



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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March 08, 2016

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published twice monthly highlighting the activities of the departments of our full-service city. Previous editions are available on the City of Benicia [City Manager's page](#). For additional information on any items in this report, please see Contact List at the end of this report.

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**C**HANGE YOUR CLOCK - CHANGE YOUR BATTERY! It's time to spring forward 1 hour, at 2:00 AM on **Sunday, March 13**. It's also a good time to remind you to change your batteries and test your smoke alarms to make sure they are working properly. – *Fire Department*



**N**EW CITY WEBSITE: City Manager Brad Kilger announced the launch of a new user friendly website for the City of Benicia on March 1. The site can be found at the same location, [www.ci.benicia.ca.us](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us), but it now has a fresh new look with improved navigation and functionality throughout the site.

“I am very pleased with the look and feel of our new website. It is informative, easy-to-use, and aptly portrays the community as the very unique and special place it is.” Kilger noted.

The work of the City's IT division and a committee made up of City staff members from various City departments culminated the nearly year-long effort to design and update the new site. As a full-service city, a large amount of information is available on the site, however, frequently visited pages are easily accessible through a carousel at the bottom of the home page, along with convenient links to social media sites.

For further information or if you have questions regarding the new site, please contact the City Manager's Office at 707.746.4200.  
– *City Manager's Office*



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP:** The City of Benicia will host a California Office of Historic Preservation's (OHP) Local Government Training Workshop on **Friday, March 18**, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM at the Benicia Capitol State Historic Park, 115 West G Street. The OHP is committed to providing educational opportunities to local communities throughout the state.



Workshop topics include Economic Benefits of Historic Preservation, The Mills Act as a Local Preservation Incentive, Crafting an Effective Historic Preservation Ordinance, and Historic Context as a Planning Document. Trainers include Lucinda Woodward, Amanda Blosser, Shannon Lauchner, and Sean de Courcy, of the Office of Historic Preservation. You can view the complete 2016 training schedule on the [OHP Local Government Workshops Page](#).

This event is free but seating is limited and advanced registration is required. Just click this link and fill out the form to sign up: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COBenicia>

For questions or comments on OHP training workshops, contact Sean de Courcy at [sean.decourcy@parks.ca.gov](mailto:sean.decourcy@parks.ca.gov) or 916.445.7042. – *Community Development*

**RIDE THE SOLTRANS ROUTE 20 FOR FREE:** See information below and don't forget, students ride free during Spring Break. More info at [www.Soltransride.com](http://www.Soltransride.com). – *City Manager's Office*

**Ride the 20 FREE!**  
**MARCH 1ST- APRIL 29TH**  
**Everyone rides FREE - Route 20 only**

Plus: Watch our website for Route 20 Workshop & Rider Town Hall where YOU help improve US!

**SolTrans**  
311 Sacramento St, Vallejo, CA 94590  
707-648-4666  
[www.Soltransride.com](http://www.Soltransride.com)

**City of Vallejo**  
**GATEWAY PLAZA**  
**SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Raley's**  
Family of Fine Stores  
**Benicia**  
A GREAT DAY BY THE BAY  
First Street

**20**  
Military  
First Street

PUB021810  
EXP042916

**UPDATE FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:** Here is a look at what the Public Works Department was up to last month. Were they in your neighborhood?

**Maintenance – Streets:**

Cleaned and cleared culvert at 800 blk West K Street at Willow Glen Park. Laid rock between 400 blk East I and J Streets, btw 500 blk East H and I Streets, and btw 100 blk West F and I Streets. Filled potholes on Park Road and Industrial Way, skin-patched alley btw East K and L Streets, Tyler Street, and btw 100 blk F and G Streets. Annual weed abatement, mow and spray weed control product along road side and open space throughout the City.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects:**

Staff purchased two air induction fans that are for the primary basement at the influent area of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. These were replaced in-house by Staff due to one fan failing and the other fan making noise sounding like it was going to fail. Staff was able to secure new fans for \$800 each and spent a few hours on installation. Staff performing the work in-house provided the City with a cost savings of \$4,500 when compared to the quote received from a qualified vendor.



Staff also installed a new flow meter on our number two return activated sludge (R.A.S.) pump system.



**Wastewater Treatment Plant - Maintenance:**

Staff performed 66 preventive maintenance tasks as well as 11 corrective maintenance work orders.

**WWTP Plant Performance:**

The Plant processed 95.42 million gallons of raw wastewater with no Permit exceedances.

Nutrient pollution removal; Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) = 99%

Total Suspended Solids (TSS) = 99%

The Effluent Acute Bioassay testing had a 97.5% survival rate.

*-City of Benicia Public Works Department*

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK:** The Benicia Police Department is participating in the

countywide Prescription Drug Take-Back day on **Saturday, April 30** from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Benicia Police Department, 200 East L Street. If you have expired or unused medication for humans or animals, simply remove them from the bottles and place in a zip-lock plastic bag and then drop it off anonymously at the Police Department. Make sure to remove all personal identification. Seal all liquids and creams with tape. No

IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK HERE

**Don't throw Expired or Unused Drugs in the Garbage or Down a Toilet...**

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY**  
**Saturday, April 30, 2016**  
**10:00am - 2:00pm**

**Benicia Police Department**  
 200 East L Street / (707) 746-4268

**Dixon Police Department**  
 201 West A Street / (707) 678-7070

**Rio Vista Police Department**  
 50 Poppy House Road / (707) 374-6366

**Solano County Sheriff Coroner's Office**  
 520 Clay Street, Fairfield / (707) 784-7500

**60th Wing Travis Air Force Base**  
 BX (Next to Starbucks) 461 Skymaster Circle Bldg 650 / (707) 423-5345

**Vacaville Police Department**  
 660 Merchant St. / (707) 469-4707

**Vallejo Police Department**  
 111 Amador Street / (707) 678-5291

**REMEMBER...**  
 Seal all liquids and creams!  
 Remove personal information!  
 No Sharps!

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS** are medication waste defined as items intended for use in the diagnosis, care, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in humans or animals; medication waste to synthesize with drug waste, pharmaceutical waste, unused or expired medication, unused or expired drugs, prescription and over-the-counter human drugs, veterinary drugs, diagnostic agents and nutritional supplements.

<http://Recycle.SolanoCounty.com>

A Local Partnership Supporting the Drug Enforcement Agency's National "Prescription Take Back" Initiative.

ENSURE RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

MAINTAIN A SAFE COMMUNITY - INVEST IN AND FOR THE FUTURE

sharps accepted! – Police Department

**LOOKING FOR A JOB?** Mark your calendars for one of the largest career fairs in the region. Solano Workforce Investment Board is hosting the WIB Regional Career Fair on **Thursday, April 7**, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the University of Phoenix, 5253 Business Center Drive in Fairfield. Meet employer representatives from nearly 90 companies. They have current job openings and they are hiring now!



Be prepared for the career fair! WIB offers workshops and resources to assist with resumes and interviewing at their [Fairfield](#) or [Vallejo](#) facilities, so you can be fully prepared for your job search. For the current workshop schedule and the most current list of employers, visit <http://www.solanowib.org/news-upcoming-events.php>. – Human Resources

**ENHANCED INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING DISTRICT:** The City of Benicia and the



County of Solano have joined in a Collaborative Economic Development Initiative, which could eventually create a redevelopment-style district to finance needed infrastructure improvements in the Benicia Industrial

Park. Unlike Redevelopment, the property would not have to be considered blighted. The District would use property tax increments toward improving and building infrastructure in the industrial park. The project is in the feasibility study phase. Read more about it in [this article](#) from the Daily Republic. – Economic Development

**CITY OF BENICIA JOB OPPORTUNITIES:** The Human Resources Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Recreation Leader II - Adult Softball Scorekeeper](#), part-time, 03/01/16
- [Building Official](#), full-time, closing 03/11/16
- [Irrigation Specialist](#), full-time, closing 03/11/16
- [Department Aide](#), part-time, closing 03/25/16
- [Police Officer - Lateral \(currently working\)](#), full-time, open continuously
- [Reserve Officer \(Volunteer\)](#), part-time, continuous

To apply, the application and supplemental forms can be filed online at: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/benicia/default.cfm>. City of Benicia employment

applications may also be obtained from and must be returned to the Human Resources Department at 250 East L Street, Benicia.



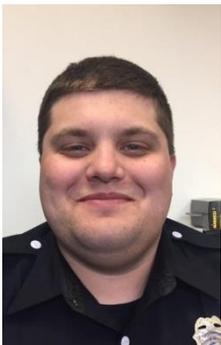
These job opportunities are open to any current City of Benicia employees (full or part time) as well as the general public. If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please let them know. - *Human Resources*

**New Firefighters:** Chief Jim Lydon and the Benicia Fire Department are pleased to announce the hiring of three new Paramedic Firefighters. There will be a Badge Pinning Ceremony for them on **Wednesday, March 30**, at 9:00 AM at Fire Station 11.

**Brandon Mandap:** A Bay Area native, Brandon attended Diablo Valley College and Solano Community College with an emphasis in Fire Technology. He attended paramedic school at National College of Technical Instruction in Hercules and has worked as a mechanic at automotive performance shops in the Bay Area, an EMT for Medic Ambulance, an Emergency Department Technician in UCSF Medical Center's Emergency Department, and a paramedic in San Francisco's 911-system with King-American Ambulance. He became a Reserve Firefighter for the Benicia Fire Department in May 2015 and is now excited to be a part of the Department's organization as a probationary Paramedic Firefighter. In his spare time, Brandon enjoys attending professional sporting events and recently had the opportunity to travel to Peru, Europe, South Korea, China and Egypt. He also enjoys riding motorcycles and restoring classic cars.



**Drake Martin:** Born and raised in Sonoma where he played baseball and football, Drake earned his AS in Fire Technology from Santa Rosa Junior College. He grew in a family of firefighters. His father is a Captain with the Vallejo Fire Department, and his grandfather is a Volunteer Division Chief with the City of Sonoma. Drake became a Fire Explorer at 14, a Volunteer Firefighter at 17, a part-time Firefighter with the Sonoma Valley Fire Department in 2011, and began working with Cal Fire as a Seasonal Firefighter in 2012. Drake became a Paramedic in 2015, working Ukiah on an ambulance before being hired as a Paramedic Firefighter at the Benicia Fire Department. In his spare time, Drake likes the outdoors and enjoys dirt biking, snowboarding and wakeboarding. He also likes giving back to the community and is an Explorer Advisor, teaching Fire Explorers different aspects of firefighting.





**Ryan McDonald:** Rocklin native Ryan attended Fresno State where he was a student and athlete playing on the men’s golf team and earned a degree in Communications. After he pursued a career in professional golf for a short time, he attend the Fire Academy, EMT school, and Paramedic school. He worked a variety of jobs while trying to enter the fire service until he received a call from Benicia Fire Department. Ryan is proud of many accomplishments: Obtained a college education (first college degree in his family) paid for by a golf scholarship, played golf competitively at the highest levels, earned and paid for all of his certifications and licenses in order to become a firefighter. He looks forward to his next 30 years of service. – *Fire Department*

Please join me in welcoming Brandon, Drake and Ryan to the City of Benicia family. – *City Manager*

**RESTAURANT START-UP WORKSHOP:** Solano Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) is hosting a Restaurant Start-up Hybrid Series Workshop. This program is aimed at assisting restaurant entrepreneurs in the success of their new or existing food based business. This entrepreneurial program will be comprised of a series of ten 30 minute webinars, three in person workshops, and one on one business advising with the Solano SBDC's expert advisors.

This **free** training is available at two locations. Limited space is available. Sign up to reserve your spot:

**Fairfield Orientation:**

**Tuesday, April 12, 6:00 - 7:30 PM** at Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Room TBA.

**Vallejo Orientation:**

**Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 - 7:30 PM** at Solano Community College, 545 Columbus Parkway, Room TBA.

For more information, contact Solano SBDC’s Melissa Pegg at [melissa.pegg@solano.edu](mailto:melissa.pegg@solano.edu) or 707.864.3382.

- *Economic Development*

**America's SBDC**  
SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
NATIONAL NETWORK

**SOLANO**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**FAIRFIELD**

**VALLEJO**

**Restaurant Start-Up Series Hybrid Workshop**  
Class Duration: April 18 - June 23, 2016

**SAVE YOUR SPOT REGISTER NOW**  
[www.solanosbdc.org](http://www.solanosbdc.org)  
**Choose your Orientation Location**  
April 12, 2016 - Fairfield Campus  
April 14, 2016 - Vallejo Campus

**SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE SBDC**  
4000 SUISUN VALLEY ROAD, RM 168-169  
Fairfield, CA 94534  
707-864-3382

**SBA**  
Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the applicant(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA or HSU Sponsored Programs Foundation.  
Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact: Melissa Pegg at 707-864-3382 or email sbkdirector@solano.edu.

**BENICIA HOME EFFICIENCY PROGRAM:** In April 2015, Governor Jerry Brown issued an executive order to California residents regarding the severe drought. The goal was to reduce urban water use by 25% by February 2016. Individual urban water districts, depending on their level of water use, were ordered to reduce water consumption between 4% and 36%. Benicia had a district goal of a 20% reduction. And how has Benicia responded? In December 2015, the total water use for Benicia decreased **49%** compared with usage from December 2013!

One important contributor to this amazing reduction is the Benicia Home Efficiency Program (BHEP). BHEP is a WattzOn program sponsored by the City of Benicia. BHEP delivers not only advice on how to save water through completely free in-home consultations, but also provides free energy and water saving products to all participating residents. Benicia High School student interns receive energy and water efficient training and perform door to door outreach in the community to increase program participation. The student interns also reach out to Benicia resident by acting as a visible presence in the community. You can find interns tabling at the Benicia Public Library, Farmers Markets and other community events.



Since March 2010, BHEP has conducted 608 home consultations, with 181 of them completed in 2015 alone. You might wonder what exactly happens when you let trained consultants and high school interns into your home. They ask you questions about your indoor water habits, check for leaks, inefficient appliances, flow rates on your showerheads and faucets and even evaluate your irrigation system to see how much water your system consumes. With this data, information can be delivered to you about the “problem areas” of your home and what can be done to reduce your water usage in those areas.

BHEP has saved, on average, over 850 gallons of water each month per home! Let’s not forget about long term effects too, like how 201 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> was saved since 2010. Now that is a ton of savings! BHEP does not only focus on water, the program has also saved participating residents 8% on their electricity each month! Imagine how far that will go? Simple changes can result in large savings! BHEP is helping save Benicia’s energy and water with every home consultation, and helping the world!

To sign up for your free in-home consultation, please call 800.314.5997 or visit [www.BeniciaHomeEfficiency.org](http://www.BeniciaHomeEfficiency.org). – *Community Development*



**FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:** The Benicia Fire Department monthly report for February 2016 is now available. It contains information about Emergency Operations, Prevention, Training, and Response Times. [Click here](#) to read more. – *Fire Department*

**SCOOP CLOSET:** You may occasionally see reference to the closet that Soroptimist of Benicia work to supply for Benicia Police Department's Family Resource Center. Soroptimist Closet of Opportunity and Provisions is utilized by FRC clients when they visit their case workers. After checking in, they often ask to visit the closet to select items they need. It is also used when clients are forced to leave their homes for the safety of themselves or their children with little or no preparation. Donated items include toilet paper, paper towels, shampoo, soap, body lotion, wipes, cleaning products and diapers.



The Benicia Family Resource Center is grateful for this association, as it assists in their ability to provide resources to our families.

## Benicia Community Women's Conference



Benicia Community Center  
370 East L St  
Saturday, March 12, 2016  
10:15 am - 4:30 pm

Register at [beniciawomen.org](http://beniciawomen.org)

**Pre-register — \$10**  
**At the door — \$15**

Come for one class or come for the day — Lunch included

Sponsored by  
Soroptimist International of Benicia



Benicia Community Women's Conference — March 12, 2016  
*Live, Laugh, Learn* — Join Us For Education and Fun

|       |                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:15 | Keynote Address: Finding Courage to Do Hard Things                                                                                               |
| 11:00 | 1. Getting in Shape — 3 Secrets to Forming New Habits<br>2. Parenting Adult Children<br>3. Getting Involved — Volunteer Opportunities in Benicia |
| 12:00 | Lunch: Ham, Turkey or Roast Beef Sandwich, Fruit and Chips                                                                                       |
| 1:00  | 1. Traveling on a Dime<br>2. Investing For Women<br>3. Getting Along With Difficult People                                                       |
| 2:00  | 1. Fun Outings in the Bay Area<br>2. Women's Health — From 18 to 90<br>3. Getting Where You Want to Go - Setting and Achieving Goals             |
| 3:00  | 1. Decluttering and Organizing Your Home<br>2. Overcoming Stress, Anxiety and Depression<br>3. That's All Folks — Preparing for the End of Life  |
| 4:00  | Closing Address: Learn and Laugh at Benicia in the Olden Days                                                                                    |

\$10 - Pre-register at [beniciawomen.org](http://beniciawomen.org)  
\$15 - Day of registration  
Lunch included

### Serve Your Community

Please bring one of the following items for needy women in our community to be distributed by Benicia's Family Resource Center.

- Diapers - all sizes
- Baby wipes - regular and sensitive
- Toiletries - full or travel size
- Cleaning products
- Feminine products - pads & tampons
- Hand wipes/hand sanitizer
- Body soap or gel
- Toilet paper
- Tissues (all sizes)



How can you help? One way is to attend the annual Benicia Community Women's Conference on **Saturday, March 12** and bring and an item to donate to the SCOOP. More information is available at [www.BeniciaWomen.org](http://www.BeniciaWomen.org). — Police Department

**WE'RE #10!** Benicia is #10 in the Cool California challenge. Pretty cool (pun intended) until you realize our neighbor Martinez is #5. As competitive as we are, we want to know how did they do better with fewer signed up? Simple. They answered more questions! Here are ways to boost our points:

### Joining the Challenge

- [Register here](#) and enter basic information.
- Answer two questions so that the challenge can determine how your energy usage compares to average apartments or households (being below average gets you points). Answer more simple questions about what you're already doing and receive more points.

### Ways to Get More Points

- Enter your electricity usage or an odometer reading. If you connect to your electricity account, the electricity usage will be entered automatically and get you points!
- Complete the free online home energy audit (MyEnergyPlan) to get customized suggestions for energy savings (100 Pts),



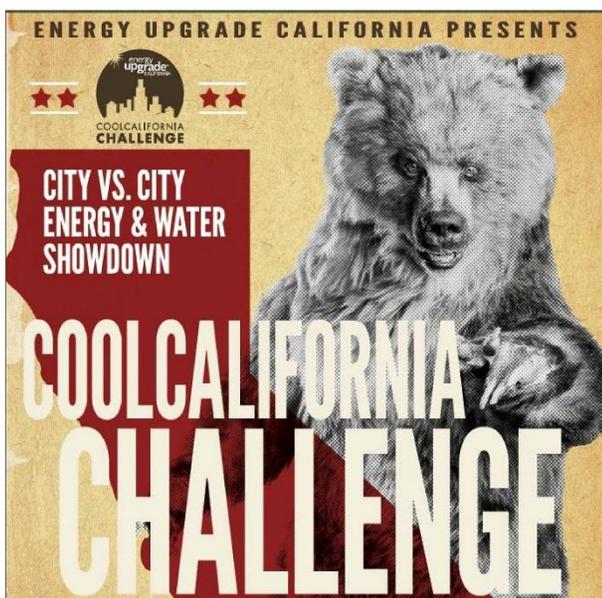
*Cool California Bear with Vice Mayor Mark Hughes at Benicia Main Street*



*Mayor Patterson and friends with Bear at Benicia Capitol State Historic Park*

- Complete suggested actions (50 Pts per action),
- Review energy related products (150 Pts),
- Upload an energy related photo (75 Pts),
- Share on social media (50 Pts) or invite a friend (50 Pts).

The Cool California Challenge ends **March 30**. Come on, Benicia, you can do it! – *Community Development*



**COMMUNITY PIPELINE SAFETY INITIATIVE:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is working with residents and the City of Benicia to help ensure first responders have immediate access to natural gas transmission pipelines in case of an emergency. This important safety work involves reviewing structures, trees and brush located near the gas pipeline that could block emergency access for first responders or damage the pipeline.

Property owners who live near the gas pipeline may receive a letter from PG&E indicating the need to gather additional information on trees and brush located on their properties to determine if they pose a safety concern. The letter will provide additional information about the pipeline safety program and the review process.

PG&E will then call the property owner to set up a meeting to discuss the planned work in more detail and answer any questions. PG&E has committed to working collaboratively with property owners on this safety work.

For any tree or structure that needs to be replaced for safety reasons, PG&E will work with the property owner to develop a plan that protects public safety while preserving the character and natural beauty of the community. This includes offering a new tree to be planted at a safe distance from the pipe for any tree that needs to be replaced for safety reasons. PG&E will be applying for tree removal permits through the City of Benicia Parks & Community Services Department and encroachment permits through the Public Works Department, where necessary.

Residents who live near any safety work planned for City streets and other public areas will be notified by PG&E prior to any work taking place.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the planned safety work in Benicia, please contact PG&E's local customer outreach specialist Kandice Wackerly at 916.838.6079 or [kandice.wackerly@pge.com](mailto:kandice.wackerly@pge.com). Additional information on the Community

Pipeline Safety Initiative, as well as other PG&E gas safety efforts, can also be found at [pge.com/GasSafety](http://pge.com/GasSafety). – City Manager's Office



**F**LAGS AT HALF-STAFF: Have you noticed flags at half-staff? By Presidential Proclamation, U.S. Flags will be at half-staff until sunset on **Friday, March 11** honoring the former First Lady Nancy Reagan. – *City Manager's Office*



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#### CONTACT INFORMATION

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published twice monthly. Email your questions or comments to [edev@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:edev@ci.benicia.ca.us). For additional information on any of the items in this report, please contact one of the following departments:

[City Manager](#): 707.746.4200

[City Attorney](#): 707.746.4216

[Administrative Services](#) (Finance, Human Resources, I.T): 707.746.4200

[City Clerk](#): 707.746.4200

[Community Development](#): 707.746.4280

[Economic Development](#): 707.746.4202

[Fire Department](#): 707.746.4275

[Library](#): 707.746.4343

[Parks & Community Services](#): 707.746.4285

[Police Department](#): 707.746.4265

[Public Works](#): 707.746.4240