



City News | December 2015



PAVING SCHEDULE



The City's paving contractor is planned to commence work the end of November. The first part of the work to be done will be Highway 4 concrete curb ramps. The contractor will also be working on getting required Caltrans permits to work within the state right-of-way. The residential street paving is expected to begin following the concrete work, with the area near the Contra Costa County Hospital (Allen, C Street, and Geneva) going first. Paving of Haag Road along with the pavement dig out repairs on Howe Road, Morello Ave, Virginia Hills Dr, Kingston Ave, Jordan Court. Mountain View Drive and Glacier Avenue near Arnold Drive will be done after the New Year. The overall project is expected to take 3 months subject to weather conditions.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

As we move into the Holiday season, we would like to offer everyone warm wishes on behalf of the Martinez Police Department. While this is a season to enjoy time with family and friends, it is also a time to be mindful of traffic safety and auto burglaries.

With the season comes wet weather. Everyone should be cautious on the roadway by adhering to speed limits, driving as the roadway conditions allow, and do not engage in distracted driving. It only takes seconds of distraction to cause an accident, which can have disastrous consequences. We recently increased our focus on traffic enforcement to mitigate traffic



collisions. Please help us keep the roadways safe.

The season also brings out elves, but in the case of auto burglaries, they are the mischievous kind. As we enter a season with shopping, please be mindful of shopping bags or anything of value visible in your cars. It may not take long for someone to break your window, get in your car, and grab your belongings. Even if the items in plain view are not worth much to you, they may have some value to a thief. Keep your valuables locked in the trunk and do not let thieves take advantage.

Use this [checklist](#) to secure your car.

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF OF POLICE *(continued)*

On a related note, I want to share two cases of outstanding police work. The first occurred on September 30th when Officer Busciglio made observations of a white Dodge truck driving on the wrong side of the road in the area of Tahoe Circle and Plumas Court. Officer Busciglio, with the assistance of Officer Voyvodich, stopped the truck and contacted the driver along with the passenger.

Officers Busciglio and Voyvodich, both experienced officers, obtained consent to search the car and found stolen items from a recent residential burglary, as well as from a separate auto burglary. Additional items were found to include jewelry, coins, mail, and checks along with tools used by burglars to break into cars and homes such as lock picks.

The driver was arrested based on the evidence that resulted from the keen observations of the officers. The great work did not end there.



Detective Baillie interviewed the suspect and obtained an admission that implicated him in thefts from our City along with thefts from Danville, Orinda, and Berkeley. This led to a search of the suspect's storage locker by Detective Baillie, Detective Schnabel, and Corporal Carney which yielded additional stolen property. The District Attorney's Office eventually charged the suspect with the possession of stolen property and identity theft. This was an outstanding example of great team work that resulted in the arrest and charging of a person that was repeatedly victimizing our community.

In another case, Officer Ramos and Corporal Salamid stopped a car in the 3500 block of Pacheco Boulevard on October 3rd. The driver was found to be on probation with a Search and Seizure clause; during the conversation with the officers the driver admitted that he had a gun under his seat. A search of the car resulted in officers locating a loaded semi-automatic .40 caliber pistol with the serial number obliterated, over six grams of suspected methamphetamine, baggies, and a digital scale. The suspect was charged with the several felonies for the possession for sale of a controlled substance with a firearm

as well as an enhancement for a prior felony strike. This was great work on the part of both officers in taking a dangerous armed individual out of our community.

To conclude, we had a well-attended swearing in ceremony on October 21st in which two recently hired officers were welcomed into our ranks at a City Council meeting. The ceremony recognized Officers Cesar Ramos and Ariel Russell as the newest members of the Martinez Police



Department. Both of them are outstanding and quality people that we are lucky to have join our police department in our effort to provide our community with the best services possible.



Lastly, I want to recognize Corporal Estanol for taking the time to teach first aid to a group of Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts this month. The training was first rate, valuable, and the kids loved the class!



SAND BAG LOCATIONS

The City of Martinez has designated four locations for the stockpiling of sand and one location with sand bags only for use by residents during heavy rains and/or flooding. All locations are lighted, have easy access, stocked with sand and a sand filling station, and sand bags are located at City Hall in front of the Police Department. Residents will need to provide their own tools for loading the sand. Residents should remember that these facilities may be used by numerous individuals during heavy rains and/or flooding. Please be respectful of others and take only the amount of sand and sand bags that you need.

If you have any questions, you may call the Public Works Maintenance Yard at (925) 372-3580, M-F 7:00a – 3:30p.

Sand Bags are located at City Hall @ 525 Henrietta Street.

Nancy Boyd Park

Located on Pleasant Hill Road E. & Church Street.

F Street

Located at the west end of F Street off of Alhambra Avenue, at the beginning of the Park District trail, just past Alhambra High School.

Ferry & Allen Streets

Located at the corner of Ferry & Allen Streets by the Kiwanis Club.

Rankin Park

Located at the end of Buckley Street, upper parking lot.



**LOCATION MAP
& INSTRUCTIONS**

EL NINO

Weather Planning & Preparation

To help you prepare for the predicted El Nino weather this coming winter, here are useful links with information on what you can do to prepare to safeguard your home and family.

- <http://www.ready.gov/ready2015>
- <http://www.ready.gov/floods>
- <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/readiness.asp>
- <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/pdf/be-ready-floods.pdf>

Residential Organics Recycling Program Begins January 1, 2016

The City is implementing a residential (and commercial) Organics Recycling Program to increase diversion of recyclable materials from landfill and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Starting January 1st, Martinez residents will be able to dispose of food scraps and other “organic” materials in their existing green yard debris cart. Green carts will be collected weekly, on the same day as garbage and recycling pickups. Commercial and multi-family service will begin on



April 1, 2016 (more information will be available in coming months).

Acceptable organic materials* include:

- COMPOSTABLE BAGS
- FOOD SCRAPS
- FOOD SOILED PAPER
- NONHAZARDOUS WOOD WASTE
- YARD DEBRIS

Republic Services will be offering free kitchen organics pails to interested residents upon request in early 2016 (exact date TBD). To request your free pail now, please contact Republic Services at 925-685-4711.

As an added benefit, interested Martinez residents will receive up to one cubic yard of free compost per household each year made from the recycled food scraps and yard debris. The free compost giveaways will start with the October 2016 “Reuse Roundup” event. Proof of residency will be required.

*Republic Services will distribute a complete list of acceptable organic materials as the program start date approaches.

HOLIDAY FROLIC & CoolCalifornia CHALLENGE UPDATE

The City is hosting a special CoolCalifornia Challenge event this Friday during the Holiday Frolic. “Bear,” the CoolCalifornia Challenge mascot, will be in town to help spread the word about the Challenge and encourage participation. Come to City Hall prior to the start of the Children’s Light Parade for the chance to meet Bear and to learn what you can do to save energy, conserve water, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions!



**Friday, December 4th
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers
525 Henrietta Street, Martinez**

Thanks to our residents, the City has already climbed up two spots on the CoolCalifornia Challenge leaderboard (now ranking #7 out of 22 cities). In just over one week, our City gained more than 15 new participants! Let’s keep the momentum going – participants can easily earn points by inviting friends and neighbors to join.

Residents can sign up for the CoolCalifornia Challenge now at www.CAChallenge.org. Check out our [Step-by-Step Challenge Guide](#) and the [CoolCalifornia Challenge Point System](#) breakdown for additional information on signing up and participating in the Challenge.



PICKLEBALL



The first Ad-Hoc Pickleball subcommittee meeting was held on November 9th comprised of Councilmembers Lara DeLaney and Debbie McKillop.

Two representatives from pickleball were in attendance along with staff.

The agenda included short-term measures, long-term goals, and fundraising. The subcommittee recommended the following:

Short-Term Measures

- Install sign "Courts for Tennis and Pickleball Use Only"
- Non-priority hours on a first come, first serve basis
- Re-stripe the second Hidden Valley Park tennis court for dual tennis and pickleball use
- Set priority hours for pickleball

Long-Term Goals

- Construct six-to-eight (preferably eight) new pickleball courts
- Evaluate alternate sites
- Fundraising to start once site is approved
- Hidden Valley Park, north of existing courts is preferred site
- Install lighting that is designed for pickleball use (9pm curfew)
- Provide parking (tournament parking overflow to use County lot on Glacier)

DOG PARK WORKSHOP

Recently, a contingent of residents has attended Council meetings expressing a desire for a downtown dog park. This topic was recently discussed at the October 20th Parks Recreation Marina and Cultural Commission (PRMCC) agenda. After hearing comments from residents, the PRMCC took action to refer the issue back to the Dog Park Subcommittee.



The Dog Park Subcommittee has scheduled two public workshops.

Council Chambers
December 9, 2015 & January 13, 2015
6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Additional information is available on the City website.





JOLTIN MARTINEZ CALI

City officials, along with Coast Guard Auxiliary members Bob Johnson and Frank Kastl, were on site with the Joltin Joe to perform a Vessel Safety Check (VSC). The inspection took place at the Kenny building where the boat is currently being stored. Commander Bob spent over an hour inspecting the boat for required safety devices including several recommended equipments. The inspection required nine safety items to pass and receive the VSC sticker. City officials and other volunteer members including John Wendt from the Sons of Italy were very pleased to hear the commander announce the Joltin Joe has passed inspection.

Breakfast with Santa!

Sunday, December 13, 2015 | 8:00 am – 11:00 am
Martinez Senior Center, 818 Green Street, Martinez, CA 94553 • (925) 370-8770

This delicious breakfast includes pancakes or toast, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee.

\$4.00 for adults/\$2.50 for children 10 and under.

Handmade crafts will be on sale during the breakfast. Always open to the public.

Parents and Grandparents: Bring your camera!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2 | Wednesday

Zoning Administrator 4:00 p.m.
 City Council 6:00 p.m.

December 8 | Tuesday

Planning Commission..... 7:00 p.m.

December 15 | Tuesday

Parks, Rec., Marina, & Cultural Commission..... 7:00 p.m.

December 16 | Wednesday

Zoning Administrator 4:00 p.m.
 City Council 6:00 p.m.

December 22 | Tuesday

Planning Commission..... 7:00 p.m.

December 24 | Thursday

Holiday - All City Offices Closed after 12:00 p.m.
 (Except Police)

December 25 – January 1

Holiday - All City Offices Closed (Except Police)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Building.....	(925) 372-3550
City Clerk	(925) 372-3512
City Hall	(925) 372-3500
Engineering	(925) 372-3515
Event Information.....	(925) 372-3463
Finance/Water.....	(925) 372-3575
HR Job Hotline	(925) 372-3513
Parks & Recreation	(925) 372-3510
Police/Non-Emergency.....	(925) 372-3440
Planning.....	(925) 372-3515
Public Works.....	(925) 372-3580
Senior Center.....	(925) 370-8770

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.

Meetings are televised on Friday, following Wednesday’s meeting on Public Access Channel 28 (U-Verse Channel 99) at 7:30 p.m.

MARTINEZ ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Rob Schroder, Mayor
- Mark Ross, Vice Mayor
- AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember
- Debbie McKillop, Councilmember
- Lara DeLaney, Councilmember
- Richard Hernandez, City Clerk
- Carolyn Robinson, City Treasurer



City of Martinez
 525 Henrietta Street
 Martinez, CA 94553

www.cityofmartinez.org



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