

# Coronado Currents

The Official Publication of the City of Coronado

Volume 40

May 2016

## John D. Spreckels Center Construction is Underway

Crews demolished and removed what remained of the old Senior Center and are making progress on the John D. Spreckels Center and Bowling Green following a groundbreaking ceremony in January.

More than 100 people attended the ceremony to kick off construction of the new 9,010-square-foot building just south of



the Coronado Public Library. The much-anticipated project reflects a four-year process that had significant public input.

The facility will serve as a community focal point, offering a wide variety of programs and services including health, fitness and intergenerational activities, and educational and arts classes.

Designed by Architect Robert Coffee, the project will face Spreckels Park on one side and the lawn bowling green on the other, connecting them via a covered porch, a patio and a multipurpose room. There will be a kitchen, lawn bowling clubhouse, a lounge, activity room, storage and office space.

The John D. Spreckels Center and Bowling Green is scheduled to open by December. Senior programs displaced by construction are being held at various locations, including at the Coronado Police Department, the Library's Winn Room and the VFW Hall.



### What's Inside?

- 2 Rain or Shine: Be Prepared
- 2 Flood Map, Areas of Concern
- 3 News and Reminders
- 4 City to Install UDT/SEAL Statue
- 4 Traffic, Circulation Projects
- 5 What's Going on in Coronado?
- 6 Expanded Summer Shuttle Service



CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN / FLOOR PLAN



# Come Rain or Shine: Best to be Prepared

This year's El Niño brought some heavy rain to California. Not what was predicted, but enough to exceed water levels in key state reservoirs. Additionally, the region beat state-mandated water conservation goals in March, the first month in which lowered conservation targets were in effect.

Whatever is in the forecast for San Diego, more rain or prolonged drought, the City encourages its residents to be prepared.

Before rain events, citizens are strongly encouraged to know if their areas are prone to flooding and where to find sand bags (First Street and Alameda Boulevard, Fourth Street and Alameda, North Beach, and across from the Cays Fire Station). They should clean gutters and prune trees; assemble an emergency kit; avoid parking near storm inlets; and alert Public Services to fallen trees/limbs or major flooding.

For drought conditions, the City asks residents to cut down on excess water use by more tightly controlling outdoor watering.



Sand bags on Alameda Boulevard.

Excessive runoff transports pollutants into the City's storm systems, oceans and bays.

It is best to only water in the evening or early morning for best absorption rates; irrigate lawns no more than two or three times per week; time irrigation systems for best absorption; and check and maintain irrigation systems regularly.

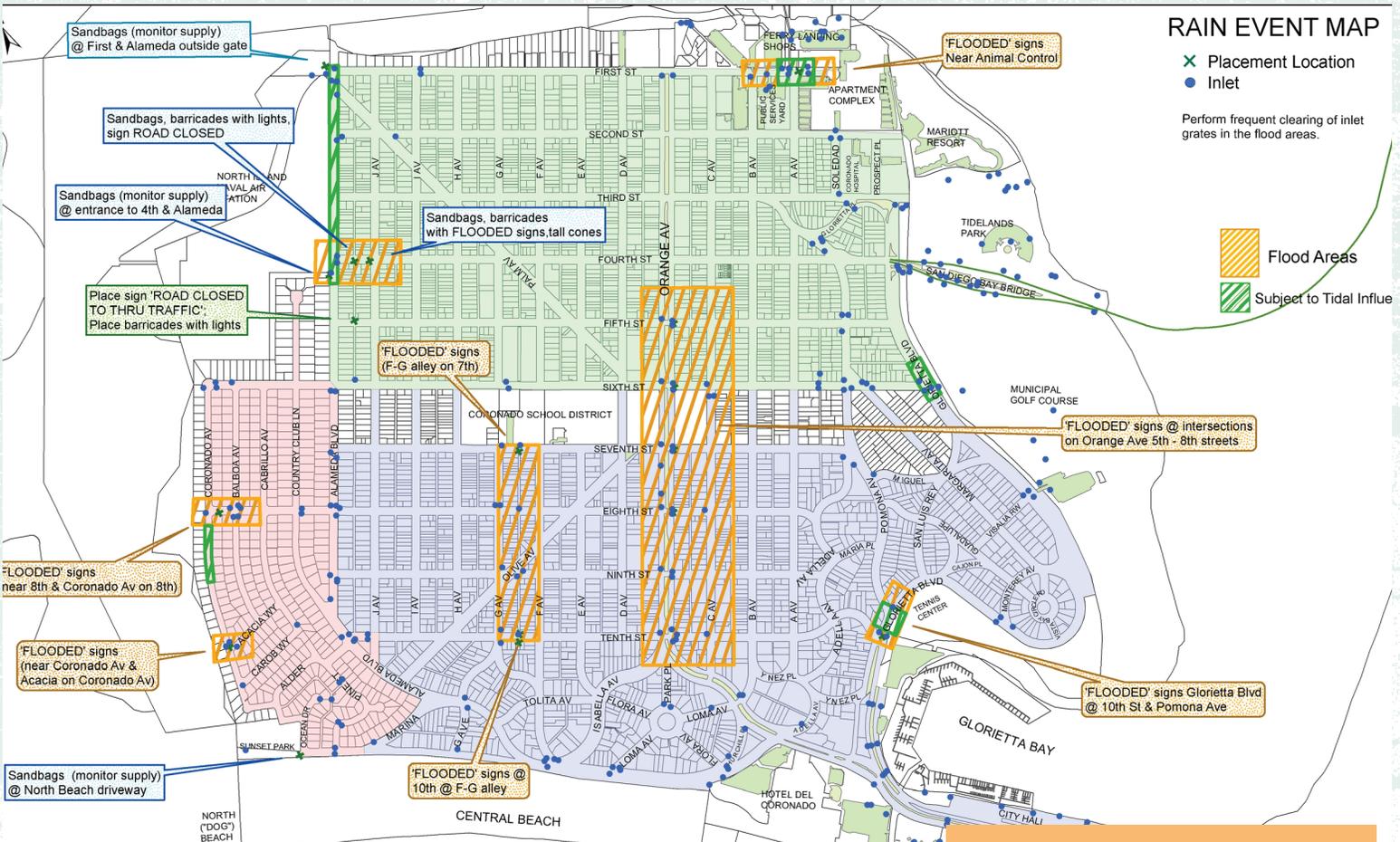
The City is doing its part by reducing watering times of public green spaces; planting drought tolerant landscaping; and replacing older irrigation systems, such as at the Golf Course, with more efficient systems

to save water.

It also is important to understand Coronado's complex sewer and storm drain systems. Due to relatively flat conditions, many storm drain and sewer lines work with gravity but some require pumps. The Parker Pump Station on Coronado Avenue houses pumps to move sewage and storm water. Smaller pumps divert storm water to the sewer system during low flow conditions.

During rain events, the larger pumps take surface and high ground water in the Country Club area, where drainage issues abound, and transport it to the North Beach Ocean Outfall. Unfortunately, the high ground water level, impacted by high tides and coupled with major rain events, regularly leads to flooding at the street level.

The City has other drainage problems, mostly due to geography. When it rains, there is flooding in a few predictable locations as shown on the map below. Know your areas.



For a larger version of the map, visit the City's Public Services webpage.

# News, Reminders for Residents and Visitors

## New Parking Meters Installed

The City's new parking meters have been installed along the commercial corridor. There were more than 500 smart parking meters installed in February. The installation is a two-part process. The second phase will involve the calibration of the meter sensors. This process will require parking restrictions. The community will be notified before that phase begins. Once all features are fully functional, the new meters



will prevent meter-feeding so a vehicle can't stay in the spot all day and accept credit card payments. A processing fee of 35 cents is



charged for credit card payments to recover the costs charged by the meter vendor and banks that process the transactions. Acceptance of credit cards is a convenience to drivers. Drivers, not taxpayers, will absorb the cost and be given the opportunity to accept or decline the transaction. The City tested the new smart meters last year and found them successful. The cost to park will not change. It is still 25 cents per hour.

## Weekly Update Video Preview

In an effort to promote Coronado TV and the City Manager's Weekly Update, a video preview of the written report is filmed



every week. The video, which can be found on Friday mornings on the City's YouTube channel

and on Facebook and Twitter, touches on what people can find in the Weekly Update before it is posted to [www.coronado.ca.us](http://www.coronado.ca.us) at noon. The video is played throughout the week on Coronado TV on Time Warner Cable Channel 19, AT&T Channel 99, and can be viewed on the City's website and YouTube channel.

## Bulb-outs Now Being Installed

A contractor has completed the installation of four bulb-outs at each of the corners of the intersection of Orange Avenue and Second Street. Bulb-outs extend the sidewalk to make it easier for pedestrians to cross. They also narrow vehicle driving lanes



to slow or "calm traffic." The City Council approved the project at its January 5 meeting.

## Little Mack Student Project

The Coronado Fire Department's restored 1938 Little Mack pumper fire truck is always a popular attraction at City events such as the Public Safety Open House. However, Fire Chief Mike Blood felt its restoration was incomplete as it was missing an adequate place for passengers to sit during parades. Chief Blood contacted



Coronado High school wood shop teacher Ken Heskestad and inquired if he had any students looking for a project. Oliver



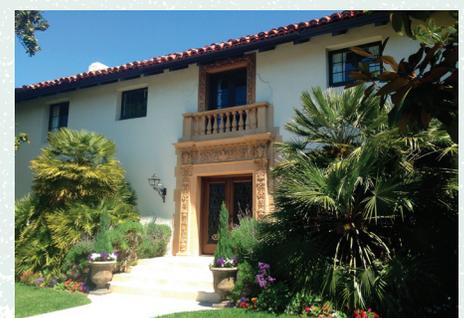
Palmieri volunteered and built a wide and sturdy oak bench, which has been installed. The Fire Department's Little Mack restoration is now complete.

## Council Reduces Mills Act List

To help promote the historic preservation of residential properties, the City Council recently approved Mills Act agreements for 11 more homes. The Mills Act program provides owners a special property tax reduction in return for maintaining the historic home. The Council decided to forego the usual cap on the loss of property tax revenues to shorten the list of property owners on the Mills Act waiting list. The



program is an important tool the City uses to encourage voluntary historic preservation of residential properties. Those in the program help the City build civic pride and retain a sense of place and a continuity with its important past.



# City to Install UDT-SEAL Statue in Glorietta Bay Park

The City will install a bronze statue commemorating the elite men of the Navy’s Underwater Demolition Teams, or UDT’s, of World War II, in Glorietta Bay Park.

The “Naked Warrior,” a Navy combat swimmer wearing shorts, fins and a face mask, is so named because the original WWII Navy were nearly defenseless, though they were always among the first to attack enemy shores.

The City Council accepted the gift from the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum



Future site of the “Naked Warrior” statue at Glorietta Bay Park.

in Fort Pierce, Florida, at its April 19 meeting. The statue also honors all maritime commando units that have provided the

same skills and support found in today’s U.S. Navy SEAL teams.

Coronado strives to place public art throughout Coronado. Its Cultural Arts Commission recommended approval of the public art piece. The installation will include lighting, construction of the base, landscaping and a commemorative plaque at a cost of \$50,000. A dedication ceremony is planned for November 11 to coincide with Veterans Day 2016.

There are two “Naked Warrior” statues, one in Fort Pierce and one in Waimanalo Beach, Hawaii.

# Traffic, Circulation Projects Now Underway

The City is working on several Council-directed traffic and circulation initiatives along Third and Fourth streets. A multi-page transportation publication is being prepared to provide more extensive updates on these projects and many more. Look for it in June.

- City staff and consultants are preparing a request to the California Department of Transportation for the installation of a raised mid-block traffic-calming device used to reduce speed, called a speed table, on Fourth Street between Pomona and A avenues.

The initial design has been submitted to Caltrans, which manages state highways.

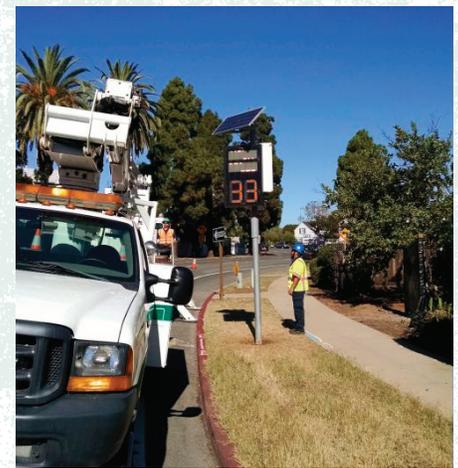
- Another proposal being prepared by the City is a design for bulb-outs on Fourth at A and C avenues, and for the south side of Fourth and Pomona.
- In addition, the design of a traffic signal at Fourth and Alameda Boulevard is scheduled to be submitted to Caltrans in the coming weeks.
- Regarding the toll plaza area at the base of the San Diego-Coronado Bridge, a City Council subcommittee will be finalizing a revised recommendation on a traffic-calming and beautification plan for the Coronado Gateway project



Traffic on Fourth Street.

- in April.
- The Council agreed at its March 15 meeting to conduct an Environmental Impact Report on three options to install left-turn prohibitions on westbound Third Street. The EIR will study installing signs preventing left turns onto A, B and C avenues at any time; signs preventing left turns onto A, B and C avenues during specific times; and permanent barriers at A, B and C avenues.

- The City is awaiting six new permanent speed advisory signs for Third and Fourth streets east of Orange Avenue.
- Finally, the Coronado Police Department continues ongoing efforts to provide enhanced and targeted traffic enforcement on Third and Fourth streets. From January 1 through April



Speed Advisory signs being installed.

12, a total of 611 citations have been written along Third and Fourth. This time period includes eight targeted enforcement details, one including the California Highway Patrol, that resulted in 501 citations and 12 arrests. More targeted enforcement days are planned.



# Updates: What's Going on Around Coronado

## Glorietta Boat Launch Project

The City will move forward in November with a plan to replace the Glorietta Bay Public Boat Launch and redevelop Dock C in the marina. The new public boat launch will accommodate free temporary berthing of small- and medium-sized vessels and allow



Glorietta Bay Boat Launch Ramp.

for the tie up of non-motorized watercraft. Dock C will maintain the same number of slips, but will be updated and comply with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and current safety standards.

## New Universal Playgrounds

Recent playground improvements at Spreckels Park include a universally accessible swing installed late last year. Recreation Services, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and City officials celebrated the improved playground surface and swing at the park at an event to kick off the official reopening. They recognized those



New Spreckels Park swing.

who advocate for universal access. The San Diego Unified Port District also recently completed a redesigned children's playground at Tidelands Park which included accessibility improvements. Future playground equipment in the City will include more universal design features.

## New Website to Debut Soon

The City will debut the design of a new municipal website and an "Ask Coronado" phone app in the next few months. The site will have an updated and welcoming look that will be user-friendly and professional. It will provide an easy way for the community to contact, interact with and report information to City staff. Stay tuned.

## Improving Coronado Bike Safety

Part of being a bicycle-friendly City is working on the five E's — Engineering Solutions, Education, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Encouragement. Recently, the City has been focusing on both education and enforcement. For education, the City recently launched its two-year Safe Routes to School Education Program, funded by a grant from the Department of Transportation's Active Transportation Program. This program is bringing bicycle and pedestrian parent workshops, student



Safe Route to School on Sixth Street.

workshops, and hands-on bicycle skills-building rodeos to Coronado Unified School District schools. The program will help improve safe bicycling and walking practices in Coronado. For enforcement, the City recently developed a new bicycle fine schedule that will help provide a more consistent approach to the citation of bicycle infractions. The new fine schedule went into effect January 1 and will include an \$85 fine for the first offense within a one-year period, \$130 for the second offense, and \$135 for the third offense. Coronado Police Officers have

been promoting increased awareness of bike laws and increasing enforcement efforts for bicycle infractions after the new law takes effect.

## Gallery Highlights Area Artists

The Cultural Arts Commission installed a new exhibit in April at the City's public art gallery. The Coronado Community Center, or C3, Gallery opened in November and will have its first art rotation with the "2016 People's Choice Awards," a collection featuring the top three artists in the gallery's



first juried exhibit "Visions." The work will be on display through July 6. The gallery is comprised of two large, glass-encased niches and a freestanding wood and glass cabinet for 3-dimensional work of various media in the banquet hall of the Community Center.

## Playground out of 'Drop Zone'

Palm Park has reopened after City crews moved the playground equipment out from under the large Torrey Pine Tree, where Blue Herons nest every year. The move assists City crews in keeping the equipment clean for use by neighborhood children. With the equipment moved beyond the "drop zone," it should be easier to keep clean and available.





**CITY OF CORONADO**

**1825 Strand Way  
Coronado, CA 92118  
tel. 619.522.7320  
fax 619.522.2407**

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 906  
SAN DIEGO CA

City Council  
Casey Tanaka, Mayor  
Richard Bailey  
Carrie Downey  
Bill Sandke  
Michael Woiwode

Follow us:  
 @CoronadoCity  
 City of Coronado

# Expanded Summer Shuttle Service Begins May 27

Coronado’s free summer shuttle service is back, and it has been expanded.

The City Council recently agreed to fund a fourth year of the popular Free Summer Shuttle program to get residents and visitors out of their cars during Coronado’s busiest season. This year, the City added service to the Silver Strand and the Coronado Cays.

Shuttles will operate from May 27 through September 26, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and one hour later on Friday and Saturday. The program is jointly funded by the City, the Coronado Tourism Improvement District, which is once again providing the shuttle “wraps” that add a bit of whimsy and fun and exemplifies Coronado’s carefree beach vibe, and Loews Coronado Bay Resort.

The City Council approved a contract with the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System to provide the Free Summer Shuttle

in downtown Coronado, from the Ferry Landing to City Hall. The City also contracted with Loews to operate the Free Silver Strand Summer Bus that will connect Cays riders with the downtown shuttle buses. The Free Summer Shuttle will run even more frequently than last



year at 15-minute intervals. The new Free Silver Strand Summer Bus will run at 30-minute intervals from the Cays with stops at Loews, Navy Housing and the Naval Amphibious Base along the Strand.

The Cays shuttle service will provide greater connectivity to riders from the Silver Strand to the Village and from the Village to Silver Strand State Park. The Loews-operated shuttle

will use two smaller 12-passenger buses.

The City is contributing \$221,000 in support of the shuttle service and the Coronado Tourism Improvement District is providing nearly \$70,000 for the “wraps” and toward the Cays shuttle service. As the operator of the Free Silver Strand Summer Bus, Loews also is contributing \$32,000 in in-kind services.

The resort plans to use the funds to expand an existing shuttle service.

The Free Summer Shuttle in Coronado is MTS’s highest performing route in passengers carried per hour of operation. Bus stop signs will be installed and promotional material, including a bus schedule, will be created.

The Free Summer Shuttle Program began in 2013 and expands MTS’s Route 904 service. The pilot program increased ridership of one-way passenger trips 506 percent over 2012, and ridership continues to rise. Last year, more than 116,000 people took a ride on the Free Summer Shuttle.