

# City Manager's Weekly Update

March 24, 2017

## PARKS AND RECREATION

### RECREATION DIVISION

#### Marketing-Summer Activity Guide

Parks and Recreation Summer Activity Guides were mailed this week to Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley residents. Parks and Rec has planned a PACKED summer filled with fun classes and events including an expanded line-up of FREE July Is Parks Make Life Better Month activities. Registration begins April 8<sup>th</sup>!



#### Civic

The Civic Auditorium is hosting the Santa Cruz Symphony this week for rehearsals leading up to the concert #4 this Saturday. The Santa Cruz Symphony's Fratres, features young virtuoso cellist, Oliver Herbert, who will play Hayden's Cello Concerto No. 2 in D Major. Oliver became principal cellist of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra in 2012. Other pieces to be performed are Arvo Part's Fratres and Schubert's Death and the Maiden. Tickets available at [SantaCruzTickets.com](http://SantaCruzTickets.com).

#### Louden Nelson Community Center

- Tuesday, HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program) provided free and objective information and counseling about Medicare from 1:30pm – 5:30pm.
- On Thursday 3/23, The "WAG" Walking Adventure Group will be treated to a City Tree Tour, led by the City's Urban Forester. The tour will began at 9:30am in the main courtyard in City Hall and wound its way around downtown, continued up to Mission Plaza, and then concluded back near the City Hall campus.



- This Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Health Care Committee/ California Nurses Association will present information on California health care.

## **PARKS DIVISION**

### **Shakespeare Site Improvements**

In addition to replacing an outdated gate locking system referred to as a “daisy chain” with a more effective multi-lock mechanism, parking lot improvements are planned for this spring which will further enhance the site. Thanks to Public Works for including a chip seal and restriping of the parking lot in their citywide contract, these improvements will complete the “City’s” commitments to the new theater site.



## CITY MANAGER

### **Cowell Beach Water Quality**

Vice Mayor David Terrazas and Save the Waves leadership began a series of stakeholder outreach meetings in March to share important updates on Cowell Beach Water Quality issues. The intent of the outreach – to key groups like Wharf tenants, Junior Lifeguard parents and surf groups – is to help bring them up to speed on City efforts to improve water quality at Cowells and help share that information with the broader community. Outreach will continue into April.

The Cowell Beach Working Group (City staff, County staff with Save the Waves, Sierra Club and Surfrider representatives) continues to meet to review data and further implement Council recommendations. Staff will be providing Council with an update in May when the annual Heal the Bay report is issued. Fingers remained crossed that the great effort carried out by the Wharf crew last spring to encourage pigeons to roost elsewhere, will lead to Cowell Beach's removal from the "Beach Bummer" list.

## POLICE

### **SCPD Unity with Community**

Last Sunday, Bishop Garcia of the Diocese of Monterey led Mass followed by a procession with the Beach Flats community and SCPD Leadership and neighborhood patrol officers. "We have continued efforts of outreach in the community. Today is one of many community events that officers participate in to show that we care. We are here to solidify those relationships and continue the conversation," said Chief Vogel.



Before the 200 community members, police officers and elected officials gathered in Beach Flats Park Sunday, Bishop

Richard Garcia of the Diocese of Monterey called for healing, cooperation and unity in the wake of Feb. 13 immigration raids. Sunday's Mass, which was followed by a procession through the Beach Flats neighborhood and a potluck celebration, was designed to reassure that the Latino community that SCPD exist to protect the rights and safety of all who reside in our city.



### **SCPD Re-launches Chief's Advisory Committee**

Deputy Chief Rick Martinez announced this week the reformation of the Chief's Advisory Committee. The panel provides a forum for discussion and presents the Chief with a diverse spectrum of viewpoints represented by our community members. The Chief's Advisory Committee further creates an avenue for greater understanding between police and community and promotes public input into the Department's policies, strategies, and priorities.

The Santa Cruz Police Chief's Advisory Committee consists of local leaders in the field of homelessness, mental health, education, faith, social justice, as well as neighborhood, business and community leaders. The Committee will address the most pressing issues facing the Santa Cruz Police Department, specifically around Department policies and accountability, and provide critical feedback to the Department on these matters. The discussions allow the Department to engage and collaborate with the community in a comprehensive manner with goals of increasing public safety, confidence and trust.





“We are fortunate to work with such a diverse and qualified group of people to review imminent policies such as body cameras,” said Deputy Chief Martinez. “The re-launch of the Chief’s Advisory Committee gives community members a greater voice and most importantly builds public trust. The input shared will assist the Department in refining our community policing concepts, and improve public awareness about future Department initiatives.” The panel, chaired by Deputy Chief Martinez, will meet monthly starting in April. Positions on the Chief’s Advisory Committee are voluntary and unpaid.

The Chief’s Advisory Committee includes the following members:

Robert Orrizzi- Santa Cruz Neighbors, Analicia Cube- Take Back Santa Cruz, Sarah Durant-Smith – Resource Center for Nonviolence, Steve Pleich- American Civil Liberties Union/Mental Health Client Action Network, Brent Adams- Warming Center, Brenda Griffin- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Celeste Faraola-Perie- Downtown Business Owner, William Ow- Business Owner/Developer, Mark Hodges- Santa Cruz County Office of Education, Nane Alejandrez- Barrios Unidos, Phil Kramer- Homeless Services Center, Beverly Brook-Peace United Church of Christ, Sharon Papo-Santa Cruz Diversity Center, Sheryl Lee- National Alliance on Mental Illness, JD Sotelo-Neighbors of Lower Ocean

#### **SCPD Officer Uses Talk To Mitigate A Mental Health Crisis**



Thanks to the great work of SCPD Officers, we were able to bring a risky situation to a successful conclusion without any injuries.

On Sunday, 03/19/17, around 6:26 pm, Santa Cruz Police responded to the 100 block of Acadia Avenue regarding a subject with mental illness that was being violent. Family members described the man as having manic episodes and being physically aggressive.

Around the same time, a neighbor called the police to report that they heard a “loud bang” as if something hit

his house. The neighbor, who has a restraining order against the subject, saw the subject running toward his house.

The distressed man’s family claimed he was increasingly aggressive due to his coming off his psychiatric medication. He made repeated statements of wanting to harm other people and had a recent history of physical assault.

SCPD officers first contacted the troubled man outside the home and calmed him down. At one point during the conversation, the subject jumped up, ran into the house and locked the door. Ultimately, SCPD Officers convinced him to come out of the home. SCPD transported him to Telecare Psychiatric Health Facility for further care.

In this incident, an SCPD Officer was able to connect with the person in mental crisis through conversation. Our officer was able to convince him to cooperate. SCPD officers regularly participate in crisis intervention and de-escalation training. Crisis intervention training teaches ways to minimize the use of force with subjects who are mentally ill.

"Crisis intervention training is only one part of the solution. The overarching goal should be to get a person with mental illness out of the criminal justice system and into a system of care that adequately treats the core issues" said Deputy Chief Rick Martinez.

SCPD is on the forefront of collaboration with behavioral health providers and advocates to improve the way our community responds to a mental health crisis.

### **Citizens Police Academy Gears Up with SCPD's Emergency Services Unit**



This week Citizens Police Academy geared up for a session with SCPD's Emergency Services Unit (ESU). ESU trains on proactive and safe approaches to high-risk incidents. Community members in both English and Spanish CPA had full access to interact with ESU team members, ask questions and try on police gear. Detective Martin, SCPD ESU team member, explained, "We want people to have a good understanding of why and how we do things."



### **SCPD Presents at 2017 Forensic Mental Health Conference**



Santa Cruz Police Department was one of two of law enforcement agencies from across the nation to present at the 2017 Forensic Mental Health Conference this week. "Mental Health Liaisons: A Partnership Between Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health" was the topic the led by SCPD Deputy Chief Rick Martinez with Mental Health Liaison Danielle Long (ASW) and Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services Program Chief Pam Rogers-Wyman (MFT).

SCPD's specialized collaboration with Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services Program created the Maintaining Ongoing Stability through Treatment Team (MOST) program. SCPD was the first law enforcement agency in the county to implement the pilot program in October 2014. The SCPD MOST liaison assists SCPD officers with calls involving

potential mental health issues and provides mental health intervention and assessment services.

Read more about this on SCPD Blog <https://goo.gl/wbYPXO>

### **Great Police Work!**

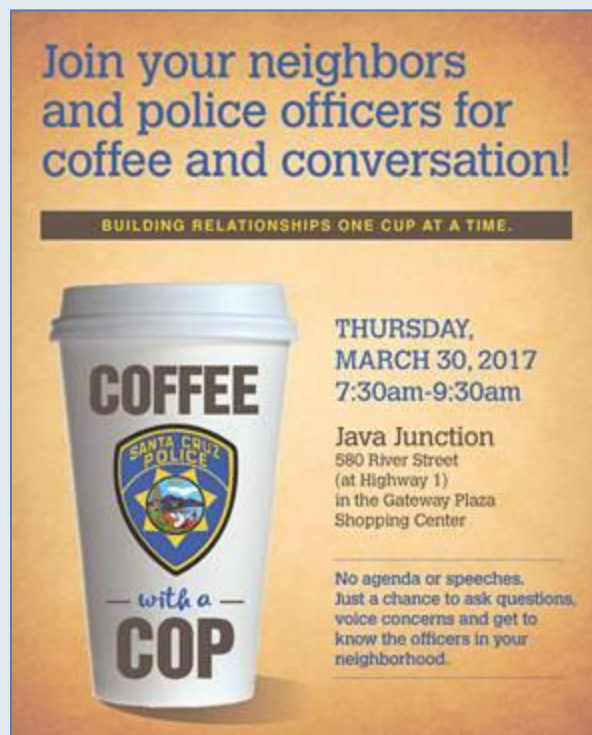


Early Thursday morning, officers with the Santa Cruz Police Department's Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET) and the Santa Cruz County Gang Task Force (GTF) served a search warrant at an apartment in the 2300 block of Portola Drive. The search warrant stemmed from a narcotic investigation that was conducted by SCPD NET. The SCPD NET team investigated reported drug sales that occurred in the city of Santa Cruz.

Officers located over a pound and a half of methamphetamine in the apartment. Officers also recovered a Glock handgun with several high capacity magazines during the search.

### **Happening next week Thursday 3/30/17 Coffee with a Cop**

The ***Coffee with a Cop*** program brings community members and police together in informal, neutral venues to discuss community issues, build relationships and drink coffee.



Join your neighbors  
and police officers for  
coffee and conversation!

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ONE CUP AT A TIME.

THURSDAY,  
MARCH 30, 2017  
7:30am-9:30am

Java Junction  
580 River Street  
(at Highway 1)  
in the Gateway Plaza  
Shopping Center

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

## PUBLIC WORKS

### **Waste Reduction**

Staff is busy working on some logistical challenges with the [Earth Day](#) event this year coordinating with a construction project scheduled to begin in San Lorenzo Park. This will be the 10th year for this City-County sponsored community event. Mark your calendar for this fun, kid-friendly environmental celebration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 22, in San Lorenzo Park!



Staff attended the Northern California Recycling Association - Recycling Update 2017. This one-day conference is the highlight of the Bay Area's Zero Waste Week. The conference featured 25 speakers on the full spectrum of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost/Food-waste topics. Staff came back better informed, inspired, and energized with many new ideas about current topics and trends in waste reduction.

### **Resource Recovery Engineering**

We have completed construction of our new landfill Cell 3A. Staff has submitted the Cell 3A Development Project Construction Quality Assurance Report to the Regional Water Quality Control Board for review and approval. Once approved, waste disposal can commence in the new cell.



### **Engineering**

Construction of the Branciforte Creek Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 27. The project will include an active transportation bridge from San Lorenzo Park over Branciforte Creek and a paved multi-use path under the Soquel Avenue Bridge to meet the existing Riverwalk path. The multi-use path will connect to the levee trail south of the



Soquel Avenue Bridge completing the gap in the 5-mile Riverwalk system that runs north-south through the center of Santa Cruz. Read more [here](#).

The Wastewater Treatment Facility will have a new fiberglass enclosure to house the effluent sample station and bioassay lab installed through our WWTF Bioassay Laboratory Project. The contract includes the construction of a new concrete pad and the installation of new piping, plumbing, electrical, bioassay equipment and effluent sampling equipment. WWTF mechanical staff will relocate the sampling instrumentation to a temporary location to facilitate effluent sample station operation during construction.

Engineering staff held a mandatory pre-bid meeting on May 21. Construction bids will be opened on April 5.

### **Green Business**

The Westside Green Business Challenge is ready to roll with 100 invitees. The event will encourage Westside businesses to become certified as a group starting on May 18 when a kick-off will be held at Santa Cruz Bicycles. Details for interested businesses/organizations are available at: [westsidechallenge.eventbrite.com](https://westsidechallenge.eventbrite.com).

Our Environmentally Preferable Purchasing policy is in the works with our next meeting scheduled for April 5.

The City Manager's Office will be first department to implement this.

Four more businesses have been Green Business Certified: UCSC Graduate Student Commons, Distinct Property Management, Staff of Life and Day One Solar! Three companies were recertified: Well Within Spa, River Café, and Cooper Technologies, Inc.

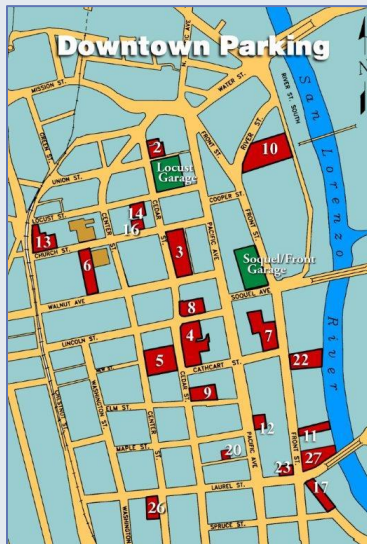
### **Streets/Traffic**

Crews have been working in collaboration with the City Arborist to deal with fallen trees from recent storms that are blocking City streets.

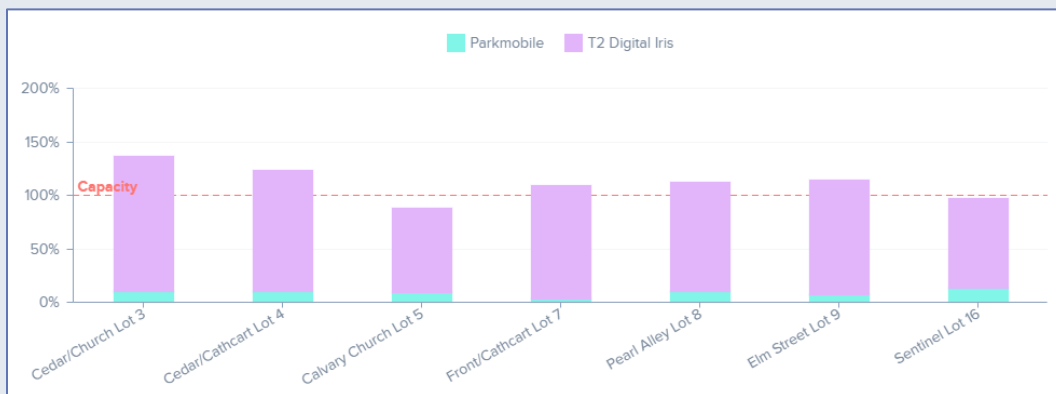
Crews are receiving mandatory OSHA-required forklift training.



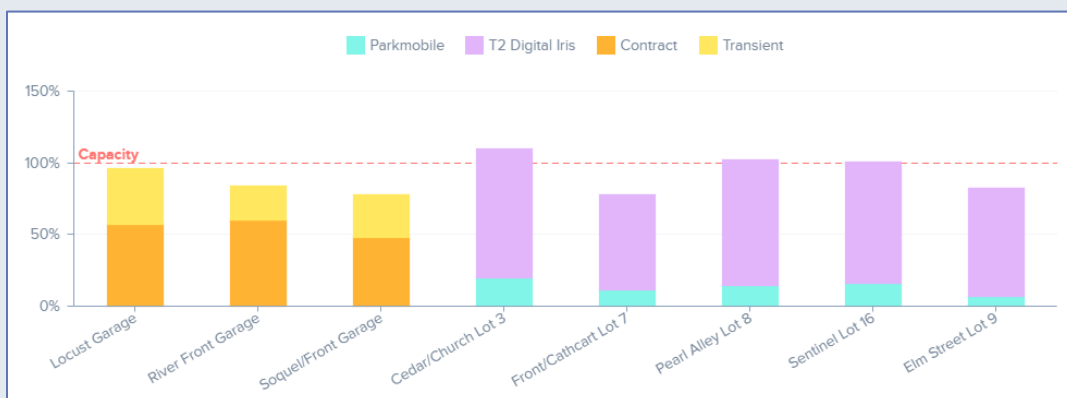
## Parking Services



## Downtown Parking information from Smarking



Surface Lots Peak Occupancy for March 16 – 22 (Lot 5 also has 120 permit holders that are not counted in this graph.)



Snap shot of Parking Occupancies at 2:30pm on Wednesday 3/22, a Farmers Market Day

### **Community Outreach**

Our Recycle Right video post PAPER RECYCLING: WATERPROOF ITEMS GO IN THE TRASH has been viewed 1.9K times on our Facebook page in the last week.

Did you know that coffee cups and other waterproof paper items are not recyclable? What about packaging that is a mixture of paper and other materials? Learn how to Recycle Right! in this brief video with easy rules to follow for paper and paperboard. This and our other six recycling videos can be viewed at [cityofsantacruz.com/recycleright](http://cityofsantacruz.com/recycleright).



Our Emergency Services HAZARD PLANNING CITIZEN SURVEY has been posted on Facebook and the City website homepage. We encourage all residents to take our survey to help the City plan for natural disasters so that we may better avoid their impacts to the community. Responses will guide us in our hazard mitigation and climate adaptation planning efforts as we update our disaster plans. The survey can be accessed [here](#). All responses are anonymous. Thank you!

We continue working on our upcoming citywide public safety campaign for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians called Street Smarts. We are excited to have enlisted a new County program, Friday Night Live. Together we will be presenting a proposal to SC City Schools next week for elementary and middle school assemblies.

We are grateful to have received \$1,000 in sponsorship funds from PG&E with four more corporate sponsors in the offing.



**Street  
Smarts**