

City Manager's Weekly Update

November 18, 2016

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1400 Ocean Street

This past September, planning staff approved Design and Demolition Authorization Permits to allow construction of an 8,400 square foot commercial development on this site located at the corner of Ocean Street and Glenwood Avenue (formerly containing *The Starving Musician*). Building permits were issued in October and construction is currently underway with the foundations being poured. This week, our department received an application for one of the tenants, *The Habit Burger Grill* (<http://www.habitburger.com/>) to occupy the northernmost building (approximately 2,500 square feet). *The Habit*, whose first restaurant opened in 1969 in Santa Barbara, now has over 175 restaurants worldwide, with 137 in California. The planning application is for an Administrative Use Permit to allow a fast food restaurant, as well as outdoor seating, requiring a public hearing before the Zoning Administrator, which is expected to occur shortly after the first of the year.



Update to the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan and Climate Adaptation Plan

This week, several department heads and senior-level staff from Planning, Public Works, Water, Fire and the City Manager's office met to kick-off the upcoming update to the 2012-2017 Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP). The CAP was an update to the City's original 2007 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.



The City's Hazard Mitigation Plan and CAP represent the City's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for the Council to allocate resources for the purpose of reducing the effects of natural hazards. These plans also serve as the basis for eligibility for the [state](#) and federal government technical and mitigation assistance grants. Natural disasters can cause loss of life, damage buildings and infrastructure, and have devastating consequences for the community's economic, social, and environmental well-being. Implementing the mitigation plans requires sustained action to reduce disaster damages or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.

The City's Hazard Mitigation Plan is a living document that guides action over time. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires mitigation plan updates at least once every 5

years and as conditions change and new information becomes available, adjustments to the plan are necessary to refine policy and focus mitigation. This upcoming effort will focus on including more current mapping, particularly on sea level rise modeling, which will lead to better resource allocation to infrastructure protection, as well as provide policy framework for the City's Local Coastal Program. The update will require staff resources from many departments and the plan needs to be completed before the end of calendar year 2017. Staff will periodically update the City Council on the progress of the Climate Adaptation and Hazard Mitigation Plan throughout 2017.

WATER

As usual, there's plenty going on at the Water Department. The main replacement project on Cedar Street is finally wrapping up with paving, and the North Coast project continues to progress steadily towards completion, hopefully before the end of the year. To date about 13,200 feet of pipe has been installed along the North Coast. (The Brussel sprout harvest is in full swing, so we're trying our best not to impact the farmers...and are enjoying the sprouts that some of them have shared with us!)

Our Customer Service staff are particularly busy these days, with answering questions about the new water rates (which are hitting bills this month), as well as taking reservations for this weekend's "bulky item pick-up." Customer Service has also revised their "leak forgiveness" policy. It used to be that we would split the cost of the water lost in the leak 50/50 with our customer. Now, with the new rates, no matter what kind of leak, we're going to write off all over-normal consumption. However, customers may only receive leak forgiveness once every two years. We hope this will make customers more vigilant in maintaining their plumbing systems.

A bit of good news -- we've been pleasantly surprised to find no evidence of illegal camping activity during recent patrols through riparian areas on the San Lorenzo River and Carbonera spring; this is highly unusual for this time of year.

The fall issue of the SCMU Review hits mailboxes this week; this issue focuses on water quality and safety, in light of many highly-publicized drinking water "incidents" this year.

Yesterday we held our quarterly department "all hands on deck" meeting and did something a little different. Each of our sections set up tables to talk about what they were up to, and employees meandered through the "info fair" to learn about what their fellow employees are up to. Staff took the event seriously and had great displays – everyone seemed to learn a lot and enjoy the event.



Last, it's hard to believe, but it's already been a year since the Water Supply Advisory Committee's last meeting. Committee members developed lasting friendships during the process of their work, so Tuesday night week we hosted a small "reunion" at the Water Department. All WSAC members but one attended, and we had a great time reconnecting. Committee members were also updated on the progress we've made on the recommendations over the course of the past year. The Committee is still fully engaged and fully on board.

POLICE

Good news! Kendra got her car back! #bestdayever



This week a stolen, specially equipped vehicle belong to a paralyzed Scotts Valley woman was recovered Wednesday by the Santa Cruz Police Department. Kendra sent out this message on social media. - "Miracles do happen!!! MY CAR HAS BEEN FOUND!!!! Words cannot describe the pure joy I feel to have my independence and my amazing car back... Officers Teafor and Emigh were on the scene in minutes and were able to do everything so that I could take my precious car home with me today. ❤️"



Kendra's best friend actually spotted the stolen car near 3rd and Cliff streets in Santa Cruz and called police. SCPD officers Teaford and Emigh responded immediately and recovered the car. "It was really awesome to see the joy on her face when got her car back," said Officer Teaford. Officers Teaford and Emigh made sure she could drive it home right away.

Water Rescue Drills on the Wharf; SCPD In The Mix With SC Fire



Santa Cruz Fire conducted water rescue drills off the Wharf over 3 days this week. SCPD ESU Dive Team is participating with multiple agencies in rescue exercises involving a vehicle off the wharf. Training drill scenarios with every SCPD's Dive Team member are coordinated with all Fire, State Park, City Wharf Maintenance Crew and Lifeguards.

"It's very important that with all the training we do to fine tune operation ability and get our hands on the equipment and practice the different departments," said LT. LeMoss.

"Water rescue training with a vehicle involved is especially important," LT. LeMoss added. "Multi-agency training in rescue techniques is valuable. We will all be working together when there is a rescue attempt." Water rescues involving a car are a low-frequency event but require knowledge about such things as the science of ocean, proper gear and lifesaving skills for the victim and the rescue team members.

This 3 day Water Rescue exercise completes SCPD ESU Dive Team 2016 training calendar. Every member on the team passed with 100% competency.



SCPD's Community-Based Partnerships Reduce Crime



Yesterday, SCPD released the third in a series of five articles about Santa Cruz Police Department's longstanding commitment to Community-Oriented Policing.

Santa Cruz Neighbors represents a citywide network of neighborhoods dedicated to safer neighborhoods. Now-retired SCPD Community Policing Coordinator Jim Howes brought neighborhoods together in 2002 to address quality-of-life issues and help to start Santa Cruz Neighbors.

Taking the time to look at and address what is causing crime or nuisance problems in a neighborhood has proven successful for SCPD officers. This problem-solving approach – exemplified by Santa Cruz Neighbors, NET, PACT, MOST, the Parks Units and the 180/2020 program – is a key element of Community-Oriented Policing, requires collaboration with other city and county departments, groups that work with vulnerable populations and neighbors.

SCPD's partnership with Santa Cruz Neighbors is just one of much collaboration over the last two decades. Read about our other community partners in the 3rd article about SCPD's longstanding commitment to Community-Oriented Policing. <https://goo.gl/yL9ZDn>

1st article - [HighlightsCommunity-Oriented Policing Tradition](#)

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2016 Season Trolley Ridership

The mission of the trolley is to better connect the beach and downtown, contributing to the economic vitality of both areas by providing greater ease of access for shoppers and restaurant patrons.

In 2016, the Trolley saw a drop in ridership from years past, partially due to a shorter season, but still had over 35,000 riders hop aboard between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends.

Weekend ridership continues to be high with an average of 574 people riding on weekends and holidays, a 6% increase over the previous year. Additionally, the Woodies on the Wharf event continue to drive high ridership numbers, with 913 enthusiasts riding the Trolley that day. After adding an additional stop at the Boardwalk in 2015, the Trolley returned to its original three stop route this season, which decreased travel times and ensured that 20 minute week day headways were met. The Trolley operating hours were also adjusted to noon to 8pm to better capture peak ridership times.



Holiday Shopping Guide



Our beautiful Santa Cruz Holiday Shopping Guide is at the printers! The guide was created by Economic Development with voluntary participation by Santa Cruz businesses and includes special Small Business Saturday and Black Friday deals as noted on the map. The Shopping guide is a trifold brochure including the map and will be distributed to businesses over the next few days.



PARKS AND RECREATION

Disc Golf Tee Times at DeLaveaga (ball) Golf Course

On November 9th, 2016 DeLaveaga Golf Course kicked off a pilot program integrating **disc golf** with **ball golf** for the first time! The pilot program was based in part from Santa Cruz City Council's direction to invite new activities to upper DeLaveaga Park and make DeLaveaga a multi-use facility. It has also been modeled after successful programs in Morro Bay and Redwood City. This pilot began on November 9th, 2016 and will run through March 12th 2017. Disc Golf can be played along with Ball Golf after 1:30pm on Sundays and Wednesdays only. Disc Golfers must make a tee time, pay assigned round fees and follow all course rules. This pilot program is supported by the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the DeLaveaga Golf Technical Advisory Committee. During the first weekend, over 70 disc golfers participated in the pilot program and played a round of Disc Golf.

Civic Auditorium

Bonnie Raitt is coming to the Civic Saturday, February 25, 2017 – tickets go on sale this Friday, 11/18 at 10am via our very own santacruztickets.com.



PUBLIC WORKS

Waste Reduction

Bulky Item Pickup day is this Saturday November 19 when the ByeBye Mattress program will host a trailer directly across from 300 Natural Bridges Drive (at Delaware). City residents may drop off mattresses and box springs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is a limit of five mattresses and/or box springs per vehicle.



America Recycles Day was November 15. Waste Reduction staff hosted a display of the Santa Cruz Recycles! posters in the Downtown Public Library to celebrate. An advertisement in this week's Good Times promotes the exhibit of student artwork and the poster contest.

Engineering

We are nearing [completion of the resurfacing of the top deck of the Cedar/Church Parking Garage](#) (Lot 3) which will reopen on Monday, Nov. 21, in time for the Thanksgiving holiday and Black Friday.

This Parking Garage Lot 3 Restoration project will extend the serviceable life of the two-level garage which was constructed in 1972 and had been exhibiting cracks and spalls, exposed and corroding reinforcement, leakage from the upper parking deck and isolated ponding.



Streets/Traffic

Crews finished repairing the Locust Street curb (adjacent to the library) damaged by tree roots. Crews are repainting curbs and markings Downtown in preparation for the Holiday shoppers.



Green Business

The City of Santa Cruz Green Business Program website is now fully up-to-date! Take a look at the featured businesses and interactive map:

<http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/departments/public-works/environmental-programs/certified-green-businesses>



Wastewater Collection

Spot repair of a 12 inch sanitary sewer on Market Street was completed with a new section of main put into place. This was a difficult repair due to traffic and conflicting utilities. Ongoing spot repairs on Linden Street for the upcoming sewer lining project and the semi-annual cleaning of the Municipal Wharf gravity mains have been completed. The Division Pump Crew identified a bad pump and replaced it at Wharf #1 pump station during the cleaning operation. Cleaning of the Leachate lines and pump station has also been completed.



Laboratory & Environmental Compliance

Environmental Compliance responded to a citizen complaint of sewage running off at a multi-dwelling unit on Front Street to City Street. Samples tested at our lab confirmed the presence of diagnostic levels of bacteria and caffeine for domestic sewage; the property owner/manager was required to respond immediately. The owner is also required to fix the apparent source of the leakage which was traced to roots in the sewer line; Environmental Compliance has designated this location a hot spot with scheduled weekly sampling for analyses. Picture below shows the impacted area of Front Street after the initial clean up.

