City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report Volume 2, Issue 6, January 3, 2014 Daniel E. Keen, City Manager



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Housing Choice Voucher Program Update

The Vallejo Housing Authority (VHA) recently began sending program update emails to Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) participants who have asked to be included in the VHA's e-mail notification group.

Updates include important information about changes to the HCV program; restrictions on who can be added to an assisted household and reductions in the number of bedrooms a family may qualify to rent. The updates have also included information about reductions to household subsidies and effective dates of these changes.

Due to the Federal sequestration, cuts to the HCV budget and overall changes to how the program is funded were necessary in order to maintain a balanced budget while enabling the VHA to continue assisting all households currently participating in the program. No new households are being assisted at this time.

Those wishing to be included in the e-mail group should send an email to hcdd@ci.vallejo.ca.us with "E-mail notifications" as the subject line and specify which groups to be added.

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

Abatements

Neighborhood Law Program (NLP) Attorneys notified the owners of the following properties of nuisance activity occurring on their property. Those nuisances are now being

addressed by the owners. NLP Attorneys will continue to monitor these properties as the owner(s) complete the abatement:

- 609 Capitol Street
- 401 Phelan Street
- 1521 Valle Vista Street
- 474-476 Sonoma Boulevard
- 335 Masonic Street
- 108 Fairview Avenue
- 2904 Webb Street
- 111 Olson Street
- 718 Starfish Street
- 272 Foulkstone Way

Community Outreach

As the first year of the NLP comes to a close, the NLP would like to thank the numerous community groups for their support throughout 2013. NLP values its relationships with these groups and their support is vital to NLP efforts. NLP hopes to hear from additional groups in the new year.

Neighborhood Law Program Intake Form

If you would like to report a problem property to the NLP please complete the intake form. The form is located on the NLP tab on the City of Vallejo City Attorney's Office web page, or <u>click here</u>.

The NLP uses this form to gather basic information about the issue presented at the property. This information helps the NLP begin its research and gain a better understanding about efforts, if any, that are already underway. When filling the form out, please complete as much as possible.

Sidewalk Ordinance

The Office of the City Attorney will host a meeting on January 22, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the JFK Library's Joseph Room to discuss possible changes to Chapter 10.04 of the Vallejo Municipal Code. Chapter 10.04 governs the Repair, Construction and Maintenance of Sidewalks, Driveways and Steps. Additional details to follow.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Blu Homes Expansion

Blu Homes, leader in ecological, innovative, preassembled homes, will be doing a significant expansion of its operations on Mare Island. The company recently announced the closing of its Ann Arbor, Michigan facility and moving those operations to the Vallejo facility. Following that announcement, Blu Homes has confirmed the employees from Waltham, Massachusetts and San Francisco sites will also be relocating to Vallejo, though the firms will not be closing entirely.

"The Primary goal is to increase collaboration and enhance innovation by having all our business units – from manufacturing and engineering to product management, design and sales – under one roof," said Blu Homes spokesperson Dana Smith.

As part of the expansion, Blu Homes has leased another 117,000 square-foot space on Mare Island and will be utilizing the currently unused mezzanine space in its factory for offices. The breakdown of lease space is as follows:

- 98,000 square-feet of warehouse space at 1310 Railroad Avenue for storing materials and houses ready for shipping;
- 8,000 square-feet of annex space at 1175 Nimitz Avenue, across from its existing factory, to house the firm's engineering team, procurement team and design and market development staff;
- 10,000 square-feet of new office space at 690 Walnut Avenue for the finance and administration teams. A design center for prospective customers is also planned for the site.

In addition to the relocated staff, Blu Homes plans to roll out its first sample home on Mare Island, with more expected to follow. Until now, potential clients had tour to open houses, which are previously installed lived-in homes located nearby.

"The Mare Island (sample home) will be a small compound of a full-size home and pods to include space for a design and sales team," Smith said. "The first of these buildings is slated to be set on its site on January 22."

Planning Division

General Plan Update Kicks Off

The City is commencing work on the Planning Initiatives Project, consisting of a comprehensive General Plan update, the Sonoma Boulevard Specific Plan and a Comprehensive Zoning Code update. As part of the process, a 15-member General Plan Working Group (GPWG) has been formed to provide feedback and direction to the Planning Division and project consultant team during the preparation of the General Plan Update. The primary goal is to create a document that is responsive to neighborhood and community goals, conditions and guiding principles.

The Department invites those interested in participating in this important and unprecedented, 2-3 year process to attend the first meeting of the GPWG on Monday, January 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the JFK Library Joseph Room, located at 505 Santa Clara Street. The meeting will include the consideration and recommendation for City Council adoption of Rules of Order and Procedure, election of a Chair and Vice-Chair, and discussion of the GPWG's role in the General Plan update process. For additional information, please contact Andrea Ouse, Planning Manager at or (707) 648-4163.

The Department encourages all members of the Vallejo community to be actively involved in this process. Those who are interested in receiving future notifications of meetings and events related to the Planning Initiatives Project, please send your con-

tact information to Leslie Trybull, Executive Secretary of the Economic Development Department.

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		
January 6, 2014	 Nonconforming Ordinance Planned Development for self-storage facility (to be recommended for continuation) Training – CEQA 		
January 22, 2014	 Billar Los Portales Medical Cannabis Ordinance Glen Cove Marina Banquet Facility 		

Vallejo City Council	Agenda Item		
January 14, 2014	BDRB Rules of Order & Procedure		
January 28, 2014	Home Occupation Ordinance		

Statistics 5 4 1

During the period of December 16 through December 27, the following inquiries were processed:

General Property Inquiries	24
Business License Sign-offs	19
Planning Application Questions	17
Code Enforcement Complaints	8
Building Permit Application/Sign-offs	5
Miscellaneous Requests	4
Zoning Questions	3

In addition, the division sent out three public notices to approximately 138 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 December 16 through December 20, the following work was completed for the PG&E former Vallejo manufactured gas plant investigation project:

• Drilled environmental borings on the public boat launch and historic gas plant properties.

Please note: Field work was not conducted from December 23, 2013 through January 3, 2014. Work will resume on Monday, January 6, 2014.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Statistics

The following are a breakdown of statistical data from 2013:

Total Responses by Unit	Total
Battalion 21	833
Engine 21	1,020
Engine 22	2,403
Engine 23	3,112
Squad 21	91
Engine 24	3,137
Engine 25	2,045
Engine 27	1,288
Truck 21	1,980

First Due Responses	Total
Station 21	2,778
Station 22	2,205
Station 23	2,798
Station 24	2,815
Station 25	1,814
Station 27	1,045

Daily Average	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Total	1,821	1,908	1,919	1,849	1,864	1,797	1,851

Total Calls

There were 13,008 incidents in 2013, up 490 from 2012, which is a 3.91 percent increase from 2012. Below is the breakdown of the types of incidents

Fire Incidents:

There were 537 fire incidents, which accounted for 4.12 percent of the total call volume, totaling \$6.3 million in fire loss

Overpressure/Explosive Incidents:

There were 30 overpressure/explosive incidents, which accounted for 0.23 percent of the total call volume.

Rescue and EMS Incidents:

There were 9,953 rescue and EMS incidents, which accounted for 76.5 percent of the total call volume.

Hazardous Conditions Incidents:

There were 269 hazardous condition incidents, which accounted for 2.06 percent of the total call volume.

Monthly Shifts	Total		
January	1,193		
February	935		
March	1,083		
April	1,075		
May	1,076		
June	1,161		
July	1,065		
August	1,069		
September	1,077		
October	1,088		
November	1,068		
December	1,121		

Service Incidents:

There were 515 service incidents, which accounted for 3.95 percent of the total call volume.

Good Intent Incidents:

There were 1,039 good intent incidents, which accounted for 7.98 percent of the total call volume.

False Alarm Incidents:

There were 659 false alarm incidents, which accounted for 5.06 percent of the total call volume.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Personnel

New Hires

On Monday, December 16, Chief Joseph Kreins formally welcomed the Department's newest Police Officers who stood before other members of the Department and their loved ones while reciting the Oath of Office.



Officer Kevin Bergeron

Officer Kevin Bergeron, Badge #648, was born and raised in Vallejo. He was formerly a VPD Cadet before attending the Napa Valley Police Academy where he graduated in December. Bergeron is also a graduate of Sonoma State University where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in University Studies. He enjoys the outdoors by riding his motorcycle and hiking. Bergeron has worked very hard to get to this stage and is excited to have been hired by the Vallejo Police Depart-



ment, but even more happy to serve the citizens of the city where he grew up.

Officer Jessica Woods

Officer Jessica Woods, Badge #649, was born in Oakland and later moved to Vallejo



with her family where she grew up. She attended Glen Cove Elementary School and is a graduate of the Dare Program administered by Lieutenant Sid DeJesus, who remembered her as a model student. Woods later attended Hogan High School and Solano Community College, before transferring to California State University Sacramento where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology. Woods enjoys keeping herself fit by playing basketball and other outdoor sports, being with her family, and maintaining her positive frame of

mind. She is also excited to be working in the community where she grew up.

Officer Bretton Wagoner,

Officer Bretton Wagoner, Badge #650, was born in Vallejo, but raised in Napa. Wagoner has been very active in organized sports and fitness, and has also worked with troubled youth as a mentor. Wagoner attended Napa Valley College where he obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in Social and Behavior Sciences, in addition to having also graduated from the Napa Valley Police Academy. He enjoys all outdoor activities, fishing, hunting and exploring. Wagoner is very proud to have been hired and considers it an honor to serve and protect the citizens of this community as one of VPD's finest.



Officer William Carpenter

Officer William Carpenter, Badge #651, was born in Berkeley, but was raised in Vallejo.



After graduating from St. Patrick-St. Vincent High School, Carpenter attended California State University Sacramento where he obtained a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration. His hobbies include CrossFit, staying in shape, and watching and playing all kinds of sports. Carpenter said that becoming a Vallejo Police Officer was incomparable to anything he has ever done in his life to date. Being able to work as a Police Officer in his hometown is the honor of his life.

Retirement

Sergeant Mark Nicol

Sergeant Mark Nicol, Badge #512, has retired after 18 years of dedicated service to the City of Vallejo and the Department. Sergeant Nicol was an instrumental part of the personnel recruitment and retention piece of the Department's hiring effort. In addition, Sergeant Nicol also wore several other hats, which are far too many to mention.

He will be remembered for his incredible work ethic, commitment to excellence and the tireless manner in which he carried out his duties. All of his extended family at the VPD would like to wish Sergeant Nicol and his family all the best in future endeavors.



Recruitment

For individuals 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.

Police Cadets

The Department is actively seeking qualified candidates who may be interested in a career in Law Enforcement by joining the Cadet program. Cadets perform a variety of civilian field and law enforcement office duties. Cadets work in direct support of sworn and non-sworn personnel on a part time, as needed basis while attending an accredited college or university. Cadets are also expected to attend weekend and evening training sessions. The salary scale for qualified Cadets ranges from \$13 to \$15 dollars per hour.

Cadet Qualification Requirements:

- Must be 18-23 years old to apply
- Enrolled in a college/university while maintaining a 2.0 GPA/12 units
- Ability to interact with Public in a tactful and professional manner
- Pass written and physical agility test
- Proper English usage, spelling, grammar, and punctuation
- Familiarity with Department organization and function
- Knowledge of general law enforcement codes, practices and methods
- Ability to follow oral and written directions

Interested applicants can apply <u>online here</u>, or for additional information contact <u>Lt. De-</u>Jesus, or call (707) 649-3570.

Police Explorer

The Vallejo Police Department 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 police 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.

Explorer Requirements:

- Must be 14-20 years old 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.

For additional information regarding the program, interested individuals can email the program advisors Corporal Bob Knight or Officer Sean Kenney.

2013 VPD Toy Drive

During the last two months of 2013, the VPD's Citizens on Patrol and Volunteers went out into the community to solicit toy donations from local merchants who were gracious enough to donate more than 1,000 toys for deserving boys and girls throughout the community.

On behalf of Police Chief Joseph Kreins, Volunteer Coordinator Bill Donovan, all his helpers, and of course, Santa Claus (John Zimmerman), we would like to thank all of those contributors for making this year's Toy Drive one of the most successful.

- Vallejo Nissan
- 7- Flags Car Wash
- The Buttercup Restaurant
- Vallejo Vista Homeowners Association
- The Dollar Tree
- Discovery Kingdom
- Citizens on Patrol Volunteer Larry Hammond
- Citizen Academy #15 Graduate Rick Pasterchik
- Two anonymous gifters and several other citizens



Once all of the toys were collected, the Vallejo Police Department Volunteers and Citizens on Patrol spent several days wrapping all of the presents and preparing them for



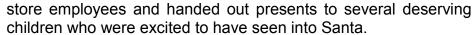
Santa Claus to deliver gifts to over 900 very excited boys and girls. All of the Citizens on Patrol, Volunteers, and Bill Donovan did an outstanding job by distinguishing themselves by making lots of Vallejo children very happy.

Among the many stops Santa made, one of the highlights was stopping in to see Vallejo's own "Wonder Girl" Monika Romo and her family. Monika was pleasantly surprised when she opened her front door to find Santa Claus

and his elves bearing gifts of joy. The Citizens on Patrol and Police Department Volunteers sang Christmas carols outside of the family home, which brought all of the neighbors out to join in the holiday cheer. Monika was gracious enough to take a picture with Santa as she asked him if he had been a good Santa this year, and of course, he assured her that he has been on his best behavior.



Santa and his elves also stopped at Food 4 Less and took photographs with the



The VPD would like to thank retired Law Enforcement Officer, John Zimmerman, who represented Ole St. Nick in grand style.



Waterfront Development Plan Update

In preparation of the City's continued implementation of the Waterfront Development Plan, the U.S. Postal Service has selected two possible locations for the services it currently provides at the Vallejo Main Post Office on Santa Clara Street. In September, the Postal Service posted their decision to relocate their facilities from Santa Clara Street to a location yet to be determined, with a 30 day appeal period. No appeals were received.

On December 13, 2013, the Postal Service posted a notice with the two sites that are under consideration -1600 Sonoma Boulevard and 2635 Napa Street. Each site is being evaluated to determine the most efficient location(s) for postal service operations. This notice requests comments, but the final decision rests with the Postal Service. The Postal Service's selected site(s) will be chosen shortly after the 30 day comment period ends.

The current site of the Vallejo Main Post Office is anticipated to be used for the next phase of the Vallejo Station Parking Structure. This past October, the City Council authorized the request of funding from the regional transportation funds that have been slated for the Vallejo Station Intermodal Facility plan. The City and the U.S. Postal Service are negotiating a Master Agreement to delineate the responsibilities of each party during the relocation process.

Monitoring Cameras

Public Works Maintenance started the final phase of installation of the six new antigraffiti and litter cameras in Vallejo. These cameras are mounted on street light poles



and will be monitored around the clock by ViewPoint Camera. ViewPoint uses camera analytic monitoring software that sets off an alarm when there is motion detected in the analytic zone. ViewPoint then calls the Vallejo Police Department. All cameras are capable of recording the events and have license plate recognition (LPR) capabilities.

Two of the four cameras planned for Mare Island were installed last week at the North Gate and Causeway Bridge. The remaining two

cameras for Mare Island will be installed near the old barracks and Commissary in hopes of deterring illegal dumping and trespassing.

The two remaining cameras will be installed at Derr Street and Enterprize Street, also hot spots for illegal dumping.

Chase Street

Public Works Maintenance Traffic Division employees installed three new street light poles on Chase Street in December. All three lights are LED equipped and have an energy savings of nearly 50 percent over the old high pressure sodium lights. The Chase Street project is funded using Participatory Budgeting (PB) funds.



PG&E plans to have power to the new lights within the month.

Water Division Finishes Installation of New Raw Water Pumps

Every year an average of 18 million gallons per day (MGD) of raw water are pumped from the City's Cordelia Complex into the City Water Treatment Plant. These 700 horsepower pumps are monitored to ensure efficiency, which declines slightly each year. When significant efficiency is lost (about 3-4 percent), it becomes cost effective to rebuild or replace the pump to again restore the lost efficiency.

In this event, an existing pair of pumps that were installed in the early 1990s had begun to lose efficiency, were very loud and vibrated during use. Upon inspection, one of the



pair was inspected for service, it was found to require a major rebuild to restore the pump to efficiency. The second pump was found to be in a similar condition. When faced with an expensive rebuild of both pumps, the Water Division found that replacement would restore efficiency and would be less expensive than the proposed rebuilding project. New pumps were selected and work began last spring to replace both pumps and make improvements to the complex to reduce noise during operation. The pumps are now online and new safety rails were in-

stalled around the new pumps this December. The replacement 700 horsepower pumps each cost \$188,000 and each pump consumes approximately \$150,000 of power per year.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Tis the Season to Recycle Christmas Trees! This is the sixteenth year that the City has worked with non-profit groups to provide Christmas Tree Recycling (Treecycling) to businesses and residents in the City of Vallejo. The Treecycling Fundraiser continues to be a very cost effective recycling program. For a \$5 donation, a Vallejo business or resident can call and have a non-profit organization haul away Christmas trees right from the curb. After the Christmas trees are collected, they are chipped by the City's Maintenance crews and the mulch is used as landscape ground cover at various locations throughout the City.





Last year, through the cooperative effort of six non-profit youth groups, VALCORE Recycling, and the City's Landscape Maintenance Division, the City was able to divert approximately 1,200 trees from the landfill, which generated 33.25 tons of mulch.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*Note: Events are subject to change. Please visit the <u>City Calendar</u> located on the City's Website for the most up-to-date information.

Planning Commission

Monday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

City Council Special Meeting

Tuesday, January 7 at 6:00 p.m., regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. **Note:** Early start will be for final meeting with old Council, 7:00 p.m. start for new Council oaths.

Economic Vitality Commission

Wednesday, January 8 at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee Special Meeting

Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m. in Joseph Room, 2nd Floor, JFK Library

Beautification and Design Review Board Meeting

Thursday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

General Plan Working Group

Monday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Joseph Room, 2nd Floor, JFK Library

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Housing and Redevelopment Commission Special Meeting

Wednesday, January 15 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Oversight Board Meeting

Thursday, January 16 at 8:30 a.m. in City Council Chambers

Architectural Heritage Landmarks Commission

Thursday, January 16 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - CLOSED

Monday, January 20

City of Vallejo Communications Sign-up Facebook * Open City Hall * Nextdoor