

City Hall News

From the desk of
Fort Bragg City Manager Linda Ruffing
February 8, 2007

1. **Wave Energy Meeting.** I attended a “Port Liaison Project Workshop” on wave energy last week. The meeting was held at Salmon Trollers Hall in Noyo Harbor and was attended by about 30 people, including a dozen fisherman, crabbers and kelp farmers, and representatives from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), resource agencies, public interest groups, etc. The meeting was intended to provide information and get feedback from local fisherman regarding the possible location of a wave energy “farm” offshore along our coast. The discussion was fascinating and a lot of very insightful comments were made.
2. **Mill Site Remediation Meeting.** City staff and consultants met with representatives from the Department of Toxic Substances Control and Georgia-Pacific last week to discuss the schedule for the Mill Site remediation project. It was agreed that the investigation and remediation of the coastal trail and parkland parcels should proceed on a separate track from the remainder of the site, in order to complete the clean-up and acquisition prior to the April 2009 deadline in the \$4.165 million grant from the State Coastal Conservancy.
3. **Pudding Creek Force Main.** The Municipal Improvement District has received a Clean-Up and Abatement Order from the Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Pudding Creek force main. The original force main was installed in 1973 and a 450-foot stretch running from the north side of the creek, under the creek and up the southerly bank was replaced in 1985. Since that time, the force main has ruptured on six occasions resulting in discharges to Pudding Creek. In addition, last year a portion of the force main buried under Pudding Creek became exposed. While actions were taken to anchor the pipeline, a portion of it remains exposed and is susceptible to damage. The Order requires the District to undertake emergency repairs to protect the exposed force main from damage or rupture. It also indicates that the Regional Board intends to issue a Cease and Desist Order requiring the District to permanently repair or replace the force main.
4. **Clean Beaches Grant.** The City submitted an initial application to the Clean Beaches Initiative grant program this week requesting \$1.5 million for repairs to the Pudding Creek force main. The application requests a waiver to the required 75% match for public works projects due to the City’s status as a “disadvantaged community.” We will be notified in March regarding whether the City is invited to submit a detailed application for the project.
5. **Franklin Street Improvement Project.** The City will be hosting a public meeting with local residents and business owners on Friday, February 9th at Fort Bragg Town Hall to provide information about the Franklins Street Improvement/Downtown Streetscape project. Construction activities will begin this month and will continue throughout the spring and summer. The contractors will be working closely with local businesses to minimize potential disruptions, though some impacts will be unavoidable.

6. **Police Department Investigations Result in Arrests.** The Police Department's investigations of two gang-related assaults that occurred in the last two weeks have resulted in arrests of all of the suspects involved. In addition, a suspect was taken into custody for vandalism at Bainbridge Park (vehicles driving and damaging the grass).
7. **Geotechnical Study for 45 Acre Foot Reservoir.** The City has received the Geotechnical Report for a 45 acre foot reservoir that would be located on City-owned property at the City's Newman Reservoir site off of Summers Lane. The report evaluates geologic and seismic conditions and evaluates slope stability issues. It provides recommendations for the reservoir design and liner and presents mitigation measures to address the liquefiable soils on the site. The report's authors, CGi Technical Services, Inc., are preparing cost estimates for the reservoir. Once the cost estimates are available, staff will provide a report to the Council discussing the findings of the report and the variables that need to be considered to determine how to proceed with the project.
8. **Glass Beach Subdivision Application Received.** The Community Development Department received a planning application last week for development of 62 condominiums on 10 acres of vacant land on the south bluff above Pudding Creek between Glass Beach Drive and John Cimolino Way. The proposed two- and one-story condominiums range in size from about 1,800 to 2,100 square feet and are arranged in 17 buildings of two to five units each.