

# Office of the Mayor

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## Mayor Kerr Activity Report September 2022

It has been a fairly quiet late August and September.

While we were hoping to get back into the council chambers this month, the council recently received new technology that we need to test so our eventual return is as smooth as possible. I have been part of some hybrid meetings and they are not as polished as I would like.

You will notice that there were quite a few water-focused meetings during the past month, which is why I invited MPWMD General Manager Dave Stoldt to present at our meeting this month.

The next Acorn is coming! We are hoping it will be on your doorstep late October.

### **City Council Meeting**

August 23 - It was nice to see Reserve Officer Beatrice Pereda back with us! We now have two Latinas on our police force. The council was able to support a new Regional Government Services contract that includes not only our financial services but also Human Resources support. We also approved the purchase of a temporary public works storage due to a shift in the usage of the building in the Public Work Yard. The Carmel Honey Company will be using the building for storage. Other items included the payment of services for the emergency installation of pump and motor of the Park water well, a letter of support for a proposed Veteran's Home, and recognition of MPC's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The county has spent several years putting together a Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, identifying areas of concern region-wide. The Plan also includes appendices for individual jurisdictions. This is a great model for so many items that need both a regional and city level focus.

We also had a closed session to address our CNPS lawsuit and performance evaluations for our Police Chief and City Manager.

### **Transportation Agency of Monterey County**

August 24 - Please see attached overview.

#### **Resident Meeting**

August 29 - A resident reached out to me about a wonderful idea. Each year on her birthday, in lieu of gifts, her friends gather to plant trees. They have been doing this for years in Monterey. The year she will be celebrating her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and she wanted the special birthday to be focused on Del Rey Oaks. The Chairs of the Parks & Rec Committee and Sustainable Del Rey Oaks met with City Manager Guertin, our Public Works Director Ron Fucci and myself to discuss possibilities. City staff is working on logistics. I hope we, including her children, get to enjoy more trees in the park the end of October!

### **Sustainable Del Rey Oaks**

Aug 29 - Good things are happening for SDRO! With the recent grant, we were able to purchase safety vests, buckets and grabbers for clean ups, a banner to be used as tables or parades (thank you to DRO resident sign maker Merry Trucksis!), and additional needs for the butterfly garden. Preparations for the annual Coastal Clean Up day were also discussed.

### **Mayors Association Meeting**

Sept 2 - We did not have a Sept meeting due to the conflict with the Labor Day Weekend.

#### Parks & Rec Committee

Sept 7 - The beginning of the meeting was devoted to final details for the first Movie night. Members Kiel Edson and Brandon Stettenbenz will test technology down in the park to ensure "Ghostbusters" can be seen and heard. I hope you can make it to this fun, new event on Friday Sept 30 at 7:00 p.m. The screen will be set up on the dog park fence, facing the Corp Yard, to help lessen the sound travel through the canyon. The Corp Yard parking lot will be open for parking, just that evening.

Later in the meeting, members of the TAMC project management and engineering team shared design options for the look and feel of the trail. The options include rustic, coastal or modern. They had an online a poll for all in attendance to be able to share their preference of options. I asked for the poll to be made available longer for those of you that were not able to attend.

### **DRO Finance Committee**

We did not have a September meeting.

### **Special Meeting**

Sept 9 - The council met for a quick closed session meeting.

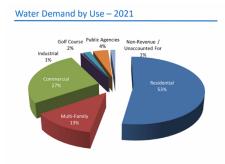
### **Games & Gab with the Mayor**

Sept 12 - Before COVID, I hosted monthly "What's on Your Mind?" meetings. Then, throughout COVID, community members could gather to share thoughts with me on-line, either with Zoom or email. So, with the gorgeous weather, the lessening of COVID and our new bocce ball courts, it was time to offer an in person gathering! We had pizza and laughs. Some of us learned how to play bocce and others just came to connect. It was so nice to meet some of our young families! Thank you to John Uy and Michael Douglass who shared some of their lawn games.

### **League of Women Voters Water Presentation**

Sept 14 - The League of Women Voters always has interesting and intriguing speakers. This month Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's General Manager Dave Stoldt presented a comprehensive look at our water situation. He methodically went through how the current supply and demand numbers were calculated, then went on to explaining how future needs are being calculated, using AMBAG regional growth forecast numbers.

For context, residential use of water in Del Rey Oaks is currently 92 acre feet/year and non-residential use is 22. An acre foot is 325,851 gallons. And all of this water is received from Cal Am. With anticipated growth to 2045, residential use would be 146 acre feet/year and non-residential would be 24. He then went on to illustrate that with the Pure Water Monterey expansion, we would have enough water to cover the demand forecast. In fact, due





to the highly successful conservation efforts being implemented by peninsula residents, there would be excess that could be stored for additional future use.

This is critical information for everyone to understand, which is why I have invited Mr. Stoldt to give an abbreviated presentation to the council during the Sept council meeting.

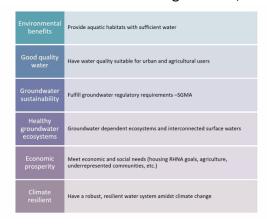
### Coastal clean up

Sept 17 - Sustainable Del Rey Oaks hosted activities for the California Coastal Commission's annual state-wide Coastal Clean Up. While we don't have the coast within our city limits, our Arroyo del Rey creek flows to the Monterey Bay so it is important for all trash to be gathered. Volunteers came and cleaned up

### **County Supervisors Water Meeting**

Sept 20 - The second in a series of three listening sessions, this forum was designed to provide





broader understanding of the portfolio of regional management actions and potential water projects. The first forum highlighted the importance and impact of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Speakers included state and federal representatives as well as local

special districts. The focus is on working together as a region, "leaving the guns at the door" and working towards regional priorities and solutions so together project identification, feasibility, and funding can be pursued. It was good to have most of the players in the room. It will be interesting to see how the Supervisors move forward, particularly as a majority of them clearly stated they are not thinking collaboration will work.