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# Paradise Today

Online Newsletter

## Town Receives Award

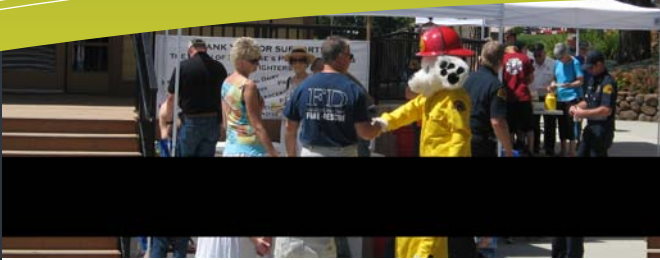
The Town of Paradise's Public Works Engineering Division recently received the 2008/09 Project of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association for the Town's Skyway/Wagstaff signalization intersection improvement project. The total project cost was \$2.4 million.

## Town to Receive Federal Economic Stimulus Monies

The Town of Paradise is slated to receive \$1.5 million in Federal Economic Recovery and Reinvestment monies to fund road improvement projects for Skyway, Clark Road and Pentz Road north of Wagstaff. The improvements, which will take place over the next two years, involve primarily overlays. The funds will also pay for the chip seal on a segment of Pearson.

## Pearson/Recreation Drive Signalization Project Scheduled for 2011

The Town has been approved for a Federal CMAQ grant in the amount of \$1.2 million for the signalization of Pearson and Recreation Drive. The project, which should be constructed during Summer 2011, also includes additional pedestrian improvements to Clark Road.



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## "Thirty Years of Progress." The Town's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Our 30<sup>th</sup> year celebration has already held two wonderful community events that were planned by a committee headed by Mayor Frankie Rutledge; both events were funded entirely by donations from community organizations and private individuals.

The first was a free "Meet and Greet" barbeque in Paradise Community Park this last May that was put on by the Paradise Police Officers' and Firefighters' Associations. This event, which ran from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m., drew nearly 300 local citizens and their families.

The second event was the Town sponsored July 4<sup>th</sup> Old Fashioned Picnic and Bluegrass Music Festival in the Paradise Community Park, which attracted huge crowds of folks. Besides a great selection of food, drink and goodies that were sold by a number of community groups the musical entertainment was outstanding. Performing at different times through the event were such Blue Grass artists as the Anderson Family from Grass Valley, Sid Laws, and Mossy Creek.

Both of these events were financially underwritten by others because of the Town's present financial constraints. /those organizations, groups and individuals who contributed funds, or in-kind services that made these events possible were the Paradise Rotary, Paradise Police Officers' Association, Paradise Firefighters' Association, Paradise Exchange, Steve and Sandee Williams, Northern Recycling & Waste Systems, Scott Lotter and Cinema 7 Theatres, Classic Auto Body, Yowzer's, Tom Baker, Feather River Hospital, Morning Star Quilts, Brian and Pam Gray, John and Debra Touchette, and Trevor Davis.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is busy planning the third and final event, which will take place on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. As soon as we know more details about the event, we'll be sure to share it with you on our website.

## New Public Parking Facility for Downtown

Part of the federal funding slated for the Pearson/Recreation Drive Signalization Project mentioned above will also help fund the construction of an 11-space public parking facility on land owned by Paradise Redevelopment Agency in the Downtown on Pearson between Black Olive and Almond. The project will also include full alley improvements to provide better access to the parking facility. The project is scheduled for Summer 2010 and the cost is estimated at \$200,000.



## Downtown Capital Projects Master Plan Nears Completion

The RDA Citizens Advisory Committee and RDA staff have been working closely with Design \ Community & Engineering (DCE) from Berkeley in the development of a 30% engineered capital projects master plan for the Downtown. This master plan project is nearly completed. When completed, the master plan will serve as the design template for all future capital improvements in the Downtown, and also will enable the Town or RDA to pursue grant funding for some of those projects.

# What We've Done Since the Fires Last Fire Season

The Town of Paradise, which has an effective and tested emergency response system already in place, has taken the lessons learned from the Humboldt and Butte Lightning Complex Fires last fire season to make additional changes and improvements to its emergency planning and preparedness.

Here's a few of those changes and improvements:

- ☐ Upgraded our Reverse 911 emergency notification system so that we can notify the entire community in a much shorter time.
- ☐ Trained and certified 57 citizens as the Town's Disaster Service Worker Volunteers to assist and support the Town during an emergency in such areas as public information, the 24-hour information/call center, emergency shelter support, food preparation & supplies delivery, planning & intelligence gathering, and traffic control.
- ☐ Led the charge to change the emergency evacuation categories in Butte County that are much clearer for emergency responders and our citizens to understand during an emergency.
- ☐ Initiated after the Humboldt Fire a proactive parcel-by-parcel fire prevention inspection program whose purpose is to improve the safety of residences and reduce the fuels build-up in our neighborhoods.
- ☐ Utilized youth through the Private Industry Council to work under the supervision of our Public Works Department to reduce the fuels build-up along the Memorial Trail Way.
- ☐ Coordinated with AT&T and the California Conservation Corps to reduce the fuels accumulation and build-up in the area around the single communications hub that presently serves the Ridge.
- ☐ Secured a high powered mobile generator through Homeland Security.
- ☐ Pre-wired the Paradise Senior Center and Beyond Fitness for back-up generated power so that they can serve as additional shelters, warming centers, etc., during emergencies involving power outages.