

CITY MANAGER'S BI-MONTHLY UPDATE



A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM CITY MANAGER JOHNSON

First, I would like to thank and express my **deepest appreciation** to the mayor and the entire City Council for providing me with the opportunity to serve as the City of Antioch's Interim City Manager. Additionally, we all owe former City Manager Ron Bernal a debt of gratitude for his impeccable years of uninterrupted and dedicated service to our great city. Mr. Bernal is leaving us with a **fiscally sound city**, revitalization to our downtown waterfront, and one of the largest desalination water projects ever witnessed in Contra Costa County, which will allow us to marshal in a robust new year of both great optimism and promise.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the **service of others.**" It is this urgent sense of service that is the foundation of both my purpose and motivation for serving the residents of Antioch. I am blessed and fortunate to join a great team of department directors, division managers, and a wonderful group of team members. It is our **committed city employees** that are the unsung heroes that continue to provide our residents with great service that is second to none. As your interim City Manager and under the progressive leadership of both our **mayor, city council**, and in partnership with our leadership team, we will continue to build a better city and future for our youth.

With a shared vision, an optimistic attitude, collective love for our city, and empathy for our fellow citizens, we as a team will ensure that **every resident is valued**, every business will continue to thrive, and every employee will be appreciated because Antioch is a cradle of hope, where public service is our commitment and **Opportunity Lives Here**, and so do we the people of Antioch.

As we enter into a bright and promising new year, let us remember that there is no greater service than the service to others. We all have a responsibility to keep our **city streets clean, have compassion for unhoused residents**, work in partnership with our men and women who courageously serve and protect our citizens and join hands with our elected officials who are lending a helping hand to miraculously **shape the future** of all residents of our great city. Together, we will rise like the mighty tides of the San Joaquin River and become a shining beacon of hope.



ANTIOCH POLICE DEPARTMENT

RETIREMENT OF OFFICER MCMANUS

Officer McManus started his career with the Chico Police Department after graduating from the police academy in 1994. Officer McManus distinguished himself during his time at Chico by winning the **Life-Saving Award**, Stolen Vehicle Award, and the coveted Mothers Against Drunk Driving (**MADD**) Award. Moreover, in 2003, Officer McManus won the **Medal of Courage** when he saved another officer's life after his partner was shot during an encounter with an armed suspect.



Officer McManus joined the Antioch Police Department in 2006, where he functioned as a Patrol Officer, **SWAT Sniper**, Field Training Officer (FTO), and Firearms Instructor. Additionally, Officer McManus served in the **Street Crimes Unit**, Investigations Bureau, and the Peer Support Team. As far as Antioch accolades, in 2009, Officer McManus won the **Medal of Valor** when he assisted with the successful detention of armed bank robbers. It was later learned that these particular robbers were linked to several high-profile bank robberies in the Bay Area at the time.

Officer McManus has **dedicated his life to the service** of his community, and we at the Antioch Police Department thank him from the bottom of our hearts. Congratulations on a well-deserved retirement!



PATROLS DURING THE HOLIDAY

While you were enjoying your holiday, thought you'd like to know that a team of **dedicated officers** and **Canine Purcy** were patrolling the town day and night stopping Grinches in their tracks! One such **Grinch** pulled out a knife while **shoplifting** alcohol and snacks from the 7-Eleven at Hillcrest and was apprehended using **de-escalation** skills and Canine Purcy's assistance.





RECREATION DEPARTMENT



NEW INDOOR FUTSAL LEAGUE

The Antioch Youth Indoor Futsal League focuses on **skill development** for each player, emphasizing improvisation, creativity, and technique. This six-week season begins on **January 23rd** and consists of a 30-minute practice followed by a 40-minute game each Sunday afternoon. This new program is offered for youth ages 4-7. **Register today by clicking here.**

DRIVE SMART CLASS

Sign-up for the CHP - Age Well/Drive Smart class for licensed drivers from 20 years to 120 years to stay driving longer and safer. This **free and interactive class** provides tips for understanding driving safety, important and new traffic laws, and more. At the end of the program, **licensed attendees** will receive a Certificate of Attendance.

Many California car insurance companies have recently increased their rates on car insurance. For licensed drivers over the age of 55 years, a **Certificate of Attendance** may help offset the increases in car insurance rates by applying for the **Mature Driver Discount** (which is separate and different from your Century Age Discount). Please call **(925) 779-7076** to register for the class.



ARCTIC BLIZZARD DAY CAMP

In December, children were busy preparing crafts, making **edible Christmas trees**, and creating cute ornaments for the beautiful, flocked Christmas tree in the Antioch Community Center lobby last month. We also had a **special visit** from Santa on December 16th. All the kids were so excited to visit Santa and tell him what they had on their lists! They reassured Santa they would leave cookies and milk out for him on Christmas Eve and sprinkle the reindeer food they made near the front door to make sure Santa finds their home.

Our next session will start **Monday, January 10th**. We are looking forward to making new friends in 2022!

ANIMAL SERVICES



For more information about dog licensing requirements in Antioch, visit our website [here](#), then scroll down to the Dog License Information tab.

CITY DOG LICENSES

It's a new year; is it also time for a new dog tag? All dogs over four months of age are **required** to have a rabies vaccination and a City of Antioch Dog License. Dog Licenses must be purchased within **30 days** of a new residence in Antioch or when bringing a new dog home.

To purchase online, visit www.petdata.com/cs/ant. To purchase by mail, send a current rabies vaccination certificate, a spay/neuter certificate, and a check for the correct amount to Antioch Animal Services, 300 L Street. To purchase a license in person, call **(925) 779-6989** to schedule. Appointments are available Tues.-Sat. from 10 am – 5 pm. **Facemasks required**. Bring a current rabies vaccination certificate and a spay/neuter certificate when you visit.

We know getting an appointment with a veterinarian for a rabies vaccination has been difficult during the pandemic, so we have been **waiving the \$34 late fee** for not renewing on time. We will continue to waive the late fee **until July 1, 2022**.

HUMAN RESOURCES

HIRES/RECLASSIFICATIONS/PROMOTIONS

- **Ryan Burris** was hired as a Sewer Camera Truck Operator for the Public Works Department on January 3, 2022.
- **Anne Hersch** was hired as a Planning Manager for the Community Development Department on January 3, 2022.
- **Carlton Thompson** was hired as an Assistant City Engineer for the Public Works Department on January 4, 2022.
- **Damien Aguirre** was hired as a Customer Service Representative for the Finance Department on January 10, 2022.

Please join me in welcoming these employees to the Antioch family.

Currently open recruitments include:

- Police Officer Lateral (continuous)
- Police Academy Graduate/Student (continuous)
- Police Trainee (continuous)
- Recreation Supervisor
- Water Treatment Plant Instrument Technician
- Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
- Human Resources Technician



The City's open recruitments can be found on the Human Resources page of the [City website here](#). Click on Job Opportunities or Promotional Opportunities, click on the job Position, click on Apply.





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

HOLIDAY TREECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES



There is one weekend left in our annual holiday tree drop off lots for unflocked trees. Please see below for all treecycling options.

- **Drop-off Locations:** Drop off unflocked trees **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday - Sunday, Jan. 15 - 16, 2022**, in the designated areas at the **Antioch Water Park** parking lot and at the Antioch Marina Overflow parking lot at 2nd and L streets. Please remove tree stands before drop-off.
- **Boy Scouts:** The Boy Scouts will collect holiday trees Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 8 – 9, and Jan. 15 – 16, 2022, by prearrangement **ONLY**. Please email the Boy Scouts at troop153treepickup@gmail.com for details about when and where to have your tree collected. Donations of \$10 or \$1 per foot if taller than 8 feet for unflocked trees or \$20 for flocked trees, payable to BSA, would be appreciated.
- **Green Container:** Place unflocked trees in green yard waste container. Branches must be 6 inches or less in diameter and 3 feet or less in length. Cut off tree top. Remove tree stand. Lid must be closed.
- **Questions?** Call Republic Services' customer service at **(925) 685-4711**.

Important Reminders

- Please remove lights, ornaments, tinsel, nails and stands from trees.
- **No plastic bags.**
- As part of our recycling program, flocked, painted, fireproofed or artificial trees are not accepted.
- Flocked trees can be **collected curbside** for a fee of \$40 per tree. Pickups must be scheduled in advance. Call (925) 685-4711. If cut to fit inside with the lid closed, flocked trees may be placed in the trash container at your complex.



WELCOME TO NEW PLANNING MANAGER

The Community Development Department is very happy to introduce **Anne Hersch** who has joined the City of Antioch as its Planning Manager. Ms. Hersch brings an extensive background in city planning and will be a **great asset** to the Planning Division. Please join us in welcoming Anne!





CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Participate either in-person or virtually. For more information, visit: www.antiochca.gov/city-council-meetings/

CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING

The City of Antioch is redistricting after the 2020 Census count. The City Council will be holding hearings to receive public input on where district lines should be drawn. Upcoming meeting dates:

- Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – Public Hearing
- Tuesday, January 25, 2022 – Public Hearing
- Tuesday, February 8, 2022 – Public Hearing and Introduction of Ordinance
- Tuesday, February 22, 2022 – Adoption of Ordinance

Submit written testimony about the process or a specific map via:

- Email: redistricting@antiochca.gov
- Phone: 925-779-7008
- Mail: 200 "H" Street, Antioch, CA 94509
- Drop off: City Hall Water Bill drop-box

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The City of Antioch encourages residents to become involved in their local community. One way to do so is to serve in an advisory capacity on one of the various commissions, boards and committees. For more information and to check openings, visit: www.bit.ly/ApplyAntioch

Learn more: antiochca.gov/districtelections

CITY CLERKS OFFICE






DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ANTIOCH MARINA

While the City's Marina offers one of the best locations on the California Delta and delightful cuisine at the Smith's Landing Restaurant, please remember that the Guest dock fronting the restaurant is a 2 hour max docking time, and overnight docking is prohibited. The Public boat launch has a 20-minute max docking time. If you are interested in overnight or temporary berths, please refer to our rates on the City's webpage <http://www.antiochca.gov/antioch-marina/marina-services/overnight-and-temporary-berths/> or email AntiochMarina@antiochca.gov for availability and further information.



THE FOGGY QUARANTINE

Our Collection cleaning crew is currently working in hotspots throughout the City and cleaning approximately **4,000 feet of sewer pipe** each day. This is an essential aspect of what we do here in Collections with the City of Antioch. These procedures **reduce** the inconveniences and **environmental effects** of a sanitary sewer spill to members of our community.

This will also reduce FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease) related issues in the **sewer system**. Especially in times like quarantine, where many people may be home more often, it is important to recognize what should and should **not go down your drains**.

A friendly reminder about FOG

- Scrape and wipe down pots, pans, and work areas before washing
- Dispose of food waste directly into compost bin or trash
- Do not pour waste oil directly into the drain, parking lot, or street
- Do not use emulsifiers or solvents other than dishwashing detergents

We will be working in these hotspots for the next few weeks. If you see a truck with a **big tank and blue hose** attached to the front, know that your **sewer system is maintained**.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FIP)

The Economic Development Department is proud to announce that **applications are available** for the Façade Improvement Program (FIP). The citywide FIP provides building and business owners with an opportunity to improve their storefront. The program is for eligible improvement projects made to the first floor or street level of a commercial building/unit/suite(s). The funding for this program is based on receipts of the actual improvement and then **reimbursed to the applicant** after the project is completed. For more details and application, visit the FIP page **HERE**.

Please Note that City Hall 3rd floor Economic Development offices are currently closed due to construction. For any questions, please email staff at: econdevelopment@Antiochca.gov

OPEN REWARDS PROGRAM

Bludot and the **City of Antioch** have partnered to launch Open Rewards, a city-wide rewards program to incentivize consumers to shop local in the City of Antioch! An App for consumers is **here** to download! How it works? When you shop at Antioch, participating small businesses in the program, consumers will earn 5% credit. Consumers can spend their accumulated rewards at any participating business in Antioch! The App shows a list of **small businesses** that are part of the program. We have over 45 businesses participating in the program.

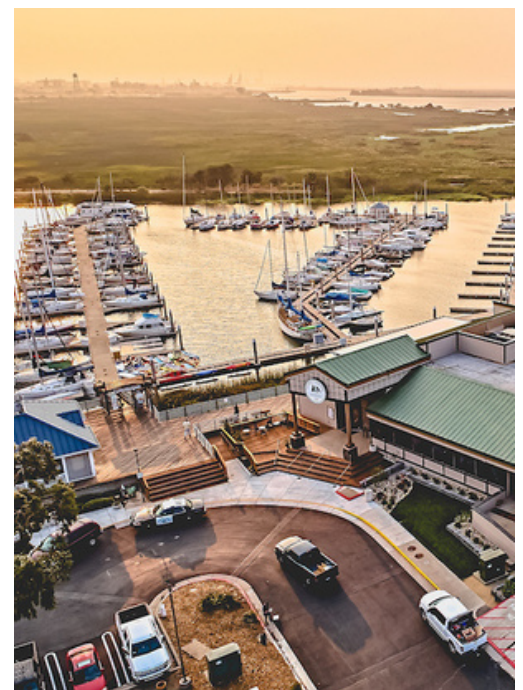
**For Customers Phone App
for Open Rewards download for:**

- [Apple Store](#)
- [Google Play](#)

If you are a business, please register for the full program **HERE** and be listed as a participant.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)

The next regularly scheduled meeting for EDC will be **February 1st, 2022.**



C ANTIOCH HAPPENINGS



"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."
—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

MLK
DAY
OF SERVICE



MON | JAN 17, 2022
9:00–11:00 AM

Let's work together to build a stronger and cleaner Antioch!

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
activenet.active.com/antiochrecreation

Choose one of these locations to meet for litter clean up:

- > **Antioch Community Park** — James Donlon Blvd
- > **Gentrytown Park** — Monterey Drive
- > **Prewett Community Park** — Lone Tree Way
- > **Waldie Plaza** — 2nd Street across from City Hall

Bring work gloves.

**ANTIOCH
CALIFORNIA**
OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE

APAPA EVENT

In May of 2021, the Antioch City Council adopted a resolution **Apologizing to Early Chinese Immigrants** and their Descendants for Acts of Fundamental Injustice, Seeking Forgiveness and **Committing to Rectification** of Past Misdeeds. A formal signing ceremony led by Mayor Lamar A. Thorpe was subsequently held on June 16th, 2021.

APAPA is a nonpartisan nonprofit whose mission is advancing Asian Pacific Islander communities through increased leadership and civic engagement.



APAPA pledged support for the City's establishment of a **Chinese Historic District** and pursuit of a **Chinese History Project**. Dwayne Eubanks, President of the Antioch Historical Society, and Hansel Ho, Ph.D., Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Antioch Chinese History Project, represented the City of Antioch at APAPA's holiday mixer on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, to receive the \$10,000 donation. The funds are to advance the efforts being pursued by the City in **collaboration** with the Antioch Historical Society.