

City Manager's Weekly Update

April 12, 2019

POLICE

SPOTLIGHT: SCPD Volunteers



This week is National Volunteer Week, a time to recognize all of the hard-working volunteers at SCPD. Our volunteers, also known as V.I.P.S. (Volunteers in Police Service), are far more than extra eyes and ears for the department. They spend countless community service hours by improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to the City of Santa Cruz.

When you see any of our volunteers in light grey and khaki uniforms out on patrol or at an event, please take a moment to thank them for their dedication and commitment to making our community a better place. Our volunteers are part of the SCPD family & inspire us with their commitment & dedication to service. Trained volunteers enhance and support the department, freeing up officers and staff for higher priority duties by placing volunteers in rewarding activities which utilize their experience and talents.

Volunteer duties include conducting You Are Not Alone (YANA) Program, a reassurance program for our community's elderly or disabled, patrolling security checks in neighborhoods and commercial business centers, distributing crime alert bulletins, conducting vacation home security checks, working at special events, enforcing handicapped parking violations, and helping the department with a variety of other tasks.

If you're interested in volunteering, please visit: [Volunteer with SCPD](#) or contact Volunteer Program Director Joyce Blaschke 831-420-5844

PARKS AND RECREATION

Wharf

Repainting of the South Commons exterior continues. Meanwhile the Wharf crew continues to refurbish the diving equipment storage room. Fun fact—all five members of the Wharf Construction Crew are scuba-diver certified.



San Lorenzo Park

Parks Division staff all came together this week to get the San Lorenzo benchlands ready for a busy season of events, starting with Earth Day on April 20th. The turf restoration work that we performed last fall has paid off with a healthy stand of grass. Staff trimmed long grass and spruced up the entire area.





"Super Saturday" Summer Registration

Parks and Recreation Summer Registration opens online on Saturday, April 13. City residents can begin registering at 8:00 am and Non-City resident registration begins at 10:00 am. Parents eagerly await registration for popular programs such as Junior and Little Guards, Summer Camps at Harvey West Park as well as a wide-variety of specialty classes and camps. Parks and Recreation staff assist customers by phone with account questions at the Parks and Recreation office. The Loudon Nelson Community Center's computer lab will be open 8:00 am – 12:00 pm for people needing computer access. Visit cityofsantacruz.com/register to view our summer programs.



Bocce League

The spring bocce ball league kicked off its 2nd season on April 9. Matches are scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at George Washington Grove bocce courts in DeLaveaga Park.



Softball

It has been a rough spring for softball leagues due to the weather. Softball games have been rained out for several weeks but finally enjoyed sunny skies this week. Park and sports staff have worked tirelessly whenever the sun peeks out from behind the clouds to get the fields ready for play.



Civic

Join us for an evening of boundless joy, celebrating the creativity and enthusiasm of our artistic youth on **Friday April 13 at 7pm**. One hundred and twenty teens from sixteen Santa Cruz County Middle Schools and High Schools will model fashions they themselves designed and constructed. Sponsored by the Arts Council Santa Cruz, Goodwill, Pivot, Santa Cruz City Schools, Santa Cruz County Office of Education, PVUSD and the City of Santa Cruz.



Santa Cruz Teen Center

The Santa Cruz Teen Center operated for extended hours during Spring Break with a full line-up of fun activities. Teens participated in a sleepover (trying to stay awake all night with varied levels of success), continued their group mural, made candles with their Glow Girls Group, enjoyed Chicken and Wings for the weekly Friday Family Dinner and took a trip to the Museum of Ice Cream in San Francisco. Follow the adventures of the Santa Cruz Teen Center on Instagram @scteencenter.



PUBLIC WORKS

Resource Recovery

Last Saturday, nine Master Recyclers from the 2019 and 2018 classes volunteered at our outreach table at the Coconut Grove Veg Fest. It was a very successful event as they interfaced with about 350 people over the course of the day. Their outreach is of great assistance to the environmental community. After completing formal instruction, Master Recyclers are required to do additional projects or provide environmental community service for the City. You will be able to meet some of them at Earth Day as they staff the various recycling stations.



Wastewater Treatment Facility

Please come on down and get to know more about our Wastewater Treatment Facility this Saturday at our Neighbors Open House from 10 a.m. to noon at 110 California St. The family-friendly event includes games, prizes, tours, climb-aboard vehicles, and bagels! Read all the [details](#).



The Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility has been an EPA Green Power Partner since 2010, using renewably produced electricity thereby supporting the development of new renewable generation capacities nationwide while also helping to protect the environment. Each year the facility submits a report on how much power is imported from local suppliers, the

type of power purchased (renewable or fossil fuel supplied) and how much electricity is produced on-site.

For 2018 the Wastewater Treatment Facility is proud to have operated the facility on 91% green-produced power, contributing to the City's Sustainability Program. This percentage was achieved through the on-site production of electricity from solar panel arrays and cogeneration through burning on-site produced methane gas to run electricity generating engines.

The City also made a decision this past year to purchase power through the local Community Choice Aggregation provider, Monterey Bay Community Power.

In total the facility used 11,550,424-kWh of electricity in 2018 with 91% being sourced from Green Power totaling 10,475,744-kWh: 2,507,588-kWh was produced from Monterey Bay Community Power while 7,968,156-kWh was produced from renewable on-site generation.



Environmental Laboratory

You are invited to participate in the Regional Environmental Health System Working Meeting: Water Emergency Response in the California Central Coast Region on Tuesday, April 30, at Monterey County Health Department. The meeting will build decision trees, flow charts, and contact lists to help local, state and federal partners respond to chemical, biological, and radiological water emergencies occurring in the California Central Coast Region. Lunch will be served. [Registration and more info.](#)

Transportation Engineering/Community Relations

We have completed our Bay Street Sidewalk Completion Infill Project. It began with the award of a \$628,000 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 7 grant to construct sidewalk on Bay Street between King Street and Escalona Drive. The intent of the project was to reduce roadway collisions particularly for our most vulnerable users, bicyclists and pedestrians, and to encourage active transportation through increased access, ADA compliant sidewalks, and enhanced bike lane striping.

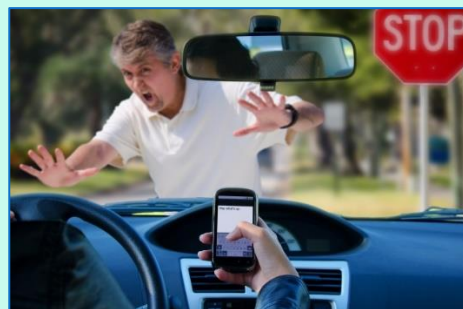
Construction began on September 18, 2018. Our contractor, Granite Rock Company, installed ADA compliant sidewalk, driveway approaches, curb and gutter, ADA curb ramps, guardrails and traffic striping. The project was completed within budget.

The grant project complements the City's Pedestrian Master Plan in supporting walking to transit, walking to and from school, and the safety of Bay Street corridor's pedestrian environment by completing the sidewalk between Escalona Drive and King Street on the west side of Bay Street.



Before, during and after construction

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Every day, at least nine Americans die and 100 are injured in distracted driving crashes. Cell phones, dashboard touchscreens, voice commands and other in-vehicle technologies pose a threat to our safety. The consequences of those and other distractions are not worth the convenience they offer. Read how our Street Smarts campaign and SCPD are helping in our Santa Cruz Waves article [City Challenges Drivers to Silence the Distraction.](#)



Engineering

The Cedar Street Rehabilitation Project continues Monday, April 15, through Friday, May 31, with one lane closure and detour. The project, funded by Measure H and Measure D tax dollars and a Community Development Block Grant, is rehabilitating/reconstructing Cedar Street from Church Street to Laurel Street.



A critical lift will place two span beams on the Coastal Rail Trail/ [San Lorenzo River Parkway Phase III/Trestle Trail Project](#) on Tuesday, April 16, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The bike/pedestrian detour will be slightly modified for this installation. The project which comprises a portion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Segment 8, will replace the existing 4-foot wide walkway on the San Lorenzo River Railroad Trestle Bridge with a new multi-use trail that is 10 feet wide. The new path will be approximately 340 feet long and connect to the existing access ramps at each end of the bridge.

The \$2.03 million construction project is funded with a California Natural Resources Agency grant, Transportation Development Act funds, and City of Santa Cruz and Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Measure D allocations.



PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

314 Jessie St. Community Meeting

On Thursday, March 28th, MidPen Housing held a community meeting at the Loudon Nelson Center to gather public input on a potential future housing project at 314 Jessie Street. On December 18, 2018, the Planning Department received an application for Pre-application Review of the future project, which includes demolition of the existing 14-unit, low-income housing development and the construction of a 27-unit housing development with rentals set at 50 percent AMI or below that would serve very low to extremely low income households. Specifically, the applicant indicates that the future tenants would be special needs tenants, high utilizers of emergency services, and individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.



The application was reviewed by all applicable city departments and feedback was provided to the applicant in advance of the community meeting. One member of the Planning Commission Subcommittee and fifteen members of the public attended the meeting. The public asked questions about the removal of existing landscaping, green building methods, relocation plans for existing tenants, and earthquake safety for the new building. The applicant presented two building designs and asked for the attendees to vote for their preference. The applicant is scheduled to meet with city departments on Thursday, April 4th to review the city requirements and comments. The next step will be for the applicant to submit a formal application for the project which is estimated to require a Residential Demolition Authorization Permit, a Coastal Permit, a Design Permit, a General Plan/Local Coastal Program (LCP) Amendment, Rezoning, and a Slope Variance. Staff currently anticipates an approximately 6 to 9 month review process with two required public hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council, and the need for Coastal Commission adoption of the LCP Amendment. The applicant stated that their goal is to start construction in 2021.

Code Compliance and Rental Inspections

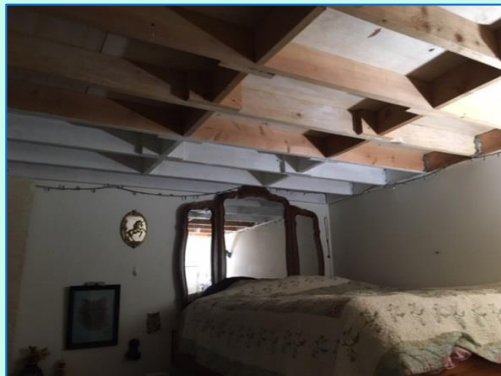
The Code Compliance Division of the Planning & Community Development Department coordinates with other public agencies and non-profit organizations to protect and improve the health, safety and quality of life for the residents and community.

The following are a few examples of substandard and/or hazardous conditions found during Code and Rental inspections and the Community Outreach event designed to assist the residents and the community in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) areas.

Property 1: Through a coordinated inspection with Code, Rental, Fire and Building, 42 units were inspected on 1030 and 1040 River St., for construction work without permits. The inspection revealed that 31 units were found to be in violation of the California Health and Safety Code, the California Building Code and the Santa Cruz Municipal Code. The violations consisted of lofts areas being installed to create sleeping and storage areas. The modifications eliminated emergency escape and rescue requirements and the fire sprinkler requirements. Some modifications eliminated the ventilation and lighting requirements which the tenants tried to address by adding more light fixtures and portable fans.



Substandard loft area was created without permits



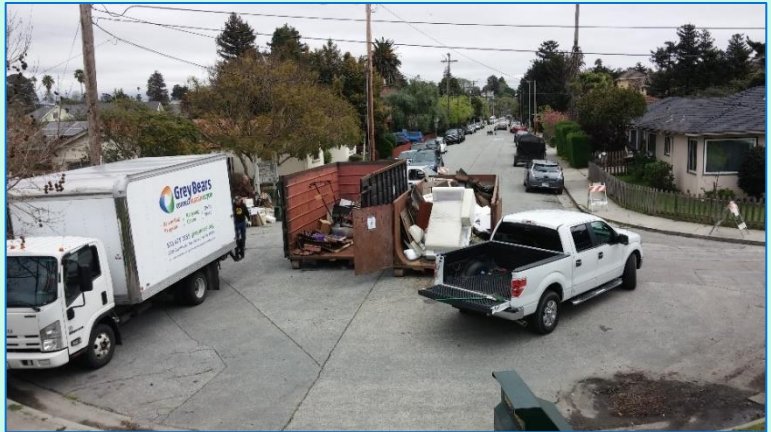
Created a substandard loft area about a sleeping area without permits



Substandard stairs and loft area without permits

Neighbors of Lower Ocean (NOLO) CLEAN – UP EVENT, Spring 2019

On Saturday, April 6, 2019, at the end of Barson Street and San Lorenzo Blvd., the NOLO neighborhood marked its 22th annual spring clean-up day. The City of Santa Cruz Code Compliance Division, Public Works (Sanitation), Parks & Recreation, Neighbors of Lower Ocean neighborhood and Grey Bears non-profit, gathered to provide neighbors (property owners, tenants and business owners) a means to dispose of rubbish from their properties and allow the residents to work collectively 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 some folks were able to trade re-usable 'treasures'. When these items are re-purposed, it prevents useable house-hold items from going into the City land-fill.

The event removed about 1-ton of rubbish and recycled items. 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.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ED: Economic Development Update:

APRIL NEW TECH MEETUP FEATURES UCSC PH.D. THESIS

The April New Tech Meetup, hosted at the [Cruzio Co-working](#) space, highlighted winners from the [UCSC Grad Slam](#). At the March Grad Slam – at which Mayor Martine Watkins, Vice Mayor Justin Cummings, and Economic Development Director Bonnie Lipscomb were judges – PH.D. students were given 3 minutes to present on their research and were judged on comprehension/content and engagement/communication.



The New Tech Meetup attendees heard from the top presentations on the topics of sex-specific foraging strategies of seals, the mental workout of bilingualism, resiliency of seabirds in a changing world, and ways to better measure and learn about black holes.

[The Monterey Bay Drones Automation & Robotics Technologies \(DART\)](#) also presented on the growing commercial drone market, which is expected to be a \$1billion industry by 2022. DART's vision is to establish and operate a world class Drone testing and development cluster in the Monterey Bay region; working with industry, government, and academia.

[The Santa Cruz New Tech MeetUp](#) is for Santa Cruz professionals who want to learn about stimulating new technologies that can give their company a competitive edge, boost their career, and spark the flame of entrepreneurship in our community. The meetup takes place on the first Wednesday of every month, and is sponsored and co-hosted by the Economic Development Department.

BUSINESS CENTS 101: FREE HANDS-ON FINANCIAL TRAINING WORKSHOP HELD

The City of Santa Cruz Economic Development Office partnered with National Development Council to offer both aspiring and existing small business owners hands-on training on the basics of budgeting, financial statements, accounting principles and more. Participants also learned how to



demonstrate creditworthiness, and how to translate financial statements to a lender. The course also provided an overview of financial resources available from the City of Santa Cruz.

The training was held April 11, 2019 at 5:30pm at the Santa Cruz Police Department Community Room and offered a group of 8 entrepreneurs the chance to get direct assistance and feedback working through exercises and case studies of financial statements and accounting methods.

NDC has been providing small business loans to business owners in Santa Cruz since the Grow Santa Cruz Fund was established in 2010, providing 6 loans totaling \$1.6 million. NDC is known for lending to women and minority business owners while providing hands-on assistance to restructure high-interest loans, right-size loans and shape business plans to achieve success.

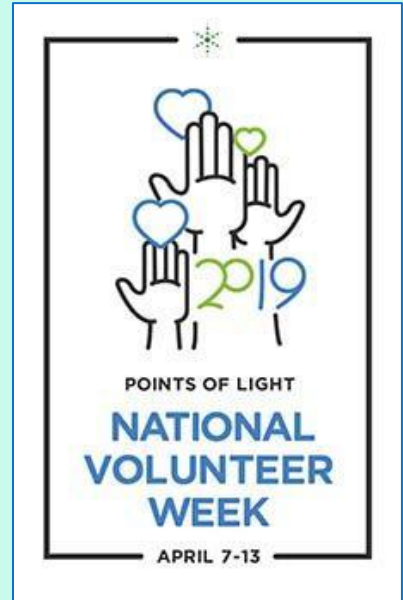
LIBRARY

Thank you to all our Amazing Volunteers!

We'd like to thank the community members who share their skills and time as SCPL volunteers. We have approximately 175 individuals who volunteer across our system in a variety of ways. These volunteers help with programs, take photos of events, adopt shelves, help with book sales, participate in story times, bring books to individuals at home, let their trained therapy pets volunteer alongside them for tales to tails and more!

We are so lucky to have amazing volunteers!

If you would like to become an SCPL volunteer please apply [Here](#).



Outstanding Volunteer Award Recognition at City Hall



Some of our amazing volunteers were recognized for the Tales to Tails program! This program allows for children to become more comfortable with reading by practicing in front of a trained therapy dog. These adorable dog volunteers and their owners were recognized for their participation at an awards ceremony held at Santa Cruz City Hall. We are very proud to have these amazing pups and their owners as volunteers!

Zine Fronteras Vol. 2 Call for Submissions

Submission Period: Friday, 4/12 to Friday, 4/26

Zine Fronteras is a literary publication by the Santa Cruz Public Libraries looking for unpublished writings, poetry, photography, and art that highlights the experiences of Santa Cruz's immigrant, LGBTQ+, homeless, incarcerated, and other historically underrepresented communities. All content contributors will receive a free copy of the published book! For Submission Form and Guidelines, [available online](#). The artist or writer can either submit by emailing Zine_Fronteras@santacruzpl.org or dropping it off at the Live Oak Library.



Zine Fronteras es una publicación literaria de las Bibliotecas Públicas de Santa Cruz que busca recopilar ensayos, escritos originales, memorias cortas, poesía, fotografías y obras de arte que reflejan las experiencias de las comunidades migrantes, LGBTQ+, personas sin hogar, encarceladas, y otras comunidades históricamente subrepresentadas. ¡Todos los contribuyentes recibirán una copia gratis! Obtén la aplicación y los detalles para tu contribución [al hacer click aqui](#). El artista o escritor puede enviarlo por correo electrónico a Zine_Fronteras@santacruzpl.org o dejarlo en la Biblioteca de Live Oak.