



**CITY OF MONROVIA  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
AGENDA REPORT**

**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services

**MEETING DATE:** October 13, 2020

**PREPARED BY:** Eugene Suk,  
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-4

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**TITLE:** Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for September 2020

**OBJECTIVE:** To provide an update on incidents, maintenance, and public comments related to Canyon Park and the Hillside Wilderness Preserve (HWP) recorded for the month of September 2020.

**BACKGROUND:** For over a century, Canyon Park has been used as a recreational park by visitors and Monrovia residents. Services in Canyon Park include special events; Naturalist led night hikes, interpretive tours, a Nature Center, trails, a waterfall, and views of the San Gabriel Valley.

In 2016, the City opened over 4.5 miles of HWP trails providing passive recreational opportunities for the community. Park Naturalists patrol the HWP and urban parks two times a day by vehicle, utility terrain vehicle and foot. Park Naturalists also respond to calls related to Monrovia's Smoking Ban Ordinance.

Since mid-March 2020, in response to the potential exposure of COVID-19 and under the guidance received by local, state and federal officials, the decision was made to close the Community Center, Library, HWP and Canyon Park to the public.

In May 2020, HWP and portions of Canyon Park reopened to the public. To ensure proper social distancing in Canyon Park, additional steps were implemented to restrict access. A new reservation system was developed to help ensure a limited number of visitors, both residents and nonresidents, have the opportunity to enjoy Canyon Park while also managing large crowds. Reservations are limited to 70 per timeslot, with three timeslots available every weekday. All visitors looking to enter the park must have a reservation, whether driving, biking or walking into Canyon Park. A \$5.00 parking fee is required for visitors to park inside Canyon Park.

Trail modifications were established to ensure safe, physical distancing such as:

- One-Way Trail Loops
- Portions of the Waterfall Trail and Ben Overturf Trail closed
- Limited Trail Use Hours
  - Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
  - Closed - Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

On September 6, 2020 a fire in the Angeles National Forest started near Cogswell Dam that quickly spread toward the communities in the San Gabriel Valley. On September 7, 2020 Monrovia enacted the Emergency Operation Center in response to the fire.

**CC-4**

On September 12, the Bobcat fire reached Canyon Park and HWP. The Unified Incident Command Team deployed several fire suppression techniques and were able to save all facilities in Canyon Park and HWP. However, the fire did consume over 280 acres and a significant portion of the vegetation within Canyon Park. Fire Damage Assessments are still being conducted to evaluate the overall impacts to Canyon Park.

On Saturday, September 19, with the Bobcat fire no longer showing an imminent threat to the community of Monrovia, and the evacuation warning was lifted for the residents north of Hillcrest Blvd.

During the month of September 2020 Canyon Park Volunteers, Park Naturalist, and Community Services Staff assisted in supporting security at the Canyon Park and HWP access points.

Due to the fire damage within Canyon Park, the City closed the park indefinitely. The damage within HWP is less extensive and a reopening plan for the Preserve is currently being developed.

**ANALYSIS:** During the month of September 2020, Canyon Park. Canyon Park Volunteers completed 12 hours of maintenance on the Canyon Park Waterfall trail installing edge barriers to prevent erosion for the upcoming winter season.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the Community Services Commission move to receive and file CC-2, Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for September 2020.

**COMMISSION ACTION REQUIRED:** If the Community Services Commission concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to: Receive and file CC-2 Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for September 2020.

September 2020 CANYON PARK ACTIVITY LOG	
<b>Canyon Park Maintenance 12 of maintenance in September 2020</b>	
September 2	Waterfall trail- Canyon Park Volunteers installed two edge barriers along the trail to prevent erosion.

# September 2019/2020

PATROLS			ACTIVITY																				
	# of staff patrols 2019	# of staff patrols 2020	Pedestrians 2019	Pedestrians 2020	Vehicles 2019	Vehicles 2020	Cyclists 2019	Cyclists 2020	Pets 2019	Pets 2020	Public Service Calls 2019	Public Service Calls 2020	Smoking Ban Calls 2019	Smoking Ban Calls 2020	Wildlife Sightings 2019	Wildlife Sightings 2020	Unsecured Gate 2019	Unsecured Gate 2020	Citations 2019	Citations 2020	Activity Totals 2019	Activity Totals 2020	
<b>Sleepy Hollow</b>																							
September 1-7	14	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
September 8-14	14	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	0	0
September 15-21	14	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	0	0
September 22-28	14	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September 29-30	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 60</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Ridgeside</b>																							
September 1-7	14	13	28	9	0	0	4	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	9	
September 8-14	14	x	31	x	0	x	15	x	7	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	53	0	
September 15-21	14	x	31	x	0	x	8	x	10	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	49	0	
September 22-28	14	10	37	1	0	0	16	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	3	
September 29-30	4	4	11	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 60</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>Cloverleaf</b>																							
September 1-7	14	13	25	14	1	0	4	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	14	
September 8-14	14	x	19	x	1	x	11	x	11	x	0	x	0	x	2	x	0	x	0	x	44	0	
September 15-21	14	x	14	x	2	x	2	x	3	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	21	0	
September 22-28	14	10	26	0	0	0	9	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	
September 29-30	4	4	8	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 60</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>14</b>	
<b>Highland</b>																							
September 1-7	14	13	5	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	
September 8-14	14	x	2	x	0	x	0	x	1	x	0	x	0	x	1	x	0	x	0	x	4	0	
September 15-21	14	x	6	x	0	x	0	x	2	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	0	x	8	0	
September 22-28	14	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
September 29-30	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 60</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>= 240</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>27</b>	