

# City Manager's Weekly Update

June 15, 2018

## PARKS AND RECREATION

### Civic

Dancer's Annual Spring Concert, Saturday, June 16: Dancer presents its annual showcases at the Civic Auditorium- *Dancing through the Decades*. The Mini Show is at 12pm, Junior Show is at 3pm and the Main Show is at 7pm. Expected attendance is 500+ people throughout the day. Free and open to the public.



### Laurel Park

The annual Juneteenth celebration takes place Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> 12 – 5pm in Laurel Park behind the Loudon Nelson Community Center. Recognize the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, hear inspirational speakers, enjoy delicious soul food and live music, create arts and crafts, compete in the basketball skills contest and of course join the fun in the annual sack race! Headliners for this year's event are local funk and soul favorites, Joint Chiefs.



## **Junior Guards and Summer Camp**

Parks and Recreation Junior Guards and Summer Camp staff spent the week training and preparing for the busy summer season. Both programs begin the week of June 18<sup>th</sup>. Junior Guard participants will soon be running up and down Cowell Beach and summer campers will be playing games and singing songs throughout Harvey West Park.



## **Main Beach**

Parks staff is replacing the worn deck boards on the Beach Promenade Deck near the Main Beach restrooms.



## **Neary Lagoon Wildlife Refuge**

The annual goat grazing at Neary Lagoon is underway and will last for approximately one week. The goats have become a popular annual attraction for residents and visitors.



## **Lighthouse Avenue Park**

Parks staff installed a new fence at the community gardens at Lighthouse Avenue Park.





## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### **Building & Safety Month**

In recognition of May as Building & Safety month, the Building division organized and hosted disaster preparedness training for local Engineers, Architects and Inspection staff on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Training was offered free of charge to local design professionals and over 30 people completed the course. The County of Santa Cruz and City of Capitola staff also joined the event. Attendees are now approved by the State Office of Emergency Services to evaluate buildings after a disaster, which is a great benefit to our community.

### **Off-Campus Housing Fair**

UCSC held their annual Off-Campus Housing Fair on May 21, 2018. Jacob Rodriguez acted as the coordinator between our department and the sponsor of the event, USCS's University's Good Neighbor Initiative program lead by Richelle Noroyan.

The City of Santa Cruz was represented at one table by Residential Rental Inspection Services, Code compliance, and Current Planning (Joe Granda, Jacob Rodriguez, and Nancy Concepcion). The City was also represented by members of the Fire Department as well as a representative from Public Works at their respective tables.



(Jake Rodriguez, Joe Granda, Nancy Concepcion)

UCSC had tables representing their own different departments for off-campus housing, Family housing, and Student affairs. Other participants from the community included Real estate agents from Karon Properties and the Rental Coordinator for 211 Mora St student housing.

This event gave us an exceptional opportunity to meet with students who are planning to live off campus in the fall and educate them on the rental and code enforcement services we provide as city.

It was also an opportunity to meet with representatives of the UCSC housing community and begin to build a greater partnership with the University.

Since the housing fair, Rental Inspection Services has been begun to work with the UCSC off-campus housing office in an effort to ensure that rentals posted on their website are registered with the City, when applicable.

This was a successful event for all participants and we as the Code Enforcement team look forward to participating in similar future events.

## POLICE

### **SCPD Town Hall Article Published in California Police Chief Magazine**

This week SCPD was notified that an article authored by Joyce Blaschke, SCPD's Community Relation Specialist, was chosen by The California Police Chief Association as an example of a cutting-edge and successful implementation of a police agency program published in the magazine.

The California Police Chief magazine aims to highlight the issues, innovation and personal stories of the men and women who lead California's municipal police departments. The California Police Chief magazine serves as a resource for leaders to share ideas and gain inspiration.

"I am honored my article was selected to highlight our unique platform for

collaborative engagement, the creation of transformational goals for the department and all while directing a community-wide discussion on public safety," says Joyce. "Chief Mills and I developed and demonstrated this new type of community meeting agenda could work. It was a huge undertaking.

Thank you to the officers who supported the process and thank you to the many community members who participated. I am proud my article about our work at SCPD is recognized and published in the California Police Chief magazine." [Mission Possible: Highly Efficient & Productive Meetings in 1 Hour](#)



### **SCPD Awarded \$463,000 to Combat Illegal Tobacco Use among Minors**

This week, the City of Santa Cruz Police Department was awarded \$463,000 in state grant funding from California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to combat the illegal sale of cigarettes and tobacco products to minors. The grants, \$37.5 million in total, were distributed to 71 local entities throughout the state. They will fund operations, retailer training programs, the

installation of signage, youth outreach, tobacco retail license inspections, training for sworn personnel, and other activities.

"We are excited to receive and deploy this grant with concrete solutions, prevention activities and enforcement expertise in combatting tobacco use among today's youth, Santa Cruz Police Chief Andrew Mills, said. "This grant will lead to impactful changes to educate children and teens about the dangers of smoking and tobacco products as well as deliver broader enforcement efforts in our community."



"Tobacco remains a very serious public health concern," said Attorney General Becerra. "These grants will provide additional tools to law enforcement to help educate kids about the dangers of smoking. The grants will also help local communities enforce laws against selling tobacco products to minors. These grants are an important step toward reducing illegal sales and building a healthier California."

This year's Prop. 56 grant recipients will use the state dollars to fund different anti-smoking campaigns and projects, including new training and educational materials for officers and tobacco sellers to reduce illegal sales of tobacco products to minors, and law enforcement operations targeted at retailers selling to minors. The recipients are among different cities, counties, school districts and sheriff/police departments [click here](#) to see grant recipients.



## Guardians of the Flame 🔥 Special Olympics Torch Run!

This week, SCPD and City friends from Transportation, HR and ED were proud to carry the torch through the City of Santa Cruz.

Our SCPD team of runners made their way from Harbor Beach along the coast through downtown and finished on the courthouse steps.

The torch journeyed from one end of the county to the other. SCPD was one of nine law enforcement agencies in Santa Cruz County to participate in the run to support Special Olympics.

Every year, thousands of volunteers dedicate their time and resources to the athletes of Special Olympics Northern California.

***SCPD Sergeant Michael Harms is a standout volunteer.*** Mike has been volunteering as a part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics for more than two decades. He is an anchor in coordinating and organizing the Torch Run in Santa Cruz County for the Northern California Special Olympics.

The mission of Special Olympics Northern California is to provide athletic opportunities to children and adults with intellectual disabilities, instilling the confidence they need to succeed in life.





## PUBLIC WORKS

### **Waste Reduction**

Staff attended a day-long workshop titled “Problems with Plastic Packaging” which was co-sponsored by the Global Recycling Council of the California Resource Recovery Association and the Gold Rush Chapter of Solid Waste Association of North America. The workshop included issues, policies and programs for dealing with discarded plastic packaging— a growing problem in the waste stream throughout California. Recycle markets have tightened as a result of China’s National Sword policy and the U.S. is short on domestic markets for plastic materials.

Staff hosted a recycling center tour for the Santa Cruz Warriors office staff. They learned first-hand how the recycled material from the blue bins is sorted and baled at the Resource Recovery Facility.



### **Engineering**

We removed speed bumps on King Street and Goss Avenue. Replacement of them will take place on Monday, June 18, as part of the 2017 Overlay Project. Traffic control will be in effect during construction from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. We suggest alternate routes if possible as there will be delays and some parking will be impacted. The 2017 Overlay Project, funded by Measure H tax dollars, is rehabilitating local streets that have experienced significant deterioration.

Repair work of the storm damage to Upper Park Road continues as scheduled. Approximately half of the piers have been drilled and steel and concrete have been placed for the soldier piles. This work is expected to continue for at least the next week as conditions become more challenging proceeding up the hill slope. The contractor has started placing timber lagging and constructing the wall drainage system to enable him to start placing fill at the south (down-hill) end of the project.



Changes to the City's Sanitary Sewer Ordinance to improve private sewer infrastructure and protect the environment and local waterways from bacteria-laden human waste coming from undetected sewer leaks or sanitary sewer spills were presented to City Council on June 12. These changes (which respond to state requirements and are currently in place throughout much of California) are expected to pass with a final vote on June 26. Details are outlined [here](#).



## **Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Operations conducted this month's first hydrogen sulfide measurement of the digester gas being fed to the cogeneration engines, before and after a carbon scrubber. This routine check, performed twice a month, is a good indicator of how the ferric dose rate is working throughout the solids treatment process. Ferric chloride is treated at the front of the plant where it acts as a solids settling enhancer and traps hydrogen sulfide in a solid form. This protects the engines from gaseous hydrogen sulfide which doesn't burn well and can plug up the engine pistons.

Plant electricians have been working hard on replacing electrical wires and conduit inside bar screen #2 since during the past winter storms debris had damaged the wire housing and the wires themselves. Meanwhile, the operations project team drained and cleaned the third secondary clarifier for its usual annual maintenance inspection and repairs to the tank and floor.



Staff was honored at City Council this week when Mayor Terrazas handed out four regional and one statewide wastewater facility awards to our team. [Here](#) are all the details as well as a short video explaining all that we do to provide quality of life service while protecting the environment.



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

We invite young and old to a Street Smarts Family Bike Ride from Laurel Park through town and along the San Lorenzo Riverwalk to the Penny Ice Creamery for free ice cream on Saturday, June 30, 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Ecology Action leads Mayor Terrazas, Santa Cruz Police officers and you! on the community ride. The event includes bike safety booths and activities including helmet fittings and melon drop with prizes. Warriors' mascot Mav'Riks will be teaching bike turn signals to youth. Please share our [Facebook](#) event. We hope to see you there!





Resist the “California” stop is part of our weekly Street Smarts message below. Details can be viewed [here](#) and the video here in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#).



[Do you know how to recycle metal cans and lids? Learn how to Recycle Right! in the video highlighted on our Facebook page this week.](#)

