



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Outreach to Industrial Biotechnology Businesses

On December 9 and 10, staff attended the BIO Pacific Rim conference in San Diego. This is a major industry event sponsored each year by BIO, which is the trade association representing industrial biotechnology and bioenergy. At the BIO conference, staff was able to learn about industry trends, discuss the real estate and other business needs of emerging companies, network with key industry officials, increase the city's visibility in the biotechnology industry, and meet with companies that may be expanding or in need of relocation, thus laying the groundwork for future business attraction.

POLICE

Police Patrol Vehicles



The City of Brentwood budgets for, and systematically replaces, vehicles used in its fleet as they age and maintenance costs no longer make it cost effective to retain the vehicle. At the regular City Council meeting on December 10, City Council approved the purchase of five 2014 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles ("Interceptor SUV") from Bill Brandt Ford, to replace five

Ford Crown Victoria Interceptors that are scheduled for replacement in fiscal year 2013/14.

Approximately two years ago Ford announced they were no longer going to manufacture the Crown Victoria for police use. Ford and Chevrolet have been the leaders in the competition to fill the void left by the Crown Victoria, with Dodge also providing a limited option for police use. However, after fully evaluating all options and after exhaustive research, staff determined that the best choice for the Brentwood Police Department is the Ford Interceptor SUV. The Ford Interceptor SUV had several advantages over the Chevrolet Caprice including but not limited to a lower purchase price, more room for the officers and their equipment, a more versatile



platform, slightly better gas mileage and maintenance costs and a much shorter lead time from order placement to delivery. The California Highway Patrol, as well as some other Police Departments in California (Walnut Creek, San Diego and Redlands to name a few), have also chosen this vehicle for their operations. It is anticipated that a large number of California agencies will also make the switch.

As the existing fleet continues to age, the vehicles requiring replacement will be replaced with the Ford Interceptor SUV thus it will take some time before the fleet is fully converted to the new vehicles.



Holiday Safety Tips

The holiday season is a special time of the year. Unfortunately, it is also a time of the year that many communities experience an increase in crime. Some of these crimes include residential/auto burglaries, thefts, and robberies. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. The following holiday safety tips are meant to help prevent you from becoming a crime victim.

- Lock doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a short time.
- Put indoor and outdoor lights on a timer.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through windows and doors.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- When leaving your home for an extended period of time, have a neighbor or family member pick up your newspaper and mail.
- Do not leave valuables visible in your vehicle. This creates a temptation for criminals.
- Report suspicious people or activity to law enforcement **immediately**.
- When shopping in the evening, park in well-lit areas. Consider shopping with someone rather than going alone.
- Remain aware of your surroundings at all times. Have your keys ready before getting to your vehicle so you don't have to search for them while standing by your car. As soon as you enter your vehicle lock your doors.
- Keep your purse close to your body. Don't carry large amounts of cash.
- Don't talk on your cell phone when walking through parking lots. Your phone conversation is a distraction that makes you vulnerable to criminals. Keep your full attention on your surroundings.
- Do not open your vehicle door to anyone in a parking lot. If you feel you are in danger call 911.

The Brentwood Police Department wishes you and your family a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.



CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE

For Week Ending December 13, 2013

Paul Eldredge, City Manager

PUBLIC WORKS

Christmas Tree Disposal

The City of Brentwood recommends disposing of your Christmas tree in one of the following ways: 1) Local organizations will be collecting Christmas trees for recycling. For more information, call (925) 634-7933; 2) Unflocked trees may also be recycled by removing all decorations, cutting the tree into sections of three feet or less, and placing the cuttings in the green waste cart for collection; or 3) The City will pick up flocked or uncut trees for a fee. The fee for pickup will be based on the tree size and will be reflected on your utility bill. For more information, please call Public Works Solid Waste at (925) 516-6090.

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