



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 3-6-14

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board (Water Board)/Avalon Bay Water Quality

Shawn Haggerty (BBK), David Clary (Environ Strategies) and I presented an information update and summary to the Water Board yesterday in Culver City. Our update was one of the follow-up requirements of the Cease & Desist Order that was placed on the City of Avalon. As part of the City's presentation, we focused on the following:

1. The City's new legal powers (ordinances related to private laterals, FOG, water quality and sewer)
2. Infrastructure assessment, improvement and capital needs
3. Avalon's significant water quality improvements and reduction in bacteria concentrations
4. Avalon's continued efforts and commitment to improve water quality
5. Avalon's proposed upcoming water quality symposium that we are recommending to schedule in May of this year

The presentation was well-received by the Water Board. The two main concerns voiced by the Water Board were as follows:

1. Avalon needs to ensure its infrastructure (especially sewer and storm water) keeps up with new development. In particular, there were concerns voiced about whether adequate requirements/conditions were being placed on new development within Avalon to ensure that sewer infrastructure capacity (and other infrastructure) was being adequately increased and expanded to meet and exceed the needs of any new development.
2. The City's new legal powers are of interest to the Water Board, and it was requested that the City forward all new ordinances to the Water Board.

Recreation

We met with race organizers for the 3rd Annual Catalina Classic downhill skateboard race this week. They are excited to continue to build on past years and have been great to work with. The event will take place May 3-4, with possible elements such as a skate movie or pre-party to be held on Friday, May 2nd.

The Joe Machado Concession Stand construction is speeding right along; all of the plumbing, electrical, and fire suppression are finished and the drywall process has commenced. The project is now 65% complete, and we are anticipating the contractor will submit invoices for his second of three progress payments for next week's warrant period.

Two (2) bids have been received for the concessionaire contract, and both applicants will be interviewed by a panel next Friday, March 14. The panel consists of Councilmember Hernandez, City Treasurer Christy Lins, and Recreation Coordinator Jen Monroe, who will make recommendations for award of the contract at the March 18 City Council Meeting.

The City has seen an increase in the number of Special Event Permits issued this year for events that were previously held on private property. We are now looking forward to hosting the

CIMC's Health Fair on Thursday, May 22 and the Women's Forum Wine Festival on Saturday, September 13, 2014, both on Crescent Avenue. The AMCOM Slow Pitch Softball Tournament is making a return to Joe Machado Field August 2-3, and planning for the annual Spring Fest on Thursday, April 17 is ramping up.

Planning

The City convened a conference call with Vons representatives this week to discuss questions they had regarding their proposed development in town. Please note that the City has still not received any type of application, draft plans, etc. from Vons for their proposed project. Instead, on this call, we primarily discussed Vons' flood plain concerns, and the options allowed by FEMA to address them. We also discussed other potential issues related to the project, including parking, traffic and noise impacts, as well as CEQA and inclusionary housing requirements. Vons expressed interest in some type of future public outreach meeting regarding this project, to which we were appreciative, and recommended a review in concept at an upcoming Planning Commission meeting. Of course, the City would also be supportive of any type of informational public outreach meeting that Vons should want to host outside of the Planning Commission as well.

Please note that at the time of this conference call earlier this week, the City was unaware of the pending sale of Vons (owned by Safeway) to Albertson's parent company Cerberus, which was announced just yesterday.

Vehicle Noise Testing

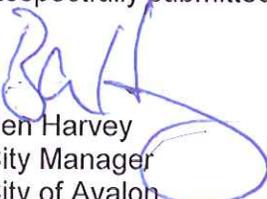
We have tested 626 vehicles for noise, or about 40% of the autoettes in Avalon. Of that 76 have exceeded the 74 dB threshold, a failure rate to-date of 12%. The average passing level is 71.5 dB (excluding electric vehicles, porter trucks and smart cars – 70.5 dB including the aforementioned) and the average failing level is 75.7 dB. 24% (18) of the vehicles that failed have retested with 78% (14) passing at an average of 73 dB. Yamaha has a failure rate of 13%, E-Z-GO is 25% and Club Car is 12%. Only 3 other porters or other type vehicles have failed.

Recently we have received unconfirmed reports of questionable modifications being made to vehicles to pass Vehicle Noise Testing; steel wool in the tail pipe, wrapping the engine area in fiberglass, etc. Our first concern with this is safety. Any modifications to a vehicle are best done by professionals, and must not impact the safe operation of the vehicle.

City Clerk's Office

As a reminder, Avalon's Municipal Election is Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Poll hours are from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. There will only be two (2) voting precincts: St. Catherine's Catholic Church and City Hall. The last day to register to vote is Monday, March 24, 2014. Applications are located in the lobby of City Hall. The last day to request a Vote by Mail ballot is Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Applications may be found on the back page of sample ballot books which all voters receive in the mail or at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,


Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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