

# City Manager's Weekly Update

October 30, 2015

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Dreaming of an Endless Summer....**The Silicon Valley Business Journal had notable coverage of Santa Cruz and our wharf last week as represented by two of our fearless leaders, the City Manager and Norm Daly, our Wharf Property Manager. Martin and Norm spoke of the positive trends for our



local tourism industry and the future improvements envisioned in the Wharf Master Plan. Please read the full article for the full story (copies the most recent journal with the article has been delivered to Council).



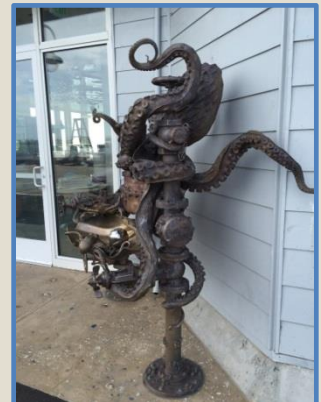
<http://www.bizjournals.com/sanjose/print-edition/2015/09/25/dreaming-of-an-endless-summer-tourism-in-the-831.html>

### Splash! Restaurant Status and Steampunk Octopus Drinking Fountain



Is it a water fountain or is it art? Locals and visitors alike can now look cool and get hydrated while filling up their reusable water bottles at the Santa Cruz Wharf. The soon-to-open restaurant "Splash!" recently commissioned local artisans Bronze Works to create what looks to be the most iconic water fountain in town. While not part of the City's public art collection, this amazing functional sculpture is just too ingenious not to bring to your attention. A salute to

Splash! and Bronze Works for making the Santa Cruz Wharf an oasis in a sea of salt water!



Splash! will be opening soon (estimated early to mid-December). For more information about Bronze Works see their website here: <http://www.seanmmonaghan.com/index.shtml>

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Clint Bohlen new **Principal Administrative Analyst** began work on Monday. What a welcome addition to our Department! Clint will manage the Administrative Division of Parks and Recreation and provide support to the entire Department.

### John Franks Park Playground Update

Parks and Recreation staff has scheduled a community meeting with the neighbors of John Franks Park to discuss options for playground replacement. The project is part of the Department's CIP which is aimed at replacing a tot lot with a playground which services different aged children. The meeting is scheduled for **4:00 – 5:00 pm on November 3, 2015**. Staff will be presenting different playground options and will be seeking feedback on which option might better serve the community.

### Louden Nelson Community Center



Christian Youth Theater presents **The Addams Family** featuring an original story that may be every father's nightmare. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents. Bring the family for a fun theater production perfect for the Halloween season.

**Show times:** Friday, Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm; Saturday, Oct 31<sup>st</sup> – 12 noon; Sunday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – 3 pm; Tuesday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9 am; Friday, Nov 6<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm; Saturday, Nov 7<sup>th</sup> – 3 pm, 7 pm; Sunday, Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – 3 pm

### TEENS

On Saturday October 24 Teen Center staff took 15 teens to California's Great America to experience The Haunt. The whole theme park becomes "haunted" and in addition there were many mazes and

scare zones for ticket holders to go through. Teens and staff alike had a great time and the teens are already asking for this to be an annual event.



## PUBLIC WORKS

### **Resource Recovery Source Reduction and Green Business**

October has been a busy month of Resource Recovery Facility tours. Seven school tours, including one UCSC group, 3rd, 4th or 5th grade classes from Westlake, Bay View, Springhill and Gateway schools. Approximately 175 students were served by these tours plus the teachers and parent chaperones that attended. The final public tour of our fall season took place this week with 27 enthusiastic attendees.

The newest Green Business in Santa Cruz is on a boat! Monterey Bay Charters was certified this week.

### **Collections**

We took delivery of two new CNG front load trucks for our commercial collection routes. These trucks have the compressed gas tanks inside of the rear tailgate. This brings the number of CNG trucks to three, and with five additional hybrid drive trucks the collection division is doing their part to help reduce the City's carbon footprint!



### **Wastewater Collections & Flood Control**

Construction crew determined that a sink hole on Green Street was caused by a broken pipe. The pipe has been repaired and the road repaved.



Crews continue winter preparation on both the storm water collection and pumping systems.

A defective check valve was replaced at Storm Station 1B located in the Main Beach area.

### **Engineering**

On Oct. 24, the Clean River, Beaches and Ocean fund provided funding for Save Our Shores' "Make a Difference Day" San Lorenzo River community volunteer cleanup in downtown Santa Cruz. Approximately 250 pounds of trash, 50 pounds of recycling and hundreds of cigarette butts were collected.



Sediment removal will be completed this week at Neary Lagoon. The floating boardwalk across the lagoon's main channel will be reconnected on Monday, November 2. The lower main channel was recently dredged and cleared of tule overgrowth.

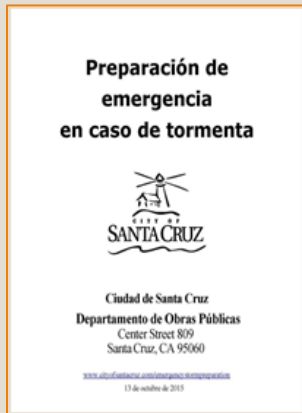
We continued sediment removal in our Branciforte Creek Flood Control Channel Vegetation Removal Project.





## **Community Outreach**

Our Emergency Storm Preparation brochure has been translated into Spanish and posted [online](#).



We began planning the Nov. 21 El Nino prep community event working with three departments: Public Works, Planning and Water. Station/booth elements in discussion include: storm drains/pumps, flood zones/maps, sand bag stacking demo and workshop, how to protect and prep homes, contractor and building site prep, water purity, dam safety and watershed.

## **Parking**

Lot 4 Project before and after photos:



## **Streets/Traffic**

Staff replaced debris rack on a culvert near Logan Street.



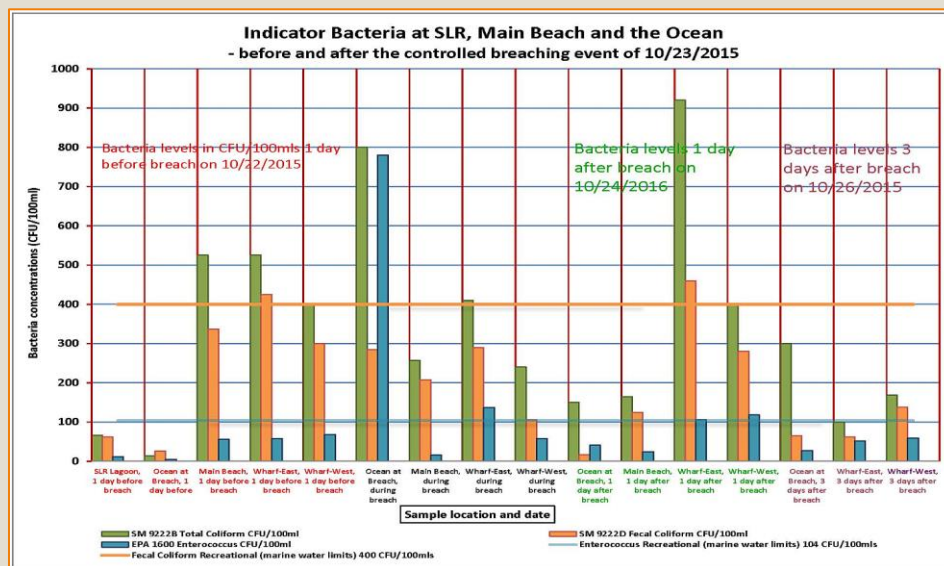
Staff finished the new berm at Brookwood Drive and Prospect Heights to help direct vehicles.



### Laboratory & Environmental Compliance

Working in cooperation with the City Manager’s Office (Scott Collins), contractors as well as regulators and other City staff, the Laboratory and Environmental Compliance program sampled waters from San Lorenzo River’s lagoon and specific beach areas ahead of the controlled breach event of Friday October 23, 2015, and for two days after the breach. Samples were analyzed daily for indicator bacteria, whenever feasible, and additional samples were archived to test for algal toxins in all the areas sampled.

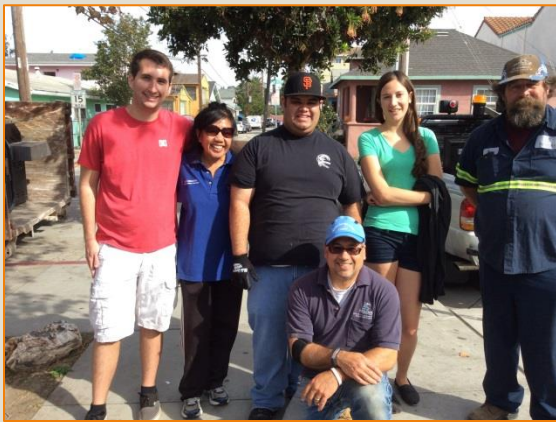
The abbreviated and annotated graph below was compiled from the data in the areas sampled including both sides of the Wharf as well as Main Beach. As can be seen below, bacteria quality of the beach water was restored to pre-breach levels in most cases within 24 hours. And all areas were restored to levels acceptable for recreational contact, and sometimes below pre-breach levels by day 3. Analyses for algal toxins are being performed at UCSC and by a contract laboratory out of state, while we initiate method development for algal toxins in the laboratory, now that the indications are that the nutrient levels and climate warming will ensure that they are going to be part of the local watershed ecosystem for a while.



A more comprehensive report including all the stations sampled and algal toxin levels will be produced for the regulators when all the contract laboratory data have been received this week.

### **Beach Flats Neighborhood Clean Up**

Last Saturday, Code Compliance Division, Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments staff assisted the Beach Flats residents in the City sponsored neighborhood clean-up and recycling event. The intention of this event is to help beautify the area, and allow the residents to maintain this unique community. Additionally, it provides a time for residents to gather, share food, visit...and even trade 'treasures'. This event found many bicycles 'recycled', and Knick knacks, toys exchanged to the delight of both adults and children! Since 2001, this bi-annual event has proven successful in allowing opportunity for community based support. It serves to enhance partnerships and relationships with residents and other groups including Community Bridges, Grey Bears, Santa Cruz Neighbors, UCSC as well as with Council members and City staff. And it's always a fun event!



**NOLO Neighborhood Clean Up. Saturday, November 7 from 8 – 11:30 a.m.** is the next event. The team will be staging at the corner of Barson and Jessie Streets. Come join us.

### **Parking Toolkit Meeting**

On October 15<sup>th</sup> a joint meeting was held with the Planning Commission and the Downtown Commission for the purpose of hearing from three nationally recognized experts in the field of parking management. Ria Hutabarat Lo from Nelson Nygaard, Janis Rhodes from JR Parking Consultants, and Frederik Venter from Kimley Horn, presented information, examples and techniques of parking management in urban areas. While the discussion and presentations acknowledged the City's existing good management for downtown Santa Cruz, opportunities remain for refining the existing systems and expanding strategies Citywide. As one speaker mentioned, the approach to parking management must take a 'holistic' view for the City.

### **Housing Element**

The 2014-2023 Draft Housing Element was forwarded to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for review and comment. It is expected that the City will receive HCD comments on the draft before the end of 2015. Environmental review will be completed on the final draft and final hearings scheduled with the Planning Commission and City Council - likely to be in January 2016.