

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ

City Manager's Weekly Update

August 9, 2024

Heads Up, Slow Down: School Started This Week

The Santa Cruz Police Department reminds our community to be safe, especially during the first few weeks of returning to school. This means increased car traffic and more bicyclists and pedestrians on streets and sidewalks.



Be prepared for the busy school commute. We are all responsible for knowing the rules of the road, whether walking, bicycling, skating, or driving. Follow these safety tips to be mindful of traffic and people on city streets.

- **No texting or talking and driving!** It is always illegal and never a good idea to use a handheld electronic device while driving.
- **Plan and be patient!** Plan to leave earlier than usual to accommodate the extra traffic and be patient with other parents and new drivers.
- **Slow down**! School zone speed limits drop to 25 miles per hour.
- **No double parking!** This blocks visibility for children and vehicles.
- **Drop off and pick up on the same side of the street as the school!** Don't load or unload children across the street from the school.
- **Stop for the school bus!** It is against the law to pass a school bus when its lights are on.
- **Yield to pedestrians!** Always stop for children or adults crossing the street and for school patrol officers or crossing guards holding a stop sign.

SCPD will have additional enforcement patrols around schools. Officers look for drivers using cell phones, speeding in school zones, illegally passing school buses, or failing to yield at crosswalks. Our focus is on these or any other violations that may endanger children on their way to and from school. We can work together to prevent distracted

driving and increase pedestrian safety.

SCPD is committed to traffic safety through education and enforcement. Uniformed officers will be present by our schools to enforce the rules of the road. We wish everyone a safe return to school!

Santa Cruz Shines at National Night Out: A Celebration of Community & Safety

The City of Santa Cruz extends a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who joined us for National Night Out. We are proud to celebrate our amazing community, and your presence and support were instrumental in making this event a resounding success.



Tuesday's event was memorable, from the great variety of fun and interactive activities and tasty treats to meaningful conversations and new friendships! The lively atmosphere provided the perfect backdrop for learning more about City and county services, community organizations, and those who protect and serve in public safety.

The event featured vendor booths, information about parks and recreation, displays by community organizations, and safety education opportunities. Highlights included a dunk tank, face painting, touch-a-truck, cotton candy, crafts, music, games, science experiences, environmental activities, a bounce house, police vehicles, a fire engine, and demonstrations. We were thrilled to see such a significant turnout, a true reflection of our shared commitment to our community.



A special thank you goes out to the 36 agencies and community groups who joined us with engaging displays, demonstrations, and activities. They welcomed community members of all ages and showcased what National Night Out is all about! We also want to recognize the invaluable participation of City departments, including the Santa Cruz Police, Santa Cruz Fire, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Water, Economic Development, and Parking.

Booths from numerous community organizations included DJ Sparkle, Martinelli's, Santa Cruz Public Library, Junior Guards, Scouting America, Santa Cruz Regional 911, ADT, Santa Cruz County Human Services, Behavioral Health, Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter, Waste Reduction, Climate Action, DeLaveaga Golf, CERT, CPVAW, Water Department, ATT, Choose Santa Cruz, CHP, UCSC PD, Downtown Association, and Ecology Action.

Thank you again to everyone who made this event a success. We appreciate your

participation and look forward to celebrating with you next year!

Preapplication Submitted for Soquel Avenue Mixed-Use Development



For the development of a six-story mixed-use building at **1024 Soquel Ave**, the Planning Department recently received a pre-application that delineates the intended project components — commercial space and parking at the first level, 76 apartments on the upper levels, and a rooftop deck. The plans also indicate that non-habitable space is planned for future conversion to four one-bedroom ADU's. Per state law, future space conversion is ministerial and cannot be considered as part of a project.

The project proposal includes a request for a density bonus for additional units, as well as waivers and concessions to facilitate the construction of the project at the proposed density. The project is subject to the City's objective design standards for multi-family development. The applicant has opted to provide 61 onsite parking spaces voluntarily, as none are required given the site's proximity to public transit.

Following a fire that destroyed a structure on the property, the project site was delisted from the Historic Building Survey on January 24, 2006. A condition of approval of the demolition permit requires that the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) review any new development on the project parcel. A public hearing will be held in the next few months for review by the HPC and zoning administrator. The appropriate environmental review document designated by the California Environmental Quality Act will be decided during the review of the formal application.

Rina Zhou is the planner working on the application.

Visit the Project Page



Multifamily Development to House Santa Cruz City School District Staff Proposed for 313 Swift Street

On June 27, 2024, the Planning Department received an application for the proposed construction of a new, four-story, multifamily educator workforce housing project, including 100 residential units on an approximately four-acre site at **313 Swift Street**, located in the public facilities zoning district. The proposal is intended to provide affordable housing for

teachers and classified employees of the Santa Cruz City School District, with residential lease rates expected to be approximately 50- to 60 percent of the market rate. The application includes a request for density bonus waivers with incentives or concessions related to height — an increase from 35 feet to 50 feet.

A pre-application for the project was deemed complete on May 10, 2024. Consistent with the City's Public Outreach Policy for Planning Projects, a community meeting was held via Zoom on May 6, 2024, to present the project to the community and obtain early feedback. Over 40 members of the community attended. Attendees asked questions and provided support for the project.

Required project entitlements include permits for planned development, design, coastal, and heritage tree removal. The project is also required to be considered for recommendation by the Planning Commission for a decision by the City Council at public hearings. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, an initial study is expected to be required.

Timothy Maier is the planner reviewing the project and the project number is CP24-0104. Community members can refer to this number in making inquiries about the project.

Visit the Project Page

City Enhancements: From Benches to Ballrooms



City staff are out in the community every day to enhance public spaces for everyone to enjoy. Recently, our Facility Maintenance team gave the Surf Museum's benches a fresh look with their annual sanding and recoating.



The Street Maintenance crew recently repainted the curbs and parking T's (lines that define parallel parking spots) in front of the Boys and Girls Club in Downtown Santa Cruz. Thanks to their hard work, the kids can enjoy safer and more convenient drop-offs and pick-ups!



Our Facility Maintenance and Energy Efficiency teams replaced old fluorescent lights at the **Market Street Senior Center** with vibrant new LEDs. Now, our seniors can dance the night away in style under the new, energy-efficient lighting!



Cabrillo Festival Continues at the Civic

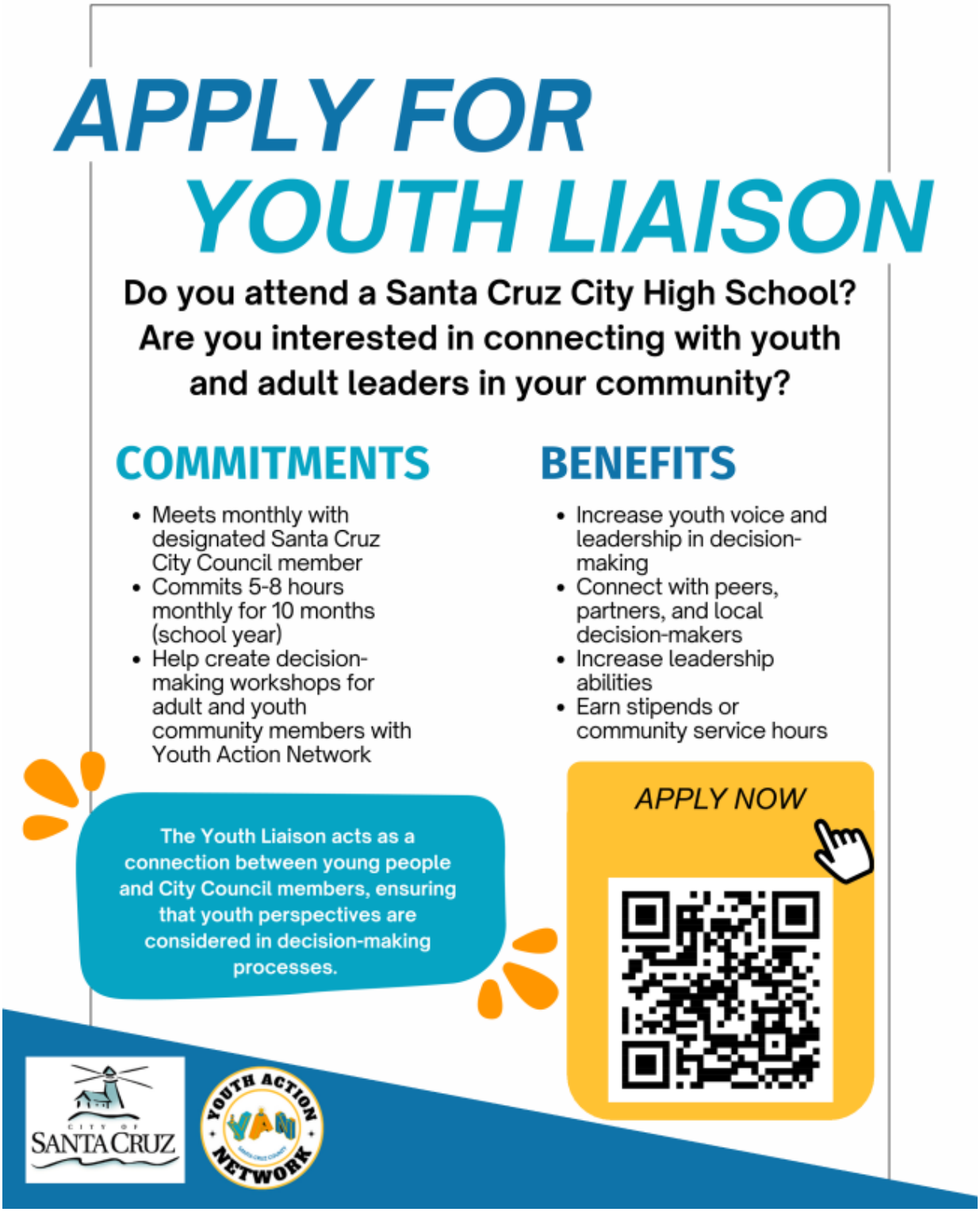
The second weekend of the Cabrillo Festival kicks off with the debut of the Cabrillo Festival's Creative Lab, a new project that empowers composers to reshape and rethink the orchestral experience.

In one of the Cabrillo Festival's most groundbreaking concerts to date, Gabriella Smith's "Lost Coast" explores the beauty and loss of California's coastline, featuring the dynamic Gabriel Cabezas on cello. Wynton Marsalis' West Coast premiere of his new trumpet concerto will take listeners on a journey through emotions with accomplished soloist Michael Sachs leading the way. Bora Yoon's world premiere "PARHELION" will use spatial design and multimedia for an immersive experience that explores the motion and emotion of weather systems and cycles of perspective.

The 2024 Cabrillo Festival season concludes with a symphonic journey that bridges distant places, times, cultures, and musical styles. Clarice Assad's "BAIÃO 'N BLUES" fuses Brazilian rhythms with American blues. Errollyn Wallen's Violin Concerto reflects violinist Philippe Quint's childhood memories of church bells and a lullaby. Pierre Jalbert's "Passage" reimagines Beethoven's Fourth Symphony, while Juan Pablo Contreras' "Mariachitlán" closes the season with a festive mariachi celebration. The concert will be followed by a festive outdoor reception for the audience, orchestra, and artists including special performances by Mariachi Tapatio and Esperanza del Valle.

Get Tickets!


CABRILLO FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
Music Director • Conductor Cristian Măcelaru
PASSAGE - GRAND FINALE
SUN., AUGUST 11 · 7PM · SC CIVIC AUDITORIUM



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