

City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report
Volume 2, Issue 4, December 6, 2013

Daniel E. Keen, City Manager

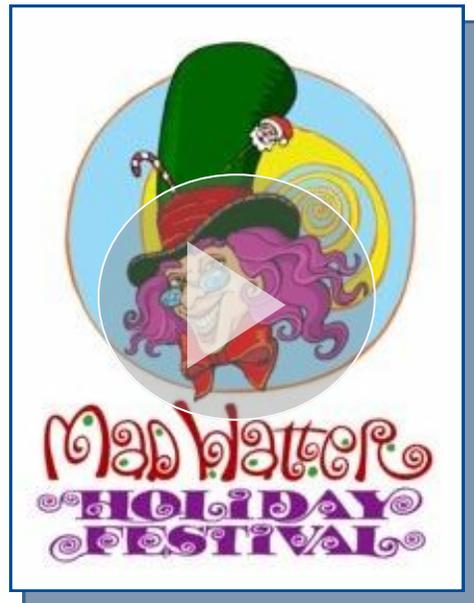


OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Downtown Holiday Festivities

Per my previous report, the 4th Annual Mad Hatter Holiday Festival will commence tomorrow with free festival activities at Unity Plaza in the Historic Downtown District at 2:00 p.m. The Mad Hatter Parade begins at 4:30 p.m. down Georgia Street to Unity Plaza. Festival activities will continue with the Tree Lighting Ceremony set to begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Lighted Boat Parade to follow at 6:30 p.m.

Alice's Holiday Adventure continues at Wonderland Park for the Greater Vallejo Recreation District's Tree Lighting at 7:00 p.m. Festival goers can also make their way back to Alice's Palace as it transforms into the Mad Hatter Costume Ball with the Grand Ballroom opening at 7:30 p.m., located at 342 Georgia Street. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Pieced on Earth, located at 340 Georgia Street, by calling 707-644-6788 or [online](#).



Vallejo Chamber of Commerce Bus Tour

The Vallejo Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Committee recently invited staff from many City Departments and Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District to join them on a bus tour throughout the City. The focus of the tour was to share the Chamber's perspective on code enforcement needs, maintenance of public infrastructure, public safety problems, and future development opportunities.

During the Chamber-sponsored luncheon that followed, members asked City staff to discuss some of the concerns and ways which the Chamber could partner with the City to assist in effectively addressing the concerns. A good discussion between the Chamber members and City staff ensued, and commitments were made to continue the close partnership between the City and Chamber, particularly with respect to supporting economic development and business retention/expansion.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

The Vallejo Housing Authority (VHA) is pleased to announce that it recently had two successful graduates from its Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program. FSS is a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program that encourages Housing Authorities to develop local strategies to help Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher participants obtain employment that will lead to economic independence and self-sufficiency. Housing Authorities work with welfare agencies, schools, businesses, and other local partners to develop a comprehensive program that provides participating FSS family members the skills and experience to enable them to obtain employment that pays a living wage.

One of the graduates, a single mom with three children, had no earned income when she signed her FSS contract in 2008. She now owns her own business in Vallejo and is using the funds she earned through participation in the FSS program to expand that business. We wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

Our second graduate also signed her FSS contract in 2008 and had already began a small Vallejo business by that time. She successfully utilized resources available to her through FSS and has since tripled her earnings.

Stayed tuned for future FSS success stories!

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

New Hire

Please join us in welcoming Donna Mooney as the Chief Assistant City Attorney, replacing former Assistant City Attorney John Nagel who was hired as the City Attorney in East Palo Alto.

Prior to joining the City of Vallejo, Donna was employed with the City of Alameda City Attorney's Office for 11 years. Before that, she worked as a research attorney in civil law and motion in Alameda County Superior Court, and was an associate at a law firm. She was appointed by the State Bar of California Board of Governors to the Public Law Executive Committee for a three-year term ending this year, and has served on the Fair Political Practice Commission committee of the League of California Cities City Attorneys' Department. She earned her law degree from the University of California Hastings College of the Law, where she won two academic awards. She also has a mas-

ter's degree in international affairs and a bachelor's degree in journalism. We are pleased to have Donna join the team!

Abatements

The Neighborhood Law Program (NLP) Attorneys have added eight (8) properties to their Watch List:

- 840 Louisiana Street
- 330 Moorland Street
- 321 Moorland Street
- 416 Maple Avenue
- 104 Alabama Street
- 808 Butte Street
- 810 Butte Street
- 924 Louisiana Street

Activities at the following properties are being addressed following notification of issues by the NLP. NLP Attorneys will continue to monitor these properties as the owner(s) complete abatement:

- 201 Tamalpais Street
- 609 Capitol Street
- 1007 Roleen Drive
- 17 Hollywood Drive
- 2904 Webb Street
- 222 Louisiana Street

Receivership Program

New Cases

205 Tennessee Street – The initial steps in the receivership process began in October with the Building, Planning and Code Enforcement Divisions. Additional required legal notices were sent to the owner who met with NLP Attorneys on November 25 where the owner was provided the deadline of December 3 to either sell the property or begin repairs. On December 2, the owner provided a contract from real estate agents confirming the sale of the house with escrow scheduled to close on December 15.

500 Wallace Avenue – The Code Enforcement Division posted the first notice on this property to initiate the receivership process on December 2. If the owner does not contact the City by December 9, NLP Attorneys will begin drafting a receivership lawsuit. This property has been an ongoing case and nuisance to the surrounding community.

Update

150 Farragut Avenue – A receivership lawsuit was filed on November 21 as described in the last report. The multi-unit apartment building has received more than 60 9-1-1 calls for service since 2009. Additionally, there are numerous existing Vallejo code and Health & Safety violations on the property. All notices to initiate the receivership process have been completed, sent to the property owners and the Bank of New York Mellon. The case will go to trial on December 9.

Hotel Review

The City Attorney's office is commencing a review of hotels in Vallejo. The review will evaluate nuisance activity, licensing, and hotel compliance with the requirements of the Transient Occupancy Tax.

Hotel and property owners have been sent letters from the Neighborhood Law Program requesting each to make an honest assessment of the activity at their hotels and/or property, and to respond with a plan to address such activity. In doing so, the City hopes to learn successful strategies for combatting issues moving forward.

The City will conduct an independent review, and where there is evidence of significant nuisance activity or other deficiencies, the Office of the City Attorney will take any necessary legal action to combat those problems.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Building Division

The Building Division issued the following Certificates of Occupancy:

- Sear's Appliance Center received their Certificate of Occupancy. They are located in the Target Shopping Center at 976 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Unit #914 at the former location of Sally's Beauty Supply.
- Sally's Beauty Supply relocated to Unit #946, a few doors from their former site.
- The Harbor Park Apartment complex located at 969 Porter Street, completed their first fourth story bedroom & bath addition. Building #969 is complete and construction continues for the remaining 41 units.
- Meyers Cookware located at 1 Meyers Plaza completed their project of creating new office spaces, meeting rooms, and a cooking theater on November 21.

Planning Division

Beautification and Design Review Board Meeting

The initial meeting of the Beautification and Design Review Board (BDRB) is scheduled for December 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The seven-member board of the BDRB, appointed by City Council, is a newly-formed group whose primary purpose includes, but is not limited to, conducting design review within the downtown and waterfront areas, reviewing and commenting on design of development projects if referred by the Planning Commission or City Council, reviewing and advising on an urban forest vegetation program as part of the General Plan update, and developing and administering a comprehensive tree management program.

The items scheduled for the first BDRB meeting include the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair, the consideration and adoption of Rules of Order and Procedure, and the appointment of two members to the General Plan Working Group.

Brewpub Approved for Vacant Ferry Building Space

The Planning Commission recently voted to approve a Use Permit to allow the Mare Island Brewing Company, LLC to operate a brewpub/microbrewery, tasting room and restaurant within the City-owned Ferry Building on the waterfront. The project involves use of the vacant tenant space in the west rotunda and includes indoor seating, an outdoor patio area next to the waterfront promenade, and seating on the second story observation deck.

Depending on demand, business hours will vary between 10:00 am to 1:00 am, seven days per week. Along with a minimal amount of beer production on-site, the business intends to provide a limited menu of gourmet appetizers and entrees. The owner anticipates having four employees initially and may employ additional staff as business expands. The project is a result of the 2012-2013 Council adopted code and plan amendments to allow these businesses in the Downtown, the Waterfront and on Mare Island.

Future Planning Items for Consideration

The list of agenda items 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 (Planning Commission and City Council). The list provided is an abbreviated version including only the most significant 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.

Planning Commission	Agenda Item
December 17, 2013 (Special Meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Billar Los Portales• Kiser Auto Sales/1861 Solano• Nonconforming Ordinance• Home Occupation Ordinance• Medical Cannabis Study Session
January 6, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planned Development for self-storage facility• Training – CEQA
January 22, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical Cannabis Ordinance• Glen Cove Marina Banquet Facility

Vallejo City Council	Agenda Item
December 10, 2013	<i>None</i>
December 17, 2013	<i>None</i>

Statistics

For the month of November, the Planning Division approved or closed the following projects:

Administrative Permit for Christmas Tree Lots	6
Sign Permit	6
Public Notices for Wireless Facilities	2
Site Development	1
Use Permit	1

During the period November 18 through November 29, the following inquiries were processed:

Business License Sign-offs	28
General Property Inquiries	24
Planning Application Questions	21
Zoning Questions	18
Building Permit Application/Sign-offs	15
Code Enforcement Complaints	10

In addition, the division sent out two public notices to approximately 180 property owners/organizations announcing upcoming meetings and proposed decisions on Planning permits.

PG&E Former Vallejo Manufactured Gas Plant Project Update

During the period of November 25 through December 6, the following work was completed for the PG&E former Vallejo manufactured gas plant investigation project:

- Destroyed soil gas probes within the Bay Conservation and Development Commission jurisdiction at the public boat launch area
- Drilled geotechnical and environmental borings at the historic gas plant property
- Drilled environmental borings at the historic gas plant property

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Live-Saving Rescue

On November 31, at approximately 4:00 p.m. Engine 25, 23, Truck 21 and Battalion Chief Campbell were dispatched to the Fairgrounds Drive creek for a reported child in the water that had not resurfaced. A child and his grandmother had gone to fish and when she turned her back the two-year-old child fell into the water. The grandmother

attempted to go in after him, but as she was unable to swim she could not locate the child. A passerby called 9-1-1 and also entered the water to try to find the boy, but without success.

Engine 23 and 25 arrived at the scene at the same time. Once they made contact with the grandmother, Engineer Strohmeier, (who just happened to be working out at the time the call was received and was best dressed for the situation) entered the water locating the child two to three feet inside the drainage tube that runs under the street. She pulled him out and handed him up to Firefighter/Paramedic Ward and Trujillo. This rescue took approximately 45 seconds from the initial on-scene arrival time.

Firefighter/Paramedics (FF/PM) Ward and Trujillo both assisted with transport to Kaiser performing CPR and ALS care. They were able to regain pulses upon arrival at Kaiser even after the child had been reported in the very cold water for 10-15 minutes. We have since been notified that the child had been transported to the pediatric center at Kaiser Permanente in Oakland, has recently been taken off all medications, and is expected to make a full recovery.



This is a great example of the incredible work that Vallejo Firefighters provide the community. Thanks and congratulations are due to the crews on the scene for their skills and determination during this event.

Special recognition goes out to:

Engine 25 Captain Perryman, Acting Engineer Brue, and FF/PM Ward
Engine 23 Captain Valenzuela, Engineer Strohmeier, and FF/PM Trujillo

The child's mother contacted the VFD to share that her son is up, talking and is doing exceptionally well. He has some additional tests scheduled to verify that there is no permanent damage, and that his prognosis is extremely positive. She is incredibly grateful to everyone who assisted with her son's rescue and the phenomenal care he received.

Community Events

Toys-for-Tots

Since 2005, the Department became a collection agency for the Toys-for-Tots Program. In conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps, local charities, and the kind citizens of Vallejo, new (un-wrapped) toys are delivered to any one of Vallejo's six fire stations. The toys are then delivered to several non-profit charities and distributed to deserving Vallejo residents that may have fallen on difficult times. Many thanks to Program Coordinator Captain Jason Goodner, who took over the program in 2005.

When donations are made to the stations, Captain Goodner ensures the toys are delivered to distribution sites, including the Salvation Army, The Christian Help Center, women's shelters and local churches. These organizations pass out the gifts to families that may not be able to provide for their children. The Fire Department wants to thank the hundreds of families for their contributions in putting smiles on the faces of so many children on Christmas morning. Happy Holidays to you all and keep up the great work!

Happy Holidays

The Fire Prevention Division, in addition to Central Permit staff, has set up a program inviting Kindergarten to 4th grade students to visit Santa at City Hall. The program will last through December 20. Students are encouraged to bring their letters to Santa, all of which letters will be mailed to the North Pole.

Santa Visits are **by appointment only** starting Wednesday, December 4 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the 2nd Floor of City Hall. Please call 707-648-4565 to schedule or if you have any other questions.

Statistics

The following is the call volume for the month of November:

Engine 21/Squad 21	264
Engine 22	178
Engine 23	256
Engine 24	237
Engine 25	175
Engine 27	98
Truck 21	74

EMS Calls	788
Good Intent Calls	64
False Alarms	51
Fire Calls	43
Hazardous Conditions	38

During the month of November, the department responded to 1,739 calls (including multi-unit) and 1,067 incidents. The total estimated fire loss was \$166,053 in property damage (furniture, clothes, electronics, etc.) and damage to the structures themselves.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Public Safety Advisory

The Vallejo Police Department (VPD) and Chief Joseph Kreins are dedicated to enhancing public safety and reducing fear and incidences of crime, especially during the upcoming holiday shopping season. There are many things each and every community member can do to reduce his or her chances of becoming a victim. The following are crime prevention tips for you, your family and your home. The VPD urges you to familiarize yourself with this information and to make crime prevention a part of your everyday life.

Crime Prevention Tips to Reduce the Risk of Becoming a Robbery Victim

- Use all of your senses to be aware of your surroundings at all times. Pay close attention to suspicious activities and persons. Carry yourself with confidence and alertness.
- Avoid using headphones, cell phones, and iPods which limit your ability to be aware of what is going on around you. *Thieves target these items to steal!*
- Try to travel with someone, or travel when there are other people around. Walk in well-lit areas and avoid dark alleys, shortcuts and deserted areas.
- Remain alert before entering and exiting your vehicle and home.
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area with plenty of walking traffic.

Use of ATM machines, and Getting Gas late at night

- Only use ATMs in well-lit and well-traveled areas. Try to avoid using ATMs late at night, in secluded locations, or those out of public view.
- When finished with your transaction, do not step away from the ATM until your transaction has been completed and the screen has returned to its home page.
- Take all your transaction receipts with you and dispose of in a shredder if possible.
- Do not use an ATM where others are standing within your comfort zone and able to see your PIN or ATM code.
- Gas transactions should be treated the same.
- Do not take unnecessary chances.

Using Public Transportation

- Try to wait at bus stops or transfer stations that are well-lit and populated.
- Find out ahead of time when the next bus arrives so your wait time is limited.
- Do not use headphones, cell phones or iPods while waiting.
- Pay attention to those who exit the bus with you; also pay attention to those waiting at the stop as you exit.
- Limit the valuables that you carry – such as cash, identification, and credit cards; keep them in separate areas in your purse or clothing. In the event you are a victim, your identification will remain with you if your purse or wallet is taken.
- A handbag or purse with a strap should not be worn across the body. It should be carried under the arm and released if grabbed. This will prevent you from being pulled to the ground and sustaining serious injury.
- While using a shopping cart, do not leave your purse unattended while selecting items, or open exposing the contents of your purse and/or wallet.
- Remember to trust your instincts; if you feel uncomfortable or threatened, seek help immediately.
- Use a noise device such as a whistle or air horn to call attention to yourself.
- If you observe suspicious or illegal activity, try to remember the suspect's description. Look to see if a vehicle is involved and concentrate on obtaining the license plate of the vehicle.

Remember:

- If you are robbed, try to stay calm and call 9-1-1 as soon as practical via a land line or on your cell phone.
- 9-1-1 for emergencies; (707) 552-3285 for non-emergencies.
- If English is not your first language, inform the operator what language you speak.

Home Security – Facts about Burglary

- Criminals commit residential burglaries by casing homes and establishing it as an easy target.
- UNLOCKED doors and windows when nobody is home are open invitations by those criminal offenders looking to steal anything of value.
- Criminals are very busy during the holiday season and residential burglary is always an issue.

Most burglaries can be prevented by following these simple steps:

- Always lock your doors and windows even when leaving for “just a minute.”
- Never leave a house key under a doormat, in a flower pot, or on the ledge of the door. *These are the first places a burglar will look.*
- Select an inconspicuous spot only known to you and your loved ones.

Make Life Harder for Crooks – remember the following tips:

- Exterior doors should have “dead bolt” locks with a 1 inch strong metal bar extending into the door frame.
- Sliding doors and windows should all have “ventilation” locks as well as auxiliary locks to bolster security.
- Be sure to include good locks for garage, cellar, patio, or other doors that lead out through storage areas or to a spare room leading into the main house.

Going Out?

- Lock all doors and windows.
- Use timers so that lights, radio, and TV go on and off throughout the house to indicate someone is home.
- For longer trips, be sure to stop mail and newspaper delivery or have a neighbor collect them daily.
- In short, make your house look “lived in.”

Remember, if you come home and see a broken window or a damaged door, do not go in. Confronting a burglar can be dangerous. Contact VPD via 9-1-1, and be specific when speaking to the Communications Operator.

Other Tips:

- Install a wide angle lens viewer in the front door. Never open the door without knowing who is there.
- Consider alarm systems. **Remember**, alarms are only a deterrent.
- Whenever you move to a new home, have the locks changed.

Operation I.D: Another deterrent to “would be” burglars is ***Operation Identification***.

- Mark your valuables with your driver license number preceded by the letters “CA.” Burglars do not want marked merchandise because it is difficult to sell and evidence of guilt if they are caught.
- The best crime prevention tool which exists is simply a “Good Neighbor”!
- Law enforcement officers cannot be everywhere at once, but you and your neighbors can. You are the ones who really know what is going on in your neighborhood.
- Put that neighborhood “know-how” to work. It is simple: just use your eyes and ears — then your telephone. If you spot something suspicious, call 9-1-1 immediately.
- Neighbors working together in cooperation with law enforcement make one of the best crime fighting teams around.
- Consider becoming involved with Nextdoor.com which will allow you and your neighbors to share valuable safety tips and real-time information related to your specific neighborhood, and communicate neighborhood concerns with the VPD.

For more information on how to start your own Neighborhood Watch Group, or to find out more about Nextdoor.com, contact Christina (Tina) Encarnacion at cencarnacion@ci.vallejo.ca.us, or call (707) 553-7218.

The VPD’s success depends on the ability to establish strong and trusted police and community partnerships which will reduce criminal activity and victimization.

Personnel

Promotion

Sergeant Kevin Hamrick

Sergeant Hamrick, was promoted to the rank of Police Lieutenant by Chief Kreins on November 30. After spending six years in the U.S. Navy, Lieutenant Hamrick began his law enforcement career in 1990 with the Oakland Police Department assigned to the Patrol Division. In 1996, he transferred to the VPD and was assigned to Field Operations, Patrol Division. Since joining the Department, Kevin has held assignments in the Narcotics Unit, Traffic Division and SWAT. In 2003, he was promoted to Corporal and assigned back to Patrol. In 2004, he returned to the Traffic Division and remained there after being promoted to Sergeant in 2008, where he obtained certification from the Accreditation Commission for Traffic Accident Reconstruction, and has testified in California courts as an expert in Traffic Accident Reconstruction. Hamrick is currently assigned as the Traffic Division Supervisor and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management.



Lieutenant Hamrick will serve as a relief/overlap Watch Commander and continue to supervise and manage the Department's Traffic Division including all Traffic Grant Programs where he has been responsible for Office of Traffic Safety Grants over the last few years which has generated \$789,800 for fiscal years 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Honorable Mention

Wesley Simpson

On November 21, Vallejo Police Cadet and Squad Leader Wesley Simpson was awarded two scholastic scholarships totaling \$2,500 for his undergraduate studies at California State University Sacramento, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. The first award, the Sheriff James W. Cameron Memorial Scholarship, was issued by the Northern California Peace Officers Scholarship Foundation. The second award, the Sergeant Kelley Allen-Shrine Peace Officers Scholarship, was awarded to Cadet Simpson as he distinguished himself by achieving excellence in academic studies. Upon graduation, Cadet Simpson will attend the Police Academy, and then join the ranks of the VPD as a sworn officer. Cadet Simpson is a fine example and a model Cadet who continues to work hard at achieving all of his personal and professional goals.



Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Day Dinner

On November 28, Acting Communications Manager Elisia Ricciardi, Communications Supervisor Kelly Newman, Communications Operator Trainer Kristin Jackson, and third grade Highland Elementary School teacher Michelle Hawthorne, volunteered at the Vallejo Elks Lodge by serving approximately 100 Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Day dinners with members of Vallejo Together. Their participation was very much appreciated by all those in attendance and each should be commended for representing Vallejo in such a rewarding way.



Recruitment

As part of the Communications Section recruitment, the Communications Center hosted eight "sit-alongs" which offered perspective applicants a front row seat to the wide array of responsibilities associated with Police and Fire dispatching. For those interested in a career in public safety dispatching, please go to the City of Vallejo website, employment opportunities, and click on Communications I or II.

Anyone interested in a career in law enforcement, the following criterion is required:

- Post Basic Police Academy certificate
- 60 college units, or an undergraduate degree
- Four Years of military experience, undergraduate degree, or 30 college units from an accredited college or university

Interested applicants can apply on-line at www.ci.vallejo.ca.us, and for additional information, those interested can contact Sergeant Mark Nicol at mnicol@ci.vallejo.ca.us

Police Explorer

The VPD is actively seeking applicants for the volunteer position of Police Explorer. The Vallejo Police Explorer Program is part of the Vallejo Police Activities League (PAL) and designed for youth of Solano County that may be interested in a career in the law enforcement field. Explorers participate in a variety of activities throughout the city and department. Some of those activities include: monthly police trainings, weekly meetings, "ride-a-longs" with patrol officers, assistance at DUI checkpoints, holiday details and parades, local fundraisers, community events, and statewide police explorer competitions.

Requirements for the program include:

- Must be 14-20 years of age and have completed the 8th grade at time of appointment
- Resident of Solano County
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA, average in high school
- Contribute at least 10-hours of volunteer time to the program per month

Contact the explorer program advisors for additional requirements. Interested and qualified persons must submit an Explorer application which is available at the Vallejo Police Department main station located at 111 Amador Street. Instructions for completion and return are on the application. If you have any questions regarding the program, please feel free to email the program advisors: Corporal Bob Knight bknight@ci.vallejo.ca.us, or Officer Sean Kenney skenny@ci.vallejo.ca.us

Community Services Unit (CSU)

The CSU, under the watchful eye of Captain Jim O'Connell, has started to take shape. With the launching of Nextdoor, increased personnel have been assigned to establish Neighborhood Watch Groups, in addition to police collaboration with the Neighborhood Law Program, significant progress is being made.

On December 2, Lieutenant Sid DeJesus and Community Services Associate Tina Encarnacion, met with John Dinga of Garthe Ranch who put together a Neighborhood Watch meeting which was attended by approximately 20 individuals. The meeting was a great success, as Tina provided Neighborhood Watch handouts, answered questions related to starting and maintaining a successful Neighborhood Watch Group, and how to successfully log on and create a Nextdoor neighborhood group.

Dear Tina and Lt. Sid,

Many thanks for attending our first meeting last night, and for providing so much helpful information to help us get started with our Neighborhood Watch Group, which will be called "Highlands at Garthe Ranch" on the Nextdoor.com website.

John Dinga



Future meetings are already scheduled, and if you or anyone in your specific neighborhood would like information on how to start a Neighborhood Watch Group, please contact Tina Encarnacion or Retired Officer Mary Pedretti at (707) 553-7218.

CSU November Status Report

Over the last month, Retired Sergeant Jim Coughlin, in collaboration with the Neighborhood Law Program, researched over 230 problem addresses and/or names associated with these same locations which have resulted in VPD having to respond to 1,705 calls for service, authoring 381 crime reports, an unlimited drain of police resources.

As a result of this same research, Retired Officer Mary Pedretti and Tina Encarnacion, along with uniformed patrol officers and other City Departments, made contact with the following problem locations:

- 1120 Cunningham Street – Retired Officer Pedretti responded to the above address with Patrol officers and the Water Division to shut off water due to water theft and perform an inspection. There was no answer at the door. Concerned neighbors were asked to contact VPD regarding activity and to alert patrol. Two days later neighbors called 9-1-1 and officers were able to make contact with four individuals and recover three vehicles. One arrest was made.
- 119 Aragon Street – The CSU was contacted by two citizens regarding a residence taken over by squatters. The CSU tracked down the property owner with assistance from the NLP and met the owner at the residence and along with Patrol officers, were able to make contact with three individuals. One arrest was made due to a warrant. The house was fully furnished and the squatters were stealing electricity; PG&E has since terminated power and rendered the location safe. The squatters were removed from the property, all trash was cleared, and the homeowner boarded up the property.
- 107 Lilac Court – A 94-year-old chronic victim of vandalism was contacted regarding a report she filed with the police. The CSU contacted the Graffiti Abatement Program and the graffiti was painted over within 24-hours. They also canvassed the neighborhood while providing crime prevention tips and contact numbers for the VPD.

- 201 Tamalpias Drive – The CSU was contacted by an out of state homeowner regarding her property being taken over by squatters. The homeowner was advised of the proper steps to take while assigning a property manager to represent her move toward eviction of the squatters. The CSU and the property manager made contact with the squatters and they were served a 24-hour notice to enter. The property manager was able to enter the property the next day, the squatters were removed, the property was boarded up and an alarm was installed.
- 859 Palou Street – Tina Encarnacion witnessed squatters jumping out of the windows at the location while in the area on unrelated business. She alerted the NLP regarding the property and requested for neighbors to contact VPD when they observed activity. Over the Thanksgiving holiday, officers contacted four squatters and were able to safely remove them from the property. The homeowners were contacted who then secured the property, installed an alarm and provided neighbors with their contact information for any future activity.
- Mini Drive – CSU was contacted on Nextdoor regarding Mini Drive Neighborhood Watch wanting help with crime prevention tips for their neighborhood. CSU is setting up a meeting after the New Year and will be sending out invitations to host a gathering for all the neighbors to attend and build interest in community involvement.
- 148 Plov Way – Neighbors called regarding squatters breaking in and robbing property from the above location. The home owner was contacted and is securing the property.
- 321 Mooreland Street – A neighbor called to complain about squatters at 321 and 330 Mooreland Street. CSU is still attempting to contact the homeowners of 321 to assist in securing the property. Both properties have been turned over to the NLP.
- Highway 37 Bridge – There is a Homeless Encampment located under the Highway 37 Bridge. CSU is working with the Code Enforcement Division to clear the homeless encampments under the bridge and surrounding areas.
- Southport Way/Georgia Street – CSU was contacted regarding trash being dumped on a vacant lot located at Southport Way and Georgia Street. The Grounds Division was contacted and immediately removed the dumped trash.
- Farallon Drive – CSU was contacted regarding several abandoned vehicles having been dumped in the area. The Unit contacted the Traffic Division and Police Assistant Ryan Burger abated all of the vehicles.

Citizens on Patrol (COP)

The VPD's COP were very active during the month of November, specifically around the Thanksgiving holiday. COP'ers were able to circulate many busy shopping centers throughout the city and responded to multiple non-emergency events as directed by

the Communications Section, which allowed uniformed officers to focus on the more important duties associated with in-progress calls and traffic related incidents. Their effort resulted in over 50 volunteer hours being dedicated toward the citizens of Vallejo. Over the next month, COP'ers will join uniformed officers who will present an increased presence in the busy shopping centers of Vallejo; including, Four Corners, Target Center, Gateway Plaza, Safeway shopping center on Admiral Callaghan Lane, and the downtown area of Vallejo. This is all designed to increase public safety and ensure the shopping experience is pleasant.

VPD Volunteers and Citizens on Patrol will be preparing for the 2013 Annual Toys-for-Tots campaign hoping to collect toy donations for under-privileged kids throughout the community. Volunteer Coordinator Bill Donovan and Officer Jeff Tai will be working again with Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, who has been very generous with toy donations in previous years and has proven to be a great partner with the VPD in making the holiday seasons a bit merrier for many of Vallejo's children.

Those wishing to make a donation, please contact Bill Donovan at (707) 648-4052, or email him at WDonovan@ci.vallejo.ca.us

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mare Island Building 655 Demolition & Abatement Project

Clean up has been progressing for the Mare Island Building 655 Demolition and Abatement Project. Approximately 70 percent of the south side of the building has been cleared, debris hauled off and materials recycled. Once visually cleared of asbestos material, the south side columns and the wall will be demolished. The north side has yet to be tackled by the contractor.



HSIP Sonoma Boulevard

The City submitted an application for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant funds for a portion of Sonoma Boulevard between Florida Street and Georgia Street which was found to have collisions that could be mitigated by lane reductions and addition of bike lanes that provide a competitive benefit-cost ratio. In October 2012, CalTrans released the list of approved projects for HSIP Cycle 5 funding with the City of Vallejo being awarded \$311,300 in federal funds.

The Sonoma Boulevard Project proposes to reduce the number of travel lanes from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction between Couch Street and Curtola Parkway providing space for bike and pedestrian safety infrastructure such as bike lanes and bulb-outs.

Next Steps:

- The project design will be discussed with the public during the Sonoma Boulevard Corridor Plan outreach
- Caltrans will provide Preliminary Engineering authorization by May 2014
- Staff will complete CEQA/NEPA requirements and plans, specifications and estimates by October 2014
- Project will bid in early 2015
- Complete construction 2015-2016

Chase Street

This project will improve Chase Street, which is currently a dirt road south of Benicia Road. Measure B funds will be used to hire a consultant to confirm right of way, perform a topographical study and prepare a lighting plan. The design phase will follow, with improvements consisting of sidewalks, curb and gutter, and lighting. Construction is scheduled for Fall 2014.

New Disinfection System at Fleming Hill Water Treatment Plant

Water Engineering recently completed a major water facility upgrade to the Fleming Hill Water Treatment Plant's disinfection system, converting it from a Chlorine gas dosing process to a much safer method utilizing Liquid Hypochlorite (bleach). Although the old system was considered safe and remained accident free throughout its useful life, the higher risk to human life and health posed by a potential accidental release of Chlorine gas was deemed unacceptable by the State Department of Health Services and the City.

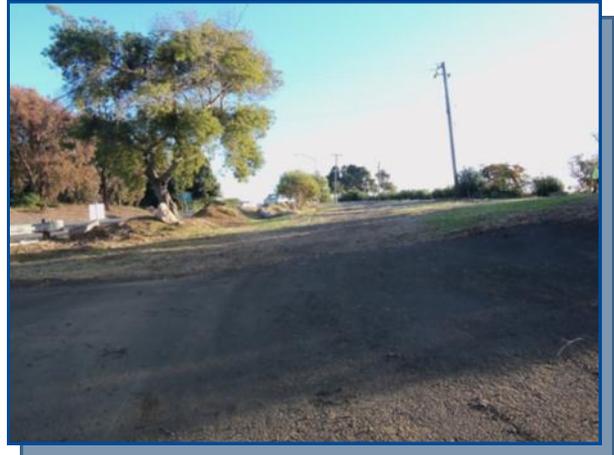


The project consisted of an in-house design prepared by Water Engineering and involved the construction of two 15,000 gallon high density polyethylene storage tanks, relevant heat fused double wall piping for hypochlorite supply and delivery systems, a water softener and stainless steel piping for softened water, new hypochlorite feed pump systems for pre-chlorination and post-chlorination, and included all associated electrical work and installation of diaphragm valves, strainers, electronic level and flow monitoring systems, and vents. The entire project was undertaken without sacrificing worker safety or the disruption of on-going water treatment operations while construction work was in progress.

The project began in the Spring of 2012 and was fully completed in November 2013. GSE Construction performed the work under strict supervision by the Water Engineering team led by Jun Malit and Associate Engineer Jeanine Jackson.

Cleanup Continues

Last week, City crews cleaned up Wilson Avenue at the Highway 37 overpass. This area is a major entrance to the City that needed attention. Crews performed litter removal and weed abatement. A bobtail load of litter and debris from illegal dumping was hauled away along with several flatbed loads of weeds.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

4th Annual Mad Hatter Holiday Festival

Saturday, December 7 starting at 2:00 p.m. in various locations

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Beautification and Design Review Board Meeting

Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

City Council Meeting

Monday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Housing Authority Meeting

Monday, December 16 at 6:45 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Oversight Board Meeting

Thursday, December 19 at 8:30 a.m. in City Council Chambers

Architectural Heritage and Landmarks Commission

Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers