

Our Town

August 2014



Newsletter of the City of Watsonville, California

Measure G

On June 3rd, Measure G was approved by two-thirds of Watsonville voters. Measure G is a restricted Public Safety tax that by law can only be spent for Police, Fire and Youth Violence Prevention Programs.



Measure G will provide secure funding for our Police and Fire Departments and will help make Watsonville a safer community.

Police Services and Violence Prevention Programs Will Be Improved. In the past Watsonville has had one of the lowest numbers of per capita police officers in the region. Measure G will improve police emergency response times, add neighborhood patrols and help prevent kids from getting involved in gangs and crime. Ultimately, seven new police officers will be added to the force with three officers hired in the first year. Police vehicles, radio infrastructure and other safety equipment

will be purchased. The Police Activities League and Caminos Program will be funded. These are successful evidence-based violence prevention and intervention programs.

Fire Services Will Be Improved. In the last thirty years, the number of emergency calls has increased by 700%, but the number of firefighters has remained about the same. Measure G will allow for the hiring of six new firefighters to ensure rapid emergency response for fire and medical emergencies. Life-saving equipment such as emergency vehicles, defibrillators and the Jaws of Life will be updated and replaced.

Measure G includes a requirement for an Independent Citizen Oversight Committee, annual financial audits and regular reports to the community to ensure that all funds are spent in the manner promised. **For more information call 768-3010.**



We Want To Hear From You

Please take our survey and help us better understand how we can promote the type of Community-City dialogue we all want. The survey is available in English and Spanish, and can be accessed on the City of Watsonville website at <http://cityofwatsonville.org/homepage-news/community-engagement-survey>

Your City Directory

Police/Fire (Non-Emergency)	471-1151
Police (Records)	768-3370
City Manager	768-3010
Library (Main Branch)	768-3400
Parks & Community Services	768-3240
Permits	768-3050
Water/Garbage	768-3133

NEXT ZONE 7 MEETING

Come learn about what is happening with the river and creek levees. Let's not only voice our concerns but give our ideas about the flood issues in our community.

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014, 7-8 pm
Council Chambers, Civic Center Plaza
275 Main Street, 4th floor

10th Annual Monterey Bay Birding Festival

The tenth annual Monterey Bay Birding Festival, headquartered in Watsonville, takes place September 25-28, 2014. September marks the peak of fall migration. There's no better time to visit the Monterey Bay area, home to one of the premier birding destinations in North America.

Designed for both beginning and seasoned birders, the festival offers half-day and full-day field trips to a range of world-

class habitats that are home to a diversity of species. Afternoon workshops improve your birding skills in the field. Saturday's keynote speaker is Kenn Kaufman, author, artist, naturalist, conservationist, and renowned bird expert. **More Details at www.montereybaybirding.org**



Family Days

Join our FREE bilingual Family Days Celebration on September 27 and 28 at the Nature Center. The entire family is welcome; no registration needed. Snacks and drinks provided.

Outdoor activities (Sat 1:30 pm, Sunday: 10:00 am & 1:30 pm) family bird watching and exploration walks; nature activities. Binoculars and instruction provided. No birdwatching experience needed.

Indoor activities (Sat & Sun, 11 am - 5 pm) Arts and Crafts; Nature Activities.

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Call 768-3114 with questions or comments.

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For more information call the Nature
Center at 768-1622