

City Manager's Weekly Update

June 17, 2016

CITY MANAGER

With City Council direction and funding (\$10,000 for FY 2017), staff is pursuing a variety of outreach efforts to help improve litter management on City beaches, primarily Main Beach.

Here is a brief list of outreach measures underway or in development (may not be fully comprehensive):

- Anti-litter Banners on the Park Rangers station on Main Beach (expect to be ready in a couple of weeks).
- Anti-litter message on electronic sign, prominently posted on Ocean Street all 4th of July weekend...and considering banners for Ocean Street.
- Good Times summer Visitor's Guide anti-litter ad.
- Anti-litter ad on the Trolleys.
- Adding to existing anti-litter partnership with Save Our Shores (more to come on that... new initiative may include radio ads over the hill).
- Considering a beach toy recycling program (as many plastic toys are left on Main Beach each weekend and often wind up in the ocean).
- Press release going out next week with message of new litter management/outreach efforts.

In an effort to better manage trash on Main Beach the Santa Cruz Seaside Company is adjusting their practices and adding resources to the beach for the remainder of the summer. Some of the changes below have already begun and some will begin in the days after this weekend's sand soccer tournament. The changes include:

- Beginning nightly emptying of all cans on the beach.
- Moving all cans well above expected high tide line and monitoring tides on a daily basis to ensure cans don't end up in the ocean.
- Adding "Help keep the beach clean" signage to each grouping of trash cans.
- Chaining each group of cans to ensure individual cans cannot be moved.
- Adding two additional crew members to their daily beach trash crew and adjusting their hours from the current 12:30 pm to 9:00 pm, to the new 2:30 pm to closing schedule to ensure they have staff on site to manage trash as crowds leave the beach at the end of the day.
- Placing greater emphasis on picking the water line to keep trash out of the ocean.
- Offering plastic trash bags to guests on the beach and removing any trash bags left behind.

I want to thank Councilmembers Noroyan, Terrazas and Comstock for providing their input and ideas to help generate this list of litter management and outreach measures.

PUBLIC WORKS

Resource Recovery - Waste Reduction

As noted above, Waste Reduction is partnering with Storm Water to provide anti-littering messages during the summer months. We will have a new ad in the trolley and the Good Times visitor Guide. We are investigating banner ads along Ocean Street to remind visitors to tote their trash.

We are in peak season with our Dori pole & pennant loan program. Three schools borrowed them for special events last week. Events included a walk-a-thon and spring festivals at Westlake, Bay View and De Laveaga elementary schools. The festive pennants are a wonderful alternative to balloons and other disposable decorations.



We would like to announce the newest member of our team. Leslie O'Malley has accepted the position of Waste Reduction Assistant. She will begin work in July. She comes to us with much enthusiasm and experience with school recycling programs, AmeriCorps program management and commercial waste audits.

Bulky Item and Appliance Pickup is next weekend on June 25. 250 residents have already scheduled pickups for large bulky items. The UCSC move out program is encouraging students to use this City service as well.

Resource Recovery - Green Business

The fall Green Business Mixer confirmed for 9/15/16 at Rosie McCann's in Downtown Santa Cruz.

Staff is starting the somewhat complicated certification for the large PAMF original urgent care clinic on Soquel Ave.

New Certifications & Re-certifications:

Leatherwise was certified this week. Santa Cruz Core Fitness in final stages of the process, with only the energy audit pending.

We are in the midst of a big recertification push. 10 completed so far. The Buttery and Well Within are now being recertified after a long period without recertification.

Resource Recovery – Landfill and Recycling Processing

Our 20 yard container for carpet recycling is ready for pick up. Recycling Processing has been shipping approximately 3 tons of carpet and pad for recycling monthly.



Scale house operations have been upgraded with a new LED readout for customers, software upgrade for our Waste Works program and we expect to have the ability to accept credit cards at the landfill in the next few weeks.



Landfill operations have spent two to three hours a day this week dealing with windblown litter. Gusts up to 40mph have been consistent all week.

Collections

Our long awaited lockers have arrived! Our locker room remodel is officially complete. We now have enough lockers for our employees.



Engineering

2016 Surface Seal and Overlay Projects – The Overlay project was awarded to Granite Construction on 4/12 (\$1.76m). The surface seal contract was awarded to Telfer Pavement Technologies on 4/13 (\$1.84m). Both contracts have been executed. The surface seal project began with concrete work and asphalt work. The first phase (the chip seal portion of the work) was completed last week. The next step (micro surfacing) was completed this week. The overlay project is expected to begin next week. These projects will be constructed over the summer.

The 2015-16 Citywide Lining Project has been awarded to Southwest Pipeline & Trenchless Company (Torrance, CA). The work will be completed this summer and will rehabilitate over 5700 linear feet of sewer and storm drain pipe throughout the City.

Traffic Engineering

Lot 7 parking lot extension and conversion is in process. The surface of the old building has been leveled and striping is scheduled to take place at the end of the month. Fencing will be removed once striping and poles and chains are in place. Parking will remain free time-limited as staff continues to work on procuring and electrical contractor to upgrade lighting and install pay station and pay station shelters.



The Citywide traffic signal improvement project continues to make progress. The contractor is installing pedestrian countdown heads and is upgrading all vehicle heads to the current standard 12" LED head. The project is anticipated to wrap up in mid-July.

City of Santa Cruz submits three grants for bike and pedestrian projects to the Active Transportation Program totaling \$5,563,000. The City applied to the Caltrans Active Transportation Program for three projects: Rail Trail Segment 8 and 9 Design and Environmental Review, San Lorenzo Riverwalk Lighting, and Westside Safe Routes to School and Gap Closure Project. Each of these projects meet the goals of the Active Transportation Program to increase the proportion of biking and walking trips, increase safety for non-motorized users, enhance public health, and provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users. The California Transportation Commission is expected to make an award recommendation on October 28. A brief description of the projects:

- The **Rail Trail Segment 8 and 9 Design and Environmental Review** project will fund the design and environmental review and permitting phase for 2.18 miles of the rail trail between Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz and 17th Avenue in the County. Project partners on this application include the County of Santa Cruz and Ecology Action. Public outreach ranked these two segments of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail network (rail trail) as 2nd and 3rd highest priority behind Segment 7 (funded), making Segments 8 and 9 the highest unfunded priority. Non-infrastructure safety, education, and encouragement programs to encourage active transportation in advance of trail construction will be provided by Ecology Action and the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency. We are fortunate that the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County has committed \$1,500,000 in matching funds for this grant, making us extremely competitive and showing the high community priority of this project. (\$3,169,000 grant request, \$1,500,000 local match from the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County)
- The **San Lorenzo Riverwalk Lighting** project will fund installation of pedestrian scale LED lighting on the both sides of the San Lorenzo Riverwalk between Water Street and Highway 1. This project builds off of the recently completed Phase II lighting project south of Water Street on the west bank of the River. (\$952,000 grant request)
- The **Westside Safe Routes to School and Gap Closure Project** will install multiuse path on the west side of Swanton Boulevard, fill sidewalk gaps along portions of Delaware and Mission Street Extension, improve multiple intersection, and install Class IV bike lanes on Natural Bridges Drive. Not only does this project improve active transportation infrastructure near Bay View and Pacific Collegiate Schools, but it provides a needed north-south connection between West Cliff Drive multiuse path, Wilder Ranch bike path, and the Segment 7 of the rail trail. Project partners Ecology Action and Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency will provide non-infrastructure active transportation education and encouragement activities at Bay View Elementary and Pacific Collegiate Schools, including Bike Smart! And Walk Smart!, Bike and Walk to School Days, a Walking School Bus, and safety observations (\$1,442,000 grant request, \$15,000 local match).

Parking Services

Supervisors for the Parking Attendant program met with Parks and Rec to go over the Woodies on the Wharf scheduled for Saturday, June 25. This is one of our largest events at the Wharf and the collaboration between Parking and Parks adds to its success.

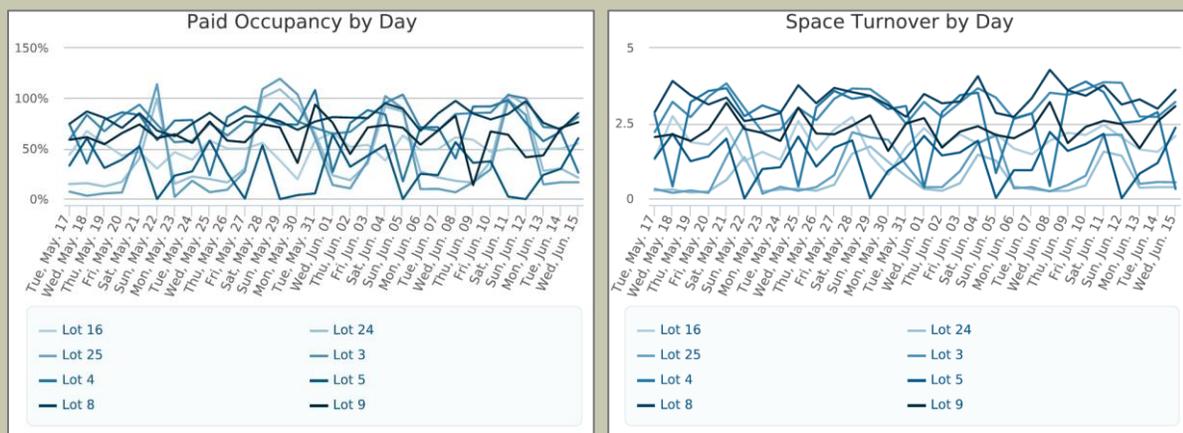


As mentioned in the Traffic Engineering section of this report, Lot 7 continues to move forward in its conversion to a Pay-By-Space lot. Parking Maintenance removed and relocated plants to make room for the future home of a LUKE pay machine. We have been working alongside the Streets division while they work on upgrading the lot creating a safer parking area for our customers.



Occupancies at the Locust Garage ranged between 90% and 100% between noon and 4pm this last week with weekend occupancies between 60% and 75%. Permit holders account for 68% of parked vehicles weekdays between noon and 4pm and 20% of parked vehicles on weekends. We have 241 persons on the waitlist wanting 365 permits. The waitlist is 10 months long. Occupancies at the Soquel/Front Garage ranged between 90% and 100% between noon and 4pm this last week with weekend occupancies between 85% and 90%. Permit holders account for 45% to 55% of parked vehicles weekdays between noon and 4pm and 30% of parked vehicles on weekends. We have 202 persons on the waitlist wanting 391 permits. The waitlist is 15 months long.

Occupancies at the River Front Garage ranged between 80% and 95% between noon and 4pm this last week with weekend occupancies between 72% and 81%. Permit holders account for 55% to 60% of parked vehicles weekdays between noon and 4pm and 45% to 55% of parked vehicles on weekends. We have 131 persons on the waitlist wanting 462 permits. The waitlist is 7 months long.



Average Paid Occupancies in Pay-by-Space Lots for the week of June 9 – June 15, 2016

Lot 3	85%
Lot 4	73%
Lot 5	32% also monthly permit lot
Lot 8	82%
Lot 9	54%
Lot 16	51%
Lot 24	47%
Lot 25	39%

Operations – Facilities Maintenance

Facilities cleaned and repainted the SL River level gauge on the pedestrian and railway bridge the rivermouth. The gauge had become unreadable and is a critical tool for judging lagoon height once the rivermouth closes in the summertime. Thanks to the Wastewater Collections division for use of the rowboat and to the Wharf for the loaner life jackets.



Operations – Streets and Traffic

Streets and Traffic have been busy this week repairing a section of the E. Cliff path way that had fallen away due to erosion issues between Second and Third streets. Crews also have been working in lot 7 installing 70' of new asphalt berm and repairing the curb and planter area along the sidewalk on Cathcart.

Crews also installed 120' of new berm in the Corp Yard in front of the materials bunkers, part of the BMP's for storm water pollution prevention.

Staff has been working on various river and Branciforte Creek issues including required creation of fish habitat structures, bird surveys, weed abatement and rivermouth opening pre-planning with other staff, agencies, consultants and the Army Corps of Engineer.

Crew repaired potholes on May Street and tree root damage to an alley behind Sutphen Street.



Operations – Garage Services

Mechanics crews has been catching up on service on refuse trucks, preparing new assets to be put into service, and just completed a tire check on the sanitation fleet. They also completed a quick-turnaround repair of a broken hydraulic hose on the Streets skid steer tractor.

Wastewater – Operations

Capital Improvement Project to replace three Sodium Hypochlorite (SHC) tanks continues. Photo shows all three tanks in the installation process with contractor demolishing the old SHC tanks for ultimate disposal. PW Engineering inspection of project has discovered some assembly issues therefore a punch list is being developed. SHC is used in the process to support the control of odors and for emergency disinfection of final effluent.



Primary Sedimentation Tank #1 has been removed from service for inspection. The tank will remain out of service as a project to rebuild inside components will be funded in new budget. Photo shows operations staff working with primary tank #1 as a confined space entry.



Wastewater/Stormwater Collections

Crews performed an emergency repair of a failed sewer main and lateral connection on Caledonia Street. The job required working around a 12" high pressure gas main. PG&E stood by while repairs were made.

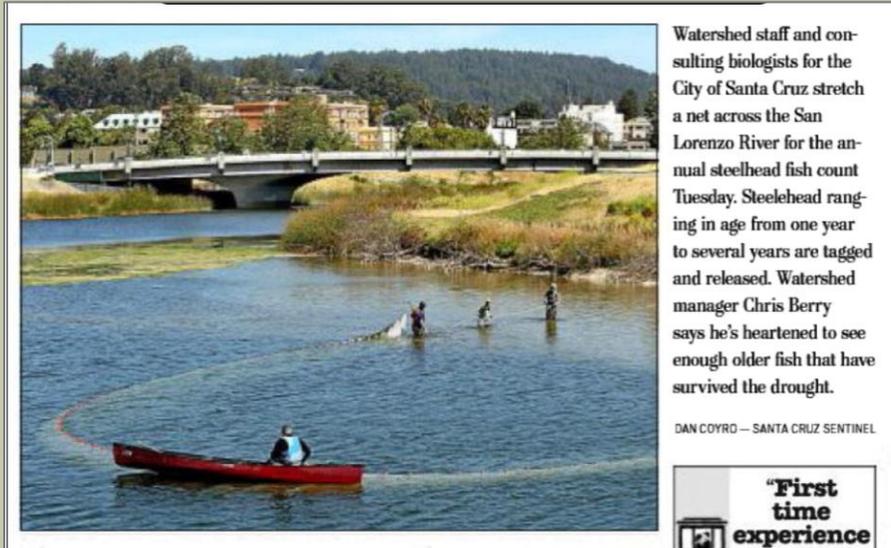


Work is being scheduled to remove a large amount of trash and debris from a storm gravity outlet on the San Lorenzo River. This will require a difficult confined space entry to remove the trash. The debris comes from last winter's storms. A trash rack has been installed upstream to try and catch future debris runoff.



WATER

This week the Water Department was busy again with seining so that we can do fish counts. We didn't find many fish in Laguna, but the San Lorenzo had lots of steelhead of various sizes – some of whom, we could tell by their size, were drought survivors. We were heartened to see that. However, now that the San Lorenzo River sandbar has closed, water levels are rising along with anxiety about algal toxins and the potential need to breach.



Last night I attended a meeting about water exchanges between Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District that was held in Aptos. I believe the intent was to organize Soquel Creek Water District customers to oppose Soquel's pursuit of recycled water in favor of water exchanges, and to demand that the exchanges happen faster than the current projected timeline. There's a significant amount of misinformation being shared in the community about the pilot water exchange project planned with Soquel Creek, so I welcomed the opportunity to attend and help clarify information. While I believe strongly that the City and the Soquel Creek Water District are working well together to create a successful pilot water exchange project, the oversimplification and lack of accuracy of information being shared with the public by advocates continues to concerns me.

As the fiscal year draws to a close, it looks like we're going to fully exhaust the rebate dollars budgeted for this year. We are currently working on increasing and expanding our current most popular conservation programs, which are rebates for high-efficiency clothes washers and for turf removal. It's great to see the community taking advantage of these programs!

RECREATION DIVISION

EVENTS

Food Truck Event Report

We had our first ever food truck event last Friday, June 10 and it was very successful. We estimate over 500 people attended the event between 5-8pm. It was gratifying to see individuals, couples and families using San Lorenzo Park and having a great time eating and socializing.



Louden Nelson Community Center

Juneteenth Event Report

The 25th Anniversary of Juneteenth on Saturday, June 11th was a festive celebration, with a sharing of memories and acknowledging African American contributions to Santa Cruz County. The Mayor presented a proclamation declaring 'June 11th Juneteenth Day in the City of Santa Cruz.' The Museum of Art and History created a Pop Up museum of historical Juneteenth memorabilia. Several community members were recognized for making a historic difference in Santa Cruz County. Finally, Sista Monica's band got the crowd dancing in the park as they honored her musical legacy. Mark your calendars for next Juneteenth on Saturday, June 10th 2017!



YOUTH AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Summer Camps Update

Summer Camps staff has started Service Training this week for our summer 2016 camp programs. Currently there are 600 children registered in the broad variety of summer camps. More campers are already registered (at the beginning of) this summer than there were

registered for the entire 2015 summer. We also have 30 teens working this summer in our Junior Leader Program.

Teen Internship Program Update

Fourteen teens have been selected and hired as Teen Interns. The Interns are participating in a week long in-service training program (along with the camps staff) prior to beginning their internship in their assigned City Department. Departments participating in this years' program are Police, Economic Development, Finance, City Clerk/Manager, Library, Water, Public Works, Fire and Parks and Recreation.

CIVIC

Cabrillo Festival's 2016 Season

The Civic Box Office has been preparing for the Cabrillo Festival's 2016 Season which celebrates Marin Alsop's 25th anniversary and farewell as the Festival's conductor, music director,



and guiding light. Tickets go on sale beginning June 20 at the Civic box office for the Festival which runs July 31st-August 13th! [For more info- visit Cabrillo.org](http://Cabrillo.org).

Dancer's Annual Showcase

The Civic is preparing for two days of rehearsals Thursday and Friday June 16 and 17 as hundreds of children get ready to take the stage this Saturday, June 18 for 'Dancer's Annual Showcase.' Celebrating and teaching dance since 1986, Dancer covers a wide spectrum of styles for all ages and abilities. The Showcase includes 3 sessions: Mini's 12pm-1pm; Junior's 3pm-4:30pm; and Main Showcase 7pm-8:30pm. Admission is free! Attend!



Adult Basketball Program

The City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation's Adult Basketball program will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning June 22nd through July 20th. Playing ball in the Civic is a huge treat, players, fans and officials agree!