

City Manager's Weekly Update

July 15, 2016

PARKS AND RECREATION

RECREATION DIVISION

CIVIC

Derby Girls and Other Great Stuff!

Civic staff is preparing for the July Derby bout featuring the Santa Cruz Derby All Stars vs. Bay Area Derby (B.A.D.) Team Gold this Saturday, 7/16. We are also in full prep mode for the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music. This is the farewell season of renowned conductor and music director Marin Alsop, and our very own 25th annual Church Street Fair! The Civic seating area is getting a brand new coat of paint, and lots of deep cleaning, inventory and ordering are underway! **SAVE THE DATE: Church Street Fair August 6-7!**



Louden Nelson Community Center



All About Theatre Cooking up a Good One!

All About Theatre will present "Shrek Jr" at the Loudon Nelson Community Center. Performances are offered, Friday July 15th at 7:00pm, and Saturday July 16th at 2:00pm & 7:00pm. Join in if you are able – it's always a good production when All About Theatre takes the stage!

20 Year Employee Retires – Congrats Marcey!

After 20 years as the Facility Attendant at the Loudon Nelson Community Center, **Marcey Moore** has hung up her keys and retired. Marcey was known for her friendly greetings and personal touch that she brought to her job. Countless people have had their day uplifted with a small token of generosity from Marcey which undoubtedly made this community a far better place. She will be missed but won't be far as she plans on attending senior programs at the Center. We wish her well in her retirement.



PARKS DIVISION

Harvey West Park

Work has begun on the Harvey West Pump Track. MBOSC along with the Summer Youth Trails Program staffers have been doing the sight vegetation work as well as importing soil. Work will continue through August – stay tuned for updates.



Corridor Planning and Rezoning Study

The **Corridor Planning and Rezoning Study** work continues through July with focus on writing draft development standards. The Corridor Advisory Committee meetings have concluded and their input is being included in the draft standards. A meeting with business owners is scheduled for the first week of August to provide business owners the opportunity to share their concerns and ideas. Two non-City sponsored neighborhood meetings were recently held in the eastside/mid-town by neighbors concerned with development. Despite our request the City staff was asked not to attend these meetings. A general update presentation is expected to be presented to the City Council at the August 9th meeting.

Amendments to the Downtown Recovery Plan

On July 21, 2016, the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider draft **Amendments to the Downtown Recovery Plan (DRP)**. This is an opportunity to receive input on modifications that have been discussed over the past year. The Planning Commission is not expected to take formal action at this meeting, but will likely hold another public hearing in August to prepare a formal recommendation to the City Council. The DRP amendments may be scheduled for consideration by the City Council in October.

Starbucks

In April of 2015, the Planning Commission approved Design and Administrative Use Permits to construct a *Starbucks* coffee shop with outdoor seating on the vacant lot at the corner of Ocean and Water Streets. The application was referred to the Planning Commission by the Zoning Administrator due to policy issues associated with the design of the building. Under the recently adopted Ocean Street Area Plan, the block between Water Street and Soquel Avenue is intended to be the most intensively developed with building heights allowed to be between three and seven stories. Additionally, this particular corner was identified as a gateway to the Downtown and called for significant architectural features to be present in the design. When the application was originally submitted, it included a one-story design. The applicants were resistant to staff's suggestion that the project should be at least two stories and include a mixed use component (either office or residential above the café). The applicants ended up compromising and proposing a building that had a two story volume that could be easily retrofitted to include a second floor in the future, which was the design ultimately approved by the Planning Commission. This week, our department received an application for a building permit for the project. Construction is expected to begin in the fall.

2415 Mission Street

Last Thursday, the Planning Commission approved Design and Special Use Permits to construct a three story building containing 14 apartment units in the parking lot behind *Upper Crust Pizza*. The project includes a combination of one-, two- and three-bedroom units. Approval included a remodel of the existing mixed use building fronting on Mission Street to provide for architectural consistency between the two buildings. While a couple of concerned neighbors testified, their concerns were addressed by the Commission in consideration of their action.

1541 Pacific Avenue

Last Wednesday, the Zoning Administrator approved an Administrative Use Permit to allow a new restaurant serving beer and wine to open in the tenant space formerly occupied by *Benten Japanese Restaurant*. The approval also allowed some exterior remodeling to the storefront, which is adjacent to Plaza Lane. The new restaurant (*Barceloneta*) will feature seasonally-inspired California-Spanish cuisine in a casual atmosphere. The menu will feature items such as paella, tapas, salads, sandwiches, seasonal specials, and churros. Construction is expected to begin in late summer/early fall.

820 Swift Street

The Zoning Administrator also approved an Administrative Use Permit for the *Humble Sea Brewery* to occupy two tenant spaces within an existing multi-tenant industrial building. One of the suites will be used for manufacturing and office functions (3,200 square feet), while the other, a small (800 square foot) brewpub. An outdoor patio area would also be created. Construction is expected to begin in the late summer/early fall.

Aldo's Restaurant

This week, our department received an application from Aldo's to temporarily relocate its restaurant into a small (8 1/2' X 28') food trailer with a 1,600 square foot deck to a small grassy area of the Harbor known as Mariner's Park, located just to the north of the current building. The owners expect to occupy this space for three to four years to allow for the existing building to be demolished so that the seawall upon which the building sits can be repaired and a new restaurant built in the same location. The temporary operation requires approval of a Special Use Permit by the Planning Commission. A hearing is expected to occur in August. City staff is working closely with the applicants who will be concurrently processing the planning and building permit applications so as to minimize the amount of time they are out of operation. Alex Khoury is the planner working on the application.

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 permit applications were filed by the developers. It is expected that the permits will be ready to issue and construction underway in the early fall.

108 Sycamore

An application was made 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 cost of the repairs exceeds 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 St

As anticipated, an application was filed by 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.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



RIDING THE REVOLUTION IN ELECTRIC TRANSPORTATION

The Economic Development team launched its very first Choose Santa Cruz Podcast featuring Kyle Doersken, founder of Future Motion Inc. and the mastermind behind Onewheel. We met with Kyle at the Onewheel headquarters in the Wrigley Building to talk about how Onewheel was born, why he chose Santa Cruz as the home for his business, and where he sees the company going in the future.

Read the full article and listen to the interview in our *very first* Choose Santa Cruz podcast: <http://choosesantacruz.com/journal/2016/onewheel>

The Tannery Arts Center has a new website!

The Economic Development Department, working with Studio Holladay, has developed a brand new website for the Tannery Arts Center. The original site, which was initially developed before the artists’ studios were constructed, had in recent years emphasized fundraising for the Colligan Theater.



The new website explores the history of the project and how it went from being the Salz Tannery to the current vibrant arts campus. It provides a campus-wide calendar and profiles of the on-site artists along with links to the Colligan Theater. Newsletters, both current and archived, are posted, along with news articles about the Tannery. The new site is colorful, clean-lined and easy to use. <http://conneryartscenter.org/>



Graffiti update

The month of May had a total of 342 public tags that were removed by the City. May 2015 had a total of 450 public tags; that's a 24% decrease for the month of May. Woo-hoo!

The month of June closes out the graffiti abatement program for Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). There were 294 tags total in June. Compared to June 2015, this is a big drop in graffiti levels! In June 2015, there were a total of 371 tags removed; that's a 21% drop in graffiti levels from June 2015 to June 2016!

This brings the total number of tags for the whole fiscal year to 4,302. That equals a whopping 60,196 square feet of graffiti removed (that's bigger than an acre)!

As we move forward with the FY17 graffiti abatement program, we continue to rely on the members of the public who continue to help us remove graffiti from public surfaces and report tags that they are unable to remove themselves. Please call us (831-420-5303), email us (graffiti@cityofsantacruz.com), or report online (<https://cityofsantacruz.com/reportgraffiti>) to help make our city graffiti-free!

PUBLIC WORKS

Resource Recovery Facility

Landfill staff has been busy loading mattresses for recycling this last month. We shipped out one trailer with 148 mattresses this week and 571 mattresses for the month of June.



Waste Reduction staff conducted the judging for this year's Santa Cruz Recycles! poster contest. The winning posters will be enlarged and installed on the refuse/recycling trucks by the end of August.



Wastewater Collections & Flood Control

Crews televised all main sewers on Cedar Street from Lincoln Ave. to Laurel Street. One pipe failure was found which was repaired. The videos are now with engineering to determine scope of rehabilitation. Most of the pipes will be lined before the street is resurfaced.



The Laboratory is assisting the City of Watsonville Utilities Laboratory in testing a new toilet additive that a septage hauler has requested to use in Watsonville. The City of Santa Cruz routinely tests such requests to establish an acceptable baseline for the toxicity associated with

the chemicals. Watsonville also tests using respirometry technology, which is currently down, and caused them to request our assistance. The testing of this new chemical additive will add to the information available to our Environmental Compliance program and for our Liquid Waste hauler program.

Inspectors and chemists participated in the sampling and testing of the waters of San Lorenzo River and receiving waters at Seabright and Main Beach for algal toxins and bacteria this week. This was the third week during which these analyses were done. All the data indicates that there are no algal toxins at the Main Beach, and only trace levels exist at Seabright Beach and SLR Lagoon. These are levels way lower than would raise any concerns for contact with humans or animal pets.

WWTF Operations and Maintenance

Crews finishing on wiring up gas mixing compressor control package for digester #4. The complete refurbishment of the digester is nearly completed. Next step is for operations to commission complete process unit by placing in service with plant water and operating all components for a period of time.

Streets/Traffic

The crew worked on DeLaveaga Park Drive Road (removing tree roots and cutting back the dirt to widen the driving lane) in preparation of the opening of Shakespeare Santa Cruz.



The crew repaired concrete at 237 Seaview and installed bollards around a memorial bench on East Cliff Drive.



Community Outreach

Staff worked with KION's news director to produce three City stories for their Central Coasting newscasts at 5 and 6 p.m. on July 14:

[50 years of Jr. Lifeguard](#)

[City Celebrate 150 Years](#)

[New culvert to help reduce SL River flooding](#)

Our 11th story was posted on Santa Cruz Waves City Beat: [Free Community Response Training Now Offered By Santa Cruz Fire Department](#) .