



CITY NOTES

November 10, 2016

Election Results>> Although the election is now over, official results may not be known for several weeks. The County Elections Office will continue to count mail-in and provisional ballots until the ballot count is complete. Results will be posted on the County's website: <https://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/acr/current.htm>. The City Council will certify the results of the election no later than December 12, 2016, when the two newly elected Councilmembers will be sworn into office. An informal reception is planned for outgoing Councilmembers Scott Deitz and Doug Hammerstrom prior to the swearing in ceremony on December 12.

Invitation to Japan>> Mayor Dave Turner and his wife Anne have been invited to Japan to celebrate a milestone in the recovery and rebuilding of Otsuchi in the aftermath of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. The Namiita Remember HOPE Village in Otsuchi, which was constructed by the Amway One by One Foundation, has won a prestigious 2016 Japan Good Design Award. This coveted award recognizes and celebrates architectural excellence and positive contributions to society and is an opportunity to spark public discussion of what has been accomplished in the disaster-impacted region of Tohoku. The centerpiece of the visit will be a public event, December 13th, at the Tokyo American Club where Mayor Turner has been asked to speak along with Mayor Hirano and Ambassador Kennedy. Following the event, the Turners will travel with Otsuchi Mayor Kozo Hirano to Otsuchi for a two-day visit.

Noyo Headland Park>> Over the next month, please be aware that Parlin Forks Correctional Facility crews will continue a major weed removal project at Noyo Headlands Park. The crews are removing and burning a number of stands of invasive plants, including Pampas Grass, Himalayan Blackberry and Ice Plant. Once these invasive plants are removed, native plants will be reseeded in their place. This invasive weed project will be an ongoing effort over the coming three years.

CDBG Grant Award>> The City of Fort Bragg was recently notified that our July 2016 application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds was awarded for the full amount requested of \$2 million. The grant will fund important community and economic development activities including approximately \$93,000 for two planning studies; \$1.4 million for a new water tank which will significantly increase our water storage capacity and help with drought response; \$155,000 for a new Business Assistance Loan Program, which provides business loans for job creation and/or retention; and \$216,000 for the Microenterprise Program which provides technical and financial assistance (loans) to qualifying microenterprises (new or existing businesses with 5 or fewer employees; income qualifications apply). The grant also provides Grant Administration funding for program and project implementation. Grant funds are expected in February 2017.

Cannabis Manufacturing Ordinance>> At the Fort Bragg City Council meeting on October 24, 2016, Council introduced a Cannabis Manufacturing Ordinance establishing regulations to

allow operation of cannabis manufacturing uses in the Light Industrial and Heavy Industrial zoning districts of Fort Bragg with an approved Use Permit. Council will consider adoption of the ordinance on November 14, 2016. Cannabis Manufacturing businesses transform cannabis into a product (such as food, medicine, oil, clothing, textile, etc.), and do not include a retail or cultivation element.

Water Update>> October rainfall was higher than usual and got the new water year off to a good start. As a result, raw water supplies are expected to be at reliable levels into next summer. The Summers Lane Reservoir is just a few feet short of full and will likely be done filling around the end of November. On September 26, 2016, City Council declared a Stage 2 Water Emergency as a precautionary measure. Our wet October helped alleviate those concerns and Council considered a return to a Stage 1 Water Emergency at its meeting on Tuesday which is more in line with long term statewide water conservation measures.

Sweeping Our Streets>> Early risers may have noticed a new street sweeper is now on duty. This sweeper uses more efficient technologies to clean our streets with minimum water usage. The operators are getting used to the new machine and are working out the usual start-up kinks. Give them a wave Hi if you see them on their rounds.

Police Department Updates>> The Police Department has partnered up with C-GAP to obtain “lock bags” to be distributed throughout the community. These bags are intended for residents to place their prescription medications in and secure them to prohibit any unauthorized access. We will be working out a procedure to distribute the bags with C-GAP.

On November 19th, a fundraising dinner will be held to benefit the Mendocino County Public Safety Foundation. The Foundation is responsible for providing funds which enabled the Police Department to obtain, train and certify their two K-9's, Takoda and Maverick and their handlers. The dinner will be held at the Veteran's Hall at Bainbridge Park, from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Please stop in for a delicious dinner and lend your support to the Foundation and your Police Department.

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>.

- **City Council Meeting** – Monday, November 14th at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Topics include: Public Hearing on disclosure of accomplishments and closeout of activities funded by Community Development Block Grant, Fort Bragg Mural Competition, Electric Vehicle charging stations, proposed amendments to Inland Land Use and Development Code and the Chestnut Street Corridor Project.

City Notes is published on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. If you have questions or suggestions regarding this week's column, feel free to contact guest writer, Acting City Manager/Administrative Services Director, Scott Schneider at (707) 961-2843, or sschneider@fortbragg.com.