



City Manager Lorie Tinfow contributes a monthly column to the *Pacifica Tribune* to connect with local residents and keep Pacificans informed on issues that are of current interest in the City of Pacifica. Below is the submission for the June 1, 2016 edition of the *Pacifica Tribune*, which focuses on three key City projects.

Busy Months Ahead for Key City Projects

We are making significant progress on three high profile projects—the Palmetto Streetscape Plan, redevelopment of 2212 Beach Blvd., and planning for a new Pacifica Library—and all will achieve significant milestones over the next few months.

Palmetto Streetscape Plan – Phase I

Several years ago, the 10-block stretch of Palmetto Ave. between Clarendon and Paloma Avenues was identified as the future site of a “Main Street” district that honors our history. In 2013, we completed undergrounding the overhead utilities and in 2014, we finalized a streetscape plan to make the area more pedestrian and bicycle friendly as well as support business success. We received a grant of \$1 million toward the project and the remaining funding needed for Phase I has been secured. This summer, the City Council will finalize the plans and we expect to solicit bids for the first phase in October 2016. Construction will likely begin during the 1st Quarter of 2017, depending on the weather, and be completed eighteen months later. Improvements include expanded intersection corners to shorten street crossing, replacement of utility poles with decorative streetlights, and added bike lanes. Three additional phases of the project that include landscaping and other changes are dependent on funding availability.

Development of 2212 Beach Blvd.

Also moving ahead is the selection of a development team to work with the City on transforming the former site of the waste water treatment plant into a hotel and restaurant. The selection process began last October, and we are now evaluating four proposals. We expect to narrow the field down to one development team with which we will enter into negotiations toward a development agreement. Currently, we expect to present the options with staff’s recommendation to the City Council in late June or July, and select the best team to fulfill the Council and community’s vision for the site.

Our highest priority criteria has been the ability to get the project underway as soon as possible so that the new tax revenues and sale proceeds are available to meet a variety of City needs. In addition, we anticipate that the private commitment to this major project will encourage additional investment on Palmetto Ave.

A New Pacifica Library

Last of the three is planning for a new library on the corner of Palmetto and Montecito Avenues. We need a new library because our current facilities are worn out and too small to allow us to receive the high level services and programs already available in newer libraries in nearby cities. Pacificans are big library users—almost 60% hold library cards and regularly visit the libraries (more than 175,000 times

annually). A new, single library would be open every day and have the means to provide the services and programs we deserve.

Like most cities, Pacifica will need additional funding to make a new library a reality; fortunately, we have help. San Mateo County Library has pledged approximately \$1.5 million to buy furnishings for the new library. Some years ago, San Mateo County gave the City the land on which the existing libraries sit, and the proceeds from selling the two sites will go toward the cost of the new library. Finally, the County has provided matching funds (\$500,000) that are paying for planning efforts underway now. The Pacifica Library Foundation and Friends of the Pacifica Library are also working to support our efforts.

A bond measure is needed to cover the remaining balance. We have been working to develop a survey to measure voter support and expect to have it out in the next week or two; if you are contacted, please provide your input. After we have the survey results this summer, the City Council will decide whether or not to put a bond measure on the November ballot.

Connect with Us

There's a lot going on and we want to keep the community informed. If you are interested in receiving updates on these projects and others, please send an email to ConnectwithPacifica@ci.pacifica.ca.us with a request to be added to the City's email list.
