



CITY NOTES

March 24, 2016

Coastal Trail Celebration>> Saturday, June 4th is a date to remember. The City is planning a big celebration of our new Coastal Trail and everyone is invited! The event will be held at the southern end of Noyo Headlands Park and will include live music, food, fun and games, a display of the Blue Whale skeleton, acknowledgements by an array of local, state and federal officials, and more. Come join us for a glorious day in our new coastal park!

Environmental Service Award Given to Noyo Center Executive Director Sheila Semans>> Last Saturday, after hosting a Marine Science & Art Fair at the Old Rec Center gym and then a lecture at Town Hall on the northward migration of bottlenose dolphins into Mendocino County waters, the Noyo Center for Marine Science's Executive Director, Sheila Semans, was honored at the 17th Annual Environmental Potluck and Award Ceremony. Sheila was recognized for her years of amazing work on coastal conservation projects and for engaging the community at the Noyo Center for Marine Science. Congressman Jared Huffman presented Sheila with this year's *Matt Coleman Environmental Service Award*. Our community is fortunate to have Sheila as one of the driving forces behind the Noyo Center for Marine Science.

City's Emergency Operation Center Ready for Action>> The City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located in the Fort Bragg Police Department conference room and serves as the central location for coordinating response and recovery efforts in the event of a natural disaster or other complex emergency situation. Over the past several months, the EOC has been upgraded with new work stations and equipment for each of the "sections" involved in an emergency response effort under the Incident Command System. These sections include Operations, Logistics, Planning/Intelligence and Finance/Administration. Earlier this year, the City Council adopted a new Emergency Operations Plan and this past Tuesday City staff participated in an EOC training as a refresher on the various roles and responsibilities we assume when the EOC is activated. As part of the Tsunami Awareness Week events that took place on Wednesday, the public was invited to attend an open house at the EOC. If you're interested in seeing the EOC, come to a Public Safety Committee meeting. They are held in the EOC on the second Wednesday of the month at 3 PM.

Speed Bumps>> A few years back, the City installed a number of "traffic-calming" improvements on local streets as part of its Safe Routes to Schools program. These included three sets of hard rubber speed cushions affixed to the pavement: one at the base of Fir Street; one on Harold Street in front of the Middle School; and one on Cedar Street. The bumps are quite pronounced and have been the source of many complaints. A couple months ago, we removed the speed bumps on Cedar Street. The question as to whether or not they should be reinstated will be coming to the Public Works & Facilities Committee on April 21st. If you have an opinion on the matter, please come to the meeting or send Public Works Director Tom Varga a note. The meeting will be held at 3 PM in the EOC (Police Department Conference Room).

Mark Your Calendars>> Information on upcoming public meetings can be found on the "Upcoming Agenda Items" pages on the City's website or by signing up for meeting notifications using the "Notify Me" feature at <https://city.fortbragg.com>. The following public meetings are planned in March:

- Friday, March 25th from 8-10 AM – **City Dialogue Meeting**- Fort Bragg Town Hall. Everyone is welcome.
- Monday, March 28th at 6 PM – **City Council Meeting** – Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda includes report seeking Council direction regarding the possibility of allowing Segway tours on the coastal trail and the report back from the Council’s ad hoc committee that met with lodging owners and operators to explore the possibility of a ballot measure to increase the City’s Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) rate.
- Tuesday, March 29th at 6 PM – **Joint Special Meeting of the City Council & the Mendocino Coast Recreation and Park District**- Fort Bragg Town Hall. The Council and the Board will receive and discuss a report on the mid-year budget review for the C.V. Starr Community Center.
- Monday, April 11th at 6 PM – **City Council Meeting** – Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda includes the Mayor’s Well Done Awards, introduction of new employees, and a follow-up to the review of the City Council’s Goals that occurred during the Mid-Year Budget Work Session.
- Wednesday, April 13th at 3 PM – **Public Safety Committee Meeting**- EOC (Police Department Conference Room). Agenda includes discussion of Medical Marijuana Regulations for manufacturers, testing laboratories, transporters, and delivery services.

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.