CITY OF

EUREKA

CALIFORNIA

Monthly eNewsletter

January 2021

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City Manager's Column

Happy 2021! 2020 has been a year of challenges but has resulted in creative adaptations and innovative solutions for local commerce, social experiences, schooling and the everyday working environment. The challenges forced on us due to the pandemic have resulted in opportunities that we may have never considered. As we look forward to the end of the pandemic, we will benefit from the ability to evaluate some of the adaptations and solutions that have been developed and incorporate them on an -on-going basis to make day to day operations more efficient and safe for the community. We have already made positive permanent changes at City Hall that will benefit the community and provide more efficient services to businesses and residents. More to come on this over in the upcoming months.

City staff are also looking forward to ensuring the priorities of the community are met now that Measure H has passed. Prior to the tax going into place on July 1st, staff will be presenting a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which will include the prioritization of street maintenance projects. Based on current revenue projections from Measure H, we are preparing to have an increase in street maintenance funding in the amount of approximately $2 million for fiscal year 2021-22. We appreciate the community's interest in Measure H and thank the thousands of residents who participated in the election. Measure H funding will continue to stay local for City services the community has identified, especially street repair and road safety.

And now that the holiday season has come and gone, it is more important than ever that we stick to the best practices recommended by the CDC to protect ourselves and our fellow community members. The more stringent we are now with protecting one another, the sooner we can realize a sense of normalcy.

Sincerely,

Miles Slattery
City Manager

January

Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day City Hall Closed	2
3	4	5 City Council Meeting	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day City Hall Closed	19 City Council Meeting	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

CITY OF EUREKA CALIFORNIA

City Hall is closed.

Please call to make an appointment.

Public Works: (707) 441-4203
Building: (707) 441- 4155
City Administration: (707) 441-4144
Engineering: (707) 441-4194
Development Services: (707) 441-4160
Finance (water/sewer & business licences): (707) 601-5853

Stay updated on the latest information for the City of Eureka's information about COVID–19 by following the link below:

COVID INFO

City Hall will be closed to the general public until further notice. To make an appointment, please call one of the following numbers:

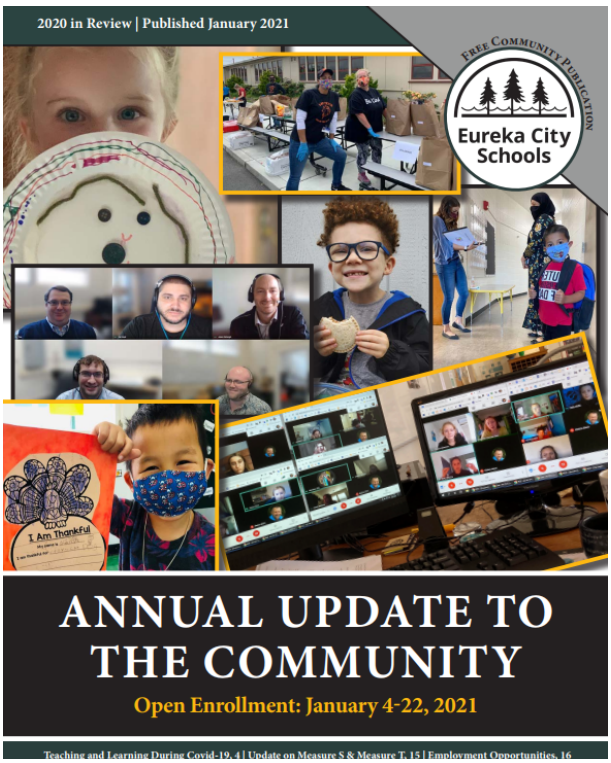
Building 707-441-4155
Development Services 707-441-4160
Public Works 707-441-4203
Engineering 707-441-4194
City Administration 707-441-4144

2020 Annual Update to the Community (Published January 2021)

Eureka City Schools has now published its Annual Update to the Community! The Annual Update, a 2020 "year-in-review," captures the heart and tenacity of Eureka City Schools staff, students, and families. We encourage the community to join us in celebrating what we have gained this year: strength, resilience, and the ability to adapt. This year has not been without its struggles, but we continue to move forward and persevere, focused on student education and learning in an ever-changing world.

As you review the Annual Update, enjoy a recap from each of our nine school sites, information on Teaching and Learning during Covid-19, a perspective article from the ECS Technology Department, an update on Measure S and Measure T Projects, Employees of the Year, employment opportunities, and more!

Please click here for the Annual Update



Mayor Seaman's Column

As we come out of a really difficult year, I can't help but be impressed with the grit that Eureka has shown in the face of extraordinary challenges. We have come together to support local businesses through the holiday season with the Choose Humboldt campaign while the City provided our own support with grants and programs to help businesses continue to provide services. Individuals have, by in-large, needed the advice of public health professionals to follow COVID-19 protocol. From simple steps like wearing a mask to those more challenging sacrifices like spending holidays apart from our loved ones, I saw many, many people thinking about how their actions affect their friends and family. Hard decisions to pivot their holiday traditions from gatherings of any size to activities like decorating their homes for the socially distanced joy of their neighbors helped to brighten up some pretty dark nights.

We mourn every death and sympathize with those who are suffering from the illness, economic hardship and mental health challenges. Still, we are faring far better than many communities across the state and the country where ICUs are full and businesses are shuttering in even greater numbers. The City has stepped in to support families with programs like the COVID Assistance Fund Program to help folks pay rent and we have developed even stronger relationships with our partners who support the houseless population. To try to ease the suffering where we can.

2020 will go down in history as a catastrophic year, but we also learned about ourselves. We have shown our mettle and I have seen the tenacity we need to continue to work to keep our community strong because it's still not over. I hate this pandemic, but there's no community where I would rather be living through it.

Happy New Year, Everyone! You earned it.

Mayor
Susan Seaman

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING LOCATIONS

GIVE YOUR TREE A NEW LIFE

With the holidays coming to a close, residents may dispose of their Christmas trees at several community locations at no-charge or may arrange for pick-up by their trash hauler. Residents are encouraged to recycle their Christmas trees so they may be processed into useful mulch or compost. To prepare Christmas trees for recycling, residents must ***remove all decorations, including ornaments, hooks, garland, tinsel and lights. Flocked trees may not be recycled.***

Drop-Off Locations	Dates	Contact
Free Drop-Off & Recycling		
Arcata Wes Green Landscaping 6360 West End Road, Arcata	Dec. 28th – Jan. 16th	822-8035
Blue Lake Clemance Field/Perigot Park 312 S. Railroad, Blue Lake	Jan. 2nd—Jan. 14th	668-5932
Eureka HWMA's Hawthorne Street Transfer Station 1059 West Hawthorne Street, Eureka	Dec. 26th—Jan. 10th	268-8680
Ferndale Ferndale's Fireman Park 100 Berding Street, Ferndale	Dec. 31st—Jan 4th	786-4224
Ferndale Fairgrounds 1250 5th Street, Ferndale		
Fortuna Recology Eel River's Fortuna Transfer Station 965 Riverwalk, Fortuna	Dec. 26th—Jan. 14th	725-5156
Fortuna Fairgrounds 1 Park Street, Fortuna		
McKinleyville Humboldt Sanitation Transfer Station 2585 Central Avenue, McKinleyville	Dec. 26th—Jan. 24th	839-3285
Rio Dell Rio Dell City Hall *(back parking lot)* 675 Wildwood Ave, Rio Dell	Dec. 26th – Jan. 4th	764-3532

Curbside Collection	Contact
Collection fees may apply, please contact.	
Humboldt Sanitation	839-3285
Recology May collect curbside trees in Arcata, Eureka and some unincorporated areas of Humboldt County	442-5711
Arcata High School Track Team Arcata residents only. Curbside pick up of tree for $15 with funds benefiting the Arcata High track team.	822-8325

Remember to remove all decorations including *ornaments, hooks, garland, tinsel and lights.*

Community Services Department

The Adorni Center is currently closed due to recent change to the Purple Tier as a result of an increase in COVID-19 cases in Humboldt County. All fitness activities and classes are currently suspended at this time. The Adorni Center will remain closed while in the Purple Tier, with a tentative reopening date of Monday, January 11, 2021.

Community Services offices at the Adorni Center are currently closed to the public. Staff can be reached by email or call and leave a message.
https://www.ci.eureka.ca.gov/depts/pnr/staff_directory.asp

Adorni Community Center

THE CITY OF EUREKA
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Ben Goldfarb

The Sequoia Park Zoo's Virtual Conservation Lecture series continues on January 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom and the Zoo's Facebook Livestream. Ben Goldfarb, Environmental Journalist, will present: "Partnering with Beavers to Heal the Planet." Visit sequoiaparkzoo.net for the Zoom Link and more information.

Ben Goldfarb is the author of Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter, winner of the 2019 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award. His work has appeared in publications including the Atlantic, Science, Orion Magazine, and the Washington Post.

Thank you, Sequoia Park users!

As we wrap up project construction for the Redwood Sky Walk in the weeks ahead, we want to extend our thanks and appreciation to our community for their patience and understanding when using Sequoia Park during this time. Building projects always impact the environment around them and great care has been taken to protect both our trees and our citizens. We're excited to see many of the park's special forest floor environments return to a more normal state.

The breathtaking vantage points offered through the new Redwood Sky Walk exhibit are specifically designed to allow the City of Eureka and the Sequoia Park Zoo to welcome and educate locals and visitors alike about the importance of taking care of this very special place for generations to come.

This temporary build phase, while admittedly not our best look, has been carefully orchestrated to be safe, compliant, and controlled. However, it will soon be replaced by a unique world-class community asset that will provide for greater stewardship and appreciation of our park for future generations. We hope you'll come visit when we open so you can see for yourself the dramatic transformation!

Join the Zoo Family! Visit sequoiaparkzoo.net/membership for details!

Cooper Gulch Input Survey

Help guide the future of Cooper Gulch Park

Get involved • Give input • Join the community

The City of Eureka is pursuing the Prop 68 grant to renovate and improve Cooper Gulch Park.

A key part of the process is to engage with our Eureka community to ensure that the park will include the feedback and priorities of park users. That's where you come in! Your participation is essential in helping us be successful in submitting a strong grant application.

Make Your Opinion Known!

Please use this QR code or take the survey at
www.surveymonkey.com/r/coopergulch

Cooper Gulch Common Grounds

Humboldt County Office of Education

CITY OF EUREKA

For more info: 707-441-4206
www.CooperGulchParkImprovements.com

Encuesta de aporte para el parque Cooper Gulch

¡Ayuda a guiar el futuro del parque Cooper Gulch!

Involúcrese, dé su opinión, únase a la comunidad.

La Ciudad de Eureka está siguiendo los trámites para conseguir una subvención de la iniciativa 68 para renovar y mejorar el parque Cooper Gulch.

Una parte clave del proceso es comprometerse con nuestra comunidad de Eureka para garantizar que el parque incluirá los comentarios y las prioridades de los usuarios del parque. ¡Aquí es donde entran ustedes! Su participación es fundamental para ayudarnos a tener éxito al presentar una solicitud de subvención bien articulada.

¡Da a conocer tu opinión!

Utilice este código QR o realice la encuesta en:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/cooperespanol

Cooper Gulch Common Grounds

Humboldt County Office of Education

CITY OF EUREKA

Para más informació: 707-441-4206
www.CooperGulchParkImprovements.com

City of Eureka's Supporting Local Business

Dine Out Eureka

Eureka is host to a wide selection of restaurants, coffee shops, breweries, cideries, and specialty shops full of local delights. To show support to the businesses that make up our foodie paradise, we're encouraging locals and visitors alike to grab takeout or a bite to eat at one of our many fine establishments.

When you're able to support a local business – share it out! Spreading your support encourages others to do the same.

To sweeten the deal, use #DineOutEureka

CHOOSE HUMBOLDT

#shopeureka

Home for the Holidays Winner 3333 Harrison Avenue

The City of Eureka Mayor's 1st Annual Home for the Holidays Decorating Contest was a huge success and we are happy to be able to share this tradition on a annual basis with our community. We are already looking forward to this next year. With COVID-19 keeping us home for the holidays this last year, we felt it was the perfect way to enjoy some holiday spirit from the comfort from your own vehicle. We hope you were able to enjoy this newly holiday tradition and we appreciate all the community members who were able to join us in participating.

Congratulations 3333 Harrison Avenue Christmas Town on being the City of Eureka's 1st Annual Home for the Holidays winner. Thank you to all our participates that registered this year! We are already planning on next years contest and look forward to seeing all the beautiful homes once again!

Economic Development Department

Eureka Window Poetry Program

In partnership with Eureka Main Street, the Ink People, Eureka Poet Laureate David Holper, Eddy Alexander, and Councilmember Leslie Castellano, the City of Eureka is releasing a new window poem art project in an effort to beautify vacant buildings in Eureka.

To kick off the program, the City is sponsoring eight combination window paintings and poem displays for a total cost of $800 dollars. Community members and artists are encouraged to get involved by sponsoring additional windows. Property and business owners can participate by sponsoring installations in their windows for $250, which covers the cost of commissioning both artists (the painter and the poet), and providing the cost of supplies. Owners of commercial buildings who would like to feature local window art poems can sponsor an original piece in their vacant windows by contacting Economic Development staff.

Beyond sponsorships, citizens can support the project by touring the community and checking out these pieces and developing more creative ways to express Eureka's resiliency through window art. Window art is a safe way to express yourself during COVID-19, lifting spirits while doing something the entire neighborhood can enjoy.

Neighborhood Investment Mini Grant Program

The City of Eureka has developed a Neighborhood Mini Grant Program. The Purpose of the program is to provide small grant for volunteers to complete projects in their neighborhood. The goal of the program is to help create awareness and enthusiasm for residents while they take ownership of their neighborhood, empowering and engaging our community. The Neighborhood Grant Program will create long term economic and social outcomes for city residents.

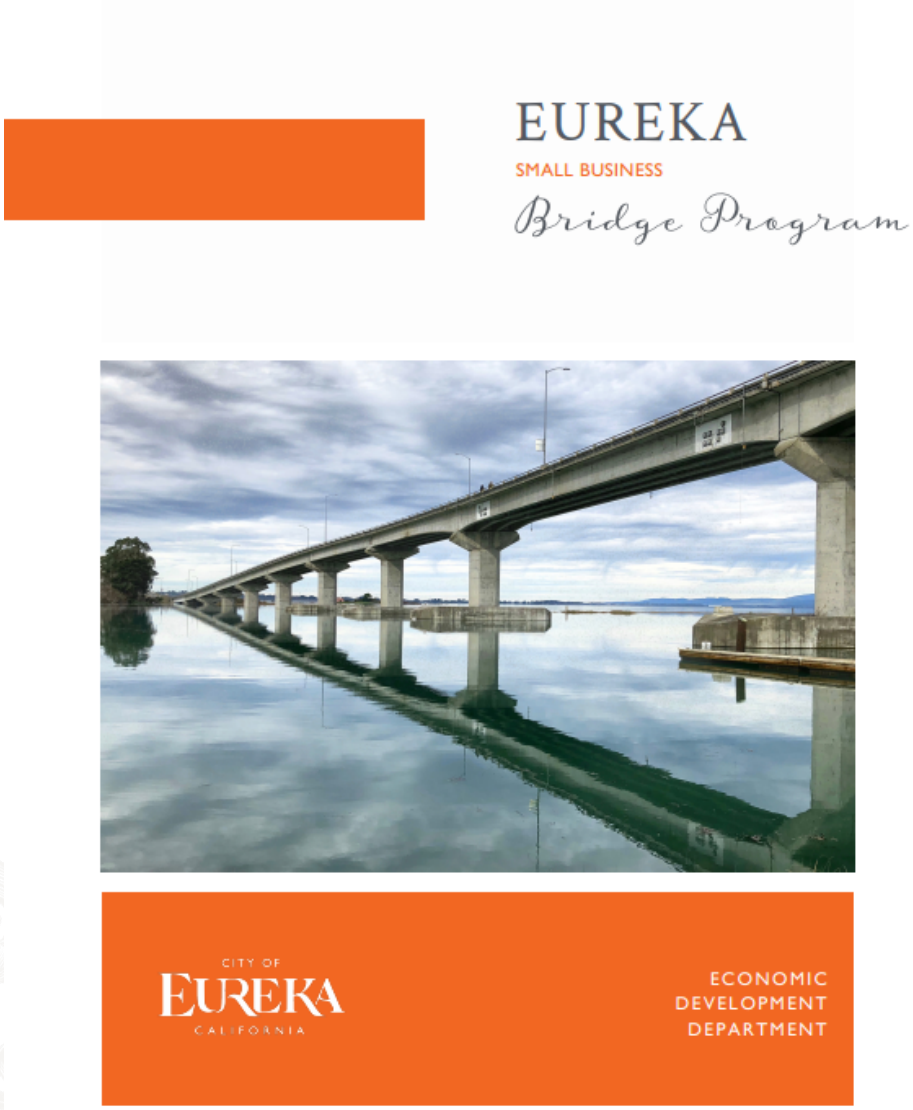
Click on the link below to apply today:

http://new.ci.eureka.ca.gov/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=52566.04&BlobID=18958

Economic Development Department

The City of Eureka has set aside $300,000 to provide grants of up to $7,500 to small businesses located within City of Eureka limits to cover the business owners unpaid or pending rent from January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021.

Click here to apply



Eddy Alexander

GROWTH EA STRATEGY

Like all of you, we're starting 2021 celebrating the announcement of the new COVID-19 vaccine, and are looking forward to all that it means for our community in the future.

With that said, we're beginning to put plans in place for advertising Eureka when vaccines are available locally and in cities and towns where our visitors come from. This will be when the timing is right to welcome visitors into our community. We're continuing to monitor leisure travel both locally and nationally, and our advertising efforts will be designed with these trends in mind.

In the past month, we collaborated with the City of Eureka to promote Eureka as the premier place for shopping and dining in Humboldt County with the Choose Humboldt, Shop Eureka campaign. We worked with local business owners to highlight their favorite Eureka holiday traditions and share ways that citizens can support them into the New Year. To share your commitment and enthusiasm to shop and dine locally, post the "Shop Local" graphic on your social media, use the hashtag #ShopEureka, and tag us @VisitEureka. Download the graphic here.

We're continuing to work closely with the Sequoia Park Zoo on promotional materials for the Redwood Sky Walk. We're capturing photos, developing the website, brochures, and signage, and are excited to launch the marketing campaign later in 2021 when the Redwood Sky Walk is open to the public.

Lastly, we're especially delighted to be joining forces with Project Eureka and the City of Eureka on beautification efforts, including wayfinding, placemaking, and more. Watch this space (and the streets Old Town and Downtown!) for more updates in the coming months.

Here's wishing everyone in Humboldt County and the City of Eureka a safe and happy New Year.

Eureka Police Department

We know you've been slogging through the COVID-19 pandemic for too long now. But with the potential new relief payment on the way, now seems to be a good time to revisit some scam proofing tips. For more in-depth details visit the resource links directly.

Here are a few tips to remember with another stimulus payment on the horizon. The Federal Trade Commission in the words of Leach (2020):

- The government won't ask you to pay anything up front to get this money. Anyone who does is a scammer.
- The government won't call, text, email, or contact you on social media to ask for your Social Security, bank account, or credit card number. Anyone who does is a scammer.
- There's no such thing as getting your money early, or faster. Anyone who says they can hook you up now (or soon) is both lying and a scammer. (para. 2).

Please feel compelled to report any stimulus scammer attempts here https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/ for all of us.

The pandemic, just like any other disaster, has revealed opportunists in many shades. The State of California Office of the Attorney General (2020), has an incredibly comprehensive article detailing some current scams, your rights and where to report scammer behavior. The Office of Attorney General article covers:

- **Price gouging**: It is currently illegal to price gouge in California (Office of Attorney General, 2020). Look for answers to your specific questions here.
- **COVID related scams**: Scammers have changed their game to include using COVID-19 in old scams. But the same rule, as always, applies, if it sounds too good to be true it probably is and if someone is putting time pressure on you that's a good indicator it might be a scam.
- **Bogus charities**: Do your research. Legitimate charities must file a public tax form known as the 990; there are websites you can use to research this public filing activity. Specific details at Office of Attorney General website here.
- **Student loans:** The federal government has taken a number of steps to assist student borrowers during COVID-19. It appears these protections are set to expire on January 31, 2021. The primary details apply to federally held loans only and involve interest waivers and forbearance of loan payments. See this website for more details.
- **Renters' rights**: New state and federal laws have been created. See details here.

If the exact hyperlinks don't work for you, all of these topics and more can be found at the Office of Attorney General 2020 link below.

We salute you in your quest of scammer detection and avoidance. Happy New Year and may the odds ever be in your favor.

Humboldt Bay Fire

CPR Training during COVID

HBF contracts with the Health & Safety Institute for all CPR & First Aid instruction to the public. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on in-person contact, we have pivoted from providing fully in-person CPR & First Aid instruction to offering a hybrid model consisting of online instruction and a brief in-person skills examination.

However, given the Red Tier status of Humboldt County indicating rampant viral spread, we are no longer offering in-person skills tests for CPR (re)certifications, with very few exceptions. The HSI recognizes the hardship that COVID-19 has placed on individuals attempting to (re)certify in CPR, and has extended their grace period to participate in a renewal course to 90 days. This means that HSI-certified cardholders may have an additional 90 days past their previously stated expiration date in order to recertify.

HSI states that they "expect regulatory agencies and employers who require emergency care training and certification for licensing or employment to be reasonably lenient about expiration dates for certification," further going on to clarify that, "leniency in this instance is the decision of employers and regulators, not HSI."

It is with this spirit of leniency and grace in the midst of this global pandemic that HBF stands with HSI encouraging our local businesses and regulatory agencies to consider leniency for employees in regards to their CPR (re)certifications this year.

HBF will continue to offer links to the online portion of CPR training, which will take most first-time certifiers between six and eight hours to complete. We will provide individuals who complete the online portion with a certificate indicating they have done so, and will hold that completion on file until Humboldt County returns to the yellow tier and may begin offering skills portion sign-offs once more. We encourage our local employers and regulators to consider this temporary alternative with the safety of their employees, the community, and our first responders in mind. HBF personnel will remain available for phone or zoom consultations with all CPR students.

Humboldt Bay Fire

Thank you, thank you!
As always, this community pulled through in spreading what will be an enormous amount of joy to local children who need it this year more than ever.

January 2021 Public Works Update

With the New Year upon us, the Public Works Department would like to share a snapshot of projects that are currently in progress and ones that will break ground in 2021.

The following represent a few of the projects that are part of our ongoing Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which addresses a number of renovations or upgrades to the City's public facility and infrastructure assets. For a more comprehensive look at our CIP, please click here.

- CoGen Systems Upgrade – For this Wastewater Treatment Plant project, the design phase began in 2019 and construction started in June of 2020. This project consists of removing the two cogeneration (cogen) engines and replacing them with one engine, a backup boiler and a gas conditioning unit. The gas conditioning unit takes gas produced by the Wastewater Plant's anaerobic digesters, removing harmful material from the gas before sending it to the cogen engine. The cogen engine is a vital part of the plant, providing necessary heat to the digesters and electricity to the buildings on-site. This project is on course to be completed by May of 2021. The total cost, including construction and design/construction management is $2,443,120.

Old cogen

New cogen

January 2021 Public Works Update

- Pavement Rehabilitation 2021 - State Transportation Program / Gas Tax Funding. Recently awarded to Ford Logging by the City Council, this project is expected to begin in the spring or summer of 2021. The project is addressing portions of five streets throughout the City. These include Felt Street between Del Norte and Hawthorn Streets; Hawthorn Street between Broadway and Felt Street; Koster Street between Del Norte and Washington Streets; Highland Avenue between Glenn Street and Broadway; and 14th Street between West Avenue and Broadway. Improvements include removing and replacing asphalt roadway sections, adding new layers of asphalt pavement, as well as installing thermoplastic markings, truncated domes*, new curb and sidewalk, and curb ramps in some locations. *Truncated domes are those bumpy surfaces that are located at pedestrian crossing intersections – they assist individuals who are sight-impaired.

- Henderson Street Improvements 2021 – This project will completely rehabilitate Henderson Street from F to Fairfield Streets. It includes overhauling of underground infrastructure, including water and sewer mains, as well as new pavement along the entire route. The project is slated to be awarded by the City Council on January 5, for a total construction cost of roughly $3.8 million. Since Henderson is a busy street, motorists may want to plan on using alternate routes once the project gets started this spring.

- City Fueling Station – Another project slated for 2021 is a Fueling Station that will service City of Eureka and Humboldt Bay Fire vehicles. A dedicated City fueling station has been contemplated for quite some time, but Public Safety Power Shutoffs in 2019 reinforced the need for a secure fuel supply for City vehicles and generators. Many departments, including Police, Public Works, as well as Humboldt Bay Fire, require fuel during emergency events. Adequate and reliable fuel supply, under City control, will increase the ability to respond to the public during events. The dual-compartmented fuel tank is currently in design and will hold a total of 25,000 gallons – 15,000 gallons of diesel and 10,000 gallons of gasoline. So far, the civil design is ninety percent complete and the architectural plans are in development. The estimated cost of this project is $700,000. The estimate of savings, as opposed to purchasing the fuel retail, is $40,000 per year.

January 2021 Public Works Update

- Energy Storage Systems – Another project prompted by Public Safety Power Shutoffs, and to bolster the City's self-sufficiency during emergency events, is installing back-up battery systems for six City facilities, including the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Water Treatment Plant, High and Low Water Tank facility, City Hall, and the Hill Street Pump Station. The battery backup systems, funded by a grant from the California Public Utilities Commission, will provide an average of 24 hours' backup power. Additionally, they will result in lower energy costs by allowing the City to purchase energy during lower-cost "off-peak" hours and storing it for on-peak use.

Human Resources

Interested parties are encouraged to contact the Personnel Department.
Email: ekitna@ci.eureka.ca.gov
Phone: (707) 441-4117
Website: www.ci.eureka.ca.gov

BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

You can participate in City government by serving on one of the more than 13 City boards, commissions and advisory committees. These advisory groups partner with the Eureka City Council and City staff to guide the future of our community. Learn how you can apply to serve on one of these boards on the City's website or by clicking here.

Notice is hereby given that applications will be accepted for appointments to the following city boards and commissions until the vacancies are filled:

BOARD/ COMMISSION:

- Chief's Advisory Board
- Open Space Parks and Rec Comm.

Applications may be obtained by phone or in person from the Mayor's Office, City of Eureka, 531 "K" Street, Eureka, CA 95501, (707) 441-4144, or may be downloaded from the City Clerk's website, listed below.

In order to be eligible for appointment to any board or commission, a person must be a qualified registered elector of the City of Eureka, the Humboldt Community Services District or Humboldt County Service Area No. 3, or an owner of a business located within the city limits of the City of Eureka. The mayor shall make the appointments with the approval of a majority of the Council. Appointments of qualified non-city residents will require a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the Council for confirmation.

Members on Boards and Commissions shall be willing to serve as a civic responsibility and without compensation. No member of any board or commission shall hold any paid office or employment in the city government.

Applications will be accepted until filled. For more information, call the City Clerk at (707) 441-4175, or go to: www.ci.eureka.ca.gov.

MAYOR
Susan Seaman

CITY COUNCIL
Ward 1, Leslie Castellano
Ward 2, Kati Moulton
Ward 3, Natalie Arroyo
Ward 4, Scott Bauer
Ward 5, Kim Bergel

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Miles Slattery, City Manager
Pam Powell,
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/ IT
Bob Black, City Attorney

DEPARTMENTS

Public Works/
Engineering
Brian Gerving

Finance
Lane Millar

Humboldt Bay Fire
Chief, Sean Robertson

Community Services
Donna Wood

Human Resources
Will Folger

Police
Chief, Steve Watson

About this Newsletter

The City of Eureka eNews is published monthly.
For questions and comments please contact:

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ctyson@ci.eureka.ca.gov

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Facebook.com/cityofeureka