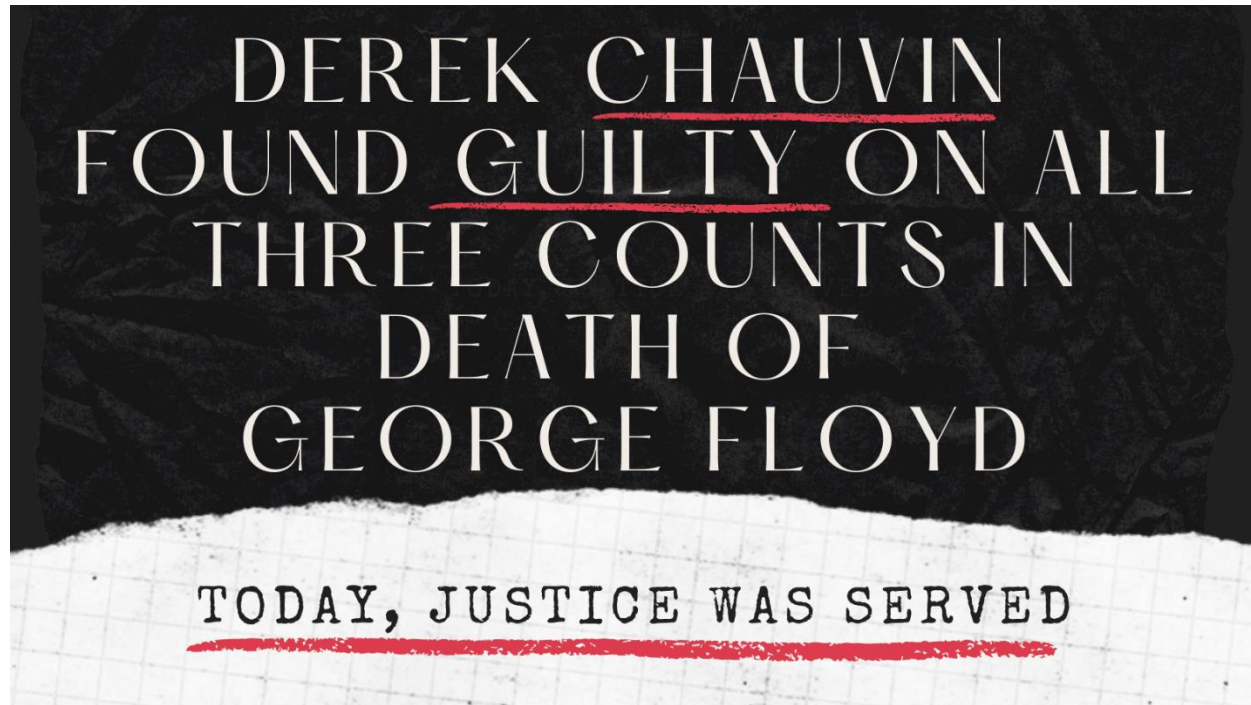


City Manager's Weekly Update

April 23, 2021

Police

SCPD Statement on Chauvin Verdict Announced April 20, 2021



The Santa Cruz Police Department supports the jury's decision in the State of Minnesota vs. Derek Chauvin case. The criminal justice system has conducted its due diligence, and the jury members have reached their verdict of guilty, and we respect this process. Derek Chauvin, a Minneapolis police officer, was found guilty on all charges in the murder of George Floyd.

Our Department is well-prepared and committed to protecting our community's right to protest in a peaceful expression of their First Amendment Rights. We hear you. One guilty verdict does not change the fact that police can and must do better in ethical policing.

SCPD assures our community that operational plans are in place and officers are prepared to appropriately respond to any incidents of violence occurring within our City. Officers are also aware of those who might use this as an opportunity to sow discord to breed violence.

As a unified Santa Cruz, we must strive not to allow legitimate anger and frustration to spiral into violence or allow others with divisive motives to hijack community emotions for destructive purposes. SCPD is well-prepared and committed to protecting our City.

SCPD is committed to working with our community leaders, city leadership, and our regional partners to ensure ALL people in our municipality are safe.

A crowd management Operations Plan is available on [SCPD Transparency Portal](#) includes:

Crowd Management – strategies that employ communication and dialogue with event leaders to obtain voluntary compliance.

Crowd Control – strategies used in the event a crowd becomes violent or otherwise destructive behavior and intended to protect life, restore and maintain order.

De-escalation – Strategies and tactics used by officers when safe and feasible without compromising law enforcement priorities to minimize the likelihood of the need to use force.

Independent Observers – Civilians and representatives from social and human rights agencies assess SCPD interactions at public demonstrations.

Crowd Management Policy - SCPD worked with Council for better developmental philosophy and implementation requirements to tailor the model policy to the circumstances in our community. Managing Crowds, Protests, and Assessment PowerPoint are available on the Transparency portal.

All SCPD officers received specialized training in "crowd management" and ready to deploy anywhere in the county to help maintain order during protests.

Additional uniformed patrol officers are in the field responding to calls for service and providing their presence around the City.

SCPD strives to ensure the rights and liberties of all our community members are protected while providing a high level of safety for all our residents, businesses, and visitors.

[SCPD TRANSPARENCY PORTAL](#)

NPT MISSION BEACH RESCUE

This week, multiple subjects were cited for being on the beach after hours and given orders to vacate. NPT Officers dealt with two large campsites filled with abandoned camping gear, trash, drug debris, among other biohazards that pollute the environment near the wharf. No one claimed ownership of items left behind. This is an ongoing issue Officers address every single day with limited tools to mitigate. Each cite comes with a 24-hour requirement to vacate. Officers are often back to square one dealing with the same person and problem after the second day.

A workable solution includes not only a strong and clear ordinance in place, but committed assistance from county mental health staff, addiction resources, social workers, and designated campsites.

Neighborhood Policing Team (NPT) conducts special enforcement at Main and Cowell's beaches to cite and evict beach encampments for violating the curfew hours. The overnight curfew includes a ban on unpermitted temporary storage structures to mitigate nuisance conditions. Community complaints regarding public health and safety nuisance conditions were related to the tents of unhoused individuals along the beach.

Thank you, Officer Ross, Officer Kiar, Community Service Officer Orozco and Community Service Officer Borg, for the responsive teamwork and extra efforts to remove the debris and restore the natural luster surrounding Main and Cowell's beach. SCPD will continue to work with our agency partners to combat these public health and safety issues.



SCPD Team members make reasonable outreach attempts to connect homeless people with available services, encourage self-help, and offer quality of life enhancements.



[Connect & Learn about your SCPD Neighborhood Policing Teams.](#)

SCPD Officers are dedicated to identifying and coordinating resources and activating problem-solving strategies to address quality of life concerns and crime within the City.



Fire

2020 was an impactful year for many reasons of which catastrophic wildland fires were one. For the City of Santa Cruz the impacts of the CZU Fire in August are still visible just outside our City borders. The Fire Department has been working on pro-active vegetation management throughout the City. Within our City owned open spaces there have been numerous vegetation management projects that have been completed. The next phase of this this pro-active approach has been the formation of neighborhood groups to advocate and model what can be done to mitigate the impacts of fire. On Saturday, May 1st, the **Highland FireWise group** will hold a neighborhood information event at the **High Street Community Church Parking Lot, 850 High St.** between 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Below is an event description. The Fire Department along with CERT, UCSC Arboretum, Santa Cruz Water, and Highland FireWise will provide information for what you can do to protect your home and neighborhood.



PLEASE JOIN US!



**National Wildfire Preparedness Day
Neighborhood Information Event**

When: Saturday, May 1st, 2021
Drop in anytime between 10:30 AM Noon

Where: High Street Community Church Parking Lot, 850 High St.
on the corner of High St. and Kalkar Dr.

Wear a Mask ◦ Walk or bike over ◦ Handicapped parking available

This is a free, outdoor, farmer's market-style, socially distanced, drop-in event where you can speak to local fire safety experts, pick up information on how to prepare & protect your home and family from wildfires, and meet your neighbors.

- Learn how we can collectively make our neighborhood open spaces safer: *Pogonip, Harvey West Park, and Evergreen Cemetery Ravine*
- Free information & resources: learn how to build fire-resistant landscaping around your house & reduce your water usage by 10% for this year's drought
- Become part of our neighborhood community emergency response team, learn about your Street Zone & meet Block Captains
- Contribute to the ***GoatFundMe campaign*** at **HighlandFirewise.org** to clear Evergreen Cemetery Ravine wildfire risks...with a herd of 400 goats!

Information & Resources provided by:

- Santa Cruz and UCSC Fire Marshals
- CERT: Community Emergency Response Representative
- UCSC Arboretum, Fire-Resistant Landscaping
- Santa Cruz Water Department
- Highland Firewise

Organized by Highland Firewise Neighborhood

www.HighlandFirewise.org

Neighbors on Highland ◦ Hillcrest ◦ Roger ◦ Longview ◦ Estates ◦ Sheldon ◦ Ortalon ◦ Meadow ◦
Rockridge ◦ Kalkar ◦ Spring ◦ All Lanes/Courtyards/Cul-de-Sacs Crossing Highland & Spring

Parks & Recreation

Parks and Recreation is opening back up in time for the summer season.

We're thrilled to announce Lower DeLaveaga Park will reopen for programs and public use on June 14th including the meadow, softball fields, picnic areas, playground and restrooms. The Parks and Recreation office is now accepting reservations for DeLaveaga Park beyond June 14th following state guidance. Reservations are also currently accepted at Harvey West Park. Call the Parks and Recreation administration office at 420-5270 to make a reservation.

The Louden Nelson Community Center is now available for limited rentals following state guidance. As strict guidance remains for indoor reservations, Laurel Park will serve as an extension of the Center and available for rentals including live outdoor theater. To reserve your space today, contact the Center at 420-6177. Visit [Santa Cruz Back In Action](https://cityofsantacruz.com/santacruzbackinaction) at cityofsantacruz.com/santacruzbackinaction for a complete list of programs and facilities allowed to operate in each tier of the state guidance.

The summer activity guide is now live online at santacruzparksandrec.com. Online summer registration begins Saturday May 1st. Friends of Parks and Recreation scholarships are available for City Residents. The deadline for applications is Friday April 23rd. We look forward to seeing you in the park and at the beach this summer.



Outdoor Teen Job Fair a success.

Last Wednesday the Teen Center brought back the annual Teen Job Fair which had to be cancelled last spring due to the pandemic. Changes were made due to COVID-19 restrictions. The event was moved outdoors and held at Laurel Park. Even though employers couldn't be there due to event space limitations there were still 6 featured employer booths (Santa Cruz Parks & Rec, Kianti's, O'Neill, Whiting's Foods, All About Theatre, and the Santa Cruz Boardwalk (Seaside Company). Additionally there were paper applications available for 25 other employers who also hire teens.



127 teen job seekers attended and 152 completed applications were turned in and delivered to the employers. This was in addition to people applying at the Boardwalk which they had to do online. Many of the teens also opted to take applications home with them and turn them in to employers themselves.

Overall this was a great success and it's looking like this event may change to an outdoor event permanently.

National Arbor Day & Earth Day Celebrations

For National Arbor Day & Earth Day Celebrations on 4-22-21, the Parks & Recreation Forestry Division partnered with Cabrillo Horticultural Program and together planted 12 coast redwood trees at the Santa Cruz Shakespeare amphitheater. Shakespeare staff has added a total of 128 new redwoods to the theatre grounds to improve the venue experience. These new redwood trees will thrive and reforest the grove with a healthy, native tree population. The trees are in very good hands with the help of Rick Wright and his team. Thanks to all for making this great, socially-distanced volunteer event a reality.



Public Works

Wastewater Treatment Facility

Over the weekend, the pumps that move primary and secondary solids to the digester sludge feed tank both cut out on high discharge pressure alarms. These types of alarms and automated fail-safes protect facility equipment from wearing out too fast under heavy loads. They also protect from more serious failures if there were to be an outright blockage. Operators were able to keep thickened sludge flowing into the digesters by relying on one backup pump, and by bypassing the grinder that finely processes incoming sludge. On Monday, maintenance mechanics discovered that the high pressure had been caused by a thick plug of so-called “flushable” wipes fouling the teeth of the sludge grinder.



We are currently running our “Don’t Flush Wipes” public service announcement in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) on seven radio stations in partnership with the County of Santa Cruz to help prevent such issues as well as sewer backups. Even if the package says “flushable,” wipes belong in the trash!



Economic Development

Business Development

Santa Cruz County on Track to Move to Yellow Tier Next Week

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY WEEKLY STATUS REPORT FOR 04/20/21

WHERE ARE WE IN THE TIERS?



THIS WEEK'S METRICS:

	SC County Metrics	Data Trend	Minimal Tier Targets
Adjusted Cases	1.4 Daily new cases (per 100k)	↓ -0.8	<2 Daily new cases (per 100k)
Positive Tests	0.6%*	↓ -0.4%	< 2%
Weeks in Current Tier*	3	+1	3
Weeks Meeting Lesser Tier Criteria	1	--	2

*If adjusted cases and positive test metrics fall into two different tiers, the county will be assigned to the more restrictive tier

**County must be in current tier for 3 weeks and have 2 consecutive weeks with metrics meeting lesser tier to advance

TIER 3 ALLOWS INDOOR OPERATIONS TO RESUME FOR SOME BUSINESSES INCLUDING:

- Restaurants with a max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer
- Non-Mall Retail - Indoor operations allowed with modifications
- Gyms and Fitness Centers with max 25% capacity + indoor pools
- Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums with indoor activities with a max 50% capacity
- Movie Theaters with max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer
- Amusement Parks with 25% capacity or 500 people whichever is fewer
- Outdoor live events with restrictions
- Shopping Centers (Malls, Destination Centers, Swap Meets) open indoors with closed common areas and reduced capacity food courts
- Hotels and Lodging with Fitness center with 25% max capacity + indoor pools
- Places of Worship with max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer
- Bars (where no meal provided) open outdoors with modifications
- Wineries, Breweries, and Distilleries open indoors with modifications and 25% max capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer

FIND THE FULL LIST OF INDUSTRY GUIDANCE AND OPERATIONS AT
[Covid19.Ca.Gov/Safer-Economy](https://covid19.ca.gov/Safer-Economy)
Produced and Distributed by the Economic Recovery Council of Santa Cruz County

PLAN DE ACCIÓN PARA UNA ECONOMÍA MÁS SEGURA DEL CONDADO DE SANTA CRUZ INFORME SEMANAL PARA EL 20/04/21

¿DÓNDE ESTAMOS EN LOS NIVELES?



LAS ESTADÍSTICAS DE ESTA SEMANA:

	Datos del Condado SC	Tendencias de Datos	Metas de Nivel Moderado
Casos Ajustados	1.4 Casos nuevos diarios (por 100 mil)	↓ -0.8	<2 Casos nuevos diarios (por 100 mil)
Pruebas Positivas	0.6%*	↓ -0.4%	< 2%
Semanas En Niveles Actuales*	3	+1	3
Semanas Cumpliendo Criterios de Niveles Bajos	1	--	2

*Si los casos ajustados y los datos de casos positivos caen entre dos diferentes niveles, el condado asignará el nivel más restrictivo

**El Condado debe estar en niveles actuales durante 3 semanas y tener 2 Semanas consecutivas con niveles de datos inferiores para avanzar

EL NIVEL 3 AUTORIZA LA ACTIVIDAD COMERCIAL EN INTERIOR PARA ALGUNOS NEGOCIOS INCLUYENDO:

- Restaurantes a máxima capacidad de 50% o 200 personas, el que sea menor
- Minorista: operaciones en interiores permitidas con modificaciones
- Gimnasios y centros de fitness con un máximo del 25% de capacidad + piscinas cubiertas
- Museos, zoológicos, y acuarios con actividades interiores a máxima capacidad de 50%
- Cines a máxima capacidad de 50% o 200 personas, el que sea menor
- Parques de atracciones con un 25% de capacidad o 500 personas, lo que sea menor
- Eventos en vivo al aire libre con restricciones
- Los centros comerciales (Malls, Destination Centers, Swap Meets) abren en el interior con áreas comunes cerradas y patios de comidas con capacidad reducida
- Hoteles y Hospedaje con Gimnasio con 25% de capacidad máxima + piscinas cubiertas
- Lugares de culto con una capacidad máxima del 50% o 200 personas, lo que sea menor
- Los bares (en los que no se ofrece comida) se abren al aire libre con modificaciones
- Las bodegas, cervecerías y destilerías abren en el interior con modificaciones y un 25% de capacidad máxima o 100 personas, lo que sea menos

ENCUENTRE LA LISTA COMPLETA DE ORIENTACIÓN Y OPERACIONES DE LA INDUSTRIA EN:
[Covid19.Ca.Gov/Safer-Economy](https://covid19.ca.gov/Safer-Economy)
Producido y distribuido por el consejo de recuperación económica del condado de Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz County remains in the orange tier for this week but the metrics have now dropped into the yellow tier requirements. If the metrics continue to be within the yellow tier range the County expected to move to the lowest tier next week.

The yellow tier would allow for additional increases in indoor and capacity restrictions. Examples of some of the expanded operations allowed under this tier include: outdoor private events up to 200 people; museums, zoos, and aquariums open at full capacity with modifications for distancing and

masking; gyms and fitness centers open at 50% capacity and with saunas and steam rooms; restaurants indoors at 50% capacity; and bars where no meal is provided can open indoors at 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer. [View the full list of operations allowed under the yellow tier here.](#)


Please be respectful of your fellow community members, business owners, and employees by always wearing your mask and following all safety protocols when in public and while visiting local businesses both indoors and outdoors.

For more information about the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy [click here](#).

Infrastructure & Property Development & Management

Community Workshop: Library Site Re-Use

PROJECT SITE



915 Cedar Street to remain and be repurposed.

58,200 SF
60 surface parking spaces


CITY HALL
CIVIC AUDITORIUM

CHURCH ST
CENTER ST
LOCUST ST
CEDAR ST

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Library Site Re-Use Visioning Process

- Sunday April 25th 11am - 12:30pm
- Monday April 26th 5:30 - 7pm



Per direction received from the Santa Cruz Council on June 23rd, 2020 the City has initiated a public process to consider reuse options for the existing library site (located at Church, Center, and Locust Streets and across from City Hall) to include housing, a town commons, and/or other public uses. The City has hired Group 4 Architects and the Project for Public Spaces to execute a public process and develop recommendations based on input from stakeholder groups and the public.

This is a virtual meeting, zoom login information to follow.

The goal of this meeting is to get community input on

- community needs
- potential activities at this site
- potential uses and amenities

During community workshops, Group 4 Architects and the Project for Public Spaces will facilitate group discussions with community members.

***To ensure we can have in-depth, meaningful conversations with community members we request**

you sign up for only one date. This is to allow space for all voices to be heard equally. *

If you are unable to attend there will be other engagement opportunities in the future posted at www.CityofSantaCruz.com/SiteReUse

Questions? Contact Project Manager, Amanda Rotella, arotella@cityofsantacruz.com

Housing Development & Preservation

Community Meeting For Pacific Station North Housing Project – April 26

On April 26, 2021, First Community Housing will be hosting a community meeting in partnership with the City and Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District for METRO Pacific Station North to inform the community about this proposed affordable housing transit-oriented development and gather feedback on the preliminary conceptual designs.

If you would like to attend this meeting, please visit the project page on the [City's website](#) and register to attend this free zoom event.

Pacific Station North Community Meeting

Monday April 26, 2021

6 – 7 pm

Via Zoom



*Conceptual drawing