

CITY FOCUS



PLANNING PROJECTS MILESTONE

DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN SEES PROGRESS

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The community's vision for Downtown Monterey is beginning to emerge. Businesses that opened over the past few years, including Café Trieste, Starbucks, Pink Berry, Olio Vintage Fun and Chocolate Dreams, are popular successes. Newly vacant and recently renovated commercial spaces will be filling with new businesses.

The Regency Theatre will add new commercial

and residential tenants, and across the street, Edible Arrangements will bring interesting new variety to the neighborhood.

A few more high profile projects will break ground soon, including 301 Alvarado, where the second floor offices will be converted to 22 residential units. The long-time vacant site of the 2007 fire is being designed for 9,500 square feet of new retail/commercial space on the

ground floor with 21 residential units above.

Another exciting change that will bring new life and vitality to Alvarado Street is the expansion of outdoor seating opportunities. Soon, Café Trieste will construct a permanent outdoor seating area in front of the restaurant.

Proposals for at least two additional outdoor seating locations will be considered to further expand this activity.

LIBRARY RE-OPENS ON SUNDAYS

The Monterey Public Library will re-open on Sundays from 1-5 p.m. starting July 28th. The City Council approved funding for Sunday Library hours as part of the City's budget for the new fiscal

year. Funding for Sunday hours was also provided by the Friends of the Monterey Public Library, the Monterey County Weekly's MCGives campaign, the Community Foundation for Monterey

County and an anonymous donor. For more information on the Library, visit www.monterey.org/library or call 646-3933.



The 2013-14
City of Monterey
budget is available
online at
monterey.org

2013 CITIZEN SURVEY RESULTS

BY COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER ANNE MCGRATH

Results of the National Citizen Survey, conducted for the City of Monterey by the National Research Center, show support (59%) for a one-cent sales tax hike that sunsets in 10 years, and opposition (67%) to converting Alvarado Street from one-way to two-way.



The National Citizen Survey is a statistically valid, random sample of households within City limits. The survey measures residents' perceptions in eight major categories: community quality, community design, public safety, environmental sustainability, recreation and wellness, community inclusiveness, civic engagement and public trust.

Three characteristics with the most favorable ratings in Monterey were quality of the overall natural environment (94%

– the highest rating of all categories), air quality and the overall image or reputation of Monterey. Three characteristics receiving the least positive ratings were the availability of affordable quality housing (16% rated this as “good” or “excellent”), employment opportunities (25%), and the variety of housing options (29%).

The National Citizen Survey provides two sets of data: actual results for Monterey and comparisons of Monterey's results to a benchmark of 500 other communities in National Research Center database. Those results give a broad outline of where Monterey ranks compared with other cities.

Survey results are available at www.monterey.org/communitysurvey.



Bring Your Own Bag

Refer to the web for details including FAQ sections for retailers and shoppers: montereyrecycles.org



PAPER BAG CHARGES

BY SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR TED TERRASAS

On July 1, 2013, the City of Monterey marked one year of having a plastic bag ban in effect.

A significant decrease in plastic bag waste has been reported from local nonprofits, such as Save Our Shores. Reducing plastic waste is critical for our local tourism and fishing industries as well as protection of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

This one-year anniversary is a good time to take a moment to provide information and clarify several misconceptions about the ban, including the charge for paper bags.

A 25-cent fee must be charged for paper bags provided at retail stores in the City, but not all paper bags are subject to the charge. The 25-cent charge only applies to large paper bags (those

with flat bottoms that are greater than or equal to 6 inches by 10 inches). The charge does not apply to any paper bags smaller than that.

The 25-cent fee is kept by the retailer and does not go to the City.

For more information, [check out this informative video](#).

If you have questions, contact Ted Terrasas at 646-3405.

IMPACT OF THE NIP

BY CITY ENGINEER TOM REEVES

The City of Monterey has been blessed with a unique set of attributes. We are home to this State's most precious archeology and architecture; we are surrounded by some of nature's most stunning works

of beauty and we are the hub of the area's business community. With so many opportunities come multiple challenges. One of those challenges is to balance the health and vibrancy of our neighborhoods with the health, vibrancy and impacts from the visitors and visitor serving businesses.

To address the impacts from visitors, the City of Monterey established a unique solution, the Neighborhood Improvement Program (or NIP). Since 1986, visitors staying in hotels or motels in the city have paid a 10% room tax. Sixteen percent of that room tax goes towards the NIP.

What is the NIP and how does it work?

There are sixteen recog-



nized neighborhoods, fourteen of which are represented on the NIP Committee. Represented neighborhoods meet several requirements including having an active neighborhood association and bylaws.

City staff accepts applications for neighborhood improvement projects from citizens – who need not be a resident or property owner. The NIP Committee then goes through all of the applications and makes its recommendation to the City Council for funding the projects that the NIP Committee believes serve the interests of the neighborhoods and the community at large. The City Council funds projects on the recommended list.

The NIP program has changed the face of our

community in so many positive ways. We can thank the NIP for many of our parks; for improvements to the parks; for building and improving our community centers and for supporting many of our services such as the Library and Sports Center.

Our NIP Representatives are volunteers who receive no payment, not even a stipend. So if you are able and willing to help your neighborhood, please offer your assistance. As the old saying goes, *many hands make for light work!* It is well worth the effort since your neighborhoods' voice needs to be heard at the NIP Committee.

If you are interested in submitting an idea, you can find the form on line at the [City's website](#).



ATTENTION ALL RESIDENTS OF THE DOWNTOWN AND GLENWOOD NEIGHBORHOODS:

The Neighborhood Improvement Program is meant to get input from and provide improvements to your neighborhoods.

But did you know that your neighborhoods have no representative on the NIP Committee?

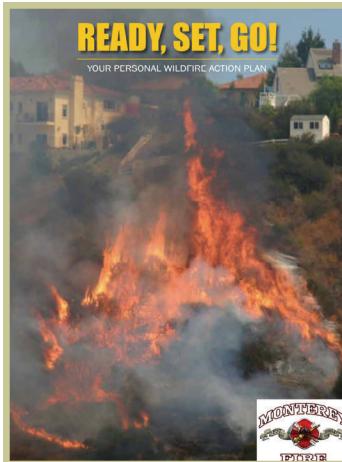
The reason is that your neighborhood needs to form a neighborhood association and then nominate a representative who must reside in that neighborhood. You need not be a property owner either; renters are just as welcome as property owners.

The mechanics of doing this are not difficult. The City's requirement is that your neighborhood has an association with bylaws and a Board of Directors, but this can be as simple or complex as your neighborhood chooses.

If you are interested in getting your neighborhood represented on the NIP Committee, or to learn about the neighborhood boundaries, please call the NIP Coordinator and City Engineer, Tom Reeves at 646-3448.

WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN

BY MONTEREY FIRE DEPARTMENT



For more information about fire safety visit www.monterey.org/fire or call our Fire Prevention Office at (831) 646-3900.



Sign up for the next CERT Class Sept. 5th - Oct. 17th montereycert.org

The Monterey Peninsula is one of the most beautiful places to live, but it comes with risks for those living in what are called “urban interface” areas.

The Monterey County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan lists wildfire as a “threat” in their hazard analysis, and our local fire season (July through October) requires that firefighters and residents constantly be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire.

The Monterey Fire Department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildfire. In the event of a major wildfire, however, there is little time and your safety is of the utmost importance. Firefighters and apparatus will be dispatched to defend the threatened area, and you will be required to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself and

your family by being prepared to **evacuate early**.

The Ready! Set! Go! Personal Wildfire Action

Plan provides tips and tools to successfully prepare for a wildfire. It includes guidance on retrofitting your home with fire-resistant features and can help you create the necessary defensible space around

your home. The intent is to help you prepare yourself, your family, and your home, so that you can evacuate early and stay safely ahead of a fast-approaching wildfire.

Wildfires are often fueled by dry vegetation and driven by winds. Unfortunately, many homes are built and properties are landscaped without fully understanding the potential movement and impact of a wildfire. Few residents have adequately

prepared their families for a quick evacuation. Many don’t believe the potential consequences of ignoring an evacuation order until it is too late. We **always** recommend that you comply with any wildfire evacuation orders.



It's not a question of "if," but rather "when" the next major wildfire will

occur in Monterey County. That's why the most important person in protecting your life and property is YOU.

Through advance planning and preparation, we can all be ready for the next wildfire.

Please take the time to review the tips included in the Action Plan online to gain heightened situational awareness and a more fire-safe environment for you and your family.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. The next CERT class begins Thursday, Sept. 5th and continues each Thursday through Oct. 17th. Class time each evening is 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The class will be held in the City of Monterey Emergency Operations Center.

COMMUNITY POLICE ACADEMY

BY POLICE CHIEF PHIL PENKO

The Monterey Police Department will bring back the Community Police Academy this fall. I invite anyone with an interest in learning more about your Police Department to consider attending.

In 1994, the Monterey Police Department began hosting a Community Police Academy. The 10-12 week program allowed 24 members of the community to join us one night a week and learn about what we do and how we work to protect the City.

Participants had the opportunity to learn about a wide variety of subjects including the State of the

Department and City, Traffic and DUI enforcement, Investigations, Community Policing, the Criminal Justice System and how other Departments in the City assist in maintaining public safety and quality of life. Attendees also got the chance to spend a couple of hours on our range firing a weapon, viewing a Taser® demonstration and learning about arrest and control techniques.

The Community Police Academy became a wonderful opportunity for the community members to learn about their Police Department, and for staff to engage in positive inter-

actions with those they serve.

In 1997, the Department created its Monterey's Volunteers in Policing (M.V.P.) program with Community Academy graduates. Historically, all of our volunteers have been graduates of the Community Academy.

The Community Academy was eliminated in 2008 due to significant budget cuts. However, thanks to a generous donation from AAA Northern California, Nevada, and Utah, the academy will be back this fall!

A press release will be issued announcing the dates of our next Academy.



RECREATION FALL FUN

BY RECREATION SUPERVISOR SHANNON LEON

It's that time of year to start planning for fall activities with the City of Monterey Recreation. We offer a variety of fun and educational programs for all ages, including gymnastics, camps, exercise, field sports, arts & crafts, a variety of dance classes, dog obedience and much more!

Our Summer/Fall 2013 guide, **play! Monterey** (good thru November) is available online at www.monterey.org/rec or call 646-3866 for more information.

The City of Monterey Recreation also offers a variety of afterschool and school break programs for children, including the

Afterschool Program at Hilltop Park Center, Stay-N-Play, Autumn Pumpkinland, Hilltop's Fall Camp, Gymnastics Mini Camp, Fall Break Youth Flag Football Camp, Sports Camp Plus, Cheerleading Camp and much more.

PACIFIC & DEL MONTE INTERSECTION PROJECT

BY TRAFFIC ENGINEER RICH DEAL



Four Methods for Constructing Capital Improvement Projects

The Pacific & Del Monte Intersection Project describes one method - formal bidding. Read about all four online at monterey.org/projects

The City's Purchasing Ordinance requires that all Public Works projects valued over \$60,000 conform to the formal, competitive bidding process. The formal bid process requires a comprehensive package of construction drawings, technical specifications, and an Invitation for Bids such that all qualified contractors can competitively bid on a "level playing field."

Once bids are received and reviewed, City Staff recommends that the City Council award the construction contract to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

The Pacific and Del Monte Intersection Improvement Project is an example of a formal bidding process. The project consisted of reconstructing the entire intersection, upgrading storm drains, repairing sewer lines, and installing new traffic signals and lighting.

An additive alternate item was included in the bid package for upgraded, decorative signal poles that match the vision in the Downtown

Specific Plan, dramatically enhancing the Downtown character.

The Traffic Engineering Division diagnosed the intersection's operational deficiencies, developed new intersection geometrics and traffic signal design, secured required permits, and captured grant funds to cover construction. The Engineering and Environmental Compliance Division added necessary storm drain improvements and sewer main repairs that were executed more cost-effectively when combined with the intersection reconstruction. Additional engineering and design services were performed by a local consulting firm, Whitson Engineers. The Capital Projects Division supported design development, administered the formal public bidding process, and secured Harris and Associates to provide construction management and inspection services. The construction contractor was Monterey Peninsula Engineering (MPE).

Construction, totaling \$720,000, was funded through the Highway Safety Improvement Program, Proposition 1B funds, Gas Tax revenue, and the NIP.

Construction began on February 11. The entire project was originally planned to be constructed in four stages and scheduled to be completed in late June. Within the first week, however, it became evident that the June completion date would heavily impact the summer visitor season since the intersection is adjacent to the Marriott Hotel, Hotel Pacific, Merritt House, and Conference Center. To shorten the duration of construction and minimize summer traffic impacts, the first two stages were combined, and new traffic control plans were developed. Instead of finishing at the end of June, the new intersection and traffic signal was completed on May 22nd, before the Memorial Day weekend and five weeks ahead of schedule!

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PACIFIC DEL MONTE INTERSECTION PROJECT

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The success of this project was due to teamwork between Traffic Engineering, Capital Projects, Engineering and Environmental Compliance Divisions, Harris and Associates, and MPE working closely with the affected hotels, adjacent businesses, and the Old Mon-

terey Business Association (OMBA). Hotel schedules and Conference Center events were accommodated without excessively noisy construction work. Continual communication with the contractor was critical for arranging work activities so that the con-

tractor did not incur extra mobilizations, while working toward an aggressive completion goal.

Everyone's cooperation and patience during intermittent road closures and traffic detours was essential for successful completion of the project.

MONTEREY HISTORY VOLUNTEERS

BY MUSEUMS & CULTURAL ARTS ADMIN. ASST. CLAIRE RYGG

Many thanks to Monterey History Volunteers John Townsell and Barbara Furbush who helped Museum staff pull weeds in the backyard of the Pacific Biological Laboratories (Ed Ricketts' Lab) on Earth Day, April 22.

The City owns and maintains the Lab which is located at 800 Cannery Row.



72-HOUR PARKING ORDINANCE

BY PARKING SUPERINTENDENT WAYNE DALTON

Per [City Code Section 20-72. Use of streets for storage of vehicles prohibited](#); vehicles cannot be parked in the same location for more than a consecutive period of 72 hours.

The purpose behind this section is to insure public streets do not become

storage lots for vehicles.

Per the code, your vehicle must be moved every 72 hours or face the possibility of receiving a citation.

In addition to the City Code, California Vehicle Code 22651(k) gives the police the legal right to remove any vehicle that

has been parked on a highway for more than 72 consecutive hours. Vehicles parked on the street for more than 72 hours also will be considered abandoned under California law.

For questions regarding parking please call the [Monterey Parking Division](#) at 646-3953.



SPORTS CENTER FITNESS OPTIONS

BY FITNESS MANAGER BILL ROTHSCHILD

What makes fitness work for you? Do you like something invigorating like Yoga or Pilates? Do you like to dance and move with Zumba or Cardio Dance Party? Are you a fan of combining your workout with strength and cardio together? Are you into a comprehensive weight room that is both fully furnished and easy to use, but has advanced enough equipment to really challenge you? Is swimming, triathlon training, water aerobics or anything having to do with a pool exciting?

Whatever motivates you to work out is the best fitness plan for you. And where can you find a huge number of class options, a



large pool facility with therapeutic and athletic classes and programs, a multiple room cardio, strength and flexibility training center with outstanding, new and challenging equipment, a three-court gymnasium with basketball, volleyball, badminton and table tennis available all day long and so many fitness options to choose from? Right here in Monterey – the Monterey Sports Center – built by the community to benefit the community.

Group exercise classes start as early as 5:45 in the morning and go all the way to 9:00 pm at night with more than 120 classes offered every week. Whether you're into High

Intensity Training, Kettlebell Workouts, Outdoor Bootcamps, Power Yoga, Restorative Yoga, RIPPED, Zumba, Pilates or any other trending fitness class – we have it.

We are currently adding new equipment to enhance the fitness experience in our cardio fitness and strength training centers. From Internet and social media access to the latest trends in athletic training, the Sports Center has the equipment and the professional staff to make sure you are always motivated to work out. Stop by, take a tour and sign up today at the most complete fitness facility on the Monterey Peninsula.

For more information, check out
monterey.org/sportscenter.



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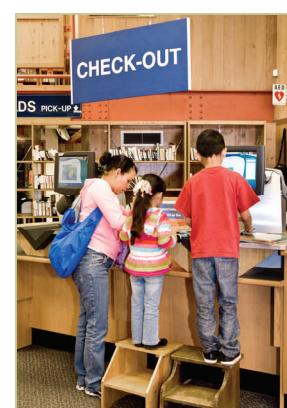
LIBRARY'S VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

BY YOUTH SERVICES MANAGER KAREN BROWN

Thirteen teenagers are learning life lessons, developing research skills and helping their community by volunteering at the Monterey Public Library this summer. The Library's Volunteer Program provides young people with an experience as close to real employment as possible. They go through an employment interview, which includes suggestions for their future career. They

learn job skills and attitudes as they work beside adults. They learn research skills that will help them in their future academic pursuits. They gain experience in public service, marketing, work with children, event planning, a variety of computer activities, and more. They can add this experience to their new resumes and college applications.

The community gains a



more organized and attractive library and happy children.