8.30.19

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

City Manager

Climate Action Plan Update
In 2009 the City Council adopted the City’s first Climate Action Plan (“CAP”), establishing a greenhouse gas (“GHG”) reduction target and strategies to address climate change caused by GHG emissions. Staff prepared our annual update for 2018-19 (attached) that highlights the progress made on the CAP’s sustainability initiatives, information on new State laws and regulations impacting these efforts, and work that is continuing and/or planned for the next year.

Public Safety Fair
The San Carlos Public Safety Fair returns on Sunday, September 8 to downtown Laurel Street adjacent to the Farmers Market. Bring the entire family and stop by from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to chat with local police officers and firefighters, explore public works and emergency equipment, and get information on disaster preparedness and staying safe in the City of Good Living.

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

- Recreation Leader I (Youth Development) – Recruitment open until filled
- Public Works Inspector – Recruitment open until filled
- Senior Administrative Clerk (Community Development) – Recruitment closes on September 4th
- Administrative Assistants (2 positions – Administrative Services Department and City Clerk Department) – Recruitment closes on September 20th

Welcome New Employee

Gina Wang is the new Account Technician in the Finance Division who will be handling Business Registrations. Gina moved to the bay area in 2012 and previously worked at Stanford University.

Gina lives in Belmont and in her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, and exploring new food on the peninsula.

City Clerk

Newly Adopted Ordinance

Ordinance 1550 Below Market Rate In Lieu Fee
After holding a public hearing on July 8, 2019 to consider requiring rental residential multifamily builders to build below market rate units and eliminating the Below Market Rate In Lieu Fee, the City Council introduced Ordinance 1550 and subsequently approved it at its August 26th meeting.

Any questions relating to this Ordinance should be directed to Martin Romo, Economic Development and Housing Manager at (650) 802-4267 or mromo@cityofsancarlos.org.

Fire

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Update
Redwood City/San Carlos CERT held its second monthly meeting, this time focusing on safety and prevention in the home. Captain Wade Greene led an interactive talk about utility shut-offs, exit routes, and fire extinguisher use and safety.

To prepare CERT members to assist in shelters during a disaster, the Red Cross presented an interactive Shelter Operations for Partners training for 50 CERT members from Redwood City, San Carlos, and North Fair Oaks.

Current CERT members will be Trainers and Assistants during the upcoming CERT Academy in September and October at Station #9 in Redwood City. Registration for this event is available via the City’s website at: https://www.cityofsancarlos.org/government/departments/fire

Upcoming events that CERT will participate in include:
Parks & Recreation

Replacement of Existing Field Lighting Project Update

As part of the Highlands Park and Burton Park Field Lighting Replacement Project, Highlands Park will be closed on weekdays beginning Tuesday, September 3, 2019 during the construction hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The park is anticipated to re-open with normal hours by Monday, September 16.

The park closure will include the lower athletic field, playground, tennis courts, restroom, and parking lots. Upper Stadium Field will remain open during construction. During this time, cranes and other heavy equipment will be used to remove and replace existing light poles, bases, and fixtures.

Up-to-date information on this project can be found on the Public Works page of the City’s website at: https://www.cityofsancarlos.org/government/departments/public-works/capital-improvement-projects/current-projects.

Police

Driving Under the Influence of Narcotics

On Sunday, August 18, 2019, at approximately 11:37 p.m., a traffic stop was conducted on the 100 block of El Camino Real in San Carlos. Upon contact, the driver, a 20-year-old male from San Carlos, admitted to drinking earlier. The driver failed the field sobriety test and was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of drugs. The driver was also found to be in possession of prescription pills without a prescription. The driver refused a chemical test and his blood was taken pursuant to a search warrant. He was booked into the Maguire Correctional Facility.

Prolific Shoplifter Arrested

On Wednesday, August 28, 2019, at about 9:11 p.m., a 22-year-old male from Oakland entered a retail store on San Carlos Avenue. While in the store, the suspect stole over $1,600 in products without paying for the merchandise. Law Enforcement found narcotics on the suspect’s person. The suspect was arrested for theft and drug possession. During an interview with the suspect it was learned he routinely steals from retail stores and then sells the stolen products for cash.

Upon being booked into the county jail it was discovered the suspect had additional narcotics on his person along with several razor blades. The suspect
was booked for several felony and misdemeanor charges at the Maguire Correctional Facility.

Public Works

PG&E Gas Main Replacement along Crestview Drive
PG&E will be replacing an existing gas transmission line along Crestview Drive between La Mesa Drive and Edgewood Road. The work is tentatively scheduled to begin September 9, 2019 and be completed by December 20, 2019. Working hours for the project will be between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Traffic will be impacted, however, local access for residents along Crestview Drive will be provided at all times.

Welcome New Assistant Engineers
Welcome to new Assistant Engineer Evan Cai. Evan is a San Francisco native and a recent graduate of San Jose State University. He comes to us from the City of Menlo Park. Evan is currently working on the City’s Sidewalk Repair Program. Evan enjoys watching TV, going to the gym, spending time with his dog, and drinking boba. He also enjoys traveling, whether it’s around California or overseas.

We also welcome new Assistant Engineer Sophia Lee. Sophia is a Bay Area native. She attended Carlmont High School and graduated from San Francisco State University. Sophia has worked for Samtrans and the City and County of San Francisco. She is currently working on the San Carlos Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project. In her free time, Sophia enjoys traveling and reading.

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August 30, 2019
As part of the City’s 2009 General Plan process, the City Council adopted the City of San Carlos’ first Climate Action Plan (CAP) establishing greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets and identifying strategies to address climate change caused by GHG emissions.

Our CAP established GHG reduction goals of 15% by 2020 and 35% by 2030 when compared to 2005 levels. Consistent with state and regional goals at the time of its adoption, our CAP was the first document to assemble all of the City’s climate action efforts into a centralized plan. Twenty-one reduction measures addressing topics like building energy efficiency, zoning and development, alternative transportation, and waste reduction were included in our CAP.

Since 2010, staff has prepared an annual update that details the progress made on our CAP’s emission reduction goals, highlights related sustainability initiatives, explains new state laws and regulations impacting these efforts, and describes work that is continuing and/or planned for the next year. This report is the 2019 update.

Our CAP has three sectors that are targets for greenhouse gas reduction measures, including Energy Use, Transportation and Land Use, and Solid Waste. Water Conservation measures are also included that align with greenhouse gas mitigation activities. Below is an overview of accomplishments made during Fiscal Year 2018-19 by sector.

**ENERGY**

- **Green Business Program.** The City supports the San Mateo County Office of Sustainability’s Green Business Program that certifies small to medium sized businesses who operate in an environmentally sustainable manner. The Green Business Program provides technical assistance and resources to businesses to upgrade outdated equipment to earn a certification. There are currently 12 businesses in San Carlos certified as Green Businesses. The Program is currently being realigned by the County and will be relaunched in the near future.

- **San Mateo County Energy Watch.** The City promotes programs with the San Mateo County Energy Watch such as the Check-It-Out! Home Energy and Water Saving Toolkit. This program allows residents to check out a toolkit from the San Carlos Library that includes resources for residents to
perform a basic assessment of the energy and water efficiency of their homes. We partner with County Sustainability staff on outreach initiatives and events whenever possible.

- **Peninsula SunShares.** The City participated in the Peninsula SunShares program again in 2018. Sunshares is a group buying program that offers discounts to residents for rooftop solar installations and electric vehicles from pre-vetted vendors.

- **PCE ECO100.** The City purchases electricity from Peninsula Clean Energy’s ECO100 option. By opting into this program, the City ensures that 100% of the electricity for all municipal functions comes from renewable sources.

- **Multi-Family Workshop.** The City will continue to coordinate with the County Office of Sustainability, Peninsula Clean Energy and BayREN by hosting a workshop for multi-family property owners in fall 2019. The workshop will highlight energy efficiency upgrade programs, opportunities for electric vehicle charging installations, and review state waste diversion laws.

- **Clean Energy Financing,** The City participates in three Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing programs to residents including CaliforniaFIRST, HERO, and OpenPace. These programs facilitate home energy upgrades by allowing property owners to take out loans that are paid back through property taxes.

- **Building Energy Code Enforcement.** The City continues to update and enforce California Title 24 building energy efficiency standards for new construction. Upcoming 2020 building codes will require rooftop solar for all new single-family residential construction as the state strives for Zero Net Energy (ZNE) for all new residential projects.

**TRANSPORTATION**

- **Alternative Transportation Efforts.** For several years, the City has promoted alternative transportation in San Carlos to reduce the number of single-occupancy vehicle trips and increase the use of alternate transportation modes, such as biking, walking and riding transit. Some of the programs below highlight this overall effort.

- **Smart Growth.** San Carlos encourages smart growth and transit-oriented development through mixed-use, infill, and high density projects within walking distance of transit centers. A number of multi-family housing projects within a half mile of Caltrain are under construction or near completion, including the Transit Village and Wheeler Plaza.
• **Crossing Guards.** The City partners with the San Carlos School District to fund nine crossing guards, including two new crossing guards added in the spring of 2019. The crossing guards allow for the safe crossing of pedestrians and cyclists at certain intersections close to schools. By improving the safety of these intersections, more students are able to commute to school in ways other than a single-occupancy vehicle, reducing morning congestion and GHG emissions.

• **Commuter Shuttle.** The City continued the San Carlos Commuter Shuttle Program for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The shuttle serves as a critical first and last mile connection for east side business partners Natera, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, and Residence Inn Marriott. The shuttle is able to reduce congestion and emissions from single-occupancy vehicles by facilitating the use of public transit. The City is always looking for ways to expand ridership and plans to add additional business partners in the future.

• **Ride Share.** The City continues to promote ride share services such as SCOOP, which helps residents identify carpooling opportunities with neighbors and coworkers.

• **Electric Vehicle Charging.** San Carlos encourages the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) by providing EV charging infrastructure. Along with the three charging stations in the library parking garage, additional EV charging stations will be installed in the public parking garage at Wheeler Plaza.

• **Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.** The City is developing its first Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. This plan, expected to be completed in 2020, will outline a network of low stress bike and pedestrian routes. Creating better bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure incentivizes alternative transportation methods that reduce the reliance on fossil fuel powered vehicles.

**WASTE**

• **City Hall Waste Receptacle.** Staff purchased new three stream waste receptacles for City Hall using funds from the 4R’s (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot) Grant Program. These three stream bins are clearly labeled and color coordinated to make it easy to dispose of trash properly. Also included is an e-waste recycling station where the public can drop off used batteries and cell phones.

• **Shred-It and E-Waste Events.** The City coordinated with Rethink Waste to host two Community Paper Shred and E-Waste Drop Off Events at the Shoreway Environmental Center.
Earth Day Street Clean-Up. In April, the City hosted its fourth annual Earth Day Street Clean-Up Event. Volunteers and City staff cleaned over 3.3 miles of downtown sidewalks of trash that otherwise could have ended in waterways or the bay.

Compost Giveaway Event. The City hosted a Compost Giveaway event in April at Burton Park. Residents were able to pick-up free compost provided by Recology.

Rethink Waste Pilot Program. The City collaborated with Rethink Waste in a pilot program to test new three stream waste receptacles in Burton Park and new signage on waste receptacles downtown over the past year. The pilot project not only diverted more waste from landfill, but was part of a broader study into the effectiveness of receptacle signage by comparing waste characterization from stations in other public spaces. Waste audits showed that the receptacles in Burton Park performed the best with 75% of items in the recycling and 65% of items in the compost being sorted correctly.

WATER CONSERVATION

National Mayor's Water Challenge. In April, the City again participated in the annual National Mayor’s Water Challenge. During the challenge residents could sign up to win prizes for reducing water consumption and conserving other natural resources.

Recycled Water Program. In June, the City launched the Recycled Water Program. This program allows residents to get to 50 gallons of recycled water per day at our Corp Yard for landscape irrigation. Recycled water is produced from wastewater that undergoes a high level of additional treatment. Water recycling is a safe way to reduce the amount fresh, potable water used for non-drinking uses.

Green Infrastructure Plan. The City adopted its first Green Infrastructure Plan in June. The Green Infrastructure Plan describes how the City will shift from traditional “gray” storm drain infrastructure to a more resilient and sustainable storm drain system that captures, stores, and treats storm water at its source. Green Infrastructure has also been identified as a climate mitigation initiative as it minimizes the heat island effect by expanding the urban forest and absorbing heat.
NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Staff Hired.** In February 2019, the City hired a full time Management Analyst to coordinate sustainability initiatives in the city.

- **Citizens Climate Lobby Endorsement.** This spring, City Council demonstrated its commitment to addressing climate change by adopting a resolution supporting the Citizens Climate Lobby’s endorsement of a national carbon tax as a means to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

- **Beacon Award.** In recognition of the City’s efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy, the Institute for Local Government awarded the City both the 2018 Beacon Award for Community Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions and the Agency Energy Savings Award at the platinum level, which is the highest level achievable.

- **EPA Green Power Partner.** This year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognized the City of San Carlos as a Green Power Partner, based on its commitment to purchase 100 percent renewable energy for municipal operations through PCE’s voluntary ECO100 program. The EPA also recognized the City as a new member of its national Green Power Community program, based on community members’ use of PCE’s ECOplus clean energy mix containing at least 50 percent renewable energy.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2019-20

Staff has begun the process of updating the City’s Climate Action Plan. The new CAP will have revised GHG emission reduction goals and will include strategies for the City to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. The updated reduction goals will align with the most recent California state law, including Senate Bill 32 and Executive Order B-30-15 that call for a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 80% by 2050 when compared to 1990 levels.
Sunday, September 8th, 2019
10am to 2pm

600 block of Laurel Street
(between San Carlos Avenue and Cherry Street, next to the Farmers’ Market)

Join your neighbors for the San Carlos Public Safety Fair featuring the City’s Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments! This family-friendly event will include a variety of public safety equipment on display, as well as information to help all residents stay safe and learn how to prepare for an emergency.

Visit www.cityofsanCarlos.org/safetyfair for more information.

Get valuable safety and emergency preparedness information from:
- The San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office
- The San Carlos & Redwood City Fire Department
- The San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)