



Memo

TO: City Council
FROM: Robert Clark, City Manager
DATE: July 31, 2014
SUBJECT: Weekly Update

Water Issues

The wall on the Signal Street side of the Theater building is showing signs of failure because of the undermining of the foundation. The City has closed the adjacent sidewalk and issued an encroachment permit so that the owner can put up bracing. Four vaults have been excavated on Signal St. north of Ojai Avenue, and they will be replaced on Thursday night after 10 pm. The excavations will be slurried on Friday, and the street paved on Monday.

Golden State Water has responded to the City's request for information. The response is posted on the City website and is under review. It will be discussed at the August 12 City Council meeting.

Golden State Water General Rate Case: 2016, 2017, 2018

The City will be requesting Formal Party status in the general rate case. Formal party status allows the City to participate in the evidentiary hearings with other parties which have formal party status. The City had formal party status in the most recent, previous general rate case and did participate in discussions on certain aspects of the case, and had some success with that process. However we are limited in our ability to influence the process and outcomes because we do not have the staff expertise and resources to take on issues across the board. One item we expect to raise concerns with is the fire plug fee proposed by Golden State Water, which would pass along the costs of fire flow testing to the customers. We will also be seeking to ensure that a Public Participation Hearing (PPH) be held in Ojai again, to give local citizens a chance to address their concerns or comments to the CPUC on the rate case.

Bike Park

Staff is continuing to work with the group of local residents who are interested in building a bike park/pump track in town. The initial location explored for such a park was on school district property near the skate park, but the District has indicated this site is no longer a possibility due to potential development interests. Staff is working with the local residents to identify other possible sites that might be suitable for such a park.

Skate Park Lights

We have tentatively scheduled the skate park lighting plan to be heard by the Planning Commission on August 20. Staff is hopeful that if we are able to receive all necessary approvals on our end for the lighting plan (the School District also needs to approve the plan) that potential donors will come forward to fund the project. The proponent of the project, Skate Ojai, has indicated it will be dissolving its non-profit status but has agreed to provide the lighting plan to the City to pursue.

Film Permit

A film permit was issued for July 31 for a public service announcement at Ojai Presbyterian Church. The activity should not impact any streets, roads or public spaces. The filming is for one day only.

Drought Declaration - Shutting Down Two Fountains

In response to the State Emergency drought declaration, the City is shutting down the Cluff Vista and Plaza (Matilija Poppy) Fountain. Informational signs have just arrived and will be installed as the fountains are shut down. Note, these measures are in addition to previously decreasing the landscape watering significantly in response to the drought declaration. The Daly Park lawn is going brown, the small lawn at Signal/Grand is brown, the new native sod on new section of Fulton Street is dormant though the new trees will continue to be watered for another year to establish them, the Y and Rotary Park are being intentionally stressed. The Libbey Bowl lawn will be kept green, but stressed, so it can be used for seating at Bowl events. We are also washing trolleys half as often – once per two weeks instead of weekly. Note reduced watering of lawns can stress trees. We will monitor tree health and may water lawns more to help ensure the trees survival. For instance less watering of the old-growth trees in Daly Park may stress them as they get less water from the lawn area.

FEMA Flood Mapping Outreach Meeting

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) outreach meeting, held last Thursday, was well attended with over 24 in attendance. The primary focus was the new east valley flood maps becoming effective September 26, 2014, and assuring effected residents have insurance in place 30 days beforehand to secure the preferred/best rate.

Upcoming Agendas

The tentative upcoming agendas are listed below:

August 12

Parks and Recreation Commission -6pm

Consent

2nd Reading Flood

2nd Reading PRC Duties

Stuart Consulting Contract

Discussion

Fire Flow

Green Coalition Funding Request

County Telecommunications Regulations (Comments)

HERO Program

Closed Session

Department Head Compensation

RDA Loan Litigation

August 19

Special Joint Meeting with PRC regarding Skateboard Park

August 26

Consent

Paving Contract Notice of Completion

Investment Policy Amendment

Records Retention Update

Discussion
 Review Lighting Ordinance
 Affordable Housing Discussion
 Tree Protection Policy
 Successor Agency
 ROPS 14-15B

Sept 9 (Cancelled)

Sept 23

Presentation
 School Bond Measure (Hank Bangser)
 Consent
 Form 700 Review
 Public Hearing
 Telecommunications Ordinance
 Leaf Blower Ban Ordinance (Ban)
 Discussion
 Skate Park Security
 July 4th Chairs
 Holiday Meeting Schedule

**Planning Commission Upcoming Meetings
 Future Agenda Items - *Tentative***

August 20 Wednesday	September 3 Wednesday	September 17 Wednesday	October 1 Wednesday
607 N. Signal Street DRP for a new 2-story residence & 607 N. Signal Street Appeal of a Director's Decision			
999 E. Ojai Avenue Whispering Oaks, Area Housing New planting plan to modify the original landscape plan			
Landscape Ordinance Regulations City Attorney and Ad Hoc Landscape Committee			
Skatepark Lighting 450 E. Ojai Avenue			
914, 1000, 1010 E. Ojai Avenue Concept Review Variance to fence/wall height			

Pending Projects (NOTE: Not all projects have been deemed complete)

- Emerald Iguana Inn, 108 Pauline Street, modification to existing CUP
- DRP 13-18, Craftsman Village redesign, 611 Pearl Street
- DRP 14-02, California Solar Electric, 302 N. Montgomery Street
- CUP 14-03 & DRP 14-07, Mountain Vista Manor addition of a new building to an existing board and care facility for the elderly