



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

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

MEETING DATE: July 13, 2021

PREPARED BY: Eugene Suk,
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

TITLE: Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for June 2021.

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 June 2021.

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 addition, Naturalists and volunteers maintain the trail systems and facilities.

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.

On September 12, the Bobcat Fire entered Monrovia Canyon Park, firefighters used a defensive approach to protect buildings and structures, including the Nature Center, Ranger Station, Cabin, and restrooms. The fire suppression tactics, which included controlled burns, burned a significant amount of brush in the park but all buildings remain intact with only smoke damage. Popular hiking trails are no longer accessible and debris from high above is already rolling down the hills and landing on park trails. In total, about 278 acres of Monrovia owned open space (including 80 acres of Monrovia Canyon Park) is damaged. With the need for ongoing damage assessments and emergency preventative measures needed, we anticipate the park will be closed for some time. During this time, to secure Monrovia Canyon Park, a secondary fence has been installed at the gate to further secure the park after hours. Additionally, signs are posted as the area remains very dangerous.

The post Bobcat Fire, Burn Emergency Area Respose (BEAR) report from the US Forest Service Department shows potential rainfalls this winter and spring season creating heavy mud and debris flows in Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve. Staff is prepared to handle each incident with a case by case study after each rain event to assess damages and a response type based on each outcome.

Due to minimal damage in Hillside Wilderness Preserve the trail systems reopened on November 16 2020. Limited hiking opportunities in San Gabriel Valley such as Canyon Park, Sturdevent Falls, Hwy 39, and Eaton Canyon has increased amount of daily visitors to the Hillside Wilderness Preserve, primarily in Ridgeside and Cloverleaf access points.

CC-2

ANALYSIS: During the month of June 2021, Canyon Park Volunteers and Park Naturalists completed 121 hours of maintenance in Canyon Park, and 30 hours of maintenance in Hillside Wilderness Preserve. Maintenance performance included clearing debris on the hiking trails, repairing damaged trail barriers, brush clearance on the trails, and repairs to the picnic and Nature Center facilities.

On June 9, Staff met with painting contractors to assess damages to Canyon Parks facilities from Bobcat Fire smoke and foscheck stains.

On June 14, Bellfree Contractors completed work on rebuilding the Bill Cull trail that was damaged from the Bobcat Fire erosion by widening the trail and adding reinforced retaining walls to prevent further erosion.

On June 22, Staff met with Psomas to assess our post fire vegetation recovery plan. Staff will be reviewing their recommendations and developing an implementation plan moving forward.

On June 23, Staff met with local Indegious members of the Chumash tribe to harvest and provide an interpretive lesson on cochinel bug found on the nopales cactus in Lucinda Garcia Park.

On June 29, Staff met with Ron Cyer, president of the local Audoban Society to discuss hosting a community bird walk program within our urban and natural parks.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Community Services Commission move to receive and file CC-2, Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for June 2021.

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 June 2021.

**June 2021
CANYON PARK ACTIVITY LOG**

Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderenss Preserve 121 hours of maintenance in June 2021

June 2	Waterfall trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 4	Waterfall trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 7	Waterfall trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 9	Waterfall trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
	Fireman's Flat Campground – Park Naturalist work on installing bear proof food storage bins for the picnic grounds.
June 11	Waterfall trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 14	Coyote Ridge Switchbacks – Canyon Park Volutneers installed posts on the trail to assist with hiking accessibility.
June 16	Coyote Ridge Switchbacks – Canyon Park Volutneers installed posts on the trail to assist with hiking accessibility.
June 17	Nature Center –Park Naturalist and the YES intern disassembled and prepped installation of a new seated bench.
June 21	Bill Cull trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 23	Fireman's Flat Campground – Park Naturalist work on installing bear proof food storage bins for the picnic grounds.
June 24	Nature Center –Park Naturalist and the YES intern installed a new bench in front of the Nature Center.
June 25	Bill Cull trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 28	Bill Cull trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.
June 30	Bill Cull trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.

**June 2021
Hillside Wilderness Preserve ACTIVITY LOG**

Hillside Wilderenss Preserve 30 hours of maintenance in June 2021

June 14	Coyote Ridge Switchbacks – Canyon Park Volutneers installed posts on the trail to assist with hiking accessibility.
June 16	Coyote Ridge Switchbacks – Canyon Park Volutneers installed posts on the trail to assist with hiking accessibility.

June 2020/2021

PATROLS			ACTIVITY																				
	# of staff patrols 2020	# of staff patrols 2021	Pedestrians 2020	Pedestrians 2021	Vehicles 2020	Vehicles 2021	Cyclists 2020	Cyclists 2021	Pets 2020	Pets 2021	Public Service Calls 2020	Public Service Calls 2021	Smoking Ban Calls 2020	Smoking Ban Calls 2021	Wildlife Sightings 2020	Wildlife Sightings 2021	Unsecured Gate 2020	Unsecured Gate 2021	Citations 2020	Citations 2021	Activity Totals 2020	Activity Totals 2021	
Sleepy Hollow																							
June 1-7	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 8-14	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 15-20	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 21-28	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 29-30	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	= 39	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ridgeside																							
June 1-7	9	14	24	175	0	0	3	6	1	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	202	
June 8-14	9	14	16	130	0	0	4	14	4	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	164	
June 15-20	9	14	8	119	0	0	2	17	2	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	160	
June 21-28	9	14	24	104	0	0	6	8	2	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	133	
June 29-30	3	4	2	17	0	0	2	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	24	
Total	= 39	60	74	545	0	0	17	51	10	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	683	
Cloverleaf																							
June 1-7	9	14	14	40	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	43	
June 8-14	9	14	15	33	0	0	5	6	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	42	
June 15-20	9	14	8	11	0	0	3	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	16	
June 21-28	9	14	17	16	2	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	20	
June 29-30	3	4	2	24	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	27	
Total	= 39	60	56	124	2	0	13	16	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	148	
Highland																							
June 1-7	9	14	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10	
June 8-14	9	14	4	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	
June 15-20	9	14	1	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	
June 21-28	9	14	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	
June 29-30	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Total	= 39	60	8	14	0	0	0	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	24	
Grand Total	= 156	240	138	683	2	0	30	76	12	96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	182	855	