

City Manager's Weekly Update

June 25, 2021

Parks & Recreation

July is Parks and Recreation Month!

Parks and Recreation is back in action with July is Parks and Recreation Month!

We have a full list of activities and events for every day in July! Some highlights include:

- Outside the Frame: An art walk along West Cliff to the Wharf!
- Beach Clean Up Days with City Council
- Day in the Park: A fun, family day in Laurel Park at the London Nelson Community Center
- Walking Adventure Group every Thursday from 9:30-11:30am
- In-Person Tree Walk on July 31 at 9am with Urban Forester Leslie Keedy

Find a full list of activities and events at cityofsantacruz.com/parksandrecevents



Mark your calendar for 31 days of FREE activities to celebrate July is Parks and Recreation Month!

CityOfSantaCruz.com/ParksAndRecEvents



Scan for Details

JULY DATES	
FIND A FRAME on West Cliff and take a selfie!	1 Walking Adventure Group (WAG) 9:30-11:30 am
	2
	3 Sign Up for a Beach Clean Up Day
Check out the new "Redwood" Picnic area in Harvey West	4
	5 Say "Hi" to the goats at Neary Lagoon
Watch the sea lions, and other wildlife at the Wharf	6
	7 Sail a toy boat in the pond at Westlake Park
Walking Adventure Group (WAG) 9:30-11:30 am	8
	9 Play volleyball at Main Beach
New Surf Boards arrive at the Surfing Museum presented by Surfing Preservation Society 11:00 am	10
	11 Sign Up for a Beach Clean Up Day
Take a selfie with the Arana Gulch cows	12
	13 Watch a bocce game at DeLaveaga Park
Bring your ping pong game to Garfield Park	14
	15 Walking Adventure Group (WAG) 9:30-11:30 am
Smell the roses at City Hall	16
	17 Sign Up for a Beach Clean Up Day
Tour our community gardens at Riverside Gardens Park	18
	19 Take a hike in Moore Creek
Play a round of disc golf at DeLaveaga Disc Golf Course	20
	21 Ride your bike on the Rail Trail
Walking Adventure Group (WAG) 9:30-11:30 am	22
	23 Watch the sea lions, and other wildlife at the Wharf
Day in the Park at Laurel Park 10:00-4:00 pm	24
	25 Sign Up for a Beach Clean Up Day
FIND A FRAME on West Cliff and take a selfie!	26
	27 Ride the pump track in Harvey West
Play volleyball at Main Beach	28
	29 Walking Adventure Group (WAG) 9:30-11:30 am
	30
Take a walk along Pilkington Creek in Tyrell Park pat the whale sculpture, and visit the Museum of Natural History	31 Tree Walk with our Urban Forester (walk starts at City Hall) 9:00 am

 We invite you to join us for these events at the noted time

Water

Work continues on the Newell Creek Dam inlet/outlet project, despite equipment glitches that have caused the project to slow down. The roadheader, which is the piece of equipment used for the critical tunneling work, was out of commission due to a mechanical problem. Thankfully it's back in service and despite its set back, we had the best day of tunnel drilling yet on Wednesday, with 60' of progress made. You can see the roadheader we're using in the photo below.



We continue the prep work to mobilize construction of the three new concrete tanks at the treatment plant. In addition to equipment and materials prep, we're also closely monitoring the environment for any nesting birds or other wildlife that would prevent us from beginning construction. We also begin prepping next week for mobilization on a smaller project at the treatment plant, which is to widen the entry gate/arrival area. The entry gate area has long been insufficient to meet the volume and size of vehicles coming into the plant, and with increased construction traffic anticipated during the next few years, widening the entrance became critical.

Yet another project is getting off the ground, with final submittals for retrofitting the Laguna dam going to regulators. This week we submitted the diversion and dewatering plans to the regional board, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Another big project milestone!

Homelessness Response

On June 29 at 11 a.m., the City will have another hearing with Judge Susan Van Keulen regarding the federal injunction governing San Lorenzo Park and the Homeless Union vs. City of Santa case. Participation information for the Zoom conference can be found on Judge Van Keulen's website:

<https://www.cand.uscourts.gov/judges/van-keulen-susan-svk/>

Additionally, Director Lee Butler presented an update on homelessness response efforts and the status of the County's upcoming demobilization of COVID-19 resources at the June Council meeting. The [presentation](#) can be found alongside the staff report on the [Council agenda for June 22](#).

Today, June 25, the Public Works team [picked up 7280lbs or 3.64tons of garbage below the Soquel St bridge downstream from SLP/Benchlands. Staff used a backhoe to pick up as much trash as possible without disturbing the campers. This effort was initiated primarily in response to the rising levels of the San Lorenzo River due to the river mouth being closed and the threat of debris entering the water.



Unfortunately, there is still trash and other debris around tents where campers are still residing and crews could not access. The Encampment Assessment Team will continue to monitor and manage the issue.

Public Works

Engineering

The large yellow and blue “Welcome to River Street” sign has been temporarily removed to permit construction work on the City of Santa Cruz Highway 1/9 Intersection Improvements Project. The sign will be reinstalled near the end of the project within about 10 months.

The Highway 1/9 Intersection Improvements Project is considered a high priority City of Santa Cruz transportation congestion and safety improvement project. It will provide traffic operation and safety improvements by reconstructing the existing intersection to accommodate additional lanes, safety lighting, green bike lanes, sidewalks and accessibility ramps that meet current standards.



The **2021 Overlay Project** continued construction this week. The project has been doing pavement work at the following locations:

- Delaware Avenue from Fair Avenue to Woodrow Avenue
- Delaware Avenue from National Street to Santa Cruz Street
- King Street from Miramar Drive to the west end of Mission Street

The **2021 Surface Seal Project** had to reschedule the installation of Microsurfacing, scheduled for Monday, June 21, due to weather. Microsurfacing installation is now re-scheduled for the second week of July. The public is advised to seek alternate routes when possible. We apologize for any inconvenience this construction work may cause and appreciate the public's cooperation.



Overlay Project Cold In-Place Recycling at Delaware Avenue