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**NEWS
RELEASE**

5 / 20 / 2020

City to Reopen Hiking Trails for Memorial Day Weekend

EL PASO, Texas – The Parks and Recreation Department will reopen hiking and walking trails across the City for Memorial Day weekend starting Saturday, May 23.

The department understands that time outdoors can have many benefits, both physical and mental, and that open space provides critical support for the public during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The trails will be open for activities such as walking, jogging, cycling, and nature viewing, but social distancing guidelines must be followed. City staff encourage visitors to keep six feet apart from others, not congregate with people who are not from their household, no picnicking, encouraged to use face coverings, and urged not use trails if they or anyone in their household is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

The additional hiking and walking trails opening on Memorial Day Weekend include:

Hike and Walking Trails (Additional Trails Open)	
Lost Dog	Round House
Lazy Cow	Thousand Steps
Palisades	Lomas del Sol
Jan Sumrall Memorial	
Scenic Drive (Scenic Sundays to resume)	
McKelligon Canyon opens Friday, May 22 (Gate to remain closed to vehicle traffic, only foot and bicycle traffic allowed on paved road, hiking on trails is not permitted.)	

Information on open hiking and walking trails, including locations, is posted on the Parks and Recreation website www.elpasotexas.gov/parks-and-recreation and www.epstrong.org.

All City parks and recreational areas will remain closed during the Memorial Day weekend and until further notice due to health and budgetary impacts. Picnics, gatherings, sports games, and any other activity are still not permitted in City parks.

Parks and Recreation facilities, including aquatic centers, recreation centers, and senior centers and sports facilities, will remain closed through the summer.

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