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Conservation As A Way of Life

Staying water wise is one of the best ways to preserve one of our most precious resources, water. Conservation, through low-water use landscape, drought tolerant plantings and more, we can all help save our water. By action of the Visalia City Council on 8/7/17, watering is now allowed in the City of Visalia, three days a week, through November.

All outdoor landscape irrigation is limited to the following days, times, and durations:

- Odd addresses can water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
- Even addresses can water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Visalians can water before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on their designated watering day. Two or more short cycles are recommended, but runoff is prohibited. Washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is prohibited except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards, and then only by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose fitted with a positive shut-off nozzle or device, or a lowflow high-pressure washer.

Non-compliance of the City of Visalia Water Conservation Ordinance will result in one written warning from the City of Visalia before the issuance of a citation. A second violation within a 12 month period will result in the issuance of a citation with a fine of \$125.00; a second citation will result in a fine of \$250.00 and a third or more citations fines of \$625.00.

Willful and egregious violations such as draining a pool without a permit will result in the issuance of a citation without a warning. Each day that a violation continues, shall be regarded as a new and separate offense.

For more information about the City of Visalia Water Conservation Ordinance please call 713-4531 or visit www.gogreenvisalia.com.

Thanks To Visalians, Measure N Is Working

Measure N is working for Visalia, as evident from the new police officers, streets maintenance and much more.

At the 8/7/17 Visalia City Council meeting, Police Chief Jason Salazar introduced the first five Measure N hires for the Police Department. VPD has welcomed Community Service Officer Jose Chavez and Police Officers Russel Ortiz, Thomas Murrell, Nathan Berry and Octavio Hernandez.

On the streets now, these officers will soon be driving down roads that have received Measure N maintenance. Street maintenance involving reclamite began on Monday, August 7th and continues through Friday, August 18th in the northeast quadrant of the Visalia. This is the first phase of reclamite street work made possible by Measure N dollars.

"Work will begin in the downtown core and radiate out," says Adam Ennis, City of Visalia Public Works Director. "Thanks to the voters, Measure N has allowed us to perform this necessary and cost effective street maintenance which will improve the durability of the asphalt and delay the aging process, ultimately getting more life out of our roads."

A second phase of reclamite will be coming soon, with additional work being done at Ben Maddox north of Houston in September.

To minimize any inconvenience from the reclamite projects, residents in impacted areas are advised to:

- Keep pets and children off the street during application to prevent oil being tracked into the home. Check pets feet and shoes for residue after application to protect floors.
- If you track residue into your driveway or garage, it can be washed off or it will wear off in two to six weeks.
- Drive slow to prevent pick up. Residue on vehicles can be removed by immediately washing with dish soap and water.

City Manager Announces Retirement

Visalia City Manager Mike Olmos has announced his retirement, marking 16 total years with the city. Olmos became the city's top administrator on September 13, 2013, and has been with the City of Visalia since 2001.

"Mike Olmos has been a wonderful city manager for Visalia. While the entire city council will miss working with Mike on a daily basis, we wish him and his wife Gail the best in a well-deserved retirement, and look forward to continuing to associate with them in our community," shared Mayor Warren Gubler. "Meanwhile, the council will proceed expeditiously with the process of selecting a new city manager, who will have some big shoes to fill."

Hired as the City Planner, Olmos served until his promotion to Development Services Director, later renamed Community Development Director, in December 2002 and oversaw the Planning, Transit, and Engineering Divisions. After a reorganization in 2004, he assumed additional responsibility and began overseeing the Public Works Department and was appointed Community Development and Public Works Director. In 2005, Olmos was appointed Assistant City Manager, then appointed City Manager in 2013.

During his tenure, Olmos led the charge on the city's General Plan update, which provides guidance for the city's growth through 2030, and Measure N, ensuring funding for road maintenance, police, and fire. He oversaw the development and construction of the Animal Care Center, Fire Station 53, the soon to be completed Visalia Emergency Communications Center (VECC) and the major upgrade to the Wastewater Treatment Plan, the largest project in the city's history, that will allow recycling of the city's wastewater. Additionally, Olmos oversaw the transition of Visalia's City Council from at-large to district elections.

Active in the community, Olmos is a member of the Downtown Rotary Club. He and his wife, Gail call Visalia home and will continue to live here after retirement.

The Visalia City Council has chosen to hold an open recruitment for the position utilizing the services of an executive recruiting firm who will conduct a comprehensive search for a new City Manager. The process will take approximately six months and is expected to be completed in spring 2018. Olmos will stay on during the recruitment and hiring process to ensure continued leadership and stability in the organization.

Grants Available for Youth Programs

The City of Visalia recognizes the important roles that Non-Profit agencies play in the ongoing effort to improve the quality of life in our city. To support these efforts, the City has established the Non-Profit Program Fund, administered by the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

This program creates a funding mechanism to assist non-profit and local government agencies in providing programs and services aimed at improving the quality of life for youth, including at risk youth, in the City and gang intervention programs.

The funding of the non-profits is based on a competitive process and applicants must be a non-profit or local government agency operating in the City of Visalia and benefit youth. A minimum of 50% of the approved annual funding amount will be awarded to nonprofits or local government agencies for gang prevention/intervention programs or projects, provided qualified applications are received. If not enough qualified applications are received, funding will be dispersed to other qualified applicants at the discretion of the CAC.

Grants will be awarded at a minimum amount of \$1,000 and are limited to a maximum of \$6,500 for the 2017 -18 fiscal year. Grants will be funded for continuing programs, new programs, or scholarship programs.

Non-profit agencies are required to attend one of the three Grant Application Workshops, unless they were a recipient in the 2016-2017 program. Three grant application workshops will be held in the City Council Chambers, 707 W. Acequia Ave. in Visalia.

No reservation necessary, these will be held on:

- August 24, 2017 (Thursday) 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- August 26, 2017 (Saturday) 10 to 11 a.m.
- August 29, 2017 (Tuesday) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

An application for funding can be obtained at City Hall West, 707 West Acequia, from www.visalia.city or requested by email to ruth.pena@visalia.city.

For questions, contact Ruth Peña City of Visalia Financial Analyst at (559) 713-4327.

Tuesday, 8/8/17 6 p.m.