

# City Manager's Weekly Update

July 1, 2016

## CITY MANAGER

The Homeless Action Partnership (HAP) met last week to discuss options for the provision of a winter shelter in response to the Homeless Services Center declining the contract for the upcoming winter. The HAP agreed that a new operator fulfilling a modified, but similar scope, would be an ideal solution. The HAP will issue a winter shelter services RFP to see what organizations are capable of operating a winter shelter similar to the existing model: using the Armory at DeLaveaga Park, or some other site, with baseline expectations for meal and hygiene services. We hope to have responses to the RFP at the end of July and the HAP is convening the first week of August to discuss the proposal and our process from that point. Staff will bring this item to the City Council for action. Should you have any questions, please contact Tina.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

### RECREATION DIVISION

#### LOUDEN NELSON

#### ***Trescony Garden Social and Learn***

City staff, UCSC researchers and Trescony gardeners got together for a Summer Kick Off Pot Luck on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at Trescony gardens. UCSC researchers shared their findings from studying 25 urban gardens across the Central California Coast spanning Santa Cruz, Santa Clara and Monterey Counties including Trescony. Information on their research can be found at



<http://ucscgardenresearch.weebly.com/resources.html>.



#### ***Independence Day LNCC Senior Lunch***

Join us for the LNCC Senior Lunch program Early Independence Day celebration in Laurel Park on Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 12 noon sharp. Always a fun way to start Independence Day weekend!

## PARKS DIVISION

### BEACH FLATS PARK

#### ***Beach Flat Mural Project a GO!***

Wednesday night, 6/29, the Santa Cruz Arts Commission unanimously approved the mural concept developed by artist Irene O'Connell for Beach Flats Park. Painting will begin in August (next month) and neighbors of all



ages and abilities will be invited to participate. Irene started her presentation to the Commission by saying “This mural is being created in honor of all the life that has moved through the place that is now called the Beach Flats Neighborhood--from the multitudes of life that is brought by the River that flows nearby, to the passing of time that has brought generations of cultures and histories to the area. The mural is titled “Aprendiendo del Pasado Para Vivir en el Presente, Siempre Hacia Mirando el Futuro” which translates to “Learning from the Past, Living in the Present, Looking Toward the Future.”

### MUNICIPAL WHARF

#### ***Volleyball Court Renovations***

The staff at the Municipal Wharf has been facilitating ongoing maintenance and new improvements at the Wharf. For example, new AVP-grade beach volleyball nets with City and Wharf logos have been installed. The nets are boldly labeled with court location, the Wharf web address and social media



presence, and are all equipped with a durable, user friendly stainless steel, sliding net height adjustment system that is mounted on laminated poles for greatly improved resistance to deflection and breakage. Happy volleyball players are now using any of the fourteen newly installed nets and reconfigured courts. The courts have been repositioned within the existing footprint to get the maximum number of courts open in a play area reduced by sand lost to El Niño winter waves.

More beach enthusiasts are enjoying the cleaner, sandy playa at Cowell and Main due to the newly-acquired Cherington beach cleaner and new ultra-durable, eco and user friendly and custom fabricated beach trash barrels.



### ***New Plantings at Cowell***

New butterfly and hummingbird preferred, drought tolerant landscape has been installed between the more gently sloped, vehicle access ramp and ADA compliant pedestrian access ramp at Cowell Beach and the Dream Inn. It was planted by Parks staff as part of an annual Parks division project at the Wharf that includes whitewashing the fence rails and car stops just prior to the Woodies event.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Engineering**

Staff has been working with Save Our Shores on the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> holiday beach anti-litter outreach campaign and volunteer beach cleanups at local beaches including: Main Beach, Cowell Beach, Seabright Beach, and Twin Lakes/Crow's Nest beach. Staff has also been working with Save Our Shores on anti-litter messaging that will run this week in the media including print ads in local newspapers, electronic ads, and radio PSAs.



2016 Surface Seal and Overlay Projects – Surface seal work has progressed with striping now laid out or “cat-tracked.” Striping installation will be completed within the next couple of weeks. The contractor is set to begin concrete work for the overlay project next week.

### Wastewater /Stormwater Collection

Crews attempted to perform a repair of a sewer main on Glenwood Avenue. The pipe was found to be encased in a large amount of concrete. We will be discussing a long term solution with engineering to include pipe replacement.



### Traffic Engineering

A postcard announcing the new Single Space Parking Ordinance on Pelton Avenue was distributed: [Pelton Avenue Parking Changes.](#)

### Collections

Our combined Bulky Item and UCSC Move Out pickup was our largest to date with over 2000 items collected. The Mattress Recycling Council hosted a drop-off trailer and assisted us by collecting and hauling away 103 mattresses. We had additional collection help from Parks, Streets and WWTF staff.



### Community Outreach

Staff met with City Arborist Leslie Keedy and PG&E Public Affairs Representative Joe Foster to plan press release and other elements of the July 6 [Public Meeting on Community Pipeline Safety Initiative Proposed Removal/Replacement of Trees.](#)

We are collaborating with SC Warriors on a press release and promotional plan for our new Recycle Right! video "Think Before You Throw" which will air at 11 Santa Cruz movie theaters during the last week of July and second week of August.

We posted another article on our Santa Cruz Waves City Beat column: [Wildlife On The Walls.](#)

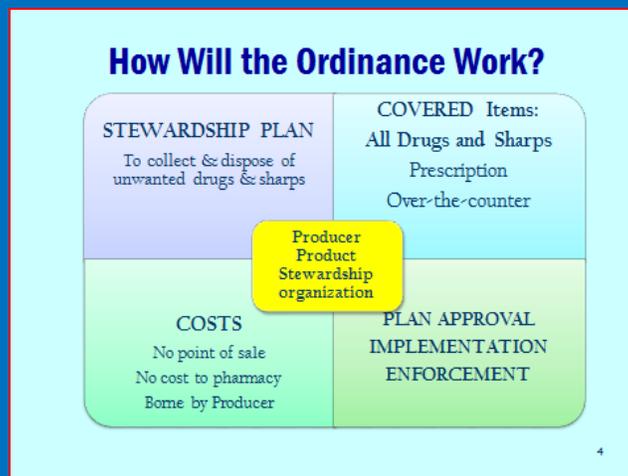
A postcard inviting the public to the [grand opening of Chestnut Park Playground](#) was created and posted to 1000 Chestnut Street residents, business and property owners. We invite everyone to attend on Thursday, July 7 at 3 p.m., 60 Chestnut Street. Mayor Cynthia Mathews will officiate at the ribbon-cutting where refreshments will be served.



### Laboratory & Environmental Compliance

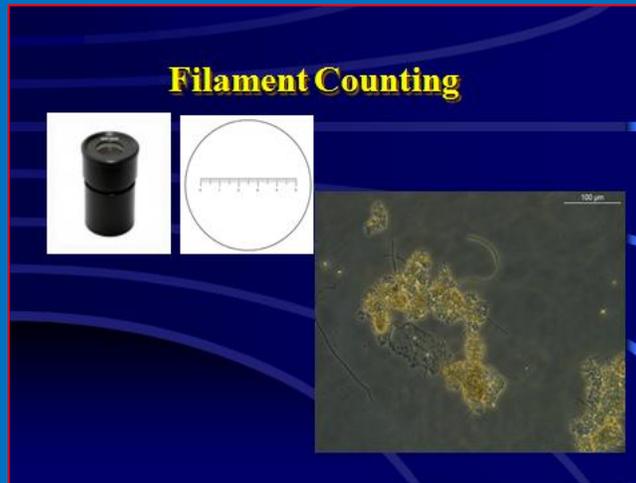
Staff presented the City's version of the Extended Producer Responsibility (ERP) Ordinance to City Council at its meeting on June 28. The next reading of the ordinance at Council will occur after Council resumes from its month long recess. The ERP will obligate producers of pharmaceuticals and sharps distributed in the city to contribute to the safe and responsible disposal of their products at the post-consumer stages of the drugs and sharps. The ordinance, if approved by Council, will come into effect sixty days after promulgation.

Below is a copy of a slide that summarizes the ERP model that will operate in Santa Cruz.



The CWEA Monterey Bay Section's monthly training meeting will feature a joint presentation by Mohammad Karim and Kati King, of Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley respectively this Thursday at Seascape Golf Resort. Their joint presentation will discuss advance microscopy in support of

biological wastewater treatment process and interagency support from their perspectives. The talk was developed from a recent joint scientific process by our Environmental Compliance Laboratory and Scotts Valley's Plant management and laboratory to resolve an episode of plant upset that was ultimately tracked to a brewery's effluent quality. A follow-up sample which was reviewed this week has since confirmed the normalcy of the process in Scotts Valley. Below is a copy of a slide from the PowerPoint presentation.



### Wastewater /Stormwater Collection

Two storm water pumps and motors were removed from service and sent out to be reconditioned. These pumps have been in service for 25 years. The river has also shoaled and is currently at a level of 6 feet at the trestle. Roadway seepage is occurring at Ocean Street and San Lorenzo Blvd.



### Wastewater Operations and Maintenance

Public Works Engineering has received City Council approval to move forward on a project to clean digester #5. Thickened solids from the secondary and primary processes at the Wastewater Treatment Plant are sent to the anaerobic digesters for stabilization of the biodegradable portion of the solids. As a by-product of this stabilization, methane gas is produced, which is used with natural gas to co-generate electricity for use in the plant. Over time, buildup of grit and debris (hair, sand, rags etc.) inside the digester tank can negatively impact the operation of a digester by reducing its retention time and not allowing the full proper digestion process to take place.



Primary Sedimentation Tank #5 has been removed from service for annual inspection.



### **Resource Recovery Engineering**

The Cell 3A pre-construction kickoff meeting was held on Monday, June 27. The primary contractor (Wood Bros Inc.), liner subcontractor (D&E Construction), construction management team (Tetra Tech BAS), construction quality assurance manager (Geo-Logic Associates), and City staff met and discussed submittals, staging and stockpile areas and operations coordination. The Notice to Proceed is anticipated to be issued in the next couple of weeks, and mobilization will begin shortly thereafter.

### **Waste Reduction**

We completed another successful Bulky Item/UCSC Move Out event on Saturday June 25. Residents scheduled pick-ups for appliances, mattresses, couches, gas grills and other bulky items. KION was there to report on the event. New this year, the Bye, Bye Mattress program was on site with a semi-truck to pick up used mattresses and box springs, saving us the step of transporting them to the Resource Recovery Facility for sorting. They took in over 100 mattresses from our crew and public drop-off.

### **Green Business**

Staff attended a Chamber of Commerce mixer this week to promote the Green Business program and investigate collaboration and business outreach opportunities.

### **Operations**

Staff is planning annual flood control work in the San Lorenzo River and Branciforte Creek.

### **Streets/Traffic**

Crews installed new concrete on Atlantic at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.



## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### New Print Server

IT continuously replaces end of life servers and recently completed the move of City printers to a new print server.

### WasteWorks

IT worked with Public Works and vendor staff to upgrade the equipment and software at the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF). This system is used to calculate and invoice for usage of the RRF. There are still some clean-up items to complete, but the upgraded system is up and running.

### Cashiering

The team has made strong progress toward a go live. Test databases are updated. The team is testing interfaces and validating data. Key equipment is finally on its way (there have been vendor manufacturing backlogs).

### Business Licensing and Land Management

IT completed updates and patching in preparation for a larger version level upgrade and new functionality in Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

### Camera/DVR/Physical Access

After a competitive process, IT selected a consulting partner to assist with the technical subject matter expertise aspects of our camera/DVR/physical access program.

## WATER

Our Distribution crews have been busy. While we are steadily working to replace all of our outdated pipes, it never fails that while we're installing a brand new one, an old one somewhere else in the system will break at the same time. Sigh. We had a couple of leaks this week on 14th and Van Ness Ave. (One from an 8" pipe from 1946 that is scheduled for replacement.) Here are before and after shots:



14th Ave before



14th Ave after

Speaking of old pipes, while installing an 8" water main at Sylvar and High Street, work crews unearthed one of our old redwood water mains. Hard to believe that less than one hundred years ago these mains were still the "mains."



Sunday night our after-hours work crew fixed a leaking service line on Effey Street, and Monday night, after a plumbing contractor working on Morrissey broke a 1 ½" valve, the after-hours crew worked through the night to ensure that water service would be restored to the 19 units who were affected by the broken valve.

The Water Department has a lot of unsung heroes and many of them are on our Distribution and Operations crews. I receive emails and phone calls regularly from customers who want to acknowledge Water Department employees for their good customer service and professionalism. These crews are truly adept at making lemonade out of lemons! Here's an example that a happy customer shared with me of the excellent job our folks did cleaning up after a main leak:



Customer's home before

Customer's home after



## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### 230 Grandview

In May, the Zoning Administrator approved Coastal and Design Permits to demolish an existing single-family residence and construct 12 three-bedroom apartments in three buildings on a parcel flanked by the Grandview Terrace and Southview Terrace developments. This week, building construction plans and permit applications were filed by the developers. It is expected that the building permits will be ready to issue and construction underway in the early fall.

### 108 Sycamore

This week, an application was filed to demolish a five unit apartment complex and construct a 10 room hotel on this site located on the corner of Sycamore Street and Pacific Avenue. The project requires Design, Coastal and Residential Demolition Authorization Permits to be heard by the Planning Commission. The existing apartment complex is the last unreinforced masonry building in the City and is under order by the Building Official either repair or demolish it. The owner is pursuing demolition of the building and replacement with a new use as the costs of the repairs exceed the value of the building. The boutique hotel is being billed as one that will cater to travelling surfers and includes surfboard and bicycle storage. The proposed three-story building includes a modern style of architecture not unlike the approved 94 unit SRO project across Sycamore Street at 555 Pacific Avenue. At only 4,800 square feet, the site is significantly constrained. As such, there are a number of building code and architectural issues that will

need to be resolved before this project is ready for a public hearing. Planning staff will be working closely on these issues with our architectural consultant and plan check engineers. Ryan Bane is the planner working on the project.

### **708 – 720 Water**

This week our department received an application from For the Future Housing to construct a 56-unit apartment complex. The project includes a mix of 1, 2, and 3-bedroom units that will be 100-percent affordable at 60-percent area median income levels. (You may recall that this particular developer recently completed the apartments at 110 Lindberg Street.) The applicants indicated that they have begun reaching out to neighbors in advance of this week's application submittal. The project is seeking certain "concessions" allowed by the Density Bonus Ordinance. As such, it will require public hearings by both the Planning Commission and City Council. These hearings are expected to occur in the fall. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on the project.

### **Sante Adairius Brewery**

Last week an application was made for this microbrewery to occupy the tenant space at 1313 Water Street (the former *Staff of Life* property and most recently *Blithe and Bonny*). *Sante Adairius* currently has a tasting room in Capitola <http://rusticales.com/>. According to the floor plan, the rear portion of the building will be used for manufacturing and bottling, while the front will have a bar and restaurant. The applicants also propose to use the existing outdoor seating area that was constructed when *Staff of Life* occupied the site. The project requires an Administrative Use Permit for a low risk alcohol outlet, which involves a public hearing before the Zoning Administrator, likely to occur in the late summer/early fall timeframe. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on the project.

### **232 River Street**

On Thursday, June 16th, the Planning Commission unanimously voted to recommend approval of a Planned Development Permit, Tentative Map, Lot Line Adjustment, Design Permit, and Residential Demolition Permit to the City Council to allow for the construction of a 12-unit townhouse development. The application includes the proposal for a Planned Development Permit to allow for a reduction in side yard setbacks and to allow for two of the townhouse units to be detached (no common wall). The parcel is adjacent to the El Rio Mobile Home Park and several of the park's residents attended the meeting to voice their concerns which included: potential noise impacts from residents and cars, potential impacts of exterior site lighting and headlights, tree preservation, the need for landscape buffering at the south property line, privacy impacts, and concerns with rental unit tenants. The Planning Commission added several new conditions of approval in an effort to address the concerns raised by the neighbors. The project is anticipated to be heard by the City Council on August 9th. Samantha Haschert is the planner working on the project.

### **New Ride at the Boardwalk**

And an application was recently submitted for a new ride on the upper level deck area adjacent to the *Undertow* ride. The ride, known as the *Shockwave*, is approximately 63 feet above grade. While not nearly as tall as the *Double Shot*, it exceeds the zone district height limit of 40 feet. The Zoning Ordinance however, includes a number of height exceptions, one of which involves rides in an amusement park that are allowed subject to approval of a Special Use

Permit. This involves a public hearing before the Planning Commission. Some of you may recall that the Double Shot went through a similar process about 10 years ago. The application includes visual simulations showing that the ride will not extend above the skyline when viewed from the Wharf, which is one of the critical view sheds identified in the City's Local Coastal Program. The application is expected to be heard by the Planning Commission in the fall. Clara Cartwright is the planner working on the project.