

# OXNARD NEWS IN BRIEF



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Rate-setting process begins for proposed wastewater rates**

**City of Oxnard seeks volunteers for Utility Ratepayers Advisory Panel**



On Dec. 20, 2016, staff received city council approval to begin the rate-setting process for proposed wastewater rate increases in 2017 and to initiate the formation of a Utility Ratepayers Advisory Panel (URAP) composed of community members.

The City recognizes the importance of having an open dialogue with community members, and we encourage residential, business and agricultural customers to apply by Jan. 10, 2017, so all categories of ratepayers are represented on the URAP.

Download the application and read more about the URAP at [www.oxnard.org/PW/URAP](http://www.oxnard.org/PW/URAP). Completed applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by mail, in person or by email at [michelle.ascencion@oxnard.org](mailto:michelle.ascencion@oxnard.org) by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017.

The URAP will consist of three members representing single-family residential residents, one member representing multi-family residential residents and four members representing the business ratepayer community. URAP members will participate in a series of community workshops, the first of which is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017, at the Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center, 800 Hobson Way.

Rate increases are needed to improve and support the fiscal health of vital services provided by the wastewater utility. The revenues from the current wastewater rates and fees are less than the overall costs to provide the services. Click [here](#) to read the staff report from the Dec. 20 council meeting.

## Oxnard Fire Department takes lead in teaching survival skills to region's firefighters

There is no other call more challenging to fire ground operations than the MAYDAY call – the unthinkable moment when a firefighter's personal safety is in imminent danger. That is why it is critical for fire personnel to continue receiving training to refine their skills.

Since November 2016, the Oxnard Fire Department has joined firefighters from the Ventura and Ventura County Fire departments to teach firefighters across the region how to keep themselves alive if they get trapped, lost or low on air in a burning building.

Known as Fire Ground Survival (FGS), the training focuses on self-rescue in a firefighter emergency and is centered on lessons learned from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health investigations into firefighter fatalities at fires.

Before taking on the task of teaching every active duty firefighter in the county FGS skills, Oxnard firefighters received a week of training in August 2016. The Oxnard Fire Department was the first department in Ventura County to complete the training, demonstrating the department's commitment to being a leader in regional training.

It is anticipated that all firefighters across the region will receive the training by May 2017. Once they do, fire personnel will have a uniform response to any firefighter emergency. The training will also provide proven best practices in incident management to ensure incident commanders give personnel the best chance of survival in a life and death situation.



The training was created through a collaboration between the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the International Association of Firefighters. It was funded by a \$264,000 regional grant from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

We look forward to assisting the rest of the county fire departments in implementing their training.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Practice good safety habits behind the wheel so everyone can have a happy holiday**



The holiday season is a great time to gather with friends and family. It's also a great time to remember to practice good safety habits.

### Say NO to Distracted Driving

**A Message from the California Office of Traffic Safety:** With ever increasing demands on our personal and professional time in today's busy society, learning to juggle multiple tasks at once is something we all face daily. As a result, a new traffic safety epidemic has emerged on America's roadways that demand immediate attention: distracted driving.

In 2014, 3,179 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver. So the next time you are pressed for time, and it seems like multitasking in the car is the best

decision, remember those 3,179 lives that were taken because someone decided they could do two things at once. A text or call is not worth your life, or anyone else's.

### Always Designate a Driver

As you are enjoying your time with loved ones, remember that friends don't let friends drive under the influence of alcohol. Always designate a driver, have a family member or friend pick you up or use a taxi or car service.

### City of Oxnard holiday closures

City Hall and many City departments will be closed Monday, Dec. 26, 2016, in observance of Christmas and Monday, Jan. 2, 2017, in observance of New Year's. The public is also advised that City Hall and many departments are closed on alternate Fridays, including Dec. 30, 2016, due to the City's regular 9/80 schedule.

Remember, "If You See Something, Say Something" by calling the Oxnard Police Department at (805) 385-7740 for non-emergencies. Residents are reminded that Spanish translators are available, and callers can report a crime or suspicious activity anonymously. For life-threatening emergencies, always call 9-1-1.

Click [here](#) to read the complete details regarding City closures, including at the Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center and Carnegie Art Museum.

Don't forget that the Environmental Resources Division of the Public Works Department will collect residential trash according to its regular schedule. There are no scheduled delays for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.





**Dec. 29 deadline to apply for Citizen Advisory Groups**

Interested in doing volunteer work that benefits Oxnard? If the answer is yes, then apply to be part of an Oxnard Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) by Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016.

We are seeking volunteers to be part of several CAGs that help shape the future of our city:

- Community Relations Commission
- Commission on Homelessness
- Downtown Design Review Committee
- Library Board
- Measure O Citizen Oversight Committee
- Mobilehome Park Rent Review Board
- Parks and Recreation and Community Services Commission
- Planning Commission
- Senior Services Commission
- Housing Authority
- Cultural Arts Commission

Click [here](#) to download an application, or visit the Oxnard City Clerk's Office, 300 W. Third St. For questions, call (805) 385-7803.

**Construction for ASR Well test system commences Jan. 3 through May 3, 2017**

The City of Oxnard is constructing a recycled water Aquifer, Recovery and Storage (ASR) Well test system as part of ongoing efforts to provide a sustainable and reliable local water supply.

Construction is scheduled to take place Jan. 3 through May 3, 2017, at Oxnard's Campus Park between K and H streets and Second and Fifth streets 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Please be advised that construction dates, hours and locations are subject to change.

The ASR Well test system stores recycled water underground when demand is low, then pumps it out when demand is high. The project will help reduce reliance on costly imported water, protect our groundwater resources and provide a beneficial reuse of a scarce resource that would otherwise be discharged to the ocean. It is a vital component of the Groundwater Recovery, Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) Program, furthering the City's ability to provide a high quality, reliable, sustainable water supply.

Visit [www.oxnard.org/PW/ASR](http://www.oxnard.org/PW/ASR) for the complete details.

## EVENTS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Damian McGinty performs at PACC Jan. 13, 2017**

Singer-actor Damian McGinty will perform at the Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center (PACC), 800 Hobson Way, at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 2017. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Fans know Damian as one of the original performers with the international hit group Celtic Thunder, as well as from his role as Rory Flanagan on the hit television show Glee. Damian's performance comes on the heels of a 72-city tour with his former group, Celtic Thunder.

Click [here](#) to get your tickets for this intimate performance before they sell out!



#### **Movies at the PACC presents "Hugo" Jan. 19, 2017**



See "Hugo" for only \$3 at the Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center (PACC), 800 Hobson Way, at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017.

Hugo tells the story of a young orphan who lives in a train station in 1930s Paris and tries to repair a mechanical man built by his father. Eventually, he befriends a filmmaker and his goddaughter who help him understand the mystery of his dad's invention. Click [here](#) to buy your tickets today.

#### **MLK Day celebration at Plaza Park, PACC Jan. 16, 2017**

The MLK Committee of Ventura County presents the 31st annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, which will be held in Oxnard on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017. The theme of this year's event is "Unity Through Love and Awareness: Where Do We Go From Here?"

The day will begin with a freedom march from Plaza Park at Fifth and C streets. Community members, spiritual leaders and City and other elected officials will assemble at the park for prayer at 8 a.m. The march will begin at 8:15 a.m. and then proceed to the Oxnard Performing Arts Center (PACC), 800 Hobson Way.

The program at the PACC will begin at 9 a.m. and will feature youth speakers, scripture readings and gospel music selections by the MLK Youth Celebration Choir. Admission is \$7. Click [here](#) for more information and to learn how you can be part of the choir performance.



## PAST EVENTS

Photos, video of Oxnard Tamale Festival, tree lighting and Christmas parade available



Click [here](#) to view photos of the 9th annual Tamale Festival. Click [here](#) to view photos and a video of the tree lighting and Christmas parade!

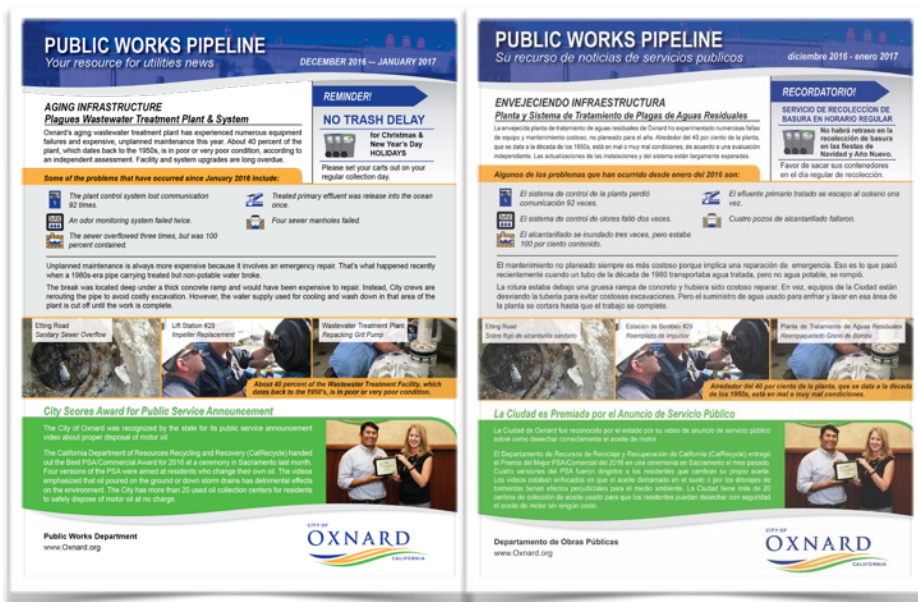
## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

December 2016/January 2017 issue of Public Works Pipeline available

As announced in the Nov. 17, 2016, edition of the “Public Works Pipeline,” the newsletter is now a monthly publication. The monthly format allows for more in-depth stories about issues, events and initiatives that affect you.

The December 2016/January 2017 issue features articles on holiday recycling, street pavements and upcoming construction for the Campus Park ASR Well test system.

Click [here](#) to view the newsletter in English. Click [here](#) to view the newsletter in Spanish.





## Winter wonderland at Oxnard police station draws 700 people for holiday cheer



On Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016, the Oxnard Police Department held its first annual Santa at the Station event. The department partnered with local businesses, organizations and volunteers to create an exciting winter wonderland that included SNOW!

An estimated 700 kids of all ages enjoyed train rides, meeting officers and firefighters, playing in the snow and visiting with Santa. Attendees were treated to mariachi music and ballet folklorico performances as well as hot cocoa, water and pan dulce.

The best part about the event is that it was free to the public thanks to generous donations.

We wish you and your family a happy holiday, and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!