



City Manager's Weekly Update

City of Santa Cruz

May 8, 2023

Santa Cruz Police Invite Public to May 16 Community Meeting

In accordance with AB 481, the Santa Cruz Police Department (SCPD) will host an online community meeting to discuss and answer questions about military equipment used by SCPD. The meeting will include a brief presentation about AB 481 and a summary of the equipment, followed by an opportunity for you to speak with SCPD staff and ask any questions that you may have.

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Join the webinar online or call in at +1 669 444 9171, 888 788 0099 Toll-Free, or 833 548 0276 Toll-Free.

Webinar ID: 816 4753 8489



To submit questions ahead of time, please e-mail jblaschke@cityofsantacruz.com.

You can find our current inventory of military equipment on the **SCPD**

Transparency Portal. Please note that none of the listed equipment comes from the military; it simply meets the definition in **State law AB 481**.

Local Events Held at Public Parks

Ducky Derby Held at Harvey West Park

Hundreds of people came out to enjoy the Ducky Derby on April 22, 2023. Duck races, prizes, games, music, face painting, and food were some of the activities enjoyed by people who attended. This was the 33rd annual Ducky Derby hosted by the Omega Nu organization and City Parks and Recreation. 100% of the proceeds go back to City and County communities for various scholarships, educational materials for teachers, and community programs for charities.



Grand Re-Opening of Garfield Park

The Neighborhood Parks Team worked hard to upgrade Garfield Park, and we celebrated with the community at a Grand Re-Opening on May 5, 2023. Come check out the park with cornhole, foosball, tetherball, and ping pong!



\$127 Million Water Infrastructure Loan Set

The Water Department's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan for \$127,730,000 closed on May 4, 2023. The interest rate is fixed for 40 years at 3.77%. The loan will cover up to 49% of costs for several key Water Department projects, including:

- Newell Creek pipeline replacement from Felton to Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant.
- University Tank #4 replacement project.
- Facility improvements at the treatment plant.
- Aquifer storage and recovery projects.



One of the many Newell Creek Pipeline breaks. The WIFIA loan will pay to replace this critical, vulnerable pipeline.

These critical improvements will ensure that ratepayers continue to have safe drinking water for current and future generations. The remaining 51% of project costs will come from other debt, cash on hand, and grants. Thank you to the Water Department WIFIA Team for its efforts to complete the complex application process.

City Celebrates Professional Municipal Clerks Week

A proclamation, issued by Mayor Keeley on April 25, 2023, resolves that the week of April 30 through May 6, 2023 was designated as "Professional Municipal Clerks Week." It was presented to City Clerk Bonnie Bush.

City Clerks are often met with the question, "What does a City Clerk do?" The answer is "a lot." To name a few things, City Clerk Bonnie Bush, with Deputy City Clerk Julia Wood and the help of Clerk administrative staff,

maintains all official Council minutes, resolution and ordinance books, and recorded records; processes Public Records Act requests; prepares Council meeting agendas and materials; processes contracts and agreements; oversees the City Advisory Bodies; administers local elections—the list goes on. The proclamation extends appreciation to all Municipal and Deputy Clerks for the services with which they provide their communities. Specifically, the proclamation cites that the Clerk "serves as the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies, and agencies of government at other levels."



City Partners to Host Santa Cruz County Small Business Summit

The Economic Development Business Development Team supported the Santa Cruz Small Business Development Center (SBDC) along with Event Santa Cruz to host the second Santa Cruz County Small Business Summit on Friday, April 28, 2023 at the Museum of Art and History. The event aimed

to connect small business owners countywide to share tips, tools, and resources, ranging from business owners' experiences to partner organizations' current programs and resources.

Over 175 participants attended the day-long summit, participating in interactive sessions hosted at the Museum of Art and History and surrounding small businesses. Participating businesses included Yoso Wellness Spa, Cruzio, Nextspace, Rosie McCann's, and Downtown Pops! participant Childish.

There were 27 speakers who facilitated various interactive sessions with topics ranging from access to capital, managing stress, to branding, and even artificial intelligence. Among the speakers were Keynote Speaker Zach Davis of Penny Ice Creamery, regional stakeholders, and local business owners.



Affordable Housing Events Held Throughout May

In-person and virtual events will be held throughout Affordable Housing Month in May. Click on event titles below to register or for more information.

Film Screening: **"City Rising: Examining Gentrification and its Historical Roots"**

May 4th, 7:00–8:00 PM

Affordable Housing Month Kick Off, May 6th, 12:30–3:30 PM

The Importance of Supportive Housing, May 10th, 5:30–7:00 PM

Dr. Tiffany Manuel: Reimagining Issues that Determine our Future in SC County

May 11th, 1:30–4:00 PM

Dr. Tiffany Manuel: Building Public Will for Action

May 11th, 4:00–6:30 PM

YIMBY's Santa Cruz Housing Element Bike Tour

May 13th, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Habitat for Humanity Project Tour: Rodeo Creek Court

May 16th, 5:00–6:30 PM

MidPen Groundbreaking (314 Jessie Street)

May 19th, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM

Defending the Right to Live in Your Vehicle

May 20th, 2:00–3:00 PM

Affordable Housing in Your Backyard

May 21st, 3:00–5:00 PM

Natural Bridges Apartments Groundbreaking

May 30th, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM

Visit the City's **affordable housing website** for more events and information.

May is Historic Preservation Month

The Mayor declared May as Historic Preservation Month with the theme “People Saving Places,” celebrating community members who played a pivotal role in establishing the Historic Preservation Program in 1973.

Fifty years ago, the City of Santa Cruz responded to citizens’ concerns about the demolition of iconic historic structures by












studying ways to protect and enhance architecturally significant buildings. The result was the first Historic Preservation Plan published in 1974. The plan recognized the importance of creating an inventory of significant structures, identifying potential historic districts, and developing a framework for implementation of a preservation program.

For the Plan, Associate Planner Robert “Benny” Bennett created a series of 17 line drawings highlighting architecturally significant landmarks: La Bahia, the School Street Adobe, Calvary Episcopal Church, and Piedmont Court. Text contributors included Associate Planner Joe Hall, City Museum Director Charles Prentiss, UCSC student Michele Belden, and Santa Cruz Historical Society members John Chase, Doni Tunheim, and Skip Morris. It was sold by the Planning Department for \$2, and in July 1974 it was noted by the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* as a local “bestseller.”

In 1975, the City Council adopted the first historic preservation ordinance and established the Historic Preservation Commission. By 1976, the City published the first Historic Building Survey, identifying 308 architecturally significant buildings.

This month, a limited number of posters with Benny Bennett's drawings are available at City Planning, 809 Center Street, Room 101, M-TH, 7:30-11:30 AM. Or, take a historic walking tour of Walnut Avenue, Mission Hill, Ocean View Avenue, Beach Hill, Downtown, and the Cowell Lime Works. Tours are available at the Downtown Information Kiosk, 1130 Pacific Avenue, corner of Pacific and Soquel Avenues.

MAY IS PRESERVATION MONTH
“PEOPLE SAVING PLACES”
CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
2023

 La Bahia Belltower, 1926 215 Beach St.		 Haslam House (Dunce cap), 1893 304 Walnut Ave.
 Calvary Episcopal Church, 1864 332 Center St.	 Blackburn House, ca. 1854 101 Cedar St.	 Piedmont Court, 1912–1916 260 High St.
 Haslam House, 1893 304 Walnut Ave.	 Sedgewick-Lynch House, 1877 174 West Cliff Dr.	 Golden Gate Villa, 1891 924 Third St.
 Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park Santa Cruz Mission Adobe, 1822–1824 144 School St.	<p>ROBERT “BENNY” BENNETT (1933–2023)</p> <p>ASSOCIATE PLANNER (1970s) AS A GIFTED PEN AND INK ARTIST, HIS DRAWINGS GRACED THE FIRST HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN IN 1974. HIS ARTISTRY HELPED THE PLAN BECOME AN INSTANT “BEST SELLER.”</p>	 Downey Apartments, 1905–1910 303–307 Mission St.

Joe Michalek



Wood Chips Available to Purchase

Resource Recovery recently completed grinding and processing 3,030 tons of material. We now have available for purchase 150 cubic yards of clean wood chips at \$5/yard and 50 cubic yards of redwood chips at \$10/yard at our **Resource Recovery Facility**, 605 Dimeo Lane (two-yard minimum purchase).

Development Proposed at 352 Market Street

In December of 2022, the Planning Department received an application for a project at 352 Market Street, which includes the demolition of an existing single-family dwelling and construction of five new rental apartments. The 11,586-square-foot parcel is located within the R-L (Multiple Residence – Low-Density) zone district. The project requires a Residential Demolition Authorization Permit and Design Permit, which will be reviewed administratively without a public hearing. Staff completed the first submission review and deemed the application incomplete in January of 2023.

On April 27, 2023, the applicant held a community meeting to inform the community of the

proposed project design and received feedback from the public. There was a total of three attendees who asked questions about conversion of non-habitable storage space to ADUs and raised concerns with parking issues if ADUs were constructed. Concerns were also expressed about the height of the third building located at

the rear of the property and its connection to the creek path.

The applicant is currently working on a second submission to address staff's comments and compliance with the recently adopted Objective Design Standards. Rina Zhou is the City Planner working on the project.



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