

City Manager's Weekly Update

June 14, 2019

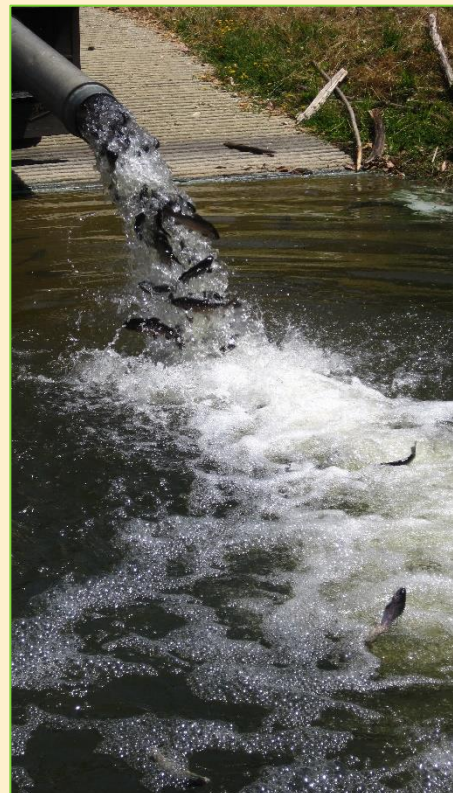
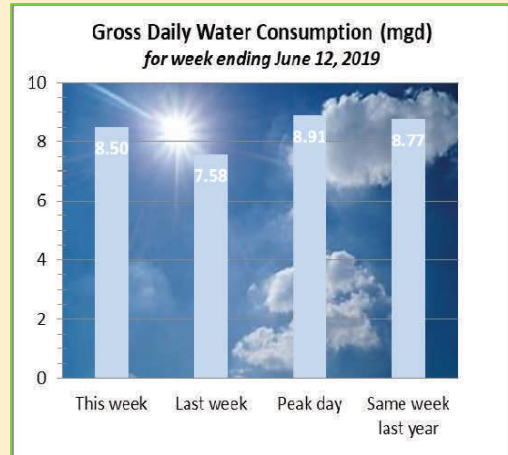
WATER

With the heat wave this past week, we had our first 8 million gallon day of 2019 and a near 9 million gallon day on Tuesday. These numbers were typical, average daily usage prior to the 2014-2015 drought. Post drought, we currently average just over 7 million gallons per day.



What are those blue dots? Water Meter Shop staff are walking all the routes in our service area inventorying all water meter boxes and marking those that are routinely hard to find as demonstrated in the picture. We are using the same technology as Bott's dots you see in roadways making it much easier to find and read meters in the future.

Loch Lomond received the second and final trout plant of the season. The Loch was stocked with 2,000 pounds of beautiful rainbow trout to the delight of fishermen and fisherwomen.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ED: City Arts Update:

SANTA CRUZ CELEBRATES TOGETHER AT THE FIFTH ANNUAL EBB & FLOW RIVER FESTIVAL!

Last Friday evening, June 7, 2019 over 700 Riverwalk neighbors and community residents attended the fifth annual [Ebb & Flow River Arts](#) Festival at the Tannery Arts Center! People enjoyed food, live performances and swinging music from a large array of local talent. The “Spirit Nest” art structures by artist Jayson Fann--shown below--brought “Oooohs” and “Ahhhs” by all! They really MUST be seen in person! The taller piece (right) is on loan for 6 months while the driftwood structure (left)– made of driftwood collected at Cowell Beach – will remain at the Tannery long-term!



Ebb & Flow is led by Arts Council Santa Cruz County with many partners including: The Coastal Watershed Council, Santa Cruz City Arts, Radius Gallery, Tannery World Dance & Cultural Center, First Friday Santa Cruz, Tannery Arts Center, and participating artists, musicians, dancers and river neighbors. Sponsors included the California Arts Council, Santa Cruz City



Government, Good Times Santa Cruz, KAZU 90.3, Bay Federal Credit Union, New Leaf Community Markets, Swenson, and Palace Art.



City Staff also used the event as an opportunity to have a table to collect input about what people wanted to see along the Riverwalk – if the City receives a large grant from the State via Prop 68. Attendees were eager to complete surveys – and talk with staff. About 50 surveys were collected with ideas from a range of people and Riverwalk users.



COMMUNITY INPUT WELCOME AT MEETING FOR PROPOSED CHINATOWN PUBLIC ART PROJECT – TUES. JUNE 18TH 5:30PM-7:30PM AT THE MAH

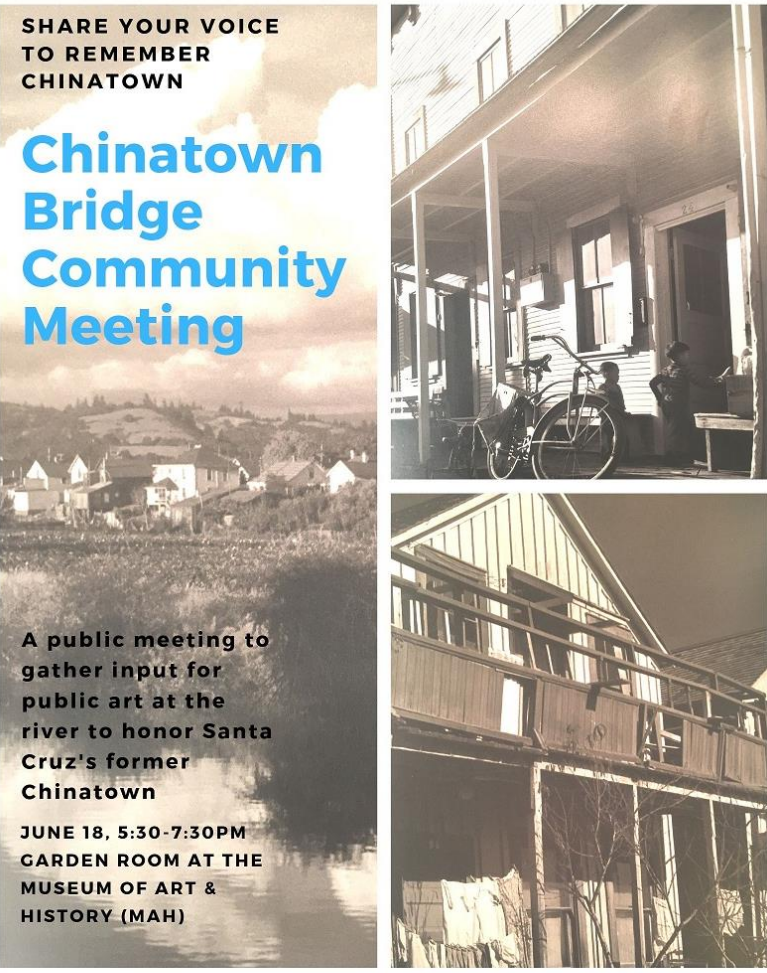
The community is invited to come learn about a public art project idea, as proposed by local philanthropist George Ow Jr. in collaboration with the Coastal Watershed Council. The community meeting will be held at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History next **Tuesday June 18th – 5:30pm-7:30pm.**

The public art piece is envisioned to go in front of the ramps of the pedestrian bridge – across from the Trader Joe's parking lot. This was the location of one of several Chinatowns that existed in Santa Cruz, and George Ow Jr. had several relatives who lived there.

After getting input from the community, the project will be brought to the City's Arts Commission for approval. If the public art portion is approved by the Arts Commission then the project will go to the Parks & Recreation Commission and Historic Preservation Commission – specifically regarding the naming of the pedestrian bridge across the San Lorenzo River (between the TJ's parking lot and the County building) the "Chinatown Bridge."

The format for the public meeting will be as follows: The first ½ hour of the meeting will

be a tour of the "[Guided by Ghosts](#)" exhibit up through June 23 at the MAH. It's amazing, sad and poignant – a MUST see!!! It weaves together local Chinese history with a unique combination paintings and drawings and quotes. Then George will give an overview of the idea for this public art piece -- and the people and history he's hoping to honor with this project. Following that there will be about 45 minutes for brainstorming then some kind of wrap up.



**SHARE YOUR VOICE
TO REMEMBER
CHINATOWN**


Chinatown Bridge Community Meeting

**A public meeting to
gather input for
public art at the
river to honor Santa
Cruz's former
Chinatown**

**JUNE 18, 5:30-7:30PM
GARDEN ROOM AT THE
MUSEUM OF ART &
HISTORY (MAH)**

**5:30 - 6 PM: Tour of MAH's Chinatown exhibits
6 - 6:30 PM: Presentation
6:30 - 7:30 PM: Brainstorming**

A free, informative, family-friendly event. Join us!



ED: Housing & Community Development Update:

WELCOME JESSICA DE WIT - HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER!



Jessica de Wit joined the City of Santa Cruz last week as Housing and Community Development Manager in the Economic Development Department. She is responsible for managing the City's housing programs including Inclusionary Housing (Measure O), Homeownership Programs, Rental Housing Developments, Accessory Dwelling Unit Programs, Program and Compliance Monitoring, Sale and Resale Programs and Affordable Housing Preservation Programs.

Jessica has 13+ years of affordable housing development experience working for local affordable housing non-profit providers. Prior to joining the City of Santa Cruz, Jessica worked for the County of Santa Clara managing the development feasibility and loan underwriting program for affordable housing projects seeking funding from the County's \$950 million affordable housing Measure A bond. She earned her BA degree from University of California, San Diego and an MA in Regional & Urban Planning from University of Michigan. Jessica also received her Certificate in Real Estate Development from University of Michigan. In addition, Jessica is a graduate of LISC's Affordable Housing Development Training Institute.

AB411 CLEARS FIRST SENATE HEARING HURDLE

After passing unanimously through the Assembly, AB 411 was heard by the Senate Government and Finance Committee on June 12th and was passed 6-0 with one abstention. Economic Development Director Bonnie Lipscomb joined Assembly member Stone to present the bill in front of the committee with the support of our



Housing & Community Development Manager Jessica de Wit and Special Projects Manager Joe Hall. The bill will now move on to the Senate Housing Committee before presentation to the full Senate. The final hurdle in this process will be signature of the legislation by Governor Newsom. If this legislative initiative is successful it would release approximately \$16.1 million dollars of bond funding to the City for the development of affordable housing and homeless facilities. As this legislation progresses staff will keep the Council informed and coordinate support efforts in upcoming months.

Background on the Bill: Prior to the statewide dissolution of local redevelopment agencies in 2012 the City of Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency issued bonds to fund the completion of various affordable housing and capital projects. As part of the initial dissolution legislation use of the bond proceeds was prohibited. In 2015 the Governor signed follow-up legislation allowing the use of all affordable housing bond proceeds and a percentage of the previously issued capital bonds.

In May of 2018, Councilwoman Sandra Brown, Economic Development Director Bonnie Lipscomb, along with other ED Staff, met with Assembly member Stone to discuss the possibility of state legislation to release all of the City's former redevelopment funds to be fund projects relating to affordable housing and homeless facilities. To follow-up on this meeting Mayor Terrazas wrote a letter formally requesting the introduction of the legislation releasing the former redevelopment funds.

Draft legislative language was prepared by Economic Development staff and introduced into the legislature early by Assembly member Stone on February 7th as AB 411 (Stone). At its February 26, 2019 meeting City Council formally endorsed the legislation. That support was conveyed by a letter from Mayor Watkins.

ED: Economic Development Office Update:

LOOKER LOCKS IN DEAL FOR \$2.6 BILLION ACQUISITION BY GOOGLE CLOUD

Looker has been the talk of town and the company name has been on display in local and national media headlines after news broke last week that Google Cloud has agreed to acquire the business intelligence startup for \$2.6 billion.



This news is exciting for our local tech community to see a startup that first began in 2012 in CruzioWorks coworking space and has grown to numerous floors in the Rittenhouse Building with over 600 employees worldwide and over 250 right here in Santa Cruz. With this exciting change it's also fun to look back at an interview we did with Looker's CTO and founder Lloyd Tabb in 2015 when Looker was just beginning to expand into a second floor of the Rittenhouse: <https://choosesantacruz.com/journal/2015/in-depth-lloyd-tabb>

The Economic Development Department has maintained a strong relationship with Looker over the years as they have grown in our community and we will continue to communicate with them as the details and plans for the future of this acquisition continue to fall into place.

CNBC featured the story on June 10th and highlighted many of the assets Santa Cruz has to offer that make this an opportunity for continued growth in our community. The following is an excerpt from the article which can be found online:

<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/06/10/googles-2point6-billion-looker-deal-gives-it-a-base-base-in-santa-cruz.html?fbclid=IwAR3VeHs-hiiF2WiVWk50KEOHxgnwsnNRf-vvJWKCrtgC3JMBctMArB4WWtQ>

“With a \$2.6 billion proposal to buy Looker, Google will be getting more than just data analytics.

It’s the first major acquisition under Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian, who is looking to make his mark six months into the job. But Google is not only gaining a new component for its cloud business. It’s also getting easier access to tech talent on a remote edge of Silicon Valley, and a location in one of the few San Francisco Bay Area locations where it has no presence: Santa Cruz.

“Once we get regulatory approvals, we have a lot of ideas on how to further integrate the products and also to use Google Cloud’s sales team in concert with Frank’s team,” Kurian said in a call with press last week, referring to Looker CEO Frank Bien. Bien and his roughly 600 employees will report directly to Kurian, he added.

But Looker offers additional benefits, too.

Access to talent. Santa Cruz is a beach town of about 65,000 in Northern California. (Its boardwalk amusement park was featured in the recent horror movie, “Us.”) It’s only about 30 minutes from San Jose by car, but the four-lane highway between the cities -- the infamous Highway 17 -- winds over a mountain pass, making it a challenging commute for Silicon Valley tech workers who want to live there. With a base in Santa Cruz, Google could recruit tech workers sick of commuting to Silicon Valley jobs, which was one of the reasons [Amazon decided to set up shop](#) there in 2016. It would also have access to the University of California Santa Cruz, where artificial intelligence and machine learning skills are among the university’s growing graduate programs that Amazon has tapped into.”

LIBRARY

Family Concert with José-Luis Orozco

Wednesday, June 19 - *Miercoles, 19 de Junio* • 10:30am
Downtown Branch Library, 224 Church St. Santa Cruz

Join in the fun as celebrated author Jose Luis Orozco encourages children to sing and play in Spanish and English through a mix of Latin American songs, rhymes, stories and games.



José-Luis Orozco is a bilingual educator, children's author, and recording artist who has dedicated his life to creating quality bilingual music, books, and videos for children. He encourages learning of the Spanish language and promotes Latin American culture through his art.

Únase a la diversión mientras el célebre autor José Luis Orozco anima a los niños a cantar y tocar en español e inglés a través de una mezcla de canciones, rimas, historias y juegos latinoamericanos.

José-Luis Orozco es un educador bilingüe, autor infantil y artista de grabación que ha dedicado su vida a crear música, libros y videos bilingües de calidad para niños. Refuerza el aprendizaje de la lengua española y promueve la cultura latinoamericana a través de su arte.

Stars of Poetry: Community Poetry Circle + Legendary Poetry Collective *A Summer Workshop Series*

Wednesdays: June 19, July 3, July 10, July 17 & July 31
1:00pm - 3:00pm • Downtown Branch Library, 224 Church St.



Are you a star of poetry? If not, you can easily become one this summer! Join this free series of workshops to explore poets, poem-making, and performance. In each of these four workshops we will consider the lives of a prestigious poet, including Naomi Shihab Nye and Juan Felipe Herrera, reflecting on how their lives inform their work. We will write poems, receive guidance and feedback from poets in the community and perform our work out loud, sharing our stories together. No experience necessary. Come with an open heart and mind. Co-facilitated by Magdalena Montagne and poets from the Legendary Poetry Collective, as well as poets from the library's Community Poetry Circles.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Highlights

Mark your calendars! Saturday June 29: Santa Cruz Derby Girls! *DOUBLE HEADER!* Doors open at 4pm Saltwater Sassies (Jrs) @ 4:30pm, Harbor Hellcats @ 6:45pm. Tickets available at SantaCruzTickets.com



Please note: The Civic Auditorium main hall will be unavailable June 17-28 as we complete our annual truss maintenance.

Louden Nelson Community Center

The [Santa Cruz Juneteenth](http://SantaCruzJuneteenth.com) Celebration will be held Saturday, June 15, 2019 at the Louden Nelson Community Center and Laurel Park, from 12:00 – 5:00pm. Juneteenth features music and dance performances, food and craft vendors, health fair, children's activities, a basketball skills contest for hundreds of people throughout the day. Join us in celebration of the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.



Junior Guards

This week Jr. Lifeguard Instructors attended training covering health, safety, concussion protocol, positive discipline marine rescue drills and games before hitting Cowell Beach next week. Jr. Lifeguards kicks off the season, Monday, June 17 on Cowell Beach in front of the Dream Inn Hotel. 980 Little Guards and Jr. Guards in red suits will be running, swimming, paddling and playing while learning marine safety skills. Over 25 Jr. Lifeguard Instructors will accompany participants on the beach this summer.



Summer Camp

Summer Camp staff training kicked-off Monday morning this week as the team prepares for Parks & Rec Summer Day Camps. Our day camps offer a wide range of activities from field trips and games to arts and crafts, and offer a special place for friendships and adventures during those long summer months. We host a range of programs promise a good camp fit for everyone. Free weekly swim days are also included!



DeLaveaga Golf Course

Members of the golf course maintenance team installed 125 feet of split rail fence this week. The split rail replaces a simple 'stake and rope' fence that served to separate the 17th hole at DeLaveaga Golf Course from the Santa Cruz Shakespeare overflow parking lot. The success and popularity of the Shakespeare theatre called for a more permanent demarcation. The split rail serves the purpose nicely and adds to the aesthetic value of the area. This project represents the quality workmanship, professionalism, versatility and dedication of the golf course maintenance team. Many thanks to team members Neil Hulse and Javier Marin for the layout and installation of the fence, and to the rest of the maintenance staff for completing the golf course preparation workload while this project unfolded.



Before



During



After

Parks Maintenance

Parks and Recreation Rangers, maintenance crews, and vendor crews remediated a heavily environmentally impacted 30'x100' abandoned camping area in Neary Lagoon right off the railroad tracks. The crews pulled out of the area over 2 tons of trash, metal, and hazardous materials. They also collected over 500 needles in this small area.



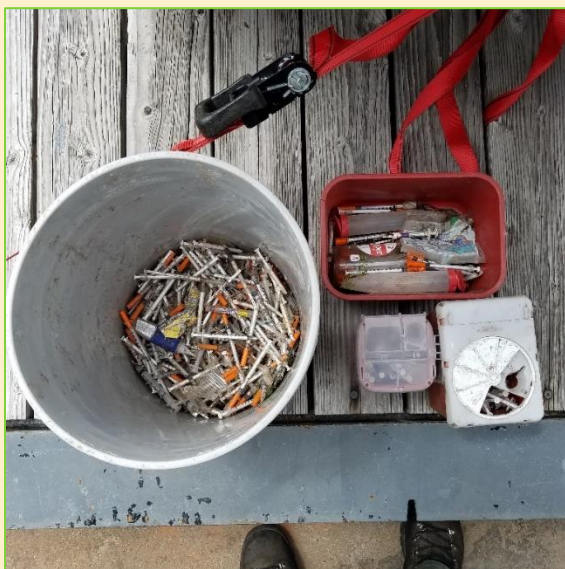
Before



Before



After



Needles collected

PLANNING

1930 Ocean Street Extension

On September 25, 2018 the Santa Cruz City Council approved an application to amend the General Plan designation and Zoning for the property and construct at a 32-unit residential condominium development at 1930 Ocean Street Extension. The application had proposed 40 units, but the City Council's action included a reduction in density by eight units. Included as part of the motion was direction to the "Community Development Department to hold a community meeting to obtain input regarding the redesign of the site plan with 32 units, and directing the Community Development Director to approve the redesign at the administrative level with no appeal process."



A Community Meeting was held on June 6, 2019 to present three site plan options and gather input from the community. Approximately thirteen neighbors attended the meeting. Comments included preferences to increase the separation between the existing chapel building and any new structures, questions about drainage and impervious surfaces, as well as concerns about construction staging, especially with Water Department projects scheduled in the same vicinity. In addition to the community meeting, the Community Development Department has made the three site plan options available on our website for public review and input (www.cityofsantacruz.com/1930ose). Notification of the online plan availability and commenting period have been sent to over 50 email addresses on file for the project, and a mailed notice will be sent to all those within 1,000' plus all addresses through to the terminus of Ocean Street Extension. Public comments will be received through July 2, 2019. Following the comment period, the Planning and Community Development Department will take the public's input into consideration, coordinate with other reviewing departments, and rendering a decision on the approved site plan option. Ryan Bane is the planner for the project.



PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

Our Cedar Street Rehabilitation Project finished the installation of asphalt concrete pavement along Cedar from Lincoln to Church and at the intersection of Maple and Cedar. Also, the project replaced two driveways at Parking Lot #5. 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.



The 2019 Surface Seal Project continued construction this week with the installation of the first layer of chip-seal at several local streets. The project funded by Measure D and other funds is rehabilitating several local streets with double Chip-Seal and Microsurfacing.



Wastewater Treatment Facility

Last Friday a fire began in an unsanctioned camp-site on the other side of our facility's perimeter fencing. The smoke and fire were first observed by the Lone Swing Shift Operator around 9:45 pm who responded quickly reaching out to 911 and the senior operator-on-duty.

Within 30 minutes Fire and Police responded and extinguished the fire, ensuring the safety of the staff present and securing the integrity of the facility. This event, while handled efficiently and effectively, brings to forefront the importance of being able to safeguard the treatment facility from similar situations in the future. The fire, which reached 15 by 15 feet, was within 20 feet of two critical electrical systems in either direction.



To the left of the fire location is Switchgear 4, which brings power to the motor control cabinets for solids treatment including sludge thickening, gas mixing compressors for anaerobic digestion, other associated pumping equipment for the anaerobic digesters, cogenerating engines and sludge pumping. To the right of the fire location is the main power substation bringing in 21kV from PG&E's distribution lines.

Loss of either of these critical pieces of equipment would leave the treatment facility crippled and incapable of fully treating sewage from the City and County of Santa Cruz, as the facility does not have the capability to store sludge.



A week earlier, Operations assisted with receiving a “PIG” sent by the County Sanitation Department down their force-main collection pipe to the facility. Progressive poly pigging is a process that involves propelling a PIG, (a foam cylinder of varied densities with a three foot diameter) through a pipeline. As it travels through the pipe it loosens, removes and transports debris to our facility where the material is removed by operators through a manual bar-rake system. The mechanical County bar-screen was bypassed during this event to protect its integrity and prevent the PIG from getting lodged against it.



Resource Recovery

The Food Waste System Electrical Feeder Installation Project had a bid opening on June 12. The project consists of bringing power and telecommunication from the recycling building to the future food waste processing system site in the recycling yard, 300 ft. away. The engineer's estimate for this project was \$127,000 and the apparent low bid came in at \$147,378.

Our street sweepers collected and disposed of 10.2 tons of debris from City roadways.

We've noticed an increase of illegal dumping/homeless trash on the west side of town since the closure of the Ross Camp.

Seven of our Master Recycler volunteers engaged over 350 people at three different City events held last weekend. Attendees of the Ebb & Flow at the Tannery, the Clean Oceans event at the Monterey

Bay Marine Exploration Center, and the Westside Farmers Market all had an opportunity to participate in interactive waste reduction and recycling education presentation activities.



Delaware Avenue



Ebb & Flow



Monterey Bay Marine Exploration Center



Westside Farmer's Market

Traffic Engineering/Community Relations

Stopping behind the line prevents collisions. Click the photos to learn more of the importance of this week's Street Smarts message.

