



City Council Monthly Update

SEPTEMBER 2026

Twelve (12) Month Noteworthy Activity

September 2026 • Homecoming Parade Special Event • Updated Personnel Policy • New Utility Billing Calendar Launched	March 2026 • New City Manager begins • Habitat for Humanity Final Subdivision Map Recorded
August 2026 • Gann / Ross Fires & multiple strike teams • Escrow initiated on Hwy 4 parcels • Contract awarded for sewer lining • Museum / Foundation agreement	February 2026 • Started Water Meter Replacement • Mid-year Budget Review • 10-yr Citywide CIP Presentation • Traffic Impact Fee Review Kickoff • Fire Deployment / Weather Incident
July 2026 • Foundry Lane LOI signed by all parties • Utica Park water main break / repair • Wastewater digester repaired • Fire strike teams deployed	January 2026 • Justin Hart Graduated Police Academy • Sierra Hope Ribbon Cutting • Peckham and McKenney Assumed • City Administrator Recruitment • Bootlegger Tour Special Events
June 2026 • FY 26-27 Budget was approved • Altaville Melones FPD and ACFD formal transition initiated	December 2025 • Police Chief Scott Ellis Retired • PLHA Grant Awarded to Habitat • Power Washed Downtown Sidewalks • Vallecito Sewer Project Began • Christmas Parade – 1st week Special Event
May 2026 • New Chief of Police Sworn In • Youth Parade Special Event • Junior Frog Jump – Special Event • Mark Twain Exhibit Opens Angels Hotel	November 2025 • SR49 Restored to Regular Traffic Flow • Brent Huse PW Foreman • Frog Bucks Campaign
April 2026 • 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	October 2025 • Purdy Rd Water/Sewer Project Complete • CSG As Needed Services Agreement • Exploration for Secondary Water Sources Began • Mark Twain Wild West Fest Special Event

Administration

Administrative Services Officer - Haley Bugarin

Vacancies, Recruitments, and Hiring Progress:

- **Police Sergeant:** One vacant Police Sergeant position is currently in progress to be filled. Awaiting results of background check.
- **Police Officer:** This position is remains open and interviews will be held at the end of interviews will be held once qualified applicants have been reviewed.
- **Police Records Technician:** A total of 6 eligible candidates interviewed for this position and one candidate was selected. They are now in background checks.
- **Accounting Technician (Part-Time):** A total of 3 eligible candidates applied for this positions and interviews will be held on September 4th.

Promotions and New Hires:

- **Accounting Technician (Part-Time):** Elizabeth Saul joined the Accounting team on September 14th.

Miscellaneous Projects:

- **LLD Commission:** A special LLD Commission meeting was held on August 5th to determine a plan of action for landscaping work needed around the small pond.
- **Personnel Policy Updates:** City Council approved the updated Personnel Policy on September 15th and it has been circulated to staff for acknowledgment.
- **Communications:** City of Angels Facebook had a total of 15 posts in the month of August. The webpage is being updated to reflect the input from relevant department heads.
- **Public Records Requests:**
 - Received: 3
 - Responded to: 3
 - AI Generated: 0

Finance Department

September 2026 | Michelle Gonzalez, Finance Director

Snapshot

Measure	September
General Fund Budget-to-Actual (YTD)	25% of budget spent; 25% of fiscal year elapsed
Enterprise Budget-to-Actual (YTD)	17% of budget spent; 25% of fiscal year elapsed
Utility Delinquency	144 door hangers; 14 water shutoffs; 10 still off/unpaid
Utility Billing Aging (60+ days)	8% of total amount due (after write offs of accounts prior to 2022)
Open Grant/Capital Closeouts	1 - All Hazards Planning Code Update

Needs Council Awareness

- Ten customers are still shut off and haven't paid. Staff can restore service as soon as the account is paid or a payment plan is in place.

This Month

- September's focus was getting customers used to the new utility billing calendar. Statements are dated the 5th and due the 25th, with a five-day grace period. Late fees post on the 1st, door hangers go out on the 13th, and shutoffs happen on the 23rd.
- Customers responded well. Of the 144 accounts that got door hangers, most paid in full or set up a payment plan before the shutoff date. Only 14 were shut off, and 4 of those have since paid and had service restored.
- Utility Billing Aging: 8% of the total outstanding balance is more than 60 days past due. This percentage excludes accounts that have been identified for write-off, providing a more accurate picture of the City's collectible delinquent accounts.

Project Status

- FEMA Winter Storms (Greenhorn Creek Road): Closed out. FEMA did not provide additional funding.
- Caltrans HSIPL: Closed out.
- All Hazards Planning Code Update: Still open, and the only grant left to close out.
- Critical Water/Wastewater Infrastructure: Still open, Njirich Agreement for work to begin. Project to be completed December 2026.
- Water meter size billing corrections: Complete. Every affected account has been corrected and the customers notified.

Staffing

- Elizabeth Saul joined the Finance Department this month at the front counter. She has quickly settled into her new role and is already providing great service to our customers. Elizabeth works Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays (24 hours per week) while completing her associate degree in accounting at Columbia College. She expects to graduate in Spring 2027. We're glad to have her as part of the team!

Looking Ahead

- Finance will present to Council on City revenue at the second meeting in October.
- We are working on auto pay with credit cards, new IVR calling software, and Owner/Tenant billing invoices to both parties.

Building and Code Enforcement

Michael Clarke – Building Inspector
Caytlyn Schaner – Administrative Services Specialist

Building

Permits Issued in September: 20

Permit Type	Count
Electrical	2
ESS Battery	1
NSFR	1
HVAC	4
Reroof	5
Solar	4
Encroachment	1
Additional/Alteration/Remodel	1
Fire Sprinklers	1

Total Inspections Conducted: 25

Code Enforcement

Active Cases at Start of September: 8

Violation Summary

Violation Type	Closed	Open
Public Nuisance	1	3
Housing	2	1
Dangerous Building		
Zoning		
Weed Abatement		3

New Cases for September: 2

Cases Closed in September: 3

Active Cases at End of September: 7

Water, Wastewater, and Public Works

Chris O'Flinn - Public Works Superintendent

Water Treatment:

- Completed lead and copper sampling and report.
- Completed quarterly se-basin cleaning.
- Continued work with consultant on the Watershed Sanitary Survey (Due every 5 years)
- Prepared for State inspection on October 2nd.

Water Distribution

- Repaired 2 water service leaks throughout the city.
- Completed quarterly PRV inspections and maintenance.
- Installed a new water service on Kirby St.
- Continued to work with contractor to install the commercial meters (project should be complete on October 2nd)
- Relocated 3 water meters on Stork Rd.
- Continued to work with Caltrans on sidewalk project. Installed water meters for the planter areas.

Wastewater Treatment:

- Bio-solid hauling operations have begun and will run until October 15th.
- Modified the grit chamber drainpipe for easier cleaning.
- Rebuilt check valves on the effluent pumps.
- Replaced the other 2 control buckets with VFDs for the intermediate pump station.
- Completed roof replacement on MCC-C.
- Replaced soft start on effluent pump # 1.
- Continued spray field operations, we will reach bottom pool around October first per our permit requirements.

Sewer Collections:

- Sewer plug at 99 N. Main St.
- Replaced sewer tie in at 99 N Main St.
- New sewer tie in on Kirby St.
- Sewer plug at 402 S. Main St.
- Hydro flushed sewer main on S. Main from Bush St. To Finnegan Ln.

Public Works:

- Pressure washed downtown sidewalks to remove tree sap.
- Put up and took down Homecoming decorations.
- Completed brush removal along Bragg St., Bret Harte St., and Gold Cliff Rd.
- Replaced broken irrigation timer in Utica Park.
- Installed new locks on the bathrooms at Utica Park.
- Put up and took down traffic control signs for Homecoming parade.
- Pavement patching on Stork Rd.
- Put up Famers Market banner.

Planning Department

Amy Augustine – Contract City Planner

Foundry Lane:

- Letter of Intent to sell/purchase was assigned by all parties for northern property. A Parcel map dividing the property was drafted and is undergoing minor revisions. Escrow opened for processing the parcel map and facilitating purchase upon receipt of a final draft map. The land would encompass the final parcels necessary to connect Foundry to SR 49. In late September, landowner agreed to price and terms. Will come before the City Council for approval for the purchase of the northern section of Foundry Lane October 20, 2026.

In 2026/2027, Staff anticipates preparing a Specific Plan for the area. The developer for Frog Jump Plaza Phase II continues working with a potential tenant at the south end of Foundry (at SR 4). Potential tenant is preparing preliminary design plans for road. Formal project review is expected to resume upon completion of tentative design plans and a subsequent land swap between the City (Altaville Sanitary) property and the surrounding landowner (for Foundry Lane right-of-way) pending completion of design work by potential tenant.

Traffic Impact Mitigation Fees Update:

- Staff received updated fees in late August. Supporting text for the fee nexus is anticipated in September—delayed to early October.

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. Corrections were required. It was anticipated that the map will go “live” in September. The City’s consultant has completed work, however, ParcelQuest is encountering technical issues that staff hope to resolve in October.

Pending Current Planning Projects:

- **Conditional Use Permit** for a well for agricultural use on a vacant parcel near Depot Road. Issued in September.
- **Code Amendment** – Lot Tie Ordinance. A lot tie ordinance (or lot tie agreement) would allow a property owner to legally binds two or more contiguous parcels into a single building site without requiring a map/merger. It requires the property owner to covenant with the governing agency to hold the lots as one unit, preventing them from being sold or developed separately without official city approval. Staff anticipates bringing the ordinance to the Planning Commission in November 2026.
- **Code Amendment** – Title 3. Ordinance adopted and went into effect October 1st.
- **Code Change – Home Occupations:** The approved ordinance went into effect 9/17/26.
- **Code Change – Electrical Vehicle Charging Station** – Ordinance went into effect 10/1/26.
- **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. In June, landowners were notified and provided input. In July, property owner notifications were sent and Housing and Community Development performed a preliminary surplus lands evaluation. Planning Commission made a determination of general plan conformity on 8/13/26 (approved). The item went before the City Council in September to declare it exempt surplus public property before vacating may occur. City Council directed staff to consider vacation of remaining properties and a 2-2 vote resulted in a return of the item to the 10/6/26 meeting.

- **Swendemen's Shopping Center:** Staff continued assisting the landowner in submitting final documents to Caltrans for an encroachment permit for the "Swendemen's" Shopping Center. The applicant and city received and responded to a request from Caltrans for drainage information and await a response from Caltrans. Comments were received and staff continues working with the applicant in Sept/Oct. to address what are hopefully the final round of comments from Caltrans.
- **Former Subaru Repair / 1105 S. Main ,1115 S. Main:** No plans have been submitted for additional development, but the applicant has met with owner to discuss options.
- **Utica Park.**
Relocation of the drinking fountain is pending. A plaque acknowledging the garden club is pending the club's approval of a design. Staff have completed designs acknowledging the following donors: 4Paws Veterinarian (doggie pot) and Murphys Grade (Armillary in garden). Design approvals by the donors and costs to produce the signs remain pending.

The State is expecting that all work will be completed by December, 2027 (note updated timeline from December 2026), to close out the Rural Recreation and Tourism park grant. Two items remain: the parcourse and interpretive signs. Staff will concentrate on providing at least 1-3 parcourse stations and 1-3 interpretive signs by the end of December 2026 or January 2027.

- **Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) program:** The City received PLHA payments. The subrecipient agreement was signed by Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity has applied for 22 building permits. 8 have been approved. The remainder are pending site plans. PLHA funds will be dispersed upon permit issuance. Council approved the 5-year PLHA Plan for the upcoming PLHA allocations. An application for the next two allocations of PLHA funding that will total approximately \$115,000 will be submitted in early October.
- **T-Stan IRWMA:** Staff attended the September IRWMA meeting. IRWMA continues to review pilot programs that were approved by the state in anticipation of submitting an application for grant funds to further multiple watershed-related programs.
- **Climate Action Plan (CAP):** The Draft initial study negative declaration is completed. Responses to comments (one was received from Caltrans) have been prepared. The item was recommended for approval on 9/10/26 by the Planning Commission and is scheduled for final action before the City Council on 10/20/26.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** A total of 22 permits have been submitted and paid for. 8 of these are approved. Upon receipt of plot plans and locations, the remaining 15 will be issued.

Construction has begun on the first 4 homes. Foundations are in the process of being poured as of late Spt./early Oct.

- **Annexations:** Staff continues to work on the LAFCo application for minor annexations (clean-up annexations) already authorized by Council and hopes to submit the formal application in September or October pending a meeting with one of the landowners.
- **Planning Commission:** The September 10, 2026, planning commission meeting recommended approval of the City's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan. In October, the commission will consider approving a land division in Greenhorn Creek recreating two lots that had previously been merged (note: Commission takes final action and this item is not expected to go before the City Council).
- **EV Charging station:** Funding agreements with the state have stalled. No further progress is anticipated for several months.
- **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 anticipates meetings with local housing providers in October.

Grants:

- **Active Transportation Grants:** The grant, for the Angels Creek Trail and a downtown crosswalk was submitted by the Council of Governments June 22nd. Formal award notifications are anticipated in December. However, the City should hear on November 2, 2026, if the project is selected for recommendation by the California Transportation Commission.
- **Permanent Local Housing Allocation Grant (PLHA):** Application for \$155,000± for local housing projects anticipated to be submitted in early October.

Engineering Department

Aaron Brustaori – City Engineer

Transportation General Engineering Services (TO 1)

- Monthly check in calls/meetings
- Review and comment on Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee Update

25/26 Citywide Pavement Repair Project (TO 7)

- Inspections and Materials Testing
- Identify locations of out of spec patches
- Schedule corrections
- Review, comment and process contractor invoice

Pavement Management (TO 8)

- No work this period

Water General Engineering Services (TO 2)

- Management meetings

Wastewater General Engineering Services (TO 3)

- Review RWQ Permitting – New permit requested by RWQ.
 - To be completed prior to January 2027
- Meeting with waterboard
- NPDES Report of Waste Discharge Development
- Emergency Sewer – Line clog Monte Verda -> Demarest St
 - Complete construction documents
 - Caltrans Encroachment Permit Application Submittal
 - Staff report and resolution to advertise bids
- Holeman Dam
 - Specifications for weir
 - Front end contract documents
 - Submittal to DSOD for review and comment

Foundry Lane Assistance (TO 4)

- Review of proposed foundry lane alignment presented by developer
- Prepare parcel map, review title reports, QAQC, Submittal to Planning

Building and Planning Engineering Services (TO 5)

- TAC Meeting
- BP26032 PGE – Review plans, procure previous plan set to determine extent of work proposed with current project
- 10-1H70004 – Field meeting with Caltrans to review punch list repairs at Utica Park

Environmental Support (TO 6)

- Review and convey NPDES Report of Waste Discharge

Groundwater Exploration Services for a Secondary Water Source (TO9)

- Prepare technical memo
- City council presentation of findings of non-intrusive investigation(s)

Fire Department-Monthly Report

John Rohrabough – Fire Chief

September 2026:

911 Calls for Service, 09.01.26 - 09.30.26

- Total: 101 - (15) calls for service in Altaville Melones area
 - Structure Fire: 3
 - Vegetation Fire: 3
 - Vehicle Fire (RV) 0
 - Fire Alarm: 0
 - Emergency Medical: Call 58
 - CPR 2
 - False Call: 0
 - LZ Helicopter: 3
 - Other, Investigative: 2
 - Public Service: 5
 - Lift assist: 19
 - Smoke Check Investigation: 0
 - Vehicle Accident: 5
 - Strike Team/ABH 1

Notable Incidents:

- Wildland Fire Response Whittle Rd
- Small Stove Fire Foothill Village
- High Speed Vehicle Accident 49/Carson Hill

Additional Fire Dept Information:

- Attended multiple City, County, State and Local meetings.
- Attend AMFPD Board Meeting
- Attended County Fire JPA meeting
- Attended BOS meeting.
- Awarded \$20,000.00 PG&E Grant application for Wildfire PPE and Equipment.
- FE Blake Cuevas is off on Workes Comp.
- Hired (1) Relief Firefighter to have (3) Relief FFs
- Worked on FY 26/27 Budget, Evaluating possibilities of EMT-P program.
- Ongoing evaluation of New Response Model
- Heritage road project
- Vegetation Management Project on Booster

Looking Ahead:

- Completing 90 day evaluation of new contract with AMFPD
- Continued Work on making Finnegan access and egress to assist response times and evacuations.

Police Department

Steve Poortinga – Chief of Police

Activity this Month:

- Total Incidents: 752 (9/29)
- Total Reports: 56
- Total Traffic Stops: 134
- Total Arrests: 14

Call Type(s):

- Thefts: 3
- Traffic Collisions: 8
- DUI: 2
- Assault & Battery: 1
- Auto Theft: 3
- Domestic Violence: 4
- Mental Health 6

Additional Information this Month:

- Volunteers donated over 30 hours of time for PD activities.
- COP attended virtual meetings for California Police Chiefs Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police regarding ALPR, Lexipol Readiness Preparedness.
- CIBRS/UOF/DV reports submitted to DOJ.
- COP and Records Manager Maria Adams continue to work on revamping Calaveras Parking Enforcement Citation process.
- COP and Sergeant Adams attended a meeting hosted by Calaveras County Sheriff's Department for collaboration on narcotics investigations within the county.
- Officer Linayao attended a weeklong perishable skills course required by POST.
- Officer Kirkman assisted BHHS with homecoming week.
- Sergeant Adams ran the BHHS homecoming parade assisted by ACPD and CCSO Volunteers, and all ACPD staff.
- ACPD officers completed several felony investigations, and search warrants that resulted in arrests for a stolen vehicle, weapons possession, and a stabbing. (Absolutely amazing investigative work and in utilizing technology on these cases by the Sergeant and Officers involved.)
- Conducted interviews for the part-time records position and selected a candidate.
- Purchased an administrative vehicle for the COP along with emergency equipment.

Looking Ahead:

- The 2 new patrol vehicles are at the upfitter and should be to radio this month.
- Chief Poortinga and Sgt Adams continue to work on new Lexipol Procedure Manual (anticipated completion 06/27).
- Completion of the new administrative vehicle for the COP.
- Filling the remaining full-time Police Officer position.
- Hiring the new Sergeant in October.