



## Avalon City Council Weekly Update 08-19-16

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### **Meet The New Community Services Director**

The new Community Services Director started work on July 18th for the City of Avalon. Dan Huncke, maybe you have seen him around town playing volleyball down at Mole Park, throwing a water polo ball around in the bay, meeting with the seniors and teens in the community, swimming with the Catalina Swim Club or just riding a bike around the area to get familiar?

He spent his last 21 years with the City of Calabasas managing the Calabasas Tennis & Swim Center along with over seeing the parks for the Community Services Department and assisting with special events. Prior to that, Dan was with a YMCA in Northern and one in Southern California for ten years.

Short term goals for the City of Avalon will be to assist in getting the synthetic turf project at Joe Machado Field installed; completing the Mole Park renovations; having the Avalon Fit Trail installed; surveying the Avalon community for their recreational needs and desires in the community and developing and expanding the recreation and community services for the community.

Be on the lookout in the very near future for the Recreation Needs Assessment he is putting out, a preliminary opportunity to express how the programs and services are addressed in the community, which should be out in early September.

He is easy to approach on the street or can be reached at City Hall at (310)510-0220 ext. 230 or by email at [dhuncke@cityofavalon.com](mailto:dhuncke@cityofavalon.com).

Welcome to Avalon Dan!



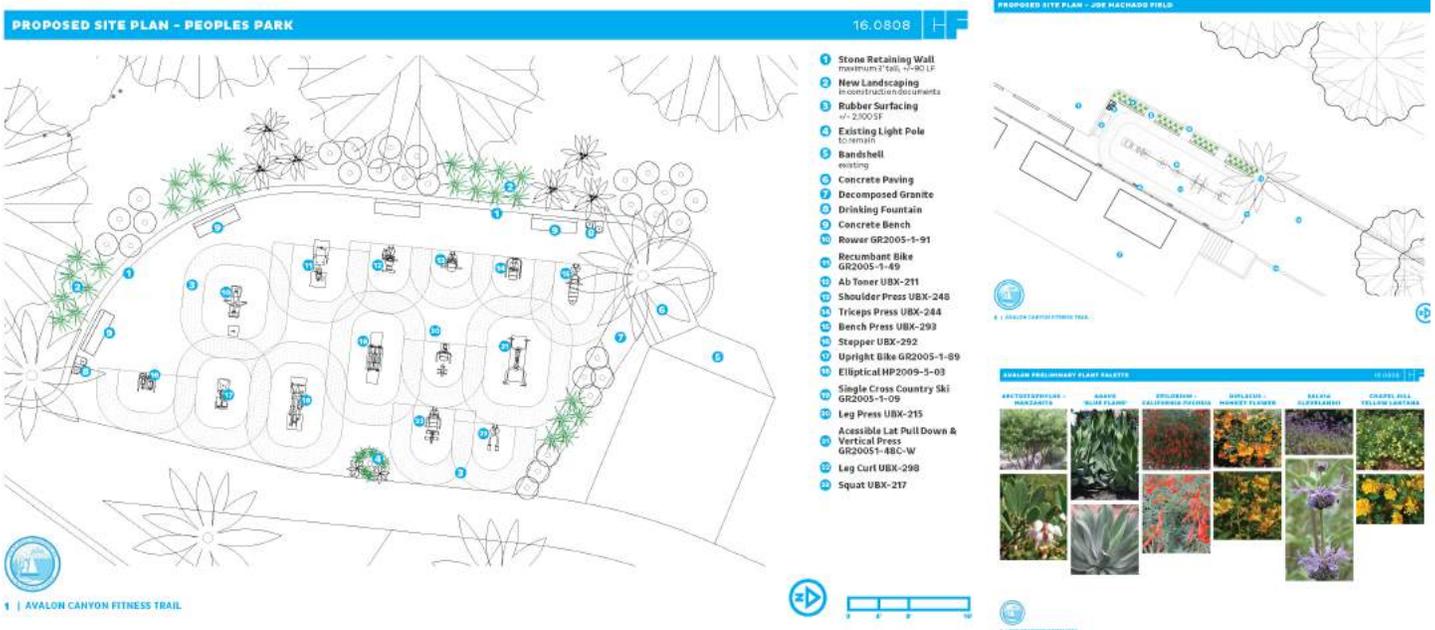
### **Community Services - Back to School Beach Party**

Aug. 29th the Recreation Dept will be holding a Back to School Beach Party on South Beach for the returning youth of Avalon. The theme will be the Avalon World Beach Olympic Games. The kids will participate in creating their own country and will create a flag. They will compete in 10 different events being played either in the water, on the beach or on the courts. There will be Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals for the winning countries. After the Festivities there will be BBQ hot dogs for everyone. k-5 will participate between 2-5 pm and Middle School/High school 5:30-9 pm. We are looking forward to making this an annual event.

## Community Services - Avalon Fit Trail Update

City Council approved the purchase of equipment for the Avalon Fit Trail and the solicitation of contractors to install the equipment at their meeting on Tuesday night. The Fit Trail will consist of outdoor fitness equipment at two sites, People's Parks and Joe Machado Field, with additional fitness activities outlined in between the two areas completing the trail from one cluster of fitness equipment to another.

Bidding for the project should start in early September with installation of the equipment in October/November. Thank you to all those that had input in the Avalon Fit Trail and bringing the project to a reality for a "fitter" Avalon community.



## Community Services - Joe Machado Field Update

The Joe Machado Field Synthetic Turf Project is scheduled to break-ground in early September. The new turf field will give the community an "all-season" playing field for football, soccer, baseball/softball, special events and much, much more!

Plans are to have it completed by late October/ early November so watch the local posting for a "grand re-opening" of the field and the many programs the Community Services Department has planned.



Artist rendering

## **Sheriff - Deputies Commended**

On August 12, 2016, two of Avalon Station's resident deputies, Steve Williams and Chad Eitner, were patrolling the coastal waters near Empire Landing. The deputies were flagged down by two kayakers who appeared to be in distress.

One of the kayakers was in the water because his boat had filled with water and no longer seaworthy. The other man was still sitting in his boat, but that boat soon swamped as well.

The deputies assisted both men from the water and safely transported them and their kayaks to Two Harbors. Neither of the kayakers had a marine radio or any sort of working communication device in their possession.

This incident had a positive outcome, but could have ended tragically for both men.

Unbeknownst to the kayakers, the Board of Supervisors recently provided funding for additional deputy sheriffs to patrol the unincorporated areas of Catalina Island and the near coastal waters. These two deputies were patrolling on this day as a direct result of that funding.

## **Public Works - General Activities**

Public Works is continuing on removing gum on sidewalks using non-potable well water from the Joe Machado Field.

JMF well water is going to be utilized more by public works in different projects like:

Concrete work, landscaping downtown, disinfecting and cleaning parks facility's.

Public Works washing down on Front Street with saltwater every Thursday and Friday.

Crews are continuing to paint the planters and fixing damaged tiles around front street.

With updates to our equipment crews are able to pump the porta potty every Monday and Thursday at the dive park to ensure the significant number of users have decent accommodations.

A Salt Water brake on 3rd street was fixed and compacted by Frank Rojo and Rogelio Hernandez making it look like nothing happened.

While much focus is on downtown and the harbor front, crews have been picking up trash around the cross and water reservoir on Wrigley Road.

Marisa Brown is painting cross walks and stop signs on the street getting ready for the back to school rush.

Old and faded stop signs around town are being replaced.

## **Planning - Vons**

Vons has applied for a demolition permit. Their grading plans and building plans have completed plan check. However, under the conditions of approval and the mitigations imposed on the project, they have seven conditions of approval and three mitigations they must comply with before any permits can be issued.

## **Public Works - Fuel Dock**

The Fuel Dock project is now progressing at a better rate after a delay occurred upon the discovery of an old buried abandoned underground fuel tank. This unforeseen incident delayed the project as it was necessary to apply for a new permit (from LA County Public Works -Underground Tank Division), which required conducting soil samples from multiple locations to ensure the area was clear of hazardous materials.

Most of the samples have been tested and results have been submitted to the County and we are hopeful that we will be given the ok to continue the construction in the area.

We have also suffered a delay due to the existing condition of the sea wall, which required engineering and the placement of concrete slurry backfill to fortify and strengthen the structural integrity.

Along with several other unanticipated issues that developed underground and in adjacent areas, the project was negatively effected which created substantial delays. However now, we are anticipating that the project could be completed in mid November of this year. We are hopeful that there will be no other negative obstacles that will create any further delays.



## **Harbor Department - Report of Boat Fire**

Avalon Harbor Patrol received a report of a boat fire on Mooring 89 around 10:00am on Thursday August 18th. Patrol Boats 1, 4, 6 & 7 along with Baywatch Avalon, County Fire and City Fire units responded to assist. Upon arrival the occupants were removed from the boat and it was discovered the engine had overheated and started smoking and there was not a fire aboard. Thanks go out to all in Public Service who keep our visitors safe!



Respectfully Submitted,  
The Avalon City Staff