

## City Manager's Weekly Update

May 18, 2018

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### *ED: Housing & Community Development Update*

##### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM ENGAGED FOR HOUSING BLUEPRINT WORKSHOP

The Economic Development team was all hands on deck at the May 15<sup>th</sup> Housing Blueprint Community Engagement Workshop at Louden Nelson. In total six of our team members were in attendance to lead focused topic discussions around Inclusionary Housing and Downtown Housing Development and to serve as facilitators to community members in the self-guided portions of the workshop. With over 200 members of the community attending, this was a fantastic event to hear directly from the public about their wants and needs around the housing recommendations and to answer questions about our current affordable housing supply and the policies and processes that impact that development.



#### *ED: Economic Development Office Update:*

##### DOWNTOWN WELCOMES SEVERAL NEW BUSINESSES

The 1500 block of Pacific Avenue is busy with new activity and retail stores. Two new stores have opened in the past week. The first is Fybr Bamboo which opened last week at 1528 Pacific Avenue (the space formerly occupied by Flip Flop Shop) and is owned by Kamala Allison and features her personal line of bamboo clothing, bedding, and bath products. The second is Capulet, which opened at 1517 Pacific Avenue (the space formerly occupied by Legs which is now incorporated into SockShop) and is a women's clothing, shoes, accessories, home accents, and organic beauty boutique. Capulet was originally from San Francisco and relocated to Santa Cruz in April.



## ED: City Arts Update:

### SOQUEL ST. BRIDGE TO DISPLAY DIGITAL ART AS PART OF THE EBB & FLOW RIVER ARTS FESTIVAL

During the last two weeks of May you will see the installation of “River Motion” on the Soquel Bridge—a responsive art display made of LED neon as envisioned by local artists Aron Altmark and Rachel Stoll. The light display will depict changes in the River including pH, oxygen, salinity, turbidity, and temperature and will be on display for one year. An accompanying website will launch soon that will go deeper into the meaning of the piece and explain the data it is representing as well as a call to action to care for the San Lorenzo River and our watershed health. A coinciding gallery show will be featured at the [Radius Gallery](#) on the Tannery Campus from June through early July, 2018.



“River Motion” by Aron Altmark and Rachel Stoll will hang on both sides of the Soquel Bridge

This is just one of many exciting elements for this year's annual [Ebb and Flow River Arts Festival!](#)



The [Ebb & Flow River Arts Festival](#) celebrates and enlivens the San Lorenzo River and the Tannery Arts Center through activities that unite arts and river enthusiasts, and connect the greater community. Through Ebb & Flow, together with artists, activists, neighbors, and strangers we've built relationships and energized the use of the river and the Tannery campus.

Ebb & Flow is a **two-day**, family friendly festival that will kick off the **First Friday in June** with art making and performances on Cooper Street—followed by an evening dance party with DJ, new public art and fire dancers adjacent to the Riverwalk. The revelry will resume on Saturday with a March for the River along the Riverwalk and a Festival at the

Tannery Arts Center, which is located adjacent to the river. All activities are **FREE** and open to the community. Drop in for one or participate in the whole thing.

Ebb & Flow was launched in 2015 as a collaborative project between arts and environmental groups interested in bringing new attention to the river as our community's primary source of drinking water, as well as a city park, recreational corridor, and home to more than 200 species of birds, fish and other wildlife.

**The Ebb & Flow River Arts Festival** is led by [Arts Council Santa Cruz County](#) with the following partners: [City of Santa Cruz](#), [Coastal Watershed Council](#), [Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History](#), [Radius Gallery](#), [Tannery World Dance & Cultural Center](#), [Santa Cruz City Arts](#), [Downtown Santa Cruz](#), [First Friday](#), [Tannery Arts Center](#), [Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History](#), local artists, musicians and dancers.

Check out the **full schedule** for the festival June 1-2<sup>nd</sup> [here](#)!

## PARKS AND RECREATION

### Harvey West Park

Parks staff partnered with Kirby School to plant seven maple and two redwood trees at Harvey West Park. Five hundred trees will be planted on City lands over the next 18 months as part of a Cal-Fire Grant Award.



### Morrissey Median

Parks staff hand weeded the medians along Morrissey Blvd. The late rains amplified weed growth conditions throughout the City.



## **Sports & Beaches**

Sunday, May 6, Main Beach volleyball courts were buzzing while 65 girls from 31 bay area high schools competed in the high school sand volleyball semi-finals. Winners will compete in Southern California!



## **Civic**

Saturday, May 19 at 2pm, Motion Pacific's Spring Dance Showcase: The Civic Auditorium welcomes Motion Pacific Dance as they showcase pieces from their current Youth/Teens classes as well as many Adult classes and special guest dance artists from the community. This is a jam packed fun and fabulous family event. Expected attendance is approximate 400 patrons. Motion Pacific is a non-profit arts organization dedicated to dance as art, cultivating imagination, community engagement and discipline through accessible dance education and presentation. The event is free and open to the public!



## WATER

The Water Department has several big projects moving forward. We are replacing the spillway bridge at Newell Creek Dam, which is a big project in itself, in preparation for the even bigger project of construction of the dam's new inlet-outlet pipe. We are also in bid review for design of the pipeline that will run *under* the San Lorenzo River at the Coast Pump Station. (We will be making a decision on that bid award soon.) And believe it or not, the final repair for the damage done to the Pipeline Road main during last year's storms just received approval from the Regional Board. The water system sure got clobbered last year.

We have been following a pair of bills that have been working their way slowly through the legislative process that will reshape water conservation laws. It now appears that both bills are close to becoming law. One (AB 1668) will replace the "20% by 2020" law which requires water suppliers to set targets to reduce per capita water use, with a new, more complex approach to achieve even lower targets. The other bill (SB 606) would revise and recast the requirements for Urban Water Management Plans calling for, among other things, suppliers to develop more comprehensive water shortage plans and procedures for conducting an annual water supply and demand assessment. Under existing law, suppliers have to plan for shortages of up to 50%; this bill would require planning for shortages beyond 50%. Both will mean expending significant additional staff time and effort to comply.

As the school year wraps up, we have been super busy with our education programs, forging full speed ahead with our San Lorenzo Valley High School "Watershed Academy" program, while also transitioning Live Oak School District elementary schools into our program for the first time.



(Students in the Watershed Academy)

If residents aren't happy with a product or service, it usually doesn't take much for them to vent their dissatisfaction via social media, online forums, or phone calls to the offending agency. The same can't be said when someone is happy with a service; few take the time to compliment work; which is why a [message from Deb Elston](#) this week enthusiastically complimenting Distribution staff's response to a main break is all the more appreciated. Like City staff in general, Water Department staff take great pride in what they do and in the service they provide.

## PUBLIC WORKS

### Engineering

The River/Front Parking Garage Restoration Project is complete; all three levels are now open for parking. The third and second level waterproofing system, concrete repairs, and additional drains are now installed and will extend the life of the parking structure. The project was fully funded by the Downtown Parking Fund.



### Wastewater Treatment Facility

Clarifier 1 has been removed from the treatment process for its annual inspection and replacement of rubber parts. Operations has cleaned the tank and mechanics will now replace worn parts. This involves hoisting a scissors lift into the tank to access hard to reach areas. Also, electricians are wiring up a new collector drive motor on Primary Sedimentation Basin 4 while mechanics are fabricating a new stainless steel scum skimmer for it.



## Community Relations

Please celebrate National Public Works Week with us next week! Monday through Thursday afternoons, May 21-24, we offer free family-friendly trolley tours of the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility and Recycling Center departing from the corner of Lincoln and Cedar. Reservations are not required. Details are available [here](#).



Recycling Center trolley passengers will see what happens to the 40 tons of material placed into blue recycle bins each day and learn about the complex recycling process.



Wastewater Treatment Facility trolley passengers will witness the quality-of-life service that naturally processes 7 million gallons of wastewater daily. They will also see the brand new ocean-themed mural that spans the plant's long driveway with heights up to 24 feet.



And please join Mayor David Terrazas and City officials to celebrate the launch of our new [Bike Share](#) program on Tuesday, May 22, from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the City Hall Bike Share station, 809 Front Street. We look forward to celebrating National Public Works Week with you!



### Traffic Engineering/ Community Relations

Warriors' mascot Mav'Riks has advice for drivers in our newest Street Smarts [video](#). This message can also be read [here](#).



We posted one story in our Santa Cruz Waves City Beat column: [Free Trolley Tours and Bike Share Ribbon-Cutting Celebrate National Public Works Week May 21-24](#)

