



City Manager's Weekly Update

September 26, 2022

Economic Development

Housing Development & Preservation | Housing and Homeless Resources

Anyone facing eviction or who is at risk of homelessness should text "Rent" to 211211 or call 211 for resources and services. [Visit the 2-1-1 Santa Cruz County Website for more details](#). 2-1-1 Santa Cruz County, a program of [United Way of Santa Cruz](#), is the comprehensive information and referral service for Santa Cruz County. The program connects callers and texters with information about health and human services available to them. 2-1-1 has resources specific to [Housing and Homeless Services](#).

Homelessness Response Team

Homelessness services at National Guard Armory

Recently Expanded

The **City Overlook Shelter** — a temporary, tent-based safe sleeping program operated by The Salvation Army—now provides space for up to 135 tents with 24/7 staff and two meals a day. Participants can utilize this program for up to six months. City programs at the Armory offer participants hygiene facilities, electrical charging, transportation to and from the site, and connections to support services.



For more information: cityofsantacruz.com/homelessness

Planning

Upcoming Downtown Plan Expansion Project Scoping Meeting

On September 28, 2022 at 6:00 PM, the City is holding a scoping meeting to inform the public that the City is evaluating the Downtown Plan Expansion project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of this meeting is to solicit public comments regarding the type and extent of environmental analyses to be undertaken. For more information about the project, and to review the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Notice of Preparation under CEQA, please visit the project website at www.cityofsantacruz.com/downtown. After this scoping meeting, the next outreach event for the project will be held later this fall.

Meeting Details

Downtown Plan Expansion Scoping Meeting Virtual Meeting Information:

September 28, 22 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83682184844>

Webinar ID: 836 8218 4844

Objective Standards Outreach

With the Council's continuation of the objective standards for multi-family development and associated rezoning to occur at November 15, 2022 hearing, the Advance Planning team is working on final outreach efforts. Informational materials are being prepared and staff are working to schedule various opportunities for community conversations. Neighbors in Central Park reached out with questions and a meeting with them will be held in coming weeks. Additional materials and engagement opportunities will be available on the project website at www.cityofsantacruz.com/OBJ.

Parks & Recreation

Civic Auditorium Events

On Saturday, the Civic hosted the [Santa Cruz Symphony's 2022-2023 Season](#) opening night concert, *Symphonic Dances*, that included dancers from Esperanza Del Valle Baile Folclorico.

On Saturday, October 1, the Civic welcomes Santa Cruz artist [Oliver Tree](#) for a concert that is certain to sell out. Check out [Oliver Tree's appearance on Jimmy Kimmel Live](#).



Public Works

Resource Recovery

One of our Master Recyclers, Jon, set up a Waste Reduction education booth at a local Block Party this past weekend. He answered questions about the City Residential Food Scrap and Residential Recycling Programs. Thank you, Jon, for sharing your knowledge with the community!



Resource Recovery Collections participated in the Benchland clean-up by providing multiple roll-off boxes.

Environmental Compliance

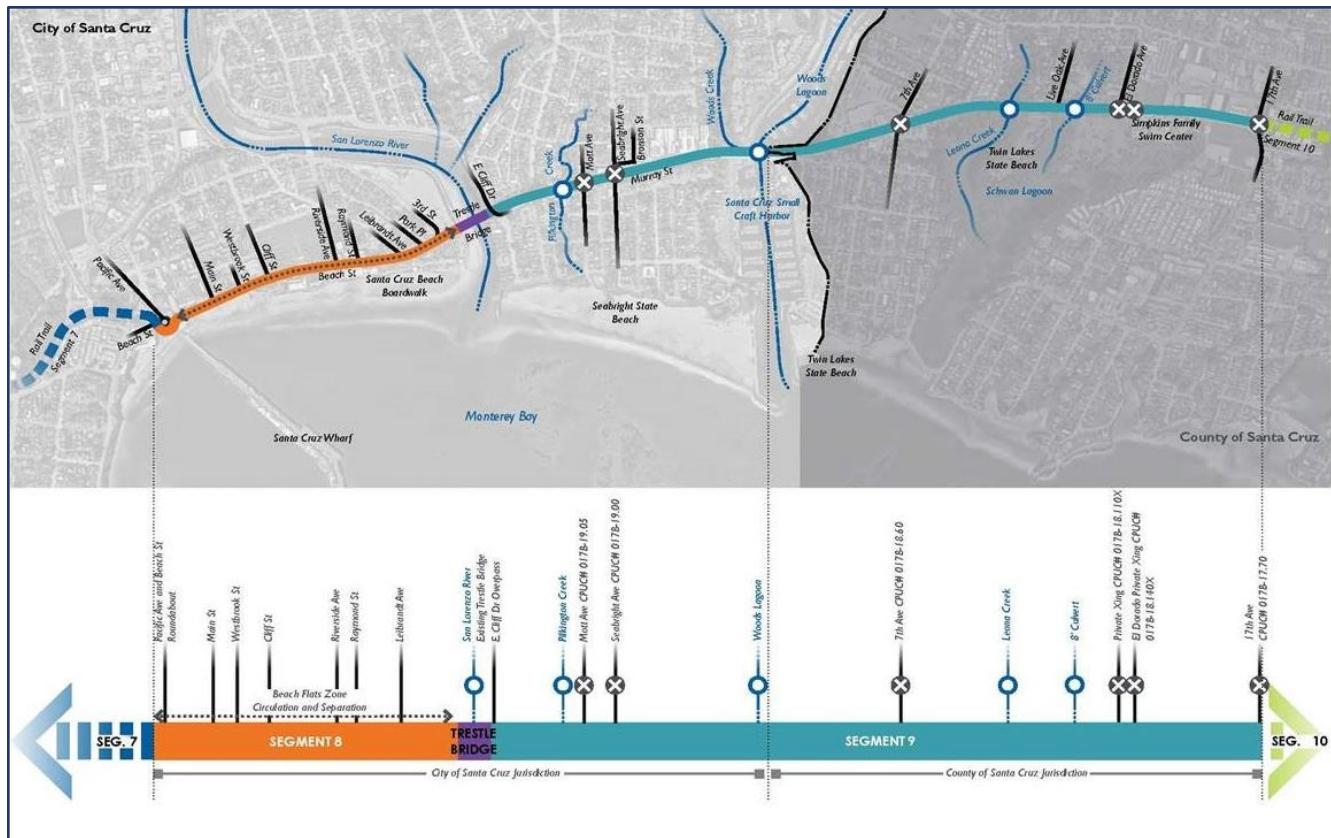
Last Thursday we celebrated Pollution Prevention Week by honoring [35 Clean Ocean Business awardees](#) at a special dinner at the Dream Inn. The event featured a presentation on the upcoming Enhanced Source Control Program, a joint City Environmental Compliance effort with Soquel Creek Water District to support the potable reuse project, Pure Water Soquel. [Read more.](#)



Engineering

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for Coastal Rail Trail Segments 8 & 9 was published on Friday, September 23. As Lead Agency, the City completed this report in coordination with the County of Santa Cruz and the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission. The report includes documents that are required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of DEIR is to analyze and disclose a project's potential effects on the natural and human environment, then identify alternatives and mitigation measures to avoid significant effects.

The public review period for the DEIR began Friday, September 23, and ends on Friday, November 4. Within this time period, the City must receive all written comments on the adequacy of the DEIR. The City is scheduled to have a public meeting on the DEIR on Wednesday, October 19, beginning at 5:00 PM via remote teleconference. Information regarding participation, as well as the DEIR itself, is available at www.cityofsantacruz.com/CoastalRailTrail.



Traffic Engineering

Thanks to OTS grant funding, twenty decals featuring the City's four latest Street Smarts messages were installed on City vehicles last Friday. As the vehicles constantly move around town, the messaging will provide fresh reminders about traffic safety.

Water

First Rain of the Season

We are grateful for last week's early storm as it was highly productive! The rain provided the San Lorenzo watershed with an earlier than usual "first flush" event, causing our treatment operators to spend a good portion of their time this week changing sources and adjusting treatment. Every source-water change requires treatment operators to re-optimize treatment plant processes.

Thanks to our rangers, partners in Parks and Recreation, and a few volunteers, we were able to clear Sycamore Grove on Saturday ahead of the storm. Over 500 pounds of trash were picked up along the river channel. With the increase in river flow following the storm, this trash could have been mobilized, so the timing was perfect and the work much appreciated.



Fall Fish Counts

Seining the San Lorenzo lagoon took significant bandwidth last week. Unprecedented conditions in the lagoon, including drought, the opening and closing of the mouth, high temperatures, rainfall, and other effects, will make drawing conclusions about this year's fish count challenging.