November 14, 2019

New Supplemental Park Rule – Effective Immediately

Designated Trails & Walkways

Where posted, no person shall leave the designated trails or walkways. Leaving those areas or entering the vegetation is prohibited by law, unless approved by the City of Concord Police or Parks and Recreation Department.

City of Concord Municipal Code 4.05.060

Background: In the interest of safety, park patron security and preservation of the communities parks and recreation assets, a new supplemental park rule to direct park/trail users to “stay on designated trails and walkways” is beginning a trial period in immediate response to increased destruction of natural habitat, accumulation of unsafe/unsanitary waste refuse, and damage to landscaped areas in close proximity to trails and walkways. A similar rule has proven effective in encouraging appropriate use of parks and trails in other cities and is not uncommon throughout regional open spaces and national parks. The new rule has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s office and is administratively implemented under the authority of the Director of Parks and Recreation and posted at designated areas on an as-needed basis. Staff from the Police, Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments are working together on the creation of new signage, two versions are currently under development. The first signs will be installed at Newhall Park followed by the BART Park Trail bordering Port Chicago Highway.

Preliminary signage designs will include the following verbiage:

Welcome to BART Park Trail
You are entering a restricted area
Leaving walkway is a violation of the law
Enter vegetation and be cited

City of Concord Municipal Code 4.05.060

Welcome to Newhall Park
You are entering a restricted area
Leaving designated trails is a violation of the law
Enter vegetation and be cited

City of Concord Municipal Code 4.05.060

Steve Voorhies, Director of Parks & Recreation