

# Community Development & Infrastructure Newsletter

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*Building communities from the ground up. Striving to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by providing essential services for daily life.*

## 5300 Soquel Acquisition

Kimberly Finley, Chief Real Property Agent

**O**n December 13, 2022, the Board unanimously approved County acquisition of 5300 Soquel Avenue. The property is 0.47 acres, improved with a 30,220 square foot two-story multi-tenant flex/office building and is comprised of approximately 11% warehouse. The property is located in mid-town and Chanticleer Avenue, on campus near Dominican campus. The negotiated equates to \$261.42 per



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immediately off Highway 1 at Soquel Drive the shared Sheriff's Public Safety Center Hospital and the potential future Kaiser purchase price is \$7,900,000, which square foot of gross building area.

5300 Soquel Avenue is envisioned as a Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit and Short Term Residential Therapeutic facility, to be operated by the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency. Currently, there are no inpatient programs for youth located in Santa Cruz County. With the proposed new Children's Program, many youth in crisis will be able to be supported at a local level with stronger parent/guardian engagement through this alternative Children's Program rather than to being sent out of County for hospitalization.





# GIS- County Roads

Casey Carlson, Senior Civil Engineer

## Is this a County maintained road?

The County maintains about 600 miles of roadway (595.33 miles to be exact). In Operations Engineering one of our most frequently asked questions is “Is this a County maintained Road? and if its not, what is it, who’s in charge of it, who maintains it, etc”. In this article we will answer these questions.

In the beginning..... An original landowner chooses to create a road, typically to provide access to that owner’s land for development (most often a housing subdivision). A piece of land called the “Road Right of Way” is created for the road to exist on, usually a strip of land centering on the road. The owner has two choices, the road can be declared a private or a public right of way. **Spoiler Alert** – a County maintained road is a public right of way, but a public right of way may not be a County maintained road.



**Private Right of Way:** In the case of true Private Roads, the original landowner granted access rights to the road only to certain property owners, such roads can prohibit use or access (i.e. they can put up a gate).

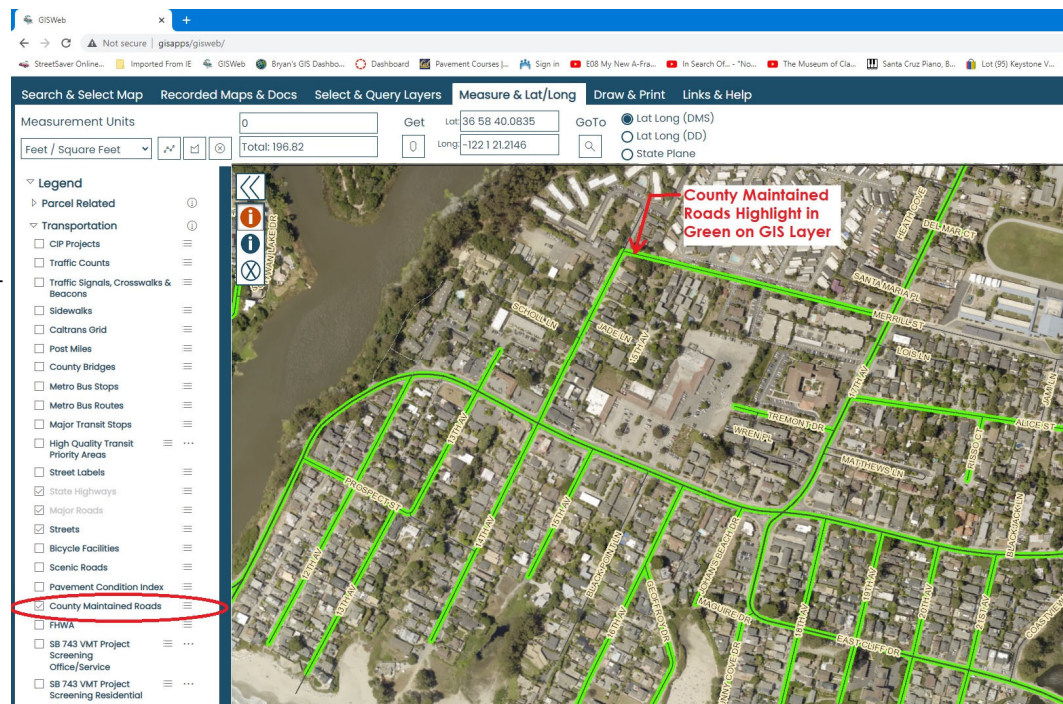
**Public Right of Way:** In this case, the road is created as a Public Right of Way by the landowner, the road is dedicated for public use, meaning any member of the public has the right to go there.

**County Maintained Road:** The County Board of Supervisors must pass a resolution to accept a road into the County maintained system. Acceptance will typically occur after the road is constructed and recommended for acceptance by Public Works. Typically, the roads the County accepts were originally offered as Public Right of Way on a map or other document, though in some cases private roads were made public rights of way and taken into the County system. For any roads the County accepts, maintenance of that road becomes the responsibility of the County.

The easiest way to see if a road is County maintained is go to GISWEB and turn on the “County Maintained Roads” layer under the “Transportation” layer group, all roads the County maintains will highlight in green on the map. <http://gisapps/gisweb/>

## Non-County Maintained Public Right of

**Way:** This is what happens when a road was created as Public Right of Way, but was not taken by the County for maintenance. The road remains publicly accessible as the original owner created it, but ‘who is supposed to maintain it’ may not be defined (though in practice, maintenance on such roads is typically organized by the property owners fronting the road). Public Works does not maintain or arbitrate over the use of the roads that are not accepted into the County-maintained road system.





# Aptos Branch Library

Damon Adlao, Project Manager



The Aptos Branch Library is currently in the construction phase of the project and is proceeding smoothly. Building framing is nearing completion along with the MEP rough-ins within the walls and slab. The roof has been installed and the building has been “dried-in” so interior activities can continue during the winter months. The contractor was able to secure the site prior to our recent storms with site work nearing completion. The Library and community have been kept informed of the construction progress and are looking forward to having this

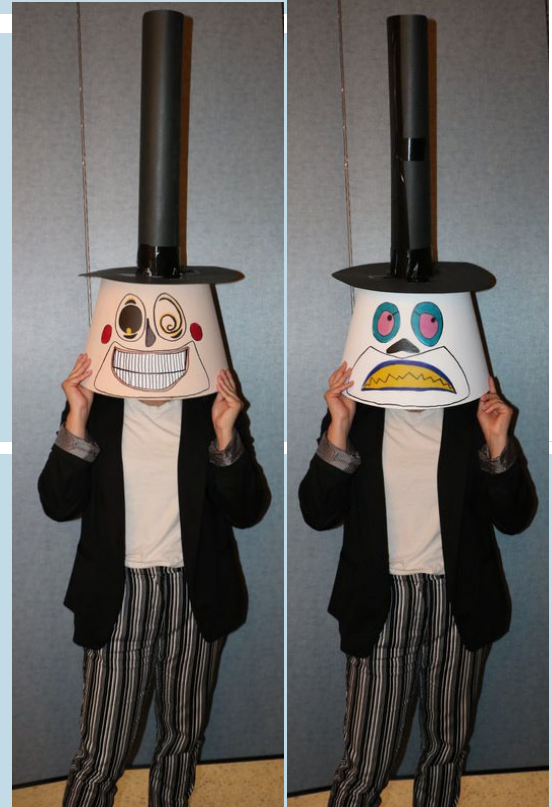


community asset reopened to the public next summer. The contractor will continue with construction through the winter with the current schedule showing a completion date in July 2023. Thanks to all CDI staff who have contributed to this important capital project which will be enjoyed by the County for generations to come.





# CDI UPDATES



## NEW EMPLOYEES

**Nicholas Brown**

Planning Tech

**Garrett Jensen**

Building Plans Checker

**Melissa Nathan**

Office Assistant III

**Eduardo Nuno Santana**

Heavy Equipment Mechanic I

**David Kieffer**

Public Works Maintenance Worker II

**Ricardo Plasencia**

Public Works Maintenance Worker II

**Christopher White**

Electrical Instrumentation Worker II

**Ruby Zaragoza**

Office Assistant III

**Yildiz Stella Dak**

Civil Engineer

**Ryan Holmes**

Assistant Real Property Agent

**James Mahutga**

Transfer Truck Driver

**Heather Willis**

Senior Accounting Technician

## PROMOTIONS

**Michael Hettenhausen**

Project Manager

**Travis Rieber**

Project Manager

**Benjamin Caldwell**

Public Works Maintenance Worker II

**Lonnie Forst**

Public Works Maintenance Worker II

**Aaron Marquez**

Electrical Instrumentation Worker II

## RETIREES

**Donald Smawley**

**Manuel Gutierrez Garcia**

**"You must try your best, and  
that's the best anybody can do"**

**Jiminy Cricket**

[DPW.CO.SANTA-CRUZ.CA.US](http://DPW.CO.SANTA-CRUZ.CA.US)

