

City Manager's Weekly Update

April 21, 2017

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Park Pacific Project (1547 Pacific Avenue).

In October of 2011, the City Council approved plans for a five story mixed use project consisting of 66 units above ground floor commercial space and a parking garage on the site of the former *Bookshop Santa Cruz*; the last remaining significantly sized vacant lot in the Downtown. Since then, the project and property have changed hands a couple of times. With those changes came some minor (primarily interior) revisions to the project resulting in a condominium map being



recorded for 63 units. The current owner, *Barry Swenson Builder*, has indicated that they've had a difficult time obtaining financing for the project prompting them yet again, to revise the project to the extent that some of the two bedroom units are split into one bedroom units with a new total unit count of 79. With the exception of some balconies to provide open space for the additional units, the exterior design of the project remains largely the same as that which was approved back in 2011. The application requires approval of a Major Modification Permit and a new condominium map by the City Council, which is expected to occur in the early summer timeframe. Don Lauritson is the planner working on the application.



515 Fair Avenue. Included in Volume I of the City's Historic Building Survey is a Historic Landmark on this property. The building, constructed by the Kitchen Brothers in the 1930's, is commonly referred to as the "Court of Mysteries" or the "Yogi Temple". About a year ago, the property was purchased by Douglas

Harr and Artina Morton, with the intent of developing the property and restoring some of the historic buildings and features on the site. (Sale of the property was covered by the Sentinel - <http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/general-news/20160229/quirky-santa-cruz-property-sells-for-16-million/2>). Last week, our department received an application for a Historic Alteration Permit with a Historic Variation, a Minor Land Division, a Design Permit, and an Administrative Use Permit to divide the existing parcel at 515 Fair Avenue into two parcels and to construct one single-family dwelling with an ADU over a detached garage on one parcel and three condominium units on the other parcel. The proposal is to preserve and restore the historic features on the property, including a main house, two obelisks, the gate structure, and concrete

fence with brick posts, in exchange for a variation from the density standards to allow for the construction of three residential condominium units on an single-family residentially zoned lot and to allow for modifications to site standards. The applicant went through the pre-application process in 2016 with a similar design; therefore, the proposed project has already been preliminarily reviewed by the applicable city departments in an effort to provide an expedited permitting process. The project will require a recommendation from the Historic Preservation Commission and final action by the Zoning Administrator. Public hearings are expected to occur this summer. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on this project.

Off-Campus Housing Fair. Rental Inspector Vasant Sharma and Code Compliance Specialist/Associate Planner Nancy Concepcion attended the Off-Campus Housing Fair hosted by the Good Neighbor Initiative at US Santa Cruz last Thursday, April 13th from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Fair was designed to provide assistance to those students seeking housing in the community. Staff provided informational pamphlets, and discussed characteristics of a safe rental unit, tenant/landlord rights, and City contacts to determine if a property has a legal rental unit. Students asked informed questions and this proactive approach was very beneficial to all involved.

POLICE

SCPD Rescue Task Force Training

This week, SCPD partnered with SCFD and, local EMS providers and to collaboratively train, drill and develop procedures and protocols for several mock scenarios of critical incidents. The course prepares first responders to respond to an active shooter or violent confrontations that result in multiple casualties. The training is designed to give SCPD officers and supervisors the skills and knowledge to establish an initial command structure and an integrated tactical response by Law, Fire, and EMS with a focus getting medical attention to victims quickly.

Historically, Fire and EMS providers kept a safe distance away from an active shooter or critical zone until police secured the scene. This practice is being phased out and replaced by the Rescue Task Force concept, a more patient-centric approach focused on life-saving. Fire and EMS personnel trained with SCPD Officers and Command staff to increase their knowledge and skill sets for Rescue Task Force coordinated strategy. This integrated response to violent incidents has been shown to save lives.



SCPD Hosts Crisis Intervention Training

This week, Deputy Chief Martinez welcomed members of the [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#) Santa Cruz alongside law enforcement personnel from multiple agencies to a 3-day Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). CIT is conducted by specially trained law enforcement personnel, mental health professionals, mental health consumers and family advocates. The training includes identification of types of mental illness, verbal skills for

de-escalation of potentially violent situations, specifics on suicide intervention, and a mental health system overview.

The CIT goals include: (Ensure the safety of officers and civilians; (Increase officer understanding of mental illness; (Improve relationships with the community, particularly with mental health professionals, people with mental illness, and family members.

The CIT for Law Enforcement concept is based on a successful crisis intervention program that began in Memphis, Tennessee. Officers are trained to de-escalate potentially violent situations and ensure the safety and diversion of the mental health consumer to a treatment center.

SCPD PRIDE Continues To Reach New Heights!



SCPD Youth Outreach this week takes us on an outing to Pacific Edge Climbing Gym.

We are proud to invest in school youth programs. Our P.R.I.D.E. program is designed to educate, mentor and guide young people in life skills and the decision-making process.

Santa Cruz City middle school students involved in the Personally Responsible Individual Development in Ethics (PRIDE) program celebrate setting new goals with SCPD.

To learn more about the program or become a mentor, contact Community Services at (831) 420-5952 or

visit <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/.../parent-infor.../pride-program>

Chief Vogel, Deputy Chiefs Martinez and Flippo Giving Back

Yesterday the Chiefs donned aprons and served up soup at this year's Homeless Services Center fundraiser. The 18th Annual Soupline Supper at the Coconut Grove raised money to support the great work done at the Homeless Services Center — like providing an emergency family shelter, substance abuse recovery, laundry, meals, and other services to help people get back on their feet.

Mayor Cynthia Chase and City Council Members Richelle Noroyan, David Terrazas, and Cynthia Mathews all joined the Chiefs for a fantastic night.



Next Week Upcoming Event! Coffee with a Cop

Thursday, April 27, 2017, 8:00 am -10:00 am.

The Abbey Coffee Lounge, 350 Mission Street

Police officers and community members come together in an informal space to discuss community issues, build relationships, and drink coffee.

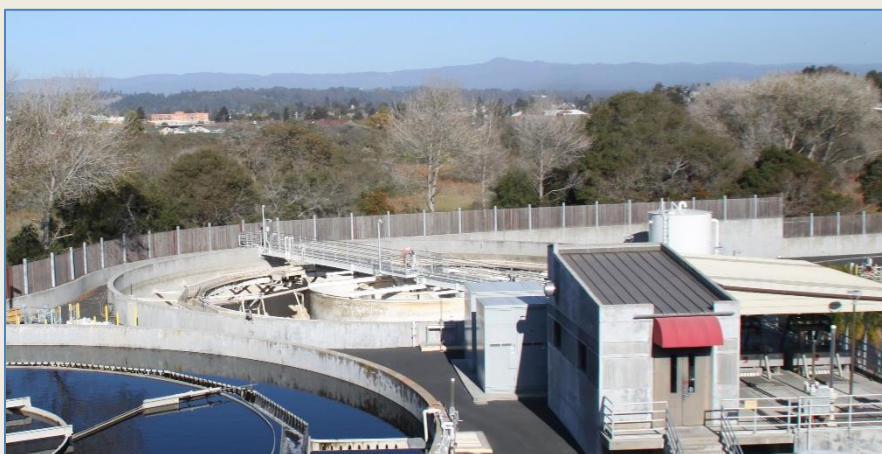
No agenda or speeches. Just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your neighborhood.



PUBLIC WORKS

Operations

Spring has arrived and operations staff has begun their annual inspections of various tanks throughout the facility. Secondary Clarifier #1 (shown below) is currently being emptied and cleaned in preparation for inspection. The annual tank inspections are essential to ensuring optimal performance of the treatment processes. The scope of work for the secondary clarifier annual inspection, three in total, includes inspection of the tank walls and siding for integrity, re-coating the mechanical parts and equipment motor servicing. The clarifiers are used to settle out accumulated microorganisms that have completed their task of breaking down organic molecules present in the water.



After the recent rain storm event operators noticed an increase in odors emanating from our septage receiving pits after each use. Further investigation led staff to discover that piping from the septage pits were full of water (photo below on the left shows a reflection of water, which shouldn't be there)—something not observed in recent staff memory. The wastewater collections crew helped solve this problem by vacuuming out the excess water (photo below right). With the foul odor draw-off line cleared, the septage receiving area is back to normal with proper odor draw-off to our Odor Reduction Tower, where ozone generated by our Vapex machines mixes with the foul air to oxidize the odors.



Electrical/Maintenance

Staff has completed the final stages of installation of the repaired secondary cogenerator. We utilize this cogenerator during peak PG&E rate charging periods to offset our operational costs for electricity, from May 1 to October 31. Each year, by utilizing this system, we produce around 845,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity at roughly three cents per kilowatt-hour versus a purchase rate of fifteen cents per kilowatt-hour.



Engineering

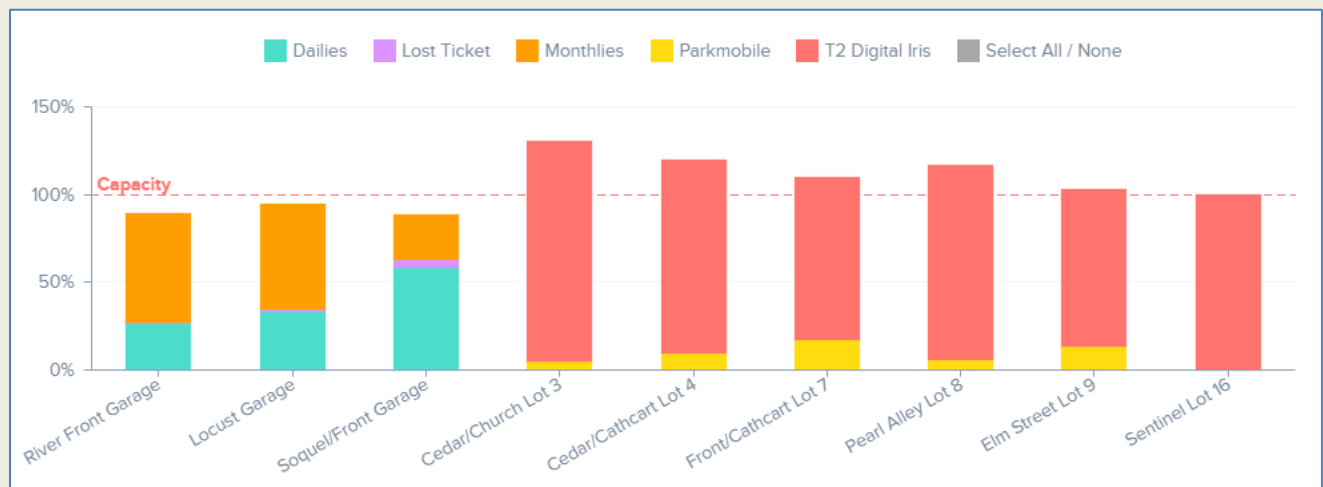
The Branciforte Creek Bike/Ped Bridge and Multi-Use Trail Project is underway. Project informational signs were recently added to construction fencing. The bridge foundations include a 5' and 7' diameter x 100' deep concrete piles. Rebar cages for the foundations are in process of being constructed and will take the next several days. Preparation for the drilling is also underway with drilling activity to start on the north side on Friday. Drilling is approximated to take 3-4 days for each foundation.



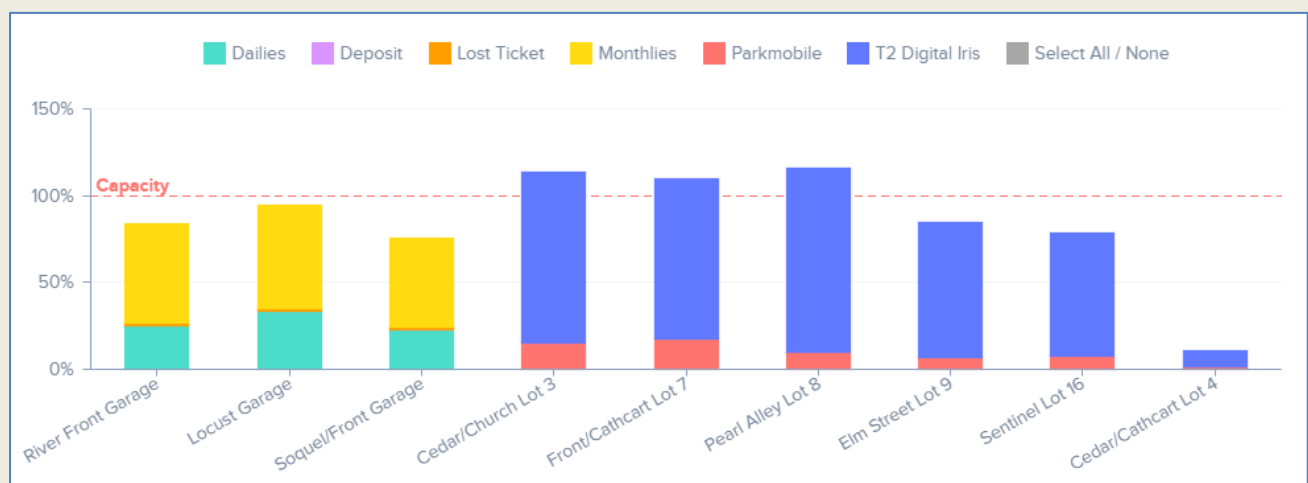
Fall 2016 Surface Seal Project_work completed this week consisted of the installation of the second chip seal layer, 3/8" SAMI-R seal, at Park Way, Wanda Court, Marnell Avenue, Lance Court, Rooney Street, Carol Avenue, Grunewald Court, Amber Lane, Rose Street, Dahlia Street, Fairmount Avenue, Melrose Avenue, Eastgate Avenue, Acacia Way, Roxas Street, and Santa Cruz Shakespeare Parking Lot.

Fall 2016 Overlay Project_work completed this week consisted of removal of existing damaged concrete curb and gutter, curb ramps, and sidewalk at Mission Street Extension and saw-cutting existing concrete at Ocean Street.

Parking Services – Downtown Parking information from Smarking



Downtown Garages and Surface Lots Peak Occupancies for April 13 – 19



Peak Parking Occupancies on Wednesday 4/19/17, a Farmers Market Day at Lot 4 (Lot 4 does not have any permit parking. It was full but is only open until 11 a.m. on Wednesdays due to Farmers Market.)

Resource Recovery Facility and Processing

Cell 3 repairs were finished this week with filter fabric reinstalled over the southwest corner that had been damaged due to erosion. The 2 foot operation layer was added and we are now just waiting for our permit approval to start using the new landfill cell.

Resource Recovery Engineering

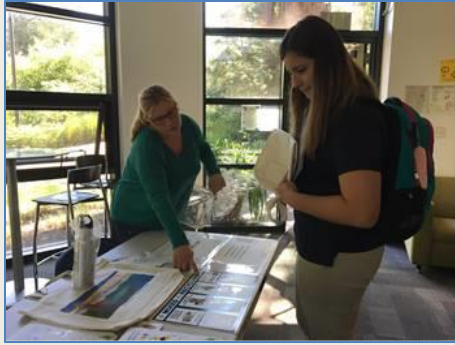
Staff recently submitted the 1st Quarter 2017 CARB Report for the Resource Recovery Facility, which is due by April 30 to the Monterey Air Resources Board. (CARB stands for California Air Resources Board). The report includes field data from our quarterly landfill surface emissions monitoring for methane.

Back in December 2016, the continuous downpour washed away an area of cover soil in the southwest corner of the newly constructed Cell 3A, exposing a section of torn geotextile. The rolling storms that came through the region over the next few months rendered the area inaccessible for equipment to repair the area, but landfill staff was able to protect the exposed section with weighed down sheets of plastic. As the weather cleared up this week, the Cell 3A contractors were able to come in to complete the repairs by placing new fabric over exposed areas and welding the old and new fabric seams together to seal off the sections. Photo of the repaired geotextile is shown below.



Waste Reduction

Staff tabled in the UCSC move-out fair. This is a part of the UCSC Good Neighbor Initiative to assist students and provide the information they need to transition from living on campus to living in the City of Santa Cruz. Waste Reduction staff engaged students in a Recycle Challenge and provided information on how to right size trash service to meet the needs of a student household.



Green Business

Green Business staff will attend the 10 year anniversary Monterey Bay Green Business summit this week in Moss Landing. The group will celebrate the many accomplishments of the program in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties over the past 10 years. Keynote speaker will be Assemblymember Mark Stone. More information about the program:

www.montereybaygreenbusiness.org.

Streets

Crews are assisting the Engineering Division with pavement repairs as part of the 2017 Surface Seal Program.



Facilities and Fleet Maintenance

Facilities crews are relocating their offices and shop to accommodate the start of the Corporation Yard Building A Seismic Retrofit Project. Phase one of the project involves renovation of restrooms adjacent to the garage. Fleet Maintenance is relocating the parts inventory as the new restrooms will expand into storage space. The project is scheduled to start May 1 and be completed in November.

Community Outreach

One Santa Cruz Waves story was posted: [Celebrate The Environment At Santa Cruz Earth Day 2017!](#)



Our Facebook video post ALL-NATURAL PROCESS OF WATER AS IT LEAVES YOUR SINK received 2,900 views over two days this week. Take a look at this fascinating journey in our 3 minute Santa Cruz [Wastewater Treatment Facility video](#).



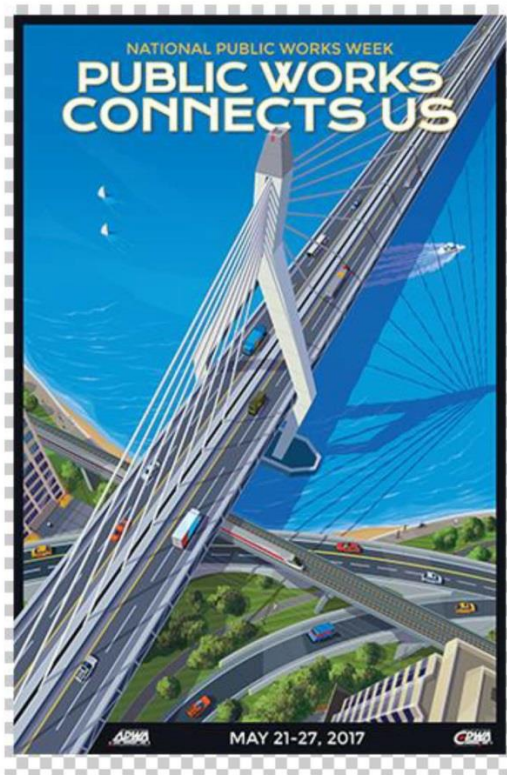
Our next [City Hall to YOU](#) neighborhood forum on May 4 will include a major focus on Housing. We invite all residents and business owners to participate in our housing mural and survey. Stay tuned for more details:
www.cityofsantacruz.com/cityhalltoyou.



Plans are in the works to celebrate National Public Works Week at the end of May with onsite lunch hour public tours of various construction projects. Mark your calendar to get a first person explanation from our project engineers of the following:

- Monday May 22 Eastside Alley Sewer Project
- Tuesday May 23 Branciforte Creek Bicycle Pedestrian Bridge Project
- Wednesday May 24 Measure H Overlay Paving
- Thursday, May 25 Curtis St. Storm Drain

More details coming soon.



Waste Reduction

Staff is participating in the Sustainability Team's Zero Waste lunch for City staff. We will provide a display of zero waste tips, focusing on reusable items. Tips will also include Green cleaning and food waste prevention. Desserts, thanks to the Green Business program will be provided by New Leaf Market and will be served on reusable plates.

WATER

This week we conducted a successful pressure test on the Liddell emergency pipeline repair project, and were able to flush the main and put it back into service. This emergency project including replacing about 1,400 LF of 14" welded steel pipe (that already had 49 repair clamps installed on it!) through a low, wet marshy area.

After receiving no formal bids for the critical River Street main replacement project, we've moved on to an informal process where we have contacted five contractors to solicit bids. Out of the five we've contacted, it looks like three may bid. Bids are due next week – our fingers and toes are crossed.

The recycled water facilities planning study, part of the feasibility and research work we're doing concurrently on the WSAC recommendations, is now in the early process of scoring and ranking the short list of alternatives based on various criteria such as cost, yield, and timeliness. We hosted a public tour of the Graham Hill Water Treatment Facility this week. Prior tours have been full, with waiting lists. This week the group was small. We've noted that public interest in goings-on of the Water Department seems to have diminished with the governor's announcement of an "official" end to California's drought. We're not complaining – no news is good news in this case.

As a footnote to the topic of drought, Toby Goddard noted this week that it was about this time 40 years ago in 1977 that the Water Department realized they were facing a serious water supply crisis. Winter was over, the reservoir was only at *36% of capacity*, and stream flows were dismal. The Department turned to retired school administrator and part-time water educator, Bill Lovvorn, to devise a water-rationing allotment and program. Bill passed away recently, and we want to pay tribute to the critical service he provided to this community during a very dry situation.

Last but not least, we are happy to report that the Canadian Geese that have been visiting Loch Lomond for the past four weeks have finally hatched their clutch of eggs and we're now enjoying six adorable goslings.

