

# Memorandum

**To:** City Council  
**From:** Mayor Carmelita Garcia  
**Date:** 1/20/2010  
**Re:** Report out of Attendance at Meetings and Events

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The following is a summary of meetings I have attended for the months of **December 2009 and through January 20, 2010.**

- December 1, 2009 I attended the Kiwanis Club breakfast meeting and provided an overview of the City's current status.
- December 3, 2009 Attended a meeting requested by Col. Darcey Brewer from the Presidio of Monterey with the City Manager and City Attorney to discuss water needs of the Presidio.
- December 4, 2009 Attended a breakfast meeting with other officials hosted by California American Water to discuss the Cease and Desist Order and pending hearings. The City Attorney has and will continue to provide updates at council meetings.
- December 4, 2009 The monthly Monterey County Mayors' Association Luncheon was hosted by Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado. Deanna Sessums from the League of California Cities provided an update regarding receipt of the Initiative Title and Summary for the Local Taxpayers, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act. She also discussed a potential Federal Jobs Package and asked cities to encourage their Congressional representatives to promote increased infrastructure investment should a package come together. There was also an update provided by Lew Bauman, Monterey County CAO, which addressed the economy and impacts on county tax collection, the PERS impacts and the financial turnaround at Natividad Medical Center.

*January 14, 2010*

- December 5, 2009 Council Member Ken Cuneo and I held a Meet & Greet at the invitation of the residents at Vista Point Apartments. It was an eventful and informational evening.
- December 7, 2009 Monterey County Commission on Disabilities held its monthly meeting. The nominating committee presented its proposed slate of officers. Alma Almanza will serve as the 2010 Chair and I will serve as the Vice-Chair for 2010. The Commission was unable to begin review of Chapter IX of the Monterey Plan, which references to ADA and ADA accommodations due to staff is still working on it. However, we will be recommending revisions to it so a policy which addresses more specifically ADA/Reasonable Accommodations will be developed, which will then be the foundation for a training program for management.
- December 9, 2009 **AMBAG** the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments. Discussion regarding the Membership Dues Policy. Staff will bring back a recommendation regarding impact of partial payments, level of participation for agencies not paying 100% of dues, late fees and so on at the January meeting.
- December 9, 2009 Participated as a guest on the Mayors' Panel for the Leadership Monterey Peninsula Government Day. I joined Mayors Sue McCloud and Bruce Delgado. We answered the following questions: What are the roles and duties that being Mayor entail, what major accomplishments have occurred in the past year, what major challenges have occurred in the past year, and finally how did you get involved in your present leadership position.
- December 12, 2009 I held my monthly Meet & Greet at City Hall from 12:30-3:00 p.m. The January Meet & Greet is scheduled for Saturday, January 16 from 12:30-3:00 p.m. Senior Librarian Lisa Maddelena will be my guest. The council office is located off Forest Avenue, look for the opened door.
- December 16, 2009 Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District. The Independent Audit for fiscal year 2008-2009 was conducted and a favorable unqualified opinion was issued for the general purpose financial statements. Staff will be applying for an EPA Environmental Education Grant to help fund the district's "Way to Go!" educational program. The project would increase the current four to five workshops per year to eight, and would stage the workshops in all three counties of the

*January 14, 2010*

District. In addition, the current curriculum would be augmented with information concerning the District's Burn Program and climate change, and would include material that would be appropriate for fourth through eighth grade students. The "Way to Go!" curriculum is designed so teachers can help their students learn scientific principles and apply scientific knowledge to environmental problem solving, provide young adolescents, before they begin to drive, information about the environment consequences of the transportation choices in daily life, particularly the efforts of automobile travel on air pollution, and encourage students to play a positive role in their families and communities by becoming familiar with alternative transportation, so they can make informed choices about transportation and travel.

December 18, 2009 As a way of thanking their staff, the National Steinbeck Center has an annual "ditch day." The day is filled with activities and surprises. This year, the NSC selected the City of Pacific Grove to "ditch" in. The group was greeted at the Juice & Java by myself, our City Manager, and Moe Ammar representing the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber assisted in coordinating a personal tour of the Seven Gables Inn for the Steinbeck staff. During the course of their day here, they participated in a crafts project at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, had lunch at Fandango's and shopped. A quick stop at the Chamber of Commerce provided them with a decorative tile to take home so they could remember their special day in Pacific Grove.

January 4, 2010 Our City Manager Tom Frutchey and I joined Joseph Donofrio, General Manager of the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District and Mary Dainton, Board Member, Ward 4 of the Monterey Peninsula Park District for a lunch to discuss our future relationship and goals for the District and the City of Pacific Grove.

January 6, 2010 I was pleased to receive notice that my nomination of Robert Down Elementary School was accepted. Notice from the Monterey County Transportation Agency (TAMC) announced that Robert Down Elementary School is a recipient of an Excellence Award for their outstanding contribution to improving transportation in Monterey County, specifically promoting the use of alternative transportation at Robert Down Elementary School. The awards ceremony is January 27<sup>th</sup> at

*January 14, 2010*

the Salinas Community Center, Santa Lucia Conference Room, 940 N. Main Street, Salinas, at 10:00 a.m.

- January 8, 2010 As Mayor, the City of Pacific Grove hosted the January Monterey County Mayors' Association luncheon. Those in attendance included: Mayors Sue McCloud (Carmel), Ralph Rubio (Seaside), David Pendergrass (Sand City), Richard Oriz (Soledad), Chuck Della Sala (Monterey), Jeff Pereira (King City), and Dennis Donahue (Salinas). Also in attendance was Monterey County Supervisor Simon Salinas, County Administrator Officer Lew Bauman, Deanna Sessums Monterey Bay Regional Public Affairs Manager for the League of California Cities, and City Manager Tom Frutchey. There was some discussion and consensus that the Mayors along with the County of Monterey will hold a collective "address" (more information to come). The luncheon was held at the Victorian Corner Restaurant and members of the Heritage Society Steve Honegger and Claudia Sawyer were on hand to provide a walking tour of that particular historic block.
- January 11, 2010 Attended the swearing in of the 2010 Civil Grand Jury. Congratulations to Pacific Grove resident Darlene Bilstrom for being selected as the Foreperson of the 2009 Civil Grand Jury.
- January 11, 2010 Attended the January meeting of the Monterey County Commission on Disabilities. The commission discussed the format for the MCCOD 2010 retreat. We reviewed an update of the Cal Trans project relating to the Greenfield overpasses in South County. Since the last meeting Caltrans Design and Right of Way staff met on site with the utility companies and are working on resolutions to the conflicts with utility pole guy lines. The Caltrans Structures Design group in Sacramento prepared the design layouts effecting the bridge, and are on schedule for the plan package submittal April 1, 2010. The District 5 design staff in San Luis Obispo continues to make progress on the overall plans and are on target for a full plan package submittal to the Office Engineer (for review and approval) by June 2010. The scheduled date for Ready to List for the project (meaning that all the pre-construction parts are together) is January 2011. If the utility issues can be resolved sooner, Caltrans is hopeful that they will be able to beat that date by a few months.

*January 14, 2010*

January 13, 2010 **AMBAG** the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments met at the Steinbeck Center in Salinas. A reception was held for the outgoing Preseident of the Board. The 2010 Board President is Patricia Stephens and Vice President is R. Laverone. Proposition 84 grant guidelines and application process was discussed. The board approved staff's recommendation that out bylaws be followed regarding member dues.

January 14, 2010 I met with the Board of Directors at the Monarch Pines Mobile Home Park. Overall concerns expressed centerd around trees on the Municipal Golf Course, pedesterian safety in crossing Jewell Avenue, noise too early in the morning from the garbage truck and other issues that I will address with the City Manager.

January 14, 2010 The American Lung Association released their 2009 State of Tobaccom Control Report Card. Pacific Grove received an "F", however did get two points achieving outdoor smokefree goals. Please contact me [cg54@comcast.net](mailto:cg54@comcast.net) to discuss ways Pacific Grove can improve their grade.

A special "Thank you" to the Public Works staff for the great job in designing the wooden City street address logo. Be sure to look at the City's street address off Forest Avenue.