



CITY OF AVALON

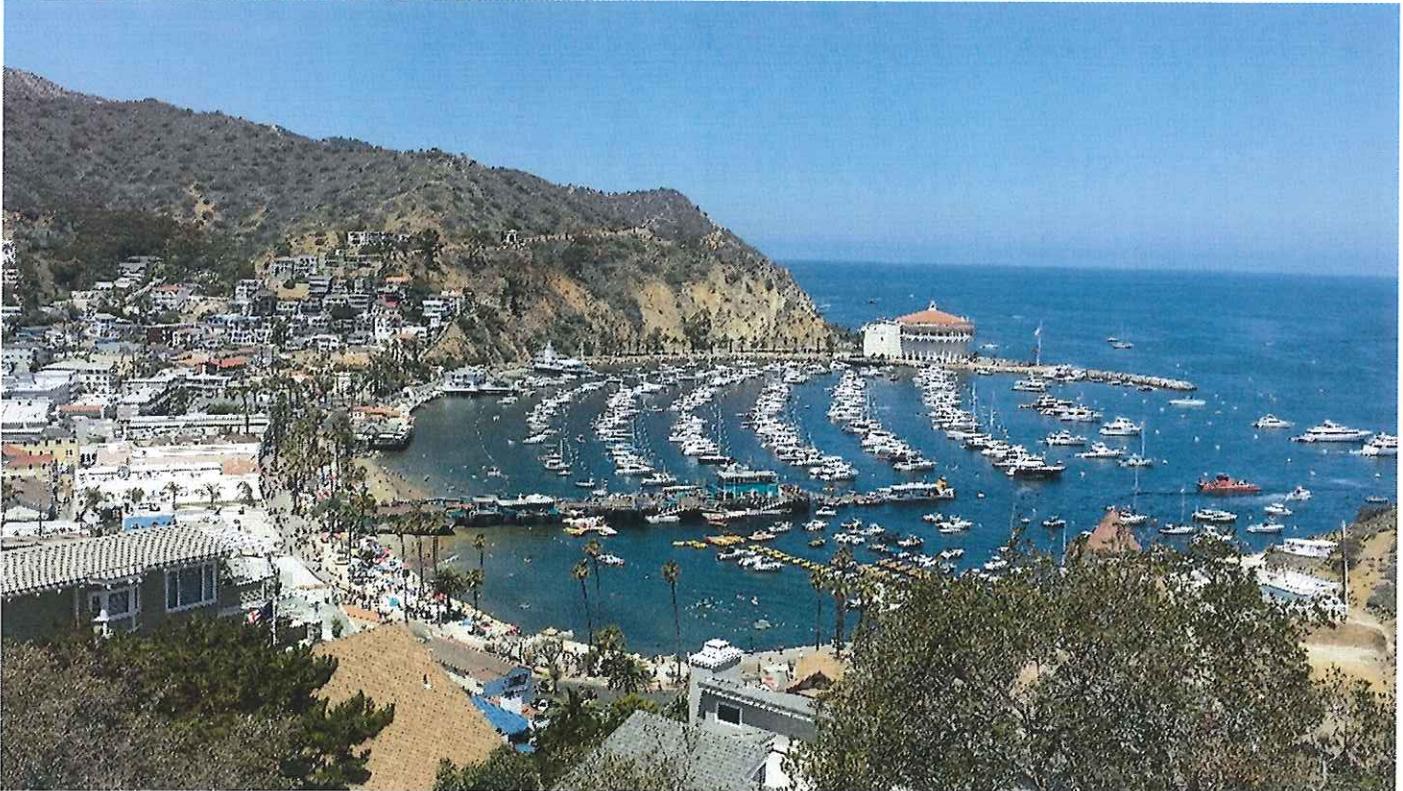
"The people of Avalon come first"
Avalon General Plan

October 30, 2016

TO: Mayor Marshall and City Council Members
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: **MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

This report is a compilation of items regarding City operations and/or City government concerns.
California

WATER WATER EVERY WHERE – WE NEED WATER, AND YES IT'S THERE!



The City Council will once again be taking up the issue of fresh water resources at its meeting of November 1, 2016. The City Council is being asked to instruct staff to seek the help, support, and direction of the California Public Utilities Commission to facilitate discussions with SCE and the City in support of water solutions. In addition, staff is seeking direction from the City Council to decouple drought designations in Avalon from the level of water in the Middle Ranch Reservoir. Finally, in the mean time,

staff is asking for help to encourage SCE to grant waivers to water restrictions for Avalon users during these non-peak water use times.

CEMETERY NEEDS HELP AND WATER TOO!



Avalon Memorial Cemetery

The Avalon Cemetery is a special place for our community. Relatives, friends, and neighbors are in their final resting home, a place of honor and respect for those who have lived their lives in Avalon and Santa Catalina Island.

Unfortunately, the impact of the pseudo drought restrictions has resulted in a lack of water being made available to care for the cemetery grounds. Tree roots are rising in search of water and this condition has left grave sites

disturbed and headstones moved or bent. The current conditions need a solution, and it would be appropriate for the City to seek from SCE, as one alternative approach, a variance to allow watering of the cemetery to resume and continue. Work will also be needed to repair the grounds and restore vegetation, an effort to which many of us will gladly contribute.

MULE DEER - DO'S AND DON'TS



Deer visiting City Hall

The City Council will hear a presentation at its November 1st meeting about things one should and should not do for mule deer who are frequent visitors to many locations in Avalon. Rebecca Barboza of the Department of Fish and Wildlife will provide the City Council with information about this matter. She was also asked to discuss with the City Council what

public and private agencies and people can do to better manage the mule deer population that has been hit hard by drought conditions in the Interior. What are humane steps that responsible parties can take to address the health and safety of these animals?

WORK ON JOE MACHADO FIELD CONTINUES



Installation of the new artificial turf continues at Joe Machado Field. Drainage improvements, leveling the field, and installation of the turf bed is underway. The target date for completion of the field remains November 18th.

AVALON BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY – YOU STILL HAVE TIME!



There is still time left for you to submit your Business Conditions survey to the City of Avalon. The survey is available on the City's website (www.cityofavalon.com) and copies are available at City Hall. When completed, the survey can be mailed in, brought in, or sent via email. Hearing from our business community is important to City officials as we examine existing policies and craft policies to support the success of our business community.

WE WANT YOU!

Economic professionals throughout California have long known that the best economic improvement strategy for cities of all sizes is to develop policies that encourage business retention, business expansion, and new business development. Having a strong and viable business community creates jobs and opportunity for all residents.

MAKING AVALON MORE ACCESSIBLE



Marilla and Metropole Accessibility Installation

Public Works crews continue their work to make Avalon more accessible for everyone. People with disabilities have challenges moving around town where no handicap ramps exist. The Department will continue to create accessibility opportunities for residents and visitors by constructing ramps and removing obstructions and barriers on public sidewalks. Keeping our sidewalks repaired and safe is an important goal of City government.

ACCESS TO GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FROM WASHINGTON D.C.

The City of Avalon has many important capital improvement projects that need to be funded including repairs and possible replacement of portions of a sewer collector system, wastewater treatment plant system improvements, Cabrillo Mole transportation center renovation and reconstruction, Pebbly Beach Road retaining wall and safety project, salt water storage and supply (i.e. for SCE operation), reclaimed water reuse infrastructure, road resurfacing, recreational facilities, etc.

These are costly improvements. We have become aware that there is new Federal legislation and spending authorization that may be available to help and reduce the total cost to the community. In order to be successful in this regard, it may be prudent and a wise investment for the City to retain the services of a grant funding advocate and specialist based in Washington D.C. to evaluate what grants can be accessed in relationship to City capital needs. These services are not inexpensive, but they can produce significant funds for needed improvements.

Staff will be bringing forward suggested steps in this regard to the City Council in November.

Respectfully Submitted,

DAVID JINKENS, M.P.A.