

# City Manager's Weekly Update

## February 19, 2016

### PARKS AND RECREATION

#### RECREATION DIVISION

##### Civic Auditorium



**Derby Time!** Santa Cruz Derby Girls holds their season opener on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Come down for this special double header beginning with an early Groms bout at 4:30 pm and main headliner match between Steamer Janes vs Organic Panic.



##### Special Events

The 35<sup>th</sup> annual **Clam Chowder Cook Off** is this Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Join the festivities as costumed chefs prepare their finest clam chowder recipes outdoors along the Boardwalk to the delight of spectators eager to sample their favorites. Both amateur and professional chefs from all over Northern California compete in the friendly competition, hoping to win prizes and bragging rights for BEST CLAM CHOWDER!

#### PARKS DIVISION

##### Stagecoach Building Project

Parks staff has coordinated and completed repairs at the Stagecoach Building in Harvey West Park. The building façade had suffered significantly from termite and dry rot damage. The project included complete reconstruction of the facade of the Stagecoach Building and minor repairs to the side and back walls. The Stagecoach Building houses an identical replica of a Concord Stagecoach which was donated by Mr. Harvey West in 1967.



### **Frederick Park User Meeting**

Staff will be holding a community meeting with Frederick Park users on March 4, 2016 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. The focus of the meeting will be “Maintenance and Use of Off-Leash Dog Area.” The Frederick Park off-leash area is one of the more popular in the park system. The heavy use and subsequent rains we’ve been receiving have together resulted in the area being closed for an extended period of time, as the terra is degraded to an unsafe state. Staff will discuss turf vs. wood chip options and periodic maintenance closures in hopes of reaching a consensus on future maintenance strategies.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Operations**

Staff has been working with engineering and all Corp Yard staff on planning for mitigations/relocations for the seismic retrofitting project that is anticipated to begin soon.

### **Streets/Traffic**

Staff installed a drainage pipe under some driveways on Golf Club Drive to help the drainage problems there.



### **Community Relations**

Work continued in preparation for our first City Hall to You event focused on the Eastside quadrant of Santa Cruz. The event kicks off a new quarterly series designed to strengthen community connectedness by providing opportunity for citizens to interact with City leaders and staff on topics specific to their neighborhood.

Eastside residents and business owners are invited to the event on Thursday, Feb. 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Santa Cruz Bible Church, 440 Frederick St. A second [press release](#) was distributed outlining event details including 14 booths and presentations by Vice Mayor Cynthia Chase, Police Chief Kevin Vogel, Planning Director Juliana Rebagliati and City Manager Martín Bernal.



## **Resource Recovery**

### **Facility and Processing**

Recycling Processing is now fully staffed with all three applicants completing their physicals and background checks.

Recycling received bids for two loads of Mixed Rigid Plastics at approximately 88,000 pounds. Bids came in low and we accepted a bid for 3 cents a pound. The revenues from the MRP do not quite cover our processing costs but the upside is the amount of landfill space saved by diverting the MRP.

### **Engineering**

Staff submitted the landfill's semi-annual report to the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District (MBUAPCD) last week as it was due by February 15, 2016.

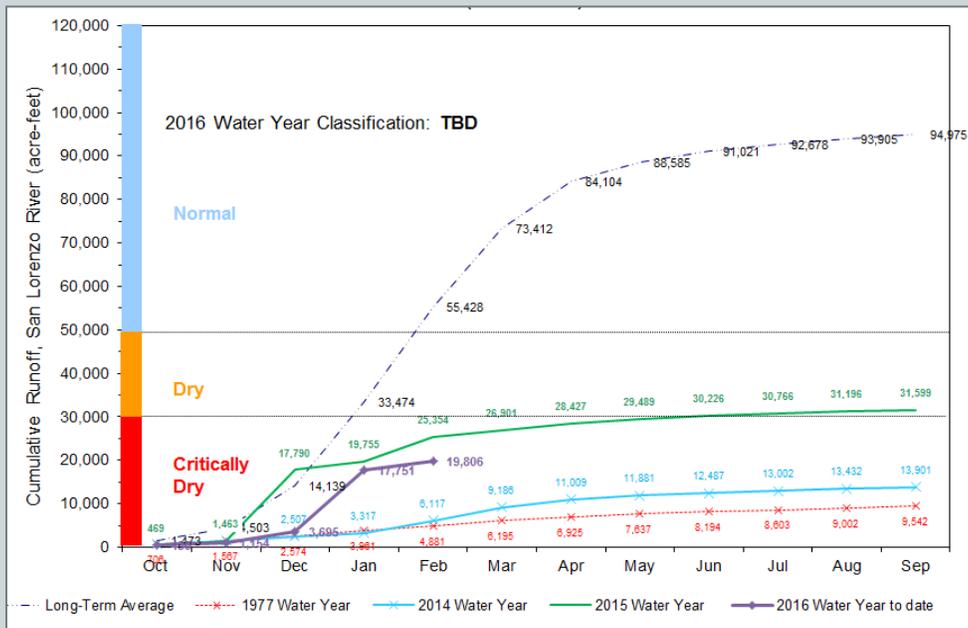
Staff submitted results from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> storm water sampling, performed on 1/13/16 and 1/29/16, respectively, to the State Water Resources Control Board.

The landfill's annual aerial occurred on 2/5/2016. An aerial survey is flown each year and the comparison between the previous year indicates how much actual volume has been placed in the landfill.

## **WATER**

We have our first rain barrel distribution this Saturday at our Corporation yard. Once again our reduced-cost rain barrel program has proven to be very popular with our customers.

It would be nice if we had more rain to put in the rain barrels. We are in what is considered the rainy season of an El Nino year, but we're still about 20% behind in our river runoff from where we were in 2015 – which is saying a lot. We still have a considerable ways to go; it will take 1.5 times more runoff to reach a "Normal" water year classification.



There is a lull in the wharf main replacement project due to the requirement to only open portions of the deck at a time. Wharf crews are putting back a portion of previously-opened deck and the contractor is on standby until further work can be done. That said, we still anticipate having the wharf main back in service by the beginning of March, at the very latest.

We are kicking off a Water Department strategic planning process next week. We'll begin by looking at the ways the external environment affects us. Employee groups will meet to share their perspectives on everything from customer/stakeholder needs to political, economic and environmental trends impacting our work. The purpose of exploring what's changing and shifting in our external environment is to ensure that our strategic plan is truly strategic and responsive to all the forces that may influence us.

Last, we are looking forward to our study session with Council next week to look at the work we've done on financial planning and rate development.