

CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE



DATE: April 17, 2014

TO: ► Members of the City Council
► Planning Commission

FROM: Randal K. Bynder, City Manager *RKB*

SUBJECT: City Managers Status Report

The following report represents a summary for various departmental activities as well as updates for ongoing COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS for the 1st quarter of 2014:

ADMINISTRATIVE

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

Staff reviews agendas and attends (as appropriate) the following, regularly scheduled intergovernmental meetings to represent the City or to monitor activities that may have an impact on the City:

- Sunline Transit Agency/Service Group – oversees public transportation in the Coachella Valley; administers/regulates taxi operations in the Coachella Valley
- Coachella Valley Association of Governments – a council of governments including all the Coachella Valley cities and Blythe.
- Energy & Environmental Resources Committee
- Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
- Trails Management Subcommittee
- Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy – a State agency that oversees the protection of natural and cultural resources of the Coachella Valley and surrounding mountains.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The following activities took place during the quarter:

- Continued monthly inspections of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) units in City buildings. AEDs are medical devices to use on a person having a heart attack.
- Staff coordinated and put on two AED/CPR trainings for staff in February. The training was given by Rancho Mirage Fire Station #69.
- Continued monthly participation in County Office of Emergency Services Radio-net drill. Continued monthly radio drill by City's Emergency Preparedness Committee (primarily comprised of City staff).
- Continued staff liaison duties to the Emergency Preparedness Commission (EPC) including facilitating the monthly Home Owners Association (HOA) radio drill call. The EPC successfully put on two events this quarter: the Emergency Preparedness Town Hall Forum on March 4th, and *Race to Be Ready*, a 5k/1k Run-Walk to highlight emergency preparedness, on March 30th.

ENERGY INITIATIVES

- Staff attended the quarterly meeting of the Desert Cities Energy Partnership (DCEP) at CVAG offices and continues to participate in regional efforts on energy savings, programs and policies.
- Staff also continued its work in the Energy Leader Partnership (ELP) program coordinated through the City's participation in the DCEP. The ELP allows cities to earn energy rebates for energy saving projects or policies. Staff studied replacing the pond pumps at Cancer Survivor's Park with variable frequency drive motors.
- Staff attended a meeting on March 19th hosted by SCE about energy pricing and other issues that may affect the City.

RANCHO MIRAGE COPS

Staff continues to administer the COPS (Citizens on Patrol Services) program for the City. Meetings are held semi-monthly. Currently there are approximately 24 enrolled COPS. Four COPS resigned during this quarter and four new COPS were badged during the quarter.

One of the COPS vehicles (the 1999 Crown Victoria) had to be permanently retired from service due to age and maintenance issues. COPS are now operating on three vehicles.

Stats for COPS Patrols during the first quarter of 2014 are as follows:

- Total miles driven – 4,930
- Total incidents – 45
- Total hours – 450
- Patrol value - \$10,539 (using \$23.42/hour value)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Staff participated in a regional Homeless Vet Survey on January 29th. Staff from Administrative Service, Code Enforcement, and two Rancho Mirage undercover officers visited select sites in the City to carry out the count. As one might expect, there are not a lot of homeless people living in Rancho Mirage and only one person who identified himself as a veteran was counted in the survey.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT-WIDE UPDATES

Development Services is comprised of the following divisions:

- Building & Safety
- Code Compliance
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Marketing & Public Relations
- Planning

Redevelopment Transition

Public Works to proceed with several significant projects. Almost \$30 million in excess redevelopment bond proceeds (from pre-2011 bond issues) are being utilized. The excess bond proceeds will also help fund a variety of economic development projects including the Property Improvement Program for exterior improvements to commercial properties.

The California Department of Finance (“DOF”) approved our Long Range Property Management Plan on February 20, 2014 which allows staff to proceed with the long-awaited sale of the Agency-owned land located on Highway 111 adjacent to Mimi’s Restaurant for future development. The future property transfer was approved by the Oversight Board on February 25th and then by DOF on March 5th. The related Purchase & Sale Agreement has been executed and escrow has been opened. The land transfer will not occur until the developer successfully completes the design and entitlement process for the new project (approximately six months).

BUILDING & SAFETY DIVISION

Building Permits Issued – Ten Year Comparison of First Quarter Results

FIRST QUARTER (Jan-March)	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERMITS	TOTAL VALUATION	SINGLE FAMILY HOME PERMITS	VALUATION OF DWELLINGS ONLY
2014	331	\$ 13,426,410	16	\$ 5,945,958
2013	300	\$ 10,341,104	11	\$ 4,094,937
2012	199	\$ 7,456,743	5	\$ 2,598,422
2011	214	\$ 8,504,677	1	\$ 422,227
2010	226	\$ 4,241,679	1	\$ 687,889
2009	325	\$ 15,365,184	1	\$ 1,500,000
2008	249	\$ 19,616,940	5	\$ 2,482,608
2007	286	\$ 54,256,950	9	\$ 4,341,890
2006	327	\$ 17,498,589	23	\$ 8,360,598
2005	451	\$ 30,582,036	60	\$17,485,519

CODE COMPLIANCE DIVISION

Code Compliance is responsible for helping citizens maintain and preserve their property values, and providing Animal Services through the enforcement of the City’s Municipal Code, health and safety codes and applicable state laws.

Highlights of the Division’s recent notable accomplishments for January 1st through March 31st, 2014 (1st quarter) include:

- Received and processed **276** complaints with **352** violation types.

- Identified three properties with severe hoarding conditions and facilitated cleanup efforts to improve the quality of life for occupant and surrounding community.
- Initiated abatement proceedings against vacant properties with severe overgrown and dead vegetation that created a nuisance for dust and coyote habitat.
- Implemented coyote hazing program with the goal of reducing urbanization in our local city coyote populace.
- Responded and provided appropriate resources to both a media request and Cathedral City Residents concerns regarding encampments located on the boundary line of Rancho Mirage and Cathedral City.
- Facilitated removal of disease-ridden compacted bird feces from sidewalk on Plumley in response to the concerns of parents and citizens.
- Supervised reduction of goat herd and provided education on proper husbandry practices for raising goats.

January 1 through March 31, 2014		
Inspections and Code Activities	Inspection Results	Fee Receipts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 Initial Inspections • 329 Follow-Ups • 4 Weekend Inspections • 154 Animal Control • 293 Phone Call Follow-Up Inspections • 24 Graffiti Inspections • 36 Massage Licenses • 4 Business License Inspections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 City Abatements (includes graffiti and vacant properties) • 57 Owner Abatements • 252 Cases Closed • 48 Documents submitted for recordation at County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$ 630.00 Business License \$ 1,175.00 Massage Permits \$ 3,363.25 Administrative Fees \$ 6,231.25 Abatement Fees \$ 443.00 Document Releases <hr/> \$11,842.50 TOTAL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Quick N Clean Car Wash - Highway 111/Frank Sinatra

Quick N Clean Car Wash is open for business after spending several months completing numerous property improvements at the southeast corner of Highway 111 and Frank Sinatra. Staff is working with the new owner to facilitate new monument signage for the property.

Rancho Las Palmas Shopping Center

Paragon Commercial Group closed escrow on the purchase of the shopping center on March 28, 2014. The City has been working closely with Paragon to assist in formulating a plan to redevelop the shopping center. Sale of the City's Annex Building to Paragon will not occur until the design & project entitlement process for the relocation of CVS is completed. All indications thus far point towards an impressive revitalization of this important property.

The River

The owner of The River (Grosvenor) has put the property on the market and is currently identifying prospective buyers. Numerous prospective bidders have contacted City staff with detailed question and requests for background information during this preliminary process. The City is staying in communication with Grosvenor during this effort and will work to quickly meet with the new owner if the

center is indeed sold.

The Ritz-Carlton

At the request of the property owner, the City Council extended the Operating Covenant with the City until May 15, 2014 to facilitate the opening of the Ritz-Carlton by that date. The Ritz promises to be the premiere luxury hotel in the Palm Springs Valley upon its opening.

The Waterfront – Property Sale

After a long process of obtaining State approval, the sale of the Successor Agency-owned property at the southeast corner of Highway 111 and East Veldt to the adjacent property owner. The Agency originally approved the sale in September 2012, with Oversight Board approval occurring that same month. Per direction by the State, and following approval of the Agency's Long Range Property Management Plan, the Oversight Board again approved the sale of the property on February 25, 2014. The property is now in escrow.

HOUSING DIVISION

Southern California Edison Program

Through Southern California Edison, the Housing Authority can take advantage of a federal grant program whereby qualifying air conditioners and refrigerators can be replaced with new units at significantly reduced costs. For instance, the program will allow for the installation of a new air conditioning unit normally priced at \$4,500 (plus installation), for \$500 (including installation). The qualifying factors for participating in the program are 1) the household must be lower income and 2) the appliances being replaced must be less efficient than the new ones and in a condition that warrants replacement.

All but one unit at Whispering Waters qualifies for the air conditioning portion of the program and the contractor is in the process of identifying the number of qualifying units at Parkview Villas that qualify. Staff is in the process of completing a contract for the work at Whispering Waters with work expected to begin the first or second week of April.

Parkview Villas

The following is a summary of activity at Parkview Villas for the period:

- Per the previously approved expenditure of excess housing bond proceeds, the entire property will be repainted. Staff is assessing bids for the work.
- The project to replace cabinetry and flooring project continues.
- Tree trimming for the property was completed the second week of January.
- Staff is acquiring bids to replenish rock throughout the property as part of the continuous effort to bolster landscaping beds at the property.

Santa Rosa Villas

The following is a summary of activity at Santa Rosa Villas for the period:

- Exterior lighting was added around the property in March in order to address several significant dark areas.
- There is no capital improvement projects planned for the property, but staff is looking into the possibility of installing screens on patio covers to help prevent substantial debris from trees landing on patios. The property manager is collecting information related to potential material and costs associated with this.

San Jacinto Villas

There was no significant activity at San Jacinto Villas to report for this quarter.

Whispering Waters

The following is a summary of activity at Whispering Waters for the period:

- A St. Patrick's Day luncheon was held on the property on March 17 with a large majority of residents attending.
- As a result of a resident falling on a wet sloped walkway inside the property, the surrounding turf was removed and replaced with rock to eliminate irrigation run-off. Concurrently, an ADA compliance representative from Hyder walked the property with staff to identify any additional areas that might need to be addressed. Non-slip adhesive strips were installed along the walkway as well as in another minimally sloped section. Additionally, handrails will be installed in three locations within the property. This work is currently in the process of approval.
- Shade slats, exterior repairs and repainting of the property (along with the installation of a new shade structure for the pool area) are scheduled to be installed in April. Several factors have delayed this work, but the project is now ready to move forward.

Rancho Palms Mobilehome Park

The following is a summary of activity at Rancho Palms Mobile Home Park for the period:

- Staff addressed a number of issues related to the pool including required signage, continued maintenance and replacement of several machine components
- Work to clear debris such as dead landscaping and dumped materials continues

MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION

Rancho Mirage, as the City Host Sponsor for the February 5-6, 2014 Coachella-Invest event, addressed nearly 600 Southern California and regional developers, realtors and investment bankers that attended the event. City marketing staff assisted the Economic Development Division in maximizing the opportunity by conceiving and executing collateral, program ads, booth displays, the Mayor's welcome speech and a film shown at the event, which was held at Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa.

The Marketing Department worked closely with the Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce to produce the March 18, 2014 State of the City event. The luncheon event was held at the Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa with over 230 attendees, reportedly the largest participation in the history of the annual event. Joining Mayor Kite on the dais were Rancho Mirage High School Principal Ken Wagner and Doug Watson the General Manager of the Ritz-Carlton Rancho Mirage. Both men shared information about their respective responsibilities and organizations. Mayor Kite delivered a multi-media illustrated 35 minute address about the City's activities and finances and ended his speech by declaring that in his 14 years of service on the Council he has never been more optimistic about the City's future. The Show Choir from the High School entertained the assembly with two songs. The cheerleading squad performed a high charged ending to the event that had the audience clapping in unison – a fine ending for a successful event.

PLANNING DIVISION

Planning Applications Submitted/Processed – January through March 2014

- 1 Conditional Use Permit
- 4 Minor & Major Modification Permits
- 3 Sign Permits
- 1 Single Family Permits
- 6 Temporary Use Permits
- 2 Tentative Parcel/Tract Maps
- 22 Use & Occupancy Permits
- 1 Variance (Minor)
- 1 Zoning Interpretation

Major Planning Projects

AT&T Telecommunication Tower – CUP13001

Permits are ready to be issued for a 68' high monopalm telecommunication tower at 38-005 Vista Del Sol (at Frank Sinatra Drive) approved by the City Council on September 3, 2013 as requested by AT&T Wireless. The tower is setback 54' from Frank Sinatra Drive and any new electrical equipment will be housed in an existing AT&T building on the property.

DW Johnson TTM36698

Planning has accepted an application for a 7 lot subdivision on 3.68 acres located on the south side of La Paz Road approximately midway between Thompson Road and Los Reyes Drive (R-L-2 Zone). The applicant is proposing a gated entry to the development with desert landscaping along the La Paz street frontage. This item is tentatively scheduled for Planning Commission consideration on April 24th.

Escala (North and South)

Toll Brothers continues construction on both Escala South (11 lots) and Escala North (20 lots), using detached single-story house plans that range in size from 3,163 sq. ft. to 4,085 sq. ft. As of March 18, 2014, Toll had sold 10 homes. They have 26 lots left in Escala North and 5 lots left in Escala South.

Estilo Tract 34227 – Toll Brothers

The City Council approved this 39 residential lot Development Plan (PDP) on November 15, 2012 with four models ranging from 2,995 to 3,790 sq. ft. with optional casitas. To date, thirteen (13) homes are either under construction or have been completed.

Family Inn – Brian Buchan

On Nov. 21, 2013 the City Council approved the project applicant's request for a one-year time extension for this previously approved small boutique style hotel (18 rooms) on a 2.5 acre parcel located at 72-094 Via Vail, just east of Bob Hope Drive. The site has already been cleared in preparation for construction. The applicant is changing his organizational structure into a non-profit corporation for tax purposes. Staff has been told the project will commence in 2014.

Five Peaks

The project, as originally entitled, consisted of a Tentative Parcel Map with five parcels and a Preliminary Development Plan (PDP) for a 229,000 square foot shopping center to be constructed as a single phase which was subsequently modified to a multi-phase project. The applicant has until June

18, 2014 to exercise the entitlements for the PDP and Phasing Plan or to request another one-year time extension. The Tentative Map remains valid through June 18, 2017.

Magnesia Falls Office Building – Wendell Veith

The Planning Commission previously approved a Minor Conditional Use permit to re-establish an expired Conditional Use Permit for an existing office building on Magnesia Falls Drive south of Highway 111 totaling 4,235 sq. ft. The applicant will eliminate several non-conforming aspects of the property through new landscaping, updating and remodeling the exterior of the building. The site remodel is under construction and is expected to be completed spring 2014.

Meriweather Tracts (Section 30)

Meriweather submitted a Specific Plan Amendment for re-alignment of Via Florencia (a public street) and three applications for three separate Tentative Maps in Section 30 to the north of Versailles. Two of the Tentative Maps are on 5 acre parcels each consisting of 10 lots on gated cul-de-sacs (TTM 36621 and 36622). The third Tentative Map consists of 98 lots in a gated community immediately north of Versailles (TTM 36620). The applicant has met with Versailles homeowners on a couple of occasions with regards to the project. On December 10, 2013, Staff met with the Section 30 subcommittee to review the Tentative Maps and to discuss comments received from CVWD (i.e., water pressure and capacity issues). On December 16, 2013, the ARB endorsed the perimeter wall and landscape design. Staff is in the process of completing the environmental assessments. It is anticipated that these projects may be reviewed by the Planning Commission in Spring 2014.

Mission Hills Dog Park (private)

The City has accepted an application for a private dog park located within Mission Hills immediately south of Dinah Shore Drive. During the initial review of the application the project was deemed incomplete. Staff has met with the project applicant and concerned residents to try and work through numerous concerns. Along with an additional follow up meeting, staff is requesting further information from the applicant.

Palm Desert Senior Living at Rancho Mirage – Rick Johnson

The applicant proposed to build a one- and two-story, 66-room senior assisted living facility on ±2.04 acres located at 70-400 Country Club Drive adjacent to the Trojan Financial Plaza at Country Club Drive and Highway 111. Following Planning Commission consideration of the project the applicant requested a delay in taking the item for final Council consideration. After several months of deliberation by the applicant, the application was withdrawn on November 27, 2013. Mr. Rick Johnson states that he will be submitting a revised PDP application for the proposed assisted living project in early 2014 so that he can continue processing Specific Plan Amendment 130001 and Development Agreement DA 120001. In February, 2014, the developer submitted a revised site plan to the Fire Marshall. No new application has yet been submitted.

Palm Valley School (DaVall Drive)

Palm Valley School submitted a Final Development Plan for a new 10,000 sq. ft. middle school building which staff approved. While the plan entitlements remain the same, the school decided to use this new building for its high school students and to convert the existing high school building to the middle school. The new building is nearing completion.

Rancho Bella (formerly Bella Sera)

Pelagic Real Estate LLC (applicant) submitted an application for a Tentative Tract Map, Map No. 36553 and a Preliminary Development Plan for consideration of a 122 lot residential community at the intersection of Ramon Road and Rattler Road (to the south side of Rancho Mirage High School). The proposal includes five different floor plans with multiple elevations, common area landscaping and unique aesthetic amenities. Following review by the Architectural Review Board, the project was

unanimously passed by the Planning Commission on March 13, 2014 with City Council consideration scheduled for April 17th.

Revelle - Rudy Herrera (Family Development)

The applicant has submitted a Preliminary Development Plan application for the construction of five model homes with associated landscaping for the subdivision development of Tract Map 36235 on Clancy Lane. The subdivision consists of 32 residential lots, multiple lettered lots (including retention basin), and multiple private cul-de-sac streets with one main gated entrance. The project received unanimous approval from the City Council on September 3, 2013, house construction plans have been approved and the construction of 7 homes including the model began in January 2014.

Ritz-Carlton and Related Projects

Renovation work on the Ritz-Carlton, which had been non-existent since September 2008, resumed in January 2013. In early December 2013 the first portions of the completed hotel were transitioned from the contractor to Ritz personnel in order to commence employee training. The final improvements to both the hotel and the surrounding site, including landscaping along Frank Sinatra Drive, are now being completed. The applicant requested another extension of the Operating Covenant with the City (i.e. TOT rebates) prior to the March 1, 2014 deadline and the City Council agreed to extend the agreement to May 15, 2014 corresponding to the official date of the hotel opening. Representatives of the property owner have stated their intent to pursue previously planned future phases of the property's development once the hotel is re-opened.

Siena Vista Estates - Ken Cokeley

On June 20, 2013 the City Council approved the applicant's Tentative Tract Map submittal for the subdivision of a 5-acre parcel into 10 single family residential lots and multiple lettered lots at the southeast corner of Landy Lane and Victory Drive. In conjunction with this application is a Preliminary Development Plan for the construction of 10 homes ranging in size between 3,500 and 3,800 sq. ft. plus three car garages. The applicant has submitted plans for the final map and home plans are going through the plan check process. Grading on the site is scheduled to begin in spring 2014.

Tangerine Lane Estates (Verlaine)

On February 13, 2014, the Planning Commission recommended denial of a request by Verlaine Ventures for a General Plan/Zoning Map Amendment, Tentative Tract Map 36623, Development Agreement and Street Name Change for consideration of an 18 lot subdivision on 6.7 acres at Tangerine Lane and Palm View Road in the Tamarisk neighborhood. The City Council considered this case on March 20, 2014, and following public testimony, approved the request(s) with a modification to decrease the number of lots to 17, and to provide a secondary pedestrian emergency access gate and easement for the benefit of residents in The Colony Mobile Home Park. The subdivision will have private streets but will not be gated and will have a public access easement overlay to blend with the existing character of the non-gated neighborhood. The developer will complete the tract obligations of TTM 31800 (Rick Johnson) while expanding the tract boundaries to include property along Sunny Lane. The developer is currently working on a PDP application which is anticipated to be submitted within 30 days.

Westin Mission Hills Cell Tower CUP

A wireless tower facility at the Westin Mission Hills was approved by staff to be integrated with the architecture of the conference room facilities over the parking structure. The apparatus will be entirely concealed within the architecture of the building.

Whitewater Park Expansion

The construction drawings, specifications and bid documents for the Whitewater Park Expansion Plan have been finalized and Public Works is accepting bids on the project through April 16, 2014. A pre-bid

meeting will be held on April 2nd. It is anticipated that Council will award the bid to the most responsive proposal in May with construction beginning shortly thereafter.

Other Major Projects Not Yet Completed:

- Mirada Villas – Remaining lots purchased by Davidson Communities in August 2013 Building permits for five (5) homes have been issued.
- Rancho Mirage Rehabilitation Center – 43,336 s.f. private rehabilitation hospital on 6.79 acres at the southeast corner of Ramon Road and DaVall Drive. Developer is still seeking financing for completion of the project.

Special Projects

Comprehensive Zoning Text Amendments

Staff has started the annual Municipal Code Update. We will be having a staff meeting to finalize the draft amendments and will be meeting with the Zoning subcommittee in April/May to discuss potential updates and changes. The Update should be completed by summer 2014.

Staff Liaison Work

Historic Preservation Commission

The Commission conducted a tour of prospective historic homes in March and will be holding a Public Hearing in May to consider designation of two additional Krisel homes. Staff worked with the Commission on its annual Historic Preservation Event which was held at the Library on February 18, 2014. The guest speaker was celebrated local architect Lance O'Donnell presenting aspects of mid-century modernism related to its influence on his design and architecture.

Trails Commission

At the March 5, 2014 Trails Commission meeting, the Commissioners approved the 2013 Annual Report, met with Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy Executive Director Jim R. Karpiak regarding the Chuckwalla Trail signs and discussed the pending work at the Ritz Carlton site. Comments were forwarded to the developer and the improvements are to be completed before the hotel opens for business in May 2014

PUBLIC LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

REPORT FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH 2014

LIBRARY STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 2014

	<u>Jan. 2013*</u>	<u>Jan. 2014**</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
Items Checked Out	59,539	40,979	-31%
Patron Visits to Library	33,034	22,122	-33%
Reference Questions	10,930	6,806	-37.7%
Holds/Reserves Filled	7,774	6,872	-11.6%
Total Website Pageviews	97,778	82,122	-16%
Library Cardholders	43,273	41,691	-3.6%
Cards Issued	470	314	-33.1%

Daytime Adult Programs	8	With	2,671	Attendees
After Hours Programs	2	With	278	Attendees
Tutorials	32	With	32	Attendees
Preschool Programs	13	With	187	Attendees
Family Programs	1	With	0**	Attendees

*Palm Desert Library was closed during this time period
 **RMPL was closed 1/16-18 for Rancho Mirage Writers Festival
 ***Presenter failed to appear

LIBRARY STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 2014

	<u>Feb. 2013*</u>	<u>Feb. 2014</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
Items Checked Out	48,169	40,744	-15.4%
Patron Visits to Library	29,609	23,571	-20.4%
Reference Questions	8,674	6,823	-21.3%%
Hold/Reserves Filled	7,185	6,399	-11%
Total Website Pageviews	84,197	87,466	+4%
Library Cardholders	43,589	41,922	-8.4%
Cards Issued	308	245	-25%

Daytime Adult Programs	6	With	966	Attendees
After Hours Programs	5	With	1,005	Attendees
Tutorials	34	With	34	Attendees
Preschool	12	With	239	Attendees
Family Programs	1	With	18	Attendees

*Palm Desert Library was closed during this time period

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LIBRARY STATISTICS FOR MARCH 2013

	<u>Mar. 2013</u>	<u>Mar. 2014</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
Items Checked Out	51,152	43,459	-15%
Patron Visits to Library	28,362	26,429	-6.8%

Reference Questions	8,570	6,805	-20%
Holds/Reserves Filled	7,635	6,766	-11%
Total Website Pageviews	82,738	97,106	+17%
Library Cardholders	43,879	43,459	-1%
Cards Issued	302	283	-6%

Daytime Adult Programs	6	With	735	Attendees
After Hours Programs	5	With	1,561*	Attendees
Tutorials	42	With	42	Attendees
Preschool Programs	12	With	277	Attendees
Family Programs	6	With	243	Attendees

*Limited by capacity of the Community Room

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

- 15 Adult and general interest programs including concerts, lectures, and film, as well as the first Rancho Mirage Writers Festival, 1/15-1/18
- 16 Children's events, from storytimes to crafts and book discussions

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

- 12 Adult and general interest programs including concerts, lectures, and film, including the Library's first ever type-in
- 14 Children's events, from storytimes to crafts and book discussions

MARCH ACTIVITIES

- 13 Adult and general interest programs including concerts, lectures, and film, as well as the 100th Anniversary of the Marx Brothers
- 14 Children's events, from storytimes to crafts and book discussions

JUST FOR KIDS

The Library offers four weekly storytimes for children:
 Tuesdays at 10 AM; Wednesdays at 10 ***Tiny Tot Tales***
 Thursdays at 10 AM ***Preschool Storytime***

- The Preschool Stories and Me includes stories and an arts and craft project.
- The Tiny Tot Tales include stories, singing and rhyming games.

EXHIBITS

The Annenberg Reading Room

The multi-media art of Bijan

Reference Room

Early Rancho Mirage in photographs from the City's archives

Lobby Cases

The architectural models and materials of Lance O'Donnell

Western history as shown through photographs and memorabilia on loan from the collection of Britt Wilson.

"The Pleasure of Your Company" table settings at Sunnylands

Children's Room

"The Race to Be Ready" children's art project posters

Classic Childrens Book Covers

Lobby Corridor to Café and Book Nook

Framed prints of book covers are in place for a lead-in for Aspen Mills Bakery/Deli and for the Library Foundation's Book Nook.

VOLUNTEERS

During **January**, **47 volunteers provided 752** hours of service.

The Library welcomed Lucy Meepos and Jeanette Seman as new book nook volunteers.

During **February 49** volunteers provided **742** hours of service.

During **March 46** volunteers provided **837** hours of service.

Wednesday, March 12, the Library offered its annual Volunteer Breakfast at Thunderbird Country Club, celebrating the work of Library volunteers who run the Book Nook, shelve books and media, repair books and media.

PERSONNEL/CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Librarians took advantage of free and low cost on-line webinars to increase expertise in social media, library marketing, e-book access, e-magazine availability, and changing research methods.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Projects under Construction

CP 12-275: MEDIAN ISLAND LANDSCAPING REHABILITATION ON HIGHWAY 111 (PAXTON DRIVE TO BOB HOPE DRIVE, INCLUDING THE PARKWAY ALONG FRONTAGE ROAD, FROM SAN JACINTO DRIVE TO BUTTON DRIVE)

Project was awarded to Golden Valley Construction at the April 3rd City Council meeting. This rehabilitation project will remove aged plant material, portions of stamped concrete, and the aged irrigation and electrical lighting systems. New drought-tolerant plant materials, water efficient drip irrigation and energy efficient LED electrical lighting systems will be installed. Construction is scheduled to start in May 2014, with a 90-day construction period and a 90-day maintenance period.

CP 12-276: MEDIAN ISLAND LANDSCAPING REHABILITATION ON BOB HOPE DRIVE (FRANK SINATRA DRIVE TO COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE) & CP 12-278: MEDIAN ISLAND LANDSCAPING REHABILITATION ON FRANK SINATRA DRIVE (MORNINGSIDE DRIVE TO BOB HOPE DRIVE)

Project was awarded to Earth Sculptures at the March 20th City Council meeting. This rehabilitation project will remove aged plant material and the aged irrigation and electrical lighting systems and replaced with drought-tolerant plants and water-efficient drip irrigation and energy efficient LED electrical lighting systems. Construction is scheduled to start in April 2014, with a 90-day construction period and a 90-day maintenance period.

CP 12-284: WHITEWATER PARK EXPANSION/AMPHITHEATER

This project is currently out to bid, with bid opening taking place on April 16th. Project is scheduled for award at the May 1st City Council meeting. Construction will commence in June 2014, with a 270-day construction period.

CP 13-289: CITY-WIDE RUBBERIZED CRACK SEAL

Contractor (Rubberized Crackfiller Sealant, Inc.) began work on March 27th cleaning and sealing street cracking throughout the city. Completion is expected the week of April 21st.

CP 06-225: FRANK SINATRA DRIVE/HIGHWAY 111 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

This project is currently out to bid with bid opening taking place on April 29th and award taking place at the May 15th City Council meeting. The City received a \$900,000 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) State Grant, which will fund the majority of the project improvements. This project will improve on safety and capacity of the intersection by way of additional left turn lanes and traffic signal modifications. The NEPA/CEQA environmental clearance process and final design are complete. The City received the Request for Construction Authorization from Caltrans. Construction is scheduled to commence in June 2014 with a 120-day construction period.

CP 13-285: CONSTRUCTION OF PHOTOVOLTAIC RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM AT CITY HALL

The contractor will commence work at City Hall in late April 2014 which will consist of installing solar panels on the lower parking shade structures, as well as on the empty City property adjacent to our upper parking lot. Project completion is expected in early July 2014.

Projects under Design

CP 10-254: MONTEREY AVENUE (SOUTHBOUND) STREET WIDENING FROM DINAH SHORE TO GERALD FORD DRIVES

The City received an \$850,000 grant through the State Transportation Program (STP) for this street widening project. NEPA/CEQA environmental studies have been submitted to Caltrans for final review

and approval. Final design plans will be completed immediately upon receiving environmental clearance from Caltrans. Construction is tentatively scheduled for early summer 2015.

CP 12-269: FRANK SINATRA DRIVE BRIDGE AT WHITEWATER RIVER

The City received a \$35 million Highway Bridge Program (HBP) State Grant to construct an all-weather bridge to replace the current low water crossing that no longer serves its intended purpose. The City's consultant is analyzing Project Alternatives and preparing the Environmental Document (PA&ED) for the project. The PA&ED commenced on October 1, 2012 and will take 18 months to complete. If all goes as planned bridge construction can begin in late 2016 and be completed within 15-18 months thereafter.

Other News

LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN AND PM¹⁰ CONTROLS

The City's new PM¹⁰ ordinance is in effect. All projects that require grading or demolition permits must submit a Dust Mitigation Plan, which we call the Local Air Quality Management Plan (or LAQMP) signed by the owner, contractor and a certified individual through the SCAQMD dust mitigation course. In response to the South Coast Air Quality Management District's "Guidelines for Dust Control Plan Review," and a growing concern that dust is not being controlled adequately, we have now updated our standard LAQMP forms. It is available as a 24" x 36" mylar to be attached with the grading plans or is available with the newly updated Standard Drawings by e-mail upon request. This way, the public is able to print their own.

PERMITS ISSUED DURING JANUARY - MARCH 2014

Grading	9
Encroachment	34
Transportation	27
Pool Drainage	7
Miscellaneous	0
TOTAL:	77

If the public wishes any additional information on any projects, please contact the Department of Public Works at (760) 770-3224.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS

The following chart is an up-to-date list of ongoing Council Subcommittees with work in progress. Subcommittee members include Council members and others completing work on City projects. This chart provides a progress report for the established subcommittees and the status of the projects:

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS			
GROUP	MEMBERS INCLUDE	STATUS	SUBJECT TO THE BROWN ACT
Affordable Housing Design Subcommittee Originally formed at 10-16-03 Council meeting and tasked with redesign of Santa Rosa Villas;	<u>Council:</u> Mayor Kite Councilmember Weill <u>Staff Assistance:</u> Econ. Dev. and Housing Mgr. Smith City Engineer Enos	<u>Assignment:</u> To assist in the site planning and unit design for sites held by the Housing Authority for affordable units. <u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) No activity to report.	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS			
GROUP	MEMBERS INCLUDE	STATUS	SUBJECT TO THE BROWN ACT
reconfigured 9-14-04 by Ron Meepos.	City Manager Bynder		
<p>Audit/Budget Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 7-14-05 by memo from Alan Seman.</p> <p>On 05-18-06 combined Audit with Budget Subcommittee.</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Kite Councilmember Hobart</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Finance Dir. Hagerman Other Dept. Dir. or staff as needed.</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Subcommittee to: 1) Perform the annual review of the City's reserve balances and recommend changes as necessary. 2) Review the Fiscal Year 14-15 Budget for final approval by the 2nd meeting in June 2014.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) Subcommittee to: 1) Meeting is scheduled for late April 2014; 2) Meetings will take place in May 2014.</p> <p><u>Burrtec Solid Waste and Recycling Contract Negotiations</u> City staff completed negotiations for the new six year agreement with Burrtec. On February 6, 2014, City Council approved the contract that runs from March 1, 2014 through February 29, 2020.</p> <p><u>Photovoltaic Solar Projects</u> The Rancho Mirage Public Library Solar project is in the beginning stages of design. The council meeting on May 15, 2014 will have a public hearing for Health and Safety Code Sec. 33445 findings and requested approval of the design build contract for the solar system. The project is estimated to be completed by October 1, 2014.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
Chamber of Commerce Subcommittee	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Pro Tem Smotrich Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts Econ. Dev. and Housing Mgr. Smith</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Coordinate with members of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber's Executive Director related to services provided to the City by the Chamber.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) Subcommittee meets with Chamber officials on a bi-monthly basis. The subcommittee met on April 1, 2014 and is scheduled to meet again on July 1, 2014.</p>	Subject to the Brown Act as a standing committee.
<p>Commercial Development Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 9-20-07 by memo from Mayor Hobart.</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Kite Councilmember Hobart</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts Planning Mgr. Dev. Kopp</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To review proposed and recently submitted commercial development projects.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) The subcommittee met on February 24, 2014 to discuss food trucks and on March 6, 2014 to discuss the City's property improvement program.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Eisenhower Medical Center Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 4-19-07 Council meeting</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hobart Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts Planning Mgr. Kopp</p> <p><u>EMC Representatives:</u> Aubrey Serfling, President & CEO Ali Tourkaman, VP, Facilities & Construction</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To work cooperatively with representatives of Eisenhower Medical Center to ensure an effective partnership between EMC and the City on various concerns and topics of interest.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) EMC notified staff that many proposed projects have been eliminated or scaled back. They do not have any major projects scheduled for the immediate future.</p>	Subject to the Brown Act as a standing committee.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS			
GROUP	MEMBERS INCLUDE	STATUS	SUBJECT TO THE BROWN ACT
<p>Golf Club Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 9-19-02 Council meeting Per an email of 9/8/08 from then Mayor Meepos.</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Hines Councilmember Kite</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Contract Specialist Griego</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Golf Club for residents implemented January 1, 2003. Reconvene periodically to consider program modifications, terms and conditions of contract with provider, fees charged, etc.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) Effective December 1, 2013, the Westin began administering the golf club program.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>McCallum Theatre Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 11-21-02 Council meeting</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Kite Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Mgt Analyst Wilson</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Provide direction in implementation of a funding agreement with McCallum Theater.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) The Subcommittee met with McCallum CEO Mitch Gershenfeld and selected 3 programs for FY14-15 sponsorship: <i>It's Magic</i>, <i>The Peking Acrobats</i>, and <i>Night Fever</i>. The Subcommittee affirmed their interest in funding the McCallum Theatre in FY14-15 at the \$40,000 level. There was also a brief discussion about doing a joint project between the City and the McCallum at the new amphitheater at Whitewater Park.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Mobilehome Liaison Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 03-17-05 Council meeting. At 04-21-05 Council meeting it was noted that Ron Meepos had replaced Harvey Gerber.</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hobart Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Community Member:</u> Mobilehome Park representative(s) to be invited as necessary.</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Attorney Quintanilla Econ. Dev. and Housing Mgr. Smith</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Promote communication and develop a productive working relationship between mobilehome park HOAs, mobilehome park owners and residents of mobilehome parks. Also develop an enforcement system to carry out the Mobilehome Fair Practices Commission decisions and findings.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) No activity to report.</p>	Subject to the Brown Act as a standing committee.
<p>Public Safety Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed on 6/16/13 Council Meeting</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Pro Tem Smotrich Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Svcs. Dir. Malcolm-Valente</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To meet, discuss and advise on public safety issues, programs, matters and fiscal matters.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) No meetings have been held.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Section 19 Specific Plan Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 12-15-05</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hines Councilmember Hobart</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Planning Mgr. Kopp Dir. of Public Works Harry Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To meet with staff, consultant and invited property owners for the development of a Specific Plan in Section 19, which has now been drafted.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) The Subcommittee has been meeting with City staff and representatives from CVWD and Quorum Realty Funds to discuss the status of infrastructure development in Section 19.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Section 30 Planning Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 5-20-10 Council Meeting</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hines Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Planning Mgr. Kopp Dir. of Public Works Harry Econ. Dev. and Housing Mgr. Smith</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To review future development alternatives in Section 30, including property owned by the City of Rancho Mirage.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) The Subcommittee to discuss various applications for development. Also discussed was the status of water availability and imminent improvements required in the Mission Hills Pressure Zone.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS			
GROUP	MEMBERS INCLUDE	STATUS	SUBJECT TO THE BROWN ACT
<p>Section 31 Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 9-14-04 by memo from Ron Meepos</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hobart Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder City Attorney Quintanilla Planning Mgr. Kopp City Engineer Enos Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To discuss terms and conditions of a settlement agreement and development agreement between the City and property owners to allow a Partition Agreement to proceed.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) No recent meetings have been held.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Senior Citizen Advisory Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 9-20-07 by memo from Mayor Hobart</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hines Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Community Member:</u> Resident(s) of Housing Authority projects</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> Econ. Dev. and Housing Mgr. Smith</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> To continue the Council's liaison with the senior community.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) No activity to report.</p>	Subject to the Brown Act as a standing committee.
<p>Special Assistance Funds (SAF) Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 7-18-02 Council Meeting 10-26-04 Ron Meepos appointed Harvey Gerber to serve in his place. 10-20-05 Council appointed Richard Kite to fill vacancy created by the resignation of Gerber.</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Pro Tem Smotrich Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> Contract Specialist Griego</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Review and recommend changes in policies and evaluation criteria. Review submitted applications for funds and report back to Council with funding allocation recommendations.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) The FY 2014/15 applications will be mailed after July 1, 2014.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Sphere of Influence (SOI) Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 06-07-06 Special Council Meeting</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Pro Tem Smotrich Councilmember Hobart</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Planning Mgr. Kopp Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Review and analyze information and data related to City's Sphere-of-Influence (SOI).</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) Staff met with the subcommittee in January to provide an update on the proposed Section 24 projects being let by the Tribe (ACBCI) including the 340 acre Pulte homes project.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Sustainability Subcommittee</p> <p>Name changed from Solid Waste/ Recycling Subcommittee to Sustainability Subcommittee at 6-25-09 Council Meeting. Formed 6-17-04 Council Meeting</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Councilmember Hines Councilmember Weill</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Manager Bynder Project Mgr. Viegas</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Meet on an as-needed basis to discuss issues related to sustainability.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) No activity this quarter.</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee.
<p>Tourism, Marketing and Special Events Subcommittee</p> <p>Formed 1-2005 by Ron Meepos; modified in conjunction with Marketing Plan approved by City Council in 12-2007.</p>	<p><u>Council:</u> Mayor Pro Tem Smotrich Councilmember Hobart</p> <p><u>Staff Assistance:</u> City Mgr. Bynder Dev. Svcs. Dir. Watts Marketing Mgr. Barrett</p>	<p><u>Assignment:</u> Develop a theme for Rancho Mirage tourism; create an effective and user-friendly format to market Rancho Mirage tourism opportunities via the Internet; pursue group marketing of Rancho Mirage tourism; and promote Rancho Mirage hotels as a place to hold conferences, business meetings, and other special events.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> (4-14-14) The subcommittee met on</p>	Exempt from Brown Act as an advisory committee; related Tourism Advisory Committee subject to the

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES WITH WORK IN PROGRESS			
GROUP	MEMBERS INCLUDE	STATUS	SUBJECT TO THE BROWN ACT
		February 10, 2014 to discuss the Kraft Nabisco sponsorship for 2014.	Brown Act as a standing committee.
Zoning Ordinance Update Subcommittee Formed 11/08/10 by then Mayor Kite	<u>Council:</u> Mayor Kite Councilmember Hobart <u>Staff Assistance:</u> Planning Mgr. Kopp	<u>Assignment:</u> To meet with staff pursuant to Municipal Code Section 17.02.030 to discuss a list of potential corrections, clarifications, interpretations and recommended updates to the Zoning Ordinance (Municipal Code Title 17) <u>Status: (4-14-14)</u> Staff met with the Zoning subcommittee on January 14, 2014 and March 6, 2014 to discuss several potential zoning recommendations for future possible development project.	