



CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE

For Week Ending April 11, 2014

Paul Eldredge, City Manager



ADMINISTRATION

Emergency Medical Services System Study

The Contra Costa Emergency Medical Care Committee, an advisory board to the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors, held a special meeting on April 9 to receive feedback from the public on a draft study of the County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system (the County is responsible for soliciting and administering the EMS or ambulance service in the County). The draft "[EMS Modernization Project Report](#)" by Fitch and Associates, which was funded by Contra Costa Health Services' EMS Division, analyzes ways to continue reliable delivery of quality emergency and medical transportation services in Contra Costa County. In December 2012, the Board of Supervisors directed the EMS Division to evaluate the County's emergency medical services system and to report its findings and make recommendations. The report is part of the initial process for preparing a request for proposal for ambulance services that needs to be completed by June 2015.

The April 9 meeting gave the public and service providers a forum to offer feedback before the draft version of the study is presented to the Board of Supervisors on May 6. The draft report includes several recommendations to modernize the County's EMS system, ranging from continuing and expanding prevention efforts to investing in sophisticated information systems to facilitate data collection and analysis. Most notable, however, is the recommendation to increase the allowable ambulance response time by 60 seconds (current response time is 11:45, proposed response time is 12:45) and to eliminate the Quick Response Vehicles (QRVs).

The public comment period on the draft study began on March 24 and has been extended until 5:00 p.m. on May 6. To read the draft study and to learn how to submit written public comments, please visit cchealth.org/ems/system-review.php.

FINANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Single Audit

Over the past year the City utilized Federal Grant funds for several projects including the installation of a traffic light on American Avenue, the installation of a sidewalk on Grant Street and pavement rehabilitation work on Sellers Avenue, Sand Creek Road and O'Hara Avenue. Federal rules dictate that agencies who expend more than \$500,000 in Federal funds are subject to a special audit in order to provide assurance to the U.S. Government that the funds were managed and spent in accordance with their intended purpose. Any instances of non-compliance could result in refund demands from the U.S. Government. Last week Maze and



Associates, the City's independent audit firm, completed this special audit and concluded that the funds were accounted for appropriately, and filed the audit with the Federal Government.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Liberty High School Public Art and Design Academy (PADA) Mosaic Mural

PADA has begun work on putting tile up on the sound wall. The students are working hard behind the scenes. The process so far has involved the students creating full scale master drawing on panels of butcher paper. They measure paper panels out on the sound wall and then put the panels up on campus to draw the basic mural. Next, they take each panel into the classroom and paint it to correspond with the color of tiles. Self-adhesive mesh is then laid over each painted panel and broken tile pieces are placed based on the painting they can see under the mesh. These panels of tile are adhered to the mesh, and go up on the wall in sections.



Mad Hatter Tea Party

On Saturday, April 5, the sold out “Mad Hatter Tea Party” took place at the Brentwood Senior Activity Center. This innovated intergenerational event was coordinated by the Brentwood Senior Citizen’s Club in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department. More than one hundred seniors and children were “Mad Hatters.” Alice (in Wonderland) entertained everyone with story time as they enjoyed delicious teas and cakes. The event ended with



everyone singing the “Happy Un-birthday Song.” Please refer to the Parks and Recreation *Activities Guide*, located on the City’s website, for other upcoming, fun events.

Picnic Rentals Now Available

Picnic table rentals are now available through October 26 to groups of all sizes. Sites available are Apple Hill, Balfour-Guthrie, Blue Goose and Oak Meadow parks, as well as, City Park, Veterans Park / Brentwood Family Aquatic Complex, Brentwood Skate/BMX Park and Sunset Park Athletic Complex. Picnic table rentals are very popular so if possible, book early. Parks and Recreation: (925) 516-5444.

Water Play Features

All parks with water features are now open for the public. Water features are at Blue Goose (featured to the right), Kaleidoscope, Mallard, and Rainbows End parks as well as City Park. Water play features are available 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. daily, April 1 through October 31.



POLICE

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

On April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the City of Brentwood and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the local public its eighth opportunity in four years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to the Brentwood Police Department at 9100 Brentwood Boulevard. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last year, almost 400 tons of prescription medications were collected from members of the public at more than 5,829 locations manned by 4,312 state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies that partnered with DEA on the event. When added to the collections from DEA’s



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previous seven Take-Back events, more than two million pounds of prescription medications have been removed from circulation.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines - flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash - both pose potential safety and health hazards.

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient and ecologically responsible method of prescription drug disposal while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications.

For more information regarding the prescription drug take back initiative, contact Lt. Doug Silva at the Brentwood Police Department (925) 809-7712.

PUBLIC WORKS

Conversion of Sunset Park to Recycled Water

Irrigation supply for Sunset Park was converted from potable water (water suitable for drinking) to recycled water (highly treated wastewater) by Public Works staff on April 3. The conversion allows the 39.77 acre park to be irrigated with recycled water and will save approximately 4.8 million gallons of potable water per year. This reduction in potable water helps the City during these drought conditions as well as reaching the state-mandated 20% reduction in water use goal by the year 2020.

Water Conservation

Water conservation is always important in California, but this year no Californian can afford to waste any water. We all need to do our part. In Governor Brown's statewide [drought emergency](#) declaration, he asks all Californians to reduce their water use by 20%.

Do you want to conserve water but you aren't sure where to start? The City of Brentwood recommends trying the Home Water Works Water Calculator to quickly estimate how much water your household uses and compares it to a similar, average and a highly efficient home. The Water Calculator also shows you where to begin your home water conservation efforts. Throughout Home Water Works, you'll find useful tips and resources for saving water without sacrificing comfort or convenience. Visit the City's website or www.home-water-works.org for additional information.



homewaterworks

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