Monterey is a vibrant City. We are at work on a number of projects, but the largest, and perhaps the most interesting City project, is the Monterey Conference Center remodel. So it should come as no surprise that I am questioned about this project far more than any other. And I’m sure you can guess which question comes up most often: "When will it be done?"

Well, we are in the final stages. In fact, our contractor and project manager agree we are in the last eight weeks of construction. In baseball terms, we are in the 9th inning. We are hopeful to have the Conference Center operational on both floors by early December 2017.

The Serra Ballroom (downstairs) is ready for business; the restrooms on the first floor are remodeled; the newly configured pre-function area on the first floor is tiled and finishing touches are being installed.

The completely remodeled upper floor now houses a brand-new Steinbeck Ballroom that includes a beautiful new wood ceiling. On the outside you can see quite a bit of masonry work being completed.

Equally important is that we are confident in getting the building Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certified - the highest level awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council.

While it will be a beautiful landmark facility, this project will increase business in our City. In fact, conference bookings are very strong in 2018, and we have bookings that extend all the way to 2022!

I hope the next time I see you we will be talking about the completed Conference Center and start discussions on some of our many other projects in our incredible City.

Watch for a new website coming this spring to: MontereyConferenceCenter.com
**Participate in two short surveys - we need your input!**

All residents are encouraged to participate in the surveys.

**ART IN DOWNTOWN SURVEY:** cityofmonterey.typeform.com/to/oMZUVC

**DOGS IN PARKS SURVEY:** surveymonkey.com/r/COMDogsInParks

The Art in Downtown survey is an NIP-funded project. Its purpose is to ask for your help to create a plan for art in Downtown Monterey. The idea is to connect a path from the Lower Presidio to the Royal Presidio Chapel on Church Street, provide outdoor public art identifying Monterey’s historic and cultural assets, and to aid point-to-point way-finding.

This project will also include a community meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2017 in the Council Chamber to review the survey results.

As part of the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, it was determined that, “dogs are an integral part of the Monterey community, and should be provided reasonable access to City parks, including on-leash and off-leash areas throughout the City.” Your participation in the survey will help us make Monterey parks more welcoming to residents, visitors and dogs, while maintaining safety and cleanliness for all.

The results of the survey are scheduled to be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission at their regular November 16th meeting at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 580 Pacific Street in Monterey.

A link to both surveys can also be found at monterey.org/residents (Art Survey closes October 27 and Dog Survey closes November 3, 2017)
On September 12, 2017 the City of Monterey sent out a news release letting the community know that advertising of short term residential rentals is prohibited in Monterey neighborhoods. Enforcement of Monterey City Code (MCC), Section 22-19.5 "Advertisement of short-term rentals" ordinance has begun. To date, we have sent out over eighty warning letters to owners of properties in non-compliance and close to 35 citations have been issued.

Now you can join in the effort to work toward full compliance throughout Monterey neighborhoods. The City of Monterey is working with Host Compliance, a leading provider of short-term rental compliance monitoring and enforcement solutions for local governments.

Host Compliance offers two ways you can report addresses that are potentially in violation: a short term rental telephone hotline - 435-STR-HELP (787-7357) - and an online form to submit your complaint - hostcompliance.com/tips. Both reporting options are available 24 hours a day/seven days a week for neighbors to report non-emergency problems related to short-term rental properties.

Please refer to the September 12th news release for more details about fines and the ordinance.

Thank you for your awareness, interest and support in ensuring advertising of short term rentals doesn’t adversely impact Monterey neighborhoods and residents’ abilities to find affordable housing options.

Learn more about the City Code at monterey.org/codecompliance

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The Monterey Hotel Apartment Project is located at 406 Alvarado Street. It provides 18 new affordable housing units in Downtown Monterey. The project was originally conceived in 2004. Unfortunately, the original development company went bankrupt during the economic recession in 2008 and the project was left unfinished for many years as ownership issues were resolved.

The City has worked more recently with Mr. Dan Silverie to finish the project. Mr. Silverie completed construction of the units and will manage them for the City for the next 55 years.
The City of Monterey's North Fremont Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and Safety Improvement Project was awarded a highly competitive Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) grant worth $1,933,000. These funds augment the Active Transportation Program grant funding and bring the amount available for the construction phase of this project to $8,600,333. The construction, including construction management and contingency, is now fully funded.

"By installing a protected bike lane adjacent to the median, we eliminate various conflict points caused by the high number of driveways on North Fremont," said Senior Civil Engineer Andrea Renny. "We are creating a multi-modal corridor that includes bike protected intersections which will enhance safety as well as provide better transportation options."

Class IV bike lanes have generated up to a 400% increase in ridership in other cities as well as provided an economic benefit to adjacent businesses. Protected bike lanes have also shown to be popular, safe, and effective for users of all ages and skill levels.

This project will:

- increase biking and walking trips;
- improve mobility for non-motorized users;
- reduce vehicle trips, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- enhance public health by making non-motorized travel a better travel option on North Fremont, and;
- enhance the character and appeal of North Fremont as a multi modal corridor.

Project design is expected to be completed by October 2017. After review and approval from Caltrans, staff expects to award a contract for construction in January of 2018.

Learn more and keep up-to-date on this project by referring to the project web page at monterey.org/NFremontBikePed, and subscribe to email updates. You can also subscribe to general city construction news at monterey.org/construction. More examples of Class IV bike lanes are available at https://bikeportland.org/2013/06/12/new-idea-for-foster-road-a-center-median-bike-lane-88227

New $1.93 million grant funding will put bike lanes in the middle of North Fremont Street

TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING OFFICE

Learn more and sign up for email updates at monterey.org/NFremontBikePed
Traffic Engineering Office at a glance

BY ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST LAURIE HUELGA

Weather, travel and what's happening this weekend – those topics take up much of any day’s conversation. That's why the Traffic Engineering Office at the City of Monterey is so busy!

They have to manage traffic control for every construction project that impacts roads, every event that impacts roads, and work on new and major projects that impact and can improve the quality of life for the community. Quite a full job.

Fortunately, city traffic engineers are savvy to learning about what works in other larger communities around the country and the world, as well as how to get funding through state, federal and other grant channels.

Here's just a few of the major (mostly grant-funded) projects the Traffic Engineering Office has undertaken in the past few years:

- **The Holman Highway 68 Roundabout** - the City of Monterey was the lead agency with management of the project handled by the Transportation Agency of Monterey County (TAMC). This first of it's kind project in Monterey County is now completed and considered a success story.

- **Vision Zero** is an international road traffic safety movement – its ultimate goal: to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries among all road users. The City of Monterey is working to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan.

- Last year, the City hosted over 20 educational events as part of its traffic safety education program, “Walk & Bike Safe in Monterey,” including classroom presentations, bike and pedestrian rodeos. *(Funded by the State Office of Traffic Safety (OTS))*

- **Traffic Signal Adaptive System** - Adaptive traffic control systems are the latest technology for improving traffic conditions by better synchronizing and controlling traffic signals.

  The Lighthouse Adaptive System project was funded by AB2766 Emissions Reduction Grant funding and the City’s Neighborhood Improvement Program. The cost of research, design and installation was $668,000.

  The next phase is to procure funding and install the same adaptive system on Lighthouse between David and Hoffman, Del Monte Avenue and North Fremont Avenue Corridors. *(see article image)*

- **Staff have been working on a new wayfinding sign program** that will encompass new signs to better steer tourists to there destinations and thus reduce traffic congestion.

- The **North Fremont Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and Safety Improvement Project** was awarded a highly competitive Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) grant worth $1,933,000. These funds augment the Active Transportation Program grant funding and bring the amount available for the construction phase of this project to $8,600,333. Learn more and keep up-to-date at monterey.org/NFremontBikPed

- **Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program** – A $495,000 grant from Caltrans Active Transportation Program will help the city reduce congestion by working with employers to stagger start time and encourage workers to walk, ride their bikes and use public transportation.

- **Systematic Safety Analysis Report Program (SSARP)** - $198,000 State funded, out of 79 applications only 28 projects were selected. The SSARP will address safety for people walking, biking, and driving on 4 specific corridors in the City (Del Monte, Franklin, Munras and Pacific). The SSARP will identify safety projects eligible for Federal safety funding.

This is just a sampling of all the projects from the Traffic Engineering Office totaling over $10M from highly competitive grant funding.
The four year Measure P funding is over two years into implementation. The Measure P Second Year Report summarizes all that has been accomplished up to June 30, 2017. Major headway has been made in fixing streets, sidewalks, storm drains, and improving accessibility through ADA improvements. The report is available in a mobile-friendly version, or as a PDF. Print copies are also available in the public City offices. A third year report will be published next summer.

Find links to both versions at monterey.org/fixingstreets.

Have a great idea for a neighborhood improvement?

**NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Now is the time to submit your idea to the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP)! A NIP project is any public improvement (not on private property) that improves streets, storm drains, sewers, sidewalks, walkways, lighting, traffic control devices, landscaping and beautification, parks, recreational facilities and other public building improvements.

Complete the NIP Project Nomination Form and submit your idea. The deadline to submit a project is February 9, 2018 but we encourage you to send it in by December 1, 2017.

Established in 1985, the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) directs tourist-generated dollars directly back into the City’s residential neighborhoods. Under a Charter Amendment, at least 16 percent of the money collected through hotel taxes (Transient Occupancy Tax) must be spent on neighborhood and community improvements. This fiscal year more than $3 million will be allocated to the NIP.

Over the past thirty years the NIP has invested over $55 million into the City for the benefit of the community. Watch for the schedule of upcoming meetings starting in spring 2018.

Example: new batting cages at Jack’s Ballpark

**PROJECT NOMINATION FORM**

monterey.org/nip

(831) 646-3887
Alvarado Street is book-ended with two exciting projects. On one end, the Monterey Conference Center is nearly finished with a $60 million renovation. On the other end, the long shuttered Cooper-Molera Adobe complex is beginning it’s own revitalization.

The 2.5 acre property dates to 1827. Ship captain and trader John Rogers Cooper immigrated to Monterey and married into a prominent Mexican family. They expanded the property over three generations. The adobe-walled complex includes historic adobe structures, barns and a garden. For many years, the property has had limited access to the public and growing, unfunded restoration needs.

Foothill Partners, the developers behind the Trader Joe’s shopping center next door, is partnering with the owners of the property, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, for a $6.5 million restoration. This “shared use” project will combine museum space and historic interpretation with compatible commercial uses that are appropriate to the historic setting.

The iconic barns are going through a seismic retrofit. They will be reopened as an event center. The Spear Warehouse will hold a restaurant with outdoor seating in its courtyard. A bakery is coming to the store on the corner of Munras and Polk streets. The long-shuttered gates will be open, and the public can enjoy the beautiful “learning gardens.” This public-private partnership will establish a creative funding model which will preserve this historic site and maintain museum operations in the Cooper and Diaz adobes.

For updates on the project, visit coopermolera.org. Documentary videos on the project can be found below and at youtube.com/cityofmonterey. (The is not a City of Monterey project.)
Upgrades to the Marina Landfill

BY SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR TED TERRASAS

The City of Monterey is one of nine member agencies of the Monterey Regional Waste Management District, also known as the Marina Landfill or MRWMD. Formation of the MRWMD was an effort undertaken by local cities and the County back in the 60’s to address the issue of handling solid waste in the most efficient way possible.

Things have definitely changed since the 60’s, and we are in a brave new world of solid waste management. To keep pace with new requirements, the MRWMD is undergoing an upgrade process in order to meet the solid waste challenges of today and beyond.

The key part of the renovation is happening to the Materials Recovery Facility or MRF, which is a large building at the MRWMD where a great deal of material is taken for sorting before sending it out to the landfill area of the facility. As you can imagine, the MRF is a critical component of the MRWMD because the more material that is sorted the less material needs to be buried.

The new MRF will involve a new mechanized process for sorting materials so that more waste streams can be sorted better than ever before. For example, household and commercial garbage has traditionally been collected by waste trucks and taken directly to the landfill for disposal. With the new MRF, this material can actually be sorted before disposal, further increasing the recycling rate for all member agencies.

In addition, the upgraded MRF will also allow us to meet the new State law (CalGreen) for construction and demolition material requiring that 65% of that material be diverted from the landfill. The State requirement just increased from 50% as of January 1, 2017, so it is very timely that the new MRF will be coming online very soon!

Monterey.org/subscribe

The City of Monterey continues to evolve the City’s communications strategy to improve community outreach and build community awareness of services and programs.

We encourage you to sign up to receive the quarterly City Focus newsletter as well as other topics of interest in your email box. You can now subscribe to receive City Council and Planning Commission agendas via email. Manage all your email subscription choices at: monterey.org/subscribe
The Monterey Police Department held its first Community Police Academy in almost five years on September 06, 2017. Twenty-five community members representing small business, neighborhood associations and local government started the academy, which will end on November 15, 2017.

The concept of the Community Police Academy started in the United Kingdom almost half a century ago. A police night academy was implemented to introduce the community to the police department and various functions and operations of the organization.

The newly revamped Monterey Police Department’s Community Academy is a dynamic, exciting and informative class. Held at the police department weekly and consist of three hours sessions for eleven weeks. The class time includes an introduction to the organization, 21st century policing, patrol procedures, traffic enforcement, field training, juvenile laws, detective bureau, special response unit, firearms safety, volunteer program, police records and various other department programs.

The objective of the program is to provide the participants with positive insight into the difficult challenges of today’s law enforcement personnel and to promote and develop partnerships with our community members.

The next Academy is expected to begin in the spring of 2018. Interested participates can watch for ways to sign up via the website, social media including Nextdoor, and email.

The completion of the Holman Highway 68 Roundabout Project was celebrated on Thursday, October 12, 2017. This landmark transportation achievement is the first of its kind in Monterey County. It is a success in many ways, and shows how public-private agencies can work together to achieve something that will benefit the community for generations.

See more photos at https://www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmonterey/albums/72157689374844656
New rip current warning signs aim to improve ocean safety

State Beach near Seaside. The signs will help promote awareness of how to identify rip currents and other unsafe ocean conditions. The signs are in English and Spanish.

The NOAA approved signs were funded by the City of Monterey and the Wahine Project.

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Featured Public Art - "Sanctuary"

Created in 2000 by three local artists, Michael Duffy, Tibor Hajagos and John Random, the sculpture was first inspired as a temporary sculpture to commemorate California's Sesquicentennial (150 years of statehood). The project featured a fountain surrounded by a sphere of kelp and highlighted various aspects of California's history that led the way to statehood. The piece, titled "on the Golden Road", was placed in the custom House Plaza for more than year.

The sculptors donated the center sphere to the City of Monterey where it has been refinished and installed in a fabricated tide-pool base at the edge of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary, hence the new title, "Sanctuary".

Working together, the sculptors and the City of Monterey completed the installation of this whimsical sculpture in 2001 and it was dedicated on November 9th, 2001. The piece is a cast, bronze sphere of seaweed and kelp standing in a tide-pool of rocks and sea creatures with a continuous flow of water from the center sculpted fountain.

Enjoy the sculpture in person at San Carlos Beach Park on Cannery Row.
CALL IF YOU CAN, TEXT IF YOU CAN’T… that is the message being spread by Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito County emergency communications centers. You can now text 911 to reach emergency responders in the tri-county area. Texting to 9-1-1 can be a benefit to those who are hearing impaired or in a situation where calling may put them at a greater risk such as domestic violence, while hiding from an intruder, or in a vehicle being driven by a drunk driver.

Texting 9-1-1 should be used as a last resort as calling 9-1-1 is faster; text messages can take longer to receive and may come in out of sequence. Location accuracy isn’t always as good as calling and, if you’re roaming or the text can’t get through, it will bounce back with a message saying “call 9-1-1.”

Currently there are no language translation services available; all text messages to 9-1-1 must be in English using the Latin (regular) character set. The text messages should not include acronyms, emojis, or photos and they cannot be sent as a group message.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech disabled and the service is unavailable, use a teletypewriter or TTY if available.

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**Favorite recent social media posts - a great way to stay in touch!**

**BY MEDIA ASSISTANT ERIC PALMER**

**TWEET**

Text to 911 service goes live in Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito counties


Stats: 5,564 views

**INSTAGRAM (September 9)**

California turns 167 today! Did you know that Monterey is where "California was born”? Pictured is Colton Hall, where the California constitution was drafted and signed. New lighting helps highlight this magnificent building in the evening. Colored filters will help celebrate holidays, themes and events throughout the year. Happy birthday Golden State!

Stats: 11,100 views
Home for the holidays - helping you plan your holiday activities

With the end of another year coming soon, so too come many local holiday events and activities. To help you keep track of all the happenings, the City posts a holiday events page at monterey.org/holidayevents. This page lists City or City-sponsored events.

Some of the posted events include Tuba Christmas, Christmas in the Adobes, Tree Lighting at Colton Hall, Brighten the Harbor Boat Parade, and the Community Band Winter Concert.

We hope it helps you organize and plan some fun during the busy holiday season.

monterey.org/holidayevents
The Library’s California History Room & Archives will host dozens of students in the coming months as they conduct research for their History Day projects. History Day is sponsored by a Maryland-based non-profit organization that invites students to compete on local, state, and national level with projects including papers, performances, storyboards, documentary films and websites, based on a common theme. The program requires students to select a topic from history, research, analyze and present narrative that interprets the History Day theme. The program engages students with new perspectives, fosters a love and appreciation for history, promotes critical thinking and problem solving, and teaches research skills and project management.

To avail themselves of the wealth of resources in the Library, many unique to Monterey, students are encouraged to pursue History Day topic focusing on Monterey’s history. The California History Room & Archives contains materials which illuminate the social, cultural, geographic and economic history of the Monterey region dating from the pre-Spanish period. The collections include 7,000 books and magazines, 800 historic maps and charts, 1,000 separate archival collections, containing over 7,500 items, over 40,000 historic photographic images, and 1,200 clipping folders containing over 50,000 articles on various aspects of local history. The Library is currently in the process of developing a second archival vault to store and preserve these growing collections.

In addition to students, the California History Room is especially valuable to journalists, historians, writers, genealogists, teachers and other researchers all year round. The Library also presents quarterly history events.

On October 15, 3:00 p.m., the Library hosted a slide-illustrated lecture, “Between Two Worlds: The San Salvador’s 21st Century Voyage into the 16th Century” with State Historic Parks Interpretive Manager, Michael Green. This event is part of Historic Monterey’s History Fest.

On December 6, the Library’s 1849 Society will present a fascinating talk by John Sanders, author of "An Illustrated View of Historic Hotel Del Monte" in the La Novia Room at the Naval Postgraduate School.

For cost and full details, please email thongchu@monterey.org.
Summer recreation by the numbers

Monterey Recreation and Monterey Sports Center programs drew some impressive attendance this summer. Participant numbers:

- Camps Total = 1,092
- Camp Quien Sabe (CQS) - 465
- CWS Family Camp - 86
- Whispering Pines Day Camp - 541

- Playground Program Participants - 365
- Field Sports, Youth Summer Sports Camps: 203
- Field Sports, Adult Softball Leagues: 48 Teams (950+ participants)

Community Center Totals for June and July - 19,040

- Casanova Attendance - 7,676
- Scholze Park Center - 6,327
- Hilltop Park Center - 2,892
- Monterey Youth Center - 2,145

Monterey Sports Center Totals for June and July - 92,433

- Monterey Sports Center Sports Camp - 709
- Monterey Sports Center Cheerleading Camp - 135
- Monterey Sports Center Work Experience Program - 115

Special Events:

- 4th of July Lawn Party
  - Total Attendance - 10,000 people
- 1,300 tootsie pops
- 6,000 carnival prizes
- 1,041 children visited the Jump Houses

- Family Fun Day at
  - COKPC - 169
- Movie in the Park at COKPC - 787

Thanks to all who participated!

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play! Monterey Activities Guide - Winter/Spring Registration
BY RECREATION SUPERVISOR SHANNON LEON

Start planning Winter/Spring activities, when the Winter/Spring issue of play! Monterey (good December-May) hits the streets Monday, October 23. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 25 and sign up for camps, school break programs, field sports, aquatics, gymnastics, tot classes, dance, music and drama, and arts and crafts programs.

A variety of new programs will also be offered including Italian for Kids, Crazy About Construction, Square Dancing, Art Instruction for Adults, Magical Unicorn Adventures, STEM with Play-Well Teknologies/LEGO® and much more!

Winter/Spring Registration – Open to All!
- Begins Wednesday, October 25

Monterey Recreation Administration Office,
- 546 Dutra Street
- Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm

Monterey Sports Center, 301 E. Franklin Street
- Registration for MSC begins at 5:30am

Guides will be available online at monterey.org/rec or at the Monterey Recreation Administration Office at 546 Dutra Street, 646-3866.
As a member of Sister Cities International, the City of Monterey has made a commitment to establishing relevant connections with cities around the world for the mutual benefit of the communities.

Monterey's newest and seventh sister city is the Isola delle Femmine in the Sicilian region of Italy.

Isola delle Femmine is the birthplace of many people of Italian heritage that have lived in Monterey; a large group of people currently residing in Monterey are originally from Isola delle Femmine or have ancestors that came from Isola delle Femmine; the people of Isola delle Femmine are primarily fishermen who pioneered the fishing and canning industry which flourished in Monterey; Isola delle Femmine is a coastal city, a favorite for tourists, well known for its fishing industry, nature reserve and coastal beauty.

Establishing a sister city bond will perpetuate community pride and mutual cultural benefits; the social and cultural benefits of this relationship will reach hundreds of residents of both cities.

The goal of sister cities, fostered by membership in Sister Cities International, is to connect globally, thrive locally - and to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation — one individual, one community at a time.

Watch for sister city news and updates and ways to get involved at monterey.org/sistercities.

Let's celebrate Monterey's beauty and community. Photographers of all ages are invited to enter their best, high resolution images celebrating our community in the City of Monterey Photography Contest. Entering is easy and free.

For more information visit monterey.org/photocontest or call (831) 242-8750