

# City Manager's Weekly Update

## September 2, 2016

### WATER

It's hard to believe it's already Labor Day Weekend. Where did this summer go? We are certainly in better shape water-wise this year than last year. At this time last year, Loch Lomond was at 72% capacity and this year, we're sitting at 92%. What a difference a year makes! But our customers are still being very conservative with their water use; we're producing, on average, about 8mgd this year as compared to 6-7mgd last year during rationing.



Loch Lomond from the same perspective last August vs. this August

This week Water Department staff worked together in a different kind of process to think through our capital program, with a special emphasis on our current and future water treatment needs and challenges. We worked in teams to develop proposals current and future water quality and treatment issues then presented the proposals to the full group for feedback and questions. This was an effective way to bring the various department perspectives together on a level playing field to look at the key challenges and needs facing our water system. We'll continue to work together to refine planning – stay tuned.



We had a well-attended "loch walk" at Loch Lomond last weekend, where this month's focus was on the birds that call the Newell Creek watershed home. Tomorrow is "free fishing day" so we expect another banner crowd

## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The department has implemented several new communications tools. Attached please find an updated and revised Current Development Projects Booklet. A wealth of information on project status is also available on the department's website including Development Pipeline Database (<http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/departments/development-pipeline>), and Development and Project Information page (<http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/departments/monthly-and-quarterly-reports-2366>), and a Customer Satisfaction Survey (<http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/departments/planning-and-community-development/customer-survey>),

In preparation for the upcoming Short Term Vacation policy discussions and recommendations, we have prepared a survey to obtain community input:

<http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/Home/Components/News/News/4261/36?backlist=%2fhome>  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/stvrsurvey>

## PARKS AND RECREATION



Four new Temp Rangers get badged on Wednesday at a small ceremony at the Harvey West Clubhouse.

### **PG&E Tree Removal Update**

The urban Forester is still reviewing public comment and agreement language from other agencies and is currently drafting the agreement between the City of Santa Cruz and PG&E. Staff should have a draft agreement completed by the end of next week for review by PG&E and the City Attorney.

### **New Fountain at West Lake**

A new fountain was installed by West zone staff at Westlake Park. The new fountain is a Kasco 3400VFX. It gives the best mix of aeration and display with over 800 gallons per minute. It will

improve water quality, keep fish alive, add vital oxygen, eliminate stagnant water and improve decomposition of organic matter such as leaves, grass clippings and wildlife waste. It also adds a pleasing aesthetic feature to the park.



### CIVIC

This Friday 9/2 at 8pm the Civic Auditorium is hosting the Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddling School for the Fiddle Extravaganza! This annual event is celebrating its 33<sup>rd</sup> year at the Civic Auditorium. Indie- Award-winning Scots fiddler Alasdair Fraser leads more than 150 enthusiastic musicians in a lively celebration of music, song, and dance.



## EVENTS



The second Food Truck Event at San Lorenzo Park was a huge success. Crowd estimates of over 500 people enjoyed a wide variety of food from 7 vendors, games, music and fun.

### LOUDEN NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER

A Santa Cruz City Council candidate forum put on by a diverse group of local organizations drew more than 130 people to the Loudon Nelson Community Center on Monday night. Ten out of eleven candidates running for four seats on the council on Nov. 8 answered questions on a wide range of topics. The forum was organized by the People's Democratic Club, NAACP, Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Alliance, American Civil Liberties Union, Sierra Club, Climate Action Network and Affordable Housing Now!



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Operations/Administration

The annual Army Corps of Engineers inspection of the San Lorenzo River and Branciforte Creek was conducted on Aug.31. The inspector said that our system maintenance should be considered a model for others.

### Streets/Traffic

Staff painted a faded red curb on Olive at Toledo. Staff also worked on sand management at the river mouth.



### Resource Recovery Facility and Processing

Recycling Processing lost 4 hours of operation due to an extraordinary amount of needles this week. Proper protocol for our recycling workers is to stop the line remove the needles with tongs and secure in proper containers. Unfortunately these needles were mixed in and were coming across the line for most of the day. Proper disposal of sharps is detailed on our City [webpage](#).



### Collections

This Monday when arriving to remove roll-off containers for Taco and Tequilas Festival at San Lorenzo Park we came upon a large mess. It took 4 people an hour and half to clean up and additional 30 yard of garbage that was left on top of the roll-offs and on the ground. Two Parks staff also did about an hour of pick-sticking to button up the park. The promoter will be

charged for these additional costs. This will also be taken into consideration if the promoter applies for a permit for this event next year.



### **Laboratory & Environmental Compliance**

An Environmental Compliance Inspector fielded several questions at the City Hall to You this week. Many of the questions related to the program to keep unwanted pharmaceuticals out of surface waters. We exhibited a model of the secure vaults in use at local pharmacies and at the Police Department to collect unwanted pharmaceuticals and prevent them from reaching surface waters.



Picture 1. The blue vault and EC/Lab Program posters

Picture 2. EC Inspector answers questions

### **Engineering**

2016 Overlay Project paving was completed at King and Baldwin streets including the traffic circle there. The project is paid for with [Measure H](#) funding. Striping is planned for next week.



### Parking Services

Lot 7 is officially Pay-By-Space as of September 1, 2016. Parking Enforcement was available to assist customers at the pay stations. Enforcement is issuing warning citations during the first week.



### Community Outreach

We published our 16th and 17th stories in Santa Cruz Waves 'City Beat' column. Both were posted on SC Waves Facebook as well:

[CELEBRATE 150 YEARS OF SANTA CRUZ THE ENTIRE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER!](#)  
[FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY ON SEPTEMBER 2 PLUS NEW PARKS & REC FALL CLASSES](#)

We will be hosting Public Works **TROLLEY TOURS** every Wednesday in September as part of the City's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. Spots are filling up fast; reservations are recommended. Details can be accessed [here](#).

## PUBLIC WORKS TROLLEY TOURS

Wednesdays at 1:30, 3, 4 p.m.

September 7, 14, 21, 28

Board at Cedar & Lincoln streets

Reserve: [jbisgaard@cityofsantacruz.com](mailto:jbisgaard@cityofsantacruz.com)



Aug. 31 [Westside City Hall to YOU](#) provided an energized evening of dialogue between residents and City staff and officials with focus on neighborhood issues. Fellowship Hall at Peace United was filled close to its 200+ capacity. Dozens of Westside residents and business owners milled about 20 tables featuring City department and project displays. Presentations by Vice Mayor Chase, City Manager Martín Bernal, Police Chief Kevin Vogel and Public Works Assistant Director Chris Schneiter were followed by a lively question and answer period. Watch for a recap in the Sentinel shortly.



Arts Program Manager Beth Tobey hosted an interactive **Rail Trail Arts Master Plan** table to collect ideas from the public for potential public art along the 2.1 mile City trail segment.



PD's booth featured interactive neighborhood maps where residents could mark areas of concern.



Assistant City Engineer Chris Schneider was one of four featured speakers. A [Measure H](#) display featured all paving completed since 2005 and that which is scheduled for this fall.



Vice Mayor Chase began the presentations noting that City Hall to YOU is all about hearing from our constituents!



Visitors to **Engineering and Traffic Engineering** were excited about the Rail Trail and wanted to know when construction is happening. Engineers answered that it is expected to start in late 2017



Water Department's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated. Planning Projects Under Development was featured as well as a Rental Inspection/Code Compliance booth.