

City Manager's Weekly Update

January 20, 2017

WATER

After a tumultuous week last week, things were back on track this week at the Water Department. In less than one week after a leak occurred that caused an emergency shortage of water, the leak was repaired and the area restored to normal.



In anticipation of the coming construction season, we are preparing bid documents for the first phase of a multi-phase project to replace the University 5 tank and the piping infrastructure from Empire Grade to the tank as well as a project to replace the portion of the River Street water main between Highway 1 and Potrero Street. We're wrapping up the plans and specs for these projects now and they'll be coming to Council for authorization to bid the projects in February.

We're working with staff from several other departments to finalize the plan for the installation of a solar system at the Bay Street tank site. This project isn't as straight forward as one might think, as we try to match the energy needed with the size of the system, meet deadlines before PG&E changes their rate structure, and coordinate all aspects to complete construction.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Louden Nelson Community Center

Work continues through the week on the new riser systems...with a bit of luck the project will finish on Saturday. New system will deploy 187 seats.



Staff continues to prepare for the Santa Cruz Women's March this Saturday. We are expecting crowds in the hundreds; that may be into the thousands...if the Facebook numbers are correct.

Link to their website. <http://www.womenmarchsantacruz.com/>



Civic

Thursday, Jan. 26th, Santa Cruz Symphony's Youth Concerts: Middle Schools from around Santa Cruz County are invited for two performances of the Symphony's Youth Concert. Members of the [Santa Cruz County Youth Symphony](#) play alongside their professional counterparts, with guest appearances by member of the [Santa Cruz Ballet Theater](#).



PLANNING



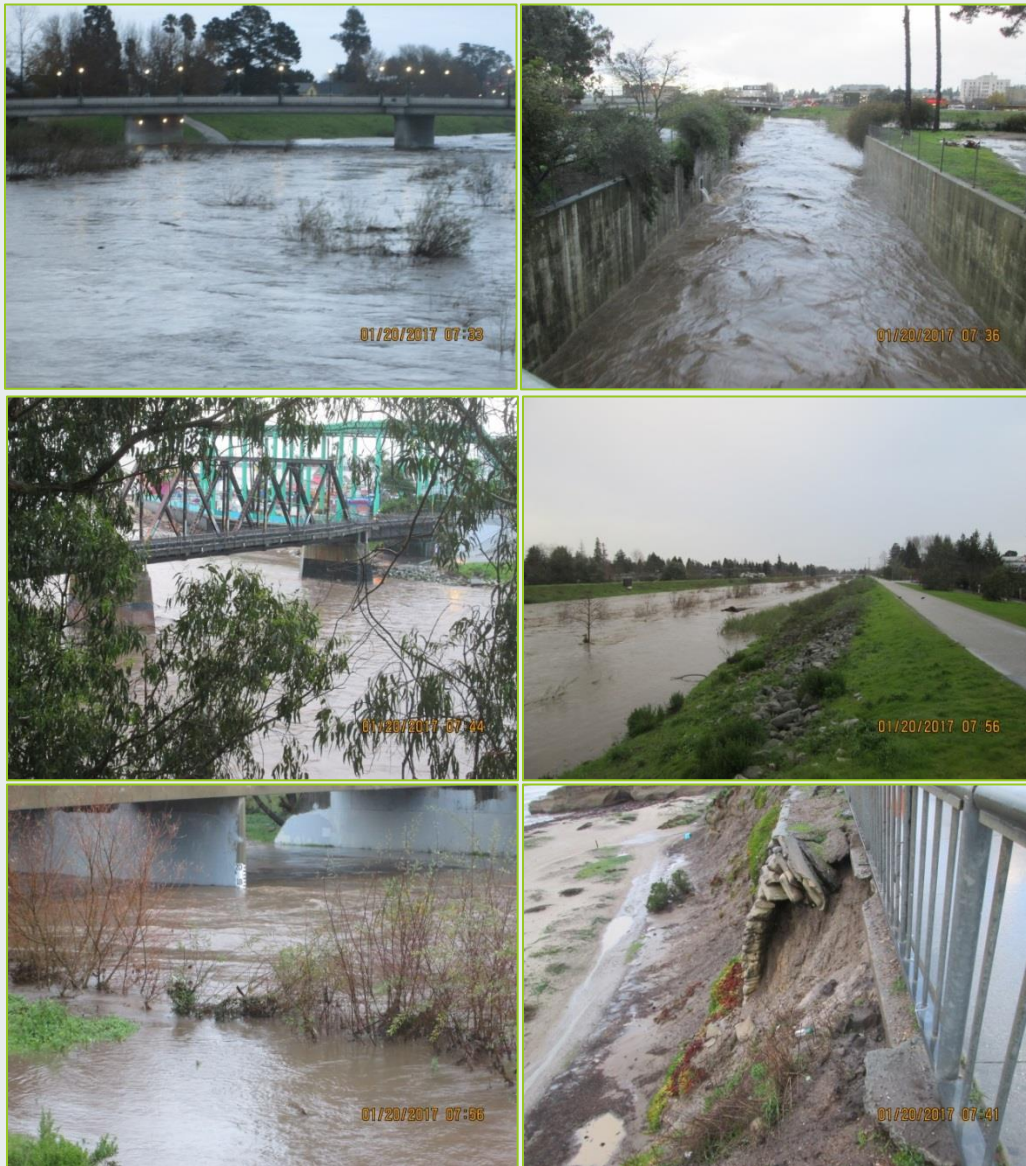
1314-1400 Ocean Street – This past September, planning staff approved Design and Demolition Authorization Permits to allow construction of an 8,400 square foot commercial development on this site located at the corner of Ocean Street and Glenwood Avenue (formerly containing *The Starving Musician*).

Building permits were issued in October and construction is currently underway with the foundations being poured. This week, the Zoning Administrator approved Administrative Use Permits for two of the tenants, *The Habit Burger Grill* (<http://www.habitburger.com/>) and Dunkin Donuts to occupy the complex, as well as for outdoor seating. The hearing was well attended by residents of the Glenwood/Coulson neighborhood, as well as some of the surrounding businesses on Ocean Street. There was testimony both in support and against the applications with supporters encouraged that the site, which had extensive code enforcement history, was being cleaned up. Opponents expressed concern with potential nuisance activities such as cut through traffic, litter and smell. Ultimately the permits were approved with the Zoning Administrator finding that the potential nuisances cited by the neighbors were addressed in either the Performance Standards included in the Zoning Ordinance or the conditions of approval. During the hearing it was noted that a traffic calming island was being installed by the developer on Glenwood at the transition between the commercial and residential zones to discourage commercial traffic within the neighborhood. *The Habit* representative also described a \$70,000 captive air pollution unit that is planned to be installed as part of the exhaust system in an effort to address concerns regarding smell. Any appeals need to be filed within 10 days of the decision and would be heard by the Planning Commission. Mike Ferry is the planner working on both use permits, as well as the application involving physical development of the site.

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

We are monitoring the level of the San Lorenzo River during the current storms and developing a checklist with specific locations and vantage points. While we will never be able to predict things exactly because the channel is always changing, this should give us a good idea where things are heading to better inform our flood control efforts.



Our [Front Street/Pacific Avenue Historic Wall Preservation project](#) begins on Monday, Jan. 23, to rehabilitate the Lantern Cliff Wall. The project will remove the existing rail and piers, construct a new guardrail, repair the wall and replace the sidewalk as needed. Front Street will be closed to through traffic from Third Street to Pacific Avenue at the top of the wall beginning Tuesday, Jan. 24, until Memorial Day. Construction may be completed earlier, weather

permitting. On-street parking will be removed for the duration of the project. Pedestrian and emergency access will not be affected.

Streets/Traffic

Staff is continuing to clean out catch basins in preparation for the current storms.

Resource Recovery Facility and Recycling Processing

Green and wood waste grinding and processing was completed this week with approximately 2,000 tons of material processed.

Landfill operations will be continuing on the wet weather pad for the next few weeks, while we endure the rains.

Community Outreach

Our Facebook video post demonstrating PLASTIC BAG STRETCH TEST FOR RECYCLING received over 1500 views in two days. It was shared by Good Times on Facebook and in their e-newsletter. If you've not yet seen it, please check it out on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).



One new Santa Cruz Waves City Beat story was posted: [THE CHALLENGES OF CITY'S RECENT WATER PIPELINE BREAK](#). It was also featured as "top story" in SC Waves e-newsletter with 1200 subscribers.

