

Julia Wood

From: Robert Oatey
Sent: Sunday, December 19, 2021 2:15 PM
To: dl_Dept Heads
Cc: Robert Young; Ryan Reber; Tim Shields; Daniel Kline; Robert Davis; Josh Coleman; Paul Horvat
Subject: NWS forecast update for 12/19/21

Department Head Team:

Not much has changed from the previous forecast information sent to you all yesterday. If anything, the total 5-day rainfall forecast has decreased by about 0.50-1.00", even over the Santa Cruz Mountains. Light rain is most likely to begin early Tuesday morning with periods of moderate rainfall possible by late Tuesday night into Wednesday.

While it's difficult to pin-point hourly rain rates at this time, early indications are that these rates will range from 0.25" to 0.50" at peak intensity and likely only for a short period of time. Rain rates through much of the next week will be around 0.10" per hour or less. These rainfall amounts and rates are *not* likely to cause any major flooding concerns.

Of course, the NWS will continue to update the forecast as they focus in on the details in the coming days and will provide updated partner briefings as needed. I am planning on making update requests daily and will continue to share information with this group.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Rob Oatey
Fire Chief - Interim
Santa Cruz Fire Department
230 Walnut Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
831.420.5280 (Office)
831.227.5403 (Cell)
roatey@cityofsantacruz.com

Julia Wood

From: Bonnie Lipscomb
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 11:56 AM
To: dl_RAAD
Subject: Key updates in lieu of a staff meeting

Hi Team,

Wanted to give you two key updates, recognizing that many of you may not be checking your emails over the City closure period, so the storm update will no longer (hopefully) be relevant.

- 1) **Storm Update:** The Interim Chief is monitoring the storm development which is slated to begin tonight in the Santa Cruz Mountains and early morning tomorrow for the City. Right now, the forecast has lessened somewhat, and while flooding is still a possibility, the current forecast is not likely to cause any major flooding concerns. Thanks to all of you who agreed to be on call for a potential EOC light activation. I will update you in the coming days if the sustained rain requires any additional help, but I believe we will not need additional support at this time.
- 2) **Development Manager:** After a great response with highly qualified candidates, I have selected Brian Borguno as the new Development Manager. Many of you may know Brian or have worked with him in Public Works, but Brian is currently the Parking Manager for the City. Brian has extensive development experience and has worked on major infrastructure mixed-use development projects in Michigan, Iowa and Alaska including a mixed-use project with a parking structure. Brian previously worked for the equivalent of our Redevelopment Agency in California, and we are so fortunate to have someone with his experience at this critical time for some of our major development projects. Brian will hit the ground running in the later part of January and will be immediately working on the Library Mixed-Use Project and the Tannery Project as some of his immediate major responsibilities.

I hope all of you are having or have planned some time to recharge over the city closure period and holidays. It has been another intense year and 2022 has all the makings of another action packed year ahead. I am glad we have a little extra capacity in 2022 to support all the incredible work you all do each and every day. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all in 2022!

If any of you need to reach me over the closure period, please do not hesitate to reach out. I can be reached on my cell at (831) 420-7219.

Best,
Bonnie



**SANTA CRUZ
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Bonnie Lipscomb

Economic Development Director/ Successor Agency Director
City of Santa Cruz Economic Development
(831) 420-5150 | blipscomb@cityofsantacruz.com
ChooseSantaCruz.com #ChooseSantaCruz

Julia Wood

From: Bonnie Lipscomb
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 2:07 PM
To: Lisa Murphy
Subject: RE: FW: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

I don't have anyone from my team.

Best,
Bonnie

From: Lisa Murphy
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 2:05 PM
To: dl_Dept Heads <dl_DeptHeads@cityofsantacruz.com>
Subject: FW: FW: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

Good afternoon

The Union is requesting a list of names of employees who worked to move the homeless to the river street garage and to the Depot Park. please let me know if you can do that.

Lisa

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: payparking <payparking@comcast.net>
Date: 12/20/21 6:32 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: Lisa Murphy <LMurphy@cityofsantacruz.com>, Ken Bare <KBare@cityofsantacruz.com>, Katy Bradley <Katy.Bradley@seiu521.org>
Subject: RE: FW: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

While we work out a date for the meeting please send me the list of SEIU represented employees assigned to the moves and the garage used as a shelter while the homeless were there.

Thanks

Ken

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Lisa Murphy <LMurphy@cityofsantacruz.com>
Date: 12/19/21 7:59 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: payparking <payparking@comcast.net>, Ken Bare <KBare@cityofsantacruz.com>, Katy Bradley <Katy.Bradley@seiu521.org>

Subject: FW: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

Can we meet next week? I'm on vacation, so anytime works for me.

Lisa

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Rosemary Menard <RMenard@cityofsantacruz.com>

Date: 12/19/21 4:14 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: Lisa Murphy <LMurphy@cityofsantacruz.com>, Laura Schmidt <LSchmidt@cityofsantacruz.com>

Subject: Fwd: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ken Bare <KBare@cityofsantacruz.com>

Date: Dec 19, 2021 3:16 PM

Subject: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

To: City Mgr <CMgr@cityofsantacruz.com>, Rosemary Menard <RMenard@cityofsantacruz.com>

Cc:

Hello,

I believe the use of SEIU represented employees as movers for the homeless and the housing of the homeless in a parking garage constitutes changes in working conditions and the Union should have been contacted to negotiate these changes. Please refrain from directing SEIU represented employees from doing this work until we have reached an agreement.

Thank you,

Ken Bare

City of Santa Cruz Chapter President SEIU 521

From: payparking [<mailto:payparking@comcast.net>]

Sent: Sunday, December 19, 2021 1:12 PM

To: Ken Bare <KBare@cityofsantacruz.com>

Subject: FW: RE: Who is in charge?

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: payparking <payparking@comcast.net>

Date: 12/18/21 9:23 AM (GMT-08:00)

To: Joe McMullen <jmcmullen@cityofsantacruz.com>

Cc: 'Katy Bradley' <Katy.Bradley@seiu521.org>

Subject: RE: Who is in charge?

Thank you for the information. After talking to some of the employees, consulting a calander, and seeing the area after the fact I disagree with the characterisation of there being an emergency. There was a lack of planing and part of that was the failure was not consulting with the union prior to the change in working conditions. I would like to speak to all of the employees that participated in both moves and maintaining the new camps. Please provide a list of those employees.

Thank you

Ken Bare

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Joe McMullen <jmcmullen@cityofsantacruz.com>

Date: 12/16/21 2:25 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: 'payparking' <payparking@comcast.net>

Cc: 'Katy Bradley' <Katy.Bradley@seiu521.org>

Subject: RE: Who is in charge?

Hi Ken - as far as I understand it the direction came from the City Manager's office. It's characterized as a life safety issue where emergency action had to be taken to save lives, including both the move from the Benchlands to the garage and from the garage to Depot Park.

Joe McMullen, Principal HR Analyst

Direct: 831-420-5044

I telecommute Tuesdays and Fridays – please call my cell phone: 831-706-0906

From: payparking <payparking@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2021 11:02 AM
To: Joe McMullen <jmcmullen@cityofsantacruz.com>
Cc: 'Katy Bradley' <Katy.Bradley@seiu521.org>
Subject: Who is in charge?

Who is in charge of the moving of homeless into one of the garages and the move of the homeless into Depot Park?

I think we should have discussed changes in working conditions prior to either of these moves.

Thanks

Ken

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Julia Wood

From: Laura Schmidt
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 9:26 AM
Cc: Donna Meyers; Justin Cummings; Martine Watkins; Renee Golder; Sandy Brown; Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson; Sonja Brunner
Subject: FW: Immediate Release | City Readyng Houseless Assistance in Advance of Storms
Attachments: Santa Cruz seeks homeless shelter options ahead of rainstorm – Santa Cruz Sentinel.pdf

Hello Councilmembers,

Council is bcc'd here.

I know you are receiving many emails and inquiries related to the storm, various encampments, etc. We are responding as quickly as we can to what you forward, balanced with working on managing the existing sites, clean-up, and preparation for standing up the longer-term sites at 1220 River and the Armory.

Elizabeth is loading updates to the City internet homelessness page at: <https://www.cityofsantacruz.com/community/homelessness>

We held a press conference yesterday in order to be more proactive in communicating with the community. We shared our efforts to clean-up from the last storm and prep for the next one. We also emphasized our role in life safety, and expressed our challenges and frustration in trying to launch effective response when systemic issues, lack of funding, staffing and facilities, and court decisions hamper us at every turn. Finally, we still absolutely need more help and partners for sustainable action. The attached Sentinel article captures much of the content.

Specifically regarding the impending rain, Chief Oatey is monitoring the weather and potential impacts closely. We have plans in place to respond to the rains as needed, plus we stand ready for EOC activation as always.

Elizabeth will be sending out another update to you all this evening with a summary of latest updates and status. As you may notice, Scott and Sheri from SAE Communications are cc'd here and are helping us with communications. Many of you know them from previous work and you may have had interview training with them. They are helping us during this situation and will also assist with the EOC communications should it be stood up. This type of work is a specialty for them and Elizabeth simply cannot do all that is needed in the communications space right now.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Best Regards,

Laura

Laura Schmidt
City of Santa Cruz | City Manager's Office | Assistant City Manager
lschmidt@cityofsantacruz.com | (831) 420-5015



From: Elizabeth Smith <esmith@cityofsantacruz.com>
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 11:59 AM
Subject: Immediate Release | City Readyng Houseless Assistance in Advance of Storms



809 Center St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • (831) 420-5277 • cityofsantacruz.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 20, 2021

Contact:

Elizabeth Smith

esmith@cityofsantacruz.com

City Readyng Houseless Assistance in Advance of Storms All Departments on Standby, Health and Safety Plans Under Way

SANTA CRUZ, CA – With potentially heavy rainfall predicted to arrive again this week, the City of Santa Cruz is putting into place emergency response measures to protect all residents, with a particular focus on unhoused people living along the benchlands area of the San Lorenzo River.

“Job 1 of the City is to protect lives, especially among our most vulnerable,” said Santa Cruz Mayor Sonja Brunner. “While the rain and storm forecast for this week is less severe than last week, these storms could still present a threat to people sheltering outdoors in low-lying areas along the San Lorenzo River. We strongly recommend evacuation from these areas. All City departments have been actively working every day to prepare for the storm impacts for all residents,” she added.

The City has put all City departments on standby should the incoming storms again cause flooding in lower San Lorenzo Park and threaten the sanctioned homeless camp adjacent to the river. Proactive steps include readyng the activation of the emergency operation center, receiving regular updates from the National Weather Service and putting outreach teams on standby.

“This winter has brought new challenges to our community in helping unhoused people,” Brunner said. “Many well-known sheltering and warming locations that were available in years past are now unavailable due to the use of COVID-19 sheltering for vulnerable populations, and the City continues to explore all potential shelter options,” she noted. Sites such as Kaiser Permanente Arena, the Civic Auditorium, various parking garages and schools are not options since they are open and booked with activities this winter when they were generally closed and available last year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

A chronology of the City’s efforts prior to, during, and after last week’s storm can be found on cityofsantacruz.com/homelessness. The City continues to take steps to address health, safety and winter shelter for unhoused people, including:

- Outreach to those living in the park to ensure they are aware of potential dangers and their options
- Preparing to clear the camp in the Benchlands should the threat to lives of those living there increases
- Working to identify, with non-profit agencies, emergency sheltering options in the case of extreme cold and rainy conditions
- Creating updated winter shelter plans due to the loss of numerous options for emergency assistance

“While homelessness is an issue throughout our state, we have a responsibility right here in Santa Cruz to help those who need it most. This is a systemic issue, which means it’s not easy and won’t be solved immediately. We certainly cannot fix this crisis without the help of local partners, the county, the state, the federal government and members of

this community,” Brunner said. “We are grateful for the one-time funds coming from the state to assist with this crisis. For long-term solutions, we need everyone’s creativity, strengthened partnerships and a tremendous amount of ongoing financial help to make a dent in the overall issue of homelessness.”

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J. Elizabeth Smith

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager’s Office | Communications Manager

esmith@cityofsantacruz.com | Office: (831) 420-5018 | Mobile: (773) 220-7488

NEWS > WEATHER

Santa Cruz seeks homeless shelter options ahead of rainstorm



A temporary emergency evacuation site for the homeless now fills the parking lot at Depot Park in Santa Cruz. City officials said Monday they are looking for additional evacuation site options, ahead of coming winter storms. (Shmuel Thaler/Santa Cruz Sentinel)

By **JESSICA A. YORK** | jjork@santacruzsentinel.com | Santa Cruz Sentinel
December 20, 2021 at 4:39 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ — Last week's soaking rainstorm sent those living without shelter [scrambling for higher ground](#). Now Santa Cruz city officials are spreading a wide net in search of new temporary emergency evacuation sites.





The south end of the San Lorenzo Park Benchlands homeless encampment is inundated with the rain-swollen San Lorenzo River on Dec. 13. (Shmuel Thaler/Santa Cruz Sentinel)

During Tuesday's winter solstice — a day typically set aside nationwide for honoring the memory of those who have died while homeless — the National Weather Service is forecasting that a new rainstorm will hit the region and continue through the end of the week. Earlier projections of high-intensity rain periods have been scaled back slightly, with forecasters suggesting the storm's intensity could be blunted as it spreads out over a longer-than-expected time period. The Santa Cruz Mountains and Northern Monterey Bay are expected to see a cumulative week-long rainfall total from 3 to 5.5 inches, according to National Weather Service forecasts.

"But it's still wise to be prepared as details remain vague for the end of this week into early next week," regional National Weather Service forecasters warned on their Bay Area-focused weather blog at [weather.gov/bayarea](https://www.weather.gov/bayarea).

City workers evacuated approximately 50 individuals living in tent encampments along the rising San Lorenzo River last week, first to the River Street Garage and later over to the Depot Park parking lot. That emergency evacuation site, expected to remain open until as late as mid-January, is now filled to capacity, said city spokesperson Elizabeth Smith. Another four individuals assessed as "medically vulnerable" were placed in a county-run shelter program, officials said.





The San Lorenzo River flooded the Benchlands encampment Dec. 13. (Shmuel Thaler/Santa Cruz Sentinel)

As of Monday, however, hundreds of people remained at large city outdoor encampments, including areas near the city-sanctioned San Lorenzo Park Benchlands area and in a wooded area between Felter Street and the Santa Cruz Memorial cemetery. Only the southernmost end of the benchlands is in danger of continued flooding, however, and those in the park should move north, toward the Santa Cruz County Government Center, according to Interim Fire Chief Rob Oatey. City workers have been urging those living outdoors to move to higher ground locations since Friday but have barred park occupants from relocating to the upper San Lorenzo Park area, according to officials.

"The upper benchlands is still going to be wet and is still outdoors," Smith said during a city press conference Monday designed to disclose the city's latest steps related to homelessness. "We are looking for additional shelter options for these folks, so that we can, if required, move them to other locations. In terms of helping people move their things, there is staff on-site, assisting folks, but it really is up to the individual to be responsible for their own things."

Should an evacuation from the park become mandated for health and safety reasons, Smith said, Parks and Recreation Department workers would assist in the relocation effort.

During the press conference, Mayor Sonja Brunner commended work by numerous city departments in the days before and after forecast weather severity changed a week earlier and the San Lorenzo River began to quickly rise. She said this week's storms were not expected to be as severe but could still present a threat.

"As many of us enjoy the holiday with our families and friends, we must also recognize the heartbreaking crisis of unhoused residents in our community, especially during inclement weather," Brunner said. "Job No. 1 of the city is to really protect lives, especially our most vulnerable."

While city officials have spent numerous days searching for alternative shelter options, "there are few choices immediately available to help with these efforts, and even fewer resources for staffing those efforts," Brunner said.

City officials said they were open to partnerships with anyone willing to help, particularly during times of intense cold and rain. Santa Cruz County-run shelters are nearly to capacity, officials said, and efforts to open city-funded encampments for 75 people on the grounds of the National Guard Armory in DeLaveaga Park and 30-35 in a city-owned utility yard at 1220 River St. are moving forward, but still under development, they said. Those with facilities or the capacity to operate temporary shelters should email the city at

homelessness@cityofsantacruz.com.

Storm prep



Extreme weather alerts: Code Red, scr911.org.

Santa Cruz city updates: cityofsantacruz.com/community/homelessness.

Warming Center Program: 831-246-1234, warmingcenterprogram.com, warmingcenterprogram@gmail.com.

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Tags: [Homelessness](#), [Newsletter](#)

 Author **Jessica A. York** | Reporter

Jessica A. York covers Santa Cruz County public safety, courts and homelessness for the Sentinel. She has been a working journalist, on both coasts, since 2004.

jyork@santacruzsentinel.com

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Julia Wood

From: Elizabeth Smith
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 7:57 PM
Cc: dl_Dept Heads; Larry Imwalle; Megan Bunch
Subject: 12/21/21 - Evening update

Dear Councilmembers (bcced),

Please find your evening update for Dec. 21, 2021 below.

Emergency Preparedness

We are expecting rain over the next 6-7 days. Expecting 3-5 inches total, with highest six-hour precipitation rate occurring on Thursday 12/23. After discussing the forecast with Water Dept staff, flooding in low lying areas is **not a concern** as of yet. Interim Chief Oatey will continue to monitor and have FD staff patrol San Lorenzo River encampments over the next 48-72 hours.

Interim Chief Oatey has been working closely with county Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience. They received a supply need list with an estimate of quantities needed earlier today and have committed to help fulfill as much of this order as possible if an evacuation is needed.

Encampment Outreach

Yesterday, Fire, PD and Homelessness Response Team members walked the area behind the Cemetery, Hell's Trail and the Agreement Camp (Benchlands South). During their walk, they identified approximately 36 active camp sites and contacted approximately 20 individuals. On Hell's Trail, the team identified approximately 30 encampments and contacted 14 individuals, advising them of the incoming storm. At the Agreement Camp, they identified approximately 16 active campsites and contacted approximately 7 individuals advising them of the incoming storm.

They informed the individuals of the incoming storm and advised them to vacate the area. There did not appear to be any active effort to leave the area from any of the inhabitants. The Homelessness Response Team members in the Benchlands reported that by the end of the day four sites remained occupied in the lowest-lying southern areas.

Homelessness Response Team members identified two more campers to move to the Armory shelter, and they are expected to move tomorrow.

Cleanup Efforts

Parks and Recreation staff continued their regular cleanup of the beach and river mouth this morning. Each day the team is collecting trash, debris and discarded needles from the sites. The refuse removal contractor who works alongside the Homelessness Response Team worked on trash removal from the cemetery last Friday and Homelessness Response Team members led a volunteer cleanup in the cemetery on Sunday. The contractor continued massive cleanup work in the south end of the Benchlands Monday and today.

Depot Park Temporary Evacuation Site

The Homelessness Response Team, Fire and Police continue oversight of the temporary evacuation site at Depot Park. The team is working with campers to ensure compliance with the agreed upon code of conduct. Parks and Recreation have installed external power access for the campers.

Transitional Community Camp – 1220 River

Opening plans for 1220 River St. are set. Homelessness Response Team members are enrolling participants Dec. 27-28. The infrastructure will be installed on Jan. 3-4 with participant move-in occurring Jan. 6-7.

The new Transitional Community Camp will host up to 35 participants, who will be vetted for their ability to comply with a set of agreements that aim to ensure the healthy, lawful functioning of the camp. The agreements will include abiding by a basic code of conduct, contributing weekly volunteer hours toward the maintenance and functioning of the camp, adhering to quiet hours, and attending regular camp meetings.

Participants will also work with case managers to establish individual goals geared toward stability and self-reliance. They will be required to attend weekly one-on-one case management meetings with staff. Successful participants will be allowed to stay for an initial term of six months. Two, three-month extensions will be allowed if the individual is showing progress toward meeting their individual goals. Conversely, participants will be removed from the camp if they do not live up to the community agreements.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns. We will send daily updates as the week's storm progresses and keep you informed immediately if conditions change.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

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J. Elizabeth Smith

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager's Office | Communications Manager

esmith@cityofsantacruz.com | Office: (831) 420-5018 | Mobile: (773) 220-7488

Julia Wood

From: Elizabeth Smith
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 9:55 PM
Cc: dl_Dept Heads; Larry Imwalle; Megan Bunch
Subject: Dec. 22, 2021 - Evening Update

Dear Councilmembers (bcced),

Below is your update for Dec. 22, 2021.

Emergency Preparedness

There has been no significant weather updates to report. Over the last 24 hours, we have received .45" of rain and expect .5"-1" through Friday. The valley will receive 1"-1.5" over the same time period. There is the potential for thunderstorms tomorrow, but, again, no threat of flooding at this time. No forecasted flooding in SLR.

Interim Chief Oatey patrolled the east levee from Soquel to Felker this morning and this evening. There were no immediate flood concerns noted. The water level between Hwy 1 and Soquel bridges actually dropped from this morning to this evening. FD will continue patrols tonight and tomorrow.

Enforcement

Lieutenant Crofts, PO Cole, PO Luna and Interim Chief Escalante conducted a foot patrol behind the cemetery at 9 a.m. with the intention of citing people for being in a closed area. PD issued 8 citations before an individual who was a suspect was contacted. Consent was given to search his backpack. Officers found a BB gun and quickly afterwards found a loaded handgun. He was arrested for those initial charges. A full search of his person and backpack resulted in a total of \$11,211 in cash being found along with (gross weight) 171.7 grams of fentanyl/heroin, 42.9 grams of methamphetamine and other indicia of sales. The large amount of cash, drugs and other items of evidence (over 60 items) took two officers all day to book it. The suspect was medically denied at the Jail because they were concerned he may have swallowed some drugs along with other medical reasons. PO Cole spent all day at the hospital and just cleared the ER at 4 p.m.

The total charges were for a previous warrant, 11351 HS & 11378 HS, 25400 PC (Carrying concealed firearm), 29800 PC (Addict in possession of a firearm), 25850(a) PC (Carrying a loaded firearm in public) and 25850(c)(6) PC (Carrying an unregistered firearm).

Encampment Sites

Homelessness Response Team members will be working through the holiday, checking in on the Benchlands and Depot Park each day.

San Lorenzo Park

Parks and Recreation staff brought portable toilets from River St. garage to San Lorenzo Park and located them near the waste dumpsters near Water St. PD responded to abandoned encampments behind lawn bowling, Parks is cleaning up today and tomorrow. Condition of the Benchlands is wet and muddy. Some individual campers have spread out to other areas including at the base of Branciforte Creek footbridge, under the Soquel St. bridge, and to higher ground on the opposite side of the river.

Depot Park

An electrical panel was installed at Depot Park. A one-way in, one-way out traffic flow was established for access to the Optum COVID testing site co-located in the parking lot. Thanks for Public Works for the assist on this! Sandbags were delivered and are being used by campers.

1220 River Street

Enrollment packets for 1220 are printed and ready for action early next week. The procurement process to purchase shower units with CDBG funds should also begin next week. Parks and Recreation is scheduling for trucks and staff for the eventual move. The Homelessness Response Team purchased gift cards to have the Benchlands environmental stewardship team (BEST) work this Sunday and through the end of January. Thanks to Travis for coordinating!

Thanks,
Elizabeth

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J. Elizabeth Smith

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager's Office | Communications Manager

esmith@cityofsantacruz.com | Office: (831) 420-5018 | Mobile: (773) 220-7488

Julia Wood

From: Elizabeth Smith
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2021 7:40 PM
Cc: dl_Dept Heads; Larry Imwalle; Megan Bunch
Subject: Dec. 23, 2021 - Evening Update

Dear Councilmembers (bcced),

Please find the update for Dec. 23 below. Weather conditions are looking good. Unless there are significant changes or issues that you should be aware of, this will be the final update until Monday, Dec. 27.

Emergency Preparedness

The weather forecast hasn't changed much. The forecast shows another .25-.5 inches of rain into late Friday morning. Late Friday, Saturday and through Wednesday of next week, another system will bring scattered showers bringing 1-2.25 inches of rain over that same time period.

Interim Chief Oatey patrolled the east levee from Benchlands south to the cemetery multiple times. 9 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. The river level had mild rise but no flooding threat observed or expected. Camps were wet/soggy with puddling throughout. FD will continue to monitor over the weekend and report any issues.

Enforcement

Police responded to an altercation that resulted in minor stab wounds. The victim is known to PD and was uncooperative with the investigation. He is not a participant in the camp and should not have been onsite at 3 a.m. when the incident occurred.

To support the ongoing work of PD, FD and the Homelessness Response Team at the Depot Park site, the team is onboarding First Alarm to assist in rules enforcement and working to bring on more temporary staff to help manage the various sites while the core team members continue their work on 1220 River St.

Cleanup

Parks and Receptions continued business as usual with routine parks operations, waste pickup, etc.

Enjoy the holiday!

Thanks,
Elizabeth

--

J. Elizabeth Smith

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager's Office | Communications Manager
esmith@cityofsantacruz.com | Office: (831) 420-5018 | Mobile: (773) 220-7488

Julia Wood

From: Elizabeth Smith
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 8:17 AM
Subject: Dec. 27, 2021 Update

Dear Councilmembers,

The threat of harm from floods in areas where there are encampments has subsided significantly since your last update. Going forward, updates will come as-needed and, rather than detailed reports of ongoing daily activity, will outline any significant changes in conditions or operations for your awareness. Please find the update for Dec. 27 below.

Emergency Response

Key Points from NWS:

- Rainy, cold, unsettled pattern expected Tonight through Wednesday.
- Minor nuisance flooding possible through Wednesday.
- Rapid rises on streams and creeks possible, but should remain below flood stage.
- Much colder air to move into the region early Tuesday morning and this weekend.
- Low elevation snow may be possible Tuesday, mainly above 1500 feet, but cannot rule out trace amounts in the North and East Bay Valleys.
- Cold air remains in place for much of the work week, with overnight temperatures in the mid to upper 30s for Tuesday through Friday. Colder temperatures in the forecast area wide for Saturday and Sunday.

Interim Chief Oatey patrolled both levees of the SLR during the morning and found the river level to still be 3'-5' below any encampment. He patrolled the same areas in the afternoon and found the water to be down another foot or so below (4'-6') any encampments. There is no expected flooding forecasted in these areas and no advisories or warnings issued for rain or wind.

Over the next two days, the on/off precipitation is forecasted to bring .5"-.75" with no flooding expected in the encampments along the SLR in the city. FD will continue to monitor the SLR encampments and the weather over the next 48-72 hours and report any significant changes as needed.

Enforcement

PD continues to check on both Depot Park and Upper San Lorenzo Park multiple times a day. No signs of any campers in the Upper San Lorenzo Park area. Sunday night PD wrote 20 parking citations in the Harvey West area to address the increase in overnight vehicles.

Encampment Sites

Depot Park

The Homeless Response Team contracted with First Alarm to support rules enforcement at the Depot Park temporary evacuation site. Service began Sunday Morning. First Alarm will be onsite working with the Homelessness Response Team and campers three times per day throughout the remainder of operations at that location.

The Covid testing site at Depot Park continues to operate effectively. The week of Dec 20 – 23 the site conducted 335 tests. The County anticipates increased demand for testing and is considering extending testing hours to 7 a.m.–7 p.m. The testing site currently operates 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

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J. Elizabeth Smith

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager's Office | Communications Manager
esmith@cityofsantacruz.com | Office: (831) 420-5018 | Mobile: (773) 220-7488

Julia Wood

From: Laura Schmidt
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2021 4:58 PM
To: dl_Dept Heads
Cc: Eileen Cross; Larry Imwalle; Megan Bunch
Subject: December 30, 2021 Update

Dear Councilmembers (bcc'd),

Our need for emergency response related to potential flooding has significantly subsided as we are fortunately facing dry conditions in the next 3-4 days.

Key Weather Highlights:

- Dry conditions are expected through the next 3-4 days.
- Rain is expected to return late Monday 1/3 with showers on and off through Wednesday 1/5.
- No flooding is expected.
- Very cold, near freezing temperatures are expected over the next several nights.

Interim Chief Oatey patrolled both levees of the SLR during the morning and afternoon and found muddy conditions, with puddles and ponding of water, trash and debris. Drier conditions will enable trash clean-up. The river level is approximately 4'-6' from any encampment and no flooding is expected during the next several days.

Enforcement

On Tuesday, PD cited 17 people who were still occupying the area that is closed behind the cemetery. More work needs to be done to clean-up trash in the area, and PD will continue enforcement until the area is cleared. Wednesday night, 18 vehicles were cited in the Harvey West Park neighborhood for illegal parking.

Encampment and Transitional Sites

Benchlands:

- Clean-up efforts from the flood and rains continue, with the City contractor continuing to remove abandoned sites and manage refuse removal.
- Steward staff received a donation of blankets, which are being distributed.

Depot:

- The first patrol by Allied Universal was shifted to 7:00 am to align with the opening of the County COVID testing site, which is co-sited at Depot with the evacuation site. COVID testing hours will be expanded beginning Monday 1/3, from 7:00 am – 7:00 pm.
- Allied Universal is distributing garbage bags during their 3 daily patrols of the park.

1220 River:

- The site has been demarcated and pre-inspection approval has been given by Fire.
- Camper enrollment and vetting has been underway since Monday.
- The delivery of the shower trailer will occur on Monday 1/3 and additional infrastructure will be put up early next week.
- Camper move in is schedule for Thursday 1/6 and Friday 1/7.

Staff and I will be in contact over the New Year holiday if needed for emergent situations. Otherwise, we will next update you on Monday 1/3.

Thank you,

Laura

Laura Schmidt

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager's Office | Assistant City Manager | (831) 420-5015



Julia Wood

From: Robert Oatey
Sent: Friday, December 31, 2021 7:06 PM
To: dl_Dept Heads; Robert Young; Paul Horvat; Tim Shields
Subject: Fwd: NWS Bay Area: Update on Cold Temperatures Tonight and Saturday Night
Attachments: mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.png; Archived Briefing-20211231_1700.pdf; NYE2021FreezeWarning.png.png; 12-31-21-LowsTonightIntoSat.png.png; 12-31-21-LowsSatNightIntoSun.png.png

Hey team,

Here is the latest from NWS. Basically cold weather weather tonight and tomorrow with rain on Tuesday and Wednesday. The coastal flooding will be mild and due to significant tidal changes. No impact expected at encampments along SLR.

The SLR river level is significantly lower and encampments are drying out without any hazards present or expected.

Rob Oatey
Fire Chief - Interim
Santa Cruz Fire Department
230 Walnut Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
831.420.5280 (Office)
831.227.5403 (Cell)
roatey@cityofsantacruz.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: NWS Bay Area <nws.bayarea@noaa.gov>
Date: December 31, 2021 at 17:01:08 PST
Subject: NWS Bay Area: Update on Cold Temperatures Tonight and Saturday Night

National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Weather Forecast Office
Bay Area
Friday, Dec 31, 2021

Update on Cold Temperatures Tonight and Saturday Night

Good afternoon. Here is an update on the colder temperatures that are expected starting tonight.

KEY POINTS

Cold tonight and Saturday night with frost and freezing temperatures possible.
Likely impacts to persons, pets, and sensitive plants left outdoors.

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS BRIEFING

A Freeze Warning is in effect for the North Bay Valleys, southern Salinas Valley, and for San Benito and interior Monterey Counties for tonight into Saturday morning.

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

Risk levels incorporate potential impacts from weather hazards and likelihood of occurrence.

	Fri 12/31	Sat 1/1	Sun 1/2	Mon 1/3	Tue 1/4	Wed 1/5	Thu 1/6
North Bay Santa Rosa, Napa, San Rafael	Cold	Cold Coastal Flooding	Cold Coastal Flooding	Coastal Flooding	Rain	Rain	
East Bay Oakland, Concord, Livermore	Cold	Cold Coastal Flooding	Cold Coastal Flooding	Coastal Flooding	Rain	Rain	
South Bay San Jose, Gilroy	Cold	Cold Coastal Flooding	Cold Coastal Flooding	Coastal Flooding	Rain	Rain	
SF Peninsula Half Moon Bay, Pacifica	Cold	Cold Coastal Flooding	Cold Coastal Flooding	Coastal Flooding	Rain	Rain	
Central Coast Santa Cruz, Salinas, Monterey, Big Sur	Cold	Cold Coastal Flooding	Cold Coastal Flooding	Coastal Flooding	Rain	Rain	
Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme		

DETAILS

North Bay

Cold

Impacts:

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors will be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in near or below freezing temperatures.

Freeze Warning tonight into Saturday morning.

SF Peninsula

Cold

Impacts:

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in temperatures in the upper 30s to around 40.

East Bay

Cold

Impacts:

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in temperatures in the lower to mid 30s. A few colder spots could reach freezing.

South Bay

Cold

Impacts:

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in temperatures between 35 and 40 degrees. A few colder spots could reach freezing.

Monterey Bay

Cold

Impacts:

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in temperatures between 35 and 40 degrees. A few colder spots could reach freezing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For the latest forecast updates, visit weather.gov/bavarea.

If you have questions or would like to submit weather reports, photos, or to unsubscribe from these briefings, email nws.bavarea@noaa.gov or call (831) 656-1727.

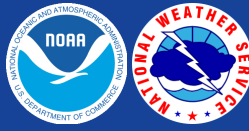
Interact With Us!

National Weather Service - Bay Area

weather.gov/bavarea

(831) 656-1727

nws.bavarea@noaa.gov



Update on Cold Temperatures Tonight and Saturday Night

Good afternoon. Here is an update on the colder temperatures that are expected starting tonight.

KEY POINTS

- Cold tonight and Saturday night with frost and freezing temperatures possible.
- Likely impacts to persons, pets, and sensitive plants left outdoors.

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Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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DETAILS

North Bay



Impacts:

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors will be damaged or killed.
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Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in near or below freezing temperatures.

Freeze Warning tonight into Saturday morning.

SF Peninsula

**Impacts:**

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

Timing:

Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Confidence:

High confidence in temperatures in the upper 30s to around 40.

East Bay

**Impacts:**

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
- Pets could suffer from frostbite and hypothermia.

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Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

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South Bay

**Impacts:**

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
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Late tonight into Saturday morning; again late Saturday night into Sunday morning.

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Monterey Bay

**Impacts:**

- Cold temperatures will impact the homeless and those without adequate heating.
- Sensitive plants left outdoors may be damaged or killed.
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FOR MORE INFORMATION

For the latest forecast updates, visit [weather.gov/bayarea](https://www.weather.gov/bayarea).

If you have questions or would like to submit weather reports, photos, or to unsubscribe from these briefings, email nws.bayarea@noaa.gov or call (831) 656-1727.

GRAPHICS



Freeze Warning

Published:
December 31, 2021

In effect from midnight until 9 AM Saturday



- North Bay Interior Valleys
- Southern Salinas Valley
- Mountains of interior Monterey and San Benito Counties



- Overnight lows: From low 20s to low 30s possible
- Hours of subfreezing temps possible



- Sensitive vegetation may be damaged or killed
- Unprotected outdoor plumbing may be damaged
- All animals need warm shelter



Hazards

Freeze Warning



NWSBayArea



San Francisco Bay Area/Monterey
weather.gov/bayarea

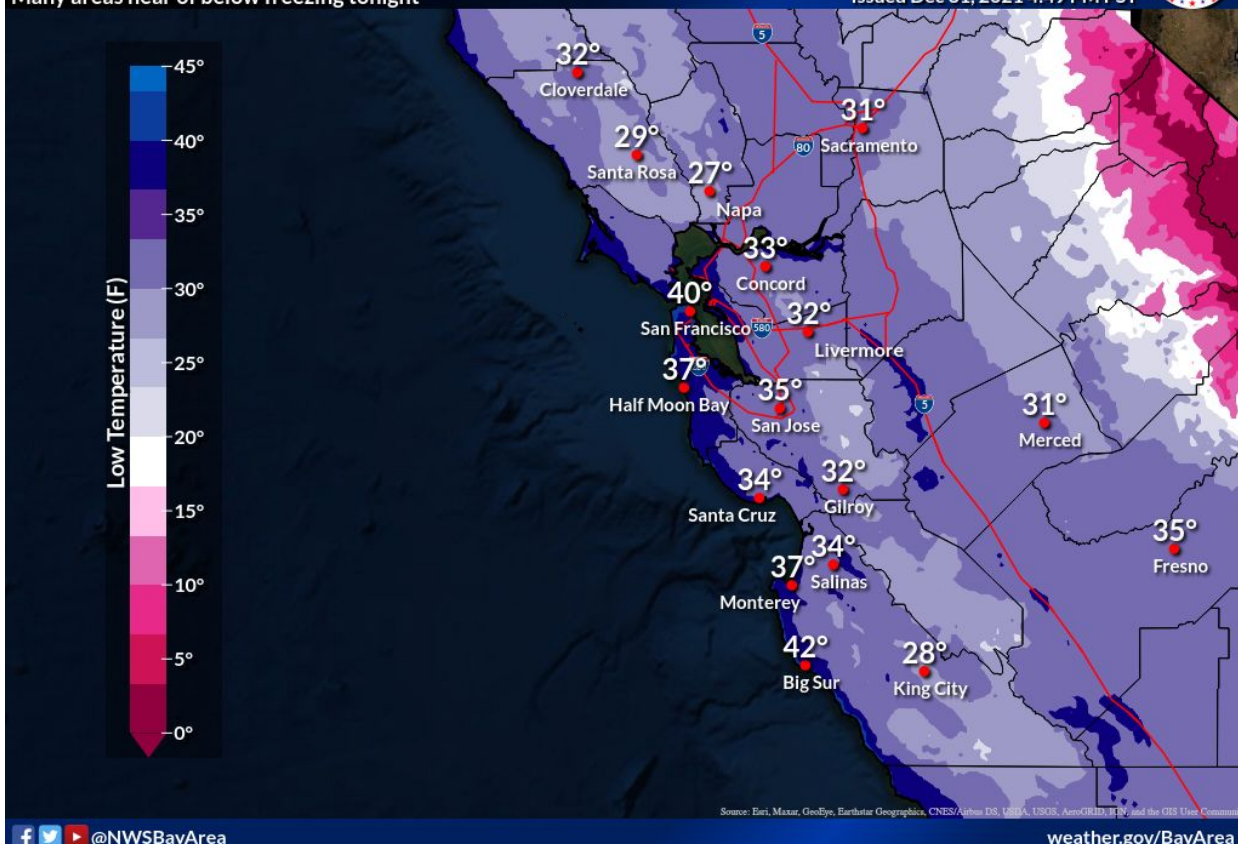
NYE2021FreezeWarning.png

Lows Tonight into Saturday Morning

Weather Forecast Office
San Francisco Bay Area
Issued Dec 31, 2021 4:49 PM PST



Many areas near of below freezing tonight



@NWSBayArea

weather.gov/BayArea

12-31-21-LowsTonightIntoSat.png

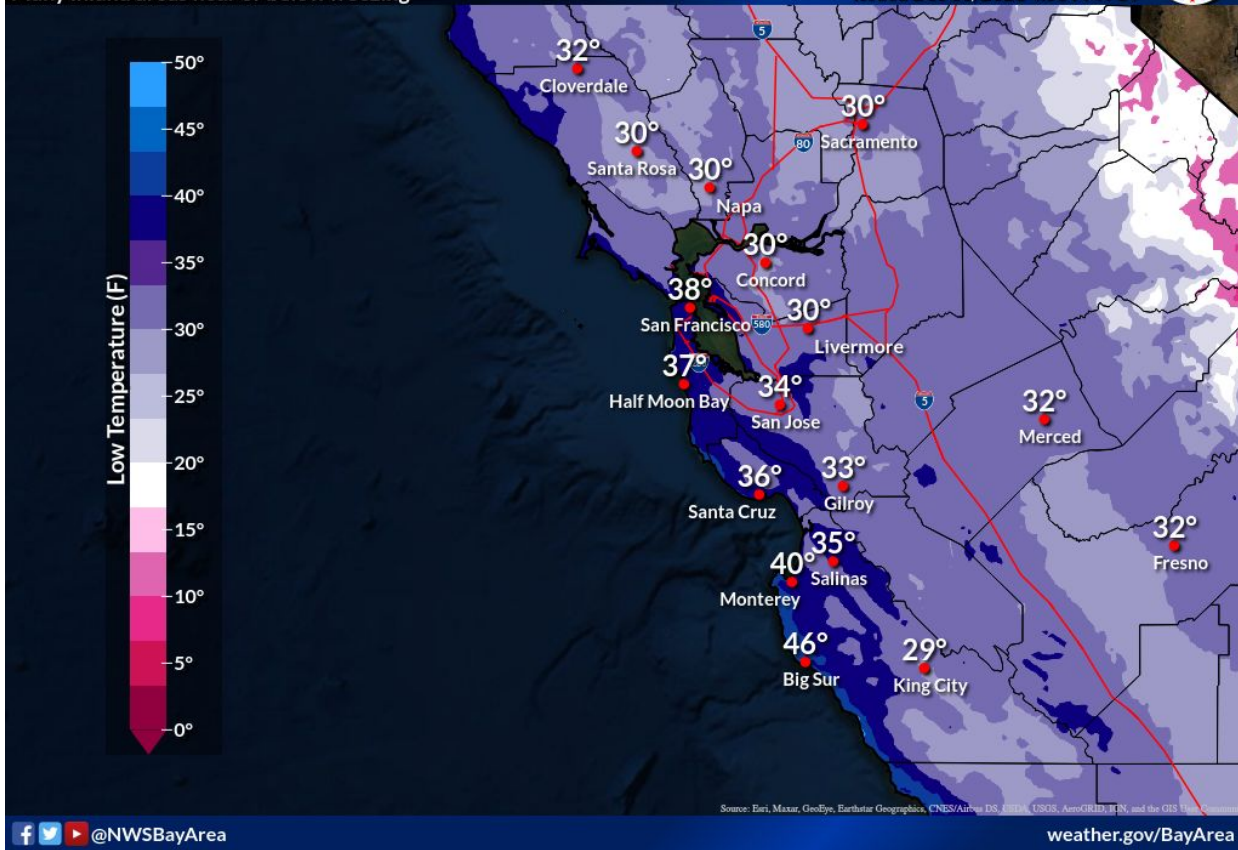
Weather Forecast Office San Francisco Bay Area

Weather Forecast Office

San Francisco Bay Area

Many inland areas near or below freezing

Issued Dec 31, 2021 4:50 PM PST



@NWSBayArea

weather.gov/BayArea

12-31-21-LowsSatNightIntoSun.png

Julia Wood

From: Elizabeth Smith
Sent: Monday, January 3, 2022 8:22 PM
Subject: Jan. 3, 2022 Update

Dear Councilmembers,

Storm conditions have fully subsided for now, so this will be the last regular update. We will continue to provide updates as significant milestones are met or activities are underway related to homelessness response.

Emergency Response

The precipitation that was forecasted has been downgraded significantly due to the system moving north of the city of Santa Cruz. We are expected to have light misting/precipitation overnight. The Santa Cruz Mountains are forecasted to receive approximately 0.5"-1" over the next 24-48 hours but there is no flooding expected downstream at this time. The cold weather has also seemed to dissipate as well with temperatures expected to remain in the low to mid 50s. There are no weather-related advisories/warnings issued for the county. FD staff has been in the areas along the SLR (patrols and calls for service) and do not report any major life safety concerns related to weather/flooding.

Cleanup

Parks & Rec operations continue with respect to routine maintenance and waste collection in parks, open spaces, river levee, and beaches. During the month of December 2021, Parks & Rec collected nearly 500 needles at Main Beach. Most of these were located at the river mouth as a result of having been washed downstream from recent rains. This does not include syringes collected by Downtown Streets Team as their aggregated data is not yet available. Nevertheless, this is an enormous number - by comparison in Dec. 2020 there were 50 syringes collected by Parks & Rec staff at Main and Cowell.

Enforcement

PD completed checks throughout the past 24 hours, however, no citations or arrests were made. Multiple abandon tents were tagged for vacate/removal in Benchlands.

Encampment Sites

1220 River St.

The efforts at opening 1220 River later this week are on track (thanks to Megan, Chris, Jer and Public Works). The site has been marked out and reviewed by Fire. Today shower combo trailer was delivered. Wastewater will hook up the unit to sewer, Facilities/Streets will set up large tent tomorrow and Streets will repair cut fence. Move-in of people and belongings will be happening on Thursday-Friday. The team expects about 30 participants, most from the Benchlands, but approximately six from the Depot Park site.

Depot Park

Staff continue to be onsite every day, and the contracted security company (Allied Universal) doing patrols 3 times a day. City staff and security patrols continue to work with campers on rule compliance at the emergency evacuation site. The City and security patrol are meeting again this week to discuss further improving campers' rule compliance and issuance of additional formal violation notices. The Homelessness Response Team is working on a demobilization plan for the location with details to come.

The OptumServe COVID testing site at Depot Park expanded its hours to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. effective today (1/3) due to increasing demand. This is putting more pressure on Depot Park parking lot as the public is increasingly seeking testing. The last report on volume of tests/samples at Depot Park was from Dec. 27-29 totaling 434 tests.

Meanwhile, we are seeing issues with vehicles parking overnight in the Depot Park parking lot causing traffic jams and limiting access for OptumServe. Public Works plans to address issues with parking in this lot to clear the area and maintain an open, accessible route to the OptumServe site.

Harvey West

Harvey West Pool is open – effective today (1/3) - under the operation of County Parks and Recreation’s Simpkins Swim Center staff while the County pool is under renovation. Harvey West will continue to see increased use through the season especially now with the pool open. SCPD is ticketing RVs in the area. It is important that this area remain clear of encampments for safety and accessibility of the park and pool.

Please reach out with any questions.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

--

J. Elizabeth Smith

City of Santa Cruz | City Manager’s Office | Communications Manager

esmith@cityofsantacruz.com | Office: (831) 420-5018 | Mobile: (773) 220-7488

Julia Wood

From: Matt Huffaker
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 6:03 PM
To: Matt Huffaker
Cc: dl_Dept Heads
Subject: Council Quick Updates

Mayor and Council (Bcc'd)

In addition to the CM Weekly Report, I will also be pushing out a streamlined "Quick Updates" to the Council and Department Heads only. Have a nice weekend.

Sales Tax Receipts Up 20% Over 2020

Santa Cruz sales receipts for the third quarter of 2021 were 20.2% higher than the third quarter of 2020. After adjusting for modifications, actual sales were up 21.2%, with an overall place of sale collections rising to 25.9%. Most sales categories saw a dramatic increase compared to the lows of 2020 during the height of the pandemic shutdowns.

PD Recruits in the Pipeline

The Police Department is expanding with the newest class of recruits of ten cadets starting the Police Academy this week. We now have a total of 17 cadets making their way through the academy.

\$5M for Affordable Housing

The City of Santa Cruz has been awarded \$5 million through the State Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department's highly competitive grant program, Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF). These funds have been allocated to the development of the Pacific Station North Project.

Encampment Management

There are 24 people enrolled in the Transitional Community Encampment at 1220 River Street, and we expect to be at full capacity (approximately 30) by the end of next week. Lot 27 was closed this week in advance of a construction project by Soquel Creek Water District. The temporary evacuation site at Depot Park will close early next week. PD issued notices yesterday.

Safe Parking

At the public hearing on Jan. 12, the Zoning Administrator approved the Coastal Permit and Design Permit related to the Oversized Vehicle Ordinance and the Safe-Parking program operation. Staff is moving forward the application and permitting process required by the ordinance. If the approval is appealed to the Coastal Commission, staff will continue work on programmatic elements outside the coastal zone.

Rail Trail Kudos

Our "Westside Rail Trail" has been honored with a 2021 Caltrans Excellence in Transportation Award and an ACEC California 2022 Engineering Excellence Merit Award. Congrats to the team!

Matt Huffaker

City Manager
City of Santa Cruz

www.cityofsantacruz.com

831-420-5010



Julia Wood

From: Marty Ackerman
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:43 AM
To: Bonnie Lipscomb; David McCormic
Subject: Food Not Bombs request to locate Shipping container at 30 West Cliff Drive

See Darrie's email message below. Food Not Bombs has requested to locate their shipping container on the City-owned property occupied by the Homeless Garden's WOFE project at 30 West Cliff (adj to Depot Park). She needs a pretty quick response. Given the issues the City has had with FNB, for years, I don't think it's likely a great idea, but it's not my choice. I replied to Darrie that I'd forward her request to you, as I'm not the Asset Manager.



**SANTA CRUZ
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Marty Ackerman
Development Manager
City of Santa Cruz Economic Development
mackerman@cityofsantacruz.com
Working from Home: Cell 831-234-6301

From: Marty Ackerman [mailto:martyack1@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:15 AM
To: Marty Ackerman <MAckerman@cityofsantacruz.com>
Subject: Fwd: Time sensitive question: Shipping container at 30 West Cliff Drive

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Darrie Ganzhorn** <darrieg@homelessgardenproject.org>
Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2022 at 9:45 AM
Subject: Time sensitive question: Shipping container at 30 West Cliff Drive
To: Marty Ackerman <martyack1@gmail.com>
Cc: Dannettee <dannetteem@gmail.com>

Hi Marty,

We've had a request from Food Not Bombs to store a shipping container at our office for their meal service. I feel their service is crucially important to our community and hope we can support them.

I want to check with you, as landlord, to make sure this is OK. Please let me know what you think. If you'd like to discuss, please let me know or feel free to call me at 831.713.9355.

Thank you,
Darrie

--

Darrie Ganzhorn
Executive Director
DarrieG@homelessgardenproject.org

Homeless Garden Project
PO Box 617
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
office: 831.426.3609.12
cell: 831.713.9355

In the soil of our urban farm and garden, people find the tools they need to build a home in the world.

<http://www.shop.homelessgardenproject.org/>
<http://www.homelessgardenproject.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/HomelessGardenProject>

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Marty Ackerman
martyack1@gmail.com