

# CITY MANAGER UPDATE

February 1, 2019



## City Manager's Office

---

**2019 Coffee with the City Series** – The Coffee with the City series is back: The 2019 quarterly events will be held at the Senior Center (133 Matheson St.) from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. on February 27<sup>th</sup>, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, September 25<sup>th</sup>, and December 11<sup>th</sup>. All the dates fall on a Wednesday. This event series is an opportunity for residents to speak in-person with the City Manager and Department Directors about City-related projects, programs, events and news. Complimentary coffee and light refreshments will be provided. We welcome all community members to attend.

**Emergency Preparedness Brochure** – City Staff are finalizing a multi-page emergency preparedness brochure that will help residents plan and prepare for disasters such as fires and floods. The brochure includes information about when and how you should evacuate, what to pack in your family's emergency kit, as well as a list of public-safety resources and other helpful information. The City estimates that the brochure will be available to the public in the next few months.

## Community Services

---

**Ball Field Preparations Underway** – Spring is right around the corner and the 99<sup>th</sup> baseball season at Recreation Park kicks off in a few short weeks. This week, Park staff members began preparing the park for the upcoming baseball season. Tasks completed to date include grading and leveling the infield by adding five yards of infield mix (clay/sand/silt) with a half-ton of infield conditioner, renovating the pitching mound, and removing the football goal posts and relocating bleachers.



**Arts and Culture Master Plan Request for Qualifications** – The Community Services Department will release the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Arts and Culture Master Plan on February 4<sup>th</sup>. The RFQ process is intended to seek out firms that help organizations and communities develop a long-term vision for the future of arts and culture. Once a firm is selected, the master-plan process will include widespread community input and participation and conclude with a final report, recommendations, and an implementation plan for nine to 12 months.

**Santa Rosa Junior College Satellite Program Kicks Off Spring Semester** – In partnership with Santa Rosa Junior College, the Healdsburg Community Center and Senior Center will host free classes in support of lifelong learning for adults and seniors. Courses for spring 2019 range from personal finance, computer operations, English as a Second Language and watercolors, to discussion groups that engage older adults. For more information about the courses, please visit [https://portal.santarosa.edu/SRWeb/SR\\_ScheduleOfClasses.aspx](https://portal.santarosa.edu/SRWeb/SR_ScheduleOfClasses.aspx). Select the “Spring 2019” term, check the “Course Search” option, then choose “Off Campus Location.” After that, scroll down to choose “Healdsburg” and click “Find Sections” to see the list of classes.

**Community Center iGrow Program Garden Awarded Grant** – The Gertrude Young Memorial Fund for the Horticulture of Community Foundation Sonoma County awarded a \$900 grant to the Community Center’s iGrow garden. In memory of Gertrude Young, this grant is intended to purchase iGrow garden supplies and equipment. iGrow is a community-based gardening project that supports Sonoma County’s Health Action goals of growing, sharing and eating healthy food in our community. Volunteers and program participants plant, nurture and harvest produce specifically to supply the Healdsburg Food Pantry with fresh, organic produce.

**Volunteer Program Prepares to Launch** – On Wednesday, the City hosted the first public informational meeting outlining the new volunteer program at the Senior Center. Volunteer Coordinator Donna O’Brien and Active Adult and Senior Services Supervisor Anna Grant presented information about current and future volunteer opportunities as well as the upcoming launch of a volunteer-driving program. Many of the attendees previously participated in the Neighbors Network of Healdsburg and are transitioning to the City’s program. The next public informational meeting is Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.



**Data Collection for Parks and Facilities Assessment Underway** – As part of the comprehensive Parks and Recreation Facilities Assessment, construction-engineering company Kitchell began surveying our neighborhood parks this week. Kitchell staff members are gathering data input points and assessing the current condition of our asset and amenities in the park system. This information will be compiled in a report that will help develop a long-term maintenance and replacement plan for the park system. Data collection will continue at 19 locations through March.

## Planning & Building

**131 Kennedy Lane, Tentative Map, Design Review and Variances** – An application to subdivide the property for the development of three detached cottage-court type homes has been received. This

development proposal completes the infill neighborhood established by the recently approved cottage-court development at the adjacent 125 Kennedy Lane.

**Healdsburg Senior Living Expansion, Design Review** – Pacifica Senior Living has submitted a proposal for a two-story, 13-unit assisted living building at 725 Grove Street.

**106 Matheson, Design Review and Conditional Use Permit** – The proposal for a restaurant, rooftop dining and residential use will be considered by the Planning Commission at a public hearing scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

**North Entry Area Plan Update** – On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Planning Commission held a public workshop to discuss various policy issues prior to taking the North Area Entry plan for adoption this spring. Feedback from the Planning Commission included a discussion on hotels and the high amount of senior housing proposed relative to the total number of housing units allowed in the plan. A follow-up meeting with the Planning Commission is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. to receive further policy direction prior to public hearings. The land owner will also be presenting more background on their development vision and objectives.

**Mill District Tentative Map and Development Agreement** – A special meeting and public hearing will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup> for the City Council to consider the mixed-use development proposal for 146 Healdsburg Avenue.

## Public Safety

---

**Fire-Extinguisher Training This Saturday** – The Fire Department will host a fire-extinguisher training on Saturday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the firehouse. This training is open to the community: Learn about the different types of fire extinguishers and how to use them. Attendees will also learn how to properly maintain fire extinguishers. For more information, call the Fire Department at (707) 431-3360.

**Fitch Mountain Preserve Fire-Risk Abatement to Begin February 4<sup>th</sup>** – The Fire Department received approval for its 2019-2024 Fire Risk Abatement Plan (FRAP) for the Fitch Mountain Preserve. The Healdsburg Fire Department and CalFire crews will start the fuels reduction work on Fitch Mountain on February 4<sup>th</sup>, prior to bird-nesting season. During this abatement work, certain trails will be closed for part of the day, typically from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The trails will be marked with signage. Once this work is complete, fire-abatement work will start at the Healdsburg Ridge Open Space Preserve.

**PulsePoint Respond App** – PulsePoint Respond is a mobile-phone app (Android and iOS) that allows users to view calls that fire departments and emergency medical service personnel respond to. Although this app's purpose is for CPR-trained people to provide life-saving CPR, the app also provides the same information that emergency responders receive in Sonoma County. Get the PulsePoint Respond app to be more informed: <https://www.pulsepoint.org/download/>

## Utilities

---

**Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Citywide Report** – Staff submitted a report to the California Energy Commission on the total amount of solar photovoltaic (PV) installed in the City of Healdsburg. As of the end of 2018, residents and commercial entities installed 1.63 megawatts of solar in Healdsburg. This is equivalent to powering 245 homes every year. The number of solar PV installations continues to increase in Healdsburg, and as they do, the City will face technical and financial issues to support continued increases in solar generation.

**Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Program** – Through a collaborative effort between Northern California Power Agency and Healdsburg Staff, the City is participating in the State's Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Program, which rewards fuel switching away from fossil fuels. The City generates credits from the electric-vehicle chargers it operates, as well as electric vehicles in the jurisdiction since both offset carbon-intensive fuels such as gas and diesel. In the third quarter of 2018, Healdsburg was approved for 165 LCFS credits. When the credits are cashed out or sold, the revenues will be reinvested within the City to further support transportation electrification and other greenhouse-gas reduction measures.

**New Webpage on Climate Change Actions in Healdsburg** – Staff created a new webpage to keep community members informed on sustainability and the City's climate change actions. Please visit <https://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/730/Climate-Change-Sustainability> to learn about City projects that help mitigate climate change, draw down greenhouse gases emissions, and develop resiliency.

**Passalacqua Pump Station Testing** – This week, City staff coordinated with the Montage developer (Saggio) to begin a 120-hour test of the Passalacqua pump station, which will provide water for fire suppression for the development's resort and residential areas. As the facility is necessary for public safety, an extremely thorough set of tests must be passed before the City can accept the station.

**PG&E Bankruptcy** – As most people are aware, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) filed for bankruptcy earlier this week. As a publicly owned electric utility, the City is not directly affected by PG&E's bankruptcy. The City does not have any long-term power or gas supply contracts with PG&E, and as a result, the City is not exposed to the impacts of any potential default. However, in the short term, the current uncertainty about the future of PG&E may create volatility within the energy markets. Even though the City has strategies and financial hedges in place to mitigate these risks, Staff will continue to closely monitor the market and the utility's bankruptcy proceedings.