

City Manager's Weekly Update

April 19, 2019

PARKS AND RECREATION

Summer Registration

Parks and Recreation kicked off the summer season with another successful "Super Saturday" summer registration. On day one, 2,450 participants registered in summer programs including 841 Little and Junior Guards, 479 campers in Super Camp, Camp Spot, Junior Explorers, Camp Cruz, Beach Camp, and Camp Beyond and 967 summer class participants. There is still space in our popular guards, camps and classes programs. Sign up today at www.santacruzparksandrec.com.



Civic Auditorium

The Vintage Faith Church is returning to the Civic Auditorium for their Easter service! This is sure to be a festive event with expect attendance to exceed 1300 people from the Santa Cruz Community. This event is free of charge, doors at 10am. There will be light snacks and coffee free of charge. Visit: vintagechurch.org/easter



Louden Nelson Community Center

A highly anticipated JUMP Bike share station was installed this week on the corner of Washington and Laurel Streets, providing easier, eco-friendly access to the Center! One vehicle spot has been transformed to provide space for 6 bikes. Next time you visit the Loudon Nelson Center, consider taking a JUMP Bike!



All About Theater presents *Alice in Wonderland*. Opening night is Friday, April 19 at 7pm, with additional performances on Saturday at 2pm and 7pm, and Sunday at 2pm.



On Saturday, April 20 from 12 – 3pm, seniors are invited down to the Loudon Nelson Community Center to receive support from the “tech savvy” middle school and high school *YouthServe* volunteers who offer assistance with a full spectrum of devices, software, and apps.



Garfield Park

Parks staff worked to install new D.G. Pathways at Garfield Park.



Bethany Curve

The West Zone team got together and trimmed all four sections of Bethany Curve.



Ocean St Median

Parks staff found an abandoned group of baby ducklings while working on the median. They were able to gather them up in a box and deliver them to Native Animal Rescue. Way to go team!



Volunteer Event

Scouts from troop 609 worked with Parks staff to plant 20 new redwoods on the Bay Street median. These trees were planted as part of the CALFire tree planting inventory grant. This grant will allow 500 new trees to be planted within the City.



PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2019 American Planning Association National Conference

Former Mayor Cynthia Chase and staff from the Planning Department and City Manager's Office were invited to present a housing session at the 2019 American Planning Association National Conference. The 75-minute session, entitled *Santa Cruz: Addressing the Housing Crisis*, provided an overview of the innovative outreach, prioritization and implementation strategies undertaken by the City through the Homelessness Coordinating Committee and Housing Voices/Housing Blueprint Subcommittee processes. The presentation received much acclaim, as it provided practical tools to assist attendees in replicating these processes in their own communities. The conference was held at the Moscone Center in San Francisco from April 13-16, and was attended by over 6,400 planners, commissioners and elected officials from all 50 states and over 30 countries.

For more information on the City's housing strategy, please visit the City's website at: <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/government/city-departments/housing-engagement>



Image, L to R: Lee Butler, AICP, Planning Director; Tina Shull, Assistant City Manager; Cynthia Chase, Former Mayor and Councilmember; Sarah A. Fleming, AICP, Principal Planner

Rail Trail

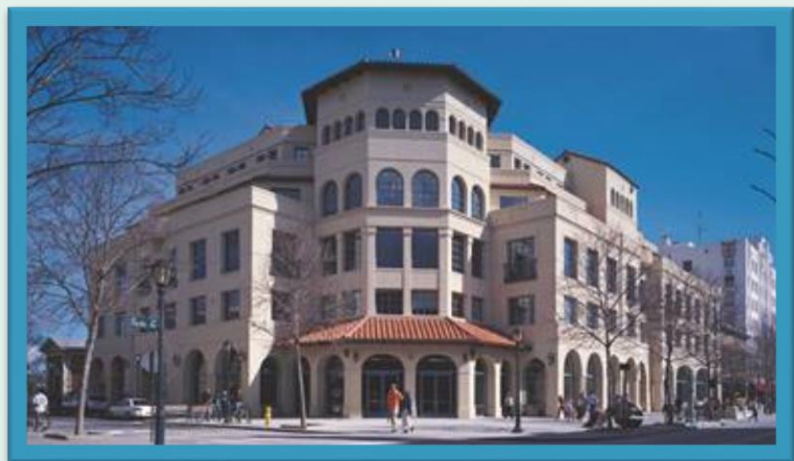
This week, the Planning Commission unanimously approved Coastal and Design Permits, as well as a Slope Modification/Variance for Phase II of Segment 7 of the Rail Trail, a 0.79 segment located between the intersection of California and Bay Streets to the intersection of Beach Street and Pacific Avenue. Fifteen members of the public spoke. Most were in support of the project. A couple speakers were opposed to the project, including members of the Sierra Club who had previously commented on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Recirculated

Mitigated Negative Declaration. In rendering their decision, some Commissioners spoke to the social equity aspects of the project, such as providing facilities for the wheel chair bound, as well as a link between Beach Flats to the west side. Mike Ferry is the planner working on the project.



Kaiser Permanente

On April 3rd, the Zoning Administrator approved an Administrative Use Permit filed by *Kaiser Permanente* to occupy approximately 14,800 square feet of the fifth floor and 6,900 square feet of the second floor of the Cooper House building located at the corner of Pacific Avenue and Cooper Street (110 Cooper Street). The floor plan includes exam rooms, provider offices, a small pharmacy and clinical lab. This week, our department received an appeal from one of the other tenants in the building. The Planning Commission is expected to hear the appeal in the late May/early June timeframe. Clara Stanger is the planner working on the application.



1720 West Cliff Drive

As you'll recall, on March 26th, the City Council took action to deny an appeal of the Planning Commission's decision to approve Coastal and Design Permits for a single-family residence at the corner of West Cliff Drive and Stockton Avenue. This week planning staff learned that the project has been appealed to the Coastal Commission. The project is expected to be heard by the Coastal Commission at its June meeting in San Diego. Mike Ferry is the planner working on the application.



PUBLIC WORKS

Resource Recovery

Come on down! to San Lorenzo Park Benchlands and celebrate at Earth Day Santa Cruz 2019 this Saturday, April 20, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The City sponsors this free annual environmental awareness event along with Santa Cruz County and Ecology Action. There are dozens of fun-filled youth activities to choose from, live music, educational and green retail booths, plus a wide variety of food and drink. A grand ol' time is guaranteed for all ages



City tables with interactive games and activities include Waste Reduction, Parks and Recreation, Santa Cruz Public Libraries and Climate Action where attendees can contribute to a community vision for a climate resilient future coast.

City Street Smarts ambassadors Chipper, the California Highway Patrol chipmunk, and Mav'Riks, the Santa Cruz Warriors mascot, will teach best traffic safety behavior with reflective wristbands and bike reflectors for participants. Graduates of the City's 2018 and 2019 Master Recyclers program will assist visitors with recycling activities and questions. Read more about [Earth Day Santa Cruz 2019](#) in our Santa Cruz Waves City Beat column.



Transportation Engineering

Our Street Smarts banners are back out in front of schools asking drivers to slow down. Our message [here](#) explains exactly how kids are limited in their ability to make safe traffic decisions. And April continues Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Help your driving loved ones to quit the phone and other life-threatening distractions. Watch our Street Smarts video here in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).



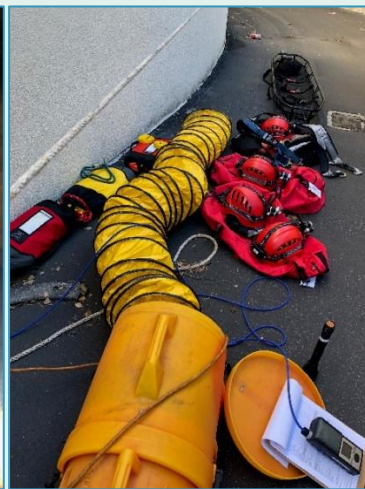
Wastewater Treatment Facility

Many thanks to all of our Santa Cruz neighbors, for making the Wastewater Treatment Facility Open House a fun-filled success on Saturday! Over 80 folks, young and old, participated in mini forklift races, plant tours and Big Ol' Toilet Bowl photo fun. There were interactive activities in the Laboratory and inside the sewer van operating the camera through the pipe. Engineers and operators were on hand to explain the complex all-natural wastewater treatment system and how it helps flood control. We hope to make this an annual event and see you again in 2020! Here's a [5-minute video](#) of our services.





Phase 2 of the WWTF Infrastructure and Major Equipment Study continues with engineers extracting a concrete sample from the out-of-service digester. Entry into this confined space includes providing adequate air exchange rates via forced air ventilation, air monitoring devices, scaffolding, hard hats and safety harnesses. The mechanics department fabricated a custom stainless steel pipe cleanout with isolation valve to solve an ongoing problem of sludge backing up in the respective digester floor drains.



Engineering

The Coastal Rail Trail/Trestle Trail Project continued this week with the installation of girders, cross bracing and water line supports. The project is widening the existing San Lorenzo River Trestle Bridge walkway and is funded by the City of Santa Cruz, Measure D and a California Natural Resources Agency Grant.



Cedar Street Rehabilitation Project continued work this week with the replacement of failing pavement with new concrete and asphalt along Cedar Street from Elm to Church Street. The project, funded by Measure D and Measure H tax dollars and a Community Development Block Grant, is rehabilitating/reconstructing Cedar Street from Church to Laurel.



Operations

The City Hall Annex renovation continues with a new Planning counter, flooring, and conference room setup. Existing walls in the occupied first floor Planning offices have been removed, and new walls are framed and awaiting inspection.



The Delaveaga Golf Lodge restaurant tenant improvements continue with work indoors. Framing will be completed next week. This is a tenant funded activity and not a City contract.



We applied for a no cost PG&E program to install EV infrastructure (i.e. transformer, conduit, switch gear etc.) at the Corporation Yard. The infrastructure will support two 16 level chargers that will be able to charge Fleet cars and light vehicles in about 4-12 hours depending on their battery size. The transformer upgrade will also support the infrastructure of DC fast chargers that are capable of charging ED's electric trolley in about 1 hour. There are very few DC fast chargers available in the County and this would be the first that is owned and operated by the City. The only requirement for the free program is that the chargers are installed at the Corporation Yard.

In preparation for the new EV infrastructure, Operations has hired Aurum Consulting Engineers to create electrical design as-builts and panel locations in the buildings. Updating the electrical infrastructure greatly benefits our buildings' electrical system and creates a solid infrastructure to support the installation of solar panels on the main building. This will improve energy savings throughout the Corporation Yard. The original solar panels were removed a few years ago in preparation for the Seismic Retrofit project, but due to updated technology, the solar panel equipment is now obsolete. The old solar panels have been donated locally to support technology education. The solar panel system upgrade is currently under review for design, engineering, and PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) options.

Streets

Streets crews are working on a pavement repair project in the University Terrace area. They continue working in the Corporation Yard Garage area filling obsolete mechanic underground pits. All pits are filled with slurry. The final two concrete slabs will be completed this week.

Beach area painting and sign repairs will begin in late April or early May in preparation for the summer tourist season, and in other areas soon thereafter.

Facilities

In addition to their routine preventive maintenance assignments, our crew continues to assist in the River Street Camp preparation and Annex remodel. They will soon paint the Economic Development office following minor siding repairs.

LIBRARY

Author Talk: Civil War Author Nick Adams

Friday, April 26th • 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Garfield Park Branch Library • 705 Woodrow Avenue

Author Nick Adams will give an author talk on his book *Away at War*, about the family left behind when the Civil War breaks out.

AWAY AT WAR: A CIVIL WAR STORY OF THE FAMILY LEFT BEHIND is a true story of survival during the American Civil War. It portrays the difficult life on a mid-nineteenth century homestead for a mother and her three young children, for her husband is away, having answered President Lincoln's call for volunteers to help preserve the Union.



While the novel tells the home family's story, it is based on one hundred letters the soldier wrote them during his two years of service, describing everything he is experiencing and thinking about, as well as responding to their communications of both hardships and endurance.

Santa Cruz Book Fair For Kids Of All Ages

Sunday, April 28th • 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Downtown Branch Library • 224 Church Street • Upstairs Meeting Room

The second Santa Cruz Book Fair For Kids Of All Ages will be held at the Santa Cruz Public Library, 224 Church Street, in the Upstairs Meeting Room next to the Young People's Room, Sunday, April 28th from 1-3:30 p.m. This year eight local authors are joining Children's Book Week, the national literacy initiative in celebrating its 100th anniversary. Children's Book Week's mission is "inspiring a love of reading in children and teens across America."



The event is free and authors will read from their work, hold short Q & A sessions and autograph their books. Authors will read from their fiction and nonfiction picture books, middle grade, and young adult titles! These will be on sale and include picture books, middle grade fiction for eight to twelve-year-olds, and young adult fiction for teens. A portion of the proceeds from sales will go to the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries.

The first Santa Cruz Book Fair For Kids of All Ages was held in 2017. It was organized by local author Linda Covella. This year she once again organized the fair with the added incentive of the Children's Book Week's mission "inspiring a love of reading in children and teens across

America.” Authors who will be featured are Linda Covella, Diane Landy, Christine Mason, C. Lee McKenzie, Sylvia Patience, Misa Sugiura, Claudia Makeyev, and Anastasia Suen.