

## City Manager's Weekly Update

### October 26, 2018

#### PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

##### Neighbors of Lower Ocean (NOLO) Clean-Up Event, Fall 2018

On Saturday, October 6, 2018, at the corner of Jessie and Barson Street, the NOLO neighborhood marked its 21<sup>st</sup> annual fall clean-up day in partnership with the City of Santa Cruz. Key players of this event included City Planning, Code Compliance Division, Public Works (Sanitation), Parks & Recreation, Neighbors of Lower Ocean neighborhood and Grey Bears non-profit. The intent of this event was to provide neighbors (property owners, tenants and businesses) a means to dispose of rubbish from their properties and allow the residents to work collaboratively to keep their neighborhood free of unsightly refuse.

At the same time, the clean-up event provided an excellent opportunity for neighbors to meet, greet, share information, eat snacks, ...and even trade re-usable 'treasures'. At the Grey Bears collection station, residents were able to re-use, furniture, toys, bicycles and other household knick- knacks. When these items are re-purposed, it prevents useable house-hold items from going into the City land-fill.

Over a 5- hour period, the event collected over 2-tons of rubbish and recycled items. Grey Bears also recovered many re-usable items from residents. This twice-yearly event has proven successful in creating community- based efforts that enhance partnerships between residents, the City, neighborhood associations and non-profit groups.



## **Community Clean Up of Beach Flats October 2018**

On Saturday October 13, 2018 the Code Compliance division in conjunction with the Public Works and the Parks Department held the last Community Clean Up of the year in the Beach Flats neighborhood. Each event gets more and more participation from the community as word spreads about this valuable service and effort. There were many early risers ready to participate. Several residents – Jose, Steve, Scott, Sandy, Queenie, Lidia, - were again present with wheelbarrows and hand carts to help with the steady stream of neighbors dropping off items.

Edgar Landeros of Community Bridges and Tina Forest of Grey Bears were again key partners in this event. The Community Bridges community daycare was recycling toys from their playroom to make room for new toys - kids and adults alike had fun finding, and trading these 'treasures'. Grey Bears took many items that previously were treated as 'trash' - non-working appliances, rigid plastic used in shipping containers for items like big screen televisions, and metal piping/untreated wood from furniture which Staff assisted in stripping.

The event resulted in filling separate containers for recyclables (including 6 mattresses) and garbage that in total came to four (4) tons! For City staff – Code Compliance Specialist Jake Rodriguez, Planner Nancy Concepcion, Public Works driver Dennis Ghio, and the 41 residents - it was agreed that this event again was a success.



## **711 Pacific Avenue**

Last week, the Planning Commission approved a project allowing a small addition and conversion of second floor above a vacant restaurant space to seven Single Room Occupancy (SRO) units. While most SRO projects approved in the City consist of self-contained units, this particular layout includes common cooking and living spaces, as provided for in the Zoning Ordinance. The City Council may recall that this space was previously approved to be upstairs

dining for the (former) *KC's Sports Bar*, however it was left unimproved in an effort to phase in Transportation Impact Fees. The ground floor restaurant space is currently undergoing renovations in advance of a new tenant. In addition to the floor plan improvements, the project includes exterior modifications which will provide an upgrade to the overall appearance of the building. Construction is expected to occur next year. Nancy Concepcion is the planner working on the project.



*711 Pacific Avenue Project Picture*

### 350 Ocean Street

Last week, the City Manager Weekly Report included an update on the demolition permit for the vacant buildings at 344, 350/354, 356 and 358 Ocean Street. We were recently notified by the property owner that they were awarded tax credit financing for the 100% affordable housing project (63 units) that was approved for construction in this location in 2013. The property owner indicated that they are now on a short timeline to obtain building permits for the replacement project. Construction is expected to commence in the Spring of 2019. Demolition is still expected to move forward in advance of the construction and should be complete by the end of this year.



*350 Ocean Street Project Picture*

## PARKS AND RECREATION

### Sycamore Grove Volunteer Day

Water and Parks and Recreation Department Rangers worked together along with 20+ GREAT volunteers to help clean up the Sycamore Grove area. Great group of hard working community members helped to clean up a very challenging situation!



### Surfer's Overlook Project

The West Zone staff in conjunction with the Santa Cruz Surfing Club Preservation Society, the Public Works Department, Granite Rock and the Mayor, refurbished 2,800 sq. feet decomposed granite for the Surfers Overlook area on West Cliff Dr. Granite Rock donated 24 tons of the material and delivered to site. New benches are going to be installed along with a new asphalt pathway to the stairs.



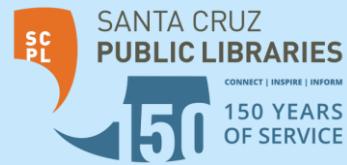
### Delaware Avenue mulching project

The median crew is spreading mulch on the Delaware medians. The wood chips are obtained at no cost by the City Parks Division from local tree services. Mulch will be spread to a depth of 4-6 inches to cap the soil, lessening weed growth, and retaining soil moisture levels. Once winter rains begin 40 large canopy trees of varying species will be planted in the median island areas as part of the Cal Fire Urban Forestry tree planting & inventory grant, a collaborative effort between climate action staff & the Urban Forester.



### **East Zone Projects**

East Zone team installing new fencing along Pinkelton Creek at Tyrrell Park. East Zone team working on all hands day at Grant St Park. Washing down facilities, site furnishings, touching up paint throughout park, pulling and installing BBQ pits, seeding lawn spaces.



## CITIZEN SCIENCE: Sustainable Living with Zero Waste

Join us as we investigate the current state of our environment and how our consumption impacts the world around us. Learn about ways you can decrease your impact, including using zero waste principles and composting. We will also discuss the current state of recycling and tips on becoming a savvy recycler. Presented by Meredith & Kevin Keet, and Terry Grove, and Dr. Elliott Campbell.

**Thursday • November 1st • 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**  
**Downtown Branch Library • 224 Church St.**

### ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:

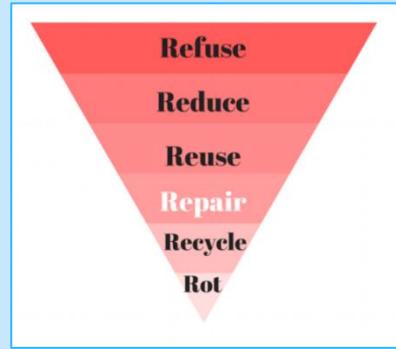
**Dr. Elliott Campbell** is an Associate Professor and the Gliessman Presidential Chair in Water Resources and Food System Sustainability in the Environmental Studies Department at UC Santa Cruz. His research emphasizes the use of computer models to understand climate change. This work has led to awards from the National Science Foundation, appearances in media ranging from NPR to The New York Times, and consultations to the U.S. EPA and other government agencies.

### **Meredith and Kevin Keet**, Founders of [The Zero Shop](#)

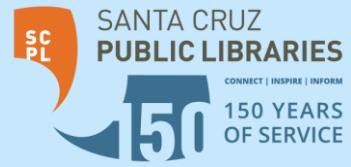
We started The Zero Shop while traveling around the world with our two children. We were struck by the devastation caused by plastic waste and pollution and wanted to do more to make it easier for individuals and businesses to decrease their waste. We have significantly cut our waste following basic zero waste principles and structuring our lives to decrease our impact. We hope to help others do the same!

### **Terry Grove**, Retired Educator

I have become more and more concerned about the waste that our culture is producing, and the effect it has on our environment. I recently took an extremely informative and interesting Master Recycling class which gave me many avenues to help reduce waste in my own life. I will be sharing some of what I learned and offering easy ways to gain more information on reducing, reusing and recycling.



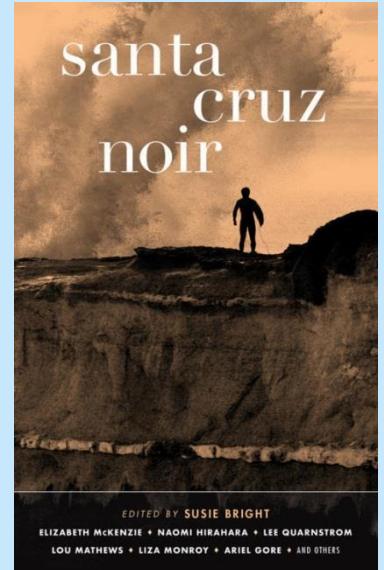
Citizen Science is a collaboration between the [Santa Cruz Public Libraries](#); the [Santa Cruz Children's Museum of Discovery \(SCCMOD\)](#), and the [University of California, Santa Cruz \(UCSC\)](#).



## AUTHOR TALK: Santa Cruz Noir

Santa Cruz Public Libraries welcomes local author Susie Bright, editor of Santa Cruz Noir, and other distinguished writers, Ariel Gore, Elizabeth McKenzie, and Micah Perks, who contributed to this work of regional noir tales to discuss their writing and read some brief excerpts from the collection. Expect the second half of the program to include some audience engagement and Q&A with our distinguished panel of writers.

**Saturday • November 3rd • 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**  
[Downtown Branch Library](#) • 224 Church St.



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Resource Recovery

Recycling Processing processed 159 tons of mixed recycling, 50 tons of cardboard and shipped out 190 tons of material this week. Landfill Operations processed 887 tons of refuse, 229 tons of wood and green waste, and 459 tons of fill.

Collections staff collected 2.81 tons of illegal dumping for the week. We have noticed an increase of “free stuff” placed on our streets for grabs which is adding to the problem. When we can identify the owners of the free items, we reach out to the business or resident and provide them with other options.



### Wastewater Treatment Facility

Mechanics replaced a leaking drainage pipe in the solids dewatering building. This operation involved two teams working at ceiling level in two different rooms simultaneously. The repair of swapping out the corroded pipe elbow through the wall while avoiding HVAC pipes and a catwalk occurred in record time. The treatment process area had been shut-down for a day to accommodate the repairs but the work was completed within just a few hours. Electricians assisted operations by making some custom changes to a small condensation trap float that is used in one of the ozone producing odor control machines. Operations also received assistance from maintenance in fabricating a custom part to attach to an air compressor. This allowed operators to agitate activated carbon inside a foul air removal tank to improve its operation.



## **Engineering**

Staff presented an overview of recent amendments to the City's Sanitary Sewer System Ordinance to David Lyng Realtors on Wednesday. These changes were approved by the City Council in June 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. While new spill procedures are already in effect, private sewer system and pump requirements will begin on Jan. 1, 2019 and the lateral inspection upon sale of property requirements will begin on July 1, 2019. We offer an incentive program to help offset fees related to the ordinance changes. Details of this can be read [here](#) and the Sewer Ordinance Rebate Application can be downloaded [here](#).



In preparation for rain, and in order to help the San Lorenzo River flow out to sea, we “primed” the river mouth at San Lorenzo point on Thursday by moving the large sand bar that had built up along the point. This activity is permitted by the four regulatory agency partners involved with the San Lorenzo River lagoon.



## **Traffic Engineering/Community Relations**

Staff delivered a Street Smarts presentation to Santa Cruz Cycling Club on Thursday night. The club is one of eight generous financial sponsors providing a total contribution of \$13,000 to year 2 of our traffic safety campaign. This year's budget is enhanced by a value of over \$32,000

in donations from media sponsors Comcast, KAZU, KSCO and KZSC. This week's [Street Smarts tip](#) below can be heard on all four of these stations.

