



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 1-24-14

Law Enforcement

I met with Captain Feteroll and members of the Contract Law Division of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department yesterday. The City's contract with the Sheriff's Department for Law Enforcement services is up for renewal, and will be on the 2nd meeting in February. As part of that meeting, I've asked the Sheriff Department to provide a brief and succinct update explaining how the contract works. I've asked for this considering our current financial situation, as well as general public information and awareness.

A "Come Have Coffee With Your Captain" neighborhood outreach discussion has been scheduled by Captain Feteroll for February 5th from 5:00 – 6:00 PM at Pete's Café. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the community the opportunity to share ideas and express concerns in an informal environment. Bilingual Deputies will be present, and flyers in English and Spanish will be posted throughout town.

City Leases

Denise Radde and Gabby Morones have been working with Joe Byrns of BBK in a strike force team effort to update the City leases. Much work has been completed – and a significant amount remains to be done. In particular, many of the lease documents on file contain inaccurate information pertain to the location, use and/or lessee. We anticipate that this effort will be completed by April first, with revised leases distributed shortly thereafter for leases that expire on June 30, 2019.

E-Bus

Audra MacDonald and I visited the E-Bus manufacturing facility in Downey yesterday. I was able to see first hand the electric buses that could (potentially!) be on the streets of Avalon in the not too distant future. Audra is meeting with MTA on Monday. One of her goals during her time with the MTA will be to let them know that we are looking to move forward in short order in securing our grant money to make new buses in Avalon a reality. To that end, we will be putting together and sending out an RFP for buses soon (look for it on the Consent Calendar at the 2nd meeting in February). We are also engaged in actively working with Catalina Transportation to revise the transportation model currently in place. The end goal will be a fixed route bus system that is able to conveniently accommodate both residents and visitors alike with the most frequently visited spots in town – including the grocery store and the Mole – on a system that dovetails with the boat schedule.

Public Works:

The SCE/Henkels & McCoy underground utility vault project timeline continues to be challenged with the ongoing discovery of archeological finds. The outage timeline has moved a couple of times. We have asked Henkels & McCoy to continue to keep the impacted business community informed.

Due to safety concerns about a failing concrete culvert, we have limited the intersection on Crescent Avenue near Pebbly Beach Road (in front of the Pancake Cottage) to vehicles no greater than 17,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight (GVW). At this time, large trucks, tour buses, utility vehicles, etc. have to travel over Mt. Aida until we are able to successfully make repairs. The failing culvert is owned by SCICo, and I will be speaking with Randy Herrel about a proposed partnership for repair costs.

Respectfully submitted,


Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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