



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

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

MEETING DATE: March 8, 2022

PREPARED BY: Eugene Suk,
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

TITLE: Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for February 2022.

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 February 2022.

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.

In September 2020, the Bobcat Fire forced the closure of Canyon Park and HWP for an extended period of time, as the areas were unsafe and significant repairs were needed.

Due to minimal damage in HWP following the Bobcat Fire, 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 number of daily visitors to HWP, primarily in Ridgeside and Cloverleaf access points.

Staff worked diligently to repair trails and remove hazards in an effort to open Canyon Park as soon as possible. On August 30, 2021 Canyon Park was reopened to the public through a reservation system to ease visitors back into the Park. Staff continue to work on remediating potential hazards and improve trail conditions for Park users. Future wind and rain events may temporarily close the Park as needed to improve safety conditions for Park users.

In addition, following the Fire, the Burn Emergency Area Response (BEAR) report from the US Forest Service Department showed potential rainfalls could create heavy mud and debris flows in Canyon Park and HWP. Staff is prepared to handle each incident on a case by case basis and will assess damages and coordinate repairs as needed.

The first significant rain event following the Bobcat Fire occurred on December 13, 2021. This strong storm event brought heavy rain to the LA County area on the evening of Monday, December 13 and continued through Tuesday, December 14. LA County Department of Public Works issued a Phase 2 Debris and Mudflow Forecast.

CC-2

The National Weather Service reported that the event accumulated over 5 inches of rain which caused significant damage to Canyon Park. Monrovia Canyon Park will remain closed indefinitely for a period of time. During the duration of the closure, photos, aerial footage, and much more information will be shared with the community.

ANALYSIS: During the month of February 2022, Canyon Park Volunteers and Park Naturalists completed 121 hours of maintenance in Canyon park, Maintenance performance that included clearing debris on the hiking trails to prevent trail erosion, cutting up trees that fell on the trail, and maintaining water bars on the hiking trails to prevent trail erosion.

During the month of February, Management Career Solutions (MCS) assisted with post fire recovery in Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve (HWP). Recovery efforts include ash and debris removal that fell on the trail, cutting up trees that fell on the trail, and erosion mitigations. Staff is continuing to monitor the progress of work as they assist in Canyon Park and HWP's post fire rehabilitation.

February 3 - City Staff met with Camp Trask to tour the site and coordinate future work for mud and debris flow removal.

February 5 - Staff met with Monrovia High School Mountain Bike Team to discuss the Preserve and proper stewardship of the land. Staff also discussed possible collaborations on future park and preserve projects for the group.

February 25 - Staff met with Cal OES representatives to assess damages from the rains in December.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Community Services Commission move to receive and file CC-2, Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for February 2022.

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 February 2022.

**February 2022
Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Activity Log**

Canyon Park 121 hours of maintenance in February 2022

| | |
|-------------|--|
| February 2 | Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 4 | Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 7 | Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 9 | Overlook trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 10 | Cloverleaf – Park Naturalists installed water bars on the trail to prevent trail erosion. |
| February 11 | Overlook/Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. Fireman’s Flat Picnic Ground – Canyon Park Volunteers cut up a fallen tree that fell in the picnic area. |
| February 14 | Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cut up a tree that fell on the trail, cleared debris from the trail, and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 16 | Overlook trail – Canyon Park Volunteers installed edge barriers to reinforce the side of the trail to prevent trail erosion. Fireman’s Flat Picnic Ground – Canyon Park Volunteers cut up a fallen tree that fell in the picnic area. |
| February 17 | Cloverleaf – Park Naturalists installed water bars on the trail to prevent trail erosion. |
| February 18 | Overlook trail – Canyon Park Volunteers installed edge barriers to reinforce the side of the trail to prevent trail erosion. |
| February 21 | Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers installed edge barriers to reinforce the side of the trail to prevent trail erosion. |
| February 22 | Cloverleaf – Park Naturalists installed water bars on the trail to prevent trail erosion. |
| February 23 | Overlook trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 25 | Overlook trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |
| February 28 | Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared debris from the trail and reestablished the hiking path. |

February 2021/2022

| PATROLS | | | ACTIVITY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | # of staff patrols 2021 | # of staff patrols 2022 | Pedestrians 2021 | Pedestrians 2022 | Vehicles 2021 | Vehicles 2022 | Cyclists 2021 | Cyclists 2022 | Pets 2021 | Pets 2022 | Public Service Calls 2021 | Public Service Calls 2022 | Smoking Ban Calls 2021 | Smoking Ban Calls 2022 | Wildlife Sightings 2021 | Wildlife Sightings 2022 | Unsecured Gate 2021 | Unsecured Gate 2022 | Citations 2021 | Citations 2022 | Activity Totals 2021 | Activity Totals 2022 | |
| Sleepy Hollow | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February 1-7 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| February 8-14 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| February 15-20 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| February 21-28 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total = | 56 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ridgeside | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February 1-7 | 14 | 14 | 32 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 38 | 101 | |
| February 8-14 | 14 | 14 | 21 | 161 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 25 | 0 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 235 | |
| February 15-20 | 14 | 14 | 160 | 157 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 26 | 11 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 175 | 223 | |
| February 21-28 | 14 | 14 | 114 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 141 | 38 | |
| Total = | 56 | 56 | 327 | 414 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 67 | 27 | 116 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 383 | 597 | |
| Cloverleaf | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February 1-7 | 14 | 14 | 17 | 53 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 83 | |
| February 8-14 | 14 | 14 | 19 | 91 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 29 | 3 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 36 | 149 | |
| February 15-20 | 14 | 14 | 85 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 15 | 14 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 105 | 113 | |
| February 21-28 | 14 | 14 | 67 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 2 | 17 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 99 | 40 | |
| Total = | 56 | 56 | 188 | 246 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 51 | 39 | 88 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 266 | 385 | |
| Highland | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February 1-7 | 14 | 14 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 10 | |
| February 8-14 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| February 15-20 | 14 | 14 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | |
| February 21-28 | 14 | 14 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 2 | |
| Total = | 56 | 56 | 18 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 26 | |
| Grand Total = | 224 | 224 | 533 | 681 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 118 | 71 | 209 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 672 | 1008 | |
| *above higher than average numbers potentially result from Canyon Park closures in February 2021 and 2022. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |