



Martinez City News

FEBRUARY 2016



CONTRA COSTA transportation authority

The CCTA Board is discussing a potential half-cent transportation sales tax that could raise \$2.3 billion over 25 years to help implement our transportation and general plans. Based on experience, this is money that could be leveraged to secure additional funding.

What voters approved as Measure C in 1988 and as Measure J in 2004 included both a transportation expenditure plan and a growth management program, and any potential new ballot measure will follow a similar structure to define the use of the potential sales tax revenue and the associated policies that will govern those expenditures.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

The CCTA Board started this process at its meeting in March 2015 by directing staff to work towards development of a possible Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) to be considered for placement on the



ballot in November 2016 or a later general election. The decision on whether a TEP is placed on the November 2016 ballot will not occur until July.

Developing a TEP requires involvement of a number of key stakeholders and the public through a variety of means. The plan approved by the CCTA Board solicits input through the following three primary tracks:

1. Regional Transportation Planning Committees (RTPCs)
2. Contra Costa Residents (Public)
3. Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee (EPAC)

[Read More...](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF OF POLICE



On January 11 we kicked off our first ten week Community Police Academy with 24 participants that will be exposed to a variety of information about the Martinez Police Department and the services that we provide. We had a great group attend and have had two classes so far. The most recent class featured a mock dispatch center and allowed the group to gather insight on the important and difficult job that dispatchers face each day as they gather information from the public and guide officers in responding to community concerns; these concerns run the gamut from emergencies to non-police related issues, but the dispatchers are committed to trying to get people help during their time of need.

On another positive note, we are proud of the fact that Lieutenant Aaron Roth was selected to attend the FBI National Academy for 10 weeks of management training. The FBI National Academy is an elite management program that accepts about 1% of all police executives, worldwide. The selection involves a thorough vetting process; there are limited spots available for each region that falls under the purview of a local FBI office, both in the United States and abroad. The courses typically have police representatives from all over the world. Lieutenant Roth was selected to attend and will receive ten weeks of training in Quantico, Virginia with all costs associated with training, housing, and meals paid for by the FBI. While we hope he is



enjoying his training, we would like to point out that his inbox is getting heavily stacked and he will have plenty of tasks and assignments on which he can apply his new found knowledge when he returns!

As far as crime is concerned, we have seen an uptick in property crimes, as have other nearby jurisdictions, over the last part of 2015. While this is a concern, it is also an opportunity to remember to take precautions to prevent from being a victim in the first place. Keeping your doors and windows locked, calling in suspicious behavior in your neighborhood, and looking out for your neighbors can go a long way towards preventing crime. If something or someone does not look right in your neighborhood, please call us so we can check things out.

I have heard people tell me that sometimes they see someone they do not recognize walking through their neighborhood and while they are concerned, they do not feel that it rises to the level to warrant a police response. I would encourage all of you to call us if you are concerned, so we can check into the issue. It may result in us verifying that there is nothing to worry about or it may provide us with a lead on a crime that has occurred – it may also help prevent a crime as anyone up to mischief now knows that the residents in the neighborhood are paying attention and this might not be the area in which to commit a crime.

In an effort to push crime prevention information out to the community, we recently created a Crime Prevention link on our police department webpage accessed at www.mpdccops.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF OF POLICE

continued...

I want to thank everyone involved in putting the information together and I especially want to thank Renee Jacobs, our Administrative Secretary, for putting the information online. We will be updating the site over time to provide information to help prevent victimization. While most of the information is basic, it serves as a good reminder to practice the basics of crime prevention, so we do not let criminals gain the upper hand.

We had two major crimes of note this month. The first was a shooting on Fountainhead Court that took place on January 9 at 11:14 a.m. The victim and the suspect were involved in an argument over a business deal when the suspect shot the victim in the foot. One of five of the gunshots struck a nearby house and fortunately, no one else was injured. We do have the suspect identified and we have a warrant for their arrest. The case is currently under investigation.

The second significant violent crime was a robbery at Wing Stop (1029 Arnold Drive) on January the 14th at 10:30 p.m. Two suspects entered the business, brandished knives at the cashier, and fled after robbing the store. We do not know if the suspects fled on foot or got into a car to make their getaway. Wing Stop has surveillance cameras and captured images of the suspects that we posted on the Martinez Police Department's Facebook page- please take a look and let us know if you recognize them or if you have seen them before. One of the suspects was described as a Hispanic male in his twenties wearing a black jacket, grey hoodie, and blue jeans. The second suspect was described as a Hispanic male approximately twenty years of age wearing a red jacket, black beanie, and black jeans.

On a final note, we are working on hiring personnel and have several people in the final stages of the testing process for police officer and police dispatcher. We hope to continue with hiring in an effort to expand our capabilities and keep Martinez safe.



**MAKE
THE
CALL**

925.372.3457

WE TIP LINE

**Got information about a crime?
Tell us what you know,
NOT who you are.**

ENERGY UPGRADE CALIFORNIA PRESENTS COOLCALIFORNIA CHALLENGE

Earn 250+ CoolCalifornia Challenge Points from February 1st - 16th for Chance to Win Tickets to Cal vs. UCLA Basketball Game

Martinez has an inspiring community of over 70 CoolCalifornia Challenge participants helping the City compete for the title of "Coolest California City" (and prize money to go towards a City sustainability project). To make the Challenge even more exciting, Energy Upgrade California added a special mini-competition that will take place from February 1st-16th. Martinez will need to rack up points to compete with four other cities for the chance to raffle off a pair of tickets to the February 25th Cal vs. UCLA basketball game.

How Does the Mini-Competition Work?

The mini-competition begins on February 1st at 12pm and ends on February 16th at 12pm. The two cities whose participants earn the most points during the competition will each have the opportunity to award a participating household with a pair of tickets to the game. All Martinez Challenge participants are eligible for the ticket raffle, as long as they earn a minimum of 250 points during the two week competition. Please don't stop at 250 points; Martinez will need as many points as possible to compete with Benicia, El Cerrito, Richmond, and San Pablo! Participants can easily earn 250 points by taking action and tracking it on their Dashboard. Check out the [Point System Breakdown](#) to see how to earn more points.



City and Republic Services Help Alhambra High School Launch Campus Recycling Program

The City, in partnership with Republic Services and New Leaf Collaborative, has begun implementing State Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery ("CalRecycle") grant-funded recycling programs at all Martinez Unified School District campuses. New Leaf is leading the program implementation at the K-5 elementary schools as a complement to its ongoing Ecoliteracy Project, while the City and Republic Services are using the successful Martinez Junior High recycling program they initiated in 2014 as a model for introducing a similar program at Alhambra High School (AHS). AHS,

which has approximately 1,200 students, is launching a "soft" rollout of its recycling program this month.

AHS's Assistant Principal Chris Clausen, City project manager Michael Chandler, and Republic Services Recycling Coordinator Marie Knutson gave a well-received recycling presentation to school faculty in early January. The recycling grant team also met with charter members of AHS's recently formed Green Team numerous times to finalize details of the new recycling program. The Green Team will promote the direct benefits of on-campus beverage container collection, which include sorting and weighing bottles and cans and redeeming the containers to earn money for the school while also diverting the contents from the landfill.

On January 29th, Todd Sutton (aka "The Waste Sleuth") gave presentations to

the entire student body to inspire broad participation in the recycling program. To further assist AHS in establishing the



recycling program on campus, the City and Republic Services are providing recycling containers and other needed supplies. These materials will enable the school administrators, faculty, and lead custodian to set up a series of easily accessible "triple stations" throughout the campus with designated containers for bottles and cans, other recyclables (e.g. clean paper and other plastic products), and trash to make recycling more convenient.



City and Republic Services staff discuss campus recycling with AHS Faculty



Mural depicts Martinez as 'small town with big heart' - *Contra Costa Times*

MARTINEZ -- Citizen artists are invited to help make a three-dimensional, four-panel mosaic tile mural depicting Martinez as "A Small Town with a Big Heart" in the Main Street Plaza.

Volunteers supervised by artist Colleen Gianatiempo could begin when a contract with the city is finalized in January, and expect completion by mid-March, according to the artist. The mural is intended to be a reflection of the community, she said.

The City Council, at its December 18 meeting, unanimously approved the community creation symbolizing how residents support one another and lift each other up.

"We asked people to draw for us what they felt Martinez meant to them," Gianatiempo explained. [Read More...](#)

~ Martinez ~

State of the City Breakfast with Mayor Schroder

Save The Date!
Tuesday, February 9th
8:00am - 9:30am

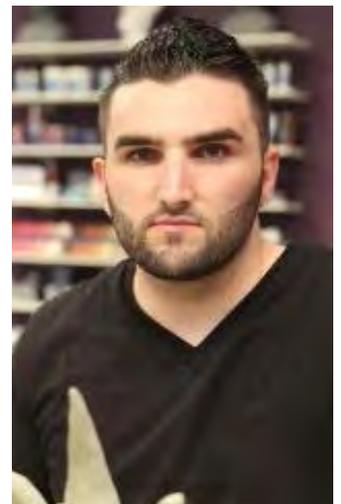
Martinez State of the City Breakfast
with Mayor Rob Schroder and
guest speaker Martinez
Chief of Police - Manjit Sappal

Creekside Church Auditorium
444 Fig Tree Lane, Martinez
\$25 per person includes a full
gourmet breakfast buffet.

RSVP required to attend. Contact
Martinez Chamber
(925) 228-2345 by Feb 4, 2016.



Martinez
native
showcases
artistic
talents
in "Face
Off" reality
show -
*Martinez News-
Gazette*



Martinez residents might notice a familiar face onscreen, as a proud city native Walter Welsh is set to compete in the reality television series "Face Off".

"Face Off" is a competition television series in which prosthetic makeup and special effects artists compete against one another for a grand prize of \$100,000. The show airs on SyFy, and season 10 made its debut on January 13, 2016. [Read More...](#)

The City of Martinez is **HIRING!**

Choose a job for more information.

- Senior Citizen Coordinator
- Junior Lifeguard
- Ballfield Maintenance
- Swim Instructor
- Pool Management
- Cashier
- Lifeguard
- Recreation Leader
- Counselor in Training



Go Green! Sign up for Paperless Billing where you still receive your bills electronically instead of a paper bill. You will receive an e-mail notification with an electronic copy of your water bill along with payment instructions. To sign up for paperless billing, click on "Paperless Billing" at our [website](#).

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) enable water bills to be automatically deducted from your bank account. You will continue to receive a paper bill in the mail, unless you sign up for [Paperless Billing](#), two weeks prior to withdrawal of funds from your account. Please call us at (925) 372-3574 for any questions on EFT.



GO GREEN
GO PAPERLESS



City of Martinez Offers Online Services!

- Business License (Apply/Renew)
- Pay Citations
- Class Registration
- Job Application
- Pay Parking Ticket
- Public Meeting Videos
- Pay Water Bill
- Submit a Service Request



The City of Martinez has always valued its relationship with the business community and we are pleased to announce some changes to our business licensing process that is designed to

streamline the procedure for businesses operating in the City limits of Martinez.

The City has contracted with the HdL Companies to provide assistance to the business community for business licensing needs such as application, payment, certificate issuance, and general support.

The Business Support Center offers extended telephone support

hours (M-F, 8a-5p), toll free at (888) 602-0239 or via email at support@hdlgov.com.

The City is excited about these new options underscoring our commitment to providing excellent customer service to constituents and the business community. Thank you for being a part of the City of Martinez business community.

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DOWNTOWN MARTINEZ

Wine & Chocolate Stroll 2016
Main Street Martinez
Saturday, February 6, 2016
2:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Purchase your [admission](#) today!



Buy a Martinez
Gift Card
for your Valentine!

Last Month's

ICE BERG SWIM



Rainy weather and a water temperature of 49 degrees did not deter twelve hardy souls from jumping into the pool at the Rankin Aquatic Center, January 9.

Many of the swimmers exited the water quicker than entering. Six women from water aerobics performed exercise moves until the frigid water took their breath and motivation. The Polar Bear was on hand to lifeguard and provide emergency warm hugs.

Hot chocolate and big fluffy towels brought relief from the cold. Most of the swimmers hailed from Martinez except one family that came from St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada.



The Martinez Senior Citizen Center is Offering a **NEW CLASS!**

Painting Classes with Gary Bergren

Thursday's, 10:00a - 1:00p starting February 8, 2016.

Register online or at Martinez City Hall Recreation Department.

Session: February 18 - March 24

Cost: \$90 per session Location: 1111 Ferry Street

Learn how to become a strong painter. Paint from photos of your choice with guidance and technical instruction. Color theory, color mixing, and value matching will be taught as well as creating strong compositions.



Calendar of Events

February 3 | Wednesday

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

February 8 | Monday

Public Safety Subcommittee..... 6:30 p.m.

February 9 | Tuesday

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

February 12 | Friday

Lincoln's Birthday - All City Offices Closed (Except Police)

February 15 | Monday

President's Day - All City Offices Closed (Except Police)

February 17 | Wednesday

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

February 23 | Tuesday

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

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.

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

Martinez Elected Officials

Rob Schroder, Mayor
AnaMarie Avila Farias, Vice Mayor
Lara DeLaney, Councilmember
Debbie McKillop, Councilmember
Mark Ross, 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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