

City Manager's Weekly Update

January 13, 2016

PLANNING

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk – 400 Beach Street

In March of last year, the Zoning Administrator approved land use entitlements to allow demolition of the operations building and associated smaller ancillary buildings that includes the existing Fright Walk (approximately 16,069 square feet) at Walkway 2 of the Boardwalk (immediately across from the Main Beach parking lot, to the east of the Neptune's Kingdom building) and the construction of a new entry plaza area. The demolition phase of this work is already underway. This week, our department received the first in a series of building permit applications related to this project. Specifically, the application includes tenant improvements within the Undertow building to add a new walk through haunted attraction. Construction is expected to begin within the next couple of months.



225 Meder Street

Local developer Doug Ross recently submitted an application to demolish an existing single-family residence and construct four townhouse units at this property located at the corner of Bay Drive and Meder Street. Among other planning entitlements, the project requires a Planned Development Permit to allow townhouse units to be constructed in a single-family residential zone district. All but one of the 21 heritage trees will be retained in support of the use variation for this clustered development approach. Additionally, townhouse units are located to the north, south and east of the project site. The project requires a hearing before the Planning Commission which is expected to occur in the Spring. It would only reach the City Council on appeal. The developer intends on making contact with occupants and owners of the adjoining single-family and multi-family residential developments to review the project prior to their receipt of the public notices. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on the application.



Kind Peoples Collective – 140 Dubois

An application for a Major Modification to Special Use Permit 04-269 was submitted this week to allow indoor cultivation of medical marijuana. *Kind Peoples* is the collective that took over the Use Permit (04-269) after *Greenway* vacated the leased space at 140 Dubois Street in the

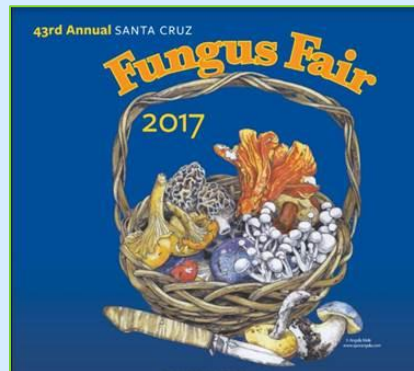
Harvey West area of town. *Kind Peoples* has leased approximately 3,500 square feet of additional space within the existing building to allow for cultivation of medical marijuana for use by their patients consistent with Section 24.12.1300 of the Zoning Ordinance. The Major Modification will be heard by the Planning Commission in an upcoming agenda, likely in the late winter/early spring timeframe. Mike Ferry is the planner who is working on the application.

Permit Tracking Software Upgrades and Increased On Line Permit Services

In 2009 the Planning Department and all departments involved in development permit review began using CRW, land management software, to track and process various types of community development activity. Planning and Community Development, the initial user of this software, is working with Information Technology staff on the phases of transferring to an upgraded web-based version of the system. The new migration includes new services and improvements to business processes for the Planning and Building Permit functions. As well it will provide new tools to improve coordination with other departments who use "Trakit". Areas of refinements for existing business processes include plan review standards, more automated and standardized application and plan intake procedures through the use of checklists, mapping features to optimize inspection routes, and a new interface that will allow for electronic plan submittal and on-line permitting. Each improvement focuses on time management and ultimately results in more accurate and efficient processing times for the public. Coordinated by IT and our Principal Management Analyst, staff of all divisions and many departments have been deeply involved for a number of months now in learning the new systems, designing the screens and reports, testing, and developing our new processes. This week representatives from the software company were here to work with us on the system in great detail. There were about 15 hours of separate meetings with each team and function involved with our system. And they report it's looking good! We look forward to roll outs of these new services in late spring.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Fungus Fair

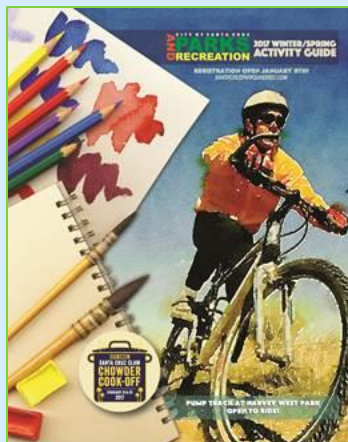


The Loudon Nelson Community Center will host the 43rd annual Fungus Fair this weekend. Learn interesting and fun facts about the hundreds of beautiful and fascinating species of mushrooms found in the Santa Cruz/Monterey Area. Fungi will be beautifully displayed in a re-created woodland habitat in the Auditorium. This unique Santa Cruz tradition features three days of fantastic fun, informative speakers and demonstrations, with fungal activities for the whole family. <http://ffsc.us/fair>

Friday, January 13th – 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday, January 14th and 15th 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Class Registration



Parks and Recreation Winter-Spring registration is off and running. Promotion began this week on social media and TV with this fun, upbeat spot

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TKEsWNR3utk>. Rain or shine, we've got just the [experience, adventure, activity] you've been looking for.

Civic Auditorium

The Civic is prepping the Auditorium after truss motor maintenance for Intermural Basketball Tuesday Jan 17 and Wed Jan 18. The hoops will be up for noon time scrimmage Jan 17 & 18. Available dates for February and March scrimmages will be announced soon.



Parks Superintendent

The Parks and Recreation Department will be welcoming Monica Rubio as the new Parks Superintendent. Ms. Rubio was born and raised in Arizona and has worked for the City of Maricopa since 2007. She started with the City of Maricopa on the recreation side (leagues, special events) before transitioning over to parks maintenance side of the department. Ms. Rubio has been intimately involved in the incredible growth rate of the city (4,460%) since 2000, which included the construction of a new 40 acre park and facilities and all maintenance responsibilities for school and park fields. Ms. Rubio brings a wealth of knowledge on turf and management, some of which she gained working with the Arizona Diamondbacks. She is very excited about this opportunity and is expected to bring a great deal of enthusiasm and hard work to the position. January 17, 2017 is identified as her start date.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mental Health Outreach Worker Update - Permanent Housing Found for the Formerly Homeless

As part of a joint contract the City has with the County and Encompass, we contract with a mental health outreach worker in the downtown to provide services as needed. For several months a gentleman inhabited the sidewalk next to the mailboxes by Comerica Bank on Front Street. The City and nearby businesses received numerous complaints about his behavior. Although the gentleman was highly motivated to get off the street, he had a difficult time physically moving from place to place due to chronic illness and the amount of his personal belongings. Kris Younggren, the Downtown Outreach Worker, was able to support him by providing transportation to Homeless Persons Health Project (HHP) and picking up his medication. After more than 24 contacts with him, he finally received affordable, permanent housing through HHP and is no longer living on the sidewalk.

On nationally syndicated NPR's "Here & Now". A positive radio story on the Tannery!



Following the tragic Oakland warehouse fire last month, media attention has focused on other projects around the country that house artists. There have been several positive stories highlighting our successful affordable housing and arts campus project including an excellent article last month in the SF Chronicle and now this story on NPR.

The 4-plus minute segment was featured Thursday, January 12th and is focused on the creation of safe and affordable space for artists and how Santa Cruz is doing it right. Hope you have a chance to listen to the story.

<http://buff.ly/2ihHZPP>

POLICE

Chief Vogel swears in K9 "Luna" AND "Cash"



Chief Vogel with Officer Hernandez and his K9 partner "Luna"

SCPD is pleased to announce its two new K9 Teams! Officer Hansen and his K9 partner "Cash" AND Officer Hernandez and his partner "Luna"

Both Teams recently graduated from their month-long K9 Handler Patrol Course and will begin working the streets in December. Each K9 teams received training in the following:

- Area & building searches • Handler protection & apprehension
- Article searches & tracking/trailing • Narcotic detection



Chief Vogel with Officer Hansen and his K9 partner "Cash"

"Cash" is a 2 year old male Belgian Malinois and "Luna" is a 2 year old female Dutch Shepard. Both K9s have been imported from overseas, and in October 2016, the K9's were introduced and moved in with their handlers. After the bonding period both teams began the K9 Patrol Course and are now certified K9 Teams.

The City of Santa Cruz community's appreciation and gratitude extended to the Santa Cruz Police Department's K9 Unit has been nothing short of extraordinary. **Police K9 "Cash" was purchased through a community member's donation of \$8,500.00.** The City of Santa Cruz resident, who wished to remain anonymous, donated the money in memory of their child. When asked about such a gracious offer, they replied, "It's an honor to memorialize my late son, while helping provide support that protects our officers and community." The donor was allowed to name the K9, and they chose the name "Cash" upon their first meeting. The Santa Cruz Police Department is grateful for the community's participation in its K9 Unit.



The Santa Cruz Police K9 Unit has had a long successful history in enhancing our police services. Congratulations to K9's Cash and Luna!

SGT. Officer Vasquez Graduates from the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute

The Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute is a leadership program developed by the California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST). This program is designed to stimulate personal growth, leadership, and ethical decision-making in California law enforcement front-line supervisors.



LT. Escalante and SGT. Vasquez at graduation ceremony

"This leadership training opportunity is the perfect forum to help develop the skill-sets of our line-level supervisors, giving them the tools needed to interact with and mentor other officers," said Chief Kevin Vogel.

After completing the 9-month course, Sergeant Vasquez joins many other SCPD supervisors and managers who have attended this valuable program. Sgt. Vasquez, a 17 year veteran SCPD officer, successfully completed the intensive leadership development program.

It is an ongoing goal of the Santa Cruz Police Department to consistently provide the training necessary for effective public safety leadership.


SCPD Policy Manual Online

The Santa Cruz Police Department is pleased to announce that our policy manual, in its entirety, is now available online. We recognize the importance of transparency in municipal government and have taken this important step to make our policy manual available for public consumption. The policy manual is available on our website under the Community Resources tab or by clicking here: <https://goo.gl/MWxCN5>

Job Opening Announcement!

The Santa Cruz Police Department is continuing to look for men and women who are seeking an exciting and rewarding career in law enforcement. The city is accepting applications for Police Officer Trainee. Applications are being accepted from now until February 2nd.

Please share this message and help us find qualified men and women who can serve our community. For more information click here - <https://goo.gl/jT5Z39>



**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

**STATE-OF-THE-ART
TRAINING**

**GREAT TEAM
MEMBERS**

**CHALLENGING
ASSIGNMENTS**

**COMMUNITY
ORIENTED POLICING**


**ADVANCEMENT
OPPORTUNITIES**

SANTA CRUZ

POLICE DEPARTMENT


We are looking for men and women from all backgrounds
who want an amazing career not just a job.

MOTORS • K-9 UNIT • Beach ATV Patrol • Investigations • ESU • Crisis Negotiations • Dive Team • Parks Unit • CSO



Competitive pay and benefits. Live and work in the scenic Monterey Bay Area. Opportunities for specialty assignments and advancement. Outstanding training. SCPD is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer Trainee, Police Officer Lateral and Police Academy Graduate.

Contact Recruiting Section | 831-420-5801
www.cityofsantacruz.com/departments/police/employment



PUBLIC WORKS

Streets/Traffic Maintenance

Staff has been extremely busy responding to the effects of the recent storms by cleaning catch basins, preparing more sandbags, cleaning up landslides and clearing mud and debris from Brookwood Drive and the levee path.

Wastewater Collection and Flood Control

Storm preparation was the theme for the week leading into the storms of January 7 and 8. Staff responded to a dozen calls for service and numerous storm pump station high water alarms throughout the weekend with minimal damage to report. Neary Lagoon was pumped late Sunday night due to the rising levels in the lagoon.

Staff worked with root foaming contractor Duke's to treat 4,000 ft. of 6 inch sanitary sewer mains with root intrusion, the treatment is cost effective and good for two years, this treatment greatly assists in prevention of main line stoppages and sanitary sewer overflows.

The Vac-Con crews resumed main line sewer cleaning in the Zone 11 High Street area and Zone 13 Westlake.

Resource Recovery Waste Reduction

The 2017 [Refuse and Recycling newsletter](#) was mailed to all residents in the City. The big change included this year is the expanded use of Service Tags. Residents can now use them any time of the year to schedule a bulky item pickup or as payment for drop off at the Resource Recovery Facility. Residents are already taking advantage of these new uses during the first week of the new year.

Curbside collection of holiday trees will continue through Jan 14. Outreach for the holiday tree program was achieved through media release, social media, Santa Cruz Waves story and the annual Refuse and Recycling mailer.



Community Outreach

One Santa Cruz Waves City Beat story was written and placed: [NEW OCEAN RESCUE SYSTEM DESIGNED TO SAVE LIVES AT TOILET BOWL.](#)



The Santa Cruz Waves Facebook post on our previous story, [CALLING ALL CHEFS TO ANNUAL CLAM CHOWDER COOK-OFF](#) , reached nearly 20,000.



Santa Cruz City Schools Superintendent has green-lighted partnership of our Street Smarts traffic safety campaign. Details will be addressed in a meeting next week.

We received National CineMedia's analytics report for our PSA placements last year at the Cinema 9 and Riverfront theaters: audiences averaged over 4,500 per week; audiences for our Wastewater Treatment PSA's summer run were about 5,000 weekly.

Staff from throughout the City Departments are revising, consolidating, and purging web pages in preparation for the website redesign.