



# City Councilmember Scott Sherman

*District 7*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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## **Sherman, Campbell Officially Open new State-of-the-Art Ranger Station**

*San Diego* – Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Taskforce Chairman Scott Sherman and Councilmember and MTRP Committee Member Jen Campbell officially opened a new 5,000 square foot state-of-the-art ranger station at MTRP. This important park investment will give rangers improved resources and facilities to better protect the park and engage with park visitors.

In addition to the new ranger station, public artwork by acclaimed local artist Roman de Salvo was unveiled. The artwork, *Fountain Mountain*, consists of a large boulder with trail-like channels carved into its surface. A functioning drinking fountain fixture rises out of the highest point of the boulder, and water flows through the array of tiny trails in serpentine paths down the slopes of the boulder. The artwork is inspired by the many trails at MTRP.

“Mission Trails Regional Park has a special place in my heart. As a native San Diegan, Mission Trails was basically my backyard and playground even before it became an official park,” said Councilmember Sherman. “I am glad we have invested in improving public safety for this important regional treasure.”

“Mission Trails Regional Park has been inspiring visitors since before it opened in 1974. To add a piece like *Fountain Mountain* to this new ranger station will ensure that same inspiration is passed on to future generations,” said Councilmember Jen Campbell

“Investing in a new facility for rangers and installing art that is beautiful and functional, will undoubtedly have a profound impact and enhance the experience for all our park visitors,” said County Supervisor and MTRP Committee Member Kristin Gaspar.

“A major entry to the Fortuna area of Mission Trails Regional Park, the completion of this long-awaited ranger station completes the vision for the East Fortuna Staging Area of the Park. This has been a 21-year process of planning and park development funded by the City of San Diego and the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation, a partnership that began with the building of the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive in 1991,” said Dorothy Leonard, Chair of the MTRP Citizens Advisory Committee and a member of the MTRP Foundation Board of Directors.

MTRP is a jewel in the San Diego region and is one of the largest urban parks in the country consisting of over 8,000 acres over 11 square miles. MTRP has more than sixty miles of hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails, a rock climbing area, a stunning 14,000-square-foot Visitor and Interpretive Center, and the Kumeyaay Lake Campground.

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