



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

**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services

**MEETING DATE:** September 14, 2021

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

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

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**TITLE:** Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for August 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 August 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 August 2021, Canyon Park Volunteers and Park Naturalists completed 181 hours of maintenance in Canyon Park. Maintenance included clearing debris on the hiking trails, brush clearance on the trails, cutting fallen trees that fell on the trail and stream bed, and installation of new park and trail signage to prepare for the reopening of Canyon Park.

The other notes listed below are other important events that occurred in the month of August.

- August 17 - Canyon Park Staff and Volunteers welcomed two new Park Naturalist to the Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Team.
- August 25 - Park Naturalists assisted the Department of Fish and Wildlife to locate a lost wildlife collar in the Hillside Wilderness Preserve.
- August 29 - Canyon Park Staff and Monroiva Fire paramedics assisted a dhydrated patron walking up the Saw Pit Wash trail. Monroiva Paramedics were able to assist the hiker with medical aid.
- August 30 - After nearly one year of Canyon Park being closed to the public due to the Bobcat Fire, Canyon Park reopened its hiking trails and picnic grounds to the public. Park users are able to reserve a three hour time and day to hike, picnic and mountain bike in Canyon Park.

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

**August 2021  
CANYON PARK ACTIVITY LOG**

**Canyon Park 181 hours of maintenance in August 2021**

August 2	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 4	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 6	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 9	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 10	Entrance road – Canyon Park Naturalist cleared brush and leaves on the road and parking lots.
August 11	Entrance road – Canyon Park Naturalist cleared brush and leaves on the road and parking lots.
August 13	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 16	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 17	Nature Center – Cleared brush in the surrounding areas of the picnic grounds.
August 18	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Naturalist installed improved trail head signs at the lower and middle trailheads.
August 19	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Naturalist installed improved trail head signs at the middle and nature center trailheads.
August 20	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 23	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Naturalist installed directional signs along the trail.
August 24	Waterfall trail/Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers and Naturalists cleared a fallen tree that fell onto the trail.
August 25	Overlook – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 26	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Naturalist installed directional signs along the trail.
August 27	Overlook Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
August 30	Canyon Park reopens to the public.

# August 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	
<b>Sleepy Hollow</b>																							
August 1-7	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 8-14	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 15-20	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 21-28	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 29-31	5	6	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>= 45</b>	<b>62</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>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>Ridgeside</b>																							
August 1-7	10	14	26	87	0	0	4	5	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	103	
August 8-14	10	14	25	73	0	0	12	4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	85	
August 15-20	10	14	14	68	0	0	1	2	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	74	
August 21-28	10	14	16	44	0	0	4	4	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	55	
August 29-31	5	6	8	12	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	14	
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 45</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>31</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>134</b>	<b>331</b>	
<b>Cloverleaf</b>																							
August 1-7	10	14	32	35	0	0	2	10	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	46	
August 8-14	10	14	22	40	0	0	4	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	45	
August 15-20	10	14	18	22	0	0	7	4	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	28	
August 21-28	10	14	45	31	0	0	6	5	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	39	
August 29-31	5	6	3	5	0	0	2	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 45</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</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>155</b>	<b>168</b>	
<b>Highland</b>																							
August 1-7	10	14	4	2	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	3	
August 8-14	10	14	5	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	
August 15-20	10	14	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	
August 21-28	10	14	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	
August 29-31	5	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 45</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</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>23</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>= 180</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>48</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>312</b>	<b>511</b>	