



CITY NOTES

May 22, 2014

- 1. Coastal Trail Project.** At long last, the Fort Bragg Coastal Restoration & Trail Project is out to bid! The Coastal Trail Project was identified as a key community priority back in 2004 when the City completed the Mill Site Reuse Study to help establish a vision for reuse of the former Georgia Pacific timber mill property. Since then, the City amassed over \$10 million in grants to fund acquisition of nearly 100 acres spanning 3.5 miles of coastline and to fund construction of the Coastal Trail Project. Georgia Pacific completed the environmental clean-up of the park site, prior to its transfer to the City in 2010. Bids to construct the Coastal Trail Project are due in mid-June and a contract is expected to be awarded at the end of June. Construction will take two seasons to complete with the Coastal Trail finally opening for public use late next year. The Project includes: removal of approximately 18 acres of asphalt and packed gravel, restoration with native plant species, construction of 4.5 miles of multi-use and pedestrian-only trails, construction of a stormwater conveyance system, construction of a parking lot off Elm Street at the north end of the park and a parking lot at the end of the runway on the south end, construction of two welcome centers and three restroom facilities, and installation of fencing, signage, bike racks, benches, etc. Initially, the Coastal Trail will be comprised of two segments. A connector will be constructed once the central area of the mill site is cleaned up.
- 2. Public Workshop on Mill Site Remediation.** On Thursday, May 22nd at 6:30 p.m. at Fort Bragg Town Hall, the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will conduct a public workshop to discuss possible cleanup plans for Operable Units (OU) C and D—which together comprise more than 280 acres of the former Georgia Pacific mill site. The Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for OU-C & D will be circulated for public review and comment next month and DTSC is expected to take action on the RAP towards the end of the summer. Once the OU-C&D RAP is completed, all that remains is the OU-E RAP. OU-E includes all of the ponds and wetlands on the mill site as well as the low-lying area adjacent to the beach at Fort Bragg Landing. Because of the wetlands, OU-E is complicated from a regulatory standpoint. The RAP for it will be completed in 2015.
- 3. Independence Day Fireworks!** Planning and coordination has begun for this year's Independence Day Fireworks which will light up the skies over Noyo Bay on Saturday, July 5th as a fitting finale to the World's Largest Salmon BBQ in Noyo Harbor. The annual Independence Day Fireworks display is a community event involving many local agencies and organizations. Fundraising has begun for the fireworks- the event is expected to cost about \$15,000 (similar to last year). Mendo Lake Credit Union (MLCU) has set up a "Friends of the Fort Bragg Fireworks" account to collect donations. Checks made payable to the "Friends of the Fort Bragg Fireworks" can be mailed to MLCU at 120 North Franklin Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

4. **The City is Hiring for Seasonal and Regular Positions.** The City of Fort Bragg is accepting applications for Seasonal Laborers and a part-time Parking Enforcement Attendant. These positions are seasonal, ranging from 3-5 months in duration. In addition, we continue to recruit new Police Officers and the recruitment for an Associate City Engineer will begin shortly. The recruitment period is closed for the Maintenance Worker 2 position and we expect to announce the new hire shortly.

5. **C.V. Starr Center Budget Workshop.** The City Council and the Board of the Mendocino Coast Recreation & Park District (MCRPD) held a joint workshop last week to review the proposed FY 2014/15 Budget for the C.V. Starr Center. C.V. Starr Director Ethan Newton presented an overview of the Center's performance in FY 2013/14 and the proposed budget for next year. The Center is doing very well. Revenues from admissions, registration and merchandise sales surpassed expectations. Operating expenses were slightly higher than expected, primarily due to unanticipated costs related to licenses/permits, pool chemicals, supplies, and the towel rental service. The budget for next year is tight with a slight decrease in revenues expected as a result of implementation of the Silver Sneakers program for eligible seniors and some increased operating expenses. Major capital repairs and improvements to the facility in FY 2014/15 include relining the pools, installing floor drains in the family locker rooms, and installing a CO2 system as a non-corrosive means of maintaining the pH levels of the pools. Attendance at the Center has continued to climb. The MCRPD is to be commended for doing an excellent job running the facility.

City Notes is published on the first and third Thursday of each month. If you have questions or suggestions regarding the column, feel free to contact City Manager Linda Ruffing at (707) 961-2823, ext. 118 or LRuffing@fortbragg.com.