



CITY NOTES

October 12, 2017

Fire response>> The horrific fires that flared up across northern California on Sunday night have generated a tremendous response from near and far. Fort Bragg Fire has sent equipment and personnel to help with fire suppression. The Fort Bragg Police Department has responded to mutual aid requests for officers to help patrol evacuated areas to prevent looting. Our local hospital has been on high alert in preparation for a possible evacuation of the new Howard Hospital in Willits. City staff have been trouble-shooting the telecommunication challenges resulting from the fires. We are also preparing for the possibility of a mass influx of evacuees from Willits if further mandatory evacuation orders are issued. The best place to get current information on our local fires is the Mendocino County Sheriff's Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/MendocinoSheriff/>

City Manager recruitment: The public is invited to attend a special City Council meeting to provide input regarding the recruitment of a new City Manager. The meeting will be held on Monday, October 16th at 5 PM at Fort Bragg Town Hall. Phil McKenney of the executive search firm Peckham & McKenney will be present to provide an overview of the recruitment process and to receive input regarding the challenges facing the community and what skills and traits the new manager should possess.

Mill Site Reuse Planning update: On Monday, October 16th at 6 PM at Fort Bragg Town Hall, the City Council and Planning Commission will conduct a joint work session to receive information about the recently conducted Mill Site Reuse workshops and surveys and to discuss the LCP Amendment that will be submitted to the Coastal Commission for rezoning of the Mill Site property. This will be the first in a series of joint City Council and Planning Commission work sessions. The public is encouraged to attend and to provide input to the City's policy makers about your vision and concerns for future development of the Mill Site property.

Mill Pond remediation: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received over 200 comments on the draft Feasibility Study for the clean-up of Operable Unit E (OU-E) on the Mill Site. OU-E contains all of the ponds and wetlands on the site, as well as the lowland area in the center of the property. According to Tom Lanphar, DTSC will be sending their comments on the Feasibility Study to Georgia-Pacific this week. He expects to hold a community meeting on a "final draft" Feasibility Study early next year. Following DTSC approval of the Feasibility Study, a Remedial Action Plan for OU-E will be prepared.

Coastal Trail Phase 2: Recent asphalt removal and grading activities for the Coastal Trail connection uncovered a few areas of subsurface ash deposits. The material was sampled and sent to a lab for dioxin-testing under the guidance of DTSC. The results came in late last week and DTSC has determined that there is no need for remediation of the soil. Construction in the affected areas may proceed.

Body-Worn Cameras: The federal Department of Justice (DOJ) has approved the Fort Bragg Police Department's Body-Worn Camera policy. This was the last hurdle before the Police Department purchases 16 cameras with funding from a DOJ grant. We expect to have the Body-Worn Camera program fully-implemented early next year. Next week's Public Safety Committee agenda includes an

update on the program and a demonstration of the Body-Worn Cameras. That meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18th at 10 AM at Fort Bragg Town Hall.

CVSCC Update>> City and MCRPD staff have been meeting to iron out details of how to best coordinate implementation of capital projects at the CV Starr Center. We are working to develop a more comprehensive Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the facility and to fully integrate the CV Starr Center CIP into the City's CIP in the FY 2018/19 Budget. In that budget cycle, the City and MCRPD must plan for resurfacing the swimming pools. The project will likely cost about \$180k and involve a 6-8 week closure of the pools with resulting revenue loss and employment challenges for the MCRPD. We are hopeful that solid, advanced planning can minimize the impacts of the temporary closure.

WWTF Funding>> City staff will be providing a comprehensive update on the Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrade project on the November 13th City Council agenda. In the meantime, we are working to get everything lined up for the \$15M that will finance the upgrade project and improvements to the City's sewer lift stations. Funding will come from a State Revolving Fund (SRF) grant, a USDA Rural Development grant, a USDA loan, and capital reserves from the Wastewater Enterprise fund.

Meeting with Dr. Marbut: Dr. Robert Marbut, a homelessness expert retained by the Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency to develop a regional homeless action plan, met with Councilmembers Cimolino and Turner and City staff from the Police Department, Community Development and Administration last week. We spent a couple hours engaged in a very interesting discussion regarding homelessness in Fort Bragg. Over the next six-plus months, Dr. Marbut will be meeting with stakeholders throughout the County (gov't agencies, police, emergency medical, non-profits, faith-based organizations, schools, business organizations, homeless persons, and others). His aim is to first understand the problems, and then to define strategic action steps that can help us more effectively target resources towards reducing homelessness and its impacts on our community.

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>.

- **Special City Council Meeting** – Monday, October 16, 2017 at 5 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda: Provide input to Executive Search recruiter regarding City Manager recruitment.
- **Special City Council & Planning Commission Work Session** – Monday, October 16, 2017 at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Agenda: Conduct work session to discuss Mill Site LCP Amendment and provide direction to staff.
- **Public Safety Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 10 AM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Tentative agenda includes: Update on Body-Worn Camera Policy and Demonstration; Discussion of Police Advisory Board/Committee; City Emergency Response to Regional Incident.
- **City Council Meeting** – Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall. Tentative agenda includes: Mural Competition presentation; City Attorney contract; Dry Shed #4 Landmark Status; Report and Direction regarding 2017 CDBG application; Contract with West Company for Microenterprise Assistance Program

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 or (707)961-2829.