



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, Oct. 2, 2023

City of San Diego Seeking Lessee to Maintain and Operate Equestrian Center

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE 15-ACRE PROPERTY

SAN DIEGO –To find an operator to lease and maintain an equestrian facility in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, the City of San Diego issued a [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) today.

Canyonside Equestrian Center is located on Black Mountain Road and is approximately 15.5 acres. It includes City-owned riding rings, horse corrals that can accommodate 100 horses, a perimeter fence, tack sheds and public restrooms.

The property also houses several historic structures, including two that are registered on the National Register of Historic Places. There is no guarantee of longer-term availability for those structures, but the City is seeking funding to restore them.

The equestrian center is currently being operated on an interim basis by Canyonside Equestrian Center, LLC. The License Agreement expires Feb. 23, 2024. A portion of the property is subleased to Horsebound LLC to allow them to teach the public about equine care and maintenance, give riding lessons and to board horses.

“I’m deeply grateful to the City of San Diego’s Department of Real Estate and Airport Management team and Canyonside Ranch’s interim management, who have prioritized the welfare of the horses and their owners during this transition,” said Councilmember Marni von Wilpert. **“It is important that this Request for Proposal attract a team that is willing to continue the amazing work that has gone on at Canyonside Ranch for years, and I look forward to welcoming and working with the future lessee.”**

The initial lease is for five years. The City and lessee will then have the potential to enter into two additional five-year options.

“This equestrian center has brought so much joy to San Diegans and is an important fixture in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve,” said Department of Real Estate and Airport Management Director

Penny Maus. "We are excited to partner with an operator who is committed to ensuring its success continues into the future."

When selecting a lessee, the City will consider the proposer's experience and qualifications to operate equestrian-type facilities, their financial capability, a detailed operating plan, an oral presentation and an interview. The [RFP](#) can be accessed through the City's website. The City will hold a site visit for all interested in submitting a proposal on Monday, Oct. 9. Proposals must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Nov. 3.

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