

Newark News

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Spring 2016

City fixes dilapidated properties

The City has taken a proactive approach to address abandoned and dilapidated properties. City staff investigated a half dozen abandoned homes,

including two on Mulberry Street (near Thornton Avenue), two on Thornton Avenue (at Arden Street), one on Dalewood Drive (near the Fire Station), and one on Cedar

Boulevard (near Haley Street).

The properties were in appalling condition. Most were infested with insects, rodents, and feces. Several had tarps on decaying roofs and holes in walls and even in subfloors. Many had broken windows and were filled with three-foot piles of trash. One home had over 120 code violations. These nuisance properties attracted criminals and drug users and, in one case, caused a fire that singed the walls and roof.

City staff sent many notices to the property owners, advising them to fix the dilapidated structures and bring them up to code. The owners ignored all of the requests.

As a result, the City had no choice but to file lawsuits against the absentee owners. These lawsuits, filed under the direction of the City Council, resulted in the appointment of a Receiver (a neutral third party)

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Funding for pavement maintenance projects

As part of the City of Newark's ongoing effort to protect and extend the life of its streets, the Public Works Department annually inspects asphalt concrete pavement surfaces to identify areas of potential maintenance and determine the timing and type of appropriate repairs. The types of preventative maintenance performed on our streets include crack filling, patch paving, and slurry seal resurfacing. For those streets in a more deteriorated state, a pavement overlay or even costly reconstruction may be necessary.

Annual pavement overlay, patch paving, and slurry resurfacing projects are an integral part of the City's Pavement Management Program. These projects will be partially funded by Measure BB (approved by voters on November 4, 2014), which extends the existing Measure B tax until 2045 and increases the tax to a total of 1%, and by the Alameda County Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) program, a

\$10 per vehicle annual registration fee approved by voters as Measure F in 2010. These transportation funding programs are administered through the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC).

Pavement overlays typically involve partial or full grinding of the existing surface and placement of a new 2" to 3" layer of asphalt concrete. A completed pavement overlay results in a significant structural upgrade and provides the appearance of a brand new roadway.

Patch paving consists of the removal and replacement of localized pavement failures. The project typically includes work on streets that will be resurfaced with a slurry seal. It also includes streets where a failure is too severe to correct with a surface patch, but the entire street does not require a structural upgrade with an asphalt overlay.

Slurry seal is a thin coating of a cold mixture consisting of asphalt, oil, water, and rock that

seals and protects the pavement from the damaging effects of the sun's ultraviolet light and rain water runoff. Applying a slurry seal is comparable to the repainting of a house to protect its exterior surface. This preventative maintenance process is a cost-effective measure to prolong the life of City streets and maximize the value of previous investments.

It is anticipated that the 2016 pavement maintenance projects will be completed during the summer months. If you have any questions, please contact Associate Civil Engineer, Ms. Trang Tran, at (510) 578-4298 or by e-mail at trang.tran@newark.org.

For further information on Measure B/Measure BB and VRF projects and programs, please visit the Alameda CTC website at <http://www.alamedactc.org/>.

Measure B/Measure BB funding at work in Newark

In November 2000, the voters of Alameda County approved the reauthorization of Measure B, a one-half cent sales tax for transportation improvements. On November 4, 2014, Alameda County voters passed Measure BB with 70% approval. Measure BB extends the existing Measure B tax until 2045 and increases the tax to a total of 1%. The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) administers the proceeds from this continued sales tax.

This year, the City of Newark, in conjunction with the Alameda CTC, will utilize Measure B/Measure BB funds for the 2016 Curb, Gutter,

and Sidewalk Replacement Project. This project is coordinated with our annual concrete grinding program to address damaged concrete surfaces within the public right-of-way.

Most raised concrete issues can be corrected through periodic grinding rather than complete replacement. Only severely damaged sidewalks, curb and gutter, and driveway entrances are removed and replaced with the annual replacement project. The locations selected for replacement are prioritized based on the level of damage. Work associated with the replacement project can also include tree root pruning and root barrier installation to help prevent

future damage. The concrete grinding and replacement projects together are successful in helping to maximize public safety and contributing to the City's overall aesthetic appeal.

If you have any questions regarding the 2016 Curb, Gutter, and Sidewalk Replacement Project, please contact Engineering Technician, Laura Kelly, by telephone at (510) 578-4211, or by e-mail at laura.kelly@newark.org. For further information regarding Measure B/Measure BB projects in Alameda County, please visit the Alameda CTC website at <http://www.alamedactc.org/>.

Dilapidated properties - continued from Page 1

to take temporary control of the property, obtain loans, and perform the work necessary to bring the property up to code. Each property will then be sold and the proceeds given to the previous owner. The goal is for the community to be left with a safe home occupied by a new family. These remodels will also improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood.

The two properties on Mulberry Street have been fully rehabbed. The difference is

remarkable – they look like brand new homes! These two properties were recently listed for sale and received considerable attention. The other properties are currently undergoing construction.

The City of Newark takes the safety of our community and residents very seriously. Indeed, Newark is the first city in Alameda County to utilize this program.

If you are aware of any dilapidated and abandoned homes or structures that may be causing

public safety concerns, please contact Ms. Patricia Montejano, Community Preservation Specialist, at patricia.montejano@newark.org or (510) 578-4213.



Trash/ Recycling/ Organics information

The City of Newark and Republic Services would like to remind residents of the following important information regarding trash, recycling, and organics service:

Senior Rates:

Did you know that senior rates are available for customers age 70 and over? For more information, visit: <http://site.republicservices.com/site/alameda-county/en/pages/newark.aspx> or call Republic Services at (510) 657-3500.

Trash/Recycling/Organics Carts Placement:

Remember to set carts on the street, curbside and away from parked vehicles. Place your carts out for collection by 6 a.m. on your service day, and don't forget, carts need to be set 2 feet apart from each other.

Save the Date! Compost Giveaway:

Newark residents are once again invited to visit Republic Services' Fremont location to collect two bags of **FREE** compost this spring. Mark your calendar for Monday, April 4 – Friday, April 15, 2016 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Look for more details in Republic Services spring newsletter.



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Bulletin Board

City Offices closed

- Memorial Day - Monday, May 30, 2016

Operating hours

City offices are closed on alternating Fridays. The Fridays affected through June 2016 are March 25; April 8 and 22; May 6 and 20; and June 3 and 17, 2016. Police and Fire services, along with the Silliman Activity Center and Aquatic Center, are not affected by this action.

Free! AARP tax assistance

Do you need help preparing your income tax returns? Volunteers with the AARP Tax-Aide program in cooperation with the IRS will assist low and middle income taxpayers free of charge. There is no age requirement and you do not need to be a member of AARP to get assistance. You do, however, need to make an appointment. Appointments can be scheduled between 9:15 am and 12:15 pm on Wednesdays through April 8, 2015, at the Newark Senior Center. Please call Kelly Hess at 510-578-4845 to reserve your time. *The following items should be brought to your appointment:* a copy of last year's federal and state tax returns and any tax documents you have received for 2015, such as pension, social security, interest and dividend statements. If you itemize deductions, please bring two years property tax bills. If you bought or sold stocks or bonds, please bring your broker's statement. If you will be filing a joint return with your spouse, it is helpful if both of you attend the appointment.

Free! National Night Out document shredding

Newark residents will have the opportunity to bring up to four banker sized boxes to a free shredding event hosted by the Newark Police Department and the Community Engagement Team on July 30, 2016, from 10am-2pm, in the City Hall parking lot, 37101 Newark Boulevard. Hard drives/cell phones can be shredded at a cost of \$5.00 each. Identification and proof of residency is mandatory to participate.

Silliman Aquatic Center

Registration for Summer Activities and Camps at the Newark Recreation Department are open now! Visit our page at www.newark.org.

The Silliman Aquatic Center is now hiring Lifeguard Swim Instructors. Learn more by visiting our page at www.newark.org/jobs.

Full Time Licensed Child Care Center for Preschoolers

Located at the Newark Community Center, 35501 Cedar Blvd.

Providing 3-5 year olds a safe, happy learning environment for 20+ years

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 (510) 578-4438



Newark Recreation and Community Services Department

