

AUBURN'S *Fast*NEWS

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DIRECT
FROM
CITY HALL
TO YOU

*Fast*News March 14, 2014

FN Projecting and Preparing to Weather Financial Challenges

Welcome to your online recap of City actions and vital stories for folks who care about Auburn. Found twice monthly at the corner of City Hall and your smartphone, tablet or computer.

The City is beginning the annual budget process for FY 2014-15. In that context, at the March 10 regular meeting, the City Council received and discussed a financial status report on the current year situation and major issues that are projected to affect the City's finances in the future. In summary, the challenges include:

Upcoming Dates *March*

Chamber Forum Meeting 18th at 7am

City Council Meeting 24^h at 6pm

Chamber Forum Meeting 25th at 7am

April

Chamber Forum Meeting 1st at 7am

Planning Commission/ HDRC 1st at 6pm

Chamber Forum Meeting 8th at 7am

City Council Meeting 14th at 6pm

- All California cities face rising pension costs, and recent changes in actuarial assumptions approved by the CalPERS Board exacerbates that issue further on the near horizon.
- The unknown impact on City retailers and sales tax revenues for new large-scale retail just outside of the city limits is difficult to predict.
- Newly-introduced state legislation seriously threatens the City's current arrangements with one or more companies regarding sales tax revenues being received now.
- Potential hotel market saturation and a proposed new hotel on the border but just outside the city limits is expected to adversely impact both City retail sales and loss of transient occupancy taxes.

The public conversation will continue and the City Council is considering and acting upon several strategies to methodically and comprehensively address these challenges. For a copy of the full report, contact the City Clerk's Office, and follow ***Fast*News** for upcoming budget hearings.

FN We'll All Get a Charge Out of This...

You may recall that we told you (with great pride) last year about Tesla's interest in our little burg. The update on the story is that we've moved ahead to identify two potential locations for electric charging stations—City Hall and the multi-modal transportation hub at Blocker and Nevada Streets. To move the project ahead, we've applied for a grant from the Placer County Air Pollution Control District. If approved, you will see the item come to the City Council agenda for action in April or May, and construction anticipated to start this summer. Stay tuned!

FN City Staff "Out and About Auburn"

Our staff always gets out to support the community at the Annual Celebrity Chefs fundraiser each March. Here's a pic of last week's event and some of Auburn Fire Department's finest. If you run into them, don't be shy about introducing yourself or asking questions.



Firefighter Erik Croft and Captain Bryan Gouge

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F_N Got (City) News?

Sometimes we are asked by individuals or community partners to include information on events or issues, so we thought that it might be interesting for you to know the criteria by which we evaluate not only those requests, but all content collaboratively submitted by City staff.

We ask ourselves if the information communicates:

1. Important news on our City's fiscal health, economic development & general business?
2. Opportunities with a City link or key official decisions made-- things the public ought to know?
3. Community pride items and recognition, or background on City operations?
4. Status reports, understanding things the City is doing around town that the public will see?
5. Info on things coming soon ("heads up" or "mark your calendars" pieces)?

If you have something that might fit, ask us at cityclerks@auburn.ca.gov .

F_N New State Legislation Impacts Requirements to Circulate Election Petitions

The City Clerk is obliged to follow state law in election matters, and recent legislation through California Senate Bill 213 made clear the only requirement necessary to circulate election petitions is that a person must be at least 18 years old. State law is now in alignment with federal mandates described in recent court cases. Questions? Contact the City Clerk's Office (cityclerks@auburn.ca.gov or 530-823-4211 x112)

F_N Thanks for the Thanks!

Last month, our Public Works Department received a call regarding a downed street tree in a dangerous situation. While it surely is our job to jump in and take care of the situation, we were pleasantly surprised to receive a call of thanks from the resident. Taking the time to make that call is especially important to us. It's an example of one of the things we all seem to enjoy in Auburn— the intersection of dedicated, hardworking City staff and considerate, appreciative citizens.

F_N Save the Date—It's That Time, Again

Mark your calendars for the next FREE Medication Take Back event. It will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Auburn City Hall parking lot at 1225 Lincoln Way. This event takes place a couple times a year as a joint project of the Auburn Police Department and the Public Works Department for the purpose of providing you with a convenient way to dispose of unused medications and enhance community safety.