



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 05-20-16

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Public Works - Harbor Water Quality

Another good week on LA County testing of bay waters. We are proud that our Sewer Lateral Inspection Program seems to be the key component which allows us to identify problematic questionable sewer lines that are being repaired on an ongoing basis. You can check the current results by visiting Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card <http://brc.healththebay.org>

Public Works - eBus

The area behind City Hall is being prepared for the new Ebuses!



Public Works - Cemetery

Cleanup and maintenance of the Cemetery in preparation for Memorial Day continues.

Public Works - (Non Potable) Wash Down

You may see Public Works crews washing down (using non potable water) Front Street and various sidewalks in preparation for the summer season.

Harbor - Swim Float Installation

The swim float on South Beach, and the new additional swim float on Middle Beach, have been installed for the summer. Kids were already making use of both floats on Thursday afternoon despite the 61 degree water temperature!



Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment and Ballot Measure

Audra McDonald and David Hart attended the 4th Supervisorial District's Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Community Meeting in Hacienda Heights on Monday, May 16, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to review the results of the County-wide Recreations Needs Assessment, which the City of Avalon was a participant, and to receive information on a proposed ballot measure the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor's will consider at their June meeting. Details of the ballot measure included the mechanics of how potential park funds and grants will be allocated to communities. Of concern to the City is a large portion of the grant funding will be formulaic based on population and existing property square footage. The City has suffered in the past from similar funding formulas that do not take into account the One Million visitors annually who also use the City's parks, streets, transportation, etc... The Mayor will be sending a letter to Supervisor Knabe sharing the City's concerns with the proposed funding formula. We would like to thank Supervisor Knabe for his support of Avalon and Catalina Island throughout the years, as he, and his staff, have helped us greatly.

Administration - Avalon Transit Program

The new Avalon Transit Program is set to begin June 1, 2016. City Staff and the new operator, Transportation Concepts, have been working hard to put everything in place for a seamless transition. Important information such as phone number, routes, hours of operation and Dial-a-Ride information will be on the City's new transit webpage by next week. Go to www.avalontransit.org next week and check it out. Also, the City's new all-electric Ebuses and Dial-a-Ride vans have been branded. The first Dial-a-Ride Van arrived today, the other van and buses will arrive throughout the next week.



Administration - Outreach to Seniors Regarding New Dial-a-Ride

City and Transportation Concept have begun the outreach effort to notify the City's Senior population about the new Dial-a-Ride program (and eBus) scheduled to begin service June 1, 2016. This week, City and Transportation Concepts staff attended the Senior lunch program Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Staff also met with Michelle Von Herling, manager of the Beacon Hill Apartments. Next week, meetings are scheduled with the Catalina Island Medical Center and a meeting with the residents at Beacon Hill Apartments.

Administration/Code Enforcement - Cal Recycle

CalRecycle visited Avalon this week to check on the status of the City's efforts to divert waste from the landfill. The focus of this trip was on diverting organics, or green waste, from the waste stream. CalRecycle was impressed with our green bag program where 55 gallon corn based biodegradable bags are checked out to the Food Service Establishments - restaurants - to separate their green waste, as required by AMC 6-2.204 (as well as cardboard and glass/recyclables). To really practice what we preach a green bag bin has been placed in the City Hall break room, so all the (healthy) snack scraps can be diverted (as there are usually not any scraps of the sweet treats left behind...) CalRecycle noted that higher diversion requirements/goals may be approaching, so the City will be reassessing our programs determining where we can make improvements. Of course the success of these goals starts with the residents, businesses and visitors, so we would like to thank everyone for taking the time to move their hand 6 inches over and dropping the plastic bottle into a recycling bag (free orange bags for recycling available at City Hall), that is the cheapest and easiest solution. We'd also like to thank Avalon Environmental/CR&R for all their efforts in tracking this data and being diligent with processing Avalon's waste. And of course thanks to Code Enforcement for checking up on everybody.

Administration - Avalon Library

This week representatives from Supervisor Knabe's office, the Community Development Commission, the Friends of the Avalon Public Library and the Santa Catalina Island Company got together to review plans for improving the Avalon Library courtyard area. The City has helped facilitate as 'boots on the ground' for the County and CDC. We are excited for this project and look forward to continuing to help in any way to keep things moving forward. A big thanks to the Supervisor and his office for helping get funds so we can make these upgrades.

Avalon Fire – Firewise checklist

WILDFIRE DOESN'T HAVE TO BURN everything in its path. In fact, cleaning your property of debris and maintaining your landscaping are important first steps to helping minimize damage and loss. The work you do today can make a difference. Follow these simple action steps now and throughout the year to prepare and help reduce the risk of your home and property becoming fuel for a wildfire:

- Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks. This prevents embers from igniting your home.
- Remove dead vegetation from under your deck and within 10 feet of the house.
- Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks, dry vegetation) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
- Wildfire can spread to tree tops. If you have trees on your property, prune so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
- Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire.
- Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger. Dispose of these items quickly to reduce fuel for fire.
- Inspect shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration.
- Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
- Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.

Avalon Fire – Bicycle Helmets

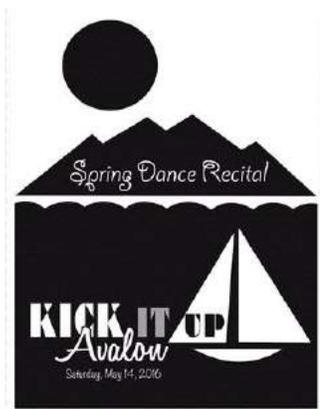
Due in large part to generous donations, the Avalon Fire Department provides bicycle safety helmets to children free of charge. Helmets are available during normal business hours and children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to receive a helmet. This allows for both parent and child to review the importance of wearing a helmet during bicycling and other activities such as skateboarding and scooter riding.

Rec. Dept/ Joe Machado Field Project Update

The Turf Team received the Pre-Qualifications from the Design/Build companies on May 6 and we are happy to say that we have qualified 4 companies (Hellas, AFE, OHNO, and Martin Bros.) on May 13th. We are now going into the RFP process. We will be hosting a mandatory job walk with the companies on May 26th, and RFP's are due on June 16th. We will have a recommended company to award the project to by June 21st for Council to consider.

Rec. Dept - Kick It Up dance

On Saturday 5/14 Kick it Up Avalon Dance program had the Spring Dance Recital. About 30 kids, girls and boys ages 3-12 years of age, performed Ballet, Tap, Lyrical, Jazz, and Hip Hop routines. We had over 100 people attended. We want to thank the instructor Paige Keene for doing an amazing job teaching and managing all the kids. Special performances by Rachel and Jackie from the mainland shared their talents and showed what is capable for those who put in the hard work. Thank You Sean Brannock for being the emcee of the recital adding a lot of description and flow of the event. Also Audra McDonald, the mom who first to reach out to us to start this program and has been critical to keeping it going. We'd also like to thank the Avalon High School for allowing us to use the Auditorium to create a wonderful stage for the performance. And of course we'd like to thank all the dancers and their families for participating and supporting the program. Programs like this can't last without participation and involvement. Kick it Up will be back in the fall continuing to share the fun of dance and the power of the arts.



Avalon Schools Auditorium

4:00 p.m.



Harbor Department – Chamber Temporary Tent on Pier

The Chamber of Commerce has set up a temporary 10 x 10 tent on the pier to service the visitors while their office is being remodeled by Fine Line Construction.

Harbor Department - Island Enterprises Float Installation

Island Enterprises installed their seasonal float at the end of the pier for their shore boat and Catalina Adventure Tours operations.

Income Survey

We will conducting an income survey of Avalon's residents to get a better picture of Avalon's true demographics. As we pursue grant oportunitis significant consideration is given to Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) and staff isn't convinced the numbers used to calculate Avalon's status accurately reflect the residents who live here. In order for this effort to be successful we need every family to participate in the survey, which will be mailed out and available online. Staff will be at the school's open house and articles are already in the newspapers to educate residents of the impornance of their input. A follow up door to door surey will be conducted once we've had a good responce. Look for flyers and surveys over the next few weeks. Thanks for your help!

**THE CITY OF AVALON
NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

COMING SOON!

The City is promoting a household survey to improve the U.S. Census information about Catalina Island. Each address will receive a survey, with a self-addressed stamped return envelope. Fill out the survey and mail it back in the provided envelope. OR you can **take the survey online** with the confidentiality code from your mailed survey. The data will help Avalon apply for grants to **improve the sewer, water, and transportation services** on the Island.

Help us improve our community!

The Survey is 100% confidential, and will not be shared with any other State or Federal agencies.



Photo by GG DronePix



For questions, contact Audra McDonald at 310-510-0220, ext. 118, or Audra1@cityofavalon.com, or Jordan Monroe at jmonroe@cityofavalon.com.

**LA CIUDAD DE AVALON
NECESITA TU AYUDA!**

¡PRÓXIMAMENTE!

La ciudad es la promoción de una encuesta de hogares para mejorar la información del Censo de U.S. sobre la isla de Catalina. Cada dirección recibirá una encuesta, con un retorno sobre sellado con su dirección. Llenar la encuesta y enviarlo por correo en el sobre adjunto. O puede **tomar la encuesta en línea** con el código secreto de su encuesta por correo. Los datos ayudarán a Avalon solicitar subvenciones para **mejorar la red de alcantarillado, agua y servicios de transporte** en la isla.

¡Ayúdenos a mejorar nuestra infraestructura de la comunidad!

La encuesta es 100 % confidencial y no será compartida con ninguna otra agencia estatal o federal.

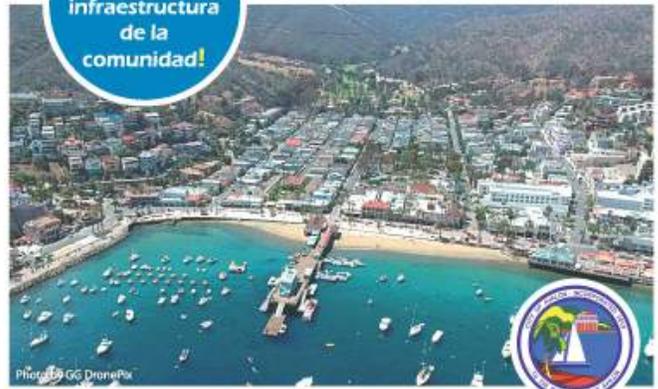


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Si tiene preguntas, póngase en contacto con Audra McDonald al 310-510-0220 , ext . 118, o Audra1@cityofavalon.com , o Jordan Monroe en jmonroe@cityofavalon.com.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Avalon City Staff