

**City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report**  
**Volume 1, Issue 18, June 21, 2013**

**Daniel E. Keen, City Manager**



**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

**PG&E's Vallejo MGP Site Investigation and Cleanup**

In May 2012, the City Council unanimously approved the PG&E/City access agreement for environmental investigation and remediation activities at the 26-acre upland site located at the corner of Curtola Parkway and Sonoma Boulevard. PG&E then prepared a site investigation work plan that was reviewed by the City's environmental consultant and approved by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

Prior to site investigation work, PG&E and the City conducted outreach to site users and neighbors in the immediate project area. Work began on March 18 and will be complete by December 2013. Upon completion of site investigation activities, PG&E will prepare a Remedial Investigation Report that summarizes the findings of the field effort and defines the extent of historic residues in soil, soil gas, and groundwater. Following DTSC approval of the Remedial Investigation Report, PG&E will prepare a Remedial Action cleanup Plan. PG&E and its consultants meet on a monthly basis with City staff to coordinate efforts and conduct outreach efforts to ensure the larger Vallejo community is informed and involved in the project.

PG&E maintains a public website for the Vallejo MGP project, which can be found [here](#). Additional information about PG&E's MGP program can also be found [here](#). The website includes contact information for PG&E's Environmental Remediation department, including a hotline and email address, as well as the latest information about the site investigation and project schedule.

**City Weed Abatement**

The Code Enforcement Division is actively targeting tall, dry weeds and overgrown vegetation through its Pro Active Code Enforcement Program. Approximately 60 properties have been subsidized since May 1. In addition, Code Enforcement have facilitated the abatement of eight hazardous fire locations specifically identified by the Vallejo Fire Department.

Before



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After



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### **Entrances and Thoroughfares**

On June 5, Vallejo Inter-agency Partnership members met to discuss ongoing Adopt-A-Highway efforts with Six Flags Discovery Kingdom (SFDK) and California Maritime Academy. The group discussed future clean up activities for Highway 80, the West-bound 780 off-ramp, west to Lemon and east to Glen Cove, and the resource needs for effectively revisiting/maintaining previously cleaned sites in Phases I-III.



VIP members from the Greater Vallejo Recreational District and Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District created a list of equipment that can be shared for various clean-up programs. On June 19, SFDK officials submitted the Adopt-A-Highway contract to maintain and visually enhance the Phase V area of Highway 37 which includes the Fairgrounds on and off ramps.

### **Temple Art Lofts**

Temple Art Lofts, the newest addition to Vallejo's Arts and Entertainment District, has 80 percent of its residential units leased, and is anticipating to be fully occupied by the end of June. Currently 91 percent of the units leased are occupied by artists. Retail space on the ground floor of this historic building is also available.

Temple Art Lofts is preparing for a grand opening event in early August that will coincide with the City's ribbon cutting and re-opening of Virginia Street. Potential attractions for the opening include showcasing of some of the residents' work.

### **Future Agenda Items List**

The Future's List is used exclusively by City staff as a draft working document for planning and tentative scheduling of agenda related items and does not represent any final dates for placement and presentation to the legislative body (City Council, Housing Authority and/or Successor Agency). The list provided is an abbreviated version including only the most significant policy and action items. The list is subject to change by staff and may not represent all items that eventually will appear on any given final meeting agenda. Follow this link to view the [Future's List](#).

## **OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

### **Neighborhood Law Program**

The Neighborhood Law Program (NLP) attorneys have recently completed the following:

- Mailed 3 pre-nuisance letters
- Filed an application for a Temporary Restraining Order to abate a nuisance at 124 Illinois Street
- Filed a petition requesting the appointment of a receiver at 907 Falcon Drive

NLP attorneys have also been collaborating with the California Monitor in charge of overseeing the national mortgage settlement to ensure banks involved in improper foreclosure proceedings clean up nuisance properties. NLP attorneys presented to the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce, continue to meet with community groups, attend regular meetings with the Vallejo Lamplighters and Fighting Back Partnership, and meets with newly formed Neighborhood Block watch groups.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

### **Building Division**

Recently plans have been submitted to the Building Division for the following:

- Remodeling of the Board and Care Facility for the Elderly, located at 1101 Louisiana Street. The name of the facility is unknown. The valuation for this project is \$209,000.
- A Laundromat at 66 Admiral Callaghan Lane (the vacant space next to the Grocery Outlet).
- A new Domino's Pizza, located 1796 Tuolumne Street, in the Food Maxx complex. The valuation for this project is \$120,000.

### **Planning Division**

The Planning Division will be participating in the "Solano Regional Climate Action Planning Community Workshop" on Thursday, June 27. All Solano County jurisdictions and the Solano Transportation Authority will provide information on how residents and businesses can reduce costs and improve air quality. The open-dialogue format will allow attendees the opportunity to share their experiences about measures taken to improve our communities. The workshop will be at the Solano County Administration Center, Multipurpose Room located at 675 Texas Street in Fairfield.

### **Amendments**

During the City Council meeting on June 11, the Council unanimously approved the Planning Commission's recommendation to amend the Zoning Code to relax the distance restriction for beer and wine manufacturers with on-site tasting rooms, stand-alone tasting rooms, and brewpubs on Mare Island and in the Waterfront areas. The second reading is scheduled for June 25, and if adopted, the ordinances will become effective on July 25.

On June 17, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to forward a recommendation to adopt amendments to the Zoning Ordinance allowing banquets and other events and facilities to locate within the Waterfront Shopping (CW) and Service Zoning District with approval of a Major Use Permit. Areas zoned CW generally include the Glen Cove Marina, the Vallejo Yacht Club area, and the west side of Wilson Avenue between the Highway 37 on/off ramps and River Park. The recommendation has been tentatively scheduled for consideration by the City Council on July 23.

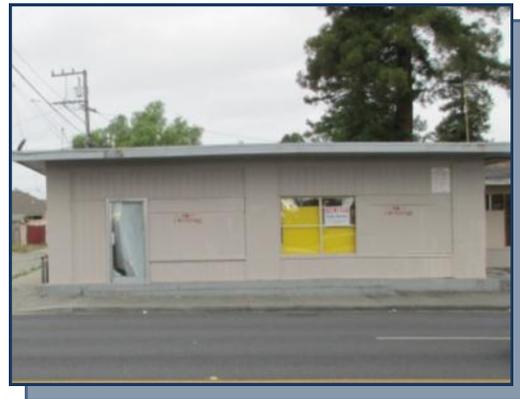
### **Problem Property Successfully Addressed**

The Planning Division and the Code Enforcement Division joined forces to address a problem property at 2717 Sonoma Boulevard. The property was leased to a “Cash for Gold” business during which the business owner (tenant) painted the building a bright yellow and placed unpermitted, excessive signage over the building. Staff opened a zoning Code Enforcement case on the property specifically focused on the signage issue and was eventually able to issue citations. The tenant remained unresponsive, therefore the property owner evicted the tenant and willingly repainted the building.

Before



After



### **Downtown Arts & Entertainment Advisory Council**

In November 2011, the City Council directed staff to establish the Downtown Arts and Entertainment Advisory Council (DAC) to assist in the implementation of the Downtown Arts and Entertainment District Strategy which includes a list of projects and programs intended to encourage arts and entertainment related businesses to locate in the District. The DAC has been meeting monthly with City staff since March 2012 and includes representatives from the following:

- Central Core Restoration Corporation (CCRC)
- Main Street, Downtown Merchants
- Solano Black Chamber of Commerce
- Vallejo Community Arts Foundation (VCAF)
- Empress Theater
- Heritage Neighborhood
- Other community representatives

To date, the DAC has initiated the Downtown Art Window project to place art in the

windows of vacant storefronts. They have also supported the installation of the parking area along Georgia Street near Sonoma Boulevard, and has hosted two Art & Wine Walks as a fundraiser for their "Light Up Vallejo" project. (The Project is raising funds to install tree lights along Georgia and Marin Streets. To date, they have raised over \$6,000).

The DAC will continue to work on establishing a mid-week Farmers Market, completing the Downtown Way-Finding Signs and Art in City Hall projects, and plans to implement a Special Event for the 2013 Holiday Season.

### **Statistics**

During the period of June 3 through June 14, the following inquiries were processed:

- 52 Zoning questions
- 41 Business License sign-offs
- 28 General property inquiries
- 28 Planning application questions
- 28 Building Permit application reviews/sign-offs
- 18 Code Enforcement complaints
- 14 Miscellaneous requests

In addition, the department sent out 1 public notice to approximately 93 property owners/organizations announcing upcoming meetings, proposed decisions on planning permits and closed 7 zoning violation cases.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Academy**

On Monday, June 10, the Department began a 15-week academy for ten new firefighter recruits.

This comprehensive in-house training academy covers all aspects of entry-level fire suppression, safety and survival techniques. Additionally, the recruits will receive hands-on experience with automobile extrication, and training on building construction and fire protection systems.

Of the 10 new positions, nine are funded through the Federal SAFER grant program.



## **Personnel**

### **New Apprentice Firefighter/Paramedic Hires**

#### **Brad Anderson**

Anderson was born and raised in the Bay Area and is currently a Vallejo resident. He has an Associate's Degree in Fire Science and earned his Paramedic License in 2013. Anderson is an active volunteer participant in "Rebuild Together Solano County" which helps with rehabilitating low income homes and community facilities.

#### **Carlos Barillas**

Barillos is a graduate of Hogan High School and served as a Vallejo Fire Explorer. He graduated with honors from the Solano Community College Firefighter Academy and received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2007. Barillos is fluent in Spanish.

#### **Scott Bassett**

Bassett was born and raised in the Bay Area. He has an Associate's Degree in Fire Technology and received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2010. Bassett recently served as a member of FEMA's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 3, which responds to disasters throughout the United States.

#### **Steve Dorsey**

Dorsey was born in Vallejo and has served as a professional firefighter for the past nine years. He earned his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2006. In 2011, Dorsey received the Firefighter of the Year Award from the City of Pinole Fire Department.

#### **Sean Ginnodo**

Ginnodo was born and raised in Petaluma. He has an Associate's Degree in Fire Technology and is nearing the completion of his Bachelor's Degree. Ginnodo served in the United States Army completing two tours in Afghanistan. He received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2012 and has served as a volunteer firefighter for the past five years with the Gold Ridge Fire Protection District.

#### **Ricky Laniohan**

Laniohan was born and raised in the Bay Area. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and a second degree in Finance from California State University, Chico. He was the first person in his family to graduate with a college degree. Laniohan received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2011. He has had extensive community involvement as a volunteer with both the American Cancer Society and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and competes in marathons, triathlons and other competitions in his spare time.

#### **Justin Legasa**

Legasa earned his Associate's Degree in Fire Service Technology from Las Positas College. He received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2012. Legasa

has served as a Fire Explorer and a Reserve Firefighter for the Livermore/Pleasanton Fire Department. He is currently a Vallejo resident.

**Dominik Martin**

Martin was born in Walnut Creek and has served as an active Emergency Medical Technician and Medic for the past five years. He received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2012. Martin serves as a Certified EMT and CPR Instructor.

**Danny Saballos**

Saballos was born in Danville and has worked as an Emergency Medical Technician and Medic for the past three-and-a-half years. He will complete his Associates Degree in Fire Science Technology this Fall. He received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2011. Saballos actively volunteers work for Habitat for Humanity and as a volunteer CPR Instructor.

**Anthony Shair-Ali**

Shair-Ali was born and raised in the Bay Area. He completed Fire Science course work at City College of San Francisco, as well as undergraduate studies at San Francisco State University. He received his National Paramedic Certificate and License in 2009. Shair-Ali has served as a Reserve Firefighter and Paramedic for the past five years with the Rio Vista Fire Department.

**CPR Saturday**

The Department will be hosting its 2nd Annual [CPR Saturday](#) event this Saturday, June 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Florence Douglas Senior Center, located at 333 Amador Street. This free educational event is designed to help citizens understand the value of CPR and the use of Automatic External Defibrillators. Attendees will gain an appreciation for the demonstrated life saving techniques. Last year, nearly 200 local community members were in attendance.

This is not a CPR certification course. Attendees must pre-register at Fire Administration (707) 648-4526 or at Florence Douglas Senior Center (707) 643-1044.

**New CERT Classes September 2013**

The Department is currently accepting applications for two upcoming Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes. The program is designed as a neighborhood based program, enabling neighborhoods to assess and help themselves until emergency responders arrive. CERT training involves seven four-hour classes over six weeks, for a total of 28 hours. Classes will be held at the Vallejo Fire Department's Training Center, located at 703 Curtola Parkway.

Classes will cover the following:

- Personal and household emergency preparedness
- Fire Safety and Utility Control
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Light Search and Rescue
- Safety and Situational Awareness
- Final course with hands-on drills and a written test

Currently, the Vallejo Fire Department CERT program has trained over 175 citizens. This course is funded by a FEMA Grant and Measure B funds, and is free to citizens of Vallejo. There is a limit of 20 participants per class who must be at least 18 years old. Individuals who are interested in signing-up can contact Fire Prevention or email [Shirley Herbert](mailto:Shirley.Herbert@vallejo.org) to obtain an application.

**2013 Police and Fire Championships**

On Sunday, June 16, Vallejo Firefighter Benjamin Crew placed first in the competition “Toughest Competitor Alive” at this year’s Police and Fire Championships. Competitors from across the nation representing Police, Fire, Border Patrol, FBI, ATF and Department of Corrections agencies competed in various multi-disciplined events which test strength, agility, endurance and speed.

Overall, there were 38 competitors in the Toughest Competitor Alive event that Vallejo Firefighter Benjamin Crew won. The event consisted of 8 different races.



Event	Crew’s Results
5k Run (3.1 miles)	19 min, 15 sec
Shot Put	16 lbs, 33 ft and 3 in
100 meter Dash	12 sec
100 meter Swim	61 sec
20 foot Rope Climb (no legs)	6.1 sec
Bench Press	352 lbs
Pull Ups	28
Obstacle Course (165lbs dummy drag, hurdles, jumps)	1 min, 14 sec



## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Personnel**

#### **Retirement/Resignation**

##### **Officer Jeff Coburn**

Officer Coburn, Badge #577, resigned on June 14, after 15 years of dedicated service to the City of Vallejo. Coburn is leaving Vallejo for another police department in the state of Arkansas. Coburn started his career as a Vallejo Police Cadet in 1998. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from California State University-Sacramento, Coburn became a full-time Vallejo Police Officer in 2002. He worked in patrol and as a dedicated member of the Vallejo PD Honor Guard and the Mobile Field Force. Coburn earned a Chief's Commendation and a Life Saving Medal for his services to Vallejo.

##### **Operation Goodwill**

Operation Goodwill officially commenced on May 15 and concluded on June 15. The purpose of the operation was to provide proactive enforcement in high crime areas and reduce violent crime. The operation consisted primarily of the following personnel:

- Sergeant Joe Iacono Vallejo Police Department
- Corporal Les Bottomley Vallejo Police Department
- Detective Josh Caitham Vallejo Police Department
- Detective Jared Jaksch Vallejo Police Department
- Sergeant Bill Hornbrook Solano Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Dave Curl Solano Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Brian Bero Solano Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Chad Sayre Solano Sheriff's Office
- Officer Mike Paulson California Highway Patrol
- Officer Eric Girard California Highway Patrol
- Officer Shawn Mulholland California Highway Patrol
- Officer Mark Williams California Highway Patrol

The operation typically fielded about five two-officer cars during any one shift who were able to accomplish the following:

- 631 total field contacts (field interviews, consent contacts, and neighborhood interactions)
- 187 total arrests (bookings and cite & release)
- 121 total parole and Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) searches (residence and person)
- 86 total vehicle tows
- 80 total infraction citations
- 7 total firearms seized from criminals

The operation provided varying level of involvement in the following cases of interest:

- Arrested 3 wanted California Department of Corrections Parolees at Large
- Arrested 17 wanted PRCS suspects
- Arrested a PRCS fugitive from justice after a multi-agency SWAT standoff
- Arrested a sex crimes registrant for being out of compliance
- Assisted with 3 vehicle pursuits
- Assisted San Bernardino Sheriff on a child sex abuse case and arrested the suspect
- Assisted patrol with the apprehension of a double shooting suspect
- Assisted in the arrest of a murder suspect, after the murder and an officer involved shooting
- Assisted patrol Officers and Detectives with a murder investigation which began 30-minutes prior to the scheduled conclusion of the operation
- Located a small scale methamphetamine conversion lab and arrested its owner
- Located and arrested a pimping and prostitution ring at a local hotel
- Located a lead on a stolen CHP handgun and passed along information to CHP Investigators
- Conducted an undercover prostitution sting and arrested five suspects
- Responded to calls for service following a murder and officer involved shooting
- Seized approximately \$6,000 in Asset Forfeiture during a narcotics investigations
- Made 13-drug related arrests at a house tagged for closure by the Neighborhood Law Program

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Mare Island Causeway Bridge Project**

The City has notified the design consultant who will begin the final design for the Mare Island Causeway Bridge Western Approach Replacement Project and will prepare the bid documents, after obtaining final approval from Caltrans. A public outreach meeting will be organized and construction is anticipated to begin in 2014.

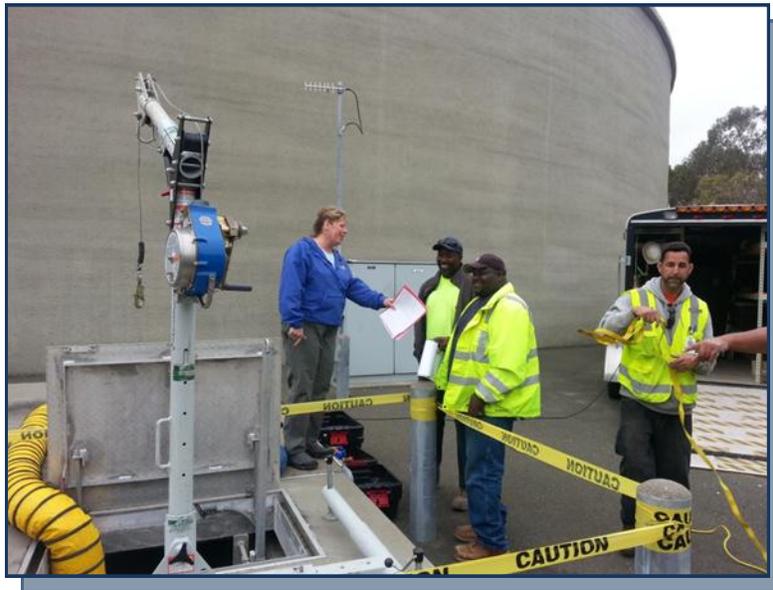


### **Confined Space Training**

The Maintenance Division staff who may be required to enter confined spaces, including; storage tanks, manholes and deep trenches, attended a Confined Space Training held at Fleming Hill.

A confined space is recognized as an area that has limited or restricted means of entry or exit; is large enough for a person to enter to perform tasks; is not designed or configured for continuous occupancy; and has the potential for a significant hazard to be present.

It is extremely important for staff to regularly receive confined space training due to the variable and unpredictable conditions that can be present in such areas. Concerns of toxic or flammable gases, flood or engulfment dangers, and other physical or environmental hazards may exist. This training helps staff identify and protect themselves against potential hazards by training them on how to recognize signs of distress, and how to properly use hazard detection devices and safety equipment. Attendees also practiced development and execution of rescue plans.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **CPR Saturday**

Saturday, June 22 at 9:00 a.m. at the Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador Street

### **Code Enforcement Commission Special Assessments Hearing**

Monday, June 24 at 2:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

### **Interagency Committee Meeting**

Monday, June 24 at 6:00 p.m. - Location to be determined

### **Design Review Board - Tentative**

Monday, June 24 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

### **Housing Authority Meeting**

Tuesday, June 25 at 6:45 p.m. in City Council Chambers

### **City Council Meeting**

Tuesday, June 25 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

**Planning Commission Meeting**

Monday, July 1 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

**Independence Day - City Hall Closed**

Thursday, July 4

\*Note: Events are subject to change. Please visit the [City Calendar](#) located on the City's Website for the most up-to-date information.

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