

City Manager's Weekly Update

February 24, 2017

PARKS AND RECREATION

Events



The 36th Annual Clam Chowder Cook-Off & Festival -

Saturday-Sunday, February 25-26, 2017 Now a 2-Day Event! Rain or Shine!!

Amateur Chefs will compete on Saturday, followed by Professional Chefs on Sunday.

Join the festivities as costumed chefs prepare their finest clam chowder recipes outdoors along the Boardwalk to the delight of spectators eager to sample their favorites. Both amateur and professional chefs compete in the friendly competition, hoping to win prizes and bragging rights for BEST CLAM CHOWDER in the Country's largest and longest-running clam chowder competition!

The Cook Off is an important fund-raiser for the City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department. (Last year more than \$90,000 was raised.)

Civic

Friday, Feb 24th, Trivia Challenge presented by The Volunteer Center -

The eighth annual Trivia Challenge takes place on Friday, February 24, 2017 at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium. All proceeds benefit our Senior Programs: RSVP, Helping Hands, File of Life and Transportation.

Saturday, Feb 25th, Bonnie Raitt presented by Pulse Productions -

Bonnie Raitt will play to a Sold Out show at the Civic Auditorium this Saturday. With 'Dig In Deep', her twentieth album, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Bonnie Raitt comes out swinging. The follow-up to 2012's triumphant 'Slipstream' — the Grammy-winning, Top Ten-charting first release on her own Redwing Records label — the new record illustrates the delicate balance of

consistency and risk- taking that has defined Raitt's remarkable career for more than forty-five years.

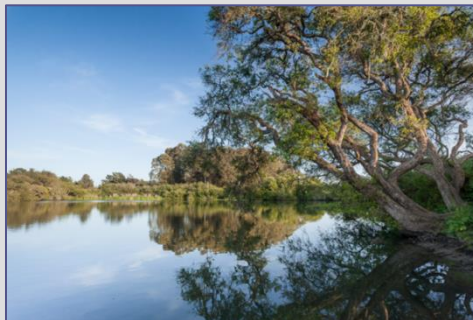
Louden Nelson Community Center

The Kirby Dance Company loaded in for their Dance Concert on Thursday night in the Auditorium.



The LNCC management team has begun planning out the demo and prep phases for the new renovations the center will be under-going in upcoming months.

The “WAG” Walking Adventure Group is hiked to Antonelli Pond and along West Cliff drive on Thursday 2/23.



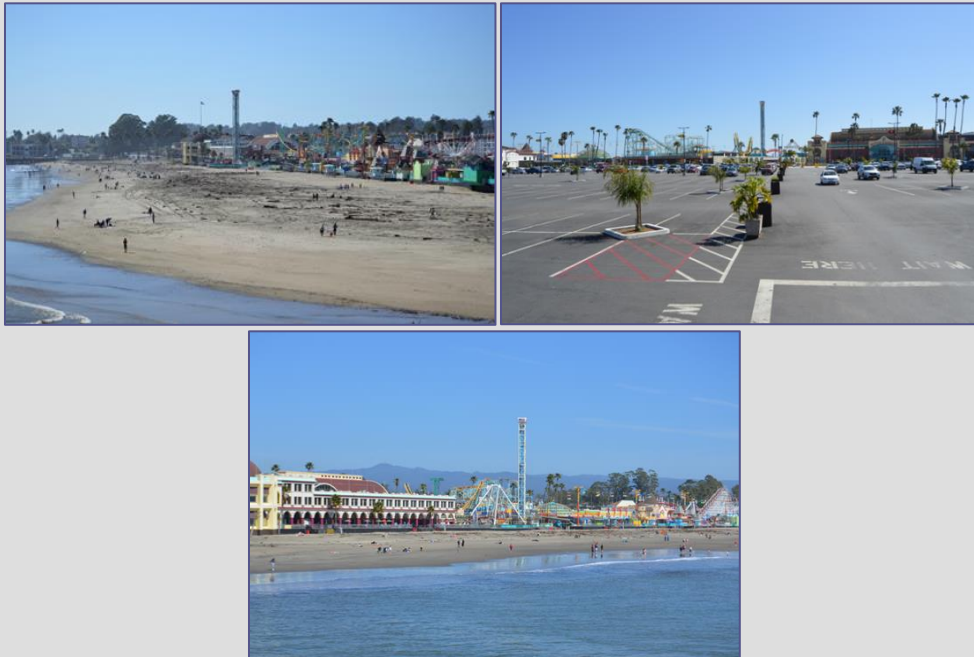
The Winter Shelter Project continues serving dinner to pre-registered participants on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:00 – 8:30pm.

Archery Tag will be held in Laurel Park on Saturday, 2/25.

PLANNING

New Rides at the Boardwalk

Last October, the Planning Commission approved Special Use and Design Permits for two new rides on the upper level ride deck area adjacent to the *Undertow* ride. The rides, known as the *Typhoon* and *Shockwave*, will be approximately 60 and 65 feet above grade, respectively. While not nearly as tall as the *Double Shot*, they exceed the zone district height limit of 40 feet, which triggered the Special Use Permit and public hearing before the Planning Commission. The application included visual simulations showing that the ride will not extend above the skyline when viewed from the Wharf, which is one of the critical view sheds identified in the City's Local Coastal Program. This week, our department received building permit applications for each of the rides. Seaside Company representatives hope to have the rides in operation for the start of the summer season.



630 Water Street

At its February 28th meeting, the City Council will review planning applications to allow the addition of 20 single room occupancy (SRO) units to an existing mixed use development approved back in 2003, containing 48 SRO's, five apartments and 1,000 square feet of commercial space. This current proposal was heard by the Planning Commission last August with 14 citizens expressing concerns related to traffic, parking, occupancy, wildlife impacts and construction noise. The Commission added a number of conditions and unanimously recommended approval of the project. Although this item was originally scheduled for Council

consideration last September, the applicant requested a continuance to allow details related to an inclusionary housing condition to be worked out with staff. This hearing is expected to be well attended by the public.



SCPD Press Conference Regarding Department of Homeland Security Investigations Operation



This week Santa Cruz Police Chief Kevin Vogel held a press conference (Thursday) to provide more information and details regarding the February 13th Department of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) operation in Santa Cruz.

The Santa Cruz Police Department has on multiple occasions demanded complete information from HSI about the scope of the operation.

The full press conference outlines the information we know so far. For our community and public viewing, the press conference was live-streamed on KSBW. The entire video and slides from the presentation of known facts are available on SCPD Blog <https://goo.gl/iGLR58>

SCPD leadership is reaching out to immigrant neighbors and associate groups to reassure the community that the police department will not intentionally participate in immigration enforcement raids.

Panetta Statement on the Recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement Operation in Santa Cruz

WASHINGTON – Today, Congressman Jimmy Panetta (D-Calif.) released the following statement regarding the Santa Cruz Police Department’s press conference detailing the February 13th Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency’s (ICE) operation in Santa Cruz.

“I am disturbed by ICE’s conduct during their February 13th operation in Santa Cruz. I stand with our local Santa Cruz Police Department (SCPD) and Chief Kevin Vogel, and will continue to work with them to demand complete information from ICE about the scope of the operation.

"I am in touch with federal immigration agencies. I called ICE on February 13th, and have followed up with DHS multiple times demanding information and transparency.

"Members of our community should not live in fear that they may be detained or deported, or that their children may be separated from them, because of who they know or where they live.

"What's worse, the breakdown in trust between ICE and SCPD puts our communities at risk. People in our community are already rightfully fearful due to the administration's recent anti-immigrant executive orders and directives. SCPD has a very successful community policing record, and works every day to retain trust between immigrant communities and local law enforcement because doing so is paramount in keeping our neighborhoods safe. ICE has violated and betrayed that trust.

"I will continue to demand communication, clarity, and transparency from DHS and ICE, and I am working with my colleagues on the House Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee to hold ICE accountable for their actions."

WATER

This week we found yet another leak on Pipeline Road, as well as a crushed culvert. Engineering staff are taking a geotechnical engineer out to Pipeline Rd and the Brackney slide areas early next week to see if there is any solution to this ongoing series of problems, besides moving the pipe entirely. (Rehabilitation and/or replacing the Newell Creek Pipeline is in the capital improvement plan FY2017-2021.)

We also had several meetings with Granite Construction at Liddell Spring this week to discuss staging and construction for the improvements needed for the infrastructure serving that source. We have no clear start for a project yet.

We have been working with a firm called Waterways on a model of Laguna flows to better understand the flows at which sediment is naturally suspended. When sediment becomes built-up it causes operational problems. The goal of this work is to understand how we our Operations staff can manually flush some of the sediment out from behind the dam to match natural conditions. So far things look promising!

You may have seen the story this week in the Sentinel about the safety of Newell Creek Dam. (You can see it [here.](#)) The Department of Safety of Dams (DSOD) contacted us this week to discuss additional monitoring of the dam. Motivated by the conditions at Lake Oroville, DSOD is being cautious and conservative with their dam owners and suggesting daily monitoring until the dam stops spilling. In the history of the dam, we have no reason to believe Newell Creek Dam is functioning differently this year than any other, but we are happy to comply with DSOD's suggestions. We have been working with staff from at Loch Lomond Lake to meet DSOD's interests – "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!"



Newell Creek Spillway

Last weekend our Meter Shop and Distribution crews replaced 127 customer meters. It was a lot of work and a great collaboration of WD staff.

The rainfall total for the YTD in Santa Cruz is over 44 inches or 200 percent of normal. Also notable is the cumulative runoff, which surpassed 200,000 acre feet this week, almost 70 billion gallons. There are only a handful of years in the 80 + years of our historic record that have seen that much runoff, the most recent being water year 1998. Given we still have a few months remaining in the wet season we would be surprised if 2017 doesn't break some records.

Last but not least, we thought you might be interested in recent water consumption. We have been using around 5.5 million gallons of water per day in February. "Normal" consumption during this time of year ("normal" meaning prior to our three previous years of intense drought,) is between seven and eight million gallons per day.

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

We have barricaded a stretch of the West Cliff pathway from Swanton Blvd. to Chico Ave. as the cliff bluff has experienced extreme erosion creating a dangerous area. Engineers met with geotechnical consultants this week to begin forming plans to move the walkway further from the coastline. Residents are advised to keep well away from the face of the cliff as we work on a solution.



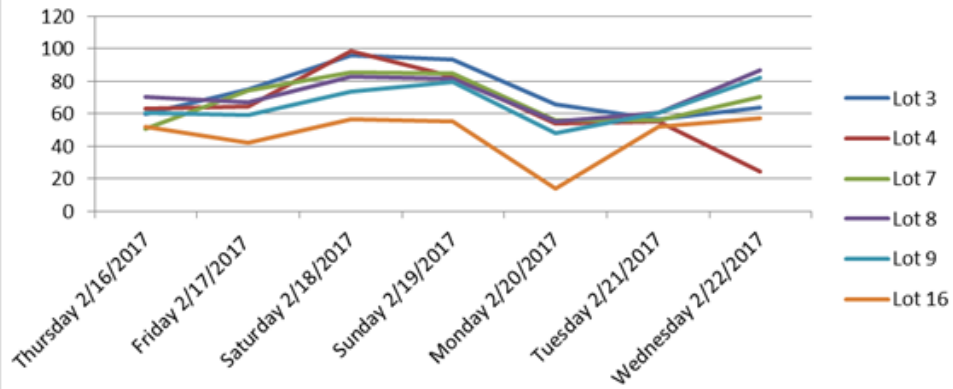
We began storm-related emergency repair of Upper Park Road on Wednesday, Feb. 22. The road has been reduced to one lane with traffic control in effect for the duration of the project. About 200 feet of Upper Park Road were damaged by accumulation of water during recent storms. The immediate repair goal is to stabilize the road. The public is advised to expect delays and drive safely.



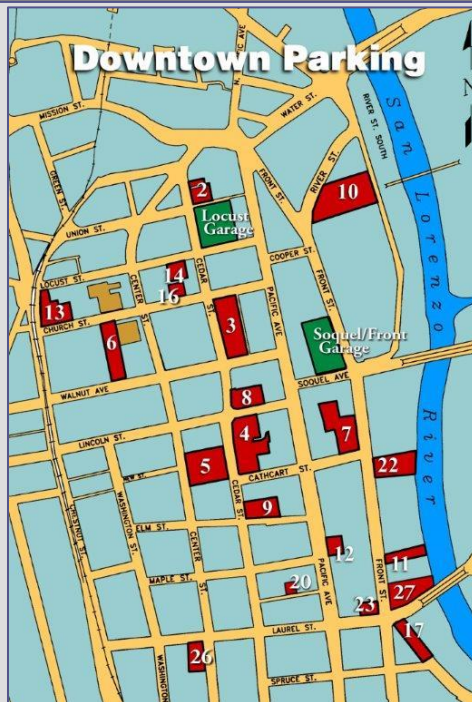
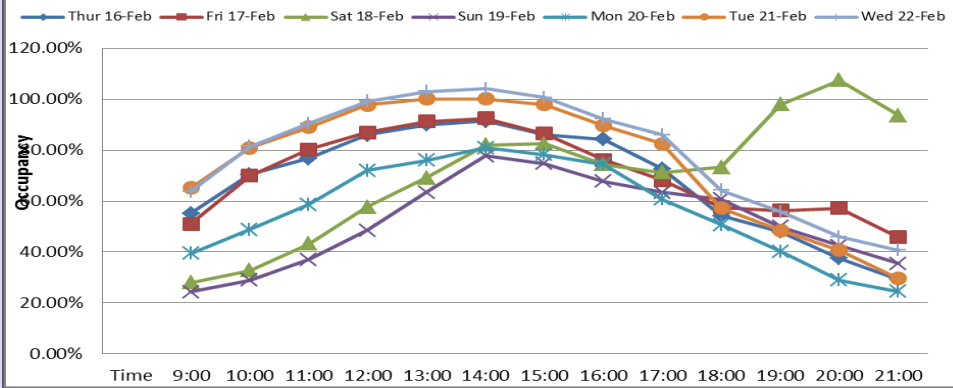
Parking Services

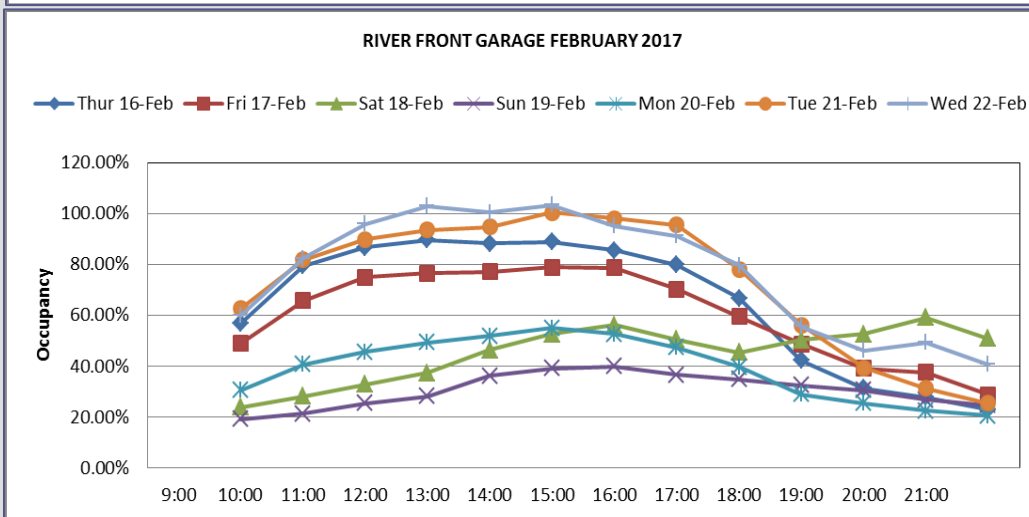
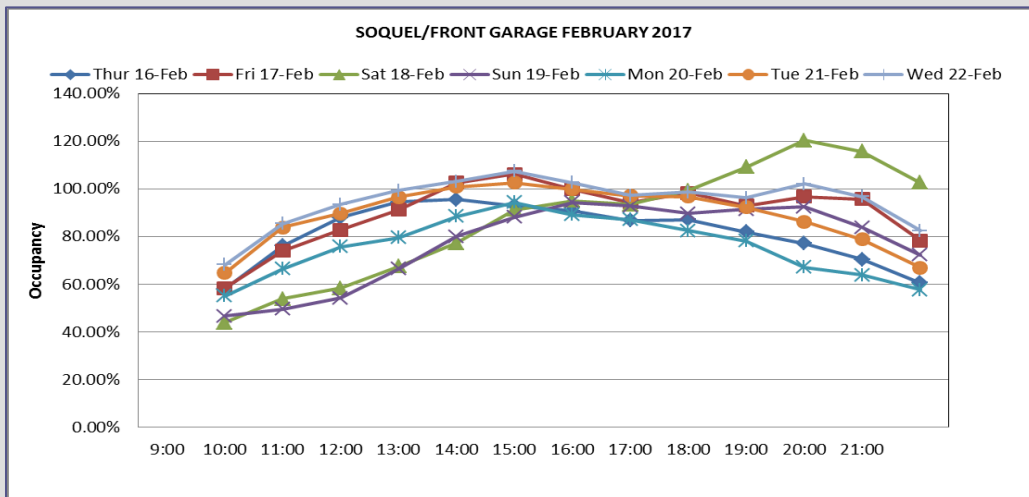
The graphs below show the occupancy rate in Downtown surface parking lots including the Cedar/Church Garage (lot 3) and our Downtown parking structures for the week of Feb 16 - 22.

Surface Lot Parking Occupancy 2/16 - 2/22



LOCUST GARAGE FEBRUARY 2017





Community Outreach

A Facebook post of our Recycle Right: Plastics public service announcement received 1,400 views over three days. This and our entire series of six [Recycle Right](#) videos to help residents and businesses get the right material into the right bin can be viewed at any time on our [YouTube](#) page.

One new Santa Cruz Waves City Beat story was written and posted: [A SPECIAL VALENTINE'S DAY FOR HOPE SERVICES.](#)



Parking Services

The Locust Garage experienced some flooding in the basement storage area because of the high water table caused by the storms. Sump pumps have not been able to keep up with the in-flow of water.

