

# Newsletter

Summer 2016



Palos Verdes Estates  
City Council

Mayor  
Jennifer L. King

Mayor Pro Tem  
James D. Vandever

Councilmember  
Betty Lin Peterson

Councilmember  
John Rea

Councilmember  
James F. Goodhart

Website:  
[www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org)

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[cityclerk@pvestates.org](mailto:cityclerk@pvestates.org)

## Wireless Telecommunications Facilities: Questions and Answers



Mock-up at the intersection of Palos Verdes Drive West & Via Boronada (approved)

Palos Verdes Estates Municipal Code (PVEMC) Chapter 18.55 regulates Personal Wireless Service Facilities and Commercial Antennas. General design guidelines are provided regulating the location, design, and aesthetics of wireless facilities or commercial antennas.

The location of wireless facilities may be located on private property (e.g.,

commercial and residential properties), publically-owned property (Parklands, City Hall), or within the public rights-of-way (parkways or medians).

There are currently numerous existing sites throughout the City in Parklands, on commercial property, within the City right-of-way, and on residential property. When feasible, wireless facilities should be located at the same site as existing similar facilities (known as "collocation"), or on City-owned poles (e.g., stop signs) or utility poles. The landmark decision of *Sprint v. PVE* allows city governments to include aesthetic considerations in deciding whether to permit facilities. The City's design guidelines require that facilities be designed to be as visually unobtrusive as possible, and the approval process strives to minimize the number of installations.

The Public Works Director may approve an application for a wireless facility, or may refer the application to the Planning Commission for a decision on the permit pursuant to PVEMC Section 18.55.030(B). The decision of the Director may be appealed to the Planning Commission, and the decision

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Regular City Council meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Regular Planning Commission meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The Parklands Committee meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m., and the Traffic Safety Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are held in Council Chambers - 340 Palos Verdes Drive West. All agendas for City Council, Commission and Committee meetings are posted on the City Hall bulletin boards and the City Website at least 72 hours before the meeting. For more information call City Hall at (310) 378-0383, fax to (310) 378-7820, or email to [cityclerk@pvestates.org](mailto:cityclerk@pvestates.org).

## Wireless Telecommunications Q&A continued

*Continued from front page*

of the Planning Commission may be appealed to the City Council within 15 days after the determination.

Q1. Can the City regulate radio-frequency emissions levels from wireless antennas?

No. Congress gave the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") sole authority to set a national standard for human exposure to RF (radio frequency) emissions. The FCC allows local governments to require applicants to demonstrate compliance with the national standard, but preempts all local standards. The City can—and does—require all applicants to show that their sites are compliant with the FCC's standard. You can learn more about these issues at the FCC's website (<https://www.fcc.gov/general/radio-frequency-safety-0>).

Q2. Can the City prohibit wireless facilities in the Right-of-Way?

No. State law grants wireless carriers certain rights to use the rights-of-way, and federal law prohibits any flat or effective bans on wireless facilities.

Q3. Can the City require a wireless facility proposed in the public rights-of-way be moved to other publically-owned or private property?

No. A local government cannot force a telephone corporation (also known as a "wireless carrier") proposing a wireless site in the public rights-of-way to move the site out of the public rights-of-way. Cities are pre-empted by State and Federal laws in regard to licensing wireless carriers. Wireless carriers are franchised by, and have authorities

under, the State of California, Public Utilities Commission and the FCC. Cities may consider reasonable alternative locations in the public rights-of-way if appropriate to lessen visual impacts.

Q4. Can the City require wireless carriers to use specific equipment?

No. Cities have no control over the type of equipment or technologies used. Thus, the City cannot control the transmission methods of the wireless carrier's service and deployment nor require multiple wireless carriers to be on the same pole if collocation would be technically impossible. However, the City can regulate how the equipment looks (i.e., its aesthetic appearance) but not what it is, or what frequencies the equipment operates on. Federal law grants the FCC sole authority over all technological and engineering issues.

Q5. Does the City retain any real authority over cell sites?

Yes. As noted above, the City does have reasonable time, place, and manner controls about how cell sites are installed in the public rights-of-way. Moreover, the City has even more authority and control over cell sites to be installed on publically-owned property (outside of the public right-of-way, such as City Hall and other government locations), as well as for cell sites proposed to be located on private property.

Q6. Are public notices required for new wireless sites in the City?

Yes. Prior to any City decision on a proposed new project, a mock-up and a notice board advising that the



Mock-up across from 2325 Via Olivera

site is under consideration are first required to be installed. The mock-up allows the community, staff, and the Planning Commission to assess the aesthetic impacts to the surrounding land uses and rights-of-ways. The mock-up and notice board are generally the first public form of notification provided. The applicant is also required to make contact with immediately surrounding neighbors when the mock-up is being installed.

City regulations also require that public notice be given by First Class U.S. Mail to all property owners within 300 feet of the proposed wireless site when the City is ready to make a decision.

Additionally, the City provides public notice of all hearings regarding cell sites by posting at City Hall, the Malaga Cove Library, and PV Golf Club and by posting a public hearing notice board at the proposed location.

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## Keeping a Tradition Alive – PVE Independence Day Celebration

The Old-Fashioned 4th of July Celebration marks its 55th anniversary this year. Please keep this tradition alive and join us on the Malaga Cove School grounds, 300 Paseo Del Mar, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, July 4th.

Listen to the heartwarming story of the Kenneth T. Norris, Jr. Heritage of Freedom Award recipient, Nicola Bridges, who founded Capability Ranch in Ramona, Calif., a place with activities for special needs children.

This year's Van Dine American-

ism Award honoree is local resident, Mary Curtin, who has been active in many community charities, including Special Children's League and PVE-CARES.

Join generations of PVE families for the many fun-filled festivities of the day. From the apple pie contest, live music, school children's essay contest, and patriotic bicycle parade (protective headgear required), to the family games, face painting and magic show, the event is family-oriented, free and open to all.



**Mary Curtin**



**Nicola Bridges**

## PVE-CARES Updates...And More

The 65 and older population on the Palos Verdes Peninsula is approximately 25% and growing. Those of us in this demographic cannot prevent the years from rolling by, but we can do a great deal to make sure we age well.

To assist in this process, the City of Palos Verdes Estates instituted PVE-CARES more than 10 years ago. PVE-CARES provides services to our senior residents (65 and older) and dependent adults (18-64) in an effort to support independent living.

The program, created by our PVE Police Department, offers resources to help senior residents stay safe and independent in their homes. Be sure you are registered as a valued senior of Palos Verdes Estates by contacting the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department at (310) 378-4211.

For information about the PVE-CARES free program, contact Marcelle McCullough at (310) 378-4211 ext. 2121.

While PVE-CARES is a free program to Palos Verdes Estates' residents and staffed by a full-time coordinator and community volunteers, there are several other organizations that pursue a similar mission.

Peninsula Seniors provides a number of opportunities to keep your mind active, your body moving and to participate in activities you like or just to have fun. A few of their popular activities are classes in yoga, balance and muscle strengthening, and their enthusiastic ping-pong group. Peninsula Senior members enjoy Mahjong and bridge, and they have an active writers group. They also get together for Meet & Greet every Monday morning, a lunch group and dinner outings. Travel opportunities are available both locally and internationally through Peninsula Seniors membership. If you need professional advice they have an attorney, financial planner and podiatrist with whom you may consult.

If interested in Peninsula Seniors program or for a complete listing of their activities please visit them at [www.pvseniors.org](http://www.pvseniors.org). They can also be reached at (310) 377-3003. Peninsula Seniors membership is a modest \$50/year and is tax-deductible. Peninsula Seniors is located at 30928 Hawthorne Boulevard on the Rancho Palos Verdes City Hall site.

Another program supporting seniors on the Peninsula is The Palos Verdes Peninsula Village. Noting that

it's not enough "to just add years to our lives but more importantly to add life to our years," the Village is dedicated to aging in place, independence, and creating a sense of community. Benefits include such services as door-to-door transportation; educational, cultural and social programs; member-recommended referrals; intergenerational connections; volunteer opportunities; and member-generated affinity activities.

The annual membership fee for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village is \$675 for individuals; \$975 for a household. Membership fees make up about 1/3rd of the annual budget. For more information or to join the Village, call (310) 991-3324 or email [peninsulavillagepvp@gmail.com](mailto:peninsulavillagepvp@gmail.com).



**PVE-CARES**  
*for our seniors*



## California Drought Continues, Some Water Restrictions Remain



California water officials have removed statewide mandated water reductions, but some restrictions remain in place.

The decision for imposing any mandatory water conservation targets will now rest with local water agencies, such as California Water Service (Cal Water), which serves Palos Verdes Estates. Under the new rules established by the state, Cal Water will be required to ensure a three-year supply assuming dry years like the ones the state experienced from 2012 to 2015. Water agencies that would face shortages under three additional dry years will be required to meet a conservation standard equal to the amount of shortage.

Cal Water has until June 22 to file any new water-restriction targets with the state. Cal Water has indicated it will likely ease restrictions for the communities it serves. Please keep checking the [www.calwater.com](http://www.calwater.com) website for updates.

In a separate action, Governor Brown did keep in place

certain restrictions against water-wasting practices. Still prohibited for the foreseeable future are:

- Hosing off sidewalks, driveways and other hardscapes;
- Washing cars with a hose not equipped with a shut-off nozzle;
- Using non-recirculating water in a fountain or other water feature;
- Watering lawns in a manner that causes runoff, or within 48 hours after measureable rainfall; and
- Irrigating ornamental turf on public street medians.

Cal Water and the City of Palos Verdes Estates sincerely appreciate all the water-saving activities by city residents and businesses during this historic drought. Although the water supply picture has improved slightly this year, state officials caution that California continues to experience drought conditions and that water-use restrictions could return if dry conditions persist into 2017.

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### Turf Rebates

Cal Water is still offering rebates to replace grass with water-efficient landscapes. For information, go to: <https://calwater-turf.droplet.us>

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## Promoting Public Safety Along Our Coastline



The City of Palos Verdes Estates is committed to protecting public safety in all areas of the City, especially our coastlines. Recent news media attention and a lawsuit regarding the alleged actions of some surfers at Lunada Bay have, unfortunately, raised questions about this commitment. Our police department has and will continue to investigate any and all complaints of criminal behavior anywhere in our jurisdiction, including the beaches and coastline.

Police officers have and will increase patrols and take other affirmative steps as conditions warrant. For instance, increased patrols were ordered when Palos Verdes Estates experienced

a rash of home burglaries last winter – and the result was many arrests and an end to these burglaries. Similar police responses have occurred when incidents of alleged “localism” or other possible criminal behavior have been reported. Localism, often reported as an act of intimidation by locals targeting out-of-town surfers to prevent them from surfing local waters, will not be tolerated.

The beaches, shorelines and surfing areas along the Palos Verdes Estates coastline are all open to the public. There are no private beaches. If you or anyone with you experiences any form of harassment, intimidation, assault, vandalism, etc., you are strongly urged to contact the PVE Police Department to immediately report the incident.

Our police officers are committed to assuring beach access and recreational tranquility to all people accessing the Palos Verdes Estates coastline.





# PALOS VERDES ESTATES RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

OPERATED BY CONCESSION AGREEMENTS

## Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club

### Information:

**Name:** Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club

**How to Join:** *Membership applications available from the Club.*

**Address:** 389 Paseo del Mar

**Member Cost:**  
Initiation fee:

**Phone:** (310) 375-8777

\$ 8,000 (Resident)  
\$16,000 Resalable  
\$ 9,000 (Non-resident)  
\$18,000 Resalable

**Club Director:** Chris Manos

**Hours of Operation:**  
6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. daily

**Member dues: (monthly)**  
\$170 (Resident)  
\$190 (Non-resident)

**Facilities Offered:**  
5-story clubhouse  
Competition 6-lane pool  
Children’s pool  
Fitness center  
Private party rentals (member sponsored)

Other fees: Fees for lessons, training, and social events.

Current Membership: 630  
Waiting list: 276 resident families  
34 non-resident

**Programs/Activities:**  
Social programs – adults, teens, and children  
Aerobics  
Deep-water conditioning  
Massage therapy  
Pilates  
Progressive swim workout  
Private and group swim lessons  
Yoga

**Resident/Non-member Use:**  
Availability: Day-use is pool-level only.  
Not available on Memorial Day,  
4th of July or Labor Day.  
Restrictions: Classes are members only.  
Fee: \$30 - City residents, non-  
member day-use

**Membership Requirements:** Palos Verdes Estates Residents/Property owners are given preference.



**PALOS VERDES ESTATES RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**  
 OPERATED BY CONCESSION AGREEMENTS  
**PALOS VERDES GOLF CLUB**

**Information:**

**Name:** Palos Verdes Golf Club

**Address:** 3301 Via Campesina

**Phone:** Clubhouse (310) 375-2533  
 Pro-shop (310) 375-2759

**Website:** [www.pvgc.com](http://www.pvgc.com)

**General Manager:** Steven M. Hockett, CCM

**Director of Golf:** Jim Gormley

**Director of Grounds:** Pat Gradoville

**Hours of Operation:** Daylight to Sunset daily

**Facilities Offered:**

- Golf course
- Driving range (restricted availability)
- Restaurant & Bar **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**
- Banquet facilities (Donna Myers – 310-791-7942)
- Clubhouse & Golf memberships available

**Programs/Activities:**

- Golf lessons with PGA Professionals
- NCAA Northrop Grumman Regional Challenge
- Community Benefit Tournament
- Junior Golf Program

**Dining Hours:**

*Reservations call (310) 375-2533 ext. 200*

- Dinner Wed. – Fri. 5:30 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.
- Lunch Tues. – Sun. 11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.
- Breakfast Sat. and Sun. 7:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

**Membership Requirements:**

Individuals who own residential property in Palos Verdes Estates (PVE) have first priority for Golf Club membership. If you do not own residential property in the City of PVE, you must be sponsored for membership by a PVGC Regular Golf Member and/or be interviewed by the Membership Committee.

**How to Join:** *Membership applications available from the Club.* (Kelly Stortz 310-791-7941)

**Member Cost:**

Initiation fee: \$ 49,000 (PVE Resident Property Owners)  
 \$ 69,000 (Non-Resident Property Owners)  
 Refundable: Currently \$10,000 remitted to retiring member  
 Assessment: May apply

Member dues: (monthly)  
 Resident: \$632  
 Non-resident: \$760

Food & Beverage: \$300 quarterly

Current Membership: 600 Regular members  
 175 Other category members  
 Waiting list: 20 applicants

**Resident/Non-member Use:**

Availability: Mon after 1:00 p.m.  
 Tues. and Thur. after 1:00 p.m.  
 Wed. and Fri. after 2:00 p.m.  
 Sat. and Sun. after 2:00 p.m. residents only

Restrictions: No cell phones, denim, t-shirts, tank tops, or flip flops

**Green Fees:**

Resident: \$125 Mon. - Thur.  
 \$140 Fri. - Sun. and Holidays  
 Non-residents: \$275 Mon.-Thur. after 1:00 p.m.;  
 No Friday, weekend or holiday play





**PALOS VERDES ESTATES RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**  
 OPERATED BY CONCESSION AGREEMENTS  
**PALOS VERDES TENNIS CLUB**

**Information:**

**Name:** Palos Verdes Tennis Club  
**Address:** 3303 Via Campesina  
**Phone:** (310) 373-6326  
**Website:** www.pvtennisclub.com  
**Club Manager:** John Hall

**Hours of Operation:**

M-F 8:00 a.m.– 10:00 p.m.  
 Sat. 7:00 a.m.– 10:00 p.m.  
 Sun. 7:30 a.m.– 9:00 p.m.

**Facilities Offered:**

12 courts (10 lighted)  
 Clubhouse  
 Locker Rooms  
 Pro-Shop

**Programs/Activities**

USPTA Certified Teaching Pros  
 Family-oriented Activities  
 Group and Private Lessons  
 Marine League  
 Competitive Tournaments  
 Variety-Social Activities  
 Junior Program: all ages and  
 ability levels

**Membership Requirements:**

Palos Verdes Estates Residents/Property Owners are given preference.

**How to Join:**

Membership applications available from club.

**Member Cost:**

Initiation Fee: \$2,000  
 (payment plan available)

**Refundable:**

No

**Member Dues:**

(monthly) \$80 (Resident)  
 \$95 (Non-resident)

**Current Membership:**

400 Families

**Waiting List:**

None for Residents  
 (Non-resident memberships available if membership falls below 400).

**Limited Time Promotion:**

Initiation Fee payable \$200 down and \$75 per month for 24 months (no interest)

**Resident/Non-Member Usage:**

**Availability:**

Mid-day is best –  
 Call for information

**Restrictions:**

Members have priority  
 for court use

**Fees:**

Residents: ..... \$ 15  
 Non-residents: ..... \$ 20 (with member)  
 Juniors (under 18) ... \$ 4

Non-members play limited to twice a month.



**PALOS VERDES ESTATES RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**  
 OPERATED BY CONCESSION AGREEMENTS  
**PALOS VERDES STABLES**

**Information:**

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**Name:** Palos Verdes Stables  
**Address:** 4057 Via Opata  
**Phone:** (310) 378-3527  
**Website:** www.PalosVerdesStables.com  
**Site Manager:** Erin Isom  
**Site Foreman:** Alejandro Torres

**English Riding Instructors:**  
 Erin Isom (310) 634-8969  
 Alden Giacomuzzi (310) 766-0368

**Dressage:** Stacy Wakaki (310) 753- 8836

**Western:** Kim Aranaga (310) 541-5720

**Programs/Activities:**

Western and English Riding Lessons  
 Summer Camp from June 14th thru Aug 26th  
 Call for lesson schedule.  
 (Best time to view lessons is Saturday from 9:00 a.m – 12:00 p.m.)

**How to Join:** Mail a written request to 4057 Via Opata, PVE, CA 90274. If you are a Palos Verdes Estates resident, please include your home telephone number and a copy of a current utility bill.

**Member Cost:** \$ 40 (Resident)  
 Group Lessons \$ 45 (Non-resident)

**Boarding Fees\*:**

Box stall \$600/mo. (Resident)  
 \$660/mo. (Non-resident)  
 In and Out \$650/mo. (Resident)  
 \$700/mo. (Non-resident)  
 Pipe stall \$545/mo. (Resident)  
 \$580/mo. (Non-resident)

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday-Sat. 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Facilities Offered:**

- 3 Riding arenas (2 lighted)
- 1 Round pen
- 2 Day pens
- 3 Wash areas (1 warm water)
- Access to community horse riding trails
- 24-hour security

Semi-private and private lessons available by appointment.

**Waiting List:** Palos Verdes Estates residents have first priority for boarding horses. Waiting list is posted in stable office.

\*Stall Maintenance includes twice daily cleaning, feed and pine bedding, including all holidays, automatic bucket waterers.

## Palos Verdes Tennis Club Summer Junior Program



The Palos Verdes Tennis Club offers junior workouts from Quick Start to Advanced. Quick Start (ages 4 to 6) is offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.

The older juniors (ages 7 and up) are grouped by level from 1 to 4. Level 1 and 2 are beginners to intermediate, and level 3 and 4 are more experienced players. Level 1, 2, and 3 workouts are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., and level 4 workouts are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

In addition, they will offer five week-long sessions for beginner and intermediate levels June 13 through July 14. The sessions will be 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday, and will cost \$200 per session.

You do not have to be a member of Palos Verdes Tennis Club to participate in the junior workouts. For more information, and to sign up, please visit their website at [www.pvttennisclub.com](http://www.pvttennisclub.com), or call Head Pro, Pedro Alipio, at (310) 658-0307.



## Sign Up for Swim Lessons

Swim lessons at the Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club (PVBAC) pool begin in June. Sign-ups are under way. Club membership is not required.

Sessions are Tuesday through Friday, during daytime hours, beginning June 14, with the final, third session ending August 12. Lessons are provided for children of all skill levels beginning as early as age 6 months. This is a lesson program only – no recreational swimming is available unless a day pass is obtained.

PVE resident cost is \$180 per session. Spaces are filling up, so contact the PVBAC at (310) 375-8777 for more information or to enroll now.

## New City Website Coming

A new and improved City website will debut in June.

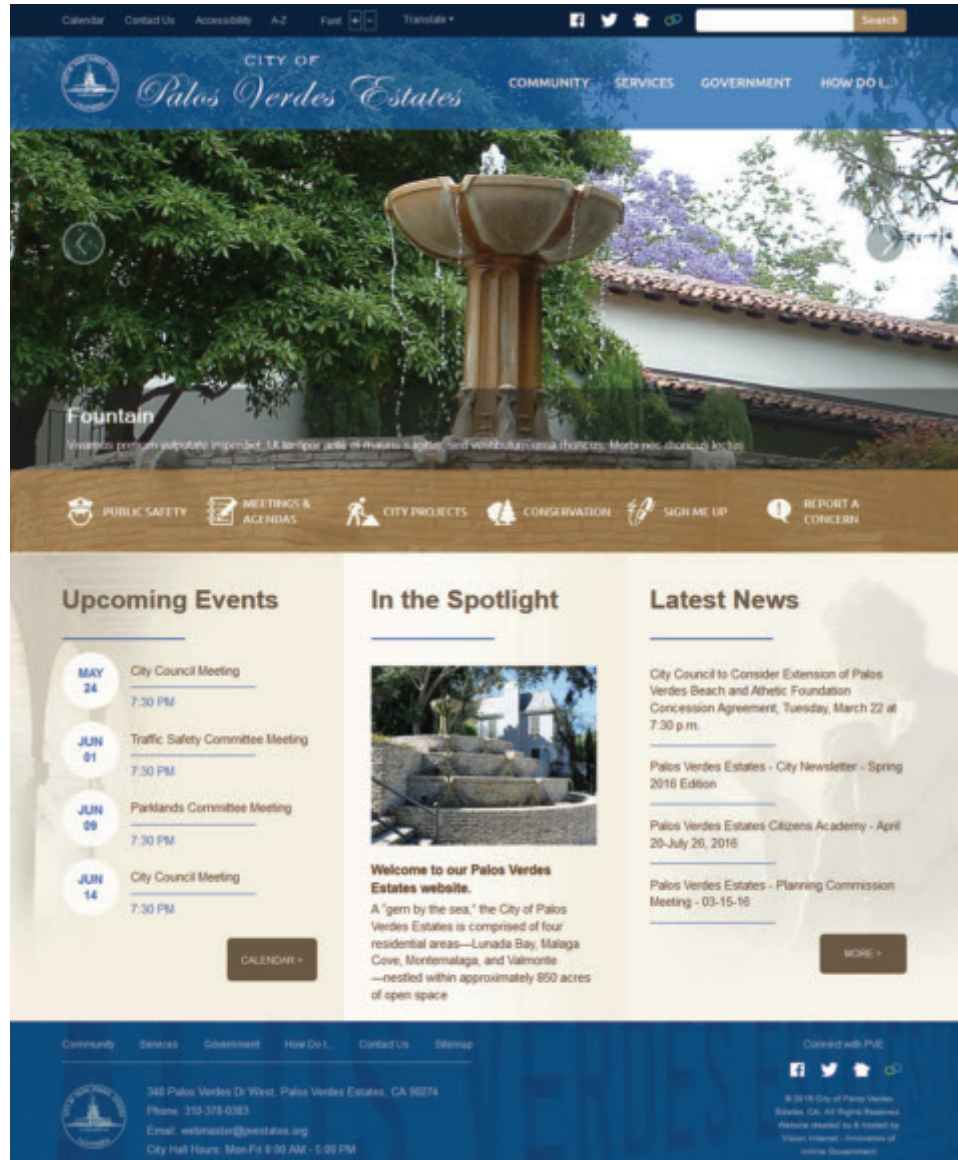
The new website will have an updated look, improved navigation to ensure users can easily find the information they seek, and other added features.

In upgrading the website, the City sought to utilize the latest technologies and design options, as well as ensure the site is responsive for viewing on mobile devices and tablets.

The new website will continue to feature a range of useful information, including a Calendar of Events; City Council, Commission and Committee agendas; news within the community; and information about your city departments, including our Police Department. The “search” function will allow website visitors to quickly find the document or city services they seek.

One of the best improvements is with our internal content management system, which will enable City staff to more easily and efficiently update and manage content on the website.

Along with a new website, the City will be embarking on other communications improvements, including adding an official “City of Palos Verdes Estates” government Facebook page and a Twitter account. These social media



tools will help ensure we are reaching residents and local businesses through the mediums and channels they prefer or frequent. The Twitter account will also enable the City or the Police Department to quickly update residents during any emergencies that may

occur in the City.

We look forward to your thoughts about the new website. The new platform will enable us to continue making improvements to ensure it is meeting your needs.

[www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org)

## City Engineer/Public Works Director Named



We are pleased to introduce and welcome the City's newly appointed Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Ken Rukavina.

Ken joins us from most recently serving as the consulting City Engineer for the City of Palos Verdes Estates and as an employee of HR Green. He was selected based on his exceptional skills, knowledge and background, as well as having been the top ranked candidate among several who were interviewed by two panels, including one of technical experts from other agencies.

Ken's experience also includes having worked as a manager and vice president with Huitt-Zollars,

with Willdan Engineering, and as a civil engineer with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.

As Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Ken will oversee all engineering, capital projects, permitting, staff and consultants associated with public works activities that include street maintenance, storm water, drainage, facility maintenance, refuse collection, fleet maintenance, traffic engineering, and capital improvement planning and management. The Public Works Department will be primary support to the Traffic Safety Committee.

Please join us in a warm welcome of Ken to our City team.

## Going on Vacation?

Did you know that the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department will check your home while you are away?

The Police Department's resident Volunteers in Police Services (VIPs), are a group of carefully selected, backgrounded and trained resident volunteers who routinely inspect the homes of our residents who request the service.

Vacation checks consist of a visual check and "walk around" of your home and grounds ensuring that vehicles, gates, doors, windows, lighting and the general security of the home is intact and in accordance with the request. If the volunteers detect anything suspicious, such as an open door or noise inside the house, the volunteers are trained to



step back and call the police officers to investigate further.

Vacation checks will be performed, as staffing permits, with the goal of checking the home at least one time each week that you are gone. As our program grows, we hope to achieve daily checks in the near future.

Our VIPs work in pairs, drive specially marked police vehicles and wear uniforms that clearly identify them as police volunteers. They

will park a discreet distance from your home whenever possible and will walk in to the property. Visit the [pvestates.org](http://pvestates.org) website to request this free service. Find the request form under the Police Department heading, or search for "vacation check."

If you are interested in joining the VIPs, contact Marcelle McCullough today at (310) 378-4211. We hope you have a great summer vacation!

# Keeping our Parklands Safe from Fire

For years, Solano Canyon and the easterly section of the Torrance Boundary Trail received only basic efforts to address overgrown conditions. The difficult terrain and lack of access made the area seem almost impossible to tackle. The trees slowly became surrounded by thick undergrowth making some areas inaccessible.

Concerns about fire safety became an increasing discussion within the community, especially since the City was designated within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. In 2015, with California's continuing drought, there was no time better to undertake one of the most significant brush clearance projects in the City's history. With a budget of \$322,000, the Solano Canyon and Easterly Torrance Boundary Trail Enhanced Fire Safety and Weed Abatement Project utilized a specialized contractor to bring equipment and trained workers to trim and remove tons of dead and overgrown vegetation.

Not only was the project completed within budget but mild weather and a good working relationship with the contractor allowed for early completion. Invasive and non-native plants were removed. Dead and hazardous trees were converted to mulch for the walking paths. Tree limbs were cleared from utility wires and the watershed was restored in the canyon. Defensible space created increased fire safety around the homes and neighborhoods. The results were amazing. With annual maintenance, the safety and beauty of the area will be preserved.



Before



After



Before



After

## Wireless Telecommunications Q&A continued

*Continued from page 2*

Q7. Why does the City's review process seem to move so quickly?

The City's process for reviewing cell sites involves the following:

- Wireless carrier submission of an application.
- Installation of an on-site mock-up of the pole, antennas, equipment and utility box.
- Placement of a "Public Notice" sign at the mock-up site.
- Mailed notice of the scheduled hearing before the Planning Commission to properties within 300-feet of the proposed site (mock-up).
- Planning Commission hearing.
- City Council hearing if there is an appeal of the Planning Commission decision.

With this process for receiving public input, the City is mindful of state and federal laws that establish procedural timelines for review, which may range from 60 to 150 days. If the City fails to make a decision within the applicable timeline, then the law may automatically deem the application approved. The City's failure to make a decision within the state or federal "shot-clock" deems the application "approved" for installation.

Q8. Are residents able to submit feedback on proposed cell sites?

Yes. The City encourages any interested person to submit feedback to the City on a proposed wireless site in writing and / or at the Planning Commission meeting when the application for a site is under consideration. Anyone may review the City's project file, submit a comment letter, testify at a public hearing, or communicate with the City by

email or telephone calls. The public may sign-up for notices of Planning Commission meetings at [www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org) and click on "Join" at the bottom of the page.

As noted in #5, above, federal and state rules limit the time the City may take when considering a proposed cell site, so the City encourages you to get involved earlier in the process rather than waiting until the final hearing on a project. The City also encourages discussions with the applicant.

Q9. Is there a Master Plan for all cell site locations established by the City or presented by the wireless carrier?

The City requests wireless carriers to submit all their proposed cell site locations to the City at one time in order that they can be calendared before the Planning Commission mindful that upon submission of each application, the "shot-clock" begins for consideration of each site. The City encourages the use of commercial or publically-owned property for installations to minimize their impact in residential areas. However, wireless carriers have automatic authority to locate in the rights-of-way subject to the City's time, place, and manner controls. Each individual cell site location is evaluated on a case-by-case basis for minimizing its visual impact on the neighborhood around it.

Q10. Is there an appeal process for decisions / approvals of the Planning Commission?

Any decision of the Planning Commission can be reconsidered by the City Council through an appeal of the case. An application must be submitted for the appeal within 15 days of the Planning Commission's

determination. For more information about appeals, please contact the Planning Department at (310) 378-0383.

Q11. What happens if the City denies a cell site location?

Wireless carriers have authority under federal and state laws to install cell sites in the public rights-of-way and cities are provided with time frames by which they must approve or deny applications. The City has authority to affect reasonable controls on the "time, place, and manner" related to each installation in the right-of-way. "Time" refers to when the cell site is installed, such as the times during the day the installation may occur, or the days of the week that work can take place. "Place" refers to the specific location in the right-of-way in which the wireless carrier intends to locate its site. "Manner" refers to the aesthetics of the installation and to the means of construction. The City evaluates applications on a case-by-case basis.



Mock-up at the intersection of Via Fernandez & Paseo La Cresta (approved)

For questions regarding wireless telecommunications facilities, please contact City Planner Elizabeth Corpuz at (310) 378-0383 or [ecorpuz@pvestates.org](mailto:ecorpuz@pvestates.org). The information presented on this page is believed to be accurate as of this publication, but does not constitute legal advice. Changes in the law, regulations, and City policies may have occurred since this article was posted on June 1, 2016.

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