

**City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report
April 11, 2014**

Phil Batchelor, Interim City Manager



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Hercules Municipal Utility (HMU) Sale – With the successful bond tender and defeasance, the sale of the Hercules Municipal Utility to PG&E closed on April 10, 2014. The sale allows the City of Hercules to focus on delivering core city services, and retire HMU debt with the proceeds from the sale, a step toward restoring the City's financial health. Immediately upon the close of the sale, PG&E began providing electric service to former HMU customers. PG&E is in the process of contacting customers to inform them of the change and alerting them of work in the area as crews set up service and install SmartMeters™. Customers who prefer not to receive a SmartMeter™ can select to enroll in the SmartMeter™ Opt-Out Program by calling 1-866-743-0263.

Intermodal Transit Center (ITC) – At the April 8, 2014 City Council meeting, it was announced that William Silva, ITC Project Manager, had accepted a position with a new company and would be leaving the project. Mr. Silva had initially intended to depart at the beginning of the year, but at the request of the Interim City Manager, agreed to stay on to assist with the transition due to the departure of other senior staff with the City.

With respect to the transition of project administration, staff contacted the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), as they have provided the necessary resources, experience and expertise in administering the San Francisco Bay Trail Project. CCTA also has the opportunity to bring additional benefits to the project, including direct access to several of the funding programs for the project and a strong balance sheet necessary to fund a significant capital project. In addition, through relationships and awareness of available funding programs, CCTA is better positioned to secure final funding. CCTA staff was very responsive, as they feel that the ITC Project is the premiere project taking place in the County and stated that they are willing to assist to insure that the project continues without disruption. After considerable discussion, the City Council offered their support for engaging CCTA to administer the project.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

City Commission Appointments – At the April 8, 2014 City Council meeting, after an extensive recruitment and interview process, the City Council made the following appointments to the City's two Commissions:

- Community and Library Services Commission – Han Chen, Andrew Gabriel and Brian Miller. The Youth Commissioner seat remains vacant, as no applications were received.
- Planning Commission – Ken Morrison, one seat remains vacant.

The City Council directed staff to continue to solicit candidates for consideration in filling the second open seat on the Planning Commission.

City Council Meeting Cancellations – Also on April 8th, the City Council authorized the cancellation of the April 22nd meeting in order to provide for the installation of upgrades to the Hercules Cable Station. It is anticipated that the project will take approximately three weeks to complete, during which all broadcasting capabilities will be unavailable. Once the project is completed, the quality of service to viewers will be greatly improved and it will enable Hercules to host and broadcast the joint Hercules/Pinole Wastewater Management committee meetings.

In light of the cancellation of the April 22nd meeting, the Council called a Special Meeting to be held on Monday, April 21, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

In past years, the City Council has authorized the cancellation of regular City Council meetings in the month of August to provide the Council and staff an opportunity to take vacations at a time when significant Council actions, including the budget adoption are complete. After considerable discussion, the City Council authorized the cancellation of the August 12th meeting and directed that the August 26, 2014 meeting be held as scheduled.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Division

Victoria Crescent (last phase of Victoria by the Bay subdivision): In December, the City Council approved the 43 single family lot subdivision. City Ventures, LLC are currently working on recording their Final Map and obtaining grading plans which should be complete and dirt moving within 30 days. Three house plans are anticipated to be submitted next week for building permit review to match the existing architectural style of the adjacent development.

The Safeway Project: Located at the corner of San Pablo and Sycamore Avenues, Property Development Centers, LLC submitted development application on March 31st to construct the Safeway food store and gas station with an additional 80,150 square feet of additional commercial/retail spaces. Plans show elevations for the main store, a site plan, landscape plans, and subdivision of lots.

Planning Commission Meeting – April 21, 2014, 7:00 p.m.: The April 21, 2014 Planning Commission meeting will be held in a study session format to get to know the existing Commission and Planning Director and see where we have been and where we are going. This will be a perfect opportunity for the public to find out if they want to be a Planning Commissioner to fill the one upcoming vacant seat appointment. Come see how we are moving forward.

Building Division

Number of permits issued - 22

Building permit fees collected - \$27,152.41

Number of inspections – 27

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Staff removed a large eucalyptus tree that fell during the April 1st storm and was blocking a portion of Sycamore Avenue.
- Staff continues to work with Ducks Unlimited on the Chelsea Wetlands Restoration Project.
- Installation of LED replacement lights continues in the Victoria by the Bay Development.
- 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 working with various developers on future developments.
- Staff continues to identify possible solutions to address derelict buildings.
- Staff sent out graffiti abatement notices.

Engineering Division

Sewer Lateral Inspection Program

- Number of applications received – 5
- Fees Collected - \$625.00
- Certifications issued – 2
- Deficiency Notices issued – 3
- Condominium Waivers issued - 0

ACTIVITIES:

- Intermodal Transit Center - SF Bay Trail Project No. 63001A – Construction in Progress
- Victoria Crescent Development – reviewing Final Map for development
- Posting of Sewer Service Charges for FY 2014/15 - Under California Government Code, assessment, charges, fees and special taxes must be posted annually to the County Assessor's Tax Roll. Staff is working with LCC, Inc. in preparing notices to property owners and posting of the annual Sewer Service Charges to the County Tax Roll for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

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.

Upcoming Events

- **Recreation Expo** - Come to this free event on **Sunday, April 13, 2014, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** at the Hercules Community Center and take a look at all of the programs and services that Hercules Parks & Recreation will be offering for spring and summer 2014! Meet summer day camp staff, aquatics staff, and recreation class instructors and try out a demo of most classes and even get

your questions answered in person. Tickets will be available for purchase for great raffle prizes! On this day only receive 10% off programs/classes that are paid in full!

- **Clean Up Day – Saturday, May 3, 2014, 8:00-11:00 a.m.**, City Corp Yard, 1000 Sycamore Ave. Help beautify Hercules and make it look its best by participating in our City Clean Up Day! Come and drop off old yard clippings, tree limbs, small appliances, and furniture. One visit per household is allowed, personal ID showing you are a resident of Hercules is required. If you would like to volunteer for this event please fill out the [volunteer form](#) and submit to the Community/Swim Center, 2001 Refugio Valley Rd. or Fax to (510)799-8288 no later than Friday, April 18, 2014. If you would like more information, please call (510) 799-8291.
- **New Farmer’s Market** - The Hercules Certified Farmer’s Market will be opening on **Saturday, May 3, 2014, 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.** at Refugio Valley Park. All interested vendors who would like to participate please call Joe Aliotii, Market Manager, at (831) 905-1407.
- **5k/1 mile Fun Run and 4th of July Parade** – The Hercules Rotary Club is facilitating a 5k and 1 mile fun run and parade on Friday, July 4, 2014. Celebrate your 4th of July with the inaugural Hercules Dynamite 5K Run/Walk. The certified and timed 5K (3.1 mile) and 1 mile distances are flat, fun and perfect for all levels of runners or walkers. Stay afterwards and enjoy the post race Expo, refreshments, awards and the 4th of July Parade. Receive a custom event shirt when you register by June 16th. For more information and to register for the event, visit <http://www.active.com/hercules-ca/running/races/hercules-dynamite-5k-run-2014>.
- **Parks & Recreation Activity Guide** - The 2014 Spring/Summer Activity Guide is now available online! Make sure to visit www.ci.hercules.ca.us and take a look at all of the aquatic programs, recreation classes, and summer camps we are offering and sign up before they fill up. Look for a hard copy to be mailed out by next week.

Facilities: The City of Hercules offers several conveniently located facilities to rent for your meeting, wedding reception, graduation, retirement or baptism. Visit the City website at www.ci.hercules.ca.us or call (510) 799-8291 for more information on facility locations, dates and amenities offered at each location.

Recreation Classes: We are now taking registration for many new and exciting recreation 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.

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.

- **Annual Texas Hold‘Em Fundraiser** – The Friends of the Hercules Senior Center are holding their 2nd Annual Texas Hold‘Em Fundraiser on Saturday, April 26, 2014. \$60 buy-in. For more information visit <http://friendshscpoker.eventbee.com> or call (510) 592-4374.

Aquatics:

Lap Swim

Monday-Friday- 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Ages: 14+

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

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

EBSD Year Round Membership

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, 6:30-7:00 p.m., \$66

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

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

Swim Lessons: Now taking sign up for swim lessons (individual, semi private, adult and group). To access a full listing of classes or to register, visit the City website at www.ci.hercules.ca.us.

Aqua Zumba

Dates: 5/7-5/28

Times: 7-8:00 p.m., Wednesday

Fees: \$45/\$50

Piranhas Swim Team

Dates: 4/28/14-8/8/14

Deposit Fee: \$200 (made payable to HPST)

1 swimmer \$364

2 swimmer \$627

3 Swimmers \$789

4 swimmers \$985

5 swimmers \$1,145

Parks & Recreation Activity Guide & Banner Programs: Applications for advertisement in the Fall/Winter edition of the Parks and Recreation activity guide are now being accepted. Applications are also being accepted for remaining open spots in the Banner Program for April 2014. Please contact Andrea Mendez at (510) 799-8290 or email amendez@ci.hercules.ca.us for additional information or to submit applications.

Licensed Before & After School Child 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 ratio, not to exceed 28 children per classroom
- All staff have passed a Livescan/Background check

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, "T.H.E. S.P.O.T." (Teens of Hercules Empowering through Spirit, Perseverance, Outreach, & Teamwork) located at 2007 Refugio Valley Road. Registration is now being accepted for the Fall S.P.O.T. Before and After school program.

- **Egg Hunt** - The Hercules Teen Youth Council (T.Y.C) is bringing you the 8th Annual Spring Egg Hunt! Children will enjoy timeless spring activities such as arts and crafts, face painting, and everyone's favorite, an egg hunt! Bring your favorite egg basket and come join us for this Hercules tradition! Saturday, April 19, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Hercules Senior Center, 111 Civic Drive. Admission: \$5.00

Sports: We offer sports and other positive leisure activities for patrons of all ages. Our recreation programs help promote a healthy lifestyle, while providing an environment in which people 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. A complete listing is available through the City website at www.ci.hercules.ca.us.

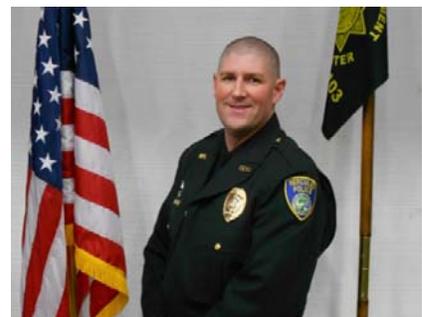
- Currently taking signups for our Pee Wee Basketball League for ages 7-9
- Also taking signups for spring break camps and shooting clinic

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, crafts. Our loving and qualified staff will guide them with socialization and self-help skills. Children have so much fun, they do not realize they are learning! Our program runs along with the school year from 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
- A M-W-F Pre K program
- A T/TH Little Learner Program

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hercules Police Hires New Officer: The Hercules Police Department welcomes to its ranks Police Officer Daniel Miller. In May 2007, Danny was hired as a Hercules Reserve Police Officer and in September 2013 attended the Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Academy in Pittsburg. On March 15, 2014 Danny graduated from the academy where he received the "Top Recruit" Award for excellence. On April 13, 2014, Officer Miller will continue his law enforcement career with the Hercules Police Department as a full time sworn officer assigned to the Patrol Division.



Officers Chase Down Burglary Suspects: On April 4, 2014, officers were dispatched to an in progress burglary in the 200 block of Starling. The reporting party said he saw two suspects wearing black hoodies enter a residence through a side door. When officers arrived, they heard movement inside the house. Officers established a perimeter around the house and subsequently saw two males come out of the house through a rear sliding glass door. The suspects jumped the fence, then hopped the side gate and began running west bound on Starling towards Pheasant Drive. Two officers began a foot pursuit and after running approximately 50 feet one of the suspects jumped back over the side gate and was taken into custody. Officers continued pursuing the second suspect down Starling. A mobile patrol unit caught up to the suspect and arrested him without further incident. Both adult male suspects, ages 19 and 23 years old, were in possession of property from the house on Starling.

Attempt Robbery: Hercules Police are asking for your assistance in identifying this suspect. On April 1, 2014, between 10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m., the victim went to the Lucky store on Sycamore Avenue. He left the store and got into his vehicle which was parked near the store entrance. Before he could close the door, a subject approached the driver's side door, reached into the vehicle, and attempted to stick his hand into the victim's coat pocket. The victim pushed the subject's arm away and the subject ran off towards Refugio Valley Road. The suspect is described as an African American male, 14 to 18 years old, athletic build, approximately 5'10", 165 pounds and clean shaven. If you have any information regarding the suspect described, please contact the Hercules Police Department at (510) 724-1111.

Frequently Asked Questions:

My car got towed...how do I get it back? Come to the Hercules Police Department and obtain a vehicle release. You must be the listed registered owner of the vehicle with the DMV. You must have a current driver's license or bring a person with you with a valid driver's license to drive your vehicle. The vehicle must be currently registered with the DMV. If smog is needed, you must get a moving permit from the DMV to move your vehicle. If your vehicle was towed for expired registration, you must bring in all the DMV paperwork with you for the release. If your vehicle was reported stolen and you have received a call from the Police Department that your vehicle was located, there will be no fee for the vehicle release service as you are a victim. Vehicle release fee is currently \$185.00 (please refer to the City's [Master Fee Schedule](#) to verify the price is current).

A Bit of Information

HERCULES POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES AN UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION AND OVER THE COUNTER DRUG COLLECTION

On Saturday April 26, 2014, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. the Hercules Police Department will again give Hercules residents an opportunity to turn in all expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs and over the counter medication. This nationwide program is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies.

This is the eighth time the DEA has offered the public an opportunity to turn in their unwanted prescription drugs and over the counter medications; and it is the second time Hercules Police Department has offered this service to the citizens of Hercules.

This program addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. In the past, many residents have disposed of unused medicines by flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash. We now know that both of those methods pose a potential health and environmental hazard.

The City of Hercules and the Hercules Police Department urges the residents of Hercules to use the “Take Back” day as an opportunity to dispose of all their expired, or unwanted prescription drugs and over the counter medications.

Hercules Reserve Police Officers will staff the drop off location at the Hercules City Hall Parking lot. Participants may drive into the parking area, to the rear of the trailers, and drop their contributions into the drop box. This program is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

It is recommended you remove prescription pills from the bottles and place the pills in a plastic bag, or remove all personal information from the prescription bottles. Any powders must be in a “sealed” container. Over the counter medications may be left in the original containers. **NO ILLEGAL DRUGS, LIQUIDS, OR “SHARPS” MAY BE DISPOSED OF AT THIS EVENT.**

For additional information, or other drop off locations, you may contact the DEA website at www.dea.gov . You may also check the City of Hercules website at www.ci.hercules.ca.us

HERCULES POLICE BI-WEEKLY STATS – March 27, 2014 – April 9, 2014

Calls For Service	582
Reports	63
Traffic Cites	25
Parking Cites	10
Adult Arrests	20
Juvenile Arrests	0
Arsons	0
Domestic Violence Reports	0
Hate Crimes	0
Towed Vehicles	9
Part 1 Crimes -Total	12

Part 1 Crimes Broken Down	---
Homicide	0
Rape	0
Robbery	1
Assault	3
Burglary	6
Larceny	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	1

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.*

Recreation Expo. - Sunday, April 13, 2014, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Hercules Community Center, 2001 Refugio Valley Road, Hercules – Free Event

Community and Library Services Commission Meeting – Monday, April 14, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers

Redevelopment Agency Oversight Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 15, 2014, 6:30 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers

Teen Youth Council – 8th Annual Spring Egg Hunt Event – Saturday, April 19, 2014, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hercules Senior Center, \$5.00 per child

Special City Council Meeting – Monday, April 21, 2014, 6:30 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers

Planning Commission Meeting – Monday, April 21, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers

City Council Meeting – Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 7:00 p.m. - **CANCELLED**

Citywide Annual Garage Sale – Saturday, April 26, 2014, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., co-sponsored by the City of Hercules and the Hercules Sister City Association.

Friends of the Hercules Senior Center 2nd Annual Texas Hold'Em Fundraiser – Saturday, April 26, 2014, 5:30-11:00 p.m., Hercules Community Center, 2001 Refugio Valley Road, Hercules - For more information visit <http://friendshscpoker.eventbee.com> or call (510) 592-4374.

Hercules Certified Farmer's Market - Saturday, May 3, 2014, 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Refugio Valley Park, Hercules