City Manager's Weekly Update March 31, 2017

POLICE

SCPD Serves Up Coffee with a Cop Community Event



What a great turnout for SCPD's inaugural Coffee with a Cop! Thank you to everyone who attended this morning! <u>#SantaCruzPolice</u> enjoyed the conversations and coffee at Java Junction on River St. & HWY 1.

There's nothing more important than to simply get to know each other better. It was a good morning discussing whatever concerns, suggestions and questions community members had with SCPD Officers about the neighborhoods in which they live. Thank you to all who came by for a chat or to say a quick hello. We appreciate your support.

Thank you, Java Junction for hosting Coffee with a Cop. The coffee and service were great. The location is inviting and offers great space for conversations.





Building relationships one cup at a time!

SCPD Coffee with a Cop program brings community members and police together in informal, neutral venues to discuss community issues, build relationships and drink coffee. Coming soon more SCPD Coffee with a Cop events.

Surf City Exchange Club Honors 2017 Police Officer & Firefighter Of The Year

Congratulations to SCPD Sergeant Jon Bush and Fire Captain Pat Gallagher!



On Friday night, the Surf City Exchange Club hosted the fabulous Blue & Gold Dinner for police officers and firefighters to honor the Police Officer of the Year and the Firefighter of the Year. This year's recipients are Sergeant Jon Bush and Captain Pat Gallagher.

Now in their 5th year, the Surf City Exchange Club honors SCPD and SCFD with the Blue and Gold awards and banquet. Peers from the respective departments select the recipients

of this award.
Sergeant Jon Bush
earned this
distinguished
recognition from his
peers at the Santa Cruz
Police Department.
Sergeant Bush is no

stranger to law enforcement. Raised in Scotts Valley where his father, Police Chief Tom Bush, was honored by the Scotts Valley Exchange Club's Blue and Gold Award. Jon's uncle served with the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department. Jon's path was never in question.



In Jon's 19 year career with SCPD, he served as a Detective, Field Training Officer, Anti-Crime Sergeant, Downtown Sergeant, and Hostage Negotiations Team Leader. Jon earned the rank of sergeant ten years ago. Jon also earned honors such as the Life Saving Award and Chief's Commendation.



The award recognizes exceptional and outstanding performance above and beyond the normal scope of the profession. SCPD Officers describe Sergeant Bush as "a natural leader and an absolute professional in every situation. He's an all-around great guy and deserves the award".

Thank you to the Surf City Exchange Club for hosting and presenting the Blue and Gold Award Banquet. Police and Fire teams enjoyed a great dinner and entertainment by

our host.

SCPD appreciates the support from this excellent organization. The Surf City Exchange Club of Santa Cruz motto is "Working Together to Make Our Community a Better Place to Live."

Good Police Work

Prowlers work day and night – So does SCPD!

SCPD officers responded to report of a suspect prowler in a Westside neighborhood. The prowler was seen hopping fences and riffling through several backyards. An SCPD Officer located the suspect prowler in the back yard of a residence on Younglove Avenue. SCPD detained the suspect quickly. In his possession was items stolen from the residents back porch. As an extra safety measure for the neighborhood, SCPD officers set up a perimeter and conducted a yard-to-yard search of surrounding homes.



Safety Tip Reminders from Sergeant Crofts



• Always keep your exterior doors locked. • Secure all windows. If you intend on using an open window for ventilation when you are at home, use a locking mechanism that allows the window only to be partially open so that no one can fit through. • Trim hedges below the window level to eliminate hiding spots for criminals. • Install outside motion security lighting and make sure it is in good working order. • If anything is suspicious, call 911.

SCPD Hiring and Recruitment Update

An SCPD Recruitment Team has been organized to meet the challenges of filling vacant police officer positions. They have prioritized some initial recruitment efforts. One change is that SCPD is now cycling a continuous recruitment. The current period is open through April 15th.





The SCPD Recruitment Team has coordinated officers to attend a job fair at the Veteran's Center on April 6th. We are also organizing attendance at a job fair at San Jose State and West Valley College.

Interested in becoming an SCPD police officer?

If you want to learn more about our department and career opportunities, meet us at the Veterans Job Fair at 846 Front Street - April 6th 1-4pm.

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PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

The Lanterncliff Wall Rehabilitation project is nearing completion. CRW industries have been doing the tedious work of replacing missing stones and re-grouting areas as needed. The guardrail has been partially installed and the new pedestrian cedar rails will be installed on the top portion of the rail next week. We estimate project completion by May 14.





We are concluding the Fern Street Railroad Crossing upgrade this Friday. With the installation of concrete crossing panels and new asphalt, we will have a safer and smoother Fern Street crossing.

We are scheduled to begin the Fall 2016 Surface Seal Project and Fall 2016 Overlay Project on Monday, April 3. This work, funded by Measure H tax dollars, includes rehabilitation and resurfacing of local streets that have experienced significant deterioration. Surface seal work is expected to end on May 26 in time for Memorial Day Weekend and overlay work should conclude by the end of July.

Surface seal will occur in various locations including east, west and Downtown Santa Cruz. Overlay construction will occur on Mission Street Extension, California and Ocean streets, West Cliff and Western drives, and Swanton Avenue. Maps detailing construction locations are available at www.cityofsantacruz.com.

Immediately following these projects, there will be further Measure H funded surface seal and overlay work throughout the summer of 2017 with locations yet to finalized.



We began preliminary construction of the Branciforte Creek Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project this week. The project includes 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.

Resource Recovery Recycling Processing

Recycling Processing is in the process of removing approximately 850 gallons of contaminated waste oil from their tank. Please remind your neighbors that only used motor oil is for recycling and that hazardous wastes should be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste drop-off site. We are finding contaminants like carburetor cleaner, chlorine, gasoline and various solvents. These contaminants are costing us the value of all the motor oil they mingle with plus a major cleaning process for the tank. The cost of this process is approximately \$7,500.



Waste Reduction

We are promoting the Home Composting \$40 Rebate Program with an ad in the Good Times-Spring Home and Garden magazine and supporting our high schools with a small anti-litter ad featuring student art work in both the Santa Cruz High and Harbor High yearbooks.



Traffic Engineering

We began construction of the <u>Broadway Pedestrian Crossing Enhancements</u> Project on Wednesday. The project includes marked crosswalks across Broadway at Cayuga Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, Pine Street and Caledonia Street. Enhancements at each crosswalk will include parking lane islands with pedestrian signs and intersection lighting over marked crosswalks.





Community Relations

We posted a new story in SC Waves City Beat column: <u>World Water Day Tour Looks to Water Supply Future.</u>



