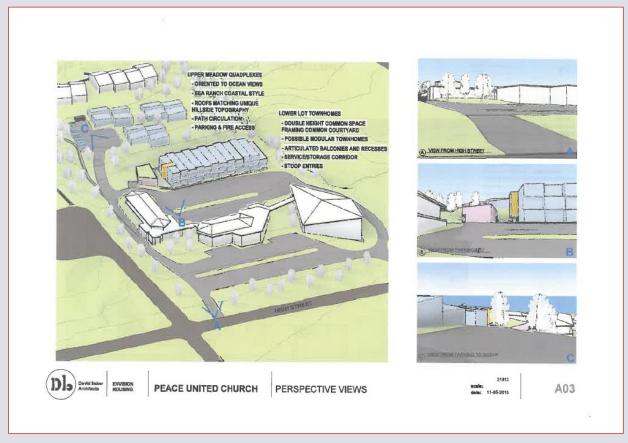
# City Manager's Weekly Update March 1, 2019

# PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

# **Peace United Church**

Our department recently received a pre-application for a multi-family residential rental project on the Peace United Church property at 900 High Street. The conceptual plans include the construction of 28 apartments on the undeveloped northern portion of the property above the existing parking lot. The proposal includes 12 three-bedroom units in four buildings and six two-bedroom units and 10 eight-bedroom units within a larger apartment building. In accordance with the Community Outreach Policy recently adopted by the City Council, the applicant will hold a community meeting in the weeks following receipt of pre-application comments from City staff. Mike Ferry and Clara Stanger are the planners working on the project.



900 High Perspective

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

# **Delaveaga Park**

Trees go in and trees come down. Parks staff worked with the California Conservation Corps this week to remove a large pine tree that came down across the Audrey Stanley Grove trail. Trail is open and in great shape....Come check it out. Parks staff also organized and assisted with a volunteer tree planting at Santa Cruz Shakespeare.



# **Wharf**

The Miramar is gone! The Wharf Crew is also hard at work replacing fire backflow devices, repairing decking failures, and painting building facades.







# **Louden Nelson Community Center**

On Wednesday, Kathleen Crocetti's Mission Hill Middle School – Art Narrative class installed "Mandala Umbrellas", creating a beautiful and unique art experience. Come down and enjoy this whimsical display as part of the First Friday Art Walk, or anytime during the month of March!







Friday, Pacific Collegiate School presents opening night of *The Sound of Music* in the Auditorium at 7pm. Additional performances this weekend will be held Saturday at 2pm and 7pm, and Sunday, 2pm.

#### **WATER**



Unlike some of our neighbors to the north, this week's storm only blessed us with some nice additional precipitation and didn't wreak havoc on our facilities the way storms did in 2017. That said, it doesn't take much to damage infrastructure that is just plain worn out, or nearly so. We had a significant break on the North Coast pipeline yesterday, seen in the photo above, which took two of our major water sources out of service. This is an example of what is happening to our "backbone" infrastructure – critical infrastructure including raw water storage, transmission, and water treatment infrastructure. These are the facilities that are most challenging and most costly to repair, rehab, and replace. Our goal is to have a reliable and resilient system that is made up of facilities that are designed to meet challenging conditions such as more extreme weather events, increasing treatment regulations, and our commitment to endangered species that we share our water supply with.

Speaking of our goal to have a reliable and resilient water system, last night we hosted an open house at the Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant (GHWTP) to daylight our upcoming construction projects to the neighbors. While our neighbors are respectful of the critical role the treatment plant plays in 98,000 people's lives (as well as the fact that the plant was there years before any of their homes,) we know that big construction projects can be cause for neighbor alarm – and rightfully so. It was interesting to learn that most of the folks who came to the open house – many of them neighbors for years – had never visited or toured the plant. So it was a treat for us to get to know them a bit (and vice versa,) and to be able to hear their questions and concerns first hand. We plan to stay in contact with neighbors as plans move forward, and will provide future tours as construction commences.



Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant neighbors hear about the upcoming concrete tanks project from Matt Zeman, project manager and lead project engineer

#### **LIBRARY**

Citizen Science: Preparing for Sea Level Rise in Santa Cruz

Thursday • March 7 • 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm <u>Downtown Library</u> • 224 Church St.

Join Dr. Tiffany Wise-West, the Sustainability and Climate Action Manager for the City of Santa Cruz, for a discussion about our options for dealing with rising sea levels.

Dr. Wise-West is a licensed professional civil engineer and LEED associate professional with over 20 years of experience in municipal planning, infrastructure and programming. Dr. Wise-West complements her technical skill set with policy, regulatory, and economic expertise in the areas of climate resilience, energy, and sustainability. Drawing on her interest in innovation and education, she specializes in collaborating across public, private and academic sectors to deliver award winning and impactful emissions mitigation and climate adaptation policies, projects and programs.



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Citizen Science is a collaboration between the <u>Santa Cruz Public Libraries</u>; the <u>Santa Cruz Children</u>'s <u>Museum of Discovery (SCCMOD)</u>, and the <u>University of California</u>, <u>Santa Cruz (UCSC)</u>.

We invite you to join us every first Thursday of the month for a presentation and Q&A with local experts and researchers in the field discussing life science, ecology, geology, genetics, climatology and more. Let's connect, inspire and inform each other!

Beginners' Genealogy Workshop
Saturday • March 9 • 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

<u>Downtown Library</u> • 224 Church St.

The <u>Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County</u> is offering an afternoon workshop for those interested in getting started with genealogy. SSCC member Mike Epperson will present an "Introduction to Genealogy". It is aimed towards beginner researchers or it can serve as a refresher course for those wanting to recharge their basic research skills. Topics will revolve around family research basics such as:

- Getting started on your tree
- Basic Forms
- Free research databases available with your SCPL library card, such as Ancestry.com, Newspapers.com, Heritage Quest
- Tips for using Ancestry.com Library edition
- Software programs available for recording your tree
- GSSCC library collection and resources available at the SCPL
- Local papers on microfilm & Newpapers.com
- Overview on how to use a census
- DNA basics

This workshop is free and open to the general public. For more information visit <a href="https://www.scgenoc.org">www.scgenoc.org</a> under upcoming events or call 427-7707 ext. 5794.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

# **Engineering**

The Coastal Rail Trail/Trestle Trail Project continued this week with the removal of wire mesh railing along the existing pedestrian bridge and installation of edge forms and rebar for the proposed footing and retaining wall at abutment #4, at the east end of the bridge. The installation of scaffold frames along the existing bridge also continued. The project, funded by City of Santa Cruz, Measure D and a California Natural Resources Agency Grant, is widening the existing San Lorenzo River Trestle Bridge walkway and is expected to conclude before summer.



# **Traffic Engineering/Community Relations**

Our Parking for Hope downtown holiday parking program awarded \$30,862 to local nonprofit Hope Services at this week's Council meeting. Mayor Watkins presented an oversized check on behalf of the City of Santa Cruz and the Downtown Association to the organization's staff and crew. The funds were collected from Dec. 18-25 in the fifth annual Parking for Hope program. Hope Services provides training and support services to adults with developmental disabilities and has helped to keep downtown streets clean for over 20 years. Read more.







This week's Street Smarts tip reminds us of the vulnerability of cyclists on our roadways – read the details in English and Spanish <u>here</u> or click the photos to watch the videos.





We published a new article in our Santa Cruz Waves City Beat column: Invitation to Join Chief Mills' New V.I.P. Program





# **Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Staff is gearing up for another rain event, placing more equipment in service and tanks in standby mode preparing for flow increases. Operations also cleaned the out-of-service anaerobic digester in preparation for a structural inspection. This digester holds 1.3 million gallons with a tank diameter of 95-feet and height of 30-feet. The anaerobic digesters at the facility provide a controlled environment for biological stabilization of sludge (settled solids) and scum (floating solids). The stabilization process reduces the odor generation potential and pathogenic content of the sludge while improving its' dewater ability and producing gas for use as a fuel for the cogeneration engines.

