



Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Department

MEMORANDUM

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Main: 602-506-2930
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www.maricopa.gov/parks

Date: August 11, 2022
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 2022.**

Federal Legislative Items:

In July, County Parks and County Government Relations staff met with a representative from Senator Kelly's office at their request to discuss a long-standing federal issue that Maricopa County has worked diligently to resolve. The issue revolves around federal law that prohibits Maricopa County from entering into concessionaire agreements on land granted to the County through the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act (RPPA).

The Maricopa County Park System includes 75,740 acres of BLM Land. Concessionaires currently operating in these Parks on non-BLM lands generate more than \$21,000,000 in revenue annually. Given the large percentage of BLM land in the County Park System, this figure would increase substantially if the law were to be amended. Amending the RPPA to permit for third-party concessionaires would allow the County to expand and enhance recreation and tourism opportunities, spurring economic development, increasing quality of life for our citizens, and reducing congestion at neighboring national parks.

The recommended action, requested of Representatives and Senators from both parties over the last nine years, has been to support legislation amending the RPPA to establish a pilot program that allows for state and local governments and qualified nonprofit organizations to enter into agreements with third party recreational concessionaires on RPPA lands.

The staffer informed the County there are two of the bills in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources that may hold promise for a rider or amendment to address our issue. County staff provided additional information and offered assistance in drafting an amendment or future legislation.

Prickly Pedal Race:

The Maricopa Trail and Park Association (MT+PF) has set a tentative date for the return of the Prickly Pedal Race for Saturday, January 28, 2023. MT+PF is developing a contract with Aravaipa Running LLC to host the race.

Board of Supervisors Agenda Items:

Date/ Status	Tracking Number	Summary
5/18/2022 Approved	C-06-22-679-X-00	Donations: Accept the monthly donation report for April 2022 for the cash value of \$2,396.60.
6/8//2022 Approved	C-30-22-038-X-00	Donations: Accept the restricted monetary donation of \$1,185 for a memorial bench to be placed within Hassayampa River Preserve from Diane Simmons, a \$1,185 donation for a memorial bench to be placed within Cave Creek Park from Steve and Jan Hertzfeld, a \$1,185 donation from Kathy and Randy Cross for a memorial bench to be placed within McDowell Park, and a \$1,185 donation for a memorial bench to be placed within Lake Pleasant Park from Laura Peters. In addition, accept a restricted non-monetary donation of 80 15-gallon blue palo verde trees, 24 5-gallon creosote bushes, and 20 5-gallon fair duster

		shrubs (\$2,600 value) from Wildlife Habitat Council planted at Estrella Park.
6/8/2022 Approved	C-30-22-039-X-00	Non-Exclusive Recreational Trail Easement: Approve and execute non-exclusive recreational trail easements with the Flood Control District for ongoing operation, repair, maintenance, and use of the trail on FCD property that will connect to the Maricopa Trail Segment 27.
6/8/2022 Approved	C-30-22-040-X-00	MOU for Adobe Dam Perimeter Fencing Project: Approve and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Flood Control for the installation and maintenance of perimeter property boundary pip rail fencing to protect the property from illegal off-road trespassing and dumping.
6/8/2022 Approved	C-06-22-739-X-00	Donations: Accept the monthly donation report for May 2022 for the cash value of \$1,982.63.
7/27/2022 Approved	C-30-23-000-X-00	Joint Program and Marketing Agreement with SanTan Shredders LLC: Approve and execute a revenue-generating agreement for STS to teach participants outdoor skills within all regional parks.
7/27/2022 Approved	C-06-23-038-X-00	Donations: Accept the monthly donation report for June 2022 for the cash value of \$1,043.30.

Administration Division

Budget Forecast (FY22 First Close):

Dept	Dept Name	Fund	Fund Name	Approp Group	Approp Group Name	Revised Revenue	Actual Revenue	Revenue Variance	Revised Expenditures	Actual Expenditures	Expenditure Variance	Structure Balance	Actual Structural Balance	Structural Balance Variance
D300	Parks and Rec	100	General	OPER	Operating	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$861,313	\$861,313	\$0	(\$861,313)	(\$861,313)	\$0
D300	Parks and Rec	225	Spr Cross Ran	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	(\$100,000)	\$100,000	\$100,000
D300	Parks and Rec	225	Spr Cross Ran	OPER	Operating	\$341,141	\$352,038.98	\$10,898	\$321,657	\$281,354	\$40,303	\$19,484	\$70,685	\$51,201
D300	Parks and Rec	230	Parks&Rec Grz	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrt	\$88,000	\$0	(\$88,000)	\$88,000	\$21,345	\$66,655	\$0	(\$21,345)	(\$21,345)
D300	Parks and Rec	230	Parks&Rec Grz	OPER	Operating	\$0	\$879.61	\$880	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$880	\$880
D300	Parks and Rec	239	Parks Souvenir	OPER	Operating	\$321,884	\$261,046.99	(\$60,837)	\$321,884	\$260,855	\$61,029	\$0	\$192	\$192
D300	Parks and Rec	240	Lk Plsnt Rc Svc	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,638,191	\$227,274	\$1,410,917	(\$1,638,191)	(\$227,274)	\$1,410,917
D300	Parks and Rec	240	Lk Plsnt Rc Svc	OPER	Operating	\$4,180,807	\$4,431,331.80	\$250,525	\$4,180,807	\$3,199,512	\$981,295	\$0	\$1,231,820	\$1,231,820
D300	Parks and Rec	241	Parks Enhncm	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,205,000	\$622,228	\$582,772	(\$1,205,000)	(\$622,228)	\$582,772
D300	Parks and Rec	241	Parks Enhncm	OPER	Operating	\$6,825,259	\$7,484,110.71	\$658,852	\$6,825,259	\$6,509,296	\$315,963	\$0	\$974,815	\$974,815
D300	Parks and Rec	243	Parks Donation	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$78,500	\$0	\$78,500	(\$78,500)	\$0	\$78,500
D300	Parks and Rec	243	Parks Donation	OPER	Operating	\$47,876	\$41,483.59	(\$6,392)	\$32,240	\$21,467	\$10,773	\$15,636	\$20,017	\$4,381
D300	Parks and Rec	243	Parks Donation	WMD3	DaisyMtnTrls	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$135,000	\$0	\$135,000	(\$135,000)	\$0	\$135,000
D300	Parks and Rec	296	Coronavirus FR	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrt	\$6,800,000	\$1,301,321.26	(\$5,498,679)	\$6,800,000	\$1,301,321	\$5,498,679	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sum:						\$18,604,967	\$13,872,213	(\$4,732,754)	\$22,587,851	\$13,305,964	\$9,281,887	(\$3,982,884)	\$566,249	\$4,549,133

FY23 CIP (funding) Update:

D300 - Parks Fund Balance	
F225 - Spur Cross	\$550,000
F240 - Lake Fund	\$1,367,500
F241 - Enhancement	\$1,444,500
F445 - County Capital Improvement	
FY22 Roll	\$13,662,446
FY23 New	\$8,896,000
F296 - APRA Funding	
Round 1 Roll:	\$5,286,455
Round 2:	\$12,850,000
F230 - Grant Fund	
Grant Funding (SLIF Grant):	\$620,791
Parks Match (SLIF):	\$48,766
TOTAL:	\$44,726,458

Strategic Performance Report (FY22 close): (page 9)

Parks Visitor Attendance Report (FY22 close): (page 13)

Parks Concessionaire Attendance Report (FY22 close): (page 14)

Human Resources

• **Welcome/Promotions/Transfers:**

- Alexander Delson, Navigation Aide (promotion), Lake Pleasant, 05/02/2022
- Jimmy Amaya, Admin staff supervisor (transfer), Lake Pleasant, 05/16/2022
- Jason Booth, Contact Station Assistant, White Tank, 05/16/2022
- Greg Sauber, Park Maintenance Worker, San Tan, 05/17/2022
- Laura Boyd, Office Assistant Specialized (transfer), White Tank to HQ, 05/23/2022
- Boyd Mox, Custodian, Usery, 05/25/2022
- Jonathan McKelvey, Trails Project Manager (promotion), 05/30/2022,
- Bruce Zavoda, Accounting Specialist (transfer), McDowell to HQ, 05/30/2022
- Jennifer Johnston, Regional Park Superintendent (transfer to east side)
- Teresa Retterbush, Regional Park Superintendent (transfer to development)
- Jennifer Indelicato, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 06/13/2022
- Douglas Robertson, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 06/13/2022
- Travis Eddy, Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, 06/29/2022
- Amanda Lumbre, Administrative Assistant (transfer), Library District to HQ, 07/11/2022
- Kevin Smith, Park Supervisor (promotion) Spur Cross, 07/11/2022
- Heather Brott, Admin Staff Supervisor, Lake Pleasant, 07/18/2022
- Stephen DaCosta, Interpretive Ranger, DOC, 07/26/2022

• **Farewells**

- Brayden Lightfoot, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 05/03/2022
- Mary Christopher, Administrative Assistant, HQ, 05/11/2022
- Cathey Shelley, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 05/21/2022
- David Banchich, Interpretive Ranger, DOC, 05/24/2022
- Sergio Cola, Park Maintenance Worker, McDowell, 06/11/2022
- Travis Eddy, Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, 07/01/2022
- Frank Gomez, Park Maintenance Worker, Usery, 06/30/2022
- John Rose, Maricopa Trail Manager, 07/01/2022
- Rudolph Bowen, Lake Pleasant Park Supervisor, Lake Pleasant, 07/02/2022
- Sonia Eby, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 07/20/2022
- Jennifer Harris, Park Asset and Inventory Coordinator, HQ, 08/06/2022

• **Vacancies**

- Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, PCN 1400, offer accepted, starts 08/08/2022
- Park Office Assistant Specialized, White Tank, PCN 18976, offer accepted, starts 08/08/2022
- Interpretive Ranger, DOC, PCN 33341, offer accepted, starts 8/2/2022
- Interpretive Ranger, DOC, PCN 76864, offer accepted, starts 8/15/2022
- Park Maintenance Worker, Usery, PCN 1432, in offer stage
- Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, PCN 19533, reposting soon
- Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, PCN 79628, reference checks
- Lake Pleasant Park Supervisor, Lake Pleasant, PCN 68854, interviews
- Regional Park Superintendent, 33964, interviews
- Park Maintenance Worker, McDowell, PCN 17169, interviews
- Trails Specialist, PCN 19538, interviews
- On Hold:
 - Park Custodian (Temp/PT) (NEW), Lake Pleasant, PCN 80408
 - Contact Station Assistant (Temp/PT), Lake Pleasant, PCN 79569
 - Park Asset and Inventory Coordinator, HQ, PCN 78302
- Deactivated
 - Maricopa Trail Manager, PCN 69713

Natural Resources

- The Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) is working with the Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) to draft an agreement to allow DFFM and Parks to develop fuel reduction plans and implement these plans in several high wildfire threat areas within the regional parks.
- The NRS worked with Eagle Scout, Sam McDaniel, whose scout team built six plant bed tables for the native seed garden at Cave Creek Regional Park. The tables were delivered on August 24 and will be used to grow native plants to be planted within the Park's pollinator garden and other community enhancement projects throughout the parks.



- The Natural Resource Desert Defenders program wrapped up the native seed harvest events for the year, hosting nine volunteer events and collecting roughly 50 lbs. of native seed representing 20 native species, estimated at a cost of \$3,000.
- In addition, the Department received a National Association of Counties (NACo) award for the Desert Defenders program; which includes invasive species mapping, removal events, and community enhancement events (native seed harvest and planting). The NACo Desert Defenders award video: [Desert Defenders 2022 NACo Award Winner - YouTube](#)

Parks Planner

- Parks Vision 2030:
 - Continued progress on Chapter 2 Existing Conditions, Chapter 3 Partnerships and Regional Plans, Chapter 4 Trends and Benchmarking, and citations.
 - Gave a presentation to the Maricopa Trail and Park Foundation board.

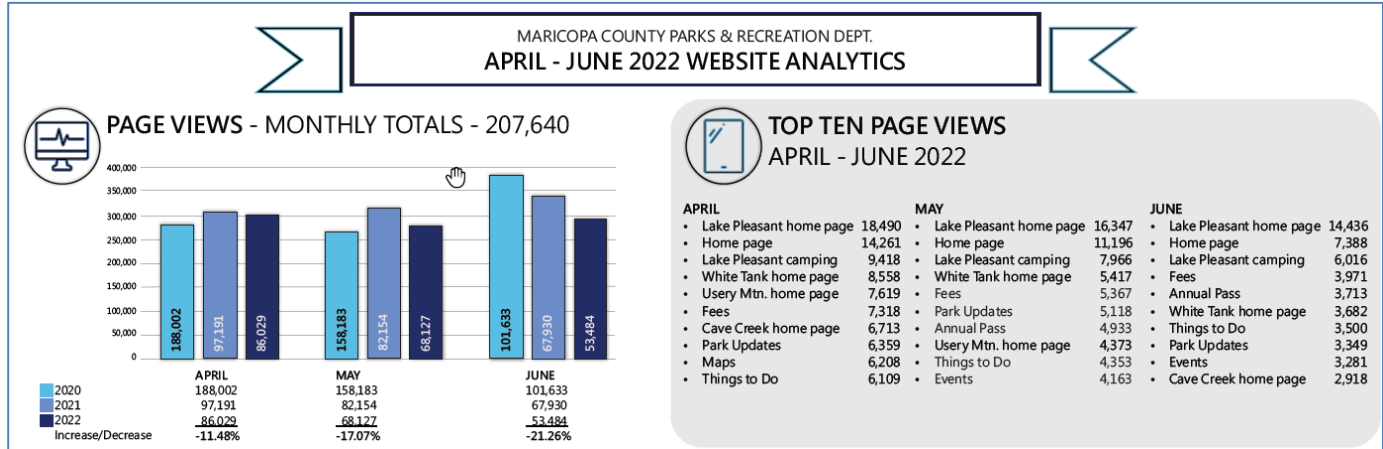
Volunteer Hours (FY22 close):

TOTAL Volunteer Hours, by month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total
FY22 - All Hours	3268	3362	4038	8069	11154	13295	13935	10061	13144	8954	4835	3777	3,268	97,892
FY21 - All Hours	2,800	2,738	2,699	8,598	11,094	11,790	13,369	12,121	13,745	7,826	3,962	4,428	2,800	95,170
FY20 - All Hours	1,900	1,955	3,884	7,020	10,497	12,463	12,711	12,213	13,177	7,229	3,933	2,768	1,900	89,750

Financial Impact of Volunteers, by Month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total
FY22 Financial Impact	\$93,269	\$95,951	\$115,245	\$230,289	\$318,335	\$374,439	\$397,705	\$287,141	\$375,130	\$255,547	\$137,991	\$107,796	\$93,269	\$2,793,838
FY21 Financial Impact	\$71,204	\$69,627	\$68,636	\$218,647	\$282,120	\$299,820	\$339,974	\$308,237	\$349,535	\$199,015	\$100,754	\$112,604	\$71,204	\$2,420,173
FY20 Financial Impact	\$48,329	\$49,703	\$98,758	\$178,512	\$266,947	\$316,943	\$323,231	\$310,569	\$335,088	\$183,844	\$100,018	\$70,398	\$48,329	\$2,282,340

Special Days of Service event listings:	Date	Attendance	Hours
Cave Creek - Native Seed Harvest	5/5/2022	5	15
Cave Creek - Native Seed Garden	5/6/2022	4	16
Spur Cross - Native Seed Harvest	5/12/2022	3	12
Lake - Clean-Up	5/14/2022	25	100
White Tank - Native Seed Harvest	5/19/2022	7	21
Cave Creek - Native Seed Garden	5/20/2022	5	18
Cave Creek - Native Seed Harvest	5/25/2022	3	9
White Tank - Native Seed Harvest	6/3/2022	3	15
Cave Creek -Native Seed Garden	6/9/2022	1	4

Web Analytics:



Park Operations Division

Project Management

- Completed rebuilding the Lake Pleasant 10 Lane boat ramp evaporative transfer (ET) bed in May. This project also included installing new filters and drain covers on the east and west septic tanks, jetting and camera the sewer lines, epoxy coating three drain covers, and installing a pipe rail fence around the bed.
- Lake Pleasant Overlook Pump Station: this project started in June and is approximately 60% complete. This project includes replacing the existing pumps and electrical gear and installing automation to ensure a more reliable and redundant water source. The underground electrical and plumbing, concrete work, pump skid, and canopy have been done.
- Adobe Host Site: Canopy has been ordered and is six months out.

Trades Crew

- Replaced the San Tan Pump, VFD drive, controls, and programmed the system to factory specs.
- Repaired HVAC units in the following parks, Buckeye Hills classroom, White Tanks maintenance compound, Cave Creek maintenance compound, and Lake Pleasant Staff Support building.
- Removed the Lake Pleasant Discovery Center damaged shade cloth.
- Repaired electrical pedestals in the following parks: Lake Pleasant site 34 and 19, Cave Creek site 8, and Lake Pleasant Host site at the maintenance compound.
- Received and started spreading decomposed granite and topsoil for the Estrella Park Berm/Turf Reduction/Pollinator Garden project.
- Repaired the Estrella Park main 8" domestic water line pipe break.
- Constructed 1,000 ft trail across the Estrella Park field. (Turf reduction project)
- Repaired the HQ HVAC system #8. (New Compressor)
- Installed a new HVAC system for the Desert Outdoor Center (DOC) IT room.
- Graded and reworked Coldwater Trail Road (Estrella)
- Completed the cleaning and weeding of the following Lake Pleasant ET beds: Group, DOC, and north-4 lane.
- Completed the demo and began the lighting retrofit at the DOC dorms to LED.
- Finished the fabrication and installation of Estrella's custom patio gates at the nature center.
- Troubleshoot and replaced the DOC level probes in the water storage tank.

Trails

- Finished - Spring 2022 ACE deployment in Spur Cross and White Tank parks. Repaired hundreds of water control features: drains, reverse grades, and grade breaks over more than 15 miles of trail. Removed loose rock from the tread. Trimmed overgrown vegetation from the corridor. Installed dozens of rock steps, installed more than 20 new trail markers, and repaired tread damage.

- Met with stakeholders in response to a request for a new youth competitive loop and reconnoitered the new proposed Competitive Track loop. Reconnoitered over 300 acres scouting for sustainable routes. Shot grade, ribboned, and recorded GPS line of possible 3+ mile corridor.
- Inspected more than 200 miles of the Maricopa Trail.
- Conducted trail construction work at Estrella Park with the help of Trades Crew. Trails 2-10 are now 90% complete.
- The Trail Project Manager and the Open Space Planner met with stakeholders from Queen Creek and the Town of Gilbert regarding changing the Maricopa Trail crossing at Power Road.

Cave Creek Regional Park

- Campground reservations have increased from last year for May; on an average daily basis, there are approximately 20 to 25 sites reserved.
- The Spur Cross Interpretive Ranger, volunteers, and the maintenance crew installed 500 ft. of fencing on the east boundary.
- The maintenance crew has also eliminated spider trails near the Flume Trail, west boundary, and Clay Mine Trail.
- Two community service volunteers completed their hours by weed eating and removing brush.
- At Adobe, the crew removed various materials illegally dumped. As a result, Flood Control will install a pipe rail fence along 35th Avenue and other illegal access points. The fencing installation will alleviate illegal dumping and off-road driving.
- Interviews for host positions have been completed, and all positions are filled for FY 23.
- Maintenance installed shade panels in the Native Garden.
- Two probationers have been completing their community service hours required by the court by helping staff with weed removal around the facilities.
- The staff has continued to assist Lake Pleasant during their busy season with maintenance tasks.

Desert Outdoor Center

- Ended the school year by hosting field trips for eleven schools or over 1,000 students during the month of May.
- The wedding season also concluded with our final wedding on May 7, 2022.
- A week-long Interpretive Ranger workshop was held on June 7-10 to bring together all the rangers and discuss the future of our interpretive programming. Many topics were discussed, ranging from shared scheduling, developing program outlines, ranger training plans, program evaluation, special events, outreach, partnerships, passive education, interpretive volunteers, and much more (we're a talkative bunch).
- We were glad to see some kiddos when two summer school programs visited the center this month, both of which had never brought their students to our Center before.
- Steve DaCosta joined the Interpretive Rangers at the DOC in July.
- When the pandemic halted many educational institutions from visiting the Desert Outdoor Center, the interpretive rangers quickly developed online full-length videos and at-home hands-on learning materials to help meet the educator's needs. The topics included aquatic life, desert ecosystems, animal tracking, reptiles, cacti, and immersion in nature. The Department submitted this program received one of the County's 2022 NACo Awards. <https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/doc-educational-videos>



Estrella Mountain Regional Park

- Staff met throughout May to review details, plans, and mapping regarding the Estrella Park Northwest Turf Area Pollinator Garden.
- A thorough evaluation and maintenance of tree irrigation bubblers and sprinklers took place in preparation for the summer heat.
- Progress was made on closing the Corral West horse concession and preparations to decommission the rodeo arena, fences, and chutes. The unused equipment was set up for auction.
- Enhancements to the northwest turf area have begun with work on an irrigation system for the new pollinator garden and preliminary dirt work for new turf trails. The pollinator plants and native desert seeds will attract butterflies, birds, and bees and beautify the area for park visitors.

- The maintenance team is busy with several turf irrigation breaks from July. With warmth and rain, the many new and established trees flushed with growth and needed regular trimming.
- The Estrella Park boundary fence has been cut in several west community locations, with spider trails ensuing. Repairs have been made and, in some spots, are ongoing. Boundary and educational signage have been implemented to inform and stop the problem.

Hassayampa River Preserve

- Staff and volunteers assisted with two visitor injuries, one of which required emergency medical assistance and transport of the individual to the hospital. The Sheriff's Office and Arizona Game and Fish (AZGFD) assisted.
- Staff dealt with issues from trespassers and an abandoned transient camp.
- AZGFD and Arizona State University researchers conducted several bird banding events.
- A rare bird not seen in years, a crested caracara, was seen and photographed by a long-time Preserve volunteer.
- Annual facility maintenance projects were completed. The Trades crew completed a minor plumbing repair.
- A black bear was seen in the Wickenburg area. Tracks and other bear signs were also seen at the Preserve. Visitors were informed to be aware and AZGFD was able to trap the bear near the Preserve on private property. The bear was then relocated to a more remote location.
- A few monsoon-season storms have come through the area and briefly brought up the water level in the river. One storm moved the trail bridges downstream, but park staff quickly retrieved them.
- A large multi-trunked cottonwood tree fell on the Palm Lake trail. It will be removed at the end of September when the nesting and breeding season for the Southwest Willow Flycatcher and Yellow-billed Cuckoo have concluded.

Lake Pleasant Regional Park

- Memorial Day was busy; however, no closures were needed.
- Both new FY23 Administrative Staff Supervisor positions have been filled.
- The volunteer group *Keep Nature Wild* conducted a trash pick-up event.
- Staff from the Desert Outdoor Center continues to support operations at Lake Pleasant with ranger patrols and maintenance help.
- Phoenix Fence completed various repairs to the Main Entry, North Entry, and Bypass Road gates.
- The July 3 – 4th weekend was busy; however, no closures were needed due to the water levels.
- Due to the price and unavailability of the fireworks, no July 3rd fireworks were scheduled this year at Pleasant Harbor Marina.
- Thanks to the help of Maintenance team member, Bruce, the new Administrative Staff Supervisors have set up their offices in the Staff Support Building at the main entrance station. Chris, the Administrative Supervisor, has moved her office to the Discovery Center. Thank you Bruce for a job well done!

McDowell Mountain Regional Park

- For almost 20 years, our beloved Gila Monster made his home at Parks. Sadly, he passed away from what is expected to be old age.
- Wagner Trailhead Kiosk was refurbished due to rotting wood and age. Worn kiosk signage is progressively being changed out as updates are needed.
- Pemberton Trailhead Staging Area fence and numerous park boundary fencing repairs were completed.
- New iron rangers were installed at 158th and 168th street remote entrances. New iron rangers will also be installed at the other entrances.
- Night Rides have had a great turnout, and the fair weather at the end of the month brought many visitors to the park, especially on weekends.
- Several significant storms passed through the park throughout the month of July. Overall, the park handled it well. Strong winds knocked over a saguaro on Escondido Trail. Downed limbs from trees throughout the park were cleared. Some roadway flooding to the North and south of the park's entrance took place, but there has been no reported damage to any of the trails.
- The Nursery Tank viewing area was cleared of overgrown vegetation to have an unobstructed view of the pond. The fill valve showed signs of weakening and has been shut off. Trades crew will be out to repair the valve in the coming weeks.

San Tan Mountain Regional Park

- San Tan's community volunteer, Peter, led the San Tan Trail Runners group in their second volunteer trail work project to make erosion repairs on a steep section of San Tan Trail.
- Park staff and volunteers used the tractor to drag and grade erosion ruts along the Service Road and Goldmine Trail.
- The ranger attended an educator resource workshop presented by Salt River Project and the University of Arizona's Arizona Project Wet to create programs for Desert Outdoor Center field trips.
- Local retailer, Cadence Running Company, presented a running shoe demo for the public at the main trailhead.

Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area

- During May, the interpretive ranger performed much-needed maintenance and cleaning of the Solar Oasis, removed some invasive species around the main parking area, and pruned and raked along the Metate, Towhee, and Dragonfly Trails.
- The Town of Cave Creek has completed a widening project of approximately 600 feet of Spur Cross Road adjacent to the Jewel of the Creek Preserve. In addition, the town is now laying down RAP (Recycled Asphalt Pavement) over the roadway for dust control.
- A new heavy-duty plank bridge has been constructed by staff and volunteers for use as a spare for the Dragonfly Trail creek crossing.
- As of July 11th, Kevin was promoted as the new park supervisor of Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area. Kevin has been working at Spur Cross for 16 years as the Interpretive Ranger and it is with great pleasure that Darci turns Spur Cross' supervisory duties over to him. Kevin has a wealth of experience and knowledge about the conservation area.
- Two Trail Ambassadors have completed background checks and will start their duties at the beginning of Fall.

Usery Mountain Regional Park

- Usery campground continued to stay busy during May; Memorial Day weekend alone was met with 24 new arrivals and several others already in the campground.
- Usery Park received our first two volunteers for the Trail Ambassador Program; we are excited to see this number grow!
- Usery Mountain Archers began their weekly Thursday night shoot program on May 12, 2022. Nearly 60 people have participated so far; this program will run throughout the summer months ending in August.
- Maintenance staff drove/walked the entire burlap course at the Archery Range to assess the course; several areas needed trimming, light trail maintenance, and several target butts required repairing. Maintenance staff will begin working throughout the summer.
- Maintenance staff drained the wildlife viewing pond to provide general maintenance to the area, including cleaning weeds, trimming, etc.
- The Park Supervisor and the Volunteer Coordinator worked together to develop a new form geared at a Core Volunteer (Park Host) Work Agreement(s).
- Our new trail ambassadors have been highly involved up to this point, completing trail assessments weekly and reporting their findings to our new Park Assistant, who has also been extremely diligent in addressing problem areas.
- Aravaipa Running Inc. offered the Insomniac Night Run and Stunner Night Ride at Usery Park; close to 500 people (combined) participated in the events.

White Tank Mountain Regional Park

- Area 4 is closed for renovations that include the construction of a new roadway, parking spaces, ramadas, and a nature-based playground.
- A native seed harvest produced a high yield on June 3rd.
- The Shadow Ridge Community Cross Country Runners Camp for K-8, High School, Collegiate, and adults started their summer training every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at the Nature Center.
- Fence repair occurred at Sun Valley Trailhead, sections of the Maricopa Trail, and various other areas along the boundary.
- On Sunday, July 24th, a car pursuit starting in Peoria led officers on a high-speed chase to White Tank Mountain Regional Park that ended in a pit maneuver by officers with a car fire. Rural Metro was called and extinguished the car fire and surrounding desert.
- Area 4 construction is progressing with concrete curbs set and road grading has started.
- White Tank Park Entrance's 60% plan review was held on 7/28/2022 and has shifted to 100% plan completion by 8/8/2022.

- *Racetimers Run to the Top* held a 4-mile run with 32 participants on July 4th.

BUILDING A STRONGER MARICOPA COUNTY

Parks and Recreation



INCREASE VISITATION TO MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS

Target: Increase annual park visitation by an average of 3.5% over the next 5 years.

ABOUT THIS MEASURE:

Parks and Recreation Department's Vision Statement revolves around connecting more County residents with our natural open spaces and trails. From FY18 to FY22, annual park visitation has increased by 448,460 visitors or an average of 5.30% per year. Park visitation continues to increase, demonstrating strong and supported use of our regional park system.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT:

Providing quality of life opportunities in parks allows for improved mental and physical health along with family bonding opportunities.

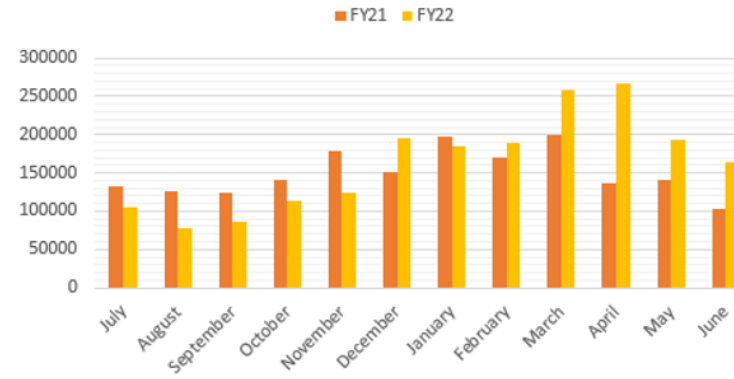
WHAT IS BEING DONE:

To expand interest and increase awareness, park interpretive rangers provide innovative outdoor recreational, environmental, and educational programs and self-directed park opportunities. The parks have also become a leader in developing and partnering with non-profit and private concessionaires in developing special events. Social media, including Facebook and Twitter, has become a staple for increasing awareness and promoting new opportunities.



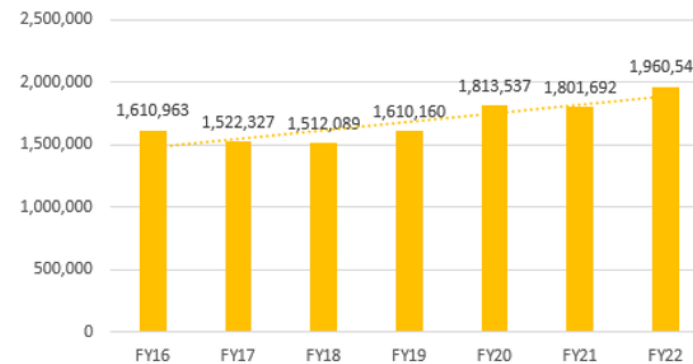
CURRENT PERFORMANCE

Park Attendance by Month



HISTORICAL DATA

Park Visitors: FY16 to FY22



BUILDING A STRONGER MARICOPA COUNTY

Parks and Recreation

FY 2022
 DELIVERING SERVICE
 & TRACKING
 PERFORMANCE

MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARD OF PARKLANDS AVAILABLE

Target: Maintain regional open space park land acreage in top 3 for most comparable park systems in Arizona.

ABOUT THIS MEASURE:

The County Park System is comprised of just under 120,000 acres of park land. This places Maricopa County Parks as second in Arizona and ranks in the top quartile of a national study on open space parks for counties.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT:

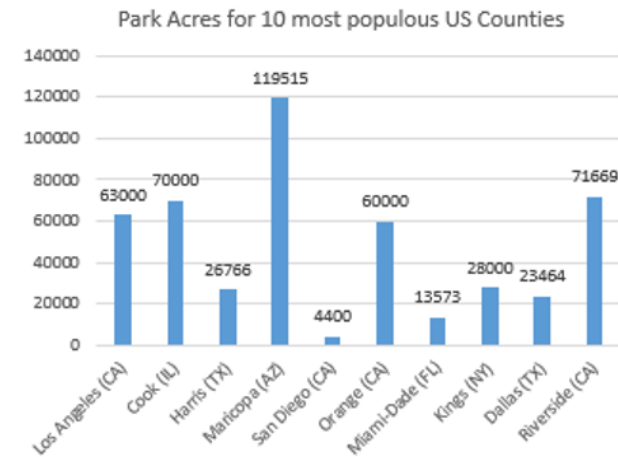
A 2017 poll of 800 residents conducted by Arizona State University's Morrison Institute indicated that they overwhelmingly agreed "Arizona's parks preserves, forests and open spaces are important." Only 3% disagreed, while 72% said they were very important and 25% described them as somewhat important.

WHAT IS BEING DONE:

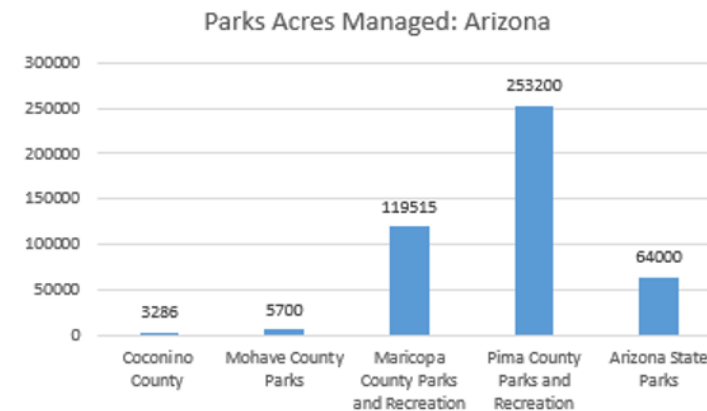
As population grows, Maricopa County will need to continue adding open space to maintain our high level of service. The County acquired the Hassayampa River Preserve in April 2017 from The Nature Conservancy and in 2019, received management authority for 1,046 acres known as the Vulture Mountain Cooperative Recreation Area.



CURRENT PERFORMANCE



ARIZONA COUNTY COMPARISON



BUILDING A STRONGER MARICOPA COUNTY

Parks and Recreation

FY 2022

DELIVERING SERVICE & TRACKING PERFORMANCE

INCREASE REGIONAL TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES

Target: Increase regional trail miles for residents and visitors by an average of 2.5% per year.

ABOUT THIS MEASURE:

Over the last 5 years, trail miles in the county regional trail system have increased by 76.57 miles, primarily through the development of the 315-mile Maricopa Trail and Lake Pleasant trail network demonstrating average growth of 3% per year. Over the next 5 years, the County should continue to add new trails in existing parks and provide greater connectivity onto the Maricopa Trail.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT:

According to the 2017 Arizona Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, trail related recreation is the most desired outdoor recreation activity in the state and future projections indicate a continued growing demand. The vast majority of County Park visitors (71%) participate in trail related recreation activities.

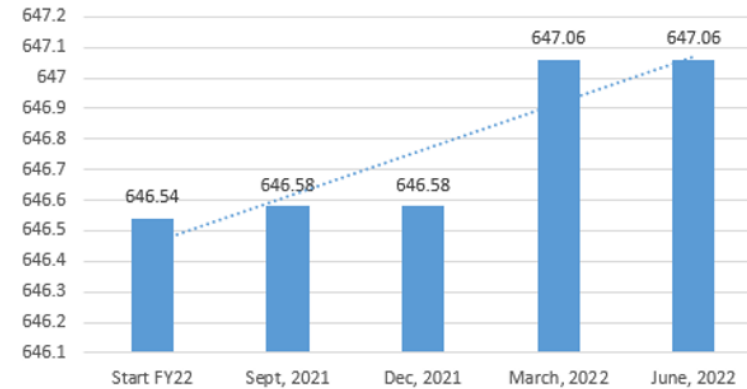
WHAT IS BEING DONE:

Every County Park has a trail plan that includes opportunities for additional trail miles. In FY23, Parks will work to complete trail segments connecting Lake Pleasant Regional Park to Hassayampa River Preserve, over to Vulture Mountain Recreation Area, and then to White Tank Mountain Regional Park, dramatically increasing trail miles for residents and visitors.



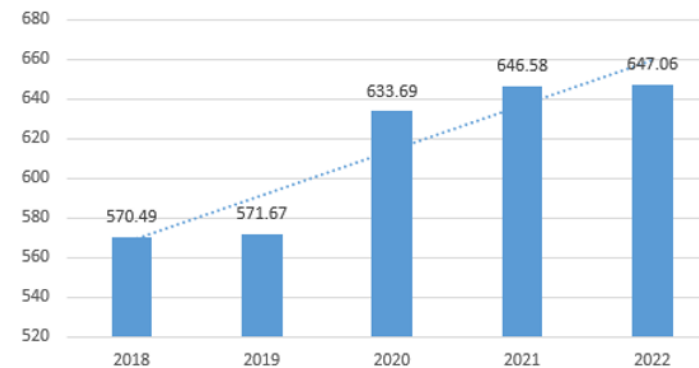
CURRENT PERFORMANCE

2022 Trail Miles by Quarter



HISTORICAL DATA

Trail Miles: FY18 to FY22



BUILDING A STRONGER MARICOPA COUNTY

Parks and Recreation

FY 2022
 DELIVERING SERVICE
 & TRACKING
 PERFORMANCE

INCREASE VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT IN COUNTY PARKS

Target: Increase volunteer hours in County Parks and on County Trails by an average of 3.5% annually.

ABOUT THIS MEASURE:

During the past 10 years, volunteerism in County Parks has shown a significant growth that has helped keep park operating costs low while providing quality services. A sustained growth in the program will allow for continued quality parks and trails as the County expands services in a fiscally responsible manner.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT:

Park volunteers not only significantly supplement staffing in the parks and on the regional trails, but also provides value added services that enhance the park visitor experience. Engaged volunteers also strong support and advocate for the County and the services provided.

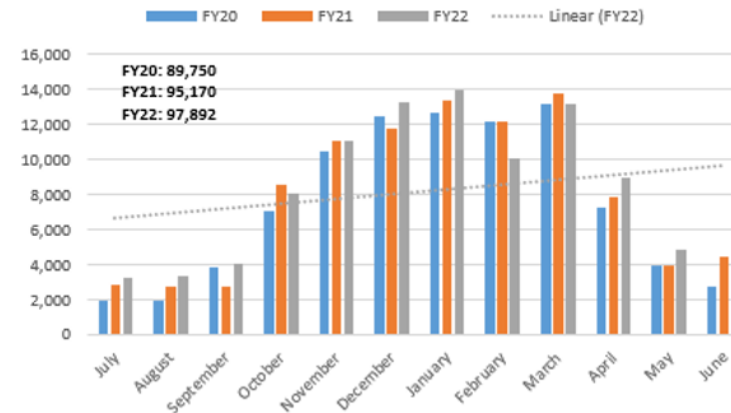
WHAT IS BEING DONE:

In FY19, Parks Volunteer Program was revamped to use volunteers in more specific and impactful ways while also redefining what volunteer service entails. FY20 demonstrated these improvements with an increase in volunteer hours using the new day of service method while also retaining and even increasing our core volunteer staffing. Overall increase in volunteer hours from FY21 to FY22 was 3.00%, just shy of the 3.5% goal. However, from FY20 to FY22, volunteer hours increased an average total of 8.6% annually, demonstrating a strong and continually growing volunteer presence within the Parks.



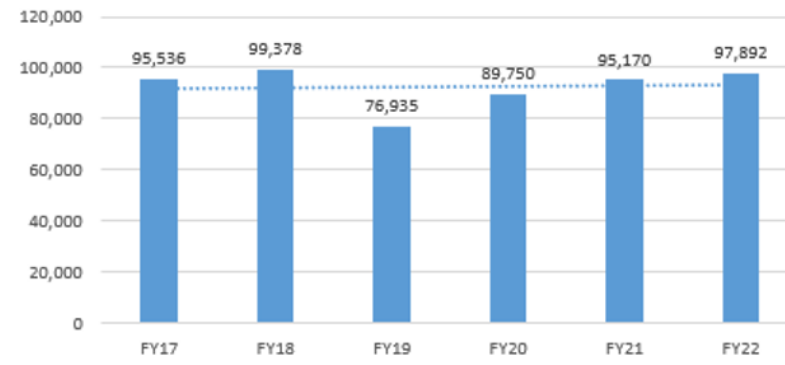
CURRENT PERFORMANCE

Volunteer Hours: FY20, FY21, FY22



HISTORICAL DATA

Volunteer Hours FY17 to FY22



Maricopa County Visitor Attendance Report
 FY2022 Final (July 2021 through June 2022)

FY23	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YEAR TO YEAR	% of Change (YtoY)
FY22	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22		
FY21	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21		
FY20	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 19	Jan 20	Feb 20	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20		
Cave Creek														
FY22	1,381	1,198	2,515	6,747	7,873	15,242	13,502	13,094	18,600	13,639	3,764	2,737	100292	21.0%
FY21	1,122	911	1,325	4,688	12,084	12,121	7,593	10,523	16,939	8,367	4,046	3136	82855	-3.1%
FY20	363	505	959	4,233	9,450	9,775	13,542	14,572	16,079	11,336	3,145	1552	85511	3.0%
Estrella Park														
FY22	1,184	1,278	2,605	5,891	7,398	12,222	14,310	12,180	15,092	13,180	4,560	3,519	93419	-6.0%
FY21	2,571	3,317	4,696	8,333	12,723	8,483	16,806	11,991	15,489	7,869	4,770	2,371	99419	12.4%
FY20	1,350	1,954	3,571	6,034	9,547	6,841	12,726	11,067	16,449	9,370	5,819	3,687	88415	6.2%
McDowell Mtn														
FY22	964	1,310	2,032	7,745	8,208	15,958	15,560	15,706	18,281	17,854	5,163	1,886	110867	-3.2%
FY21	2,667	2,275	3,806	10,302	16,229	17,207	18,219	13,673	15,294	8,218	4,374	2,058	114322	-4.0%
FY20	1,095	1,407	3,520	11,570	12,574	13,877	17,846	16,006	18,997	13,822	5,654	2,779	119147	11.5%
San Tan Park														
FY22	3,753	4,506	4,105	9,045	18,584	21,434	30,452	26,402	29,732	13,033	7,574	4,506	173128	-22.0%
FY21	8,080	7,029	11,102	16,676	27,144	20,844	36,069	34,131	30,333	14,658	10,262	5,752	222080	10.3%
FY20	3,941	3,832	6,009	12,801	17,839	16,810	27,717	25,062	33,803	26,313	17,551	9,622	201300	18.8%
Spur Cross														
FY22	299	395	500	1,484	2,859	4,031	7,069	8,168	5,818	4,352	1,211	494	38880	0.3%
FY21	171	121	354	1,984	3,826	5,218	6,273	4,695	7,886	4,093	1,318	620	38559	59.2%
FY20	113	122	244	730	826	4,208	4,592	4,569	4,508	2,276	563	210	22961	-3.0%
Usery Mtn Park														
FY22	3,926	2,811	5,039	14,212	16,450	38,086	29,834	30,249	34,433	22,465	9,316	5,949	212770	-10.3%
FY21	5,981	7,587	9,683	18,705	33,071	28,940	41,117	31,167	31,289	15,370	9,282	5,111	237303	-3.5%
FY20	5,562	5,959	8,133	16,411	26,374	23,339	34,431	33,957	44,356	25,954	12,914	8,453	245843	3.3%
White Tank														
FY22	4,923	4,068	5,201	17,768	20,775	42,163	36,298	35,679	40,771	24,697	11,293	6,807	250443	-7.0%
FY21	8,801	7,667	11,991	20,736	31,836	34,425	42,320	36,939	37,285	17,217	13,590	6,415	289222	-9.8%
FY20	4,913	5,658	9,810	20,115	31,195	27,762	39,931	40,494	64,224	27,038	16,680	10,640	298460	0.0%
Hassayampa														
FY22	286	333	423	1105	2,669	1,790	1,771	2,096	2,850	2,286	1,338	554	17501	2.4%
FY21	855	632	840	1681	1,984	1,204	2,014	1,786	2,363	1,672	1,513	555	17099	-0.9%
FY20	453	418	591	1405	1,498	971	1,746	2,002	2,321	2,477	2,072	1,294	17248	18.9%
Lake Pleasant														
FY22	88,853	62,651	64,323	50,169	38,347	45,239	35,415	44,353	90,764	152,545	147,980	137,694	958333	32.6%
FY21	101,160	96,366	79,426	58,720	40,177	22,387	27,877	25,987	42,967	59,969	91,403	76,394	722833	-0.3%
FY20	90,616	63,458	51,411	37,125	31,095	18,054	32,436	40,902	69,504	75,153	116,342	98,916	725012	7.6%
DOC														
FY22	0	-	0	-	43	-	84	1,178	1,160	2,276	2,071	506	7318	
FY21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
FY20	140	64	381	1,556	1887	1,330	1,622	1,630	1,030	0	0	0	9640	-22.7%
Agua Fria														
System Total														
FY22	105,569	78,550	86,743	114,166	123,206	196,165	184,295	189,105	257,501	266,327	194,270	164,652	1980549	8.8%
FY21	131,408	125,905	123,223	141,825	179,074	150,829	198,288	170,892	199,845	137,433	140,558	102,412	1801892	-0.7%
FY20	108,546	83,377	84,629	111,980	142,285	122,967	186,589	190,261	271,271	193,739	180,740	137,153	1813537	12.6%

FY22 Parks Concession Visitor Attendance Report
 July 2021 - June 2022

	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	YEAR TO DATE
	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	
	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	
	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	
Victory Lane													
July 2021 - June 2022	8,891	7,819	9,709	11,465	10,280	8,204	10,388	10,301	11,483	10,867	9,733	7,738	116,458
July 2020 - June 2021	11,020	11,810	12,957	13,864	12,762	12,762	11,735	14,058	13,599	12,568	14,523	9,527	150,985
July 2019 - June 2020	8,150	6,955	7,322	15,042	15,548	8,428	10,000	13,788	7,891	-	6,535	9,567	109,258
Six Flags Hurricane Harbor													
July 2021 - June 2022	122,546	39,199	30,247	2,985	-	-	-	-	11,057	15,804	39,989	120,494	382,321
July 2020 - June 2021	1,117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,494	26,810	53,203	189,216	287,840
July 2019 - June 2020	122,835	54,978	36,381	8,559	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,069	239,822
Saguaro Central Railroad Preservation Society													
July 2021 - June 2022	-	-	-	510	382	636	573	748	1,166	403	-	-	4,418
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
July 2019 - June 2020	445	-	277	1,048	609	10,525	943	507	233	-	-	-	14,587
Phoenix Kart Racing Association													
July 2021 - June 2022	706	855	1,118	1,199	997	979	1,051	2,472	1,244	1,020	1,019	954	13,814
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,085	1,130	1,111	1,137	1,053	861	6,377
Adobe Mountain Speedway													
July 2021 - June 2022	-	180	908	1,199	1,089	59	913	1,911	1,883	2,221	1,410	-	11,773
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	345	1,770	923	2,206	1,832	-	7,078
Arizona Model Pilots Society													
July 2021 - June 2022	452	562	593	810	1,080	1,602	658	872	-	375	476	460	7,940
July 2020 - June 2021	419	443	482	554	540	590	-	-	-	-	-	478	3,506
The 500 Club Golf Course													
July 2021 - June 2022	5,367	5,533	5,261	7,363	9,077	8,147	9,244	8,900	10,227	9,922	8,140	5,594	92,775
July 2020 - June 2021	4,814	5,373	5,458	6,575	7,844	7,755	8,889	9,920	10,843	10,157	9,203	6,375	93,006
July 2019 - June 2020	3,942	4,185	3,867	2,742	6,586	6,020	8,083	8,387	8,883	9,060	8,697	6,874	77,308
Casey At The Bat													
July 2021 - June 2022	1,644	2,898	3,200	4,207	3,514	2,826	2,859	4,727	5,887	5,742	4,326	2,993	44,823
July 2020 - June 2021	1,644	2,328	2,250	3,015	2,787	2,540	2,795	3,908	5,685	5,498	4,692	2,965	39,757
July 2019 - June 2020	2,450	2,360	2,803	2,928	3,320	1,745	3,556	4,530	3,476	92	1,050	1,977	30,287
Paradise Valley Golf Course													
July 2021 - June 2022	2,181	2,120	2,387	1,917	3,689	3,172	3,953	4,193	4,683	3,764	2,700	2,166	36,925
July 2020 - June 2021	2,143	1,782	2,697	1,939	3,568	7,595	3,619	4,244	4,788	4,148	3,043	1,976	41,540
July 2019 - June 2020	1,443	1,468	1,547	1,413	2,421	1,957	3,275	3,802	3,849	3,296	3,033	2,809	30,113
Cave Creek Trail Rides													
July 2021 - June 2022	-	-	-	-	1,069	1,333	1,440	1,462	2,932	-	-	-	8,236
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	39	1,256	1,584	1,382	1,597	3,260	2,110	132	-	11,360
July 2019 - June 2020	-	-	-	176	733	861	912	1,128	962	155	-	-	4,927
Tres Rios Golf Course													
July 2021 - June 2022	665	666	980	1,532	2,489	2,485	3,522	4,446	4,996	3,223	864	381	26,209
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	596	2,815	3,096	3,526	3,425	2,438	1,496	894	18,288
July 2019 - June 2020	838	861	869	1,057	1,867	2,158	3,691	3,528	3,144	2,383	1,738	1,220	23,354
Corral West Horse Adventures													
July 2021 - June 2022	-	-	-	146	879	675	864	935	220	109	-	-	3,829
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	60	157	228	160	258	358	186	102	-	1,509
July 2019 - June 2020	-	-	-	-	62	75	90	63	46	-	-	-	338
Buckeye Hills Shooting Range													
July 2021 - June 2022	345	579	631	996	999	703	708	900	869	743	738	558	8,769
July 2020 - June 2021	831	725	773	1,243	982	675	833	716	711	764	596	510	9,359
July 2019 - June 2020	407	427	554	887	1,050	718	870	883	342	164	995	844	8,141
TOTALS													
July 2021 - June 2022	142,797	80,211	55,034	34,329	35,504	30,801	36,171	41,867	56,647	53,993	69,395	141,338	758,088
July 2020 - June 2021	21,988	22,461	24,617	27,089	30,272	36,544	33,939	40,827	62,195	67,992	89,875	212,802	670,601
July 2019 - June 2020	140,510	71,214	53,620	33,852	32,196	32,487	31,420	36,416	28,826	15,150	22,048	40,390	538,129