



City Manager Lorie Tinfow contributes a regular column to the *Pacifica Tribune* to connect with local residents and keep Pacificans informed on issues that are of current interest in the City of Pacifica. Below is the submission for the March 8, 2017 edition of the *Pacifica Tribune*, in which City Manager Lorie Tinfow reflects on her time with Pacifica.

As you likely read in last week's *Pacifica Tribune*, I will be leaving my position as City Manager here to become the City Manager in Benicia. My last day is March 31 so this will be my final column.

When I arrived there were many challenges and while plenty remain, I want to highlight some of the accomplishments of which I'm most proud. I'm proud that I have been able to develop a leadership team that combines long-term staff who have valuable institutional knowledge with new folks who have brought new ideas and new energy. Together we have raised the bar of professionalism for the City organization and I feel that I am leaving the City in good hands. I'm proud of the improved financial transparency that I've introduced via the easy-to-read budget document and long term financial plan document that explains the assumptions used in the projections.

I'm also proud that I was able to help the City Council move forward a number of projects and initiatives that, in some cases, had been years in the making. Examples are the purchase of the remaining piece of property needed to complete the Coastal Trail, moving the library planning forward so that we hired an architect, established a library advisory committee and placed a measure on the ballot for voter consideration, and created an Economic Development Program that included hiring an experienced Economic Development Manager who, among other activities, has led efforts to select a hotel developer for the City property located at 2212 Beach Blvd. Much of this activity contributed to S&P's upgrade of the City's credit rating last summer.

I also introduced a new way for the City Council to set goals and develop a work plan that helped the five of them reach consensus on priorities so that the staff and I were better able to deliver results.

I'm also proud of how we have increased communication with the community. In addition to these regular *Tribune* columns, we joined NextDoor, created a FaceBook page, had booths at Fog Fest, and launched the weekly email newsletter called Connect with Pacifica. The staff and I also made presentations to community groups and service clubs on topics that ranged from the budget to the Council's work plan to the state of the City. With each of these, we looked to connect with the public.

One of the biggest challenges for me and the City occurred in January 2016 when El Niño storms hit Pacifica and damaged city property and private property. The staff from the Public Works, Wastewater, Police and Fire Departments who responded directly were amazing, taking care of whatever Mother Nature threw at us. In addition, I really can't say enough about the help we received from Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Senator Jerry Hill, Assembly member Kevin Mullin, and Supervisor Don Horsley in gaining the financial and technical assistance we need to make repairs and mitigate the longer-term hazards.

Finally, as I reflect on my time here, I am filled with gratitude—for the staff members who were wonderful partners in leading the City organization, for all of the Council members I worked with during my tenure, and for the many folks in the community who supported my work here. Thank you.
