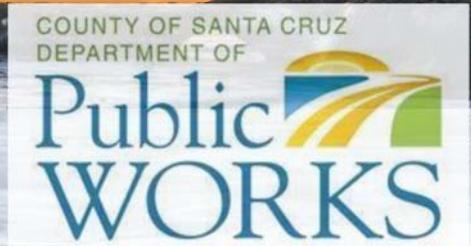


DPW QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

*Building communities from the ground up.
Striving to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by providing essential services for daily life.*



Inside this issue

- Road Repair.....1
- Primo Updates.....1
- Survey.....2
- Felton Library.....3
- Buena Vista Landfill.....3
- Events & Recognitions.....4

PROTECTING THE FUTURE

Matt Machado, Deputy CAO, Director of Public Works

On February 5, 2020 I was fortunate to spend the day with our South County roads crew. The work plan for the day was to clear material from a drainage ditch along Pleasant Valley Road, just north of Hames Road. This particular stretch of ditch is concrete lines and appears to date back to the New Deal era of the late 1930's. Over the last decades the ditch has filled with sediment and poison oak. More recently a segment of the ditch embankment began to fail, potentially undermining the county road. Protecting our road assets is job number one and heading off a problem like this early will save tens of thousands of dollars and will protect peoples uses and access that this road provides. The day began at 7am in the Roy Wilson yard, crew members were joined together with gear in hand and ready to go. Henry Munoz, Roads Supervisor, had a plan for everyone. Once all the crews were out the gate with questions answered and plans in hand, Henry and I headed out to catch up to the crew we would be a part of for the day. Arriving on the job site the crew (Roberto Magana, Mike Sutherland, Luis Nava, and Brad Rudolph) were nearly set up and ready to start work. With traffic control signs in place, a 10-wheeler dump truck and a mini excavator ready to work we began our job. Throughout the day we alternated 2 people in the ditch and one to two Flagging. It was very satisfying to see so much work done and be so close to the action. The crew members operated like a well-oiled machine. By the time we got back to the yard it was pushing 4:30pm and we had moved more than 90 yards of material out of the ditch and had started the eroded bank repair with large rocks and filter fabric to ensure this ditch and slope would be good for many decades to come. Kudos to you all!



Contract Analyst, Mirna Guerrero has been hard at work trying to answer the questions, “Why does it take so long to process a contract?” and “Why does it take so long to start construction on that project?” The construction contracts that go out to bid have a very detailed and complex contract execution process. Over the past year, Mirna has been tracking this process using real projects as samples to help identify areas for improvement. It takes five months to complete the execution process. She implemented several internal improvements to the process which have resulted in more consistent contacts and a decrease in average time to three and a half months. She soon discovered that using the ratification process was a lot faster than the regular execution process, so she started to ask, “Why can’t we use this process for all projects year round?” On average her research showed that there was a 30 day time savings to process a project from plan approval to the start of construction using the ratification procedure. With the support of the Deputy CAO, Director of Public Works Matt Machado, a letter presenting this simplified process is scheduled to go to the Board on April 14, 2020. This letter will ask the Board to authorize DPW to change their standard operating procedure to improve the contract approval process and reduce overall project delivery time utilizing the ratification process.



SURVEY DIVISION

Greg Jones, Senior Civil Engineer



The survey division is responsible for survey field work, the review of final and parcel maps, records of survey, corner records, certificates of correction and similar maps and documents for compliance with federal, state and local laws, and any other survey work as required by the Board of Supervisors and the courts. The survey division also determines boundaries of county owned properties, including roads, right of ways, easements and county-controlled areas.



In 1969, the survey division of DPW had 23 staff members, including the county surveyor, which was an elected position prior to the 1970's. In fact, a large portion of the east side of the DPW department at 701 Ocean Street was dedicated to the surveying division. Before the invention of modern surveying equipment, including electronic distance measuring (EDM) instruments, Autocad (computer aided drafting), digital levels, scanners and GPS, all surveys were laborious and computation intensive. All notes were taken by hand in field books by documenting distances, angles and field sketches of the surveyed area. The field books were then handed over to the office staff to for manual computations and drafting of both topographic and boundary maps. By 1979, the staff department was down to 9 staff members, only 3 of which comprised the survey field crew. Then in 2009, the survey division was absorbed into the traffic division to the financial limitations caused by the Recession. Current day, the survey division was reformed in 2018, consisting of a two-person survey crew, two office staff and the county surveyor.



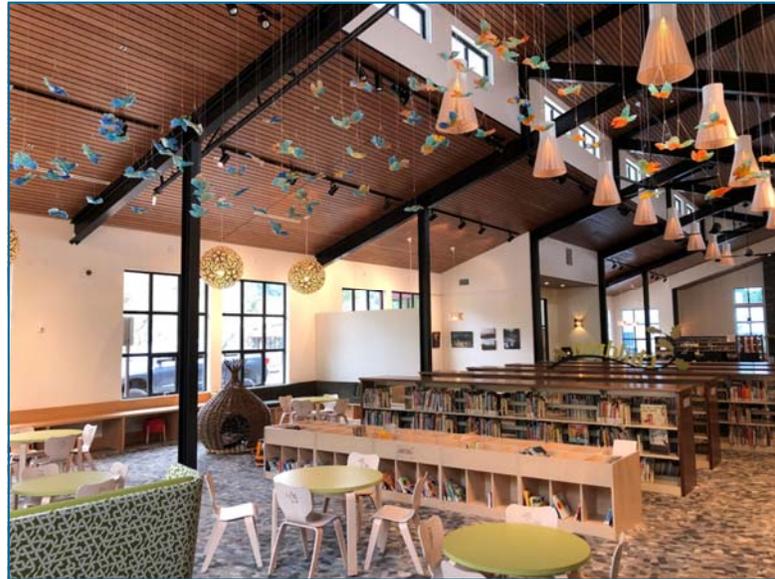
An example of the survey division work is our survey crew just recently completed boundary and topographic surveys for over 60 storm damage sites from the 2016/17 storm events. This information will mostly be used by our county engineering staff to complete designs in-house. Over 100 separate surveying projects/tasks were completed in 2019. And 30+ county benchmarks that have been destroyed in past construction were restored and placed on the county GIS for public use.



FELTON BRANCH LIBRARY

Damon Adlao, Project Manager

The newly constructed Felton Branch Library is now open to the public! The 8,990 square foot modern library facility includes a main circulation and lobby area with vaulted ceilings, a dedicated children's reading area, a multi-purpose community room, and staff work areas.



The welcoming interior of the library offers comfortable furniture for fireside reading, small group discussion areas, and modern worktables, all complimented by a truly amazing public art installation composed of handblown glass butterflies. Outside, visitors can enjoy a patio and outdoor seating areas and walk along a pathway to the adjacent Felton Discovery Park, which provides environmental education opportunities along the Bull Creek riparian corridor. Since the grand opening of the library on February 22, 2020 the library is experiencing over 1,000 visitors per day!

RECOVERY & DIVERSION

Albert Eslit, Assistant Superintendent



As a team, the Recycling and Solid Waste staff provide the best practices for handling and processing of waste in order to serve the community and promote sustainability in an environmentally sound manner. The Recovery & Diversion Area will also serve as a training ground for the public by promoting individual responsibility and working hand in hand with County staff. Together we will meet the State mandated 75% diversion rate and further out efforts toward the County's Zero Waste goal.

In January 2020, the Buena Vista Landfill opened its Recovery & Diversion Area. The purpose for the Recovery & Diversion Area is to remove and recycle additional materials (wood, metal, cardboard, etc.) from discarded refuse that would have ended up buried in the landfill. Doing so is an effort to extend the life of our County's Landfill that has a remaining capacity of approximately 8-10 years. This area was designed with convenience in mind for the public and County staff to maximize efforts in recycling, diversion recovery, saving resources and saving our landfill space.





DPW EVENTS



By formal proclamation from the Board of Supervisors, the Public Works Department will celebrate National Public Works Week (NPWW) from May 17 through May 23, 2020 with a national theme of "The Rhythm of Public Works". This years poster emphasizes the idea of having each community be seen as symphony of essential services.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Sandro Garcia

Sanitation Maintenance
Worker I

Kimberly Finley

Chief Real Property Agent

Jarrett Albo

Cashier Disposal Site

Anthony Chacon

Public Works Maintenance
Worker I

Edgar Zuniga

Public Works Maintenance
Worker I

Michael Sandobal

Public Works Maintenance
Worker I

PROMOTIONS

Celia Campos

Accounting Clerical Supervisor I

Gilbert Gallegos

Sanitation Maintenance
Worker I

Gregory Harden

Public Works Supervisor

Nicolas Padron

Public Works Maintenance
Worker IV

Robert Newey

Public Works Maintenance
Worker IV

Gerardo Vargas

Real Property Agent

RETIREEES

Lisa Fusco



Tim Goncharoff and Mark Strudley receive an award presented by John Leopold during the 2019 Employee Recognition Awards

Christina Horvat and Mary Ann LoBalbo with their set up for a home or camping Zero waste table setting when we can all get together again.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“ When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too. ”

-Paulo Coelho

