



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 10-09-15

Harbor Department – Distinguished Service Award Presented to Harbor Patrol Officer William Flickinger

The California Harbor Master and Port Captains Association offers a Distinguished Service Award for extraordinary or heroic efforts related to maritime services. It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge Harbor Patrol Officer William Flickinger, who received the Distinguished Service Award in recognition for his quick actions that saved an individual from drowning in Avalon Harbor on July 3, 2015. Harbor Patrol Officer Flickinger is pictured below receiving his well-deserved award at the annual Harbor Masters and Port Captains Association conference that was convened earlier this week. Congratulations to William for a job well done!



Planning Department/Grants Administration - Avalon Canyon Fit Trail Update

The City, with the assistance of Brian Ulaskewski of City Fabrick, will be hosting a series of Public Workshops on Thursday, November 12, 2015, to receive public input on the proposed design of the Avalon Canyon Fit Trail Project. The project will construct outdoor fitness and resistance equipment from Peoples Park (across from City Hall), along Avalon Canyon Road ending at Joe Machado Field, and is made possible through a grant from Supervisor Don Knabe. Specific details regarding workshop times and locations will be published next week on the City website, the Digital Community Signboard at Vons, and Social Media. We are looking forward to hearing from the community on this important project.

Public Works Department – Saltwater Repairs on Whittley & Marilla

Unfortunately, just this week we had two additional shutdowns of the salt water mainline on Whittley & Marilla Ave. Although these repairs were only due to small service connections on different homes, it was necessary to shut down the entire system within that quadrant while the replacement parts were being installed and fitted properly.

We will be coming back to the City Council at the first meeting in November with a proposed budget amendment that includes some proposed replacements and improvements to the City's saltwater system.



Public Works Department – Sidewalk Repairs

The Public Works Department continues to monitor and make repairs to sidewalks and other pedestrian areas on an on-going basis. This week, the City addressed an area on the walkway above Machine Gun Park, as well as an area on Sumner Ave.



Public Works Department – Olive Street Safety Handrail

The need for replacement of the handrail along the walkway on upper Olive Street has arrived. The old wooden rails had been damaged by dry-rot with water infiltration at the base of the vertical posts. This area is of a restrictive nature due to its limited width. In order to ensure ongoing public safety, this task had to be completed as soon as possible. Our thanks go out to the public for making us aware of this situation, as well as their continued patience during the job. Thanks also to our talented crew for their good work and fine end product!



Public Works Department – Stable Area Compaction & Grading Area

After a long awaited transition to find a solution to the stockpiles of dirt up at the old stable area, we are pleased to report that the Santa Catalina Island Company (SCICo) has now employed the services of a civil engineer for the services of developing a plan, plus supervision, of the grading and compaction efforts in this area. A contractor will be starting the work in the very near future to try and avoid any negative impacts from a future rain event.

PWD staff will be monitoring all the work frequently, to ensure proper procedures are being implemented and followed. Upon completion of this project (which is estimated to be approximately 3 weeks), the property will be transformed into an aesthetically appealing green area, which should blend in nicely with the adjacent golf course. We thank SCICo for working with us on the methods and procedures, but more importantly, for their support and agreement of the importance the requisite work represents and proactive measures they have taken.

Public Works Department – Reroofing project

We are happy to report that the City Hall reroofing project has been completed. Upon inspections by the PW staff, we have found that the performance of the contractor was good, and that all tasks within their scope of work were completed properly and professionally.

Fire Department – Weekly Significant Items Summary:

- In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month the Avalon Fire Department will be pink in uniform t-shirts at various times throughout October.
- This weekend and the next will have JazzTrax in Avalon; no specific emergency resources are specifically assigned to this event.
- President Obama has declared areas affected by the large uncontrolled wildfires this year as Federal Disaster Areas. At this time all those areas are located in Central and Northern California. However, the entire southwest is feeling the strain on available firefighting resources.
- This week began our semi-annual Emergency Medical Technician continuing education licensing requirements testing. Two, two day sessions will be conducted in the first and last weeks of October.

City Manager's Office/Information Technology – Last Week's Virus Infection

Last week, the City's network was infected by a virus classified as Ransomware. This type of virus infiltrates the network and begins to encrypt data files. A message then appears, asking the victim to remit funds to the company responsible for the virus. In return, they supposedly send you a decryption program to unlock the data files.

Our current virus protection program has defended against many viruses that have attempted to penetrate the network in the past. However, because of the sophistication of this particular virus, the software was not successful preventing its intrusion, even though the software was updated with the latest virus definitions and updates.

After working with the virus protection software company to assist with the eradication of this virus on City servers, they also installed a patch, which was just released. They are hopeful this will prevent future attacks.

At this time, the virus has been eradicated and the data files that were corrupted have been restored. The staff has also been asked to monitor their files and report any further corruptions to Pat Grady, the City's IT Advisor. As a precaution going forward, the IT Advisor will be notifying all employees concerning IT best practices when opening suspicious emails, or navigating to questionable web sites.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Harvey

City Manager