

# City Manager's Weekly Update

March 11, 2022

## City Manager's Office

### Police Chief Selection Survey



**What qualities do you want in the City's next Police Chief?**

*¿Qué cualidades quieres en el próximo jefe de policía de la ciudad?*

Survey at / encuesta en:  
**cityofsantacruz/COPselect**

Respond by March 24  
Responder antes del 24 de marzo



Santa Cruz is preparing for the selection of the City's next Police Chief. To ensure the best possible decision for our community, City Manager Matt Huffaker would like your input regarding the ideal candidate profile for Santa Cruz and your thoughts about priorities for the next leader of our police department. Find the community survey at [cityofsantacruz.com/COPselect](http://cityofsantacruz.com/COPselect).

The survey can take less than 5 minutes of your time (or more if you wish!). Your contributions will be factored into the collective feedback received and will help to guide the City in determining next steps and, ultimately, the selection of the next chief.

**Please complete the survey by March 24, 2022.** Thank you for your participation!

### Homelessness Response

The City's Safe Parking programs started operating on February 1 and is enrolling participants. Tier 1 & 2 programs will start on February 28. Presently, there are 3 spaces for emergency (Tier 1), and 6 spaces for overnight (Tier 2) at Lots 4 & 5. This On March 3, the City Planning Commission approved the Coastal and Design Permits related to the Oversize Vehicle Ordinance and safe parking programs, with some additional conditions of approval.

Staff presented a 3-year Homelessness Response Action Plan at the March 8 City Council Meeting, and the plan was adopted by the Council. The actions and proposed investments included in the plan are intended to shift our overall homelessness response approach from reactive, temporary fixes to more proactive, permanent and sustainable solutions. Staff will return to the City Council in May with a progress report that includes a fully developed timeline for implementation and a set of outcome and metrics for measuring results.

Staff obtained access to housing vouchers from the County on very short notice and quickly worked with 1220 River program participants to complete the application requirements ahead of the deadline and successfully secure vouchers for 4 participants.

City staff in Homelessness Response, Parks, Public Works, and Police worked to relocate persons camping along the San Lorenzo River levee and walkaway, and to clean up debris left in these areas. City & County staff participated in a peer learning exchange with the United States Interagency Council on Homeless and the Santa Barbara Police Chief on the topic of restorative policing practices.

## Economic Development

### Housing Development & Preservation | HOME-ARP Survey Available Online

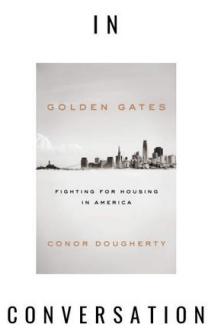


The City of Santa Cruz has been awarded approximately **\$1.2 million** in programmable funds from the HOME Investment Partnership American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP). The HOME-ARP program provides funding to HOME Investment Partnership Participating Jurisdictions to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability. This

funding can only be used for specific activities.

There is a short online survey available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to provide feedback on this funding.

## Library



Thursday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. | Join Conor Dougherty, author of "Golden Gates: Fighting for Housing in America," and Jonathan Franzen in a conversation about the complex social and economic factors driving housing--and homelessness--in America.

This event is made possible by a partnership between the Homeless Garden Project and

the Santa Cruz Public Libraries. The event is free and registration is required. Please register here: <https://bit.ly/housingconv>

## Parks and Recreation

### Santa Cruz Roller Derby returns to the Civic March 12!



Santa Cruz Roller Derby is back with an all-new home season! In the kickoff event of the California Derby Galaxy regular season, Santa Cruz will be competing against teams all over the greater bay area for local supremacy. With a double-header featuring two Santa Cruz teams, our athletes will face off against the Undead Skaters of Antioch in the higher-level Quazar Division, while our intermediate-level team will take on the Quad Squad from Solano County. With admission, you're guaranteed double the derby and double the fun! Come on out to cheer for your favorite skaters at Santa Cruz Roller Derby and see some of the best skaters in the world play! [Tickets available at SantaCruzTickets.com](http://SantaCruzTickets.com)

## Bocce Courts Get a Makeover

Bocce Courts at George Washington Park were refurbished by Park staff. New posts and borders replaced old rotted wood and 200 pounds of new oyster shell and flour were added for a great Bocce experience.



## Field work getting done at Delaveaga Park Baseball Fields

We added a product called 'Turface" this is to help keep the fines compact by holding moisture in so we have to water less. Also we added 12 tons of field fines to each field, leveled and drug for perfect play.

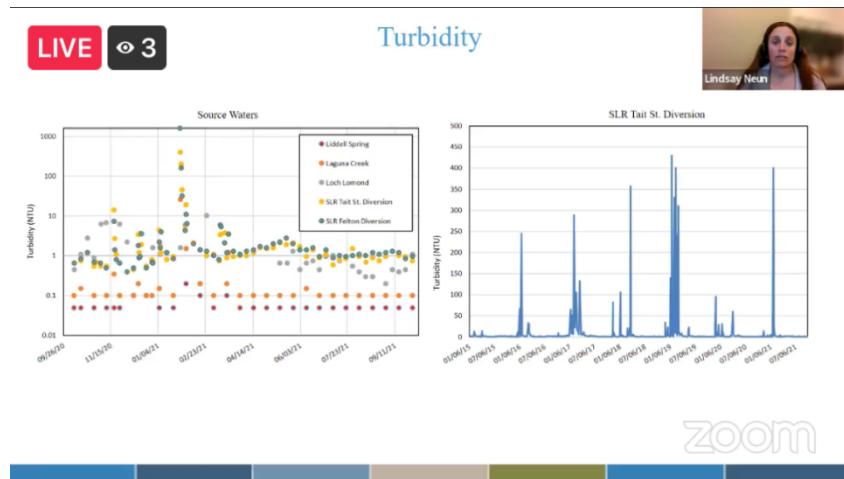


## Water

The Water Department has a lot of "unsung heroes." These are the staff behind the scenes making sure that water is reliable, clean and safe - among other things. Our Water Quality staff monitors raw water sources, finished water, and distributed water. They do this by performing hundreds of tests year-round throughout our water system (in all kinds of crazy conditions), analyzing water samples in our EPA-certified laboratory. Highly regulated, [our monitoring program](#) exceeds the state and federal requirements for testing.

After the CZU Fires in 2020, our already-burdened Water Quality staff took on additional monitoring to ensure that source water being used for our water supply didn't contain harmful contaminants. A [report on their findings](#) was presented to the Water Commission this week, prompting this nice recognition from a citizen who had shared concerns about fire-related contamination: *Thank you so much for your excellent presentation on source monitoring at last night's Water Commission Zoom meeting.*

*Monitoring our sources in the wake of the CZU fire is so much extra work, and I appreciate you and every member of the Water Quality Lab staff for your hard work.*



Water Quality Manager Lindsay Nuen presenting to the Water Commission

This week the tunnel being drilled for the Newell Creek Dam inlet/outlet project intercepted the first of three vertical intakes. This is really exciting because it means the horizontal tunnel is aligned with the vertical tunnel; two tunnels connecting underground is no small feat!

The project to replace water meters system-wide is now in full deployment and meeting their target to install 500 meters per week. Now, two weeks in at full steam, installation statistics indicate things are proceeding nicely. One telling metric –% of meters visited that were completed– has steadily risen from 73% at the very start of the project (early January) to around 95% as of March.

Last, the plumbing retrofit program concludes tomorrow, March 11, after almost two decades of successfully meeting the program goals.