



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 1-31-14

Vehicle Registration

Next Tuesday marks the start of the annual vehicle registration window, with this year's additional caveat of the requisite noise ordinance testing as part of the registration process. Pursuant to Council action, those in violation will have until the end of September to make repairs to their vehicle and obtain permanent registration stickers. We fully recognize that we are entering uncharted waters here, and have spent much time planning. Still, we want you to be aware that there may be bumps along the way. It is important to keep the intent of the noise ordinance in mind – which is trying to keep noisy vehicles off our streets. Noisy vehicles not only impact our quality of life and visitor experience, but they are also likely to be causing more pollution than those vehicles that are not noisy (since they are likely not well maintained). Thank you for your patience, insight and suggestions as we embark upon this process. It will be an “all hands on deck” type response next week here at City Hall to make this as smooth and orderly as we are able.

Law Enforcement

Captain Feteroll is working to procure the adequate resources be able to have Sheriff Deputies on bicycle patrol here in Avalon by this summer. He is even threatening to start using one himself as part of this effort (please be certain to hold him to this). I applaud the effort, as I envision this as being very helpful in our greater mobility/transportation improvement strategy. Avalon is well-suited to bicycles (well, those with gears, at least), and I am anxious to promote greater bike use in and around town.

The Cabrillo Mole

Greg Bombard of Catalina Express and I met this week to discuss the future of The Cabrillo Mole. The City of Avalon has a \$3M grant to rehabilitate and create a shelter structure at the Mole that requires a \$600,000 match. The City is interested in working with Catalina Express, and other private partners, to put together a package to rehabilitate this City asset. I will be meeting again with Greg in the next couple of weeks to continue the dialogue, determine a path forward and identify potential parties to be involved.

State of the City

I will be delivering a State of the City presentation sometime between now and April (I am working to nail down a date and a venue in short order). The intent of the presentation is to provide our citizenry with an idea as to where we're headed and why – as well as the tremendous opportunities (as well as challenges) that we face here in Avalon. My hope is that this will provide additional transparency as to our agenda and vision for the town, and how we may all work together to get there.

Recreation

We are actively seeking a Grand Marshall for this year's annual Fourth of July parade. Please provide any suggestions that you may have in this area to Jen Monroe.

Public Works:

Randy Herrel about I are in the midst of discussions regarding the failing concrete culvert and requisite repairs for Crescent Avenue, in front of the Pancake Cottage. I believe that we are close to determining some type of partnership between the City and SCICo to quickly make this much-needed repair a reality, and restore the normal traffic flow in town.

Today (Friday, January 31st) was our deadline for City employees to remove personal property from the City Yard. While we do still have personal items remaining up at the City Yard – and will need to allow for some extenuating circumstances to get everything removed - we have made good progress. Those items remaining next week (outside of those with extenuating circumstances attached to them) will be placed in roll-off bins and transported to the landfill.

Respectfully submitted,


Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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