

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

**David Biggs, City Manager**



**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

**New City Manager** - I have completed two weeks as your new City Manager here in Hercules. I have appreciated and enjoyed the warm welcome I have received from community members, the Mayor, City Council, and City staff. My first few weeks will be spent getting to know the community and meeting key players, so don't be surprised if you see me out and about in the community. Please drop by and say hello if you happen to be in City Hall as I have an open door policy and am happy to meet with any resident to hear your ideas and concerns.

**Town Centrale Update** - The developer which is to complete the Town Centrale project, formerly known as the Sycamore North mixed use project, will be submitting their building plans for plan check next week. In preparation for that, and to expedite plan check and the issuance of building permits, the City Council this week approved a list of pre-qualified outside plan check firms, one of which will be utilized to do the plan check. Town Centrale will consist of 143 apartments, four live-work units, and 12,000 square feet of ground-floor retail space with 166 on-site parking spaces. Completion of this partially constructed project is a top priority for the City.

**Landscape & Lighting Assessments** - The City Council approved the 2014/15 Landscape and Lighting Assessments for the community after public hearings on Tuesday evening this week. The assessments in each of the District's will be going up based on just the consumer price index for the year or 2.447%. These assessments are collected through the property tax bills which are provided by the County with payments due in December and April of each year.

**Property Tax Update** - Last week, the Contra Costa County Assessor released information on the assessed values of properties here in Hercules. These assessed values serve as the basis for the property taxes paid by our property owners. The good news is that the assessed value in Hercules has increased by 17.4% over last year, which is the 4<sup>th</sup> highest increase in the county where the overall average increase was just over 9%. Unfortunately, Hercules is considered a low to no property tax city with our base share of property taxes being just over 3% before some adjustments are made by the County. To put that in perspective, the average share of property taxes for cities across the State is just over 15%. This is very good news in that it shows that the economic recovery is paying dividends here in Hercules. We won't get our first installment of property taxes until December and we will be monitoring what this may mean to our budget as we see the actual revenues being generated.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**November 4, 2014 General Election - Hercules City Council Candidate Nominations** - On May 27, 2014, the City Council adopted resolutions calling for a municipal election to be held and consolidated with the General Election on November 4, 2014. The purpose of the election is to fill two (2) expiring terms on the Hercules City Council.

Any person who is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the United States, a resident and registered voter of the City of Hercules is eligible to be elected or appointed to a City Office. City candidates are required to file a Nomination Petition, nominating the individual for candidacy, containing 20 valid signatures of registered voters with the Administrative Services Director/City Clerk.

Nomination Petitions will be available from the Administrative Services Director/City Clerk beginning Monday, July 14, 2014. Completed nomination documents must be submitted no later than Friday, August 8, 2014. However, should an incumbent fail to submit a nomination petition for re-election, the deadline for submittal of the nomination petition is extended an additional five calendar days, August 13, 2014.

For further information, please contact Margaret Roberts at (510) 799-8215.

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

**Lewis Homes – Muir Pointe (aka Bayside Parcel C):** The Final Planned Development Plan and all its attached applications for the [Muir Pointe subdivision](#) were unanimously approved by the City Council at their meeting Tuesday night for the construction of a 144 homes single family detached housing subdivision. Based on the developer's timeframe, they anticipate preparing all the necessary construction documents over the fall and winter months, start grading the site in April 2015, and start constructing on the first model home by September 2015.

#### **Building Division**

Number of permits issued - 32

Building permit fees collected - \$8,751.72

Number of inspections – 14

### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Sink Hole Reported and Repaired** - On July 7th at approximately 11:00 a.m., a small sink hole was reported in the 100 block of Newbury. Public Works staff responded immediately to assess the situation. A second possible location was identified, the area was secured and a contractor contacted. The contractor arrived on site the morning of July 8th. Investigative excavation was done at both identified locations and underground voids were found. An inspection of all utilities was conducted and they were found to be intact. The voids were backfilled, compacted and the street repaired by 2:00 p.m.

#### **Current and Ongoing Projects:**

- Goats R Us are in Hercules to complete firebreaks.
- A large tree branch fell at the Community Swim Center and was removed by a contractor.
- LED lights for Phase 3, Victoria by the Bay Development, of the replacement program were received; however, the wrong light color was shipped, the manufacturer correcting.
- PG&E and staff continue to repair streetlights in various locations throughout the City.
- Staff working with various developers on future developments.

## **Engineering Division**

- Intermodal Transit Center - SF Bay Trail Project No. 63001A – Construction in Progress
- Victoria Crescent Development
- Continue to process Sewer Service charges for posting 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).

**Hercules Certified Farmer's Market** - The Farmer's Market is opened every Saturday from 3:00-7:00 p.m. in the Home Depot parking lot, **NEW LOCATION!** The Market will continue at this location through the end of October 2014. All vendors who are interested in participating are encouraged to call Joe Aliotii, Market Manager, at (831) 905-1407.

**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 the fall 2014 edition of the Parks and Recreation activity guide are now being accepted. Reservations continue to be accepted for available spaces in the City's banner placement program. 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).

**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. Summer Camp Program from 6/9/14-8/13/14. Please make sure to register early because space is limited on field trip days.

**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:**

#### **Lap Swim**

M, T, TH, F, 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 8:00-9:00 p.m.

SU - 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**

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

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

#### **Individual Swim Lessons**

Dates: 7/7-7/18, 7/21-8/1, 8/4-8/15

Ages 3+

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

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

#### **Group Swim Lessons**

Dates: 7/21-8/1, 8/4-8/15

Ages 4-12

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

Fees: Resident- \$80/Non-Resident-\$93

#### **Aqua Zumba**

Days: Wednesdays

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

Drop-In Fee: \$10.00

#### **Aqua Zumba Gold**

Days: Sunday

Times: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Drop-In Fee: \$7.00

**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:**

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

**Summer Camp K-2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>:** Don't forget to sign up for the K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Camp Program set for July 14, 2014 through August 13, 2014. Please make sure to register early, as space is limited on field trip days.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Armed Robbery - Hercules Police are asking for your assistance in identifying these suspects.**

On July 8, 2014, at approximately 9:00 a.m., two adult males committed an armed robbery at the My Good's Market/76 Gas Station located on Willow Avenue in Hercules. Both males were described as "light skinned", in their 20's, with "bandanas" covering the lower part of their faces. Suspect number 1 was described as 5'11" to 6'0", 160 lbs., wearing all dark clothing, and was armed with a shotgun. Suspect number 2 was described as 5'6" to 5'-7", 150 lbs., wearing a gray hoodie, light blue jeans, sunglasses and indicated he also had a gun, although a second gun was not seen.

The suspects entered the My Good's Market (convenience store) portion of the gas station and suspect one displayed a shotgun demanding the clerk give him the cash drawer. The clerk complied and the suspects left the store. The suspects got into a 1996 light blue Ford minivan; CA License 3SLF298 and fled the area. A check of the license plate showed the vehicle was reported stolen, out of Richmond at approximately 6:25 a.m. that same day.

If anyone has information regarding the suspects or the vehicle, please contact the Hercules Police Department at 510-724-1111.

**4th of July Celebrations** - The Hercules Rotary and a number of local volunteers work very hard to bring July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities back to the City of Hercules. For the last three years, Herculeans have had to drive to neighboring cities to enjoy 4th of July celebrations, but not this year. In addition to the return of the parade, Hercules volunteers were hard at work creating a new Hercules July 4<sup>th</sup> tradition, an annual 5K and 1-mile fun run/walk.

The first annual Hercules Dynamite Run was an exciting event and an opportunity for the community to come together, enjoy the beauty of Hercules, and cheer each other on as they run, jog, or walk the 5K and 1-mile courses. It kicked off the rest of the City's 4th of July activities. The day as a whole was to celebrate all of the wonderful things that the City of Hercules has to offer its residents and neighbors. There were three events that took place on the 4<sup>th</sup>, the morning started with the run and then the traditional 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Before, during and after the race and parade there were various booths in the park, providing food, fun and festivities.

The parade was in part honoring veterans, past and present, with representatives from each branch of service participating in the parade. The Grand Marshall for this year was a WWII veteran and POW during WWII, George Funk. He rode through the parade in a WWII classic jeep. The veterans were also presented trophies for the most "Patriotic".

The City of Hercules was well represented. Many Police Department members and their families ran in the 5k Run. Hercules Rescue 1, "the tank", escorted the veterans which include members from the Police Department. The Police Explorers, Public Works and Parks and Recreation employees and community volunteers conducted traffic control while members from the Police Department and members of the Hercules Police Officers Association rode bicycles and drove vehicles in the parade.

It has been estimated that 4,000 people attended the festivities. This was a great community event and Great Team Work by All!!!

**Visiting Police Officer** - This week, the Hercules Police Department had the opportunity to share experiences, training, techniques and laws with an officer from Bern, Switzerland. Officer Nicolas Limacher spent a couple of days paired up with our officers patrolling Hercules. Officer Limacher also toured police dispatch and spent time with our investigators. On Tuesday, Officer Limacher spent most of his day at the shooting range with our officers performing their quarterly training. After Hercules, Officer Limacher will spend time with the El Cerrito, Richmond and San Francisco Police Departments.

#### **HERCULES POLICE BI-WEEKLY STATS – June 26, 2014 to July 9, 2014**

Calls For Service	682
Reports	58
Traffic Cites	29
Parking Cites	31
Adult Arrests	23
Juvenile Arrests	0
Arsons	0
Domestic Violence Reports	3
Hate Crimes	0
Towed Vehicles	8
Part 1 Crimes -Total	14

Part 1 Crimes Broken Down	--
Homicide	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Assault	6
Burglary	2
Larceny	4
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** – Saturday, July 12, 2014, 3:00-7:00 p.m., 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, July 14, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers

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

**Hercules City Council Meeting** – Tuesday, July 22, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Hercules City Hall, Council Chambers