



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 4-25-14

Island Water/Southern California Edison (SCE)

I have met with Ron Hite, SCE's Catalina Island Utility Operations Manager, a couple of times following the water update provided at the April 15 City Council meeting. Specifically, I was concerned about the potential timing of Phase 1 to Phase 2, and Phase 2 to Phase 3 water rationing in relation to the busy season here on the island. Here is some additional information pertaining to water rationing and water on the island in general that I received from Ron during our discussions:

1. SCE will be providing the City with a more detailed forecast as to the timing of when the City could potentially move from Phase 1 to Phase 2, and from Phase 2 to Phase 3 based upon a more detailed analysis that SCE is currently undertaking. This forecast will be provided to the City Council and the community as a presentation at the May 20 City Council meeting.
2. SCE will be providing the City with a study of the Middle Ranch aquifers that was conducted during the 2007 – 2009 timeframe. This report will be shared shortly with the City Council, of course, and will supersede the so-called "Boyle Report" that was released in 2006.
3. SCE is actively working with the Santa Catalina Island Company (SCICo) and the Catalina Island Conservancy (Conservancy) to move forward with the proposed well at Middle Ranch as expeditiously as possible. For clarification purposes:
 - a. SCE owns the water rights,
 - b. SCICo is fronting the funding for the costs of the proposed well to derive water for proposed future and ongoing development,
 - c. the Conservancy owns the land where the well is proposed to be drilled, and
 - d. the City would receive a healthy portion of any water potentially yielded by the proposed well for the benefit and use of the community.
4. SCE will be providing additional water rationing educational and public awareness material – including display items for mirrors and tables – to be conspicuously posted at island hotels, restaurants and other places of business where water is consumed.

Public Works/Capital Improvement Projects/Infrastructure

1. Crescent Ave Storm Drain Repair: The final concrete pour (ceiling) was performed on Monday of this week. We will have to continue the imposed weight restriction (17,000 LBS GVW) until the concrete cure time is complete. With this considered, Crescent Avenue should be open for traffic without weight restrictions around the May 15. – 18th timeframe.
2. Henkels & McCoy (SCE's subcontractor for the Metropole underground utility vault project) provided the lower Metropole vault with the base layer of asphalt today. When both vault locations are completed, the contractor will grind and pave all the

way across the street (curb to curb), as is a condition of the approved permit, at both vault construction locations.

Law Enforcement

Cops on bikes! I am pleased to report that through the generous donation of Levent Alkibay of Catalina Beverage, and with the additional support of SCICo, Jack Tucey and Brown's Bikes (who paid for and furnished services of the mechanic who put the bikes together); the Avalon Sheriff's Station now has 4 bicycles available for use for a bike patrol. Additional equipment and training is forthcoming for the Sheriff's (helmets, specialized bike patrol uniforms, etc.), and a formal unveiling will be held at the Sheriff's Fallen Officers Memorial Ride that is scheduled for May 18 (additional information on this event to follow; the public will be invited and encouraged to attend). I have been working with Captain Doug Feteroll in the hope of making Sheriff bike patrols a reality (again) in Avalon since coming on board back in September, and am thrilled that we will soon start seeing our Avalon Sheriff's on two wheels. Not only are bikes an effective patrol method, but they contribute to our greater community goals of reduced emissions and congestion. Of course, they also promote healthy lifestyles for those Deputies who ride them (and I suppose those who are pursued by Deputies on bikes as well)!

Coming soon to a patrol near you:



Recreation

Recreation Assistant Recruitment: The City of Avalon will be conducting interviews for the full-time Recreation Assistant position this coming Monday, April 28. The interview panel consists of Pilar Alcivar-McCoy, City of Signal Hill Recreation Director, Morgan Wraight, City of Seal Beach Recreation Coordinator, Mike Krug, Assistant Fire Chief Avalon Fire Department and Jen Monroe, Recreation Coordinator, City of Avalon. The applicants will participate in an assessment test in addition to a traditional interview. The City received 28 applicants for the position, and 10 of those possessed the minimum qualifications, and were invited to participate in the assessment/interview process.

Upcoming Events: The Recreation Department is gearing up for a busy kick-off to May, with the Old Boys Rugby Tournament to be held at Joe Machado Field on Saturday, May 3, and the Catalina Island Classic Downhill Skateboard Races scheduled for May 3rd and 4th on Wrigley Terrace Road. Riviera Skateboards (event co-sponsor, along with the City of Avalon) will again utilize Wrigley Stage on Saturday, May 3 for a half pipe demonstration. In addition, fundraising concerts will also be held, with proceeds going towards the Avalon Skate Park. Nearly all City Departments are involved in this effort, and we look forward to another successful weekend for residents and visitors.

Joe Machado Field: Commercial kitchen equipment is currently being installed in the Joe Machado Field Concession Stand. Any interested stakeholders are invited to schedule an appointment for a tour of the facility with Jen Monroe. The City is hoping to have final health department inspections completed the second week of May, with the facility opening to the public shortly thereafter. A grand opening ceremony is being planned, with information forthcoming.

Community Service: The Community Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, May 10 from 8 AM - 12 noon. All residents, service clubs and businesses are encouraged to participate! Those interested are asked to meet at Wrigley Stage for their proposed assignment. Please feel free to contact Jordan Monroe for additional information.

Salt Water Reservoir/Avalon Fire Department (AFD)

On Saturday April 19, 2014 the City became aware that the ability to supply salt water to the reservoirs, and ultimately keep the salt water system in operation, was compromised due to water damage incurred on the one remaining operational pump. Both reservoirs were full at the time of notification, and a plan to place the AFD auxiliary mobile pump into operation was immediately set in motion by the on-duty AFD staff. The pump was in place within the hour and made operational (you likely saw it in operation at the Mole). With an ongoing operations plan of checks, run times and re-fueling the pump remained in service for approximately 12 hours/day until Wednesday when the repaired motor was re-installed and placed back into service. This was a great example of ongoing City teamwork and can-do attitude. Our appreciation is extended to the AFD, Public Works and Environ Strategies who made this effort happen. In short order we will be coming back to you with a proposal for an additional motor and related apparatus to allow for better redundancy in this area.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

As part of our ongoing effort to make the functions of the City more accessible internally as well as externally, a GIS needs assessment was conducted. The assessment was the first step to better understand and utilize this tool to stream line procedures, make information more accessible, and increase the quality of services the City is capable of performing. The goal of the exercise is to provide the needs assessment to GIS providers, determine which provider best meets the City's needs, and then actively utilize their services.

Vehicle Noise Testing

Vehicle Noise Testing continues on Monday mornings from 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon, except Monday May 5th. This is to accommodate late vehicle registration, and to retest vehicles that did not pass the first time. A full presentation to City Council regarding the results of Vehicle Noise Testing, and future transportation needs, will be provided at the May 20th City Council meeting

Harbor Department/Wharfage Fee Discrepancy

While reviewing a 2013 year end report regarding cruise ship passenger visits to Avalon, it was discovered that Carnival Cruises was paying \$2.10 per passenger (pp) applied against 80% of the manifest, instead of the correct fee of \$2.50pp.

With the assistance of David Creigh (Chamber of Commerce cruise line delegate), Brian Bray, Harbor Master, contacted Carnival Cruises and made them aware of the past due wharfage fees of \$49,583.12 due to the City caused by the calculation error.

In addition to this matter, it was also discovered that Carnival Cruises failed to report the 10/03/13 charter visit of Carnival Miracle, and still owed the City of Avalon \$4,476.00. It was also further determined that the inaugural visit of the Carnival Imagination on 01/27/14 had not been reported (\$4,454.00 owed), resulting in an additional \$8,930 due to the City of Avalon. Carnival was furnished with an invoice, and agreed to process payment for these two visits immediately.

To help avoid this situation going forward, Carnival Cruises now provides the City of Avalon with access to a billing portal on their website so the City may submit invoices electronically each time a ship visits Avalon. This system has proven to be efficient, as the Guest Service Manager now emails a "Passenger Head Tax Form" with the number of passengers aboard to the Harbor Master and Finance Department at which time an invoice is created and then uploaded to the Carnival Cruises billing portal immediately. Carnival reviews the bills for accuracy and then sends out payment twice a week.

Planning Department/Von's

Both Von's and SCICo reached out to the City earlier this week to advise that they were hoping to provide their tentative site plan of their proposed new store for a preliminary City review. Vons hinted that they are likely also interested in meeting individually with the Avalon City Council, and conducting public outreach. Once we have more information about this matter, we will provide it to you.

Respectfully submitted,



Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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