



City Manager's Weekly Update

City of Santa Cruz

November 4, 2022

Neighbors of Lower Ocean Hold 24th Annual Fall Clean Up

After a 2 ½ year pause due to COVID-19, the Neighbors of Lower Ocean marked its 24th annual fall clean-up day in partnership with the City of Santa Cruz on Saturday, October 15, 2022. The event provided property owners, tenants, and business owners the opportunity to dispose of rubbish and work collectively to keep their neighborhood clean.

Neighbors met, shared snacks, participated in clean-up activities, and traded reusable treasures. At the Grey Bears collection station on Barson Street, residents were able to share with neighbors furniture, toys, bicycles, and other materials, preventing useable house-hold items from going into the city landfill. Senior City Planner Katherine Donovan provided residents with a housing and neighborhood survey to gather information about the Lower Ocean community's needs.

Organizers and participants included City Planning, Code Compliance, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, the NOLO neighborhood, Community Bridges/Nueva Vista Center, and the Grey Bears non-profit. Collaboration between these community partners made the event a success:

- NOLO volunteer Julius Sotelo
- Grey Bears members Craig and Tina Forest
- City Sanitation staff and drivers Daniel Gutgesell, Victor Hernandez and Janice Kelly
- Community Bridges team members Pamela Nell and Meridith Cook
- City Planning staff Nancy Concepcion, Jenna Wilson, Kim Dorey, and Katherine Donovan



Concert Meets Ritual – East Forest at the Civic

Saturday, November 12 at 7:00pm

The East Forest Ceremony-Concert is a multi-level experience where concert meets ritual, merging live music and guided meditation, including songs from the East Forest collaborative album 'RAM DASS'. Performed in the round, this unique event will allow participants to sit or lay down on blankets and yoga mats radiating outward from the center stage and experience a deep dive into the rich sonic landscapes of East Forest with strategically deployed audio being projected back into the room for a truly immersive experience. [Tickets available.](#)



Code Compliance Staff Attend CACEO Training

Planning Department

Last week, several members of the Code Compliance staff attended a statewide training in Anaheim hosted by the California Association of Code Enforcement Officers (CACEO). Conference topics included legal updates, housing inspections, cannabis inspections, mental health overviews, illegal dumping, fires, sidewalk vending, and leadership training. Over 500 code enforcement officers were in attendance, sharing ideas and strategies to further benefit their communities and profession.



Take the Housing Element Survey by 11/10/22

Planning Department

The City of Santa Cruz is updating the Housing Element for the 2023-2031 Planning Period. The Housing Element guides policies, programs, and actions that support and encourage housing growth for all income levels. Community input is important to create policies and programs that appropriately address the community's needs. Add your voice to this process and share the opportunity with your neighbors! The Housing Element survey is open through November 10, 2022. Please share this with your neighbors too. To take the survey, please visit Santa Cruz's Housing Element [website](#).



Zero Waste Potluck for Food Scrap Diversion

Public Works Department

This week, more than a dozen Master Recycler volunteers and Waste Reduction staff reunited for an in-person meeting. The zero-waste potluck provided an opportunity to learn more and ask questions about the new Food Scrap Diversion program. Master Recycler volunteers play an integral role in the sharing of information with our community.



Street Smarts Provides Free Bike Helmets

Public Works Department

The City's Street Smarts program provided bike helmets to approximately 20 youth in need at Bayview Elementary School on Wednesday, November 2. Helmets were fitted by Bike Church staff and supplied by the California Office of Traffic Safety. Another 20 helmets were donated to Bayview's after-school bike program.



Halloween Safety Lighting & Clean Up

Public Works Department

The Street Maintenance Division placed portable flood lights downtown in preparation for Halloween. The lighting was coordinated with the Police Department to support public safety on Halloween night. The lights were removed the morning after Halloween. Resource Recovery Collections also assisted with post-Halloween downtown clean-up on Tuesday morning.



Fleet Maintenance Supports Resource Recovery Efforts

Public Works Department

The Fleet Maintenance Division assisted Resource Recovery with unloading nine pallets of countertop food waste pails. The pails will be distributed in the coming weeks to expand the City's Food Waste Diversion Program for buildings that contain five or more dwelling units, as required by the SB1383 mandate.



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