

# City Manager's Weekly Update

## October 21, 2016

### POLICE

#### Officer Involved Shooting

The police department spent the majority of the week addressing the investigation and issues surrounding the tragic officer involved shooting at 206 Chace Street. Internal issues involve caring for our staff and ensuring critical incident stress debriefings occur for those involved. Additionally, the incident involved most of the 5 officers assigned to that patrol team. Schedule adjustments were made to cover the remainder of that team's work week. Externally, the department has been fully cooperating with the District Attorney's Office investigation. As a reminder, it was at our request that the matter was turned over to the District Attorney's Office for investigation. The department will also conduct an internal administrative investigation to determine if the officers acted within the scope of the department's use of force policy. We have also been as transparent as possible with the media as well as responding to community questions and concerns. All of the information released on this is available on our Website, blog and Facebook pages.

#### Palm Springs Police Memorial

SCPD was represented by members of our Honor Guard at the memorial service for Palm Springs Police Officers Lesley Zerebny and Jose Vega. This tragedy hit particularly close to home for members of our department, prompting many to reach out individually and collectively to support that department and their families.

#### Other Notable Events

In other notable happenings, there was another mountain lion sighting in the city. In this case, the resident was standing on his porch when the mountain lion reached out from under the porch and took a swipe at him. By the time we arrived, the mountain lion had fled into the Neary Lagoon area. The Dept. of Fish and Wildlife also responded. We were unable to locate the animal.

### PARKS AND RECREATION

#### Civic

#### **Friday, Oct 21 & Saturday, Oct 22: Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Library Fall Book Sale**

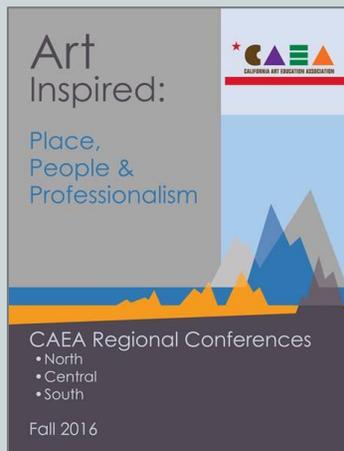
The Civic staff will begin load in for the Fall Book Sale this weekend! The Civic will be filled with over 10,000 books to purchase at a discounted price. Friday evening is for donors only. You can become a donor at the door for early entry! Saturday is open to the public from 10 am-4

pm. Also this Friday Oct 21 @ noon tickets for the annual Nutcracker go on sale! To purchase tickets or more information

Please visit [santacruztickets.com](http://santacruztickets.com)

### **Louden Nelson Community Center**

As part of a series of events for Affordable Housing Week, various tenants organizations held a Santa Cruz City Council [Candidates forum](#) at the Loudon Nelson Community Center on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30 to 9:00 pm. Candidates addressed renters' issues such as creating a city-sponsored tenant affairs department, tenant protection ordinances, eviction protections, rent rollbacks and rent control, increasing affordable housing and limiting vacation rentals.



The California Art Education Association will hold their Northern California Regional Conference at the Loudon Nelson Community Center Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. CAEA is the professional educational organization for pre-K through university educators working in all areas of the visual arts, such as drawing, painting, digital media, weaving and fabrics, ceramics, glass, sculpture, and mixed media.

### **Expanded Play Area at San Lorenzo Park**

Working with a local contractor, staff is near completion of an expanded play area at San Lorenzo Park. The project involved installation of 913 feet of vinyl coated chain link fencing.





### **Community Clean Up Days in Beach Flats and Lower Ocean Areas:**

Twice a year the Code Compliance Team organizes neighborhood two clean-ups in Beach Flats and Lower Ocean Areas. They work with neighborhood groups, City Resource Recovery staff, and Grey Bears to provide opportunity to work together to spiff things up around these neighborhoods. These events are always welcome and fun!

The first is **Saturday, October 22 from 8-11 a.m.** in the **Lower Ocean Area**, gathering at the Barson Street dead-end near San Lorenzo Blvd.

The second is **Saturday November 5 from 8-11:30 a.m.** in the **Beach Flats Area**, near the Beach Flats Park.

Come join us, and help out!

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Storm Water**

Storm Water Program staff completed and submitted the City's Storm Water Program Annual Report to the State Water Resources Control Board last week as it was due by October 15. The Annual Report provides an in depth summary of the City Storm Water Program and Best Management Practices implementation. The Annual Report will be posted shortly on the City's website at [www.cityofsantacruz.com/stormwater](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/stormwater).

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

The Cities storm water collection system performed well with the 2+ inches of rain that fell this past weekend. Cleanup continues at various trash racks and pumping stations. Neary Lagoon did not have to be opened at Cowell Beach. The large amount of runoff held will be diverted to the Wastewater Treatment Facility for all-natural treatment and disposal to the ocean.

Crews initiated repairs to a deteriorated 8" clay sanitary sewer on Market Street that was believed to be the cause of high bacteria counts in a local storm drain. The pipe was replaced in PVC and will be lined after the storm drain upgrade in the area is completed.



### **Laboratory & Environmental Compliance**

Routine sampling of San Lorenzo River and its tributaries within the city continued this week after the storm events of last weekend. Preliminary data indicate that the river receives a lot of bacteria and other pollutants during these events in addition to the usual load attributable to activities directly on the levees and banks of the river. The high level of bacteria and caffeine detected caused Environmental Compliance staff to resample and the lab to test another batch for caffeine this week. Pictured below is one of those samples appearing 'clean' before laboratory analyses. The routine analyses are performed on behalf of the City's fulfillment of the TMDL monitoring requirement for controlling bacteria in the river.



### **Wastewater Operations & Maintenance**

Our wastewater facility maintenance project to clean digester #5 has started. Thickened solids from the primary and secondary processes are sent to the anaerobic digesters for stabilization. Over time debris accumulates inside the digester and must be removed or process control becomes difficult not allowing for full digestion to take place. The photo shows our contractor operating mobile dewatering equipment used in this maintenance process. The contractor has removed 18 trailer loads equal to 396 wet tons of solids so far.

A project to replace failing foul air ducting in the Solids Dewatering Building has begun. The foul air ducting was installed in the advanced primary plant expansion in 1989. This ducting is critical to the facilities odor control system.



## **Traffic Engineering**

An [Active Transportation Plan open house](#) was held both Weds and Thurs nights this week where public feedback was collected through comments added to large scale city maps. The draft Active Transportation Plan will be reviewed for a third time by the Transportation and Public Works Commission on Nov. 21 along with all public comments collected at the October open houses and earlier community meetings.

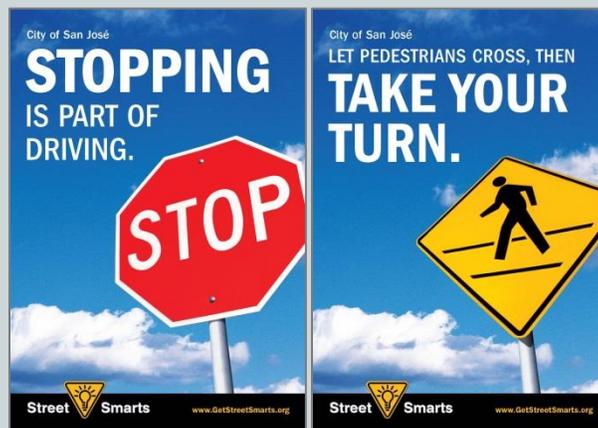
## **Streets/Traffic**

The crew installed bollards at Parking Lot 7 (behind the Catalyst).



## **Community Outreach**

We have begun outlining our citywide Street Smarts traffic safety campaign with very tentative kick off date of Feb. 1. This public education effort is modeled on a program created by the City of San Jose that has been proven to be successful over about ten years. San Jose message samples are illustrated below.



Our 24<sup>th</sup> Santa Cruz Waves story was posted: [Santa Cruz Recycles! 2016 Student Poster Winners.](#)

Staff planned and promoted a roundtable partnership meeting with local pharmacists hosted by Akin Babatola on Oct. 21 to discuss the new [Extended Producer Responsibility Ordinance](#).

Pre- and post-storm round-up stories were written for the [City website](#) and Facebook.

The community relations specialist participated in the first City web redesign meeting and began the process of purging Public Works web pages that are redundant or outdated. The City is in the beginning stages of a complete redesign of our main website and is asking for community input to help us design a brand new website that can serve our residents and businesses in the best way possible. We invite everyone to [take the City website redesign survey](#) in order to help us create a website that better serves our community's needs!

### **Resource Recovery Facility and Recycling Processing**

Cell 3 liner deployment has started. Liner installation and testing is scheduled over three weeks.



Recycling processing has started to ship out approximately 600 tons of scrap metal this week. Recycling Processing shipped out approximately 44,000 pounds of aluminum cans this week.

### **Green Business**

The Green Business Mixer is next Thursday from 5:30-7:30pm at Rosie McCann's. We have received 40 RSVP's so far. Please pass the event invite along to local business owners/managers: [www.tinyurl.com/gbmixer](http://www.tinyurl.com/gbmixer).

We started working with Bogner and DayOneSolar on their certifications and the main PAMF clinic on Soquel Avenue is in-process to become certified. Staff is working to get caught up on re-certifications with 27 businesses re-certified so far in 2016.

### **Waste Reduction**

The RRF Fall school tours are in full swing. There is an added "Reuse" education component with the [SCRAP](#) (Santa Cruz Recycle Art Program) artists. They are teaching students about how they reuse found materials in their art work. Photo: SCRAP artist Tauna Coulson at the Outpost engaging students from De Laveaga Elementary School.



Waste Reduction staff is working on our annual outreach to homeless services providers in the City with the important “Don’t sleep in dumpsters” message. As the weather turns colder and the rainy season begins collection drivers and supervisors tend to see an increase of individuals seeking shelter in trash enclosures and dumpsters.

**Please Don't Sleep in Dumpsters!**



*It could be a deadly decision*

A dumpster is not a safe place to sleep. When these containers are serviced, drivers cannot hear or see what is being dumped. Don't take the chance.

*Refuse is compacted inside these trucks.*

Sleeping in trash dumpsters, recycling or cardboard containers is dangerous and can be deadly.

**Don't do it!**

If you see someone entering a dumpster, **WARN THEM** or **CALL 420-5544.**



## Operations

Our contractor began the ground squirrel control operation as ground squirrel infestation on the levees of the San Lorenzo River has detrimental effects on levee stability. Burrows loosen compacted levee soil and provide an avenue for rain and/or flood water to enter the levee core. Ground cover is disturbed or killed exposing the levees to erosion from rainfall or rising water levels in the river.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers has recently taken the position that control of rodent populations is at least as important as vegetation management in flood control.

## Storm Water

Storm Water Program staff also collaborated with other local municipalities to offer construction best practices training for contractors. The training occurred on Wednesday 10/19 at Aptos Village Park and had 29 participants.