

# City Manager's Weekly Update

September 20, 2019

## POLICE

This week, SCPD hosted the City Government Academy (CGA) where participants got an inside look of the day-to-day operations at the Santa Cruz Police Department. In a twist on the standard presentation, the CGA group started with an intriguing “who done it” crime scene investigation. Participants engaged in scenarios where they navigated a response to a simulated situation. Throughout the exercise, they reviewed the actions taken and discussed real-world outcomes with Chief Mills, a veteran Detective, and Patrol staff.



Chief Mills delivered an interactive presentation that combines behind the scenes station tour and lecture along with practical, hands-on equipment demonstrations from officers.

The group asked many questions about local policing. They learned about law enforcement policy, patrol functions, criminal investigations, and K9 unit demonstration. Most importantly, participants had ample opportunity to inquire and connect with police leadership and staff.

### SCPD Goals for City Government Academy

- Build trust through open dialogue about current trends and issues between police and the community.
- Strengthen relationships and partnerships through engagement, awareness, and education.

- Provide experiential learning opportunities through practical exercises with police officers.

**CGA TAKEAWAY:** Community members felt more confident in understanding department policies, roles, and responsibilities to better engage in public discussion about the Santa Cruz Police Department.



## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Annex Remodel: Planning & Community Development

The new Planning, Building, and Payment Counter for the Planning & Community Development department will open Monday, October 14, 2019! Reopening the counter is a milestone event for the department's remodel, and department staff look forward to opening its doors to the public in a larger space we hope everyone will enjoy. To prepare for the opening, the existing counter in Room 206 will close at 12:00 p.m. on October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup>.



Once the new counter opens, the following services will continue:

- **Citywide Payments:** All payments, including planning applications, building permits, business licenses, and all tax related payments, but excluding utility.
- **In-Person Planning and Building Services:** zoning clearances, home-occupancy, building permits and planning application submittals.

Additionally, more direct access to the City's Redwood Conference room will now be available.

While this is one of the largest hauls of the remodel, it is not the first nor the final piece. Staff from multiple departments continue to work to move individuals to their new office spaces. *Special thanks go out to all staff being moved for their patience and flexibility and to Public Work's Facilities management, IT staff, and our local vendor, Palace, for making this remodel possible.*

## 2035 N Pacific Avenue

On Tuesday evening, September 17, a community meeting was held for a proposed development at 2035 N Pacific Avenue. The proposal is for a mixed-use building with about 4,500 square feet of ground floor commercial space and two upper floors of 26 one-bedroom and studio apartment dwellings. This project is considered a "large development project" under the Community Outreach Policy and therefore requires a community meeting early on during project review. A handful of neighbors attended the meeting, and questions mostly focused on slope stability, trees, and air pollution. The [Sentinel article](#) covered in Thursday's edition, gave an accurate summary of the meeting.

The applicant is in the process of responding to initial staff comments, one of which requires mapping to depict the proposed building's proximity to the Mission Hill bluff. The results of this mapping will dictate the public hearing process for the project. If the building envelope is less than 10 feet from the bluff, the Planning Commission will hear the project. If it is greater than 10 feet, the Zoning Administrator will conduct the hearing. Clara Stanger (420.5247) is the planner working on the application.

Below is a snapshot of the proposed N Pacific Avenue elevation:





## PARKS AND RECREATION

### By the numbers

118 = # of tickets sold this week to 13 upcoming Civic events

### Highlights

Parks has been working up at the Delaveaga Disc Golf course to get ready for the coming rainy season. Contractors have made improvements to our existing BMPs to better capture runoff, guarding against erosion and sediment making its way into upper Arana Creek. Catchment basins were built up and outflow systems were improved to dissipate and slow the flow of water, encouraging water to percolate down into the soils.







September 20 was Santa Cruz Climate Action Network: Global Climate Strike Kick-Off (Day 1 of 8). Youth marched after school to Loudon Nelson Community Center for a community education forum, music, art, public speakers, and a basketball tournament.



# Santa Cruz Climate Action Network

## California Coastal Cleanup Day

Saturday, 9/21 the Coastal Cleanup Day will take place across the state. In Santa Cruz, Main Beach, Cowell Beach, and many more will be the focus of volunteer cleanup efforts.



## City Government Academy

The City Government Academy will be heading into week #4 after an engaging and information-packed start by the City Manager's Office, Public Works, and Police Department. Thursday, Sept. 26 session will be with the Fire Department.



## Upcoming

Santa Cruz Symphony's opening night concert Saturday Oct 12 @ 7:30pm: Ascendancy. The season begins with world renowned pianist Jon Nakamatsu performing Beethoven's magisterial piano concerto no. 5, 'The Emperor'. Grammy award winning composer & DJ Mason Bates joins us for performances of his wildly popular showpiece for DJ and orchestra, 'Mothership'. Stravinsky's enchanting score to his ballet the 'Firebird' luxuriates in dazzlingly romanticism.

Kick off the start of the 2019-20 season at our Street Party in front of the Civic starting at 6:00 pm with food and music.



## PUBLIC WORKS

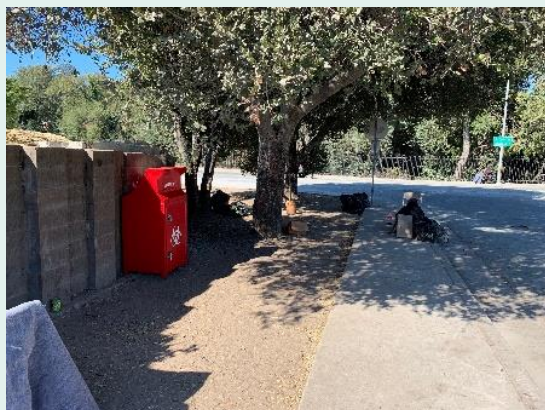
### Engineering

Our San Lorenzo River Parkway Trestle Trail Project was recognized as the Bikeways and Trails Project of the Year 2019 from the American Society of Civil Engineers, San Francisco region. The submission was made by the project's engineering design consultant MME of Santa Cruz who received the award at a Sept. 12 ceremony in San Francisco with the City's project manager and project inspector. The award recognizes projects whose primary focus is improvement of or implementation of new bikeways and/or trails that improve and promote community connectivity.



### Environmental Compliance

Last week the Environmental Compliance Team with the help of the Streets Team installed an outdoor sharps kiosk on the corner of Coral and Limekiln streets in the Harvey West neighborhood. The outdoor kiosk provides a safe, easily accessible, and environmentally-friendly option for needle disposal. Third party contractor, Sharps Solutions, will service the kiosk to ensure that needles within the container and in close proximity to the kiosk are disposed of properly.



## Wastewater Treatment Facility

Operations recently hosted a reunion tour on Sept. 7 for a few of the employees from Humphrey Construction, the crew that built the secondary treatment train addition back in 1998.

Operators have been in and out of various Primary Sedimentation Basins, performing initial cleaning tasks ahead of mechanical inspections. The collections line maintenance crew tested out a different type of vacuum truck that is used to clean the sanitation sewer system. A contracted tree service company has begun the laborious work of clearing a 10-foot perimeter along the facility's fence line to improve facility security and mitigate fire risks with the vegetation removal.



*Humphrey Construction tour  
cleaning*



*Primary Sedimentation Basins  
cleaning*



*Vacuum truck*



*Perimeter clearing*

This week a multiple department effort to clean the sidewalk, gutters and storm drains on Coral Street took place. The Police Department and Streets Team played vital roles by clearing the sidewalk and streets of debris and homeless campers. This enabled a contractor to power wash on both street sides and contain all the wastewater, so it won't wash down to our local creeks and ocean. The service was prompted by an inspection at Polar Automotive, who shared their



struggles and agreed to jointly put efforts towards cleaning up the area. This cleaning, which is scheduled every other week, along with the new sharps kiosk is aimed to protect the storm drains and decrease the impact of the high population of homeless people on Coral Street.



*Coral Street sidewalk, gutters and storm drain clean-up*

### **Resource Recovery**

Resource Recovery sweepers collected and disposed of 6.76 tons of debris off the City roadways.

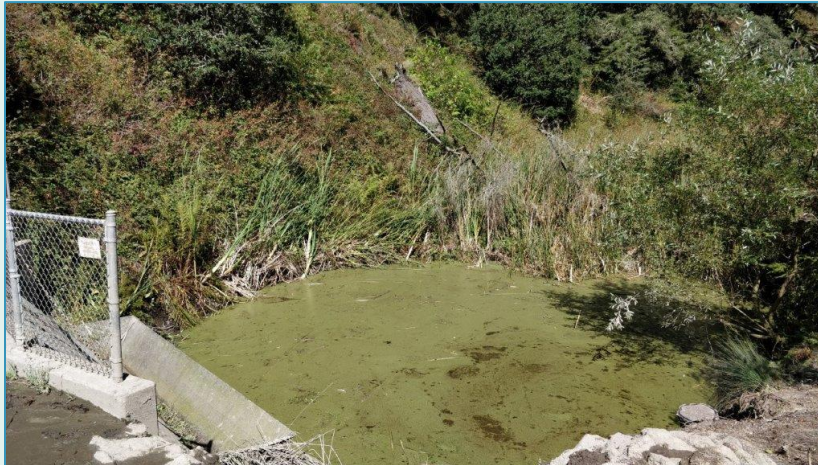
New Leaf Community Markets has been working closely with the Waste Reduction team on learning ways to reduce waste and recycle properly. Members of the chain's "Green Team" recently attended tours of the Recycling Facility, committing to bring waste reduction information and strategies back to their coworkers at the Westside and Downtown stores. Increased awareness and retraining of all employees are among the goals outlined by the corporate office.

The Ponds Restoration Project was completed this week. The two ponds were constructed as sediment basins at the north and west canyons of the landfill. Staff removed vegetation and sediment that has built up over time in an effort to restore their original capacity.





North Pond- Before



North Pond - After

## Traffic Engineering/Community Relations

This week Street Smarts answers: [What if there is no marked crosswalk?](#)

**YIELD.  
EVERY CORNER IS A  
LEGAL CROSSWALK.**

Did you know that every corner is a legal crosswalk? Drivers are required by law to yield to pedestrians at ALL intersections—even if there is no marked crosswalk.

So avoid a ticket and give pedestrians a break by stopping when you see someone waiting to cross. And please be patient. Even if that pedestrian is the slowest human on earth. Even if you can turn in front of him without impeding progress. Even if you're in a big fat hurry: you shouldn't go until he's back on the curb.

Please wait your turn and obey the law by giving pedestrians the right of way at all intersections. It's the Street Smarts thing to do.

Street Smarts

**CEDA EL PASO.  
TODA ESQUINA ES POR LEY  
UN PASO DE PEATONES.**

¿Sabías que toda esquina es por ley un paso de peatones? La ley obliga a los conductores a ceder el paso a los peatones en todos los cruces—incluso si no hay un cruce de peatones marcado.

Así que evita multas y dale un respiro a los peatones cediendo el paso al que quiere cruzar la calle.

Por favor, tenga paciencia, incluso si ese peatón es la persona más lenta del mundo. Incluso si tiene tiempo para girar sin impedirse el paso. Incluso si tiene muchísima prisa, no avances hasta que el peatón no vuelva a la banqueta.

Por favor, espere su turno y cumpla la ley cediendo el paso a los peatones en todos los cruces.

Así maneja la gente con Street Smarts.

Street Smarts