City Manager's Weekly Update October 15, 2021





Farewell to School Resource Officer: Join me in celebrating Officer Nick Welton's retirement. Officer Welton retires with 21 years of service from the Lodi Police Department. He also spent four years as an officer with the Galt Police Department and another six years with Galt PD as a part-time/Reserve police officer. Officer Welton worked as a patrol officer, a bicycle officer, and he retires as a school resource officer. During his career, Officer Welton served on the SWAT team, was a chemical munitions instructor, and most importantly created the Lodi High Bass fishing club. Officer Welton went out of his way to ensure that kids not only had an outlet, but that they learned a new skill and participated in something that they might not otherwise be exposed to. Officer Welton also received nine Letters of Appreciation and two Letters of Commendation during his career. Congratulations Nick on your well-earned and deserved retirement!

EOC Activation – Emergency Shelter: Earlier this week, an emergency evacuation shelter was set up at Hutchins Street Square to house fire victims from the Brannan Island Fire. Charlie Swimley, Ron Penix, Christina Jaromay, Arnel Clegg, Steve Virrey, and Engine 2034 assisted in getting Kirst Hall open and beds set up for the fire victims. Everyone made quick work in getting the spur of the moment site set up; however, the shelter was not needed and closed at 2 am. The American Red Cross was involved in coordinating directly with the fire victims and finding them shelter. Thirty homes were burned Monday after a fire sparked at a marina on Brannan Island south of Rio Vista off Highway 12.





October ECA: The ECA for October is a small charge of 0.86 cent/kWh. Comparing to the October ECA of more than 1 cent/kwh for the last four years, this year's October ECA is mitigated against the high market prices. As Lodi Energy Center continues to perform well, it helps offset the high power supply cost in drought conditions. Hope we can see some rain soon.

Fighting Fires: Our fire personnel continue to assist in the battle against wildfires, and most recently deployed Captain Allen as a Strike Team Leader to the Alisal Fire in Santa Barbara, which also happens to be near the former Ronald Reagan Ranch.

NARCAN Deployment: Fire crews responded to two Fentanyl overdoses, sadly resulted in a fatality.

Rob Mom at Knifepoint! Officers responded to a report of a robbery with a knife in the 00 block of Sacramento Street. The victim stated she met with her 44-year old son from Lodi, who demanded money. When the victim refused to give her son any money, he pulled out a knife while demanding money. The victim fled from the scene to call the police but left her purse in her vehicle. The male removed an unknown amount of money from the victim's purse and fled on foot eastbound on Pine Street. Officers checked the area but were unable to locate the suspect.



Weapons Violation: Officers responded to a report of a male brandishing a firearm in the parking lot of 2400 block of W Kettleman Lane. The reporting party provided a detailed description of the suspect, and of the firearm. The witness advised that the suspect was last seen fleeing the area on foot. Officer Scott located the 30-year old male from Lodi, who matched the description, walking in the area. Additional officers arrived and the suspect was taken into custody at gunpoint. A loaded 40-caliber Smith and Wesson handgun was found concealed in his waistband. The reporting party did not wish to cooperate any further with this case. The suspect was ultimately arrested for several weapons violations.

Tree Removal: Public Works has scheduled the removal of a dead tree from downtown in front of the Moo Moo's eatery on School Street. A replacement tree is being planned for the same area.

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