



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

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

PREPARED BY: Eugene Suk,
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

TITLE: Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for May 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 May 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, Sturdevant Falls, Hwy 39, and Eaton Canyon has increased amount 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.

The first significant rain event following the Bobcat Fire occurred on December 13, 2021. 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.

Staff has been intimately involved with clean up and rehabilitation towards Canyon Park roads, trails and infrastructure. Over the next several months Staff will continue to assess and identify damages from the

CC-2

December 2022 rainstorm clean up, identify infrastructure repairs, and oversee the possibilities of upgrades to Canyon Park.

ANALYSIS: During the month of May 2022, Canyon Park Volunteers and Park Naturalists completed 123 hours of maintenance in Canyon Park, including clearing debris on the hiking trails, made improvements on the trails that had significant trail erosion, and cut up trees and limbs that fell on the trail.

During the month of May, 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 their work as they assist in Canyon Park and HWP's post fire rehabilitation.

Progress has been made with the clean up of the mud and debris in Canyon Park. Contractors continue to clean up debris, boulders, and fallen trees off the main Canyon Park road, repairing trail access, clearing culverts and working on minor repairs to the water and electrical systems in the park. Staff is closely monitoring their work to prepare for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of 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 May 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 May 2022.

May 2022
Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Activity Log

Canyon Park and HWP 123 hours of maintenance in May 2022

May 2	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared a tree that fell onto the trail.
May 4	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed debris and cleared brush growing onto the trail.
May 5	Cloverleaf – Park Naturalist cleared brush that was growing onto the trail.
May 6	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed debris and cleared brush growing onto the trail.
May 9	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed debris and cleared brush growing onto the trail.
May 10	Nature Center – Park Naturalist cleared brush in the surrounding area of the picnic grounds.
May 11	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed debris and cleared brush growing onto the trail.
May 13	Bill Cull trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed debris and cleared brush growing onto the trail.
May 16	Overlook trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed debris and cleared brush growing onto the trail.
	Nature Center – Park Naturalist cleared brush in the surrounding area of the picnic grounds.
May 18	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers reestablished steps on a steep portion of the trail that eroded.
May 19	Cloverleaf – Park Naturalist cleared brush that was growing onto the trail.
May 20	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers reestablished steps on a steep portion of the trail that eroded.
May 23	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers reestablished steps on a steep portion of the trail that eroded.
May 25	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers reestablished steps on a steep portion of the trail that eroded.
May 27	Waterfall trail – Canyon Park Volunteers reestablished steps on a steep portion of the trail that eroded.

May 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																							
May 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
May 8-14	14	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 15-20	14	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 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
May 29-31	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	= 62	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ridgeside																							
May 1-7	14	14	125	81	0	0	30	16	10	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	165	105	
May 8-14	14	12	108	96	0	0	10	14	10	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	128	122	
May 15-20	14	12	91	72	0	0	12	13	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	89	
May 21-28	14	14	148	115	0	0	10	8	19	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	177	137	
May 29-31	6	6	55	62	0	0	4	5	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	73	
Total	= 62	58	527	426	0	0	66	56	51	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	644	526	
Cloverleaf																							
May 1-7	14	14	19	45	0	0	6	12	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	60	
May 8-14	14	12	23	32	0	0	5	16	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	53	
May 15-20	14	12	33	42	0	0	10	10	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	54	
May 21-28	14	14	49	39	0	0	8	9	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	57	
May 29-31	6	6	15	22	0	0	2	3	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	27	
Total	= 62	58	139	180	0	0	31	50	31	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	201	251	
Highland																							
May 1-7	14	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	
May 8-14	14	12	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	
May 15-20	14	12	9	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	2	
May 21-28	14	14	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	
May 29-31	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	= 62	58	30	2	0	0	1	0	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	3	
Grand Total	= 248	232	696	608	0	0	98	106	91	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	885	780	

*Higher than average touch points numbers in 2021 due to Canyon Park closure from the Bobcat Fire.

*Higher than average touch points numbers in 2022 due to Canyon Park closure from the 2021 December rain storms.