

## City Manager's Weekly Update

### August 25, 2017

#### PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**E-Roof Permits:** On August 22, 2017, those roofing contractors who are registered through Etrakit are now able to apply for, pay, and receive their roofing permits online. A successful training event was held to walk willing roofing contractors through the new online process. Further events will be held as we continue to promote contractor registration in the online system. Next steps for online applications include water heater and solar applications, as well as focusing on digital plan submittal and review.

**Hyatt Hotel:** Building & Safety issued a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the Hyatt hotel located at Broadway. This 4 story, 106 room hotel, with below grade parking expects to have their first guests arrive on Wednesday, just in time for the Labor Day weekend. This project was designed by local Architect Peter Bagnall and constructed by local contractor Hogan & Pinckney.



## PARKS AND RECREATION

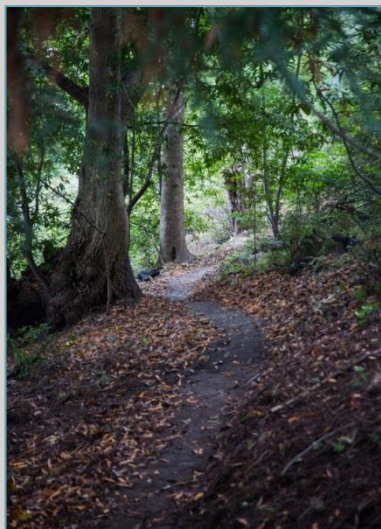
### Parks

Staff recently performed pruning and vegetation management activities along the San Lorenzo River behind the Tannery Arts Building. Understory vegetation has been pruned down and low hanging tree branches have been pruned up to obtain clear sight lines for patrol and to lessen overnight camping. This routine maintenance in the unchannelized portion of the San Lorenzo River is performed annually for public safety and for flood control management.



### Summer Youth Trails Crew

The program has ended and the “Boyz-in-Oak” has returned to their studies at various high schools. Their accomplishments this summer are quite remarkable. The new re-route on the Ohlone Trail in Pogonip is nearly complete. Local volunteer groups and the Earth Stewards program through the Natural History Museum will pick up where they left off. The re-route should be complete by the end of September.



### **Harvey West Park**

The Park Host Site is coming along; concrete was poured for the expansion of the existing pad. The electrical pedestal is in place and the sewer waste line is being tested by our Wastewater Mains Crew. Thank you for the support and teamwork on this project! The final items to be addressed are the water hose big relocation, landscape/grounds clean-up, and a bit of fencing around the back side.



### **Depot Park**

Staff completed the landscaping around Scott Kennedy Fields this week. This is a nice upgrade to the look around the perimeter of the fields.



### **Teens**

Last week was the completion of the Summer Teen Intern Program. This was our most successful year with 22 Teen Interns working in 18 different placements throughout the City. A number of these interns have been hired on and will continue to work in the City throughout year in different positions.



## Events

It was a fun day at the Santa Cruz Wharf for the 25th Anniversary of the Aloha Outrigger Races and Polynesian Festival. The Wharf was bustling as attendees enjoyed Polynesian music, dance and vendors with unique gifts perfectly catered to the island theme. The Outrigger Races were close and we are pleased to announce the 2017 winners in the Open and Co-Ed divisions. BIG shout out to our first ever Aloha Spirit Award winners Glory Girls! Complete with feather headdresses and lots of enthusiasm, they set a high standard for this prize.



## Sister Cities

The student delegation from Shingu, Japan enjoyed an exciting week exploring the Santa Cruz area. Parks and Recreation staff led a fun-filled day with the fourteen middle school students and three chaperones to the Boardwalk Bowl, Santa Cruz Wharf, and Henry Cowell Redwoods on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Engineering

Fall 2016 Overlay Project work completed this week included installation of pavement striping on Ocean Street, Swanton Boulevard, Mission Street Extension and Western Drive.



Western Drive



Mission St. Extension



Ocean Street

Emergency construction work has been scheduled to install an AT&T manhole on Walnut Avenue at Cedar Street starting Aug. 28 through Sept. 1. Due to the nature of the emergency, construction hours are from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. Lane closure and detour will be set up within the construction zone. On-street parking and traffic circulation will be affected by the construction activities.

### Parking Services

Our affordable Parking Rates are \$5 all day. Banners advertising this have been installed in designated lots.

After working in a space which could no longer meet our revenue collecting needs, we have relocated to a more spacious location. A new service door was installed to accommodate our collection carts. We have a new coin collection process in our new facility.



### **Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Staff provided a facility tour for a young professionals group this week including two employees from Mesiti-Miller Engineering.



Laboratory data demonstrated an increasing trend on one of the facility's test results that correlates directly to how well the biological treatment process is running. Every department began simultaneous investigations to determine the cause and resolve the issue. The laboratory increased testing in an effort to provide a better picture of what the biological treatment system was doing, pulling more samples throughout the process train.

The maintenance department worked on verifying that the mechanical equipment surrounding the biological treatment process was operational, eventually finding a failed pump impeller which they quickly replaced. Meanwhile operators verified and adjusted trickling filter arm rotation, trickling filter wetting rates, trickling filter recirculation flows, and increased the biological mass in the system for increased treatment capacity.

These combined efforts resulted in problem resolution within a week, ensuring continued wastewater treatment complying with the facility's operation permit.



### **Traffic Engineering/Community Relations**

Our [Street Smarts](#) traffic safety public education campaign launched this week in tandem with the new school year. Banners that address unsafe speed have been placed in front of middle and elementary schools.





Messages that address our City's top traffic safety issues are on street banners and the sides of city vehicles.



The campaign targets everyone who uses City roadways: drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians. It promotes [one safety message each week](#) in print, on [television](#), radio and online.

School outreach includes elementary assemblies in partnership with Santa Cruz City Schools and Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency.

Learn more about the Street Smarts campaign which offers free yard signs and bumper stickers to City residents at [www.cityofsantacruz.com/StreetSmarts](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/StreetSmarts). And save the date for our [Street Smarts family-friendly kickoff celebration on Wednesday, Sept. 13](#), at Kaiser Permanente Arena. Santa Cruz Warriors mascot Mav'Riks, UC Santa Cruz's Sammy the Slug and California Highway Patrol's Chipmunk Chipper will lead young and old in activities that underscore safe rules of the road. There will be free raffle tickets with great prizes for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

A new Santa Cruz Waves story was posted in our City Beat column: [SANTA CRUZ GETS STREET SMARTS](#).



## POLICE

### SCPD Welcomes Children & Parents Back To School



This week Chief Mills and SCPD Command Staff greeted Elementary students on the first day of school. Chief Mills was at Bayview and Holy Cross School giving high fives, “good mornings”, and pep talks to families. The new academic year means more kids out walking, skating and biking near schools plus increased vehicle traffic. Expect traffic delays and distractions. Be prepared and patient! SCPD encouraged all to do their part to help keep our community safe. SCPD is a big supporter of Public Works Street Smarts

outreach. Street Smarts is a public education campaign to improve the roadway behavior of everyone who uses Santa Cruz roads — drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. [www.cityofsantacruz.com/StreetSmarts](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/StreetSmarts)



### SCPD Top Cop Gets Down To Business Cleaning Up The Levee

Last Saturday morning, Chief Mills met up and worked alongside the Leveelies. This volunteer group works tirelessly on cleaning up the San Lorenzo Riverwalk. Join the Leveelies every Saturday at 9:00 am. The team starts at the pedestrian bridge on the city side of the river.



### SCPD Listening Tour Continues

This week, in addition to numerous community members and stakeholders, SCPD Chief Mills met with a few Westside business owners to talk about their growing safety concerns. The top



three issues discussed were homelessness, needles, and petty theft. We also considered the possibility of creative solutions, more to come.



“I want to meet with business owners, neighborhood groups, or anyone in the community, to discuss anything that affects the safety of your family or business in the City of Santa Cruz.”

#### **SCPD Open Invitation To Brief The Chief**

Chief Mills invites you to meet one-on-one with him for a 15-minute candid conversation. Every Monday, between 9:00 am and 10:30 am, Share your comments, concerns or compliments with him directly. Appointments booked on a first come, first served at the Santa Cruz Police Department located at 155 Center Street. Call (831) 420-5810.

#### **Pop-Up Mixer with new Chief of Police & new Planning Director**

**POP-UP MEET & GREET**

TUES AUG 29 | 5-7PM

Courtyard of Museum of Art & History  
ABBOTT SQUARE 705 FRONT STREET

 Lee Butler

 Andrew Mills

**Meet The New Planning Director and Chief of Police**

Pop-Up Meet & Greet Mixer: An opportunity to get to know the new Planning Director and Chief of Police on Tuesday, August 29 from 5pm to 7pm in the new community space at Abbott Square, 705 Front Street in the Courtyard of the Museum of Art & History

Please join us on Tuesday, August 29th from 5-7pm at the Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street in the Courtyard.

The Chief of Police, Andy Mills and Planning Director, Lee Butler, would love the chance to meet those they serve. Members of the public, city employees, community leaders, and local business owners are encouraged to stop in.

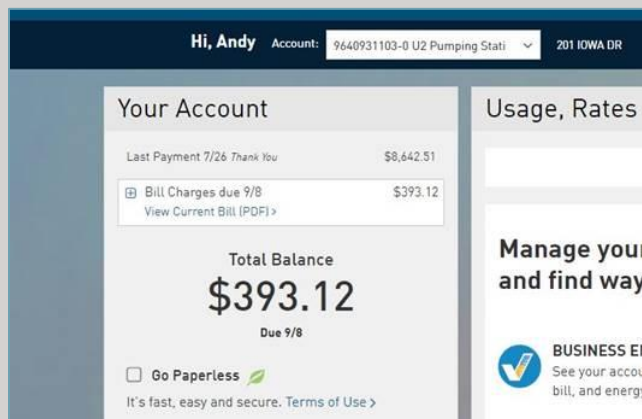
It is an excellent opportunity to see this amazing space at Abbott Square and meet two of our newest city leaders

## WATER

Night work continues on the River Street water main replacement project. We have installed 800+/- ft of 18" PVC pipe. As expected, several unknown and unmarked utilities have been encountered, including one of our own old redwood mains! Unfortunately the redwood main was "discovered" by the 4' wide bucket of a large excavator during digging, and was thus damaged in the process.



The solar project that we installed on the top of the Bay Street tank is already paying for itself! Below is a screen shot of last month's PG&E bill of \$8,642.51 vs. this month's bill of \$393.12 for the U2 Pump Station:



This week we received two lovely thank-you letters from customers, which is always a treat; one from Patricia Talbert of 646 Highland Avenue thanking staff for resolving a leak in her drip irrigation system; and another note from Lorraine Azevedo of 824 Windsor Street, acknowledging one of our field staff, who was "extremely patient and helpful, as well as pleasant" and "represents the department well." While we get to see our excellent customer service staff in action all the time, hearing about positive experiences directly from our customers is very rewarding.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### **Security Awareness Training**

In partnership with Popcorn Training, IT launched a security awareness campaign for City employees in April. That campaign, focused on phishing, successfully concluded with the Fire Department being the departmental champion – measured by % of department and timeliness to complete. The next campaign, focused on passwords, was launched in July.

### **Support of New Refuse Rates**

IT supported the implementation of the new refuse rates in our City's billing system.

### **Civic and Chambers Video Upgrades**

Thanks to funding that IT applied for as a result of a cathode ray tube lawsuit settlement funds, IT worked with Parks & Recreation and the Clerk's Office to do some upgrades to the video monitors in each facility. Civic received larger monitors on each side of stage and an additional video rolling cart. Chambers received an additional two monitors for the audience on each side of the room (so there are now two in front and two midpoint) and a larger centered monitor behind the Councilmembers.

### **Enterprise Resource Planning Upgrade**

IT worked with all impacted City departments to regression test our Enterprise Resource Planning application that runs our finances, HR functions, purchasing and utility billing. The application was successfully upgraded in order to sustain support and bring in updated code.