

City Manager's Weekly Update

March 4, 2016

POLICE

Police Department sworn staffing is currently at 91 with three vacant positions. We have a full complement of six CSO positions, two assigned downtown and four assigned to parks. We have three police officer trainees who are currently in the police academy and scheduled to graduate on March 31st. They will spend 18-weeks in our field training program before they will be ready to work as solo police officers. We continue our aggressive recruitment efforts with the assistance of HR, however the current job market for qualified police officer candidates is challenging. Recently, we recruited for police officer trainees. We began with 50 applicants and after review of the employment applications and other documents, we now have 18 candidates who will move forward and participate in the selection interview process. The significant decrease in the applicant pool is the result of applicants who do not follow through by submitting all required documents and by others who do not meet our minimum qualifications, mostly the result of disqualifying information that is disclosed on their personal history statement that is submitted during the application process. We continue to recruit academy graduates and lateral police officer candidates, however the pool of those candidates has proven to be relatively small.

We are currently recruiting for **CSO candidates** in hopes of overfilling our CSO positions by two. Adding additional CSO's will relieve police officers of duties that the CSO's can perform, thereby allowing the police officers to focus more on the core function(s) of a sworn police officer position. We currently have one police records technician vacancy, which we are recruiting to fill. We continue to put great emphasis on our recruitment efforts. Deputy Chief Steve Clark serves on the advisory board for the West Valley College Administration of Justice program. The advisory board met earlier this week and they will begin referring West Valley College Administrative of Justice students who are seeking employment to the City of Santa Cruz for employment opportunities.

I would like to thank everyone who joined us last Friday for the **Honor Guard ceremony at the Baker-Butler Memorial Garden** to honor and remember Sergeant Butch Baker and Detective Elizabeth Butler on the third anniversary of their tragic deaths. Last week was emotional for everyone at P.D., but the outpouring of support was amazing and a poignant reminder that they will never be forgotten.

The **City Hall to You** event last week was a success. We were pleased to participate and we look forward to the other upcoming events. PD engaged the public in an interactive exercise in order to determine the community's public safety priorities in their neighborhoods. We will use the information that we gleaned from the meeting to prioritize the deployment of resources and enhance our problem-solving efforts.

SCPD is hosting “**Criminal Justice Day**” for Leadership Santa Cruz County today, Friday March 4th. This has become an annual tradition at P.D. Chief Vogel will be giving a presentation to the current class of Leadership Santa Cruz County. This will kick-off the day for the class, which will include a field trip to other criminal justice venues in the county as well as presentations by other county criminal justice leaders.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Wireless Upgrades. The IT team upgraded the wireless infrastructure at the PD’s building.

Civic Ticketing. With UCSC exiting the Audience View ticketing application, IT and Parks & Rec worked with the vendor to move the ticketing application and contract over to the City.

Virtualization. Strong progress was made in our virtualization roll-out when the team brought up the virtualization infrastructure at our PD data center (there is still work to be done there) and at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Virtualization is more flexible and cost effective than a physical infrastructure.

Loch Lomond. IT re-installed a cashiering station for the Loch Lomond opening on March 1.

Year-end. IT and Finance have successfully worked another year to deliver W2’s and 1099’s on our Eden Financial system.

Adobe Pro Clean-up. We are now up-to-date city-wide in our Adobe Pro versions.

Storage. As users all want to save things, IT has upgraded and increased our storage capacity.

Emergency power. PD now has a new uninterruptable power supply (UPS) for backup power in the case of an outage.

Mobility strategy. IT has a new strategy for mobility at the City and will be working on the first recommendations of the strategy – including updated policies and a device management platform.

Fully staffed! With the start of our new business systems analyst, Sandra, in February, IT is now at full staffing for the first time in years!

PLANNING

214 Plymouth. The Planning Department recently received an application to subdivide this parcel located at the northeast corner of Plymouth Street and Grant Street into three lots and to construct three new duplexes on the site where two duplexes and two single family dwellings currently exist and will be retained. The parcel is zoned as R-L, which allows for multiple units at a low to medium density (10-20 units per acre). The existing units that front on

Grant Street are proposed to remain and will be repaired and restored as a part of the process. The site design is based on minimal disturbance to existing heritage trees and proposes a common driveway and parking lot that would be accessible from Plymouth Street. Planning staff will ensure that landscaping and building design are appropriate for this highly visible corner and that the units meet the City's standards for residential noise exposure given the close proximity to the Highway 1 fishhook. The project requires Zoning Administrator approval of a Design Permit and Minor Land Division. The applicant recently completed a pre-application review of the project which we coordinate with all relevant City departments. This results in an expedited permit process. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on the project.

Pour Taproom/110 Cooper. Recently the Zoning Administrator approved an Administrative Use Permit for a restaurant and tap room to occupy a ground floor tenant space in the Cooper House, formerly occupied by a retail clothing store (*Sway*). The use is somewhat unique in that customers purchase tokens to allow for self-service tastings of various beers on tap. This application was processed with significant involvement of Police Department staff, who were instrumental in working with the owners to include with the proposal a kitchen with food and non-alcoholic beverages on the menu, allowing it to qualify as a low risk alcohol establishment. The establishment will be open Monday through Saturday 11:00 am to 11:00 pm, with alcohol service ceasing at 10:30 pm. Nancy Concepcion is the planner working on the application.

KC's Sports Bar. In June of 2014, the Zoning Administrator approved an Administrative Use Permit (AUP) for a restaurant and sports bar to occupy this building located at 711 Pacific Avenue. The use was approved as a low risk alcohol outlet, replacing a legal non-conforming high risk outlet (*The Avenue Bar*), which was a constant source of problem activity for the Police Department and the community. KC's Sports Bar was described as a family friendly restaurant where patrons could watch sporting events. The AUP was approved before the alcohol ordinance was amended to place a midnight closure time on low risk outlets. As such, the use was allowed a 1:30 a.m. close. According to data provided by the Police Department, between the time they opened and July of 2015, there were 186 calls for service. There were also a number of documented violations of conditions of approval related to entertainment, hours of operation, lack of security cameras and events restricting patrons to 21 years of age or older (which is also a violation of their ABC license type). Planning and Police department staff met with the owners a number of times over the past couple of years to alert them of the issues and warn them that lack of compliance could result in modification or revocation of their AUP. Unfortunately, the problems persisted. At the request of the Police Department, last Wednesday, the Zoning Administrator conducted a public hearing and took action to modify their AUP to reduce their hours of operation such that the establishment closes no later than 11:00 pm. (You might recall that a similar action was taken on the Cypress Lounge a few years ago.) At the conclusion of the public hearing, the applicant indicated that the decision would be appealed to the Planning Commission. Any action of the Planning Commission would be appealable to the City Council. Eric Marlatt or Lt. Warren Berry may be contacted for any questions.

Planned Construction Projects and Projects Underway. We are experiencing a notable increase in development; both with increased applications and with inquiries on potential projects of all types and sizes. Attached is a table of Development Projects recently completed, underway, and planned. This does not include those that are currently under discussion or review as a pre-application. Please feel free to contact us about any of these.

**CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
Cumulative Projects – 02.01.16**

NAME/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
▪ Recently Constructed		
1375 Pacific Avenue	36,177 sf retail & 54,265 sf office	Being Occupied
1109-1111 Ocean Street	975 sf commercial; 6 1-br & 3 studio units	Being Occupied
114 Hall	Duplex	Being Occupied
706-708 Frederick St	24 Condos & 1,600 sf office	Being Occupied
▪ Under Construction		
119 Ortalon Circle	8-lot subdivision & demolition of 1 SFD	Under construction
912 Western Drive	4-lot minor land division	Under construction
Misty Court -114 Rapetta Rd	4-lot minor land division	Under construction
170 Frederick	9 SFD & 3 ADU	Under construction
Tannery Arts Center	120,000 sf Art Center	Under construction
407 Broadway (Hyatt)	111-room hotel	Under construction
150 Jewell	48 unit memory care facility	Under construction
2956 Mission (Fairfield Inn)	82 room hotel	Under construction
555 Pacific	94 small ownership units (SOU's)/5,000 square feet of commercial space	Grading
211 Mora	10 apartments	Under construction
244 San Lorenzo	4 Townhouses (with demolition of an SFD)	Under construction
716-724 Seabright (Seabright Breakers)	11 Townhouses	Under construction
710 Emeline	Demo. Single-family residence and construct triplex	Under construction
2020 North Pacific (Lighthouse Bank)	Add 3,000 sf to bank	Under construction
▪ Approved		
618 Windsor	5 apartments	Approved
2200 Delaware	395,400 sf industrial; 248 maximum residential units (197,100 sf)	1 st phase complete
131 Bixby	Duplex	Approved

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
Cumulative Projects – 02.01.16

NAME/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
745 Ocean (Starbucks)	2,000 sf coffee shop	Approved
1804-1812 Ocean Street Extension	11 Townhouses	Approved
313-321-325 Riverside Ave. (Courtyard Marriott)	155-room hotel with 200-seat banquet hall, café, pool, exercise room - replace 3 existing motels (64 rooms and manager unit) for net increase in 91 rooms	Approved
1024 Soquel Avenue	2 commercial condos with 6 residential condos above	Approved
514 Frederick Street	Demolish SFD and construct 4 townhouses	Approved
150 Fernside Street	Demolish SFD and construct 6 townhouses	Approved
301 Beach	Add 5 rooms to an existing hotel	Approved
1547 Pacific (Park Pacific)	63 residential units and 5,750 square feet commercial-	Approved
350 Ocean Street	63 apartments (with demolition of 20 existing apartments & 2 SFD) and 6,800 sf retail	Approved
716 Darwin	15 apartments	Approved
215 Beach (La Bahia)	165 Room Hotel	Approved
1314-1400 Ocean	8,400 sf commercial development	Approved
▪ Pending Applications		
1930 Ocean Street Extension	40 condominium units	Pending application
1013 Pacific	Demolish existing mixed-use building and construct 18 condos and 4,300 sq. ft. commercial space	Pending application
175 West Cliff	27 room addition to hotel	Pending application
232 River	12 condominium units	Pending application
1024 Soquel	13 apartment units, 1,600 sq. ft. commercial space	Pending application
2415 Mission	16 apartment units	Pending application
430 South Branciforte	Lot split	Pending application
738 Pacheco	Three lot subdivision	Pending application
1314-1400 Ocean	8,400 sf commercial development	Pending application

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
Cumulative Projects – 02.01.16

NAME/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
2424 Mission	Demolish 32 room hotel and construct 60 room hotel	Pending application
230 Grandview	Demolish SFR and construct 12 apartment units	Pending application
716 Monterey	Lot split	Pending application
800 Soquel	Two units above 2,600 sq. ft. commercial space	Pending application
495 Upper Park (DeLaVeaga Park)	Outdoor Theater	Pending application
1800 Soquel	32 condominium units, 4,000 sq. ft commercial space	Pending application

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

West Cliff Path Sinkhole – The Don Chapin Company (contractor) mobilized this week to repair the damage. The contractor first armored the exterior of the wall with 3-5 ton rock and then placed concrete below the wall to plug the hole and limit further erosion. It is anticipated that this will stop the hole from growing any larger during the large swells expected over the next couple of weeks. Staff, along with Mesiti-Miller Engineering and geotechnical engineers Haro Kasunich & Associates, are developing a course of action to ensure the integrity of the wall before filling in the void.



Traffic Engineering

The acceptance and budget adjustment of two Federal HSIP Cycle 7 grants is on the March 8 Council agenda, one for the Bay Street Sidewalk Infill Project, the other for the Bay and King Streets Protected Left Turn and Streetlights Project. The projects, in general, will construct sidewalk and landscape strips up to 12 feet from the existing face of curb (all within the public right-of-way) on Bay Street between King Street and Escalona Drive and add protected left turn phasing (green arrows) on Bay Street at King Street. Environmental and Design is not expected to start until mid-2016 with construction anticipated for mid-2017. These are very important bicycle and pedestrian safety projects.

Santa Cruz Shakespeare Council approved traffic measures are in process. The desired change for the Upper Park Road yield sign to become a stop sign tentatively scheduled for council consideration on the March 22 agenda. Several other traffic work orders for striping and signage improvements will be submitted and added to the traffic maintenance work load next week. The request to upgrade to an LED street light at Upper Park Road and N. Branciforte has been sent to PG&E and they have added it to their work schedule. In addition, staff requested a front shield on the fixture so it does not shine into houses across the street.

As part of the street overlay and cape seal projects this spring and summer, staff is looking to improve the lower Broadway striping between Laurel St. Bridge and Clay St. The Lower Broadway Striping Plan is tentatively scheduled for council consideration on the March 22 Council agenda. In general, the plan is an extension of the January 2015 Laurel Street green striping improvements. The plan will continue to improve awareness of conflict zones and provide positive guidance for bicyclists traveling east-west on Broadway.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Operations and Maintenance

Maintenance has completed a full rebuild of primary sedimentation tank #4. The tank received a protective coating along the concrete walls to increase asset life. The tank was rebuilt with a new stainless steel skimming assembly fabricated in-house and also fitted with new chains, flights and sprockets. The tank should have a 10-year use time before another complete rebuild is necessary.



Laboratory & Environmental Compliance

Three students from San Lorenzo High School visited the laboratory to study how caffeine analysis in water to assess water pollution is performed. The students saw a demonstration of the ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay) performed on their own samples by Jennie Munster QA/QC Chemist. The exercise is part of the students' science fair project; a video of it was recorded by the laboratory. Below are two screenshots from the demonstration.



Parking

Parking Facility Maintenance Assistants worked together to clear out a large encampment which included bio waste, trash and large structures behind parking lot 18 in the Beach area, near the West Cliff Drive Bridge. Two truckloads of debris and trash were taken to the landfill. They will continue to monitor the area on a regular basis.



Resource Recovery Facility and Processing

Landfill staff completed sweeping, drain cleaning and general preparedness for this weekend's expected rain.

Recycling Processing received bids for film plastic and a load of aluminum. Aluminum prices were okay, yet film plastic had dropped substantially.

Waste Reduction

The school tours of the Resource Recovery Facility began this week with a field trip of 5th grade students from DeLaveaga Elementary school. The students see first-hand what happens to the bottles, cans and other recyclables that they place in their blue bins.

Green Business Program

This has been a great week for the Green Business Program! We've certified three new businesses:

- Vivas Café (campus location)
- Laurencin Personal Physicians
- Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Wastewater Collections & Flood Control

Crews were called out to the East Levee by SCPD for reported damage caused by transients who had removed large rock and earth for a place to camp. SCPD issued citations and crews replaced the rock. The area will be monitored closely to prevent any further damage.



WATER

As rancorous as the national political debates have been I've been heartened to hear most of the candidates talk about the state of infrastructure. Aging infrastructure is a national problem and one we are certainly dealing with in Santa Cruz. Case in point, this morning a 12" cast iron water main from 1928 broke under Potrero Street, causing all businesses at the Sash Mill to be without water for most of today, as well as causing significant damage to the road and sidewalk. This particular main was on our list for replacement within the next eighteen months, but is one on a list of many that are in need of replacement.



I was also heartened by the results of a recent poll on American attitudes and concerns about water. The poll found that Americans are “deeply concerned with the state of water infrastructure that we all rely on.” A summary of the poll and poll results can be found here: <http://thevalueofwater.org/media/value-water-releases-national-poll-public-attitudes-about-water-infrastructure>

I was delighted to receive an email about one of our staff. Ranger Judie Cole, working with the Department of Fish and Wildlife on the Trout in the Classroom program – *“Judie is amazing. Professional, to the point, helpful, cheerful, full of excitement and desire to help. It is a pleasure to work with her. We visited her at the lake a few weeks ago and we were blown away with the facility and her desire to serve schools. What a pleasure. Last week she assisted with the egg distribution. There was a problem and she handled it wonderfully – with professionalism and grace. She expressed an interest in growing the program next year and came up with some darn good ideas on how to make it happen. I look forward to working with your agency, **Ethan Rotman.**”*

Speaking of schools, our watershed education programs began this week in Santa Cruz fourth-grade classrooms and today is the first fieldtrip for students. They will conduct water sampling at Henry Cowell and then will continue on to Loch Lomond to learn more about water supply and quality.

The prediction for a lengthy and productive storm system this week seems to have fizzled out a bit, but we still have our fingers crossed for the big storm predicted for tomorrow!

As you can see from the photos below, our staff has begun taking a new tack on improving weather matters by creatively using the SCMU display case on our building. This English language version of the plea for rain went up earlier this week, to be followed shortly by the Spanish language version, to be followed shortly by, well, actual rain. Who knew that this strategy could really work? If we had known, we certainly would have done it sooner!

