

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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**JANUARY 23, 2012**

For additional information on any of the items in this report, please see contact list at the end of this report.

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**COFFEE WITH THE COPS:** Benicia Police Department hosted its second "Coffee with the Cops" neighborhood/business meeting on Thursday, January 5 at Benicia Grill. Approximately 25 citizens attended the morning meeting.

"Coffee with the Cops" is a pilot program implemented by Police Chief Andrew Bidou in an effort to enhance communication between community members, business owners and the Police Department. The meetings are held in various locations/times throughout the city to make the meetings as convenient as possible to the citizens of Benicia.



At the meetings Chief Bidou, Police Detectives and Officers as well as professional staff from the police department discuss crime trends, Neighborhood Watch, offer crime prevention tips and answer specific questions from citizens. The next "Coffee with the Cops" will be on February 9 at 4:00 pm at Mike and Gayle's Restaurant in the Southampton Shopping Center. – *Police Department*

**CITY ENERGY PROJECT:** Work is nearing completion at most of the 10 City-operation locations where solar panels are being installed to power facilities on-site. The City Hall parking lot has been partly reopened and will be fully open in the next few weeks. Meanwhile the conversion of streetlights Citywide (except for First Street) with energy efficient components has begun. – *Public Works & Community Development*

**JAMES LEMOS AQUATICS CENTER:** Staff issued a contract to re-plaster the James Lemos



dive pool. The plaster is starting to come off in several areas and is causing further deterioration to the gunite structure. The typical life expectancy of plaster is approximately ten years. The pool was previously re-plastered in 2000. The scope of this project includes: removing and replacing plaster,

installation of a new gutter tile and depth markers, replacement of drain inlets and entrapment inlets, and Health Department plans and permits. - *Parks & Community Services*

**DEPARTMENT BRANDING:** In 2011, the Parks & Community Services Department joined many city recreation departments and recreation districts across the state by embarking in a new branding campaign and logo proposed by the California Parks and Recreation Society. Benicia Parks & Community Services are encouraging citizens to seize the leisurely moments of life in 2012 because...

- *Parks & Community Services Department*



**BUSINESS NEWS:** New on First Street is [The Loft](#), a wedding and event design showroom, at 280 First Street. Owner Jason Diavatis is ready to help you plan and execute your event including the perfect wedding day. You can reach The Loft at 707.745.3812, check them out online or stop by the showroom on First Street.



Brand new in the Benicia Industrial Park is [Fat Shafts Archery](#) at 3001 Bayshore Road, Suite 9. A great place to brush up on your skill or learn a new one, Fat Shafts has Junior Olympic Archery Development classes, adult classes, a birthday party program, and even Tuesday and Thursday night leagues. Range hours are Monday, Noon 6:00 pm, Tuesday thru Friday, Noon - 9:00 pm, and Saturday, Noon - 5:00 pm. More information is available online or at 707.745.0447. - *Economic Development*



**LIBRARY END OF THE YEAR CARDHOLDER STATISTICS:** As of December 31, 2011, 20,034 persons held Benicia Library cards, with children between ages 5 and 14 holding 3,924 of these cards. - *Library*

**LIBRARY MEASURE L SALES TAX RENEWAL:** Originally passed in 1998 as Measure B, Measure L will extend the existing transactions and use tax for library operations at a rate of one-eighth of one percent (0.125%). The sales tax is used for funding public library programs, operations and acquisitions and provides increased hours of operation, more materials, and more programs for Benicia citizens. Measure L will be brought to the voters for consideration on the June 5, 2012 ballot. – *Library*

**2012 SPRING ACTIVITY GUILD AVAILABLE:** The City of Benicia provides exceptional recreation programs and services for all ages in our beautiful parks and facilities. Information on our programs and services are listed in a handy Activity Guide that is mailed quarterly to every household in Benicia and is also available [online](#). Check out the Activity Guide for information on activities for little ones, teens, adults, and seniors, in addition to information on our incredible park system and city facilities available for rent. See highlight of some of our classes and programs below:



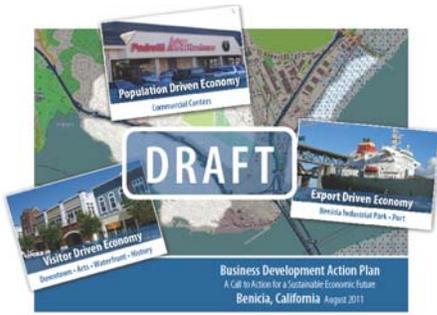
- **Play** – Safe, Outdoor Spaces  
Adult Softball, Basketball, Bocce Bowling, Dodgeball, Soccer, Tennis
- **Nature** – Enjoy Beauty & Serenity  
Benicia Day Hikers, Lake Herman, 9<sup>th</sup> Street Park
- **Exercise**– Stay Healthy  
Adult Lap Swim, Dance Classes, Karate, Senior Fitness Classes, Tai Chi, Zumba
- **Positive Spaces** - Meet Friends In Safe Gathering Places & Free-Time Fun  
Day Camps, Outdoor Music & Movies in the Park, Open Gym, Art Classes
- **Gathering Places** – Socializing & Learning  
Craft Classes, Leaders In Training, Parks, Recreation Swim, Senior Center
- **Forever** – Valued Today & Always  
CPR & First Aid, Cooking, Music, Swim Lessons, Youth Commission

-Parks & Community Services Department

**LIBRARY GETTING READY FOR SYSTEM UPGRADE IN FEBRUARY:** In conjunction with SNAP (Solano, Napa and Partners), the Benicia Public Library runs all circulation, catalog and record keeping functions on an [Integrated Library System \(ILS\)](#). The SNAP libraries will be migrating from the existing antiquated ILS to a current, upgraded system the weekend of February 17. As a result, all functions, including the public computers, catalog, circulation system, and other related processes, will be down from February 17 – 20, and the library will be closed on these dates. – *Library*

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL:** The Solano Transportation Authority's Safe Routes To School Task Force will conduct its first meeting at Benicia City Hall on February 1. The task force, which includes the City's Traffic Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee plus School District representatives, will be updating Benicia's Safe Routes to School maps and selecting two local schools for potential improvements. STA staff and consultants will be providing expert guidance. The public is encouraged to attend. – *Public Works & Community Development*

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN:** Since the November inception of the Plan's 120-day kick-start, Economic Development staff has investigated and began development of key objectives of the [BDAP](#). To date staff has initiated the Permit Streaming Task Force, the Sustainable Management Program Pilot Project, hired a firm to develop an Economic Development website, and commissioned the company Executive Pulse to provide computer software and services for the business retention program.



Staff expects to have the Plan finalized for approval by the Economic Development Board at its February meeting, with Council approval at a March meeting. – *Economic Development*

**MAINTENANCE AND BEAUTIFICATION WORK:** Over the last few weeks, the Public Works maintenance staff has completed litter pickup along Channel Road, paving of the bridge approaches for the Lake Herman overcrossing of I-680, and pothole repair along East Second Street. Water Treatment Plant staff also performed weed abatement along the Lake Herman Dam and Spillway and at Water Pump Station 3 across from Valero Headquarters. – *Public Works & Community Development*

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CONTACT INFORMATION

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published before each City Council meeting on the first and third Tuesday of the month. For additional information on any of the items in this report, please contact one of the following departments:

[City Manager/Human Resources/Economic Development](#): 707.746.4200

[City Attorney](#): 707.746.4216

[Finance Department](#): 707.746.4225

[Fire Department](#): 707.746.4275

[Library](#): 707.746.4343

[Parks & Community Services](#): 707.746.4285

[Police](#): 707.746.4265

[Public Works & Community Development](#): 707.746.4240 or 746.4280