

City Manager's Weekly Update

August 16, 2019

WATER

This morning greeted us with a large leak at the intersection of Prospect Street and 12th Avenue. At 3:00AM crews were called out and had to remove about 13 feet of damaged cast iron pipe. Water service was disrupted but restored around noon:



We continue to make good progress on the various projects underway right now. Most notably, the water main replacement on Water Street, tube settlers replacement at Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant, and the U-5 water tank replacement projects:



New tube settlers



New U-5 water tank

This week Rosemary spoke to the Santa Cruz County Business Council. She shared with them updates on work associated with the WSAC recommendations, the scope of the needed infrastructure projects in front of us, and the impacts that climate change is already having on our system and how we're preparing to upgrade our reliability.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SANTA CRUZ STREETCAR TROLLEY OFFICIALLY RETIRES ON LABOR DAY 2019

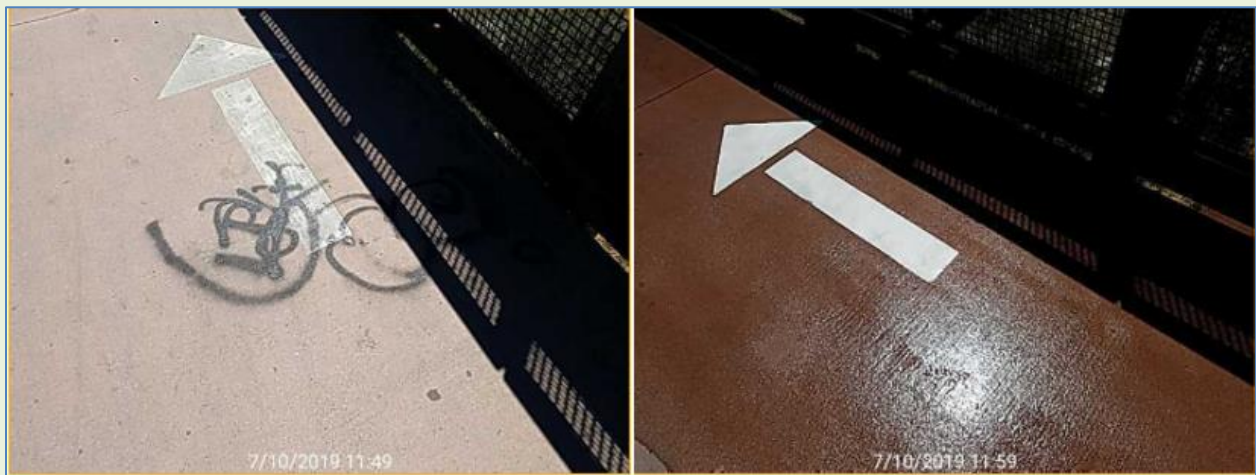
It's been a good ride! Join us as we bid farewell to the beloved Santa Cruz streetcar trolley, which will be replaced by electric shuttles starting summer 2020 thanks to a generous grant from the Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD). The trolley retirement party takes place Labor Day, September 2nd from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. downtown at the Del Mar Theatre stop, 1124 Pacific Avenue. Bring the whole family to enjoy a proclamation from the mayor and have fun in a photo booth inside the trolley. The first 100 attendees receive special candy "trolley lollies" and all attendees receive a free trolley ride coupon. Other refreshments TBA. Kids are encouraged to create trolley artwork to be displayed inside the trolley during the last day's ride. Be sure to catch a ride after the event. The trolley runs from 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.



Please send inquiries to Alison Cameron, acameron@cityofsantacruz.com or call 831-420-5158. Link to site: <https://choosesantacruz.com/journal/2019/santa-cruz-trolley-officially-retires-labor-day-2019>

GRAFFITI ABATEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

In July 2019, 402 public tags were removed by the City, which is 78 more tags than this same time last year—a near 20% increase.



The City of Santa Cruz Graffiti Abatement Program has two easy ways of reporting graffiti on public and private property:

- Report via [Community Request for Service Portal \(CRSP\) App](#)
- Call the Graffiti Hotline at (831) 420-5303

Please provide a description of the tag on the object or surface and the location with the nearest address or cross street and if possible a photo.

Quick removal within 24 to 48 hours is proven to be the most effective way to deterrent against graffiti vandalism. The longer graffiti remains the greater the chances graffiti vandals will return. For more information about the City of Santa Cruz Graffiti Abatement Program, receiving a free removal kit, and other resources, please visit our website at www.cityofsantacruz.com/graffiti.

PROGRESSIVE URBAN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES FIRM (P.U.M.A.) LAUNCHES STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVE IN SANTA CRUZ

The welcome reception for P.U.M.A. was officially held Wednesday August 14th at the Museum of Art and History from 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., sponsored by the Downtown Association of Santa Cruz. P.U.M.A. is a national leader in downtown and community development, well known for using a market-based approach and stimulating inclusive community engagement. P.U.M.A. consultants will be helping the City to develop a year-long Strategic Plan that will make specific improvements, based on business and public feedback, to the Downtown district.

Attendees at the reception enjoyed refreshments and snacks, and had a chance to mix and mingle with each other. Attendees ranged from individual citizens, business owners, Downtown Association staff, City staff, and anyone else invested in Downtown.



PARKS AND RECREATION

By the numbers

144 = participants in the Santa Cruz City Amateur Championship golf tournament

11 = native plant species in the new Neary Lagoon Pollinator Garden

Highlights

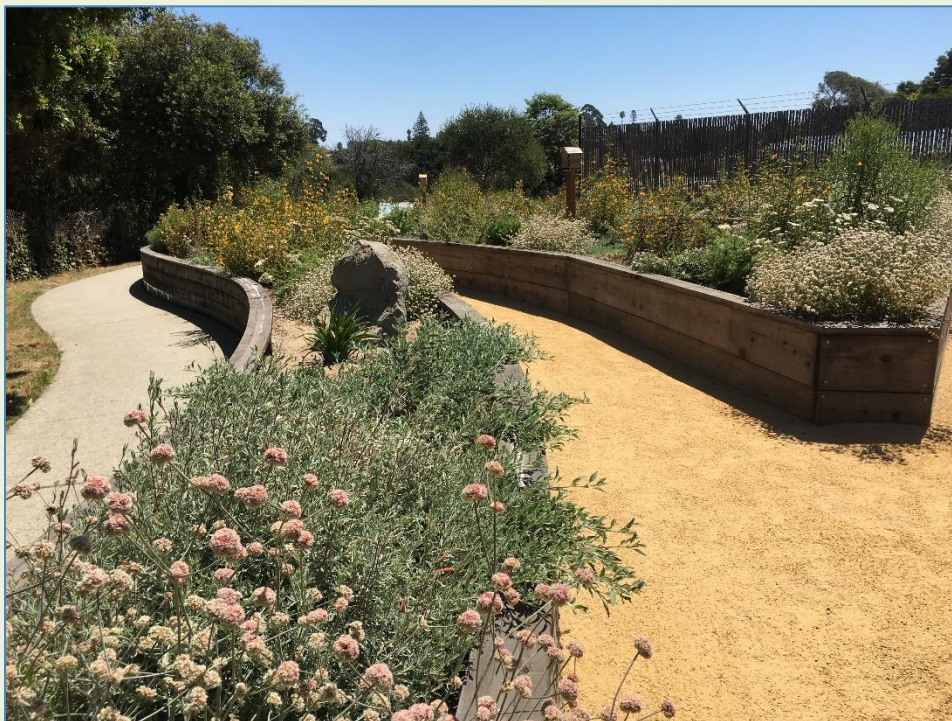
Delaveaga Golf Course hosted the 29th Annual Santa Cruz City Amateur Championship on August 10th and 11th. This two-day, 36 hole, stroke play event attracted 144 participants from around the state. In the end, the Championship trophy was won by Casey Leebrick of San Luis Obispo with a final score of 1 under par (68+71=139). The preparation for this event was a tremendous effort by both City golf course maintenance staff as well as the City pro shop concessionaire GSL, Inc. This popular event simply wouldn't be possible without the dedication and commitment of everyone involved, and the ability for both parties to work together.





The Neary Lagoon Pollinator Garden officially opened on Wednesday. The new garden features California native plants that support native pollinators, a beautiful layout of raised beds and strolling paths, and interpretive signs that highlight the importance of pollinators. Parks & Recreation Commissioners Jane Mio and Dawn Schott-Norris and Mayor Martine Watkins were

in attendance, along with community members and partners, the Parks staff who conceived of, designed, and built the garden, and numerous bees. Come find the new garden behind the tennis courts at Neary Lagoon!



PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Rail Trail

On August 9, 2019 the California Coastal Commission heard the appeal of the City Council's unanimous approval of the Rail Trail Phase II - segment 7. Assistant Public Works Director Chris Schneider and project planner Mike Ferry represented the City at the meeting which was held in Eureka. No one from the public testified. The appeal process requires that a substantial issue determination be made before a hearing on the actual appeal occurs. The Coastal Commission unanimously found that there was "no substantial issue" thereby denying the appeal.



Specialized Bicycles

The bicycle company *Specialized* is under review for a tenant improvement permit at 415 B River Street, which is in the "Farmer's Exchange" area of the *Old Sash Mill* complex. The use, which will include retail sales of bicycle accessories, bicycles available for rental/demonstration, and a bicycle washing station, is principally permitted in the zoning district so a public hearing was not required. The company's goal for the space is to "advocate, educate, and create stoke around cycling." *Specialized* hopes to have the store up and running in September.

PUBLIC WORKS

Traffic Engineering/Community Relations

We welcome the community to a Street Smarts Family Bike Ride with Mayor Watkins on Saturday, Aug. 24, 10 a.m. to noon at the Tannery Art Center's Colligan Theater Plaza. Families will ride along the Riverwalk with the Mayor, Santa Cruz Police officers and Ecology Action. There will be a traffic safety open house with Santa Cruz Warriors mascot Mav'Riks, CHP's Chipper the Chipmunk, games and prizes, plus free Penny Ice Creamery cones after the ride! All participants must sign a waiver. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Minors 13 and up may participate provided they bring a waiver signed by their parent. Details and waiver download [here](#).



The poster features three logos at the top: the Santa Cruz Police Department (SCPD) badge, the Street Smarts logo (a yellow triangle with a lightbulb), and the Ecology Action logo (a green circular design). Below the logos, the title "STREET SMARTS FAMILY BIKE RIDE" is written in large, bold, white letters on an orange background. To the left of a central photograph, text reads: "Mayor Watkins and SCPD officers bicycle with you!", "Ecology Action leads cyclists along Riverwalk", and "Penny Ice Creamery provides free cones!". The central photograph shows a family of four (two adults and two children) riding bicycles on a path. At the bottom, an orange banner contains the event details: "SATURDAY AUGUST 24 10AM-12PM" and "COLLIGAN THEATER PLAZA @ THE TANNERY".



Wastewater Treatment Facility

Operations is continuing with summer tank cleaning and rotation schedule. Operators are putting in slide gates and entering various confined spaces to clean the insides of treatment tanks before mechanics go in for inspections and needed repairs. Operators and mechanics also volunteered to continue completing some of these projects on a Saturday, their regularly scheduled day off.



The facility also hosted a tour for a high school intensive summer school program at UCSC where the students are studying microbiology and toxicology.

