



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

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

MEETING DATE: March 10, 2026

PREPARED BY: Eugene Suk,
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-3

TITLE: Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for February 2026.

OBJECTIVE: To provide an update on operations and programs for Canyon Park and activities related to Canyon Park and the Hillside Wilderness Preserve (HWP) recorded for the month of February 2026.

BACKGROUND: Since the late 1800's Canyon Park has served as a cherished outdoor destination for Monrovia residents and visitors alike. Nestled in the picturesque foothills, the park offers access to diverse natural resources that contribute to the community's overall well being providing fresh air, vital wildlife habitat, and peaceful spaces for recreation and reflection. These natural assets promote both physical and mental health while fostering a lasting appreciation for the environment and a shared commitment to its stewardship.

Now, more than six months after officially reopening in June 2025, Canyon Park has welcomed an incredible outpouring of community support and enthusiasm. Visitors have returned in strong numbers to enjoy special events, naturalist led hikes, interpretive tours, the Nature Center, scenic trails, the waterfall, and sweeping views of the San Gabriel Valley. The extended reopening has allowed staff and volunteers to fully restore and enhance park facilities, strengthen trail conditions, and expand educational programming. The overwhelmingly positive response from guests has reaffirmed the park's role as a treasured community resource, and our team of naturalists and dedicated volunteers remains committed to preserving and improving Canyon Park for everyone to enjoy.

ANALYSIS:

Canyon Park

During February, maintenance and restoration efforts continued at Canyon Park under the leadership of the dedicated Canyon Park Volunteers. Crews focused on improving trail conditions and enhancing visitor safety by trimming brush and clearing fallen trees and debris. These ongoing efforts help preserve the park's natural beauty while ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all visitors.

Beyond trail improvements, Canyon Park also served as a vibrant hub for community engagement by hosting a variety of enriching programs. For the second consecutive month, the park supported the One City, One Story initiative and once again welcomed the Monrovia Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers for a memorable evening of stargazing. Canyon Park also continued to offer interpretive hikes for visitors of all ages, along with the Kids Craft program in the Nature Center, generously sponsored by the Monrovia Parks, Wilderness, and Recreation Foundation. These programs have received an enthusiastic

response, supporting literacy advocacy, environmental education, and stronger connections within the community.

Hillside Wilderness Preserve

During the month of February, the Ridgeside and Cloverleaf access points recorded strong recreational use within the preserve. This steady level of activity reflects continued visitation, supported by the relatively pleasant hiking weather of the winter season.

Both access points experienced consistent use from hikers and mountain bikers, providing reliable data that helps staff monitor year round visitation trends. These patterns highlight the ongoing popularity of the preserve and the wide range of recreational opportunities available beyond Canyon Park.

Staff also conduct regular patrols throughout the preserve and collect supplemental data to support the Eco-Counter touchpoint readings. By pairing on site observations with automated counts, we are able to develop a more comprehensive and accurate understanding of overall recreational use within the preserve. Touchpoint comparison numbers between the first two weeks of February 2025 and February 2026 are lower due to trail damage and maintenance work from the Eaton Fire.

February 2026 Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Activity Log	
Canyon Park and HWP 204 hours of maintenance in February 2026	
February 2	Ben Overturff Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed a tree that fell onto the trail.
February 4	Ben Overturff Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed a tree that fell onto the trail.
February 6	Ben Overturff Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 9	Bill Cull Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 11	Waterfall Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 13	Ben Overturff Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed a tree that fell onto the trail and removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 16	Bill Cull, Waterfall and Overlook Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 18	Ben Overturff Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 20	Overlook Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 23	Bill Cull, Waterfall and Veterans Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers removed overgrown brush and debris that fell onto the trail.
February 25	Ben Overturff Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers removed a tree that fell onto the trail.

February 2025/2026																								
PATROLS				ACTIVITY																				
	# of staff patrols 2025	# of staff patrols 2026		Pedestrians 2025	Pedestrians 2026	Vehicles 2025	Vehicles 2026	Cyclists 2025	Cyclists 2026	Pets 2025	Pets 2026	Public Service Calls 2025	Public Service Calls 2026	Smoking Ban Calls 2025	Smoking Ban Calls 2026	Wildlife Sightings 2025	Wildlife Sightings 2026	Unsecured Gate 2025	Unsecured Gate 2026	Citations 2025	Citations 2026	Activity Totals 2025	Activity Totals 2026	
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 21-27	14	14		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February 28	1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	=	57	57	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		2	44	0	0	0	12	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	61
February 8-14	14	14		1	49	0	0	0	5	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	58
February 15-20	14	14		35	51	0	0	5	11	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	64
February 21-27	14	14		55	36	0	0	12	8	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	45	
February 28	1	1		0	5	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Total	=	57	57	93	185	0	0	17	37	8	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	238	
Cloverleaf																								
February 1-7	14	14		0	36	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45
February 8-14	14	14		0	29	0	0	0	12	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45
February 15-20	14	14		25	31	0	0	11	9	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	45
February 21-27	14	14		30	25	0	0	8	1	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	34	
February 28	1	1		0	4	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	
Total	=	57	57	55	125	0	0	19	32	7	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	176	
Highland																								
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 21-27	14	14		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February 28	1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	=	57	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	=	228	228	148	310	0	0	36	69	15	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	199	414	

* 2025 shows lower number due to the Eaton Fire temporarily closing HWP for trail repairs.

Eco - Counter February 2026					
Location	Total Counted	Daily Average	Weekday Average	Weekend Average	Busiest Day
Ridgeside	5,923	212	151	362	2/8/2026
Ridgeside In	3,356	120	86	204	2/28/2026
Ridgeside Out	2,567	90	65	158	2/8/2026
Cloverleaf	3,124	112	86	175	2/14/2026
Cloverleaf In	1,586	57	44	89	2/14/2026
Cloverleaf Out	1,538	55	42	86	2/22/2026
Cloverleaf Cyclist	1,670	60	63	50	2/21/2026
Cloverleaf Cyclist In	1,378	49	54	36	2/16/2026
Cloverleaf Cyclist Out	292	10	9	14	2/24/2026

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Community Services Commission move to receive and file CC-3, Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for February 2026.

COMMISSION ACTION REQUIRED: If the Community Services Commission concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to: Receive and file CC-3 Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for February 2026.

CC-3