

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

July 12, 2018



City Manager's Office

Reminder of New 9-80 Schedule – New hours of operation for City Hall and the CDC took effect this week (from 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on alternating Fridays). These facilities converted to a 9-80 work schedule, so they will be closed on alternating Fridays. The first Friday closure will be this Friday, July 13. Public works and building inspections will be available on the closed Fridays. This schedule change enables the City to extend customer service hours for our community Monday through Thursday, reduce greenhouse gas production by cutting a travel day for employees, and reduce utility and facility use costs.

Reminder of August 3 CDC Closure – The Community Development Center (CDC) will be closed on Friday, August 3, to accommodate a move of the Public Works, Utilities, and Planning and Building departments from 435 Allan Court to the newly expanded City Hall at 401 Grove Street.

Community Services

New Classes Bring in New Crowds - The Senior Center started two new classes in July: "Flixters!" and "Ask Nurse Amy." Developed by a group of active older adults, the first "Flixters" class was held on July 3rd. This program is a part of an initiative to recruit local baby boomers to the Senior Center. Since the start of the class, several class participants joined the Senior Center as members and have shown interest in other Senior Center programs. "Ask Nurse Amy" held its first meeting on July 9th. Nurse Amy is a registered nurse (RN) who recently relocated to Healdsburg and wanted to volunteer. A full-time nurse at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, Amy enjoys educating seniors about new medications, assisting them with recent diagnoses and answering their medical questions.



4th of July Festivities in the Plaza – The Rotary Club of Healdsburg Sunrise, in partnership with the Community Services Department, hosted the 7th annual Duck Dash and Kids Parade on Wednesday, July 4th. Participants of all ages packed the plaza to celebrate Independence Day. Besides the Duck Dash and Kids Parade, activities and entertainment included live music, meet and greet opportunities with the Police and Fire Departments, and a 6-foot diameter apple pie!



Children's Concert in the Park – As part of the Summer Sundays in the Plaza concert series, Sunday, July 15th, will feature a special performance for families and children. Music Together, featuring Tom "Star Tom" McCurry, will play music in the Plaza from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Community Services staff will provide games, crafts, and fun activities before and after the show. For more information, please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/226589874624568/>

Tuesdays in the Plaza to Become Pet-Free – Beginning July 17th, Tuesdays in the Plaza will become pet-free events. Except for service animals, concert attendees are asked to keep their pets at home. Staff has spread the word about the rule change through engagement, announcements, and signage at the concerts as well as social media and the City's website. The Community Services Department will monitor the implementation of the concerts' pet-free status and provide a report to the Parks and Recreation Commission at the end of the concert series.



Family Movies in the Plaza – The second movie night of the summer will take place July 17th. "Moana" will be shown at approximately 8:45 p.m., following the Tuesdays in the Plaza concert. All movies will be family-friendly events and free popcorn is provided to attendees.

Community Events Calendar – <http://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/336/Special-Events>

Planning & Building

Land Use Code Amendment 2018-04 – On July 10th, the Planning Commission recommended approval of a Land Use Code Amendment to allow professional office uses within the Medical Professional (MP) zoning district. The amendment will be considered by City Council on August 6th.

North Area Entry Plan EIR Scoping Meeting – On June 28th, the City held an EIR scoping meeting for the North Entry Area Plan. An overview of the environmental topics to be studied was presented. Comments on the Notice of Preparation should be submitted to the Planning Department by July 23rd. A link to the scoping meeting presentation can be found here: <http://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/8751/NEAP-EIR-scoping-mtg-presentation-6-28-18-FINAL>

Public Safety

Fireworks Report – Healdsburg Fire worked closely with the Police Department to have a safe 4th of July fireworks show at Healdsburg High School. Illegal fireworks were confiscated from two incidents.

The person whose illegal fireworks started a small grass fire was cited by the Police Department. Overall, the illegal fireworks usage was down from previous years.

Identity theft arrest – In the early morning hours of July 9th, Healdsburg police officers detained a man who gave a false name and date of birth. He was identified and found to have multiple warrants for his arrest. Upon his arrest, officers found him in possession of checks, vehicle titles, and other personal documents -- including driver's licenses, passports, social security cards, and bank statements -- for numerous North Bay and Bay Area residents. Victims will be contacted. This serves as a reminder to always shred sensitive documents, never leave such information in view in your car or home, and to be careful about the information you share. The investigating officer is Craig Smith, (707) 431-3377.



County Resiliency Meeting – Last week, Healdsburg Fire hosted the first northern Sonoma County resiliency meeting for community groups. The meeting was moderated by Supervisor James Gore. Many local residents who attended are members of the group Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies (COPE). Geyserville Fire Chief Marshall Turbeville shared information about response maps for citizens and first responders. Geyserville also showed a red flag that will fly at the Geyserville Fire Department on red-flag warning days. Healdsburg Fire has also ordered a red flag to fly at the station so citizens can be visually notified. Chief Boaz spoke about an emergency response bulletin that will be sent to residents and will provide important information they can use in an emergency.

Hwy 101 Vegetation Fire – On Tuesday afternoon, Healdsburg Fire, along with Cal Fire, Windsor, Geyserville and Forestville Fire Departments quickly extinguished a 4.5-acre brush fire off Hwy 101, near Simi Winery. The fire did not threaten any nearby structures and traffic on Hwy 101 was temporarily closed and then changed to one lane so firefighters could contain and mop up the fire. The City quickly issued a series of NIXLE, social-media and email alerts to notify the community of the fire and its impact to Hwy 101.

Fire Engineer Albers Retiring – Fire Engineer Bill Albers has made his last call with Healdsburg Fire. Bill has been with Healdsburg Fire for more than 13 years and is retiring and moving to Arizona with his wife, Debbie, and their son, George. They are long-time Healdsburg residents and Bill will be greatly missed by all of us.

Two Additional Firefighters Hired – The City has hired two additional full-time firefighters. One position was made possible with Measure V funding approved by City Council and the other position fills a vacancy due to a retirement.

Weed Abatement Program Update – Thank you to everyone who cut back weeds and other vegetation on their properties. We have been getting many compliments about the weed abatement program and it is due to residents taking fire prevention seriously. Please continue to mow grass during high humidity days. Remember: Fire season goes into October and beyond.

Public Works

Roundabout Update – Construction on the roundabout is on schedule. The contractor will finish installing the median islands on the streets leading into the roundabout early next week and may perform a final pavement overlay on N./S. Healdsburg Ave., E./W. Mill St., and Vine St. during the week of July 23rd. This work would occur overnight and could take two nights to complete. While this work is being done, these roads will be closed to vehicular access.

Pavement Inspections – Starting this Saturday, July 14th, and continuing through July 23rd, Quality Engineering Solutions, Inc. will perform the City's biennial pavement inspection. There is no anticipated impact to traffic.

Utilities

Pond Rehabilitation – The City's principal water/wastewater engineer received the 30 percent design review to rehabilitate three deactivated storage ponds at the Water Reclamation Facility. Rehabilitating these ponds will allow the City to increase recycled water storage, which means more flexibility to deliver recycled water and meet the City's compliance obligations.

Floating Solar Update – City staff received the preliminary design report on the floating solar project. This report completes the second of four steps to develop a request for proposals (RFP). City staff will review this report over the next week and continue to move the project forward.