9.28.18

Updates and information on programs and projects at the City of San Carlos.

City Manager

Non-Profit Grant Program Spotlight: Caring Cupboard
The Caring Cupboard received a grant of $5,000 through the City’s Non-Profit Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2018-19. Caring Cupboard is a collection of local volunteers who work to distribute free meals and groceries to low income San Carlos seniors. The grant funds will contribute to the cost of Caring Cupboard’s Ice Cream and Downtown Meal Vouchers Programs, scholarships to the Adult Community Center Special Luncheons and the distribution of prepacked lunch bags. Due to limited income, seniors are sometimes socially isolated. Caring Cupboard’s meal programs allow seniors to participate in social activities, communal meals and community gatherings, which bring together our San Carlos residents.

Administrative Services

Here are some quick updates from the Human Resources Division of the Administrative Services Department on recruitments to fill vacant positions at the City.

Open Recruitments
• Associate Planner (Community Development) – Recruitment closes on October 19, 2018
• Assistant Planner – (Community Planner) – Recruitment closes on October 19, 2018
- Recreation Leader II (Part-time) – Recruitment closes on October 19, 2018

Recruitments in Progress
- Facility Attendant (Full-time) – Interviews will be held October 4th
- Management Analyst (Public Works) – Interviews will be held October 10th
- Maintenance Worker (Public Works) – Background checks are in progress
- Sustainability Coordinator (Part-time) – Recruitment is currently on hold

Recruitments in Progress
- Program Coordinator - ACC (Part-time) – New hire starts October 1st

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**Fire**

**Fire Boat Ride Along**
San Carlos city staff had the opportunity last week to ride along with Fire Boat 9. Firefighters were able to demonstrate the boat's fire-fighting capabilities by flowing water and navigating around the south bay. The Fire Boat is a 36 foot ship with the capability of pumping thousands of gallons of water per minute. The boat frequently responds to people in distress on the bay but can also be used to supply fire-fighting water to the City of San Carlos after a catastrophic event such as an earthquake.

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**Parks & Recreation**

**San Carlos Day of Service a Huge Success**
The 2nd Annual San Carlos Day of Service took place on Sunday, September 23rd. The City coordinated four projects in our parks for the day with over 80 community volunteers signed up to assist in making our parks better. City volunteer projects included landscaping the front entrance of the Youth Center, landscaping garden beds in front of the Arbor Bay/Kiwanis Building, painting at Cedar Park and re-landscaping Vista Park in partnership with the UC Master Gardeners Program. In total, over 500 volunteers from the community came out to lend a hand in a variety of projects for the day. We commend our residents and business people for coming together each year to serve our community.
Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) in San Carlos

ALPRs are used by law enforcement to locate stolen vehicles, suspects in criminal or terrorist activities, individuals with warrants for their arrest, witnesses to and victims of violent crime, and missing persons (including Amber Alert subjects). Investigations into crimes benefit from ALPR technology. Additionally, experience has shown that when criminals know that ALPRs are used in a particular city, they will avoid that city. This is especially relevant to San Carlos as many of the burglary, robbery, and vehicle break-ins in the past have been committed by individuals from outside the city.

ALPR systems capture an image of a vehicle’s license plate, transform that image into alphanumeric characters using optical character recognition software, compare the plate number to databases of vehicles of interest to law enforcement and alert the officer when a vehicle of interest has been observed. This electronic capture, analysis and comparison typically occurs within seconds and automates a tedious manual process that officers regularly complete in their daily operations. ALPR systems vastly improve the efficiency of officers in identifying vehicles of interest among the hundreds or thousands they observe during routine patrol and follow up investigations.

The San Carlos City Council has approved ALPRs at nine locations in the city. There also is one transportable device, with 12 more to be installed in law enforcement vehicles. In compliance with Senate Bill 34 (SB 34), policies about these devices can be found on the City’s website on the Sheriff’s Office page by clicking on the ALPR button at https://www.cityofsancarlos.org/government/departments/sheriff-s-office.

At the Council’s request at its meeting on September 10th, we are providing additional information about how the data collected by the City’s ALPRs is protected. Vigilant Solutions is responsible for the security and privacy of the stored data provided through the ALPRs.

Data Privacy:

Vigilant Solutions maintains strict controls to ensure data security and privacy. The only way to link personally identifiable information like a name, address, or face to anonymous data records is to obtain access to a state’s Department of Motor Vehicles database. That access is currently restricted by federal law via the Driver’s Privacy Protection Act (DPPA), and carries stiff fines and federal prison penalties for any violation.

Data Storage:

Vigilant Solutions stores ALPR data on secure servers in Virginia. Its provider hosts many Fortune 500 and government servers and provides redundant power sources, redundant fiber connectivity, redundant disk arrays, environmental monitoring, secure access control, physical escorts for onsite visitors, multiple diesel fuel backup generators, active fire prevention and suppression, and onsite system administrators and engineers. Alternatively, it can set-up onsite servers as needed.

Data Security:
Only credentialed law enforcement officers with a valid Originating Agency Identifier (ORI) number issued by the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) may access the data on the hosted server. Vigilant Solutions is compliant with all relevant requirements set forth in the FBI-CJIS Security Policy.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE):

Agencies using Vigilant ALPR systems maintain full control over which other law enforcement agencies may access their data. San Carlos does not permit sharing with Immigration and Customs Enforcement - Enforcement and Removal Operations (ICE-ERO). ICE-ERO primarily performs administrative immigration activities. Those duties are related to immigration status enforcement activities and not criminal investigations. ICE-ERO is not authorized to have access to ALPR data collected by our City of San Carlos readers based on the requirements for both the right to access the information and the need to access the information based on a criminal investigation.

We only permit federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to access our Vigilant Solutions ALPR data to conduct criminal investigations, and we have restricted ICE-ERO from having any access to the system. Any inbound data to the regional storehouse is limited to specifically identified ALPR devices, owned or operated specifically by identified law enforcement agencies. Our Vigilant Law Enforcement database is not open for public contribution, nor do we have any private sector sources contributing data to the database (private parking lots, tolling authorities, etc.). There’s a “two-way handshake” that must occur between the ALPR camera and the Vigilant data warehouse for any contributions to be accepted. Only law enforcement collected data in, and data only goes out to law enforcement personnel with a need and right to know the information.

Residential Burglaries
On September 19th at approximately 9:30 a.m., deputies responded to the 1900 block of Birch Avenue on the report of a residential burglary. The previous night, suspects entered the victim’s residence by breaking open a lock box that contained a house key. The suspects stole power tools valued at approximately $100.

On September 19th at approximately 12:50 p.m., deputies responded to the 500 block of Emerald Avenue on the report of a residential burglary. The previous night, suspects entered the victim’s residence by opening a lock box that contained a house key. The suspects stole tools, appliances, and lighting fixtures valued at approximately $10,500.

In both cases reports were taken and forwarded to the Detective Bureau for further investigation.

Vehicle Burglary
On September 25th at approximately 10:00 p.m., deputies responded to 24 Hour Fitness located at 1650 Industrial Road on the report of a vehicle burglary. The victim’s vehicle was broken into while he was inside of the gym. The suspect broke the front passenger window and stole $25 from the vehicle. A report was taken and forwarded to the Detective Bureau for further investigation.
New Employee
Please welcome Vatsal Patel, San Carlos' new Senior Engineer. Vatsal has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from San Jose State University and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Notre Dame de Namur University. Vatsal grew up in San Carlos and attended Brittan Acres Elementary School, Central Middle School and graduated from Carlmont High School. Vatsal currently resides in Redwood City. He enjoys playing golf and spending time with family and friends.