



The Week In Review

A Report from the City Manager ~ Vol. 9 / No. 1 ~ January 9, 2009

Council Follow-Up

The Police Department followed up on Mr. John Van der Vort's comments presented at the December 16, 2008 Council Meeting. The Police Department reported they have spoken with Mr. Van der Vort regarding the attack on his service dog by a Pit Bull on December 3, 2008. Animal Services staff stated that the offending Pit Bull was surrendered the day after the attack and was immediately euthanized. In addition, an Animal Services Officer visited Mr. Van der Vort a few days after to check on the recovery of the injured Labrador. Mr. Van der Vort voiced two principle concerns: (1) the seeming lack of concern by Police Department personnel regarding the importance of a service dog; and (2) consideration of putting into place a ban to own Pit Bulls in the City of Stockton (according to Mr. Van der Vort, there are other cities in California with comparable bans). Police Department staff assured Mr. Van der Vort that additional sensitivity training regarding this sort of case would be provided to Police Officers. In addition, Mr. Van der Vort's suggestion of a ban to own Pit Bulls in the City would be forwarded to the appropriate City staff for further consideration.

Community Services

Seniors at the Oak Park Senior Center welcomed each other back to a variety of daily programs, from exercise and dance lessons and sessions to social networking over a game of cards or billiards. Activity chairmen are planning events and the members' council will meet next week to discuss center policies and agendas for the upcoming year.

The Outdoor Youth Connection program is looking for teen representatives from each community center to participate in outdoor activities this year. Training could start as soon as April. The teens will have the opportunity to earn a grant for their centers, as well as learning about the outdoors by going on trips to fish hatcheries, the ocean, camping etc. The teens who previously attended had a lot of fun and are looking forward to attending this year. Anyone interested can contact Willy Razo or Madonna O'Neel at Stribley Community Center.

Oak Park Tennis Center	
Program	Activity
Group Lessons	January group tennis lessons began this week.
Leagues	The Oak Park Women's League was played at the center on Wednesday, January 7.
Tournaments	The USTA Junior Open Tournament was canceled due to lack of registrants.

Stribley Community Center	
Program	Activity
Stribley Center/Region 2 (Central)	Stribley Community Center is now open to the public and participation has been non-stop since its doors opened Tuesday, January 6. There were over 40 participants for open gym and fitness room on opening day. Registrations included two new annual members, three monthly members and four new city-wide senior members. The facility will be well used and occupied and the staff looks forward to serving the community.

Stribley Community Center - continued	
Program	Activity
Seniors in the Mix	Seniors in the Mix at Stribley Community center is off to a great start. The program already has five new members. Senior members have been coming every day since the opening of the center to enjoy morning workouts and conversations with each other. Goals for this program include senior trips, arts and crafts, guest speakers and their all time favorite: bingo.
Community Center Water Park	The new Public Art Water features are installed at Stribley and ready to go. The water features will be a huge hit with the community during the summer months.
Gymnastics	Gymnastics started classes January 6 th , and parents and students are excited to be at their permanent home at Stribley. There are 75 registered students this month. Registration is still being accepted for children ages 3-17. Staff is providing activities in the center's round play room for the parents and siblings of gymnastics while they wait.
After School Express	The Stribley Community Center After School Express program is in full swing. Since the doors opened for them on January 6th, twelve kids have signed up for the program. The kids receive homework help and tutoring for the first hour of every day. For the rest of the time, they enjoy arts and crafts, sports and in the near future will have guest speakers come out and talk to them.
Youth Sports	The Central Region staff made contact with many school administrators before the holidays to inform them of the new sports programs coming to Stribley. Staff also spoke to hundreds of participants and handed out flyers. Staff has also approached businesses for possible sports sponsorships to subsidize participant registration fees and other costs. Staff will continue to make contact with schools and participants hoping to improve sports programs participation.
Open Gymnasium	Stribley's open gym time is from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Since the re-opening of the gymnasium, over 20-25 participants are playing full court basketball daily with teams of rotating players. Players are very happy to be playing in the new gym and the court couldn't be better. Organized basketball tournaments will be held at Stribley once a month.

Financial Management

This information is provided to inform the City Council as outlined in Chapter 3, Section 3-030, Part IV of the May 19, 1988, revision of the Stockton Municipal Code. The Purchasing Division sold the following surplus property. Through Roger Ernst & Associates of Modesto, CA the City sold eight (8) lots of surplus computer equipment for EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTEEN DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$816.00), six (6) surplus vehicles for FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY THREE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$553.00) and one (1) lot of Police Department confiscated and/or unclaimed surplus property for ONE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$127.50).

Fire Department

Fire Prevention Staff reviewed 40 building plans and fire suppression systems. Fire Prevention Inspector found Holiday Inn, 111 East March Lane, with an unmonitored fire alarm system. Hotel owner was required to hire two fire watch personnel for one night until the fire alarm system was restored to service. BC2 was notified and forwarded information to engine companies. The hotel is now in compliance.

Calls for Service Jan. 02 – Jan. 08, 2009	
9	Structure Fires
1	Grass Fire
10	Vehicle fires
44	Fire Alarms
23	Vehicle Accidents
9	Hazmat Calls
63	Miscellaneous Calls
3	Chimney fire
497	Medical Calls
659	Total calls

Fire Prevention- Plan Checks, Inspections, Hood & Duct Systems and Fire Systems Tests	
17	Final Fire Inspections
6	Visual/Hydro Inspections
8	Fire Alarm Inspections
3	Hood & Duct Inspection
1	Above Ground Tank Inspection
3	CCL Inspections

Fire / Arson Investigations	
5	Buildings fire
1	Cooking fire, confined to container
2	Chimney or fuel fire, confined to chimney or fuel
1	Fire, other
6	Passenger vehicle fire
6	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire
1	Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire
1	Structure fire
1	Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire
1	Outside rubbish fire, other
1	Special outside fire, other
26	Total Fire
\$402,901.00	Total Estimated Dollar Loss
\$7,132,251.00	Total Estimated Pre-Incident Value

Hydrant Division	
Location	Action Taken
3110 East Hammer Lane	Checked Material for underground sprinkler system for Century Center
3437 S. Airport Way	Pressure tested and flushed underground for sprinkler system at Applied Aerospace
8135 Balboa Avenue	Reviewed underground plans for Colonial Heights Elementary School
Grand Canal and McGaw	Repaired fire hydrant
Romano Drive and Rose Marie Lane	Repaired fire hydrant
1340 West Washington Street	Checked material pressure tested and flushed underground for sprinkler system for Duraflame West
East March Lane behind Arron's Brother	Repaired fire hydrant in Palm Plaza

Library

This week, the Library added 88 book titles in the Hindi language to its collection. Hindi is a new language collection for the Library, and it joins Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Hmong, Thai, Laotian, Khmer and Japanese among the non-English materials available to Library users. The Hindi collection will be housed at the Tracy Branch Library in response to customer demand in that community, but the materials are available by request throughout the County. Scores of additional Hindi language books and DVDs will be added to the collection in the coming weeks.

Peacekeepers

Peacekeepers and the Stockton Police Youth Activities Program along with volunteer officers and their families participated in the tenth Annual Christmas Toy Drive. During early Christmas morning they delivered the toys to forty-two families in the Stockton area whose children were victims of a crime or are currently being mentored by Peacekeepers.

Youth Outreach Workers enrolled six youths into Youth Build of San Joaquin and one gang member into Delta College GED program.

A Youth Outreach Worker and Coordinator responded to a call at 2 AM on Christmas-Eve from a gang member whose family was being threatened by rival gang members. Peacekeepers advised the youth to call 911 and they monitored the situation closely.

A female gang member from Edison High school contacted the female Peacekeeper during the Holidays to tell her she was tempted to run away from home with her boyfriend but needed someone to talk to. After a two-hour conversation, the Peacekeeper convinced the minor to stay home and continue on the right path.

Peacekeepers held their bi-weekly core meeting to share information with School Resource Officers and Probation regarding current gang activity and other situations at schools and on the street.

Police Department

Stockton Police Department handled 6,377 calls for service, incidents, and/or reports during the week of January 1 - 7, 2009.

Gang Enforcement Team (GSET) (Dec. 29, 1998 - Jan 4, 2009)	
Action	Number
Field Interviews Conducted	36
Arrests	10 felony; 1 misdemeanor
Warrant Arrests	5 felony; 4 misdemeanor
Traffic Stops	55
Citations Issued	11
Cars Towed	4
Searches	10 probation; 2 parole
Confiscations	17.49 grams marijuana 0.30 grams rock/cocaine
Guns	5 GSET has confiscated 1,006 firearms since its inception.

Community Health Action Team (CHAT) is aggressively focusing its efforts on approximately 1,178 vacant properties within the city.

Within the last week, the Graffiti Team removed over 42,935 square feet of graffiti. More than 191 other pieces of property were abated, including signal boxes and poles, mail boxes and public signs.

The required audit inspections of Self-Certified Rental properties continue. Within the last week, 16 properties were scheduled for inspection; 14 properties failed and 2 properties were not available for inspection. Notices were posted to the dwellings informing residents of the re-scheduled inspection date.

Patrol Officers observed a disabled motorist at Hammer Lane/Lan Ark and stopped to provide assistance. Officers met with the driver (S-1) and learned he was both unlicensed and on searchable probation. Officers then contacted the passenger (S-2) and learned he was also on searchable probation and had just been released from jail for auto theft. Officers searched the vehicle and found stolen property from a residential burglary they had investigated earlier during their shift. Both suspects were arrested and transported to S-1's residence to conduct a probation search; Officers searched S-1's residence and located stolen property from yet another residential burglary. S-1 was arrested for two counts of burglary, two counts of possession of stolen property and possession of burglary tools. S-2 was arrested for one count each of burglary, possession of stolen property and possession of burglary tools.

The suspect entered the Home Depot store on Feather River and stole power tools. As he was exiting the store, he was stopped by loss prevention personnel. The suspect pulled out a knife and brandished it at the victims. The victims took the suspect to the ground and punched him until he dropped the knife. The suspect was taken into custody, and police were called. The property was recovered and returned to the store; there were no injuries to the victims. The suspect was arrested for strong armed robbery and possession of stolen property.

Officers responded to a call of a disturbance involving a gun in the 7900 block of North El Dorado. When Officers arrived at the location, the suspect vehicle drove away, as the victim exited the vehicle and ran to Officers. The 24-year-old female victim told Officers that she came out from the AM/PM store, and the suspect entered her vehicle. The suspect told her to move over and pulled out a handgun. She moved over to the passenger side of her car, and the suspect put the gun down. The victim picked up the gun and pointed it at the suspect. The suspect hit her several times, and she put the gun down. Officers followed the vehicle and stopped it in the 300 block Glasgow. The suspect refused to obey Officers' orders. Officers removed the suspect from the vehicle, and he struggled with Officers. The suspect was taken to the ground but refused to show his hands or comply with Officers orders. K-9 Jake was deployed and bit the suspect. The suspect was taken into custody without further incident. The suspect was arrested for carjacking and resisting arrest.

The victim was inside a business in the 100 block of North American when she was approached by three subjects. Suspect #1 pulled the victim's purse from her arm and all three suspects ran eastbound on Weber Street. Witnesses and the victim chased after the suspects. Suspect #1 and Suspect #2 were located at American/Poplar Streets and identified by the victim and witnesses. The investigation is ongoing for the third suspect.

The victim was confronted by two suspects as he was walking up to his residence in the 1300 block of East Washington. Suspect #1 grabbed the victim and held him while Suspect #2 took his cell phone from his hand and demanded money. Suspect #2 then went through the victim's pockets, taking his car keys. Both suspects fled the area. When Officers arrived, the victim was on the phone talking to the suspects, who were on the victim's cell phone. The suspects said they would sell the victim his property back for \$100.00 if the victim met them near Wilson/Washington. Officers went to the area and arrested one suspect who did not have the victim's property. The second suspect is still outstanding.

Officers checked on suspicious cars they saw in the area of EWS Woods/French Camp Road. Subjects near the cars were evasive during the checkout and the Officers noticed one of the cars was missing its interior and appeared to have been partially stripped. Some of the missing items were found in one of the subject's cars. The owner of the stripped car was contacted and reported the car had been stolen. The two subjects were subsequently arrested without incident.

Officers stopped a vehicle driven by a parolee-at-large at First/Airport and while talking to him at his car door, he began to drive off with the Officer attempting to hold onto him. The Officer was forced to let go to avoid being dragged. The Officer returned to his car and a pursuit ensued. Officers lost sight of the car and terminated the pursuit. Sheriff's Officers located the vehicle and pursued it back to our jurisdiction, where Officers followed it north on Airport, back into town. During the pursuit, the parolee attempted to run into our patrol cars three times; legal intervention was authorized and performed at the dead end of Boeing, ending the pursuit. The parolee and a passenger were taken into custody.

Officers attempted a traffic stop on a black Honda Accord doing “donuts” at Charter/Fresno. The driver failed to yield and a pursuit ensued. Due to conditions, the pursuit was terminated; however, the vehicle was later found abandoned in the 1700 block of Willow Park. Follow-up investigation led to the arrest of the listed suspect. In addition, Officers located a stolen vehicle from Sutter Creek in front of the suspect’s home.

The victim’s purse was snatched as she was exiting her car at El Dorado/Sixth, causing a severe sprain and bruising to her right hand. Witnesses observed the suspect run into a residence in the 1900 block of South El Dorado. Officers located the suspect still in possession of the victim’s purse. The suspect was booked at the County Jail.

Public Works

Public Works Projects At-A-Glance				
PROJECTS	COST	PROJECT PHASE		
		PLANNING	DESIGN	CONSTRUCTION
Airport Way Beautification	\$8M			
Airport Way Beautification Phase 2	\$1.7M			
Arch-Sperry Rd – Performance Dr to I-5	\$60M			
Davis Rd Bridge @ Pixley Slough	\$4M			
Duck Creek Bike Path	\$200K			
El Dorado St Widening – Phase II	\$11M			
French Camp/I-5 Interchange Reconstruction	\$60M			
Hammer Lane Widening – Phase III B	\$10.5M			
March Ln & Pershing Traffic Signal Modification	\$1M			
Morada Lane UPRR At-Grade Quiet Zone Improvements	\$1M			
Morada/SR99 and 8Mile/SR99 interchanges	\$130M			
North I-5 Interchanges & Widening	\$330M			
N Stockton RR Grade Separation & Bridge Replace	\$260M			
Thornton Rd Widening – Pershing Ave to Bear Creek	\$16M			
Thornton Rd-Eight Mile Rd Intersection Rehab (Hump)	\$0.35M			
Troke Library Glue-Lam & Roof Replacement	\$1.5M			
Total	\$1,101M			

Facilities Maintenance Crew	
Location	Work Performed
-----	10 work requests completed (15 received)
Children's Museum	Took down the holiday decorations.
Civic Auditorium	Repaired pump.
Ed Coy Garage	Repaired/replaced lighting.
Facilities Maintenance Bldg	Progressed work on the new storage building.
Fire Administration	Repaired countertop trim.
Fire Station #5	Repaired/replaced lighting.
Fire Station #7	Repaired gas line.
Nelson Park	Repaired toilet flushing valves.
Police Department (Main)	Repaired east parking lot personnel gate lock.
SEB (Parking Garage)	Repaired/replaced lighting.

Sign Shop and Sign Crew	
Quantity	Work Performed
1	Speed limit sign relocated
75	'Speed Limit' signs manufactured
2	Advance 'Stop' warning signs installed
95	Street name signs manufactured
2	'Neighborhood Watch' signs installed
2	'Stop' signs installed
7	'Speed Limit' signs installed
80	'Stop' signs replaced for maintenance

Paint Crew	
Quantity	Work Performed
4	'Stop' legends installed
600	Feet of red curb re-painted
2	Bases for in-street school crossing signs installed
300	Feet of green curb re-painted
100	Parking tees re-painted

Tree Crew	
Quantity	Work Performed
14	Tree removals
1	Tree trimmed

Fallen Leaf Tree Service completed trimming/removal of trees on Swenson Golf Course adjacent to properties on the north side of Benjamin Holt Drive. The Public Works Tree Maintenance Section coordinated the work, with funding provided by the Golf Course fund.

Fallen Leaf Tree Service started tree trimming in Weston Ranch on Monday, January 5th. Trees located between the masonry back-up wall/fence and the sidewalk along Carolyn Weston Blvd., French Camp Road, EWS Woods Blvd., Henry Long Blvd., Alice McCuen Avenue and McDougald Blvd. are being trimmed. The contractor anticipates completing all the trimming by January 16th. Funds for this work are generated through landscape maintenance assessments paid by all property owners in the Weston Ranch subdivision.

Staff in the Solid Waste & Recycling Division attended the first meeting for "Green.edu", a new program partnering the City and the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce with local schools to implement environmental teaching in San Joaquin County. This group of City, Chamber and school representatives will meet regularly to advocate environmental and technological curriculum to expand and attract "green" employers to Stockton. This curriculum will be used to educate current and future employees in green businesses.

City Manager's Meetings & Presentations

I held my respective weekly meetings with the Mayor and Councilmembers. I held my regular meetings with: Teri Bentz, Johnny Ford, Mark Moses, Christine Tien and Laurie Montes; Ren Nosky; Joe Maestretti and Carol Marshall; and Paul Blumberg.

Johnny Ford, Mike Niblock, Paul Blumberg, Steve Carrigan, Kitty Walker and Erin Mettler met with Richard Aschieris, Director, Port of Stockton, regarding the Merged Waterfront Redevelopment Plan. Ren Nosky, Teri Bentz and I discussed the City's Ticket Policy. David Macedo, President, Stockton Firefighters' Local 456, and I held our monthly meeting.

I attended the Special City Council Meeting regarding Council District 1 candidate interviews and selection. Laurie Montes, Mark Moses, Joe Maestretti and I met regarding the budget. I attended the San Joaquin County City Managers and County Administrator's monthly meeting. Ren Nosky and I held an orientation session with Councilmember Elbert Holman, Jr.

HAVE A GOOD WEEKEND

**J. GORDON PALMER, JR.
CITY MANAGER**