

CityScene

A newsletter for the citizens of Camarillo

September - October 2007
Volume 14~Number 1

Camarillo City Council

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- Vice Mayor Charlotte Craven
482-4730 (home)
- Kevin Kildee
482-2124 (office)
- Michael D. Morgan
482-0589 (home)
- Don Waunch
388-5307 (City Hall)

Department Directory

City Manager
Jerry Bankston

- Administration: 388-5307
- Building & Safety: 388-5395
- City Clerk: 388-5316
- Community Development: 388-5360
- Finance: 388-5320
- General Services: 383-5633
- Police Department: 388-5100
- Public Works: 388-5380

City Web Site:
www.ci.camarillo.ca.us

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City to Launch New Web site

The City of Camarillo has a new face on the Web this month, following the launch of a redesigned site on September 1. This is the first makeover for the City Web site in nearly six years. The new site does away with the bare bones, blue theme replacing it with a new color scheme and images.

“One of the main design considerations was to make the site more functional and user-friendly for the public,” said the City’s webmaster. “The City provides a lot of useful information for its citizens, but they must be able to locate this easily for it to benefit them. We anticipate they will discover it to be a valuable resource.” **See Web site on page 3**



The new City Web site has many new features to make the site more functional and user-friendly for the public.

Free E-Waste Recycling Events

The City of Camarillo is teaming up with Gold Coast Recycling to host free e-waste drop-off recycling events September 28-30 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring any e-waste listed below to the Camarillo Community Center, 1605 Burnley Street (corner of Burnley Street and Carmen Drive). No appointment is necessary.

Televisions, computer monitors, and other e-waste should not be disposed of in landfills because circuit boards, batteries, and cathode ray tubes (CRT’s) may contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, and chromium. If improperly handled or disposed of, these toxins can be released into the environment.

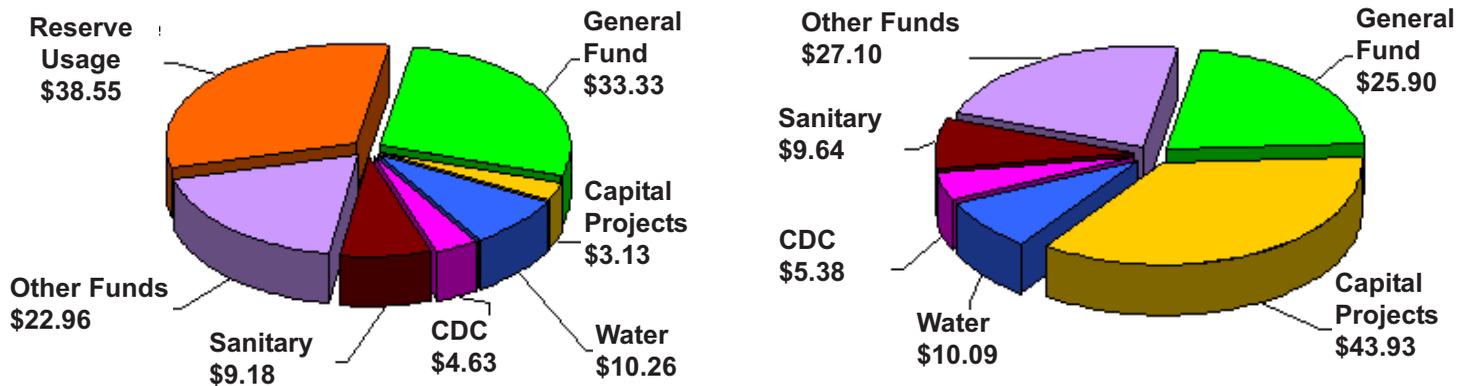
The following items will be collected at the events: televisions, computer monitors, computers, printers, VCRs, DVD players, stereos, radios, cell phones, scanners, keyboards, copy machines, and fax machines. Items not accepted include: household/commercial appliances such as refrigerators, microwaves, washers or dryers, or any hazardous material waste. For more information, please contact the City’s Recycling Coordinator at (805) 388-5392.



Many types of electronic products used in the workplace and homes including some shown in this picture contain hazardous substances such as lead and mercury. When these products reach the end of their useful lives or become obsolete, some are considered hazardous waste.

FY 2007/2008 City Budget

Council Adopts Fiscal Year 2007/08 Budget – All Funds \$122.04 Million



Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

The budget anticipates expenditures for the Capital Improvement Projects shown below.

Project	Expenditure	Project	Expenditure
Springville Dr. Interchange/Storm Drain	\$ 8,500,000	Redevelopment Improvement Projects	2,390,000
W. Ventura Blvd. Utility Corridor	7,000,000	Wastewater Improvements	4,450,000
Upland Road Widening	5,000,000	Water Improvement Projects	4,790,000
Payment Rehabilitation	2,700,000	All Other Projects	7,095,000
W. Ventura Blvd. Extension	2,000,000	Total CIP	<u>\$43,925,000</u>

General Fund Budget

General Fund revenue and expenditures is where the majority of the City's discretionary funds are recorded. The largest expenditure from the General Fund is for Police Services at 42 percent of the total (excluding transfers).

<u>General Fund Revenues (\$ millions)</u>		<u>General Fund Expenditures (\$ millions)</u>	
Sales Tax	\$ 12.33	Police Services	\$ 13.56
Property Tax	10.21	Administration	4.15
Franchise Fees	2.31	Public Works	2.41
Transient Occupancy Tax	1.75	Community Development	2.00
Investment Income	1.62	Library Services	1.70
Business Tax	1.35	Building & Safety	0.87
Other Revenue Sources	1.29	Code Enforcement	0.50
Building Permits	1.00	Cultural Arts Services	0.36
Development Services	0.94	Other	0.35
Motor Vehicle Fees	0.53	Total Expenditures	25.90
Total Revenues	33.33	Transfers	8.34
Reserves	0.91	Total	<u>\$ 34.24</u>
Total	<u>\$ 34.24</u>		



There are main sections for citizens, visitors, and government as well as an A-Z listing to assist users with navigation through 500+ web pages. A powerful new search capability enables users to locate information by entering a keyword and then simply clicking on the results.

Many questions can be answered quickly on-line at a time convenient to the user. The City developed the new site in-house in a way which makes it simple for staff to maintain. The City is interested in keeping the site current and is definitely interested in feedback from users. To check out the Web site, please visit www.ci.camarillo.ca.us. Also, please note that Click2Gov e-commerce options will be available in the future for utility bill payments to be made on-line.

If you have any questions about the new Web site or would like to provide some feedback, please e-mail rhumberstone@ci.camarillo.ca.us.

Emergency Supplies...think just a little at a time...

You know it's important to prepare for potential disasters, and the City of Camarillo is among the many organizations that reminds you about being prepared for the worst. But, putting together an emergency supply kit is something that many of us would rather put off.

The thing is, when the next major earthquake, fire, storm, or other incident occurs, it'll be hard to play catch up with your emergency supplies.

Emergency kits for your home and vehicle may contain numerous items, and the thought of buying all these items at once can make any of us delay the task. So, instead pick up a few items at a time. The next time you go shopping for groceries, make a point to pick up some emergency water; when you pick up your prescription from the pharmacy, purchase some first aid items, and when you make that weekend trip to the home improvement center, get a container for your supplies. In a short time your emergency kit will be assembled.



American Red Cross "together, we can save a life"

Finding out what you need is the easy part, just e-mail us at CityHall@ci.camarillo.ca.us for a free DVD and package of information, or contact us at (805) 388-5349. For additional information on emergency preparedness, please visit www.RedCross.org or www.OES.ca.gov.

City Enhances Penalties and Remedies for Code Violations

Building on its successful code enforcement program, the City has amended Municipal Code Chapter 1.12 to be consistent with other jurisdictions in making code violations subject to criminal misdemeanor penalties unless specifically designated in the code as an infraction or the charge is reduced to an infraction on a case-by-case determination by the City Attorney's office. Under state law, the maximum fine for a misdemeanor is higher than that of an infraction (\$1000 vs. \$100 for a first time violation). In addition, a misdemeanor charge carries with it the possibility of jail time. These heightened penalties are often sufficient to gain code compliance and deter future violations.

The amendments also increase the fines for infractions involving violations of local building and safety codes to the maximum amounts permitted under state law. The amendments clarify that code violations can involve persons who "permit, aid, abet, or maintain" an illegal condition or act as well as the persons who directly carry out a code violation. The revisions also enable the City to hold property owners separately responsible for the condition of their property even if a violation was committed by tenants or occupants of the property. Finally, as permitted under state law and endorsed by a recent Court of Appeals decision, the amendments allow the City to recover its attorney's fees in civil nuisance abatement proceedings where the City prevails.

Police Department to Offer 17th Citizens Academy

The Camarillo Police Department is offering its 17th Citizens Academy starting September 11. This twelve-week course is designed to give citizens an overview of the Police Department's mission and operational procedures. The Citizens Academy is free, and requires a commitment of three hours each Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.



There will be presentations by a superior court judge, K-9 officer, S.W.A.T. team members, bomb squad, narcotics officers, and many others. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet Camarillo's station commander, and get a comprehensive tour of the police station. There will be field trips to the Pre-Trial Detention Facility (main jail) and juvenile hall, Sheriff's dispatch and the crime lab (CSI), the Sheriff's Training Academy, and heliport. Participants will also go on a ride-along with a patrol deputy.

If you are interested in attending the Citizens Academy, you can obtain an application at the Camarillo Police Department, 3701 E. Las Posas Road. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, live or work in the Camarillo area, have no felony or misdemeanor convictions within one year of applying. For more information, please contact Senior Deputy Robert Maclean at (805) 388-5130.

High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate Program

City of Camarillo Water Division customers who replace their old washing machines with new High-Efficiency Clothes Washers (HECWs) may be eligible to receive a \$210 rebate from the City of Camarillo.

HECWs utilize technological advances to deliver excellent wash performance while saving both water and energy. Resource efficient models use 35 to 50 percent less water and energy than other models. The rebate program will run until funding is depleted and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. This program is not retroactive.



HECWs have been known to use 35 to 50 percent less water and energy than other models.

HECWs must have a water factor of 6.0 or less to be eligible for the rebate. To obtain program details and a list of approved HECWs, please call the Water Division at (805) 388-5373.

City Reaffirms Prohibition on the Use or Occupancy of Non-Habitable Rooms and Structures

The City has enacted Municipal Code Chapter 9.50, which prohibits the use of garages and other non-habitable spaces or structures for residential purposes. The new chapter was a response to City Council concerns, supported by staff findings, that numerous garages and other non-habitable spaces and structures in the City were illegally being occupied as living and sleeping quarters. Although such conduct is already prohibited under various provisions of the California Building Code and other uniform codes that the City has adopted, the City Council felt that consolidating such provisions into one ordinance would better serve notice to the public that such conditions pose an unacceptable threat to the health and safety of persons living in such spaces as well as that of nearby residents due to the increased likelihood of fires and other hazards.

The chapter has a broad definition of "responsible person," which will allow the City to hold a property owner as well as a tenant or even property manager that allows the subletting of a garage or other non-habitable space or structure to be held liable for violations. The new regulations provide for follow-up inspections of properties previously cited for a violation to ensure future compliance. Finally, the chapter provides for enhanced civil penalties to deter such conduct and to help recover the additional costs associated with related code enforcement activities.





September 2007

- September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
8 A.M. TO NOON, OLD TOWN CAMARILLO, 482-1507
- September 8 **CONCERT IN THE PARK**
RAYMOND MICHAEL (TRIBUTE TO ELVIS)
7 P.M. TO 9 P.M., CONSTITUTION PARK, 987-7847
- September 14, 15 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717
- September 15 **COASTAL CLEANUP DAY**
9 A.M. TO NOON, AT THE MAIN CANYON
OFF MISSION OAKS PARK, 383-5659
- September 28, 29, 30 **Free e-WASTE DROP-OFF RECYCLING EVENTS**
7 A.M. TO 4 P.M., 1605 E. BURNLEY ST., CAMARILLO
COMMUNITY CENTER, 388-5392.

THE CAMARILLO COUNCIL ON AGING IS FORMING A COMMITTEE TO ORGANIZE AND CONDUCT THE SECOND CAMARILLO SENIORS' EXPO, TO BE HELD MAY 6, 2008. THE 2008 THEME IS 'LIVE LIFE TO ITS FULLEST'. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS, PLEASE CALL THE COUNCIL ON AGING AT 484-2046, OR E-MAIL COUNCILONAGING@VERIZON.NET.

October 2007

- October 6, 13, 20, 27 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
8 A.M. TO NOON, OLD TOWN CAMARILLO, 482-1507
- October 12, 13 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717

Public Meetings

- Sept 12, 26
Oct 10, 24 **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**
5 P.M., CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
601 CARMEN DRIVE, CAMARILLO, CA 93010
- Sept 4, 18
Oct 2, 16 **PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**
7:30 P.M., CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
601 CARMEN DRIVE, CAMARILLO, CA 93010

Backyard Composting "Do the Rot Thing"

Composting, nature's own way of recycling and "Doing the Rot Thing," is the controlled decomposition of organic material such as leaves, twigs, grass clippings, and vegetable food waste. Compost is the soil amendment product that results from proper composting.

Whether it's done on-site, at the point of waste generation or on a large-scale, composting helps keep the high volume of organic material out of landfills and turns it into a useful product. It's also an excellent source of organic matter that can be used as mulch or be added to your garden or potted plants as nutrients.

In addition to composting, you can also help reduce organic waste by grasscycling (leaving grass clippings on the lawn when you mow) and vermicomposting (composting with worms). For additional information on how to start composting in your backyard, or how to order a compost bin, please call (805) 388-5392, or visit www.ci.camarillo.ca.us.



Starting the compost bin.

Evacuate Early or Stay and Defend



The fire season is now a year-round reality in Ventura County. Meteorologists are forecasting extreme drought conditions for Southern California, requiring firefighters and residents to be on heightened alert for threat of wildfire.

Each year, wildfires consume hundreds of homes in the Wildland/Urban Interface. However, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) estimates that as many as 80 percent of the homes lost to wildfires could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple fire-safe practices. In addition, wildfire related deaths occur because people wait too long to evacuate their home or prepare inadequately to stay and defend it.

The Ventura County Fire Department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildfire. However, the reality is that in a major wildfire, there will simply not be enough fire engines or firefighters to defend every home.

Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires you to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your property.

It's not a question of if, but when, the next major wildfire will occur. That's why the most important person in protecting your life and property is not the firefighter, but you. Through advance training and preparation, we can all be ready for wildfire.

The American Red Cross recommends every family have an emergency supply kit assembled long before a wildfire or other emergency occurs.

"The People Are The City"

the City of Camarillo



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ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Telephone Directory

City Manager	388-5307	Abandoned Vehicles	388-5150
Cable TV Cust. Service		Airport Noise Complaints	388-4202
Time Warner:	888-892-2253	Animal Regulation	388-4341
Verizon:	888-553-1555	Building & Safety	388-5395
City Cable TV Representative:	388-5349	Camarillo Area Transit (<i>Dial-A-Ride</i>)	988-4228
Economic Development:	388-5349	Camarillo Library	388-5222
Refuse Collection (E.J. Harrison):	647-1414	Graffiti Reports	388-5338
Recycling & Hazardous Waste:	388-5392	Fire Department (<i>non-emergency</i>)	389-9710
City Hazardous Waste Appts.	987-0717	Police Department (<i>non-emergency</i>)	388-5100
City Clerk	388-5316	City web site	
Finance	388-5320	www.ci.camarillo.ca.us	
Accounts Payable:	388-5352	City E-mail Address	
Business Licenses:	388-5330	cityhall@ci.camarillo.ca.us	
Utility Billing Services:	388-5325	City Recycling Program	
Community Development	388-5360	www.ci.camarillo.ca.us/live/recycling.html	
Code Enforcement:	383-5660		
Public Works	388-5380		
Streets:	388-5338		
Water:	388-5373		
Engineering:	388-5340		
Traffic:	388-5340		
Waste Water	388-5332		