



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

**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services

**MEETING DATE:** October 12, 2021

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

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

---

**TITLE:** Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for September 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 September 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 Ppen 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 on a case by case basis following each rain event.

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

Staff worked digently following the Bobcat fire to repair trails, remove hazards, and assess damages in Canyon Park. On August 30, 2021 Canyon Park reopened to the public; just under a year following the

**CC-2**

closure due to the Fire. The Park reopened on a reservation system to ease visitors back to the Park. Staff continues to work on remediating potential hazards and improve trail conditions for Park users. Future wind and rain events may temporarily close the Park until Staff can determine the safety of the Park for patron use.

**ANALYSIS:** During the month of September 2021, Canyon Park Volunteers and Park Naturalists completed 143 hours of maintenance in Canyon Park, including clearing debris on the hiking trails and removing fallen trees and limbs.

For the month of September Staff has been working with Girl Scout Troop 2851 to place trail markers in Hillside Wilderness Preserve from the Ridgeside access point to the Sunset Bench lookout area. The Girls Scouts plan to install these posts in ¼ mile increments. Project completion is expected by the end of October.

On September 15, Staff hosted a special event to thank the Canyon Park Volunteers for their dedication and hard work towards reopening Canyon Park. Volunteers gathered together for fellowship and traded stories about the past year and their accomplishments.

On September 18-19, and 25-26 Canyon Park Staff and Volunteers hosted the Family Hike and Campout event at Fireman's Flat Campground. The events offered 20 families a camping event filled with activities, day and night hikes, BBQ dinner and breakfast, S'mores, Storytime with the Library, and star gazing with the Sidewalk Astronomers.

September 27, Park Naturalist hosted an information and interpretive booth at Recreation Park for a scout event hosted by Scout Troop 66. Staff provided an information booth on Canyon Park's local wildlife and natural resources within the San Gabriel Valley.

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

**September 2021  
CANYON PARK ACTIVITY LOG**

**Canyon Park 143 hours of maintenance in September 2021**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 1  | Bill Cull Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
| September 3  | Bill Cull Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
| September 6  | Bill Cull Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
|              | Waterfall Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed a large tree branch that fell onto the trail.  |
| September 8  | Bill Cull Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
|              | Fireman’s Flat – Park Naturalist worked on removing a fallen tree in the picnic grounds.        |
| September 9  | Fireman’s Flat – Park Naturalist worked on removing a fallen tree in the picnic grounds.        |
| September 10 | Overlook Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.       |
| September 13 | Overlook Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.       |
| September 14 | Canyon Park- Park Naturalist cleared debris from the Nature Center and Cabin parking lot areas. |
| September 15 | Overlook Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.       |
| September 17 | Overlook Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.       |
| September 20 | Overlook Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.       |
| September 21 | Nature Center- Park Naturalist cleared overgrown brush in the medians fo the parking lots.      |
| September 22 | Waterfall Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
| September 24 | Waterfall Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
| September 27 | Waterfall Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |
| September 29 | Waterfall Trail- Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris and brush that fell onto the trail.      |

# September 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> |                         |                         |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |           |           |                           |                           |                        |                        |                         |                         |                     |                     |                |                |                      |                      |          |
| September 1-7        | 13                      | 14                      | 0                | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0         | 0         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 0                    | 0                    | 0        |
| September 8-14       | x                       | 14                      | x                | 0                | x             | 0             | x             | 0             | x         | 0         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 0                    | 0        |
| September 15-20      | x                       | 14                      | x                | 0                | x             | 0             | x             | 0             | x         | 0         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 0                    | 0        |
| September 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        |
| 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>= 27</b>             | <b>60</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>     |                         |                         |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |           |           |                           |                           |                        |                        |                         |                         |                     |                     |                |                |                      |                      |          |
| September 1-7        | 13                      | 14                      | 9                | 50               | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0         | 8         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 9                    | 58                   |          |
| September 8-14       | x                       | 14                      | x                | 44               | x             | 0             | x             | 2             | x         | 4         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 50                   |          |
| September 15-20      | x                       | 14                      | x                | 58               | x             | 0             | x             | 6             | x         | 6         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 70                   |          |
| September 21-28      | 1                       | 14                      | 1                | 60               | 0             | 0             | 2             | 4             | 0         | 4         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 3                    | 68                   |          |
| September 29-30      | 0                       | 4                       | 0                | 10               | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1             | 0         | 1         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 0                    | 12                   |          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>= 14</b>             | <b>60</b>               | <b>10</b>        | <b>222</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>2</b>      | <b>13</b>     | <b>0</b>  | <b>23</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>12</b>            | <b>258</b>           |          |
| <b>Cloverleaf</b>    |                         |                         |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |           |           |                           |                           |                        |                        |                         |                         |                     |                     |                |                |                      |                      |          |
| September 1-7        | 13                      | 14                      | 14               | 25               | 0             | 0             | 0             | 4             | 0         | 2         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 14                   | 31                   |          |
| September 8-14       | x                       | 14                      | x                | 39               | x             | 0             | x             | 1             | x         | 6         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 46                   |          |
| September 15-20      | x                       | 14                      | x                | 18               | x             | 0             | x             | 2             | x         | 4         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 24                   |          |
| September 21-28      | 10                      | 14                      | 0                | 27               | 0             | 0             | 0             | 6             | 0         | 4         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 0                    | 37                   |          |
| September 29-30      | 4                       | 4                       | 0                | 3                | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1             | 0         | 2         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 0                    | 6                    |          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>= 27</b>             | <b>60</b>               | <b>14</b>        | <b>112</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>14</b>     | <b>0</b>  | <b>18</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>14</b>            | <b>144</b>           |          |
| <b>Highland</b>      |                         |                         |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |           |           |                           |                           |                        |                        |                         |                         |                     |                     |                |                |                      |                      |          |
| September 1-7        | 13                      | 14                      | 1                | 2                | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0         | 0         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 1                    | 2                    |          |
| September 8-14       | x                       | 14                      | x                | 1                | x             | 0             | x             | 1             | x         | 0         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 2                    |          |
| September 15-20      | x                       | 14                      | x                | 4                | x             | 0             | x             | 0             | x         | 0         | x                         | 0                         | x                      | 0                      | x                       | 0                       | x                   | 0                   | x              | 0              | 0                    | 4                    |          |
| September 21-28      | 10                      | 14                      | 0                | 1                | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0         | 0         | 0                         | 0                         | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   | 0                   | 0              | 0              | 0                    | 1                    |          |
| 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>= 27</b>             | <b>60</b>               | <b>1</b>         | <b>8</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>0</b>       | <b>1</b>             | <b>9</b>             |          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>= 95</b>             | <b>240</b>              | <b>25</b>        | <b>342</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>2</b>      | <b>28</b>     | <b>0</b>  | <b>41</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>27</b>            | <b>411</b>           |          |