

CITY OF  
AMERICAN  
CANYON



STATE OF THE CITY  
A Report to the Community  
March 2014

# The City of American Canyon



2014 City of American Canyon City Council

L to R:

Councilmember Mark Joseph, Vice Mayor Belia Ramos Bennett, Mayor Leon Garcia, Councilmember Joan Bennett, and Councilmember Ken Leary

Welcome to the 2013 annual State of the City Report to Residents. 2013 was a busy year, full of accomplishments and plans for the future. Most notably, the City Council is just wrapping up tremendous effort to create community vision for the future and a strategic plan to take us there. During this process, we heard from more than 1,200 residents and business owners about what they like and don't like in American Canyon, and their priorities for the coming five years. The results of this process are woven throughout the material in this annual report. I hope you enjoy this report, and I welcome your feedback. *Dana Shigley, City Manager*



L to R: Creighton Wright, Parks & Recreation Director; Deanna Parness, Community Outreach Manager; Rebekah Barr, City Clerk; William Ross, City Attorney; Jason Holley, Public Works Director; Dana Shigley, City Manager; Brent Cooper, Community Development Director; Pankti Clerk, Economic Development Manager; Sue Casey, Administrative Services Director; Glen Weeks, Fire Chief

## The City of American Canyon

**...is the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest City in Napa County.**

The City's 5.5 square miles include 19,862 residents

**...is a general law City with a Council-Manager form of government.**

The directly elected Mayor and four Councilmembers are elected at large to 4 year overlapping terms. Together, they select and oversee the City Manager who, in turn, serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the municipal government.

**...has six City departments** with 70 full time employees and between 30 – 40 part time or seasonal employees depending on the time of year. The American Canyon Police Department is a contract agency of the Napa County Sheriff's Office with 23 sworn officers. The American Canyon Fire District is a subsidiary district of the City and has 16 sworn fire personnel.

### City Facts

Population Growth (2000 – 2013)	108%
Median Household Income (2007-2011)	\$83,581
Median Value Owner-Occupied Housing Units	\$371,700
Home Ownership Rate	77.9%
Median Age of City Residents	35.5
Language other than English spoken at Home	43.4%
Acres of Active Open Space & Parks	715
Number of Building Permits Issued in 2013	344
Active Use Open Space & Parks/acres per 1,000 residents	36.3
Acres of Open Space Preserve/Viewshed	870
Bike & Pedestrian Trail Lane Miles	12.2

Information from the U.S. Census, (2000, 2010); California Department of Finance Demographic Research Unit (2005, 2013); Trust for Public Land/2012 Park Facts; Napa County Bicycle Master Plan; City of American Canyon.

## American Canyon Vision Statement

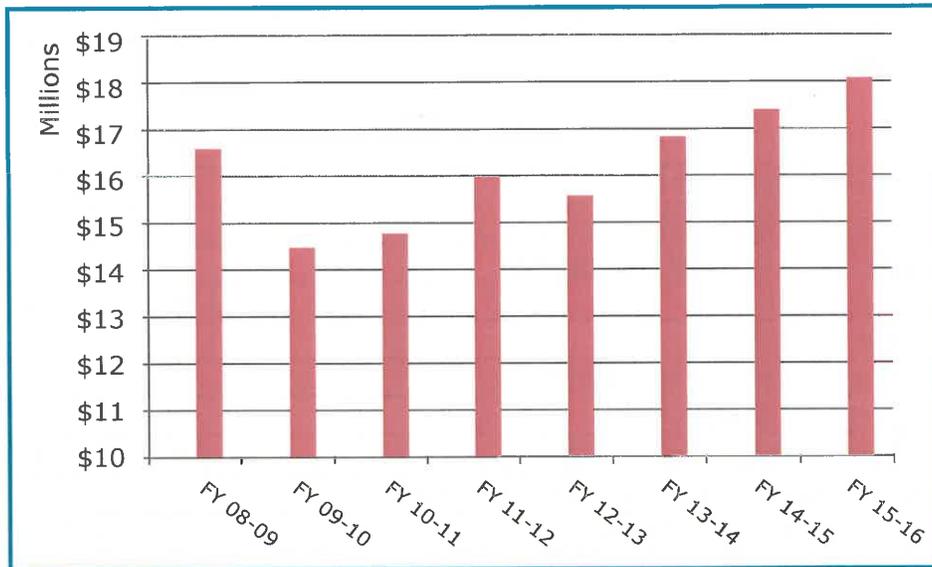
**HOME** to an engaged, diverse community  
**DESTINATION** for outdoor recreation and natural beauty  
**HUB** of opportunity and economic vitality

## City of American Canyon Organizational Mission Statement

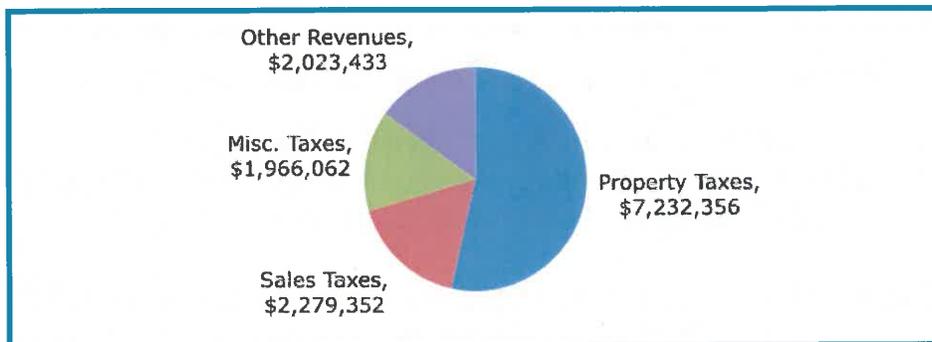
Our Mission is to deliver exemplary services that are responsive to community priorities, ensure a healthy and sustainable organization, and drive us toward our shared vision for the future.

# Fiscal Snapshot

After three years of decreasing and stagnant revenues, the City's 2013 annual budget showed signs of fiscal recovery and marks the end of the three-year "deficit elimination" budget plan. In the 2013/2014 fiscal year we anticipate total revenues in the general fund finally reaching the pre-recession levels. However, expenses continue to climb, and the City entered into a new three-year fiscal stabilization plan to ensure that the restored revenues are allocated to the most important projects and programs. The following chart represents the history of general fund revenues, and our projections for the coming three years.



Property and sales tax revenues are the City's two most significant revenue sources, and represent 70% of all general fund revenues. For the year ended June 30, 2013, the City's general fund revenues are as follows:



Housing prices in American Canyon have finally started to climb in value again, resulting in modest increases to property tax revenues to the City in the coming few years. Sales tax revenues are expected to increase by 3% in the coming year, and hotel/motel tax revenues are increasing by at least 5% in the coming year.

If you want to learn more about the City's financial condition, please visit the City's website.

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

Fire services are provided by the American Canyon Fire District. The District provides a high level of Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services and Rescue Services to the community and visitors to American Canyon.

The City contracts with the Napa County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services to American Canyon. The Police Department is responsible for responding to citizens' calls for service, traffic safety through enforcement, vehicle abatement, crime prevention, gang suppression, criminal investigation and community outreach.

### FIRE DISTRICT STATISTICS

Incident Type	2013	2012
Fire	68	82
Rescue & Emergency Medical	903	767
Hazardous Conditions	25	22
Service Calls	115	140
Good Intent Calls	256	228
False Alarms & False Calls	97	116
Special Incident	2	1
Total Incidents	1,466	1,478
Training Hours	6,153	7,092

### POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Traffic & General Reporting	2013	2012
Calls for Service	18,537	19,703
Reports	2,005	2,135
Arrests	765	859
Misdemeanor Citations	499	599
Animal Service Calls	590	711
Citations Issued - Hwy 29	783	1,114
Citations Issued - Local Roads	661	823
Collisions - Hwy 29	93	82
Collisions - Local Roads	81	131
DUI's	109	118
Parking Citations	175	342

Crime	2013		2012	
	Reported	Cleared	Reported	Cleared
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	5	2	8	4
Robbery	31	20	26	21
Assault	79	68	123	101
Residential Burglary	50	12	73	23
Commercial Burglary	42	30	46	27
Larceny/Theft	388	241	448	245
Stolen Vehicles	32	6	49	3
Total	512	289	616	298



## A YEAR IN REVIEW

*The Public Works Department is responsible for treating water and delivering it to your home and business, maintaining and constructing streets, maintaining the storm drain system, collecting wastewater and cleaning it for use as recycled water, and maintaining the City's fleet of vehicles and city-owned buildings. Following are some of our accomplishments for 2013.*

Substantial improvements were made along **South Broadway**, which included street improvements along the edge of Veterans Memorial Park, installation of a reclaimed water main to serve both the north and south ends of the park, installation of a pedestrian/bicycle bridge across Walsh Creek, rehabilitation to the pavement in front of Las Casitas Mobile Home Park, replacement of a sanitary sewer line, storm drain improvements and construction of the Vine Trail from American Canyon Creek to the south city limits.



We also completed a badly needed re-paving project on **Lena and Stetson Drives** as well as a portion of Danrose Drive in October, 2013. This project not only helped fix a really broken stretch of road but provided training for our street crews in a joint exercise with the City of Napa.

A **Green Island Emergency Access** project was completed to allow public safety vehicles to cross between the north and south bound lanes of Hwy 29, thus skipping Paoli Loop. Every second counts when you need help and this modification cuts approximately 2 – 3 minutes off the response time depending on traffic.

The City received a grant to install ten **radar speed signs** that encourage drivers to drive safely and obey the speed limit near local schools and where children gather.

23 miles of streets around town benefitted from a **Pavement Rejuvenation Project** last fall. An asphalt emulsion seal coat was applied to streets in good condition as preventative maintenance. The project took about 3 weeks but the inconvenience was worth the trouble as it will extend the service life of our streets and save us money in the long run. Every \$1 spent on preventative maintenance of a street saves about \$5 to fix the same street once it has deteriorated.

### Energy Efficiency Efforts Pay Off!

Our Wastewater Treatment Plant staff completed their 6 month Energy Efficiency Retrofit in October 2013. We are now starting to see the results of this hard work in our monthly energy billing. Prior to this project the monthly energy billing at the Waste Water Treatment Plant was \$24,000-\$30,000. Since completion it has dropped to \$14,000-15,000 monthly. That is a fabulous example of energy conservation that is immediately measurable.

The **Napa Junction Pedestrian Improvement Project** is currently underway and will include new sidewalks, curbs, gutters and storm drains on the south side of the street. This will improve pedestrian access in the area and make for a safer route for students.



## LOOKING AHEAD

The City received a Transportation Funding for Clean Air grant in the amount of \$95,000 to construct a **parking lot** adjacent to 300 Crawford Way, next to the library. The facility will include 50 parking stalls and bike amenities for 22 bicycles. Staff has begun the plans, specifications and estimates. This project will be constructed this summer.



The **Theresa Avenue Sidewalk Phase 3 Project** will complete the sidewalk between Eucalyptus Drive and Napa Junction Elementary School on the west side of the street. The project will eliminate conditions that force pedestrians to walk along an unpaved shoulder. Sidewalk, curb and gutter will be installed to ensure adequate drainage and protection of the roadway structural section, along with storm drain facilities and a curb ramp. This project fills in the access gap between Eucalyptus Avenue and the completed Safe Route to School project along Theresa Avenue and is partially funded by a grant.

We will begin work on a **Measure T Implementation Plan** this year. Measure T – the half-cent sales tax for road repair – begins in 2018. It is anticipated to bring in nearly \$700,000 per year and must be used to repair existing roads. In order to be shovel-ready when the time comes, the City will be developing an implementation plan that will identify the schedule of which road will be repaired during the first 5-years of the program.

### Kimberly Flood Control and Park Improvements

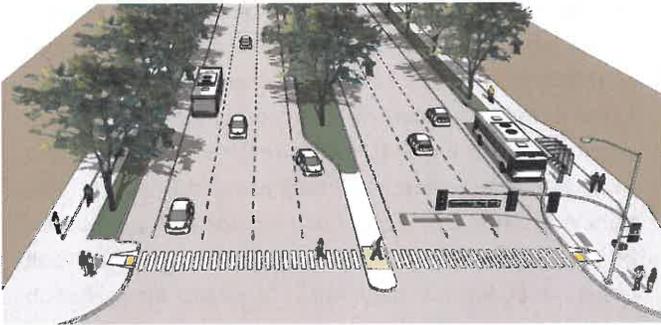
This project is a flood control and water quality project which accommodates the renovation and expansion of existing Kimberly Park for recreational uses. The Flood Control portion of the project consists of the construction of a 4.5 acre foot detention basin to hold rainwater in the winter and help prevent flooding. The park portion of the project will include the installation of soccer fields and may include a half-basketball court, a children's play area, a picnic area, bench seating areas, passive or non-programmed turf area, a restroom and concession building, a small plaza, a walking path around the park perimeter, storage and maintenance areas and improved parking, depending on funding available.



The estimated cost of construction for the Kimberly Flood Control and Park Improvement Project is \$4,608,000. Project funding will be from Measure A flood control funds and the City's own Park Capital Improvement funds. Staff is currently working with the design consultant to explore ways to lower costs and maximize the use of Measure A funds and if all goes well construction will start in early 2015.

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

The Community Development Department provides services and information related to building permits, community preservation, development projects, economic development, development engineering and planning activities for the City.



The City updated the **Transportation Plan** last spring. The new plan calls for widening Highway 29 to 6 lanes, adding bicycle lanes, landscaping, sidewalks and a landscaped median. A key policy decision from the plan is to keep regional traffic on Highway 29 and protect neighborhoods from regional bypass traffic. City staff is also working with the Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency on a Highway 29 Corridor Plan. This Plan represents a new consensus among all of Napa County's jurisdictions on the future of Highway 29.

The Planning Commission approved the **Valley View Affordable Senior Housing Project** at 31 Theresa Avenue. A Citizens Advisory Committee helped develop the plan for 70 one-bedroom dwelling units, a club house, outdoor recreation, and garden plots. The Nonprofit builder, Satellite Affordable Housing Associates is currently seeking funding to build the project.



**Community Character Signs** are the most effective form of advertising for small business and help define community identity. To help American Canyon small business owners understand the Sign Ordinance, a new brochure was prepared to explain the "do's" and "don'ts" of signage in American Canyon in a simple highly graphic brochure. A copy of the brochure is available on our website.

**Business Opportunity** An approved zoning code update allows Cottage Food Businesses. The new update allows individuals to prepare and/or package and sell certain non-potentially hazardous foods that require no refrigeration in private-home kitchens referred to as "cottage food operations" under certain conditions.

After several community workshops the City Council voted to adopt an **Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan** to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, a new program was approved to enable renewable energy, energy efficiency improvements and electric vehicle charging infrastructure improvements to be financed on the property tax bill. This program will become available to property owners soon.

**The Code Enforcement Division** continues to work to improve the community character. Over the last year, 368 cases were opened and 373 cases were closed.



All of the closed cases represent voluntary corrections. Above are before and after pictures from a typical code enforcement case where shrubs overgrew the sidewalk.

The **Zoning Code** helps preserve the character of our community. New zoning regulations were developed that prohibit Cash for Gold, Payday Loans and Pawn shop businesses in the City because they may bring negative consequences and there are alternative services a short distance from the City.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The **Watson Ranch And Town Center Ruins Project** application is anticipated early this year. The project is expected to include up to 1,600 single-family homes, townhomes and apartments; a new elementary school, public parks and trails; and rejuvenation of the mine ruins into a new gathering place for residents and tourists. A draft Specific Plan is available on the City's website.



The **Canyon Estates Project** is a proposal for up to 38 single-family custom or semi-custom homes east of Vintage Ranch. This project requires annexation to the City and will be vetted with the community this year.

In 2013, the City hired our first **Economic Development** Manager, allowing more focus on business outreach and development. In 2013, the City partnered with the American Canyon Chamber of Commerce to conduct a business and community survey to learn more about local business needs. As a result of survey findings, we again partnered to establish stronger relationships with the businesses in the Green Island Industrial Park. The Green Island group is addressing several problems faced by businesses in the area and the City is planning a Green Island Economic Development Strategy Plan in 2014. The City's Tourism Business Improvement District is wrapping up a tourism strategic plan emphasizing our terrific outdoor spaces and plans to assist the Chamber of Commerce in establishing a visitor's center in town. In the coming year, look for more attention to local and small businesses, including zoning provisions for food-trucks and similar "pop-up" businesses, and continuing technical assistance.

Other **New Residential Projects** likely to be presented at a public hearing include is a 180 unit apartment project proposed on the vacant property north of Napa Junction Road and east of Highway 29. Also, a 120 unit apartment project is proposed on the vacant property north of American Canyon Road between Highway 29 and Silver Oak.

The City's **Housing Element** contains policies for providing sufficient land and programs for affordable housing in accordance with State Law. Our plan was last updated in 2010 and work will begin on an update. The State-imposed deadline to complete the update is early 2015.

In 2013, the city was awarded \$900,000 in **Grant Funds** for a first time homebuyer program and a low income owner occupied home improvement loan program. These funds will become available during 2014. To learn more about these programs, please contact our contract Housing agency, the City of Napa Housing Authority at (707) 257-9254.

**Building activity** continues a slow recovery from the effects of the recession. Excluding volatile permit revenue from new building construction, revenue from "core" permit activity (tenant improvements, home remodels) has improved the past three years since hitting bottom in 2011. The beginning of 2014 shows we are keeping pace to match last year's activity.





## A YEAR IN REVIEW

*The Parks and Recreation Department plans and supervises all City-sponsored classes, programs and special events as well as youth and adult sports, senior programs and aquatics. They are responsible for providing attractive, functional and well maintained parks and oversee the operation of the Phillip West Aquatic Center, Community Center Gym, Senior Multi-Use Center and the Napa River Bay Trail.*

One of the primary accomplishments during 2013 was a renewed focus on making sure we are providing the kinds of **programming** the community wants and that the programs are of high quality. We asked for and received feedback through surveys, meetings and in the field – we listened and implemented changes. A great example is the change made to the aquatics program – the two greatest concerns raised from parents was to offer more classes and to reduce class size. These concerns were addressed during the winter swim session with class size reductions and by reducing the length of the classes by 7 minutes which allowed us to offer 33% more classes in the same amount of time.

Gaining access to the **Newell Open Space** was also a major priority for the department this year. As you may know, several years ago Jack and Bernice Newell donated an incredibly beautiful 640 acre property to the City but providing public access into it has been a problem primarily because of the red-legged frog habitat in the vicinity and topographical issues. In 2013 the Open Space Advisory Committee developed capital improvement and operational plans for a preferred trail route and the City Council identified a funding source. Public access is planned by June, 2014.

2013 also brought expanded programming entirely provided by volunteers utilizing our beautiful wetlands; the addition of 29 plots to the Community Gardens; and more focus on improving customer service and marketing.

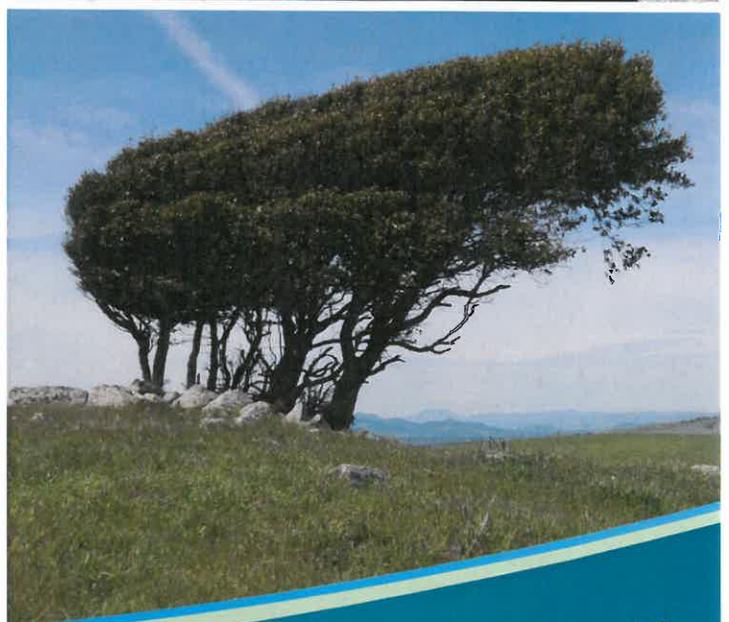
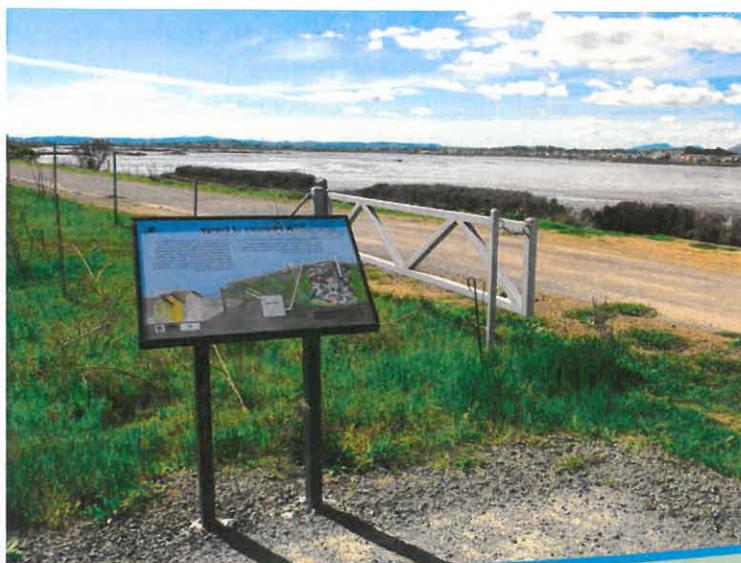
## LOOKING AHEAD

2014 looks bright for **Recreation Programming**. With the anticipated hiring of dedicated coordinators for Senior Programming and Special Events, the organization, structure and variety of all programming is expected to improve and expand. Some likely outcomes will be a re-invented Healthy People/Healthy Planet event and increased activities for the Fourth of July event. Seniors can expect new offerings, more diversity in programming and a partnership with the Senior Council that may lead to expanded programming hours.

Design plans have been dusted off for the **Kimberly Park Renovation and Flood Control Project** that was halted during the economic downturn. Staff is currently re-evaluating the design and plan to have a bid package out by fall with construction beginning in early 2015. You may read more about this on the Public Works page of this report.

One clear outcome from the recent community visioning project was the need to offer more recreation programs and the desire for more facilities. We will be conducting a **Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment** to determine what needs are being met, what needs aren't being met and gain some insight on possible funding measures to finance the facilities wanted by the community.

The new **Charles Johnson Bocce Courts** at Veteran's Memorial Park will be open this summer. Watch for more information about the grand opening.



## DROUGHT AND WATER

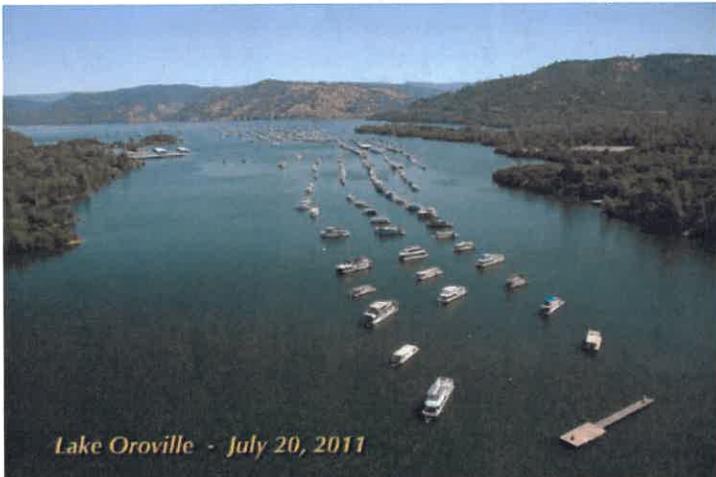
### Current Situation

California is officially in a drought and all over the state everyone's talking about water – how to save it and how to get more. Here in American Canyon, most of our raw water comes from the North Bay Aqueduct, part of the State Water Project (SWP). Because we have had several record dry years in a row, reservoirs across the state are drastically low (see Lake Oroville photo). There is no doubt that we will not have the same amount of water that we have in years past. Although recent storms were beneficial, they are not nearly sufficient to overcome the drought conditions.

It's time for all of us to start thinking of water as a precious resource and make conservation a way of life. We need to re-evaluate our water uses and decide what's most important to us. Rather than enjoy a long shower, can you make do with just five minutes? We all love our velvety green lawns, but all that turf requires considerable water. Do you really use that grass (especially in the front yard) for family play-time, or does it just look nice, but use a lot of water for no practical purpose? If you think about it, there are lots of ways you can save water every day. Even small actions add up. We should not take the water flowing from our tap for granted.

### Future Water Supply Options

The City is exploring changes and alternatives to the way we provide service in response to the water situation. We are looking into modifying the standards for new development in regard to plumbing and irrigation. We are in the process of re-visiting past efforts looking at local surface water reservoir options, groundwater wells, brackish water desalinization, increasing recycled water production, and potable re-use of recycled water. We know water conservation will become a way of life in California and we'll all need to work together to be successful.



Lake Oroville - July 20, 2011



Lake Oroville - January 16, 2014



## CONSERVATION EFFORTS

### Cash for Grass

For the average household, the biggest water-saving opportunities are outside your door, where lawns and thirsty plants require regular irrigation. To encourage you to replace lawns with hardscape or water-wise plants, the City offers a "Cash for Grass" program that pays you \$1.00 for every square foot of turf grass that's replaced with drip-irrigated, low water-use plants, permeable hardscape, or polyethylene or nylon artificial turf products. Residential water customers can earn rebates for up to 750 sq. ft. of lawn replaced, and commercial customers can replace up to 2,500 sq. ft. Lawn areas to be converted must be currently maintained in healthy condition and irrigated by a functioning sprinkler system. Program details and the application are available on the City's website.



### How we're doing our part

While many City parks and landscaped areas are already irrigated with recycled water, some are not and we are in the process of converting additional City parks and landscaped areas to recycled water. So far, Veteran's Memorial Park and half of Kimberly Park have been changed over and we're already saving over 2,500,000 gallons a year! The Green Island Road businesses will also be converted to recycled water for their irrigation needs. Within our City facilities we're checking for leaks and making sure our toilets are replaced with the latest low-flow devices and our employees are all working together to use our water wisely.



### We can help you do your part

The City offers programs to help you save money. Replace old toilets and/or upgrade your clothes washer to water efficient models and we'll pay you! Stop by City Hall anytime to pick up some free water-saving devices, such as:

- Low-flow shower head
- Kitchen or bathroom faucet aerator
- Hose timer with auto shut-off
- Replacement toilet flapper valve
- Shower Timer
- "Water-miser" hose nozzle
- Toilet leak detecting dye kit
- Rain gauge w/lawn watering guide



For information about tours and how to learn more please contact our Water Conservation Specialist, Lou Leet, at [savewater@cityofamericancanyon.org](mailto:savewater@cityofamericancanyon.org) or (707) 647-4521. You may also visit our website for other helpful information, including the toilet retrofit and clothes washing machine rebate programs.

### Traffic Signal Timing Study

In 2013 the City received a grant from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air to synchronize four City and five Caltrans traffic signals in an effort to improve traffic flow and reduce emissions.



The grant was awarded to study the traffic flow and signal timing along Flosden Road, American Canyon Road and Broadway (Hwy 29) from the county line to South Kelly Road. We are currently working with Caltrans to synchronize traffic signals along the highway during peak commute times to improve traffic flow and reduce travel time along the highway. The goal is to synchronize the timing of signals so that if you catch a green light at American Canyon Road or Napa Junction Road and stay with the flow of traffic, the succeeding lights as you drive through town will also be green. We hope to have the new signal timing plan implemented by late spring. While the change won't solve all the traffic problems, we believe it will offer incremental improvement to traffic congestion along the Highway 29 corridor.

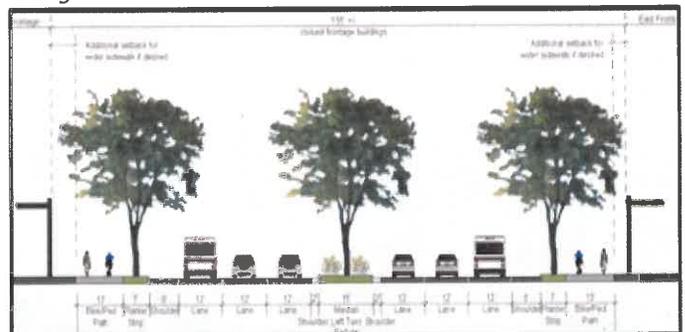
### Donaldson Way Improvements at Highway 29 Interchange

The City will be adding a dedicated west-bound right turn only lane (near the gas station) to reduce congestion during peak times. The City will be applying for a permit from Caltrans and if all goes well, the work could be completed this summer.

### Highway 29 Corridor Study

Highway 29 between Napa and Vallejo is one of the most significant transportation corridors in Napa County. Within American Canyon, Highway 29 serves as both the City's main thoroughfare providing access and circulation for residents as well as accommodating regional commuters passing through. The necessity to meet both needs makes planning for highway improvements particularly challenging.

During 2013, the Napa County Transportation Planning Agency (NCTPA), in conjunction with Caltrans and Napa County jurisdictions, undertook an effort to create a long-term plan for the highway. The project included considerable public outreach, workshops, and guidance by a citizen's steering committee. Planning efforts brought together diverse stakeholders from the community that considered the elements of all transportation modes including bicycle, auto, truck, bus, and pedestrians. The proposed future design includes expansion to three lanes in each direction and the addition of class one bike and pedestrian lanes. Look for this study to be completed in the next few months. Once completed, the City, Caltrans, and the NCTPA will all have a common vision for future improvements and can start designing projects and seeking funding for specific projects. The study also addresses opportunities for landscaping and other aesthetic treatments to enhance the visual experience along the corridor.



Proposed Highway 29 Cross Section

## IMPROVEMENTS

### Highway 29 Specific Plan

The proposed Highway 29 Specific Plan provides an important opportunity to evolve an auto-oriented highway commercial district into a livable mixed use small town



neighborhood that also serves as the "Face of the City" to the many people that travel on Highway 29 each day.

The Specific Plan will provide innovative solutions to maximize automobile, transit, pedestrian and bicycle mobility for the many residents, retail shoppers, North Bay commuters, Napa Valley tourists, and goods movement industries that use the highway on a daily basis. Commercial and residential densities will be determined along with design guidelines to integrate with transit and quality of life enhancements, such as parks, open space, and pedestrian connections, including potential pedestrian overcrossings of Highway 29. A component of the Highway 29 Specific Plan will include building set-back lines and roadway plan lines to ensure sufficient room is provided for the widening of Highway 29 to six lanes. The Specific Plan will also explore preferred locations for enhanced and/or grade-separated pedestrian highway crossings and additional methods to travel among properties without driving on the highway.

### Beautification of Substation

In 2014, the City will be moving forward on plans to improve the landscaping at the PG&E substation on the corner of the highway and American Canyon Road. PG&E is reviewing our plans now. While Landscaping can't completely erase the large power poles and facilities, we are hopeful that trees and additional landscaping will help soften the view as you drive through town.

### Devlin Road Extension

The City has received grant funds to extend Devlin Road south to Green Island Road. This important roadway connection will provide an alternate route for trucks to travel between the Green Island Industrial Park and the Napa County Industrial Park without having to add to congestion on Highway 29. This link will also provide a critical bypass to Highway 29 for commuters and during emergencies should Highway 29 become blocked by a vehicle accident. The Devlin Road extension will also include a portion of the Vine Trail. The Vine Trail is a countywide plan to provide a Class 1 off-street bicycle trail from Calistoga to the City of Vallejo. Preliminary site assessment work for Devlin Road will begin late this year; if all goes well, construction could begin in four years.



### Napa Junction Road/Highway 29 and Eucalyptus Drive/Highway 29 Intersection Improvements

The City is developing plans to improve both of these intersections. These projects will accommodate widening of Highway 29 to six lanes, along with other improvements to create more roadway capacity and reduce congestion during peak periods. The Napa Junction Road/Highway 29 intersection will be designed with a special curb radius to accommodate large trucks that access the industrial properties off Napa Junction Road. The City will continue to collect fees from developers and pursue grant opportunities to obtain sufficient funding to complete these projects.

**City of American Canyon**  
 4381 Broadway, Suite 201  
 American Canyon, CA. 94503

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**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR**

We all like to have good neighbors. Here are some tips to return the favor.

**Animals** – Dogs need to be kept on a leash on streets and in parks except at the dog park. It's not neighborly to let your dog loose in the neighborhood or to let it bark for long periods – It's also against the rules! For problems with barking or loose dogs call the Police Department at 253-4451. Other questions or problems call Code Enforcement at 647-4599.



**Community** – Be friendly, it pays off! Get to know your neighbors, have a neighborhood yard sale, join [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) or form a Neighborhood Watch Group with the Police Department. Contact Ryan Woolworth at 551-0605 or [ryan.woolworth@countyofnapa.org](mailto:ryan.woolworth@countyofnapa.org)



**Garbage Cans** – Cans should be stored alongside the house, not in front. On garbage pickup day, return cans to their storage spot promptly after pickup. Problems with your garbage service? Call Recology at 552-3110.



**Garage/Yard Sales** – Yard Sales are a great way to get to know your neighbors and get rid of junk too! You can have up to 6 sales per year, and each one can last up to 3 consecutive days. Be sure to take down your signs after the sale. Placing signs on public signs, even on the pole part, in the right-of-way or on utility poles is messy AND against the law. See our website for a brochure.



**Graffiti** – Quick removal is key to discouraging further graffiti. Removal of graffiti is the responsibility of the property owner but many church and local service organizations will help you remove it if you ask. Report it to the graffiti hotline at 647-7607.



**Lawn, Trees & Shrubs** – Your yard doesn't have to be fancy, just maintained! If you're too busy, local yard service is available cheap! Unkempt yards are good signals to bad guys that you are not home. Trees and shrubs must not grow into the sidewalk and fire hydrants must have a 3 foot clearance.



**Rodent Problems** – Yuck! Don't let trash pile up or place abandoned furniture/appliances in your yard. For online information and help to get rid of rodents, check with the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District at [www.napamosquito.org/rodents](http://www.napamosquito.org/rodents).



**RV's, Campers, Boats & Trailers** – You can store them on private property but they must be on a paved surface. Don't park them in the street for long periods of time, the neighbors won't like it and leaving it there for more than 72 hours is a violation of the State Vehicle Code. People are not allowed to live in or use them as an extension of home. Questions or complaints call Code Enforcements at 647-4599.

**Slow Down** – Drive slowly in any neighborhood, yours or someone else's. Be respectful of the people who live there and their safety – hopefully they'll return the favor! The speed limit in most neighborhoods is 25 MPH.



**Slow Down Even More** – Get out and walk around! Ride your bike! We are lucky to have such a beautiful trail system in American Canyon and the surrounding areas. Enjoy it! Walking will help you become familiar with your neighborhood, your neighbors, and it's good exercise too!



**Street Lights** – Don't be in the dark! Report non-working lights by calling (800) 544-4876.



**Street & City Issues** – It's easy to report pot holes, downed signs, illegal dumping, water leaks, etc. Call 647-4550 or complete the online form on the City website.

**Suspicious Activity** – Keep an eye out for your neighbors. If you hear or see something, don't hesitate to call 911! The Police would much rather have you call and it be nothing than to not call at all and it be something bad. If you need police assistance but it's not an emergency, try the non-emergency dispatch at 648-0171.



**Vehicles** – Vehicles parked on city streets need to be running with current registration and insurance. To report an inoperable or abandoned vehicle contact the Police Dept. at 551-0600. Be sure not to block the sidewalks! If a vehicle must be in public view, even if it's on private property it must be in running condition. Questions or complaints call Code Enforcement at 647-4599



**Noise** – Keep it down – for the neighbor's sake!



**STAY IN TOUCH!**

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