

**City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report  
August 8, 2014**

**David Biggs, City Manager**



**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

**Leila By The Bay** – A great new restaurant has opened in Hercules on Friday last week! Leila by the Bay is at 1991 Railroad Avenue is open for dinner initially every night with Sunday Brunch and lunch service to follow shortly. I paid them a visit on Saturday evening and found it to be a beautiful setting with attentive service and great food. [www.leilabythebay.com](http://www.leilabythebay.com)

**Sister City Visit** – A delegation from the City's sister city of Tsushima in Japan concluded a very successful visit on Wednesday morning this week. Eight student ambassadors and two adult chaperones spent five days in Hercules hosted by local host families. The visit was orchestrated by the Hercules Sister City Association and a delegation from Hercules will visit Japan next year. Did you know that you can join the Hercules Sister City Association as a way of supporting this cultural and civic exchange program? A family membership is just \$15 for the year. More information can be found at [www.tsushima.home.comcast.net](http://www.tsushima.home.comcast.net). The Hercules Sister City Association will also be holding a fundraiser which will provide assistance to the student ambassadors from Hercules on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM until 7:30 PM at the El Sol restaurant in Rodeo. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children with more information available at the website above.

**City Annual Audits** – We have received the City's 2012/13 audit which covers the fiscal year from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013 and the City's independent audit auditors will be attending the August 26<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting to present the results of that annual audit and the 2011/12 audit as well. The City is up to date on its audits with the 2013/14 audit to commence in the next few weeks.

**Police Ride-Along** – As your new City Manager I had an opportunity to do a ride-along with the Police Department to get a sense of the community from their perspective. I was able to ride with two officers on Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 p.m. until about 10:30 p.m. I rode with Officer Russell from 3:00 p.m. until the shift change at 7:00 p.m. and then with Officer Tellez. It was a very informative experience and both officers were very welcoming and shared useful information about Hercules and our Police Department. I was impressed with the professionalism and customer service orientation of our Police Department that I saw demonstrated throughout the ride-along.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**City Council Meeting Cancellations** – At the July 22 City Council meeting, the City Council authorized the cancellation of the November 11 meeting due to it being a City recognized holiday. If important items are identified that the need for a meeting arises, the City Manager will notify the City Council in October.

**Elections update** – At the time of this writing there is one qualified candidate for the ballot,

Christine “Chris” Kelley. There are three nominees that have pulled papers; Myrna de Vera, Anton Jungherr and Onkar Mahay.

The nomination period ends on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. If either or both of the incumbents, Myrna de Vera and John Delgado, do not qualify for the ballot by the end of the nomination period, the nomination period is extended for five calendar days or to Wednesday, August 13, 2014. If this occurs a notice will be posted to the City’s website on the calendar as well as in the City Events portion.

Get the latest information on the [Elections](#) page of the website.

**Transparency** – At the City Council Meeting of July 22, the Council approved the City’s response to Grand Jury Report 1405, The Public Records Act (CPRA). Included in the report as recommendation No. 3, was that the City should consider making certain public records that are clearly disclosable under the CPRA available on the City’s website. Included in the suggested documents were Statement of Economic Interests, employment contracts, annual audits, travel and entertainment reimbursements, agendas and supporting documents. The Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 and City Manager employment agreement have all been added to the City’s website.

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

Last week the City Building Department issued the first building permit for the model home for the “Alexandria at Victoria by the Bay” subdivision (originally approved as Victoria Crescent) located at the corner of San Pablo Avenue and Victoria Crescent. This 43 lot single family home subdivision will complete the New Pacific Properties Plan area within the City. The subdivision will contain tradition style homes on lot sizes averaging 3500 square feet. Three floor plans will be offered with two elevations per floor plan. Homes sizes will range from 2,540 to 2,925 square feet and include between 3 to 5 bedrooms and 2½ to 3½ bathrooms. A permit for a temporary onsite sales/construction trailer was also issued and should be placed on the lot soon. Approved conceptual plans can be viewed on the City’s website at

[http://hercules.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=5&clip\\_id=558&meta\\_id=52249](http://hercules.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=5&clip_id=558&meta_id=52249)

#### **Building Division**

Number of permits issued:	30
Building permit fees collected:	\$19,679.20
Number of inspections:	12

### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- Street light knocked down on Refugio Valley Road and Lavender Place as a result from a vehicle accident (awaiting parts for replacement).

- Street light damaged on San Pablo Avenue at Tsushima by traffic accident. The damaged street light was removed by staff with assistance from Contra Costa County for replacement.
- Staff continues to work with Ducks Unlimited on Chelsea Wetlands Restoration Project.
- LED replacement lights at San Pablo and Willow Avenue and at Victoria by the Bay have been installed.
- PG&E and staff continue to repair streetlights in various locations throughout the City.
- Staff continues to work with State Water Resources Control Board on Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrades.
- Staff continues to meet with WCCIWMA on Solid Waste issues.
- Staff is working with various developers on future developments.
- Staff continues to identify possible solutions to address derelict buildings.
- Annual Lighting and Landscaping reports are now complete.
- Annual Weed Abatement Program is now complete.
- “Goats R Us” has completed the portion of firebreaks.
- Sanitary sewer overflow in Victoria by the Bay has been contained and corrected by staff with assistance from City of Pinole.
- Red Curb Repaint Program is complete.

### **Engineering Division**

#### Activities:

- Intermodal Transit Center - SF Bay Trail Project No. 63001A – Construction in Progress.
- Victoria Crescent Development.
- Process continues for the posting of Sewer Service Charges to the County Tax Roll for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, as required by the California Government Code.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

The Parks & Recreation Department offers a wide variety of recreation classes and programs that cater to all ages and help to promote a healthy lifestyle. Classes and programs provide a great opportunity to have fun and exercise while interacting with others in a safe environment. A sampling of classes offered is provided below. For additional information, to access a full listing of classes and programs or to register, please visit the City website at [www.ci.hercules.ca.us](http://www.ci.hercules.ca.us).

### **Upcoming Events**

- **Hercules Certified Farmer’s Market:** The next Farmer’s Market is scheduled for Saturday, August 9, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Home Depot parking lot. The Farmer’s Market will continue at this location every Saturday through the end of October 2014.
- **Community and Library Services Commission Meeting:** The commission meeting scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2014 meeting has been **CANCELLED**. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, September 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers.

- **Hercules Blood Drive:** The Hercules Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2014 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. located at the Hercules Senior Center. Head on over to the Senior Center to donate blood and help save a life.
- **Hercules Golf Tournament:** The “Best Ball Scramble with a Shotgun Start” golf tournament is scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. The Driving Range is set to start at 10:30 a.m. and Tee Time will begin at 12:00 p.m. Tournament fees include green fees, cart, box lunch, prizes & dinner. Register by August 12, 2014 to receive an event golf shirt.

**Facilities:** The City of Hercules offers several conveniently located facilities to rent for your meeting, wedding reception, graduation, retirement or baptism. Halls range from a capacity of 10 to our largest which has a maximum capacity of 300. Visit the City website at [www.ci.hercules.ca.us](http://www.ci.hercules.ca.us) or call (510) 799-8291 for more information on facility locations, dates available and amenities offered at each location.

**Parks & Recreation Advertisement Programs:** Applications for advertisement in our Parks and Recreation activity guide publications are now being accepted. Reservations continue to be accepted for available spaces in the City’s banner placement program and our signboard advertisement opportunities. Please contact Andrea Mendez at (510) 799-8290 or at [amendez@ci.hercules.ca.us](mailto:amendez@ci.hercules.ca.us) for additional information or to submit applications.

**Sports Programs:** Our programs help promote a healthy lifestyle, while providing an environment in which people of all ages can enjoy themselves. Whether it is recreation team sports you are seeking, or an individual leisure activity/hobby, the City of Hercules is proud to offer it. To access a full listing of classes or to register, please visit our website at [www.herculesrec.com](http://www.herculesrec.com).

The City of Hercules Parks & Recreation Department and the Hercules Education Foundation are partnering together to offer a Golf Tournament at Franklin Canyon Golf Course on Friday, September 12, 2014 with a tee time of 12:00 p.m. Best Ball Scramble with a Shotgun Start. \$90.00 per player will include green fees, cart, box lunch, prizes & dinner. Bring a friend for dinner for only \$20.00. Register by August 12, 2014 to receive an event golf shirt. Sign up online at [www.herculesrec.com](http://www.herculesrec.com) or call (510) 799-8291 today! If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities contact Andrea Mendez at (510) 799-8290.

**Recreation Classes:** We are now accepting registration for many new and exciting classes that cater to all ages and help to promote a healthy lifestyle. Our classes provide a great opportunity to have fun while interacting with others in a safe environment. To access a full listing of classes or to register, please visit the City website at [www.ci.hercules.ca.us](http://www.ci.hercules.ca.us).

**Teens:** Our goal is to provide programming that will foster human development, promote health and wellness, and increase cultural unity with life experiences. As our youth grow into teens, we want to give them a sense of ownership and belonging to the community. We accomplish this through the many enjoyable programs and activities available at the Teen Center, 2007 Refugio Valley Road. Registration is now being accepted for the Fall T.H.E. S.P.O.T. (Teens of Hercules Empowering through Spirit, Perseverance, Outreach, & Teamwork), before and after school program.

- **Don't forget to sign up for T.H.E. S.P.O.T. fall program! School begins August 18, 2014. Please make sure to register early because space is limited.**

**Seniors/50+:** Come to the Senior Center to enjoy the CC Café, or to participate in an Art Class, Card Club, Ping Pong, Tai Chi, Zumba Gold, Low Impact Exercise Classes, Dance Club, or Hula Dance. Your annual membership of \$20.00 gives you access to over 30 classes and programs at a discounted rate.

**Aquatics:**

**Public Swim:**

Days: Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: 1:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fees: Residents: Youth/Seniors \$5/Adults \$6

Non-Residents: Youth/Seniors \$6/Adults \$7

**Lap Swim:**

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Ages: 14+

Fees: Resident: Youth & Senior \$4/ Adult \$5

Non-Resident: Youth & Senior \$5/ Adult \$6

**EBSD Year Round Membership: 83 Currently Enrolled**

Dates: 10/1/13-9/31/14

USA Registration Fee: Year Round Swimmer \$80 (made payable to EBSD)

Code: 52200-G-L

Spinners: M-TH, 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., \$66

Intermediate: M-F, 5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m., \$83

Advanced: M-F, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m./7:00 p.m., \$94

**Individual Swim Lessons: 35 Currently Enrolled**

Dates: 8/4/14-8/15/14

Ages 3+

Days: M, T, TH, F (30 minute classes)

Fees: Resident \$158/Non-Resident-\$178

**Hercules Piranhas Swim Team: 107 Currently Enrolled**

**Fees:** 1 Swimmer- \$364 (\$200.00 Deposit)

2 Swimmers- \$627 (\$200.00 Deposit)

3 Swimmers- \$789 (\$200.00 Deposit)

4 Swimmers- \$985 (\$200.00 Deposit)

5 Swimmers- \$1145 (\$200.00 Deposit)

**Dates: 6/9/14-8/8/14**

Beginner: M-TH, 6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

Intermediate: M-F, 7:15 p.m./8:45 p.m.  
Advanced: M-F, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**EBSD Summer Seasonal Membership: 19 Currently Enrolled**

Fees: \$295 Registration Fee/\$55 USA Registration Fee (Check made payable to EBSD)  
Ages: 5-18 years  
Dates: 6/9/14-9/26/14  
Spinner: M-TH, 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Intermediate: M-F, 5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.  
Advanced: M-F, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**Summer Season Swim Passes**

Dates: 6/9/14-8/17/14  
Kids Season Pass: Resident \$50/Non-Resident \$65  
Adult Season Pass: Resident \$100/Non-Resident \$125  
Family of 4 Pass: Resident \$200/Non-Resident \$250  
Additional Member: Resident \$25/Non-Resident \$25

**Aqua Zumba: 53 Currently Enrolled**

Days: Wednesdays  
Times: 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Drop-In Fee: \$10.00  
Unlimited Monthly Pass: \$45 Resident/\$50 Non-resident

**Group Swim Lessons: 118 Currently Enrolled**

Dates: 8/18/14-8/29/14  
Ages 4+  
Days: M, T, TH, F (30 minute classes)  
Fees: Resident \$80/Non-Resident-\$93

**Tiny Tots & Little Learners:** A great introduction to your child's "First Learning Experience". They will have fun making their first school friends, learning through play, games, arts and crafts. Our loving and qualified staff will guide them in socialization and self-help skills. Children have so much fun; they do not realize they are learning! Our program runs with the school year, September – June. Come see what keeps our children smiling! Children must be completely toilet trained.

- Tiny Tot program has a 5 day Jr. Kindergarten program
- M-W-F Pre K Program
- T/TH Little Learner Program

**Licensed Before & After School Child Care:** Don't forget: school starts August 18, 2014, so sign up for fall before and after school care.

**What are the benefits of our licensed programs?**

- They provide a safe and nurturing environment
- They provide a qualified and mature staff

- All lead staff members have training in school age programming through accredited colleges
- They provide a 1 staff to 14 children ratio, not to exceed 28 children per classroom
- All staff have passed a Livescan/Background check

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**



**Non-injury collision/totaled police vehicle:** On August 4, 2014, at approximately 2:34am an officer was Southbound on Willow Ave, at the Westbound I-80 on ramp. He observed a 2005 Chevy Impala, with expired registration; and made a traffic stop on Westbound I-80, at Pinole Valley Rd. The officer, and his cover officer, was standing on the passenger side of the Impala talking to the driver through the passenger window. The cover officer yelled “Look Out”. Both officers jumped out of the way and heard a loud crash. A 2005 GMC (Jimmy) collided with the left rear of the patrol vehicle, pushing the patrol car into the right rear of the stopped Chevy Impala. The GMC then spun out of control, and struck the driver’s side of the Chevy Impala, with the driver inside. The GMC ended up facing Eastbound, in the westbound lanes, of traffic. No one was injured in the crash. The Police vehicle sustained major damage; and was deemed “totaled”. The GMC sustained major damage to the right front, and had to be towed away. The Chevy Impala sustained moderate damage along the driver’s side of the vehicle. Alcohol does not appear to have been a factor in the accident. The 38 year old female driver, of San Pablo, did not have a driver’s license. California Highway Patrol in handling the accident investigation.

**Real Estate Fraud:** On August 5, 2014 at 10:28 a.m. an officer took a report of a possible fraud involving a house for rent. The victim said she recently responded to an online Craigslist ad for a house for rent in the 1900 block of Pheasant Dr. On August 4, 2014, the victim met an Asian/White male adult at the house. The suspect told the victim his name was Eric and he was managing the investment property for his father. The suspect allowed the victim access to the home so she could view it. The victim told the suspect she was interested in renting the home. The suspect had the victim fill out a credit application and give it to him. The suspect said the reporting party would also need to provide \$1,500 cash, or cashier’s check, for a security deposit. The victim agreed to give the suspect a deposit at a later time. The victim told a friend, who is a real estate agent, about the house she was planning to rent. The friend told the victim the house is currently for sale, and it was unlikely the house was up for rent. The reporting party contacted the Hercules Police, believing she was the victim of a real estate scam. The reporting officer determined the house is currently listed for sale, from a licensed Realtor. The property owner just accepted a buyer’s offer August 4, 2014. The officer found a sign post, in the front yard, but there was no for sale sign hanging from the post. The victim agreed to assist Hercules Police to attempt to apprehend the suspect. The victim arranged a meeting with the suspect, for Tuesday evening, to pay him the \$1,500 security deposit. The meeting was to take place at the house on

Pheasant Dr.

On August 5, 2014, at approximately 8:30pm, officers staked out the house in the 1900 block of Pheasant Dr. The suspect drove up and parked his car across the street from the house. The suspect drove off, prior to the victim's arrival. The suspect vehicle was stopped for a traffic violation. The victim positively identified the driver as the male who fraudulently agreed to rent her the house on Pheasant Dr. Officer's located the "For Sale Sign", which had been in front of the house, in the back seat of the suspect's vehicle. Officers found "For Sale" flyers and the plastic display box the Realtor placed inside the house, in the suspect's car. The suspect also had completed rental agreements from four different victims.

21 year old Gino Eckstein, of San Francisco, was arrested and charged with Residential Burglary; Possession of Stolen Property; Renting Property Under False Pretenses; and Identity Theft. It was later determined Eckstein is currently out on bail, for Felony Charges, in San Francisco. An enhancement was added for that charge. He was transported to the Martinez Detention Facility. Another victim contacted the Hercules Police on August 5, 2014. She also replied to the Craigslist ad for the house in the 1900 block of Pheasant Dr. This victim also filled out a credit application, and gave it to a person matching the description of the suspect described by the first victim. The suspect asked this victim to meet him Tuesday night, in Richmond, to give him the \$1,500 security deposit. That meeting did not take place.

Officers believe there maybe additional victim's of this "Rental Scam". If you answered a Craigslist ad, and had contact with an "Eric ", or an Eric Stegner, about renting a house, please contact the Hercules Police Department, Detective Pesmark, at 510-799-8223; or Dispatch 510-724-1111.



**Hercules Middle-High School Orientation:** On August 5<sup>th</sup>, School Resource Officer Sanchez attended a student/parent orientation and talked to the audience about bullying, cyber-bullying and the Zero tolerance for violence or weapons.

**National Night Out:** Hercules Officers attended two National Night Out Events, one at Victoria Green and the other was on Regatta Point. This was the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual National Night Out (NNO) crime prevention event, that was held to be held on Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, from 7 to 9:00 p.m. This year, neighborhoods and homeowners associations held events to meet their neighbors and to provide education about neighborhoods safety. National Night Out now involves over 37.8 million people and 16,124 communities from all fifty states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities,

and military bases worldwide. Let's join forces on August 5th to promote police-community partnerships; crime, drug and violence prevention; safety; and neighborhood unity.

National Project Coordinator, Matt Peskin said, "It's a wonderful opportunity for communities nationwide to promote police-community partnerships, crime prevention, and neighborhood camaraderie. While the one night is certainly not an answer to crime, drugs and violence, National Night Out represents the kind of spirit, energy and determination to help make neighborhoods a safer place year round. The night celebrates safety and crime prevention successes and works to expand and strengthen programs for the next 364 days."

**Hercules PD Softball Team battles it out with other County Teams:** This past Saturday Hercules PD participated in a charity softball tournament against other County law enforcement agencies. Team Hercules played Contra Costa College PD, Pinole PD, Antioch PD and San Pablo PD. Our record was 2:2 with a win over Pinole and the College PD's. The game against Antioch was neck and neck up to the final out where they beat us by 1 run. San Pablo PD was another story for another day. They got a lot of runs to our very few. This event raised money for the Wound Worriers Project and was great day for family, friends and co-worker to come watch their police departments play for a good cause.

**Sister City Delegation joins the Hercules Police Explorers on an outing to San Francisco:** On Sunday; the Hercules Sister City from Tsushima, Japan joined the Hercules Police Explorers for a day in San Francisco. They met at City Hall for a meet and greet breakfast. The delegation went on a tour of the Police Department and then headed to San Francisco. First stop, the Exploratorium. We spent two hours in this amazing place. Whether you were young and not so young, there was a lot to do. We walked to Pier 39 where we ate lunch and shopped. The final stop was the Golden Gate Bridge. The sun peeked long enough to take some great photos.

**HERCULES POLICE BI-WEEKLY STATS – July 22, 2014 to August 6, 2014**

Calls For Service	767
Reports	80
Traffic Cites	49
Parking Cites	16
Adult Arrests	16
Juvenile Arrests	3
Arsons	0
Domestic Violence Reports	0
Hate Crimes	0
Towed Vehicles	15
Part 1 Crimes – Total	14

Part 1 Crimes Broken Down	---
Homicide	0
Rape	0
Robbery	1

Assault	1
Burglary	5
Larceny	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	2

### UPCOMING EVENTS\*

*\*Events are subject to change. Please visit the City Calendar available on the City's website for the most up-to-date information.*

**Hercules Certified Farmer's Market:** The next Farmer's Market is scheduled for Saturday, August 9, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Home Depot parking lot. The Farmer's Market will continue at this location every Saturday through the end of October 2014.

**Community and Library Services Commission Meeting:** Monday, August 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers – **CANCELLED**

**Planning Commission Meeting:** Monday, August 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers.

**Hercules City Council Meeting:** Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers – **CANCELLED**

**Hercules Blood Drive:** The Hercules Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2014 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. located at the Hercules Senior Center. Head on over to the Senior Center to donate blood and help save a life.

**Hercules Golf Tournament:** The "Best Ball Scramble with a Shotgun Start" golf tournament is scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. The Driving Range is set to start at 10:30 a.m. and Tee Time will begin at 12:00 p.m. Tournament fees include green fees, cart, box lunch, prizes & dinner. Register by August 12, 2014 to receive an event golf shirt.