



Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Department

MEMORANDUM

41835 N Castle Hot Springs Rd
Morristown, AZ 85342-9887
Phone: 602-506-2930
www.maricopa.gov/parks

Date: August 13, 2020
To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: R.J. Cardin, Director
Re: Director's Summary of Current Events

Listed below are activities the department has been involved with during **May, June, and July 2020.**

System Master Plan Update Status:

The Parks, Open Space, and Trails System Plan: Vision 2030 (Parks Vision 2030) was put on hold in April due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the dramatic changes in our society since February, it was difficult to predict current trends, community needs, and concerns, and forecast future strategies for a "new normal". Although things are certainly not business as usual, it is necessary to continue planning for the future of the park system while remaining adaptable and flexible. In September, a modified planning process will be developed and the planning effort will reconvene with the expectation of wrapping up in six to eight months.

Desert Outdoor Center (DOC):

The challenges and constraints we have all faced due to COVID-19 have been difficult for certain park facilities and programs. After reviewing various budget reduction scenarios and how they will impact our department, regional parks, staff, and park visitors, I have made a difficult decision to temporarily close the Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant Regional Park for fiscal year 21.

This decision was not made lightly. Each year, the Desert Outdoor Center is visited by thousands of students from schools all around the valley. Unfortunately, this spring we saw those numbers drop to 0 and with the expected limitations on field trips in the foreseeable future it became apparent that temporarily shuttering that facility was the prudent business decision.

Fortunately, we have been holding positions vacant in the department since early in the calendar year and will be able to redeploy the DOC staff to critical positions within the department while keeping a structurally balanced budget.

My full intent is to open the facility once again for field trips and other large gatherings beginning in FY22.

Estrella – Tres Rios Golf Course:

On July 6, 2020, the Concessionaire gave notice to the County of its intent to terminate their agreement early. Under the terms of the agreement, the parties may mutually agree to terminate without cause upon a 180-day notice by the party requesting the termination. On August 4, 2020, the Concessionaire notified the County that it plans to close Tres Rios Golf Course with approximately ten days. An executive meeting with the Board of Supervisors was held on August 10 and further negotiations with the concessionaire are underway.

Parks and Recreation FY2020 Performance Report: (see pages 11-14)

Board of Supervisors Agenda Items:

| Date/Status | Tracking Number | Summary |
|-----------------------|------------------|--|
| 3/25/2020 Approved | C-30-19-014-M-02 | Bill of Sale Governmental Dock and Boathouse Exclusive Use at Scorpion Bay Marina: Approve the bill of sale for Scorpion Bay Holdings, LLC to sell the dock and boathouses for use exclusively by Governmental Entities to the County per the terms of the Contract for Design, Construction, Use, and Maintenance Agreement. |

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--|
| 5/6/2020 Approved | C-30-20-013-M-00 | Use Management Agreement with Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center: Approve the Use Management Agreement between Maricopa County and Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center, for the promotion, development, management, improvement, operation and maintenance of a nature and wildlife conservation center at McDowell Mountain Regional Park. All development costs will be at the expense of Concessionaire. |
| 5/20/2020 Approved | C-30-19-014-M-03 | Amendment to Contract with Scorpion Bay Holdings LLC for Design, Construction, Use, and Maintenance of a Dock and Boathouses: Approve decreased costs of construction per the Concessionaire's request. |
| 5/20/2020 Approved | C-30-20-015-D-00 | Donations: Accept monetary donations of \$1,000 each from Bruce Newcomb and from Robert Saxton for memorial benches to be placed within McDowell Mountain Regional Park; and \$500 from Robert Saxton for a donation to McDowell. In addition, accept the restricted non-monetary donations of 400 admission tickets (\$18,796 value) from Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix for the Parks and Recreation's 2020 Interpretive Ranger summer programs and social media contest prizes. |
| 5/20/2020 Approved | C-06-20-500-7-00 | Donation Report for April 2020: Cash value of \$1,209.48. |
| 6/10/2020 Approved | C-30-10-022-3-02 | Amendment Two to the Use Management Agreement between Maricopa County and Northside Horse Outfitters, LLC dba Cave Creek Trail Rides: Amendment Two continues the operation, management and maintenance of Cave Creek Trail Rides and exercises the ten (10) year renewal option and amends the Fee Payment Schedule to County commencing June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2030. |
| 6/10/2020 Approved | C-30-12-009-3-01 | Termination of Use Management Agreement with Captain Zipline, LLC.: Approve the unilateral termination of the UMA as the Concessionaire was unable to develop the property for a zipline at Estrella or Lake Pleasant parks due to previously unforeseen land restrictions and higher than expected environmental assessment costs. |
| 6/10/2020 Approved | C-30-20-016-M-00 | Resolution deferring the payment of monthly, quarterly and annual minimum payments due under the management and lease agreements for lands located in Maricopa County Parks and waive late payment fees on deferred fees: Approve the resolution that upon the request of a Concessionaire, specifically in regard to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, defer the monthly, quarterly and/or annual minimum payments that are due for the months of March, April, May, June, July and August 2020. The deferred payments shall be payable in six equal installments with the respective monthly, quarterly and/or annual minimum payments due under the Agreement in September, October, November and December 2020 and January, February of 2021. All other fees due under the Agreement shall be paid in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement. |
| 6/10/2020 Approved | C-06-20-543-7-00 | Donation Report for May 2020: Cash value of \$1,798.94. |
| 6/24/2020 Approved | C-30-20-017-D-00 | Donations for Parks and Recreation: Accept the restricted monetary donations of \$267.45 for Lake Pleasant Regional Park; \$300.00 from Trena Bryan for Userly Mountain Regional Park; and \$3,596.58 from Maricopa Trail and Park Foundation for Maricopa Trail signage. |
| 7/22/2020 Approved | C-73-21-003-X-00 | Job Order Contractors (JOC) for Parks: Approve the on-call, per budgeted requirements contracts. The purpose of these contracts are to provide job-order construction services for the Parks Department at various County park locations. |

Administration

Financial/Budget Status through June 2020:

| Dept | Dept Name | Fund | Fund Name | Approp Group | Approp Group Name | Revised Revenue | Actual Revenue | Revenue Variance | Revised Expenditures | Actual Expenditures | Expenditure Variance | Budgeted Structure Balance | Actual Structural Balance | Structural Balance Variance |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| D300 | Parks and Rec 100 | General | OPER | Operating | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$878,891 | \$878,891 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 100 | General | PKRR | Parks Rtm Upgr | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$37,564 | \$37,564 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 200 | Coronavirus Rf | NRNP | NonRecr NonPrt | | \$150,000 | \$46,053.99 | (\$103,946) | \$150,000 | \$46,054 | \$103,946 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 225 | Spr Cross Ran | NRNP | NonRecr NonPrt | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$25,000 | | \$25,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$25,000 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 225 | Spr Cross Ran | OPER | Operating | | \$294,955 | \$333,985.87 | \$39,031 | \$294,955 | \$160,481 | \$134,474 | \$0 | \$173,505 | \$173,505 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 230 | Parks&Rec Gr | NRNP | NonRecr NonPrt | | \$2,200 | \$2,200.00 | \$0 | \$2,200 | \$2,200 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 230 | Parks&Rec Gr | OPER | Operating | | \$0 | \$148.02 | \$148 | \$0 | (\$5,541) | \$5,541 | \$0 | \$5,689 | \$5,689 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 239 | Parks Souvenir | OPER | Operating | | \$396,183 | \$346,977.07 | (\$49,206) | \$396,183 | \$346,977 | \$49,206 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 240 | Lk Plsmt Rc Sw | NRNP | NonRecr NonPrt | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$715,000 | \$549,898 | \$165,102 | \$0 | \$0 | \$165,102 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 240 | Lk Plsmt Rc Sw | OPER | Operating | | \$3,284,085 | \$4,095,094.82 | \$811,010 | \$3,284,085 | \$3,221,754 | \$62,331 | \$0 | \$873,341 | \$873,341 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 241 | Parks Enhncm | NRNP | NonRecr NonPrt | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$1,454,670 | \$855,967 | \$598,703 | \$0 | \$0 | \$598,703 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 241 | Parks Enhncm | OPER | Operating | | \$5,852,602 | \$6,715,706.96 | \$863,105 | \$5,852,602 | \$5,705,794 | \$146,808 | \$0 | \$1,009,913 | \$1,009,913 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 243 | Parks Donation | OPER | Operating | | \$25,404 | \$50,898.83 | \$25,495 | \$25,404 | \$25,404 | \$0 | \$0 | \$25,495 | \$25,495 |
| D300 | Parks and Rec 243 | Parks Donation | WMD3 | Daisy/MtnTrfs | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$135,000 | | \$135,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$135,000 |
| Sum: | | | | | | \$10,005,429 | \$11,591,066 | \$1,585,637 | \$13,251,554 | \$11,825,443 | \$1,426,111 | \$0 | \$2,087,942 | \$3,011,748 |

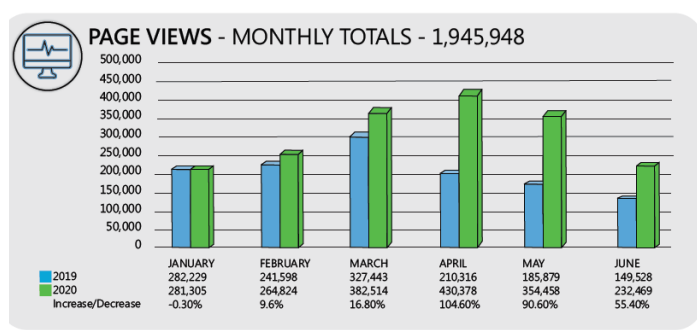
Web Analytics Report:

TOP FIVE PAGE VIEWS JANUARY - JUNE

| JANUARY | | APRIL | |
|---------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| • Home page | 15,130 | • COVID-19 | 63,473 |
| • Usery park locator | 12,492 | • Lake Pleasant | 48,616 |
| • White Tank park locator | 11,937 | • Home page | 23,337 |
| • Maps | 11,249 | • Lake Pleasant park locator | 19,604 |
| • Events | 10,508 | • White Tank park locator | 12,725 |

| FEBRUARY | | MAY | |
|------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| • Home page | 14,673 | • Lake Pleasant | 52,144 |
| • White Tank park locator | 11,945 | • COVID-19 | 45,841 |
| • Usery park locator | 11,406 | • Lake Pleasant park locator | 23,858 |
| • Lake Pleasant park locator | 10,651 | • Home page | 18,264 |
| • Maps | 10,092 | • White Tank park locator | 9,523 |

| MARCH | | JUNE | |
|--------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| • COVID-19 | 36,217 | • Lake Pleasant | 29,973 |
| • Home page | 22,252 | • Lake Pleasant park locator | 20,535 |
| • Lake Pleasant park home page | 18,047 | • COVID-19 | 18,279 |
| • White Tank park locator | 17,268 | • Home page | 12,796 |
| • Lake Pleasant park locator | 15,775 | • Things To Do | 7,805 |



Contract Administration:

• **COVID-19 Concessionaire update:**

- Three concessionaires asked to have payments waived during this pandemic. Waivers were not granted, however, staff presented a resolution to the Board of Supervisors to authorize the Director to, upon request of a Concessionaire, defer the monthly, quarterly and/or annual minimum payments due for the months of March, April, May, June, July and August 2020. The deferred payments shall then be payable in six equal installments beginning in September. All other fees due under the agreement shall be paid in accordance with the terms and conditions. Upon notification to the three concessionaires, they decided not to defer payment and continued to pay as provided in their respective agreement.
- The golf courses took a hard hit early, however they are seeing an upswing the last two months.
- Sporting concessions were also hit hard in March and April and are now trying to get back on track.
- Six Flags Hurricane Harbor re-opened on June 15 with limited admittance and closed again via the Governor's Executive Order on June 29. They will not reopen for the remainder of the season (season ends October). Expected revenue loss to Parks will be approximately \$230,000. On a good note, the addition of a new wave pool that was started in February and suspended in March, will re-start in January 2021 for the upcoming season.
- Buckeye Hills – Joe Foss Shooting Range (managers Arizona State Rifle and Pistol Association) re-opened the facility in May with an increase of use for May, June and July over previous years.

- Other concessions (i.e., model airplane, kart racing, CMCA's) re-opened in May but are experiencing a large drop in participation due to social distancing.
 - Recreation Equipment Inc.'s (REI) continues to suspend all events throughout the United States.
 - Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center Use Management Agreement's effective date is still suspended until the governmental restrictions are fully lifted.
 - Scorpion Bay Marina and Maricopa Water District continue to have increased on-water activity for Lake Pleasant.
 - The FY20 Concessionaire Attendance report is on page 15.
- **Adobe - Cancelled Events:**
 - Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix – September 7th Fireworks
 - **Buckeye Hills – Joe Foss Shooting Range Environmental:** Maricopa County's Risk Management Department funded an environmental evaluation in 2016 to review the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) range and Maricopa County Parks and Recreation's Joe Foss Shooting Range. As a result of the evaluation, Maricopa County's Facilities Management funded the clean-up of the MCSO range. At that time, the Joe Foss's Range did not present a need to mitigate any lead. The assessment did mention that in the future, Parks would need to address mitigation issues and that regular operations and maintenance would be necessary. The department has scheduled planning efforts and mitigation funding in the Capital Improvement Project forecast for Fiscal Year 2022 of approximately \$500,000. The Department will work to coordinate a joint effort of operations and maintenance with MCSO and Facilities Management to hopefully reduce costs by having a shared effort and will explore lead harvesting as an additional off-set.

Human Resources

- **Welcome New Employees:**
 - Hans Degnan, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant – 3/9/2020
- **Promotions/Position Changes/Transfers:**
 - Jeanine O'Reilly, from Asset and Inventory Coordinator to Accounting Specialist – 7/13/20
 - Staff from DOC have been re-deployed to other areas in the system:
 - Natalie Harper- McDowell Park Supervisor
 - Jenny Work- Interpretive Ranger at McDowell
 - Cassidy Solper- Contact Station at Lake Pleasant
 - Amber Gore- Asset and Inventory Coordinator at HQ
 - Adolfo Mancillas- Cave Creek Maintenance
 - Tony Blanco- still at DOC
- **Farewells**
 - Dawn Silvernale - Administration- 2/3/2020
 - Ossana Wolff - McDowell- 3/8/2020
 - Amy Roberts - McDowell- 3/19/2020
 - Alan Wattle - Cave Creek- 4/2/2020
 - Sandra Royal - Lake Pleasant 4/20/20
 - John Bland – DOC - 5/26/2020
 - Bruce Zavoda – Estrella- 6/6/2020
 - Robert Berry - Trails- 6/11/2020
- **Vacancies**
 - Water Specialist - Offer pending
 - Contact Station Assistant - Lake Pleasant - Interviews scheduled
 - Parks Planner – on hold
 - Office Assistant, Estrella – on hold
 - Trails Specialist - hold
- **Other**
 - Parks had 3 Contact Station Assistant Temps for approx. 6 weeks to assist with the busy summer season

Training Hours (Staff and Core Volunteers)

| TheHUB | Safety | Other* |
|--|--------|--------|
| FY20 Total | 1,460 | 562 |
| FY21 - thru July | 588 | 29 |
| * Other (new employee, policy review, diversity, job skills, professional development, personal development) | | |

| Safety Tailgates conduct by supervisors | |
|---|------|
| FY21 | July |
| Total Session | 4 |

Volunteer Hours (FY20 fiscal year end):

| TOTAL Volunteer Hours, by month | July | August | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June | YTD Total | YTD Change | Year End Total | Year End % Change |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|
| FY20 - All Hours | 1900.47 | 1954.5 | 3883.52 | 7019.73 | 10497.32 | 12463.36 | 12710.63 | 12212.71 | 13176.86 | 7229.43 | 3933.08 | 2768.3 | 89,750 | 17% | 89751 | 17% |
| FY19 - All Hours | 2754 | 2824 | 2968 | 4373 | 9230 | 10390 | 10847 | 13141 | 12575.25 | 7832.35 | 0 | 0 | 76,935 | -23% | 76935 | -23% |
| FY18 - All Hours | 3506 | 4956 | 4915 | 6682 | 11841 | 12353 | 13804 | 12148 | 13250 | 8708 | 3813 | 3422 | 99,378 | | 99378 | |
| FY20 - Core Volunteers | 1669.42 | 1739.25 | 2254.62 | 6239.13 | 9825.07 | 11534.94 | 11440.13 | 10949.16 | 10864.06 | 7164.88 | 3742.08 | 2636.8 | 80,060 | 7% | 80060 | 7% |
| FY19 - Core Volunteers | 2625 | 2763 | 2827 | 4277 | 9172 | 10286 | 10601 | 13098 | 12384 | 7023.97 | 0 | 0 | 75,057 | | 75057 | |
| FY20 - Service Volunteer Hours | 231.05 | 215.25 | 1628.9 | 780.6 | 672.25 | 928.42 | 1270.5 | 1263.55 | 2312.8 | 64.55 | 191 | 131.5 | 9,690 | 408% | 9690 | 408% |
| FY19 - Service Volunteer Hours | 129 | 61 | 141 | 96 | 59 | 104 | 246 | 43 | 221.25 | 808.38 | 0 | 0 | 1,909 | | 1909 | |
| Financial Impact of Volunteers, by Month | July | August | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June | YTD Total | % Change | | |
| FY20 Financial Impact | \$48,329 | \$49,703 | \$98,758 | \$178,512 | \$266,947 | \$516,943 | \$323,231 | \$310,569 | \$335,088 | \$185,844 | \$100,018 | \$70,398 | \$2,282,340 | 20% | | |
| FY19 Financial Impact | \$67,996 | \$69,725 | \$73,280 | \$107,969 | \$227,889 | \$256,529 | \$267,812 | \$324,451 | \$310,483 | \$193,381 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,899,515 | -21% | | |
| FY18 Financial Impact | \$84,635 | \$119,155 | \$118,648 | \$161,303 | \$285,842 | \$298,201 | \$333,229 | \$293,253 | \$319,855 | \$210,211 | \$92,046 | \$82,607 | \$2,398,985 | | | |
| TOTAL Number of CORE Volunteers, by Month | July | August | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June | Average | % Change | | |
| FY20 - Core Volunteers active at Parks | 158 | 160 | 181 | 193 | 196 | 194 | 202 | 204 | 202 | 181 | 186 | 186 | 187 | 86% | | |
| FY19 - Core Volunteers active at Parks | 57 | 59 | 63 | 94 | 128 | 172 | 159 | 177 | 171 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 101 | | | |

25.43 FY20 Volunteer Hourly Rate
 24.69 FY19 Volunteer Hourly Rate
 24.14 FY18 Volunteer Hourly Rate

Planning and Development Division

Project Management

- The Department's Project Manager (PM) met with the Lake Pleasant ET beds engineer to review plans for the renovation of the Desert Outdoor Center and Group Campground/RV Dump Stations. Existing design improvements were completed by Metro Land Consultants (MLC)" after reviewing original design documents. MLC recommended these improvements for the heavy maintenance project to bring the sites up to current ADEQ standards.
- The PM obtained a quote to relocate the existing cacti at the proposed interim parking lot at the Goldmine Trailhead. Staff can relocate most of the smaller cacti, but require expert relocation services for the larger specimen cacti.
- The PM met with the Department's new electrical JOC contractor to review and bid the new group campground host sites at Lake Pleasant Regional Park. The site will have four host spaces and requires a new electrical service, conduit runs, and 50 pedestals to power up the sites.

Trades Crew

- Department Electricians have completed the electrical service installation for the automatic roll up dock doors at the Government Dock at Scorpion Bay in Lake Pleasant Regional Park.
- The Trades Crew electricians have run power to several of the new technology cabinets on the back of the contact station at the parks. The new cabinets are air conditioners and provide technology support without taking up valuable space in the small entry station interior spaces.
- The Trades Crew Electrician completed electrical upgrades in the group campground including lighting, electrical disconnects, sub panels, and breakers. This work allows the sites to be more dependable, sustainable, and maintainable for years to come.
- The Trades Crew completed the Estrella Park new host site granite installation and landscape clean up. Staff installed 300 tons of granite, pruned trees, and prepared the sites for hosts to occupy this fall.

Trails Crew

- The Trails Crew is completing construction of the new trail addition to the Estrella Mountain Regional Park Competition Track. This addition is approximately 2.0 miles and provides an additional route and challenges to the riders on the track. The work has been tough and rocky, but the Trails Crew is now ready for the West Valley Trail Alliance to assist with the fine handwork on the project.

Maricopa Trail, Sun Circle, and Trail Facilities:

- Agreement preparation/negotiations:
 - City of Phoenix – IGA for Segment 1 sent to the Phoenix Street Transportation Department.
 - ADOT – Received permit for Segment 8 under the new SR202 on 5/1/2020. Preparing permit for SR85 crossing Segment 33.
 - Daisy Mountain – met with State Land regarding the survey, plat, and legal descriptions on 6/18/20.
 - AZGFD – Segment 14 met 7/7/20 (license expiration); Segment 33, waiting for draft license.
- Construction - Completed construction of new trail (Segment 8) under SR202 5/20/20.
- Maintenance
 - Segments 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 33 and 35 – Completed tread repair, grooming and brushing July 2020.
 - Maricopa Trail and Parks Foundation received \$145,000 grant from State Parks for Maricopa Trail maintenance 7/28/20.
- Trailheads
 - Segment 27, Bush Highway – Bureau of Reclamation approved Categorical Exclusion 7/30/20. Construction scheduled for November 2020.
- Sign Installation, Inventory, and Mapping
 - Completed signs and inventory/mapping: Segment 33 May 2020; Segment 25 June 2020; and Segment 7 July 2020.
- Route Determination – Developed alternate routes for Segment 77 Vulture Mountain to Lake Pleasant and Segment 76 White Tank to Vulture Mountain. Under management review.

Natural Resources

- The Department's Natural Resource Specialist completed post-fire site assessments at Cave Creek and White Tank Mountain Regional Parks. The process included working with staff and volunteers to create random sample grids, identifying plant species, and creating a matrix of burn severity to better understand the damage done to the resource.
- The Natural Resource Specialist is working the Department Contract Administrator to create a draft agreement with the Arizona Master Naturalists to create a Maricopa County Parks Naturalist group. These volunteers have extensive natural resource experience and will augment many of the department's natural resource efforts including invasive species management, seed collection, and fire damaged resource restoration work.

Parks Operations Report

Parks Special Use Permits (through FY20 close):

| | FY20 | FY19 | FY18 | FY17 | FY16 | FY15 | FY14 | FY13 | FY12 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|------|------|
| # of SUPs | 80 | 101 | 105 | 97 | 117 | 97 | 117 | 77 | 94 |
| # of Participants | 16,852 | 20,099 | 18,018 | 16,960 | 18,297 | 18,094 | | | |

% of change from Previous Year

| | FY20 | FY19 | FY18 | FY17 | FY16 | FY15 | FY14 | FY13 | FY12 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| # of SUPs | -21% | -4% | 8% | -17% | 21% | -17% | 52% | -18% | |
| # of Participants | -16% | 12% | 6% | -7% | 1% | | | | |

Park Visitor Attendance (through FY20 close):

| FY20 | MONTH | | | | | | | | | | | | YEAR | | % of Change Month to date |
|----------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| | Jul 19 | Aug 19 | Sep 19 | Oct 19 | Nov 19 | Dec 19 | Jan 20 | Feb 20 | Mar 20 | Apr 20 | May 20 | Jun 20 | TO DATE | TO YEAR | |
| Cave Creek | 363 | 505 | 959 | 4,233 | 9,450 | 9,775 | 13,542 | 14,572 | 16,079 | 11,336 | 3,145 | 1,552 | 85,511 | 85,511 | 3.0% |
| Estrella Park | 1,350 | 1,954 | 3,571 | 6,034 | 9,547 | 6,841 | 12,726 | 11,067 | 16,449 | 9,370 | 5,819 | 3,687 | 88,415 | 88,415 | 6.2% |
| McDowell Mtn | 1,095 | 1,407 | 3,520 | 11,570 | 12,574 | 13,877 | 17,846 | 16,006 | 18,997 | 13,822 | 5,654 | 2,779 | 119,147 | 119,147 | 11.5% |
| San Tan Park | 3,941 | 3,832 | 6,009 | 12,801 | 17,839 | 16,810 | 27,717 | 25,062 | 33,803 | 26,313 | 17,551 | 9,622 | 201,300 | 201,300 | 18.8% |
| Spur Cross | 113 | 122 | 244 | 730 | 826 | 4,208 | 4,592 | 4,569 | 4,508 | 2,276 | 563 | 210 | 22,961 | 22,961 | -3.0% |
| Usery Mtn Park | 5,562 | 5,959 | 8,133 | 16,411 | 26,374 | 23,339 | 34,431 | 33,957 | 44,356 | 25,954 | 12,914 | 8,453 | 245,843 | 245,843 | 3.3% |
| White Tank | 4,913 | 5,658 | 9,810 | 20,115 | 31,195 | 27,762 | 39,931 | 40,494 | 64,224 | 27,038 | 16,680 | 10,640 | 298,460 | 298,460 | 0.0% |
| Hassayampa | 453 | 418 | 591 | 1,405 | 1,498 | 971 | 1,746 | 2,002 | 2,321.0 | 2,477 | 2072 | 1,294 | 17,248 | 17,248 | 18.9% |
| Lake Pleasant | 90,616 | 63,458 | 51,411 | 37,125 | 31,095 | 18,054 | 32,436 | 40,902 | 69,504 | 75,153 | 116,342 | 98,916 | 725,012 | 725,012 | 7.6% |
| DOC | 140 | 64 | 381 | 1,556 | 1,887 | 1,330 | 1,622 | 1,630 | 1,030 | - | - | - | 9,640 | 9,640 | -22.7% |
| SYSTEM TOTAL | 108,546 | 83,377 | 84,629 | 111,980 | 142,285 | 122,967 | 186,589 | 190,261 | 271,271 | 193,739 | 180,740 | 137,153 | 1,813,537 | 1,813,537 | 6.4% |

Adobe Dam Regional Park

- On August 8, a fire started on the City of Glendale Parks property and spread to the boundary of the 500 Club Golf Course. There was no real damage to the course. A couple of sprinkler heads and a small portion of the grass area near one of the golf course holes needs to be replaced.
- Materials are being purchased for fence line repairs at the boundary of Fort Adobe Paint Ball Area. Installation will be completed in August.
- The automatic gate that was damaged is being replaced; work should be completed soon.
- PKRA (Phoenix Kart Racing Association) Summer Race Series is scheduled through October 17.

Buckeye Hills Regional Park

- The Joe Foss Shooting range picked up business again in May with good public turnout.
- The range has done a steady business in June with excellent public turnout, all while following approved COVID-19 protocols.

Cave Creek Regional Park

- On May 17, the East Desert Fire started outside of the park. Overnight, the fire spread to over 1,400 acres, with 555 acres within park boundaries. On May 18, the park was evacuated, campers were directed to move to other parks and day use visitors were denied access. On May 20, employees returned to the park and relocated all vehicles and equipment to Lake Pleasant. Camping and trail use resumed on May 22. Hotshot crews stayed in the park's campground to have a place to rest and utilize shower facilities. A plant and equipment survey was scheduled for the area to determine what was lost in the fire.
- Mine project: reviewing documentation, creating a spreadsheet to identify a mine inventory, site locations, and monitoring plan.
- Staff assisted with the coordination of scheduling plant survey of the acres affected by the East Desert Fire. Several fire crews have been utilizing park facilities for overnight use while working several brush fires in the area.
- Interviewed and approved a community service volunteer to assist the maintenance crew. Staff is currently training the new volunteer to assist with daily maintenance tasks, i.e., brush abatement, campsite landscaping, and general facility maintenance tasks.
- Souvenir Inventory was reviewed to determine what products we do not want to carry next season.
- Submitted report for MCDOT signage and road needs.
- Continue to review Standard Operation Procedures.
- Emergency Evacuation and Fire Prevention procedures up-dated and reviewed by staff.
- Maintenance and interpretive staff continue to work on the mine closure project.
- Maintenance staff is gearing up for the season, reviewing supplies on hand, and putting together requisitions for supplies needed.
- Staff continues to complete weed abatement around facilities and campsites.
- The staff is working on drainage improvements in the campground.

Estrella Mountain Regional Park

- Estrella staff continued business utilizing COVID-19 modifications to best protect the public, hosts and staff members in the park.
- Estrella's north park boundary issues have quieted some. Staff continues to repair/replace damaged fence posts and signs.
- The park's trees looked great in May with the Paloverdes all in yellow and the Ironwoods in mauve. Park visitors enjoyed morning and evening hikes with the trees and cacti in bloom. New trees along the one-mile sidewalk are growing and filling in with the irrigation water, warmth, and sunshine. Trimming and grooming are progressing as the trees take shape.
- The interpretive ranger provided social media educational programming in June, which elicited many positive comments from the public.
- The Nature Center remains closed, but annual pass sales have been steady during the pandemic.
- Three new covered host sites were constructed in May and June. Finishing touches on the ground and granite are being completed for Park Host occupation.
- Kubota/Tractor training was held at Estrella. The second maintenance person is now trained and able to use the equipment.
- Additional host sites up and running, one year-round host moved into a new place July 1.

- The domestic waterline broke and created flooding on Casey Abbot North. Repairs were completed by 7/31/2020.
- Park maintenance staff and hosts have been grooming the 30 acres of granite around the ramadas in preparation for pre-emergent weed spraying.

Hassayampa River Preserve (HRP)

- Due to COVID-19, the new operating days (Thursday through Sunday) continue. On May 7, the Preserve switched to summer hours of 7:00am-4:00pm.
- In May, the Preserve saw 2,072 visitors. This was a 49% increase over May 2019 visitation.
- In June, the Preserve saw a 40% increase in visitation over 2019, even though the Preserve was closed an additional four days in June 2020. Weekend visits have been 2-3 times more for this time of year.
- Visitation for the month of July totaled approximately 855 visitors. This is an approximate 89% increase over July 2019 even though the Preserve was closed an additional five days due to altered COVID-19 operations.
- The well control panel damaged by a falling cottonwood tree at the end of April has been rebuilt. The Preserve was without water for approximately 1½ weeks during the rebuild time.
- A break in a septic line near the visitor center was repaired.
- Work continued by contractors on historic buildings (roof, painting, and such). Work began on a new automatic entry gate.
- No interpretive programs were conducted during the month of May due to COVID-19.
- A rare streak-backed oriole was discovered to be nesting in the Preserve at the end of June. This is the first nesting occurrence recorded in Maricopa County for this species. This has brought numerous birders into the Preserve. Park staff have blocked off the area around the nest and continue to monitor visitation in the area as able.
- The new automatic entry gate is now in operation.
- In July, park staff returned to full staffing levels.

Lake Pleasant Regional Park

- In June, the park added a day of service availability to the North Entry Station and is now available Friday thru Sunday from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. (unless a closure is implemented).
- General park hours of operation were changed to 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.
- Pipeline Canyon bridge was re-installed, as water levels dropped to an appropriate level.
- The crew continues to implement new strategies and techniques to serve as barriers to prevent illegal access and further destruction to the North Lake Pleasant Conservation Area (including additional educational/law enforcement patrols).
- The driveways were enhanced at park host sites within Desert Tortoise Campground with decomposed granite.
- Staff installed new wildlife proof trashcans around the park to help minimize potential trash along the shorelines.
- The Bald Eagle closure was lifted early for the Agua Fria River on June 11th. There were three successful fledglings. Another new nest site has been located and will be re-evaluated next year, bringing the total to four new nests (two nests are in the general area of two old nests).
- Special thanks to White Tanks, Desert Outdoor Center, Cave Creek, Hassayampa River Preserve, and others for sending over staff and resources to assist Lake Pleasant with staffing coverage and support with the temporary park closures (due to park and COVID-19 related capacity issues).
- In FY20, the park saw an increase in attendance by 7.6%; approximately 725,000 visitors.
- The annual fireworks show on July 3rd at the Lake was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Park staff continues to perform regular educational enforcement checks at the North Lake Pleasant Conservation Area resulting in a tremendous decrease of illegal access issues. Special thanks to the team for their continued effort to restore the area back to a more natural state.
- Maintenance staff have continued to improve roadway access to Two Cow Cove and Sunset Ridge by applying native fill dirt/soil for easier/smooth access to the highly sought after areas of the park. Natural barriers (large boulders) have been placed in various areas around the main entry side of the park to minimize encroachment issues.
- A car fire occurred on South Park Road. Special thanks to the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), Peoria Fire and Park Staff for their quick response to help de-escalate the potential traffic situation and prevent the fire from going into the desert.

McDowell Mountain Regional Park

- Staff completed inventory of FY20 Souvenir items in June.
- Minsk Camp renovations have been scheduled, and equipment and supplies are being ordered with work to begin after the summer monsoons.
- Fire Evacuation Emergency Plan was wholly updated and reviewed by staff.
- Staff completed renovations of a pond in the tortoise habitat.
- No interpretive programs or special events conducted in May.
- Staff installed and is experimenting with Plexiglass/Lexan shields for the countertop in the Visitors Center.
- Friends of McDowell purchased eight video cameras that will be installed around the Visitor Center for animal sightings and will also aid in security.
- Three restrooms in the South Loop of the campground were summerized for the season.
- McDowell experienced a small fire on the northeastern corner near Rio Verde. The fire started on the eastern side of McDowell Mountain Road and went east onto the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation. Approximately 120 acres were burned.
- Staff completed modifications to the existing Ironwood tent campsites.
- Renovations to the maintenance compound office has begun.
- Multiple landscaping projects at campsites along the roadway and on Scenic & North trails have been completed.
- Annual maintenance of hot water heaters were conducted.
- A new memorial bench was installed on Bluff/Granite trails with family members in attendance.
- Four new hosts have been hired for the upcoming season. Two year-round hosts will now reside in the park. One assists with camping/maintenance while the other will assist with entry station/visitor center operations.
- The North Loop campsites and restrooms were closed for the summer.
- Natalie Harper transferred from the DOC and began her new position as Park Supervisor.
- Ranger Jenny transferred from the DOC and began her new position at McDowell.

San Tan Regional Park

- For May, due to COVID-19, San Tan cancelled 20 programs. This included a Trailwork Volunteer Day, a guided walk presented by our partners San Tan Valley Master Gardeners and a homeschool program featuring a local author whose book we sell in the Gift Shop.
- Goldmine Trailhead off of Wagon Wheel Road was closed for most of the month to follow social distancing protocol in the lot and was re-opened on May 26.
- Given the wildfire activity in our other parks and surrounding areas, San Tan readied its emergency evacuation plan for staff and critters
- Two staff on the Wellness Team Champions participated in a webinar to learn about the rollout of the new vendor for the Wellness Works portal.
- The gate for the future parking lot at Goldmine Trailhead is being installed.
- July attendance was 7,584, which is nearly double from July 2019.
- In preparation for the monsoon season, maintenance used the tractor to move dirt and reinforce trail areas known to be susceptible to rain damage.
- Two host sites were upgraded with 30' x 30' concrete pads and ramdas.
- San Tan's two tortoise ambassadors officially moved into their new habitat created through an Eagle Scout project. A new pump was also installed in the habitat so the water feature is now operational.
- San Tan staff cleaned and prepped the old tortoise habitat to accommodate Grumpy the Tortoise in his temporary move from the DOC.

Spur Cross Conservation Area

- On May 30, the Ocotillo Fire was burning north of the Town of Cave Creek. The main road to Spur Cross Conservation Area was closed and home owners were evacuated. Around 980 acres burned, which included several structure fires. Spur Cross was not affected by the fire except for the park closure. The fire came within 60 feet of Cave Creek Regional Parks boundary. The park re-opened on June 3rd.
- Staff has been posting COVID-19 guidelines and monitoring to ensure visitors are complying with social distancing.
- The Interpretive Ranger and trail volunteers continue to remove weeds and complete minor trail maintenance throughout the park.
- The Interpretive Ranger has been assisting with the Cave Creek plant survey of the acres affected by the East Desert Fire.

- Some trail maintenance has been completed. During the month of May staff has been focused on monitoring visitation to the park and ensuring visitors comply with social distancing.
- All in-person interpretive programs have been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- On July 26, equipment at the park was vandalized. The entry gate has minor damage. The Mobile Mini door handle was broken off the unit, but there is no evidence of entry. An equipment inventory of the facility will be completed. The ATV's look like they are intact, however, for safety precautions, Equipment Services' staff have been scheduled to inspect the units to ensure they were not tampered with. The Kiosk plexiglass was damaged and will need to be replaced.

Usery Mountain Regional Park

- Buckhorn Campground was at 99% capacity during the Memorial Day Weekend.
- Major repairs to Trailhead Staging Restroom (septic) were complete in May.
- In May, 15 interpretive programs were canceled due to COVID-19 operation changes.
- Usery staff completed the FY20 souvenir inventory in June.
- Due to COVID-19, the Nature Center remains closed, but Usery staff created an 8-foot barrier inside the building to allow one customer inside at a time when the need arises.
- Interpretive Ranger Brennan offered a Zoom presentation with the Mesa Public Library with information on Usery Mountain Park, the Critters, and more.
- Due to COVID-19 and reduced schedules, the limited maintenance staff completed the removal of 150 fire pits and grills within our campground. Digging for the new fire pits/grills has begun.
- The Restroom 10 project was completed with all new toilets, mirrors, sinks, and urinals.
- Tonto National Forest closed during the month of July due to extreme fire danger; this affected two of our most popular trails, Wind Cave and Pass Mountain Trails.
- Maintenance staff replaced all broken or missing parking bumpers from last fiscal year's campground upgrades.
- Certified trainer Ray, from the park's maintenance staff, conducted a Tractor Training class for new staff at San Tan Park.

White Tank Mountain Regional Park

- A human-caused wildfire started near Area 3 on the evening of Thursday, May 21st. The park evacuated all campers and park hosts. Rural Metro was first to respond and handed over operations management to the Department of Forestry and Fire Management upon their arrival. Fire crews fought the fire overnight and kept it contained to 128 acres between the park boundary and the main road, and Area 3 to Trailhead Staging Area. No injuries or accidents were sustained throughout the incident.
- Waterfall Trail reopened to the public on Wednesday, May 27th after being closed due to COVID-19.
- Sixteen interpretive programs were cancelled in May due to COVID-19 including White Tank's yearly *Stargazing for Everyone* program.
- Ranger Justin traveled to San Tan Regional Park to assist with their chuckwalla habitat, and Cave Creek Regional Park to assist with post-fire assessments.
- The Park's Natural Resource Specialist worked with White Tank staff and volunteers to organize multiple seed-gathering events for the Tank Fire restoration efforts.
- The electronic park entrance gate was severely damaged by a vehicle the end of May; it was repaired and is now functional.
- The contractor completed work on the Trailhead Staging host septic system which was having issues all winter.
- Due to additional year-round hosts this summer, White Tank has been able to staff the entry station from open to close the entire summer. This not only provides better customer service, but also boosts the park's revenue and provides more accurate attendance records.
- Staff removed old wooden ramada reservation display signs throughout the park and replaced them with refurbished, painted park signs behind new plexiglass. This project is an excellent example of park staff being creative with supplies already on hand to improve the aesthetics and functionality of park facilities at a low cost.