

# CITY MANAGER'S BI-MONTHLY UPDATE



## ANTIOCH STRONG | FIGHTING AGAINST COVID-19

By Cornelius H. Johnson, City of Antioch Interim City Manager

COVID-19 is one of the deadliest and infectious viruses in **American history** since the 1918 Spanish Flu. COVID-19 acquires its name from the “coronavirus disease 2019,” which is a viral disease caused by a virus named severe acute respiratory syndrome (**SARS-CoV2**) that was allegedly discovered on December 19, 2019, in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 illnesses have ranged from mild, with no reported symptoms, to severe symptoms that have required hospitalization and, in many cases, have resulted in death. COVID-19 has **adversely impacted** our local county economy and has depleted our city resources in our courageous efforts to combat its transmission.

Scientifically speaking, COVID-19 vaccines effectively protect some individuals from getting sick and allow vaccinated people to engage in safe activities that they may have stopped due to the pandemic. The City of Antioch, which has a population of 112,848, has a **77% vaccination compliance** rate calculated based on Contra Costa per 100,000 residents’ formula.

Under the leadership of the City of Antioch mayor and city council, with the tireless efforts of our leadership team and in conjunction with our dedicated county and state partners, our city staff has kept our residents safe through our continuous COVID-19 testing city programs and public information campaign. Additionally, **Contra Costa Health Services** has opened three free COVID-19 testing sites in Antioch:

- **Antioch Community Center**, 4701 Lone Tree Way, seven days per week, 11:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.
- **Nick Rodriguez Community Center**, 213 F Street, Tuesday-Saturday, 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and 12:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
- **Antioch Health Center**, 1335 Country Hills Drive, Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Residents are encouraged to make appointments at the various county and state sites.

If residents require regular testing for work or school, please make an appointment or get tested through your healthcare provider.



# ANTIOCH POLICE DEPARTMENT

## TRAFFIC-RELATED COMPLAINTS

Believe it or not, the **largest complaint** that we receive in law enforcement are traffic-related. This is just as true in Antioch as it is in our surrounding communities. Every month, traffic officers from Antioch PD, Pittsburg PD, Brentwood PD, Oakley PD, and the CHP come together and work traffic enforcement in two of the **five jurisdictions**. Recently, traffic units focused on the cities of Antioch and Brentwood. During the enforcement period:

- 104 citations were issued
- 6 warnings given
- 4 vehicles towed
- 1 vehicle impounded
- 4 misdemeanor arrests



*Thank you for doing your part to ensure we all make it to our destinations safely; we greatly appreciate it.*

## SIDESHOWS

Antioch Officers were dispatched to the Antioch Marina due to reports of a white Camaro doing donuts and then crashing into a light pole. If that wasn't bad enough, the subject attempted to **flee the scene**. As a result, the subject was arrested for reckless driving, and a **30-day hold** was placed on his vehicle. While we are on the topic of reckless driving, sideshows continue to be a massive issue in the greater Bay Area, and law enforcement remains **committed** to using the full extent of the law to stop people involved in such activity.

In addition to having your **vehicle towed**, any driver participating in a sideshow can have their driver's license suspended for up to six months and be subject to arrest. Sideshows are extremely dangerous and affect every driver. We all share the road and have an **obligation** to each other to drive responsibly.





# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## JR. WARRIORS BASKETBALL LEAGUE TIPS-OFF IN 2022

The Jr. Warriors Basketball League held the first day of games on **Saturday, January 8th**. This marked the return of the league and the first time the City offered indoor basketball games since the beginning of Covid restrictions in early 2020. Over 200 local youth grades, K-8, are participating in the league this season. Each year, the City of Antioch partners with the Golden State Warriors to provide a comprehensive basketball program for youth through **instructional practices** and gameplay. The league emphasizes fundamental skill development, sportsmanship, teamwork, and fun. Volunteer parents coach all teams.

Registration for the Spring Jr. Warriors League is currently available. **Co-ed Divisions** are offered for grades K-8; practices begin in March, with games in April and May. **Click here** for more information and to register today.



## JOIN THE AWP TEAM!

The Antioch Water Park is now accepting applications for our 2022 season! Available positions include **Lifeguard, Water Safety Instructor, Cashier, Deck Crew, and Concessions**. Special events and programs will begin in Spring before we kick off our Summer season! Our staff has been **hard at work** to make the water park experience bigger and better, and we are so excited to share these changes with our community! Visit **antiochwaterpark.com** for more information on these positions! We hope to see you at the Water Park!



## WINTER PRESCHOOL FUN!

Our preschoolers have been having a blast during this session's cool winter theme with activities such as ice skating in shaving cream, making **ice cube igloos**, and some yummy marshmallow snowmen. They have also been **learning** that not all animals hibernate in cold weather; penguins, polar bears, and narwhals are winter animals this time of year.

The next session starts Jan. 31st. If you have a little one and are **interested** in touring our nurturing preschool, please call **(925) 776-3073**.



# ANIMAL SERVICES



## #BETTYWHITECHALLENGE

Monday, January 17, would have been Betty White's 100th birthday. Her legacy extends far beyond her talents as an actress; she was a life-long **animal lover and activist**. In honor of her 100th birthday, animal welfare organizations across the country participated in the #BettyWhiteChallenge to help animals in their local communities.

The students at **Knightsen Elementary School**, took up the challenge and collectively **donated** more than \$450.00 to the Antioch Animal Shelter! When we shared this exciting news on our Facebook page, **our followers** jumped at the chance to participate in the #BettyWhiteChallenge and, in turn, donated more than \$1,865.00 to our partner **Antioch Friends of Animal Services**.

We want to thank the students and staff of Knightsen Elementary for their support and our community for **stepping up to help** the homeless pets of Antioch in Betty White's honor. **#communitythatcares**

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### HIRES/RECLASSIFICATIONS/PROMOTIONS

- **Amanda Johnson** was hired as a Customer Service Representative for the Finance Department on January 18, 2022.
- **Dayra Morales** was hired as a Customer Service Representative for the Finance Department on January 19, 2022.
- **Monique Villagrana** was hired as an Administrative Assistant for the Public Works Department on January 16, 2022.
- **Christina Glatz** was hired as an Administrative Assistant for the Public Works Department on January 16, 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)
- Administrative Analyst I
- Water Treatment Plant Instrument Technician
- Water Treatment Plant Superintendent

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







# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## WILD HORSE MULTIFAMILY PROJECT UPDATE

At the January 11th City Council meeting, the Council heard the Wild Horse Multi-family Project. An ordinance was introduced to **rezone** the project site, and the Council approved the other entitlements for the project. The second reading of the ordinance will be on the January 25th Council agenda. The project is located on a triangular parcel at the end of **Wild Horse Road and next to State Route 4**. The project applicant is seeking approval of an Environmental Impact Report, General Plan Amendment, Rezone to Planned Development District, Vesting Tentative Map, Final Development Plan, and Design Review to develop a **126 multifamily unit project** that includes a small private park and landscaped open spaces and walkways.

## HELP COMING FOR ANTIOCH HOMEOWNERS NEEDING

The U.S. Treasury has just approved a \$1 billion State of California program to provide mortgage relief grants to tens of thousands of homeowners who have fallen behind on housing payments or reverse mortgage arrearages during the COVID pandemic. Through the mortgage relief program, past due housing payments will be covered in full – up to a maximum of **\$80,000 per household** – with direct payment to qualified homeowners' mortgage servicers. The State will launch this program in several weeks. The program serves residents with family income at or below 100 percent of their county's Area **Median Income** who own a single-family home, condo, or manufactured home (permanently affixed) and faced a pandemic-related financial hardship after 1/21/20. The financial support is provided as a one-time grant that qualified homeowners will not have to repay so that they can get caught up and have a fresh start. The **California Mortgage Relief Program** will begin accepting applications in the coming weeks through an online portal at **CaMortgageRelief.org**. Interested applicants can visit the website to review the program and eligibility information leading up to the launch of the application portal. As approved by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, a detailed description of California's program can be viewed **here**.





## 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/](http://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 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](mailto: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](http://www.bit.ly/ApplyAntioch)



Learn more: [antiochca.gov/districtelections](http://antiochca.gov/districtelections)

# CITY CLERKS OFFICE





## COLD WEATHER INCREASES WATER MAIN AND SERVICE BREAKS

Physics and winter don't mix. At least when it comes to water lines, which suffer frequent breaks in the colder months as the cold, saturated ground weighs on the underground pipes. During the months of November through February, **Antioch's Water Distribution Division** repairs water main, and water service line breaks at a much higher rate than in warmer months. The colder it is, the more pipes burst.

In winter, the ground is saturated and moves a lot. As the weather changes, so does the ground surrounding the underground pipes that **deliver water** to your homes, schools, and businesses; with all of this movement, pipes and the cold water's expansion cause more leaks. Staff prepares for the winter months by **increasing our inventory** of pipes and equipment necessary to make emergency repairs. We also keep a watchful eye on areas that have been problematic in past winters.



**Here are some simple steps to prepare your home for the cold months:**

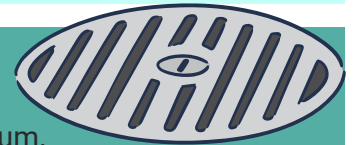
1. Shut off any water systems not used during the winter, such as irrigation systems.
2. Insulate all exposed exterior pipes with insulated foam wrap.
3. Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces, attic, and garage.
4. Disconnect garden hoses.

If you see excessive water in the street, running down the curb, or shooting in the air, please contact Public Works immediately at **(925) 779-6950** or email [publicworks@antiochca.gov](mailto:publicworks@antiochca.gov).

## STORM DRAIN CLEANING

The storm season is in full swing, and our crews are working to keep flooding to a minimum.

We have **282 miles** of Storm Water pipes throughout Antioch that need to be cleaned regularly. Routine cleaning **reduces** the number of pollutants, trash, and debris in the storm drain system and in receiving waters. Please help us by throwing your **trash** in the proper receptacles. Also, dog owners, please clean up after your dogs. Dog waste and other pollutants wash from the ground and **streets into storm drains** and flow straight to the rivers and creeks, untreated, posing a threat to aquatic life, wildlife, and public health. Thank you for your assistance!







# 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](mailto: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.

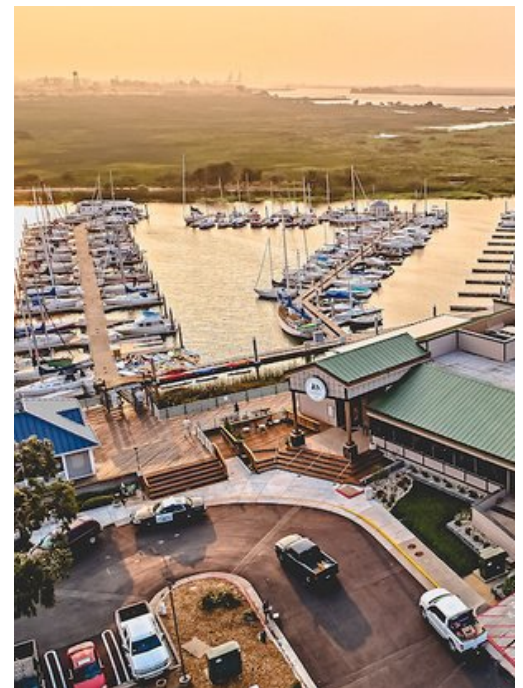
**For Customers Phone App  
for Open Rewards download for:**

- [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



## ANTIOCH'S SESQUICENTENNIAL: 150 ANTIOCH HISTORICAL TREASURES

Established in 1849, incorporated in 1872, Antioch has seen many changes. Let's take a peek at more than 150 ways to celebrate the sesquicentennial. TinyURL for sharing this site: <https://tinyurl.com/Antioch-historical-treasures>



## DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT FALLING?

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities to prevent them. There is a better way!  
Come learn about our award-winning Fall Prevention Program Services designed to help you:

- ♦ lower your risk of falls
- ♦ increase your activity levels, and
- ♦ gain the confidence to enjoy them.

PRESENTED BY:



Antioch Senior Center  
415 W 2nd St, Antioch, CA, 94509  
Tuesday, February 1, 2022  
9:00am - 10:00 am



Meals on Wheels Diablo Region • 1300 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek Ca 94598 • 925-937-8211  
[www.mowdiabloreion.org](http://www.mowdiabloreion.org)

## FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities to prevent them. Learn about ways to safely adjust your daily life to **prevent falls** and the different ways to **navigate** through the fears of falling.

The workshop begins at 9:00 a.m. for the English presentation and 10:00 a.m. for the Spanish presentation. Call **(925) 779-7076** to attend.