

City Manager's Weekly Update

September 27, 2019

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ED: Housing Update

Join us in Celebrating Affordable Housing Month!

The City of Santa Cruz Economic Development Department will host three events with community partners as part of affordable housing week to provide a look into our existing affordable housing, celebrate the grand opening of the Water Street Apartments, and learn about affordable housing financing. The following is our lineup of events we invite you to RSVP for:

Affordable Housing Bike Tour: Saturday, October 19th, 1 – 3 pm

Join us on a bike tour of some of our affordable housing apartments in the downtown! We will highlight a few of the most recently built properties and give you a preview of others that are on the horizon. Our tour will end at the Grand Opening party for Water Street Apartments (708 Water St.). The tour begins at the Tannery Arts Center. Space is limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP to Jess Mellor (jmellor@cityofsantacruz.com) to reserve your spot.

Water Street Apartments Affordable Housing Grand Opening: Saturday, October 19th, 3 – 4 pm

Join developer For the Future of Housing at the grand opening of Water Street Apartments (708 Water St.)! Take a tour of the grounds and see inside an apartment. Light refreshments will be provided. This event will be open to the community and is the end point of the Affordable Housing Bike Tour. Please RSVP to communications@eahhousing.org to confirm your attendance. For more property info: <https://www.eahhousing.org/apartments/water-street/>

Affordable Housing Finance 101 Class: Monday, October 21st, 6 – 8 pm

What factors need to be considered when developing affordable housing? How does the financing work? Chuck Depew of National Development Council (NDC) will be answering these questions and more at the Affordable Housing Finance 101 class (155 Center St. Community Room). Space is limited to 50 participants, so please RSVP on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) to reserve your spot. We hope you will join us for these events during Affordable Housing Month! Please see our flier for the full list of events hosted by the City as well as additional events hosted by Monterey Bay Economic Partnership.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH

2019

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ HOSTED EVENTS:

<http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/government/city-departments/economic-development/housing-assistance-information>

Oct 19th

Affordable Housing Bike Tour	1-3pm	RSVP to jmellor@cityofsantacruz.com
Grand Opening Water St. Apts.	3-4pm	RSVP to communications@eahhousing.org

Oct 21st

Affordable Housing Finance 101 6-8:30pm RSVP Required, Eventbrite

MONTEREY BAY ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP HOSTED EVENTS:

<https://mbep.biz/2019-santa-cruz-affordable-housing-month/>

Oct 7th

Affordable Housing Month Forum	1-3pm	RSVP Required, Eventbrite
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Oct 9th

Farmworker Housing Discussion Assemblymember Robert Rivas	6-8:30pm	RSVP Required, Eventbrite
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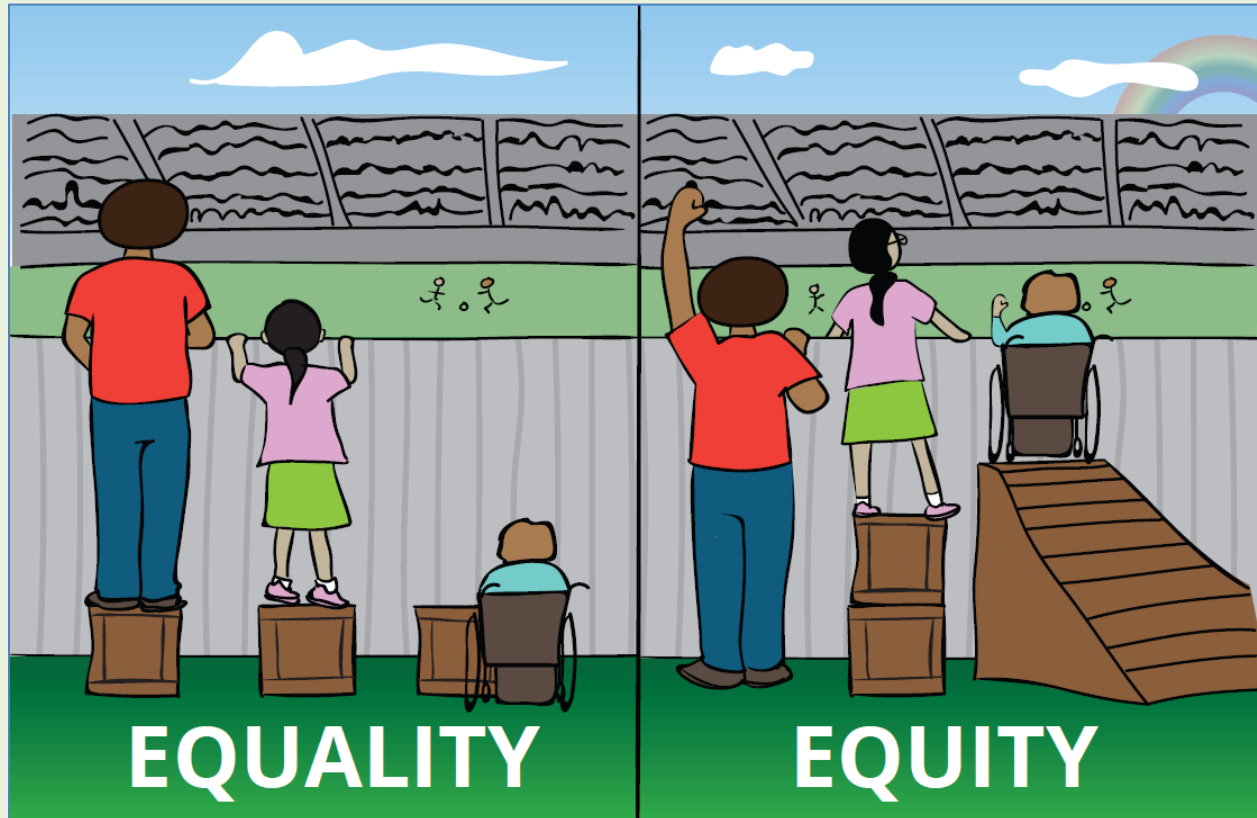
Oct 30th

Mid-County Affordable Housing Tour with SC County Supervisor Zach Friend	10:30am-1pm	RSVP Required, Eventbrite
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ED: City Arts Update

ARTS COMMISSION APPROVES EQUITY, INCLUSION & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DOCUMENTS

At the Arts Commission's September 11, 2019 meeting, two important milestones were accomplished towards making Equity, Inclusion and Environmental Justice a focus of all City Arts programs and projects.



The Arts Commission unanimously adopted the “**Santa Cruz City Arts Commission’s Commitment to Equity, Inclusion and Environmental Justice.**” The document lays out why this focus is important and then provides five key focus areas that the Commission and City Arts programs will focus on. The [full document](#) is available on the City Arts website in the “About” section. As follows are the key action areas addressed in the statement:

- **Accessibility:** Providing funding and public art project commissions to historically marginalized artists and in historically marginalized neighborhoods.
- **Capacity Building:** Building the capacity, resilience and economic viability of individual artists from historically marginalized communities through training and partnerships that support these artists.

- **Cultural Representation and Integrity:** Supporting public art and programming that represents historically marginalized people and communities while demonstrating the ethical use of material with specific cultural origins and context.
- **Partnerships:** Partnering with organizations that represent and support people from underrepresented and marginalized groups.
- **Ongoing Evaluation:** Remaining humble and open in the pursuit of equity, inclusivity, and environmental justice—acknowledging that while there is no one solution to addressing the myriad of inequities in our community, we commit to the ongoing evaluation of all our own projects and programs and how they can better support equity, inclusivity and environmental justice.

The Arts Commission also unanimously approved the publication of two **Resource Guides on Equity, Inclusion and Environmental Justice**. These guides are intended to be living documents that can be updated and shared. The [local resource guide](#) provides Santa Cruz, Watsonville and Bay Area resources and the [national resource guide](#) provides a large range of resources including videos and educational links. Both are available on the City Arts website in the [Resources section](#).

GRAFFITI ABATEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

The month of August had a total of 385 public tags that were removed by the City. August 2018 had a total of 401 public tags. That's 16 tags less than last year's August. 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.

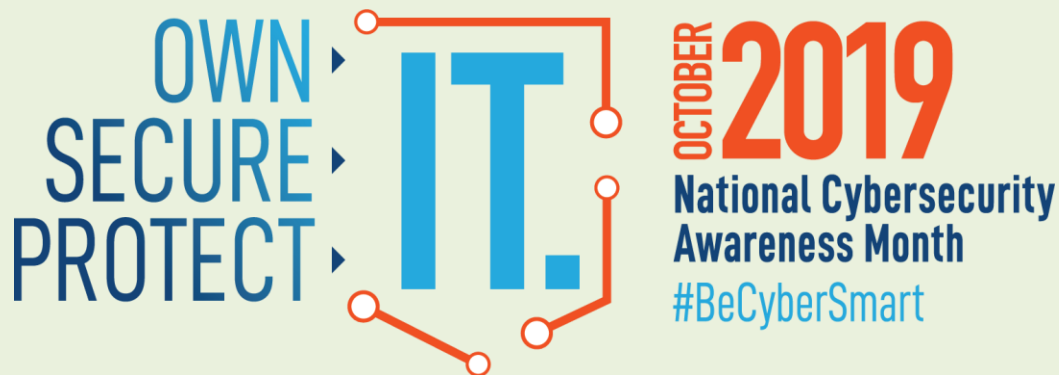
FIRE

City Government Academy: On September 26th the Fire Department hosted The City Government Academy. 19 people attended with a wide cross section of the community represented. We started in Fire Administration with an overview of the department and all of the various functions. After an orientation, and question and answer period, we moved to Fire Station #1. Participants were shown all of the tools and equipment that firefighters use in the course of their shift. Those that wanted to were able to try on turnouts and don a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Positive experience for everyone involved.



LIBRARY

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month



Santa Cruz Public Libraries Offer Free Cybersecurity Classes Throughout the County

The Santa Cruz Public Library System (SCPL) has partnered with the National Cybersecurity Alliance and the Department of Homeland Security to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and to provide tools to help people practice safe online behavior during National Cybersecurity Awareness Month this October.

These free classes are led by Library IT to educate people about cybersecurity and what they can do to protect themselves from online threats, the library will offer 7 cybersecurity classes.

The class schedule is as follows:

- Oct. 1st, 6:30pm-8:00pm at Aptos Branch Library, 7695 Soquel Drive, Aptos
- Oct. 2nd, 11:00am-12:30pm at Garfield Park Branch Library, 705 Woodrow Avenue, Santa Cruz
- Oct. 8th*, 12:30pm-2:00pm at Downtown Branch Library, 224 Church St., Santa Cruz
*Program in Spanish. Programa en español.
- Oct. 16th, 11:00am-12:30pm at Scotts Valley Branch Library, 251 Kings Village Road, Scotts Valley
- Oct. 22nd, 4:30pm-6:00pm at Downtown Branch Library, 224 Church St., Santa Cruz
- Oct. 24th, 11:00am-12:30pm at Live Oak Branch Library, 2380 Portola Drive, Santa Cruz
- Oct. 31st, 1:00pm-2:30pm at Boulder Creek Branch Library, 13390 West Park Avenue, Boulder Creek

Cybersecurity is effective when we all do our part to practice safe online behavior. We hope you will be able to join us at one of these free and important classes.

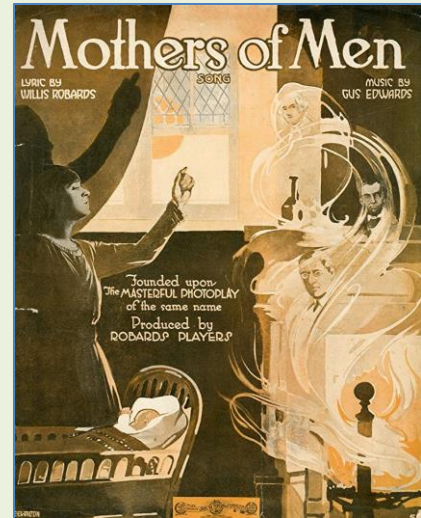
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LECTURE SERIES

Guest Speaker: Ross Gibson

“Mothers of Men”: The 1916 Santa Cruz Women’s Suffrage Film

***Tuesday, October 1, 2019 • 1:00pm-3:00pm
Downtown Branch Library, 224 Church St.***

The Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County presents a screening of this restored silent film with guest speaker local historian Ross Gibson. “Mothers of Men” was filmed almost entirely in Santa Cruz and features striking footage of many local landmarks.



Ross Gibson first wrote about this long lost silent film “Mothers of Men” (which was filmed in Santa Cruz in 1916) in his 1994 newspaper column, inspiring James Mockoski to track down the only known copy in London in 1997. Mockoski became film archivist for Zoetrope Studios, and in 2016, assembled a “Mothers of Men” film-restoration team of himself, Gibson, UCSC film professor Shelley Stamp, and film restorer Robert Byrne. The restored film was shown to a sold-out audience at the Del Mar Theater in Santa Cruz on October 13, 2016.

Santa Cruz landmarks are visible throughout “Mothers of Men”, including Pacific Avenue, the Cooper Street Courthouse, Holy Cross Church, and the Crown Rock at Natural Bridges.

Ross Gibson is a Historic Architectural Consultant and award-winning preservationist, having served for 17 years on the Santa Cruz City Historic Preservation Commission, and for over a quarter century on the Santa Cruz County Landmarks Committee. He is the author of books, reports, plays, and is a former history columnist for the San Jose Mercury-News and the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

The Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County presents the 2019-2020 Genealogy Lecture Series. Join us the first Tuesday of each month to learn about a variety of resources, strategies, and tools in the field of family research. All are invited to these free events, and donations are welcome. For more information, please call the Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County (831) 427-7707 extension 5794.

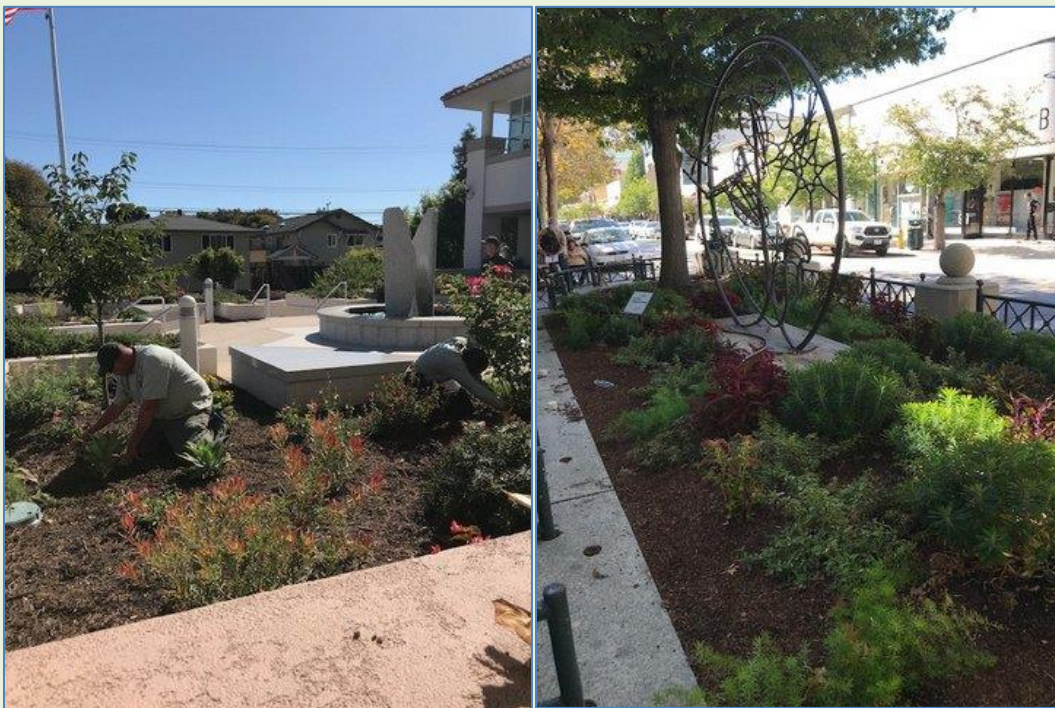
PARKS AND RECREATION

By the numbers

174 = attendees to the Domou Africa show at Louden Nelson Community Center on September 21st.

Highlights

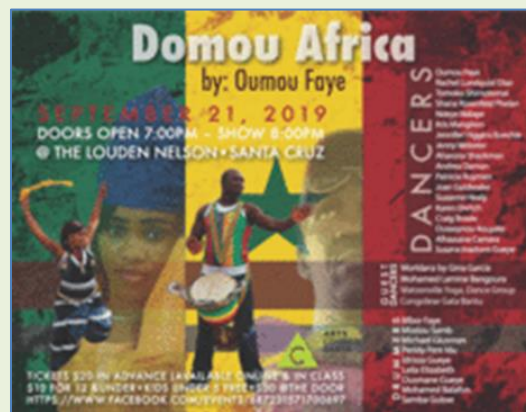
Parks staff have been sprucing up plantings across town. We added plants to the ornamental fountain area of the Santa Cruz Police Department, put in some new fall plantings along Pacific Avenue, and added perennials to pocket beds around San Lorenzo Park.



Volunteers on the Estuary Project tackled the weed-overgrown strip along the rock wall T-intersection by Ocean/San Lorenzo Blvd. As a result the area looks better and the native plants there have a better chance of survival.



September 21: Domou Africa - Sold out show! The Loudon Nelson Community Center auditorium was at full capacity with people enjoying the music and dance of Senegal, including Koutirou and Sabar.



September 25: The Santa Cruz Climate Action Network hosted the Real Democracy Teach-In Day 6 of 8 of the Global Climate Strike series of protests and activities.

September 28: Remembering James the Musical – The Life and Music of James Brown from 1951-1968. A lively performance was enjoyed by all!



PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Code Compliance and Rental Inspections

The Code Compliance Division of the Planning & Community Development Department works to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our residents and visitors.

A scheduled Rental Inspection was conducted on 9/26/19. Upon walking to the property, deficiencies were noted at the elevated driveway and to the left side of the residence. Upon further inspection, the corner post of the first story was noted to have completely rotted away. The driveway sub decking under the concrete was also collapsing and several of the main post and beams were either missing or extremely deteriorated. These items made the driveway structurally unsafe and would eventually collapse. The driveway also served as the walkway to the front door and that was also the only point of entry. Before posting the property a building inspector was contacted to offer a second option. It was determined that in order to assist the tenants residing on the property, only the driveway was posted unsafe and taped off to prevent parking but allowing foot traffic to access the front door. By posting only the driveway, the tenants were able to remain on the property therefore preventing the displacement of seven tenants.

Below are pictures of the areas that require repairs.



Front of house showing elevated driveway. Front door is to the right. Door is on the only egress route. Note how driveway slopes down on the left.



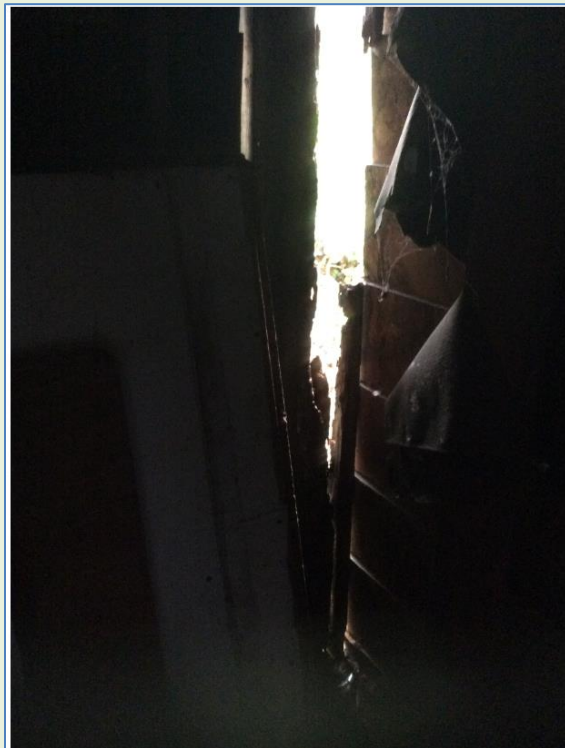
Under driveway, shows failing post, deteriorating, unsupported beams which has the potential to collapse.



Underneath driveway. Note falling/rotten deck boards that were supporting concrete. Also note the blue beam that is deteriorating and has completely rotted away. This is typical of multiple points of similar damage to the under framing of this driveway.



Corner of house framing as seen from the outside has completely deteriorated. See next picture from inside.



Corner of house framing as seen from the inside.



Main driveway beam as seen from inside crawlspace. Beam is delaminating.

Casablanca Inn

The Casablanca Inn, located at 189 Beach Street, recently received approval for an addition and remodel of their space. Six garages will be converted into guest rooms, a brand new, second story with six new guest rooms will be added, and a remodel of six existing rooms on the first floor of the hotel will also be completed.

POLICE

SCPD Volunteers Help Save A Life

Yesterday, a Volunteer patrol making rounds on Pacific Avenue noticed a male subject holding his hand over his chest. The volunteers, Anna, Margie, and Zelma, approached the man and asked if he was okay. He explained that he was having shortness of breath and chest pains. He certainly was not okay.

While Margie continued to ask him questions, Anna connected with dispatch and called in the medical emergency. Zelma kept people from crowding around the scene to give the man privacy while the volunteers helped to relay medical information to dispatch.

Santa Cruz Fire and AMR quickly arrived and discovered that the man was, in fact, in cardiac arrest and needed immediate medical attention. The responding firemen and paramedics were impressed with the volunteers' professional communication and adherence to the training of one-person staying with the downed subject to relay info while one called in.

What the volunteers did yesterday exemplifies what the SCPD Volunteer Program is all about. Service to the community, which means SCPD Volunteers can and do have a significant impact on the lives of the people they come in contact with during their shifts.

Great teamwork by all three volunteers Anna, Margie and Zelma! BTW Zelma is a newbie volunteer and was on her last trainee patrol before receiving her Volunteer uniform. We are impressed with Zelma for her calmness and professionalism in handling the situation. She is an excellent addition to our team.



Another proud moment for SCPD Volunteers! Afterward, these beautiful ladies enjoyed a coffee at the Verve. There was much to celebrate; Anna's birthday, Zelma's completed training, and their successful teamwork in saving a man's life.

Interested in joining our volunteer program click here <http://bit.ly/2WJFmdT>
#VolunteeringIsTheNewCool #SantaCruzPoliceVolunteer!

Success with City Strides

"Walk The Block" Summer Series

Throughout June, July, and August, Santa Cruz Police invited residents and community groups to join Chief Mills and police staff -as they walked neighborhoods and businesses in our City Strides - Walk The Block summer series.

We asked community members to choose the location and how much ground they want to cover on a walking patrol anywhere in the City of Santa Cruz. The City Strides program has two simple goals: identify the public safety challenges in a specific neighborhood and discuss potential solutions.

The community response was overwhelmingly positive. Chief Mills and police staff hit the streets, parks, levees, and the beach for over 22 City Strides neighborhood walking sessions with the people they serve. Walk The Block group sizes ranged from 4 to 35 members. SCPD's City Strides further demonstrates that Neighborhood Policing increases connectivity and engagement with the community and improve crime-prevention capabilities.



Participants surveyed gave high marks for their Walk The Block experience.

Very Satisfied – community members felt that we heard their voices and concerns

Very Satisfied - with the Walk The Block event in your neighborhood.

Very Satisfied – will recommend the Walk The Block to other city residents.

Participants surveyed strongly agreed:

SCPD discussed policing challenges and solutions.

SCPD understood and explained the spectrum of public safety policies in our community.

SCPD informed attendees of strategies to address neighborhood quality-of-life issues.

“THANK YOU to Chief Mills, the. Jon Bush and SCPD for their time, feedback, suggestions and support, to reduce speeding and promote safety, on National St., between Bay and Delaware. We appreciate the SCPD!” – Susan

“Neighbors reconnected with each other and also met new residents that recently moved in our neighborhood. That was a nice, unexpected benefit.” – Liz

“Chief Mills was a good listener, patient, and sought to interact with all 35 attendees. We learned the issues are complex that require City Council support, mental health funding from the County, and community involvement.” - Susan

We are appreciative of the time and efforts the SCPD leadership take to listen to the concerns of the community and to respond in a pragmatic manner. This has had a positive impact in the Harvey West neighborhood. – Eric

SCPD continues to take steps towards improving trust, collaboration, and safety



communication and collaboration between police officers and community residents.



through neighborhood policing.

The cornerstone of today's SCPD is Neighborhood Policing, a comprehensive crime-fighting strategy built on improved

PUBLIC WORKS

Environmental Compliance

Our Environmental Compliance Program hosted the [Pollution Prevention Awards 2019](#) on Thursday, Sept. 26, to honor local food service and vehicle service facilities that have been consistent recipients of Clean Ocean Business awards for five years.

The invitation-only awards event at the Back Nine Grill and Bar recognized a total of 28 Santa Cruz businesses for consistent compliance with the City's [Clean Ocean Business](#) program. Their efforts protect local creeks, the San Lorenzo River and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary through practices that keep pollutants away from both storm drains and the sewer system. The special awards went to nine vehicle service facilities and 18 food service facilities. Wastewater System Manager Anne Hogan presented the awards.



Left) Shinder and Claudia Chatha accepted a 5-year Clean Ocean Business award on behalf of Day's Market. Right) Chad Brill accepted a 5-year Clean Ocean Business award on behalf of Santa Cruz Mountain Brewing.

Resource Recovery

Waste Reduction staff were invited by a local private preschool to learn about ways to be more sustainable in all their practices. The meeting resulted in the school's decision to pursue a Green Business certification.



Ever confused about whether to recycle a pizza box or not? Our short [Recycle Right video](#) provides you with the A, B, and C's for recycling these and all forms of cardboard.



Operations

The San Lorenzo River vegetation management for flood control program continues. The contractor has been working between the Hwy 1 and Water Street bridges. He recently started on the west bank below the Water Street and Soquel Street bridges. Coordination continues with SCPD to post notices and sweep the areas prior to work and our Streets crew picking up and disposing of debris left from abandoned encampments.



Staff is working on right-of-way and easement issues with PG&E for the installation of EV charging stations at the Corporation Yard. Construction is tentatively scheduled for mid-November.

Design work is underway for the Corp. Yard and Dimeo Lane solar projects.

Fleet

A new Watermaze system with a wastewater clarifier is being installed for treating water from the pressure washer at the City garage.

Facilities

Facilities will be assisting the Planning Department move into their new quarters from Oct 9-11.

Streets

Crews have been assisting in trash pickup three times a week citywide, as well as cleanup at Coral Street and the San Lorenzo River levee.

Our paint crew finished repairing parking stall numbers for pay-by-space lots. They are currently working on restriping lot 7 and 4, and repainting crosswalks. The sign crew has been working on continuous citywide maintenance, as well as making and installing new bike signs.



Traffic Engineering/Community Outreach

There are important safety reminders for cyclists in our [brief video](#). Listen [en español](#).

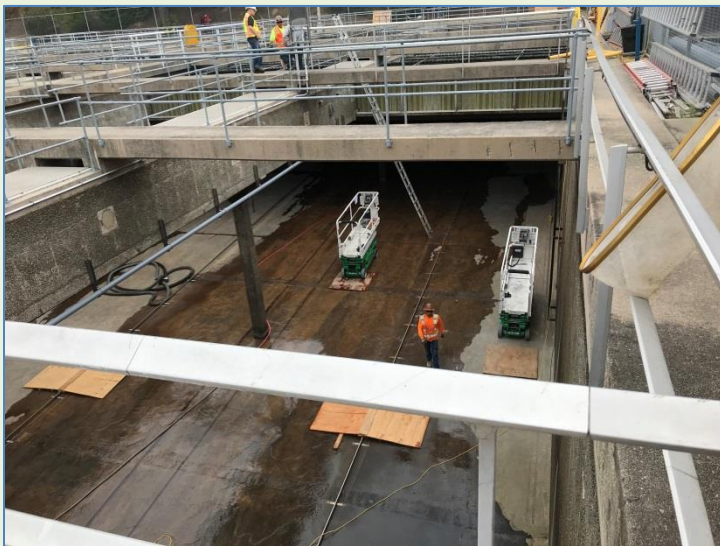


WATER

This week Watershed staff finished seining for 2019. There were lots of juvenile steelhead in the San Lorenzo River lagoon, and not so many in Laguna. However, the conditions in Laguna were not conducive to seining and it's likely that lots of fish were upstream of the lagoon hiding in better cover offered there (particularly during the hot weather.) While we were seining we also had the opportunity to present to a group convened by the Coastal Watershed Council. We always appreciate the chance to share our watershed work with the public. We'll continue our work next week with snorkel surveys.



We continue on schedule with our tube settler replacement project. Two of our basins at the treatment plant have been out of service so that we can complete the tube settler project, as well as do regular maintenance on the tanks.



(Seeing the basins without water is an impressive sight!)

We discovered two more leaks on the Coast water main in the last week. This main has been fraught with leaks and is in the (long) process of being replaced. Every time we have a new leak our distribution crew has to shift gears from the proactive projects they're working on back to reactive mode.



Coast pipeline before repairs...



After.