



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 13, 2011

TO: Mayor Joanne Ward and City Council Members
City Employees
Members of the Public

FROM: Fred Deltorchio, Interim City Manager
Special Thanks to Anton Jungherr and Lori Chinn for Assisting with this Report

SUBJECT: Interim City Manager's Weekly Report

Overview of Report: The following topics are included in this week's update:

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Budget: Our Finance Department continues to work on preparing the Fiscal Year 2011/12 budget. After the first round of employee reductions and other cost saving measures we anticipate General Fund revenues for next year in the area of \$12,100,000 with expenditures at about \$15,600,000. That leaves our current gap at about \$3,500,000, not including the \$1,400,000 Redevelopment Agency Bond Payments due from the General Fund. I met with representatives from all of the employee bargaining units this week and we exchanged proposals for salary and benefit reductions to address this gap. I am optimistic that employee concessions can be achieved, which will reduce the gap. However, besides employee concessions and layoffs, additional options are still being explored in order to balance the budget.

City Council Candidate Debate: On May 9, 2011, a debate of all eight (8) candidates: Dan Romero, Sherry McCoy, and Mark Anthony Jones to fill Ed Balico's seat; Joanne Ward, challenging her are William Wilkins and Virgilio De La Vega; Donald Kuehne and challenging him is Gerard Boulanger for the June 7, 2011 election was held at City Hall. Lisa

Vorderbrueggen, Bay Area New Group Political Columnist served as moderator. The entire debate can be viewed on the City web site under the “meetings” and “agenda” tab and will also be replayed on Hercules Cable Channel 28 on May 14, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. and on May 15, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.

Citizens Ad Hoc Committee – Legal Issues: At the City Council meeting of May 10, 2011, the City Council unanimously appointed Bill Kelly, Beth Bartke, Toni Leance, Jennifer Ways and Phil Simmons to the Citizens Ad Hoc Committee. Vice Mayor de Vera and Council Member Delgado will serve as Council liaisons and Doreen Mathews, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk will serve as the staff liaison.

This Committee will actively participate in the selection of a City Attorney and General Counsel by advising and making recommendations to the City Council and Agency Board of Directors. The Committee will also provide recommendations to the City Council on other issues such as the Council’s Rules of Procedure, a Code of Ethics and any other issues that the Council deems appropriate.

Information regarding the meeting of this Committee will be posted to the City web site calendar once the date and time of the initial meeting is determined.

Carson Slide: The K Rail barricades are scheduled for removal from Carson Street on Monday, May 23, 2011. If conditions do not change, the City should consider lifting the declaration of emergency ordinance at their May 24, 2011 meeting. On May 5, 2011, a [Congressional Delegation from California](#) sent a letter to President Obama requesting federal disaster assistance.

Sycamore North: May 5, 2011 was the deadline for offers on this property and the City is reviewing those offers received. We hope to have a public announcement on a possible transaction in the very near future.

Market Hall: Administrative Use Permit 09-37, temporary use for Market Hall, request for extension of time: Public hearing scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2011 before the Planning Commission. Planning Commission has three (3) options of action to take:

- 1) Approve the time extension request,
- 2) Deny the time extension request, or
- 3) Continue the time extension request and give direction to staff.

The [staff report](#) includes background on the administrative use permit, previously-approved New Town Center approval and resolutions for denial and approval. Signs on chain link fence along San Pablo and Sycamore Avenues have been removed by Red Barn Company in anticipation Market Hall time extension may be denied.

Grand Jury Reports: On May 10, 2011, the [City’s response](#) to Grand Jury Report No. 1103 “City and County Vehicles” was sent to the Grand Jury. The response agreed with the report’s findings and implemented their recommendations.

Public discussion of Grand Jury Report No. 1104, "[Elected Board Membership](#)", dealing with compensation of City Council Members, will be on the May 24, 2011 City Council agenda for public discussion.

Duck Pond Park: Contractors are completing the site work, including fine grading. Water service is being installed this week, plants and trees to follow.

Police Activities: The Police Department reported the following activities this week:

Possession of Firearm by Convicted Felon: On May 6, 2011 at 7:24 a.m., an off-duty officer saw the occupants of a nearby vehicle smoking Marijuana and notified Hercules Police. Officers stopped the vehicle on I-80 at San Pablo Dam Road. A search of the vehicle revealed a loaded, unregistered handgun and Marijuana. The three occupants were arrested and transported to HPD. The driver, Taryell Porter, from Pittsburg, admitted hiding the pistol and Marijuana when he saw the police car. Porter is a convicted felon and was transported to County jail. Passenger Pamela Barefield, also from Pittsburg, was cited and released for contributing to the delinquency of a minor after she admitted handing the bag of Marijuana to the 17 year old passenger. The juvenile was released without any charges.

Attempted Fraud: On May 7, 2011 at 3:18 p.m., officers responded to the Wells Fargo Bank for an attempted fraud which occurred twenty minutes prior. A subject who identified himself as William Mills, from Oakland, attempted to pass a fraudulent check. Mills left the check at the bank and fled in a tan minivan. Mills was described as a white male with no teeth and wearing a hard hat. He is a registered sexual offender and is on parole for burglary.

Attempted Fraud/Forgery: On May 7, 2011 at 3:18 p.m. while an officer was still handling the prior call at Wells Fargo, another check fraud occurred. Jessica Winsey, from Oakland, attempted to pass a counterfeit check. She left the bank and got into a green Plymouth Voyager and was immediately stopped by officers. Winsey was arrested and transported to County Jail.

Every 15 Minutes: On May 10, 2011 and May 11, 2011, the Hercules Police Department, in conjunction with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and the California Office of Traffic Safety, hosted an "Every 15 Minutes" Program at the Hercules High School. These agencies are taking a proactive step by educating local high school students about making mature decisions when alcoholic beverages are involved. Funding for the Every 15 Minutes program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Other agency participation was the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District, American Medical Response, Cal Star Helicopter, Hercules Public Works, Hercules Parks & Recreation, Hercules Police Chaplains, Contra Costa County Chaplains, Hercules High teachers and staff, John Muir Medical Center, Hercules Community Partnership and the Contra Costa County Coroner's Office. Special thanks to School Resource Officers Chris Costa and Sophia Wrangham, as well as Sergeant John Eaves for their efforts in organizing and coordinating this event.