



Avalon City Council Weekly Update

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Vehicle Clerk - Annual Vehicle Registration

Today, April 1, 2016, was the last day to register for the annual vehicle permit for residential autoettes and blue stickers. Starting Monday 4/4/16 registration will be \$30 plus a \$25 late fee. There was a rush of registration as the deadline approached, as usually happens. Since registration started February 10th we've had 1268 autoettes and 381 full size (blue stickers) out of an expected 1550 autoettes and 428 vehicles - based on last years registration numbers.

Avalon Fire Department – SCBA's:

Avalon Fire – SCBA's:

This week the Avalon Fire Department received 32 new Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses or SCBA's. These are the air packs that firefighters use to operate safely in environments immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH).

These SCBA's were part of a cooperative zero cost grant agreement with the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association (LAAFCA). The original grant in 2009 purchased all new SCBA air packs for all 31 fire departments represented in Los Angeles County to establish inter-operability standards between agencies. This latest grant provides for improvements in technology and safety standards with SCBA replacement.

Over the next few weeks, training will be conducted with all firefighting personnel to become proficient in the operation of the new SCBA's prior to placing in service.

City Clerk – April 12 Election

The last day to request a Vote By Mail Ballot is this Tuesday, April 5, 2016, and applications are available at cityofavalon.com or at City Hall. Polls will be open on election day from 7 am to 7 pm. Polling locations are shown on the back of your sample ballot, but voters may call City Hall to confirm their polling location if needed: (310)510-0220.

Finance Department – Increased Investment Earnings

Historically, the City has deposited its General Fund cash into the California Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) which is currently yielding 0.47% per year. This week, the Treasurer and Finance Director invested \$3 million in long-term, FDIC insured, Certificates of Deposits (CDs) spread across one to five years that will yield from 0.65% for 1-year CDs up to 1.70% for 5-year CDs. The City anticipates that the annual interest earned from LAIF and CD investments will more than double from \$30,000 for the past twelve months' yield to \$70,000 for the projected next twelve months.

Rec. Dept - Easter Egg Hunt

On March 27th, the City of Avalon and community partners SCICO, and CIVR/CIRE hosted the annual Easter Egg hunt. CIVR/CIRE bought the eggs and SCICO prepared the lawn at Descanso Beach Club. Frank Rojo from public works did a great job making children happy as the Easter Bunny...behind the scenes assistant, lets say. There were over 400 children for 4000 eggs. It was a mad rush for the eggs, but a success of an event. We would like to thank our partners in putting on this great Avalon tradition, and we look forward to continuing our collaborations again for next year's 'hunt' - as well as throughout the year - to make these events even better. Thanks Santa Catalina Island Company, and Catalina Island Vacation Rentals/Catalina Island Real Estate, and to all the families that came out.



Rec. Dept/Public Works - Downhill Skate Race

David Hart and Denise Radde met with Justin Reynolds from High Line Promotions about this years Catalina Classic Downhill Skate Event, the fifth year of the 'modern' Classic. The Event will be going on Memorial Day Weekend. More information will be coming as we get closer to the event. You can see videos and info from the past events on their website www.catalinaislandclassic.com

Harbor - Fuel Dock Underground Tanks

On Tuesday March 29th, Harbor Master Bray attended an Informational Workshop in Los Angeles regarding the requirements mandating Permanent Closure of Single-Walled Underground Storage Tanks and State Water Resources Control Board Funding Opportunities for Closure and Cleanup.

Single-walled underground storage tanks, including single-walled piping, must be permanently closed by December 31, 2025. This workshop provided information regarding the single-walled Under Ground Storage Tank requirements created with the passage of Senate Bill No. 445, as well as State Water Resources Control Board funding opportunities to meet those requirements.

Under Ground Storage Tank Leak Prevention Program staff discussed closure requirements imposed by Senate Bill 445. Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks (RUST) Program staff discussed loan

and grant funding opportunities available to assist eligible small business owners/operators to meet the single-walled Under Ground Storage Tank removal requirement.

After meeting with State Water Resources Control Board staff, it was learned City's are not eligible grant funding and must comply with replacing the 4 single wall fiberglass underground storage tanks at the fuel dock before December 31, 2025.

Public Works – Weed Abatement

Public Works crews have started working on clearing overgrown weeds surrounding City buildings and throughout all City park spaces for the prevention of snake nesting and fire hazards in anticipation of warm spring weather. All weed abatement in Avalon is to be complete by June 1 annually as mandated by Avalon Fire Department for safety.

Public Works – Spring Cleaning

Public Works has been working on cleaning and sweeping all the alleyways around town. Citizens can participate by keeping their properties – even behind their homes in alleyways – tidy and free of debris. Parks around town are being pressure washers and deep-cleaned - using non-potable desalination water. Public Works crews are fixing damaged tiles and re-grouting walls along Crescent Avenue then finishing them with a fresh coat of paint.

Public Works – Tree Trimming

Public Works crews will be trimming up some palm trees around town in the coming weeks. Public safety is always a top priority, so if you see crews working, please be prepared to slow down and stop for this work.

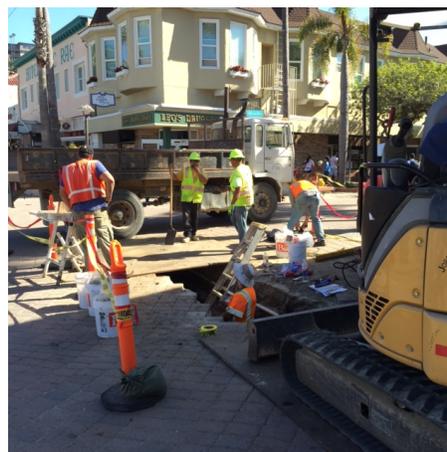
Capital Improvements – Museum Stairs

The City's contractor began demolition work on the public stairs that run between Metropole Ave. and Calle del Sol this past Thursday, and this project is expected to take four to six weeks to complete. While the new stairs will provide the necessary access we would like to thank everyone for their understanding to the closure of the area during this project.



Edison Work on Crescent

Work is complete on the gas projects at 5 Corners and has been back filled with asphalt surface. Work is moving forward on the gas project on Front Street at the bottom of Sumner, and the plate cover will remain in place until the back fill and surface completion occurs. We thank everyone for their patience and consideration during these projects.



IT - Conference Room

This week Public Works installed a 55" TV in the Conference Room. Despite suggestions of connecting a gaming system, the TV will be hooked up to a laptop which will allow for an easier set up for presentations - compared to setting up the old projector and turning out all the lights to view it. The laptop is also networked onto the City's server, allowing access to the City's GIS system, intranet and other files/documents which may be needed to better facilitate meetings. In addition a webcam was installed and we are working on integrating with the current conference phone system so we can host remote meetings, where we can video conference and/or share our presentation screen. This will allow for staff to hold meetings with anyone off the island with greater ease. With the new TV we can also better facilitate training sessions with staff, instead of everyone huddling around one person's computer.

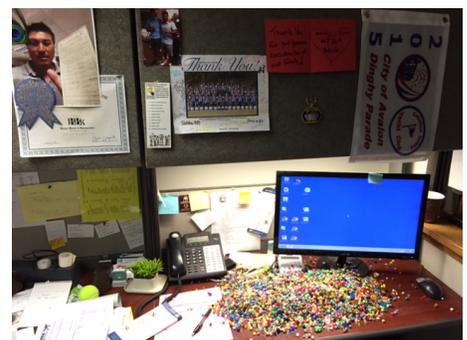


IT - Simulcast in Spanish

This week the Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce hosted the Candidate Forum for the upcoming municipal election on April 12, 2016. The Chamber partnered with the Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to provide Spanish translation during the event. Fortunately due to our recent A/V upgrades to the Council Chambers, and with some help from Advanced Wiring LLC, we were able to live broadcast the Spanish translation on cable channel 29, generously donated by Catalina Broadband Solutions for the event. In addition headsets were available for members of the audience to listen to the Spanish translation. While more work would be required to make this a permanent installation, the proof of concept was a success, and we look forward to continuing to explore ways in which we can expand the reach and accessibility of City activities and meetings.

April Fools

It is fun to work for the City of Avalon, and no one can tell you better than Dennis Jaich and Dave Hart who really enjoyed coming to work this morning. Dennis opened the door(s) to a wall of balloons showering him in welcome, and Dave had a great time brainstorming how to use a thousand tiny beads in a recreation program so he could get to his keyboard.



Respectfully Submitted,
The Avalon City Staff