

# City Manager's Weekly Update

May 3, 2019

## PARKS AND RECREATION

- [Aloha Festival Vendor Application](#) period opened – **May 1**
- [Walking Adventure Group](#) –walked West Cliff Drive with doggie companions - **May 2**
- **Civic event-**
  - [Derby Girls](#) –Double Header: Harbor Hellcats at 4:30 pm and Boardwalk Bombshells – **May 4**
- [Mustangs on the Wharf](#) – **May 5**
- [Teen Intern and Summer Youth Trail job applications](#) – **due May 10**
- Returning [Fall Class Proposals](#) - **due May 10**

### This Week by the Numbers

# of tickets sold to 23 upcoming Civic events = 1,050

# of high school seniors who attended College Signing Day at the Civic = 350

# of Little and Junior Guards registered to date = 886

# of applicants for summer camp jobs who attended the summer skills assessment = 30

### Highlights

The Loudon Nelson Community Center enjoyed a weekend packed with events. On Friday, May 3 Reel Work Cinema hosted a series of films as part of the Santa Cruz, Monterey & Santa Clara Counties *May Day Labor Film Festival*. Show times began at 7pm in the Auditorium.



The Monterey Bay Iris Society hosted the *Iris Show* in the multi-purpose room on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 & 5.



Saturday night, May 4, Be Natural Music hosted its annual *Youth Rock Concert and Fundraiser*, in the Auditorium from 5:00-8:00pm.



Frederick Street Dog Park has reopened. The dog park has been closed over the winter for restoration after the PG&E gas pipeline project. Staff installed new fencing and prepped the park for all to enjoy—pups and people alike!





Staff from throughout the City pitched in for Garden Blitz day at City Hall. Special thanks to Councilmember Cynthia Mathews for keeping the work day festive.



## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### **800 Soquel Avenue. Sausage/Beer Garden on Soquel**

In December of 2017, the Zoning Administrator approved a use permit and other entitlements to convert the former *Der Wienerschnitzel* building into a restaurant and beer house, and site improvements to create a beer garden with an outdoor seating area and an outdoor game area. Our department recently received an application for a building permit to construct the project. The property owner indicated that she is ready to start construction once the building permit is issued, which should occur in the summer. The vacant building has been an attractive nuisance for a number of years resulting in several complaints filed with our Code Enforcement Division. Development of this site is expected to go a long way toward improvement of this section of Soquel Avenue. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on this project.



### **Infill Multi-family housing**

On April 18, 2018, a Design Permit and Administrative Use Permit were approved by the Zoning Administrator to allow for the construction of a second dwelling unit below an existing single-family dwelling on the parcel at 314 Rigg Street, which is located in the Professional and Administrative Office (PA) zone district.

The existing house consisted of an approximately 1,638 square foot single family dwelling on the main floor of the building and an approximately 1,519 square foot crawl space with a garage on the lower floor. The approval included removal of the existing driveway and garage, preservation of a heritage tree at the parcel frontage, construction of a carport and surface parking at the rear of the site, construction of a first floor second residence to create a duplex, and exterior improvements.

The building permit was issued in July of last year and the project is in the process of completing drainage improvements in advance of its final inspection. As shown in the photos below, the site has been greatly improved and has gained an additional housing unit while maintaining the appearance of a single-family dwelling. The project is an excellent example of infill housing and transitional density between the PA Zone District along Mission Street and the Single-Family Residential zone district beyond. The project architect was Lisa Blatchley of

Stephanie Barnes-Castro Architectural Firm and the project contractor is Scott Rodgers of SLR Construction Inc.

Before Remodel



After Remodel

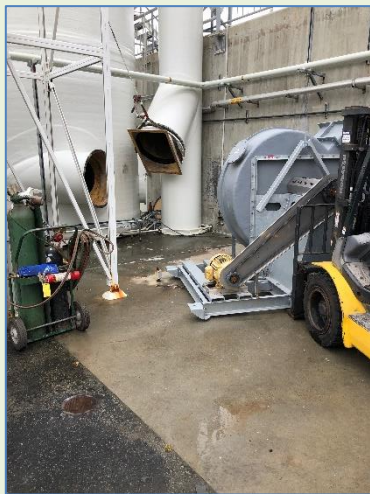


## PUBLIC WORKS

### Wastewater Treatment Facility

With winter coming to an end and no storms in the forecast we have begun the process of preparing Cowells outfall and Neary Lagoon for summer 2019: Environmental Compliance has completed testing as of 4/23; the Collection staff closed the slide gates 4/18 and the bypass to the WWTF is in a fully open position and checked weekly. The pump station is being dewatered with a submersible Ready 8 pump to begin the station cleaning process.

Operations treated approximately 250-million gallons of wastewater in the month of April. Facility mechanics removed and replaced an Odor Reduction Tower fan. This particular fan safely releases treated air into the local atmosphere. This 2,630-pound fan is capable of moving 14,170-cubic feet of air per minute.



### Resource Recovery

Recycling Processing was busy shipping materials this week. Multiple loads of mixed paper, cardboard and mixed rigid plastic were shipped. With increased quality scrutiny, inspectors for the buyers are regularly on-site for the loading and sealing of overseas shipping containers. Increased inspections and quality requirements have added to the amount of labor and time spent on processing and marketing recyclables. Unfortunately the prices for recyclables have remained low with FY2019 revenues looking to be substantially lower than previous years. Collections operation are currently assisting with the Ross Camp clean up by delivering numerous refuse boxes for the residents to dispose unwanted items.

Waste Reduction staff had "story time" at Natural Bridges Pre-School to celebrate May Day with two different groups of 10 students of 3 and 4 year olds. We read the book *One Plastic Bag* and talked about the importance of the three R's and preventing litter.





Load of plastic bound for overseas | 8 yard container surrounded by trash | Natural Bridges preschool students

### **Traffic Engineering/Community Relations**

May is Bike Month! The City of Santa Cruz has been a long time sponsor of Bike to Work, and for the first time, this year Ecology Action is hosting the entire month of May as Bike Month!

In addition to Bike to Work/School Day and the free breakfast locations throughout the City on May 9, there is a whole month of bike focused activities to participate in. The highlight this year is the May Bike Month Challenge, where participants are entered in a drawing to win a \$7,500 cash prize and also be entered to win a 2019 Gazelle ebike.

While we believe every day is a good day to bike to work, May has extra special perks. For more information on the Bike Month Challenge and all the fun events happening in May, go to [www.ecoact.org/bikemonth](http://www.ecoact.org/bikemonth)



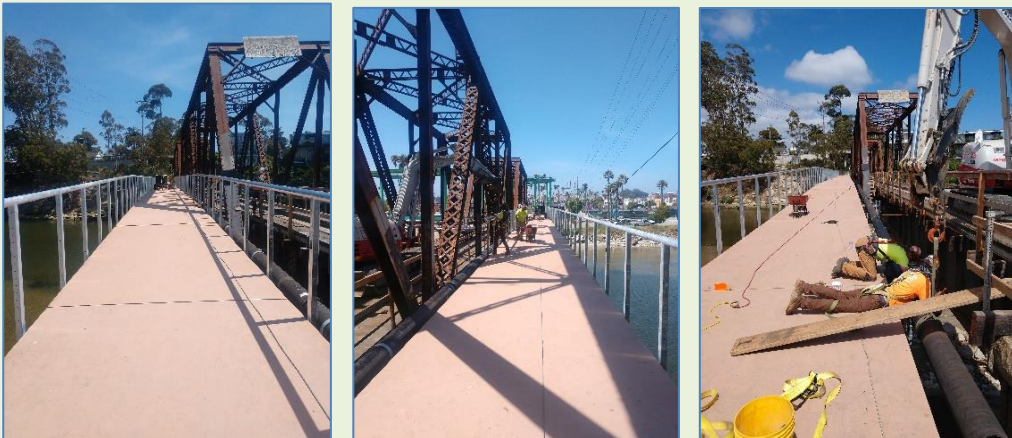


With the conclusion of April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, remember the various forms of distractions and take care! [Read more](#) in English or Spanish.

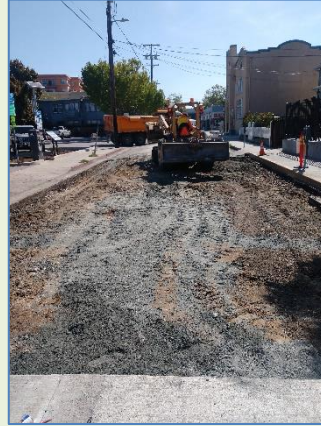
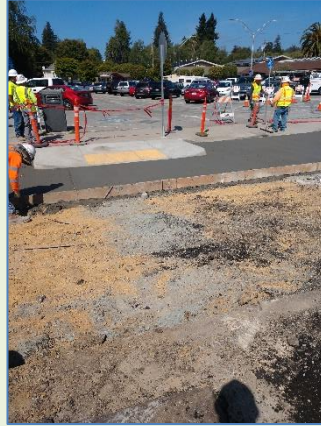


## **Engineering**

The Coastal Rail Trail/Trestle Trail Project continued this week with the replacement of the existing water line, installation of guardrail posts, installation of the east end gate, and installation deck clips and sealant. 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 along Cedar Street from Cathcart Street to Lincoln Street. Also this week, pavement work at the intersection of Elm Street and Cedar Street was finished. 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.



## LIBRARY

### Unhurried Conversations

Wednesday • May 8th & May 15th • 10:00am - 12:30pm • [Garfield Park Library](#) • 705 Woodrow Ave.



**Unhurried Conversations** hosted by the Unhurried Santa Cruz Meetup is coming to the **Garfield Park Library!**

You're invited to join this experiment in conversations designed to have a gentler pace, no interruptions and a more reflective nature.

In an Unhurried Conversation, there is time to think differently and connect with people in a refreshing way. Unhurried isn't always slow, but it has a pace where people find it easy to join in and not feel crowded out. And listening can be as satisfying as talking.

We'll use a simple format to create good, human interaction without interruptions. Please bring a topic for conversation if you wish.

- Adults ages 18 & up
- Free!

### **Space is limited. Registration is required.**

There are only eight seats available for each Unhurried Conversation.

Register online <https://santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/5329983> or call 831-427-7717

### Legally Speaking Series: Labor Law

Thursday • May 9th • 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm at [Downtown Library](#) • 224 Church St.

This presentation will be about the legal rights of workers, new developments in labor law, common issues and hot topics. We'll also cover the rights of immigrants, sexual assault and other workplace crime, and the new law around employees vs. independent contractors. The presentation will be brief with lots of time for questions.



**Gretchen Regenhart** is the Regional Director and Directing Attorney of the Watsonville office of California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. She has been with CRLA and its predecessor agencies for more than 30 years.



**Lizett Rodriguez Peña** is an Equal Justice Works Crime Justice Corps. Fellow at California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. Lizett is a first-generation Latina immigrant and proud daughter of migrant farm workers.

This is the last event in the series for this season. Join us in the fall with a whole new set of topics and presenters!

Legally Speaking is a free monthly series of discussions with 'Q & A' on legal and financial topics that affect all of our lives. Presentations are led by local experts recommended by the Santa Cruz County Bar Association. All presentations take place from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month.