



# City Manager's Update

## July, 2018

June was a very busy month in Clearlake as we closed out the fiscal year and got ready to begin a new fiscal year:

### **Annual Fiscal Year Budget**

The City operates on a July 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup> fiscal year and we need to have a balanced budget approved by the City Council by June 30<sup>th</sup>, so during May and June city staff spend a lot of time working on putting together our annual budget. Finance Director Alan Flora worked on his first budget for the City of Clearlake and did a fantastic job putting together a very professionally presented document. The City Council passed the budget on June 14<sup>th</sup>. We plan to submit this budget to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for consideration of a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. If you would like to see the details of our budget, it is available on our website here:

<https://www.clearlake.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/1096/FY-2018-19-Clearlake-Proposed-Budget---FINAL>

### **Fire Prevention Videos**

The City of Clearlake, Clearlake Police Department, Lake County Fire Protection District and Lake County Public Education and Government Television partnered to produce a series of fire prevention videos to educate the public on ways to prevent fires in our community, as well as how to report overgrown vegetation in neighborhoods. The series of videos can be found on the City's website here:

<https://clearlake.ca.us/160/Code-Enforcement>

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant**

In June the City of Clearlake was awarded up to \$112,000 through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The grant will enable the City to lay out a mitigation strategy that identifies specific projects aimed at reducing and eliminating risk from future natural disasters. Following the completion of a Local Hazards Mitigation Plan, the City would be eligible for additional FEMA funding for the completion of those projects identified within the Plan.

### **Highlands Harbor/Harbor Lane Pavement Rehabilitation Project**

In June the City awarded a contract with California Engineering Company for design services for the Highlands Harbor/Harbor Lane Pavement Rehabilitation Project and added Lakeland Drive, Marina Court and Anchor Drive to the scope of work. This project is made possible with Measure V funding and should be under construction by the end of summer.

### **K9 Dinner**

The K9 Officers Association held a fundraiser dinner/dance on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> to raise money for the K9 program. They sell out every year and raised approximately \$30,000 to help pay for the program. Thanks to everyone involved in putting the dinner on and to those who attended.

### **Lake County Chamber of Commerce**

I was the featured speaker at the June Lake County Chamber of Commerce monthly dinner. I gave a preview of the upcoming State of the City to a crowd of about 50 who gathered at a private residence in the Rivas.

### **Lake County Economic Development Strategic Plan Community Meeting**

On June 27<sup>th</sup> the City of Clearlake hosted a community forum to discuss a Lake County Economic Development Strategic Plan. The County of Lake, Workforce Alliance of the North Bay, and Lake County Economic Development Corporation are partnering to put an action plan together for Lake County's economy going forward. The recent fires, the slow economic recovery, and regional competition are all concerns, but Lake County has many opportunities. This process is meant to be a realistic look at those opportunities and which may be the best of Lake County's communities. Our partnership is working with Economic Forensics and Analytics, Inc. and a task force to help guide progress. These community forums are opportunities to hear from the citizens of Lake County. Approximately 30 people attended the forum in Clearlake and over 100 were watching online during a live stream of the event.

### **Marketing Committee Applications**

The City of Clearlake is seeking members interested in applying for the Marketing Committee. The marketing committee takes an active role in recommending projects and programs for City Council adoption. Previous recommendations by the committee that were approved by the City Council include a new City Seal, City Motto, PD graphics and patches, banners, newspaper advertisements, and a City photo contest. Ideally, members will have a background in marketing and can bring new ideas and enthusiasm to the committee. The meetings are held at 2pm on the third Wednesday of the month. For an application or more information, contact Melissa Swanson, City Clerk at [mswanson@clearlake.ca.us](mailto:mswanson@clearlake.ca.us). The application is also available at this link: <https://clearlake.ca.us/143/City-Council>

### **Mario's Lounge/Silks Building – Demolition**

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, crews from Chernoh Excavating, Inc. tore down the dilapidated building formerly known as Mario's Lodge and Silks Bar and Grill located at 14825 Lakeshore Dr. in downtown Clearlake. The building had been vacant and red tagged for several years due to health and safety issues with the building. The City had been working with the property owner to try to address those concerns, but no progress was made. In an effort to force compliance, the City pursued a court ordered receivership to take custodial responsibility for the property in order to abate the red tag on the building. The process lasted many months but finally the court appointed receiver was authorized to demolish the building to abate the health and safety conditions leading to the red tag. Pursuant to state law, the costs of the receivership will be borne by the property owner.

This is the latest building to be torn down in the Lakeshore Drive corridor over the last few years in an effort to clean up key areas of the city. Previously, the City has torn down the former Chamber building on Golf Avenue; two other abandoned buildings located next to Howard's Grotto that had been taken over by homeless persons and drug users; and the abandoned building across from City Hall on Lakeshore.



### **Measure V Citizen Oversight Committee**

The Measure V Citizen Oversight Committee met in June to get an update on year to date spending on Measure V. Staff provided a presentation of the financials and a detail of the spending thru month end of May. The committee felt the expenditures were appropriate based on the ordinance and will plan to take a formal review of the full fiscal year expenditures at their next meeting in the fall.

### **Parade and Fireworks**

On June 30<sup>th</sup> the Lakeshore Lions Club held their 61st Annual Redbud Parade & Festival at Austin Park. The Parade was tremendous and I had the honor to be a judge. There was also a carnival, a car show, and food and craft vendors set up around Austin Park for a full day of entertainment for families. The event also featured the 50th Annual International Worm Races, hosted by the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce, and a grand fireworks finale over Clear Lake that was the highlight of the event.



### **Pawnee Fire**

The fire season in Lake County got an early start with the Pawnee Fire in Spring Valley. Clearlake Police Department personnel provided mutual aid in the prevention of looting, and Clearlake Building Inspectors helped in the damage assessment phase.

### **Planning Commission Agenda Update**

The Planning Commission had a lot on its plate in June. The Commission reviewed and approved multiple applications for use permits for commercial cannabis businesses and made recommendations for approval of development agreements by the City Council. They also approved a use permit to allow an off-road automotive modification and fabrication hobby shop to be located on Lakeshore Drive.

### **Planning Commissioner Update**

Kathy Fitts was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission and she was sworn in on the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Commissioner Richard Bean was selected to be the new Vice Chair of the Planning Commission. Unfortunately, long-time Planning Commissioner Carl Webb submitted his resignation after 18 years due to personal reasons. His leadership on the Commission will be missed. Carl will receive recognition for his significant contributions to the Planning Commission at the State of the City event on August 1<sup>st</sup>.



### **Planning Commissioner Update: Application Available**

Applications to fill the vacant position on the Planning Commission are now available. Applicants have until August 1<sup>st</sup> to apply and we anticipate the City Council making an appointment at the August 9<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Applications are available on the city's website here:

<https://www.clearlake.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/1126/Planning-Commission-Application-2018pdf>

### **State of the City Event**

This year's third annual State of the City event will be held on Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at the Clearlake Community Center. The event, which is sponsored by the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce, will start at 5pm with an open house and hors d'oeuvres served, followed by several speakers, including Clear Lake Chamber President, Denise Loustalot; Mayor (District 2 Supervisor Elect) Bruno Sabatier; and City Manager Greg Folsom. There will also be a few special guests!

## **Upcoming City Events**

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

- Tractor Supply Grand Opening: Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 8am
- Chief Andrew White swearing in ceremony and reception: Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – Clearlake Community Center
- State of the City – Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> – Clearlake Community Center
- National Night Out – Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> – Highlands Park
- Bow Wow Luau (Animal Control Fundraiser) – Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> – Clearlake Community Center

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/>.

Enjoy your summer!

Regards,

*Greg Folsom*

City Manager  
City of Clearlake