



# Community News

2022 Quarter 1

## City Manager Message



Well 2021 is in the books and the city continues to thrive. We saw the return of Trunk or Treat and the Christmas parade as well as several street and utility improvements. The Hickman Road bridge was constructed and opened which brought much needed improvements for vehicle and pedestrian. Your staff continues to maintain your parks and streets as well as your water and sewer systems while planning for future improvements. We have some major improvements scheduled for 2022 but cannot start them until funding can be budgeted.

In 2021, staff collected information from business and our residents as to how you would like the American Rescue funds used. Based on the survey data received and given that the County continues to support residents with various rental and utility assistance programs, City Council has directed the funds to improve our existing Water and Sewer system enhancing pressure and extend service along Tim Bell to Vineyard Road. Staff will be working to design a project for construction sometime in 2022.

On the COVID-19 front, we seem to make progress of late with indoor mask mandates being lifted. We would like to encourage you to continue to be vigilant and do your part to lower the chances of contracting and spreading the virus.

City Council meetings are held in person at City Hall on the first and third Thursday of the month here at City Hall at 6:30 PM. We would love to see you here.

Vaccinations have slowed but you still have opportunities to get yours at many locations in the County. Visit county website at <http://schsa.org/coronavirus/vaccine/> for vaccination information and locations of vaccination clinics.

I know many of you have been hit hard through lost or reduced wages. We continue to work to find ways to provide assistance. Stanislaus County continues to allocated funding for those that meet certain income requirements by offering help for those behind on their rent and utility payments. Please see more information on our website at <https://www.cityofwaterford.org/2021/02/24/emergency-rental-assistance-program/> .

For your convenience, you can pay your utility bill through the USPS, use the drop box at the front entrance of City Hall, online at <https://waterford.merchanttransact.com> or pay by phone by calling (209) 874-2328 and pressing 1. Now the City Hall is open, you can also stop by City Hall and pay in person too.

The developer continues to build homes at Edgewood Estates at Pecan and Pasadena. Many homes have been completed and if you are in the market for a new home, you can find information online at <https://www.drhorton.com/california/central-valley/waterford#> . Homes are selling fast so inquire soon.



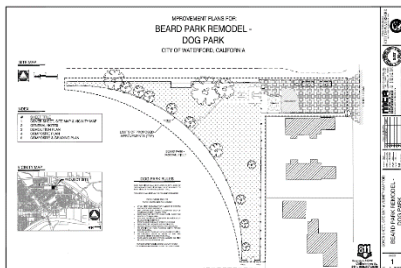
Michael Pitcock,  
City Manager

### Upcoming Meetings/Events

- City Council Regular Meetings – March 3rd, March 17th, April 7th and April 21st at 6:30 PM – In Person.
- Planning Commission Meeting – March 22 and April 26th at 6:30 – In Person.

### Public Works

- **2022 Slurry and Cape Seal -** Over the last three years, the city has made a concerted effort to improve our street network. The 2022 project will include slurry and cape seals in the northwest quadrant of the city. We continue to use your tax dollars through revenue provided by SB1 and Measure L to make these improvements. We also are using Community Block Grant funding when available and our next use of those funds will be the reconstruction of H and I Street. Stay tuned for a construction date.



- **Dog Park –** The project design is complete and the city will be bidding the project in March and April. We hope to start construction in May. This project will have separate areas for small and large dogs and will be located behind the ball fields at Beard Park with access off of Tim Bell.

- **Citywide Watering Schedule -**

- Outdoor watering is prohibited daily from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm.
- Odd-numbered addresses watering days are Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.
- Even-numbered addresses watering days are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
- No outdoor water use on Monday.



**Fall and Winter are a great time turn your sprinkler clocks off and let nature water your landscape and save you money by lowering your water consumption.**

## [Administrative](#)

**Facebook** – Follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/cityofwaterford>, and for law enforcement at <https://www.facebook.com/StanSheriffWPS>.

**Accepting Applications for Boards/Commissions:** Waterford City Council is accepting applications from interested residents on a continuous basis to fill upcoming vacancies on the City's Boards and Commissions. If you are at least 18 years of age and live in Waterford and have an interest in serving on any of the City's Boards or Commissions please contact City Hall for an application. Or, applications are also available on our website: [www.cityofwaterford.org](http://www.cityofwaterford.org).

### **Pay your City of Waterford Utility Bill Online**

- Sign up for E-Bills, where you can perform a variety of self-services including: check your current balance, pay with Debit/Credit Cards, see usage and payment history. To sign up go to: <https://waterford.merchantransact.com>

**Community Calendar:** <http://cityofwaterford.org/events>, let us know if we're missing something, and check it out to ensure you're not missing out on anything.

## [Police Chief Message](#)



I want to start off by wishing everyone a Happy New Year, let's work together to make 2022 one of the best years ever.

As we move into the new year, I have noticed a recent increase in traffic collisions. Many of these have been low speed distracted driving incidents. Below are some simple things that can help you get from point A to point B safely.

### **Head speed limit signs**

Driving at an unsafe speed is the cause of a large number of accidents. Speed limits are set for the safety of all drivers on the road, adherence to these limits can reduce the risk of traffic collisions and eliminate your risk of receiving a traffic citation for driving at an unsafe speed.

### **Reserve your phone for emergency use**

Keep your phone easily accessible — but do your best to limit its use. If something comes up, pull off the road when it's safe to do so, and use the phone only when absolutely necessary. Even hands-free use can limit your reaction time.

### **Limit the number of passengers in your car**

Many states have laws on the books that only allow a few passengers in the car when new drivers are behind the wheel. Driving with friends can create distractions which can lead to accidents.

### **Practice defensive driving**

One great way to take on new and smarter driving habits is to review defensive driving techniques to focus on the road. Leave enough space between you and the car in front of you to give yourself enough time to react if something unexpected occurs in front of you, in simple terms, don't tail gate!

### **Avoid eating when driving**

Grabbing lunch on the go might seem efficient, but it's not smart to eat meals when driving. Unexpected spills can upset your driving rhythm and pull attention away from driving.

### **Don't text or use the phone when driving**

If you're behind the wheel, just put the phone away. Social media can wait. It's not going anywhere — that we can promise. Are the notifications too tempting? Turn them off! No comment or new tweet is worth the risk.

### **Limit the level of activity in the cab**

Although it can be fun to goof with your friends while you're out having fun, new drivers may find themselves deeply engaged in conversation — and a little too checked out behind the wheel. And be sure to store loose gear out of the way where it's easily accessible.

Reviewing safe driving techniques on a regular basis can help you keep those techniques on your mind while driving.