



City Council Monthly Update

AUGUST 2026

Twelve (12) Month Noteworthy Activity

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
March 2026 • New City Manager begins • Habitat for Humanity Final Subdivision Map Recorded	September 2025 • 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

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:** Interviews were held for the vacant Police Officer Position on July 7th and 23rd. A total of 5 candidates were interviewed and one offer letter was sent and accepted to an eligible candidate that has been withdrawn. The position is now reopen and interviews will be held at the end of September.
- **Police Records Technician:** A total of 16 eligible candidates have applied for this position and interviews will be held in early September.
- **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:

- **INTERNAL Firefighters:** 3 Internal Firefighter positions were filled by internal applicants. 3 Relief Firefighters were promoted to full-time Firefighters.
- **INTERNAL Fire Engineer:** 4 Fire Engineer positions were filled by 4 internal applicants.
- **INTERNAL Fire Captain:** 1 Fire Lieutenant was promoted to Fire Captain on August 9th.

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:** The City Attorney, Administrator, and Mayor have provided input on revisions needed for the City Personnel Policies and Rules. The revisions are currently with staff representation/OE3 for review/input and will be brought to the City Council before adoption.
- **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: 9
 - Responded to: 8
 - AI Generated: 3

Finance Department

Finance Director - Michelle Gonzalez

General Fund Budget-to-Actual (YTD) 9% rev / 16% exp	Enterprise Budget-to-Actual (YTD) 7% rev / 6% exp	Utility Delinquency Rate 29%	Grant/Capital Closeouts 2 active – FEMA Winter Storms & Caltrans HSIPL
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NEEDS COUNCIL AWARENESS

- FEMA closeout for Greenhorn Creek Road is finalizing with CalOES; scope may expand to include drainage/pavement work, which would free up Pavement Management funds already spent on related repairs. No action needed yet. Will bring a recommendation once scope is confirmed.
- Staff is evaluating a proposed Community Benefit Utility Assistance Program (addressing the wastewater rate impact on the public laundromat, and possible utility assistance for qualifying nonprofits). No Council action needed at this time. Staff will confirm next steps and report back once scope is finalized.
- Staff is reviewing the allowance for doubtful utility accounts at the auditors' recommendation. Some balances over 60 days past due may be too old for the collection agency to pursue and could ultimately require Council-authorized write-off. No action needed at this time; staff will bring a recommendation once the review is complete.

THIS MONTH

- Rolled out the new utility late-fee process, including staff training on updated billing-cycle timing.
- Continued FEMA closeout coordination with CalOES.
- Continued annual audit closeout with external auditors.

PROJECT STATUS

- **FEMA Winter Storms closeout:** In progress, awaiting CalOES scope determination for GHC.
- **Caltrans HSIPL closeout:** Complete, Aaron sent final reports to Caltrans to closeout the City Signs project.
- **Utility billing system update:** Complete, new due dates, late notices, door hangers, and shut-off schedule are live as of this billing cycle.
- **Utility billing accounts receivable:** In progress. \$287,585 is currently owed: \$118,000 current, \$45,927 in the 31 to 60 day range, and \$84,336 over 90 days and scheduled for shutoff (some of these accounts are on payment plans). An additional \$39,322 in closed accounts has been sent to FCR Collections (the City's collections agency) for follow-up.

STAFFING

- The part-time Accounting Technician (front desk), hired in June, has resigned. Recruiting to backfill the part-time Accounting Technician (front desk) position.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Rolling out financial dashboards in the portal for department heads, giving them direct access to reports and key spending indicators.
- Rolling out time off requests and check requests in the employee portal.

Building and Code Enforcement

Michael Clarke – Building Inspector
Caytlyn Schaner – Administrative Services Specialist

Building

Permits Issued in August: 16

Permit Type	Count
Mechanical	1
ESS Battery	1
NSFR	1
HVAC	2
Reroof	7
Solar	4

Total Inspections Conducted: 31

Code Enforcement

Active Cases at Start of August: 10

Violation Summary

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

New Cases for August: 3

Cases Closed in August: 5

Active Cases at End of August: 8

Water, Wastewater, and Public Works

Chris O'Flinn - Public Works Superintendent

Water Treatment:

- Lead and copper sampling has begun and will continue into September.
- Installed all 6 of the new turbidimeters. All are working great.
- Continued work with consultant on the Watershed Sanitary Survey (Due every 5 years)

Water Distribution

- Repaired 3 water service leaks throughout the city.
- Repaired the water main break on Hwy 49.
- Installed a new water service on Oneida St.
- Continued to work with contractor to install the commercial meters.
- Repaired a water meter on Alpine St.
- Continued to work with Caltrans to protect our infrastructure.

Wastewater Treatment:

- Continued biosolids drying operations.
- Sent bio-solids samples off for analysis in preparation for removal.
- Cleaned out grit chamber and the influent distribution structure.
- Replaced the rotary air compressor for the filters.
- Replaced 2 control buckets with VFDs for the intermediate pump station.
- Started Roof repairs throughout the plant.
- Cleaned out both wet wells on the UV system.
- Removed fallen tree and repaired the fence in the spray fields.
- Continued work on permit renewals with the state and engineering.

Sewer Collections:

- Sewer plug at 722 Oneida St.
- Completed maintenance on the generator at Altaville lift station.
- Cleaned and ran the camera in the sewer main at 99 N. Main St.

Public Works:

- Completed brush removal along Centennial Ln.
- Removed Farmers Market banner downtown.
- Completed road patching on Rocky Ridge Court.
- Cleaned up a fallen limb on Highland Alley.
- Completed work on Gateway Park bathroom and installed new solar power unit. We have lights again!
- Worked with Caltrans on meter installations for new planter boxes.
- Re- treated the trees downtown for aphids.
- Cleaned up a fallen tree in Angels Creek near the Fire House.
- Installed new signage at Utica Park.

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 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.

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 is now anticipated that the map will go “live” in September.

Pending Current Planning Projects:

- **Conditional Use Permit** for a well for agricultural use on a vacant parcel near Depot Road. Expected issuance – in-house in early September or via Planning Commission 9/10/26.
- **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 October 2026.
- **Code Amendment** – Title 3. City Administrator signature authorization. First reading in August. Second Reading 9/1. If approved, ordinance goes into effect October 1st.
- **Code Change – Home Occupations:** In accordance with a request from the public, an amendment to the Home Occupation criteria in Title 17 to allow for consideration of home salons was prepared. The item was heard by the Planning Commission on June 11th, and by the City Council on July 7th with a second hearing held 8/18/26. The approved ordinance goes into effect 9/17/26.

- **Code Change – Electrical Vehicle Charging Station** – Updates to the City code for permit streamlining for charging stations went to the Planning Commission on 7/9/26, City Council on 8/18/26 and a second reading is scheduled for 9/1/26. If approved, it will go 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 now comes before the City Council in September to declare it exempt surplus public property before vacating may occur.
- **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.
- **Former Subaru Repair / 1105 S. Main ,1115 S. Main:** A sign permit for the “mural” and former signage re-painted on the building was received and approved. 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, 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.

- **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 September.
- **T-Stan IRWMA:** Staff attended the August 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 scheduled for consideration by the Planning Commission on 8/13/26 and continued to 9/10/26.

- **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.
- **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 August 13, 2026, commission recommended approval of a general plan amendment and rezone and declared the proposed Stanislaus Alley vacation in conformance with the general plan. The items will come before the City Council in September. In September the Commission will consider listing the Union Congregational Church and the City of Angels Register of Cultural Resources, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan environmental document and project, and, potentially the conditional use permit for a well (this item may be issued administratively dependent upon final comments received).
- **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 September.

Grants:

- **Active Transportation Grants:** The grant, for the Angels Creek Trail and a downtown crosswalk was submitted by the Council of Governments June 22nd. Award notifications are anticipated in December.
- **Permanent Local Housing Allocation Grant (PLHA):** Application for \$155,000± for local housing projects anticipated to be submitted in early September.

Engineering Department

Aaron Brustaori – City Engineer

Transportation General Engineering Services (TO 1)

- HSIPL 5206(018) Close Out

25/26 Citywide Pavement Repair Project (TO 7)

- Moyle Notice to Proceed
- Contractor submittal coordination and review
- Project inspections / material Sample collection for lab testing

Pavement Management (TO 8)

- No work this period

Water General Engineering Services (TO 2)

- Certification of Compliance for water metering
- 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 Developmjent
- Emergency Sewer – Line clog Monte Verda -> Demarest St
 - Project Specifications
 - Plan QA/QC
- East Sewer
 - Project Coordination / Handoff meeting with Dewberry
- Holeman Dam
 - Staking of property lines
 - Seepage collector design

Foundry Lane Assistance (TO 4)

- Boundary survey
- Parcel map preparation

Building and Planning Engineering Services (TO 5)

- BP26032 – Encroachment Review, backcheck comments, outreach to design team for clarifications.
- Correspondence regarding emergency access Greenhorn Creek Rd to Finnigan Rd.
- Respond to meter downsize request.
- Observation of Utica Park steps and Caltrans sidewalk, RFI follow up.

Environmental Support (TO 6)

- No work this period

Groundwater Exploration Services for a Secondary Water Source (TO9)

- Surface Geophysical Survey

Fire Department-Monthly Report

John Rohrabough – Fire Chief

Responses July 2026: 08.01.26 - 08.27.26

- Total: 94 - (14) calls for service in Altaville Melones area
 - Structure Fire: 4
 - Vegetation Fire: 3
 - Vehicle Fire (RV) 0
 - Fire Alarm: 3
 - Emergency Medical: 58
 - CPR 2
 - False Call: 0
 - LZ Helicopter: 1
 - Other, Investigative: 2
 - Public Service: 4
 - Lift assist: 8
 - Smoke Check Investigation: 1
 - Vehicle Accident: 4
 - Strike Team/ABH 4

Notable Incidents:

- Gann Fire Circle 20, E213, WT213, Strike Team, ABH (7) Days
- Ross Fire Murphys Grade Canyon E213, Wt213, ABH (2) Days
- Timber Fire Strike Team E213 Monterey Ca (7) Days
- Structure Fire with Wildland Fire Gelding, Bar 20
- High Speed Veh. Accident 49/Deer Creek
- Multiple WT Responses (2) ABH

Additional Fire Dept Information:

- Attended multiple City, County, State and Local meetings.
- Attend AMFPD Board Meeting
- Assist with Police Officer Interviews
- FE Blake Cuevas is off on Workes Comp.
- (1) staff member on paid leave will return to work 8.30.26
- Worked on FY 26/27 Budget, Evaluating possibilities of EMT-P program.
- Ongoing evaluation of New Response Model
- (7) promotions, (3) FFs to Fire Engineers, (1) FE to Captain, 3 Relief FFs to FT Firefighters.
- Met with landowner regarding emergency access and egress Greenhorn Crk and Finnegan.

Looking Ahead:

- PG&E Grant application for Wildfire PPE and Equipment. \$25,000.00 (no Match required) due.
- Completing 60 day full evaluation of new contract with AMFPD
- Continued Work on making Finnegan access and egress to assist response times and evacuations.
- Anticipate hiring (1) more Relief Firefighter by 9.6.26 to have (3) Relief FFs

Police Department

Steve Poortinga – Chief of Police

Activity this Month:

- Total Incidents: 852 (8/27)
- Total Reports: 40
- Total Traffic Stops: 173
- Total Arrests: 11 (2 Juvenile / 9 Adult)

Call Type(s):

- Thefts: 5
- Traffic Collisions: 6
- DUI: 3
- Assault & Battery: 3
- Auto Theft: 0
- Domestic Violence: 1
- Assist Cal SO 5 (Gann Fire / Ross Fire)
- Mental Health 7

Additional Information this Month:

- Volunteers donated over 20 hours of time for PD activities (vehicle transport, extra patrol, mail, parking citation processing).
- COP attended virtual meetings for California Police Chiefs Association and Resource Partnership meeting.
- CIBRS/UOF/DV reports submitted to DOJ.
- Records Manager Maria Adams completing audits of CCW process, Calaveras Parking Enforcement Citation process, and assisting with PD evidence procedure manual.
- The Police Department is completed a property/evidence, inventory/audit.
- Lateral Police Sergeant Background almost completed.
- Lateral Police Officer – Withdrew from process.
- Officers assisted CCSO with Gann and Ross fires.
- Officer Linayao addended ALICE lockdown training at Mark Twain Elementary School.
- Officer Kirkman is back at BHHS as the SRO.
- Chief Poortinga completed a Decentralized Command course.
- Officers worked OT DUI and traffic enforcement in the city following the Ironstone concerts helping to ensure the safety of our community.

Looking Ahead:

- The 2 new patrol vehicles are being delivered to upfitter for build-out.
- Chief Poortinga and Sgt Adams continue to work on new Lexipol Procedure Manual (anticipated completion 01/27).
- Creating a new parking citation format for Calaveras County Parking Enforcement which the PD runs.
- RingCentral phones being installed at PD.
- Collaborating with Calaveras County Sheriff's Department for Officer / Deputy training.

- Filling the part-time Records position (interviews in September)
- Filling the remaining full-time Police Officer position (interviews in September)