

# City Manager's Weekly Update

January 24, 2020

## PUBLIC WORKS

### Wastewater Treatment Facility

We invite you to come see what happens to 7 million gallons of wastewater daily and enjoy our super-sized mural! Tour our Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. To sign up, email [abird@cityofsantacruz.com](mailto:abird@cityofsantacruz.com) or call (831) 420-6293.



Facility mechanics and Peterson Power contractors worked together to disconnect our main electricity cogenerating engine so it could be removed and transported off-site for an annual rebuild.



A contracted waste disposal company has been working closely with the facility to clear our perimeter fence line and the corresponding vegetative buffer zone. For safety and security reasons, the perimeter fencing of this facility is kept clear of vegetation, habitation and accumulated garbage. To date the contractor has removed over 3,000 lbs. of garbage.





Contractors are conducting an excavation project to provide access to the underground UV System bypass valve which broke during maintenance work. The UV System provides pathogen disinfection for the treated effluent discharged from the facility. Sodium hypochlorite is used for disinfection before ocean discharge. It provides a low chlorine residual level which kills any pathogens present but is also low enough to not adversely affect the ocean marine environment.



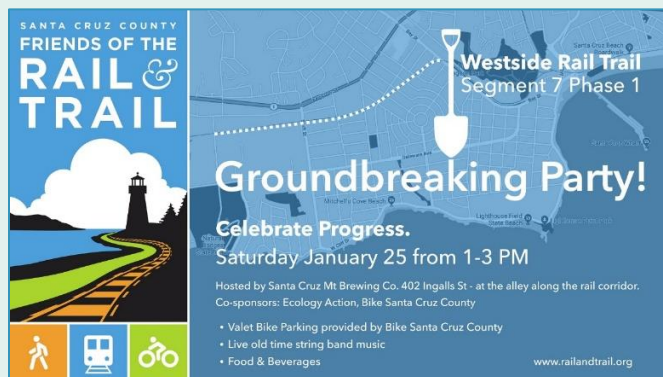
### **Engineering**

We are pleased to announce that our San Lorenzo River Parkway Phase III/Trestle Trail Project has been recognized as 2019 Project of the Year by the American Public Works Association, Monterey Bay Chapter. Our engineering team along with the MME Civil and Structural Engineering team were presented with the award at a ceremony Wednesday night. [Read more.](#)





We began construction of the [Coastal Rail Trail Segment 7 – Phase I Project](#). The 1.2 mile long segment will run from Bay Street/California Street to Natural Bridges Drive. Friends of the Rail and Trail will be hosting a groundbreaking celebration for this project on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 1-3 p.m. at 402 Ingalls Street along the alley next to the rail corridor. We hope to see you there!



## **Resource Recovery**

Bollards are being installed this week for the Landfill Food Waste System Concrete Pads Project. The Resource recovery sweepers collected and disposed of 22.15 tons of debris from City roadways this week and worked on a special clean-up of the Lee Street neighborhood. Our newly hired Waste Reduction Assistant jumped right in to public speaking with an interactive talk at *11th Hour Coffee House*. Learning about the 6Rs, attendees were encouraged to stay positive and share what they've learned.





*Bollard Installation*



*11th Hour Coffee House*



*Lee Street Before*



*Lee Street After*

## **Recycling Market**

Recycling market conditions for mixed paper continue to be poor. The Resource Recovery Facility used to process and sell mixed paper at a net profit; for the last year we have processed and sold at a net cost. Staff estimates a net cost of \$8 to \$35 per ton to recycle mixed paper

bales. For the last two months, we have been unable to market mixed paper at any cost. This is due to significant early season rain causing high moisture content and mold in mixed paper bales – the paper arrives wet and there is no way for us to dry it.

At present, no market exists for our mixed paper, causing recycling staff to send approximately 200 tons, or about 285 bales, to landfill. We have landfilled mixed paper two or three times before, but never this much.

Previously there was more space to tarp and store paper during downturns in the market. Wet degraded moldy bales degrade very rapidly in winter months. Still, we will try to store as much as we can inside, and will use the older bales as an interface for material that needs to be stored outside. Based on market conditions, we do not foresee any turnaround in the market in the near term. We are working on an informational report to Council on the current state of recycling markets, which should be ready in February.



### **Transportation Engineering/Community Relations**

Drivers: Please be aware of people on bikes; it's the Street Smarts thing to do. More in English & español [here](#).





## PARKS AND RECREATION

### Ken Wormhoudt Skate Park - Skate Bowl coping replacement

Parks recently partnered with builder Mike Greenwald at Frontier Skate Parks to replace the heavily used skate bowl coping at Ken Wormhoudt Skate Park. Through capital improvement funds, we were able to tackle this much needed safety upgrade to the iconic Wormhoudt skate bowls.



*"Everyone is talking about it and we have been seeing skaters from far away trekking over to sample the new digs. Much appreciation and respect for all your work in getting this project done. Looking forward to ..."*



**Join Parks & Recreation on Saturday, January 18 from 10:30-11:30am to celebration the re-opening of Ken Wormhoudt Skate Park bowls.**

Learn about the new and improved bowl coping from Frontier Skate Parks. Light breakfast will be served.



**Santa Cruz Symphony's *Catharsis* at the Civic Auditorium**  
**Saturday – February 1, 2020 at 7:30pm**

Mahler's Symphony no. 5 begins with the most famous four notes since Beethoven's 5th, includes his greatest love song, the Adagietto, and charts the course from inner agony to ecstasy of the soul. [Tickets available.](#)



## POLICE

### Santa Cruz Continues To March Forward

This week, the NAACP Santa Cruz County Branch and the Santa Cruz Police Department invited the community to celebrate the extraordinary life and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"The time is always right to do what is right." - Martin Luther King, Jr. From one man's dream to many. Approximately 300 young and old diverse community members gathered Monday morning in downtown Santa Cruz to spread awareness of social justice causes and the dream King spoke of more than 50 years ago.



"The community, including Santa Cruz Police has to do more than march and talk," said Chief Mills. The police department is taking three measures this year to improve the lives of people of color. By the end of April, every police officer will be trained to counteract biased policing, he said. The police department is also getting rid of predictive policing and is now screening calls from the community that are solely based on race, stated Chief Mills.

After the march, the crowd gathered inside the Loudon Nelson Community Center to listen to a group of nine panelists. Keisha Frost Browder, CEO of United Way Santa Cruz County, served as the master of ceremonies.

Speaking on the panel were Rabbi Paula Marcus from Temple Beth El, gospel singer Tammi Brown, Santa Cruz Mayor Justin Cummings, Santa Cruz High School senior Rashonda Rhodes, Santa Cruz Warriors head coach Kris Weems, Santa Cruz Police Chief Andy Mills, Rev. Deborah Johnson of Inner Light Ministries, UC Santa Cruz Professor of African History David Anthony and NAACP of Santa Cruz County President Brenda Griffin.

Thank you to our amazing community who came out in support of the inspiring MLK Day March 2020. SCPD is grateful for the teamwork of



volunteers supporting the MLK March and our partnerships with the many individuals, organizations, nonprofit groups and services invested in MLK Jr's legacy.



### **Santa Cruz Police Crime Stats for 2019**

The Santa Cruz Police release the 2019 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) for the City of Santa Cruz. The end of year statistics reflects that overall crime has remained flat. The crime rate range is within expected average values based on FBI Part 1 reported offenses for the past five years.

The data shows there was a slight decrease in overall Part 1 crime. Sexual assault, arson and auto theft showed substantially lower reported incidents this year, while robbery showed an increase. All crime reporting results are within the acceptable range of standard deviation according to the UCR annual dashboard. Homicide is below the standard deviation range.

The Z-Score, or threshold analysis, measures the difference of a rolling five year average from current crime data. The further the number departs from zero indicates the amount the crime pattern has shifted in a positive or negative direction. When negative shifts occur, police managers examine why the deviation and adjust tactics to abate crime.



### UCR Annual Dashboard - Overall Z-Scores



Agg Assault



Arson



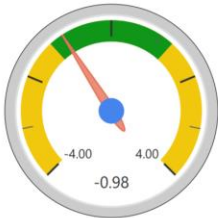
Homicide



Rape



Auto Theft



Burglary



Robbery



Larceny



UCR data is collected nationwide to create uniform crime statistics. The Crime Rate Index\* is a measurement based on an estimated 66,424 population in the City of Santa Cruz. The per capita crime rate ensures data consistency.

[Santa Cruz Police Quarterly & Yearly Uniform Crime Report \(UCR\) statistics](https://www.santacruzpolice.com) posted at [www.santacruzpolice.com](https://www.santacruzpolice.com) Info on \*UCR Crime Index visit <https://www.ucrdatatool.gov/>

**Santa Cruz Police Department  
Uniform Crime Reporting  
Part 1 Crimes  
2019 Report**

	2018	2019	Percent Change
Homicide	2	0	N/A***
Rape	34	29	-15%
Robbery	66	89	35%
Aggravated Assault	289	272	-6%
<b>Violent Crime Total</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate Per 1,000 Residents*</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-1%</b>
Burglary	336	348	4%
Larceny	2308	2363	2%
Auto Theft	261	221	-15%
<b>Property Crime Total</b>	<b>2905</b>	<b>2932</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate Per 1,000 Residents*</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>0%</b>
Arson	53	34	-36%
<b>Population Estimate**</b>	<b>66,170</b>	<b>66,454</b>	

\***Crime Rate** - the number of crimes reported per 1,000 residents: this is calculated by dividing the number of reported crimes by the current population estimate, this is then multiplied by 1,000 to find the rate

\*\*<http://www.dof.ca.gov>

\*\*\*A value of zero creates an infinite percent increase/decrease which cannot be quantified





## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### *ED: Housing & Community Development Update*

#### HUD CONSOLIDATED PLAN COMMUNITY SURVEY CLOSES JANUARY 31ST

The City of Santa Cruz is developing its 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan and is seeking input from City residents to help identify City needs and priorities through a community survey. The five year Consolidated Plan provides the basis for how the City applies for, receives, and distributes U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funding for the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs.

This survey is available until January 31, 2020 and the Housing division will be conducting outreach at various community events during the survey window to collect responses in person as well. The results will help determine how to best prioritize funding designated for eligible programs, projects and services in our low-income communities and neighborhoods. Click here for the [2020-2025 Consolidated Plan and previous plans](#).

Tell us what Santa Cruz needs, take our [Community Survey](#).

### *ED: Business Support Update*

#### SANTA CRUZ WORKS HOSTS 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TITANS OF TECH EVENT



The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Titans of Tech event was held January 8<sup>th</sup> at the Dream Inn and included a lineup of incredible people who have influenced and contributed to the tech ecosystem in Santa Cruz and the Monterey Bay region. Santa Cruz Works recognized 10 “[Titans](#)” at this year’s event and a full recap and video of each speaker’s presentation can be viewed here: <https://www.santacruzworks.org/news/the-2020-titans-of-tech-its-a-wrap>

## CRUZHACKS 2020 FOCUSES ON IMPACTFUL INNOVATION



The seventh annual UCSC hackathon known as CruzHacks was held January 17-18 offering 36 hours of coding, concept development, team work, and lots of red bull to produce innovative products that are judged by industry experts for a chance to win \$22,000 in prizes spread across various categories and test the limits of creativity and problem solving in such a short period of time. The event included over 450 students from over 15 schools including UCSC, UCLA, UC Davis, UC Riverside, UC Merced, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, and more.

One of the prize categories that was introduced several years ago is titled; Tech Cares which is focused on developing a concept focused on a social purpose that impacts society. This category has grown over the years from just 10% of projects to this year 100% of teams worked on Tech Cares projects.

The Economic Development Department was excited to sponsor this event again this year to see the incredible projects the students produce. To learn more about the event and read the full recap from Santa Cruz Works [read more here](#).



## *ED: Graffiti Abatement Program Update*

### ADOPT-A-SPOT

Do you keep seeing the same pole on your street getting tagged? Want to help us keep Santa Cruz graffiti free?

Get a free graffiti removal kit as a volunteer for your home or work. Kits are available at the Economic Development Office located at 337 Locust Street during normal business hours and include safety glasses, scrub sponge, towels, nitrile gloves, and instructions of how to use the cleaners. For more information about the City of Santa Cruz Graffiti Abatement Program and other resources, please visit our website at [www.cityofsantacruz.com/graffiti](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/graffiti).



## LIBRARY

### **Tech Talks: iPhone New Year Tune-Up!**

**Thursday, January 30th • 10:30AM - 12:00PM**

**Downtown Branch Library • 224 Church St.**

Join us for a hands-on beginning of the year tune-up of your favorite iPhone or iPad! Today we will be reviewing notifications, widgets and storage space. Seating is limited, so please register to reserve your spot in this FREE workshop.

Register online at <https://santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/6233447>



### **Meet the Artists: Yi Xu, Yifan He, and Weiyan Tao**

**Friday, January 31st • 1:00PM - 4:00PM**

**Downtown Branch Library • 224 Church St.**

Meet artists Yi Xu, Yifan He, and Weiyan Tao, students of local art teacher Rui Li. Rui Lee is a local art teacher here in Santa Cruz. The incredible works of his students are diverse in both media and content. Their work is on display at the Downtown Library through January 31.



### **Project Scout Tax Preparation Assistance**

**Saturday, February 1st • 11:00AM - 1:00PM**

**Downtown Branch Library • 224 Church St.**

For more dates, visit our [online calendar](#)

Project SCOUT offers Volunteer income tax assistance and tax counseling for local residents during tax season at sites throughout Santa Cruz County. Volunteers are trained by Internal Revenue Service and Franchise Tax Board personnel. For disabled individuals unable to get to the tax sites, they have trained volunteers who can do in-home tax preparation. Seniors get priority at all library sessions. For more information, call the Watsonville Office at 1-831-724-2606 or toll-free at 1-877-373-8297. Or visit the Project Scout Website: [seniorscouncil.org/programs/projectsout](http://seniorscouncil.org/programs/projectsout).



El proyecto SCOUT y sus voluntarios ofrecen asistencia con preparación de impuestos y asesoría fiscal para residentes locales durante la temporada de impuestos del gobierno en sitios ubicados por todo el condado de Santa Cruz. Voluntarios están capacitados por el personal del IRS y el Franchise Tax Board (impuestos de ingresos estatales) de California. Para los individuos discapacitados incapaz de llegar a los sitios de asistencia, tendrán voluntarios preparados para ayudar con preparación de impuestos en su domicilio. Para más información, llama a la oficina de Watsonville al 1-831-724-2606 o con llamada gratuita al 1-877-373-8297. También puede visitar el sitio web (solo en inglés): [seniorscouncil.org/programs/projectsout](http://seniorscouncil.org/programs/projectsout).