

City Manager's Weekly Update October 1, 2021



Milestone Anniversary: Budget Manager Susan Bjork celebrated her 30-year anniversary with the City this week. Susan began her career with the City in 1991 as an Administrative Clerk in the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. She served in an increasingly responsible administrative capacity through 2001 when she was promoted into the Management Analyst ranks and made consistent improvements to the budget and internal processes within parks. In 2006, she transferred to the budget division. From that point forward, Susan has made constant improvements to the budget process. Information is presented more clearly and consistently to executive staff, the City Manager, Council and the public. Budget development has been streamlined and for the past 4 years, the City has earned the Government Finance Officer's Distinguished Budget Award, the highest recognition for a municipal budget document. Susan has also created a one page Budget in Brief and prepared the Measure L Citizen's Oversight Committee Annual reports and Report in Brief since the adoption of Measure L in 2018. Congratulations Susan! Because of you, Lodians can rest assured their budget and finances are in good order.

Spirit of Power Award: Mayor Pro Tempore Mark Chandler received the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) Spirit of Power Award at the 2021 NCPA Conference on Thursday. The award recognizes individuals who make significant and lasting contributions toward the advancement of public power values both within their own communities and the electricity industry at large. Mark currently serves as the chair of the NCPA Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Committee and has participated on the committee since 2019. Mark was appointed NCPA commissioner representing Lodi in 2015. During the pandemic, Mark coordinated a speakers series addressing various issues impacting public power. Lodi appreciates the work Mark has contributed to make our community a great place to live.



City Hall Reopening: After over a year and a half of being closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Lodi City Hall will be opening to the public on Monday October 4th. While services to the public were maintained during the closure period, we want to thank our residents and customers for their patience and understanding. During the public closure period, the interior of City Hall has undergone some changes to improve security in the building. While staff is still working out some of the details associated with the security improvement project, we will once again be available in person to serve our residents. The Community Development counter, as a part of the City Hall reopening, will resume regular business hours for general Building Department services. Planning Department services however must still be conducted on a scheduled appointment basis as our in-house meeting facilities are being modified. Scheduling for planning consultation can be made by calling (209) 333-6711. For Building Department submittals, we maintain a similar service to those performed throughout the COVID period, by having a document drop-off bin located in the public lobby for further processing. Until our remodel process is completed, application and permit fee payments must remain in the form of a check, as our cash and credit card processing remain unavailable. Any questions related to payment processing please call (209) 333-6714. We appreciate your patience as we strive to get back to normal together.

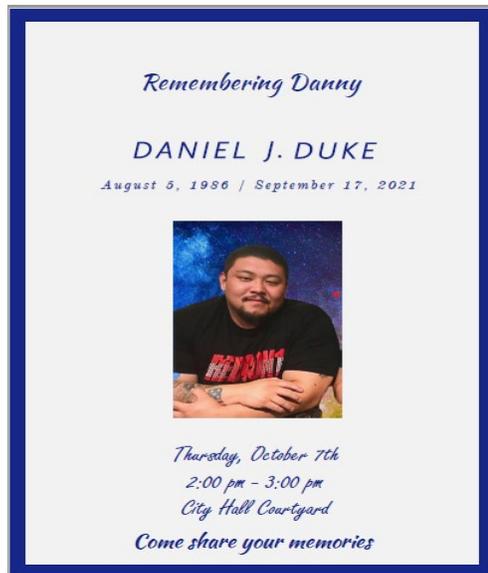
Replacement of Public EV Charging Stations to Start in October: Lodi Electric Utility (LEU) and its contractors will soon be starting work to remove, replace and add public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations throughout the City. As a result, City public EV charging stations may be unavailable until such time as new stations are installed and activated. LEU

apologizes for the inconvenience but hopes to have the project completed by the end of the year. Once completed, Lodi residents and visitors will have additional Level II EV charging station options available to them for public use. For a list of alternative charging station locations, visit: <https://afdc.energy.gov/stations/#/find/nearest?location=lodi,%20ca> Please note that stations listed may charge for access or may have limited access; it is therefore recommended you call the station using the provided contact information for more details.

Trunk Sale Leads to Arrest: Lodi Officers worked a case of a stolen black Ford Expedition and grand theft of plastic storage containers. They learned that a 37-year old male from Lodi was selling plastic storage containers out of a black Ford Expedition on Facebook Marketplace. Officers set up a fake purchase of storage bins and the salesperson and his 32-year old female companion also from Lodi showed up to make a deal. The Salesperson tried to flee through the park when he saw PD cruiser approaching but was quickly captured. A search of the stolen vehicle, which had been cold plated with license plates from a motor home, found numerous stolen storage bins, electronics and drug paraphernalia. Both male and female were arrested for possession of the stolen car, possession of stolen property and drug offenses.

Fighting Fires: Lodi Fire continues to work the various Northern California fires and has been assisting with the Fawn Incident in the Redding area. They anticipate getting demobilized any day.

School Threats: Officers were dispatched to Tokay High School on a telephone report, with multiple reporting parties advising of a threat, which was posted to social media, stating that there would be a shooting at Tokay High School on October 1. Based on the investigation thus far, the account which posted the threat appears to be newly created, and the threat does not appear to be credible.



Remembering Danny: A remembrance for Danny Duke will be held October 7th in the Courtyard of City Hall. You are welcome to attend and share your memories.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR PLAN YEAR 2022

Employee Benefit Open Enrollment is coming soon!

September 20, 2021- October 15, 2021

The open enrollment period for the 2022 plan year begins on **September 20, 2021** and ends on **October 15, 2021**.

Please refer to the City of Lodi Grapevine at <https://ca-lodiintranet.civicplus.com/216/Open-Enrollment> to view the new premium rates, the 2022 Health Benefit Summary booklet, the Health Program Guide, and individual plan resources.