



City News | September 2015





# Martinez Swears-In Chief Sappal



Chief Sappal sworn in August 31, 2015 for his first day on the job with the Martinez Police Department.

Sappal has over twenty years of law enforcement experience, starting his career with the Pittsburg Police Department as a patrol officer. He has served with the Richmond Police Department since 1997, where he led the Southern Policing District of the City as Captain.

“From a pool of very strong candidates we interviewed, it was clear Captain Sappal possesses the credentials, passion and focus necessary to effectively lead our police force and continue the City’s commitment to make Martinez the best community it can be,” said Mayor Rob Schroder.

In addition to his career experience, Sappal is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has attended the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), Senior Management Institute for Police. He holds a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Golden Gate University where he graduated with Highest Honors in 2014.

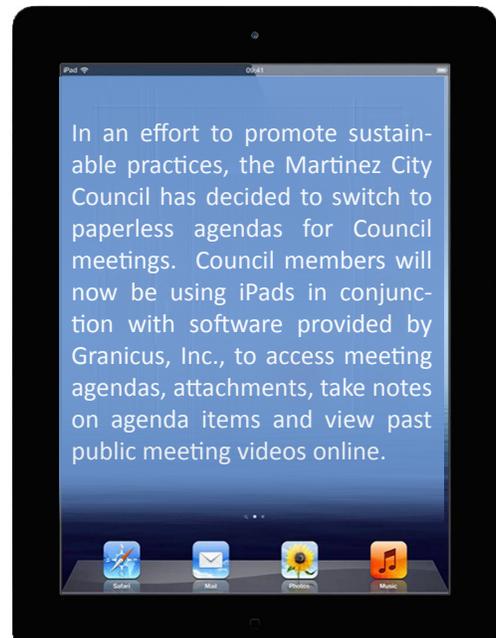
A ceremonial swearing-in for Chief Sappal will be held at the September 16th City Council Meeting.

## TSC COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED

The City utilizes their Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) to review traffic related requests and complaints. The TSC is comprised of staff from the Police, Engineering and Maintenance Departments. The TSC meets quarterly, normally on the third Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>. Complaints, comments and recommendations can be mailed, emailed or phoned in to the Engineering Division. TSC recommendations will be returned to the sender within two weeks of the meeting.

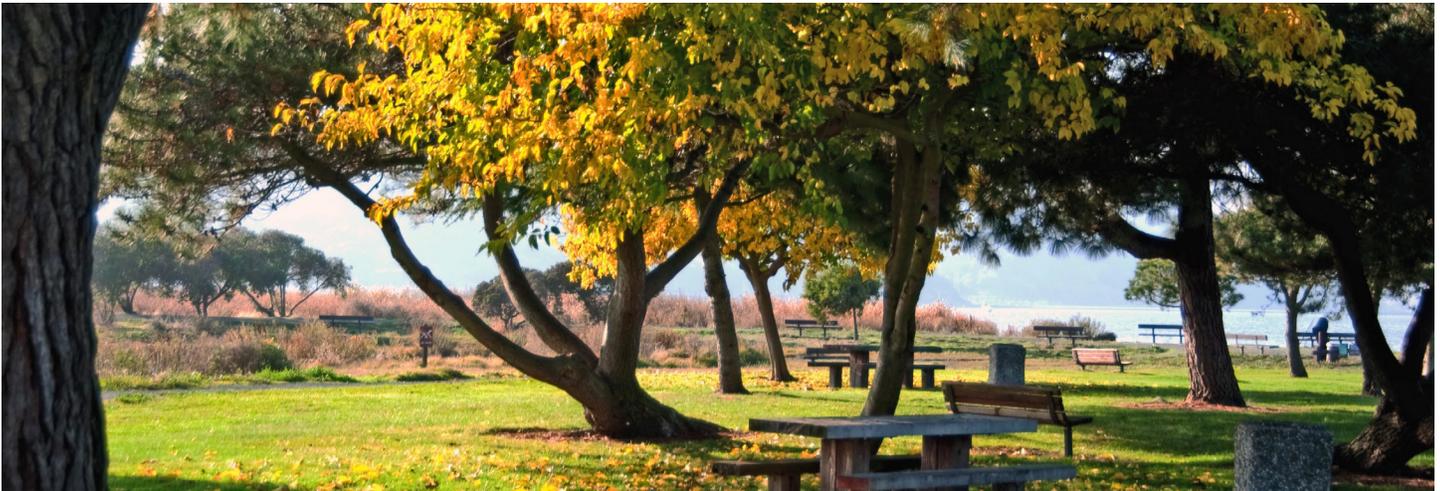
The contact information is as follows:

Terri Bowman, Administrative Aide  
(925) 372-3515  
tbowman@cityofmartinez.org  
525 Henrietta Street  
Martinez, CA 94553





The City's 9 week summer playground program has ended and we're thrilled to announce 171 children participated in this year's program. As tradition, we ended the fun with a 10ft. ice cream sundae. The 4.5 gallons of ice cream and numerous toppings were enjoyed by everyone.



## Back To School SAFETY TIPS

School is back in session and as a result, we should expect traffic to increase around the city. The safety of our children is the utmost importance to us and we urge drivers to increase awareness, follow rules of the road, and adhere to pickup/drop off processes outlined by each individual school. Drivers should ensure that they are legally parked, following the posted speed limits, and respect all road signs. The Police department will strictly enforce traffic violations.

Please take the time to review the following safety tips with your children for the 2015-2016 school year:

- 1. Walking to and from school** Map out the route your child will take and know who lives along it. Advise your children to stay on the preselected path and avoid parks, alleys, fields, etc., where they may find themselves alone. Find out beforehand if there will be crossing guards at the intersections, and arrange for neighborhood children to walk together. Ensure your child knows their address and telephone number.
- 2. Riding a bike or scooter** Work with your child to learn the rules of the road and educate them on the importance of adhering to these laws and wearing proper safety equipment. Bike helmets, sturdy shoes and a reasonably loaded backpack will make the trip easier and safer for your little one.
- 3. Driving or Carpooling** If you plan on driving your child to school, make sure you see them enter the school yard or building before you leave.
- 4. Taking the bus** If your child will be taking the bus, instruct them to arrive at the stop early, stay out of the street while waiting and always keep themselves visible to the bus driver.

# City to Participate in CoolCalifornia Challenge

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE PROJECT

On July 1, 2015 the City Council awarded a construction contract to Auburn Constructors in the amount of \$3.6M for the Water Treatment Plant Seismic Upgrade Project. This project includes the construction of improvements to the following structures/facilities:

- 1967 Filter Control Building seismic upgrades
- Clearwell, including modified chemical dosing of the finished water
- Replacement of reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) that serves the clearwell
- Backwash water tank
- Filter gallery pipe supports
- Replacement of the monorail in the finished water pump station

The construction contract has been executed, a preconstruction meeting has been held, and a Notice to Proceed has been issued for a construction start date of August 31, 2015. The project will take approximately eighteen months to complete.



The City recently signed on as a participant in the 2015-16 "CoolCalifornia Challenge." This innovative program sponsored by Energy Upgrade California is a competition engaging thousands of households in cities across California to save energy, conserve water, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and help build more vibrant and sustainable communities. From

October 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016, participating households will be encouraged to track energy use (natural gas and electricity), water conservation efforts, and transportation/vehicle miles traveled. Points will be earned for reducing consumption. Households and community-based organizations will also have the ability to register as "EcoTeams" to work together and collectively earn points by reducing their carbon footprints. Every point earned by a participating household counts as a point for the City and their EcoTeam (if they have joined one). Stay tuned for more details later this fall about this exciting new program.

Energy Upgrade California is a state initiative supported by an alliance of the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Energy Commission, utilities, regional energy networks, local governments, businesses, and non-profits to help communities meet state and local energy and climate action goals.

## ALHAMBRA BRIDGE DELAYS

Summer of 2014 the City Council awarded a construction contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Granite Rock Company. Granite Rock Co. will build a 150' long by 36' wide vehicular bridge crossing Alhambra Creek; the bridge will connect the 2014 constructed parking lot to Berrelles Street. The award of the contract was challenged in court by another firm bidding the project, delaying the anticipated construction. The concrete piling along with other foundation elements require two months to fabricate. City staff and contractors believe environmental risk is too high to start the work prior to winter work prohibition periods established in the environmental permits. Work is now scheduled to begin next spring and the project is scheduled to be completed by December 2016.

Future phases include Ferry Street safety enhancements north of the railroad tracks and the construction of a pedestrian bridge connecting the parking lot to the train station. Construction on these phases should start next spring also.



[Click here for graphic](#)

# Community Events -- September

## MARTINEZ ROCKIN' by the Bay MUSIC FESTIVAL

September 5<sup>th</sup>  
Gates open at 12 p.m.,  
show ends at 9 p.m.  
[www.rockinbythebay.com](http://www.rockinbythebay.com)



**Bay Area Blues Festival**  
Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> to  
Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day  
[www.bayareabluesfestival.com](http://www.bayareabluesfestival.com)

## Senior Center Sightseeing and Gambling Trips

Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> @ Golden Gate Fields



## Martinez Mutt Strutt

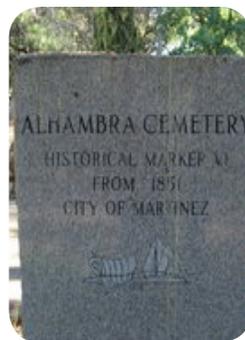
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.

Enter your Precious Pooch, Loveable Lab or Marvelous Mongrel in Best Name, Best Tail, Best Trick, Best Costume, and Looks Most Like owner contest at the Martinez Waterfront Amphitheater. Call recreation to pre-register for this free event.



## Moonlight Cemetery Tour

September 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 -7:45 pm



The Alhambra Pioneer Cemetery established in 1851, has stunning views of the Carquinez Strait and a rich history. A tour guide dressed in Victorian Mourning will introduce you local war heroes, personalities, politicians and the creative caretaker. Tours are designed to enlighten, not frighten. Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes, dress for the weather (evenings can be cool) and bring a flashlight. Sorry, no children. To reserve a tour space, please call Martinez Recreation. If the first tour fills, an 8:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. tour will be added. Donations for cemetery upkeep are always welcomed.

## Twilight Fishing Derby

September 18<sup>th</sup>

Join us for a free evening of fishing at the Martinez Marina. Children ages 5-15 are invited to participate. We supply the bait; please bring your own pole and hooks. Everyone that participates will go home with a prize. A parent or guardian must accompany all children to sign a photo/liability release form. Pre-Registration is required. Limited to 40 children. No fishing license is required. Register by calling Martinez Recreation, (925) 372-3510.

More information on Community Events can be found at (925) 372-3510 or online

### City Council Meetings

Regular City Council Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. City Council adjourns for a Summer Recess during the month of August. Meetings are televised on Friday following Wednesday's meeting on the Public Access Channel 28 (U-Verse Channel 99) at 7:30 p.m.

*No Council Meeting September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Visit our website for more scheduling information.*

### City of Martinez – City Hall

525 Henrietta Street  
Martinez, CA 94553  
925-372-3500



Please be mindful when printing this Newsletter

### CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall.....	(925) 372-3500
City Clerk.....	(925) 372-3512
Police/Non Emergency.....	(925) 372-3440
To find the police district assigned to your neighborhood, visit <a href="http://www.cityofmartinez.org/depts/police">http://www.cityofmartinez.org/depts/police</a>	
Finance/Water.....	(925) 372-3575
Building.....	(925) 372-3550
Engineering.....	(925) 372-3515
Planning.....	(925) 372-3515
Public Works.....	(925) 372-3580
Parks & Recreation.....	(925) 372-3510
Senior Center.....	(925) 370-8770
HR Job Hotline.....	(925) 372-3513
Information Events Telephone.....	(925)372-3463

### MARTINEZ ELECTED OFFICIALS

Rob Schroder, Mayor  
Mark Ross, Vice Mayor  
Lara DeLaney, Councilmember  
AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember  
Debbie M<sup>c</sup>Killop, Councilmember

Richard Hernandez, City Clerk  
Carolyn Robinson, City Treasurer

City Manager  
Rob Braulik

Email..... [rbraulik@cityofmartinez.org](mailto:rbraulik@cityofmartinez.org)  
Telephone..... (925) 372-3505



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