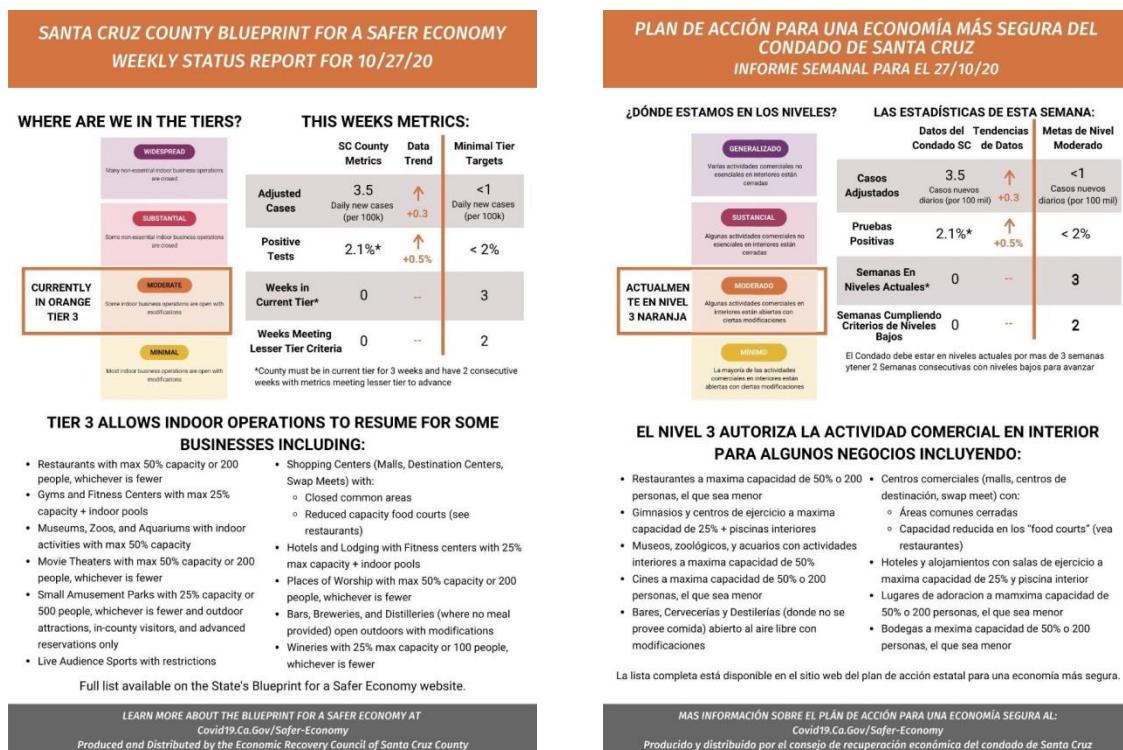


City Manager's Weekly Update

October 30, 2020

Economic Development

Business Development | Santa Cruz County Moves into Orange Tier



The Economic Recovery Council of Santa Cruz County is releasing weekly reports on the County's current status within the Governor's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. We published these reports on our website [here](#).

Beginning yesterday, previously opened sectors such as restaurants, places of worship, movie theaters and museums may increase indoor operations to 50 percent of capacity. Retail establishments may now open at full capacity. Bars, breweries and distilleries may resume outdoor operations, wineries may resume indoor operations at 25 percent capacity or 100 people (whichever is fewer), and gyms and fitness centers may increase indoor capacity from 10 percent to 25 percent. Previously restricted sectors such as amusement parks, family entertainment centers, nonessential offices and live-audience sports may open with modifications. Please refer to sector specific guidance for details.

The County Health Officer would like to note that although movement to the Orange Tier is a sign of reduced disease transmission in the community, COVID-19 cases are rising nationally and are expected to increase locally as we move into the winter. Residents are advised to continue wearing face coverings, practicing social distancing and avoiding gathering in large groups. [View a chart of industry operations allowed under each tier here.](#) For more information on the State framework, visit covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy.

Local Businesses Need Our Support More Than Ever This Holiday Season!



We're excited to partner with the Downtown Association to present Shop Santa Cruz 2020 to support our local businesses this year, in a time when they need it most!

Due to restrictions brought on by COVID-19, downtown businesses have been seeing much slower traffic and the reality is that this holiday season will be make-or-break for many of them. For the sake of local jobs, local tax revenue that funds important services and the hope for a return to a thriving local economy, community support will be key this holiday season.

We can each make a big difference in our community simply by making the choice to shop local. When it comes time to buy gifts, shop early and often at your favorite local downtown businesses. With a variety of stores and restaurants to choose from, you are sure to find a gift for everyone on your list.

For a full list of Downtown Santa Cruz businesses, links to their online shopping, take-out menus, curbside pickup and in-person hours, [visit Shop Downtown!](#)

Housing Development & Preservation | Housing Facts: Did You Know?

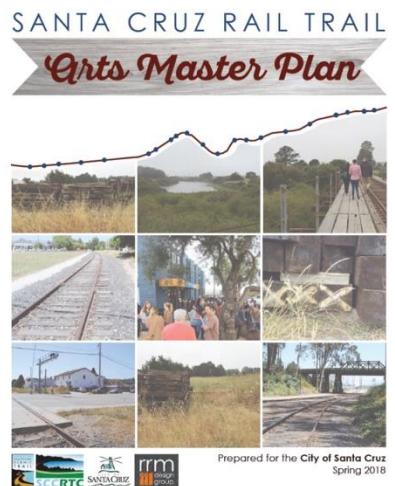
Did you know that the City of Santa Cruz has a recorded online Affordable Housing Financing 101 class? This class was developed with staff and taught by Chuck DePew of the National Development Council on Oct. 21, 2019.

The class can be found [here](#), and you can expect to learn:

- Basic types of economic solutions commonly used when developing a housing project.
- The different roles in housing development.
- The benefits of owning rental housing.
- The basic development process, including the risks and stages of development.
- What is a Return On Investment, and why is it important?
- Work through a case study example.

Arts & Culture Development | Gates Open For Implementation of the Rail Trail Arts Opportunity Master Plan

On Nov. 5, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) will consider adoption of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to finalize negotiations and enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the City for work associated with art installations along the coastal rail segments of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST). Over the past year, the City has been waiting for the RTC to develop their template agreement for this sort of effort. Our City Attorney, Barbara Choi, was an ardent negotiator pressing for simplification of the agreement with the City and for reasonable requirements for access and insurance coverages. While there are still some points to finalize, when the Cooperative Agreement is executed, the City will then be able to move forward with planning and placement of art installations along the rail trail.



Parks & Recreation

LNCC Halloween Horrors Film Competition and Mask Making 2-Go Event

The Louden Nelson Community Center celebrated Halloween this year with two exciting and creative new projects. In lieu of its annual Haunted House and Halloween Festival, LNCC hosted the *Halloween Horrors Film Competition*, and the *Mask Making 2-Go Event*. The film competition received over 30 team registrations and the pool of finalist films was frighteningly impressive! On Saturday, October 24th the LNCC staff distributed nearly 80 mask making kits to local families to help them create their own Halloween inspired looks just in time for Halloween. While we look forward to hosting our annual in-person Haunted House and Festival again next year, we plan to continue the film competition as a regular Halloween

feature! The 2020 film competition winning films can be viewed from the Halloween page on NelsonCenter.com.



Sycamore Grove Cleanup



The Open Space & Greenways division of the Parks & Recreation Department, in conjunction with Police Department Rangers, Sanitation, and outside contractors, has completed the cleanup of a major encampment on the west side of Highway 9 across from Sycamore Grove. The City open space essentially had been transformed into a small village. We found structures of scrap lumber and metal built into sloped hillsides, nailed into trees, and dug into the ground, and stairs and drainage lines carved into the soil. Sensitive habitat was inundated with litter, fecal matter and hazardous materials. Highly flammable materials such as propane & gasoline, bbq pits, generators and other items greatly increased the potential for fire. The impacts are severe and long term.

The cleanup began on Sept. 21 and lasted four weeks. Week one was spent extracting flammable and explosive materials from the area. Week two through four demanded the efforts of a contractor using skid steers and an excavator to break down the encampments and fill 30-yard dumpsters which were repeatedly transported back and forth from the landfill by the Sanitation Department. Smaller debris was picked up by hand using additional contract labor and our Open Space Team. PD Rangers were present all day, every day, as a means of security.

Estimated Cost: \$133,500

Materials extracted:

- 138.11 tons of garbage
- 21 fire pits
- 62 Propane Tanks
- 9 gas generators
- 161 car batteries
- 32 BBQs
- Thousands of syringes



Planning and Community Development

1013 Pacific Avenue. This week the Building & Safety Division received an application to construct a building at 1013 Pacific Avenue, a property located between the Catalyst and Old School Shoes. The project was approved by the City Council in 2017 and included demolition of the existing vacant mixed-use building, and construction of a four-story building with 17 residential condominiums and 4,342 square feet of ground floor commercial space fronting on both Pacific Avenue and Cathcart Street. Of the 17 units, 15 percent (3 units) are required to be restricted to Low Income households (80% Area Median Income) and the applicant will be required to enter into an Affordable Housing Participation Agreement with the City to ensure compliance. A 2,067 square foot basement is also proposed to house tenant storage space and building utilities. The project will implement the City's vision for the downtown area with higher-density, mixed use development with ground-level visitor-serving uses and upper floor residential uses, as expressed in the General Plan and the Downtown Plan. Ryan Bane is the planner for the project and can be contacted for additional details about the project.



**LOOKING SOUTH AT CATHCART ST. & PACIFIC AVE.
AT ELEVATED LEVEL**



Public Works

Resource Recovery

Our Waste Reduction team was present at the Farmers Market, providing education and outreach to vendors on the City's Food Packaging ordinance.

Solid Waste Workers cleaned up an illegal encampment on May and Dakota avenues. We have noticed an increase of encampments in all City neighborhoods. Additionally, we are experiencing an increase in stolen residential recycling carts. Individuals are taking them after collection and using them to store personal belongings (they are more waterproof than shopping carts). We must replace up to 30 customer carts a day, putting additional strain on our cart repairs and delivery operation.



A reminder that political and other yard signs do not belong in blue recycling bins. Instead, they may be properly recycled when delivered to our Corp Yard, 1125 River St., Tues, Nov. 3 - Fri, Nov. 6, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Yard signs may also be dropped at our Resource Recovery Facility, 605 Dimeo Ln., Mon - Sat, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Read more: www.cityofsantacruz.com/Home/Components/News/News/9049/36

Water

We made some good progress on the Coast Pump Station pipeline replacement this week! Micro-tunneling is at about 170' of the 221' needed. Tunneling has been happening at a rate of about 30' per day, so barring any problems, micro-tunneling should be complete by Halloween. The receiving pit on Crossing Street (off of Ocean Street Extension) is complete to enable recovery of the micro-tunneling machinery; demobilization of the micro-tunneling equipment will begin on Saturday.



The jacking pit on River Street, where the micro-tunneling equipment has been launched.



The receiving pit on Crossing Street, where the equipment will be demobilized.

We're preparing to begin the design work for the portion of the Newell Creek pipeline that was badly affected by the Brackney landslide during the storms of 2017. We're also preparing to start design work for the Felton diversion to Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant portion of that pipeline as well.

Dredging work is underway for the Newell Creek Dam project. A silt screen has been installed to separate the area where dredging is happening from the rest of the reservoir. We monitor water quality very carefully and thus far, other than a slight increase in turbidity and color, other testing has all resulted in the normal range.

In other water quality news, we've developed a comprehensive source water quality monitoring plan to monitor key water quality parameters related to impact from the CZU Lightning Complex fire. We've added additional sampling locations in Majors Creek, upper Laguna (Ice Cream Grade), and upper San Lorenzo River. Our primary focus on source monitoring post-fire is to analyze for chemicals that have either a primary or secondary drinking water standard.