

# City Manager's Weekly Update

March 26, 2021

## Planning and Community Development

**433 Ocean Street.** The Planning and Community Development department recently received a Pre-application to redevelop a property on the southwest corner of Ocean Street and Soquel Avenue which currently contains a vacant service station. The applicants are proposing a 36,990 square foot, three-story hotel with 50 guest rooms. Amenities include underground parking and a rooftop pool and bar area. A Community Meeting will be required pursuant to the City's Community Outreach Policy for Planning Projects and the feedback provided may contribute to alterations in the project design. There are no formal actions that are taken to approve or deny a project that's been submitted for Pre-application review, rather the process results in feedback from the City and the community. Ryan Bane is the planner working on the application.

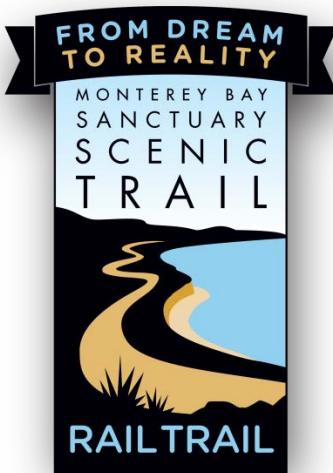


## Public Works

### Traffic Engineering

We are excited to announce that we have been awarded a \$9 million Active Transportation Program grant from Caltrans for construction of Rail Trail Segment 7/Phase II! The project will create .8 miles of paved, multi-use path from Bay and California streets to Pacific Avenue.

The project furthers implementation of the largest active transportation project in Santa Cruz County, offering an important path towards long term mode shift. It connects to the recently completed Coastal Rail Trail Segment 7/Phase I, which serves over 600 active transportation users per day as measured by automated counter in 2021. [Learn more.](#)



We released our [2018 and 2019 Annual Traffic Safety Reports](#). These reviews focus on crash data of reported traffic collisions that resulted in injury or fatality for the years ending Dec. 31, 2018 and Dec. 31, 2019. The data shows some promising trends and provides a guide for future engineering and enforcement effort improvements. Highlights of the reports include:

- Injury collisions involving pedestrians (25) decreased by 60 percent.
- Injury collisions involving motorcycles (7) decreased by 27 percent from 2018 to 2019.
- The number of felony hit-and-run collisions (4) decreased by 24 percent from 2018 to 2019.
- Alcohol-involved collisions (10) decreased by 35 percent.
- Total injury collisions (16) are down 9 percent and fatal collisions (1) are down 50 percent from 2018 to 2019.
- After a significant decrease from 2017 to 2018, bicycle injury collisions (17) increased by 36 percent from 2018 to 2019. That said, bicycle injury collisions have been trending downward over the past 10 years, with a decrease of 40 percent since 2015.

Read the press release [here](#).

## **Resource Recovery**

The new entrance road into the landfill is now complete in preparation for the Cell 3B excavation project. Waste Reduction staff completed new outreach signage with an important message for keeping recyclable material loose in the cart.



## **Parks & Recreation**

### **Surfing Museum Opens**

Good News! Now we are in the red tier which means that we can open the iconic Surfing Museum. Beginning April 1 the museum will be open from Noon – 5:00 pm every day except Tuesday & Wednesday. There is new merchandise and the same beautiful view. We look forward to seeing everyone there.



### **Ready to Play Ball!**

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon, Little League parents, coaches and kids came out to Harvey West Park for a “Field Day.” The day’s projects included building new pitchers mounds, spreading new field

lines and installing an outfield fence for field 2. Along with hanging their banners, the group also did some general clean up like weeding and trash collecting. The fields are now ready for games set to begin this month. Let's PLAY BALL!!



## Water

Our Water Quality lab staff has had a tough year. In addition to all the protective measures that had to be taken to keep this critical team safe and healthy through the pandemic, and the added workload monitoring possible water quality impacts from the CZU fire, their state-certified water quality laboratory suffered a significant water-main break last summer that caused them to temporarily relocate while repairs were made. (And no, the irony of the main break wasn't lost on us.) Also during that time, their long-time section manager retired and they were down staff members.

So we're glad to report that the team is finally back in the lab. Lindsay Nuen was promoted to section manager, and they are close to being fully staffed. Like many Water Department employees, these team members are unsung heroes who ensure your drinking water is safe, clean, and tasty.



Tram Nguyen setting up microbiology samples.



Amy Roget collecting field temperature in the distribution system.



Rosemary Bean performing alkalinity analysis.



Dan Kocher performing odor analysis.

## Economic Development

### Arts & Culture Development

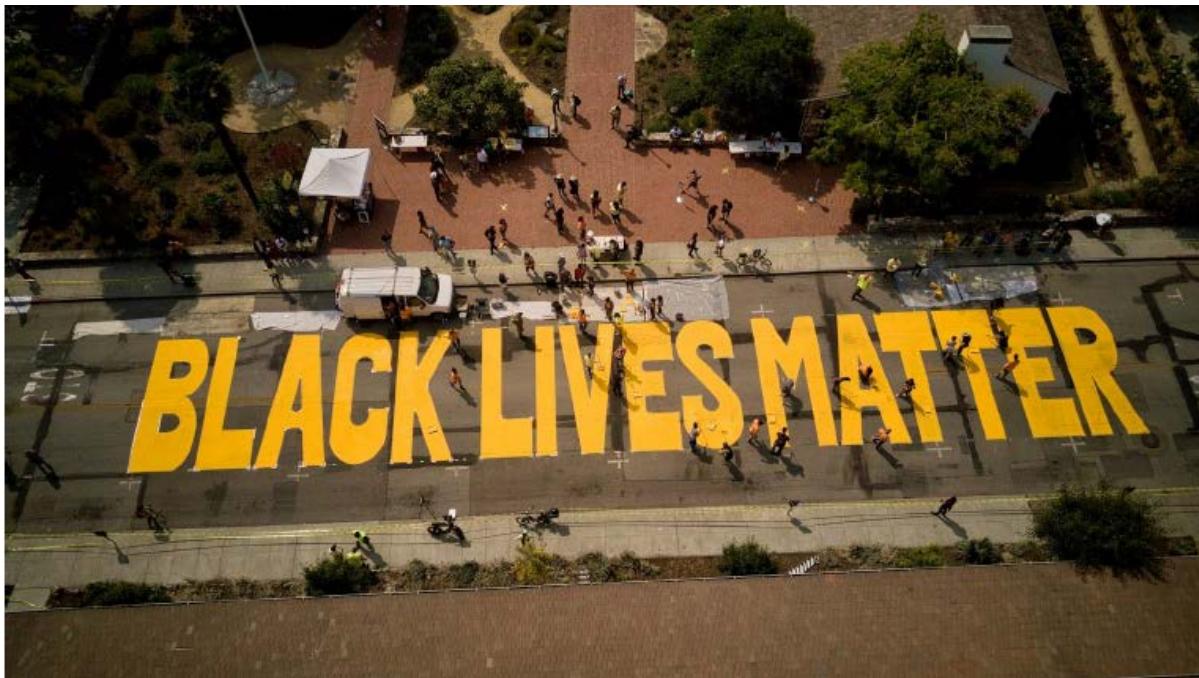
#### CARD PILOT GRANT PROGRAM ACCEPTING LETTERS OF INTENT



The on-line application portal for the City Arts Recovery Design Program opened this Monday. It is hosted by the Arts Council and their grants management team will provide technical support and guidance during the application and review process. LOI applications are due by 4 pm on Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Complete information may be found on the Santa Cruz City Arts Website: [santacruzcityarts.com/jobs/city-arts-recovery-design-pilot-grant-program](http://santacruzcityarts.com/jobs/city-arts-recovery-design-pilot-grant-program).

We are currently recruiting panel reviewers from the arts community, business owners, and civic leaders. If you have 10-15 hours available in April and believe that public art and policy can promote Santa Cruz Recovery, please contact to volunteer [cityarts@cityofsantacruz.com](mailto:cityarts@cityofsantacruz.com).

## ARTS COMMISSION APPROVES SUPPORT FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER MURAL CELEBRATION 2021



The BLM Mural organizers originally envisioned that each year there would be an annual event to engage the community in maintenance of the mural to affirm the community commitment to racial equality. In 2021, they joined the City Juneteenth Celebration Planning Committee. That group made the decision to commemorate Juneteenth 2021 virtually due to COVID restrictions on public gathering. The BLM Mural organizers will, however, host a day of mural restoration with limited participation and with invited speakers. The Arts Commission approved funding for expenses related to the mural restoration, the staging and compensation for invited speakers, and professional documentation by videographers. The resulting film will be included in the City's virtual Juneteenth broadcast. [Watch highlights from the mural installation in 2020 here.](#)

## Business Development

### SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REMAINS IN RED TIER

Santa Cruz County remains in the Red Tier this week we are expected to move to the Orange Tie next week. This move would allow for increased indoor capacity for many business types and some businesses will be able to reopen that have been closed under the previous tiers. While this improvement is positive we can't let our guard down now. Please continue to wear a mask out in public, maintain social distancing, and get vaccinated when you are eligible. [View the full list of what is allowed under each tier here.](#) For more information about the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy [click here.](#)

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY**  
**WEEKLY STATUS REPORT FOR 03/23/21**

**WHERE ARE WE IN THE TIERS?**



**THIS WEEKS METRICS:**

SC County Metrics	Data Trend	Moderate Tier Targets
Adjusted Cases	3.5 Daily new cases (per 100k) +0.1	1 - 3.9 Daily new cases (per 100k)
Positive Tests	1.3%* +0.1%	2% - 4.9%
Weeks in Current Tier**	2 +1	3
Weeks Meeting Lesser Tier Criteria	2 +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 2 ALLOWS INDOOR OPERATIONS TO RESUME FOR SOME BUSINESSES INCLUDING:**

- Personal Care Services
- All Retail with max 50% capacity
- Restaurants with max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer
- Gyms and Fitness Centers with max 10% capacity
- Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums with indoor activities with max 25% capacity
- Movie Theaters with max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer
- Shopping Centers (Malls, Destination Centers, Swap Meets) with:
  - Max 50% capacity
  - Closed common areas
  - Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants)
- Hotels and Lodging with Fitness centers with 10% max capacity
- Places of Worship with max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer

Full list available on the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy website.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY 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 23/03/21**

**¿DÓNDE ESTAMOS EN LOS NIVELES?**



**LAS ESTADÍSTICAS DE ESTA SEMANA:**

Datos del Condado SC	Tendencias de Datos	Metas de Nivel Razonables
Casos Ajustados	3.5 Casos nuevos diarios (por 100 mil) +0.1	1 - 3.9 Casos nuevos diarios (por 100 mil)
Pruebas Positivas	1.3%* +0.1%	2% - 4.9%
Semanas En Niveles Actuales**	2 +1	3
Semanas Con Criterios de Menos Importancia	2 +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 2 AUTORIZA LA ACTIVIDAD COMERCIAL EN INTERIOR PARA ALGUNOS NEGOCIOS INCLUYENDO:**

- Servicios de cuidado personal
- Ventas al detalle con capacidad max de 50%
- Restaurantes con capacidad max de 25% o 100 personas, cualquier que sea menor
- Gimnasios y centros de ejercicios con capacidad max de 10%
- Museos, zoológicos, y acuarios con actividades interiores con capacidad max de 25%
- Salas de cine con capacidad max de 25% o 100 personas, cualquier que sea menor
- Centros comerciales (malls, centros de destino, feria) con:
  - Max capacidad de 50%
  - Áreas comunes cerradas
  - Capacidad reducida en los "food courts" (ver restaurantes)
- Hotels y alojamientos con salas de ejercicio con capacidad max de 10%
- Lugares de culto con capacidad max de 25% o 100 personas, cualquier que sea menor

La lista completa está disponible en el sitio web del plan de acción estatal para una economía más segura.

MAS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE EL PLAN DE ACCIÓN PARA UNA ECONOMÍA SEGURA AL:  
[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

## Police

### SC Warriors Highlight SCPD Leader

The Santa Cruz Warriors recognized Joyce Blaschke, SCPD PIO, as an empowering female leader in our community. In honor of Women's History Month, the Santa Cruz Warriors choose Joyce to highlight in their Warrior Women series presented by Kaiser Permanente Thrive.

 **Santa Cruz Warriors**  @GLeagueWarriors · Mar 24

For Women's Empowerment Month, we are excited to highlight incredible females in our community in our #WomenWarriors series, presented by @kpthrive.

"As a leader we must stand up with strength, and at times compassion first" - Joyce Blaschke



"I'm so honored for the recognition, but I couldn't have done it alone! My family, the SCPD team, our incredible community - all have inspired and supported me. In our city, where SCPD addresses the good, the bad, and everything in between, thank you for a WARRIORS recognition and acknowledgment of the positive contributions and dedication that I put into my work daily." - Joyce B.

## Dedicated Teamwork Put a Stop to Armed Robbery Series

### SUSPECTS ARRESTED | [SCPD Media Release](#)



"We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication of our detectives and law enforcement partners, whose tireless efforts helped put this case together," said Chief Andrew Mills.

## CROSSING GUARDS Needed - IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

Are you looking for part-time work that can make a difference in your community? SCPD is in immediate need of filling open positions as School Crossing Guards. Our crossing guards range from college students to retirees to stay-at-home parents to people just looking to make a few extra dollars.



Days: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. No school Wednesdays.

Hours: 8-9am and again at 12:20pm-2:20pm / Elementary schools in the City of Santa Cruz.

If you have some extra time to devote to our school children's safety and would like to receive a salary for doing so, this may be the perfect opportunity for you. [APPLY](#). For additional information, email Crossing Guard coordinator Kelsey Crowe at [Kcrowe@cityofsantacruz.com](mailto:Kcrowe@cityofsantacruz.com) or call (831) 420-5850.