



City Administrator's Report

January 2007

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.

James L. Armstrong
jarmstrong@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
(805) 564-5301

Tony Ruggieri
truggieri@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
(805) 564-5311

Subscribe to the City Administrator's Report online: To help reduce paper usage and postage costs, please consider subscribing to the electronic version of this report. The following link will take you to the log-in page on the city website, where you may opt-in or opt-out of lists, set the e-mail format, reset passwords, and change e-mail addresses.

http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/E-Subscription/Esub_Userlogin.htm.

If you would like to be taken off the hard copy mailing list, please call the City Administrator's Office at (805) 564-5305 or e-mail Linda Gunther at lgunther@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Click on any item in the Table of Contents for more information:

Key Meetings	2
Community Events	2
Flags on State Street	2
City Administrator	3
City TV Airs January Episode of Inside Santa Barbara.	3
Administrative Services	3
Internet Systems Upgrades Internet Security Access.	3
Special Recruitment for Boards and Commissions	3
Airport	3
Passenger Count Up	3
Aviation Education for Youth	4
Community Development Department	4
Solar Design Guidelines	4
Finance Department	5
Fire Department	6
Major incidents.	6
New Schedule for Firefighters – 18 Month Trial Period.	6
Library Department	7
Library Launches New Web Site	7
Santa Barbara Reads/UCSB Reads on Global Warming	7
Parks and Recreation Department	7
Applications Available for Harriet Miller Youth Leadership Award.	7
Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club Celebrates 70th Anniversary.	7
Santa Barbara Golf Club Joins Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System.	7

Parks and Recreation Wins Two Achievement Awards from California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS)..... 8
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Restoration of Mesa Creek and the Arroyo Burro Estuary 8
Bohnett Park Playground Opened..... 8
Police Department 8
15-Year-Old Girl Rescued From a Horrible Life..... 8
Homelessness and Auto Theft Don't Mix..... 8
Chimney Burglar Arrested..... 9
Public Works Department 9
Milpas Street Beautification Project is 90% Completed. 9
Electricity Efficiency at El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant 9
Evaluation of Drinking Water Treatment Methods. 9
“Looking Good Santa Barbara” Spirit of Service Awards 2007..... 9
Waterfront Department..... 10
Fish Float North Structure and Gangway Replacement. 10

Key Meetings

January 9, 23, & 30: **City Council Meetings**, 2 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street.

Community Events

January 17: **Mesa Creek and Arroyo Burro Estuary Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony**, 10:30 a.m. Contact Creeks Division at 897-2658 for more information.

January 25: **22nd Santa Barbara Film Festival Opening Night**, Gala, Arlington Theatre, 1317 State Street. Contact Santa Barbara Film Festival at 963-0023 for more information or visit www.sbiff.org

Flags on State Street:

January 2 – 15: Surgical Eye Expeditions (S.E.E.) International

January 15 – 25: Planned Parenthood

January 25 – February 5: Santa Barbara International Film Festival

City Administrator

City TV Airs January Episode of Inside Santa Barbara. *Inside Santa Barbara* is a monthly, thirty-minute, news magazine program that informs Santa Barbara citizens about City issues, events, projects and the wide array of services our city government provides in a clear and entertaining manner. In the January Episode of Inside Santa Barbara, City TV takes a closer look at the Tenant Displacement Assistance Ordinance and the Sewer Lateral Ordinance. The History 101 series continues with a look back at the historic Train Depot. The “Cookin’ with Christy” segment rings in the New Year with tips on how to eat healthy in 2007. Finally, viewers can learn about the steps the City is taking toward sustainability. The January episode of *Inside Santa Barbara* premieres on Saturday, January 6th at 9 p.m. You can also watch the show as well as archived shows on www.citytv18.com

Administrative Services

Internet Systems Upgrades Internet Security Access. All industries and agencies are being deluged with hostile virus attacks, e-mail spam, and intrusion attempts which require an upgraded security protection. In late December, Information Systems completed the upgrade of the City’s Internet Security and Acceleration (ISA) server which provides the latest protection in this important area. The ISA server administers rules that govern and secure Internet access, requires firewall usage for all Internet activity, provides better reporting of Internet trends and attempts by external groups to penetrate the City network, and improves Internet performance.

This complex project required installation of a new hardware server, new software application, network routing changes, creation and testing of security rules, and staged implementation that ensured current staff internet access was retained at all times. The upgrading of internet security access is all part of the effort to keep our network free from attack and compromise.

Special Recruitment for Boards and Commissions. The City is currently conducting a special recruitment for the following Boards and Commissions:

- Architectural Board of Review
- Harbor Commission
- Oversight Committee (Measure P)

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, February 2, 2007. It is anticipated that the City Council will conduct interviews on Tuesday, February 27th during the afternoon session. The list of vacancies and applications are available at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov or by contacting the City Clerk’s Office at (805) 564-5309.

Airport

Passenger Count Up. During November 69,665 passengers arrived and departed at Santa Barbara Airport. This is a 1% increase over November 2005. Year-to-date the passenger count is up 0.7% over the same period last year. The non-stop jet flights to Dallas/Fort Worth aboard

American Eagle and Denver aboard *United Express* experienced the highest average loads at 92% and 88% respectively.

Aviation Education for Youth. The decade-old *Future Flyers Program* at the Airport Visitors Center is in full swing. Sixth-grade students from five area elementary schools are taking turns visiting the Airport to participate in a special course that focuses on the principles of flight, airport operations, weather, and aviation history. Students spend two full days at the Center receiving instruction from local aviation experts and participating in atmospheric experiments designed by NASA scientists. School follow-up includes web-based researched written reports with questions answered via e-mail by Airport Community Education Liaison Tim Lawton. Using donated model airplane kits, the students design and build their own aircraft. These handmade aircraft compete in a distance-flying contest at the end of the program. The competition takes place at the Center, attended by the students and their parents. *Future Flyers* is popular among local school district teachers since it is a fun way for students to learn math and science while gaining exposure to a variety of aviation careers. The success of this program is linked directly to the active support of the Santa Barbara Flying Club and Radio Modelers Club in association with the commendable efforts of Tim Lawton.

Community Development Department

Solar Design Guidelines. Council adopted Solar Design Guidelines and Recognition Programs on December 5th, 2006. The City of Santa Barbara supports the use of solar energy as an environmentally superior alternative to the use of fossil fuels. The focus of each guideline and recognition program is, in summary:

- **Solar Energy System Guidelines and Recognition Program.** Specifies how to achieve a solar energy system that is high performing as well as aesthetically well integrated with its surrounding location, and therefore eligible for a recognition award.
- **Passive Solar Design Guidelines and Recognition Program.** The best way to reduce energy consumption is through conservation. The document encourages building siting, orientation, materials, construction techniques, and landscaping to reduce long-term energy needs for new developments.

The Guidelines and Recognition Programs were prepared as part of the City's participation in the Federal Million Solar Roofs Program (which has a goal of solar panels to be installed on one million US roofs by 2010, including 750 solar energy system installations in Santa Barbara County). The documents are focused on education, voluntary use and a recognition program. City Council will publicly recognize Solar Energy System and Passive Solar Design projects consistent with these guidelines at a Council hearing each June. "Solar Recognition Award" certificates suitable for framing and attractive sun-shaped small wall plaques will be presented to award winners.

Copies of the Solar Design Guidelines are available at the 630 Garden Street, Public Planning and Zoning Counter or by contacting Heather Baker, Project Planner at 564-5470 extension 4599. They are also available on-line at: http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/Home/Forms/design_guidelines.htm.

Finance Department

Sales Tax Grows 1.4%. For the quarter ended September 30, 2006, the City’s sales tax revenue grew 1.4% from the same quarter of the prior year. This small growth was not unexpected due to the unusually strong increase (14.5%) we experienced in the same quarter last year. However, we will need to see improvement in the upcoming quarters in order to realize our 4.1% budgeted growth.

City of Santa Barbara SALES TAX								
Quarter Ended	FY 2004	Change from Prior Year	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year
Sept 30	4,536,571	-0.4%	4,512,083	-0.5%	5,164,138	14.5%	5,234,636	1.4%
Dec 31	4,765,855	4.8%	4,946,706	3.8%	5,034,371	1.8%		
Mar 31	4,289,056	6.8%	4,367,907	1.8%	4,367,052	0.0%		
June 30	4,621,598	5.7%	4,793,216	3.7%	5,027,168	4.9%		
Totals	\$ 18,213,080	4.1%	\$ 18,619,912	2.2%	\$ 19,592,729	5.2%		

November Transient Occupancy Tax Up 9.5%: Revenues for the month of November were up 9.5% from the same month of the prior year. Our fiscal year-to-date growth is 7.4%, which is ahead of our 5% budgeted growth, but in line with our preliminary year-end projections.

City of Santa Barbara TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES								
Month	FY 2004	Change from Prior Year	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year
July	\$ 1,198,952	1.3%	\$ 1,301,652	8.6%	\$ 1,477,789	13.5%	\$ 1,571,320	6.3%
Aug	1,349,990	1.6%	1,357,717	0.6%	1,504,589	10.8%	1,591,998	5.8%
Sept	887,095	4.5%	931,244	5.0%	1,109,428	19.1%	1,196,533	7.9%
Oct	863,919	4.1%	914,718	5.9%	963,261	5.3%	1,051,043	9.1%
Nov	696,742	1.7%	721,982	3.6%	809,684	12.1%	886,600	9.5%
Dec	553,094	4.4%	575,075	4.0%	671,965	16.8%		
Jan	584,653	0.2%	606,484	3.7%	661,507	9.1%		
Feb	703,493	14.1%	699,349	-0.6%	738,532	5.6%		
Mar	782,652	11.0%	872,554	11.5%	855,597	-1.9%		
April	875,760	10.4%	941,281	7.5%	1,000,696	6.3%		
May	895,378	9.6%	1,001,450	11.8%	1,015,349	1.4%		
June	973,955	3.3%	1,157,985	18.9%	1,223,974	5.7%		YTD
FY Total	\$ 10,365,683	5.1%	\$ 11,081,490	6.9%	\$ 12,032,372	8.6%	\$ 6,297,494	7.4%
Budget	\$ 10,273,900		\$ 10,684,900		\$ 11,504,200		\$ 12,630,600	

Includes only the 10% unrestricted TOT revenues. Beginning in January 2001, an additional 2% is credited to Creeks/Clean Water (Measure B).

Fire Department

Major incidents. The Fire Department responded to several major emergency incidents during December:

On December 3rd, a fire was reported in an apartment on De La Vina Street. The occupant, Dorothy Robinson, was severely burned after candle wax caught fire on the stove, and subsequently died as a result of her injuries.

On December 9th, a fire occurred at a home on East Anapamu Street. Two occupants were injured; and one continues to be under medical treatment for burns and severe smoke inhalation as of this writing.

In addition to these fires, there were several other structure fires, which luckily, did not cause any injuries to occupants. Many of the fires were as a result of burning candles or blocked heaters. In numerous cases, smoke detectors were not present or not functioning. The Fire Department reminds you to check that your smoke detectors are functioning properly!

On December 19th at about 5:45 a.m. a tractor-trailer crashed and caught fire on the northbound Highway 101 bridge over Cabrillo Boulevard. No one was seriously injured in the accident, which caused the shut down of the freeway for several hours while the incident was contained and cleaned up.

New Schedule for Firefighters – 18 Month Trial Period. For the past several years, the Santa Barbara Firefighters Association has had growing interest in having the City give consideration to an alternate work schedule for fire suppression staff. In the interest of enhancing employee morale and job satisfaction, the Fire Chief and his staff agreed to develop a plan to implement the requested alternate schedule.

Currently, firefighters work an average of a 56-hour work week composed of a series of 24-hour shifts. The cycle amounts to working every other day during a consecutive 5 day period, then taking 4 consecutive days off. The new schedule would still consist of an average 56 hour work week, but the cycle would be altered. The "48/96" schedule has firefighters working a 48 hour shift (with designated rest periods) and then taking 96 hours off. This schedule is becoming more common in the United States (over 175 fire agencies are currently using this schedule) for a variety of reasons. The most common rationale for adopting this schedule has been the fact that due to rising housing prices, public safety employees have been forced to look for housing further away from the metropolitan centers where they are employed. This schedule reduces the number of required commuting days by 50%. Other reported benefits of this schedule have been a slight reduction in sick leave use and improved productivity of the crews. Undue fatigue during the 48 hour shift has been a rare occurrence with the departments utilizing this new schedule.

Beginning on January 6th, the 18-month trial period for this schedule will begin. If successful, the Fire Department will recommend that the 48/96 schedule be established as the on-going fire operations schedule.

Library Department

Library Launches New Web Site. The Santa Barbara Public Library System unveils its new web site this month. The new graphic design is fresher looking and easier to use, and includes custom photos taken in local library settings. One of several new features, *Bookletters* is a free service that allows the library patron to read book reviews online and sign up for email newsletters about books, audio books and DVDs. The Library's web address remains www.sbplibrary.org.

Santa Barbara Reads/UCSB Reads on Global Warming. The Santa Barbara Public Library System is partnering with the University of California, Santa Barbara in its first campus-wide reading program, from January through April, focusing on the issue of global warming. The book selected for the program is *Field Notes From A Catastrophe*, by Elizabeth Kolbert. This book cuts through competing rhetoric and political agendas to elucidate what is really going on with the global environment and asks what, if anything, can be done to save our planet. The Santa Barbara Public Library System will have multiple copies of the book and book on CD available for check out. The libraries will host panel discussions led by UCSB faculty to discuss the book and answer questions about global warming and its ramifications. On April 19th the author will speak on campus at Campbell Hall in a free public lecture. The program will wrap up at the Earth Day Festival on April 22nd at the Courthouse Sunken Gardens. Program details may be found at <http://UCSBReads.library.ucsb.edu>

Parks and Recreation Department

Applications Available for Harriet Miller Youth Leadership Award. The Harriet Miller Youth Leadership Award is given to an outstanding high school senior in the Santa Barbara area in recognition of their leadership qualities and community service contributions. Teen Programs and the Downtown Organization form a selection committee to review applications and choose a recipient to receive a \$500 scholarship at a luncheon scheduled for January 25th. Applications are due to Teen Programs no later than Friday, January 17th. Applications and eligibility requirements can be found at www.sbparcsandrecreation.com by clicking on "Teens" under Recreation or by calling Teen Programs at 897-2650.

Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club Celebrates 70th Anniversary. Founded in 1937 in Spencer Adams Park and sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department ever since, the Lawn Bowls Club will celebrate its 70th year by offering free instruction to interested players starting on January 16th at 10 a.m. at the park. The game is for all ages and has value for both physical and mental well being. For more information, call the Club at 965-1773.

Santa Barbara Golf Club Joins Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System. The Santa Barbara Golf Club has received certification in Environmental Planning from the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), an international program administered by Audubon International designed to help landowners preserve and enhance the environmental quality of their property. This program also provides an advisory service to help existing golf courses develop effective conservation and wildlife enhancement programs. By participating in the ACSS, the Golf Club will be involved in projects that enhance habitat for wildlife and preserve natural resources for the benefit of the local community. Projects include placing nesting boxes

for cavity-nesting birds such as bluebirds and swallows; utilizing integrated pest management techniques; conserving water; and maintaining food and cover for wildlife.

Parks and Recreation Wins Two Achievement Awards from California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS). The 2006 Junior Lifeguard State Championships hosted at East Beach by the Aquatics section won an Achievement Award for the CPRS Recreation and Community Services/Health and Wellness competition. In addition, the Integrated Pest Management program won an Achievement Award for the 2006 Parks Operation and Maintenance category. Awards will be presented in Sacramento this March.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Restoration of Mesa Creek and the Arroyo Burro Estuary. Construction of the restoration of Mesa Creek and the Arroyo Burro Estuary will be complete in early January. The public is invited to join Mayor Marty Blum, members of the City Council, appointed officials and City staff for the ribbon cutting ceremony, scheduled for January 17th at 10:30 a.m. The project restores coastal estuarine, riparian and coastal sage scrub habitats, and will contribute to improve water quality in Mesa Creek, the estuary and at Arroyo Burro Beach. A significant feature of the project is the daylighting of Mesa Creek. It represents the first time on the South Coast that a creek, once confined to a concrete culvert, can now flow above ground to the estuary. The project is funded by state and federal grants from agencies as diverse as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State Parks and Recreation, California Wildlife Conservation Board, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the State Coastal Conservancy. Santa Barbara County Coastal Resource Enhancement Funds are also supporting project construction as well as Measure B, which is funded by hotel visitors. More information about the project can be found at sbcreeks.com

Bohnett Park Playground Opened. The new playground in Bohnett Park was opened in December 2006. This playground has all rubberized surfacing and a climbing wall. Additionally, new concrete curbing was added to control weeds.

Police Department

15-Year-Old Girl Rescued From a Horrible Life. On December 13th, police arrested a 26-year old Las Vegas woman for pimping out a 15-year-old runaway from Orange County. Officers contacted the victim after a disturbance at an upper State Street hotel. She was alone. The officer did not buy into her story about visiting Santa Barbara with friends. He coaxed the tale of life on the streets, desperately agreeing to work for the male-female pimp team, and being forced to earn cash. She described being ferried to Las Vegas and Ventura before arriving in Santa Barbara two days ago. Child Welfare Services took custody of the troubled girl. A "Be on the Lookout" was issued for the pimps and their vehicle. Two hours later, the female suspect was spotted driving the champagne colored Cadillac. She fled from police for several blocks before pulling over and yielding to arrest. Meanwhile, police are seeking the male pimp, who is known to travel between Bakersfield, Las Vegas, and Anaheim.

Homelessness and Auto Theft Don't Mix. On December 18th, a woman found her daughter's 21-year-old male acquaintance sleeping in her daughter's bed while the daughter was away. Police were called and arrested the man for a parole violation warrant. Car keys in the man's pocket linked him to a GMC Jimmy parked out back. The vehicle was reported stolen a month ago from 400 Peach Grove Lane. On the Jimmy were "cold" license plates stolen from

a truck parked at 200 N. Milpas Street. Reportedly, the suspect is homeless and has been sleeping in campgrounds and in the stolen vehicle. The cold weather prompted him to seek out the warm bed, which proved his undoing. He was booked for auto theft, theft, and parole violation.

Chimney Burglar Arrested. On January 1st at 2:30 a.m., police arrested a 19-year-old man for breaking into a house at 800 Jennings Avenue. What was unusual in this case is that the occupants were having a party and the suspect entered by means of the chimney. The suspect lives next door but does not know his neighbors. He heard the party, looked in through a window, and saw that only women were at the party. He later told police he wanted to join the party but was confident they would not let him in if he knocked at the door. So instead, he climbed on the roof and tried to slither down the chimney. On his way down he became stuck. Panic stricken, he shouted for help. The surprised party-goers traced the frantic shouts to the fireplace, looked up, and saw the suspect's dangling feet. They called for police. Meanwhile, the suspect dislodged a brick that impeded his downward progress. He fell down in a heap, covered in soot from head-to-toe. A waiting Police Officer promptly arrested him, ending his chances at being the only man at a women's party. The suspect was booked for residential burglary, and warned about impersonating Santa!

Public Works Department

Milpas Street Beautification Project is 90% Completed. New bulb outs (pedestrian safety features) at the Canon Perdido Street intersection have made crossing Milpas/Canon Perdido Streets safer. New trees, grates, bus stop benches, and sidewalk improvements have made the sidewalk safer, too, and are more pleasing to the eye. The Milpas Street Holiday spirit has been greatly enhanced by the new holiday lighting receptacles at each streetlight. The project has been temporarily shut down for the Holiday Season, but construction will resume this month with the mounting of the new pedestrian lighting fixtures.

Electricity Efficiency at El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Wastewater Division continues to work to reduce electrical demand by replacing equipment, such as pumps and motors, with more energy efficient alternatives. Recently the division received a rebate check for \$27,000 for retrofits made to the anaerobic digesters and for installing a more efficient type of pump at the influent wet well.

Evaluation of Drinking Water Treatment Methods. Carollo Engineers is finishing up a year-long Advanced Water Treatment Solutions Pilot Study at the City's Cater Water Treatment Plant. The study is evaluating the performance of different water treatment methods for complying with the upcoming federal drinking water standards. Once the results from the pilot study have been analyzed, the water treatment method that best addresses the upcoming standards will be recommended for the Cater Plant's treatment process. This multi-million dollar effort is scheduled to begin in Fiscal Year 2008.

"Looking Good Santa Barbara" Spirit of Service Awards 2007. The Spirit of Service Awards program honors individuals and entities for outstanding, ongoing efforts to keep Santa Barbara looking good through their work to promote effective recycling practices and/or eliminate visual pollution such as graffiti and litter. This is the perfect opportunity to let us know about a person, organization or program that stands above the rest by helping to eliminate blight or build a sustainable Santa Barbara. The deadline for nominations is January 25th. Visit

www.lookinggoodsb.com for official nomination form. For more information or to have a form mailed, contact Lorraine Cruz Carpenter, Executive Coordinator at (805) 386-2361. "Looking Good Santa Barbara" is funded by the City of Santa Barbara and administered by Environmental Services.

Waterfront Department

Fish Float North Structure and Gangway Replacement. Installed in 1977, Fish Float North is nearing the end of its useful lifespan and needs to be replaced. The 29-year old facility provides berthing for 11 commercial fishing vessels and is located immediately north of the City Pier. Work involves demolition and removal of the docking system, gangway, utility conduits, and 12 of the existing 22 piles. The replacement system will be fabricated off-site and transported to Santa Barbara where it will be assembled at the Launch Ramp and floated into place at Fish Float North. The gangway will be installed using a small crane and utilities will be installed last and provided to each slip. Construction begins January 8th, with piles being driven the last two weeks of January. Construction is scheduled to last 20-25 working days.