



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 12-18-15

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Public Works / Capital Improvements - New Fuel Dock Project Update

As was previously reported, the new Fuel Dock project suffered a delay when we found some old asbestos coating within the existing stucco on the old building. Since that time, we have been searching to find a qualified contractor for the removal (abatement) of these unwanted materials. It was not easy as everyone is very busy during this holiday season.

However, we have finally found a qualified firm to start these removals. After a 2-week advance warning to the AQMD, we can begin the work. Consequently, we are schedule to start the onsite work in 3 weeks from today, Friday, December 17, 2015.

This situation has set the project back approximately one month, but we are confident that we might be able to regain some of the lost time in the future by expediting material deliveries, and making changes to the work force etc.

Public Works / Capital Improvements - Recycled Water Master Plan

In May of this year, the City Manager directed staff, and City Council unanimously approved, a conceptual study on how to facilitate bringing recycled water to this island. In so doing, staff hired an engineering firm to conduct the "Master Plan - Data for Recycled Water" study.

As was reported at our last City Council meeting, this Study is progressing nicely. The engineers have been out to the island 3 times, have met with Public Works Staff, and Environ Strategies (our partners at the Treatment Plant). Efforts to date have been fruitful as we have started the concept and are identifying the necessary components that will be required to finally implement the requisite Reclaimed Water that this island desperately needs.

The information we have learned to date looks promising.....yet fairly complicated. However, we are confident that the progress will continue and that we will have more good news to announce as the work continues. Further updates will be reported on this important task as the work continues.

Public Works - Leroy is Found, Again

As you may recall the Leroy the Cat statue was stolen from it's (what was thought to be) permanent location on fronts street a few weeks ago. This was after being returned from a decade long disappearance earlier this year. We are happy to announce that Leroy has, once again, been found. LA County Sheriff Deputy Cordero found the statue at the Atwater Hotel baggage storage. Will Richards, the local artist who made the statue is repairing the bent plate which was damaged when the statue was taken. We hope that Leroy is done exploring the world unannounced and will enjoy his view of Front Street, permanently. We will keep you posted as to when Leroy is back on point.

Public Works - Sewer Inspection Program

As is necessary to be in compliance with State standards, our continual sewer inspections are important. It is required by the Cease & Desist Order (CDO) that we inspect, jet, clean, and monitor our sewer infrastructure properly and often. As this process continues, we aim to improve the integrity of our collector piping, but also, eliminate some very foul that can seep out of some manholes.

Just this week we starting to use our new CCTV camera that gives us a state of the art look at the interior of our piping systems. City Council granted the purchase of this device, and it has come in very handy while it accommodates our requisite requirements properly, and saves us a lot of time.

We thank the public for their understanding while some traffic delays are occurring. Their alertness and cooperation is much appreciated.



Avalon Fire Weekly Significant Items Summery:

Parade:

The Avalon Fire Department happily participated in the Christmas Parade this week and was honored to host our CIF Champion Lancers on the ladder truck.

Grant:

The Avalon Fire Department in cooperative agreement between the Los Angeles Area Regional Training Group and the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association are applying for a grant that will fund standardization of items used during Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI). These items such as triage tags and tracking items are part of larger disaster management systems that are already in place by all 31 departments including Avalon. The goal of the grant is to standardize all the departments so when interaction occurs between agencies we are all using the same tools. The Avalon Fire Department is a huge supporter of this concept and already routinely mirrors standards and equipment used by the Los Angeles County Fire Department who we interact with daily.

Christmas Tree Safety Numbers:

260-Average number of home fires caused by Christmas trees each year.

45%-Percentage of holiday fires started as a result of candles.

\$19.1 Million-Property damage cost as a result of Christmas tree and holiday decoration fires.

3"-Minimum distance a Christmas tree should be from a heat source.

Harbor Department – Part Time Harbor Patrol Officer Interviews

The Harbor Department held interviews and administered written tests to seven applicants on Thursday December 17, 2015. Results will be tallied and background checks will be conducted before offering employment to the successful candidates.

Harbor Department – Look out for Rudolph's glow

The Harbor crew will be carefully tracking Santa to make sure he has a successful landing in Avalon. If you'd like to follow along, visit <http://www.noradsanta.org/>

Harbor Department – Storm Pile Damage

On the evening of Monday December 21st, a NE wind and swell event caused a weak fender pile on pier Float H to break. Until this pile can be replaced, the float will be out of service. Dennis Jaich has been working on an estimate for this and other necessary pile replacements on the pier.

Sheriff - Preparing for an Active Shooter Incident

The best way to survive an active shooter incident is to be prepared. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has created a public safety video on how to best protect yourself, family and friends during this type of incident. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFQ-oxhdFjE> The key words to remember are "Run, Hide and Fight." If an active shooter is inside your building, remain calm and try to get out safely. If escaping is not an option, then hide. Seek cover or concealment. Find a safe room, barricade doors, shut off lights, get out of sight, keep quiet and turn your cell phones to silent mode. Finally, if you can't run or hide then as a last resort, prepare yourself to fight. If your life is in imminent danger, defend yourself.

If an active shooter is outside your building; remain calm, go to a room that can be locked, and follow the same steps as previously mentioned. One person in the room should call 9-1-1 and advise the dispatcher of the situation. Do not open the door until advised by law enforcement.

When law enforcement arrives; put down any items in your hands, raise your hands and spread your fingers, keep hands visible at all times and avoid making quick movements towards officers.

Our crime prevention motto is; "If you see something, say something." The number to call for emergencies (from any type of phone) is "9-1-1," the business line to the Avalon Sheriff's Station is 310-510-0174 or if you wish to remain anonymous, call "LA Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477).

Sheriff - New Avalon Station Detective

Our current station detective, John Hatfield, is transferring to the mainland for personal reasons. In compliance with a past Federal Consent Decree regarding the filling of vacant detective positions, the Department has assigned Justin Martin to replace Detective Hatfield. He will begin his assignment here on December 20, 2015. Deputy Martin did work here several years ago. Although, I have never worked with Deputy Martin, I am looking forward to sharing my expectations and community policing philosophies and style with him. His prior knowledge of Avalon should be beneficial to him while conducting criminal investigations.

Planning/Grants -Avalon on the MAP - Active Transportation Strategic Plan

Monday, staff attended the second in a series of three workshops hosted by Metro. The purpose of the workshops are to receive input from stakeholders in development of LA County Metro's Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP). The purpose of the ATSP is to assist the County and local agencies in development of active transportation (walking and biking) as well as the first/last mile connections to public transportation. City staff attended the first workshop in August and discovered that Avalon was not included in any materials or on the proposed ATSP map. As a result of staff input, we are proud to announce Avalon is now on the map. The third workshop is scheduled for Spring 2016.



Planning/Grants - National Transit Database Audit Complete

Every August, the City's fixed route and paratransit programs are audited. The purpose of the audit is to confirm data collection as it relates to passengers, passenger miles, revenue miles and farebox are being performed as required by Federal Transportation Administration guidelines. This week the City received the final audit report in which no exceptions were identified. Accurate data collection is an important component to retaining funding for the City's transportation program.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Avalon City Staff