

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

January 18, 2019



City Manager's Office

Measure V Survey – The 2019-20 Measure V survey has been mailed to all addresses in the city limits, in both English and Spanish. City Staff has also promoted the online version of the survey via various digital platforms. The English-language survey is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Vsurvey19> and the Spanish-language survey is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Vsurvey19sp>. Healdsburg residents have until February 7th to submit their answers. Once the survey answers have been collected and analyzed, the results will be presented to City Council.

Community Services

Arts and Culture Planning Underway – City Council has incorporated arts and culture as part of the Council's goals by developing a community-based Arts and Culture Plan. As part of this work, Staff invited local art gallery owners to a community discussion on January 15th to better understand the current state of the arts in the private sector. Nine galleries attended and provided their input on the current state of galleries in Healdsburg, their needs, and the ways galley owners can work better together. Staff anticipates that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Arts and Culture Plan will be released at the end of January.

Planning & Building

North Entry Area Plan Planning Commission Workshop – On Wednesday, January 23rd at 3 p.m., the Planning Commission will hold a workshop to discuss the draft plan and receive further comments from the Commission and public prior to the project going forward for adoption hearings. There will be a brief presentation by the land owner regarding conceptual development plans.

715 Healdsburg Avenue Design Review Application – The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on January 23rd at 6 p.m. to review the revised plans for a new professional office building.

641 Johnson Street Design Review Application – The Planning Commission will review an application to revise a previously approved design-review application for a single-family house in the Johnson Street Historic District. The project will maintain the same architecture and massing facing the street, but reduce the square footage from 2,274 square-feet to 1,371 square-feet.

Mill District Update – On January 8th, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed tentative map, conditional use permit, heritage tree permit, historic demolition permit and development agreement. After a lengthy public hearing, the Planning Commission: voted (5-2) to approve the CUP, heritage tree permit and historic demolition permit; voted (6-1) to recommend the City Council approve the tentative map; and voted (5-2) to recommend the City Council approve the Development Agreement with modifications to be made regarding GMO allocations per the discussion by the Planning Commission. It is anticipated that the City Council will consider the project at a special meeting in March.

Public Safety

Grant for Narcan Kits – The Police Department received a \$1,800 grant from the State of California for 24 Narcan kits, which will last the department about two years. The kits should arrive in the next few weeks.

Firefighter Profiles – To help the community get to know Healdsburg firefighters better, City Staff has begun interviewing reserve firefighters and writing and promoting the profiles on the City's and the Fire Department's social-media platforms. One firefighter is featured each week. The first two were [Dean De La Montanya](#) and [Zac Lewis](#). Public feedback has been very positive.



13th Annual Bucket Brigade Blood Drive Challenge – The Fire Department will once again partner with Vitalant to hold a blood drive in the truck bay at 601 Healdsburg Avenue on Saturday, January 26th, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Fire departments from around the North Bay compete in this friendly challenge to see who can get the most participants. Healdsburg Fire won first place for the first time in 2018, and we hope to retain first place. Each donation can potentially save up to three lives. We encourage people to make an appointment at www.bloodheroes.com (use sponsor code HFD) so they don't have to wait at the blood drive.

Public Works

City Prepared for Severe Weather – The City's Fire, Police, Public Works and Utility Staff monitored water levels and were ready to act if the Pacific storm that hammered much of the West Coast earlier this week threatened our community. Out of an abundance of caution, the City opened a self-fill sand bag station at the Community Center to give residents who live in areas prone to flooding the opportunity to protect their property. Earlier in the fall, and well before this most recent bout of severe weather, Public Works staff flushed the City's storm drain system to remove most of the debris and leaves from the system. In addition, City Staff repaired and placed back into service two large pumps at the Magnolia pump station, which collects and moves the City's wastewater to the wastewater treatment plant.

Parking Signs Installed – All signs for the new parking regulations were installed this week at the West Plaza parking lot, Center Street near Piper Street and North Street near Grove Street. Drivers have a grace period until Friday, February 8th, until the new regulations take effect. After that date, the Police Department will issue parking tickets for parking violations.



Utilities

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Last May, the Department of Water Resources provided updated prioritizations for water basins throughout California. This update identified concerns with the sustainability of the sub-basin that provides groundwater to the Dry Creek Valley. Through a collaborated effort between Sonoma Water, the Town of Windsor, and the City of Healdsburg, Staff demonstrated that the current draw on the ground water basin is sustainable and does not require further study or additional management.

Northern California Power Agency Strategic Issues Conference – Staff and Mayor Hagele attended the Northern California Power Agency's (NCPA) strategic issues conference this week. Each year, the NCPA hosts this conference to discuss upcoming policy issues related to the power industry. This year's topics included reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by switching transportation and building heating from fossil fuels (oil and natural gas) to cleaner electric sources; transmission system reliability and grid stability as we add more intermittent renewable energy sources; and the need to rethink energy efficiency as it relates to reducing GHG emissions.

Power Outage Caused by Winds – Due to the high winds on Wednesday night, localized power outages affected customers living off North Fitch Mountain Road. Even with good maintenance and prudent system operations, power outages will occur. The City's electric customers are reminded to prepare for power outages related to winter storms by charging their cell phones, having flashlights with fresh batteries handy, and to call the City's Utility Hotline at (707)431-7000 for any urgent water, wastewater, drainage, or power needs.