

# Sea Breeze

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF GROVER BEACH

## City Council Goals and Work Program Guides City's Work Effort for FY 14

By City Manager Robert Perrault

In April 2013 the Council developed and adopted a set of Goals and Work Program to guide the City's work effort during the current fiscal year. The City's financial status continues to recover slowly from multiple years of recession. Given the City's fiscal constraints, the Work Program for FY 14 is focused on efficiently using our resources to accomplish a number of critical tasks.

Achieving economic vitality for the City of Grover Beach is an overarching goal established by the Council for its Work Program. The Council is focused on strengthening our organization, improving infrastructure, and ensuring the continued delivery of vital municipal services.

**Economic Development** remains high on the City's Work Program. Both the Grover Beach Lodge and Conference Center Project and the implementation of a local broadband network are cornerstones of the economic development effort. Significant progress on the **Lodge Project** was made this past year with the completion of the planning permit process and review by the Coastal Commission. In the coming year, the

City will work with its partners, State Parks and Pacifica Companies, to complete the final preparations necessary prior to the start of actual construction. These preparations include development and review of construction plans and relocation of the equestrian staging area and the sanitary dump station. Look for the ground-breaking ceremony on this 150-room hotel and conference center in calendar year 2014.

The City Council and staff continue to work with Digital West of San Luis Obispo to bring a **broadband network** to the main commercial and industrial zones of the City. The implementation of this network will involve the installation of fiber in the City's right-of-way in key locations. Once the infrastructure is installed, both the capacity and speed for Internet connectivity on the worldwide web will be improved. The broadband network is critical to assist in maintaining businesses currently operating in the city, as well as attracting new job-producing businesses.

Just as necessary as the completion of economic development projects are to the local economy, so is the need to maintain local streets and local infrastructure important to residents. As noted in this year's See "Guides" ...on Page 2

### FY 14 BUDGET EXPLAINED

by City Manager Robert Perrault

In June, the City Council adopted the FY 14 Budget (the budget year is July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014). As adopted, expenditures in the General Fund have been set at \$7,261,532 and the City's combined budget expenditure level, including Water, Sewer Utilities, Grant Funds, and Capital Improvement Project Funds, has been set at \$15,402,514.

The General Fund is the City's primary fund and contains expenditures for essential municipal services, including Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks &

See "Budget" ...on Page 2

### DOWNTOWN CLASSIC CALIFORNIA BLOCK PARTY

Thurs, September 12<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



(West Grand Avenue between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets)

You're all invited! Please join the City of Grover Beach and the Arroyo Grande - Grover Beach Chamber of Commerce in celebrating the latest improvements completed for Phase 2 of the **West Grand Avenue Enhancement Project** (between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets).

See "Party" ...on Page 3

# GROVER BEACH DECLARES A STAGE II WATER SHORTAGE

## CITIZENS & BUSINESSES ENCOURAGED TO VOLUNTARILY CONTINUE CONSERVING WATER

The Grover Beach City Council declared a Stage II Water Shortage condition in early August. A Stage II declaration is a **moderate-voluntary measure** that directs staff to continue consumption reduction methods and encourages residents and businesses to conserve and limit water use.

In accordance with the City's adopted Water Shortage Contingency Plan, residents and businesses are strongly encouraged to **voluntarily refrain** from the following water uses during a **Stage II Water Shortage**:

- Use of potable water for street cleaning;
- Unauthorized use of water from any fire hydrant;
- Use of potable water to wash sidewalks or roadways where air blowers or sweeping provide a reasonable alternative;
- Use of potable water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill, unless no other source of water or method can be used;
- Restaurant water service to patrons, unless requested;
- Hydrant flushing, except where required for public health and safety;
- Refilling existing private pools, except to maintain water levels;
- Use of potable water for planting of turf and other new landscaping, unless it consists of low water-using, drought-tolerant plants;
- Use of water for washing cars, boats, sidewalks, driveways or other exterior surfaces without a quick-acting shut-off nozzle on the hose; and
- Operations of ornamental fountain or car wash, unless the water is re-circulated.

At minimum, the City Council annually reviews rainfall and other information and determines the appropriate water conservation actions based on that information. The City Council recognizes this is the second year of drought conditions and that it is in everyone's best interest to conserve water.

The City receives its water from two sources: the Lopez Lake Water Reservoir and groundwater wells. Below average rainfall and Lopez Lake storage levels indicate the City's water supplies are approaching a moderate water shortage condition. For more suggestions regarding water conservation, please visit the Public Works Department page on the City website at [www.grover.org](http://www.grover.org). If you have questions regarding the need to conserve water, please contact the Public Works Department at (805) 473-4520 or the Administrative Services Department at (805) 473-4550.



## "Guides" from Page One...

Work Program, the City will focus on short- and long-term strategies for **street rehabilitation**. The City Council has committed \$400,000 in this fiscal year to address immediate needs, including the completion of rehabilitation work on a portion of Nice and Brighton Avenues. The Council has also directed staff to use remaining available resources on some of the most deteriorated residential intersections. Preliminary engineering has been completed for Oak Park Boulevard and staff is pursuing the necessary funding to construct the improvements. Finally, staff will be working on the next phase of the **West Grand Avenue Enhancement Project**, with costs to be funded by grants. This fall, the City Council will take up a discussion of funding options available to the City and its residents for the rehabilitation of city streets on a long-term basis.

In addition to economic development and street repair, the City Council established a goal to maintain a safe community by providing well-trained and equipped **public safety** personnel. To accomplish this, the Council allocated funding to increase the number of sworn Officers in the field from 16 to 17.

Finally, in the areas of **planning and parks**, the City Council directed that the Planning Commission take up the task of revising the City's sign ordinance. The Council has also committed to working with the Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission to complete a prioritization of park improvements to be undertaken as funds become available.

This year's Work Program is comprehensive and designed to continue moving the City forward. To view a complete copy of the City Council's Goals and Work Program, please visit the City website at [www.grover.org](http://www.grover.org) and on the City Council's page go to "Documents, Forms & Resources".

## "Budget" from Page One...

Recreation, Planning, and Administrative Services. In adopting this year's budget, the City Council once again made difficult decisions to ensure a balanced budget was achieved. These decisions included limiting the amount of General Fund dollars spent on capital projects to \$28,600 and reaching agreements with the City's work-force for a continued program of employee concessions. The local economy is slowly recovering from multiple years of recession. Our major revenue sources for the City's General Fund are also recovering very slowly, including property tax and sales tax. As a result, the City is able to reduce the number of employee furloughs from 16 days in the last fiscal year to seven for FY 14, meaning that City Hall will be open more days to serve the general public.

As noted, property tax is the largest single revenue source to the General Fund, providing 48% of the total budget of \$7,269,104. Sales tax is the next largest revenue source at 20% of the total. The remainder of City revenues consists of a number of other taxes and service charges. On the expenditures side, Public Safety, including Police and our contribution to the Five Cities Fire Authority, comprise 64% of the budget, followed by Public Works at 11% and Parks & Recreation at 5%. The remaining 20% is shared between Community Development, Administrative Services, and City Management. Basic essential municipal services cost approximately \$550 per City resident per year.

During recent years, the City has had to reduce services and cut personnel costs in order to balance the budget. In 2006, Grover Beach voters approved an additional half percent (1/2%) increase in the sales tax for the City's General Fund. Annually, this adjustment contributes an additional \$400,000 to \$500,000 to the General Fund. Without the benefit of this additional revenue, reductions would have been far more severe.

The remainder of the City's combined budget includes the City's Enterprise Funds, Capital Improvement Funds, and Special Revenue Funds. The Enterprise Funds consist of Wastewater/Storm Water Fund, budgeted at \$1,971,545, and the Water Fund which is budgeted at \$2,808,481 excluding Transfers. Revenues in both these funds are primarily rate-based. Revenues generated by these utilities are spent on costs directly related to the operations of Water and Wastewater/Storm Water systems. Capital expenditures are budgeted at \$3,127,916 in FY 14. The expenditures will be directed towards City projects, including the next phase of West Grand Avenue improvements, general street repair, waterline improvements, and repair of a City Hall parking lot.

# COMMUNITY SPECIAL EVENTS

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Follow the City of Grover Beach on Facebook



## 9/11 Memorial Event & Art Show

**Art Show:** Tues, September 10<sup>th</sup> through Wed, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Commemoration Ceremony:** Wed, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Ramona Garden Park Center, 993 Ramona Avenue

Please join us for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Commemoration Ceremony and Art Show.

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Basketball Clinic with

Cal Poly Mustangs Women's Basketball Team

**October 13<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Mentone Basin Park - Basketball Court (corner of Mentone Avenue and South 14<sup>th</sup> Street)

Boys and girls in grades 8 and below will receive pointers and drills to improve their basketball skills and be inspired by the interaction with teammates. All equipment will be provided. This is a free event!

## Carved Pumpkin Contest & Halloween Activities

**Thurs, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 5:00 – 9:30 p.m.**

Ramona Garden Park, 993 Ramona Avenue

Bring your already carved and decorated pumpkin to enter the contest for great prizes! All age categories will be represented. For ages 6 years and under, pumpkins may only be decorated (no carving) by the child. Enjoy family-friendly fun, free hot dogs, carnival games, and an outdoor movie in the amphitheater.



## Holiday of Lights Decorating Contest

**Sat & Sun, December 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

**Final judging: Thurs, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

Show your holiday spirit by decorating your home or business.

Awards will be presented for originality, use of animation and/or craftsmanship, use of lights, and overall display.



## Grover Beach Apparel

Did you know there are "Grover Beach" tank-tops, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hats available for purchase at City Hall? Come to the Parks and Recreation Office or stop by the City booth during the Sizzlin' Summer Concert Series and Farmers' Market held every Sunday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. through the end of September.



## 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Parade – "Under the Sea Holiday!"

**Sat, December 7<sup>th</sup> begins at 10:00 a.m.**

West Grand Avenue from 16<sup>th</sup> Street to 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Here's your opportunity to show off your business, service group, youth group or organization. Musical entries encouraged! Parade applications are available on the City website at [www.grover.org](http://www.grover.org). Entry fee = one new, unwrapped gift (for ages 17 and under).

## Santa's Workshop

**Sat, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Ramona Garden Park, 993 Ramona Avenue

Immediately following the parade, join local artisans and crafters at Santa's Workshop. Entertainment will be provided by local performers. There will be snow and a visit with Santa, so bring your camera!

## Volunteers and Sponsors Needed Year-Round

The many activities and special events offered throughout the year are made possible through the assistance of hard-working volunteers, generous donations, and monetary sponsorships from local businesses, service groups, and private citizens. The Grover Beach Parks and Recreation Department is working very hard to continue these services. If you're interested in volunteering for a special event or making a contribution, please call (805) 473-4580 for more information or send an e-mail to [parksandrecreation@grover.org](mailto:parksandrecreation@grover.org).

## Credit Card Payments Now Accepted

**It's Convenient, Eco-Friendly, and Time Saving**

You can register for recreation classes, events, parks, and City facilities and pay online by credit card with no additional processing fees! Don't miss the fun. There are wonderful class offerings all year long. Visit the City website at [www.grover.org](http://www.grover.org) and select "Online Payments".

"Party" from Page One...

On **Thurs, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**, there will be activities for all ages, food and beverages, live music, and entertainment.

The improvements focused on our downtown corridor and included new median landscaping with palm trees and lighting, decorative concrete crosswalks, intersections, bike lanes, and striping. The completion of this phase continues the improvements of our City's western gateway, enhances safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and is part of the City Council's adopted economic development strategy to support existing businesses and attract new business development.

Costs were approximately \$97,000 for design and \$1.3 million for construction. Major funding sources were the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant. Other sources included the Urban and Regional State Highway account, Traffic Congestion Relief Funds, Gas Tax revenues, and a small amount from the City's General Fund and Water Fund.

Don't miss the celebration – come one, come all to our *Downtown Classic California Block Party!*

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY "It's Up to All of Us"

Pedestrian safety is an issue that affects all of us. Whether it's a stroll around the corner to a friend's house, walk to the store, or simply as exercise to clear the mind after a long day indoors - people love to walk. Walking is not just an exercise, it affects our health, it's good for the environment, and it improves our quality of life. Yet this simplest of life's pleasures sometimes comes with a terrible cost. Each year across our country, thousands of pedestrians are killed or injured, averaging one fatality or injury every eight minutes. Our Police Department is collaborating with County Public Health and other area Police Departments in a safety campaign "It's Up to All of Us" to reduce pedestrian injury and death. There are steps you can take to improve pedestrian safety:



### For Pedestrians...

- Allow vehicles enough time to stop. In other words, don't step into the crosswalk until it is safe to do so.
- Make eye contact with drivers to establish that the driver has seen you and intends to stop.
- Cross at intersections. At traffic lights, cross with the "walk" sign only. Cross only on a green light, never on a yellow or red.
- Stop, look, and listen before crossing the street. Look left, right, and then left again before crossing the street. Look for cars and bicycles.
- Never cross the street from between parked cars. Drivers can't see you!
- Wear bright colors during both the day and night to help drivers see you.

### For Drivers...

- Come to a full stop. When a crosswalk or limit line is not marked, stop at the corner.
- Do not pass a vehicle from behind that has stopped at a crosswalk. A pedestrian hidden from your view may be crossing.
- Wait for pedestrians to reach the other side before proceeding. This is required by law.
- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
- Be especially attentive around schools and in neighborhoods where children are active.
- Always be ready for the unexpected!

**Alert drivers and alert pedestrians create safer roads for everyone!**

## HELP PREVENT Illicit Discharge into Storm Drains

An illicit discharge is any material or product discharged into the storm drain system other than rainfall. These materials can harm our creeks and ocean. Illicit discharges could originate from construction sites, trash or litter left on or near roadways, residential overuse of fertilizers and pesticides, or deliberate dumping. If you observe what you believe to be an illicit discharge, please contact the Public Works Department by calling (805) 473-4520 or send an email to [publicworks@grover.org](mailto:publicworks@grover.org).



## City Hall Office Closures

### MANDATORY EMPLOYEE FURLOUGH DATES

Grover Beach City Hall non-safety employees have been on a schedule of furlough dates over the past four years to address fiscal constraints (ranging from 7-18 mandatory unpaid days off). For the remainder of our fiscal year (through June 2014), City Hall offices will be closed on the following furlough dates:

2013:	2014:
Thurs, Dec 26, 2013	Fri, March 28, 2014
Fri, Dec 27, 2013	Fri, April 18, 2014
	Fri, June 27, 2014

For a complete list of furlough dates & scheduled holidays, please see the City website at [www.grover.org](http://www.grover.org).

## QUICK REFERENCE GROVER BEACH CITY HALL

154 South Eighth Street; \*Mon - Fri; 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
\*Except for Employee Furlough Dates & Holidays

Administrative Svcs./Utility Billing	473-4550
Business Tax Certificates	473-4550
City Management	473-4567
City Clerk	473-4568
Human Resources	473-4564
Community Development Department	473-4520
Building Inspection Requests	473-4527
Parks and Recreation	473-4580
Facility Rentals	473-4580
Public Works Department	473-4520
Code Enforcement	473-4520
Police Administration	473-4511
Emergency	9-1-1
City website	<a href="http://www.grover.org">www.grover.org</a>
Join Us on Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/GroverBeach">www.facebook.com/GroverBeach</a>

### Other Frequently Called Numbers:

<b>Charter Communications</b> (cable television) 270 Bridge Street, San Luis Obispo - or - <a href="http://www.charter.com">www.charter.com</a>	(888) 438-2427
<b>Community Library - Grover Beach</b> 240 North 9 <sup>th</sup> Street, Grover Beach (Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)	481-4131
<b>Five Cities Fire Authority</b> 140 Traffic Way, Arroyo Grande	473-5490
<b>Pacific Gas &amp; Electric</b> (electricity) - or - <a href="http://www.pge.com">www.pge.com</a>	1-800-743-5000
<b>South County Sanitary</b> (trash and recycling services) 866 West Grand Ave - or - <a href="http://www.wasteconnections.com">www.wasteconnections.com</a>	489-4246
<b>Southern California Gas Company</b> (natural gas) - or - <a href="http://www.socalgas.com">www.socalgas.com</a>	1-800-427-2200
<b>SLO Superior Court</b> 1050 Monterey Street, SLO (8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)	
Traffic Division	473-7070 - or - 781-5696
Civil & Small Claims Division	473-7077
Criminal Division	473-7072 - or - 781-5670
<b>SLO County Health Department - South County Branch</b> 286 South 16 <sup>th</sup> Street	473-7050
<b>SLO County Human Services &amp; Support Groups Hotline</b>	2-1-1

## MONTHLY CITY MEETING DATES

All Regular Meetings are Open to the Public and

Held in the City Council Chambers Unless Noted Otherwise - 154 South Eighth Street

**City Council** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

**Planning Commission** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

**Traffic Committee** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 9:30 a.m.  
(as needed)

Agendas are posted at City Hall and [www.grover.org](http://www.grover.org).

City Council Meetings are televised on the City's Government Cable Access Channel 20.

Your presence and participation at City meetings are contributions to good government.

**Please attend as often as you can!**

**Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

**Citizen Oversight Committee**

(meetings are scheduled as needed)

Sea Breeze is  
published by the City  
of Grover Beach.  
We welcome your  
comments and  
suggestions. Call us  
at 473-4567 or send  
email to  
[gbadmin@grover.org](mailto:gbadmin@grover.org)



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