



City of Angels

City Council Monthly Update

May 2026

Twelve (12) Month Noteworthy Activity

<p>May 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Chief of Police Sworn In • Youth Parade Special Event • Junior Frog Jump – Special Event • Mark Twain Exhibit Opens Angels Hotel 	<p>November 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR49 Restored to Regular Traffic Flow • Brent Huse PW Foreman • Frog Bucks Campaign
<p>April 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhorn LLD kickoff • EPA Lead and Copper Rule Revision Administrative Order • ACPOA negotiations • Dialogue w UTICA, AMFPD, CVB, et al • Housing Element Annual Report 4/1 	<p>October 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purdy Rd Water/Sewer Project Complete • CSG As Needed Services Agreement • Exploration for Secondary Water Sources Began • Mark Twain Wild West Fest Special Event
<p>March 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New City Manager begins • Habitat for Humanity Final Subdivision Map Recorded 	<p>September 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Year Pavement Management Plan • Mark Twain Water Project Complete • Interim City Administrator Steve Williams • New Police Sergeant – Steve Poortinga • Lightening Complex Fire Strike Teams • Homecoming Parade Special Event
<p>February 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started Water Meter Replacement • Mid-year Budget Review • 10-yr Citywide CIP Presentation • Traffic Impact Fee Review Kickoff • Fire Deployment / Weather Incident 	<p>August 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Feedback Signs at Copello and Utica Park • Foundary Lane Decertified by CalTrans (2025) • Purdy Rd Sewer Project Began
<p>January 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justin Hart Graduated Police Academy • Sierra Hope Ribbon Cutting • Peckham and McKenney Assumed • City Administrator Recruitment • Bootlegger Tour Special Events 	<p>July 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Police Officer – Justin Hart (Academy) • Utility Billing and Payroll Migration to Accufund
<p>December 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Chief Scott Ellis Retired • PLHA Grant Awarded to Habitat • Power Washed Downtown Sidewalks • Vallecito Sewer Project Began • Christmas Parade – 1st week Special Event 	<p>June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Police Officer – Andrew Nuss (Academy) • New Water Rates Effective • FY25/26 Budget Adopted • Farmer’s Market Begins (Special Event) • Active Transportation Grant (ATP) for Angels Creek Trail due

Administration

Administrative Services Officer - Haley Bugarin

Vacancies, Recruitments, and Hiring Progress:

- **Accounting Technician (Part-Time):** Finance Department is recruiting for a Part Time Accounting Technician and interviews will be held on June 9th.
- **Police Sergeant:** One vacant Police Sergeant position remains and there are no qualified applicants at this time.
- **Police Administrative Services Manager:** A candidate was chosen for the Police Administrative Services Manager and is currently undergoing a thorough background check.
- **Police Officer:** One vacant Police Officer position remains and there are no qualified applicants at this time.
- **Relief Firefighter:** Position remains vacant. No updates on recruitment progress.

Promotions and New Hires:

- **Chief of Police:** Chief Steve Poortinga was onboarded and sworn in on May 6th, 2026.
- **Plant Operator I, II, or OIT:** David Winans was onboarded as Plant Operator I on May 26th, 2026.
- **Promotions:** Jeremy Heister was promoted from Plant Operator II to Plant Operator III.

Miscellaneous Projects:

- **LLD Commission:** A Defensible Space Clearing Agreement has been granted to Dario's Landscaping and work on LLD defensible space has been initiated. Next meeting will be held on June 4th at 2pm.
- **Police Association MOU Negotiations:** City staff and Attorney met with Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 and Police Department Representative to discuss and follow up on input given from City Council on May 19th.
- **Communications:** Revamping the Facebook accounts for both the City of Angels and the Angels Camp Police Department. An Instagram account has been developed for the City of Angels to expand reach to various populations in the City. Updating webpage to include more accurate, relevant information given recent changes in staffing, policies, and resources.

Finance Department

Finance Director - Michelle Gonzalez

During May, staff concentrated on budget development, audit preparation, and implementation of the new Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system. Budget meetings were held with department heads to review current-year expenditures, evaluate projected cost increases for the upcoming fiscal year, discuss staffing needs, and update long-term capital replacement planning. Staff also worked closely with the City's auditors to provide requested information and prepare for the annual audit fieldwork scheduled for early June. In addition, significant progress was made on the AMR meter conversion project, resulting in a successful first full meter reading cycle using the new equipment and software.

Special Projects and Accomplishments

- Conducted budget meetings with department heads as part of the FY 2026-27 budget development process.
- Reviewed and updated the 10-year Capital Equipment Replacement Fund schedule to identify future equipment needs and funding requirements.
- Evaluated current-year budget performance and discussed anticipated cost increases and staffing plans for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Responded to auditor inquiries and prepared documentation in advance of the auditors' onsite visit during the first week of June.
- Completed entry of the remaining 5/8-inch and 3/4-inch water meters into the new AMR system.
- Successfully completed the first full meter reading cycle using the new AMR equipment and software.
- Collected and imported readings for approximately 1,600 water meters in about four hours.
- Achieved a smooth transition to the new system meter reading, with the equipment and software performing very well during initial operation.
- Ordered replacement meters for the larger meter accounts, which represent the final phase of the AMR conversion project.

Building and Code Enforcement

Michael Clarke – Building Inspector
Caytlyn Schaner – Administrative Services Specialist

Building

Permits Issued in May: 16

Permit Type	Count
ADU	1
Encroachments	2
Burn Permits	1
Deck	1
Electrical	2
ESS Battery	1
Fire Sprinklers	1
Generator	2
HVAC	1
Gas Station Canopy	1
New Single Family Resident Master Plans	3

Total Inspections Conducted: 16

Code Enforcement

Active Cases at Start of May: 12

Violation Summary

Violation Type	Closed	Open
Public Nuisance	8	3
Housing		2
Zoning	1	1
Weed Abatement	88	44

New Cases for May: 135

Cases Closed in May: 97

Active Cases at End of May: 50

Water, Wastewater, and Public Works

Chris O'Flinn - Public Works Superintendent

Water Treatment:

- Fixed programming errors on our S.C.A.D.A. system.
- Completed quarterly preventative maintenance on all air operated valves.
- Completed quarterly calibrations.
- Fixed issues with the Cal.net phone system.

Water Distribution

- Repaired a water leak on Vallecito Rd.
- Repaired a water service at 544 Raggio Ct.
- Repaired a water service at 89 Mistletoe Ln.
- Completed training and testing of the new meter reading equipment.

Wastewater Treatment:

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- Continued bio-solids drying operations as weather allows.
- Started sending Title 22 water to GHC.
- Trained GHC staff on SOPs for Title 22 water use.
- Repaired a broken water line in the spray fields.
- Rebuilt an air control valve for SBR #2
- Replaced PLC parts in Motor Control Center A.
- Cut fire break Around the spray fields.
- Completed quarterly calibrations
- Cleaned the intermediate pump basin.

Sewer Collections:

- Completed sewer line cleaning on Alpine Ave, Hwy 49' and Purdy Rd.
- Camera inspection completed on a problem section of sewer line on Hwy 49.
- Worked with Engineering on solutions to issues on the Hwy 49 sewer line.
- Continued to work with Sutton Enterprises to wrap up the Vallecito project.

Public Works:

- Re did all utilities locations for the sidewalk project.
- Put up banners and clothes for Frog Jump.
- Continued work on repairs to Gateway Park restroom.
- Set up signage and detours for the parade.
- Put up flags throughout the city.
- Cleaned up the parking lot at the Pickle Porch for the parade.
- Installed the frog plaques downtown.
- Continued weed and brush removal throughout the city.
- Continued work with Caltrans and contractor on the sidewalk project.

Planning Department

Amy Augustine – Contract City Planner

Foundry Lane:

- Staff will meet with MACT in June to finalize an offer to purchase the final parcel necessary to connect Foundry to SR 49 (parking lot expansion delayed the meeting in May). In 2026, Staff anticipates preparing a Specific Plan for the area. The developer for Frog Jump Plaza Phase II resolved final design issues with potential tenants and is finalizing layout details. Formal project review is expected to resume upon completion of a tentative grading plan and subsequent land swap between the City (Altaville Sanitary) property and the surrounding landowner (for Foundry Lane right-of-way) pending completion of back-up documentation by the City Engineer.

Traffic Impact Mitigation Fees Update:

- A kickoff meeting was held 2/19/26 with Willdan. Data was forwarded in April 2026. An updated fee is anticipated in 5-7 months. Willdan is building the model and expects preliminary results in the next week or two.

GIS:

- A new interactive zoning map was prepared in April and demonstrated to City Council in May. The map allows staff/public to “click” on a specific parcel, see the zoning, and directly connect to the zoning code to see permitted and conditional uses. Staff worked with GIS consultants in May to correct map errors. The map will go “live” on the City website in June.

Pending Current Planning Projects:

- **Recycling center:** a small can and bottle recycling center is proposed behind Angels Liquors and is pending issuance of an administrative (in-house) permit. This project is expected to be pulled due to absence of legal access to the site.
- **Code Change – Home Occupations:** In accordance with a request from the public, staff is preparing an amendment to the Home Occupation criteria in Title 17 to allow for consideration of home salons. The item is scheduled for June 11th consideration at the Planning Commission.
- **Stanislaus Alley:** Staff is completing an old application to vacate a portion of Stanislaus Alley between existing homes and Mark Twain Elementary School (previously, the City has twice abandoned portions of the alley). In May, staff met with the City Surveyor and landowners to determine the division of the abandoned properties.
- **Swendemen’s Shopping Center:** Staff assisted the landowner in submitting final documents to Caltrans for an encroachment permit for the “Swendemen’s” Shopping Center.
- **Former Subaru Repair / 1105 S. Main ,1115 S. Main:** A sign permit for the “mural” and former signage re-painted on the building remains pending. No plans have been submitted
- **MACT:** A Site Plan Review for Parking Lot Expansion was issued and construction is pending.
- **Utica Park.** Two drinking fountain/hydration stations are installed. Angels Sewer and Drain is repairing the drinking fountain next to the bathrooms. The plaque from the old drinking fountain was installed as requested by the family and photos were sent to the family.
 - Staff met with Habitat for Humanity to discuss assisting the city in repairing vandalism at the amphitheater in the park. Habitat has agreed and was scheduled to begin repairs in April.

- The Garden Club installed drip irrigation at the new rose garden and herb garden in May. Two benches will be installed in the area soon. A plaque acknowledging the donor is pending. Staff have completed designs acknowledging the following donors: 4Paws Veterinarian (doggie pot) and Murphys Grade (Armillary in garden) and cost estimates remain pending.

Staff met with the State regarding the status of the grant in May. Staff reported that \$10,000 was raised for the parcourse and a T-Mobile grant is pending for interpretive signs—the final items due for the park. The State is expecting that all work will be completed by December, 2027, to close out the Rural Recreation and Tourism park grant. Staff is closing out the Per-Capita grant which supported construction of the new children’s playground.

- **Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) program:** The City received PLHA payments. The subrecipient agreement was signed by Habitat for Humanity. Once Habitat for Humanity begins pulling building permits, PLHA funds can be dispersed. Staff will begin an application for the next two allocations of PLHA funding.
- **T-Stan IRWMA:** Staff attended the 4/15/26 IRWMA meeting. No meeting was held in May.
- **Climate Action Plan (CAP):** Staff held a fourth meeting with CSG. The Draft initial study negative declaration is completed and all supporting documentation and consultations necessary to submit the document to the State Clearinghouse. The environmental document is expected to be forwarded to the State Clearinghouse for a 30-day review by the end of May.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** Staff have received building plans, currently under review, on 4/27/26. Staff is awaiting plot plans for the structures. Habitat indicates plot plans are expected in June.
- **Annexations:** Staff will complete and submit applications to LAFCo in June.
- **Planning Commission:** The May 11, 2026, meeting will consider changes to Home Occupations (to allow for home salons) and hold discussions related to placing a cap on the total number of food trucks allowed city-wide. The Planning Commission also will hold a public hearing to take input on the Housing Element Update and tour the Mark Twain Exhibit.
- **EV Charging station:** There are no further updates.
- **National Register of Historic Places/Main Street USA:** Staff will request a budget item for completing an update of the City’s Historical Properties Survey in support of a National Register of Historic Places nomination.
- **Housing/General Plan:** Staff began the update of the City’s General Plan Housing Element in May.
- **Mark Twain Experience:** The exhibit officially opened May 14, 2026. It was visited by Tom Sawyer and Becky Thatcher from the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum in Hannibal, MO.



Grants:

- **Community Development Block Grant:** Staff submitted the application 3/30/26 for \$1.5 million for downtown economic development. Awards will be announced in approximately six months.
- **Adventist Health:** Staff submitted a second \$5,000 request for a donation to be applied to the parcourse construction at Utica Park. The City previously received \$5,000 towards that project which is part of the overall Utica Park Rehabilitation and Expansion Project. In March, the City was informed it was granted a second \$5,000 towards the parcourse workout stations.
- **T-Mobile:** In association with Main Street USA, T-Mobile has one final round of grants available to communities for communications-related projects. Staff submitted a grant application for \$49,500 on 3/30/26 to prepare interpretive signs for the trail at Utica Park and three parcourse stations. Interpretive signage and a parcourse also are part of the overall Utica Park Rehabilitation and Expansion Project. Announcements will occur June 25, 2026.
- **Active Transportation Grants:** Deadline for applications is June 2026. Staff is assisting COG is submitting a proposal for the Angels Creek Trail.

Engineering Department
Aaron Brustauri – City Engineer

Fire Department-Monthly Report

John Rohrabough – Fire Chief

Responses May 2026: 05.01 - 05.26.26

- Total: 111
 - Structure Fire: 1
 - Vegetation Fire: 1
 - Fire Alarm: 4
 - Emergency Medical: 70
 - False Call: 0
 - LZ Helicopter: 7
 - Other, Investigative: 0
 - Public Service: 3
 - Lift assist: 17
 - Smoke Check Investigation: 5
 - Vehicle Accident: 3

Notable Incidents:

- Major Structure Fire at Rite of Passage 5.25.26, 9:49PM Fricot City Rd
- Head On Veh. Accident 49 @ Carol Kennedy
- Willand Fire Copperopolis Quiver St.
- Veh. Accident 49 @Jack Ass Hill.

Additional Fire Dept Information:

- Attended multiple City, County, State and Local meetings.
- Attended County wide JPA meeting.
- Attended training and meetings regarding new mobile dispatch software (Tablet Command).
- Participated with Red Cross with smoke detector Installation Baker St and Big Horn Mobile Home complexes.
- Attend Fair security meetings and provided EMS/Fire Stand By at Fair (4) Days.
- FE Blake Cuevas is off on Workes Comp.
- FF Jacob Peters is of on FMLA (New Baby)
- Working on FY 26/27 Budget.
- Working with City Administrator on ACFD-AMFD operational possibilities.
- Received Portable Radios from Homeland Security Grant
- Attended County employee Jen Casci funeral

Looking Ahead:

- 2026-27 staffing, explore Paramedic possibilities.
- ACFD-AMFD operational model matrix.
- Budget, EMS delivery, Water Tender, Increase Alternative Funding
- Hire 1- Relief FF
- New Station Ideas.

- OTS Grant

Police Department
Steve Poortinga – Chief of Police

Activity this Month:

- Total Incidents: 726 (5/26)
- Total Reports: 56
- Total Traffic Stops: 188
- Total Arrests: 14

Call Type:

- Thefts: 5
- Traffic Collisions: 5
- DUI: 1
- Assault & Battery: 3
- Auto Theft: 0
- Domestic Violence: 5

Additional Information this Month:

- Volunteers donated 36 hours of time for PD activities (vehicle transport, extra patrol, mail, parking citation processing)
- Officers removed several abandoned vehicles from Slate Circle following complaints and information from code enforcement (Thank you to Sam Berri for the assistance)
- CIBRS/UOF/DV reports submitted to DOJ
- PD had a team building BBQ during fair for LE / fire personnel working outside of fairgrounds
- Facebook being managed with assistance of Haley at City Hall
- New Coneth employee cleared by DOJ to work at PD
- Officer Hart completed his field training program and has been assigned to dayshift patrol
- New Police Officer Justin Blattel is progressing well in his field training program
- Police Administrative Services Manager background is almost complete
- Officers are using their new radar training to conduct speed enforcement all over
- The bay (garage) at the PD was completely cleaned up and organized

Looking Ahead:

- Completing FY 26/27 budget meetings
- Using social media more to provide press releases, safety information, traffic updates, and community notifications to keep the public informed and engaged.
- Hire a Police Sergeant and Patrol Officer
- Officer of the Year awards – Joesph Linayao June 4, 2026, at Murphys Hotel
- Chief Poortinga and Sgt Adams working on new Lexipol Procedure Manual (anticipated completion 01/27)

