



MEMORANDUM

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DATE: May 27, 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:** The Ad Hoc Citizens Finance Subcommittee met on Thursday evening, May 26, 2011, to discuss the Parks and Recreation budget. Pedro Jimenez, Acting Department Director, reviewed the actual and projected revenue and expenses by program. He reported that the projected subsidy from the General Fund for next fiscal year starting July 1, 2011 has been reduced through program changes to \$180,000 compared with the current fiscal year projected subsidy of \$1,300,000. Mr. Jimenez will continue his efforts to make the Parks and Recreation budget fully self supporting for next fiscal year.

The committee also discussed the request for proposal for a new auditor and recommended to staff that it be sent out as soon as possible. Finally, the committee discussed the Grand Jury report on City Council compensations in Contra Costa County. Many suggestions were discussed and in the end, it was decided that the Finance Department would be tasked with doing

a salary survey of the surrounding cities to determine what other communities are offering their elected officials.

The committee's next meeting is next Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**Redistricting:** Councilmember Don Kuehne attended a public meeting on the proposed realignment of county board districts on Thursday evening, May 26 in Pinole. Due to the late hour the meeting ended, no update is available at this time.

**Citizens Ad Hoc Committee – Legal Issues:** The Citizens Ad Hoc Committee on Legal Issues met on Wednesday May 25, 2011. A preparation and review of a request for proposal for the recruitment of a City Attorney/Agency Counsel will be drafted and submitted for publication by June 6, 2011. The committee reviewed the job announcement, identified publications and websites for advertisement and determined dates for the publication with a July 1, 2011 deadline for potential applicants to submit proposals. There was a discussion and timeline for the recruitment process. There was also a discussion and identification of items for the June 1, 2011 agenda.

**Carson Slide:** Removal of the K Rail barricades from Carson Street began this Monday, May 23, 2011 and should be completed by today, May 27, 2011. The City Council continued the declaration of emergency resolution at their May 24, 2011 meeting. I contacted Congressman George Miller's Office this week and requested an update on possible federal assistance to displaced homeowners on Carson Street but have not yet received a response.

**Sycamore North:** City negotiators continue to work with a potential buyer to finalize a purchase deal. We hope to have a completed proposal for the council to review by early June, 2011.

**Hill Town Site:** City staff met with the cleanup operations manager and cautioned him that **no night time clean-up operations are permitted** and no materials (concrete, dirt, asphalt) are permitted to be transported onto the Hill Town site. A grading plan must be submitted for the existing conditions on site, and any proposed grading work. The manager agreed and will have security at the two gates prohibiting unauthorized trucks.

**Housing Sales –** The residence at 9 Plateau was sold for \$229,000. The escrow is scheduled to close on July 10, 2011. All monies from this sale are required to be returned to the City's Redevelopment Agency Affordable Housing Fund.

**Public Safety Activities:** The Police and Fire Departments reported the following activities this week:

**Burglary Alert:** The city experienced a series of burglaries, both residential and commercial, this week.

- On May 19, 2011 at 9:53 a.m., officers responded to the 100 block of Forest Park for a residential burglary in progress. The front door was found to have been kicked and the door lock was damaged, however no entry was made into the residence.
- On May 19, 2011 at 12:19 p.m., a resident in the 100 block of Decatur reported his residence was burglarized sometime during the day.
- On May 21, 2011 at 8:22 p.m., a resident in the 900 block of Devonwood reported her locked, detached garage was burglarized sometime within the past week.
- On May 23, 2011 at 2:43 p.m., a resident in the 1100 block of Turquoise returned home and found his ladder placed against a second story bedroom window. The window had been left partially open.
- Attempted Commercial Burglary: On May 24, 2011 at 5:48 a.m., an employee at a business in the 500 block of Alfred Nobel reported the east side entrance door had been pried. Entry was not made and the doors remained locked.
- Commercial Burglary: On May 24, 2011 at 6:14 a.m., an employee at a business in the 2000 block of Alfred Nobel reported a burglary which occurred sometime between 6:00 p.m. Monday and 6:00 a.m. Tuesday. Suspect(s) made entry into an office by breaking a window and stole computer equipment.

**Suspicious Activity:** On May 25, 2011 at 9:34 a.m., officers were dispatched to a report of two males in the greenbelt area looking into the backyard of a residence on the 2300 block of Lupine Road. When the resident told the subjects that she was calling the police they drove away in a silver car with orange paper plates. Officers located and stopped the vehicle and identified both of the subjects. The resident declined to identify the subjects and did not want to prosecute. They were both released. Detectives are comparing similarities in other cases.

***The Hercules Police Department wants to remind the community to be vigilant in securing their residence, business and vehicles and please, report any suspicious activity.***