

## News

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### DEI Initiatives Update - July 8, 2021



The City of Mill Valley commits to act and encourage community action towards eliminating racial disparities, both inside government and in the community. The City Council has identified Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives as their top priority, and staff provides regular updates to the City Council and community at each City Council meeting.

A summary of this information will be shared tonight at the City Council meeting during the City Manager's Report. [Information on how to participate is here.](#)

#### DEI Work Plan Update

The City continues to follow a regular schedule of updates on the [DEI Work Plan](#) to Council and the community. Follow the progress on the [City's DEI Tracking Tool](#).

- At tonight's meeting, Council will receive an update on items in the DEI Work Plan under the purview of the Planning and Building Department regarding Affordable Housing. [Read the staff report here.](#)
- At their meeting on September 20, Council will receive an update on items under the purview of the Police Department.

#### City Council

- At tonight's meeting, Council will [consider a Resolution](#) to provide funding for "Housing First" case management and a recommendation to allocate \$63,000 to support County-wide efforts to support people experiencing homelessness

#### Recreation & Arts

- At their meeting on July 7, Parks and Recreation Commissioners received an update on:
  - The newly-launched Welcome Back Pass, which temporarily suspends the resident/nonresident rate difference to remove participation barriers and bring people together
  - The swim lesson program in partnership with Soma Aquatics and Play Marin.
  - Director of Arts and Recreation Sean McGrew is attending Cultural Community Benefits training conducted by ArtChangeUS This training, according to their website, guides participants “through creative exercises aimed at unpacking complex equity issues, highlighting best practices that evolve beyond representation to create participatory equity and community benefit.”

## Library

- New podcast The History Mill explores all aspects of Mill Valley's unique and rich history. Their latest podcast presents “80 Years of Racial Justice Work in Southern Marin.”

## Police

- Starting in July, Detective Nick Neisius will lead a POST certified, 8 hour course on Principled Policing.
- Several members of the Police Department and Councilmember Ossa attended a meeting of the STRIKE substance abuse prevention program this week, hosted by the Marin City Community Services District (MCCSD). The program brings together representatives from several Southern Marin communities to address alcohol and illicit drug use by under-age individuals.

## Mill Valley Fire Department/Southern Marin Fire

- On June 29, 2021, Chiefs Tubbs and Welch, Battalion chief Golden and MVFD & SMFD staff attended the graduation ceremony of the Fredrick Leon Marcus Youth Academy.

## Planning & Building

- At tonight's meeting, Council will consider a Resolution adopting the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan. The Transition Plan is a formal document that outlines the City's compliance with the ADA and provides a road map for prioritizing improvements and planning their implementation. Read the Staff Report and supporting documents.

## Financial/Economic Partnerships

- **SCORE Partnership:** The Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce has partnered with SCORE, a long-standing organization affiliated with the Small Business Administration that offers “free business mentoring, low-cost or no-cost business training, and numerous templates and tools” to help entrepreneurs start or grow a business,” with 10,000 advisors nationwide.

Recently, the Chamber Board of Directors and SCORE partnered on a pilot networking exercise that drew rave reviews from participants as a way to increase familiarity with one another but, most importantly, identify potential areas of partnership. For example, a local restaurant owner who is busiest in the evening is offering a space to a medical business needing space for a training seminar. More of these collaborations will continue to germinate as a result of the exercise.

The Chamber will organize a similar session with their BIPOC business owner network later this summer. They hope to use these pilots to develop mentoring sessions that provide BIPOC business owners with a wide range of resources.

- **Webinars & Workshops:** The Chamber continues to share Marin SBDC webinars and educational workshops with their entire membership, which includes the Chamber's BIPOC business owner network and their Marin City nonprofit members.

- [www.weareonemarin.com](http://www.weareonemarin.com): The Chamber is participating in the Marin Independent Journal and Marin Community Foundation's WeAreOneMarin.com campaign, which showcases and promotes one Marin BIPOC business every week. The Chamber has nominated several Mill Valley and Marin City BIPOC businesses for the campaign, with Mill Valley having utilized six slots so far this year. [Find local BIPOC-owned businesses here.](#)

**Learn more:**

- DEI Initiatives Tracker: Please check out this [Resource Page of City Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives](#)
- Contact us: Email us at [dei@cityofmillvalley.org](mailto:dei@cityofmillvalley.org).
- Join our email list: [Sign up to receive DEI updates.](#)

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## City of Mill Valley



**Mill Valley City Hall**

26 Corte Madera Avenue

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Phone: (415) 388-4033

Hours: 8:00a.m. - 12:00 noon;

1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Closed Alternate Fridays

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