

# City Manager's Weekly Update

December 2, 2016

## WATER

This week, the state's latest framework for implementing the governor's Executive Order on water conservation was released. [Making Conservation a Way of Life](#) was released Wednesday by the State Water Resources Control Board, and they will be soliciting feedback on the draft for the next few weeks. Our fair city continues to be a leader in water conservation, and many of the programs suggested in the framework are programs we have been engaged in for years. Go Santa Cruz!

Speaking of water conservation, our first "Rain barrel Rodeo" will be held tomorrow morning at our corporation yard. (You may recall that we have a [program](#) with a vendor to provide our customers rain barrels at a deeply discounted price.) Times have certainly changed since our rodeos in 2014 and 2015 during the height of our drought; at the first rain barrel event in 2014 we sold 1,500 rain barrels. At our first event tomorrow we will sell 78. We will hold two more rain barrel sales this winter.



(2014 record-breaking rain barrel event)

We received a report this week from Santa Clara Valley Water District on results from their tests on the safety of highly purified recycled water to augment their drinking water supply. As we continue to study the feasibility of using purified recycled water to augment our water supply, as per direction included in the WSAC recommendations, I thought you might be interested in reading the [Santa Clara Valley report](#).

As we have reported previously, we continue working on the planning and preliminary engineering work related to on our project to rehabilitate or replace the inlet-outlet pipe at the Newell Creek Dam. We've had a geotechnical team collecting borings at the reservoir and the work was completed this week.

Next Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> is our Water Commission meeting. This month the commission will receive a presentation on the status and challenges of water transfers and in-lieu recharge, as well as their quarterly update on progress made on the WSAC recommendations.

Last but far from least, we are very pleased to report that our water quality team was awarded the Certificate of Excellence for passing their 2016 Water Proficiency Studies in microbiology and chemistry with scores of 100%!

## POLICE

### You have the right to remain cute!!!



SCPD Police Officer Gomez heard a desperate meowing coming from a car in the PD parking lot. After some “detective work”, he realized the meows were coming from somewhere inside a car engine. When the hood was popped open he found a frightened kitty cat hiding next to the engine block.

After a game of cat-and-mouse under the car hood, Officer Gomez shimmied underneath the car and carefully extracted the tiny kitty cat. The kitten was covered in dirt and grease but he was unharmed!

It was love at first sight. Officer Gomez adopted the stray kitty right then and there.

This SCPD post went viral and was picked up by many media outlets. People Magazine actually turned it into a news story online. Perhaps Officer Gomez will get listed in the 100 Most Beautiful People issue.

### Representative at White House 21st Century Regional Policing Briefing

Last week, Lt. Jose Garcia attended a White House 21st Century Regional Policing Briefing which was held in Anaheim California.



Since May 2016, the White House has hosted a series of ten briefings to welcome local law enforcement officials to the White House and provide an overview of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Law enforcement officers from around the country participated in interactive sessions throughout the day to learn from each other and more about the Task Force Report.

The topics presented during the briefing included discussions around implicit bias training, the Police Data Initiative, Officer Safety and Wellness and social media and storytelling.

### Holiday Crime Prevention Series



Twice this week SCPD Officers caught suspected burglars in the act while inside the victim's home. Fortunately, the resident in each case was uninjured. The victims were quick to call 911. SCPD is relaying ongoing messaging to our community about crime prevention tips. Next week, SCPD will highlight - *How to Keep Your Home Safe and Secure During the Holidays & Mail Theft Prevention*

This week's prevention tips focused on Online Shopping.

Shopping online for the upcoming Holidays? Be aware that online shopping carries the threat of potential scammers. SCPD tips to protecting yourself while shopping online:

1. Be wary of sellers offering goods and well-known brands at extremely low prices. "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is".
2. Never provide an up-front payment to a stranger via money order or wire transfer, (especially for out of state transactions).



3. When making arrangements to "meet", be sure to meet in a well populated area, during daytime hours and NEVER go alone.
4. Use well-known secure

payment options, such as PayPal or a credit card.

5. Do an internet search using the exact wording in the ad - many versions of this scam can be identified this way.

6. Fake retail apps can be attempts at identity theft. Some clues to a fake app: Does the app have any reviews? If there are no reviews, that's a red flag because someone just created that app. Also look for misspelled words and poor grammar in the app description. These are clues that the app is not legitimate.

When in doubt check it out!

### **Cute & Cuddly K-9 Companions Support SCPD K-9 Unit**

Huggable toy K-9's are available for a \$10 donation at the SCPD Lobby on 155 Center Street. The adorable stuffed likeness of the police dog comes complete with customized protective vests, just like our K-9 officers.



Proceeds from the SCPD mini fluffy K-9's help offset incidental costs associated with caring for SCPD's working K-9s. This fundraiser originated with a generous sponsorship from Westside Animal Hospital.



Thanks to all who help support this great program! More on SCPD Blog <https://goo.gl/NyfhtH>

## SCPD Commitment to Youth Programs

We continue the series that examines the strategies and practices SCPD officers utilize to engage and collaborate with community members to build trust, and create mutual respect. The 4th installment of SCPD Community-Oriented Policing is focused on youth programs - Youth Programs Help Santa Cruz Police Department's Community Policing Efforts Reach Kids is available here <https://goo.gl/b7Mf2W>

1st [Highlights Community-Oriented Policing Tradition](#)

2nd [Community-Oriented Policing Provides Transparency, Accountability](#)

3rd [Community-Based Partnerships Reduce Crime](#)

All articles are also available under the Community-Oriented Policing Tradition tab on the SCPD website <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/.../community-oriented-policin...>



## PARKS AND RECREATION

### Depot Park BMX Improvements

Working with Santa Cruz's local professional BMX rider Ryan Nyquist and Super Ramp manufacturer, a new, all metal, ramp was installed at Depot BMX park. The wooden structures that were designed as temporary ramps have suffered from significant deterioration over the past few years and have required a great deal of maintenance. The new installation is expected to require minimal maintenance and has a much longer life expectancy.



### **Nobel Median Improvements**

The Nobel medians received some TLC from a division-wide project. Nearly 400 plants were installed between Bay Avenue and Meder Street which included 14 individual islands. The plant pallet drew from neighbor's yards to offer some consistency in the neighborhood. All plants are drought tolerant and will be watered via newly installed drip irrigation.



### **Louden Nelson Community Center**

**Frosty Fun Fest ~ December 2nd,**  
**5:00 - 7:00pm**

Enjoy a night of creative crafting at the Loudon Nelson Community Center for December's First Friday!

- \* Transform the Art Gallery into a winter wonderland at our Snowflake Create Station.
- \* Test your sandy construction skills in the Team Graham Cracker House Contest, 2-6 people per group. Pre-Registration required by Monday, Nov. 28. Entry forms at [nlsnccenter.com](http://nlsnccenter.com).
- \* Decorate holiday cards and wrapping paper with potato print spirit stamps.
- \* Wear your favorite holiday attire and spread joyful cheer while sipping on delicious hot chocolate.
- \* Paint our Winter Wonderland community mural.

**This event is fun and FREE!**

**LOUDEN NELSON**  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
304 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95062-6877

Let the Fun Fest begin! Enjoy a night of creative crafting for First Friday at the Loudon Nelson Community Center! Transform the Art Gallery into a winter wonderland at the Snowflake Create station PLUS participate in the community snow-scene mural. Candy coat your dream home in the Team Graham Cracker House contest. Design one-of-a-kind wrapping paper and holiday cards for your friends and family. FREE!

### **Civic**

#### **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 11:30am: Grey Bears Holiday Dinner**

Grey Bears presents their 40th Annual Holiday Dinner on Sunday, December 4, at 11:30 at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium. For more info visit [greybears.org](http://greybears.org)

### **Teen Center**

Last Tuesday, November 22 the Teen Center held their Annual Teen Center Thanksgiving Dinner. This event is always open to current and former Teen Center members and their families. Approximately 75 people came and ate and spent time with each other. For many this has often been the only traditional Thanksgiving meal they have.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Resource Recovery Facility and Processing**

The final operation layer is being put on landfill Cell 3 this week with the protective scrim being installed. Construction operations are winding down and we are looking at completing the project within the month of December.



### **Resource Recovery Waste Reduction**

One week ago, we hosted a delegation from Korea, with a tour of the Resource Recovery Facility. They were from KEITI - the Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute. During their visit to the U.S. the research and project management team wish to learn about solid waste and recycling practices.

### **Green Business Program (GBP)**

The GBP is excited to announce \$12,500 in new funding! We received \$10,000 from the City of Santa Cruz Carbon Fund to be split between City facilities and local businesses to provide micro

grants to help with the certification process. We also received \$2,500 from UCSC's Carbon Fund for an internship program and additional micro grants to local businesses.

### **Operations**

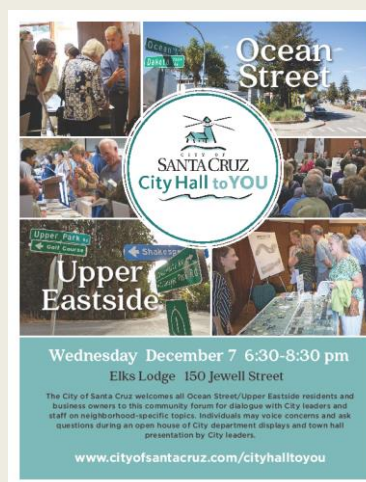
Fleet -Central Coast Construction, Inc. (Cen-con) has started the beam replacement project in the main garage at the Corporation Yard. Fleet Maintenance has moved tools and equipment to satellite garages in Building A while the work is in progress to minimize disruption of service and repairs.

Operations-Aircon Energy has installed energy efficient furnaces at Firehouses 1, 2, and 3. Next on their schedule is furnace replacement at City Hall and Fire Administration.



### **Community Relations**

Final preparations have been made for City Hall to YOU on Dec. 7. City officials and staff look forward direct dialogue with residents and business owners at this community forum focused on Ocean Street and the Upper Eastside. Our speakers will focus on Public Safety and Ocean St./Upper Eastside Development. We expect that our newest City Councilmembers will be introduced during the town hall portion of the event.



For the first time, the City Hall to YOU series will feature demonstrations including Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) offered by the Fire Department to City residents free of charge. Read more event details [here](#).



### **Waste Reduction**

Green Business and Waste Reduction staff attended the Sutter/PAMF quarterly Green Team meeting on 11/30 to provide input and prepare for the certification of the Main Clinic on Soquel Avenue. The Sutter/PAMF organization has new sustainability goals which will support the greening efforts locally

The final preparations are under way for the 2017 issue of Refuse & Recycling. This annual newsletter is mailed to every single-family, duplex, triplex and 4-plex household in the City. Our printer found a new sticker paper for the service tags which contains recycled content paper and will cost less than the paper that we are currently using.