

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

March 15, 2019



City Manager's Office

Proposal to Amend Smoking Policy – At the City Council's goal-setting session on March 26th, 2018, the Council requested Staff to update the City's smoking policies for multi-family housing units as part of its goal of enhancing community health. Secondhand smoke exposure in multi-unit dwellings is a serious threat to residents as it drifts into neighboring units, balconies, patios and common areas. Consequently, the Council will receive a presentation on the City's smoking policy at its March 18th meeting. Council will also be asked to direct Staff to prepare an amendment to the Healdsburg Municipal Code that would prohibit smoking within multi-unit dwellings and multi-unit dwelling common areas, and to increase the percentage of smoke-free hotel/motel rooms from 50 percent to 100 percent.

Website Redesign Surveys – The current City website (<http://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us>) has been in place for at least four years, so the City has embarked on the six-to-nine-month process of redesigning the website to make it more useful, attractive, and intuitive for community members, employees, businesses, and visitors, as well as for City employees. Staff members were invited to take an internal survey on how the website can better suit their needs and their department's needs, and a public survey is currently promoted on the City's website homepage as well as on social media. The surveys are open until next Thursday, March 21st. We invite the public to take the brief website redesign survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PubWebSrvy>

Community Services

Spring and Summer Recreation Activity Guide – We are excited to announce that the 2019 Spring and Summer Recreation Activity Guide arrived in Healdsburg residents' mailboxes this week. The guide covers Community Services programs, events, and outdoor activities from March through August. Additional copies are available at City Hall, the Community Center and Senior Center. The digital version of the rec guide is available here: <https://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/585/Community-Services-Parks-Recreation>. Registration is underway and can be completed online, in person or by calling 707-431-3301. We look forward to seeing you in our programs and parks!



March 17th St. Patrick's Day Parade and Celtic Concert – Enjoy family-friendly festivities celebrating Irish traditions this Sunday, March 17th, in downtown Healdsburg. The day will start at 7 a.m. when hundreds of parade-goers in festive green attire will converge on Healdsburg Avenue in what has been called the “biggest shortest parade in the world.” After the parade, Plaid Menagerie will play Celtic music and the Shiloh Irish Step Dancers will perform in Plaza Park from 12 – 1:30 p.m. For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/489767064761507/>

High-School Film Students Capture Pickleball Community – Students from Healdsburg High School visited the Community Center this week to shoot a video for their advanced film course. They enlisted the help of Community Services Staff to bring together pickleball players and Staff to share information about this popular sport, such as stories of their picklaball experience and how others can join in on the fun. The students will return in the coming weeks to finalize their action shots and will submit the video as their class final project. They plan to upload the final version video on YouTube as well has air it on Access Healdsburg.

Spring Break Camps – Next week marks spring break for the Healdsburg Unified School District and the return of our popular Spring Break Camps. This year, we're featuring two camps: a preschool camp (ages 2 ½ – 5) that will run from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. and an all-day camp (ages 5-11) that will run from 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. The preschool camp is full, but space is still available for the all-day program. For more information and to register, please visit <http://bit.ly/hbgspringbreakcamp>.

Tee Ball Underway – As spring approaches, tee ball, our first outdoor program of 2019, will begin on March 25th. Community Services, in partnership with the National Academy of Athletics, offered a “Tee Ball Tune-Up” that started on February 14th for kids ages 3-5 years old. Tee Ball Tune-Up is now full, but space is available for children to participate in the tee ball league. Families can register by visiting <http://bit.ly/COHTBall19> .

Parks System Repair Update – Badger Park re-opened March 8th after the February flood. Staff power-washed the playground and surrounding areas to remove muck and silt build-up, applied 200 yards of certified playground mulch inside the playground area, and inspected the electrical panel, parking lot lights, and pathway lights. Note: The garden will remain closed until Staff can complete an evaluation of the area. Fitch Mountain Park and Open Space Preserve is still closed. Staff is working with an engineering team and local contractors to finalize a repair plan. Railroad Park is also closed pending a complete assessment of the retaining walls and stairways.



Planning & Building

146 Healdsburg Avenue, Mill District Update – On March 11th, the City Council held a special meeting and approved (5-0) a development agreement and tentative map application for the development of a 9.59-acre site in the Central Healdsburg Avenue Plan (CHAP) area. The proposal creates seven lots to accommodate a mix of multi-family housing totaling 208 units, a 53-room hotel, supporting retail shops, and an open park. The development will be phased in over 12 years

and is subject to design review and conditional use permit approvals by the Planning Commission prior to construction.

North Entry Area Plan Update – On March 12th, the Planning Commission continued discussion on the North Entry Area Plan and directed Staff to ensure that if a hotel is constructed on the site, the application must include a minimum of 280 residential units. April 23rd is the tentative date for a public hearing to consider plan adoption and certification of the environmental-impact report. The Planning Commission recommendation is anticipated to be considered by the City Council in May.

106 Matheson Appeal – On March 18th, the City Council will consider an appeal filed by resident Brigitte Mansell that requests the City Council to overturn the Planning Commission approval of the design review for a 231-seat restaurant, retail and a conditional-use permit for two residential units.

Public Safety

Victim Resuscitated – A person who had taken a fall was resuscitated with the help of Healdsburg Fire. On March 4th at about 2 p.m., Healdsburg Fire responded to a second call for a fall victim at a business on Allan Court, behind City Hall. Fire Inspector Mandujano and Fire Marshal Collister were doing an inspection at Safeway and responded to the call. Upon arrival, CPR was in progress by an employee at the business. Off-duty Fire Engineer Crabb also arrived on scene with Bells Ambulance. Reserve Firefighter and Bells Paramedic Tyler Mason began life-saving measures. CPR was administered by Mandujano, Crabb and an SRJC EMT ride-along.

Fire-Fuels Reduction Work – The work to reduce fire fuels has begun on the Healdsburg Ridge Open Space Preserve. Fire Marshal Collister has been working with CalFire crews; reducing fire fuels will help slow a fast-moving fire by creating shaded fuel breaks and allow emergency vehicles to better access the roads. The fire-fuels reduction work should be completed next week.

Public Works

High-School Students Tour Memorial Bridge – Public Works Director Zimmer this morning led a group of 15 high-school students from Santa Rosa's Quest Forward Academy on an engineering-focused tour of the Healdsburg Bridge. The students are learning about truss bridges and the school reached out to Public Works to give the students a close-up of the bridge, an opportunity to learn about the bridge's unique retrofit that was completed a few years ago, and to learn about the role of engineering in local government.

Utilities

Shade-Tree Giveaway Starting March 18th – The Utility Department is launching a shade-tree giveaway program in honor of Earth Day. Starting on March 18th, residents and businesses can reserve up to two free trees by registering online. The online registration tool allows people to choose the tree species, determine the best location for the trees on their properties, and learn how to plant the trees. The online tool will also provide savings information on energy and greenhouse gas emission. The tree pickup event will be held April 20th at the Community Center. People can register starting on March 18th by visiting <http://www.arboday.org/Healdsburg>

Third-Graders Learn About Climate Change – Utility Conservation Analyst Smith recently gave two educational presentations to third-graders at Fitch Mountain Elementary School. The third-graders are learning about local actions to combat climate change; her presentations taught students about the science of global warming, the City's energy goals, as well as what they can do to

address climate change. Each student walked away with an LED nightlight and ideas about how Healdsburg can reduce its environmental impact.

Flood Restoration – Water and Wastewater Staff continue to make repairs at the Water Reclamation Facility due to February's flooding event. This week, the treatment plant is treating 100 percent of the City's wastewater as well as pumping stored, untreated wastewater that accumulated during the flood. Replacement parts are still arriving and installations are planned for the next several weeks. Staff continues to work long hours and remains focused on getting everything back to normal.

NCPA Utility Directors' Annual Meeting – Each year, the members of the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) meet to discuss key issues facing electric utilities. This year, the meeting was held in Healdsburg and members discussed issues relating to energy market risk, future energy-efficiency and electrification programs, utility staffing needs and developing a diverse work force, PG&E's bankruptcy, building a pathway to 100 percent fossil fuel-free energy, and NCPA's fiscal year 2020 budget. Good and thoughtful discussion was had on each topic.