



*Announcing our 2022 Second Quarter Meeting*

## ***Seacliff Ice Cream Social***

**Saturday, June 18, 2022 - 2 pm**

**Seacliff Village Neighborhood Park**

**At the corner of Sea Ridge, Canterbury, and McGregor Drives**

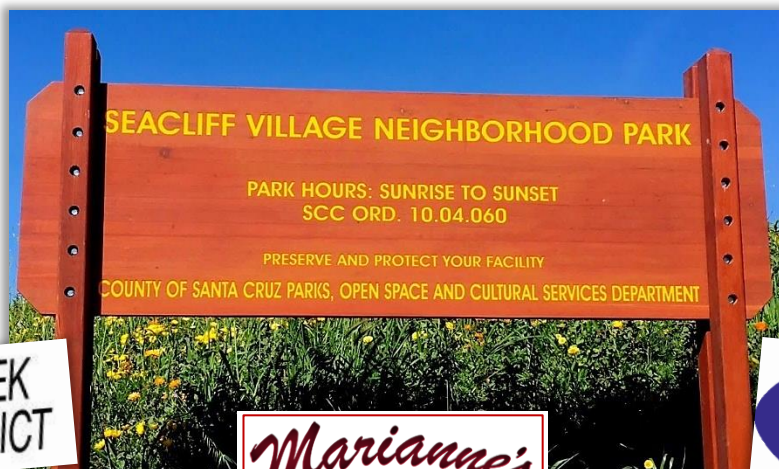
**Join us for our Membership gathering...**

**Bring your kids, parents, friends, and dogs-on leash to share a scoop  
generously provided by Marianne's Ice Cream!**

**Visit with our county supervisor, Zach Friend, and his analyst, Kieran Kelly.**

**Learn more about local organizations and our association including the announcement  
of our 2022 Beautification Awards, SIA activities, and issues that are important to our  
members and Seacliff Village. RSVP with the number in your party to:**

**[info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)**





## Previewing the County Budget

**Zach Friend**  
Second District Supervisor  
County of Santa Cruz

The Board of Supervisors considers and adopts the budget this month for the next fiscal year. County budgets differ from most city budgets in that half of the funds are state and federal mandates, generally for health and human services, courts and jails, and public safety. This year's proposed budget of \$1.033 billion reflects the communities priorities based on the adopted Strategic Plan and our two-year Operational Plan.

Key Highlights of the Proposed 2022-23 Budget recommend more investments in public safety, parks and more including:

- Providing investments in Sheriff staffing resources
- Transitioning to a fully staffed Public Defenders Office
- Providing resources for the District Attorney to address case backlogs
- Additional funding for improvements at Willowbrook and other parks in the district
- Expanding broadband to help bridge the digital divide
- Implementing the new Community Development and Infrastructure Department, combining Public Works with Planning to better serve residents and incorporate the Unified Permitting Center
- Continuing progress towards the Summer 2023 opening of the new South County Service Center

### New Budget Website

In an effort to provide a transparent budget process and increase the accessibility and usability of its information, the County developed a new online, interactive portal. It is highly informative and easy-to-use for reading and exploring the budget. Previously, the County relied on separate, manual systems, countless spreadsheets, and publishing tools to develop the budget.



As you can imagine, the over six hundred page document took quite a lot of paper to produce. The new website improves our environmental impact providing easy access for the community to learn more about where your money is spent. The site explains how the County is financed, how services are delivered and how they connect to our strategic plan. By exploring the site, you can see a direct connection between department budgets and our strategic and operational objectives.

The online budget, including instructions for reading and learning how our county is funded, may be found at: <https://santacruzcounty.us/VisionSantaCruz/Budget.aspx> Additionally, you can find the budget site by visiting the main County website [www.santacruzcounty.us](http://www.santacruzcounty.us) where you will see a link on the home page. The County Administrative Officer has also created a Budget in Brief within the Proposed 2022-23 Budget website that includes an overview of the budget.

## Reserves

The Board of Supervisors adopted a policy a few years ago requiring a minimum reserve of 7 percent of General Fund revenues - a bit over \$46 million for the coming year. Reserves are essential to maintain services during economic insecurity or natural disasters. These reserves help the County borrow at better interest rates for larger capital needs. Our County holds a AAA bond rating.



## Economic Outlook

While indicators show many segments of the economy have returned to their pre-pandemic levels, inflation, interest rates, consumer confidence and other challenges put gains over the last year in jeopardy. Across our county, the reduced labor force and escalating housing prices create the potential for increased unemployment impacting employers and consumer spending.

While the State has a one-time record surplus, it is unclear yet how those funds will be allocated and what will be provided to our County for either capital or service-related needs. County staff estimates an over \$9 million budget gap with concerns that a percentage of the necessary expenses incurred during the COVID and CZU fire-related response may not be reimbursed by FEMA.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic through June 30, 2022, the County of Santa Cruz is expected to incur \$130,094,356 in community response and recovery for COVID-19 pandemic programs. FEMA representatives have signaled that they may recommend against reimbursement of certain COVID-19 pandemic response costs, leaving the County General Fund at risk for \$17 million to \$19 million - creating a large shortfall.

Additional information on the national, regional, and local economic outlook is provided on the budget website, and is described in more detail in the Budget in Brief document:

[https://santacruzcounty.us/portals/27/county/budget/pdf/Proposed%20Budget%20in%20Brief\\_05030745.pdf](https://santacruzcounty.us/portals/27/county/budget/pdf/Proposed%20Budget%20in%20Brief_05030745.pdf)

As always, I appreciate hearing your feedback on this or any other County issue. You are welcome to provide feedback on the budget and budget priorities at upcoming budget hearings later this month, or by contacting me directly. Please call me at 454-2200 with any questions or comments.









## Seacliff Summer Security Actions to Keep Your Residence Safe

Rebecca Downing

The mission of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office to ensure public safety includes steps you can take to thwart potential crimes and support our county sheriffs by making our neighborhood more secure. This sends the message that Seacliff is NOT a good target for illegal activity; this is accomplished through self-help programs, open communication, and collaboration to prevent crime and assist sheriffs if a crime has occurred. Here are some of the ways you can act on our own behalf:

### VACATION CHECKS

If you are traveling, the Sheriffs' Office can, as time allows drive by or check your home while you are away. Information you provide to law enforcement will only be available to the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office that recommends the following ways to prepare your home for your absence:

-  Lock all doors and windows.
-  Secure or lock gates or fences leading to private areas of the home.
-  Hold mail and newspaper delivery or arrange for pickup while you are away.
-  Designate a caretaker to be contacted in case of emergency.
-  Secure, disable or relocate any firearms in the home while you are gone.
-  Let family and trusted neighbors know and to report any suspicious activity.

Sign up for vacation checks here:

<https://sccounty01.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/SHF/New%20Vacation%20Request/SHF%20Vacation%20Check%20Request%20Form.aspx>

### HOME SECURITY INSPECTIONS

Before you depart, or periodically when you make changes in your home, ask for a free Home Security Inspection offered to all residents in Seacliff. Crime Prevention volunteers will use a detailed checklist to perform an inspection and provide suggestions to assist you with improving your security. This is especially valuable before you take a vacation to address potential trouble areas and, if you engage a house sitter, you can assure them you have taken steps to help them care for your home.



Reports from neighbors on Nextdoor and crime statistics show that a high number of residential burglaries occur through unlocked doors and windows. Not surprisingly, items such as tools, bikes, BBQs, lawn mowers, cell phones, laptops and similar items are often stolen because we stepped away leaving easily grabbed property in plain sight in an open garage, unlocked car, or open window.



Locking doors and windows, using window safety latches, and putting valuables in the trunk or well covered away from casual observers will help to deter crime. Sign up for an Inspection online: <https://scsheriff.com/Home/SelfHelp/HomeSecurityInspections.aspx> or contact the Crime Prevention Officer, at 454-7689.

Did you know if you live in the unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County, you are required to register your alarm system and obtain an annual alarm permit with the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office? Register your alarm system and/or update your permit information at: <https://www.crywolfservices.com/santacruzoca/>

**Tell us Today!**

## **Should the Seacliff Improvement Association Adopt Seacliff State Beach?**



The SIA Board of Directors is exploring the idea of participating in the local Save Our Shores Adopt-A-Beach program. Although our bylaws do not require a membership vote of approval for the association to participate in this program, we would only do so if enough members expressed an interest in volunteering for three beach clean ups per year.

Community groups are encouraged to adopt a beach and commit to cleaning their beach at least three times each year including July 5th. We would give Save Our Shores a minimum donation of \$150 to support the program, though they also appreciate larger donations.

Some groups have paid to have signs placed at their beach recognizing their efforts, and although they do not cover the cost of the sign, Save Our Shores helps coordinate the creation and sign approval from the authority for its placement. Participants collect data by tracking what items they collect off the beach during a cleanup. This data is used for educational, scientific, and legislative purposes to help protect our marine resources.

If you plan to participate, please email us so we may gauge the interest in this program and the board can decide if there is enough support to proceed. You need not commit to all three cleanups each year, but we will need enough members to participate to join this program. Let us know: [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)





# Seacliff Mini Park Shines Thanks to You!

Rebecca Downing



Equipped with clippers, rakes and weeding tools, the Pavao Family, Yvonne Smith, board members Brent Lay, Dave Somerton and I gave the Seacliff Mini Park a nice trim on June 5<sup>th</sup> . Thank you all!

Following the addition of mulch and the excellent work on the paths from the staff of The Landscape Company, the park looks great. We appreciate everyone supporting the refurbishment of the paths that had not seen improvement since 2007. We also offer our great appreciation to those of you who always pick up trash as you pass by and to Auggie Ceballos and his clean-up crew from Seacliff State Beach who collected our cuttings and weeds afterwards.

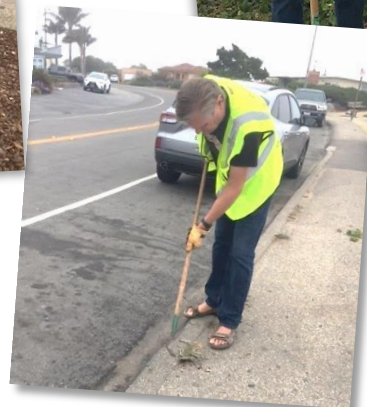
The Seacliff Mini Park is located across the street from 162-170 Seacliff Drive above the state beach near the Moosehead trailhead leading to Aptos Creek.



Paths were expanded with improved accessibility.



Recyclables and trash all collected by our intrepid treasure hunters!



## Seacliff Improvement Association 2022 YTD Treasurer's Report

	YTD
Ending Balance from Dec 2021	\$32,536.57
<b>INCOME:</b>	
Membership Dues	\$1,518.63
General Donations	\$798.52
Beachgate Trail Donations	\$30.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$2,347.15</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Rock for the Gibbs	\$200.00
Gardening	\$1,017.88
Live Like Coco Foundation Library Garden	\$1,000.00
Mini Park Paths	\$7,500.00
Newsletter	\$1,591.78
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$11,617.54</b>
<b>ENDING CASH BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$23,266.18</b>
<b>Beachgate Trail Total as of Jan 1, 2022:</b>	
<b>\$5585.62</b>	<b>\$5,615.62</b>

### Report Road, Bike and Pedestrian Hazards!

Let local agencies know of obstacles or hazards with the online Hazard Report. These include but are not limited to:

- ♦ Rough pavement, cracks, or potholes
- ♦ Lighting problem
- ♦ Plant overgrowth, debris on shoulder or sidewalk
- ♦ Traffic signal problem
- ♦ Bikeway not clearly marked
- ♦ Damaged bikeway signs
- ♦ Vehicles or objects blocking sidewalk
- ♦ Lack of sidewalk
- ♦ Lack of wheelchair access
- ♦ Sidewalk too narrow
- ♦ Pole blocking walkway
- ♦ No crosswalk or striping

Reports are forwarded to the appropriate jurisdiction for investigation and action. Add this website to your mobile phone or computer for easy access:

<https://sccrtc.org/services/hazard-reports/>

**Seacliff Improvement Association Spring 2022**

## Welcome New Members!

Shawn DeOliveira

Maureen Dwyer

Robert Emerick

Kenneth Gardella

Paul & Susan Karz

Tom and Rose Kearsley

Laurie Leenhouts

Brent Marks

Marie McCutcheon

Susan Moulton

Samantha Olden

Eleanor Perazzo

Anne Petrides

David and Jennifer Richardson

Jeff Rudisill

Bonny and Ron Weiner

**We thank all 348  
member households and  
friends for your continued support.**

To learn more about the association visit:  
<http://www.seacliffimprovement.org/>

If you have a suggestion or a Seacliff question, write to us at:  
[info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)

Our board of directors meets on the second Tuesday of the month. We currently have one board seat open and waiting for neighbor participation.

**Seacliff Improvement Association**

**PO Box 533**

**Aptos, CA 95001-0533**

*Ice Cream  
Social  
June 18<sup>th</sup>!*

*See Page One...*



***Share your newsletter with a neighbor and invite them to join!***

**Membership Application/Renewal-Newsletter**

Annual Dues are \$20.00 (January– December)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Seacliff Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address if different: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (for newsletters and bulletins only):

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Donation Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

