

# Message from the Manager City Manager, Greg Folsom December 2022 Update



Happy New Year! Hopefully you all had a wonderful holiday season and are as excited about the New Year as I am. Welcome aboard to new Mayor Alma Hernandez, Mayor Pro Tem Princess Washington, and Councilmember Jenalee Dawson! I'm looking forward to an awesome 2023! We are going to have a tremendous year ahead in Suisun City! Since Mayor Hernandez had to vacate her Council seat to accept the Mayor seat, her seat is now available. As of this writing the application period has closed and the City Council will be going over applications for this open Council seat at the January 17<sup>th</sup> and January 24<sup>th</sup> Council meetings. More to come on this next month.

December was a very eventful month for us in Suisun City, but in particular I want to highlight two major new service enhancements that have been implemented at Council direction that should be a great benefit to residents and visitors to Suisun City: Enhancements to the **Fire Department** and Enhancements to **Transit**.

#### Fire Department

For the first time in Suisun City history, our Fire Department is now staffing a second engine at the Advanced Life Support level! Several years ago, Suisun City relied primarily on volunteers to provide the bulk of the staffing for the Fire Department. As such, the Fire Department was only able to provide Basic Life Support (BLS) medical services as a first responder and Advanced Life Support (ALS) relied upon the arrival of the ambulance service provider. BLS is a limited level of emergency medical response that allows first responders at the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), use an automated external defibrillator (AED), and relieve airway obstructions. ALS, on the other hand, allows Paramedic level personnel to provide invasive interventions, such as endotracheal intubation for airway management, and intravenous catheters for drug and fluid delivery. Importantly, Paramedics are allowed to administer emergency drugs whereas EMTs cannot.

This is a HUGE enhancement to the service provided to our residents and is the culmination of several years of investment into additional personnel and training for the Fire Department. The ability to go to ALS and to staff a second engine are directly the result of Measure S funds being authorized by Council to improve the staffing level and training at the Fire Department. Congratulations to our Fire Department and thank you to our City Council for the vision to make this accomplishment a reality in Suisun City!

#### **Transit**

Our second major service enhancement is our new micro-transit service. We are at the beginning of a new paradigm for transit services in Suisun City. As of January 3, 2023, Suisun City is no longer a participant with Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST) fixed route bus service. Instead, we have taken a milestone step in taking hold of our transit dollars and hopefully you will agree that we will be providing a higher level of service to our community through what is called "micro-transit." Rather than running a fixed route with a big bus that is rarely more than sparsely filled, our new micro-transit service will provide a more personalized door to door service.

The new micro-transit service will offer pick up and drop off to any locations within the Suisun City limits, as well as to and from nine locations in Fairfield. The smaller micro-transit buses are all ADA accessible and are much more efficient to run and maintain. If all runs as we believe it will, we will be able to offer a greater level of service at a substantially reduced overall cost to the City.

There will also be a service called the "School Tripper" that will run a fixed route in the morning and afternoon to ensure that kids are able to get to school. However, this is not a school bus and is available to the general public as well as the funding for this program cannot be restricted to school use only. More information on the specific route and pickup times are available on the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) website at: <a href="https://www.solanomobility.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Suisun-Microtransit-School-Tripper-Schedule-12-19-2022 Old revBT.pdf">https://www.solanomobility.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Suisun-Microtransit-School-Tripper-Schedule-12-19-2022 Old revBT.pdf</a>, on the City's website (<a href="https://www.suisun.com">www.suisun.com</a>), and attached at the end of this update.

Fares are free through the month of January and thereafter the general fare within Suisun City will be \$2 with discounted fares of \$1 for adults age 62 and older, youth/students aged 17 or younger, and anyone who is ADA-eligible. ADA riders will receive priority booking.

The hours of operation for micro-transit will be Monday through Friday 7am until 7pm, except on holidays. For after hours, weekends, and holidays service will be provided through the Lyft Ride program.

A mobile application is in the development stages and should be available soon. For more information on the new micro-transit service, please call Solano Mobility at (800) 535-6883 or (707) 673-2129 to make a phone reservation.

Here are several other things to be aware of this month:

- 1. Sand and Sand Bags are available at no cost in the parking lot between City Hall and the Yacht Club. You will need to bring a shovel to put the sand into the sand bags.
- 2. The City is accepting applications for various commissions and committees, including:
  - a. Planning Commission 2 vacancies
  - b. Recreation, Parks, Marina & Arts Commission 4 vacancies
  - c. Housing Authority Tenant Commissioner 2 vacancies
  - d. Measure S General Tax Oversight Committee 3 vacancies
  - e. Solano County Mosquito Abatement District 1 vacancy

Contact the City Clerk's Office if you are interested in an appointment to one of these opportunities.

# **City Council**

#### City Council Meeting Highlights (December – 2 meetings):

- Accepted the Certified Election results and had swearing in of two new Councilmembers,
   Princess Washington and Jenalee Dawson, as well as short-term Mayor Larry Brumfield and full-term Mayor Alma Hernandez.
- Princess Washington was appointed Mayor Pro Tem.
- Council adopted procedures for filling the vacancy on the City Council created by the election of Alma Hernandez to Mayor.
- Reaffirmed Development Impact Fees.
- Approved the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS).
- Approved a contract for a consultant to prepare a Municipal Services Review.
- Approved a contract amendment with David Wade who is assisting with reviews on several environmental impact reports.
- Approved a contract amendment with a consultant who is preparing an environmental impact report.
- Approved a janitorial contract for city facilities.
- Approved a process for Brown Act accommodations.
- Reaffirmed the Downtown Business Improvement District.
- Approved the budget for the Downtown Business Improvement District.
- Initial approval of an amendment to the Military Equipment Policy.
- Initial approval of the annexation of the Caterpillar Clubhouse into CFD #2.
- Initial approval of the annexation of the Zip Thru Carwash into CFD #2.
- Approved Safe and Sane Fireworks sales for 2023.
- Presentation on the implementation of microtransit in 2023.

#### City Council Proclamations in December:

- 1. Proclamation for Gingy House.
- 2. Proclamations to outgoing Councilmembers Jane Day and Wanda Williams.
- 3. Proclamation recognizing La Cabana de Suisun restaurant.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### **New Employee**

I am pleased to introduce one of our new Fire Engineers with Suisun City Fire Department, Jian Eddinger. Eddinger has been with the Suisun City Fire Department as a Reserve Volunteer since July of 2018. She is a paramedic with Falk Ambulance in a nearby county and resides in Fairfield with her husband. She is our first full-time employed female firefighter with Suisun City Fire Department. We are excited to have Eddinger as a part of our team. Please congratulate and welcome Jian Eddinger to the City of Suisun City Fire Department.



#### **SCFD Christmas Toy Drive**

The Fire Department collected toy donations from local businesses and residents throughout the community and was able to serve nearly 100 children in our community.

#### **December Fire Department Statistics:**



#### 2022 Firefighter of the Year Award

Chief Lopez recognized Firefighter Darren Antes as Firefighter of the Year for 2022 at the Fire Department Holiday Dinner on Saturday evening. Antes was selected by his peers and described as a hard worker, determined and passionate in serving his community and being the best firefighter, he can be. Antes has dedicated a significant amount of time in supporting community events, staffing the engine, and constantly training to better himself and others coming in behind him. Congratulations to Firefighter Antes!





#### Leadership Commendation Award

Chief Lopez also recognized Captain Jason Brassfield for his leadership and mentorship. Brassfield has been described as a silent leader who leads by example, mentoring the new generation of firefighters in our organization and serves as union President representing Suisun City Professional Firefighters 1186. Congratulations to Captain Brassfield!

# **Police Department**

#### **Welcome Officer Flores**

In December, Officer Flores completed her Field Training and is now a solo officer. Officer Flores was hired in July when she began the monthslong training process to become a solo officer. Congratulations Officer Flores!



#### Homicide

On December 15, 2022, at about 9:50 p.m., Suisun City Police were dispatched to the 1200 block of Potrero Circle for a report of gunshots. Officers arrived and located a 37-year-old Suisun City resident suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Officers immediately rendered life saving measures on scene. The victim was transported to the local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. This was the first and only violent homicide of the year in Suisun City.

SCPD Investigations, Chief Roth, and Commander Healy all responded and assisted with the investigation throughout the night. During the initial search of the area, a firearm was located outside of a residence on Potrero Circle. A later search warrant was served at that residence revealing additional evidence of the crime. As of this writing, the suspect has been taken into custody in Mexico and is awaiting extradition. Great detective work by our Police Department!

# Recreation, Parks, Marina & Arts

#### **Employee Appreciation Dinner**

During December, the Recreation Department hosted the annual Employee Appreciation Dinner. La Cabaña catered the event with several options for the attendees to have. Years of Service awards went to 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 35 years — notably to our 35-year employee Dave Bellerive over in the Fire department, and to our two 25-year employees, Greg Renucci in the Fire department and Jim Herrod in the Public Works Department. Several employees were nominated for Employee of the Year but only one could win — the Selection Committee chose Sergeant Julia Lazaro for this year's Employee of the Year. Congrats, Julia!



# FREE EARLY CHILDHOOD RECREATION CLASSES FIRST

Funded by First 5 Sola

#### January 2023

- Movement w/Music
  (Wednesdays at 5:30pm)
  Tiny Athletes (Thursdays at 10am)
  - February 2023
- Mindful Movement Yoga (Tuesdays at 5pm)
- Mindful Music Drumming (Tuesdays at 6pm)



Suisun City Recreation is offering FREE 4-week long recreation classes at the Joseph Nelson Community Center for Solano County residents ages 2-4, such as T-Ball, Sports Mediley, Dance, and Mindful Movement. Child(ren) are limited to only two total First 5 funded classes throughout the duration of this program (Sept 2022-June 2023). For any questions, please contact Marvin Mora, Recreation Supervisor at mmora@suisun.com

> City of Sulsun City – Recreation, Parks, and Marina Departme 611 Village Drive Sulsun City, CA 94585 707.421.7200

#### First 5 Solano Early Childhood Recreation Classes

The Early Childhood Recreation Classes series starts back up next week! The Movement with Music class starts on January 11<sup>th</sup>, and the Tiny Athletes class starts on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Currently, only the February Mindful Movement Yoga class has availability. To register, go online at suisun.recdesk.com. The program is free for all Solano County residents ages 2-4, and thanks to the First 5 Solano funding, it provides 20 free recreation classes for ages 2-4, from September 2022 through June 2023.

#### Seniors

On Friday, December 16th, 100 seniors gathered in the banquet room for the Senior Holiday Luncheon. After 3 years, it was wonderful to host this event in person again. Seniors were able to socialize, eat a fresh meal,

and celebrate the holidays with friends. Food was served by RPM staff and included tri-tip, mashed potatoes, salad, rolls, and desserts. Special thank you to Recreation Supervisor Jeff Downey and

Admin Assistant Kat Shrader for cooking the delicious food. Thank you to Mayor Alma Hernandez for attending this event and Councilwoman Jenalee Dawson for donating 2 raffle prizes. During this event 19 seniors won raffle prizes, and many received goodie bags from a generous attendee. Some seniors even got up and danced to the music. Overall, this event was full of joy, and we continue to receive many positive comments.





On December 29<sup>th</sup>, seniors ended the year with a potluck during bingo. 15 seniors played bingo, including a few new players. Staff provided refreshments and seniors brought food to share including enchiladas, egg rolls, pasta salad, cookies, and more. The seniors loved it and hope to have potlucks more often.

Coming up next Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, is the return of the popular and well-attended Soul Line Dancing. Coretta will be teaching this fun and

free dance class sponsored by Innovative Health Solutions.

#### Marina

Marina staff have been busy with the rainstorm checking on boats and making sure they stay afloat. This was the case in the early hours of New Year's Day when there was a power outage. During this power outage, bilge pumps were unable to function and caused the boats to take on water. Staff was successful in securing a generator to pump out a boat that took on too much water and prevented it from sinking.



#### **Winter Camp**

Week two of camp had two additional students from week one. Campers spent most of the time

inside completing projects but did find time to get outside when the rain stopped. When campers did get outside, one of their favorite activities was beach ball volleyball. They had a blast hitting and kicking the beach balls while occasionally making it over the net. For take home projects, campers got to do window sun catchers of snowflakes. Campers also spent time in the kitchen with recreation staff member Leilani Sosa making decorated brownies.



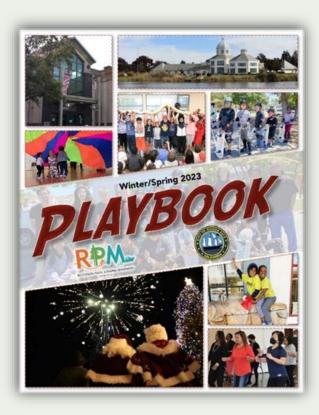
#### **Lambrecht Sports Complex**

We are happy to announce the complex is currently scheduled to host 32 weekend tournaments for the 2023 year. The hope is to add a few additional tournaments to the calendar in the upcoming weeks. As for weekday rentals, the three rentable fields are booked every Tuesday and Thursday evening, beginning in February through the end of October. If we can get Mondays and Wednesdays filled, 2023 could be the best year financially at the complex.

#### **Free Groceries Twice Per Month**

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano provides free food directly to the community through a variety of programs. Community members may receive fresh and nonperishable food from the safety and convenience of their cars. Food Bank staff and volunteers load food for you and walk-ups are welcome. The Drive-Thru Program in Suisun will be moving to Irving H. Lambrecht Sports Complex as of January 11<sup>th</sup>.





#### Winter/Spring 2023 Playbook

The Winter and Spring Recreation Guide is out and copies are available at the Joseph Nelson Center. The RPM Department's Playbook covers December 2022 – May 2023, and features all of the holiday offerings (Christmas on the Waterfront, Menorah Lighting, and Senior Holiday Luncheon), as well as the January return of the Preschool program, 2023 First 5 Solano funded recreation classes, senior programs, and an updated parks and facilities map. The RPM Department is working tirelessly to provide fun and quality offerings to the community, and we hope that everyone will participate.

#### **Christmas on the Waterfront**

Christmas on the Waterfront this past Saturday was one to remember. It rained for the entire event, however, the event still went on! Those from the community that participated still enjoyed the lighted boat parade, local retail and food vendors, tree lighting with snow, Carolers, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, holiday music, and fireworks all in the pouring rain! The Police Department led the boat parade this year.

Despite steady rain throughout most of the day, the Fire Prevention staff worked with fireworks display personnel to ensure a safe and successful event for the Downtown celebration. Several improvisations were made to ensure the fireworks and mortar tubes stayed as dry as possible while they were set up for several hours before the



show. Fire Prevention was tasked with inspecting over 46 items throughout various stages to ensure all State regulations were met and followed. Inspections were performed at various stages, starting 6 hours prior to the display and 1 hour after.

Thank you to all the community members who still participated in the event.

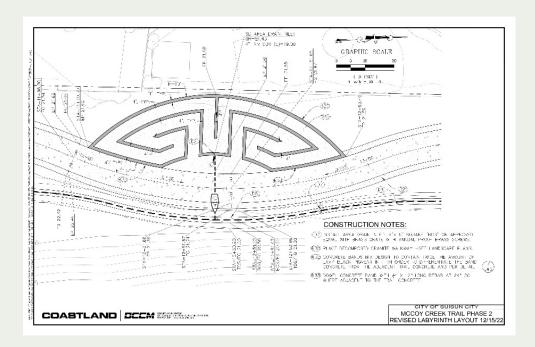
#### **Menorah Lighting**



On Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, we celebrated Chanukah on the Suisun City Waterfront at City Hall for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Menorah Lighting presented by the Chabad Jewish Center of Solano County and the RPM department. Mayor Alma Hernandez had the honor of lighting the center candle of the menorah and the ceremony was officiated by Rabbi Chaim Zaklos. Many people from the community joined the celebration. The festivities included delicious warm beverages and holiday foods including hot latkes, donuts, and Chanukah cookies. This year's menorah lighting also included special guest Jeremiah the Juggler who put on a fire juggling performance.

#### Labyrinth Collaboration with VibeSolano

Suisun City staff members Nick Lozano and Marvin Mora are working with VibeSolano on the design of the labyrinth on the McCoy Creek Trail Phase 2 project. VibeSolano is Solano Public Health's county-wide partnership between agencies promoting chronic disease prevention. Additionally, VibeSolano is working with a consultant (Lars Howlett of Discover Labyrinths) on the design of the labyrinth – using "sacred geometry" and ancient architecture to create a place of healing, peace, and transformation. Below is the final design of the labyrinth, and it will be located closer to the Pintail Entrance of the trail. Nick and Marvin are ecstatic to have worked with VibeSolano and are looking forward to future collaborations.



# **Development Services Department**

#### Cannabissary

Cannabissary, a retail cannabis dispensary applicant located south of Railroad Avenue and west of Humphrey Drive, held a Good Neighbor Policy meeting on Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Joseph Nelson Community Center. The applicant is also working on preparing a traffic study for the project which is expected to be completed within the next month or so.

#### **Olive Tree Ranch**

The applicant is working on refining a project description and application requirements for the General Plan Amendment and Rezoning applications. Once these items have been submitted and deemed complete, staff will forward them to the environmental consultant (Rincon) to include in their work. Recently, Rincon provided a few questions to staff regarding the project which staff will be responding to in the short-term. The expectation is the project could be in a position to hold public hearings on the project toward the end of the first quarter of 2023.

#### **Housing Element**

Staff received a letter dated December 28, 2022, from California Department of Housing and Community Development regarding the draft housing element submitted to them on the first week of December. Staff has met with the consultant and is working on revising the document to address the comments.

#### **Almond Gardens**

Staff is working on drafting conditions of approval for the proposed Almond Gardens redevelopment project. The Site Plan/Architectural Review entitlement is expected to come before the Planning Commission within the next two months.

#### **Tractor Supply**

The Administrative Draft of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document prepared by Stantec has been reviewed by staff and comments provided to the consultant for revisions. Meanwhile, draft conditions of approval are being prepared by staff. The Site Plan/Architectural Review entitlement is expected to come before the Planning Commission within the next two months.

#### **Successor Agency Properties**

Five properties, formerly a part of the Main Street West Disposition and Development Agreement (Parcels 3, 7, 8 and 9 – Lionext Inc. and Parcel 11 - Dr. Preeti Nare), sold and closed escrow prior to the end of the 2022 calendar year.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEERING:**

#### **Meridian West Subdivision**

Rough grading at the project site has been completed. This includes elevating the building pads and the onsite location for the new roadways that are cut below adjacent public streets. Due to recent rain events, storm water runoff within the project site has collected in those low areas of the roadway cuts. The storm drain system and other underground utility systems have not yet been installed.

In order to preserve onsite storm water storage capacity for the upcoming rain events, the builder has elected to remove and store the onsite storm water in two Baker Tanks that have been parked on the west side of West Street between Morgan Street and California Street. Before discharging storm water from the Baker Tanks into the public storm water system, the storm water will be tested to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Municipal Regional Storm water Permit.

#### **PG&E Gas Line Upgrade Project**

PG&E's current schedule shows project completion in May or June of 2023. The scope of work for this project includes restoring damaged pavements as well as sidewalks that are impacted by this project. Restoration work will be performed at the tail end of the project schedule.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE DIVISION:**

The Maintenance Division does a lot of work throughout the city. Here is a snapshot of work performed during December:

- Performed set-up for the Christmas event which included setting out No Parking signs, barricade placement, stage set-up, checking all electrical to stage area, set-up Christmas trees on lawn behind City Hall, hung wreaths in the Courtyard area, ensured Courtyard fireplace was working properly, put up firework fencing around the firework area, and trash pick-up the Monday after the event.
- Cleaned up the Downtown Area in preparation for the Christmas event on Saturday.
- Pressure washed the Plaza area.
- Monday and Thursday twice weekly trash runs and illegal dump pickups (approximately 186 trash cans).
- Monday and Thursday twice weekly trash runs in the LLD's.
- Mowed the parks per schedule.
- Cleared sewer line back-up at the Police Department.
- Completed irrigation repairs at Waterfall Park (Lawler Ranch LLD).
- Started leaf removal (Lawler Ranch LLD).
- Started the storm drain maintenance cleaning in the downtown area. Streets included this week are: Main St., Solano St., Kellogg, Almond, Civic Center and Lotz Way.
- Removed approximately 10 yards of trash and sediments from the storm system.
- Per a request from residents, shrubs were removed along Victory Way at the parking area on the east side of the subdivision (Vic F LLD).
- Leaf removal in the downtown area.
- Started leaf removal (All Vic Harbor LLDs).
- Trimmed trees (Vic D LLD).
- Completed the street light repairs along Railroad Avenue and Driftwood Drive.
- Repaired electrical outlet in round-a-bout (Vic A LLD).
- Dropped off barricades for a Christmas event at the Harbor Theater.
- Continued and finalized the clean-up of the downtown area from the Christmas event.
- Started the storm drain maintenance cleaning in the Lawler Ranch and Petersen Ranch area.
- Staff cleaned all lines that lead to the outfalls into the marsh areas. Staff cleaned 19 lines and removed approximately 12 yards of trash and sediments.
- Leaf and pine needle removal (Heritage Park LLD).
- Trimmed and cleaned up the area from Birchwood Ct. to Pepperwood along Railroad Ave. in (Heritage Park LLD).

- Trimmed and cleaned Geopp Park.
- Continued leaf removal in the downtown area to include the Harbor Theater, Waterfront Plaza, and the Main St. parking lot.
- Added Decomposed Granite (DG) to the parking area islands in the parking lot for the Community Center and Heritage Park (Heritage Park LLD).
- Started the sewer line cleaning maintenance in the Petersen Ranch Subdivision. Staff cleaned 5,239 feet of sewer lines.
- Cleaned 2,122 feet of sewer lines along Widgeon Way.
- Cleaned 1,801 feet of sewer lines in the Old Town area.
- Trimmed, weeded, and cleaned the entry points (Petersen Ranch LLD).
- Trimmed trees (Heritage Park LLD).
- Leaf removal in the Downtown area.
- Mowed weeds along the water's edge behind City Hall.

#### Mike Day Park

A new slide was installed at the Mike Day Park and secured for the kids to play on. Thank you to the Public Works employees who helped complete this project!

#### STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE:

You can find a link to the street sweeping schedule on our website under Public Works:

https://www.suisun.com/departments/public-works/streetsweeping/

Have a great January – Happy New Year!

Greg Folsom City Manager

