



City Manager's Update

August 5, 2022

City Council recently adopted the [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2022-23 Budget](#), which funds the City operations—Police, Fire, Harbor, Community Development, Maintenance, Engineering, Recreation, Transportation, and Water and Sewer Utilities, and Supporting Administration—that our community depends upon at \$34.9 million, while investing \$19.2 million in capital projects to maintain our infrastructure and also setting aside reserve funds to weather future emergencies/downturns.

Key capital projects funded this year include:

- Water Reclamation Facility (completing the treatment plant and conveyance portions of the project in time to meet the State's Time Schedule Order)
- Other OneWater projects – water tanks, sewer lines and stormwater replacements and repairs throughout the City
- City Street's Safety & Improvements – two paving projects, traffic speed survey, funding for improvements to the HWY1/41/Main Street intersection, and other projects
- ADA improvements – Improve access for folks with disabilities in parks and elsewhere
- Planning and Capital Assessments – City will assess its infrastructure needs in its facilities and in the waterfront area, and plan for boat launch ramp improvements

Thank you to the community for passage of Measure E and Q, which funds four police officers, four firefighters, three park and waterfront maintenance workers and part-time harbor patrol and lifeguards positions. Measure E/Q is also instrumental in supporting several of the above listed capital projects. We appreciate your support for these services and projects!

Thanks!

Scott Collins, City Manager

COVID-19 Update

Our City staff and volunteers continue to coordinate with San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department, our County's EOC, helping our workforce, volunteers, and citizens to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The number of daily cases of COVID-19 has trended up in recent weeks, with no changes to overall protocols.

The current California Department of Public Health face mask guidance strongly recommends but no longer requires individuals mask in indoor public settings or on public transit. Masks are still required for all individuals regardless of vaccination status in healthcare settings, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, and long-term care facilities. While the mask mandate has been lifted, folks may choose to continue to wear them. For those who have questions about which masks are most effective, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a helpful [resource](#).

The COVID-19 testing sites in San Luis Obispo, Grover Beach, and Paso Robles are open Monday – Friday from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, closed for lunch and dinner from 11 am - noon and 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm. The Grover Beach test site is available those same hours Monday – Thursday (closed on Fridays). Learn more at <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/COVID-19.aspx>.

City Hall, the Shasta building (Community Development and Public Works) and the Harbor Office are opened with modified hours Monday through Thursday (8:00 am to 12:00 pm). The Police and Fire administration buildings will remain open during normal business hours. Recreation Services at the Community Center is open Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm and the Senior Center is open Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. City Council and advisory body meetings are holding hybrid meetings that allow members of the public to attend in-person at the Veterans Hall or view meetings and provide public comment via Zoom.

SLO County and cities within the region, including Morro Bay, are encouraging members of the community to take advantage of vaccines and booster shots. The vaccines are safe, effective, and free for all members of the community ages 5 and up. All three COVID-19 vaccines and boosters effectively prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death. The County has a helpful webpage for [vaccine information](#).

Remember to [get tested](#) if you have upper respiratory symptoms, such as sniffles or sneezing, or if you think you may have been exposed. If you test positive, please isolate following the [CDC guidelines](#). If you haven't already done so, get your vaccine, and a [booster shot](#) if you are eligible. Thank you for doing your part to stay safe and healthy!

Employee Spotlight

CITY OF MORRO BAY EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Tracy McConnell, Administrative Technician

Department: Fire

Years Employed at City: 4-1/2 years

Ideal Place: At home in Morro Bay, surrounded by my happy family.

Best Part of Job: People I work with, in all departments. I love to make them smile, laugh, and be helpful.

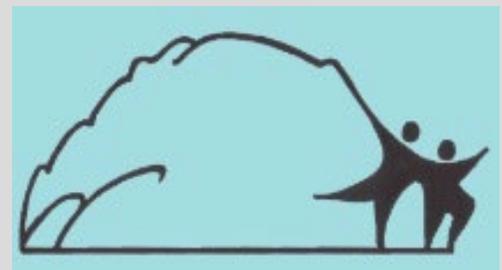
Describe Your Work: I take care of people who take care of people. While they save lives, I do the administrative work necessary to support them.

Fun Fact: I jumped off the top of colonnade into the Neptune Pool at Hearst Castle. I played soccer with members of the USA World Women's Team.

Police

Morro Bay PD Provides Active Shooter Presentation to Morro Bay Active Adults

On July 8th, officers from the Morro Bay Police Department presented an Active Shooter presentation to help educate and prepare participants if they find themselves in an active shooter situation. The presentation emphasized the “Run, Hide, Fight”, response to help prepare citizens when confronted with an active shooter. The active adults group also toured the community center facility to help members prepare in case of an emergency at the facility.



MBPD Runs for Special Olympics

The Morro Bay Police Department participated in this year's Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, held in San Luis Obispo. The event gathers law enforcement agencies throughout the county to run the streets of SLO in a show of support and raises funds for the Special Olympics. The Morro Bay Police Department will be holding a fundraising BBQ in the coming months, to raise money for Special Olympics athletes. Details will be provided on Morro Bay Police Department Facebook page.



Chief and Officers join in the fun on the 4th of July Bike Parade

Chief Cox led the parade on the department motorcycle while officers and volunteers helped move the parade along the Embarcadero. The annual 4th of July Bike Parade ("Red," White and Blue – renamed after former Councilmember Robert "Red" Davis) started at the pedestrian bridge near the pit parking lot and traveled along the Embarcadero, ending at Tidelands Park. This was the kickoff to this year's Family Fun Day hosted by Parks and Recreation. MBPD looks forward to this event every year and hopes to see more families on bikes next year.



Senior Officer Jason Ta Recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

On July 12th, Senior Officer Jason Ta was recognized by MADD California for his 25 DUI arrests in 2021, making him the top DUI officer for MBPD. Senior Officer Ta was recognized and honored for his dedication to DUI enforcement, prevention, and traffic safety. The Recognition Awards were held in Camarillo and honored top DUI law enforcement officers throughout the San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties. Congratulations Jason!



Officers Hit the Surf with Project Surf Camp

One of the great reasons to work for MBPD is the opportunity each year to join Project Surf Camp. Project Surf Camp is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational, nonprofit organization designed specifically for individuals with special needs. Officers and family from MBPD join this amazing organization and help participants with special needs. Thank you to Project Surf Camp for allowing us to be a part of such a fun and meaningful event.



Fire

Fire Chief Update

The Fire Department responded to 145 incidents from July 1st through July 26th. Of those we responded to:

- 4 Fires
- 0 Explosion/overpressure/ Overheat (no fire)
- 101 EMS incidents
- 2 Hazardous Condition
- 17 Service Calls/ PSA
- 12 Good Intent/ Cancelled
- 9 False Alarms



From January 1st through July 1st, 2022, the Fire Department has responded to 980 incidents including 20 fires and 660 Emergency Medical Incidents.

Mutual Aid

Fire Season has begun throughout California and many other states. Division Chief Matt Vierra just returned after a 21-day assignment in Alaska. Chief Vierra was part of an Incident Management Team that was assigned to the Minto Complex burning near the north Pole and Fairbanks Alaska. The Minto Lakes fire burned 37,554 acres of timber and brush.

On Saturday July 23rd the Morro Bay Fire Department sent Engine 5391 to the Oak Fire in Mariposa County. The engine is staffed by Captain Scott Subler, Engineer Andrew Schechter, Firefighter Casey Robertshaw, and Seasonal Firefighter Tanner Russell. We are joined by engines from Five Cities Fire Authority, Camp Roberts Fire, San Luis Obispo City Fire, and CAL FIRE San Luis Obispo County Fire as part of Strike Team 1471A. The Oak Fire started on July 22nd and has burned 18,087 acres and has destroyed 41 structures as of July 26th. A total of 24 helicopters, 302 engines, 82 bulldozers, 68 water tenders, 61 hand crews, and 2,991 personnel fighting this fire. Thankfully, the fire was controlled toward the end of July.



Harbor

Harbor Patrol Activity

Harbor Patrol statistics for July 2022:

- 110 bay patrols
- 157 land patrols
- 16 emergency responses
- 107 calls for service
- 48 assists of other agencies
- 26 enforcement contacts
- 47 Trainings
- 138 maintenance actions
- 4 weather warnings, and no hazardous bar warnings

Some of the more interesting calls were:

On July 1, Harbor Patrol received a report and responded to call for an overturned Kayak at Spooners Cove in Montana do Oro State Park. On scene, the victim was located 200 yards offshore clinging to his friend's kayak. The male victim was then loaded on the patrol vessel, warmed up with a blanket and then transferred to shore by Cal Fire Boat 15 rescue watercraft. The kayak and personal contents floating around it were recovered.

On July 2, Patrol responded to a report of two paddle boards with PFD's and paddles floating unattended in the bay. The owners were found safe on the sandspit and reunited with their craft. Later that day, Patrol responded to four people stranded on the sandspit due to windy conditions and transported back to Coleman Beach where they had launched. Paddlers and boaters are reminded to check the weather forecast and tides before setting out and plan accordingly.

Also on July 2, Patrol responded to assist in locating a missing 10-year-old on the Embarcadero, in the vicinity of Pacific street. The child was located by MBPD.

On July 3, Patrol was dispatched to a surf rescue off Montana de Oro. The reporting party from shore stated a person appeared to be struggling with a sailboard, but upon Patrol's arrival, the person in question was located safely on the beach.

On July 9, Patrol received a phone report from State Parks of a dead whale in the surf in Cayucos, with sharks reportedly feeding on it and surfers in the area. Patrol located the whale and notified the proper agencies, although was unable to tow the carcass to sea. State Parks hired a contractor a few days to bury it on the beach.

On July 11, Patrol responded to a medical aid near Morro Creek for a motorized skateboarder crash on the pathway. The patient had a head injury and was transported by ambulance to the hospital after evaluation by MBFD paramedics.

Between July 12 and July 17, Patrol responded to a local commercial fisherman that had broken down in his boat off the high school in 30' of water and towed him back to his slip, a recreational vessel broken down just outside the harbor that was towed back to the launch ramp, and a 22' Boston Whaler that was broken down outside the harbor and also towed to the launch ramp.

Boat Training

Showing the ropes to new Reserve Harbor Patrol Officer Smeester is Harbor Patrol Officer Green, demonstrating throw line techniques.



4th of July Family Fun Day at Tidelands Park

Harbor Patrol participated in the annual celebration and activities, with a continual line of kids excited to spray the largest squirt gun on the bay.



Sealion Rescue

On July 25, Marine Mammal Rescue Center personnel and Harbor Patrol rescued a sealion in distress on the sandspit.



Youth Outreach and Training

Throughout the summer Harbor Patrol has youth programs like Junior Lifeguards and Kids Camp that come for training and dock talks. Sometimes as these kids grow up, they even become employees of the Harbor Department. It's never too early to start the training process.



Lifeguards for Life

This summer the Morro Bay Beach Lifeguards staff was primarily made up of 1st year Lifeguards, and not very many of them to boot compared to previous years. So, the Harbor Department reached out to a couple retired and very experienced former Lifeguards and agency partners to augment our short staffing, and we are pleased to have former local State Park Ranger/Lifeguards Robert Tolin (right) and Herb White (left) return to the beach and lend our green crew an experienced hand. Herb also has the privilege of working with his daughter, Torie (center), who is one of our Head Guards this year.



Public Works

Utilities Division

Progress on Kings tank rehabilitation continues to move forward. We are currently entering the final phase of improvements to Kings Tank 2. The contractor, Superior Tank Solutions, has completed the sandblasting of the inside of the tank and welding patches where needed. Superior Tank Solutions is currently applying the coating in the interior of this tank. The safety ladders are being repaired and fall protection is being added. The vent on the top of the tank has been upsized and sampling ports were added for water quality testing.



A tank mixer will also be added to help ensure better water quality. The Contractor is scheduled to complete this tank by mid-September.

In the next few weeks crews will begin rehabilitation work on the front two tanks at the Blanca Tank site. These tanks will be emptied and the crews will begin sandblasting the interior and welding patches where needed. The safety ladders and rails will also be repaired. The contract with Superior includes a 10-year maintenance program.

Maintenance Division

Maintenance staff recently installed cigarette receptacles at eight different locations including the Rock area and along the Embarcadero. Three receptacles were installed at the northeast area of the Rock and two were installed at the southeast area of the Rock. There is a receptacle located at Anchor Park, Centennial Park, and outside The Libertine Pub. The cigarette receptacles were given to the City by the San Luis Obispo County Tobacco Cessation Program. The goal of these installations is to reduce the number of cigarette butts left on the ground and to send an important message to the community that “The World Is Your Oyster, Not Your Ashtray.” Maintenance staff will maintain the tobacco dispensers as well as record their usage to be able to measure the impact they have on the environment.



Engineering Division

Pavement Rehabilitation: The Engineering Division recently released a Notice to Bidders (with plans and specifications) for the 2021-22 Pavement Management project. This project consists of removing failed, localized pavement areas and replacing with asphalt materials on specific city arterial and collector classified streets. Deadline for submittal of formal bids is set for Thursday, August 18th at 2:00 p.m.



Administration

The Public Works Department is in the process of hiring an Administrative Technician who will oversee the day-to-day administrative duties of the Engineering & Administration, Consolidated Maintenance, Streets, and Transit divisions that was lost in early 2020 during the initial days of the COVID-19 pandemic. The recruitment will be open until the position is filled. First round of interviews was held the last week of July and we are excited to have a new member of the Public Works team onboard sometime in August.

Water Reclamation Facility

Construction of the WRF is essentially completed and Filanc Black&Veatch (FBV) have temporarily reduced staffing on the project to save costs. The WRF treatment process is ready to be placed into service as soon as the Conveyance Facility project is completed and commissioned. FBV and City operations staff continue to work together to recirculate clean water through the facility to operate and test the process equipment. FBV is currently working on site landscaping and other various minor clean-up work. FBV is scheduled to re-mobilize in September and prepare for the facility receiving wastewater, and commissioning the biological process, currently anticipated for early October 2022.



WRF - Conveyance

Anvil Builders has now nearly completed all “joint trench” construction throughout the project sites. Major trench work in street areas is now completed, or will be completed in the coming weeks. There are only a few remaining extended pipeline segments to be completed in the coming weeks, however other smaller underground street work will continue into September. Work on the piping Utility Bridge at Morro Creek is currently in progress and Anvil anticipates setting the bridge structure on its abutments in the first week of August.

Work on both pump stations is also progressing well, including scheduling the PG&E power connections, setting mechanical and electrical equipment, and pulling/terminating wire. It is currently anticipated that Anvil will be ready for clean water testing of the pump stations and pipelines by late September, and be ready to commission all systems, and the WRF, with wastewater by early October 2022. Final project restoration work and pavement repair work is anticipated to be completed after commissioning.



Administration (Finance and IT)

The City Council Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 is Online

The budget makes key investments in operations, staffing, capital improvements, and paying down pension liabilities, while also preserving healthy financial reserves to weather future emergencies and economic downturns. The Adopted Budget is posted in an updated user-friendly format at <https://www.morro-bay.ca.us/827/Budget>.

Updated Fee Schedule Online

The City updates its Master Fee Schedule annually to recover costs for services that provide direct benefits to individual applicants rather than general benefits to the community. The revised fee schedule, which is in effect from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 is available online at <https://www.morro-bay.ca.us/DocumentCenter/Home/Index/96>.

Business Tax Certificates

The City of Morro Bay requires all organizations operating within the City limits to have a current business tax certificate (commonly referred to as a business license). Business Tax Certificate rates changed as of July 1, 2022. Applications for new business licenses and renewals of current business licenses can be processed online at morrobay.hdlgov.com, by email at MorroBay@HdLGov.com, or by U.S. mail (City of Morro Bay Business Support Center; 8839 N. Cedar Ave #212; Fresno, CA 93720). For Customer Support, call (805) 339-2649. Updated rates and more information can be found at <https://www.morro-bay.ca.us/82/Business-Licenses>.

City Clerk



November 2022 General Election

On Tuesday, November 8, 2022, the voters in Morro Bay will elect a Mayor for a 2-year term and (2) Council Members for 4-year terms. The nomination period for these offices opened on Monday, July 18, and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 12. If nomination papers for an incumbent officer of the City are not filed by August 12, the voters shall have until August 17 to nominate candidates, other than the person(s) who are incumbents, for that office. Please visit the [City website](#) for more information and contact the City Clerk's office at cityclerk@morrobayca.gov or (805) 772-6205 to make an appointment to pull nomination papers.

The Harbor Infrastructure Act Citizens Initiative

The Harbor Infrastructure Act Citizens Initiative, Measure B-22, will also be on the November ballot for consideration by Morro Bay registered voters. Information regarding this ballot measure, including the City Attorney's Impartial Analysis, and arguments for and against the measure can be found [here](#).

Shall the measure, to exclusively fund City of Morro Bay owned harbor infrastructure (such as docks, piers, Harbor Walk, sea walls, public restrooms, revetments, launch ramps) through preventative maintenance and capital improvements, revenues used only for these purposes and unable to be used for any other purpose, providing approximately \$680,000 annually, through annual \$120 special parcel tax on all parcels of taxable real property, adjusted for inflation, until ended by voters, be adopted?	YES
	NO

Volunteer Opportunities!

The City of Morro Bay continues to seek volunteers for the Citizens Oversight/Finance Advisory Committee, Harbor Advisory Board, and Recreation and Parks Commission. [Application](#) and eligibility information is available on the [City Clerk's webpage](#). Completed applications can be emailed, mailed or returned at the drop box located at City Hall



Administration

Facilities

Morro Bay Community Center and Parks are open and ready for reservations! Our parks and facilities are now bustling with classes, activities, and other reservations such as birthday parties, celebrations, and the like.

Our Teen Center is in the final stages of clean up as documents become finalized between the City and Boys and Girls Club of the Central Coast. B & G will look to open the center sometime in late fall or early winter as they gear up to provide services to our 6th – 12th graders. We look forward to a great relationship and robust programming!

Events

Fourth of July Family Fun Day at Tidelands Park 2022



Seniors

Summer session for Cuesta College Emeritus is wrapping up with fall classes scheduled to begin in late August. Bingo is finding great success in their new home at the MBCC. Record numbers of attendance, which equates to higher revenues for MBSCI, have been seen with many smiling faces! Our 39+ Dance program is looking to stimulate interest and increase participation at the regular Wednesday noontime dances by offering Friday night dance lessons in the MBCC Auditorium beginning August 12.

The Rovers are set for another adventure Tuesday, September 20 as they head over to the MB Maritime Museum for a guided tour.

As always, our membership keeps busy with a multitude of classes, clubs and activities: ACES, PACE, Balance, Strength Training, Yoga, Bocce Ball Club, Pickleball, Tai Chi, Walking Group, Bridge Club, Chess Club, Hand and Foot Group, Ping Pong, Poker Group, Pool and Billiards, and the Cuesta College Emeritus course offerings.

Classes

Our Community Classes are in full swing for the summer. We invite all the community to come out and try a class.

SUMMER 2022
MORRO BAY RECREATION SERVICES

COMMUNITY CLASSES

Creating Community Between
People, Parks, and Programs.

Available classes

- **Zumba with Carmen**
 - Tues. & Thurs. 6:00-7:00PM
- **Freestyle Fitness with Jenny**
 - Weds & Fri 9:00-10:00AM
- **Pilates with Carol**
 - Mon. & Fri. 10:00-11:00AM
- **Tang Soo Do**
 - Mon. & Weds. 6:00-8:30PM
- **Commit Dance Fitness with Sally**
 - Mon. & Weds. 5:00-6:00PM
- **Open Floor with Shelley Kilcoyne**
 - Wednesday 5:30-8:00PM
- **Okinawan Karate**
 - Tues. & Thurs. 6:30-8:30PM
- **Quilt Fever**
 - Various Times & Dates

**Find something for everyone!
Sign Up today!**

**Register at
the Morro Bay Recreation Office
M-F 9:00am - 1:00pm.**

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

Aquatics Programs



Pool

The Morro Bay Aquatic Center is a little over halfway through our Summer programming and having a blast! We are wrapping up the aquatic summer experience in partnership with the SLUSD where City staff is providing swim instruction for District Summer School. This class has 40 participants of 6th – 8th graders and skills ranging from beginner through Swim team/Water Polo athletes. We are excited to be able to provide a positive safe environment to learn and improve swim skills and introduce fun aquatic games and activities that they may not get a chance to participant in otherwise. Private and Semi-private lessons will begin again soon and our weekday group lessons are splashing into the last session of the season. Lap Swim will continue its schedule through August 12th at which time there will be a few adjustments. More

information to come. Master's swim has seen an increase in participants, if you haven't checked it out it's a great way to get in a workout and improve your technique to start your day! Our Aqua Aerobics class is going strong as well.

Sports

After a 2-year hiatus, our Rock to Pier Run returned live and in person for the 52nd Annual Waterbury Memorial race. We had close to 600 runners coming from far and wide to enjoy the beach run environment. The good folks from Fitness Works Gym kicked off the day with a lively pre-run warm up, and along the route we had water stations and a finish line area staffed by our outstanding pool lifeguards. It was all good vibes at the Rock Parking lot after the race, with the "Ghost Monster" band playing rocking tunes in the AM. After the run, Bay-Osos Kiwanis returned as a partner to cook the sausage and pancake breakfast, and with fruit, juice, and coffee provided for the runners returning from the Cayucos Pier. We were happy to bring back our annual run as we continue to return the event to its former glory!



Another season of adult softball is underway in Morro Bay. We have 5 teams playing in our Monday night coed league. Games started on July 25th and will go until late September.

Flag Football is rounding to a halt with the final “Bowl” games slated for August 5th. Kids in the community have been enjoying this new activity, igniting a passion for the sport in many of the youth of our community. We are looking to showcase some of our young stars in a “youth football night” at a Morro Bay High School football game in September. Stay tuned for more details!

Soccer signups are almost over! With August 5th as the last day to sign up without a late fee, the season is just around the corner. We will be holding our coaching orientation and roster/equipment handout on August 20, with the referee training taking place the following weekend on August 27th. Games will begin on September 10th. We look forward to a fun season of soccer here in Morro Bay!

Our very popular MB Junior Lifeguard program is entering its final session and will wrap up August 12 with an end of the season party for all session participants. Hosted by Recreation Services, this party is bringing back the days of old with a return of previous MBJG Coordinators and others who have been instrumental in the programs success. Look for local surfboard shaper Shane Stoneman and his band rocking the evening!

Youth Services

Kids' Camp

Kids' Camp has been busy! We traveled to Santa Barbara to visit the Zoo and Moxi Museum and took a boat excursion through the bay. A big thank you to the Morro Bay Harbor Patrol for the fun tour of their office and water safety tips. Week 4 we hosted our Annual Kid's Camp Variety Show, where the campers showcased their many talents. We are looking forward to the last few weeks of fun and adventure!



**THANK YOU
Harbor Patrol!**



The Variety Show

Community Development



Picture: 1130 Scott Street

News:

- The mixed-use project at 1130 Scott Street is well underway and when finished will include a commercial space on the ground floor and residential unit above.
- The City is pursuing an all-electric new building requirement for new and significantly remodeled homes, apartments, and Accessory Dwelling Units. The policy implements the City's short term Climate goal and is intended to be adopted with the 2022 Building Code which goes into effect January 1, 2023. The draft ordinance can be found at the following link:
<https://www.morrobayca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16985/Chapter-1410-Draft-Electrification-Code>
Questions/concerns/comments can be sent to Scot Graham, Community Development Director at sgraham@morrobayca.gov.

Planning Division Activity

Planning Commission:

July 5, 2022: Cancelled

July 19, 2022:

2900 Alder, new 6-unit hotel
Action: continued with direction for revisions

Planning Permits

- Coastal Dev. Permit = 3
- Parcel Map = 1
- Total Permits = 4**

Fees collected = \$17,242

Code Enforcement

New Cases: 15
Open: 12
Closed: 3
In Process: 23

Building Division Activity

- Permits Issued = 45
- Valuation = \$1,265,611
- Fees Received = \$73,721
- # of Inspections = 448
- New Permits = 12