



## CITY NOTES

June 22, 2017

---

### **CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF FY 2017/18 OPERATING BUDGET & CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET**

At the June 26, 2017 City Council meeting, the Council will consider adoption of an Operating Budget and a Capital Projects Budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2017. The annual budget process provides an opportunity to take stock of the City's accomplishments over the past year. The City Council provides leadership and the long-term strategic vision for the City. Through adoption of the budget, the Council establishes priorities for implementation of work activities. Our City staff deserves recognition for its ongoing commitment to provide excellent services and reliable infrastructure while containing costs and bringing in outside revenues to help fund priority projects and activities. Fort Bragg is fortunate to have a talented, professional, and resourceful team of City employees. In the budget document, each department has identified its top accomplishments of the prior year. Notable achievements include the following:

- Guided Measure AA and Measure AB through the voter-approval process. Measure AA increased the City's Transient Occupancy Tax rate from 10% to 12%. Measure AB advised that half of the new revenue should be directed to increased marketing and promotion of Fort Bragg, one-quarter to increased maintenance and security for the Coastal Trail; and the remaining one-quarter to be split between the Noyo Center for Marine Science and rehabilitation of the School Athletic Fields.
- Continued to enhance civic engagement with expanded livestreaming of Council Committee meetings, establishment of "Monday Morning Meetings with the Mayor," increased social media and website activity, and expansion of free, public Wi-Fi service in downtown Fort Bragg.
- Received a "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" from the Government Finance Officers Association for the FY 2016/17 Budget.
- Completed water and sewer rate studies to help determine appropriate schedule for implementing approved utility rate increases considering updated cost allocation plan and capital improvement program.
- Established a volunteer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to enhance our community's preparedness for natural disasters and other emergencies.
- Established a Police Cadet Program to mentor local youth who are interested in learning about law enforcement and assisting the Police Department at community events, parades, etc.
- Continued to enhance Police Department programs and assignments to help with recruitment and retention of officers. Expanded K-9 program with addition of a second K-9, established new Motor Unit with three electric motorcycles, trained two officers for participation in regional SWAT unit, worked towards implementation of Body Worn Camera program in fall of 2017.
- Completed comprehensive update of Inland Land Use & Development Code and adopted new regulations for cannabis manufacturing uses.
- Initiated a community planning process for a Local Coastal Program (LCP) amendment to rezone the former Georgia-Pacific mill site property to help facilitate its reuse.

- Prepared Tourism Marketing & Promotions Plan to help guide expanded marketing and promotion efforts that will be funded by Measure AA.
- Assisted a number of non-profit organizations serving our community through the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program including: Fort Bragg Food Bank; Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center; West Company; and the Home Energy Links Program (HELP).
- Obtained grant funds for a variety of projects and activities, including: \$770k Active Transportation Program grant to augment \$450k in Prop 84 grant funds for constructing Phase 2 of the Coastal Trail; \$5k Community Foundation grant for a mural competition; \$2 million CDBG grant for Water Tank Project, Mill Site planning, Economic Development Strategy implementation, Business Assistance Loan program, and Microenterprise Assistance; and \$25k grant for implementing Body-Worn Camera program. Applications for a \$6 million grant from State Revolving Fund and a \$2.5 million grant from USDA for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project are in progress.
- Completed the Summers Lane Reservoir Project providing an additional 15 million gallons of raw water storage to help ensure a reliable water supply during the late summer months when flows are low at the City's three water sources.
- During a winter storm event, responded to the over-topping of the Pudding Creek dam and related damage to the City's water main serving north Fort Bragg residents and businesses. Request for California Disaster Assistance grant funds to relocate the water main is in progress.
- Constructed the Chestnut Street Multi-Use Trail project. This project establishes an 8' wide pedestrian and bicycle path along the main street corridor serving five Fort Bragg school sites (Redwood Elementary, Shelter Cove, Dana Grey Elementary, Noyo High School and Fort Bragg High School).
- Completed bid process and awarded contracts for numerous capital projects to be constructed in summer 2017 including: City Hall East re-roof; City Hall repainting; Guest House re-roof; Guest House repainting; 2017 Streets and Alley Rehabilitation Project.
- Completed plans and specifications for Coastal Trail Phase 2 project which will connect the north and south segments of the Coastal Trail in Noyo Headlands Park. Construction will commence in FY 2017/18. This will complete the 3.5-mile multi-use trail along Fort Bragg's coastline and marks the culmination of a vision for public access along our coast that the City has pursued since 2002 when Georgia-Pacific closed its lumber mill.
- Completed design and permitting for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. Construction will commence in FY 2017/18. This project will replace and upgrade key components of the City's aging wastewater treatment plant.

**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>.

- **Public Safety Committee**– Monday, June 26 at 8:30 AM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda topic: Modifications to Fort Bragg Municipal Code (FBMC) to regulate Retail Cannabis uses.
- **City Council**– Monday, June 26 at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda topics include: Introduction of Police Cadets; FBPD 2016 Annual Report; Report on Decision to Decline Request by U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement for Police Department Assistance in "Gang Surge"; Action in Support of Paris Climate Accord; Adoption of FY 2017/18 Operating and Capital Projects Budgets; Resumption of Approved Utility Rate Increases.
- **Community Development Committee**– Tuesday, June 27 at 3 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda topics: Blue Zones project; LCP Update process.

- **Planning Commission**– Wednesday, June 28 at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda topic: Coastal Permit for Demolition of Dry Shed No. 4.
- **Finance & Administration Committee**– Wednesday, July 5 at 11 AM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda topics include: Cost Recovery for Appeals of Decisions on Development Permits; Guidelines for Placing Items on the Consent Calendar; Rosenberg’s Rules of Order; Code of Civility.
- **City Council**– Monday, July 10 at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Tentative agenda topics include: Introduce Ordinance Amending FBMC to Allow Alcoholic Beverages in City Parks with a Limited Term Permit; Introduce Ordinance Modifying FBMC method for calculating drainage impact fees; Award contracts for: Coastal Trail Phase 2; Bainbridge Park Improvements; Design services for 1.5 Million Gallon Water Tank.

*City Notes is published on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. If you have questions or suggestions regarding this column or any matter of City business, feel free to contact City Manager Linda Ruffing at [LRuffing@fortbragg.com](mailto:LRuffing@fortbragg.com) or (707)961-2829.*