Wildlife Conservation Foundation
Westside Produce
Wonderful Giving

\$500+

Agiland Farming Company, Inc.
Armey-Harvey Family Foundation,
Jennifer and Douglas Armey
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Boman & Associates
Colibri Ecological Consulting, LLC
Der Manouel Insurance Group
Ford Financial Group
Fresno Oral Surgery Group and Dental Implant Center
FresYes Realty
Gary McDonald Homes
K Arakelian Foundation
Lindemann Properties, Inc.
Littler Mendelson, PC
Live Oak Associates, Inc.
Manco Abbott, Inc.
Mid Valley Disposal
N.F. Davis Drier & Elevator, Inc.
Paul Halajian Architects, Inc.
Peri & Sons Farms
Price Paige & Company
Roeser Accountancy
W.C. Davis Farms
Wells Fargo Middle Market Bank

We value everyone that contributes to the creation of the San Joaquin River Parkway. If you discover an error or omission from this list, please let us know by calling the River Parkway Trust's office at 559-248-8480 or emailing sparkes@riverparkway.org.