

City Manager's Weekly Update

March 6, 2020

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

Our 2020 Curb Ramps Enhancement Project continued construction this week with the installation of ADA compliant concrete curb ramps at six locations along River Street from Potrero to N. Pacific Avenue. Construction should be completed in late April.



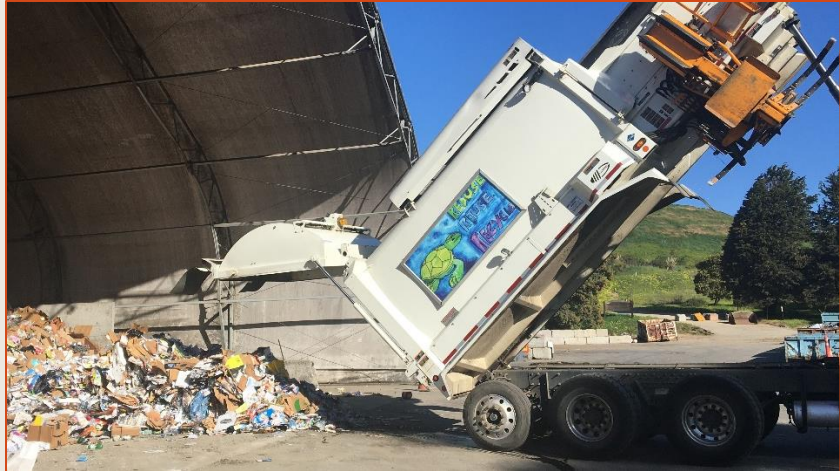
We continued [Coastal Rail Trail Segment 7 – Phase I Project](#) construction work. On Friday we closed California Street at Bay in order to grind and pave the street section south of the railroad tracks. Traffic was detoured onto Seaside Street and Acadia Avenue from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate the community's cooperation.



Resource Recovery

We spent a full day working with Mav'Riks and GadgetBox Studios videotaping a new recycling video at our Dimeo Lane facility. We are excited to see and share the finished product by month's end. It will include four animated characters "Box," "Juggie," "Bottle" and "Can."





We now post weekly waste reduction tips on Facebook. This week's message is "Remember the other two R's: Reuse & Reduce. Donate gently used items or repurpose them." [Goodwill](#) & [Grey Bears](#) accept such items.



Wastewater Treatment Facility

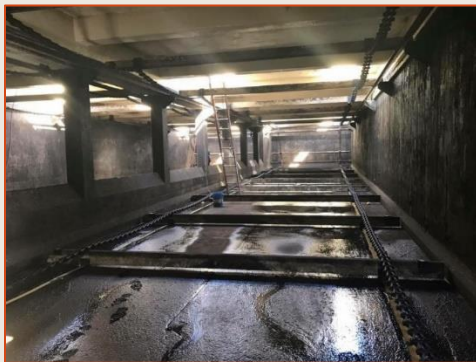
Last month throughout February, the facility:

- Treated 219.7 million gallons of sewage
- Produced 606.6 tons of class B biosolids to be beneficially reused as non-food agricultural crop fertilizer or top-soil cover at landfills
- Generated 11.3 million standard cubic feet of methane gas that was used to produce renewable electricity on site
- Produced and used 1.7 million gallons of recycled water

Operations continued cleaning Solids Contact Tank #1 in preparation for a Permitted Confined Space Entry to perform aeration pipe repairs. We filled the tank with water, added bleach and aerated it before draining.



The facility is transitioning from wet weather to dry weather mode as there is little rain forecast in the foreseeable future. Seasonal process changes like this include removing tanks from service to better optimize treatment with the lower hydraulic loading of dry weather. Primary Sedimentation Basin #1 was removed from service and cleaned in preparation for annual work tasks. Primary Sedimentation Basin #5 was also removed from service for the transition to dry weather mode.

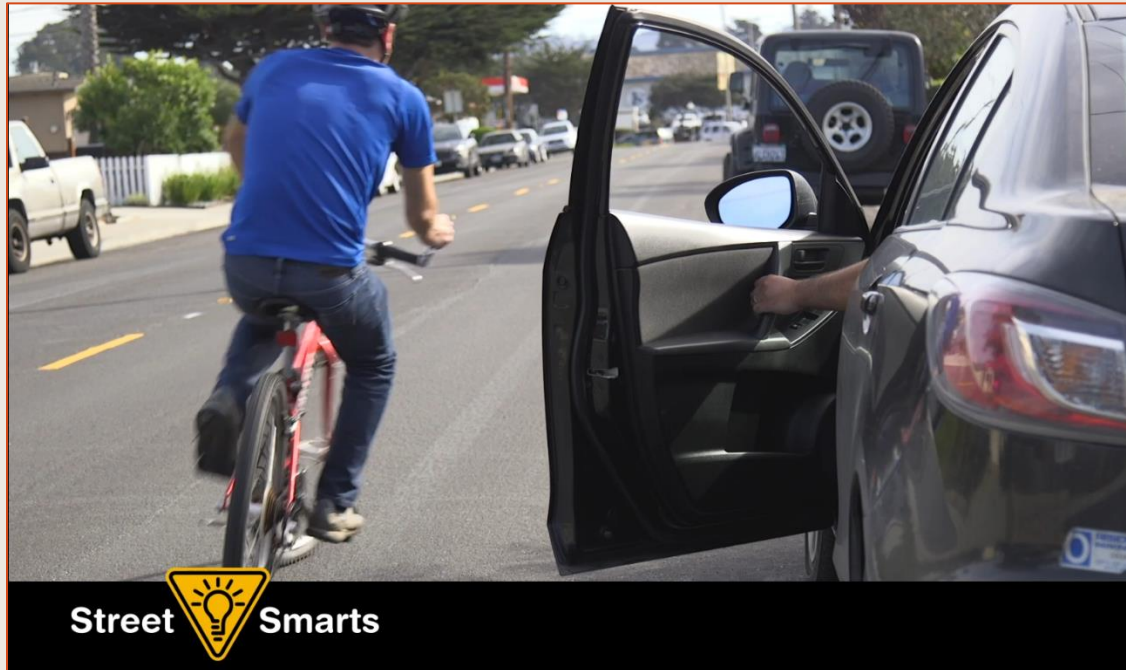


Trickling Filter #5 has been removed from service for dry weather mode. The process of taking a trickling filter out of service includes isolating it from normal flows and daily one-hour flushing for a month. This kills and sloughs off the zoolgeal mass present on the trickling filter media.



Traffic Engineering

It's critical that drivers check for cyclists before opening the car door. Learn more in our Street Smarts video: [English](#); [español](#).



PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks Update

We'd like to introduce you to our Open Space Team. Lead by Crew Leader **Victor Albers**, and supported by temp employees **Juan Diaz** and **Callum Stoddard**, this team was designed to function in the capacity of natural resource management and stewardship of our open spaces. That said, a significant percentage of their time is committed to cleaning up the environmental impacts of unsanctioned encampments in our forests, waterways and other wildlands.

Pictured below is a portion of a cleanup event which occurred February 21, 25 and 26. This cleanup was done as part of an effort to allow the California Conservation Corps to cut fire breaks along our trails and service roads in the Pogonip open space. The project involved the use of two city dump trucks, two 4x4 pickups, one tractor and numerous hours of pre- and post-operation prep. Staffing this cleanup demanded our entire Open Space Team as well as 6 contracted laborers; totaling approximately **50 labor hours**. They collected 6300lbs, or **3.15tons of refuse**, approximately **1500lbs of scrap metal** and **235 syringes**.

In these challenging times, we are doing our best to protect the environment for future generations with limited resources. If you see Victor, Juan or Callum out in the parks, please thank them for their hard work.

BEFORE:



Abandoned campsite



Dump site

AFTER:



Remediated dump



Remediated



Remediated site &

Recreation Update

The spring 2020 Adult Softball league started on March 1 at DeLaveaga Park! For spring we have 63 teams playing Sunday - Friday evenings.



Sunset at DeLaveaga Park

LIBRARY

SCPL Educator Cards!

Great Teachers help us create great futures. We appreciate all that our educators do, from preschool to the university, to create communities that are educated, literate, and capable of critical thinking. We also support teachers in our community through partnerships and resources to help them succeed. We are so excited to announce our newest boost to teacher support in Santa Cruz County.



SCPL is committed to supporting children with learning and academic development by working with schools and teachers. Teachers often need to reserve and borrow large quantities of library materials and to keep them for longer periods of time. We've created Educator Library Cards to meet these unique needs. Educator Cards allow teachers to borrow library materials for longer, and to request more items. Overdue fines are not charged to Educator Cards, but replacement fees for lost or damaged items are charged. Educator cards need to be renewed annually.

With an Educator Card, you can:

- Borrow up to 100 items
- Borrow items for 6 weeks
- Place holds on up to 30 items
- Renew books up to 4 times
- Borrow up to 5 items on the same subject

Who Can Get an Educator Card?

Educators who are employed by an educational institution (religious, public and private schools, preschools, licensed child-care providers, etc.) in Santa Cruz County may have Educator Card borrowing privileges.

How Do I Apply for an Educator Card?

Educators can apply for an Educator Card at any SCPL branch. Applicants will need to present one of the following items as confirmation of eligibility:

- School ID badge
- Copy of a contract or letter confirming employment
- Pay stub
- Printout of online pay information
- Copy of current childcare license

Educator Cards are for material for curriculum support or classroom use only. Teachers should use their personal cards for library materials checked out for personal use.

Educator cards expire one year from the date of issue. Bring one of the acceptable IDs listed above to renew your card.

Conversations for Change

For huge numbers of people, jobs provide income and a sense of purpose. We are fast approaching a time when artificial intelligence and robots will be trusted to do a better job than humans at everything from driving to diagnosing medical conditions. But our economy is structured to thrive with a robust engaged workforce. What happens when the nature and number of jobs change substantially? This conversation will focus on how we see the nature of work evolving with advances in technology.



Tuesday • March 10th • 5:15 pm - 7:30 pm
Downtown Library • 224 Church St. • Upstairs Meeting Room

Space is limited. Registration is required.

Register online: <https://santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/6076714>

Conversations for Change are designed to foster greater understanding among individuals who may have different viewpoints. Participants in these small group conversations, guided by a trained host, practice being open and curious about all perspectives, with a focus on learning from one another.

Project Connect is a group of actively engaged citizens who care about bridging divides in our community as a means of preserving our democratic republic and the flourishing of our country. It is a Finding Common Ground team associated with Santa Cruz Indivisible.

Unhurried Conversations

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

You're invited to join this conversation group 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.

Register online: <https://santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/6558092>