



# Memo

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Robert Clark, City Manager  
**DATE:** April 3, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** Weekly Update

## Pixie Month

April is Pixie Month. This promotion by the Visitors Bureau generated numerous stories in widely circulated periodicals last year. As part of this event, prominent writers are invited to a familiarity tour, and have an opportunity to experience Ojai lodging, dining, shopping activities, and to meet our pixie growers. More information is available on the Visitor's Bureau website (<http://ojaivisitors.com/ojai-pixie-tangerine-event.html>).

## Nederlander Concerts Presents Dark Star Orchestra

On Saturday April 11 Nederlander Concerts will be in Libbey Bowl with Dark Star Orchestra, a Grateful Dead style tribute band. The concert is being advertised on the Nederlander and Libbey Bowl websites: (<http://www.nederlanderconcerts.com/>) (<http://www.libbeybowl.org/>).

## SCE Reliability Program

SCE is undertaking a major multi-year effort to improve system reliability by taking steps that will reduce both momentary outages (less than five minutes) and sustained outages. The most significant impact in Ojai will be the replacement of over 100 older utility poles. Since 2011 the incidence of outages in the SCE system has gone from above the average of 88 other utilities, to below the average.

## Moratorium Extensions

We are planning to send letters to all residential property owners giving notice of the public hearings related to extension of the Fence, Wall, Hedge, & Screening Moratorium and the Transient Rental Conditional Use Permit Moratorium. This notice is not required by law or policy, but seems prudent in order to inform property owners of these matters.

## CPUC Suspends Golden State Water Rate Increase Sought in Advice Letters

This week the CPUC suspended a series of advice letters filed by Golden State Water Company to raise rates through the WRAM and MCAB accounts set up by the CPUC to ensure the Company receives its projected revenues.

We are attempting to find out more information as to why the suspension was issued, however the City did file a protest letter to the CPUC in March asking the CPUC to not approve the advice letters and subsequent rate increases. The advice letter sought to recoup from Ojai customers an under-collection of \$1,089,959 or 17.1%.

What are WRAM and MCAB? According to the CPUC's website: "The Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (WRAM) and Modified Cost Balancing Accounts (MCBA) were first implemented in 2008 and were developed as part of a pilot program to promote water conservation. The CPUC

adopted the mechanisms as part of conservation rate design pilot programs. The goals of the WRAM/MCBA are to sever the relationship between sales and revenue to remove any disincentive to implement conservation rates and programs; ensure cost savings are passed on to ratepayers; and reduce overall water consumption.”

### Complete Streets Master Plan Open House / Design Workshop

The City of Ojai invites the public to join our consultant-led design workshop to develop a Complete Streets Master Plan. These three days present a venue for residents to share their ideas for a safe and complete transportation future for Ojai, including bike and pedestrian networks and safety, traffic calming, streetscape, and any other ideas residents feel will make our streets more complete for all users. Our consultant’s team of engineers and planners will be at work in this open studio. Residents are invited to participate, watch or comment.

When:

Tuesday, April 14 – 2 pm to 7:00 pm\* w/Brief Recap at 6:00 pm

Wednesday, April 15 – 2 pm to 7:00 pm\* w/Brief Recap at 6:00 pm

Thursday, April 16 – 2 pm to 7:00 pm\* w/Full Recap at 6:00 pm

\*A brief daily Pin-Up Presentation/recap will be presented each night at 6:00 pm, with a FULL RECAP on Thursday at 6:00 pm. Residents should come anytime between 2-7 pm to discuss particular items. To see a recap, come at 6:00 pm any day, or Thursday for a full recap.

Where: Ojai Valley Woman’s Club clubhouse, 441 E. Ojai Ave. (just east of Montgomery St., between Jersey Mike’s and Bliss Yogurt)

### Grant Awarded to Improve Public Works Security

The City was awarded a \$56,600 grant this week to provide a new automated gate and other security fencing and gates throughout the public works yard. The automated gate will greatly simplify and improve security for the early and late hour departure/arrivals of the trolley. Improved fencing and gates will improve general security for the yard, which has had some vandalism issues. This grant is provided as part of the California Transit Security Grant Program (part of Prop 1B funding).

### Upcoming Agendas

The tentative upcoming agendas are listed below. (The white paper on cultural resources has been held over to the April 28 meeting to provide more time for review of the preliminary draft.)

#### **April 14**

Consent

Transit Funding Application

Award of Contract: Sarzotti Master Plan

Banking Policy

Public Hearing

Height Limits

Discussion Items

Libbey Bowl Report

Animal Services Contract

Chaparral School Landmark Designation

Water Conservation Measures (the brown grass initiative)

#### **April 28**

Presentations

Dark Sky Awards

Consent

Second Reading Height Ordinance

Lease Extension: Public Parking  
Public Hearing  
M-1 Zoning Amendment  
Extend Fence/Wall Moratorium  
Extend Transient Rental CUP Moratorium  
Discussion Items  
Archeological/ Cultural Resources Procedure  
RFP Building Services

**May 12**

Joint Meeting with Planning Commission (6 pm)

Consent

Library Tax Assessment  
Lighting and Plaza Assessments  
Draft TDML Implementation Plan

Public Hearings

Engineering Report: Assessment Districts

Discussion

Historic Preservation Fees  
Recreation Fees  
Budget Presentation  
Crime Statistics  
Summer Meeting Schedule