



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 04-08-16

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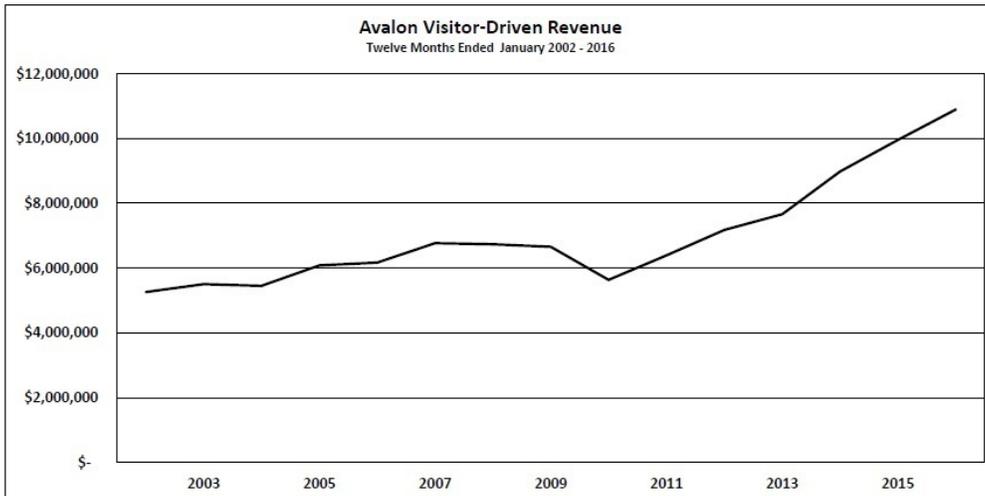
Finance - Visitor Generated Revenue

The report of visitor generated revenue has been updated as of January 2016 and is now available on the Finance Department's web site <http://www.cityofavalon.com/finance>.

Comparing the twelve-month period of February through January of this year to last year,

- Transient Occupancy Tax is increasing and is 16% higher.
- Cross-Channel Wharfage, Sales Tax, and Harbor Use Fees are up by 6%-9%.
- Admissions Tax is flat.
- Cruise Ship Wharfage is down almost 5% due to weather and a banner spring of 2014.
- Overall, total visitor-generated revenue is up 10%

The graph illustrates that overall revenue has continued the upward trend since 2010.



Avalon Fire Department - CPR

This week Avalon Fire and Harbor Department staff received two days of instructor training delivered on island by EMS Safety Services. This training not only delivered the latest updates and changes to CPR, but included curriculum on message delivery and alternative teaching methods. This training will benefit not only internal classes for professional rescuers but training delivered to public CPR training.

Sheriff - If You See Something (or Know Something), Say Something

One of the reasons why Avalon is such an amazing place to live is because of the honest qualities of so many local residents and their willingness to help us do our jobs. Many cases are solved by the willingness of good people to come forward and provide us with information that helps solve crimes. Of course, the citizens that provide us with information have to trust those whom they give the information to. We understand the importance of earning your trust each and every day. If you have information regarding any crime that has occurred in Avalon, we are asking for your help by sharing that information with us. Please call us at 310-510-0174, anonymously if you prefer, and help us keep Avalon as the model for community policing. Remember, It Takes a Village.

Harbor- Visit from Research Vessel Sikuliaq

The 261' Sikuliaq is currently anchored off Avalon. R/V Sikuliaq is an American research vessel owned by the National Science Foundation and operated by the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

Built in 2014 by Marinette Marine Corporation in Marinette, Wisconsin, the \$200 million vessel allows up to 26 scientists and students to conduct multi-disciplinary studies in high latitude open seas, near-shore regions and single-year sea ice, and facilitates the real-time virtual participation of classroom students via broadband connections. The major research opportunities include the effect of climate change and increased human use of Arctic regions on various issues such as ocean circulation and ecosystem dynamics.

One of the most advanced research vessels ever built, Sikuliaq has extensive scientific facilities. In addition to 2,250 square feet of built-in laboratories, she can accommodate two to four 20-foot scientific containers on the 4,360-square-foot aft deck. In addition, Sikuliaq is fitted with flexible over-side handling equipment such as an A-frame in the stern as well as a number of science winches and cranes on the aft deck. She also has a retractable transducer centerboard (drop keel) for deploying various sensors under the vessel.

The maximum speed of Sikuliaq in calm water is 14.2 knots. Sikuliaq has an operational endurance of 45 days and can sail 18,000 nautical miles at 10 knots.

Public Works - Tree Removal

You may have noticed that some of the trees along Front Street. Unfortunately the trees were unsafe as they were rotten, dried out, and ready to collapse.

You can see evidence of this at the stump of the tree that was removed at Wrigley Stage area. You can see the a hole in the roots under the stump where it has rotted out.

The plan is to remove unsafe trees, before they fail and injure someone, and replace with native trees and plants. We have talked with the Ackerman Native Plant Nursery about supplying some of the plants for downtown.

You may also notice the newly polished plaque for "Mr. Big" which was hidden under one of the trees. Thanks to Jeffrey for cleaning it up so everyone can enjoy this great piece of Catalina history.



Public Works - Cemetery

Crews have been preparing the cemetery for Memorial Day.

Public Works - Serpentine Wall

At the direction of Councilmember Hernandez with support from Councilmember Sampson and the City Council the serpentine wall at the corner of Crescent and Clarissa is being closed off to pedestrian access to cross the street. The area is already cordoned off and the masonry work is getting started. It will be about a week or so before the wall is complete.



Administration - California Association for Coordinated Transportation Conference

Audra McDonald attended the 2016 Annual Spring Conference hosted by the California Association for Coordinated Transportation-CalACT last week in San Diego. CalACT hosts two conferences a year for its members who are made up of smaller, often rural, transportation agencies and contractors. Some of the more notable sessions attended included "Connecting Public Transit to Trails and Recreations", Panel Discussion on Transportation Network Companies (Uber, Lyft) and their emerging role in public transportation and an update from the Leslie Rogers, Federal Administration Western Region. The cost for City Staff attendance is offset by a scholarship program offered through CalACT.

Human Resources Department – City Vision Plan

Healthy workplaces are designed to support healthy behaviors and improve health outcomes while at work. These programs consist of activities such as health education, health screenings, access to good healthcare, and more. Workplace health programs also include policies intended to further employee health by providing access to various benefit offerings.

This past December the City negotiated with its Associations to adopt new Memorandums of Understandings. As such, the City will begin providing vision insurance for all full-time employees and their families for the term of the new agreements. Part-time employee are also eligible to receive up to 50% of premium coverage, if they elect to enroll in the new plan.

The City engaged Keenan & Associates as our benefit broker and after conducting a thorough review of 14 group vision plan providers, has selected EyeMed to be our vision benefit provider. This selection was made based on affordability, the availability of vision providers in a network, benefits for glasses or contacts, allowances, and other perks that are offered.

Generally, the vision plan will cover these things.

- Routine eye examinations every 12 months.
- An allowance for a basic pair of glasses and contacts every 12 months.
- Discounts on a second pair of glasses.
- A discount on LASIK surgery or other corrective vision services.

An open enrollment will be conducted on April 6th and we anticipate the plan to be available to employees in May. Along with the many duties our employees perform, the health of our City's employees is of significant importance to us. Effective workplace programs, policies, and environments that are health-focused and worker-centered also have the potential to significantly benefit employers, employees, their families, and communities.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Avalon City Staff