



Monthly Newsletter

March 2023

Parkway homeless camps

WDDNA has recently been contacted by a number of members concerned about nearby homeless camps in the American River Parkway.



It is well known that homeless encampments have existed for years on the Parkway. In 2019, Park Ranger officials estimated that between 500 and 700 homeless individuals were camping in the Parkway every night. However, until recently most encampments have been downstream of Watt Avenue and concentrated in the Discovery Park, Woodlake and Cal Expo Areas, according to the Parks District's recent American River Parkway Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP). *(To view the NRMP pages related to homeless encampments, [CLICK HERE.](#))*

The recent appearance of a couple of camps adjacent to the Parkway near Watt Avenue has sparked increased concern among WDDNA members. They have asked us, "If it is unlawful to camp in the American River Parkway, why don't law enforcement officials move the campers out?"

Court decision

The reason stems from a 2018 Idaho court decision. The *Martin v. Boise* decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit held that local jurisdictions cannot enforce anti-camping ordinances if they do not have enough homeless shelter beds available for their homeless population.

In 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal of the case, leaving the precedent intact in the nine Western states under the jurisdiction of the Ninth Circuit. It therefore applies to the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.

At this time, Sacramento County does not have sufficient housing options to meet the court's threshold. So, according to the NRMP, Sacramento County Regional Parks can no longer use camping citations and require individuals experiencing homelessness to leave the Parkway. However, law enforcement officials can still act if a camper is breaking some

other law. And campers can be removed under certain circumstances, such as the recent decision to remove campers from Bannon Island to protect them from unsafe conditions on the island caused by winter storm damage.

Who to contact

For the most part, when there are Parkway homeless encampment issues, Park Rangers should be the first agency to contact. Sheriff's Department deputies and investigators also get involved in the case of criminal activity. And recently-elected Sheriff Jim Cooper has stated his desire to have his deputies become more active in the Parkway to support the Rangers.

That said, if a homeless camper appears to pose a physical threat to you or others, you should immediately report it. Move a safe distance away and contact either the Park Rangers or call 911. Provide as much detailed information as possible about the incident, the location and the individual(s) involved. Report immediately to ensure that the individuals involved do not have time to flee.

The Park Ranger dispatch phone number is 916-875-PARK (7275) or for serious incidents, dial 911.

If you believe your report does not merit a 911 call, but you still want to contact the Sheriff's Department about it, you may call the department's North office at (916) 874-1025 or email at Northhot@sacsheriff.com.

To communicate with Sacramento County Regional Parks Chief Ranger Leonard Orman, the Park District business office number is (916) 875-6961.

Parkway Management Plan

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors today will consider the adoption of the American River Parkway Management Plan (NRMP).

The plan was prepared through the work of nearly 50 regional parks officials, professional consultants, county agency task force members and several funding partners.

According to the executive summary, the NRMP "is intended to provide relevant and defensible information to the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks for making informed decisions for managing, maintaining and enhancing Parkway resources."

It describes existing Parkway resources, the effects of disturbances such as flood, fire, invasive species and human impacts, as well as opportunities for protections and enhancements.

Among the topics covered in the plan are the Parkway's biological, physical and cultural resources, as well as outlines for reducing the impact of human use. It discusses the impact of homeless encampments on the Parkway and the necessity of rehabilitating those areas of the Parkway affected by encampments.

The executive summary notes that the plan builds on years of previous data collection conducted for the 2002 Lower American River Corridor Management Plan, the Parkway



Plan of 2008 and the American River Watershed Common Features General Reevaluation Report of 2015.

To go to the Sacramento County Regional Parks NRMP website page, [CLICK HERE](#). The page allows you to read and download portions of the report or a complete file.

WDDNA annual report & budget

The year 2023 promises to be a busy one for WDDNA, as we work to improve our database system and manage a major rate increase by the Sheriff's Department.

Database Software

By this time last year, our membership had reached an all-time high of 1,020 households and that figure eventually rose to more than 1,050 by the fall.

However, as the year came to an end, WDDNA's database software developed some unexpected invoicing glitches which made it difficult for some members to renew. Although we were eventually able to work around those problems, we did lose some members in the process. At the present time, our membership stands at just over 1,000.

To address those issues, WDDNA has engaged a consultant who is in the process of restructuring our system to correct the cause of the invoicing problems and upgrade overall functionality. (See related story.) We believe these changes will greatly improve our ability to manage our data and grow our membership.

Sheriff's Department Rate Increase

As we reported in our January newsletter, the Sheriff's Department is implementing two separate increases this year in the rate we pay for our off-duty deputy patrols.

The first increase took effect Feb. 1 when the administration fee jumped by 50 percent from \$10 to \$15 per hour and the vehicle fee rose by nearly 55 percent from \$11 to \$17 per hour.

The next increase will come July 1, when there will be a 16.7 percent increase in the hourly rate we pay for each deputy from the current \$64.59 to \$75.36.

So, as of July 1, the total hourly rate we will pay for each patrol shift will rise from the current \$85.59 per hour to \$107.36 per hour, an increase of 25.4 percent.

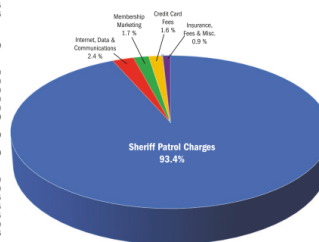
Fortunately, due to the recent pandemic-related shortage of deputies to fill all our shifts, WDDNA has accumulated a reserve fund that will be sufficient to cover the increase this year and part of 2024.

That said, we all need to be aware of the rising costs of our patrols. At some point in the future, it likely will be necessary for us to consider either increasing member dues and/or reducing the number or length of our patrols. When that time comes, we will bring this issue to our membership and request feedback.

Budget

2023 Willhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Assn. Budget

2023 Revenue	
Membership Dues	\$276,390
Reserve Carryover	\$ 70,885
TOTAL	\$347,075
2023 Expenses	
Sheriff Patrol Charges	\$324,000
Website, Data & Communications	
Database Consultants	\$5,000
Domain & Hosting	\$1,100
Database License Fees	\$1,000
Constant Contact	\$500
Newsletter Mailing	\$900
Subtotal	\$8,450
Membership Marketing	\$5,600
Credit Card Fees	\$6,000
Insurance, Fees & Misc.	
Insurance	\$1,800
CNA	\$620
Legal	\$35
P.O. Box	\$225
Meetings & Zoom	\$165
Software	\$150
Subtotal	\$3,025
TOTAL	\$347,075



WDDNA's projected budget for 2023 is \$347,075. This assumes a schedule of 11 weekly eight-hour patrols.

The \$347,075 budget figure exceeds our \$276,390 membership revenue for the year. So, we will be drawing \$70,685 from our reserves to cover the difference.

Major expenditure categories are as follows:

- Off-Duty Sheriff's Deputy Patrols = \$324,000
- Website, Data Management & Communications = \$8,450
- Credit Card Fees = \$6,000
- Membership Marketing = \$5,600
- Insurance, Professional Fees & Misc. = \$3,025

[CLICK HERE](#) to view and download a detailed copy of the 2023 budget, or go to our website at <https://wilhagginna.com/financials/>.

WDDNA VP joins DA's council

Pat Landgraf, vice president of the WDDNA Board of Directors, has been accepted to the new Sacramento County District Attorney's Community Relations Council.



According to Landgraf, the Council was set up by District Attorney Thien Ho with the goal of obtaining feedback from the community about public safety concerns. The Council held its introductory meeting last week on Zoom.

"There were more than 27 attendees from many different backgrounds," Landgraf reported. "Two deputy district attorneys ran the meeting and explained that the group would be split up into community advisory teams that will meet every other month to discuss public safety issues going on in our selected areas. Each group leader will then take those issues to a quarterly meeting with the District Attorney."

As a representative of WDDNA, Landgraf will be focused on safety and security issues affecting our neighborhood. She will share information reported to us by our patrol deputies and our members.

Members who wish to provide information for her to share may email WDDNA at wilhaggindeldayona@gmail.com.

SMUD work underway on Jacob

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) began a project on Jacob Lane between American River Drive and the river to replace aging underground cables.

According to SMUD officials, this will be a two-part process. The first phase was undertaken by a SMUD contract partner, Lund Construction, a North Highlands firm. That phase is scheduled to be complete by March 2 and involves trenching and laying pipe,

followed by repaving over the excavated area.

During construction, drivers and bicyclists are advised to take care when traveling around the area.

When the pipe infrastructure is complete, SMUD said, a line crew will come in to install new cable in the underground pipe.

A WDDNA member, Jerry Blalock, chatted with one of the workmen when the project started. He was told that cables that had been installed when the neighborhood was first developed had deteriorated and needed to be replaced. In advance of the excavation, he said, street markings for underground utilities were applied from American River Drive down Jacob Lane to the levee and west from Jacob Lane to Whitehall Way.

SMUD officials said no disruption of electrical service is expected in the neighborhood during construction.

WDDNA getting a software upgrade

In order to correct some glitches in our online membership renewal software and to add some new features, WDDNA has invested in a modest restructuring of our Zoho Customer Relations Management (CRM) software.



The project was undertaken after we experienced some linkage problems between our website and our Zoho CRM during our membership renewal process last fall. Those glitches made it difficult for some members to renew without additional assistance by our volunteer membership team.

When we discovered the problem, we immediately engaged a professional U.S.-based Zoho consultant to do an analysis and offer solutions. The consultant found that the company which had originally set up our Zoho account in 2021 had structured the system inefficiently.

As we worked through the list of issues, we also realized that there were now additional Zoho tools available to us that would not only improve our internal operations, but also make working with us much easier for our members.

The consultant is working on our upgrade and we expect it will be completed sometime in March. Most of the improvements will not be visible to you until next fall's renewal period, but we believe you will appreciate them. Among the points of interest are the following:

- All the services we currently offer via our website will be unchanged. You will still login as you do now. You will still use the same process to request a vacation watch, change a password, reach a deputy or use our website content.
- Those members who pay by credit card will now be able to take advantage of automatic renewal each year. After you pay next fall, your credit card number will be stored according to Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS), allowing your dues to be charged automatically to your card every Dec. 31. If you do not wish automatic renewal, no problem. You can opt out.
- It will be possible for members who so choose to pay dues by credit card, debit card or ACH (a type of electronic bank-to-bank payment).
- Our Zoho CRM will integrate with our Constant Contact communications account so

that any changes members make to email addresses or when memberships are added or deleted, the data will be automatically updated in Constant Contact, ensuring greater accuracy and freeing up our volunteers from making changes manually.

- Members will have a more readable record of their dues payments and money owed.
- When new members join, their first-year dues will be prorated by month so they need only pay for the remaining portion of the year. Then they will be charged for a standard annual renewal in the fall.

As we get closer to our renewal period next fall, we will provide you with all the information you need about the new system. Thank you for your support.

WDDNA service area expands

WDDNA's board of directors has just approved the expansion of our service area to include a group of homes off Fair Oaks Boulevard on the western fringe of our previous boundary and immediately adjacent to the Fair Oaks Office Park.

Since the association was founded in 2006, the value of our patrols has prompted multiple requests from homeowners in nearby neighborhoods to join our program.

At the beginning, our patrols covered only the Wilhaggin area. Then in 2012, homeowners in Del Dayo asked that we expand our boundary east to Arden Way so they could join. That major expansion brought in hundreds of new members whose dues have allowed us to pay for more and longer patrols.

A few years later, homeowners on several blocks just east of Arden Way also asked to be included. In 2018 we welcomed in the homeowners of Wyndgate, a gated community off American River Drive adjacent to our Wilhaggin boundary to the west. And more recently, we added the streets of Kevington Court, Rodante Way and Pajaro Court off Fair Oaks Boulevard west of Wilhaggin Drive.

Despite requests from other homeowners and groups to the west and east of us that we expand to serve them, as well, we have felt it important that we not grow so large that one deputy could not easily cover the territory in a single shift.

However, when six of the 11 homeowners on two small streets off Fair Oaks Boulevard just east of the Watt Avenue business district recently banded together to request membership, we agreed.

We welcome those households – all of which have Fair Oaks Boulevard addresses – to our association and we truly thank them for their support.

HOW TO CALL FOR HELP

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

- CALL 911 from a land line.

- Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.

TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.
2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY (Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via **EMAIL at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com**.

Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association | 761 Cortland Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864

[Unsubscribe](#) knewton761@att.net

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by knewton761@att.net in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!