



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL** **DATE: JUNE 16, 2020**

**FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT** **WARD: 1**

**SUBJECT: UPDATE FROM PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR AFTER THE RE-OPENING OF MT. RUBIDOUX ON FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2020 FOLLOWING THE COVID-19 RELATED CLOSURE**

## **ISSUE:**

Receive a verbal update from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director on the re-opening of Mt. Rubidoux, on Friday, May 22, 2020 following COVID-19 related closure.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council:

1. Receive a verbal update from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director after the re-opening of Mt. Rubidoux following the COVID-19 related closure; and
2. Provide direction on whether to continue to keep Mt. Rubidoux open.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On May 15, 2020, following the discussion of options for the re-opening of Mt. Rubidoux due to the COVID-19 related closure, it was unanimously voted to re-open Mt. Rubidoux effective May 22, 2020; which would provide Staff with enough time to review the re-opening plan with the State of California and Riverside County Health Department criteria and guidelines.

During the meeting, City Council was provided with two options for reopening Mt. Rubidoux; Option A, as outlined below was selected and followed for the re-opening on Friday, May 22, 2020.

### **Option A**

Full opening of Mt. Rubidoux including the opening of parking lot at Ryan Bonaminio Park to accommodate parking for walkers/hikers. Below are modifications to the trail system:

1. The trail was opened at the Glenwood Drive entrance with split lanes to maximize social distancing. The lanes were painted with a dashed line in the center of the trail with directional arrows on each side of the lane from the gate entrance to the "cross-road".

Ninth Street gate closed for the foreseeable future and communication with the Ninth Street neighbors will be made in the near future to use this as an opportunity to permanently improve the mountain.

2. At the “cross-road” beyond the entrance gates, walkers/hikers are diverted to the “up road” for traffic going up the trail. All down traffic is diverted to the “down road”.
3. Strollers and pets are permitted. Bikes are still not allowed.
4. Throughout the trail system, signage is posted reminding walkers/hikers to maintain their social distance and to follow guidelines to help keep the trails open.
5. All trail users are asked to leave immediately following their walk/hike to minimize unnecessary gatherings.

Until all orders are completely lifted, the above option provides reasonable measures that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department can make to maximize public safety while they use a popular amenity within the City of Riverside.

As of May 22, 2020, stats were logged three times a day to record crowd size, social distancing and face mask observations; this will provide valuable data to analyze if public safety has been and could be met throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by:	Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
Certified as to	
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Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney