



SUMMER/FALL 2019

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Library Work Continues	2
Conservation Tips	2
Recreation Update	3
Capitola Village Hotel	3
National Night Out with PD	4

Future of Capitola Mall Discussed

Merlone Geier Partners, the majority property owner of the Capitola Mall, hosted a community forum at the former Sears on June 11, 2019. At the meeting, Merlone Geier unveiled preliminary plans to convert the mall into an open-air shopping, dining, and entertainment center and add 630 new housing units.

The draft plans retain the existing Target, Macy's, and Kohls buildings, but call for the former Sears and most of the current mall to be demolished. The proposed street pattern will introduce a new grid with a north-south street that extends 38th Avenue through to Clares Street and a vibrant Main Street-style connection that runs east-west through the project.

Merlone Geier plans to submit an application to the City this summer/fall. The first step in reviewing a project of this size is complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The development will require review and approval by Planning Commission and City Council. When an application is submitted to the City, information will be available on our website under Community Development.



Initial project drawing from Merlone Geier Partners

City Council Approves Wharf Project

City Council has conceptually approved a two-phase project for strengthening the Wharf to help ensure that it remains a focal feature of Capitola's coastline for years to come. Phase 1 will widen the trestle (narrow portion) of the Wharf using fiberglass pilings, which are more durable than wooden piles. In addition, new restroom buildings will be added at both ends to better serve the public. Finally, new utilities and decking will be constructed.

The cost of Phase 1 is estimated at \$5.8 million, and funding will come from voter approved Measure F. An additional \$2 million in funding will come from the State of California thanks to the support of Assembly Member Mark Stone. Phase 2 will involve raising the end of the wharf for better protection from the sea and replacing the two buildings. This second phase is estimated to cost \$17.3 million and is currently unfunded.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Twilight Concerts

Esplanade Park
Wednesdays 6 - 8 P.M.

Food Truck Friday

Monterey Avenue Park
July 26

Art & Music at the Beach

Sundays June 30 - July 21
August 4 - 11

Wharf to Wharf

Capitola Village
Sunday, July 28

Labor Day

City Hall Closed
Monday, September 2

Art & Wine Festival

Capitola Village
September 14 & 15

Beach Festival

Capitola Beach & Village
September 28 & 29

Monte Family Fireworks

Capitola Beach
October 13

Capitola Plein Air

Capitola Village & Beyond
October 30 - November 2

Click on Calendar at
cityofcapitola.org for more



Work progresses at the corner of Clares Street and Wharf Road

Work Continues on Capitola Library

Following a wet winter, which delayed construction, the pace of work on the new Capitola branch library has picked up and the shape and size of the new building is beginning to emerge. The foundation walls are in place and the contractor is beginning to back-fill and bring the site up to grade.

In May, City Council voted to underground the utility wires around the site which will significantly improve the look and views from the building. Current construction schedules project that the Library will open in June of 2020.

Daycare Center Funds Available

Have you or someone you know been considering opening an in-home daycare? The City is attempting to make this effort more affordable. During the 2019-2020 budget hearings, City Council directed staff to start a child-care grant program to offset the cost of daycare planning permits. With the new funding, planning permits for a home daycare could be approved by the City at no charge. A homeowner can run an in-home daycare for 12 to 14 children if certain criteria are met.

Public Works Improves Infrastructure

Upcoming street projects include the construction of a new sidewalk along Park Avenue from McCormick Avenue to Wesley Street, repairs to the bike lane on Park Avenue, and pedestrian improvements on Clares Street.

New Historical Museum Poster

The Capitola Historical Museum has new custom prints available for the suggested donation of \$35. The print presents colorful and beautifully illustrated seed packets that were sold by Brown Ranch here in Capitola in the early 1900s. Gifts such as local history books and a new coloring book in both English and Spanish, are also available for a small donation.

Visit the Historical Museum Thursdays through Sundays from noon to 4 P.M.

Summer Conservation Tips

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 landscaping over-watering, 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 475-7300. During non-business hours call 911 to report spill or illegal dumping.



Brown Ranch Seed Packet Poster

What's New for Capitola Recreation?

Afterschool Program— Capitola's Recreation Division is excited to announce that this Fall the City will be piloting an afterschool recreation program in partnership with New Brighton Middle School. In reviewing other local programs, and meeting with Soquel School District staff, the City identified a real local need for more afterschool options for Capitola middle-school-aged youth.

The pilot program goal is to provide youth the opportunity to improve leadership and decision-making skills while enhancing life, college and career readiness. The program will also offer time for homework, reading or quiet leisure and provide a healthy snack. Recreation staff will be working with New Brighton Middle School staff to identify activities and topics that help grow participant's interests and curiosity. Late in the school year, the City hopes

to open the program to 5th graders who will attend New Brighton in the Fall. This will help those students prepare for the transition to middle school.

For more information, contact the Recreation Division at 475-5935.



Strategic Plan—The City's Recreation Division is preparing its first ever strategic plan! The purpose of the plan is to help guide future recreation offerings and help establish future program priorities. The community's voice on the plan is important so please look for opportunities to provide feedback later this

summer. If you would like to receive notice regarding public workshops regarding the Plan, scheduled for this Fall, please email capitolarecreation@ci.capitola.ca.us

Developer Introduces Capitola Village Hotel Project

The City received a conceptual review application for a future hotel at 120 Monterey Avenue, previous home to the Capitola theater and current parking lot. Swenson Builders, the property owner, seeks feedback from the Planning Commission and City Council on a conceptual design for an 89-room hotel including meeting and banquet space, a bar/lounge open to the public, a pool on the second story, and 92 onsite parking spaces within an underground parking garage. The design reinforces the Village's pedestrian-oriented development pattern with storefront windows facing the sidewalk on Monterey Avenue. The building height is two and three stories along Monterey Avenue; as the building steps back toward the bluff it increases in height to five stories. A public staircase is proposed from the second story hotel pool area to Esplanade Park providing a connection from the hotel to the beach.



Rendering of the Village Hotel concept

This type of conceptual review application is an opportunity for the applicant to receive feedback from the Planning Commission, City Council, and the public before submitting an official application. The conceptual review application is expected to be reviewed by the Planning Commission during the August 1, 2019 meeting and City Council on August 22, 2019. The review will include an opportunity for residents/interested parties to speak on the project during the public comment period. Meetings are held at City Council Chambers at 420 Capitola Avenue at 7 P.M.

City of Capitola

420 Capitola Ave.
Capitola, CA 95010

831-475-7300
www.cityofcapitola.org



Named one of *Sunset* magazine's best beach towns with one of *USA Today's* best California beaches

City Council

MAYOR

Jacques Bertrand

VICE MAYOR

Kristen Petersen

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ed Bottorff

Yvette Brooks

Sam Storey

Email City Council:

citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us

PREST.STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SANTA CRUZ CA
PERMIT #7013

Join Capitola PD for National Night Out on August 6

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement and helps build our community.

The Police Department has been hosting National Night Out on the first Tuesday in August at Jade Street Park for 17 years.

On August 6, 2019, the Police Department and other City departments will join with the Central Fire Protection District, the Santa Cruz County DA's Office, the Soquel Union Elementary School District, American Medical Response and many others to provide food and drink, along with a jump house, face painting, and a petting zoo. National Night Out is great opportunity for bringing neighbors and public safety together in a relaxed and positive environment.



Get to know local first responders

@CityOfCapitola

Follow us to stay informed of the latest happenings around town, learn more about the City, and to enter future photo contests.

