



CITY OF NAPA

955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559
www.cityofnapa.org

MEETING MINUTES - Final

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Scott Sedgley
Vice Mayor Liz Alessio
Councilmember Mary Luros
Councilmember Bernie Narvaez
Councilmember Beth Painter

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

3:30 PM

City Hall Council Chambers

3:30 PM Afternoon Session

6:30 PM Evening Session

3:30 P.M. AFTERNOON SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 3:30 P.M.

1.A. Roll Call:

Present: 5 - Councilmember Luros, Councilmember Narvaez, Councilmember Painter, Vice Mayor Alessio, and Mayor Sedgley

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS:

City Clerk Carranza announced the following supplemental documents:

Item 4: Email from James Rosen

Item 6.A.: Proclamation P2021-002 Authorizing submission of Grant Application for California Water and Wastewater arrearages payment program, and designating authority to the Utilities Director to administer the program resulting from the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19).

Item 6.C.: PowerPoint Presentation from City Staff.

Item 6.D.: Email from Napa Climate Now!

(Copies of all supplemental documents are included in Attachment 1)

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

3.A. [387-2021](#) Mike Gotch Excellence in Public Service Award

Brendon Freeman, Executive Officer for the Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County, presented the award to the Napa City

Council.

Councilmember Painter provided additional congratulatory remarks to all recipient agencies.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

(See supplemental document in Attachment 1)

Victoria Willey, resident - provided comments regarding homelessness and shared personal stories of homelessness.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Luros, seconded by Vice Mayor Alessio, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Luros, Narvaez, Painter, Alessio, and Sedgley

- 5.A.** [443-2021](#) City Council Meeting Minutes
Approved the November 16, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.
- 5.B.** [436-2021](#) Solid Waste/Recycling Enclosure Standards
Approved the second reading and final passage, and adopted Ordinance O2021-008 amending Napa Municipal Code Section 17.52.390 "Recycling/Solid Waste Areas" and determining that the actions authorized by this ordinance are exempt from CEQA.
Enactment No: O2021-008
- 5.C.** [415-2021](#) "Maddy Act" 2022 Local Appointments List for the City of Napa Boards, Commissions and Committees
Received the Annual Appointments List highlighting upcoming term vacancies occurring in the next year of City of Napa Boards, Commissions and Committees.
- 5.D.** [432-2021](#) Salary Schedules for Full-Time Employees
Adopted Resolution R2021-113 documenting the salary schedules for Full-Time Employees.
Enactment No: R2021-113
- 5.E.** [431-2021](#) Classification Plan and Salary Range for Senior Housing Specialist in the Community Development Department
Adopted Resolution R2021-114 approving the classification specification and salary range for Senior Housing Specialist.
Enactment No: R2021-114

- 5.F.** [435-2021](#) Salary Range for Waste Prevention Specialist and Water Conservation Specialist in the Utilities Department
- Adopted Resolution R2021-115 approving the salary range for Waste Prevention Specialist and Water Conservation Specialist.**
- Enactment No: R2021-115
- 5.G.** [430-2021](#) Emergency Replacement of Oak Street Storm Drain
- Determined there was a need to continue the emergency action to execute and implement construction contracts for the replacement of the Oak Street Storm Drain from Franklin Street to Brown Street, and determine that the actions authorized by this item are exempt from CEQA.**
- 5.H.** [438-2021](#) Replacement of the Hillcrest and Silverado Water Pump Stations
- Adopted Resolution R2021-116 1) authorizing the Utilities Director to execute contract change orders and purchases to support temporary operations in an amount not to exceed \$3,773,600 for the replacement of the Hillcrest and Silverado pump stations 2) approving a transfer of \$250,000 from water capital improvement reserve to Hillcrest water pump station disaster recovery project as documented in Budget Adjustment No. BE2106501; and 3) determining that the actions authorized by this resolution are exempt from CEQA.**
- Enactment No: R2021-116
- 5.I.** [407-2021](#) Napa Countywide Road Maintenance Act (Measure T) - Maintenance of Effort
- Adopted Resolution R2021-117 certifying Measure T Maintenance of Effort for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2023, and determining that the actions authorized by this resolution are exempt from CEQA.**
- Enactment No: R2021-117

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**6.A. [318-2021](#) Proclamation of Local Emergency to Respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

(See supplemental document in Attachment 1)

City Manager Potter provided the staff report which included a review of Proclamation P2021-002 authorizing the submission of Grant Application for California Water and Wastewater arrearages payment program, and designating authority to the Utilities Director to administer the program resulting from the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19).

There were no requests to speak from the public.

A motion was made by Councilmember Painter, seconded by Vice Mayor Alessio, to continue the Proclamation of Local Emergency authorizing the City Manager to take actions necessary to respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19); and ratify actions taken by the City Manager in implementation of the Proclamation of Local Emergency, including the issuance of Proclamation P2021-002 authorizing submission of Grant application for California Water and Wastewater arrearages payment program, and designating authority to the Utilities Director to administer the program resulting from the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Luros, Narvaez, Painter, Alessio, and Sedgley

6.B. [437-2021](#) Appointment of a Retired Annuitant to Serve as Part-time Employee

Human Resources Director Heather Ruiz provided the staff report via video conference.

There were no requests to speak from the public.

A motion was made by Councilmember Luros, seconded by Councilmember Narvaez, to adopt Resolution R2021-118 authorizing the appointment of Jonna Intoschi as a retired annuitant part-time employee (Accounting Supervisor), to be employed within 180 days of the employee's retirement. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Luros, Narvaez, Painter, Alessio, and Sedgley

Enactment No: R2021-118

6.C. [400-2021](#) Affordable and Workforce Housing Building Permit Fees

(See supplemental document in Attachment 1)

Deputy City Manager Liz Habkirk and Community Development Director Vin Smith provided the staff report.

Mayor Sedgley called for public comments; there were no requests to

Speak.

Individual Council comments and questions ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Narvaez, seconded by Councilmember Painter, that the Adopt a resolution updating City fees and charges related to residential building permit applications for affordable and workforce housing projects and new accessory dwelling units of 500 square feet or less. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Narvaez, Painter, and Sedgley

No: 2 - Luros, and Alessio

Enactment No: R2021-119

6.D. [426-2021](#) Soscol Square Shopping Center Appeal

(See supplemental document in Attachment 1)

Councilmember Luros announced that her Lawfirm had represented Ronmor, the owner of the subject property, within the past year and therefore needed to recuse from action on the item due to a financial interest and conflict. She left the meeting at 4:12 P.M.

Michael Allen, Acting Planning Manager, provided the staff report.

Mayor Sedgley called for public comment; there were no requests to speak.

Discussion was brought back to Council. Lengthy individual Council comments and questions ensued. Staff responded to questions and provided further clarification regarding the project conditions.

Scott Klingbeil of KG Planning Partners, on behalf of Ronmor, appeared via video conference and provided additional clarification on applicant's request should the drive through was not approved.

Additional discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Alessio, seconded by Councilmember Painter to approve Resolution R2021-120 approving an appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of a Use Permit for a restaurant with a drive-through for the Soscol Square Shopping Center at 333 & 407 Soscol Avenue (APN: 046-190-024 & 046-190-054), resulting in a denial of the Use Permit previously approved by Planning Commission resolution PC2021-24, and determining that the actions authorized by this resolution were adequately analyzed by a previous CEQA action, as recommended by staff, with an amendment to section 4 of the Resolution to remove the portion of section 4 that called for the deletion of Conditions of Approval #4, #7, and #9, and an amendment to condition approval #51 to correct the use that is subject to the impact fee. The motion carried by the

following vote.

Enactment No: R2021-120

7. CONSENT HEARINGS:

Councilmember Lueros returned to the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

- 7.A. [414-2021](#) Trinitas Mixed-Use Extension II - Extension of an Approved Hotel, Office, and Winery Mixed-Use Project

Mayor Sedgley announced the consent hearing. There were no requests to speak; the hearing was opened and closed without comment.

A motion was made by Councilmember Painter, seconded by Councilmember Narvaez to adopt Resolution R2021-121 (1) approving a second two-year extension of the Use Permit and Design Review Permit for the previously approved Trinitas Mixed-Use Project at 2650 Napa Valley Corporate Drive; and (2) determining that the actions authorized by this resolution were adequately analyzed by the previous CEQA action. The motion carried by the following vote:

Enactment No: R2021-121

8. COMMENTS BY COUNCIL OR CITY MANAGER: None.

9. CLOSED SESSION:

City Attorney Barrett announced the closed session items.

- 9.A. [460-2021](#) • CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)): Initiation of litigation in one case.
- 9.B. [457-2021](#) • CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6): City designated representatives: Steve Potter, Liz Habkirk, Heather Ruiz, Anne Cardwell, MJ Tueros, Zach Curren, and Michael Barrett. Employee organization: Napa Chief Fire Officers.

CITY COUNCIL RECESS: 5:10 P.M.

6:30 P.M. EVENING SESSION

10. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

10.A. Roll Call:

Present: 5 - Councilmember Lueros, Councilmember Narvaez, Councilmember Painter, Vice Mayor Alessio, and Mayor Sedgley

11. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

12. AGENDA REVIEW AND SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS:

City Clerk Carranza announced the following supplemental items:

Item 14.A.:

- Power Presentation by City Staff.
- Written communications from Christopher and Beth Daulton and Fiona Campbell.
- Emails from Clark Sterling, Linsey Gallagher, on behalf of Visit Napa Valley, Darcy Tunt, Lisa Pavageau, Travis Stanley of the Napa Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Jag Soni and Steven Urberg.

(Copies of all supplemental documents are included in Attachment 2)

13. PUBLIC COMMENT:

(See supplemental documents in Attachment 2)

Tracey Nauright - (submitted written comment) - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Joyce Stavert - spoke regarding traffic calming measures.

Genji Schmeder - spoke regarding street safety and traffic; suggested improved pedestrian routes.

Robert Francis - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Daniel Harder - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Kathleen Kapecko - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Bob Archibald - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

CJ - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

James Rosen - spoke regarding traffic engineering and traffic calming measures.

Doug Barnett - spoke regarding speeding.

Rob Grastucci - spoke regarding speeding.

Colin Petheram - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Stacey Jones - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Kelly Weber - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Cody Hart - spoke regarding traffic and speeding.

Chris Craiker - spoke regarding City services in the Community Development Department.

Julia Adkins- spoke regarding speeding.

Sally Sparling - spoke regarding speeding.

John West - spoke regarding speeding.

Kevin O'Malley - spoke regarding speeding.

Robert Cherry - spoke regarding speeding.

Stephen Belomy - spoke regarding speeding.

14. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

14.A. [382-2021](#)

Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series

(See supplemental documents in Attachment 2)

Katrina Gregory, Recreation Manager, provided the staff report.

Mayor Sedgley called for public comment.

Clark Sterling - spoke in opposition.

Chuck Mottern - spoke in support.

Sabrina Bolt - spoke in opposition.

Gordon Huether - spoke in opposition.

Ken Tesler - requested extension of the agreement, acknowledged concerns, and shared solutions to mitigate community complaints.

Greg Gregory - spoke in opposition.

Iris - spoke in opposition.

Darcy Tunt - spoke in opposition; suggested alternate options.

Katy Rich - spoke in support.

Robert Doughty - spoke in support.

Judd Wallenbrock - spoke in support.

Sue Berry - spoke in opposition.

Mayor Sedgley called for a break at 8:25 P.M. The meeting reconvened at 8:32 P.M.

Mayor Sedgley turned the discussion back over to Council; individual questions and comments ensued with Mayor and Councilmembers providing input on the agreement terms and future special event permit.

A motion was made by Councilmember Lueros, seconded by Councilmember Narvaez, to authorize the City Manager to amend the License Agreement with STR Entertainment (formerly Mad Dog Presents) to allow the erection and use of a stage for music concerts and other events within the Oxbow Commons City park for the 2022 concert series, but at a location that differs from prior years; and determine that the actions authorized by this item are exempt from CEQA. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Lueros, Narvaez, Painter, Alessio, and Sedgley

15. REPORT ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION:

City Attorney Barrett stated there was no reportable action from the December 7, 2021 Closed Session and shared that the City Council met in closed session on September 7, 2021, to discuss litigation filed against the City in federal court (US District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 19-CV-06898-VC). During that closed session, City Council unanimously authorized the City Attorney to settle the litigation, and that settlement was finalized and the court ordered dismissal of the case on December 2, 2021.

The nature of the litigation was summarized in a Press Release issued by the City on December 2. The Press Release, along with the Settlement Agreement and Release, and the court's order to dismiss the entire action, are all public records that are available upon request to the City Clerk's Office.

16. COMMENTS BY COUNCIL OR CITY MANAGER:

Vice Mayor Alessio shared that the community was invited to help fill care packages for Service Members over seas as part of the Operation With Love From Home program on Saturday, December 11th at 9:30 AM at the Napa Valley College.

Councilmember Narvaez shared that Santa would be in Veterans Memorial Park from 12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M Sunday December 12th collecting unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots program.

17. ADJOURNMENT: 9:20 P.M.

Submitted by:

Tiffany Carranza, City Clerk

ATTACHMENT 1

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS
Office of the City Clerk**

**City Council of the City of Napa
Regular Meeting**

December 7, 2021

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:

AFTERNOON SESSION:

SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1) Email from James Rosen received on December 5, 2021.

6.A. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

6.A. Proclamation of Local Emergency to Respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- Proclamation P2021-002 Authorizing submission of Grant Application for California Water and Wastewater arrearages payment program, and designating authority to the Utilities Director to administer the program resulting from the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19).

6.C. Affordable and Workforce Housing Building Permit Fees

- PowerPoint Presentation from City Staff.

6.D. Soscol Square Shopping Center Appeal

- 1) Email from David Kearney-Brown, Bayard Fox, and Chris Benz on behalf of Napa Climate NOW! received on December 7, 2021.

SUBMITTED DURING OR AFTER THE COUNCIL MEETING

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1) Letter from Tracey Nauright received on December 7, 2021.
- 2) Email from Richard Bruns received on December 8, 2021.

From: [James Rosen](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: 2021-12-07 Supplemental Comment: Traffic Engineering
Date: Sunday, December 05, 2021 6:06:35 PM
Attachments: [diversion.png](#)

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Members of the council,

Thank you for taking up the issue of traffic safety. I've done some research on what other cities (especially in California) are doing. I've also spoken with a number of my neighbors. What I present here is the basis of what I believe can be a progressive consensus approach: traffic engineering. All of the techniques below do impose new maintenance costs, but they require no enforcement. They work passively once installed.

All of the techniques below would increase safety, improve ADA compliance, help achieve our carbon-neutrality goals, and boost overall quality of life for our residents.

Speed Limits & Enforcement

First, I want to remind everyone that research shows that speed limits and enforcement are only *part* of what drivers consider. Drivers obey the "safe speed limit," which they judge based on signage, lane width, curves, road conditions, and more. If we want to make our streets safer, we need to change the so-called 85th-percentile speed: the speed at which most drivers feel comfortable driving.

Indeed, increasing traffic enforcement can actually *decrease* public safety overall in several ways, including

1. It diverts safety resources from other, more serious issues
2. It leaves too much discretion to officers; bad behavior by a minority of officers can make it harder for the whole police force to engage positively with the community

Traffic Engineering

I'd like to turn to some of the more promising options for Napa. I'm going to focus on residential streets like the street I live on: Laurel. There are different concerns for arterial streets like Jefferson.

Traffic Lanes

NACTO says

Travel lane widths of 10 feet generally provide adequate safety in urban settings while discouraging speeding

Cities are encouraged to demarcate the parking lane to indicate to drivers how close they are to parked cars

2-way streets with low or medium volumes of traffic may benefit from the use of a dashed center line with narrow lane widths or no center line at all. In such instances, a city may be able to allocate additional right-of-way to bicyclists or pedestrians, while permitting motorists to cross the center of the roadway when passing.

Laurel Street is 41' wide and has more parking than it needs. With just paint, we could divide

that into two travel lanes, one parking lane, and a protected bike lane.

Diversions

Wide four-way intersections promote speeding and cut-through. We can apply a traffic calming technique called Diversion. We add a barricade and "No Entry except Bicycles" signs to the ingress of one end of a street:



Traffic calming techniques like this have been proven to reduce the 85th-percentile speed by 20% and raise the quality of life for residents. It generally has no effect on property values, but has been shown to increase them in some cases.

As a bonus, we can use this space to create life-improving infrastructure like parklets and garden boxes.

Speed Humps, Tables, Slots, and Cushions

Speed humps, tables, slots, and cushions are all cost-effective ways to reduce the 85th-percentile speed. Each has a different target speed and is appropriate for different kinds of streets. Speed slots, with their 85th-percentile speed of around 26MPH, are ideal for larger streets like Laurel and Coombs. Speed humps, with a target speed of 15-20MPH, are better suited to smaller streets like Adams and Wilson.

Raised crossings offer a second benefit: in addition to slowing cars, they make the crossing the same height as the sidewalk, which makes it easier for pedestrians to cross. They would be an ideal fit for busy intersections like Laurel and Seminary.

References

- NACTO, [A Comparative Study of Speed Humps, Speed Slots and Speed Cushions](#)
- NACTO, [Don't Give Up at the Intersection](#)
- NACTO, [Lane Width](#)
- Polloni, [Traffic Calming and Neighborhood Livability: Evidence from housing prices in Portland](#)
- Swaminathan, [Protected Bike Lane Infrastructure](#)
- Swaminathan, [Tricks to make users drive safer,](#)
- Swaminathan, [Diversion](#)

Thank you for your time,
James A Rosen



PROCLAMATION NO. P2021-002

PROCLAMATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY OF NAPA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION FOR CALIFORNIA WATER AND WASTEWATER ARREARAGES PAYMENT PROGRAM, AND DESIGNATING AUTHORITY TO THE UTILITIES DIRECTOR TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM RESULTING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the City Manager (acting as the Director of Emergency Services) issued Proclamation No. P2020-001 to proclaim the existence of a “local emergency based on the existence of conditions related to the novel coronavirus known as “SARSCoV-2,” named “coronavirus disease 2019” and abbreviated “COVID-19”; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has subsequently reviewed and ratified the actions taken by the City Manager related to the local emergency described in P2020-001 during multiple public Council meetings, notably including March 16, 2020 (R2020-037), March 31, 2020 (R2020-039), April 21, 2020 (R2020-055), the most recent prior ratification on November 16, 2021, and the planned recommended ratification of this proclamation on December 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic it has been difficult for many water customers to pay their bills due to job loss and other hardships; and

WHEREAS, drinking water customer arrearages have accrued in the amount of \$500,399; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board is administering the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program to cover debt accrued by drinking water customers between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Program requires water systems to allocate the payments as bill credits to customer accounts and waive late fees; and

WHEREAS, while waiving late fees as part of the Program staff forego time consuming efforts to call customers, send written communications, and hang door tags with no guarantee funds will be recovered; and

WHEREAS, the Program requires credits to be issued within sixty days and designation of an authorized representative who can administer the program such that unused funds are returned with six months of receiving payment; and

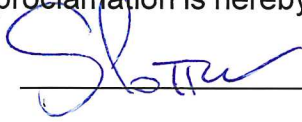
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the City Manager of the City of Napa, in the capacity of the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Napa, as follows:

1. The City Manager hereby approves the application to the State Water Resources Control Board for the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program, as set forth on Attachment 1, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
2. The City Manager hereby authorizes the Utilities Director ("Director") to issue administrative directives to City staff to execute the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program. The administrative directives shall include the following elements:
 - a. Submit application to the State Water Board for \$500,399.
 - b. Receive revenue to the water fund to offset debt for water customer arrearages accrued between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021.
 - c. Allocate payment as bill credits to customer accounts within 60 days.
 - d. Waive late fees to customers.
 - e. Return any unused funds to the State Water Board within six months of receiving payment.
3. The term of any administrative directive issued under the Program shall be no longer than the duration of any health order by the State of California or Napa County in response to COVID-19. The Director shall implement the administrative directive under this California Water and Wastewater Arrearages Program Proclamation in order to terminate it as soon as feasible.
4. This proclamation shall expire if not confirmed and ratified by the City Council within 21 days of the proclamation.
5. The City Manager hereby finds that the facts set forth in the recitals to this proclamation are true and correct, and establish the factual basis for this proclamation.
6. The City Manager hereby determines that the emergency actions authorized by this proclamation are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15269.

7. This Proclamation shall take effect immediately upon its execution.

ATCH 1- California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program Guidelines:
Water Arrearages

This proclamation is hereby issued by the City Manager, Director of Emergency Services.



Name: Steve Potter

Title: City Manager

Director of Emergency Services

Date: 12/6/2021, 2021

CALIFORNIA WATER AND WASTEWATER ARREARAGE PAYMENT PROGRAM GUIDELINES: WATER ARREARAGES

***Adopted
September 21, 2021***



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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to establish the process and criteria for the allocation and administration of the funds appropriated to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget for the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program: Water Arrearages (Program). The criteria include requirements associated with establishing payment plans for customers, and prohibitions on discontinuation of service for water systems participating in the Program. The funding source for the Program is the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. Any federal requirements associated with the funding source may be requirements of the Program. The State Water Board will notify water systems' administrative contacts via email if any requirements change during Program implementation and correspondingly post changes to its website.

The Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) and the Deputy Director of the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) may make clarifying, non-substantive amendments to these Guidelines. Future changes to these Guidelines may be necessary due to changes in law or in State Water Board policy. If substantive changes are necessary, amendments to the Guidelines will be considered by the State Water Board.

DEFINITIONS

Arrearage – amount of money owed to a water system from nonpayment of residential and commercial accounts that accrued from completed billing periods during the COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period. Arrearage does not include late fees and interest on outstanding balances.

Community water system – a system described and regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (commencing with section 116270 of the Health and Safety Code): a public water system that serves at least 15 service connections used by permanent residents or regularly serves at least 25 permanent residents of the area served by the system. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116275, subd. (i).)

Commercial customer – a water system customer or connection that serves a commercial/institutional customers e.g., hotels, motels, restaurants, office buildings, government and military facilities, gas stations, hospitals, educational institutions, retail establishments, dormitories, nursing homes, churches, jails, prisons, mental health facilities, addiction recovery centers, farmworker housing, and campgrounds. Commercial customer does not include industrial (manufacturing, chemical, refineries, cooling towers, animal & food processing, etc.); agriculture irrigation (crops, aquaculture, etc.); or landscape irrigation (parks, golf courses, etc.).

COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period – the period from March 4, 2020, to June 15, 2021, inclusive, and includes any customer billing period that includes these dates.

Customer notification – a written notification to residential and commercial water system customers or connections of the amount of debt/arrearage bill credit provided by the Program. Notification must acknowledge the source of funds from the State. Notification language will be provided at a later date.

Default – either of the following:

- A customer's failure to comply with an amortization agreement, an alternative payment schedule, or a deferral or reduction in payment plan for delinquent charges for 60 days or more;
- A customer's failure to pay current residential service charges for 60 days or more from its due date, regardless of whether the customer is subject to an amortization agreement, an alternative payment schedule, or a deferral or reduction in payment plan for delinquent charges.

Disadvantaged Community (DAC) – a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income. ([Wat. Code, § 79505.5.](#))

Large community water system – a community water system that serves more than 3,300 connections or a yearlong population of more than 10,000 persons.

Past-due bills – customer water bills that are 60 days or more past due and includes both active and inactive accounts and accounts that have payment plans or payment arrangements.

Payment plan – a plan for deferred or reduced payment including, but not limited to minimum payments, alternate payment schedules, or amortization of unpaid balances. The payment plan should allow 12 or more months for repayment of outstanding balances.

Residential customer – water service customers, including groundwater well owners charged for water in managed basins, residing in single-family residences, multifamily residences, mobile homes, including, but not limited to, mobile homes in mobile home parks, or farmworker housing that receive a bill for water service.

Small community water system – a community water system as defined above that serves no more than 3,300 service connections or a yearlong population of no more than 10,000 persons. (Health and Saf. Code, § 116275, subd. (z).)

State – the State of California.

Wastewater treatment provider – city, county, special district, or joint powers authority that provides wastewater collection, treatment or disposal services through a publicly owned treatment works. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116773.2 subd. (g).)

Water enterprise revenue shortfall – water service revenue decrease accrued as a difference between a water system's 2019 fiscal or calendar year and its 2020 fiscal or calendar year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Water shutoff – discontinuation of water service for nonpayment.

SECTION A: ELIGIBILITY

The following are eligible for funding:

- Community water systems that accrued residential and commercial customer arrearages during the COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period are eligible for the Program. This includes community water systems that transferred arrearage debt to a third-party such as a county under a Teeter Plan or a debt collection entity.
- Community water systems that collect eligible customer revenue through property tax rolls are also eligible if they are able to identify drinking water arrearages and can directly credit customers' accounts.
- Community water systems that accrued residential and commercial customer arrearages during the COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period and used a customer assistance program for that arrearage.

SECTION B: PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Water systems that participate in the Program must:

- Waive customer late fees for any arrearages accrued during the COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period in their entirety;
- Allocate payments as bill credits to customer accounts within 60 days of receiving payment;
- Notify customers of the amount credited, and if splitting the credit between tax years, when the second credit will be applied;
- Offer to enroll customers with remaining debt into a payment plan by direct notification to each customer;
- Allow customers 30 days to enroll in a payment plan;
- Not discontinue water service until the customer defaults on the payment plan or misses the deadline to enroll in the payment plan;
- Not discontinue water service prior to the date established in 116733.4 (e)(2)(A);
- Comply with all terms and conditions of payment; and
- Report on expenditures and customer credits.

More detail on Program requirements is provided below.

Participating water systems that do not comply with Program requirements may be subject to enforcement actions by the Division of Drinking Water and may be required to return moneys to the State Water Board.

B.1 REQUIREMENT FOR ALL COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS – REGARDLESS OF PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM

All community water systems, regardless of size or participation in the Program, must offer payment plans to customers with arrearages, pursuant to AB 148. The payment plans and their associated rules must be consistent with the Water Shutoff Protection Act established under Health and Safety Code section 116900 et seq. (Health and Safety Code, § 116773.4, subd. (e).) Associated rules include, but are not limited to, rules and practices relating to the timing and manner of notice and discontinuation of service for payment plan defaults. Community water systems that violate provisions of the Water Shutoff Protection Act may be subject to enforcement action by DDW or the Attorney General.

SECTION C: PROPORTIONAL ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS

C.1 PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

Section C of the Guidelines describes the process the State Water Board will use to establish the total statewide need and the allocation methodology. One-time payments will be made to water systems based on the allocation methodology established in this section. Community water systems receiving payments will credit customer bills in accordance with the methodology established in Section E after receiving payment from the State Water Board.

C.2 TOTAL STATEWIDE WATER NEED

The State Water Board surveyed all community water systems from August 11, 2021 through September 10, 2021 to determine accrued residential and commercial arrearages, as well as revenue loss, during the COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period (March 4, 2020 through June 15, 2021). Approximately 87% of community water systems that charge for water submitted the survey. For systems that were not able to disaggregate the arrearages for drinking water from other non-water charges on their bill, State Water Board staff used data from systems that reported all debt information to estimate drinking water arrearages for those systems.

For the 13% of community water systems that charge for water and did not respond to the survey, the State Water Board staff estimated their residential and commercial arrearages based on the average reported arrearages of systems of similar size proportionally by the proportion of reported accounts in arrears. These estimates were added to the total statewide need numbers.

Table 1 shows the data and calculations used to establish the total statewide need.

Table 1: Drinking Water Arrearage Survey Data Analysis

	Reported	Estimated	Total
Community Water Systems (2,844)	2,293 (80.6%)	n/a	
Community Water Systems that Charge for Water	1,845 (86.7%)	283 (13.3%)	2,128
Total Arrearages	\$315,400,661	\$8,324,272	\$323,724,934
Residential	\$276,583,036	n/a	
Commercial	\$42,817,626	n/a	
Total Late Fees	\$16,009,161	\$578,291	\$16,587,992
Residential	\$13,008,330	n/a	
Commercial	\$3,001,371	n/a	
3% Administrative Costs*	\$8,031,399	\$267,077	\$8,298,416
TOTAL Estimated Maximum Program Need**:	\$339,441,221	\$9,169,640	\$348,611,342
*Not to exceed \$1 million.			
**This total includes the addition of late fees as they were reported in the survey, but does not mean they will be an eligible amount.			

C.3 METHODOLOGY TO ESTABLISH ALLOCATION

Because the funding amount is sufficient to cover the full statewide need plus requested administrative costs, the State Water Board will provide water systems with 100 percent of their requested amounts (arrearages plus administrative costs). Water systems may update the arrearage amounts they reported in the survey as part of the application.

SECTION D: APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

State Water Board staff sent multiple emails to water systems requesting initial documents (i.e., Payee Data Record (STD. 204)) that systems are required to provide in order to process applications and receive state funds. Technical assistance was provided to water systems that requested help in completing the documents. Systems that have not completed the initial documents **MUST** submit them as part of their application.

State Water Board staff will provide an application package to all eligible community water systems and begin accepting complete applications within 14 days of State Water Board adoption of these Guidelines. The applications will be accepted through the EAR or another online portal. Technical assistance will be available through the Division of Drinking Water staff, and outside providers to assist community water systems that need help completing the application.

The application will consist of the following forms:

- Application/disbursement form - identifying the maximum amount of funding the water system may apply for. The application form must be signed by the community water system's authorized representative or designee.
- Conditions of payment form – details the program requirements with which the authorized representative, on behalf of the system, agrees to comply.

There will be an initial 60-day application period. State Water Board staff will attempt to contact any community water system that does not apply during the initial application period and provide technical assistance with the application. State Water Board staff will also contact community water systems with incomplete applications to assist them.

D.1 SMALL COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS

The State Water Board will provide small community water systems with an application that identifies the amount of funding the system is eligible to receive based on the reported or estimated arrearages. Small community water systems may update their reported arrearages as part of the application. Small community water systems must upload the application, signed by the authorized representative or designee for the system, to the application portal or mail the forms to the State Water Board prior to December 6, 2021. The authorized representative, or its designee, must attest that the application is true and accurate based on the community water system's documentation or the methodology used by the State Water Board if the community water system lacks documentation on customer arrearages or revenue shortfalls.

D.2 LARGE COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS

D.2.1 Application Process

State Water Board staff will notify large community water systems of the amount of funding the system is eligible to receive based on their reported arrearages. Large water systems may update their reported arrearages as part of the application. Large water systems must provide documentation from accounting or billing systems verifying the reported arrearages as part of the application. Applications must be submitted no later than December 6, 2021. The authorized representative, or its designee, must attest to the accuracy of the application material and the reported arrearages.

D.2.2 Application Review Process

State Water Board staff will verify that the reported arrearages are supported by the community water systems' documentation. Staff may request additional information if the arrearages submitted with the application differ from those reported in the survey, or documentation is inadequate to support the amount. Technical assistance may be available for systems serving disadvantaged communities that lack supporting documentation of arrearages.

D.3 COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS WITH COMBINED BILLING SYSTEMS

For systems that combine water with other utilities including but not limited to wastewater, stormwater, refuse, and/or energy, only the water-related portion of the arrearage is eligible for total or partial reimbursement. Community water systems with combined billing may not shut off water due to non-payment of the portion of the bill for other services that accrued during the COVID-19 pandemic relief bill period. This prohibition does not apply to debt accrued before or after the COVID-19 pandemic relief bill period.

For systems that cannot determine the proportion of the arrearage related to water service for each customer account, the water system will use an average customer approach to estimate the proportion of a system's arrearage that is attributable to the water portion of the bill for its residential and commercial customer classes. For each customer class, the water system will first calculate the average annual bill. Next the water system will calculate the average annual water portion of the average annual customer bill. Then the average annual water portion will be determined using the following formula:

Average Annual Percentage of Water Charge =

(Average Annual Water Charges / Total Average Annual Bill) x 100

The average annual percentage of water charge will be the percentage that is applied to the water system's customer arrearages.

The Deputy Director of DDW is authorized to resolve any disputes regarding the estimation methodology.

D.4 LATE APPLICATIONS

The State Water Board will allow water systems that did not respond to the initial survey to complete an abbreviated survey and apply for funds. The State Water Board will also hold funds allocated to water systems that do not complete the application by December 6, 2021 until January 15, 2022. The State Water Board will contact water systems that are late with applications to assist the systems in applying. Third-party technical assistance providers will also be utilized to assist systems. State Water Board staff will post lists of systems that have not applied during the initial 60-day application period on the Program website. Community water systems that submit late surveys and applications are not guaranteed funding.

SECTION E: DISBURSEMENT PROCESS AND PRIORITY

State Water Board staff will process disbursements as soon as complete applications are received and reviewed. Staff will prioritize the timing of disbursements to small community water systems. State Water Board staff may also prioritize the timing of disbursements to community water systems serving disadvantaged communities. Staff

will begin disbursing funds by November 1, 2021. In order to expedite payments, checks may be sent to either the water system's physical address or the address of the Authorized Representative, if that address is on file with DFA.

Staff will contact systems with incomplete or missing applications to assist systems and expedite payments.

SECTION F: WATER SYSTEM ALLOCATION TO CUSTOMERS

F.1 ALLOCATION

Community water systems may expend up to three percent (3%), or up to \$1 million, whichever is less, for costs the system incurs in applying for assistance or complying with Program requirements. Because there are sufficient funds to cover the statewide arrearage total plus the administrative costs, system may request enough funds to cover both. System costs to apply for funds and comply with Program requirements must be documented and reported to the State Water Board. The State Water Board will provide a template for reporting administrative costs.

F1.1 Debt Transferred to Third Parties

Community water systems that have transferred their arrearages that qualify for the Program to a third party are eligible and may still apply to receive funding. Community water systems that no longer hold the arrearage debt may credit qualifying customer accounts by doing any of the following: (1) directly paying the third party to reduce or eliminate the debt; (2) refunding the credited amount to the customer; or (3) creating a positive balance for customers to apply toward future water bills. Community water systems must notify their customers of this credit and must indicate that the relief afforded by this credit should be used to pay down the debt that was transferred to the third party.

F.1.2 Water Systems that Utilized Customer Assistance Funds

Community water systems that utilized an existing customer assistance program to aid customers with qualifying arrearages may be eligible for the Program and receive payment for those arrearages previously covered by their customer assistance program. Eligibility will be determined after consultation with the State Water Board to determine that all program requirements can be met.

F.1.3 Late Fees

Water systems must waive late fees for customers with arrearages. Late fees cannot be included in the calculation of the system's total arrearages, or deducted from the amount to credit to customers' bills.

F.2 CUSTOMER CREDIT AND NOTIFICATION

F.2.1 Notification of Customer Bill Credits

Water systems must allocate the funds as bill credits to customers within 60 days of receiving funds. Water systems may apply the credits in two installments within different tax years provided they notify the customer when the second credit will be applied and meet the requirement to remit any moneys not credited to customers within six months of receipt back to the State Water Board. Water systems must notify customers in writing of the amount credited. The acknowledgement must state that the credited amount is being provided through the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program through funding from the State Water Resources Control Board using federal ARPA funds.

F.2.2 Payment Plans

Water systems must offer to enroll any residential and commercial customers with remaining balances after the credits have been applied in a payment plan. The notice offering the payment plan must provide the customer with 30 days to enroll in the plan from the date of the notice. All other provisions of Health and Safety Code section 116900 related to payment plans apply to any plans established under this Program, regardless of the size of the community water system.

- Policies and related notices must be in English and any other language spoken by 10% or more of the community water system's customers
- A formal mechanism for a customer to contest or appeal a bill must exist and must be shared with customers.
- The community water system must provide a telephone number to allow a customer to contact a system representative to discuss options for averting water shutoff for nonpayment.

Water systems must also include a referral statement in the payment plan notice that additional assistance may be available through the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program administered by the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) and other low-income assistance programs, including a contact number for appropriate Local Service Provider(s) or other program hotline to help with enrollment in those programs.

The State Water Board recommends that water systems enter into agreements with CSD and other appropriate agencies and local service providers to share appropriate information to identify and target assistance to customers at risk of being shutoff so that eligible customers receive benefits through those and other assistance programs. The State Water Board further recommends that water systems that offer local customer assistance programs consider entering into data sharing agreements with IOUs participating in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program to support ongoing enrollment.

F.2.3 Shut Off Prohibition

A community water system receiving funds from this Program due to non-payment of bills may not discontinue water service before the later of the following dates: (1) the date identified in Health and Safety Code section 116773.4 (i.e., September 30, 2021 or a later date if amended); or (2) for a customer that has been offered a payment plan, the date the customer misses the enrollment deadline for, or defaults on, the payment plan. A community water system may not discontinue water service to a customer that remains current on a payment plan. Community water systems, regardless of size, must comply with Health and Safety Code section 116908 *et seq.* regarding discontinuation of service.

F.2.4 Consumer Debt Reporting and Third-Party Collection

The community water system must agree to not furnish information regarding arrearages for which credits have been provided to customers under this Program to any consumer reporting agency, as that term is defined at 15 U.S.C. section 1681a, subdivision (f). The system must also agree not to assign to a third party any arrearage for which a credit has been provided to a customer under this Program for purposes of collection.

If a water system has furnished information regarding arrearages for which credits have been provided to customers under this Program to a consumer reporting agency, as that term is defined at 15 U.S.C. section 1681a, subdivision (f), the water system agrees to, within thirty days of receiving payment:

Instruct each such consumer reporting agency to delete all information regarding the arrearages for which credits have been provided to customers under this Program; and

Cease further furnishing of information regarding the arrearages for which credits have been provided to customers under this Program to any consumer reporting agency.

If a water system has assigned arrearages for which credits have been provided to customers under this Program for purposes of collection to a third party that is not a tax agency, the water system agrees to recall the debt. If the third party at any time furnished information regarding the debt to one or more consumer reporting agencies, as that term is defined at 15 U.S.C. section 1681a, subdivision (f), the water system agrees to, within thirty days of receiving payment, require the third party to:

Instruct each such consumer reporting agency to delete all information regarding the debt; and

Cease further furnishing of information regarding the debt to any consumer reporting agency.

F.2.5 Tax Information

Water systems should consult with tax professionals regarding potential tax liability and reporting requirements. The State Water Board is not authorized to provide federal or state tax advice to water systems.

The State Water Board has been directed to issue a 1099-G to each community water system that receives funding. A water system's tax liability will depend on various factors, which may include the water system's entity status, if the water system has an offsetting loss, any other relevant factors specific to each water system, and current federal and state tax laws. Water systems should consult their own tax professional for questions about potential tax liability.

Some water systems may be subject to tax reporting requirements, including the issuance of a 1099-C or other tax form to customers who receive debt relief. Water systems must include in the notification to customers of the bill credits a statement that the bill credits may be taxable and that customers should consult with their own tax advisors regarding taxability. Water systems should also repeat this statement in a notice to credited customers in January of the next calendar year after the bill credits were allocated (i.e., the year that taxes on the allocations may be due). Water systems should consult their own tax professional for questions about tax reporting requirements. If the State Water Board receives clarifying information regarding tax information for this Program from the Internal Revenue Service, a notice will be posted on the website and an email will be sent to all participating community water systems.

F.3 RETURN OF FUNDS NOT CREDITED TO CUSTOMERS

Water systems must remit any funds not credited to customers, or used by the water system to apply for funds and comply with Program requirements, back to the State Water Board within six months of receiving payment.

SECTION G: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All community water systems that receive funds must provide certification to the State Water Board that, except for authorized administrative costs, Program funds were applied as credits to customer bills to offset COVID-19 arrearages. Systems must report the total amount credited, the number of accounts credited, the number of customers enrolled in a payment plan and the number of customers that did not enroll in a payment plan. Systems must also report the amount used for administration of the Program. The State Water Board will provide a template or online portal for reporting, including a template for reporting administrative costs. The State Water Board may request the supporting documentation to validate the reported amounts. Water systems accepting funds may be audited and must retain documentation supporting the reported amounts for seven years following final reporting.

SECTION H: WASTEWATER ARREARAGE PROGRAM

Because the appropriated amount exceeds the Statewide Need for water system arrearages and the total amount requested by water systems, the State Water Board will initiate a program for funding wastewater treatment provider arrearages and revenue shortfalls. The State Water Board will establish the wastewater arrearage program no later than February 1, 2022.



Housing Fee Update

December 7, 2021

Master Fee Schedule Update

- Council Adopted an Updated Master Fee Schedule October 19, 2021:
 - Adopted fees based on comprehensive study
 - New fee schedule effective January 1, 2022
 - Bring most fees up to full cost recovery, reducing subsidization by the General Fund
 - Three-year phase in plan for fees where full cost recovery increases fees by more than 25% (including Building Permits)
 - Establishes annual increases by CPI through 2024

Residential Permits

- Council adopted fee schedule, but directed staff to develop a program to decrease fees for affordable and workforce housing (120% of Area Median Income)
- Goals of:
 - Not creating new impediments to affordable housing development
 - Continue encouraging Accessory Dwelling Unit construction
 - Maintaining current level of cost recovery (roughly 50% for building fees)



Recommended Program

- Qualifying project types include “Affordable and Workforce Housing”:
 - Residential units with an affordable housing agreement at or below 120% (Moderate-Income) of Area Median Income (AMI) affordable rent or sales price
 - Accessory Dwelling Units that are 500 square feet or less, regardless of affordability status
- Reduce Fees by 50% to “Building Permit Fees (Including Plan Review and Inspection)” for the following fee types:
 - Residential and Multifamily Uses (Fee Numbers 2.1.6 through 2.1.10)
 - Single Family Dwellings (Fee Numbers 2.1.26 through 2.1.30)
 - Accessory Dwelling Units (Fee Number 2.1.36)



Recommended Action



- Adopt a Resolution updating City fees and charges related to residential building permit applications for affordable and workforce housing projects and new accessory dwelling units under of 500 square feet or less.



End of Presentation



From: [Beth Painter](#)
Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 8:20 AM
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Alert on Item 6.D. Soscol Square Shopping Center Appeal

Begin forwarded message:

From: Christina Benz <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Alert on Item 6.D. Soscol Square Shopping Center Appeal
Date: December 7, 2021 at 8:14:59 AM PST
To: Scott Sedgley <ssedgley@cityofnapa.org>, Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>, Beth Painter <bp@bethpainter.com>, Mary Luros <mluros@cityofnapa.org>, Bernie Narvaez <bnarvaez@cityofnapa.org>
Cc: David Kearney-Brown <[REDACTED]>, Bayard Fox <[REDACTED]>, Jim Wilson <[REDACTED]>, Lynne Baker <[REDACTED]>, Marilyn Knight-Mendelson <[REDACTED]>, Linda Brown <[REDACTED]>, Lori Stelling <[REDACTED]>, Celeste Mirassou <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

We were alarmed to see changes to Exhibit "A", Resolution PC2021-24, approving the Soscol Shopping Center Project, that remove some of the "green building" conditions that were approved by the Planning Commission. The revised resolution removes the conditions requiring five electric vehicle charging stations, LEED silver equivalent measures for the core/shell buildings, and the ability to use recycled water for landscape irrigation.

This was not discussed or approved at the Council hearings for the drive-though appeal and we would like to know why these conditions have been removed and ask that they be reinstated.

We are grateful to the Council for supporting the community's request, through the appeal, to address climate change by requiring new developments to be part of the solution. The Planning Commission worked diligently to make this project more sustainable and of more benefit to the community. Removal of these conditions will diminish that effort. Please do not allow that to happen.

With respect,

David Kearney-Brown, Bayard Fox, Chris Benz



(707)492-0089

Hello, my name is Tracey Nauright and I moved downtown right by Fuller Park in the beginning of October. I'm here today because I am very concerned, and quite frankly terrified, about the insane speeding up and down both Laurel and Jefferson Streets, and also the ridiculous amount of drivers who don't stop at our intersection.

Being new to the neighborhood, I joined NextDoor. I saw post after post of people complaining about the driving situation. Being a mother of two grown daughters - I learned early on in my mommying career that if you want something done, you have to actually speak up and do something about it, versus just talk amongst your friends over coffee or wine. So, I jumped in head first and put up a post suggesting that us locals have to do something about it versus complain here, and was blown away by the responses. I've printed them out for you tonight for your reading pleasure, or kindling. You pick.

It seems that a lot of people aren't big on speaking publicly, so...if you are here tonight in support our coming together to fix this problem... can you please raise your hand?

I work out of my home. My Office and Living Room windows face Laurel Street. All day and all night long, I hear cars whirring past my house at crazy speeds... engines revving, gears shifting - it sounds more like Sear's point vs. a quaint Napa Valley residential neighborhood.

The intersection by my house is very, very concerning. I stand outside at different times of the day, and watch cars literally roll through the stop signs over and over again. Multiple times a day I hear people honking their horns at that intersection, very often followed by screaming and very colorful language. From what I remember learning in Driver's Ed a million years ago, those red octagonal things on the posts on street corners mean stop - please correct me if this information is out dated.

I have to add that I'm very concerned for the safety of the lovely 94 year old woman who lives on this corner with her adult handicapped son. My heart stops every time I hear someone honk or scream and pray no one has been hurt.

When I saw this message on our NextDoor discussion, I knew I had to share it with you, as this is a little too close to home, as in literally MY home.

Carolyn Passmore, Old Town - 23 Nov

"Two broken arms and stitches in face as two weeks ago I was run down in crosswalk at Laurel and Jefferson. Hit and run. I'm 80. 5:45 pm leaving Fuller Park. I'm alive with brain, great family and friends. Many blessings."

Thank goodness Carolyn was able to walk away from this.

Please, City Council, I beg you, please can we work together to find a solution for this before someone gets killed?

Thank you so very much for your time. If you need a citizen volunteer to help work through this with you to help figure out a solution and support your efforts, my contact information is in the packet I am giving you.

With the warmest of regards,

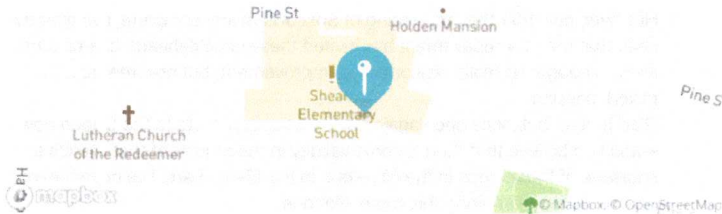
Tracey Nauright
1850 Laurel St
707-479-8422
pelohotmama@me.com

NextDoor Post #1

T Tracey Nauright
Old Town • 21 Nov

Crazy Drivers. I just moved to the Fuller Park area, and I am absolutely blown away by how fast people are driving, and how people just blow through the stop signs... I am seeing so many posts about this, and I'm wondering if there have been any actual complaints made to the city about what's going on here? Is there a group in our neighborhood facilitating something like this? If not, perhaps we can... These people are crazy!!!

UPDATE: I reached out to someone I (kind of) know on the council to find out about getting on the agenda, she in turn, sent our safety concerns to the Police Chief, Jennifer Gonzales who (wait for it) called me! There is a shortage of traffic cops right now but she's trying to hire more, but they're for all of Napa, vs. specific areas. I did mention Carolyn Passmore's story and she sounded surprised, and said she'd look into it. The one tidbit that I did take away was that apparently the Red Light Camera program was taken away by a previous City Council. This covers the flashing crosswalks like they have in front of Brown's Valley Market. Apparently this program is completely self-funded by tickets for traffic violations! I wonder if this isn't the avenue we try to take to bring back, as it's a new Council?



Fuller Park • Southwest Napa, Napa, CA

Posted in **Safety to Anyone**

36 Neighbors

84 Comments

Like Comment Share Repost

J john graham • Southwest Napa
I totally agree!! The immaturity of drivers that for some reason have felt that the gas pedal gives them some sort of power. Total disregard for persons to include small children and animals. Effing grow up!!!
21 Nov Like Reply Share 9

M Macie Askins • Napa
Its everywhere in this town! Coombs street is treated like a drag strip. The other morning I was waiting to cross and here comes a White Tesla flying had to be 45 at least!
22 Nov Sad Reply Share 10

T Tracey Nauright • Old Town
I used to live across from the library, that makes me so sad.
22 Nov Like Reply Share 3

T Tracey Nauright • Old Town
Please come to the meeting and show your support! Also please share with your neighbors, the more that show up the better!
22 Nov Like Reply Share 3

N Nadine Doey • Old Town
What about offering to have the community pay for camera enforcement till the fines cover the cost? Possibly rotating them around town.
http://www.pedbikesafe.org/pedsafe/countermeasures_detail.cfm?CM_NUM=63 (edited)
1w Like Reply Share 1

M Maureen Triple • Old Town
Nadine,
How about the Speed Camera Lottery they do in Sweden? Speed cameras identify over the limit and fines go into a poll. If you're driving at or below the speed limit, you get entered into the lottery ...all of the fine money :) if you Google for speeding solutions and ideas, there's some great stuff out there!
24 Nov Like Reply Share 3


R Rick Cabral • Old Town
I know this comment will frustrate some, but is we had cameras around town this is the type of identification we could have.
25 Nov Like Reply Share 1

L Lee Berberick • West Park
Speeding on West Park Avenue. The school is on this street. I think the mothers that drop their kids off are in a car race to get home or to work. Lots of dog walkers and children go down this street. Also teenage or young men think this is a drag strip! We need slow down bumps on road!
26 Nov Like Reply Share

M Mario Molina • Napa North
The speed and red light cameras we used to have were honestly illegal. All of these systems are supplied by outside contractors and the city is incentivized to apply fines even if there is no infraction. It's a crooked system that only hurts the community and erodes faith in local government. Not to mention that here in our lovely city you have to pay all fines up front before you can even have your day in court for proper arbitration. I agree that people need to slow down but automated ticketing is not the answer.
Every time i have almost been hit, it has been an adult usually in an SUV, looking at their phone. Or simply not bothering to look before a Lane change, making a left turn from the far right lane etc. All basic things that we are supposed to have learned to do in drivers Ed and when getting our licenses. Everyone thinks they are the special exception to the rule. None of us is.
Drive cautiously and keep your head on a swivel. Assume everyone else on the road is trying to kill you and that they don't know you are there and it will save you a lot of trouble.
I'd you think everyone else drives like an a hole, odds are the a hole is you.
(edited)
1w Like Reply Share 1

M Marsha Dorgan • Southeast Vintage
Wow! Do you actually mean that? I lost a child. I would never wish that heartbreak on anyone.
27 Nov Like Reply Share

D Dave W. • Foothill
M Marsha
28 Nov Like Reply Share

 Jazmin Tapia • Oxbow ...
I will do my best to be at the meeting. This has got way out of control and it makes me sad for the people who have unfortunately died while crossing the freakin street! I am definitely more aware and slow down at night because it is dark and sometimes people pop out of nowhere. (edited)
1w Like Reply Share 1

 Leilani Lucas • Original Alta Heights ...
I am willing to stand up and speak! The speeding on East Ave is deplorable! It's especially bad in front of the school from 7:50 am-8:05 when kids are being dropped off. People have no patience and no regard for the safety of our children. It is very upsetting. A mother flew through the crosswalk one morning so her kids wouldn't be late I'm sure, while I was in The middle of it with my son! Needless to say, we got into a shouting match in front of the school because she couldn't believe I would take a picture of her car to show the principal! I can't believe the behavior of adults! Not teenagers, parents of children! (edited)
1w Like Reply Share 2


 Chris Dilley • Alphabet Streets ...
G street from Ca Blvd to Yahome is a speed way.
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Jazmin Tapia • Oxbow ...
Brown and Yount, as well as Main Street.
23 Nov Like Reply Share 1


 Veronica Jessup • St. John's ...
Main is a major thorough way to downtown and my neighborhood. People are so disrespectful. Not only speeding but my cars have endured so much damage over the years; back windows shot out by BB gun, baseball bats taken to my car for gang initiation (per police), car side swipe, hit by a drunk driver while parked (almost a full car total missed by \$200), a full car total by a girl texting, and just an accident from some older gentleman who was confused but driving and randomly hit one of it cars, wiper blades ripped off, a knife taken through the top of our convertible. So far we're lucky none of our family has been hit physically but we are always on alert. 🙄🙄
24 Nov Like Reply Share 1


 Maureen Maloney • Southeast Vintage ...
Really bad as well on Firefly. I know people use this street to avoid Trancas, but I have to say a Hail Mary every time I go to back out of my driveway, for fear I will be smashed into from some fool flying around the corner from Wild Rye.
24 Nov Like Reply Share 2

 Teresa Fowler • Salvador Avenue ...
Salvador is horrible
24 Nov Like Reply Share 1

 Maureen Triple • Old Town ...
Tracey,
Hi! When and where is the meeting and who's getting it organized? Thanks!!!
Maureen
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Cynthia Villegas • Rose Drive ...
Thank you Robert Francis for the date, time and PLACE of the meeting!
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Robert O'Malley • McPherson ...
I've lived for quite a while in a small cul-de-sac off Soscol between Lincoln & Pueblo, which had for some time been a long, several-block straightaway with motor-gunning & reckless speeding. Some kid even lost control of his car one night last year and mowed down some trees & a fence on our property (yes, he lived.) Over the past couple of years, the road surface had deteriorated somewhat and the volume of speeders had decreased (somewhat). However, now that the resurfacing of Soscol is nearly complete, I've already seen that the new repavement has invited these knuckleheads to amp it up again. Thought I'd really welcome this improvement, but now realize it's a mixed blessing. Glad that ambulances once again have a smoother route to the Queen now—and I do believe that there's some validity in the argument that there's a shortage of traffic cops in the city—but, in my 17+yrs here, I've never seen anyone pulled over along this route. Not one.
23 Nov Like Reply Share 1

 Rusty Cohn • Terrace & Shurtleff ...
As someone who grew up in the Berkeley/Albany area I can tell you traffic enforcement laws change drivers behavior. I visit the Berkeley/Albany area on a regular basis and when walking I find cars there are much more likely to stop for pedestrians than in Napa. Drivers are aware that they can and will get tickets for failure to stop for pedestrians and other traffic violations. I rarely see cars pulled over in Napa for traffic violations. Hit and runs seem way to common these days. Time to stop this bs.
23 Nov Like Reply Share 6

 Maureen Triple • Old Town ...
Rusty,
Great post. Do you know how they were able to bring about these changes? Would love to talk with folks who have experience influencing policy. Thanks so much!!
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Robert Sachs • Napa North ...
It's not always speeding or other inconsiderate behavior. Rather, it's just as often poor judgment. I was witness to an accident last night at Solano and Trower. The driver in front of me turned left from southbound Solano onto Trower right in front of an oncoming car. She was Tsected on the passenger side. She told me she was sure the other car had a red light going north. Not quite. Interestingly the other car, though clearly not at fault, fled the scene.
23 Nov Like Reply Share 1

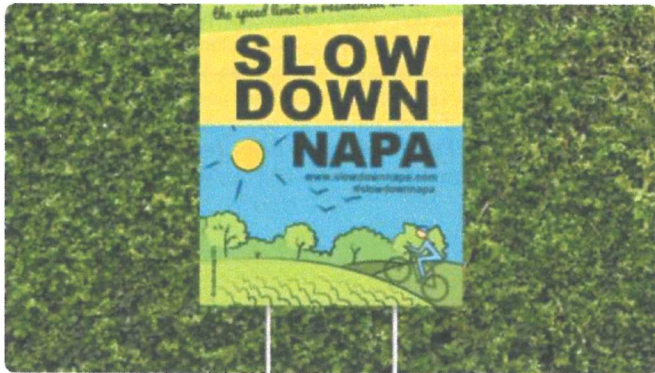
Joyce Stavert • South Corner ...

www.slowdownnapa.com, we are working on this as best we can with the city and we just printed our first batch of yard signs. We encourage all of you to send in an email on our website so we can keep you updated on progress and enlist your help and support, it's a city wide problem and we must get the city council to make this a top priority. Strength in numbers!

23 Nov Like Reply Share 4

Joyce Stavert • South Corner ...

Yard sign



23 Nov Like Reply Share 4

Veronica Jessup • St. John's ...

I'd love one of these signs!! I live on Main Street and the speeding is off the charts. Not just high speed but reckless. In the early mornings people drive down the middle of the road and 'Gun it'. I've seen it myself. Absolutely crazy.

24 Nov Like Reply Share 1

See 3 more replies

David Prete • Boyes Hot Springs ...

Unsafe, rude and inconsiderate drivers are all over, and I see it constantly as an Instacart shopper and delivering groceries in Sonoma. Drivers will constantly race and pass on the right where there's merging traffic. They're all an accident waiting to happen. Where does it get you, a car or two ahead and then stuck in traffic at the next light.

23 Nov Like Reply Share 4

D **Danielle Green** • Napa North ...

I live in Sonoma and I cannot agree more. Middle of the night you can hear loud cars just racing down the street, which are never followed by the sound of police vehicles. In the Sonoma county nextdoor people complain about it all the time and the city does nothing about it.

24 Nov Like Reply Share 1

Eva Bedolla • Southwest Napa ...

Ask they need to do is just put road bumps to make engine slow down. I live near that intersection too and I know what you mean.

23 Nov Like Reply Share 2

Robin Ellison • Original Alta Heights ...

As what happened 2 weeks ago with a resident-- run down in a crosswalk at Laurel and Jefferson-- what else is going on that we never hear about?

23 Nov Like Reply Share

T **Tracey Nauright** • Old Town ...

That's my intersection... hence this post. Please come to the meeting and share your experience!!! Bring everyone you can!!!

23 Nov Like Reply Share 1

M **Maureen Triple** • Old Town ...

Tracey Nauright
Do you want one of the new Slow Down Napa yard signs? Let me know :)

27 Nov Like Reply Share

K **Kathy Roberts** • Old Town ...

Bottom line - SLOW THE HECK DOWN! Pay attention - you are not going to get there any quicker if you kill yourself or someone else or go to jail.

23 Nov Like Reply Share 4

T **Tracey Nauright** • Old Town ...

Maybe we should make some signs that say THAT and put them up around the neighborhood. I'm a graphic designer so I can handle that part...

23 Nov Like Reply Share 1

Leilani Lucas • Original Alta Heights ...

Tracey Nauright there is already a movement with signs being distributed soon. The link is below (edited)

1w Like Reply Share

Ingrid S. • Lone Oak ...

What time and day is the meeting?

23 Nov Like Reply Share

Robert Francis • Terrace & Shurtleff ...

Ingrid December 7, 6:30 p.m at City Hall on School St.

23 Nov Like Reply Share 3

See 8 more replies

B **Brenda Perry** • Terrace & Shurtleff ...

Good for you, Tracey, for actually doing something about this!

23 Nov Like Reply Share

Lori Hennigh • Yountville ...

Running stop 🚦 signs seems to be very common nowadays. I've seen this!


23 Nov Like Reply Share

Robert Francis • Terrace & Shurtleff ...

Thanks, Tracey, for your effort in contacting a city official and your update.


23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Dave W. • Foothill ...
Everyone is in a hurry, especially this time of year
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Tracey Nauright • Old Town ...
Please come to the meeting and show your support! Also please share with your neighbors, the more that show up the better!
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Peggy Goodman • Southwest Napa ...
You know those speed indicators that tell you how fast you're going? Why can't they rig those up with cameras to take a pic of your license plate and send a ticket when you speed, like they have for red light runners?!

 Tracey Nauright • Old Town ...
Please come to the meeting and show your support and suggest this! Also please share with your neighbors, the more that show up the better!
22 Nov Like Reply Share


 Nick Vernon • Foothill ...
Our town is not exactly kid friendly. A lot of teenagers have nothing to do here. Also a lot of our youth is brought up watching these video games that involves high speed chasing and gun violence. There is a culture of side shows everywhere in the bay area. Freeway shooting is not even news anymore. This could be only some of the causes of our crazy streets??
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Tracey Nauright • Old Town ...
Please come to the meeting and show your support! Regardless of whether it's bored kids or not, we have to at least make an effort! Also please share with your neighbors, the more that show up the better!
22 Nov Like Reply Share


 Macie Askins • Napa ...
Unfortunately its not only teenage drivers.
22 Nov Like Reply Share


 Robin Ellison • Original Alta Heights ...
Not at all.
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Tracey Nauright • Old Town ...
I don't think it's fair to blame the town for the kids driving like a-holes completely. Partially, absolutely. But a majority of the people who I see and hear speeding past my house are grown ups...
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Mary Formosa • Old Town ...
Clay Street has seen an increase in fast cars since the roundabouts
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Tracey Nauright • Old Town ...
I can imagine, so sorry! Please come to the meeting and show your support! Also please share with your neighbors, the more that show up the better!
22 Nov Like Reply Share

 Michael Ware • Original Alta Heights ...
Why are we allowing people (including some of our esteemed government officials) pushing to defund the police? What a ludicrous movement! This is just one of the results - not to mention the surge of robberies, thefts and murders going on. So where are our police patrols? Oh, sorry, we cut their budgets to nothing and tied their hands. Oops!
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Nick Vernon • Foothill ...
Michael The defund the police thing is pure BS! Someone said it, and the right hijacked the statement. However those people who are saying they don't want to pay taxes, the wealthy and corporations are actually the ones who will be defunding the police and our military! I'm glad to pay my fair share. Why make such baseless claims? Has our police department been defunded? Yes crime seems to be on the rise. Are you willing to put your money where your mouth is? You might have to pay more taxes because the wealthy and corporations are not paying they're fair share.
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Maureen Triple • Old Town ...
Tracey Nauright ,
Does anyone know if it's on the agenda for Council meeting?
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Michael Ware • Original Alta Heights ...
Sorry Nick, but paying your/ my fair share of taxes has absolutely nothing to do with the defunding movement. And yes, our PD as well as many others have had their budgets already cut.
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Joan Gladieux • Bel Aire ...
Michael Ware They are NOT defunding the police like Nick Vernon said, it was/is the far right with the phrase "Defund the police." Cities are trying to figure out that there is more mental health problems & people with these qualifications are the people who need to be called instead of the police!!!
23 Nov Like Reply Share

 Nick Vernon • Foothill ...
Michael I hope you wake up soon. The so called Defund movement is made up by Wolf or Fox. There might be pandemic related budget issues, but is there any evidence that our Napa Police Department has been defunded?? I am an expert with dogs and mushrooms, but I'm not an expert at understanding police department budgets. Money is tight and times are hard. Show some proof of the things u are saying. Is there an article in the paper?
24 Nov Like Reply Share

 Bryan Avila • North Westwood ...
Tracey Insane! We live across from Laurel Park and just got hit and run last night. (edited)
1w Like Reply Share

Add a reply...

NextDoor Post #2

M Maureen Triple • Old Town

Tracey Nauright

23 Nov Like Reply Share

Add a reply...

Robin Ellison • Original Alta Heights

The City is well aware with complaints galore. The mayor is here on ND, as are other officials. There is a Slow Down Napa group. <https://slowdownnapa.com/> Running red lights has become the norm, I see it daily now. When your light turns green, always take a beat or two before setting out.

22 Nov Like Reply Share

T Tracey Nauright • Old Town

Please come to the meeting and show your support! The squeaky wheel... right??? Also please share with your neighbors, the more that show up the better!

22 Nov Like Reply Share

Ingrid S. • Lone Oak

Tracey Nauright Please remind everyone what day and time is the meeting, thx

23 Nov Like Reply Share

Robert Francis • Terrace & Shurtleff

As mentioned, the new norm seems to be two cars running through the red before green light drivers can proceed. Drivers know there's no enforcement and act accordingly. Time to send a message to Napa drivers and council members that this b.s. has to stop. City leaders, do your job. Next City Council meeting December 7 at 6:30 p.m. (edited)

2w Like Reply Share

T Tracey Nauright • Old Town

Hi Robert, do you know if this will be discussed at the City Council meeting? Would a mass community show up help? I would hope that if we overflowed the room with residents affected it might make an impact, especially (I hate to say it) people who have been hurt by this in some way... I live on Laurel by the park and it's INSANE here.

22 Nov Like Reply Share

Robert Francis • Terrace & Shurtleff

Tracey Yes, I do believe a mass showing would have an impact. Especially with speakers from all neighborhoods. I don't know the agenda for the next meeting but fortunately there is a public comments time. Anyone has three minutes to speak on any matter, traffic included. My vision is to see a large turnout with as many speakers as possible. Speaking in public can be difficult for some, myself included, but just having a large presence can get attention. I will post a reminder of the meeting a few days in advance. (edited)

1w Like Reply Share

Luma Sheet • Old Town

December 7 at 6:30 PM. Where is the meeting held?

23 Nov Like Reply Share

T Tracey Nauright

Old Town • 28 Nov

Calling all neighbors that are fed up with the crazy drivers in our neighborhoods! Next City Council meeting December 7 at 6:30 p.m. Let's make a statement and show up EN MASSE to let City Council know something must be done about these crazy drivers! Please bring everyone you can. We all get 3 minutes to speak. If public speaking isn't your jam, please send me what you would say in a DM here. I will print it out and to the City Council! Either way please come!!! We need bodies-lots of them!!!!

Posted in **General** to **Anyone**

👍👍 39 Neighbors

12 Comments

👍 Like

💬 Comment

🔗 Share

🔄 Repost

Robert Francis • Terrace & Shurtleff

Tracey, thanks reminding everyone. Will post a reminder a few days in advance, too.

28 Nov Like Reply Share

Lori Paisley • Terrace & Shurtleff

So is this meeting in person or on Zoom? Sorry to ask if this is a silly question but I wasn't sure. If it is "in person" the meeting is right across from the UPS store downtown right?

28 Nov Like Reply Share

Tracey Nauright • Old Town

It is in person Lori! 955 School St.

28 Nov Like Reply Share

Francisco Valenzuela • Terrace & Shurtleff

Thank you Tracey for letting us know.

29 Nov Like Reply Share

Janie Hartman • El Centro Ave

Enforcement of laws on books. I have seen traffic laws broken in front of a Napa Police

29 Nov Like Reply Share

Tracey Nauright • Old Town

That is frightening, any chance you can camp out and get one on video?

29 Nov Like Reply Share

Marilyn Moore • Terrace & Shurtleff

Janie what about that video someone posted of that car burning rubber and doing doughnuts on her residential street?

6 days ago Like Reply Share

Marilyn Moore • Terrace & Shurtleff

Can this be any Napa neighborhood or only in old Town?

6 days ago Like Reply Share

Tracey Nauright • Old Town

I think everyone who lives in an area in Napa that is affected should show up!!!👍👍👍 power in numbers I hope!!!

6 days ago Like Reply Share

- T

Tracey Nauright • Old Town

...

It would be great if you can come, it sounds like you've got quite a bit of information already. We need as many people as possible. Please!

24 Nov Like Reply Share
- K

Kathay Smith • Old Town

...

I will be there and would love to speak. I walk Fuller Park daily and live on Laurel. Something must be done! From the light on First Street on the west side of the freeway to the stop sign at Jefferson there is no deterrent to slow, stop, or even use caution. These are residential streets-never designed as thoroughfares or short cuts!!

I always make eye contact with all 4 drivers at the intersection but with no one using turn signals you never are sure which way they will be going-even if they choose to stop!

Carolyn is 80! She was 4 feet from her own sidewalk when she was hit by a turning car who left her on the road!!! She is amazing, strong, forgiving, but hurt and vulnerable. There has to be a solution!

24 Nov Like Reply Share
- Antoinette Freeman • St. John's

...

I will be at the City Council meeting on thee 7th. I have started working with Slow Down Napa (https://nextdoor.com/p/Zssmh6qb8P-p?utm_source=share&extras=ODI4NDYwMg%3D%3D) and am presenting my petition for stop signs in a Napa intersection in January at City Council. Here is the link to my petition: <https://chng.it/jwm2TnMm>

24 Nov Like Reply Share

1
- T

Travis S. • West Napa

...

I thought we were against gas leaf blowers? This week is crazy drivers? Got it

24 Nov Like Reply Share

1
- Rose Anne Meyer • Southeast Vintage

...

You can also call in and write in to have your voice heard. Directions are on city council site. And for letters you also add READ In subject line if you want it read aloud at meeting instead or prior to meeting. I did it during covid. I'm in MN fir a funeral but wish you the best luck! Fight the good fight! 🙏

26 Nov Like Reply Share
- T

Tracey Nauright • Old Town

...

Sorry for your loss. 😞 would you be game to send in a letter??? ❤️

26 Nov Like Reply Share
- Rose Anne Meyer • Southeast Vintage

...

Let me know about next council meeting. I absolutely will. In bed trying to recharge. Exhausted. Here is some MInnesota trivia to make you chuckle tho. Was 10 degrees in MN last night. I can't get warm!

Tracey Nauright

26 Nov Like Reply Share
- D

Deborah Staats • Southeast Vintage

...

People seem to be driving crazy because there are no consequences. The City Council can't control traffic. More officers are needed. If there is no support for that the City Council will have little ability to improve the increasing driving issues and crime rates we are experiencing from decreased enforcement.

23 Nov Like Reply Share

1
- J

Jonna Lewis • Browns Valley

...

I will be there !!

23 Nov Like Reply Share
- bobbi underhill • Green Valley - Upper

...

By the time that I left my Yuppie life in Chicago, near Oprah's, I had been run down in crosswalks 1) by an Iraqi cabdriver in an 'Impala, 2) a guy in a 'Fleetwood' who had fallen asleep, & 3) by somebody else who couldn't stop on wet pavement...plus knocked off the sidewalk by 4) a nice man talking to his passenger & 5) by a City bus. I was told that Chicago has/had an average of 8 similar pedestrian injuries daily. I agree that over-crowding is the primary problem. Don't dismiss the driver or hurry sickness.

23 Nov Like Reply Share
- Jennifer Barker • Southwest Napa

...

I cannot attend as it's my dad's birthday, but if you need me to sign a petition or something I'm happy to add my name. Good luck (safe) road warriors!

And on a side note, I've noticed the times that the light stays yellow has decreased. On some lights if you leave the line and it turns yellow, if you are going the speed limit you can't make it to the other side before it turns red. Just an observation.

23 Nov Like Reply Share

1
- Sonny Lum • Terrace & Shurtleff

...

The only way to stop speeders are speed bumps

23 Nov Like Reply Share
- Diana Meehan • Coombsville Country

...

Fire safety is not fond of them as it slows their response time and "could damage their vehicles"...that said, there are other options, such as "speed tables" you can read about them here: <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-design-guide/street-design-elements/vertical-speed-control-elements/speed-table/>

24 Nov Like Reply Share
- Diana Meehan • Coombsville Country

...

Perhaps it's time to have a discussion with the city about a "Slow Streets Initiative" in Napa? The Napa County Bicycle Coalition attempted this at the beginning of the pandemic when everything was closed and there was a significant need for people to safely be outdoors. The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) has numerous publications on safer, more complete streets. If you're heading to the City Council to speak, show up informed, with solutions! You can read more about Slow Streets here: <https://nacto.org/publication/streets-for-pandemic-response-recovery/emerging-street-strategies/slow-streets/>

24 Nov Like Reply Share

- MJ F.** • Coombsville Country ...
 Plenty of complaints on ND; little action to back it up. (edited)
 1w Like Reply Share ❤️ 1
- Tracey Nauright** • Old Town ...
 They need to see a showing of people to make a change.
 22 Nov Like Reply Share ❤️ 1
- Robert Francis** • Terrace & Shurtleff ...
 MJ True. Complaining is easy, acting on those complaints takes time and conviction. There are some here on ND who will voice a complaint and back it up with action. I applaud them. So, hope to see you and many others December 7th at City Hall at 6:30 p.m. The public comments period is usually early in the agenda so you don't have a long wait to speak. (edited)
 1w Like Reply Share
- MJ F.** • Coombsville Country ...
 Besides being a safety issue, this is a long overdue subject that demands immediate attention. Is it possible to get this item on the agenda instead of being allotted only 3 minutes to speak? (edited)
 1w Like Reply Share
- Robert Francis** • Terrace & Shurtleff ...
 MJ I'm sure there is a process to do that. Don't know what it is. This would put a greater emphasis on the issue, I imagine. The more tools used, the better for a positive outcome. (edited)
 1w Like Reply Share ❤️ 1
- Tracey Nauright** • Old Town ...
 MJ F. I am looking into it!!!
 23 Nov Like Reply Share 😊 1

Add a reply...

- Lisa Vizza** • Stadium ...
 If I can reschedule a meeting for that night, I'll be there. Where are they held?
 22 Nov Like Reply Share ❤️ 1
- Tracey Nauright** • Old Town ...
 That would be great! Please invite your neighbors! Excellent question - I had to google it. 🤔 City Hall Council Chambers located at 955 School Street
 22 Nov Like Reply Share ❤️ 2
- Marcie Solomon** • Alphabet Streets ...
 Yes! We will see you there.
 23 Nov Like Reply Share ❤️ 1
- Tracey Nauright** • Old Town ...
 Wonderful! Please bring your neighbors too!!!!
 23 Nov Like Reply Share

Two Direct Messages Sent to Me:

Started on 11/28

Laura C., Terrace & Shurtleff



Hi Tracey, I can't come to the meeting but wanted to share my experience:

My son was waiting in his car outside my home on Tamarisk Drive one day, and a car sped by going toward Birkdale. He thought to himself that someone was going to get hit any minute, as the kids were walking home from Silverado Middle School at that time. Sure enough, just a couple minutes later, another car sped by him and did indeed hit a kid at that intersection. This was two years ago, but the speeding has not stopped. Long story short, I can always time my day by the cars speeding up the street in the morning (parents taking their kids to school around 8 am) and in the afternoon when they zoom back down our street on the way home from picking up their kids. This is EVERY school day. Crazy when the parents are so clueless and careless with the safety of their own kids' classmates!

Thanks for your efforts,
Laura

You

Started on 11/30

Susan H., Southeast Vintage

There were several reasons that a previous council discontinued the traffic cameras. Some time back I did research on the cameras and was a bit alarmed by what I found. I do not have time to relay all to you at this moment I would rather those with concerns be addressed in a different fashion

1) write down specific locations there are problems with lights (people running red lights), or signage and give a copy to city council

2) at one time, drivers training was taught in HS, can the CC & or community members ask the school board to have classes teach classes at the HS level again?
Can the CC look into having community refresher courses (taught thru the community college and/or Parks and Rec)?
For example, how long does a motorist allow a pedestrian to cross the street until, the driver feels the pedestrian is safe or until the pedestrians feet reach the opposite curb; can pedestrians or bicyclist hear a car approach or behind them particularly, if they are looking at a cell, have ear phones in or the car is electric?

3) perhaps set up a fund (non-profit?), for community members to donate for flashing crosswalk or slow down/speed limit signs, perhaps, www.slowdownnapa.com (?)

Richard Bruns
2022 Imola Avenue
Napa, CA 94559
707-224-5947
rbnewsnapa@gmail.com

December 08, 2021

Mayor Sedgley
Vice Mayor Alessio
Council Member Luros
Council Member Narvaez
Council Member Painter

TOPIC(s): Traffic Issues in-and-around Napa

Dear Napa Council Members:

Last night's evening Council Session was fascinating. I happen to be one of those weird people who actually believe in, and tries to abide by, traffic laws. As far as I know, I don't know any of last night's speakers, part of a grassroots group called, if I remember correctly, Slow Down Napa. As you will recall, they arrived en-masse to the meeting, prepared to comment on the traffic conditions in their neighbor, focusing on drivers travel as radically excessive speed and red-light violations.

I agree with their concerns, although on a larger scale than their neighborhood related fears.

For several decades I drove evenings to teach as an adjunct instructor at Napa Valley College. Following the conclusion of my evening classes, I would frequently return home via the South Market shopping center, specifically to Raley's. This required a left turn from Hwy 121 going onto Imola going West.

Every day going and coming to and from work, I would see at least two red light runner each time I navigated that intersection, people would speed up to "make the light" – even though it had turned red.

One night I was waiting for the left turn red light to turn green when there was a horrendous crash. A vehicle heading North on Hwy 121, going considerably faster than the posted 35 mph speed limit, ran the red light. The red-light runner T-boned a vehicle driving West as it crossed Hwy 121/ Soscol Avenue. The crash was so powerful that from the East side of Imola the hit vehicle was flung at least 150 feet north of the Imola cross.

Later at home I looked it up on Internet and there it all was. My small truck turning West, and the red-light runner's moment of collision impact were recorded by a red-light camera that was in place on the northeast corner of the Napa State Hospital campus. The camera was there for about a year, along with another camera on Trancas Avenue in North Napa.

Red light cameras were, and are, controversial, most of the controversy arising from those caught by cameras breaking a traffic law. These candidates for the **Whiny Ball of the Year** often cry “unfair.” Legal challenges seem to have sided with their complaints regarding the red-light cameras.

In 2001, I added to my teaching load a full-time position as a staff photographer and graphic designer. At that time, my commute to NVC started earlier, at about 7:30 a.m. My return home on my teaching days continued to be late-ish at night.

During my near-daily observations at that intersection as I waited for red-light changes, I saw red-light runners decrease hugely as awareness of the camera expanded. It was soon removed after that accident, and the number light-runners once again became ascendent.

Despite their controversial nature, I would advocate that the placement of similar red-light cameras be revisited at such busy intersections. Properly set up, they have, I believe, proven to be accurate and the majority of those who complain about their presence are those the camera has captured breaking the law. I believe those complaints justify their placement of the cameras. Most of those driver-challenges arise from the photographic evidence that show them getting busted; not that the cameras were unreliable.

II

Other traffic solutions that I have observed in local communities include:

High profile flashing lights and loud-ish noises as the lights flash at button-triggered crosswalks. Napa has one such on First Street, another on Third Street, and I’d guess there are a few others in town.

The nearby Sonoma County town of Cotati has similar devices, plus a lot of stop signs that break up the opportunity to accelerate past posted speed limits. I’ve driven through some towns that have long stretches of patterned speed bumps. (not the kind that are like a berm that forces one has to slow down to go over) These speed slow-down speed bumps are a bunch of raised disks placed in the road that are similar to those along the side of some highways (which my mother-in-law calls “Drunk bumps.”

I’m confident that all y’all are aware of similar examples seen in your travels and/or investigations towards developing proactive solutions for, in this case, egregious repeat *traffic law scoff-laws*.

Thank you for the work you do, and for the opportunity to my opinions.

With regards,

CC: Tiffany Carranza, City Clerk

ATTACHMENT 2

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS
Office of the City Clerk**

**City Council of the City of Napa
Regular Meeting**

December 7, 2021

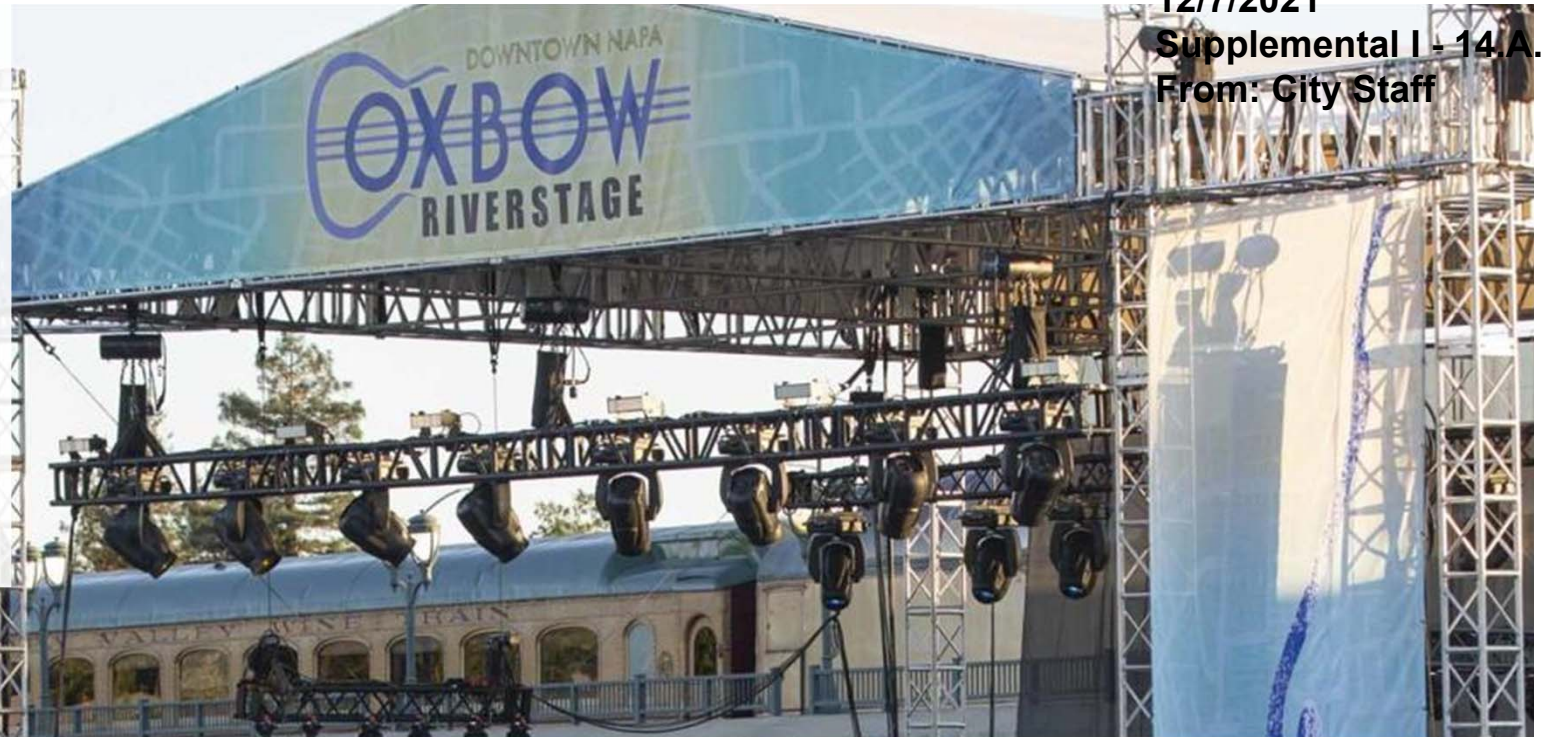
FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:

EVENING SESSION:

14. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

14.A. Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series

- PowerPoint Presentation from City Staff.
- 1) Written communication from Christopher and Beth Daulton received on October 25, 2021.
- 2) Written communication from Fiona Campbell received on October 26, 2021.
- 3) Email from Clark Sterling received on November 1, 2021.
- 4) Email with attached letter from Linsey Gallagher, on behalf of Visit Napa Valley, received on December 3, 2021.
- 5) Email from Darcy Tunt received on December 6, 2021.
- 6) Email from Lisa Pavageau received on December 6, 2021.
- 7) Email with attached letter from Travis Stanley, President/CEO of Napa Chamber of Commerce received on December 6, 2021.
- 8) Email from Dr. Jag Soni (sent by Ken Tesler) received on December 7, 2021.
- 9) Email from Steven Urberg received on December 7, 2021.



Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series December 7, 2021



Agenda

- Background
- Review Existing License Agreement
- 2021 Season Review
- Proposed Changes to 2022 License Agreement
- Recommended Action





Setting the stage



Oxbow Commons

- Opened in August 2015
- Envisioned to be an inviting greenway and active community park
- Part of the Napa River Flood Control Project
- Designed as a wet/dry bypass channel



Oxbow Commons

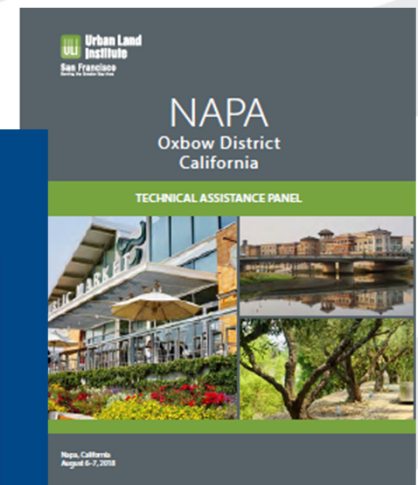
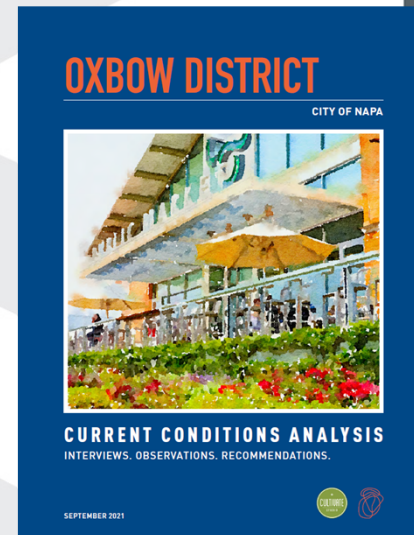
- Oxbow Commons Operations Plan presented to City Council in December 2015
 - Activate the space and facilitate greater public use
 - Move existing special events to Oxbow Commons to alleviate downtown streets closures
 - Develop new events in park
 - Possible host location for semi-permanent concession operations



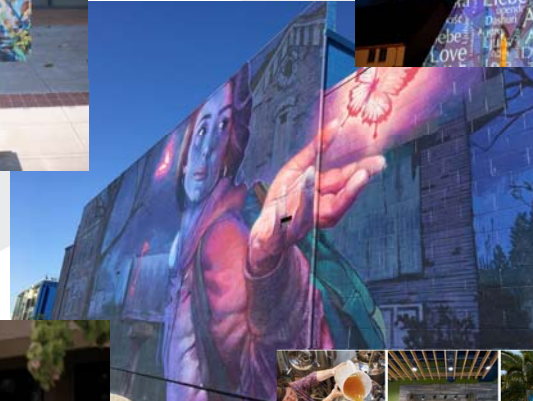
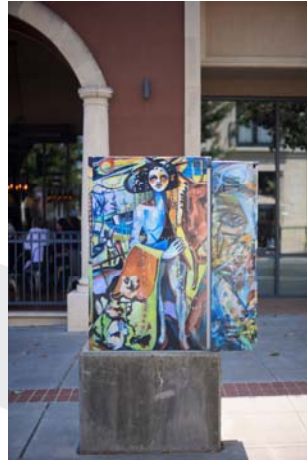
Oxbow District

Planning & Visioning:

- Create a shared, long-term vision for the Oxbow District
- Potentially expand the boundaries of Oxbow District
- Celebrate unique character of Oxbow
- Showcase the heritage of Oxbow
- Highlight river & add signage
- Find solutions for parking
- Use the Oxbow Commons as a focal point



Napa's Music, Arts & Culture





2021 License Agreement

- Licensee: Mad Dog Presents
- Partnership with Another Planet
- 2019 License Agreement (5 Concerts)
- Extended to 2020 after meeting performance measures in first season
- Extended to 2021 since 2020 season was cancelled due to COVID
- Build and maintain a stage on a 60' x 60' area at Oxbow Commons
- June 1st through October 31st
- Produce up to 15 ticketed music concerts and a minimum of 3 free public music concerts

2021 Stage Location



2021 Concert Series

- Extreme uncertainty in early 2021
- Health orders updated June 15, 2021 allowing large outdoor gatherings
- 14 concerts (3 concerts cancelled)
- August 14th to October 23th



2021 Concert Attendance

- Approximately 27,500 attendees
- 20% from Napa County
- Ticket holders from 49 out of 50 states



COVID-19 Safety

COVID-19 protocols were strictly enforced including requiring all ticket holders to show proof of vaccination or proof of negative COVID test within 72 hours of the event



2021 Economic Impact

- Oxbow Riverstage: 250 staff (payroll of ~\$800,000)
- 16 musical groups: 480 employees
- 20+ subcontractors: 75 employees
- Estimated economic impact: \$7-\$8 million*
- \$780K local taxes



2021 Noise Impacts

- Significant increase in noise complaints in 2021
- Predominately from the Alta Heights neighborhood
- Worked with Oxbow Riverstage to decrease sound levels



2021 Noise Impacts



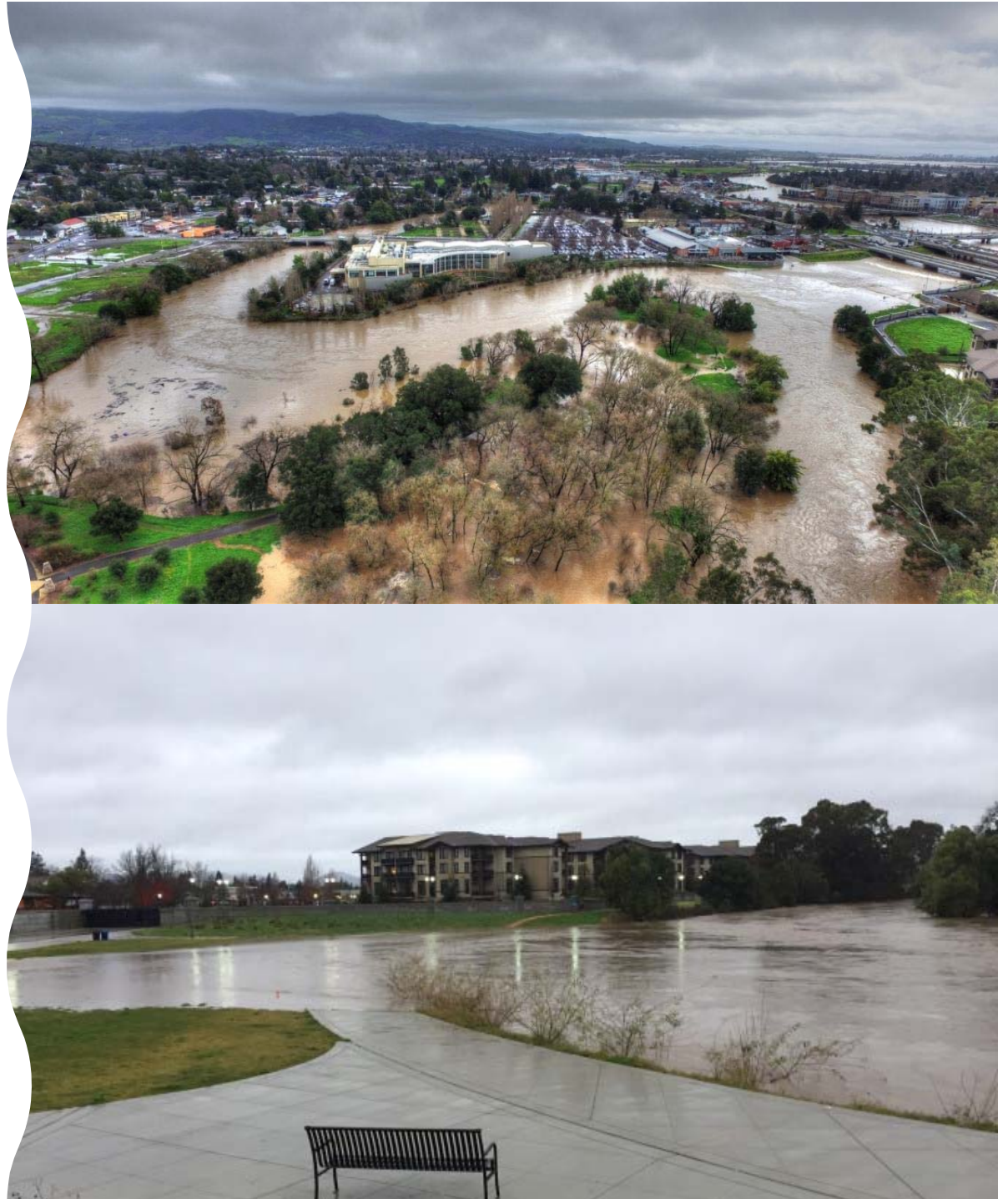
Stakeholder Scheduling

- Challenges with scheduling multiple events in Oxbow District
- Staff engaged with the Oxbow District stakeholders to reduce any negative impacts for the neighboring businesses
- Discussed ways to increase collaboration and create positive outcomes for all parties
- Discussions resulted in agreeing to a schedule further in advance to allow other businesses to plan around the concerts
- Proposed 2022 set dates – Attachment 2



Flooding Risks

- Unexpected large storm event on October 24, 2021
- Consideration to change end date to October 1st





Performance Objectives

If Licensee adheres to the terms of the Agreement, Agreement can be extended if City determines that the Licensee has complied with the performance objectives and that no “material impediment” exists to continuing the Agreement for an additional year.

1) Licensee shall comply with all terms and conditions of this Agreement and of any Special Event Permit issued by City for the Event Series.

- Received Special Event Permit
- Extensive Event Operations Plan
- County Health Permit
- ABC permit
- Parking and Street Closure Plans
- Fire & Security Plans
- Numerous meetings and adjustments to meet city requirements
- All fees associated with these permits have been paid



2) Licensee shall timely pay the License Fees to City.

Month	Monthly License Fee	% of Ticket Revenue	7% of F&B (Free Shows only)
August	\$1,500	\$15,060	\$477
September	\$1,500	\$36,956	
October	\$1,500	\$15,877	
Subtotal	\$4,500	\$67,893	\$477

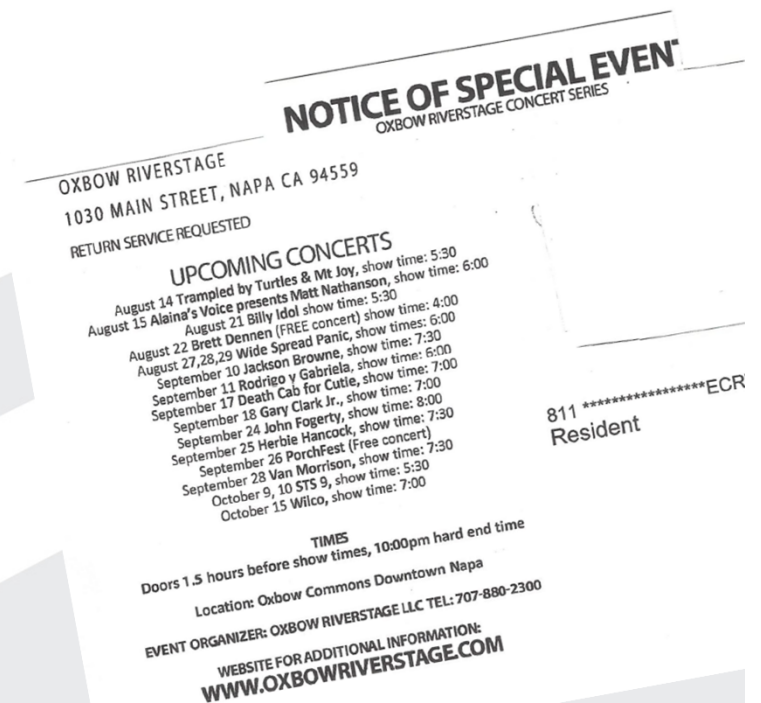
Grand Total \$72,870

City of Napa's
Ticket Revenue:
\$1 - \$29 or less
\$2 - \$30-\$59
\$3 - \$60+



3) Licensee shall resolve any conflicts or issues related to use of the Stage in a timely and reasonable manner.

- Mailer sent to 3,900 impacted businesses and residents
- Hotline available for the public if there were any noise or parking complaints
- Additional dedicated parking offered in Four Seasons lot; share Lot X when possible
- Reduce sound levels after complaints
- Additional sound readings to monitor sound levels
- Required “no sound” timeframes for adjacent business events
- Consideration for stage reorientation to reduce sound conflicts



4) Licensee shall achieve attendance goals mutually agreed to by the parties for the Event Series.

- City was pleased with the attendance at the concerts for the 2nd season
- Focus on 1 larger free concert for 2022 to support July 4th community celebration



5) Licensee shall maintain the Stage and the Premises in good condition and repair.

Licensee has adhered to the city requirements for Oxbow Commons and the stage and premises have been maintained in good order. All repairs were completed in a timely manner and reimbursed by Licensee.

6) Licensee shall ensure the safety of the Stage and Premises and of the persons who attend the Events on the Premises.

Licensee has ensured adequate security for attendees at the events and for the property at and between concerts. Added security staff and fencing was required in 2021.



2022-2023 License Agreement

- Approved by City Council in April 2021
- Extreme uncertainty with COVID-19
- Significant investment in the equipment and music series
- Licensee was not able to fully operationalize the agreement within the initial three years (2019-2021)
- Name changed to STR Entertainment, managed by Ken Tesler
- Staff making proposed amendment to approved agreement



2022 Proposed Alternatives

- **Alternative Location**

- Explore an alternative location in the downtown area to host the concert series including exploring the option to move to the Napa Valley Expo and Fairgrounds

- **Set schedule for 2022**

- 15 Concerts within in 22 Dates
- Avoid mid-week concerts (weekends only)
- Avoid more than 2 weekends per month
- Start earlier – mid-June
- Conclude earlier – mid-September
- Only 1 free concert requirement – July 4th
- Proposed Dates – Attachment 2*



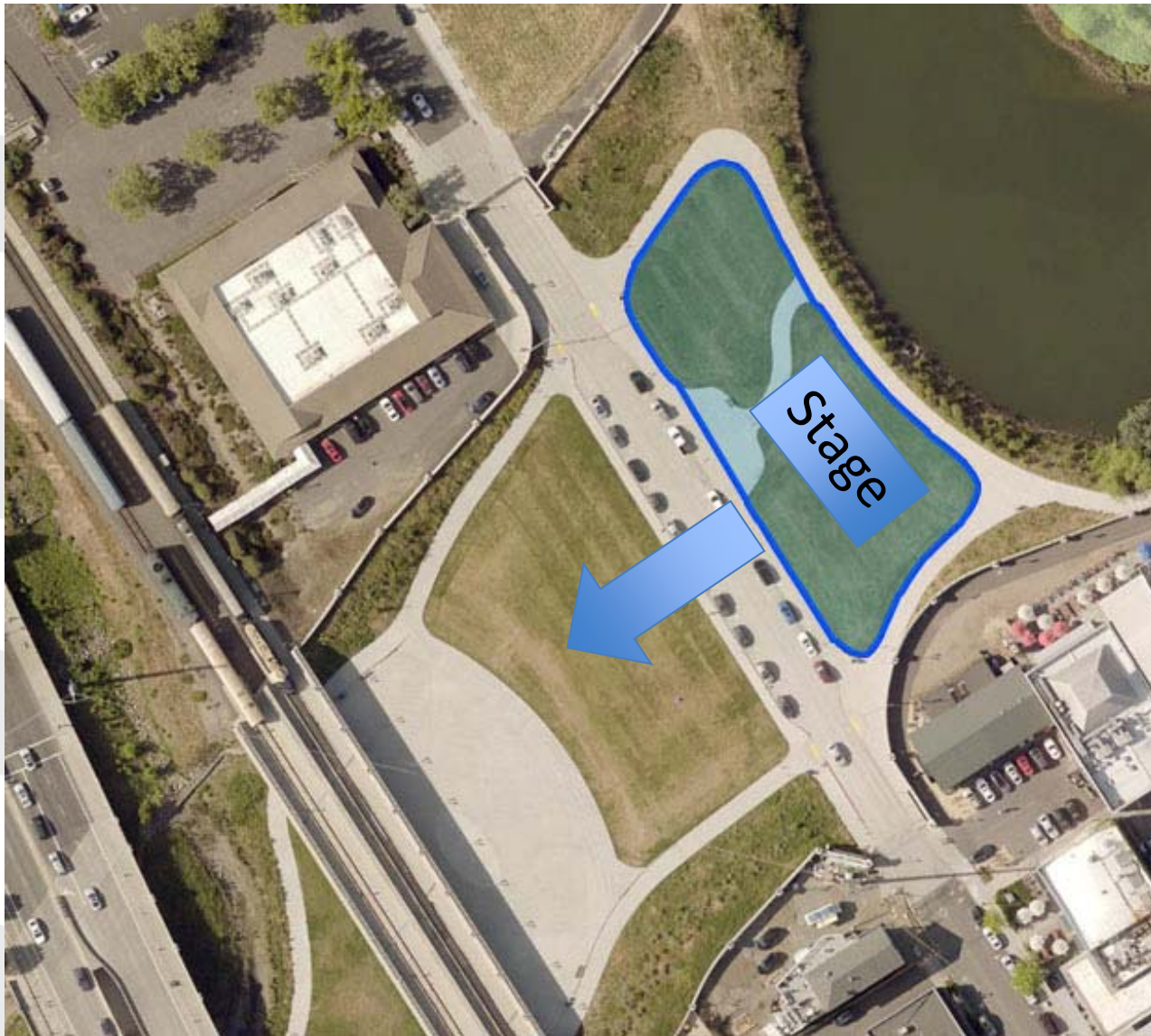
2022 Proposed Alternatives

- **Stage Reorientation:**

- Reduced sound impacts to the east
- Area would be fenced in and secured during non-concert days
- Greater aesthetic impact / reduced visual access to Napa River
- Concerns / dissatisfaction by nearby businesses by proposed location
- Increased community access to lower concrete area at Oxbow Commons
- Impact to the turf area – restoration at the sole expense of the Licensee and completed by October 15th
- Reviewed in partnership with Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Final approval after receiving engineering drawings
- Review after 2022 season before approval for 2023



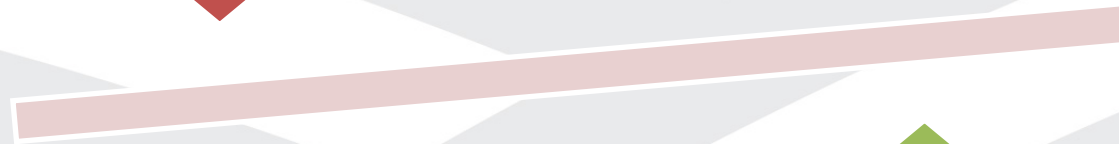
2022 Proposed Alternatives



Broader Policy Review



Public access to park
Sound impact to residents
Impacts to neighboring
businesses



Activation of community space
Economic impact for community
Napa's Arts & Culture Identity



Recommended Action

Authorize the City Manager to amend the License Agreement with STR Entertainment (formerly Mad Dog Presents) to allow the erection and use of a stage for music concerts and other events within the Oxbow Commons City park for the 2022 concert series, but at a location that differs from prior years; and determine that the actions authorized by this item are exempt from CEQA.

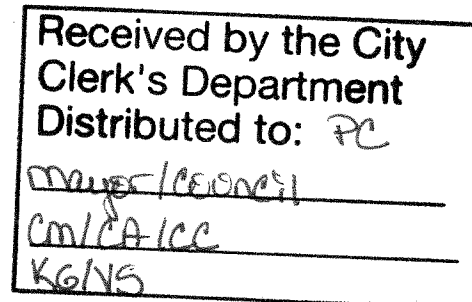


CITY OF NAPA
CITY CLERK

October 20, 2021

1500 Banks Ave.
Napa, CA 94559Scott Sedgley
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

2021 OCT 25 AM 10:44



Dear Mayor Sedgley,

We are writing today regarding the extremely disruptive noise levels in the Alta Heights neighborhood emanating from the Oxbow Riverstage Concert series.

In response to our email of 9/16, Napa's Recreation Manager Katrina Gregory informed us that the sound as measured by city staff for the concerts of Sept. 10th and 11th did not exceed 65dBa at the various locations monitored, and thus did not exceed the Municipal Code requirement. Unfortunately, even at the permitted decibel levels many of the homes in Alta Heights are still impacted at totally unacceptable levels by the noise of the concert series. Over a period of three months we have been forced to deal with 18 evening concerts, and the sound checks which can last up to an hour or more by the bands in the afternoons of the concerts. The sound from these concerts prevents parents from getting their children to bed, people who need to get up early to go to work the next morning are unable to sleep, and we have had to witness senior neighbors so distraught they are in tears because they can't deal with the noise. People who are impacted by the distorted music are trying to cope by going inside their homes, closing all the windows and doors, wearing ear plugs, noise blocking head phones, using white noise machines, turning on the TV, stereo, and radio just to try to reduce the impact these concerts are having on our lives, but to no avail.

Alta Heights was established as a neighborhood in the 40's long before the Oxbow was reinvented as a tourist center and entertainment venue. People move to the neighborhood because it is quiet. Continuing to permit amplified music at this location will change a neighborhood considered desirable into one which is decidedly not.

According to Ms. Gregory, the issue of whether this concert series should continue beyond the 2021 season is to be addressed at a City Council meeting in November. Given the number of Napa residents whose peaceful weekends have been shattered by this invasive and unwelcome sound, I sincerely hope and trust that our City Council will place the feelings of its residents and the impact on our environment over the financial gains of the promoter and the City's perceived need to amuse tourists.

We'd like to make clear that we're not against outdoor entertainment events per se, we just feel that the Oxbow is the wrong location to host amplified music because it has such a negative effect on the residential neighborhoods around it. We concur with Councilmember

Painter, in her email of 8/27/21, when she wrote "I am hoping we can find an appropriate "reset" to allow the use of the commons in a way that is more compatible with all the surrounding homes and businesses". There has to be another way to generate revenue which does not cause harm to the local population.

Thank you for your time in considering the strong opposition to continued permitting of concerts at the Oxbow. We implore you to please discontinue issuing permits for concerts at this location.

Sincerely,




Christopher and Beth Daulton

October 21st, 2021

Napa City Council
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

Received by the City
Clerk's Department

Distributed to: PC

Mayor/Council

CM/CA/CC VS/KG

CITY OF NAPA
CITY CLERK

2021 OCT 26 AM 10:11

Dear Mayor Sedgley, and Council Members Alessio, Luros, Painter, and Narvaez,

I understand that you will be discussing the future of the Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series at an upcoming meeting. I wish to put before you the problem I have been experiencing with the sound that arrives at my home during these concerts.

The sound that reaches my house is often loud, discordant, and nerve-shattering. I cannot get away from it, it comes through the walls. I'm a reader but it is too disturbing to concentrate. I try watching a DVD movie with Bose over-the-ear headphones and the noise comes through, therefore I watch something with sub-titles. On concert days, off and on, mid-morning onwards, there are sound checks and rehearsals, I've tried telephoning during that time to alert them to the fact that it's too loud, but only get a long outgoing message so I give up. I have not called the Riverstage in the evening because my upset and stress is so much by then that I'm too distressed to speak clearly.

I have a hearing disability so I remove my hearing aids during these concert times, yet the noise is still extremely invasive because of the particular wavelengths which are carrying up here. Without my hearing aides I unfortunately have a difficult time understanding speech should I wish to make or receive a telephone call.

I'd also like to let you know that my house has relatively new insulation in the walls and attic, and all my windows are double glazed. The noise comes through in spite of this. I refer to the concert music as 'noise' because the sound up here is not like it is at the concert, some sound waves carry more than others. One example is the drum beat that carries through everything .. there is nowhere that I can escape the constant thump thump sound .. it is just one of the many discordant sounds that is so disturbing. It also means that I cannot have my windows or deck door open for fresh air during these spring/summer/autumn concert evenings.

The stress and anxiety from this noise is negatively affecting my health. How would you feel if you were treated like this?

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Campbell

Fiona Campbell

From: [Beth Painter](#)
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 3:50 PM
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Oxbow Riverstage review

Begin forwarded message:

From: Clark Sterling [REDACTED]
Subject: Oxbow Riverstage review
Date: October 31, 2021 at 10:06:26 AM PDT
To: bpainter@cityofnapa.org

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Beth,

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of Napa's residents. As a City Council member, it must be challenging to balance the quality of life for your constituents who live here with the interests of outside business vendors.

I'm writing because the quality of life of the Alta Heights neighborhood has become seriously damaged by the Oxbow Riverstage concert series. When the permit renewal process comes up soon, please consider the following:

- From August through October, my neighbors and I cannot have a quiet weekend night or entertain friends and family outside without loud music we have not chosen to hear.
- At a time of year when we'd like to have our windows open, we have to keep them all closed to be able to play our own music, watch TV or have quiet conversations.
- A permitted vacation rental host like me (VR16-0018) had to twice refund guests who were expecting a "nice quiet weekend," which lessens the TOT money the city receives.
- The phone number provided by the event organizer (in the postcard of August 12) to call for noise concerns was actually a recording to promote and sell tickets. I left several messages which were never returned.
- A more reasonable alternative to the 2021 schedule would be having a concert only **one night per weekend** or two nights **every other weekend**.

Music has been an important part of my life for 40 years, as a professional singer and theater director, so I am by no means "anti-music." That said, when outdoor music is something you have no choice to hear or not, and is so frequent (unlike BottleRock) it is an unfair disruption of my neighbors' and my quality of life. It is also not respectful of the significant property taxes we pay for our quiet Napa lifestyle.

Thank you for reading and hearing my concerns.

Clark Sterling
[REDACTED]

Napa, CA 94559

From: [Linsey Gallagher](#)
Sent: Friday, December 3, 2021 2:23 PM
To: [Tiffany Carranza](#); [Clerk](#)
Subject: Visit Napa Valley Support Letter for Oxbow Riverstage
Attachments: Visit Napa Valley Support Letter for Oxbow Riverstage December 2021.pdf

You don't often get email from linsey@visitnapavalley.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Please include in the attached letter in the packet materials for Tuesday's City Council meeting.

December 3, 2021

Napa City Council
City Hall
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

Re: Oxbow Riverstage

Dear Mayor Sedgley and Napa City Council Members:

Visit Napa Valley's primary mission is to promote, protect and enhance the wine region's position as an attractive travel destination, while also enhancing its public image as a dynamic place to visit, live and work. The tourism industry in Napa County historically supports 16,000 local jobs and provides nearly \$85 million in tax revenues to our local governments.

The global pandemic disrupted Napa County's travel and hospitality businesses, erasing a record 10 years of growth in visitor spending, transient occupancy tax revenue, and jobs supported by tourism.

Although the long-term outlook for Napa Valley's hospitality and travel industry has improved, visitor spending – and the jobs and tax revenue it creates for the City of Napa and its residents – is not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2025, an estimated \$4.5 billion loss for Napa Valley's travel businesses, residents, and city government revenues. (*Resource: SF Travel*).

Outdoor entertainment in the valley – coupled with our ideal weather and world-class wine and dining options – sets Napa Valley apart in a highly competitive and ever-changing market where pent-up demand for travel has led to visitors prioritizing open space and the outdoors when booking trips. The adaptability of tourism businesses to offer outdoor options has helped Napa Valley see a stronger recovery and resurgence in visitation compared to other destinations around the state and nation. Offering elevated outdoor experiences has also become one of our key marketing messages to secure group bookings and travelers to the valley.

As Napa County's official destination management and marketing organization, Visit Napa Valley has been asked to share a perspective related to Oxbow Riverstage's

license with the City of Napa. On behalf of our tourism industry stakeholders in both the city of Napa and throughout the valley, we offer the following points for additional context in your evaluation:

With the threat of Covid and resulting variants still looming, it is vital that Napa Valley continue to market itself as an outdoor destination. Offering unique alfresco entertainment options creates an atmosphere that visitors and locals can enjoy while also keeping safe and socially distant.

Oxbow River Stage brings visitors whose spending helps surrounding – and recovering – tourism businesses. It is estimated that the Oxbow Riverstage concert programming contributes \$5.2 million to neighboring lodging businesses, \$1 million to surrounding restaurants, and \$431,000 to retail shops in the area. (*Resource: Destinations International*).

Travel and hospitality workers in Napa County were left reeling due to pandemic-related business closures. The estimated 8,100 jobs supported by the Blue Note and Oxbow River Stage help tourism workers get back on their feet after almost a year of business closures. (*Resource: Destinations International*).

In addition to the money generated for local businesses, Blue Note and Oxbow Riverstage contribute over \$781,000 in local tax revenue that is used to fund essential municipal services - from public safety and infrastructure to police and fire prevention services for the City of Napa. These services contribute to the quality of life for residents - and visitors - throughout our town.

In summary, Visit Napa Valley strongly supports Oxbow Riverstage's license renewal as it will continue to contribute to the ongoing recovery and success of Napa's tourism industry, its businesses, and residents.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,
Linsey Gallagher

**Linsey Gallagher · Visit Napa Valley
President and CEO**

1001 Second Street, Suite 330 Napa, CA 94559
Direct: (707) 492-3099 · Mobile: (415) 609-6112
Linsey@VisitNapaValley.com · VisitNapaValley.com
[FACEBOOK](#) · [TWITTER](#) · [INSTAGRAM](#) · [PINTEREST](#) · [BLOG](#)



December 3, 2021

Napa City Council
City Hall
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

Re: Oxbow Riverstage

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Visit Napa Valley's primary mission is to promote, protect and enhance the wine region's position as an attractive travel destination, while also enhancing its public image as a dynamic place to visit, live and work. The tourism industry in Napa County historically supports 16,000 local jobs and provides nearly \$85 million in tax revenues to our local governments.

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Outdoor entertainment in the valley – coupled with our ideal weather and world-class wine and dining options – sets Napa Valley apart in a highly competitive and ever-changing market where pent-up demand for travel has led to visitors prioritizing open space and the outdoors when booking trips. The adaptability of tourism businesses to offer outdoor options has helped Napa Valley see a stronger recovery and resurgence in visitation compared to other destinations around the state and nation. Offering elevated outdoor experiences has also become one of our key marketing messages to secure group bookings and travelers to the valley.

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- In addition to the money generated for local businesses, Blue Note and Oxbow Riverstage contribute over \$781,000 in local tax revenue that is used to fund essential municipal services - from public safety and infrastructure to police and fire prevention services for the City of Napa. These services contribute to the quality of life for residents - and visitors - throughout our town.

In summary, Visit Napa Valley strongly supports Oxbow Riverstage's license renewal as it will continue to contribute to the ongoing recovery and success of Napa's tourism industry, its businesses, and residents.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linsey Gallagher". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Linsey Gallagher
President & CEO
Visit Napa Valley

From: [Beth Painter](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series
Date: Monday, December 06, 2021 2:57:10 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Darcy Tunt <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series
Date: December 6, 2021 at 2:28:45 PM PST
To: Vincent Smith <vsmith@cityofnapa.org>, "spotter@cityofnapa.org" <spotter@cityofnapa.org>, Katrina Gregory <kgregory@cityofnapa.org>

Dear all,

I am writing to you regarding the Oxbow Riverstage Concert Series and respectfully requesting that you consider amending the current agreement with STR Entertainment (aka Mad Dog Presents) to relocate the concert series for 2022 and 2023.

First, however, I would like to clarify the agreement. I'm wondering why did council authorize the 2022 and 2023 season on the April 6, 2021 meeting? Was that to allow for more time in the event that COVID further delayed the concerts? OR was that simply granting the Licensee 2 more seasons? It seems that what was originally a one-year agreement (in 2018), later extended to a 2nd season, has now been extended to two more years? And prior to or on that April 6 meeting, what were the findings or reasons to extend?

As a bit of background, I have lived in Napa for over 20 years and I have been on the marketing committee of Visit Napa Valley for over 10 years. I strongly encourage and promote strategic tourism. However, these concerts are entirely inconsistent with the goals and strategy of the visitor serving agency, which is to: *develop and implement marketing programs aimed at targeted consumers to build overnight stays during non-peak time periods including November – April (Napa Valley Cabernet Season) and mid-week, Sunday – Thursday night*

Businesses are already struggling to get and keep staff and this additional tourism is not necessarily needed during this peak time and could be adding more challenges for our local businesses. And the concerts add to the traffic and congestion, to what would normally already be our peak tourism season.

However, if, for some reason, the City is obligated to allow the concerts for 2022, the affected neighboring residents would like to request that the agreement be amended to move the location. The large, amplified concerts seem to be a completely inappropriate use of the Oxbow Commons and particularly, at an inappropriate time of

year, during peak season. Locals and residents are not able to enjoy a major area and feature of our city during that time.

Those of us that live nearby are unable to use our own properties during that particularly perfect, peak time of year. The number of concerts, on back-to-back weekends, along with amplified noise levels, is untenable for Napa residents to endure. It is simply not reasonable, nor fair. It's too much, too many and too loud. BottleRock is a 3-day long weekend, but then it's over. How is it that these concerts were approved at all, let alone so many? It would be an entirely different conversation if the concerts were only for one weekend.

As potential solutions, we would first suggest, again, that the concerts be moved to a more appropriate location (the fairgrounds, another park in the city or even out at Napa Pipe). I would also suggest that these concerts shouldn't be allowed **at all**, in any location, during peak season.

If, unfortunately, the concerts will ultimately remain at the Oxbow Commons, then we would recommend 1) the orientation be turned 2) they be reduced to far less than 15 per season 3) they should not be held on back-to-back weekends 4) only allow them on 1 night of the two weekend nights (Friday OR Saturday) and 5) allocate more daytime concerts, instead of night.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of all Napa residents and those of us who are significantly and negatively impacted by these concerts.

Darcy Tunt

[REDACTED]

From: [Beth Painter](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Oxbow River Stage
Date: Monday, December 06, 2021 3:02:02 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lisa Pavageau <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Oxbow River Stage
Date: December 6, 2021 at 2:53:09 PM PST
To: spotter@cityofnapa.org, vsmith@cityofnapa.org,
kgregory@cityofnapa.org

I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow at the meeting. I just wanted to make sure that my comments are noted for the record.

While every community needs to maintain and increase revenues, there needs to be a fine balance between the community itself and the avenue in which the funds are generated. There in lies the problem of the Oxbow River Stage. While it does generate a small amount of revenue, it occupies a large part of our Napa open space in town for a very long period of time. So many Napans and tourist enjoy the Oxbow Commons year round and it is a travesty that the stage blocks the community and visitors out of the space in our lover summer weather. The stage doesn't allow pedestrians to walk freely under the Soscol bridge, nor allow them the area for leisure activities.

In addition to the above, the noise (sound checks start in the middle of the day) and additional traffic are problems that the stage brings to the City.

My original comments below were emailed at an earlier date:

I'm well aware of economic recover for everyone, including our lovely little town of Napa, but please take to heart the River Stage has now become a public nuisance to the community.

- *Noise, noise and more noise EVERY WEEKEND and ALL WEEKEND for 2 - 1/2 months during our outdoor summer months.*
- *Traffic - both vehicle and pedestrian*
- *Restriction of public space to Napa citizens*

I think that the stage would be better suited at the Napa Fairgrounds or potentially Kennedy Park.

Lisa M. Pavageau
Vie du Vin
[REDACTED]

From: [Lura Compoginis](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for Oxbow Riverstage's license renewal
Date: Monday, December 06, 2021 3:43:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[LTR IN SUPPORT OF OXBOW RIVER STAGE.pdf](#)

You don't often get email from lura@napachamber.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Clerk:

Attached is a letter of support for the Oxbow River Stage's license renewal. We have bcc'd the mayor and City Council per Brown Act protocol.

Thank you,

Lura Compoginis

Assistant to President/CEO

Napa Chamber of Commerce | 1556 First Street | Napa, CA 94559

lura@napachamber.com | 707.254.1143

napachamber.com | facebook.com/napachamber | [@napachamber](https://twitter.com/napachamber)





December 6, 2021

Napa City Council
City Hall
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

Re: Oxbow Riverstage

Board of Directors

Chair, Michael Murray, NRWS
Jimmy Atkinson, AUL Corp.
Michael Basayne, SBDC
Greg Brun, Napa Valley Wine Train
Andrea Clarke, M.D., Kaiser Permanente
Alonso Corona, Greene's Cleaners
John Evans, Silverado Resort and Spa
Christi Coors Ficeli, Goosecross Cellars
Ken Frank, La Toque
Adam Ghisletta, Avenue 8 Real Estate
Dave Graham, Bottlerock Presents
Brett Martinez, Redwood Credit Union
George Nielson, Nielson Construction
Richard Rybicki, Rybicki & Assoc.
Kevin Teague, Holman Teague

1556 First Street
Napa • CA • 94559

E admin@napachamber.com
O 707.226.7455

President & CEO Travis Stanley
E travis@napachamber.com
O 707.254.1146

V.P. of Operations Philippa Perry
E Philippa@napachamber.com
O 707.254.1145

Napa Chamber of Commerce is a
501(c)6, Not-for-Profit Organization

Dear Mayor Sedgley and Napa City Council Members:

On behalf of the Napa Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express support for Oxbow Riverstage's license renewal.

The Napa Chamber of Commerce is an organization which has been in existence for 132 years to promote and support Napa businesses. Oxbow Riverstage brings visitors whose spending helps surrounding and recovering tourism businesses. In addition to the money generated for local businesses, Oxbow Riverstage contributes local tax revenue that is used to fund essential municipal services. These services contribute to the quality of life for residents and visitors, throughout Napa.

Outdoor entertainment in the valley sets Napa apart in a highly competitive market where pent-up demand for travel has led to visitors prioritizing open space and outdoor venues when booking trips. Napa Valley has seen a stronger recovery and resurgence in visitation compared to other destinations in our state and country. Offering first class outdoor experiences will continue to move our city into a more desirable and successful tourist destination.

Thank you for consideration of the Oxbow Riverstage's license renewal. We look forward to the continued success of this unique venue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Travis Stanley".

Travis Stanley
President/CEO
Napa Chamber of Commerce

From: [Ken Tesler](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: From Dr. Jag Soni RE: Oxbow RiverStage Concerts
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 2:48:44 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Clerk

Below is a letter of support for the Oxbow River Stage's license renewal which we would like to have entered into the record and forward to the Mayor and Council Members ahead of this evenings City Council meeting.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Ken Tesler
Managing Director

Blue Note Napa



ken@bluenotenapa.com

Blue Note Napa | JaM Cellars Ballroom
707.880.2300
1030 Main Street
Napa, CA 94559
www.BlueNoteNapa.com www.JaMCellarsBallroom.com



Begin forwarded message:

From: Jag Soni [REDACTED]
Subject: From Dr. Jag Soni RE: Oxbow RiverStage Concerts
Date: December 6, 2021 at 2:45:55 PM PST
To: Ken@bluenotenapa.com
Cc: Jag Soni <[REDACTED]>

Hi Ken and Bianca!

I want to express my gratitude to you for brining outstanding music to Napa for all of us.

Many of us were so excited when you started the Oxbow RiverStage Concerts. Bringing in amazing talent, adding to the Napa arts culture, and for those who own small businesses, helping increase local and tourist traffic in the valley. I strongly believe that what you have created has been a positive influence to our community. As a regular attendee of many of the music events in the valley, I come across many people who remark over and over again how impressed they are of the professionalism of the Oxbow RiverStage Concerts. Some of these

people are from the surrounding area (Scaramento, Vallejo, Benicia, Oakland, San Francisco, etc.). Oxbow RiverStage Concerts brings our larger community together through music and had helped us build community. That is a value that is hard to come by and especially during these very challenging times.

I hope our Oxbow RiverStage Concerts stay and becomes a mainstay event in Napa for the whole Valley and for tourists.

Again, thank you so very much.

In Support of You.

Dr. Jag Soni, Ph.D.,SPHR, SHRM-SCP, PCC



Go Green - Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: [Katrina Gregory](#)
Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 4:57 PM
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Tiffany Carranza](#)
Subject: FW: Comments for the review of Oxbow Riverstage concert series

FYI – I think this is too late to submit. However, here you go just in case.

Thanks,
Katrina

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 4:52 PM
To: Steve Potter <spotter@cityofnapa.org>; Vincent Smith <vsmith@cityofnapa.org>; Katrina Gregory <kgregory@cityofnapa.org>
Subject: Comments for the review of Oxbow Riverstage concert series

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Oxbow River Stage Hearing

My name is Steven Urberg and have a home in Alta Heights and rental property in old town Napa. Both are areas impacted by the Oxbow River Stage concert series.

I do not feel that these concerts are appropriate for the existing location in the Oxbow commons. With the amplified music pointed towards our residential neighborhood, it can be heard throughout the area impacting residents' ability to enjoy our outdoor spaces. In addition, the presence of the stage and ticketed events in a very popular park deprives both residents and tourists use of this space during the concert series.

If we are to continue outdoor concerts in Napa, we should locate them at the Fairgrounds. This is an area that is not generally open to the public and will not deprive residents and tourists of the Oxbow commons area. The orientation of the stage at the fairgrounds will direct the noise toward commercial areas rather than residential areas. The fairgrounds have all the infrastructure to accommodate the concert series including parking, power, restrooms and an existing stage.

The staff report cites the projected financial proceeds from the concert series 2022 as \$80,000 for 15 concerts which equates to only \$5,333 per event. This seems to be way below market rate for an event space. An alternative to raise income would be to use the Oxbow commons space for large wine tasting events that would attract tourists to downtown and avoid the issue of noise, and would likely pay a considerably higher fee per event.

Thank you for reviewing my comments as you consider renewing the contract for the Oxbow River Stage concert series.

Regards,

Steven Urberg

[REDACTED]