



# City Hall Weekly Highlights

## February 12, 2015

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To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: City Departments

### **CITY MANAGER:**

**Press Enterprise Story on Cities Cost for County Sheriff Contracts:** Last week, I informed you that the Press Enterprise was preparing to do a story on the rising costs for Cities to contract with the County Sheriff for police services. Today, I was informed by Council Member Berwin Hanna that the Press Enterprise did run a story over the weekend on this issue. Unfortunately, the Press Enterprise erroneously reported the amount that the City of Norco paid to the County for Police services in Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The Press Enterprise reported that the City of Norco spent \$25.1 million for police services in FY 2013-2014. Thanks to some Norco residents who read the article and contacted the Press Enterprise, the online edition of that story was revised to show that the City spent \$4.5 million instead of the previously reported \$25.1 million. Please note that City staff cannot vouch for the accuracy of the \$4.5 million revised number. I am not aware that any City staff or official was contacted for this story. In FY 2013-2014, the City paid a total of \$4,214,256 to the County for Police services. Of this amount, \$4,091,751 was from the City's General Fund and \$122,505 came from various grant funding. The total Sheriff Department expenditures for the year excluding crossing guards and Citizens on patrol were \$4,422,106. This includes \$207,850 for support City staff and internal costs that were not paid to the County. If you have questions regarding this, please contact me.

**Items not Scheduled on City Council Agenda:** During previous City Council meetings, City Council voted to agendaize Code Enforcement Procedures and Encroachments on Crestview for City Council discussions. These two items are not scheduled to be discussed during the next City Council meeting on February 18, 2015. The Mayor and the City Manager discussed review of Code Enforcement procedures and agreed that before this item is scheduled on the City Council agenda, staff should first meet with the Business Advisory Group of the City Council to review existing procedures, refine them and then bring formal recommendation to the City Council for approval. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem will be meeting with appropriate staff in the coming weeks to address this issue. Similarly, staff is not ready to bring the Crestview Avenue encroachments to the City Council because additional research is necessary to properly document the history of these encroachments and sort out which of the encroachments were permitted and which ones were not permitted.

**Meeting with Valley View Residents Regarding Flashing Beacon Lights:** On Monday night City Manager and Director of Public Works met with some residents on Valley View Avenue between Fourth Street and Fifth Street to review their concerns regarding the flashing beacon lights that City staff installed to reduce speeding and accident incidents in the neighborhood. Based on my observations, I believe that some of the residents have valid complaints with the lights flashing on their houses at night time. The challenge is balancing their concerns with the need to reduce the likelihood of accidents due to the way the street curves. The Sheriff's Department is gathering accident history information and I have asked the City Engineer to review the situation for other potential options. I will keep you informed of the next steps in this process.

**Medical Marijuana Regulation – Assembly Bill 266:** Recognizing the rapidly changing political landscape regarding the legalization of marijuana use in the state, the League of California Cities and

Police Chiefs Association have joined forces to proactively support Assembly (AB) 266. AB 266 seeks to craft a medical marijuana legislation that protects local control by ensuring that actual license to operate marijuana dispensaries are issued by the local governments not the state. It also seeks to protect public safety by establishing detailed security measures and inventory procedures for marijuana transport to prevent diversion. Although the League and the Police Chiefs Association remain strongly opposed to marijuana use, the League and the Association are actively seeking support for AB 266 because it is increasingly likely that in the near future that some statewide regulatory structure for medical marijuana use could be enacted and there exists a strong possibility of a legalization measure in the state.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

**Business Development:** The City Manager and Economic Development Consultant met with representatives from Beacon Hill Assembly of God, which has graded approximately five acres on Hamner Avenue. The church is interested in moving forward with its plans to build a 600-seat sanctuary and adjoining commercial development to generate revenue. Staff made a commitment to work with them to attract viable dining and retail activities to their site.

**City Recognition:** The City of Norco was notified that it is a finalist for an award honoring innovation in economic development, presented by the Inland Empire Economic Partnership (IEEP). The City's nomination focuses on the branding of Norco as "Horsetown USA" as a business retention and expansion strategy. Winners will be announced at the IEEP's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Turning Red Tape into Red Carpet" reception on February 26 at the Victoria Club in Riverside.

### **FISCAL AND SUPPORT SERVICES:**

**Bill Processing:** Staff mailed out 1,520 utility bills to Group 1 customers. We also mailed out 263 delinquent notices to Group 4 utility customers that had not paid their bill on time. On Tuesday, the day before delinquent utility customers in Group 2 were due for shut off, a courtesy door tag was hung at their door by Public Works notifying 63 customers that if they do not pay on Tuesday, their water services will be shut off on Wednesday. By Wednesday, 10 customers water was shut off for nonpayment; 9 customers were restored the same day and 1 customers water remained shut off.

**Business License and Cash Receipts:** There were 19 new business license applications received during the week and 1 renewal application. Staff processed a combined total of 1,759 cash receipts from the building counter, Parks and Recreation, utility customers and other miscellaneous accounts receivables totaling \$401,180.

**Miscellaneous Accounts Receivable:** A total of 26 miscellaneous accounts receivable invoices were sent to individuals/agencies totaling \$21,859.87. Miscellaneous accounts receivable invoices are sent to bill for EMS services, hydrant meter billing, damage to City property, encroachment permits, loan payments, trash billing to California Rehabilitation Center and any other services provided by the City other than utility billing and business licenses.

**Custom Utility Bill:** The design of the custom utility bill is complete, but the programming to report the consumption data in the bill in a graph still needs to be modified by the City's software provider,

New World. A sample of the new bill will be provided in the Weekly Highlights report next week for your review.

**Operating Budgets for FY 15/16:** Staff is working on getting the fiscal year 2015/16 budget templates ready for input by all departments.

### **PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES:**

#### **Youth Programs:**

Youth basketball divisional league season continues at Riley Gymnasium. Awards ceremony is slated for Saturday, March 7, 2015 after the Championship games; boys at 5:30pm, girls at 6:45pm.

This week's rentals include NJB at Riley Gym and two churches at Community Center and Scout House.

Youth programs are having fun this week with Valentine's Day crafts and activities. Programs will be closed next Monday, February 16, 2015 for Presidents Day.

#### **Senior Services:**

AARP free tax assistance continues each Tuesday at the Rose M. Eldridge Senior Center.

"Love is in the Air" Valentine Dance took place for the older adult on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at the Rose M. Eldridge Senior Center. Activities included a lunch, DJ with dancing, games and door prizes. DJ was sponsored by Applied General Agency (AGA), an insurance brokerage company. A special "thank you" to Norco High School for their assistance in decorating for the senior's special day!

Seniors and Pets Breakfast and Bingo will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 9am-12pm at the Rose M. Eldridge Senior Center.

#### **Developmentally Challenged:**

Party Partners is celebrating Valentine's Day the "Love Bug" way on Friday, February 13, 2015. Activities include DJ, dancing, crafts and Wii Games.

#### **George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center:**

- George A. Ingalls Veteran's Memorial Plaza Open \* 10AM – Dusk, Please enter through Gate 5 off of Crestview just south of Sixth Street.
- Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry, Forum & Evaluation taking place Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, FREE to the Public Saturday & Sunday Only. Horses are arriving from Arizona, Nevada, Colorado and Washington with judges and evaluator's coming in from Norway, Netherlands and Canada.
- Lake Norconian Club Foundation Fundraiser 1920's Speakeasy "Moonshine & Valentines" Dinner & Dance event at Nellie Weaver Hall Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 6PM to 11PM.
- Open Riding at Clark Arena on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> only. from 10 AM – 3 PM

- Stacy Westfall Free Equine Pop-Up Clinic at Moreno Arena Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- The new 24ft gate will be done this week at the south end of Clark Arena.
- Staff worked two shows this past weekend. Modjeska Mavericks and EAGALA Horse Clinic.

#### **Building Maintenance:**

- Staff received a call from Crystal at the Community Center last week concerning a gas leak. The Fire Department, the Gas Co, and our staff evacuated the building and were unable to locate the exact point where the leak was coming from. The gas was shut off at the meter and the gas line was plugged until the Gas Co. could get back to determine where the problem was. An all clear was given around 2:45 that afternoon.
- Our staff helped assemble new, heavy duty racks for the Historical Society.
- Sparky's Electric installed new end plugs onto the overhead cords in the fire engine bay at Station 47. These cords charge the electronics in the fire engines while they are on stand-by.
- We will be doing work, in the near future, to the back of City Hall to make the Sherriff's Department parking lot more secure.
- Staff repaired the large spot lights on the outside of the Animal Shelter office building.

#### **Parks:**

- Staff is replacing some security lights at Hawks Crest Park.
- At Wayne Makin, we are fencing off some of the grassy area by the parking lot to keep foot traffic to a minimum. Valley Crest is installing some sod in the bare spots in this area to improve the park appearance.

#### **Special Projects – Wayne Makin:**

- The project to replace the “direct burial” wire feeding the light poles for the park will be completed this week. Sparky's Electric is doing this project.

#### **LMD's**

- Valley Crest has groomed all the City owned arena's this week. They are weeding Fifth Street and will be in District 2 weeding next.

#### **Norco Animal Control Services:**

- On Saturday, February 7, Superintendent Frank Scagnamiglio escorted a group of 20 Daisy Girl Scouts and their families, on a tour of the shelter. The troop presented the shelter with various dog and cat items they had collected for the shelter.
- Pepper, the standard black poodle, was adopted Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> to a qualified rescue.
- Melvin Sparks III issued 5 administrative tickets for failure to renew dog licenses, and 1 administrative ticket for a leash law violation.

- Melvin was called out after hours to 2766 Broken Lance for a cat that was dragging itself by its front legs. It appeared the back legs were broken. Upon arrival Melvin witnessed the cat escape down a drain.
- Melvin was called out after hours to 1491 El Paso Drive regarding a coyote chasing the dogs in their yard. Upon an inspection of the property, the said coyote was gone.

## **PLANNING DEPARTMENT:**

### **Approved Special Events this Week:**

- 2-14-15: Valentines flower display, AM/PM at 3700 Hamner Avenue
- 2-14-15: Valentines flower display, 7-11, 1933 River Road
- 2-16-15: Truck show, Bob's Big Boy, 3321 Hamner Avenue

**Maps:** Continued with new economic development maps for targeted businesses (e.g. restaurants, hotels, and retail).

**Temporary Signs:** A meeting that was set with the Chamber of Commerce Board and two businesses from the sign industry to talk about getting to a right balance between adequate advertising and a trashy-looking City was cancelled as the two business representatives did not show. Staff was going to follow-up with email requests but will be re-scheduling a new meeting instead. Once input is received from the advertising companies on how to control the construction quality and aesthetics of temporary signs, a meeting will be set with random businesses for business owner input.

**Striders:** Meeting set for February 24 for an update on Striders and the timeline to finish that construction.

**Les Schwab:** Applicant has indicated they will be filing plan check plans for a building permit this next week. A meeting has been set for February 25 to initiate discussions regarding a joint-use sign that would serve Les Schwab as well as providing a marquee sign for the college entrance with a media board to announce college activities as well as City activities.

**Surrounding Communities:** The City of Eastvale issued a Notice of Preparation for a proposed 192,000 square-foot Walmart store at the southeast corner of Limonite Avenue and Archibald Avenue. A Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) will be prepared after the needed impact analysis reports have been completed. There is no date for the availability of the DEIR at this point.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:**

### **Field Ops:**

- Night time work was scheduled for water leak at driveway of Del Taco; and another one on Hamner Avenue at Fifth Street to minimize street and business disruption.
- Water mainline leak repaired at Sixth Street and Hillside.
- Staff assisted in RSO's DUI Checkpoint at Hidden Valley Pkwy and Corona Avenue.

- Staff installed rebuilt pump and motor assembly in Sewer Lift Stations at River Rd at Second St; and Norco Drive at Fifth St.
- Repairs/maintenance done on 11 fire hydrants.

**Building and Safety:**

- 11 Permits Submitted
- 11 Permits Issued
- 25 Inspections Performed
- 1 Commercial C of O Issued
- 1 Stop Work Notice Issued
- 1 Plan Check Expiration Letter sent
- Second Quarter Report prepared for SMIF

**Engineering:**

- Third Street Improvement Project was advertised for bid.

**NORCO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:**

**OTS/STEP Grant DUI Checkpoint \*\*RESULTS\*\*:** On Saturday, February 7, 2015, the Norco Sheriff's Office conducted an OTS/STEP Grant funded DUI Checkpoint at the intersection of Hidden Valley and Corona. During the checkpoint, deputies screened 595 vehicles, made (9) DUI arrests, cited (12) Drivers for driving while unlicensed or with a suspended license, towed (9) vehicles and made (1) misdemeanor warrant arrest. A [press release](#) was issued, detailing the event.

**Parolee-at-Large Arrested:** On Friday, February 6, the Norco Sheriff's Office responded to a disturbance in the 4300 block of Temescal. During the investigation, the suspect, Richard Sergi, a parolee at large, fled from deputies into a residence backyard, located in the 3500 block of Hillside. With the assistance of Riverside Police Department's helicopter and a Riverside County Sheriff's Department K9, deputies were able to take Sergi into custody without incident. Sergi was arrested and booked at the Robert Presley Detention Center. A [press release](#) was issued. Refer to below for suspect photograph.



**\*\*UPDATE\*\* Major Injury Traffic Collision:** On Sunday, January 18, about 12:56 AM, a sole driver travelling south bound on Valley View near the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup> street, lost control of their vehicle and collided into a Southern California Edison Power Pole. The driver, a 23 year-old Norco resident, sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported to the hospital. As a result of the collision and

subsequent investigation by the Jurupa Valley Station Traffic Reconstruction Team, Valley View was closed in this area through 11:00 AM. A [press release](#) was issued.

**\*\* UPDATE: \*\*** Unfortunately, the victim of the traffic collision was pronounced deceased on January 26, 2015. This incident marks the first Norco fatal traffic collision since 2013.

**Norco Crime Impact Report:** The Norco Crime Impact Report (CIR) for the period of January 27, 2015 through February 9, 2015, shows an overall 16.7% decrease with Part One crimes. However, there was a small increase with assault cases. The Norco Sheriff's Office carefully tracks crime trends and deploys resources with the goal overall goal of reducing crime.

Part One Crimes are identified as:

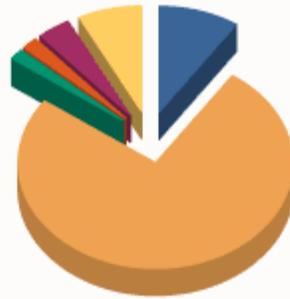
- Homicide
- Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Auto Theft
- Larceny Theft
- Arson

**NORCO FIRE DEPARTMENT (CAL FIRE):**

*See Fire Department statistics on the following pages.*

## Response Activity – Norco

### Incidents Reported for Date between 2/5/2015 and 2/11/2015 and Norco City



False Alarm	5	9.4%
Medical	40	75.5%
Other Fire	1	1.9%
Public Service Assist	1	1.9%
Standby	2	3.8%
Traffic Collision	4	7.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

False Alarm	5
Medical	40
Other Fire	1
Public Service Assist	1
Standby	2
Traffic Collision	4
<b>Incident Total:</b>	<b>53</b>

### February 5<sup>th</sup> to February 11th Weekly Summary

2/7/15: Firefighters from Station 47 provided a station tour for a group of 14 youth.

# Riverside County Fire - Norco

## Weekly Activity Report

2/4/15 to 2/11/15

	CITY
<b>Activity Totals</b>	<b>Norco</b>
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	<b>TOTAL NORCO</b>
All Plan Reviews	5
<b>INSPECTIONS</b>	
	<b>Norco</b>
Annuals	11
New Construction	2
Re-inspection (annual's)	9
Title 19 Inspections	
Business License Review	
C of O's	
Weed Abatement	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	
<b>MEETINGS &amp; OTHER</b>	
	<b>Norco</b>
Meeting	
Training	1
Special Inspections/Events	

## Weekly Prevention Activity Report- Graph Summary

