

CITY Spotlight CHOWCHILLA



October 2016; Volume 8, Issue 10

**CITY HALL OFFICES
BUSINESS HOURS**
Monday - Thursday, 8AM - 4PM
CLOSED FRIDAY

CALENDAR

- Oct 11** - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM
- Oct 14** - City Offices Closed
- Oct 15** - Chamber of Commerce Farm Fest Dinner, Eastman Hall, Fairgrounds, 6PM
- Oct 18** - Community Conversation - Let's Talk Chowchilla, Veterans Memorial Park, 5:30PM
- Oct 19** - Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall, 7PM
- Oct 22** - Friends of the Library Taco Salad Dinner, Harvest Valley Church, 4:30-6:30PM
- Oct 25** - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM
- Oct 28** - City Offices Closed
- Oct 31** - Halloween (Official)
- Nov 6** - Daylight Savings Time Ends, 2AM
- Nov 8** - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM
- Nov 10** - City Offices Closed
- Nov 11** - Veterans Day Holiday, City Offices Closed
- Nov 11** - Veterans Ceremony, Veterans Memorial Park, 11AM
- Nov 15** - Community Conversation - Let's Talk Chowchilla, Location to be determined, 5:30PM
- Nov 16** - Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall, 7PM
- Nov 19** - Chowchilla Lioness Lions Harvest Dinner, Eastman Hall, Fairgrounds, 6PM
- Nov 23** - City Offices Closed
- Nov 24-25** - Thanksgiving Holiday, City Offices Closed

City's Infill Incentives Spurs Homebuilding

Thanks to the City's Neighborhood Infill Incentive Program new homes are being constructed on vacant lots in some of Chowchilla's established neighborhoods. Eight homes are now under construction or ready for occupancy. Additional plans have been submitted and building contractors are looking to start building 2-3 dozen more homes in the coming months.

The infill program incentivizes builders to construct homes on vacant lots interspersed among already existing homes in our neighborhoods. By waiving 100% of building impact fees, provided the builder secures 30% of goods and services from within Chowchilla, it becomes financially worthwhile to build a home in the older neighborhoods at an affordable price.

The overall benefits include a rise in neighborhood property values as empty spaces are filled; neighborhood livability is reenergized; existing infrastructure is used that helps the efficiency of City services; and our economy is increased when builders hire local and buy local.

Building contractors who would like to learn more about the Neighborhood Infill Program are urged to contact the City of Chowchilla at (559) 665-8615.



National Fire Prevention Week October 9-15

"DON'T WAIT - CHECK THE DATE! REPLACE SMOKE ALARMS EVERY 10 YEARS"

Does your home have a smoke alarm? According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the answer is likely yes: NFPA research shows that most American homes have at least one. But do you know how old your smoke alarms are? If you're like most people, you're probably not so sure.

A recent survey revealed that very few people know how old their smoke alarms are, or how often they need to be replaced. That lack of awareness is a concern for your Chowchilla Fire Department because smoke alarms don't last forever.

"Time and again, we see the life-saving impact smoke alarms can have in a home fire, but we've also seen the tragedy that can result when smoke alarms aren't working properly," says Chowchilla Fire Chief Harry Turner. "That's why we're making a concerted effort to educate Chowchilla residents about the overall importance of smoke alarms, and that they do have a life limit."

NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code, requires smoke alarms be replaced at least every 10 years, but because the public is generally unaware of this requirement, many homes have smoke alarms past their expiration date, putting people at increased risk.

As the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years, NFPA is promoting this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," to better educate the public about the critical importance of knowing how old their smoke alarms are and replacing them once they're 10 years old. Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15.

To find out how old your smoke alarm is and its expiration date, simply look on the back of the alarm where the date of manufacture is marked. The smoke alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date (not the date of purchase). Chief Turner adds, "smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and batteries should be replaced once a year or when they begin to chirp, signaling the power is low."

For more information on smoke alarms and this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait: Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years", visit www.FirePreventionWeek.org.



CITY OFFICES

130 South Second Street
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Telephone: (559) 665-8615
Fax: (559) 665-7418
Email: Info@CityOfChowchilla.org
Web: www.CityOfChowchilla.org

CITY COUNCIL

Waseem Ahmed, *Mayor*
Mary Gaumnitz, *Mayor Pro Tem*
John Chavez, *Council Member*
Dennis Haworth, *Council Member*
Richard Walker, *Council Member*
Brian Haddix, *City Administrator*

City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The agenda can be viewed or downloaded from the City web site.



PHONE NUMBERS

Civic Center	(559) 665-8615
City Council	ext. 102
City Administrator	ext. 100
City Clerk	ext. 102
Airport Information	ext. 305
Building & Inspections	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 407
Community Relations	ext. 110
Finance	ext. 783
Fire	ext. 600
Human Resources	ext. 102
Planning	ext. 400
Police Dispatch	ext. 590/591
Public Works	ext. 789
Recreation	ext. 110
Utilities	ext. 783

DIRECT NUMBERS

CATX & CATLinX	665-8655
Senior Center	665-8647
Police	665-8600
Anonymous Tips	665-8624
Fire	665-8625



accepted for in-person payments
at Chowchilla City Hall and the
Police Department.



Help define Chowchilla's future housing needs

If you are passionate about equal opportunity for housing, funding for more affordable housing and home improvement projects, and/or making sure the entire community is served by appropriate housing options, the City needs you to make our Housing Element Update successful.

If you would like to help you are asked to call the City's Contract Planner, Annalisa Perea, at (559) 665-8615, ext. 401 to share your comments.

You can also fill-out a survey available online from the City at www.CityOfChowchilla.org. Surveys should be returned to Chowchilla City Hall by October 14. Drop them off in person or put them in the drop-box on the right of the City Hall entrance.

IMPORTANT! Get your business license!

If you operate any type of business in Chowchilla it is mandatory that you have a business license to legally operate. Licenses are required for three main reasons—to identify your business and make sure you are accountable for your actions, to protect the public health and safety, and to keep track of your finances for tax purposes.

Not having your business license could leave you unprotected legally, may lead to expensive penalties, and can jeopardize your business.

Existing businesses that have not paid for their license but are still operating will soon get a delinquency notice. Owners are urged to pay their bill by the due date to avoid an Administrative Citation of \$100 per day.

Call the Finance Department at (559) 665-8615, ext. 784 if you have questions.

SAVE TIME - Pay Utilities Bills ONLINE

Learn more at www.CityOfChowchilla.org



Report street- light outages

Now that it is getting dark earlier it is particularly important that neighborhood streetlights are working since they add an element of safety in our community. Non-working lights create darkened and dangerous intersections and can also hide undesirable activities.

If you see a streetlight that is not working please contact the Chowchilla Public Works Department at (559) 665-8615, ext. 789 so it can be checked and repaired. You can call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and leave a message. Be sure to provide **the pole number** (a tag is on every streetlight pole) along with a **nearby address**, or the **nearest cross streets**.



Community CONVERSATION

Let's Talk Chowchilla

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18 • 5:30-6:30PM
VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
600 W. ROBERTSON BOULEVARD

FALL Clean-up Drop-off DAY coming this November

Mid Valley Disposal and the City are planning the "FALL Clean-Up Drop-Off DAY" for late November. Chowchilla residents will be able to drop-off their collected BULK TRASH at an in-town site for FREE. The event is ONLY for residents living within the Chowchilla city limits and proof of residency MUST be provided.

THIS WILL BE A "DROP-OFF ONLY" EVENT—DO NOT PUT TRASH PILES AT THE STREET CURB OF YOUR HOME BECAUSE THEY WON'T BE PICKED UP.

The date and more details will be in the November newsletter.

Chowchilla Youth Basketball League Registration

October 3 - October 19
Monday's and Wednesday's 4-6PM
Wilson Gymnasium/Community Sports Center

For additional information contact
Annette (209) 446-8693, or Alma (209) 489-7547.

