

LathropSMART

City News

Volume 5
Summer 2022



Pictured Left to right: Commander Kyle Oki, Commander Stephen Sealy, Sergeant Rudy Alaniz, Chief Raymond Bechler, City Manager Stephen Salvatore, Sergeant Landon Lawson, Sergeant Greg Mortenson, Sergeant Billy Boyle, and Sergeant Brian Bowen

LATHROP POLICE DEPARTMENT – GO LIVE

The senior staff of the newly formed City of Lathrop Police Department officially received their police badges during a ceremony at Lathrop City Hall on Tuesday, May 17th. Chief of Police Raymond Bechler, Police Commanders Kyle Oki and Stephen Sealy, and the department's Sergeants assumed full operations on June 29th, becoming the first Police Department for the growing City of Lathrop. For three decades, law enforcement responsibilities were provided through contracted services with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department. City officials worked diligently for over two years toward a seamless transition from contracted law enforcement services to standing up their very own department. The transition is now complete, and the new police force is patrolling the streets of Lathrop and protecting its residents.

"The pinning ceremony was another step forward towards the establishment of our very own Police Department and was a pivotal moment in our growing city's history," said Stephen J. Salvatore, City Manager for the City of Lathrop. "We are grateful for the decades of service provided to our residents via the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department and are also looking forward to completing this transition process, thus providing enhanced benefits to the residents of Lathrop while also being fiscally prudent with our city finances."

Chief Raymond Bechler was chosen to be Lathrop's first Police Chief in September of 2021. Since assuming the leadership position within the department, Chief Bechler diligently worked to hire the sworn and non-sworn personnel who make up the department, secured the necessary equipment to conduct operations, put finishing touches on the new Lathrop Police Department Headquarters, and met with the residents of Lathrop at community events and town hall meetings.

Now fully operational, Chief Bechler said, "It is an exciting time to be able to showcase to the people of Lathrop what we've worked so hard to build for them. It has been no small task to get to where we are today, but thanks to our exceptional team and incredible amount of support from City staff, the Mayor, and the City Council, we have rolled out something special for the community. I think the residents of Lathrop will be very proud of what we've accomplished, in no small part because of the amount of engagement and feedback we've received from every corner of this city."

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- Lathrop Police Department – GO LIVE
- Lathrop: Now serving over 31,331 residents
- Affordable Connectivity Program
- Water Conservation & Watering Days
- Don't Run Off! Tips to Keep Water in Your Yard
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- Upcoming Events: Summer Activity Guide
- Now Hiring: Part-Time Recreation Leaders
- Road Closures and Road Work



"Bridge Reflections" courtesy of Maria Lamas, winner of first place at Mayor's Art Show for photography and the People's Choice award.


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LATHROP: NOW SERVING OVER 31,331 RESIDENTS

For the first time since incorporating as a City in 1989, Lathrop's resident population has surpassed the 30,000 mark. Deemed as one of the fastest growing Cities in California by the State Department of Finance, Lathrop's population increased by 6.6% to 31,331 people from January 1, 2021 to January 1, 2022.

The City's growth is reflective in the number of new homes being built throughout River Islands and Stanford Crossing. The growth impact has also been instrumental in the formation of a new Lathrop Police Department whose commission was effective July 1, 2022; the City's ability to attract more retail development like Sprouts Farmers Market, Dutch Bros, Sonic, Maverik, and Fairfield Inn by Marriott; and continued attraction of large industrial employers, such as Tesla, Ryder, Kraft Foods, Food 4 Less (PAQ, Inc.), and Medline, who have chosen to locate and expand in our community.

**Growth signals opportunity.
Capitalizing on opportunity is smart.
We are LathropSMART.**



Fastest Growing Cities w/Population Over 30,000 – 6.63%
Santa Cruz (11.3%), **Lathrop (6.6%)**, Seaside (3.1%), Irvine (3.0%), Menifee (2.9%), Berkeley (2.7%), Stanton (2.6%), Delano (2.4%), Chino (2.4%), Manteca (2.2%)

Percent Single-Family Housing Unit Growth – 10.97%
Paradise (21.46%), **Lathrop (10.97%)**, Firebaugh (6.25%), Calimesa (6.11%), Greenfield (5.66%), Lone (5.46%), Winters (4.46%), Menifee (4.31%), Colfax (4.27%), Kerman (4.19%)

Percent Total Housing Unit Growth – 10.07%
Paradise (23.36%), **Lathrop (10.07%)**, Greenfield (9.71%), Imperial (5.27%), Lone (4.99%), Kerman (4.52%), Firebaugh (4.37%), Calimesa (4.29%), Patterson (3.88%), Menifee (3.87%)

Financially Sound City Government
Lathrop – by standards established by the state auditor – is the thirteenth most financially sound city in all of California. Based on FY 2019-2020 review completed in October 2021.



AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

Your household may be eligible to receive a monthly discount on a new or existing internet service plan with the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the ACP provides eligible households \$30 per month off of their internet bills. Approximately, twenty (20) leading internet providers will offer ACP-eligible households a high-speed internet plan for no more than \$30 per month. Eligible families who pair their ACP benefit with one of these plans can receive high-speed internet at no cost. To learn more about the program, visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/getinternet/>.

WATER CONSERVATION & WATERING DAYS

Making water conservation a way of life is important for protecting the City's precious water supplies and to save money by reducing your water bill. Please visit <https://saveourwater.com> for important information on water conservation.



Watering days are staggered based on your home or business address, with even numbered addresses watering on Tuesday and Saturday and odd numbered addresses watering on Wednesday and Sunday.

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS – WHO TO CALL



Be an informed homeowner and avoid unnecessary surprises and frustration before starting any construction or home improvements. Call the City's Planning and Building Division staff to verify zoning and/or building regulations or permits needed for your project. Visit City Hall during normal business hours or call the Planning Division at (209) 941-7260 or the Building Division at (209) 941-7270.

DON'T RUN OFF! TIPS TO KEEP WATER IN YOUR YARD

Harmful runoff can occur when water (either rain or irrigation) comes into contact with and washes pesticides, soil, or other products used around your home into storm drains and waterways. Help reduce harmful runoff and protect local waterbodies by using less-toxic products and slowing the flow of pollutants from your yard and garden.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

A simple way to help keep pesticides out of the local waterbodies is to reduce the amount of chemicals you apply to your yard and garden. To do this, while managing pest problems effectively, you can use Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which focuses on low- to no-pesticide methods of pest control, such as:



- **Prevention** Prevent pests from becoming a problem in the first place. For more information about pest prevention visit http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PDF/PUBS/Spring_2022_homegarden-pest-newsletter.pdf.

- **Alternatives** Use alternatives to pesticides for pest control, such as traps, physical removal, natural deterrents, and/or natural predators.

- **Pesticides as a Last Resort** Treat pesticides as a last resort, and use the least toxic options available. Discover more information about less toxic pesticide options by visiting <https://ourwaterourworld.org/pesticides-and-water-quality/>.

LEARN MORE!

Visit the UC Integrated Pest Management Program website at <http://ipm.ucanr.edu>. If you are unsure about how to safely manage your pest problem, consider hiring a professional to take care of the problem. Visit <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74125.html> for tips on hiring a pest control company.



Water-Conscious Landscaping

If pesticides must be used, be sure to follow these landscaping tips to help keep water and chemicals in your yard and out of our creeks and rivers.

- **Avoid Overwatering**

Overwatering and overspray will lead to increased runoff which can carry along the pesticides you apply. Find more information on how to irrigate responsibly, visit <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Conservation-Tips/Plant-and-Landscape-Guide>.



- **Porous Surfaces**

Use gravel, stones, or pavers to allow water to soak into the soil in areas where you don't have plants. Consider adding mulch to your garden to keep your soil moist, reduce evaporation, and restrict weed growth.



Additional landscaping tips may be found at <https://epa.gov/watersense/landscaping-tips>.

- **Plant Native** Plant vegetation that is naturally found in California ecosystems and requires little to no watering. This reduces the need for irrigation, as well as the potential for harmful runoff. Find native plants for your garden by visiting <https://gardenplanner.calscape.org>.

- **Timing** Wet and windy weather can spread pesticides to unintended places. Be sure not to apply pesticides (especially sprays) on windy days or right before a rainstorm. Learn more about safely applying pesticides at <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/WATER/U/safeuse.html>.

For more information about how the City of Lathrop is working toward improving local water quality, visit <https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/publicworks/page/storm-water-management>.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY

- Concerts in the Park –
Lathrop Generations Center at 6:30 p.m.
- July 15th – Featuring “Gotcha Covered”
 - July 22nd – Featuring “Hill Street Band”
 - July 29th – Featuring “Rock Creek”

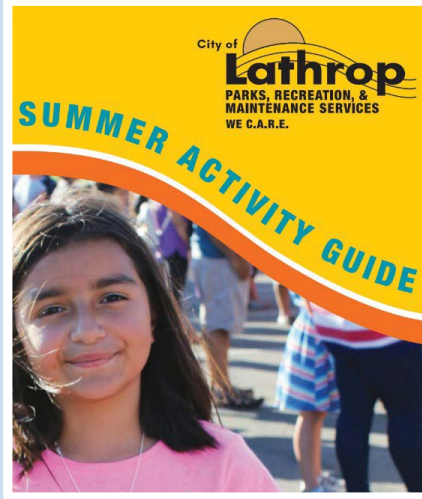
AUGUST

- August 12th – Family Fun Night – Mossdale Landing Community Park from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- August 20th-21st – Family Campout – Leland & Jane Stanford Park from 3 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.

SEPTEMBER

- Movies in the Park –
All Movies Start at Dusk
- September 2nd – Featuring “Scoob!” at Lathrop Generations Center
 - September 9th – Featuring “Rock Dog” at Michael Vega Park

For a full list of events, times and locations visit the City’s website at <https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/parksrec/page/summer-2022-activity-guide>



ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The City of Lathrop has several road improvement projects that will be ongoing throughout the Summer. Please visit the <https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/publicworks/page/road-closures-and-road-work> for information on roadway projects, so you may plan your route of travel with limited impact.

PG&E BILL DISCOUNT PROGRAMS: DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD QUALIFY?

PG&E is encouraging eligible customers to sign up for the monthly energy discount program. More than 134,000 PG&E customers are eligible to enroll in Bill Discount Program. To learn more about these programs, please visit https://www.pge.com/en_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/care/care.page?WT.mc_id=Vanity_FERA.

NOW HIRING – PART-TIME RECREATION LEADERS

NOW HIRING
PART-TIME RECREATION LEADERS
YOUTH & ADULT SPORT
MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AND HAVE A VALID DRIVERS LICENSE

JOIN THE CITY OF LATHROP PARKS, RECREATION & MAINTENANCE SERVICES TEAM WHERE OUR #1 RULE IS TO HAVE FUN!

STARTING AT \$17.35 AN HOUR

RECREATION LEADER ROLES
(INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING)

- HAVE HIGH ENERGY, ATTENTIVENESS AND A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF A VARIETY OF YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS.
- HELP CHECK IN/OUT, ENFORCE SAFETY POLICIES, DELIVER INSTRUCTIONS AND COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY WITH PARENTS, AND PARTICIPANTS.
- COACHING/MONITORING SPORTS PROGRAMS

SHIFTS AVAILABLE – WEEKDAYS AFTER 4:00P.M. AND ALL DAY WEEKENDS

APPLY TODAY!

www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/HR/page/job-opportunities

NOW HIRING
PART-TIME RECREATION LEADERS
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Starting at \$17.35 an hour.

JOIN OUR CITY OF LATHROP PARKS, RECREATION & MAINTENANCE SERVICES TEAM WHERE OUR #1 RULE IS TO HAVE FUN!

RECREATION LEADER ROLES
(INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING)

- * FACILITATE GROUP ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS AND GAMES WITH THE ABILITY TO ENGAGE WITH YOUTH IN GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 8TH.
- * HAVE HIGH ENERGY AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE.
- * COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY WITH PARENTS, PARTICIPANTS, AND SUPERVISOR.
- * LEARN LEADERSHIP AND TEAM BUILDING SKILLS

APPLY TODAY!

APPLY ONLINE AT [WWW.CI.LATHROP.CA.US/HR/PAGE/JOB-OPPORTUNITIES](https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/HR/page/job-opportunities) OR PICK UP HARD COPY APPLICATION AT THE LATHROP GENERATIONS CENTER

APPLY NOW!
MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD
EVENING AND WEEKEND SHIFTS AVAILABLE

NOW HIRING
PART-TIME RECREATION LEADERS
ASSIGN TO FACILITIES
STARTING AT \$17.35 AN HOUR

LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

RECREATION LEADER ROLES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- MONITORS THE FACILITY DURING THE DURATION OF SCHEDULED RENTALS OR CLASSES
- SETS UP, ARRANGES, AND TAKES DOWN TABLES, CHAIRS, AND OTHER FURNITURE ACCORDING TO SPECIFIED ARRANGEMENTS AND DIAGRAMS
- PERFORM LIGHT CUSTODIAL DUTIES

JOIN OUR CITY OF LATHROP PARKS, RECREATION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES TEAM WHERE OUR #1 RULE IS TO HAVE FUN!

APPLY ONLINE AT: [WWW.CI.LATHROP.CA.US/HR/PAGE/JOB-OPPORTUNITIES](https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/HR/page/job-opportunities) OR PICK UP HARD COPY AT THE LATHROP COMMUNITY CENTER 1557 FIFTH STREET

APPLY TODAY!