New Public Art Pieces Coming to Capitola

The City of Capitola and the Capitola Art and Cultural Commission are pleased to announce that by the end of summer the following public art projects will be completed:

**Capitola Village Railing** - Lois and Earnest Rich of Sculptural Accents designed and installed an ocean-themed handrail along the 300 block of Capitola Avenue. The beautiful piece of art replaces and extends a functional, but unattractive, guard rail. This design was selected by the Art and Cultural Commission from over 20 other submissions.

**McGregor Skatepark Mural** - The artistic team of Taylor Reinhold and Jimbo Phillips will create a mural at the Monte Family Skatepark at McGregor Park. The colorful mural will be painted along the outside of the skatepark and will incorporate many skateboard themes. The painting will start this summer. It will be a great addition to a fantastic park.

**Esplanade Park Sculpture** – In August installation should begin on a sea lion sculpture by Kim Chavez of Chavez Bronzeworks. The sculpture will be installed in the grass area of Esplanade Park and is intended to be touched, experienced, and climbed on, not just admired.

These public art projects will add to the already wonderful environment and beauty of Capitola.
Improvements to Capitola Infrastructure Continue

Capitola Branch Library – Construction of the Capitola Branch Library has been delayed due to an industry-wide escalation in building prices that resulted in a construction bid $2.3 million over budget. All options to move forward are now being considered including identifying additional sources of funding, reducing costs through value engineering, and fully redesigning a smaller building. Decisions on how best to proceed will be made in late July or early August.

Measure F Beach Jetty and Flume Rehabilitation – Designs of these important beach structures are complete and the City is in the process of obtaining work permits from various regulatory agencies. Current construction schedules for both projects are set for work to be completed during the fall and winter. Timing of these improvements will depend on arrival and strength of rain and storms.

Measure F Wharf Improvements – City staff and marine engineering experts continue studying the best ways to strengthen the Capitola Wharf. Widening the narrow part of the wharf has been identified as the preferred alternative to improve the structure’s resilience during winter storms. Raising all or portions of the wharf is also being examined as a strategy to protect the buildings and outer end of the Wharf. Preliminary designs now include two new public restrooms, one at the end of the wharf and one at the base where portables are now installed seasonally.

Park Avenue Sidewalks – Construction of new sidewalks on the north side of Park Avenue from Monterey Avenue to Cabrillo Avenue is in final design with construction scheduled for Spring 2019.

38th Avenue Sidewalks – Construction bids are due the end of July for a missing length of sidewalk on 38th Avenue south of Capitola Road. If all goes well, construction will begin this fall.

Bay Avenue Utility Undergrounding – The City continues to work with PG&E on the design for undergrounding all overhead utilities in the Bay Avenue and Capitola Avenue area. This project precedes a potential future roundabout at this intersection. Current estimates from PG&E have construction of the undergrounding starting in late 2019 or early 2020.

Slurry Seal Program – Starting this September, construction will complete pavement repairs and apply a slurry seal on the following sections of roads:

- Wharf Road from Clares Street north to the City limit
- 46th Avenue from Capitola Road to Clares Street
- Prospect Avenue from 49th Avenue to Lincoln Avenue
- Capitola Avenue from Bay Avenue north to the City limit
- Pine Street from Capitola Avenue to Rosedale Avenue
- Plum Street from Capitola Avenue to Rosedale Avenue
- Burlingame Avenue from Beulah Drive to Bay Avenue
- Del Monte Avenue from Bay Avenue to Pilgrim Avenue
- Pilgrim Drive from Burlingame Avenue to Bay Avenue

Property owners and residents will be notified in advance of any road closures. Traffic delays and short-term parking restrictions on these streets should be anticipated.

City Pleased to Promote New Community Development Director

Katie Herlihy was promoted to Community Development Director this spring, overseeing the City’s Planning and Building Departments.

Herlihy joined the City’s staff as senior planner in 2013. She played a major role in helping the Community Development Department complete the General Plan update, and she personally spearheaded the City’s zoning code update. She was also the lead staff person working with applicants on numerous local commercial, residential, and historic property development projects.

She will continue to oversee the zoning update’s certification by the California Coastal Commission as part of the Local Coastal Plan.

Before coming to Capitola, Herlihy served as the senior planner for Park City, Utah, for seven years, where she wrote its new General Plan and oversaw several significant current planning projects. She holds an American Institute of Certified Planners certificate through the American Planning Association.

Help Protect Our Shore

Pack Your Trash and Don’t Feed the Birds – The beach and parks are for everyone to enjoy. Seagulls, pigeons, and other waterfowl are attracted by trash left behind and feeding the bird population degrades water quality of the creek and bay.

Only Rain Down the Drain – Remember our storm drains are for storm water only, and allowing overwatering, car wash rinse water, oils, paints, or any other liquids or debris in these systems adds to water pollution.

Report Spills – Report any spills or dumping incidents, whether accidental or intentional, to the Department of Public Works at 831.475.7300. During non-business hours call 911 to report spills or illegal dumping.
New Books Highlight Capitola History in Several Ways

The Capitola Historical Museum published two new books on local history in the first part of this year.

The first, A Companion to Capitola, was released in March in conjunction with this year’s Museum exhibition, “Capitola FAQ.” The book is an alphabetical list of people, places, and events, with emphasis on the historical development of the town. Each of the roughly 700 entries includes a brief description, significant dates, and often a source for more information. The book also has a list of all parks, all works of public art, and entries for some of the City’s natural features including trees and animal life.

In June the Museum published the Capitola History Coloring Book. It includes nearly 40 illustrations by local artist Frank Hill, each with a short caption by Museum Curator Frank Perry. The illustrations are arranged to tell the history of Capitola from the Mexican Period to the present. Many are based on historic photos from the Museum’s collection. Others are based on Frank Hill’s own memories of the town during the 1930s, ‘40s, and ‘50s.

A professional artist all his adult life, Hill worked on several nationally-syndicated comic strips and has illustrated 40 books. His personal connection to Capitola makes this coloring book extra special.

The Companion and the Coloring Book are available exclusively at the Capitola Museum for a small donation. The Museum is open Thursday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. and on some holidays.

Municipal Elections Coming in November

Capitola voters will elect three City Council Members on Nov. 6, 2018, and may consider several local ballot measures.

Three of the City’s five at-large City Council seats will be up for election, and only one incumbent is eligible for reelection. Terms run from December 2018 through December 2022. The filing period for nomination papers is Monday, July 16, through Friday, August 10. Nomination papers are issued and filed with the Capitola City Clerk.

The City Council is also considering placing several ballot measures before voters. One would establish a 7 percent tax on cannabis sales in the City. If this tax is approved by voters, the City has established local regulations that would allow up to two cannabis retailers in the Regional Commercial zoning district, which is located on 41st Ave between Highway 1 and Capitola Road and around the Capitola Mall. If the Cannabis Tax is not approved by voters, the City’s local cannabis regulations would not take effect and the current prohibitions on cannabis sales in the City would remain in place.

An increase of Capitola’s Transient Occupancy Tax from the current 10 percent to 12 percent is also under consideration. The initial plan, which would need approval from two-thirds of voters, would direct a portion of the money to youth programs and another portion to local businesses.

City Council will decide whether to place these measures on the ballot before the August 10 deadline.

More information is available at CityofCapitola.org and at the County Elections website below.
Join Capitola PD for National Night Out

On August 7, the City of Capitola will be celebrating National Night Out at Jade Street Park from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Communities around the country hold National Night Out gatherings each year on the first Tuesday of August. These events promote police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, helping make our neighborhoods safer while growing community.

The Capitola Police Department will be joined by the Central Fire Protection District and American Medical Response. Enjoy free food and drinks, along with a jump house, face painting, climbing wall, and a petting zoo.

National Night Out is a great opportunity to bring neighbors and public safety organizations together in a relaxed and positive environment. Join us!