



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

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2026

PREPARED BY: Eugene Suk,
Hillside Wilderness Preserve Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

TITLE: Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for March 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 March 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 wellbeing 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 March, Canyon Park operations reflected the seasonal transition from winter into spring, with maintenance efforts adapting to changing conditions. Canyon Park Volunteers, and Managed Career Solutions (MCS) crew's prioritized areas impacted by winter weather, including early vegetation growth, and accumulated debris. Work efforts focused on clearing removing downed limbs, trimming overgrowth, and reinforcing trail surfaces to improve accessibility and reduce potential hazards. These specific actions support both ecological health and visitor safety as park usage begins to increase with warmer weather.

Canyon Park continued to serve as a hub for community activity and outdoor learning. In alignment with the One City, One Story initiative, the park hosted a variety of events to conclude the three month program, including an evening stargazing event in partnership with the Monrovia Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers, where participants engaged in guided night sky viewing. Additional programming featured guided interpretive hikes that highlighted seasonal changes in the landscape, as well as hands on Kids

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Craft activities in the Nature Center, sponsored by the Monrovia Parks, Wilderness, and Recreation Foundation. These programs were highly successful in fostering community engagement while promoting environmental awareness, literacy, and an appreciation for the natural environment.

Hillside Wilderness Preserve

During the month of March, the Ridgeside and Cloverleaf access points continued to experience consistent recreational use as the preserve transitioned into the spring season. Warmer temperatures and extended daylight hours contributed to steady visitation, with more hikers utilizing the preserve as a preferred outdoor recreation destination.

Both access points saw regular use from hikers and mountain bikers, providing valuable data to monitor evolving patterns as seasonal activity increases. These trends reinforce the preserve’s ongoing appeal and highlight its importance in supporting outdoor recreation accessibility within Monrovia.

Staff maintained routine patrols throughout the preserve while also collecting supplemental observational data to support Eco Counter touchpoint readings. By integrating on site monitoring with automated counts, staff are able to develop a more comprehensive and accurate understanding of overall recreational use and better track seasonal shifts in visitation.

March 2026 Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Activity Log	
Canyon Park and HWP 225 hours of maintenance in March 2026	
March 2	Waterfall and Bill Cull Trail – Canyon Park Volunteers cleared brush and removed a fallen tree branch along the trail.
March 4	Ben Overturff Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 6	Waterfall and Bill Cull Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 9	Waterfall and Bill Cull Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleaned graffiti a various signs and rocks along the trail.
March 11	Waterfall Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleaned graffiti a various signs and rocks, can cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 13	Ben Overturff Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 16	Ben Overturff Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared large tree limbs and material that fell onto the trail.
March 18	Ben Overturff Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared large tree limbs and material that fell onto the trail.
March 20	Ben Overturff Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared large tree limbs and material that fell onto the trail.
March 23	Waterfall and Bill Cull Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 25	Ben Overturff Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 27	Bill Cull Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.
March 30	Waterfall and Bill Cull Trail - Canyon Park Volunteers cleared overgrown brush along the trail.

March 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																						
March 1-7	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 8-14	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 15-20	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 21-28	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 29-31	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	=	62	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ridgeside																						
March 1-7	14	14	54	45	0	0	10	5	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	54
March 8-14	14	14	59	48	0	0	12	10	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	66
March 15-20	14	14	61	35	0	0	8	12	8	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	59
March 21-28	14	14	75	61	0	0	14	1	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	66
March 29-31	6	6	30	40	0	0	1	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	48
Total	=	62	62	279	229	0	0	45	36	30	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	354	293
Cloverleaf																						
March 1-7	14	14	40	35	0	0	5	8	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	51
March 8-14	14	14	41	38	0	0	12	4	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	46
March 15-20	14	14	45	41	0	0	14	7	4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	60
March 21-28	14	14	38	42	0	0	3	4	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	56
March 29-31	6	6	32	5	0	0	4	5	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	15
Total	=	62	62	196	161	0	0	38	28	21	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	255	228
Highland																						
March 1-7	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 8-14	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 15-20	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 21-28	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 29-31	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	=	62	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	=	248	248	475	390	0	0	83	64	51	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	609	521

Eco - Counter March 2026					
Location	Total Counted	Daily Average	Weekday Average	Weekend Average	Busiest Day
Ridgeside	5,775	186	159	253	3/1/2026
Ridgeside In	3,144	101	87	136	3/1/2026
Ridgeside Out	2,631	85	72	117	3/1/2026
Cloverleaf	2,759	89	77	119	3/8/2026
Cloverleaf In	1,460	47	40	64	3/8/2026
Cloverleaf Out	1,299	42	37	55	3/8/2026
Cloverleaf Cyclist	776	25	24	28	3/5/2026
Cloverleaf Cyclist In	378	12	12	13	3/5/2026
Cloverleaf Cyclist Out	398	13	12	15	3/11/2026

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Community Services Commission move to receive and file CC-2, Canyon Park and Hillside Wilderness Preserve Patrol Update for March 2026.

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 March 2026.

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