



# City Manager's Update

## June, 2018

This update will be a bit shorter than previous updates as I have been enjoying my first vacation in three years as the City Manager of Clearlake. Time goes by very quickly, especially with all the current happenings in the City. The following is a brief synopsis of the main things we are working on:

### **Budget**

Staff is spending a lot of time with the city's budget right now and things are looking pretty good. Many of our revenues are up; some by a little, some by a lot. Measure V revenues are looking like they will exceed our initial estimates. Revenues from fees are up significantly due to Universal Solid Waste implementation and from commercial cannabis applications. It is difficult to estimate what the revenues from commercial cannabis will be going forward, but it is a new industry in town and we definitely need the jobs and revenues. Property tax revenues are forecast to improve as housing prices continue to slowly, but steadily increase and sales tax revenues should increase as well with the projected summer openings of Tractor Supply and Big 5 (watch for the Grand Opening notices) along with increased sales tax revenues from commercial cannabis operations.

We held our first budget workshop on May 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss high level budget issues and the full draft budget will be discussed at the City Council meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup> with anticipated final adoption on June 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have thoughts/opinions as to how the City's money should be spent, come out on June 14<sup>th</sup> and join the discussion. You can find the draft budget on our website or by clicking here: <http://www.clearlake.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/1096/FY-2018-19-Clearlake-Proposed-Budget---FINAL>

### **Governor's May Revised Budget**

I, along with the City Manager of Santa Rosa and the Chief Administrative Officers of Lake County, Mendocino County, Sonoma County, and Napa County, have been working with state elected officials to have a unified voice requesting help to offset some of the losses and costs incurred by our communities due to the October wildfires. Thanks to that effort, led by Senator Mike McGuire, the Governor's May Revised Budget included backfilling lost property tax revenues to our communities resulting from the October wildfires and the state is covering the local share of the fire debris cleanup effort as well. If the state had not stepped in to help, all of our

communities were potentially looking at a very large bill for clean-up, so a thank you to Senator McGuire, Assembly member Wood, and Assembly member Aguilar-Curry is well deserved.

### **Measure V**

As I mentioned earlier, Measure V revenues are up and Council approved the purchase of various pieces of road maintenance equipment, including a grader, backhoe, wheel loader, roller, and boom truck. We have received most of the equipment and we are just waiting on the new grader. Grading operations have already begun in the Avenues and we expect those operations to increase as equipment goes online. We plan to work a lot of overtime this summer getting those roads in shape for the first time in many, many years.

### **City Engineer**

In addition, we have so many projects going on and in design that we brought on a City Engineer to help facilitate the process. Alan Pyeatt has many years of experience that he is bringing to our city to help make our projects successful.

### **Senior Center and City Hall Energy Efficiency and Solar Projects**

One of the projects that is currently ongoing is our Senior Center and City Hall Energy Efficiency and Solar Projects. Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) units have been replaced on both buildings and solar installation is in process. The picture below is the new rooftop of City Hall.



This project, which is projected to be cash flow positive from the beginning due to huge cost savings, should be completed this summer.

### **Police Department**

There is a lot happening at the Police Department as well. Here is a brief bullet list of just a few:

- The Chief of Police recruitment is in progress and interviews are in the final rounds.
- Officers seized and destroyed over 1,000 illegal marijuana plants in May as we continue to crack down on illegal cultivation in the city.
- Code Enforcement was integrated into the Police Department and the Code Enforcement Officers now have additional authority and powers to deal with violations.
- We continue to have bi-weekly meetings of the Animal Control Ad Hoc Committee. One recommendation to reduce animal licensing fees for seniors and veterans will be discussed with the updated city fee schedule on June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Both Animal Control Officers attended advanced trainings.
- A Vegetation Abatement Task Force was created to help coordinate the efforts of the Police Department, Fire Department, and Code Enforcement regarding vegetation abatement and enforcement. Dry vegetation must be removed by city ordinance and fire codes in order to reduce the risk of fires. The task force is working on a Public Service Announcement video to help educate the public on this hazard.
- Citizen RIMS Crime Graphics is now online! Citizens can use this link to see crime data in the City of Clearlake: <https://clpd.crimegraphics.com/2013/default.aspx>

### **ICSC**

Margaret Silveira, the City Manager of Lakeport, and I attended the International Council of Shopping Centers annual Real Estate Convention this month. We joined Team California in promoting Lake County and our respective cities to retailers and developers. I made some great connections and will be following up with those in June.

### **Projects in Design**

We have a number of projects currently in design, including:

- Austin Park;
- Highlands Park;
- Highlands Park Frontage and Off-site Parking;
- Pine Street Pavement Rehab;
- Country Club Drive Pavement Rehab;
- Highlands Harbor Drive Pavement Rehab & Harbor Lane Pavement Rehab;
- Burns Valley Civic Center Enhancement.

As soon as those designs are complete, we plan to put them out to bid for construction, most of which will likely occur this year. In addition, we anticipate putting the Dam Road Extension

Project out to bid in June and we are also currently working on developing a Request for Proposals for restriping city streets, so those projects should begin later this summer. I will have a more detailed report on all of these projects in July, but it should be an eventful summer with a lot of construction activity taking place.

### **Flag Raising**

Each year in May we have our annual Flag Raising Ceremony at Austin Park. It is always a great and inspirational event with members of the Clearlake Public Works Department, Clearlake Police Department, Lake County Fire District and elected city officials working together along with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders from Burns Valley School in raising the large American flag in Austin Park.



### **Upcoming City Events**

There are many events coming up over the summer so there will be no reason to stay home bored. A complete listing of events can be found at <https://lakecounty.com/event/list/>

Here is a short list of upcoming events related to the City of Clearlake:

- Clearlake Police Officer Association K-9 Fundraising Dinner – June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Independence Day Parade and Fireworks – June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Bow Wow Luau fundraiser for Animal Control – August 18<sup>th</sup>

This is just a brief update on a few of the things going on in Clearlake. We continue to work toward turning Clearlake around and implementing our strategic plan to make Clearlake the wonderful place to live, visit, or work that we all know it can be.

Regards,

*Greg Folsom*

City Manager  
City of Clearlake