



CITY NOTES

September 10, 2015

COASTAL TRAIL>> Over 100 people came out to the south Coastal Trail for a sneak preview last Friday afternoon. The weather was magnificent, although a bit windy. Folks parked in the new parking lot, walked along the coastal bluff, admired the beautiful artist benches, and marveled at how lucky we are to live on one of the most splendid coastlines in the world. Artist Jonathon Palmer will begin to paint a mural on the north restroom (in the Elm Street parking lot) next week. Hydro-seeding of bare soils on both the south and north trails will also occur next week. Once the remaining fencing is installed and the property transaction with Georgia-Pacific complete, the south trail will be opened for public access. We are hoping for a mid-October opening.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE>> Lots of positive things are going on at the Fort Bragg Police Department. Community Service Officer (CSO) Kimberly Nell has been appointed as a Police Recruit and is attending the Police Academy in Santa Rosa. Police Services Technician (PST) Gretchen McLaughlin has recently been appointed to serve as a CSO. An internal recruitment is underway to fill the vacant PST position resulting from Gretchen's transfer. In addition, Chief Lizarraga is considering establishing a Police Reserve position.

WATER SUPPLY>> According to Lead Treatment Operator Heath Daniels, in August the City's water plant produced approximately 24 million gallons of finished water, as compared to last August when it produced 26 million gallons. The City pumped 21% less water from the Noyo River in August than in July—a direct result of the fixing of two major water leaks. Flows at the City's Newman and Waterfall Gulch water sources are holding steady. The City is continuing to sell water to local haulers from the Highway 20 tank. We ask that everyone continue to conserve water—the Stage 1 Water Emergency remains in effect.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE PROJECT>> City staff met this week with the consultants who are designing the City's much-needed Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Upgrade project. The project involves installation of an Aero-Mod activated sludge process at the WWTF in lieu of the current treatment process. The Aero-Mod unit would allow the anaerobic digesters and the bio-filters of the current process to be taken offline. The headworks of the plant, which was recently upgraded, would remain and the clarifiers would be re-purposed to help with collection and processing of on-site stormwater. The City is currently pursuing grant and low-interest financing for the project. Environmental review of the new equipment will begin within the next couple of months.

TWO NEW SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLES ADDED TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S FLEET>> Two new fully-equipped SUVs have been placed in service for the patrol staff at the Fort Bragg Police Department. These vehicles were purchased in FY 2014/15 but took a long time to be outfitted. Two additional SUVs will be purchased this year. Like many agencies, the FBPD is transitioning its fleet to the SUVs which have more room for carrying gear, personnel and suspects. In addition, the vehicles have a higher seating position providing better visibility, and the SUVs handle well in extreme weather conditions.

NEW EMPLOYEES WELCOMED AT CITY HALL>> The Community Development Department will be welcoming three new employees this month. Natalie Gregory started work last week as a part-time Grants Assistant. Later this month, a new Associate Planner and Administrative Assistant will join the Community Development Department. While their names cannot be released yet, both are local residents and highly qualified for the positions. We also have two Temporary Office Assistants, Stacy Morine and Michelle McConnell, who have been helping out in the Finance and Administrative Services Departments.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS>> Check out the “Upcoming Agenda Items” pages on the City’s website or sign up for meeting notifications using the “Notify Me” feature on the website <https://city.fortbragg.com>. The following public meetings are coming up:

- Monday, September 14 @ 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall – City Council Meeting. Agenda includes: Report on ballot initiative to prohibit social service organizations in the Central Business District; Fort Bragg Police Department Biannual Report; Report from Community Development Department on Customer Satisfaction Efforts.
- Thursday, September 17 @ 3 PM, Fort Bragg City Hall Conference Room – Public Works & Facilities Committee Meeting. Tentative agenda includes: Adopt-a-Street Program; Update on WWTF Upgrade Project; Town Hall Rental Policy; Downtown Restrooms Discussion.
- Monday, September 28 @ 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town hall – City Council Meeting. Tentative agenda includes: Introduction of Social Host Ordinance; Introduction of Mobile Vending Ordinance.

City Notes is published on the second and fourth 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.