



Recommendation Submission

Foothills Community Policing Council

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RECOMMENDATION: Safety Concern, Overnight Camping in Singing Arrow Park

Camping in Singing Arrow Park - overnight camping within the park should not be happening. Regular patrol of park needs to increase to eliminate activity.

The Foothills CPC Singing Committee has met with APD and the Parks department and has recommended trimming of lower branches of trees and control of the size of shrubbery to maintain sight lines for APD surveillance, and to permit park users to see areas where danger might otherwise exist.

Reason: Many residents of the area (including children) want to utilize the park and they need to feel safe. With tents, trash, and individuals establishing a temporary place of residence in the park it promotes an unsafe environment and discourages people from visiting.

Campers in this park have been asked by members of the Foothills CPC Singing Arrow Committee why they were in this park and were told that non-profit groups have provided them with maps and directions to this park and they were told to camp there.

Regular maintenance needs to occur at the park to ensure safety and security. Residents within the area need to have confidence that they can visit the park without any concern for their safety. The Parks Department has conducted trimming activity on the trees and shrubs to improve sight lines. Active engagement and attention need to occur on a regular basis to build the trust of the community at this Park once again.

Active APD presence at the park will also showcase a commitment to improving the area and ensuring those that have sought the park for a "campsite" will now need to seek other options.

November 18, 2020

Response:

I have reviewed this recommendation and FH PRT has already taken steps to address these concerns. We worked closely with Parks to have the tress cut and overgrown bushes removed. FH PRT also conducts foot patrol at the park once or twice daily and the area has greatly improved. We spoke with a couple just last week and were complemented on how the park has changed. In December, I gave a presentation to the CPC on the work that has been done thus far.

In regards to the camping. Anytime we come into contact with an individual we enforce the park rules and offer resources. FH PRT will continue to build on the progress we have made in the area. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me.

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