



City Manager's Update

Photo: Otter mom and her pup floating in the Harbor.

April 21, 2018

America lost one of its best this week, with the passing of former First Lady, Barbara Bush. Mrs. Bush is remembered not only for setting a great example for future First Ladies but, more importantly, for how she treated people, regardless of their political viewpoints. Her kindness, unceasing commitment to volunteerism and penchant for helping those who were less fortunate are an example for us all to follow.

Morro Bay also lost two of its finest over the past few months. Harold "Bud" Anderson and Jim Phillips were long-time fixtures of our community who gave of themselves to make Morro Bay a great place to live. They will be missed tremendously by their friends and families and all those they met here in Morro Bay.

As we progress into Spring 2018, staff is working hard to put the final touches on the draft Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget. Staff

will first present a budget overview to the Citizens Financial Advisory Committee on Wednesday, April 25, at 3:30 p.m. in the Veterans Hall. Staff will then present the draft budget to City Council on May 8 and May 9 (more details to come). We hope you can either attend these meetings or watch from home. And, please submit your thoughts and ideas about our budget by email to council@morrobayca.gov.

This City Manager update presents important information from most of our departments, including key dates for the wastewater project, a critical request of residents regarding fire prevention, and a snapshot of a unique partnership between our Police and Fire Departments and local high school students, among other useful information. Please review and share your thoughts with me either by phone, 805-772-6206, or email scollins@morrobayca.gov.

Public Works

Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Update

The WRF project is reaching some very important milestones with regard to environmental review, permitting, external funding and cost estimates. As such, members of the community are encouraged to get engaged and participate in upcoming meetings.

Upcoming WRF public meetings and other important dates

- April 25, 2018, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Veterans Hall – Public Forum
 - Comprehensive WRF project update
 - Question and Answers segment facilitated by the League of Women Voters
- May 1, 2018, 3:00p.m., Veterans Hall – WRF Citizens Advisory Committee
 - Review the Draft EIR
- May 8, 2018 – Proposals for the WRF facility are due on this date (two firms are in the process of preparing and submitting design-build proposals for the proposed facility). These proposals will help inform the overall costs for the project.
- May 18, 2018 – Public comments due on the Draft EIR.

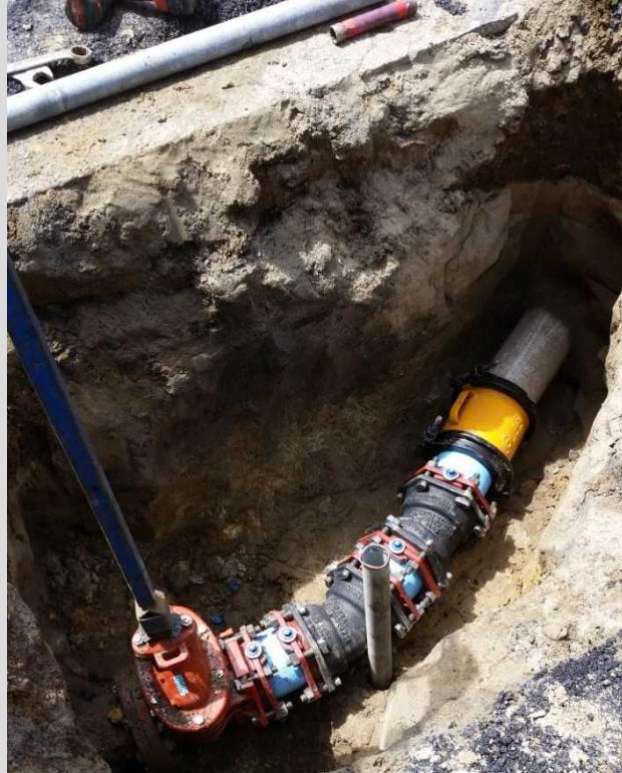
For more information about the WRF project, please visit: <http://morrobaywrf.com>.

Water and Wastewater

Chad Rocha, City Wastewater Systems Operator, coordinated a sewer system maintenance and repair workshop conducted by Kent Carlson, Collections Operations Manager from the City of Los Angeles, Jeremy Haskins from Mission Clay Products, and John Pouge from Advanced Nozzles. The class was certified by CJPIA and well attended by our neighboring agencies of Atascadero, Cayucos, San Luis Obispo, and Paso Robles.



City Water Division staff changed out a water system shut off valve at Yerba Buena St. and Tide Ave. The job was complicated by the large irregular angle offset between the two pipes. Through the use of multiple differing angle connectors, staff was able to make a safe and secure connection helping to insure years of trouble free operation.



Consolidated Maintenance Bi-Weekly Report, Top Work Items

The Del Mar restrooms are scheduled for a Grand Opening on Friday, May 4, just in time for summer!

1. Streets: Installed and finish 4 tons of Hot Mix Asphalt at 2650 Ironwood, 801 Morro Bay Blvd., 1241 Embarcadero and 190 Bradley.
2. Streets: Poured and finished concrete in two tree wells at 2700 block of Main Street that we can't plant trees in.
3. Streets: Replaced stop sign at San Jacinto/Alder and 25 mph sign at Sierra/Piney.
4. Streets: Filled potholes around town with Cold Mix Asphalt.
5. Trees: Cut and hauled fallen limbs at 805 Main and fallen/hanging limbs from the Bike Path near the power plant.
6. Trees: Cleared and hauled large wood chip pile at 2831 Fir.
7. Del Mar: Completed exterior facade with paper, lath and stucco and completed plumbing, electrical and soffit.
8. Harbor Restroom: Installed new temperature mixing valve for Men's shower.
9. MBFD: Replaced and installed exhaust snorkel assembly in engine bay.
10. MBFD: Planted plants and installed drip irrigation in front of building.

11. MBCC: Repaired kitchen stove, removed burners and chased flame jets for proper operation.
12. MBPD: Installed new electrical circuit with outlets in annex for evidence refrigerator. Moved refrigerator from the main building and installed new freezer in its place.
13. Public Works: Installed new foundation flashing, downspout, hardware and silicone caulking in front.
14. Teen Center: Replaced ballasts and bulbs, repaired front threshold and locking mechanism.
15. A wandering Bee Hive was removed from the Trolley Stop near the Morro Rock restrooms by an Apiarist and relocated to the Chorro Valley.



Very, very carefully removing a wandering bee hive

Police

Working with High School Students to Save Lives

The Morro Bay Police Department participated “the Next 15 Minutes”, a major educational program designed to raise student awareness for alcohol abuse and the devastating consequences of teen drunk driving. This two-day event involved a tragic mock traffic accident where one student was killed, one paralyzed and the teen drunk driver offender faced the life-changing consequences of one bad decision. Morro Bay PD partnered with our Fire Department, CHP, Morro Bay High School students and faculty and other first responders who made this sobering educational event one that all will remember. The second day included a school assembly mock funeral and a powerful talk from a parent whose daughter was tragically

killed by a drunk driver. MBPD will continue to partner with our schools to enhance student safety.



MBPD partake in a mock drunk driver accident at Morro Bay High School

Tourism

Citywide Yard Sale a Success

Despite a rainy Saturday during last week's Annual Citywide Yard Sale, Morro Bay was still on a great display of unique and fun finds citywide! Starting the Annual Sale "in full force" Friday -vs- previous years of just a "Preview-Friday" made a significant different in the Thursday overnight hotel stays. Total hotel room stays on Thursday night were 606. We did have some cancellations due to rain but otherwise it was well attended, and the higher Thursday night room bookings were great! Total hotel stays for Friday were 569 and 547 on Saturday. February final numbers were published for Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT). Morro Bay had an increase of 8% over last year in total OCC Rate (Occupancy Rate) and ADR (Average Daily Rate) rose by \$10. Both measures show continuing growth in our tourism economy.

2018	2017	2018	2017
\$106	\$96	55%	47%
ADR		OCC RATE	



Come celebrate
the launch of summer
community programs!

- Junior Guard Swim Assessment
- Class Demonstrations
- Food & Athletic Gear Vendors

SATURDAY,
MAY 12TH

Opening Ceremony
12:00 - 12:15

Safety Scavenger Hunt
12:15 - 1:30

Rec Swim
1:30 - 4:00



JOLYN
SWIMWEAR



Located at MBHS Aquatics Center, 235 Atascadero Road, Morro Bay, CA 93442



MORRO BAY RECREATION SERVICES

1001 Kennedy Way, Morro Bay, CA 93442 ~ (805)772-6278
www.morrobayca.gov • www.facebook.com/CityofMorroBay

Fire Chief Steve Knuckles

Receives award from

Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation.



During National Volunteer Appreciation Week, the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation recognizes volunteers that have outdone themselves for the burn survivors that we serve. The Burn Survivor Award goes to three people who consistently take the lead in our survivor service events and support groups. We know we can always count on them and they exemplify what we often say about our organization: We are volunteer run, staff supported!

The Central Valley Burn Survivor Award goes to Steve Knuckles! Our Central CA Regional Manager, Amy "Lotus" McPherson had to say this about Knuckles:

"Steve Knuckles has been with AARBF for about 30 years. He has been a massively influential member of the AARBF family. He has participated in countless burn survivor events, fundraisers, as well as being instrumental in the expansion of our Firefighters in Safety Education (FISE) burn prevention program throughout the state of California. Knuckles first volunteered with the AARBF in 1990, when he was a Firefighter with Atascadero and participated in the Central Coast Fire Chief's Burn Relay. He's served on the Board of Directors for 10 years. In his time with AARBF, he has supported and attended the Ski Trip, Surf trip, Waterslide Day at Champ Camp, Young Adult Summit, The Retreat, and many fundraisers, like the Central Coast Fire Chief's Burn Relay, and many other events. In addition to helping with a variety of programs, he has been a longtime supporter of FISE. He has been instrumental in the expansion of FISE throughout the region. However, today we'd like to celebrate his efforts in supporting burn survivors. It's been an absolute pleasure serving with Knuckles at a variety of events, and we sincerely appreciate his support for burn survivors across the state." Congratulations Steve!



Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grant

FEMA has announced that the *Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grant (SAFER)* application period will close on Friday, April 27 at 5:00 p.m. This year's allocation is \$345 million

for recruitment and retention activities, as well as hiring additional firefighters. The primary goal of the SAFER Grant is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments. This funding is for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

We are seeking Federal funding through this (SAFER) Grant to assist us maintaining our current staffing and reduce our future CalPERS liability with our Reserve Firefighter program. The primary goal of the SAFER grant is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments to increase the abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the NFPA (NFPA 1710 and/or NFPA 1720). Grant funding awards are scheduled after July 1, 2018 and, if we are successful, we will be presenting a proposal to reduce immediate and long-term payroll costs, stabilize our daily staffing, enhance our Reserve



Firefighter program, and decrease our CalPERS liability.

Help Firefighters Prepare for Fire Season by Clearing Weeds

It is that time of the year again, and residents of Morro Bay are encouraged to get an early start on weed abatement. The Morro Bay Fire Department mission, through its hazard reduction program, is to eliminate vegetative growth and/or refuse which may constitute a fire or life and safety hazard.

Letters are sent to all property owners around May 1, advising residents that properties must be abated (cut) by June 15. Please note that if properties are cut early and regrowth occurs, it is your responsibility to further abate the vegetation growth prior to June 15.

Inspections begin June 16 to identify parcels that have hazardous vegetative growth and/or refuse. Following the inspections, properties found in violation, after the June 15 deadline, are notified of specific violation(s) and given 5 days to comply, prior to the Administrative Citation process.

Harbor

Eight Bells

On Saturday, April 21, the Morro Bay Yacht Club will lead a memorial service and vessel procession in honor of Jim Phillips, who passed on February 18, 2018. Jim was a long-time club member and officer, including Commodore in 2006, and served a very long stint on the Harbor Advisory Board, including many of those years as Chairman. He was deeply involved in the community and harbor and will be greatly missed.

Harold “Bud” Anderson, Morro Bay fixture and legend, passed on March 21, 2018 at the age of 93. Bud was known and loved throughout Morro Bay. Bud and Rita Anderson’s three children, Jeff, Mollie and Roger, grew up on Morro Bay’s waterfront, a legacy that continues today at the Anderson Inn. Both Bud and Rita were recipients of Morro Bay’s Living Treasure Award. Honoring Bud’s wishes, there will be no public ceremony.

Happenings on the Bay

Morro Bay Yacht Club opening day was Sunday, April 15, which was also the opening day for the bay race fleet. Several club members paraded their vessels throughout the harbor, while the bay fleet raced.

Blessing of the Fleet takes place on Sunday, April 22. Join us at noon for this tradition that began in Mediterranean fishing communities centuries ago. This inter-faith ceremony is a blessing from local priests and pastors meant to ensure a safe and bountiful season. The service will begin at the North T-Pier, and the Harbor Patrol and Coast Guard will transport the priests and pastors to various commercial and other vessels throughout the bay. This will be followed by a tri-tip BBQ and potluck at the Vet’s Hall after 1:00 pm. A photo of last year’s ceremony is included.



The Army Corps of Engineers’ dredge ship Yaquina, seen here, is scheduled to arrive May 1 for approximately 17 days of dredging our harbor entrance. This annual occurrence keeps our

harbor entrance sufficiently deep to minimize steep and breaking winter swells from closing the harbor to traffic.



Recreational rockfish season opened April 1, and recreational salmon season opened April 7. While rockfish fishing is going typically strong, salmon catches are fewer and farther between, although fish are being caught.

Training

On April 18, the Harbor Patrol practiced surf rescue drills with Coast Guard Station Morro Bay. The Coast Guard's rescue dummy "Oscar" was put through his paces, seen here on the back of the Harbor Patrol's rescue watercraft sled.



Thank you again for taking time to read this and previous updates. We hope you find it useful and encourage you to share your thoughts about how to improve this communication moving forward.

Sincerely,

Scott Collins
City Manager