



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

DEPARTMENT: Public Services

MEETING DATE: October 11, 2016

PREPARED BY: Eugene Suk,
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-4

TITLE: 2015-2016 Canyon Park Volunteer and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Park Ranger Reserve Program Evaluation

OBJECTIVE: To provide the Community Services Commission with an evaluation of the Canyon Park Volunteer and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Park Ranger Reserve Program.

BACKGROUND: Volunteers have donated their time to Monrovia's hillsides for over a hundred years. The volunteers assist staff with educational tours, special events, environmental surveys, customer service, and maintenance of facilities and trails. The Park Ranger Reserve Program was formed in 2010 to assist staff in the removal of invasive species, trail maintenance, public safety, public assistance, and environmental surveys.

Staff works in collaboration with Citrus and Mt. San Antonio Colleges. Students interested in gaining real field experience in Public Safety or Natural Resources are recruited. Park Ranger Reserves have the opportunity to earn college credit by enrolling in the work experience program.

ANALYSIS: There are currently over 40 active Canyon Park and Ranger Reserve volunteers that assist in Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve operations. Volunteers are utilized to support staff with daily operations and various City events such as the Holiday Parade, Monrovia Days, 4th of July, and Fountain to the Falls. In total, volunteers contributed 9,571 hours of services during the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

The tables illustrate specific tasks and hours worked by the volunteers for fiscal 2015-2016 as compared to 2014-2015.

Canyon Park Volunteers

Canyon Park Volunteer Hours		
	2014-2015	2015-2016
Activities		
Trail Maintenance	3,152	3,541
Trail Patrol	2,468	1,223
Interpretation & Nature Center	302	202
Facility and Grounds Maintenance	124	1,443
Special Projects & Events	624	240

Monthly Meetings and Training	324	619
Administration	162	105
Staffing Kiosk	487	250
Other	97	100
Total Hours	7,740	7,723

Ranger Reserve Volunteers

Ranger Reserve Hours		
	2014-2015	2015-2016
Activities		
Trail Construction and Maintenance	746	847
Interpretation	102	68
Braunton's Milkvetch (<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i>) monitoring	52	20
Restoration and Fuels Reduction	425	240
Patrols	304	452
Meetings and Training	111	80
Special Events	146	141
Total Hours	1,886	1,848

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:

Throughout the year staff hosts monthly meetings, field trips, and special events in appreciation and in recognition of the service hours provided by the volunteers. There are also many volunteer awards that are given throughout the course of the year. For 2015-16 the Golden Pine Cone Leadership Award was given to Carl Jack who worked with others to complete a special project. The 2015/16 Canyon Park / Ranger Reserve Volunteer of the Year Award was to Bob Dollins in recognition of commitment to the park and our community.

FISCAL IMPACT: Canyon Park Volunteers and Ranger Reserves volunteered a total of 9,571 hours. Based on the current National Volunteer Hourly Rate of \$27.50, this represents a staff cost savings of \$263,202.50 for the Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve operations.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Community Services Commission move to receive and file 2015-2016 Canyon Park Volunteer and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Park Ranger Reserve Program Evaluation.

COMMISSION ACTION REQUIRED: If the Community Services Commission concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to: ***Receive and file 2015-2016 Canyon Park Volunteer and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Park Ranger Reserve Program Evaluation.***