

Summer 2022 – Q2




CITY COUNCIL

Charlie Uhrig, Mayor
 ▪ Charlie.Uhrig@CityofSolvang.com
 ▪ (805) 697-6584

Mark Infanti, Mayor Pro-Tem
 ▪ Mark.Infanti@CityofSolvang.com
 ▪ (805) 697-6581

Robert Clarke
 ▪ Robert.Clarke@CityofSolvang.com
 ▪ (805) 245-1860

Claudia Orona
 ▪ Claudia.Orona@CityofSolvang.com
 ▪ (805) 697-6583

Jim Thomas
 ▪ Jim.Thomas@CityofSolvang.com
 ▪ (805) 697-6579

Enjoy the Sunny Fields this Summer! A City Manager Message

This summer, the City of Solvang and visitors will have a variety of activities and events to enjoy. The community is busy with celebrations and the return of traditional Solvang special events, as well as celebrating new events.

▪ Additionally, enjoy **Music in the Park** every Wednesday throughout the Summer starting on June 22. Check out recreation program activities, including Movies in the Park (see page 3).

- The summer has been kicked-off with two new special events which are the **Juneteenth Celebration** and the **SYV Pride Event**.
- The **4th of July Parade** and **Fireworks** are back! The parade route will return to the traditional route that went through Mission Drive. The fireworks event will occur at the Old Mission Santa Ines. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://eventsbyenfuego.ticketsauc.com/e/fourth-of-july>
- On September 16-18, our community will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of **Danish Days**.
- On November 12, a new **Salute to Veteran's** Special event and parade will take place in downtown Solvang honoring Veteran's Day.

We continue to see a high number of visitors to Solvang. Tourism revenue pays for city operations and infrastructure to provide essential services such as roads, parks, recreation, and law enforcement services. To accommodate the high number of

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General Plan Update Continues, Drafting Plan Elements

The City's comprehensive General Plan Update continues in phase 4 of the project. In this phase, the project team is drafting the individual plan elements, such as housing, circulation, open space, land use and more.

Most recently, the City hosted a Housing workshop on May 11 and received valuable input from the community.

Additionally, the Design Review Committee held a special meeting in May to begin reviewing the City's important Design Guidelines, which have not been modified since they were first created in 1988.

The General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) will read draft versions of the elements throughout the summer. Other entities, like the Design Review Committee (DRC), will also read relevant drafts.

The project timeline remains on track to be completed in spring 2023.



Join us on **July 18 at 6 pm** for a Community Discussion Workshop to consider creating a **Danish Plaza/Walking Promenade** concept to be located somewhere downtown. Your input is invaluable! The discussion will provide everyone an opportunity to collaborate and share ideas. This discussion is taking place as part of the General Plan Update which will set a vision for the next 20 years including land use, circulation, environmental concerns, and economic development policies. The discussion will also provide an update to the Community Design Element which guides the unique and authentic look and feel of Solvang architecture, making it a desired place to live and a travel destination. Visit www.PlanSolvang.com for more information.

Project Updates:

- **539 Alisal Road:**
Construction to begin soon on this project, which will have 11-condos, including one affordable unit reserved for a very low-income household.
- **670 Alamo Pintado:**
The 32-unit condominium project is moving forward to the construction phase within a month.
- **Cottages on Old Mission:**
Construction wrapping up.
- **Solvang Theaterfest:**
Construction nearly complete. Reopening show scheduled on July 16, 2022.
- Did you know the City provides a current projects list to the Planning Commission and to the Design Review Committee? Check out recent agendas at the Agenda Center on the City's website at www.cityofsolvang.com.

----- Important Planning / Building Notices: -----

Leasing Commercial Space?

Many businesses do not realize the extensive review that goes into change of use. The Building and Safety Division reviews projects for compliance with current California Building Code regulations, particularly those relating to plumbing fixtures and accessibility. The Planning Division reviews projects for adherence to the current parking regulations. Minimize surprises by calling before you lease a space!

Prohibited Signs

The City of Solvang Municipal Code includes unique to Solvang regulations of signs for businesses located in downtown.

If you are considering opening a business in Solvang, please visit www.cityofsolvang.com to review applicable regulations.

Looking to Build?

Please contact the Planning Division to see if you need permits before you start "any work pertaining to the erection, moving, alteration, enlarging, change of use, or rebuilding of any building, structure, or improvement in the city". Please note that there are few exemptions in the Solvang Municipal Code regarding projects that are exempt from land use and/or building permits.

City of Solvang Receives \$178K Grant for Hans Christian Andersen Park Improvements

Grant funding to bring new picnic benches to Area D, pickleball fencing, hiking trail upgrades, bicycle pump track

The City recently received a \$178K grant from the State of California's Proposition 68 Program.

Having received grant funding, one of the City's first priorities is to replace the park benches used at Area D, as this area has been closed to the public.

Another priority area of improvements from the grant funding includes pickleball court fencing, landscaping and other

aesthetic improvements to the recently completed pickleball courts.

Grant funding will also include improvements to the HCA trails, as well as a new pump track near the skate park. Improvements are anticipated to begin in summer 2022 and be completed in December 2023.



Current Programs

Looking for camps and programs for your children this summer? Check out the calendar on our website for all the fun programs and classes!

3 Ways to Register:

- 1) Visit our website at www.cityofsolvang.com
- 2) Call (805) 688-7529
- 3) Visit 411 Second St.

Community Clean Up Day

Saturday, July 9

Participate in Community Cleanup Day with your family, friends and neighbors. Help remove trash and debris and make paths clean, safe and enjoyable. Take pictures of your group in action and email them to parksandrec@cityofsolvang.com.



Movies in the Park

June 24 (*Luca*), July 22 (*Encanto*) & Aug 5 (*Jungle Cruise*); 7:30 pm, Solvang Park

Bring a chair or blanket for some fun family entertainment under the stars. Hot cocoa and popcorn is available at the event. Films are rated G - PG13. Parents are responsible for deciding whether the film is appropriate for their children.

Rec n Roll

Friday, Aug 12, 5:30–8:00 pm, Vets Hall

The popular Rec n Roll event is back for another edition this summer. Featuring music, games and concessions, you don't want to miss it. Bring your own skates/blades or rent from us.

- 5:30 - 6:30 pm - Families and kids 10 & under
- 6:30 - 8:00 pm - Open skate for all ages.



New water and wastewater rates for Solvang utility customers taking effect August 1

New water and wastewater rates for Solvang utility customers were approved for the next five years at the June 13 City Council meeting.



Water: (charts at right)

The following rates reflect the fiscal year 2022-23 rates and will take effect on August 1, 2022.

Wastewater: (chart below)

The monthly wastewater bill includes a fixed charge, and a volumetric charge for Commercial and Industrial accounts.

The monthly water bill comprises two parts: a fixed meter charge, as well as a variable consumption charge on a three-tier system.

Water Fixed Meter Charge - \$/Month		
Size	Present Rates- FY2021-22	Approved Rates- FY2022-23
5/8"	\$75.43	\$75.08
3/4"	\$113.15	\$112.62
1"	\$188.58	\$187.70
1 1/2"	\$377.17	\$375.42
2"	\$603.47	\$600.67
3"	\$1,206.94	\$1,201.34
4"	\$1,885.84	\$1,877.09
6"	\$3,771.68	\$3,754.18
8"	\$6,034.69	\$6,006.69

Wastewater Rates		
Classification	Present Rates- FY2021-22	Approved Rates- FY2022-23
Fixed Charge - \$/month		
Single Family	\$34.65	\$49.88
Multi-family	\$34.65	\$47.90
Com & Ind	\$34.65	\$39.43
Com & Ind-High	\$34.65	\$42.14
Volumetric Charge - \$/CCF		
Single Family	\$0.00	\$0.00
Multi-family	\$0.00	\$0.00
Com & Ind	\$2.85	\$4.06
Com & Ind-High	\$7.42	\$7.89

Water Consumption Charge - \$/CCF		
Classification	Present Rates- FY2021-22	Approved Rates- FY2022-23
Single Family		
0-16 CCF	\$3.45	N/A
16+ CCF	\$4.05	N/A
0-15 CCF	N/A	\$4.08
15-35 CCF	N/A	\$4.62
35+ CCF	N/A	\$5.35
Multi-family	\$3.75	\$4.13
Commercial	\$3.75	\$4.14
Irrigation	\$3.75	\$4.45

Solvang's 2022 WaterWise Contest Winner Announced

Solvang residents were invited to apply for the 2022 WaterWise Garden Recognition Contest, which celebrates and recognizes beautiful, water efficient residential gardens throughout Santa Barbara County.

The City is happy to announce that the 2022 winner is **Kurt Jonas**, residing at 345 Bakke Way. Legacy Landscaping performed the design and work of the project.

Congratulations, Kurt and thank you everyone for conserving water!



Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Published

The 2021 annual water quality Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is now available for review at www.cityofsolvang.com/ccr2021. This report contains important information about your drinking water.



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visitors, trash and janitorial services have been increased to ensure a safe and clean environment for our community to enjoy being downtown. High gas prices and inflation, however, are expected to negatively impact economic activity and the City remains cautious about spending and income projections in order to ensure long-term fiscal health.

The City will be embarking on a number of key infrastructure projects over the next two years including the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) upgrade, pipeline improvements for water and sewer, and traffic mitigation measures.

The City will also be focusing on parking improvements and fleet electrification. Additional revenue sources will be needed to address traffic, multi-modal transpiration, and the parking needs of the City.

Landscaping Work Completed at Solvang Park, Featuring New Sod and Permeable Pavers

The City's Public Works maintenance crews and contractors have completed the latest phase of improvements in Solvang Park with the installation of a large permeable paver area.

In April, the grass at Solvang Park was replaced with new sod, as the lawn had developed many bare spots in recent years. The gazebo was repainted at the same time.

The new hardscaped open space areas provides with an improved central area for the community to enjoy. The area is also designed to provide a space for special events to set up and operate off the newly installed grass. This will help lessen the impact to Solvang Park by special events and facilitate the maintenance effort to keep the new grass green and lush.

The paver project installation also improves the drainage in the park, keeping irrigation and rainwater on site and allowing water to soak into the ground, rather than falling down-stream into the storm drain system.

The work included the excavation of the hardscape area down 18-inches, the installation of perforated drainage pipes by City Maintenance crews, the installation of multiple layers of stone and the installation of a paver system with gaps for water flow.

Transit Development Plan Being Updated

Santa Ynez Valley Transit (SYVT) is kicking off its Transit Development Plan (TDP) update this month! The TDP is a five-year plan that looks at the needs and priorities of the community with respect to mobility and public transportation. This summer, SYVT will be conducting surveys and holding workshops to get input from the community. We want to hear from as many Santa Ynez Valley residents as possible! Watch for community

workshops to be held **July 20-21, 2022**. Information about the project and opportunities to participate can be found online at www.syvt.com.



Employee of the Quarter – Q1 2022

In January 2021, the City of Solvang implemented an Employee of the Quarter program. The recipient chosen for the Quarter 1 period (January–March 2022) is **Claudia Stephenson**.



Claudia works in the Accounting Division, processing payroll and accounts payable. Since joining the City in 2021, she has been able to successfully streamline these accounting operations. Claudia has a contagious, positive attitude and was nominated for never having a bad day at work. Congratulations, Claudia!

Marketing/Visitor Center Contracts Awarded

On June 13, the Solvang City Council approved the negotiation of a two-year contract with **The Abbi Agency**, a full-service marketing agency.

The Abbi Agency was selected from 11 responses to the City's marketing services Request for Proposals (RFP) issued in April 2022. As the City's marketing arm, The Abbi Agency will promote Solvang's tourism experience through branding, creative and integrated marketing campaigns.

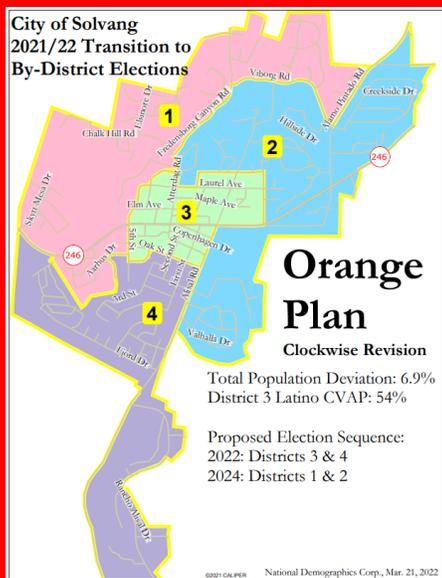
Unlike the City's previous marketing agreement, the City of Solvang will retain the special event permit process internally.



Elections by District

In compliance with State legal parameters, the City is moving to Elections by District for City Council member seats. A District map has been adopted and is available for review at www.DistrictSolvang.org.

Districts 3 and 4 Council member seats are up for Election on November 8, 2022. The Mayor will continue to be elected at-large every two years.



On June 13, The Solvang City Council also approved the negotiation of a two-year contract for visitor center operations to **Solvang Hygge Huset, LLC**.



Calendar of Events

July 2022

- 4 - Independence Day (*City Hall closed*)
- 4 - 4th of July Parade/Fireworks
- 5 - Planning Commission (*6 pm*)
- June 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27 - Music at Solvang Park
- 7 - Tourism Adv. Committee (*3:30 pm*)
- 11 - City Council Meeting (*6:30 pm*)
- 18 - Community Mtg – Plaza (*6:00 pm*)
- 21 - Design Review Committee (*5 pm*)
- 22 - Movies in the Park (*see pg. 3*)
- 25 - City Council Meeting (*6:30 pm*)

August 2022

- 1 - Planning Commission (*6 pm*)
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - Music at Solvang Park
- 4 - Tourism Adv. Committee (*3:30 pm*)
- 5 - Movies in the Park (*see pg.3*)
- 8 - City Council Meeting (*6:30 pm*)
- 12 - Rec N Roll (*see pg. 3*)
- 18 - Design Review Committee (*5 pm*)
- 20 - Waste Mgmt Clean Up (*8 am – Lot 4*)
- 22 - City Council Meeting (*6:30 pm*)
- 24 - State of the City (*11:30 am – Corque*)
- 27 - Wheels & Windmills Car Show

September 2022

- 1 - Tourism Adv. Committee (*3:30 pm*)
- 5 - Labor Day (*City Hall closed*)
- 6 - Planning Commission (*6 pm*)
- 12 - City Council Meeting (*6:30 pm*)
- 15 - Design Review Committee (*5 pm*)
- 16, 17, 18 - Solvang Danish Days
- 26 - City Council Meeting (*6:30 pm*)

NOTE : All meetings at City Hall (1644 Oak St), unless otherwise indicated.

For information on upcoming events, see the Calendar on the front page of the City's website (www.CityofSolvang.com).