

City Manager's Weekly Update

October 8, 2021

Police

SCPD Firearms and Narcotics Arrest

"It is a testament to SCPD's dedication to eliminating illegal guns and drugs from our community," said Chief Andy Mills. "Dedicated patrol officers and detectives worked swiftly and efficiently in this operation for our citizen's safety and overall quality of life in Santa Cruz."



On Sunday, October 3, 2021, the Santa Cruz Police Department (SCPD) served a search warrant in San Mateo County. This warrant was part of an ongoing investigation initiated from a high-risk traffic stop in the City of Santa Cruz on Saturday, October 2, 2021. The high-risk stop happened at approximately 2:20 am on 10/2/2021 when SCPD responded to reports of a brandished firearm.



Patrolling officers quickly located the suspect's vehicle and conducted a high-risk traffic stop. The driver and passenger both residents of San Mateo County were arrested. During the search of the car, officers located and seized two self-manufactured rifles, an unregistered and loaded Sig Sauer 9mm handgun, 32.5 grams of cocaine, 15.6 grams of methamphetamine, along with scales and packaging for selling controlled

substances.

The driver and passenger were each arrested for:

- Possession of a Controlled Substance with an intent to sell
- Possession of a controlled substance while armed
- Carry Concealed Weapon in Vehicle
- Possession of an Assault Weapon
- Possession of an undetectable firearm
- The driver was also booked for resisting arrest.

Based on the increased risk associated with serving a warrant related to firearms and narcotics, SCPD Tactical Team worked with the San Mateo County Sheriff's SWAT. During the residential search, officers recovered nearly 1 pound of cocaine and evidence of the sale and transporting of controlled substances.

This remains an active investigation with the SCPD Investigations Unit.

SCPD Pink Patch Project

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month means its Pink Patch Project time! Santa Cruz Police supports the fight

against this (and all types of) cancer. Although our pink patches are worn in October, SCPD continues to hold people battling cancer in our hearts year-round.



Gear up in the same Santa Cruz Police Pink Patches our Officers wear.

- Pink Patches are \$10 each and \$5 for the mini size.
- Contact Jodi Mulloy at 831-420-5813 or email is jmulloy@cityofsantacruz.com.

100% of the proceeds benefit a local nonprofit for breast cancer education, early detection, and treatment.

The Pink Patch Project is a public awareness campaign in which law enforcement agencies around the United States use pink versions of their agencies' patches to encourage conversations with

community members about breast cancer. By participating in the Pink Patch Project, law enforcement agencies help increase awareness about breast cancer; raise funds for research in the areas of prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure; and offer support and encouragement to those affected by the devastating disease.

Public Works

Resource Recovery Facility

Landfill staff performed emergency salvage operations on RVs that had been stored at the landfill by the Police Department towing vendor. These vehicles had been abandoned on City streets and slated for removal after PD had cited them several times. The area used by this vendor to store the vehicles was in the middle of our Cell 3B construction project excavation and needed to be moved to keep our project on schedule. The PD vendor had difficulty meeting the dismantling schedule so our crews performed the work in conjunction with our metal recycling broker and hazardous waste contractor.



Engineering

Construction of our Carbonera Pump Station Replacement Project is essentially complete. The last pieces are in place, however, we cannot switch the pumps on and remove temporary bypass pumps from the street until the equipment supplier is available for start up. We expect this to occur on October 11!



Traffic Engineering

Our Street Smarts bike/ped grant from the CA Office of Traffic Safety officially launched on Oct. 1. Working with subcontractor Bike Santa Cruz County, we will deliver traffic safety assembly presentations to all SCCS middle school students in November and provide them with hands-on safe biking/walking after-school workshops throughout the entire school year. We will also be providing eight pop-up educational Be Safe Be Seen bike light events and eight Be Safe Be Seen pedestrian events for the greater community. The grant also provides funding for new school and street banners and vehicle decals.



Parks and Recreation

Santa Cruz Surfboards

Some pretty famous surfboards have been put on display at the Santa Cruz Surfing Museum at Lighthouse Point. We have a new Jay Moriarity display featuring the famous Jay Moriarity Pearson Arrow board. This board was featured prominently in the 2012 film Chasing Mavericks that told the story of Jay's life. It has found a great place in the museum and we invite everyone to come out and see just how beautiful this board is in person. Also, the 1941 Fred Hunt Board is finally on display. You can see the board in this 1941 photo – Fred is the 4th surfer from the right.

A huge thank you to the members of the Santa Cruz Surf Club Preservation Society for donating their time to put up 4 new boards this week. We invite everyone to come by and check all the boards out and then stay awhile and watch people surf in our famous Steamer Lane.



Grant Park – Plumbing/Service Upgrades to the Restroom Facility



With CIP funds, Grant Park restrooms received a new sewer lateral and interior plumbing upgrade that has greatly improved the serviceability and function of the restroom facility. For years, staff had to close the restrooms periodically due to failed laterals and difficult maintenance requirements. Now the restrooms can remain open to park users and better serve the community.

Citywide Initiatives

Homelessness Response | Appointment of Larry Imwalle to Homelessness Response Manager

Larry Imwalle started this week in the role of Homelessness Response Manager. For the last 14 years, Imwalle has served as executive director of the Action Council of Monterey County, the leading hub for social innovation in the Monterey Bay region. During his tenure, Action Council worked with local and regional foundations, public sector leaders, and social entrepreneurs to launch more than 40 community-driven projects. Prior to joining the Action Council, he conducted community-based research evaluation projects that have informed community investment by foundations and public agencies in the region.

The overarching goal of the City's homelessness response program to provide a pathway to County services and, ultimately, to stable housing. Reporting to Deputy City Manager Lee Butler, the Homelessness Response Manager leads both the internal and external efforts related to homelessness and help develop the most strategic and effective ways to invest City resources towards these efforts. Imwalle's initial priority projects include establishing safe sleeping and storage programs and evaluating how the City's homelessness data can be improved.

In coordination with the countywide Homeless Action Partnership, Imwalle is also charged with organizing programs and projects with government agencies, law enforcement, community stakeholders and non-profit community-based organizations. He will serve as the City's primary project contact and coordinator on homeless issues impacting the city.

Community Engagement | Launch of National Community Survey

The City of Santa Cruz launched a comprehensive quality of life survey on October 1. The survey will be available online for randomly selected residents and starting Nov. 5, all residents will be able to complete the survey by visiting the City's website at cityofsantacruz.com.

The instrument, known as The National Community Survey™, allows the City of Santa Cruz to compare results and benchmark residents' opinions against other communities across the country. The survey will include questions about quality of life, important characteristics of community, services provided by the City and priorities for the future.

All resident responses will remain anonymous, and a report of the analyzed results will be shared with the City Council and the general public in early 2022. The survey will be available online in English and Spanish.

Residents with questions about the survey may contact Communications Manager Elizabeth Smith at esmith@cityofsantacruz.com.