



## CITY NOTES

June 30, 2016

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**Independence Day Fireworks - PARKING>>** The Independence Day fireworks display will light up the skies above Noyo Bay on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year, South Noyo Headlands Park will be open for viewing the fireworks along with Pomo Bluffs Park and Noyo Beach. A \$10 per vehicle parking fee will be charged at the three fireworks parking areas. The Todd Point (Haun property) parking lot will be run by the American Legion Sequoia Post #96 and proceeds will benefit their programs. Fees at the South Noyo Headlands Park and the Noyo Beach parking lots will help defray the cost of the fireworks display. The Pomo Bluffs Park parking lot will be restricted for use only by vehicles displaying a valid handicap placard and that parking will be free of charge.

**Independence Day Fireworks - SAFETY>>** To help protect public safety and enjoyment of the fireworks event, the Police Department will be strictly enforcing regulations prohibiting the discharge of fireworks and consumption of alcohol in all public parks. Except for professionally controlled fireworks shows, fireworks are illegal in the City of Fort Bragg. The City's Independence Day fireworks display will be launched from the southwest end of Noyo Headlands Park. Temporary fencing has been erected to maintain a 350-foot safety zone around the launch site. Please respect the fencing, be safe, and enjoy the fireworks!

**City Council Elections>>** Two City Council seats are at stake in the November 8, 2016 election. The nomination period opens on Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> and closes on Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. If neither incumbent files, the nomination period will be extended to Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Both of the incumbents (Doug Hammerstrom, Scott Deitz) have indicated that they do not intend to run for reelection. Anyone interested in running for City Council should make an appointment to meet with City Clerk June Lemos to receive nomination papers and a Candidate's Handbook. June can be reached at 707-961-1694.

**No Utility Rate Increase on July 1>>** During the FY 2016/17 Budget process, the City Council directed that the scheduled water and wastewater utility rate increase for July 1, 2016 will not be implemented. As a result, utility rates will remain the same in the coming year. This decision was based on the City's new cost allocation plan which decreased the utilities' share of non-personnel indirect costs. The City will be preparing an updated utility rate study in FY 2016/17 to establish a new rate schedule for future years and to reexamine water and wastewater capacity fees.

**Update from Police Department in Homicide Case>>** On Monday night, Chief Lizarraga updated the City Council on the case against Caleb Silver who was arrested in connection with the murder of Fort Bragg resident Dennis Boardman earlier this year. A preliminary hearing was held on Monday and Silver was held to answer on the murder charges. The arraignment will be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> and a trial is expected to be held a couple of months thereafter. In the meantime, Silver is in custody on a no-bail warrant.

**Seeking Video Content for the PEG>>** The City is always looking for video content for the community's Public Education Government (PEG) television station (Comcast Channel 3). If you have video or have posted videos and/or channels on YouTube that you would like to submit to be broadcast on the PEG, please email Mendocino TV – [admin@mendocinotv.com](mailto:admin@mendocinotv.com). The content cannot contain any business advertisements and should focus on local issues, people, events, history, arts, etc.

**Police Department Cadet Program>>** The Fort Bragg Police Department is starting a cadet program for local youth between the ages of 14 and 21 years old. The program is free and requires parental approval for members under the age of 18. The purpose of the Cadet Program is to offer young people an opportunity to learn about the law enforcement profession from within, to become educated about various law enforcement functions, and to be involved in actual police operations. An informational meeting about the Cadet Program is planned in mid-July. For more information regarding the program, please contact Officer Thomas O'Neal at 707-813-0520 or by email at [toneal@fortbragg.com](mailto:toneal@fortbragg.com)

**Chestnut Street Multi-Use Path>>** The Chestnut Street Multi-Use Path Project will be advertised for bid in early July and the contract awarded in August. Work on the project is expected to start in early September and to be completed by the end of the year. The City had hoped to construct the project over the summer but encountered numerous delays during the Caltrans review process. Construction will be coordinated to minimize impacts to the schools and the travelling public. Once complete, the new pathway will greatly enhance pedestrian and bicycle access along the busy Chestnut Street corridor.

**Guest House Roof Project>>** After rejecting the one flawed bid that was received when the Guest House Roof Project was initially bid last month, the City rebid the project in June. Unfortunately, this time no bids were received. We will likely wait until next year to bid the project and aim for construction in the late spring.

**Summers Lane Reservoir>>** Construction of the reservoir embankments and installation of the poly-vinyl liner is underway and will be the primary construction activity for the next few weeks. The 45-acre foot reservoir will store water from the City's Waterfall Gulch water source and is intended to help ensure a reliable water supply for City customers in the late summer months and during periods of extended drought.

**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 meeting is planned in the near future:

- Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall- **City Council Meeting**. Tentative agenda includes: Report on 2016 Streets and Alley Rehabilitation Project; City of Trails Report; Argument in Favor of TOT ballot measure.

*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](mailto:LRuffing@fortbragg.com).*