



CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

~Greg Scoles, City Manager

November 2, 2012

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To Mayor and Council:

As you all know, Belmont provides Hazardous Materials response for all of San Mateo County. Recently the Belmont Fire HAZMAT team participated in Urban Shield 2012, the largest annual Department of Homeland Security exercise in the United States. Twelve Hazmat teams from throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and a Regional hazmat team from Idaho were presented with six mentally and physically challenging scenarios that reflect the challenges of operating in the "all-risk" environment of today.

While this event is promoted as a competition, the real benefit to participants is the opportunity to bolster preparedness and validate the benefits of such capabilities to the communities they serve. Congratulations go out to the Belmont HAZMAT team for placing 7th in this important readiness event.

On November 6th at 2:30 P.M. at the San Carlos Caltrain Station, the San Mateo County Smart Corridor Project is having its Groundbreaking event. This is an important project that will improve the signal operation along El Camino Real in Belmont and other cities along the corridor and I hope that you can make it. It will be in the southern parking lot at 599 El Camino Real. (see below for more information about this project)

As discussed in the last Weekly Update, the Finance Department staff has completed their interviews of two software support consultants to assist with the City's financial ERP software. Both firms have indicated an interest in assisting the City and will submit proposals in the coming weeks. Staff anticipates a recommendation and a request for authority to engage a firm at the Council's November 27th meeting.

Belmont Fire is gearing up for its annual Toys For Tots Campaign. If you are aware of any Belmont families or children who are in need of toys this year please contact Firefighter Chris MacFarland at the Fire Department (cmacfarland@belmont.gov). Chris, thanks for your work on this very rewarding event.

As part of its on-going emergency preparedness efforts, the City of Belmont has setup two “fill your own” sites for residents in need of sandbags during the winter storm season. Sand and bags are available anytime 7-days a week (shovels provided) at the following locations:

- **Belmont City Corporation Yard - 110 Sem Lane**
- **Belmont Fire Station #15 - 2701 Cipriani Boulevard**

Residents, particularly those who live in areas that regularly experience some flooding, are strongly encouraged to pick up sandbags to ensure they are prepared for possible flooding. Residents may obtain up to 10 bags per Belmont address. Sand and bags are being provided by the Department of Public Works, who will maintain the sites during the winter storm season, which typically runs from November – March.

Finally, remember to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday morning.

Have a great weekend.

Greg

Important Dates

- Nov. 6th Election Day
- Nov. 6th SMART Corridor Project Groundbreaking
- Nov. 12th VETERAN’S DAY – City Hall Closed
- Nov. 13th Regular Council Meeting
- Nov. 16th Council of Cities Pacifica
- Nov. 22-23rd Thanksgiving Holiday (City Hall Offices Closed)
- Nov. 27th Regular Council Meeting



NOVEMBER 2012

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JANUARY 2013

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Downtown Belmont Breakfast Forum, November 15, 2012, 8-10 AM

The City of Belmont continues to work with the Grand Boulevard Initiative (GBI), through its Economic and Housing Opportunities Assessment program (ECHO II), as one of four peninsula case study cities. The ECHO study supports the City's related work on development of new Belmont Village Zoning regulations and the General Plan Update, and also ties into our economic development 2.0 efforts. The consultants have completed their initial analysis and will be presenting their preliminary findings at a Downtown Belmont Breakfast Forum, scheduled for November 2, 2012 from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. All interested parties are welcome to attend this free event; invitations are being distributed to downtown property owners, business owners, and neighborhood groups. More information, and the RSVP form, can be found online <http://www.grandboulevard.net/belmontbreakfast.html>. Breakfast will be served. (see attached flyer)

Vote By Mail Ballots



Election Day is just around the corner! If you haven't yet mailed your Vote by Mail ballot, it would be best to drop it off in person rather than mailing it, so you don't take the chance of it not being received by Election Day (remember – postmarks don't count!). The ballot box in the City Clerk's office will be available during regular business hours on Monday and Tuesday, November 5 and 6, and you can drop it at any polling place on election day. In addition, there is a secure box available on a 24/7 basis at the County Elections Office, 40 Tower Road, San Mateo. Don't forget to vote!

Employee Wellness

Cities across the country are leaders in building healthy communities. Wellness policies or guidelines are one way to create a healthy workplace and promote healthy eating. As part of **Get Healthy San Mateo County**, strategies to create healthier communities and prevent and reduce overweight, obesity and related issues, **Get Health San Mateo County** selected three cities, one of which was Belmont, to provide assistance in the implementation of employee wellness policy/guidelines.

The City invited employees to be an active participant in the Employee Wellness Committee. This Wellness Committee is an advisory group of staff known as "Wellness Champions" concerned with the health and well-being of employees. This Committee will work within the City to develop, implement, monitor, review, and as necessary revise City food, beverage and physical activity guidelines and practices.

At the last Senior Management Team Meeting on Oct. 29th, ST Mayer, Director, Health Policy and Planning, San Mateo County Health System and Dan McClure, M.A., Founder and CEO **GENERATIONS** Community Wellness provided a presentation about the program.

Our first Employee Wellness Committee is scheduled to meet on November 16th. A guest speaker/wellness expert will provide guidance to the committee as we get started.

Thank you to the following individuals who volunteered to serve on the Committee. If anyone is interested in participating, please email Cora D. after obtaining supervisory approval.

Employee Wellness Committee

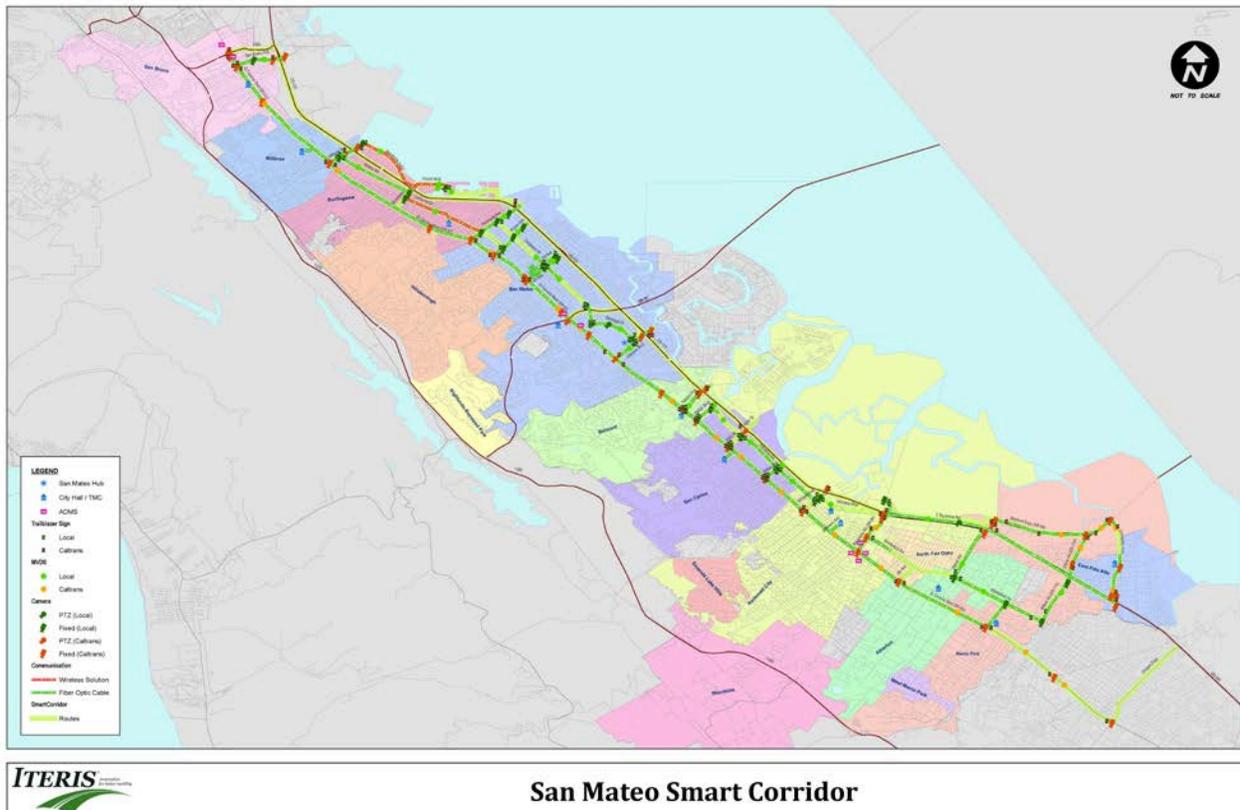
Frank Fanara (P&R)
Mary Doherty (P&R)
Laura Kirby (HR)
Nawel Voelker, (Fin.)
Gilbert Yao (PW)
Terri Cook (CC)
Andrea De Lara (P&R)
Cora Dino (HR)

The San Mateo County Smart Corridor Project Kicks Off

The San Mateo County Smart Corridors is an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) designed to improve mobility along Highway 101 corridor in San Mateo County. The project is located along predefined designated arterial routes, parallel to the US 101, connecting US 101 to El Camino Real including and not limited to SR 82 (El Camino Real) between I-380 and Santa Clara County line. The Project enables the project stakeholders (Caltrans and cities) to implement traffic management strategies through the deployment of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements along state routes and major local streets.

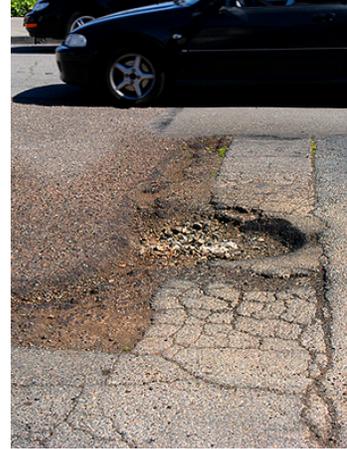
Project Groundbreaking Event is scheduled on November 6, 2012 at 2:30 P.M. (See attached flyer for event details)

When work begins within City of Belmont the contractor will notify residents and businesses within the area at least 10 days before start of construction. Construction hours on El Camino Real will be restricted between 8am to 5pm per Caltrans and City's requirements. Other construction work on Ralston Avenue will be limited to 9am to 3pm. Staff will coordinate with Caltrans and San Mateo County in performance and inspection of work within the City limits. Additional information about the project can be found on the City's website [here](#).



Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Releases Pavement Report Card

On Monday, October 29th, MTC issued a press release on the San Francisco Bay Area Local Street and Road Conditions. The pavement on the Bay Area's 42,600 lane-miles of local streets and roads remains in "fair" condition, with the typical stretch of asphalt showing serious wear and likely to require rehabilitation soon. Data released by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) puts the region's 2011 pavement condition index (PCI) score at 66 out of a maximum possible 100 points, as computed on a three-year moving average basis. See report here: [Pavement Report Card](#).



PCI scores of 90 or higher are considered "excellent." These are newly built or resurfaced streets that show little or no distress. Pavement with a PCI score in the 80 to 89 range is characterized as "very good," and shows only slight or moderate distress, requiring mostly preventive maintenance. The "good" category ranges from 70 to 79, while streets with PCI scores in the "fair" (60-69) range are becoming worn to the point where rehabilitation may be needed to prevent rapid deterioration. Because major repairs cost five to 10 times more than routine maintenance, these streets are at an especially critical stage. Roadways with PCI scores of 50 to 59 are deemed "at-risk," while those with PCI scores of 25 to 49 are considered "poor." These roads require major rehabilitation or reconstruction. Pavement with a PCI score below 25 is considered "failed." These roads are difficult to drive on and need reconstruction.

"One of the Commission's top priorities is to restore the Bay Area's transportation system to a state of good repair," commented MTC Chair and San Mateo County Supervisor Adrienne Tissier. "For local streets and roads, that target has been frustratingly elusive. And the main issue, not surprisingly, is money."

In the [associated PCI table](#), City's pavement condition is rated in the "At Risk Category" with a PCI of 58. The City is presently re in process of completing our Calendar Year 2012 MTC grant funded pavement assessment study. We should have our results along with the funding needs evaluation completed by the Spring of 2013 for review and discussion at a City Council meeting.

2012 Capital Pavement Project Update

The 2012 Capital Pavement Project will continue with the City's contractor, Andreini Brothers, Inc., performing dig-out repairs on Ralston Avenue next week due to rain delays that occurred this week. Construction is anticipated to be complete by Friday, November 9, weather permitting. Traffic delays should be expected during construction activity. Through traffic on Ralston will remain open at all times. No work will occur on weekends. Two lanes of traffic, one in each direction and access for emergency vehicles will be maintained at all times. For any questions, please contact Public Works at 595-7425.



Hiller Sewer Pump Station Repair Update

As previously had been reported Public Works Sewer Division staff had identified a lower seal problem on one of the two sewer pumps at the Hiller Sewer Pump Station. The failure of this lower seal would have allowed water to enter the pump's lubricating oil chamber, causing a pump failure. Before this seal



failure caused additional damage, the pump was removed from service and sent



to the manufacturer's repair facility in Fairfield for repairs. This week Public Works received the rebuilt pump, and has since installed and tested the pump for proper operations. The pump station is now running at normal capacity.



Barrett Community Center



In the next few weeks there will be construction at the Barrett Community Center to remove the interior walls constructed by the former tenants. The goal is to recreate the classroom size spaces to accommodate recreation classes by removing the non-load bearing walls. The Parks and Recreation Department also put in an application to the non-profit Rebuilding Together to get the exterior walls painted.

Barrett is thriving. The Department is starting to fill the spaces with activity including music, art, carpentry, and theatre. It is hoped that by next summer the site becomes a hub for summer camps. The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the item at their August 1st meeting and provided valuable direction on the improvements. We are now staffing Barrett a few days a week to keep up with the activity. The pictures show how rooms at the Center can be transformed into useful spaces including this old utility room that has been reimagined into office space for the flourishing dance programs at Barrett. We will provide additional updates as progress continues at Barrett.



Free Public Movie Showing- "Bag It"- Is Your Life Too Plastic?"

With the county-wide Reusable Bag Ordinance gearing up to go into effect, The City of Belmont, Belmont Public Library, and the San Mateo County like to raise awareness among consumers of the impacts plastic bags have on the environment and encourage usage of reusable bags.



Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, November 14th, from 7-8:30pm**, as we will present a free movie showing of "**Bag It**" - Follow an average American who decides to give up using plastic grocery bags, and learning more than he ever dreamed about plastics in our lives, our waterways, and our bodies. Winning several Film Festival Awards, this 45 minute documentary is sure to entertain and inform. *Reusable Chico bags will be given out to the first 50 people in attendance.*

[View the trailer here](#) ➔ ["Bag It"](#)

Parks and Recreation Annual Holiday Craft Faire

Belmont Parks & Recreation is proud to present our annual Holiday Craft Faire at Twin Pines Park! With more than 50 vendors, live entertainment, refreshments, and free admission, this is our biggest Craft Faire yet! Get your holiday shopping done early with these unique, hand-crafted items produced by local artists around the bay area.



HOLIDAY Craft Faire

Saturday & Sunday
November 17 & 18
10am-4pm

Twin Pines Senior & Community Center
Twin Pines Lodge, Twin Pines Cottage
Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA

Great gifts for your family and friends!
Our annual Holiday Craft Faire features local artists and crafts persons offering a wide selection of holiday gifts and decorations. Lovely handmade items, jewelry, items for the home and more will be available to purchase. Bring the whole family!

Refreshments & Entertainment
Free Admission


www.belmont.gov
(650) 595-7441

*"Enhancing the quality of life
for the community."*

Press Release

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2012

CONTACT: Nawel Voelker – (650) 595-7433

6th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program

Belmont, CA - The City of Belmont City Council proudly announces the upcoming 6th Annual presentation of the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 7:30 PM and is calling for any nominations from the community in both Residential and Commercial categories.

This recognition program is designed to acknowledge individuals, businesses, and community groups who have enhanced the City's community by making significant exterior improvements to their Belmont properties. Eligible improvements include the enhancement, upgrading, reconstruction, or replacement of a property, making it more visually appealing as well as enriching the surrounding neighborhood or district.

City Manager Greg Scoles states, "This program is an excellent opportunity to let the community know how much the City appreciates their effort to help make Belmont one of the most beautiful communities on the Peninsula."

For more information on the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program, to submit a nomination, or to obtain a nomination form, please call the Finance Department at 595-7433 or look on the City of Belmont website at www.belmont.gov.

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Council, Commissioners,
Chamber of Commerce, SMT, PIC, web

Public Announcements

Storm drain covered with debris?

Please contact Public Works at 595-7425

Additional Information~



Remember to use your **green container** for branches and yard clippings; do not place yard debris into the gutter or roadway.



Need sandbags? The City of Belmont has two "fill your own" sites for residents in need of sandbags. Sand and bags are available anytime 7-days a week (shovels provided) at the following locations:

110 Sem Lane - Belmont Corporation Yard

2701 Cipriani Boulevard - Fire Station 15 (beginning Nov. 1st)



Water Dog Lake Water Release

Public Works Maintenance Staff opened the gates at water dog lake spillway on Thursday Nov 1st. Residents may have noticed the higher than normal water levels in the creek during the first day of water release. The Department of Water Resources Division of Dams requires the spillway gates to remain in the fully open position from November 1st through April 15th. Water releases allows the rain water to be released in a measured way due to rain events, and are necessary during the rainy season to reduce possible flooding from the lake.

Coats for Kids Drop-off Locations

The City of Belmont will be participating in this years' Coats for Kids program to collect new and gently used coats to donate to those in need of a warm coat during the cold weather season. Coat collection containers will be placed at the [Belmont Library](#) and [Belmont City Hall](#) on Monday, November 5th through Friday, November 9th. For additional information on how you can help visit [Recology San Mateo County](#)

