



## Avalon City Council Weekly Update 7-03-14

### Recreation Department – Joe Machado Field:

As part of an on-going continued improvement effort, the Recreation Dept. is in the process of updating the Joe Machado Field procedures. These updates will help us will meet the needs of City programs as well as programs that rent from the City, including management of the keys, responsibilities of set up and clean up, and control of the field lights. This will help ensure not only the responsibilities of the city but of the parties that use the facilities and resources. We always welcome insights from the community and users of our facilities. Please feel free to contact David Hart at City Hall with any questions, comments, or concerns.

### City Attorney's Office – Water:

The City Attorney's Office is working with Senior City Staff on options for expanding water service opportunities for Avalon, including exploring funding from Federal and State Sources. They are also assisting with evaluating the potential expansion of desalination opportunities for Avalon. The City Attorney's Office is currently assisting the City of Santa Barbara with their desalination efforts, and we will use their expertise in fully exploring any desalination opportunities for Avalon.

### Fire Department – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday:

The Avalon Fire Department will be "staffed up" for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday as normal. This specifically entails an internal Incident Action Plan and extra staff to provide sufficient levels of coverage for the holiday crowds and special events.

### Fire Department – Water Flow Restrictor and Fire Suppression:

At last night's Avalon City Council Meeting the question was raised about how a flow restrictor would impact a fire protection sprinkler system if it was installed as part of the rationing program. I have been working with Jeff Lawrence of SCE and they are most certainly going to stay with the industry standard of NOT putting a restricting device on a fire protection system. They are working on what other measures they could implement in that situation to place some type of penalty on a customer while not impacting the fire sprinkler system.

### Fire Department – Helicopter Last Night:

Overnight you may have heard a helicopter? A person with a head injury that required an emergency helicopter medevac through Mercy Air was forced to circle and divert from the Pebbly Beach Heliport to the Joe Machado Field due to coastal fog. Joe Machado Field serves as our alternate landing zone for circumstances like this and sometimes affords helicopters another option to land in low visibility conditions. Many times this option prevents the helicopter having to be canceled or forcing a ground transport all the way to the Airport-in-the-Sky.

#### Finance Department:

The auditors from MHM are continuing to work on the City's FY2012-13 audit at their offices with the City receiving follow up questions based on internal reviews of their workpapers. We have been told we can expect a first draft of the FY2012-13 financial statements the second week of July.

The statistical information on revenues and occupancy count figures that have been requested by the Chamber of Commerce has been completed and is undergoing an internal review. We expect to make this information available to the Chamber next week.

For the current fiscal year, approximately \$500K in receipts had been coded to the miscellaneous account on the City's books. We have now identified all these receipts and have reclassified them to the proper accounts and proper months into which they pertain. We are continuing with our review of the FY2013-14 activity and making adjustments as necessary.

#### Planning Department – Proposed Catalina Island Conservancy Trailhead Facility Project:

City Staff, including Amanda, Dennis Jaich, Chief Krug, Scott Campbell and myself, met with the Conservancy team to discuss their proposed Trailhead facility at the Catherine Hotel location. The building is proposed to be LEED certified (ecologically friendly) and will provide a variety of functions that include: parking for departing jeep tours, gift shop and tour sales, coffee shop, café, multifunctional rooms, outdoor deck, storm water catchment system, solar panels and Avalon's first green roof. The design is a departure from most other Crescent Avenue buildings, however, the design and surface materials being used has not been finalized. Tentative schedule includes demolition after summer and construction to begin shortly thereafter.

#### Planning Department – Proposed Vons Project:

We have provided all the information that we believe Vons needs to move forward with preparing their application for Planning Department consideration and potential approval before it goes to the Planning Commission. Tentatively, we are looking to schedule this item for Planning Commission review and consideration at their September or October regularly scheduled meeting.

#### Public Works Department – Lower Terrace Project:

The stairs are just about completed. The City's contract engineer and Interim Public Works Director are walking the job site next week to review all components, and then either sign off on the job (Complete), or issue a "Punch List" (items to be fixed). It is anticipated the job will be classified as "Complete" by Wednesday of next week.

#### Public Works Department – Traditional Work Schedule & 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday:

The Public Works Department is starting their 5 day/8 hrs. shifts this coming Wednesday. For the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday, there will be 4 men on detail each day, all weekend long (Friday, Saturday, & Sunday).

#### City Manager's Office – Vactor Truck:

The financing for the nearly new 2013 Sewer Vacuum-Jetter Truck (Vactor) will be completed next week. The truck valued at \$308,000 is being financed over a term of 5 years at 3.05%. The

truck is replacing a 1990 Vactor Truck which is no longer reliable. The truck is used to perform preventative sewer maintenance by cleaning sewer lines with a high velocity water pressure nozzle and a vacuum that removes debris from manholes and other structures. Use of the truck is directly associated with the Cease and Desist Order (CDO) and the Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP). City Council approved the purchase of the Vactor in May. We are anticipating the arrival of the Vactor truck in approximately two weeks.

City Manager's Office – City Smart Car:

Through the consideration and generosity of the Smart Center of Laguna Niguel, the City has a Smart Car now available for City staff use. Obviously it is the desire and goal of Laguna Niguel to sell more Smart Cars here on the island, and as you will see from this vehicle, its graphics are consistent with this desire and goal! Still, this is an opportunity for our residents to take advantage of an offer to consider this vehicle as a potential transportation alternative. The City is transportation technology, vehicle brand/model and dealer neutral, of course. We anticipate other partnerships in the future where we will be able to bring additional options and incentives to the community's attention as we consider our transportation future here in Avalon.



Respectfully submitted,



Ben Harvey  
City Manager  
City of Avalon

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