

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

November 9, 2018



City Manager's Office

City Hall Open House – Despite the poor air quality due to the Butte County fire, a good number of community members attended the City Hall Open House on Thursday. City Staff led tours of the newly renovated building and the Mayor and City Manager unveiled a plaque that commemorates the City Hall Addition and Alterations Project and rededicates the project to the citizens of Healdsburg. The Fire Department also brought its new wildland fire engine so residents could get an up-close look.



Most City Offices Closed for Veteran's Day – With the exception of Fire and Police, City departments will be closed on Monday, November 12th, in observance of Veteran's Day.

Community Services

Park Maintenance Update – As part of ongoing park maintenance activities, City Staff aerated, over-seeded and applied 75 yards of amended loam on the athletic turf at Recreation Park. This activity will assist with the germination of new seeds and provide a uniform layer of soil and organic material over the turf and increased turf density.

Soccer Wraps-up for the Year – Our Youth Soccer League concluded for the season on October 23rd. A total of 414 soccer players participated this year– that's an increase of 94 players compared with 2017. Almost 82 percent (338) of registered players live within the 95448 area code; the largest growing age group was the 4-9 year-old category. Staff will continue to work with the Healdsburg Youth Soccer Association to promote, grow, and provide opportunities for all youth in Healdsburg to participate in soccer.



Día De Los Muertos: An Event of the Heart – Corazón Healdsburg, in partnership with the City of Healdsburg, hosted the 3rd annual Día De Los Muertos celebration on October 28th. The afternoon included a traditional Aztec ceremony, community altars, live music and dance, children's activities and meet-and-greet opportunities with our first responders. New to this year's schedule was a free screening of the movie Coco the night before the main festivities. City Staff across all departments contributed to make the event a success. Estimated attendance at the event was 4,000 to 5,000 people. Event organizers held a debrief session this week and have already begun putting plans in motion for the 2019 event.



Santa Rosa Junior College Computer Programs – Santa Rosa Junior College, in partnership with the Community Services Department, launched a computer education course at the Community Center on October 29th. This free class is part of the bilingual Adult Education Certificate program, which helps prepare individuals to enter the workplace and gain a better understanding of computer technology used for correspondence and record-keeping. The class is already at full capacity and a waitlist is in place. Staff are now in discussions with Santa Rosa Junior College to prepare an expanded schedule for the spring 2019 semester.

Trunk or Treat – On October 31st, the Early Childhood Education Program hosted the second annual Trunk or Treat event at the Healdsburg Community Center. Parents and other community members participated by decorating their vehicles. Preschool children then trunk-or-treated at each car. More than 10 vehicles were featured this year and the event included a special visit from the Police

Department, the Dr. Seuss gang, and Cookie Monster! This event grows in popularity each year and Staff hopes to include more children and trunk hosts next Halloween.

Salute to Our Heroes Gallery Exhibit – On Friday, November 2nd, the Senior Center hosted an opening reception for the *Salute to Our Heroes* gallery exhibit. This first-time exhibit honors local men and women who served in the military and includes images of them during their service, memories of their experiences and advice they wish to pass along to the community. The military service of these veterans ranges from WWII to the present. The exhibit will be open to the public through November. Please stop by to honor these veterans who have served this great country.

Planning

Room Additions at Duchamp Hotel – The City has received an application for a Major Design Review to construct 14 additional guest rooms at the hotel, located at 421 Foss Street.

Hotel Ordinance Update – The Planning Commission recommended approval of revisions to the Land Use Code related to limiting future hotel development in the PR (Plaza Retail) and Commercial Downtown (CD) zoning districts. The City Council will consider the ordinance at the December 3rd meeting.

North Entry Area Plan Update – City Staff is reviewing the Administrative Draft Plan and EIR for this project; it's anticipated to be released for public review in late November or early December.

106 Matheson Street – The Planning Commission will continue to discuss this proposed mixed-use project at a public workshop, which is anticipated to be held on December 11th. The applicant has added story poles above the existing building so people can better visualize the location and height of the proposed rooftop restaurant and addition.

Mill District Update – The City has completed its review of the October 12th revised submittal of the applicant's Tentative Map, Conditional Use Permit, Historic Demolition Permit and Heritage Tree Permit and determined that the application is complete. The revised application added 20 middle-income housing units, increasing the total number of housing units from 188 to 208. Various portions of the plans and the CEQA documentation are currently being revised to reflect the updated project description.

No November 13th Meeting – The Planning Commission meeting for Tuesday, November 13th, has been canceled.

Public Safety

New Wildland Fire Engine – Thanks in part to Measure V funding, the Fire Department has acquired a new Type 6 fire engine. This fire truck is smaller and more nimble than the larger Type 1 "ladder" fire engines and is specifically designed to help fight wildfires. This engine has a 200-gallon water tank and will be equipped with wildfire-fighting equipment such as chainsaws, shovels and backpack pumps. The new engine will go into service in the next few weeks.



Public Works

Roundabout Update – Over the next week and a half, the contractor is expected to complete landscape planting and irrigation. Electrical services for irrigation controllers were installed today. One street light foundation is awaiting repair; after that, the remaining street lights can be installed. In addition, irrigation meters have been set and some rework of pavers along the edge of the planting will be refreshed.

Utilities

Wastewater Membrane Replacement – This week, City Water and Wastewater Operations Staff completed the replacement of wastewater membranes, which are essential to the City's ability to treat wastewater. The membranes filter the City's wastewater down to 0.04 microns (0.04 millionth of a meter) to capture all bacteria and most viruses before the water is disinfected with ultraviolet light. Completing this work keeps the Water Reclamation Facility running at peak condition and helps the City meet ongoing regulatory requirements.



Energy Expert Training – Electric Department Staff and Utility Billing staff attended a training session focused on the changing electric industry and the subsequent changing role of utility employees. Topics included the reality and myths of customer bills, what electric devices may

cause higher energy usage and how customer behavior affects energy use. By providing this training, staff and customers can better understand and manage energy use.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program – In an ongoing effort, staff is identifying potential measures and positive actions the City can take to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. While the City has a long history of environmental stewardship, continued action is needed. Current areas of focus are to increase access to public electric-vehicle charging stations, promote energy efficiency and develop and promote the use of renewable energy.

Water and Wastewater Projects – Several City water and wastewater projects are getting underway. Staff is working to gain approval and award the replacement of the Sunset Water Storage Tank. This tank is well beyond its useful life and must be replaced. Pending Council approval, work is planned through the winter months. In addition, the City will replace wastewater lines that run under Dry Creek between the Magnolia Pump Station and the City's Water Reclamation Facility. This project will replace aging pipes that are too shallow and may get damaged from high water flows and debris within Dry Creek. The project was planned for this summer but has been delayed until the next dry season.