

41835 N. Castle Hot Springs Rd.  
Morristown, AZ 85342-9687  
Main: 602-506-2930  
HQ: 602-506-9500  
[www.maricopa.gov/parks](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks)

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 12, 2025  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission  
**From:** Jennifer Waller, Director  
**Re:** Director's Summary of Current Events

Listed below are activities the department has been involved with during August 2025.

### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR:

- Buy One Get One Update: Back for the season September 18-October 31, 2025, this year bringing it back to the roots where the program was intended to provide an opportunity to the Maricopa County residents; however, over time, the program included non-residents. This year will be only for residents.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEMS:

Date/Status	Tracking Number	Summary
8/20/2025 Approved	C-06-26-044-X-00	DONATIONS PARKS AND RECREATION In accordance with County Policy A2508, accept the monthly donation report received from Parks and Recreation for July 2025, for a cash value of \$598.10.

## ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE DIVISION:

### PARKS VISITOR ATTENDANCE REPORT (FY26 THROUGH AUGUST):

	FY26	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26
	FY25	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
	FY24	Aug-24	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
	FY23	Sep-24	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23
Cave Creek		1,269	1,643										
	FY25	1,359	1,291	2,096	5,972	12,216	11,866	13,586	13,416	16,178	11,427	5,513	1,926
	FY24	1,266	1,621	3,312	9,690	12,328	12,736	13,249	14,271	17,256	12,085	4,392	1,566
	FY23	1,373	2,028	2,551	8,499	13,383	13,384	14,534	15,537	19,650	14,181	6,299	2,727
Estrella		945	867										
	FY25	1,697	2,268	4,180	4,704	10,381	9,037	13,005	9,168	12,934	9,535	3,292	1,356
	FY24	1,864	2,003	5,174	6,395	10,104	9,024	12,047	11,453	17,739	10,452	5,525	2,967
	FY23	2,342	2,644	3,346	6,640	8,382	8,022	12,165	16,631	18,998	14,597	5,346	4,277
McDowell Mtn		1,526	1,493										
	FY25	957	1,732	2,853	14,766	13,601	15,036	16,133	14,266	16,889	8,059	3,937	1,641
	FY24	1,268	1,766	3,851	14,137	13,901	15,071	15,379	15,388	17,288	9,778	5,090	4,980
	FY23	1,685	1,845	3,792	13,861	18,134	17,277	17,201	16,816	22,719	15,714	5,747	2,418
San Tan Park		4,055	3,869										
	FY25	2,986	4,401	7,476	11,580	23,690	23,614	30,563	29,024	29,420	19,224	9,797	5,436
	FY24	3,680	4,209	8,094	13,823	22,089	23,452	28,344	26,251	27,136	16,149	10,300	5,244
	FY23	4,215	6,029	7,407	14,861	23,586	20,889	26,361	25,488	30,452	18,996	9,836	6,486
Spur Cross		252	231										
	FY25	125	180	346	1,166	4,794	4,779	6,113	6,497	6,322	3,806	1,471	417
	FY24	130	118	488	1,575	6,699	4,511	6,053	7,258	8,282	4,917	1,184	7,671
	FY23	180	316	488	1,976	4,789	3,578	6,430	6,477	8,221	4,900	1,139	586
Usery Mtn Park		7,524	7,330										
	FY25	8,517	9,234	10,223	16,648	33,016	29,963	34,002	32,218	37,145	25,229	14,702	7,671
	FY24	7,169	6,670	10,119	17,968	32,940	34,058	34,879	37,369	44,888	26,124	14,814	8,118
	FY23	6,500	6,544	7,043	16,879	26,760	24,845	29,889	29,695	44,722	29,472	13,158	8,231
White Tank		4,924	5,056										
	FY25	4,285	5,302	7,123	15,727	33,197	31,583	36,753	38,496	48,457	27,904	15,262	7,814
	FY24	4,393	6,164	9,396	17,812	26,356	28,524	33,741	39,129	46,464	25,763	13,906	6,682
	FY23	7,264	8,845	9,345	20,459	27,457	26,239	38,467	39,100	50,150	29,236	13,361	8,585
Hassayampa		329	439										
	FY25	268	380	655	968	1,882	1,391	1,832	1,932	2,626	2,097	1,630	647
	FY24	339	411	795	1,133	1,752	1,536	1,461	1,951	2,716	2,375	1,238	471
	FY23	463	546	671	1,202	1,500	912	1,535	1,610	2,573	2,366	1,398	840
Lake Pleasant		134,178	110,214										
	FY25	141,534	94,866	78,349	58,878	52,444	42,847	49,020	63,061	87,919	101,406	146,916	133,030
	FY24	146,522	76,963	81,319	73,010	47,229	37,638	42,195	62,353	95,518	101,975	146,615	157,420
	FY23	146,746	87,426	95,022	78,576	56,935	48,903	55,380	64,152	92,599	146,533	142,552	153,447
DOC		180	248										
	FY25	343	323	200	485	1,060	711	716	2,000	1,450	2,093	1,207	756
	FY24	50	80	97	796	496	856	452	847	1,389	2,087	1,878	960
	FY23	183	225	151	639	972	1,302	875	493	2,516	1,618	1,855	402
Agua Fria		0	0										
	FY25	38	0	0	24	79	67	77	0	77	160	84	40
	FY24	6	6	0	0	7	97	130	112	192	232	149	0
	FY23	0	113	0	20	92	32	39	41	62	342	0	0
System Total		155,182	131,390	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	FY25	162,109	119,977	113,501	130,918	186,360	170,894	201,800	210,078	259,417	210,940	203,811	160,734
	FY24	166,687	100,011	122,645	156,339	173,901	167,503	187,930	216,382	278,868	211,937	205,091	196,079
	FY23	170,951	116,561	129,816	163,612	181,990	165,383	202,876	216,040	292,662	277,955	200,691	187,999



## FY26 BUDGET REPORT (PERIOD 2):

Report ID: FIN-BA-MC010  
Run Date: 09/04/2025  
Run Time: 8:43:50 AM

Budget to Actual  
by Department, Fund and Appropriation Unit Group  
Fiscal Year: 2026 Period: 2

Page 1 of 1

Dept	Dept Name	Fund	Fund Name	Approp Group	Approp Group Name	Revised Revenue	Actual Revenue	Revenue Variance	Revised Expenditure s	Actual Expenditure s	Expenditure Variance	Budgeted Structure Balance	Actual Structural Balance	Structural Balance Variance
D300	Parks and Re	100	General	NRNP	NonRecr NonPr	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	\$1,657	\$398,343	(\$400,000)	(\$1,657)	\$398,343
D300	Parks and Re	100	General	OPER	Operating	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,306,905	\$143,550	\$1,163,355	(\$1,306,905)	(\$143,550)	\$1,163,355
D300	Parks and Re	225	Spr Cross Ranc	NRNP	NonRecr NonPr	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$50,000
D300	Parks and Re	225	Spr Cross Ranc	OPER	Operating	\$346,912	\$19,441.17	(\$327,471)	\$346,912	\$41,821	\$305,091	\$0	(\$22,380)	(\$22,380)
D300	Parks and Re	240	Lk Plsnt Rc Svc	NRNP	NonRecr NonPr	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,730,000	\$38,929	\$1,691,071	(\$1,730,000)	(\$38,929)	\$1,691,071
D300	Parks and Re	240	Lk Plsnt Rc Svc	OPER	Operating	\$4,426,139	\$792,970.13	(\$3,633,169)	\$4,426,139	\$629,691	\$3,796,448	\$0	\$163,279	\$163,279
D300	Parks and Re	241	Parks Enhncmnt	NRNP	NonRecr NonPr	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$838,000	\$0	\$838,000	(\$838,000)	\$0	\$838,000
D300	Parks and Re	241	Parks Enhncmnt	OPER	Operating	\$7,544,122	\$796,797.73	(\$6,747,324)	\$7,544,122	\$1,193,639	\$6,350,483	\$0	(\$396,841)	(\$396,841)
D300	Parks and Re	243	Parks Donations	OPER	Operating	\$38,147	\$4,711.70	(\$33,435)	\$38,147	\$0	\$38,147	\$0	\$4,712	\$4,712
D300	Parks and Re	243	Parks Donations	WMD3	DaisyMtnTrls	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	(\$25,000)	\$0	\$25,000
D300	Parks and Re	296	Coronavirus FRF	NRNP	NonRecr NonPr	\$19,077,944	\$0	(\$19,077,944)	\$19,077,944	\$2,180,801	\$16,897,143	\$0	(\$2,180,801)	(\$2,180,801)
Sum:						\$31,433,264	\$1,613,921	(\$29,819,343)	\$35,783,169	\$4,230,088	\$31,553,081	(\$4,349,905)	(\$2,616,167)	\$1,733,738

## HUMAN RESOURCES:

### Welcome/Promotions/Transfers:

- Sierra Miller – Park Assistant, Estrella (transfer) – 8/18/25
- Mike Brown – Park Supervisor, McDowell (transfer) – 8/18/25

### Farewells:

- Nathan Townsend – Park Maintenance Worker, San Tan – 8/9/25
- Jennifer Atella – Contact Station Assistant, McDowell – 8/15/25
- Nathan Townsend – Park Maintenance Worker, San Tan – 8/9/25
- Haley Demitropoulos – Park Assistant, White Tanks - 8/18/25

### Current Vacancies:

- P17151 Park Supervisor
- P19536 Park Maintenance Worker
- P76863 Contact Station Assistant
- P68191 Contact Station Assistant
- P76386 Contact Station Assistant
- P76932 Park Maintenance Worker
- P76864 Contact Station Assistant
- P78302 Park Asset and Inventory Coordinator
- P100114 Management Analyst

## PARK OPERATIONS DIVISION:

### NATURAL RESOURCES:

- An Arizona State University student started an internship and will be assisting from August 25-December 13 on the following projects:
  - Wildlife and game camera monitoring.
  - ECO Blitz data organization.
  - Performing saguaro census data collection for fire-impacted areas.
  - Helping with pollinator gardens and other related tasks.



## VOLUNTEERS:

- **Overall Updates/Projects**
  - The Volunteer Coordinator conducted preliminary security audits at Lake Pleasant and Estrella and shared his findings with Maricopa County Security Services to assist them with their upcoming review in October.
- **Lake Pleasant**
  - Volunteer cleanup crew on Mondays consistently generates 1-5 volunteers per week to clean up the shorelines and heavy-use areas around the park.
- **Hours (FY26 through August)**

TOTAL Volunteer Hours, by month													YTD Total	Year End Total	Year End % Change	
July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June					
FY26 - All Hours	3,343	3,396	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,751	6,751	-4%		
FY25 - All Hours	3,701	3,338	4,187	6,273	10,495	11,605	12,687	11,011	12,437	9,070	5,298	3,542	7,039	93,644	-11%	
FY24 - All Hours	3,759	4,148	4,158	7,290	10,170	11,379	12,796	11,492	12,023	7,957	5,319	4,409	7,907	94,900	-5%	
Financial Impact of Volunteers, by Month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total	Hourly Rate	Date Verified
FY26 Financial Impact	\$111,957	\$113,732	\$402	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$226,091	\$226,091	\$34.79	7/11/2024
FY25 Financial Impact	\$123,946	\$111,790	\$140,223	\$210,083	\$351,478	\$388,651	\$424,888	\$368,758	\$416,515	\$303,754	\$177,430	\$118,622	\$235,736	\$3,136,138	\$33.49	7/19/2024
FY24 Financial Impact	\$119,536	\$131,906	\$132,224	\$231,822	\$323,406	\$361,852	\$406,913	\$365,446	\$382,331	\$253,033	\$169,144	\$140,206	\$251,443	\$3,017,820	\$31.80	7/19/2023

## TRADES:

- **August**
  - Received 20 work orders - Completed 18 work orders.
  - Completed 35 Blue Stake/Arizona 811 tickets.

## TRAILS:

- **Maricopa Trail**
  - Segment 11
    - In the final stages of Maricopa Regional Trail System reroute planning for Segment 11, at 136th Avenue crossing Grand Ave, using the Flood Control District channel to cross under the US-60 / Grand Ave.

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS:

- **August**
  - McDowell – Waterline Replacement Phase 1 involved replacing ten mainline valves between the pump station and the Nature Center.





### **BUCKEYE HILLS REGIONAL PARK:**

- **Events**
  - **August 16** – Grand Re-Opening of Joe Foss Gun Range with the City of Buckeye (60 participants).

### **DESERT OUTDOOR CENTER AT LAKE PLEASANT:**

- **Park Programming**
  - **August:** 117 programs (544 participated).
    - 25 were cancelled due to extreme heat warnings.
    - Creatures of the Night and Scorpion Safari were the most popular programs.
  - Hosted two weddings and one church retreat.
- **Projects**
  - Dormitory bathroom countertops were demolished and replaced, including new faucet fixtures.
  - Audio/video system has been upgraded, including a new projector screen.

### **ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK:**

- **Maintenance**
  - Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management conducted a limb removal training using a mesquite tree in the turf area with 15 firefighters.
- **Recognition**
  - Westside Trails Crew assisted the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in finding a lost hiker.

### **HASSAYAMPA RIVER PRESERVE:**

- **Events**
  - **August 22** – Bug Night (15 Participants) – program sponsored by Friends of Hassayampa.
- **Bird Studies**
  - Arizona State University (ASU) Professor, Dr. Stein, and his team conducted two sessions of bird banding in August.

### **LAKE PLEASANT REGIONAL PARK:**

- **Events**
  - **August 10** – AZ Boaters Education class in collaboration with Maricopa County Parks Interpretive Rangers and Arizona Game and Fish (20 participants).
  - **August 15** – Paddlesports class in collaboration with Maricopa County Parks Interpretive Rangers and Arizona Game and Fish (8 participants).
- **Training**
  - Maintenance Supervisor completed pesticide applicator certification.
  - Administrative Staff Supervisor completed Verbal Judo (de-escalation training).



### **SPUR CROSS RANCH CONSERVATION AREA:**

- **Training**
  - Park Supervisor successfully passed the aquatics exam to add to his pesticide license.
- **Maintenance**
  - Towhee and Metate Trails were raked and cleared of dry fuels by staff and service volunteers.
  - Completed rock and mortar edging renovations around pond on Metate Trail.
  - Additional safety signs have been installed around various vertical mine shafts at the Maricopa Mine site.

### **USERY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK:**

- **Maintenance**
  - Renovated the staff bathroom at the maintenance compound.

### **WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK:**

- **Events**
  - **August 8-9** – Vertigo Trail Ride and Run, organized by partner group, Aravaipa Running (54 riders and 366 runners).

