

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

August 23, 2018



City Manager's Office

New City Clerk – Stephanie A. Williams will join the City as City Clerk on September 10th. She has more than 25 years of experience in the public sector, serving most recently as the Deputy City Clerk for the City of Santa Rosa. A Sonoma County resident of 38 years, Stephanie looks forward to engaging with and serving the Healdsburg community. Her tenure begins as City Clerk Maria Curiel's ends: After 38 years of dedicated service, Maria will retire at the end of the month. Please stop by City Hall by August 31st to wish her well.

New Human Resources Manager – Brigid Donnelly will join the City on September 17th as Human Resources Manager. She has more than 15 years of experience in the field of human resources in both the public and private sectors. Most recently, Brigid served as the Employment Services Manager for the City of Santa Rosa, where she oversaw a staff of 10 administrative, technical and professional employees.

Community Services

Recreation Park Update – Parks staff has been working closely with the Healdsburg Unified School District and the Healdsburg Youth Bulldogs programs in preparing the athletic field at Recreation Park for the fall sports season. The goal posts have been installed, the bleachers have been relocated, the fields have been aerated and fertilized, and the irrigation system has been readjusted to withstand the increase in foot traffic. The irrigation will need to be readjusted on a weekly basis to accommodate field maintenance, soccer and football throughout the season.

Planning

August 28th Planning Commission Public Workshop and Meeting – The Planning Commission will convene a public workshop at 4 p.m. to continue discussion on the Mill District hotel and residential development. Then at 6 p.m., the Planning Commission will conduct a meeting that will include public hearings on a 1) Design Review application for 125 Kennedy Lane, cottage court proposal including ADUs; 2) Historic Demolition Permit and EIR for 544 Tucker Street; and 3) Design Review application for 410 Hudson Street, proposal for a restaurant and outdoor beer garden. This workshop and meeting will take place in Council Chambers at City Hall, 401 Grove Street.

August 29th Planning Commission Special Meeting – The Planning Commission will also conduct a special meeting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, August 29th. Items on the agenda for consideration include a 1) Design Review application for the Farmstand office and duplex proposal at 1051 Grove Street and 170 & 180 Farm Stand Road; and a 2) Tentative Map application for Old Rossi Place to divide a 1.8-acre lot into six residential parcels. This special meeting will also take place in Council Chambers at City Hall, 401 Grove Street.

Hotel Development Discussion – At its meeting on August 20th, the City Council provided policy direction to staff to 1) Limit the number of hotel rooms in the Plaza Retail District to the existing number of 67 rooms; 2) Limit the size of future hotels in the Downtown Commercial District to five

rooms and also limit the number of rooms per block-face to no more than five; 3) Prepare a hotel inclusionary requirement to help offset the impacts to workforce housing; and 4) Schedule a future joint meeting with the Planning Commission to discuss hotel development citywide.

Firearms Ordinance – On September 4th, the City Council will consider a Land Use Code Amendment proposing regulations for new firearms stores in the City.

Public Safety

Paying Respects to Fallen Firefighter – Healdsburg Fire joined other local fire agencies last week to bid adieu to Matthew Burchett, a battalion chief with the Draper Fire Department near Salt Lake City. Matthew died fighting the Mendocino Complex Fire. Healdsburg and Windsor Fire positioned a flag-draped engine on the Limerick Lane U.S. Hwy 101 overpass and saluted Matthew's funeral procession as it made its way from Ukiah to the Sonoma County Airport.



Public Works

Parking Lots Now Open – The 37 parking spaces at the West Plaza parking lot are open, as are the 72 spaces in the lot south of the City Hall parking lot ("Christmas Tree Lot") at Grove Street. Minor work at the Grove Street lot is being completed on the electric-vehicle charging stations.

Utilities

EIR Review – This week, the City held an initial scoping meeting for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Review of the City's recycled water program. Meeting participants gained insight from property owners within the agricultural areas west and south of the City's water reclamation facility. The review is in its early phases and the scoping process helps staff and the City's consultant define what should be included in the environmental review. Several more opportunities for public comment will be scheduled in the coming months. For questions or comments on the City's recycled water program, please contact Patrick Fuss: pfuss@ci.healdsburg.ca.us.

Streetlight Installation – The City's electric crews installed several more streetlights associated with the roundabout this week. This completes nearly all the underground work within the footprint of the roundabout and along Mill Street west of Healdsburg Ave.

Groundwater Basin Update – City staff provided comments to the state Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding the proposed elevation of the Healdsburg groundwater sub-basin. The DWR is proposing to elevate the priority of the Healdsburg basin, affecting portions of Healdsburg and the Dry Creek Valley, to avoid perceived over-drafting (over-use) of the groundwater. In review of the DWR annual groundwater usage estimates, City staff, along with the Sonoma County Water Agency and the Town of Windsor, feel that the estimated usage is too high and may unnecessarily require the implementation of expensive groundwater studies and the formation of a groundwater management agency.