



County of Marin Board of Supervisors, District 1

Newsletter

October, 2013

From the desk of...

Changes are coming to the northern gateway to the Civic Center. Infrastructure improvements along Civic Center Drive will include accessible pedestrian and bicycle facilities that provide seamless connectivity between the Civic Center campus, the new SMART Civic Center rail station and the anticipated permanent farmers market site to be located on the “Christmas tree lot”.

Traffic circulation analyses were conducted to evaluate intersection improvements at the Peter Behr Drive/Memorial Drive and Avenue of the Flags intersections and based on these analyses a roundabout is proposed for the Behr Drive/Memorial Drive intersection. A new multi-use path is proposed along the west side of Civic Center Drive extending from the planned SMART multi-use path at the rail station to the Peter Behr Drive intersection.

Outreach is underway. Project plans will be refined and presented again to the public mid-November. The final concept plan scope will be presented to the Board in mid-December so that environmental analyses and preparation of an initial study can proceed.

Comments so far at the public meetings center around the roundabout, which is an unusual traffic pattern in Marin, and how pedestrians, bicyclists and auto traffic would move through. I look forward to more discussion as the public has a chance to weigh in. I am really looking forward to providing much needed circulation improvements and safe access along this corridor! Public Works is developing a video presentation which will be on a dedicated page for this project, which is not yet ready to release, so stay tuned!

Susan L. Adams

In this issue:

From the desk of...

Housing Element Update Approved

BRIDGE Housing Application Deemed Complete

Mark your Calendars for a Pharmaceutical Take-back Day,
October 26, Marinwood Fire Department

Get Covered Marin: Health Care Exchange Opens October 1

New Statewide Breast Cancer Rates Released

Federal Government Shut=Down—local impacts?

Marin County Triathlon Returns to McNears Beach Park

Candy Park Renovation

Green Tips

Walk and Roll to School Day October 9!

Calendar

Housing Element Update Approved

The Marin County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Housing Element Update September 24 that outlines a comprehensive plan for housing that is affordable to Marin's diverse community and local workforce.

The Housing Element update of the Countywide Plan for the years 2007-2014 will be sent to the California Department of Housing and Community Development for a compliance review. "We can make a strong case for meeting our state planning responsibilities for housing while staying within the growth parameters of our existing land-use regulations," said Community Development Agency Director Brian Crawford.

Tuesday's meeting was a continuation of the Sept. 17 meeting that lasted more than three hours. The continuation also went more than three hours. About 100 people shared their thoughts on the subject during the hearings.

"It was great to have so many people in our community participate in the County's Housing Element process -- whether through community meetings held in the district, public hearings be-

fore the Board of Supervisors or in written comments sent to our Board," said Judy Arnold, District 5 Supervisor and Board President. "While our Board is committed to providing housing opportunities for all income levels in Marin, we are also committed to continuing to work with our state representatives to pursue flexibility in how we meet those goals."

As required by state law, towns, cities and counties must deliver a plan to meet existing and planned housing needs. The County has hosted dozens of public meetings about the Housing Element in the past several years.

Crawford said the Housing Element generated unprecedented public interest. "The Board's decision culminates a process that prompted a broader debate about local growth control and the extent to which affordable housing has a place in our communities," Crawford said. "Some of those discussions were difficult but also very important in thinking about the type of community we choose and aspire to be."

Supervisor Susan Adams pointed out, "If and when a specific proposal comes to the county for a specific development, the community will have ample opportunity to dive more deeply into the issues through a full planning process and environmental review."

BRIDGE Housing Application Deemed Complete

Community Development Agency has determined that BRIDGE Housing has filed all of the necessary information in order to move forward to the next phase, which is selecting an environmental review consultant. Once the consultant has been hired, a scoping process will occur, which provides the public, including community members, public agencies and nongovernmental organizations, an opportunity to comment on what impacts they would like studied with respect to the proposed plan to develop the property. Once studied, the draft environmental impact report will come to the Planning Commission, and then to the Board of Supervisors for approval of the report and the merits of the project. This will take place over the next 12-18 months. You can go to the following site and subscribe for updates: http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/Main/comdev/CURRENT/major_projects.cfm

Jeremy Tejirian is the Planning Manager responsible for this project. Jtejirian@marincounty.org

Mark Your Calendars for a Pharmaceuticals Take-Back Day—October 26, 2013, Marinwood Fire Station

The Marin County Sheriff's Office is hosting a Take Back Day at the Marinwood Fire Station, October 26, 10:00a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They will be collecting controlled, non-controlled, and over the counter substances.

This program is anonymous; no questions or requests for identification will be made.

Unlike previous take-back days, participants may dispose of medication in its original container or by removing the medication from its container and disposing of it directly into the disposal box. If an original container is submitted, please remove any identifying information from the prescription label.

Also, unlike previous take-back events, all solid dosage pharmaceutical product and liquids in consumer containers may be accepted. Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain sealed in their original container. The depositor should ensure that the cap is tightly sealed to prevent leakage.



Containers will be accepted

Intra-venous solutions, injectibles, and syringes **will not be accepted** due to potential hazard posed by blood-borne pathogens. For disposal of medical sharps, you can check the following website:

http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/comdev/ehs/waste/sharps_drop-off_locations.cfm

Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not a part of this initiative and should not be placed in collection containers. No hazardous materials or waste, firearms, or any other items other than pharmaceuticals will be accepted or disposed of at the collection sites.

Get Covered Marin: Health Care Exchange Opens Oct. 1

Covered California is part of the national campaign to secure insurance for all

Starting Oct. 1st, some of the estimated 11,500 uninsured Marin residents will have the opportunity to obtain health care through a new health insurance marketplace, Covered California. Additionally, some will get free insurance with the expansion of Medi-Cal, California's public insurance program. Coverage begins in January 2014 as part of the national Affordable Care Act (ACA) campaign, and open enrollment for the marketplace will continue through March 2014.

There are three easy ways to apply:

- 1) Call Covered California at 1-800-300-1506.
- 2) Apply at www.coveredca.com. Depending on your income, you may be eligible to receive tax credits and subsidies for your health insurance. You can calculate your health care costs on the website.
- 3) Apply or in person at one of the Marin County Health and Human Services (HHS) Public Assistance offices. Call 473-3400 for more information.

If you are a Marin resident with health insurance, the Affordable Care Act likely will not affect your coverage. However, there are bigger benefits to having everyone in Marin covered. "The more people participate in the health insurance system, the more efficient and affordable health care will be for us all," said Larry Meredith, Ph.D., Director of Marin HHS.

Access to medical care can prevent health issues from occurring that could create burdensome health care costs if left untreated, said Dr. Matt Willis, Marin County Public Health Officer. "ACA means a healthier Marin, which also means a more productive and vibrant community," he said.

To learn more about ACA implementation in Marin visit coveredmarin.org

New Statewide Breast Cancer Rates Released— **Downward Trend in Marin County's breast cancer incidence and mortality rates drop, but Marin remains one of the highest in state and nation**

The California Cancer Registry (CCR) has released new statewide comparative breast cancer rates that show a drop in Marin County's breast cancer incidence and mortality rates over the most recent reported five year period, 2006-2010. Marin's breast cancer incidence rates (i.e. number of cases) remain, however, approximately 10 percent higher than California's as a whole and about 20 percent higher than the national average. Mortality rates (deaths) from breast cancer have been on a steady decline in Marin and across California. In the past decade, Marin has gone from one of the top counties in California for breast cancer mortality to one of the lowest; fewer Marin women are dying of breast cancer now than ever before.

"Marin remains one of the highest counties within California and the nation for breast cancer, but with this recent drop in rates, the good news is that Marin is no longer exceptionally high compared to the rest of California and there are other counties with rates as high as Marin," said Rochelle Ereman, director of the Marin Women's Study (MWS), a breast cancer research program within the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services

(HHS). "These new data leave us optimistic and we continue to be vigilant in hopes that this recent downward trend continues into the future."

Breast cancer mortality rates have been in steady decline in Marin and California over the past decade. "The good news is that fewer women in Marin and California are dying of breast cancer," said Dr. Matt Willis, Public Health Officer, Marin HHS. "Our overall understanding of the disease, our ability to detect cancer at earlier clinical stages and improvements in personalized therapy have all contributed to lower mortality rates."

While the latest data are very encouraging, breast cancer incidence and mortality still remain unacceptably high, said Marin HHS Director Larry Meredith, Ph.D. "Continuing strong support from community providers and institutional advocates will enable the Marin Women's Study to complete this journey of discovery and understanding," he said.

Marin County HHS has also released a data summary: 2013 Marin Breast Cancer Trends and Risk Factors. For Marin health data, visit www.healthymarin.org.

Matt Willis, M.D., M.P.H.

Marin County Public Health Officer

Federal Government Shut-down---local impacts?

As of midnight 9/30, the US Government has for all purposes, shut down most of its day-to-day operations. For Marin, the most noticeable impact will be the closures of our National Parks, both the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNSS) and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

National Park Service (NPS) Chief Ranger David Schifsky provided more detailed information as to the impacts his agency will endure during the coming days and possibly even weeks. The last time this occurred was back in 1996 when their operations were shut down for a total of 21 days.

Impacts to NPS will include;

Although the National Parks will be officially closed, essential government workers specifically the Federal Rangers assigned to both the PRNSS and GGNRA will continue to provide the same level of emergency services (Law & Fire) as they did prior to the shutdown.

Essential government workers also include the GGNRA Lifeguards at Stinson Beach.

Both the GGNRA and the PRNSS Federal Parks will be closed to public access. Although they will not close County or State roadways that travel through the Federal Parks, i.e. Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Platform Bridge Road, and Bear Valley Road, those roadways that are

solely federally maintained and controlled, i.e. Limantour Road, Vision Road, and access roads and trailheads to their beaches will be gated and closed to the public.

Any campers already within the park are being given 48-hours to leave.

All facilities usually open to the public will be closed including all concessions and public exhibits.

PRNSS Rangers will be attempting to maintain a constant presence near their Bear Valley Headquarters to address many of the questions and concerns they anticipate will come with disappointed and potentially very unhappy tourists and guests.

Approximately 90 non-essential government workers assigned to the PRNSS alone have been placed on furlough without pay.

Most supports systems they use have been shut down including their national web based systems essentially shutting down their internet/email abilities.

It is unknown when this shut will end but we all hope sooner than later.

DOUGLAS A. PITTMAN, SHERIFF'S LIEUTENANT

Marin County Sheriff – Coroner

Bureau of Field Services – Patrol Division

CMDR – Point Reyes Station

Phone: 415-747-2191

Email: dpittman@marinsheriff.org

Marin County Triathlon returns to McNears Beach Park

There will be some temporary road closures of North San Pedro Road from County limits at the southern end of China Camp State Park west to just beyond the Back Ranch Meadows campground entrance of October 26 between 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. and October 27 from 7:30 to 11:30 am for the bike and run portion of the triathlon.

Traffic control shall be provided by the event organizer at their expense, and approved prior to the event by the CHP and Sheriff. Access shall be maintained at all times for residents and emergency vehicles. Signage and barricades will be placed to denote road closures and to redirect traffic. All litter and debris will be removed immediately upon conclusion of the event.

The Olympic distance event offers a 1.5K swim in San Pablo Bay; followed by a 22 mile bike course through China Camp State Park;

concluded by a 10K out and back run course along the waters of San Pablo Bay.

The Sprint distance is a 500 meter swim, 8 mile bike and 5k run.

The Duathlon series is offered this year, in addition to both Sprint and Olympic distance triathlon races. This run, bike, run event is a one mile run to start the Sprint and a 5k run beginning the Olympic in lieu of the swim, then joining the triathlon bike and run courses for their respective distances.

For more information about the event, go to:

<http://marintriathlon.com/2013/01/20/presenting-the-2013-marin-county-triathlon-duathlon/>

For information about road closures, contact Berenice Davidson, Deputy Road Commissioner,

bdavidson@marincounty.org

Candy's Park Renovation

A contract for renovation of Candy's Park has been signed with Community Playgrounds, Inc., for \$123,973. Community playgrounds are a gathering place for families, and having a safe and entertaining place to let your children play is what we are all striving for. A community group participated in the planning from the beginning, touring other neighborhood parks, and gathering ideas to bring home to Santa Venetia. We are excited to see this park shine again! Nancy Peake is the Park Planner, Marin County Parks, and can be reached with any questions. Her email is: npeake@marincounty.org.



Child going down slide in a park

Green Tips

1. Reduce your carbon footprint! Leaving your car at home twice a week can cut greenhouse gas emissions by 1,600 pounds a year. Save up errands and shopping trips so that you will need to drive fewer times.
2. Respect your elders. Be extra aware of environmental conditions where older people live. As we age, our bodies become more sensitive to chemicals and environmental conditions. So you should carefully use products such as pesticides (if you must!) or cleaning solvents near areas where older adults live and sleep.
3. Are you exercising outdoors? Regular exercise makes us feel great and keeps us healthy. Before you head out for your workout or run, check the air quality forecast for your local area. Marin County usually has a fairly clean air supply, so no excuses... get some exercise!
4. Compost it! Compost helps improve soil so it holds more water and plants grow better. If you still have a lawn, allow grass clippings to stay on the lawn, instead of bagging them. The cut grass will decompose and return to the soil naturally. Food scraps and kitchen waste also make good compost, and you save money on fertilizers and other additives.

Rick Fraites

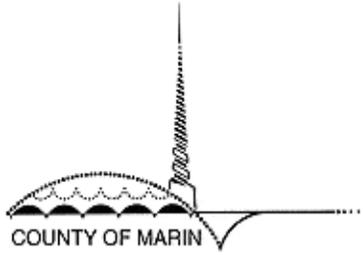
Walk and Roll to School Day—October 9

Children would be more likely to walk and bicycle to school each day if communities invested in pedestrian and bicycle safety, and safe routes to school. By choosing to walk instead of being driven to school, families help prevent health risks related to physical inactivity, increasing the likelihood of forming lifetime habits of physical activity and fitness. Community leaders, parents and staff in our Safe Routes to

School Program make safe biking and walking a priority. By adopting best practice in street, sidewalk and infrastructure design, communities improve and assure that children can more safely and comfortably get to schools, public libraries, community centers and around their neighborhoods. The Board of Supervisors declared October 9 “International Walk and Roll to School Day in Marin County”, and encourages you to participate.

If you aren't already involved in your school's Safe Routes to School Program, check it out. Be the change!

Susan L. Adams, Ph.D., R.N.
Supervisor, First District, Marin
County Board of Supervisors
(415) 473-7331
sadams@marincounty.org



www.marincounty.org/district1

Marin County Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 329
San Rafael, CA 94903

Calendar of Board related meetings:

Board of Supervisors Meetings, BOS Chambers, 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 330, San Rafael: **October 1, 8, 22 and 29**. See cyberagenda for starting time and agenda the Thursday before meeting date: <http://www.co.marin.ca.us/efiles/BS/AgMn/cybagnda.htm>. The cyberagenda will also advise dates, times and agenda for **Marin Housing Authority** meetings.

Marin Transit District, BOS Chambers, October 21 at 10:00 a.m.. See website for Marin Transit District agenda and to confirm meeting times: <http://www.marintransit.org>

Transportation Authority of Marin, BOS Chambers: **October 24**, 7:30 p.m. BOS Chambers. See website for TAM agenda and to confirm meeting times: <http://www.tam.ca.gov>

Check out the Master Calendar on the County website:

<http://www.marincounty.org/main/calendar>

Aides:

Rick Fraites
(415) 473-7354
rfraites@marincounty.org

Susannah Clark, "Perry White"
(415) 473-7342
sclark@marincounty.org

Go to our Facebook page and "like" for periodic updates:
<http://www.facebook.com/supervisorsusanadams>
"Try it, you'll like it!"



All County publications are available in alternative formats (Braille, Large Print, or CD), upon request. Requests for accommodations may be made by calling (415) 473-4381 (Voice) 473-3232 (TDD/TTY) or by e-mail at disabilityaccess@marincounty.org at least four work days in advance of the event. Copies of documents are available in alternative formats, upon request.