



## May Center Report – August 2020

### Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting



#### May Arboretum Report

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The conifer, native and rock garden collections received an irrigation upgrade. The renovation replaces the 25 + year old system (**\$4,000.00**). Many thanks to the May Arboretum Society for funding the project.
- ◆ Phase two of the interpretive panel project (12 additional panels), for the arboretum are under review. The Horticulturist continues to work closely with the May Foundation and Fallon media. This project that was funded by the Foundation (**\$149,600.00**).

#### **May Arboretum Environmental Educational Programs**

- ◆ Nichole Tracey, AmeriCorps member and the Arboretum Educational Program Coordinator will end her term this month.
- ◆ The horticulturist recently hired a new Arboretum Educational Program Coordinator, Laura Fraser, a graduate from the University of Northern Iowa with a B.A. in Biology and & BA in Earth Science. Formerly a Peace Corps member in Benin West Africa, she aspires to make a career at an Arboretum. Her start date is September 1, 2020. Many thanks for the May Arboretum Society for funding the position (**\$9,500**).

#### **Reservations**

- ◆ Wedding gardens rentals are open with Phase 2 restrictions; no more than 25 people at a gathering, and the chairs provided by the arboretum will be surfaced sterilized between weddings. In addition the number of weddings per day has been modified to one wedding per day per garden.

#### **Arboretum Upgrades and Projects**

- ◆ The May Arboretum Society, May Arboretum and Didier Design Studio LLC hosted a Zoom meeting to kick-off the design phase of the Arboretum's Cactus and Succulent Garden. The garden will be developed at the north end of the arboretum near Lear Garden. It will be approximately 1.5 acres and will include taxa from the different US high elevation and global desert regions of the US. It will include a children garden section, learning center, water features and a crevice garden. May thanks to the May Arboretum Society for funding the design of this unique garden for the May Arboretum (**\$41,760.00**).
- ◆ May Arboretum will be installing two new kiosks in the Arboretum thanks to the generous donation of the May Arboretum Society (**\$8,740.00**)

#### **Visitor Data**

The total number of visitors from last year (2019) to this year (2020) from January to July, the data shows a **30%** increase in visitors. The upsurge suggests people are using our public spaces more as relief from the pandemic.



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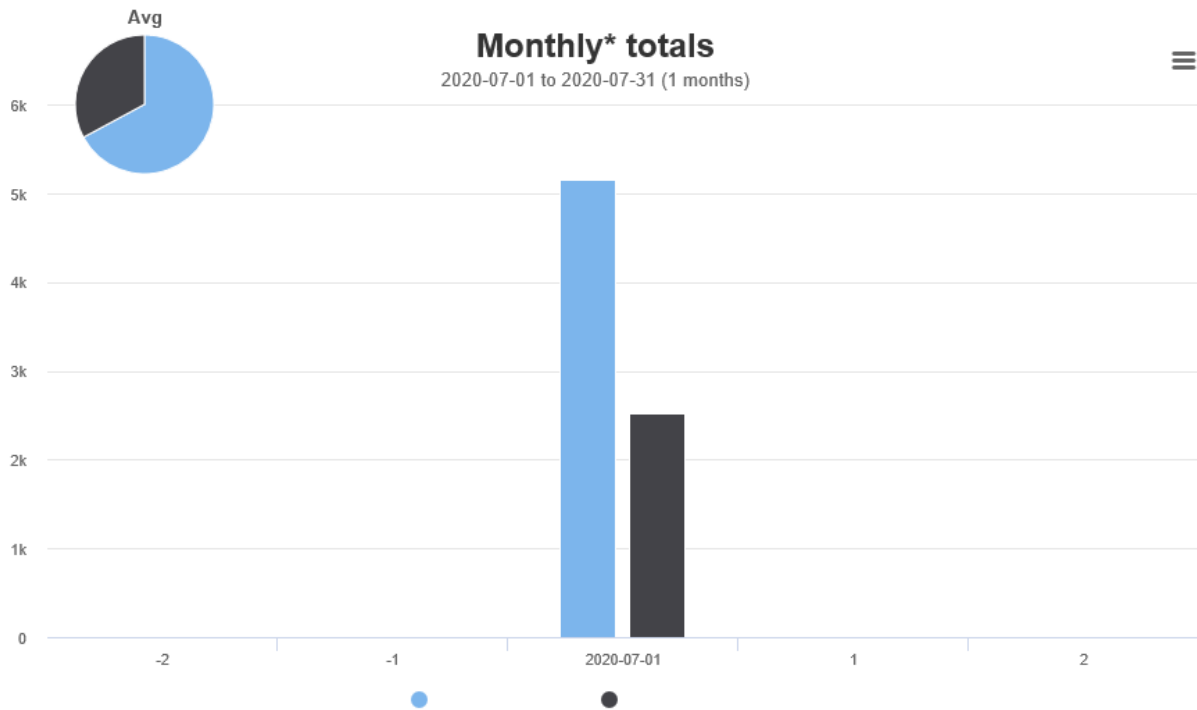
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### Master Summary

| Year | Site               | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | Jun   | Jul   | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | ADT <sup>†</sup> | ADT <sup>†</sup> x365 | Days with data |
|------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 2020 | So.Arbo Entrance   | 2,941 | 3,966 | 4,668 | 8,648 | 9,348 | 7,833 | 5,148 |     |     |     |     |     | 197.197          | 72,174                | 229            |
|      | West Arbo Entrance | 1,445 | 1,909 | 1,702 | 2,212 | 2,883 | 3,215 | 2,519 | *   |     |     |     |     | 73.664           | 26,961                | 229            |

ADT<sup>†</sup> = Average Daily Traffic  
 \* = based upon that month's ADT  
<sup>D</sup> = divide by 2 applied



*Blue is the south entrance and black is the west entrance.*

### May Arboretum Volunteer Program

- ◆ Volunteers returned to arboretum and are instructed to work alone or wear a mask and maintain social distance if working together.
- ◆ Volunteers continue play a major role in our operation. They provide additional support to our staff and gardens.
- ◆ Volunteer recorded 225 hours for the month of July and has a service value. **\$5,105.25.**