



MEDIA ADVISORY

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HIKE-A-THON FUNDRAISER FOR MISSON TRAILS PLANNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH COWLES MOUNTAIN ANNIVERSARY

SAN DIEGO, CA – On Thursday, September 5 at 10AM, the Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Foundation, San Diego City Councilmember Raul Campillo (D-7), and the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department Open Space Division will announce the launch of a hike-a-thon fundraiser for Mission Trails, *Hit the Trails Hike-a-Thon for Mission Trails*. Taking place over three months, from October 15, 2024, through January 15, 2025, the event encourages the community to get outdoors and have their activity benefit Mission Trails, one of the largest urban parks in the United States and a jewel of the City of San Diego's Park system. The event has been organized in conjunction with the upcoming 50th anniversary of the purchase of Cowles Mountain. This call to "give back to Mission Trails" allows community members of all fitness levels to leverage their activities at Mission Trails or wherever they live to benefit the 8,000-acre open space park.

WHAT: News Conference

WHO:

San Diego City Councilmember Raul Campillo, District 7
Jennifer Morrissey, Executive Director, Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation Todd Linke, Educator, park user, and MTRP Foundation Board member Edward Christensen, Supervising Park Ranger, Open Space Division

WHEN: Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 10AM

WHERE: Cowles Mountain Staging Area, corner of Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive (map attached). Reserved parking available and immediately adjacent to the press conference site.

VISUALS: Cowles Mountain, community members hiking up Cowles Mountain, Councilmember Raul Campillo, park rangers, representatives from San Diego Parks & Recreation Department and MTRP Foundation, park users in Hike-a-Thon t-shirts standing behind the podium with "San Diego Loves Mission Trails" and "Support Mission Trails" signs.

About the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation

Founded in 1988, the Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Foundation works to preserve, improve, and maintain Mission Trails and foster public appreciation and understanding of the park. The MTRP Foundation works in close partnership with the City of San Diego, and the Foundation is working closely

with the City on a land acquisition initiative to grow Mission Trails. The MTRP Foundation made its first donation of land to the City of San Diego in July 2024 and this acreage will be added to the park for preservation and the enjoyment of the public. The MTRP Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID 33-0285093.

About Councilmember Raul Campillo

Councilmember Raul Campillo proudly represents the Seventh Council District of the City of San Diego and serves as the Chair of the Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee.