

Good afternoon, Del Rey Oaks!

As the number of positive COVID-19 cases continues to rise, our small town continues to show its unique character. Residents walking our streets are wearing masks and remaining appropriately distant from others walking or biking in the community. Our businesses are following public health standards restricting indoor dining, controlling indoor access at banks and other permitted businesses, and requiring masks for entry, to name a few. Residents and businesses in our town are doing their part to prevent the spread of the virus. I am very proud to be associated with such a selfless, patient, disciplined community!

Surrounding jurisdictions are not as fortunate as we are for a variety of reasons. As of today there are 2,835 positive cases, 185 hospitalizations and 18 deaths in the County. The number of hospitalizations is increasing at all County hospitals. Those of you who know a health care worker know the stress they are working under to care for these patients while protecting others and themselves from contracting the virus. Dr. Radner, an infectious disease expert at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital implored City Managers and the County Administrator to urge adherence to public health measures to reduce the spread of the virus. Please continue to show the patience and discipline you have shown so far by wearing a mask in public, remaining a safe distance apart, washing hands, and minimizing the time spent indoors in businesses and offices with others not from your household. Thank you!

The Governor issued an executive order yesterday that will require indoor services at fitness centers, places of worship, barber and hair salons, and several other businesses to close to stem the spread of the virus. Outdoor services will continue to be permitted. Please see the City or County website for the latest information.

The dog park is open, as are tennis courts for singles play and our park for people to enjoy open space. Our team sports facilities and Old Town Hall remain closed.

We continue to adapt to the pandemic at the City. Kim is working from home full time because her finance functions can be done from home. Karen and I are at City Hall Tuesdays and Thursdays starting next week, and working from home Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We will take appointments on Tuesday and Thursday for in-person transactions such as plan checks, permits and licenses. We are always reachable by email and phone during business hours. Our Police Department and Public Works continue to serve the community while maintaining public health standards to protect themselves and others.

We have completed the numerous agreements and transfers associated with the closure of FORA. We signed the Joint Community Facilities Agreement, and transferred \$748,000 of habitat management funds to the City. We signed the agreement for water services with Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) and obtained MCWD Board approval and signature. We signed the Memorandum of Agreement with FORA regarding the transfer of the South Boundary Road project, and the Whitson Engineers contract transfer from FORA to the City. The two escrow accounts for the General Jim Moore intersection and South Boundary Road were open and \$8.8 million dollars in project funds have been transferred. We are excited to now be the lead for the South Boundary Road project and we look forward with discussing with the community where the project stands and what the future might hold.

Though we continue to be in litigation initiated by the California Native Plant Society, I have had a good conversation with Nikki Nedeff, Past President of CNPS. I have invited her to walk with us to learn more about the habitat and project. The City continues to desire a resolution that is agreeable to both the City and CNPS. Unfortunately, that negotiation is now happening under needless litigation by Molly Erickson, costing both the City and CNPS staff and attorney time.

Chief Hoyne is preparing a proposal for consideration by the City Council that would establish a Police Advisory Committee in our City. I am thankful for Chief's leadership in this area and look forward to the added engagement with the community.

We executed contracts for solar panels on City Hall, which will be installed over the Summer. We also signed the street slurry contract to pave Work, Portola, Los Encinos and the cul du sacs along Angelus in early Fall.

Finally, I held several Coffees with the CM, with Nikki Nedeff joining me on one call and graciously engaging in a discussion about the CNPS reserve. I also joined Sustainable Del Rey Oaks at their regular meeting to discuss the South Boundary Road project and the CNPS reserve. It was very productive and I look forward to continued engagement with our residents. Please join me for the next Coffee with the CM Tuesday July 14th from 6-7 PM by zoom link available on the City website home page under upcoming events.

That's all for this week. Thank you again for being patient and disciplined during the pandemic!

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