



Monthly E-Newsletter February 16, 2024

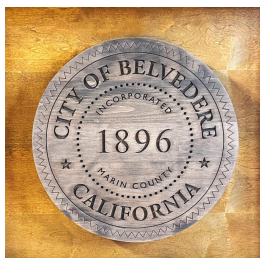
Learn about lane safety and coyote behavior. Vote on Measure C!

Annual Town Meeting



Clockwise from top left: Citizen Emeritus Steve Block and Citizen of the Year James Campbell; Steve receiving his award from Ken Johnson; James receiving his award from Bob McCaskill; Joan Bekins, Maureen Johnson and Nena Hart; James with Belvedere city staff: Rebecca Markwick, Robert Zadnik, Helga Cotter, Beth Haener and Tony Boyd.

City Council Report



At its February 12th meeting, the City Council agreed not to pursue further discussions with the Christian Science Church at 501 San Rafael Ave. After considering several economic factors, it was concluded that acquiring this property is not a priority for the city, nor does the city have the available financial resources.

Over the past three years, a key priority for the city has been to better align the

fees we charge our residents with the actual cost of providing those services. To that end, the Council adopted the [Building Department's recommendation](#) to amend our Administrative Policy to more accurately track and document the total value of construction projects and to more effectively recover the costs associated with these projects.

The Council also briefly discussed the adopted resolution to uphold the appeal by Mallard Pointe 1951, LLC, of the Planning Commission's decision to deny a California Environmental Quality Act exemption. Resolutions document the basis for City Council decisions. Typically, the Mayor signs a resolution after a decision, often with modest changes to reflect and clarify the Council's discussion. Because this decision is of interest to many in the community, the draft resolution for this particular decision is posted on our [city website](#). This draft resolution will remain posted online until Friday, February 23rd.

Be Sure to Vote on Belvedere's Fire Measure



By now, all Belvedere residents should have received their mail-in ballots for the Presidential Primary Election on March 5, 2024. There are several items to vote on, but please remember to cast your vote on Belvedere's Fire Measure – Measure C. Measure C does not increase taxes; it simply allows the city to continue spending the Fire Tax revenues it already collects. These revenues are used exclusively to fund fire protection and emergency medical services through the city's contract with Tiburon Fire Protection District. This is the 11th four-yearly renewal of the Fire Measure since 1984. It consistently receives 76-96% support, but only requires a simple majority to pass. Visit the [city website](#) to learn more about the Belvedere Fire Measure.

If you wish to register to vote or have not received your ballot, please get in touch with the [Marin Elections Department](#).

Keeping Belvedere's Lanes Safe & Beautiful



At the City Council's February 12th meeting, Jena Watson, chair of the Belvedere Parks, Open Spaces & Lanes Committee (POSLC) reported on that committee's 2024 priorities.

Top of POSLC's list is the repair and maintenance of Belvedere's lanes. In 2023, a number of lanes were repaired using State funds, Belvedere's General Fund, and generous grants from the Belvedere Community Foundation. Improvements to Park Lane and Centennial Park/Lower Hawthorne Lane stairs are planned for 2024.

In addition to lane repairs, the maintenance of plantings and removal and replacement of dead and dying trees remain a high priority. The city's Public Works Department works diligently to remove invasive species, maintain vegetation, and restore views on lanes. Dead and dying trees are more than an eyesore - they can be a danger to the community. Reopening and maintaining views, including taking action to prune overly high hedges, are also POSLC

priorities.

The committee meets four times each year. Please join them at a meeting or consider joining the committee!

Seasonal Coyote Behavior



Belvedere has one to two coyotes that frequent the city regularly. Because, as an entire community, we continue to keep our yards cleaner, remove debris piles and thick underbrush, and keep careful watch over our smaller pets, we are documenting many fewer sightings and encounters with coyotes than last year.

But don't let your guard down. As we move toward the Spring, there is the possibility of coyotes looking for a natal den to bear their pups. These dens are temporary for that purpose alone. Know that coyotes, like all animals, will try to protect their young from perceived predators. As you walk your dog(s) keep them on the recommended 6 ft leash and be aware of your surroundings at all times. Please review our recommendations on what to do if you encounter a coyote, and please report all coyote sightings on the [non-emergency form](#).

City Hall Closed February 19th: Presidents' Day



In observance of Presidents' Day, City Hall will be closed Monday, February 19th.

No construction work is allowed and there will be no building inspections.

Upcoming Meeting & Events

Planning Commission Meeting

February 20, 6:30 PM
Belvedere City Hall

City Council Meeting

March 11, 6:30 PM
Belvedere City Hall

Presidential Primary Election

March 5, 2024
By mail or find a [voting center](#)

City Council Annual Retreat

March 27, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Bel -Tib Library Founders Room

View full meetings & events calendar [here](#)

Belvedere Breeze Feedback

CITY OF BELVEDERE

450 San Rafael Avenue, Belvedere, CA 94920-2336 | 415-435-3838 | cityofbelvedere.org

