



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 5-16-14

City Manager and City Attorney Offices - Avalon Bay Water Quality Symposium:

The City convened its first Avalon Bay Water Quality Symposium today. The purpose of the Symposium was to discuss the City's efforts to improve water quality in Avalon bay and to seek ideas about how to continue these improvements. The event was well attended; in addition to the Mayor and Council Member Sampson, there were representatives from key stakeholders, including the State and Los Angeles Regional Water Resource Control Boards, Heal the Bay, the Catalina Island Conservancy, the Santa Catalina Island Company, the USC Wrigley Institute, the Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce, and City staff and contracted subject matter experts (including BBK Law, RBF and Environ Strategies). In addition, interested community members – both residents and business owners – also participated. The City obtained great feedback and ideas from participants, and also became aware of at least one grant opportunity that sounds promising to provide assistance via a pilot program to tracking down bacteria sources. We will be sending out material to participants and interested parties as a follow-up, and will discuss next steps to build on the momentum gained today.

Planning Department – Proposed Von's Application:

As you all are aware (with the exception of the Mayor Pro Tem, who is off island on vacation), we met with Vons on Wednesday of this week to review some preliminary elevations and drawings for their proposed development off of Sumner and Beacon. Vons was receptive to input received from the City Council and City staff, and even commenced making truck ingress/egress modifications to the drawings they brought with them while they were here. At this point, Vons is looking to submit its application to the Planning Department, and come before the Planning Commission and the City Council in the near future to review the proposed development in concept. We will be working with Vons to get an announcement about this in the island newspapers (in addition to the requisite meeting posting, of course) to better inform the public and solicit their input at either/both of the public forums (Planning Commission and/or City Council).

Public Works Department - Underground Utility Vault Project – SCE/Henkels & McCoy:

The underground utility vault at upper Metropole was set on Thursday night. Additional outages related to the need to install additional equipment are scheduled for 5/22 and 5/23 (in-person notification for these outages will take place on 5/16 and 5/19). After the 5/23 outage, Henkels & McCoy (SCE's subcontractor) will fill up the site, repair the concrete, and prepare for base pavement. After the base pavement hardens, they will grind, cap, and seal the pavement. This time frame is subject to barge and concrete availability. On the next page you will see a picture of the new vault structure (it's massive):

New underground utility vault at upper Metropole:



Public Works – CR&R Street Sweeping:

CR&R's street sweeper has arrived on the island. It is anticipated that their contract services will be available to commence street sweeping beginning in June. A City Council agenda item on this matter will be forthcoming for your review/consideration.

Recreation Department – Recreation Assistant Hired:

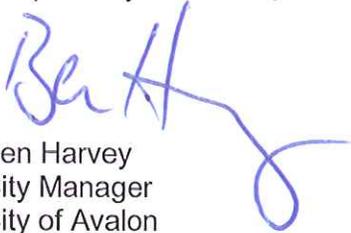
We are pleased to announce that David Hart will assume duties as the City's Recreation Assistant starting on May 28. David comes to the City from Avalon Schools, where he worked as an instructional aide and as a coach. He has also volunteered for the City of Avalon as a coach and instructor for many recreation programs, and is a certified massage therapist. David has coached cross-country, basketball, and volleyball teams; has worked as a personal trainer, has taught self-defense and tae kwon do courses, and helped to bring the Youth Athletic League (YAL) program to Avalon through the Sheriff's Department. He enjoys working in the community, and is looking forward to contributing to the City's efforts of increasing high quality recreation programming in Avalon.

Fire Department – Continuing Education:

Mike Krug, Assistant Fire Chief, attended a continuing education training session with the Orange County Fire Protection Officers Association this week to study and review current laws and regulations as they pertain to fireworks in California. Specifically, the training outlined California State Fire Marshall Pyrotechnic requirements and safe practices for outdoor aerial displays. The City of Anaheim Fire Department, who hosted the event, easily shoots and permits more fireworks than any other agency in California. The training/education that the Assistant Chief received will allow us to continue to provide a safe and fun July 4th fireworks display here in Avalon.

In addition to the fireworks-related training, the Fire Department was also able to send 4 of our personnel (2 full-time and 2 Reserves) over town for live fire training with Los Angeles County Fire Department last week. This was a combination of fire behavior, fire attack and flashover live fire evolutions conducted in a training tower structural fire environment.

Respectfully submitted,



Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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