



City of San Diego
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CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

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New Trails Open at Black Mountain Open Space Park

Community members volunteered more than 1,200 hours to help build new trails

SAN DIEGO (March 28, 2015) --- Councilman Mark Kersey joined community volunteers today to officially open new hiking and mountain biking trails at Black Mountain Open Space Park.

A mile and a half of trails were meticulously crafted by San Diego Parks & Recreation Park Rangers and more than 100 community members. The trails connect both sides of Black Mountain Open Space Park on either side of Carmel Valley Road. They also connect two well-used trailheads (Glider Port Trailhead and Miner's Ridge Trailhead) with Black Mountain Ranch Community Park.

"Thanks to the hard work of our park rangers and community volunteers, many more San Diegans will be able to explore this beautiful open space," said Councilman Mark Kersey, who represents District Five and the Black Mountain Ranch community where the trails are located.

"By connecting both sides of the park via trail, hikers and bikers will no longer have to contend with vehicular traffic on busy, high speed Carmel Valley Road," Kersey said.

Community volunteers, including members of the San Diego Mountain Biking Association, contributed approximately 1,200 hours of work to build the trails. The volunteer work saved the city an estimated \$31,000.

According to the Independent Sector, a national, nonpartisan coalition of nonprofits, the estimated dollar value of a California volunteer in 2013 was \$26.35 per hour.

"Designed specifically with an eye to provide a quality trail user experience, specific construction methods were utilized that maximize sustainability and minimize annual maintenance," said Rod Simmons, chair of the Black Mountain Open Space Park Citizen's Advisory Committee.

This is the first phase of trails built as part of the Black Mountain Natural Resources Management Plan. Additional trails are expected to be completed later this year.

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