

# OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 28, 2014

**TO:** Mayor Harper and City Council Members

**FROM:** Steve Duran, City Manager

RE: City Manager's Weekly Report

# **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Date and Time	Event	Location
Monday, September 1, 2014 - CLOSED	Labor Day City Holiday	
Tuesday, September 2, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.	Economic Development Commission Meeting	City Council Chamber 200 H Street
Wednesday, September 3, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting	City Council Chamber 200 H Street
Thursday, September 4, 2014 – 3:00 p.m.	Board of Administrative Appeals	City Council Chamber 200 H Street
Tuesday, September 9, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting	City Council Chamber 200 H Street
Monday, September 15, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.	Crime Prevention Commission Meeting	Antioch Police Department Community Room 300 L Street
Wednesday, September 17, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting	City Council Chamber 200 H Street
Tuesday, September 23, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting	City Council Chamber 200 H Street
Wednesday, October 1, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting	City Council Chamber 200 H Street

#### "MEASURE O" UPDATES

The Business License Tax update, including a per unit tax on residential landlords, has been assigned the letter "O" by the County for the November 4<sup>th</sup> election. Staff has put a "Measure O Information" button on the home page of the City web site so that the public at large can get factual information on Measure O. In addition to the proposed Ordinance, the accompanying staff report and the City Attorney's Impartial Analysis, staff has prepared a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document; all of which are available by clicking the Measure O Information button at <a href="https://www.ci.antioch.ca.us">www.ci.antioch.ca.us</a> A copy of the FAQ document is at the end of this report.

The City Clerk has advised that the Council Chambers have been reserved for a City Council Candidate Forum and Measure O debate on Tuesday, **September 16**<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 p.m.; and on Thursday, **September 18**<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm for the Antioch Unified School District Trustee Candidates and the Contra Costa Board of Education Candidates. The forums and debate are being hosted by the Antioch Chamber of Commerce and the Antioch Herald.

#### OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK UPDATES

Ballot arguments in Favor and Against Measure O, along with the required documents, were submitted to the City Clerk on Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. The arguments and documents are available at the City Clerk's Counter during the 10-day Public Review Period which ends Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Both the proponent and opponent have expressed concerns about each other's ballot argument.

A Special Meeting of the Board of Administrative Appeals was held on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> but failed to obtain a quorum. The Chair continued the meeting to a Special Continued Meeting to be held on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. The Annotated Agenda for the August 28<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting and the agenda for the Continued Special Meeting with staff reports has been posted on the City website.

The Annotated Agenda for the August 26<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting has been posted on the City website. To be notified when the agenda packet is posted onto our City's Website, simply click on this link and enter your e-mail address to subscribe: <a href="http://www.ci.antioch.ca.us/notification-systems/">http://www.ci.antioch.ca.us/notification-systems/</a>. Also, to view the agenda information, click on the following link and then click 'City Council': <a href="http://www.ci.antioch.ca.us/CityGov/agendas/">http://www.ci.antioch.ca.us/CityGov/agendas/</a>.

We are in the process of creating the tentative 09/09/14 Council Agenda due to staff vacations and the City Clerk attending the League of California Cities Annual Conference in Los Angeles September 3-5).

The public hearing notice was created for legal publication on Aug. 28<sup>th</sup> regarding Extension of Temporary Closure of McElheny Road and Empire Mine Road. This item will be a Public Hearing at the 09/09/14 Council Meeting.

We received two requests from the County Elections Office about the availability of the Public Works Training Room to conduct training session for the General Election Poll Workers and an event to recognize the Polling Inspectors from throughout the county.

We received five California Public Records Requests this week which were forwarded to the appropriate Departments for a response. Four requests were fulfilled within one day of receipt.

The City Clerk's office is accepting applications for the following Boards/Commission Vacancies:

Economic Development Commission (two partial terms)

Planning Commission (one partial term)

Parks & Recreation Commission (two partial terms)

The deadline date to apply is by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Applications are available on the City website (<u>www.ci.antioch.ca.us</u>) and at the City Clerk's Counter.

#### **INFORMATION SYSTEMS UPDATES**

Work orders opened/completed for the week: 142/136

Email filter activity: 14,583 processed, 8,869 automatically discarded do to violations pertaining to suspected virus's, spam, malware, fraudulent material, or isolated for staff to review and release, based on legitimacy

Staff worked on creating three virtual servers to replace three aging physical servers.

Staff met with two venders to view demonstrations of their disk to disk data backup solutions.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATES**

# Planning/Building:

- A preliminary development plan application was submitted for the Promenade development, which consists of 650 single-family homes on a 141 acre property. The site is located east of the future extension of Hillcrest Avenue, and to the west of Heidorn Ranch Road.
- 38 public inquiries responded to via counter/phone/email.

### **Building Permit Activity:**

- Number of permits issued...... 53
- Number of inspections...... 175

#### **Code Enforcement:**

24 New Cases Open

38 Cases Closed

31 Inspections

6 Citations

- 1 Warrant obtained and served
- 1 Posted Sub-Standard
- 2 Demands to Title for Cost recovery
- 7 Demands to Property Owners for cost recovery
- 2 Special Assessment Liens recorded
- 5 Prepare and Record Release of Lien
- 67 Phone messages on complaint line
- 16 Web reports

- Residence on W 6<sup>th</sup> Street was posted sub-standard. There were approximately 12 people living in the house, backyard and shed.
- Contact made with the transients at 19<sup>th</sup> and C Streets.
- Contact made with transients on A Street.
- Assisted Contra Costa County Health Inspector investigating an allegation of cooking and selling food products from a backyard on Carla Ct.
- Warrant served on Garrow Dr. for junk and rubbish. The violations were abated.
- Performed several business inspections jointly with Environmental Health and the CHP.

#### **Environmental Resources:**

- Environmental Enforcement- There were 86 actions on cases. One case was closed, as the property is vacant. 26 inspections were done to verify occupancy prior to abatement notices going out next week. Calls continue to come in from residents regarding Emergency Water Conservation Regulations the State enacted last month and are now being transferred to the Drought Information line, 779-6140. Staff has mailed out 2 courtesy notices to properties where we received reports of possible water wasting and forwarded 10 complaints to Public Works.
- Eco Events:
  - Coastal Cleanup Day- Our water ways could use a pick me up! Registration is now open for our annual Coastal Cleanup Day event on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon. Join us at the Antioch Marina, Red Caboose and Prewett Water Park to clean up our local water ways. You can register at <a href="http://art4antioch.org/Coastal-Cleanup.asp">http://art4antioch.org/Coastal-Cleanup.asp</a> or by calling the Environmental Resource Line at 779-6137. For the first time in Antioch, we will be doing a kayak based cleanup on Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 8-10am. Kayak rentals will be donated by Delta Kayak Adventures or you can bring your own boat. Check in will be at the Antioch Marina, but since space is limited, preregistration is required. Contact Julie Haas-Wajdowicz at 925-779-7097 or jhaaswajdowicz@ci.antioch.ca.us
  - Citywide Yard Sale- Registration is open for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Citywide yard sale held October 3-5 and sponsored by the City of Antioch and Republic Services. Sellers can register their sales and buyers can create their lists of favorites to visit at <a href="https://www.antiochyardsales.com">www.antiochyardsales.com</a>. New this year, Prudential will be offering sellers a free lawn sign to promote their sales!

#### **RECREATION UPDATES**

- Preschool program bi-annual supply order completed.
- Completed Summer Camp Feedback Surveys.
- Online Classes reservations are showing an 83% increase from last year at this same time.

### Senior Center

- Over 100+ participants attend the Annual Ice-cream Social Fundraiser on Saturday August 23, 2014. We fundraised over \$300 for the Antioch Senior Citizen Club.
- 401 meals were served to seniors through the Contra Costa County Senior Nutrition Program.
- Four participants sign up for the Senior Nutrition program
- Three members renewed their 2014 membership
- Serviced six senior participants with Free Legal Services (a value of \$300 per participant)

- 118 members participated in the exercise programs offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.
- Completed the 20 page September/October Antioch Senior Citizen's Club Newsletter scheduled to be released early next week.

# **Sports Programs**

- Junior Giants youth baseball program was successfully completed on Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>. All participants on the final day were presented with a bobble-head figure of Buster Posey and a flyer inviting them and their immediate families to an end of season swim party held on Wednesday August 27<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7pm at the Prewett Water Park sponsored by the Antioch PAL.
- Continuing for the past three years the drop-in sports programs consisting of volleyball on Tuesday nights from 7 to 9:30pm and basketball on Sundays from 12:30 to 2:30pm have and are still proving to be a popular program for those 17 years of age and older. Those wishing to play in these recreational programs are required to pay a \$5 participation fee that is collected at the door prior to the start of these classes. Both activities are held at the Antioch Community Center Gymnasium.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES**

# **Engineering and Development Services**

- Almondridge East Subdivision 8880 (81-unit single family home development by KB Homes), located between East 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Oakley Road, east of Phillips Lane and west of the State Highway 160 Model home construction continues and model complex landscaping plans have been approved.
- Buchanan Crossings Shopping Center, a 103,139 square foot commercial center on a 13.5-acre site located at the northwest corner of Somersville Road and Buchanan Road – Staff returned comments to 2<sup>nd</sup> submittal civil and landscaping plans.
- Cellular Providers on City-owned Property Staff processed consent letters and approved Sprint cellular modifications at 1239 James Donlon Blvd., 3905 Banbury Way and 2696 Lotus Ct. Staff is reviewing Verizon cell modifications at 4506 Via Dora Drive and Metro PCS' request to decommission two cell sites at Antioch City Park and 4506 Via Dora Drive.
- Delta Bowl (Melton) Lot Merger Staff is processing recordation of lot merger.
- Delta De Anza Trail repairs (Viera Ranch Subdivision 7220, between Ridgeline Drive and Neroly Rd.) – Completion of trail repairs and fence installation along CCWD and EBRPD property has been pushed to September 8<sup>th</sup> for final walk of project.
- Hidden Glen Subdivisions 6909, 7505, 8387 & 8388, William Lyon Homes is building homes on 130 lots. The project is located east of Hillcrest Avenue and generally north and south of Hidden Glen Drive between Donegal Way and Braemar Street. Staff continues plot plan review for new homes and existing driveway approaches are being adjusted to new locations under a City encroachment permit.
- McElheney Road and Empire Mine Road Temporary Road Closure Extensions Staff has prepared a report for Council consideration on September 9, 2014 to temporarily extend the subject road closures for an additional 18-month period.
- Nelson Ranch Unit 1 Subdivision 6893 (102-unit single family home development by Standard Pacific Housing) located northeasterly of Wild Horse Road and Ridgeline Drive and southwesterly of State Route 4 – Staff is processing release of encroachment permit bonds and is working with the developer towards taking Unit 1 (Subdivision 6893) to City Council for acceptance of tract improvements.

- Nelson Ranch Unit 3 Subdivision 8851 (130-unit single family home development by Standard Pacific Homes, the third and final unit of this development), located on approximately 38.10 acres northeasterly of the intersection of Wild Horse Road and Ridgeline Drive – Staff is reviewing plot plans and landscape plans for the model home complex.
- The SR4 (Segment 2) Contra Loma Blvd./L St. Interchange & G St. Overcrossing Project proceeds with construction of retaining wall 13 (RW13) west of Contra Loma Blvd. between Buchanan Road and St. Francis Drive. The SR4 Contractor began closing Contra Loma Blvd. between the on- and off-ramps to vehicular traffic from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. for bridge demolition work on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The work will continue for approximately two weeks until September 6<sup>th</sup>. The Contractor is providing flagging for pedestrian traffic from 10 p.m. to midnight.
- The SR4 (Segment 3B) Hillcrest Avenue Interchange Project will widen State Route 4
  from 4 to 8 lanes and modify the Hillcrest Avenue Interchange Grading for westbound
  on-/off-ramps and Slatten Ranch Road widening and signalized intersection is ongoing.
  Construction continues on the pedestrian overcrossing (POC) along the east side of
  Hillcrest Avenue.
- The eBART Parking Lot & Maintenance Facility Project, located east of Hillcrest Avenue on Slatten Ranch Road – Staff is reviewing revised signage and striping plans for Slatten Ranch Road and off-site sanitary sewer improvement plans and easement for the Maintenance Facility.
- Davidon Homes Park Ridge Phase I consisting of 123 residential units located west of Canada Valley Road and east of Highway 4 – Plans and maps have been resubmitted for second review.
- Wal-Mart expansion civil plans approved and easements documents returned for signature.
- Somersville Road is being paved this week for opening by September 1st. Work will continue beyond September 1<sup>st</sup> (street lights, traffic signal, landscaping) with a minimum of one lane open in each direction at all time. The project should be complete by the end of the year.
- Auto Zone on Lone Tree Way plans in for second review.
- FEMA Every 5 years FEMA conducts a community assistance visit. This week FEMA came by and met with staff for this assessment. The items reviewed were City Ordinance, review of recent floodplain development permits, development review process, operating procedures, variance procedures, process to review capital improvements, community rating system and revised flood insurance rate maps.

### **Capital Improvements**

- Deer Valley Road and Lone Tree Way turn pocket widening and extension Construction is complete. Project accepted by Council at the August 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.
- Sanitary Sewer Main Replacement at Various Locations This project will replace the
  existing sewer facilities on East 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Acacia Avenue, Birch Avenue, Chestnut
  Avenue, Deodar Avenue, Evergreen Avenue and Belshaw Street. Construction on
  Evergreen has begun.
- Water Treatment Plant River Pipeline Connection Requests for Qualifications have been sent to various engineering consulting firms for the preparation of project plans, specifications and estimate. Consultant responses are due August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Piping Reconfiguration of Canal Pumps 2 and 4 and Pump 2 Replacement Project plans and specifications of this project are available for purchase at a cost of \$100 per set. Copies may be obtained by logging on <a href="https://www.blueprintexpress.com/antioch">www.blueprintexpress.com/antioch</a> or by

calling BPXpress Reprographics at (707) 745-3593. A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 P.M. at the Canal East Pumping Station located at 3960 Lone Tree Way, across from Sutter Delta Hospital. The public bid opening for this project is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. at the City Council Chambers located at 200 "H" Street.

- Fulton Shipyard Road Transfer Station Trash Enclosure Project plans and specifications for this project are available for purchase at a cost of \$75 per set. Copies may be obtained by logging on <a href="www.blueprintexpress.com/antioch">www.blueprintexpress.com/antioch</a> or by calling BPXpress Reprographics at (707) 745-3593. A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 A.M. at the City of Antioch's Transfer Station located at 425 Fulton Shipyard Road. The public bid opening for this project is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. at the City Council Chambers located at 200 "H" Street.
- Fishing Pier Shade Structure Contractor is working on the restroom demolition plan and the schedule. Construction is scheduled to start in September 2014 and be completed by December 2014.
- Annual Rubberized Cape Seal Program California Pavement Maintenance Company completed this year's project. Staff is working on estimating next year's budget and available funding.
- Wilbur Avenue Bridge Widening The City Council has accepted the project. Staff is working on the Final Closeout Report and the final reimbursement invoice to the state.
- Safe Routes To School Grant (Cavallo/Garrow/E. Tregallas curb ramps) Staff received the grant funding authorization from Caltrans to proceed with construction. PLS Surveys will start the survey work in September 2014. Design work will be completed in November 2014. Construction is scheduled for January 2015.
- Surface Transportation Program Grant (Ninth Street) Staff received the grant funding authorization from Caltrans to proceed with construction. PLS Surveys will start the survey work in September 2014. Design work will be completed in November 2014. Construction is scheduled for May 2015.

#### **Water Treatment Plant**

- Installed new section of pipe on the line that feeds the elevated tank.
- The company that sells Solar Bees came out and replaced the suction tube and the battery to one of our Solar Bees at the reservoir on Golf Course Road.

#### **Water Distribution**

- Cross connection control specialists continue to test and repair backflows on schedule.
- In an effort to provide better service for our customers, we have a meter technician who is assisting the water desk in service connections and drought related issues until 6 PM.
- There were 177 stops for water service, including disconnection.
- There were a total of 32 USA tickets completed for utility location.
- 22 meter transponders were exchanged due to failure.
- Meter reading is complete for the month.
- Construction crew repaired sewer laterals on the 1300 block of C Street, Donham Ct. and the 1300 block of G Street.
- Loaded trucks to haul green waste from the Fulton Yard and maintain the area that provides backfill material for excavations and dumpsters for Allied Waste.
- Replace aged or broken curb stops on City owned water meters to provide easy isolation for City water supply to make repairs or exchanges of water meters and plumbing problems.
- Stores staff removed graffiti on Amtrak platform and building. This seems to be an ongoing problem.

- Staff cut keys for two new to fleet trucks for the Vehicle shop.
- Stores had "chip" keys cut for new police cruiser and then programmed them to the vehicle prior to sending it for build out.
- Water staff has been updating our drought response to comply with the State's requirements. A new drought hotline has been established for the public to report drought related issues (925-779-6950).

# **Public Works Maintenance Operations**

### Landscape Maintenance

- Sink faucet replacements were ordered for Hillcrest Park. The new faucets not only work better, but are set to conserve water run times.
- Fire abatement GIS mapping is now 100% complete and will be incorporated into the new Fire Abatement Contract.
- Playground and park safety inspections were completed at Almondridge, City, Jacobsen and Meadowbrook Parks.
- Jacobsen Park received a new Tot-Swing Seat.
- Dallas Ranch Park Vandalism forced the closure of 1 of its playground slides. A new slide is on order and replacement will take place when it arrives.
- City Park continues its high use summer season with a complete use playground and soccer field areas, as well as picnic and garden areas.
- The summer park irrigation schedule programming is 100% complete at the City's 32 neighborhood parks. Irrigation upgrades and repairs continue to be made in order to conserve water.
- Knoll Park had repairs made to 6 vandalized sprinklers heads.
- Mira Vista Hills Park turf continues to be monitored for optimum water use with minimum water run-off to non-target areas.
- Chaparral Park is being processed for a complete basketball hoop replacement.
- Tree removal permits are continuing to be processed as needed.
- Mountaire Park has a brand new park sign to welcome all its user groups.
- Landscape crews continued the spraying of post emergent weeds on the Hillcrest Avenue (Rights of Way) and the Larkspur Dr. landscaped areas.
- Numerous irrigation leaks were attended to and repaired.
- The five person contract trimming crew continues the trimming on Laurel Rd. The four person contract trimming crew are continuing the trimming of the landscaped areas adjacent to Wild Horse Rd. The three person trim crew is continuing the trimming of the landscaped areas in and around the Hidden Glen Dr. subdivision.
- Landscape maintenance staff along with the "Work Alternative" participants have completed the trimming of the East 18<sup>th</sup> St. and Wilbur Ave. medians and are now trimming the medians on 10th St.
- Landscape staff assisted the United Green Tech contractor with the installation of a new irrigation controller on Black Diamond Dr.

# **Street Maintenance**

- Staff removed graffiti from numerous areas around the City.
- Crews continue to repaint pavement legends. Staff has repainted 40 legends and repainted 310 linear ft. of 12" white crosswalk and stop bar lines.
- Crews replaced 12 existing signs due to poor condition.
- Thermo crew worked on x-walks, stacking lanes, arrows and stop bars using 1,700 lbs. of thermoplastic in Auto Center Dr./Mahogany Way area, Delta Fair Blvd. area and at Century Blvd. at Delta Fair Blvd.

- Button crew replaced 1,400 raised pavement markers.
- Crew began prepping Deerfield Dr. for a level course of asphalt. This road will eventually have a cape seal placed on it.
- Staff picked up 3.5 yards of debris/household waste dumped in the City rights-of-way.
- Staff assisted Code Enforcement with a homeless encampment removal on A Street at the railroad crossing south of Railroad Ave.
- Crews filled 3 potholes.
- The "End of Road Barricade" was repaired at Dallas Ranch Rd. and Mokelumne Dr.

# **Collections Division**

- Staff continues to make progress on the revisions/self audit of the City's Sanitary Sewer Management Plan, which is required by the state.
- The collections team received 9 calls for service and cleaned over 15,210 linear feet of sewer lines.
- Staff televised 7 sewer laterals and hydro flushed them to make sure they were clear and clean.
- 15 sewer manholes were inspected.
- Staff assisted animal control with 2 calls regarding animals caught in catch basins.
- Approximately 6.6 acres were weed abated in various creeks and channels.
- 125 cubic yards of vegetation/material were cleaned out of the creeks throughout the City.
- 83 bags of trash were removed out of various creeks and channels throughout the City.
- Management staff is creating door hangers to assist with outreach for the future sewer lateral program.

#### Fleet

- Performed 19 preventative maintenance on vehicles as scheduled.
- Staff made 21 miscellaneous repairs to City vehicles.

# Marina

- Marina staff inventoried supplies and organized exterior storage closet.
- Marina staff inventoried and organized fuel dock storage areas.
- Billing for September complete.
- Fishermen continue to gather in crowds as salmon season is in full swing. A few large salmons have been caught and it is generating a positive "buzz" for Antioch.
- The use of the new boat launch continues to increase, especially with good weather and fishing.

#### GIS

- Completed data collection updates to City residential address layer editing is now 50% complete.
- City residential address layer is also being integrated with Lucity.
- Staff began sewer route book updates 10% complete.
- Update SSO overflow layer 85% complete.
- Street zone map revisions upsize 68" x 70" complete.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

On 8/27/2014 at 10:20 am, an officer contacted a 30 year old male loitering in front of Romi's Liquors at 418 E.18<sup>th</sup> Street because this particular person was previously advised to stay off

the property by the business. The suspect tried to toss a baggie later found to be .9 grams of Heroin. The suspect was transported to APD jail where he later voluntarily surrendered nine (9) more baggies of marijuana, which weighed 47.9 grams and were secreted on his person. The suspect is also on probation for a drug conviction. He was booked at the county jail.

On 8/22/2014 at 11:58 pm, the home owner of 1824 Crown Peak Way called dispatch from out of town, as she learned from the neighbors that several young people were trying to break into the house. The home owner said the house should have been vacant and no one had permission to be on the premises. Officers were dispatched and found several people partying in the house. Two males were detained as they stepped out onto the front porch. Two more males were detained as they tried to flee out the back door. Police entered the home and found two females hiding in upstairs bedrooms. Police found two guns in the home and a truck in the garage matching one used in an earlier shooting case. One of the males was a former tenant and had invited the others over to hang out and drink. Everyone was arrested on various charges and booked at Antioch PD.

Weekly Calls For Service, Case Reports and Arrest data:

Time Period:	$08/21/14 \ 00:00:00 - 08/27/14 \ 23:59:59$
i i iiiic i ciioa.	00/21/11/00:00:00

Number of Calls for 1,678

Service:

Number of Case Reports: 297

Number of Arrests: 95

Felony: 55 Misdemeanor: 40

Arrests with DUI charge: 1

#### **CITY MANAGER'S NOTES**

On Wednesday, Mayor Pro Tem Mary Rocha and I toured *Professional@ddress* in Antioch. *Professional@ddress* is an internet based company aiming to be the go to place for young people to build and post resumes and video interviews, as well as network in a professional manner. They are working with Antioch High School and are planning a major kick-off event for September 18<sup>th</sup>, so stay tuned. Mary and I went back today to do promo videos.

# Frequently Asked Questions about Measure O Residential Landlord and Business License Tax Update

# Q: Why does Antioch need to update the Business License Tax?

A: Antioch continues to face a severe fiscal crisis due to very low revenues. We are among the poorest city governments in the County. With Measure C, our budgeted General Fund revenue for fiscal year 2014/15 is \$43,046,381. With a population of 106,455, that puts our per capita (per person) revenue at only \$404.36 (which means \$404 per year per resident to provide all services including Police, streets, parks, recreation, senior and youth programs, administration, etc). Compare this to our neighboring cities of Brentwood at \$817.35 and Pittsburg at \$555.84. Comparable sized cities Concord and Richmond are at \$681.68 and \$1255.75 - a General Fund three times as large as Antioch's.

# Q: Why can't the City just cut costs?

A: Since 2007, the City has taken severe actions to reduce costs and avoid bankruptcy, including:

- Reducing staffing by 30% through layoffs, retirements and attrition.
- Eliminating cost-of-living increases and decreasing management salaries 10%.
- Implementing furloughs and closing City business offices on Fridays.
- Reducing benefit payments by increasing employee contributions towards retirement costs and drastically reducing medical after retirement benefits for new employees.
- Reducing other expenditures by cutting service, supply and equipment costs, and deferring vehicle, building and equipment maintenance.

# Q: What about the Measure C (sales tax measure) funding?

A: With approval of the 2014/15 budget, the City Council directed 100% of Measure C revenues toward the hiring of more Police Officers, which is well in progress, and augmenting Code Enforcement services. However, even with Measure C funds:

- The General Fund revenue is still down \$4.2 million from the height in 2007. That is an 8.9% reduction.
- Multi-million dollar budget deficits are projected starting in fiscal year 2016/17. At this
  pace, the City's reserves will be exhausted by June of 2019.
- Measure C is only approved for seven (7) years, expiring in 2021, so sustainable, ongoing revenue needs to be identified.

### Q: What is Measure O?

A: Measure O is an increase in the minimum Business License Tax and it will get **residential landlords to pay a tax based on the number of units rented**. In June, the City Council authorized placing a measure on the local November ballot to specifically add the business of renting or leasing of residential property as a business and subject to taxation.

#### Q: How much will landlords have to pay?

A: Residential landlords will pay \$250 per year for single family dwelling rentals (e.g. houses) and \$150 per year for multi-family rental units (e.g. apartments and condos).

# Q: Are there exemptions from the new Business License Tax on Landlords?

A: Hotel/motel, hospital, convalescent, extended care (nursing) and residential care (assisted living) facilities are exempt from the proposed per unit fee. Non-profits continue to be exempt from the Business License Tax.

# Q: How much will businesses have to pay?

A: The minimum annual Business License Tax will go from \$25, where it was in the 1960's, to \$100. The City Council heard the request of the Chamber of Commerce to not raise the tax on smaller home-based businesses, which will remain at \$25.

#### Q: How did Measure O come to be?

A: In 2013, a group of citizens requested that the City Council add the rental or leasing of residential property to the business license ordinance at a rate of \$240 per unit per year. The City Council decided to only bring one measure forward, and moved ahead with the sales tax ordinance (Measure C). However, the Council directed staff to work with the citizens group and the California Apartment Association to develop a measure for 2014. The citizens group agreed with the City's compromise proposal, but the Apartment Association did not.

# Q: Why did the City Council put Measure O on the ballot?

A: In 2013 the City Council declared a Fiscal Emergency, and, although Measure C was successful, the City's approved budget still has projected budget deficits of over \$3,000,000 per year starting in FY 2016/17. The City Council felt that City services have already been cut to unacceptable levels and, given the temporary nature of Measure C funding and the projected multi-million dollar deficits, that having residential landlords pay a per unit Business License Tax was the best alternative to stabilize the City's finances.

The purpose of Measure O is to provide General Fund revenue to help eliminate the projected structural deficits and improve essential community services such as:

- Reopening City Hall, the Public Works office, and the Police Department lobby five (5) days a week.
- Further enhancing Police, Code Enforcement and blight elimination activities, such as graffiti and dumping abatement.
- Reinvesting in infrastructure and maintenance, such as streets, landscaping and buildings to improve the appearance of the community and increase property values.

# Q: Can the City provide a full range of services without additional revenue?

A: No. Without additional revenue the City will be deficit spending by fiscal year 2015/16. This will require further cuts in expenditures, necessitating staffing reductions in General Fund departments, including the Police Department.

### Q: How do we know these funds will be spent responsibly?

A: The City's finances are independently audited every year. City budgets are posted on the City web site. In addition, all City revenues are reported and discussed at public meetings during the annual budget process.

#### Q: Can these funds be taken by Sacramento?

A: No. By law, these are locally approved funds and *can only be used for local Antioch* services. Not a penny can be taken by the State or the County.

## Q: When is the election?

A: Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

#### Q: How can I find out more factual information about Measure O?

A: For the full text of Measure O and the City Attorney's Impartial Analyses, visit www.ci.antioch.ca.us or call 779-7011 for more information.