



## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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April 12, 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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**T**RANSPORTATION SUMMIT III: As a follow-up to Summits I and II held in 2009 for seniors and people with disabilities, there will be a continued conversation about filling the transportation gaps for Solano County's most vulnerable citizens.

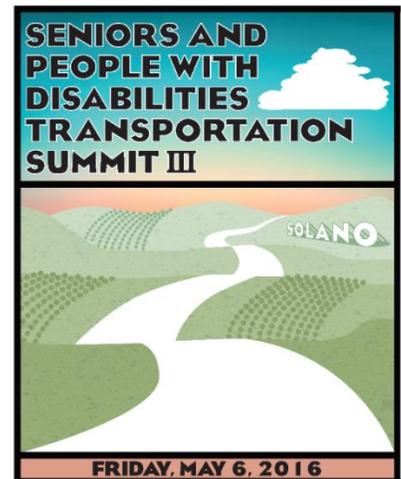
Summit III

**Friday, May 6**

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (Registration at 8:30 AM)

Joseph P. Nelson Community Center  
611 Village Drive, Suisun City

Learn about the progress they've made • Identify continuing gaps • Develop next steps



Registration is required. Lunch is being provided by Brookdale Senior Living, and they are offering free transit service to the event. To confirm your seat and to coordinate a ride, please call 800.535.6883 no later than **April 27**.



Complete our online survey by **April 22** and learn the results at the Summit. Click on the blue "Customer Survey" icon if you use transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities. Click on the green "Provider Survey" icon if your organization provides transportation services or programs for seniors and people with disabilities. – *City Manager's Office*

**EARTH DAY EVENTS:** Earth Day, an annual event, celebrated on April 22, is a day in which events worldwide are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first celebrated in 1970, and is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network and celebrated in more than 192 countries each year.

At the Benicia City Council meeting on March 22, Mayor Elizabeth Patterson presented Community Sustainability Chair Sharon Maher with an Earth Day Proclamation.

[Click here](#) for additional Earth Day Events and Conservation Tips sponsored by MCE. – *Community Development*



On **Saturday, April 16**, from 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM, the California State Parks Foundation and several dozen volunteers will help State Parks and the Benicia State Parks Association make improvements in the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanical Garden at the Benicia State Recreation Area. Volunteers will plant native trees, shrubs, and perennials in the Coastal Sage Scrub and Chaparral areas of the garden, mulch new plants, remove non-native weeds, and repair split rail fence bordering the garden.



If you'd like to volunteer, you can find more information and register at [www.calparks.org/help/earth-day](http://www.calparks.org/help/earth-day). – *Parks & Community Services*



Solano County Earth Day Cleanup is **Saturday, April 23**, 9:00-11:00 AM at Ninth Street Beach and the bottom of First Street. They ask that you bring your own gloves, water bottle, and collection bucket. For more information, contact Betsy Radtke at [blradtke@gmail.com](mailto:blradtke@gmail.com) or call 707.678.1655 x114. – *Public Works*

**BENICIA MINI MAKER FAIRE:** The Community Sustainability Commission is hosting a Clean Transportation Exhibit at the Benicia Mini Maker Faire on **Saturday, April 16**, from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, at Benicia Middle School-1100 Southampton Road. You are invited to come check out electric vehicles of all shapes and sizes, including a Tesla, an electric bus, and the latest models of cars and bikes at the Benicia Mini Maker Faire. Learn about the many advantages of driving electric firsthand from the owners of electric vehicles. Advantages of driving electric include fast acceleration, great handling, lower maintenance costs, and lower costs for power with electricity costing the equivalent of about \$1 to \$1.50 per gallon. One of the greatest things about electric cars is that they are pollution free. They keep our air clean. Electric cars throughout their life cycle emit significantly less greenhouse gases.

Children up to 6th grade can enter a coloring contest and win prizes by either coloring the page from the Benicia Herald or coloring the page at the event.

The event is part of the National Drive Electric Week Grant approved by City Council on August 18, 2015. – *Community Development*

The Benicia Mini Maker Fair is the Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth—a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker Movement. It’s a place where people show what they are making, and share what they are learning.

Makers range from tech enthusiasts to crafters to homesteaders to scientists to garage tinkerers. They are of all ages and backgrounds. The aim of Maker Faire is to entertain, inform, connect and grow our community. More info at [www.beniciamakerfaire.com](http://www.beniciamakerfaire.com). Tickets are available at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). – *Economic Development*



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

## PERSONNEL NEWS:

**City of Benicia Job Opportunities:** The Human Resources Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Recreation Leader II](#), part-time, closing 04/14/16
- [Parks Landscape Building Maintenance Worker I](#), full-time, closing 04/15/16
- [Laboratory Analyst](#), full-time, closing 04/18/16
- [Wastewater Plant Supervisor](#), full-time, closing 04/20/16
- [Public Safety Dispatcher](#), full-time, closing 04/22/16
- [Librarian I-\(On Call\)](#), part-time, closing 04/25/16
- [Library Assistant](#), part-time, closing 04/25/16
- [Safety Coordinator \(Library\)](#), part-time, closing 04/25/16
- [Irrigation Specialist](#), full-time, closing 04/29/16
- [Senior Planner or Associate Planner](#), full-time, closing 05/02/16
- [Police Officer - Lateral \(currently working\)](#), full-time, open continuously
- [Reserve Officer \(Volunteer\)](#), part-time, continuously

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*

**Fond Farewell:** Benicia Public Service Employees' Association (BPSEA) honored eight retirees at a dinner celebration on March 11. The event, held at Zio Fraedo's, was to recognize those who retired in 2014 or 2015 and was attended by current employees, previously retired BPSEA members, spouses, family and friends.

The retirees were thanked and presented with gifts of appreciation for their many years of service to the community and the City of Benicia. Many amusing stories were shared from their years with the City.

2014 and 2015 BPSEA retirees. Pictured (1-r): Melissa Mattingly (16 years) – Public Works; Mary O'Reilly (16 years) – Finance; Johnna Sharples (28 years) – Finance; Jim Arruda (32.5 years) Parks & Community Services and Community Development. Not pictured: Donna LaBarr (22 years) – Parks & Community Services; Peggy Mekki (13 years) – Human Resources; and Jose Ornelas (25 years) – Parks & Community Services. – *City Manager's Office*



**VOTE FOR BENICIA MAIN STREET:** Vote for our own Main Street organization, Benicia Main Street and increase their chance to win \$25,000 in cash and related prizes in the America's Main Streets Contest. It's easy to vote. [Cast your vote](#) once a day or every 24 hours through **April 24**.

America's Main Streets is sponsored by Independent We Stand which is all about independently owned businesses across the country reaching out to their communities and educating their neighbors about the many benefits of "[buying local](#)" similar to the "Shop Small" promotion by American Express.



Independent We Stand, sponsored by Stihl, is a nationwide movement of locally-owned businesses and consumers who are dedicated to educating their communities about the importance – and strong economic benefits – of 'buying local'. To that end, they are hosting the America's Main Streets contest is to help promote the importance and strong economic benefits of Main Streets and the small businesses that help them thrive. – *Economic Development*

**GREEN WASTE CLEAN-UP:** The Benicia Fire Department and Public Works Department, and Republic Services are hosting the annual citywide green waste and weed abatement clean-up program. This free annual program is for Benicia residents who need to clean up their property of weeds and other vegetation. Only green waste/vegetation will be accepted at this event, excluding palm fronds. Tree branch cuttings shall be limited to 4 inches in diameter.

The spring clean-up event is on **Saturday, April 30** and **Sunday, May 1** from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Benicia Corporation Yard, 2400 East Second Street.

This event is open to Benicia residents only and is for homeowner's use. No commercial dumping will be allowed. Proof of residency will be required in order to gain entry.

If you have any questions on this program, please contact the Benicia Fire Department during business hours at 707.746.4275. – *Fire Department*



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

**Maintenance – Streets:**

Street repair for March: Cleaned and cleared storm drains citywide, filled potholes citywide, installed zinc anodes on pumps at Marina Pumping Station, paved trench at WWTP, paved allies between 100 blk East H and East I Streets and between 100 blk West F and West G Streets, weed abatement, mowed and removed weeds at citywide open space at East Fifth and East H Streets, saw cut and removed material at East Third culvert at East K Street to repair sinkhole in area, working on replacement of faded signs citywide.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant- Projects:**

Staff worked on installing a new truck fill station for Maintenance Division’s Vac Con truck. This will allow staff to use W.W.T.P. Plant's effluent water to fill the truck and use it for cleaning and flushing lines. This will reduce the use of City water. Staff has also replaced a S.E.W. motor and gear box on our belt press conveyor system.



Staff reinstalled a treatment plant water 3 (3w) flow system to the Plant’s secondary clarifiers. This was needed to be done because of cavitation problems with the Plant’s 3w pumps.



**Wastewater Treatment Plant - Maintenance:**

Staff performed 85 preventive maintenance tasks as well as seven corrective maintenance work orders.

**WWTP Plant Performance:**

The Plant processed 72.03 million gallons of raw wastewater with no Permit exceedances.

Nutrient pollution removal; Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) = 98%

Total Suspended Solids (TSS) = 99%

The Effluent Acute Bioassay testing had a 97.6% survival rate.

*-City of Benicia Public Works Department*

**H**ELPING TO GRANT A WISH: On Monday, April 4, Benicia Police Department employees, Evidence Technician Laura Williams and Detective Fred Ayala were honored to participate with a special Make-A-Wish escort. Solano County Law Enforcement agencies gathered at Travis AFB to escort 6 year-old Brinlee and her family from Travis AFB to the freeway as they start their memorable trip to the Happiest Place on Earth (aka: Disney World).



The parade started with the wish by her dad's peers at the 60th Security Forces Squadron to send the family off in style with a small police escort to the limousine the family was taking to San Francisco International Airport. It grew to several police cars, two fire engines, not counting the Pink Heals fire engine and patrol car, and waving and cheering friends lining Air Base Parkway on base, which included McGruff the Crime Dog, Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear.

Brinlee lives on base with her mom Erin, Dad (SSgt Jeremiah Couets with the 60th SFS), and brothers.



The Benicia Police Department wishes Binlee and her family a very safe and enjoyable trip to Disney World! – *Police Department*

**L**ATEST NEWSLETTER FROM MCE: Here [the link](#) the Re-Source. It's the quarterly newsletter from MCE about renewable energy and conservation. – *Community Development*





**FIRE DEPARTMENT BADGE PINNING:** The Benicia Fire Department would like to thank our Benicia community for joining them on March 30 to welcome their three newest Paramedic/Firefighters - Brandon Mandap, Drake Martin, and Ryan McDonald. The event also included the recognition of the life-saving efforts of a special community member, Steve Jennett, and Fire Department crews for their extraordinary efforts. – *Fire Department*



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The 2016 Benicia Film Festival is **Friday, September 2 – Sunday, September 4**. Now in its third year the Film Festival is sponsored by the Benicia Arts and Culture Commission and will feature films in a variety of genres from throughout the United States.



Friday's event will be at the Benicia Veterans Hall, 1150 First Street. Saturday and Sunday's events will be at the vintage The Majestic Theatre in the 700 blk. First Street. Tickets will be available in May. You'll find a sneak peek and more information at [www.BeniciaFilmFestival.com/events/](http://www.BeniciaFilmFestival.com/events/). – *Library*

**START-UP BENICIA COMPETITION:** The Start-Up Benicia competition held at Solano Community College is an opportunity for prospective entrepreneurs and start-ups to showcase their ideas and business concepts. The competition connects entrepreneurs to other entrepreneurs, consultants, and local agencies and lenders. The competition is a tool that is geared to strengthen our start-ups by providing entrepreneurs with knowledge on opening and managing a successful small business.

**Solano**  
**Small Business Development Center**

**Eligibility:**

This competition is open to entrepreneurs in the start-up phase. Existing business are ineligible. Open to all Solano County residents. Contestants must establish their new business in the City of Benicia. Participants must be 18 years of age or older.

**Judging Criteria:**

The judging panel will consist of successful business owners and officials from the City of Benicia Office of Economic Development.

**Application Due Date:**

**April 15, 2016** (Date may be extended, call or email to inquire.)

Fill out [Registration Form](#) and [Questionnaire](#).

Participants will receive an acceptance notification via email on or before April 22, 2016.

**Class Dates/Location:**

Wednesday, April 27 – Wednesday, June 8, 2016, 6:00-9:00 PM

Solano Community College

4000 Suisun Valley Road

Building 100 – Fish Bowl Room

**Competitors Win:**

1. Networking opportunities
2. Certificate of Completion for all participants
3. GRAND PRIZE WINNER - Wins up to \$5000.00 in start-up assistance (sponsored by the City of Benicia Office of Economic Development)

More information is available at 707.864.3382 or [sbdcdirector@solano.edu](mailto:sbdcdirector@solano.edu). – *Economic Development*

**ROUTE 20 NEEDS YOUR INPUT:** Soltrans' pilot Route 20 is still FREE until April 29!



Route 20 runs from Benicia to Solano Community College and Gateway Plaza in Vallejo. Help Soltrans determine the future of this route and submit your feedback [here](#). Then join Soltrans for a Mobile Town Hall Meeting:

**Thursday, April 28 - 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

On the Route 20 bus beginning at Rancho Benicia (300 East H Street)

Soltrans plans on sharing rider feedback and their plan for the Route 20 going forward. For more information, contact [Soltrans](#) at 707.648.4666. Hope to see you there! – *City Manager's Office*

**ARE YOU READY?** With spring and summer plans upon us, an activation of the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) is the last thing anyone thinks about. The reality is, an emergency event can occur at any time, without notice. You are encouraged to Plan, Prepare, and Practice.



For City staff, here are a couple of questions you should ask yourself:

1. **Do you know what your role is if the EOC is activated?** If not, check with your supervisor.
2. **Are you personally prepared to spend an extended period of time in your EOC role? Have you put together a "GO Kit"?** Fire Department staff can provide you with a GO KIT Checklist to use as an example.
3. **Do you have an Emergency Preparedness Kit at home?** Use this link to put together a [Basic Disaster Supplies Kit](#).



As a reminder, the EOC is setup the first week of each quarter. This practice has been implemented to allow EOC staffers the opportunity to review the EOC, conduct informal exercises, and to improve familiarity with the location and EOC roles. The Fire Department will send reminders as the beginning of the quarter approaches. They encourage you to take advantage of this.

As always, feel free to contact the [Fire Department](#) if you have any questions or suggestions. – *Fire Department*

**FREE MOVIE SCREENING:** The Benicia Community Sustainability Commission is sponsoring the screening of the documentary “This Changes Everything” on **Thursday, May 5** at 6:30 PM in the Dona Benicia Room at the Benicia Public Library. The film is an epic attempt to re-imagine the vast challenge of climate change. Inspired by Naomi Klein’s international non-fiction bestseller *This Changes Everything*, the film presents seven powerful portraits of communities on the front lines, from Montana’s Powder River Basin to the Alberta Tar Sands, from the coast of South India to Beijing and beyond.



A short discussion will follow the 90 minute movie. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served. [Click here](#) to watch the movie trailer. – *Community Development*

**VOLUNTEER WEEK RECOGNITION:** At the April 5 Benicia City Council meeting, Mayor Patterson and City Council Members honored the Public Safety Dispatchers with a Proclamation in recognition for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week **April 10-16**. The Benicia Police Department Dispatchers processed 40,740 call in 2015. Accepting the Proclamation from Mayor Patterson were Dispatchers Lauren Teel and Stephanie Barreto.



The City of Benicia also recognized all of the City volunteers with a Proclamation for National Volunteer Week April 10-16. The Volunteers presented the City with a symbolic big check that indicated 518 volunteers provided 23,309 hours of service to the City in 2015.



Also receiving recognition was Police Patrol Volunteer, Ron “Doc” Uhlman. He received the City of Benicia 2015 Ron Rice Volunteer of the Year Award. Doc has been a volunteer at the Police Department for the past 24 years. Mayor Patterson and Chief of Police Erik Upson present him with a special plaque in recognition. – *Police Department*

The City of Benicia appreciates the many hours of service and dedication provided by its volunteers. Thank you! – *City Manager*

**NEW OES FIRE ENGINE:** On March 24, the Benicia Fire Department took possession of an additional Type-I, all-risk fire engine from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The engine is owned by Cal OES who manages a fleet of 114 such fire engines throughout the state.



This program has been around since 1950, and is the cornerstone of the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System. Cal OES purchases the vehicles fully equipped and then assigns them to local governments on temporary-use agreements. The State continues to maintain and inspect the vehicles and permits the use of the fire engines for local multiple alarm fires, mutual aid responses, temporary replacement for out-of-service engines, training, and other local needs. In return, the agencies agree to staff the vehicles when the State requires the use of these engines for large scale events. The State then provides reimbursement to the local agencies for the cost of the assigned staff members and any backfill required while they are deployed.

The engine comes fully equipped and is designed to handle urban, suburban, rural, and wildland situations. Additionally, the engine is equipped as a Type-III Urban Search and Rescue apparatus, capable of responding as a rescue vehicle in earthquake, landslide, and other rescue situations. For Benicia this engine will assist in meeting our needs for firefighting apparatus, including reserve apparatus, at little to no cost.

One of the reasons Benicia was selected to receive the engine was our commitment to maintaining firefighter training standards. A stipulation for receiving the engine was that the Benicia Fire Department would provide certified firefighters who have been trained to state standards in firefighting as well as search and rescue. – *Fire Department*

**LATE BREAKING NEWS:** Benicia wins \$11,709 in the Cool California Challenge and big THANK YOUs go to the 264 Benicia households who participated in the Challenge!

Collectively, the 22 participating cities engaged nearly 3,200 households to take energy savings actions to reduce their carbon footprint. In total, the participants reported that they completed actions that will save 5,638 metric tons of carbon dioxide over the energy saving actions' lifetime, equivalent to removing more than 2,500 California homes from the grid or over 1,100 automobiles from the road for a year.



We hope that participating Benicia households learned valuable energy saving tips through participating in the Challenge and that community participation will continue to encourage sustainable living in the future.

Benicia's winning funds are to be spent on a sustainability project. The Council will ultimately decide on what that project will be. – *Community Development*

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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