

Memorandum

To: City Council
From: Mayor Carmelita Garcia
Date: 3/17/2010
Re: Report out of Attendance at Meetings and Events

The following is a summary of meetings I have attended for the months of **February 17, 2010 through March 17, 2010.**

February 11, 2010 The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District held a meeting to present information on an update of the non-residential water use factors. Representatives of the hospitality industry spoke to encourage MPWMD to carefully evaluate the benchmark when determining what period of time to use in calculating the new tier fee structure for non-residential. At the time of this meeting, MPWMD was considering beginning with 2001. Representatives of the hospitality industry stated this was not an ideal year to begin with due to the fact that 911 occurred in 2001 driving the tourism industry into a recession that it is still recovering from.

February 12, 2010 California American Water hosted the Community Leaders Breakfast. New rates approved by the CPUC in July 2009 are being implemented and customers who exceed their individual water allotments will feel the majority of the increase. Customers will begin receiving direct mail notification of the change, which will contain a bill comparison for residential customers – showing what their bill was for a high consumption month last year and what it will be under the new rates this year, if their consumption stays the same.

February 17, 2010 I attended the monthly meeting of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District. Approved request from Neal Thompson of Monterey County for a time extension to implement their \$38,775 AB2776 grant (08-06) funded coordination of the Traffic Signals on San Miguel Canyon Road. The delay was caused by due to bids over budget and the extension will allow for a revision of the project, rebid it, and implement at a lower cost. Approved request from Hunter Horvath of Monterey-Salinas Transit District for a time extension to implement a \$40,000 AB2766 grant (07-09) funded Bus Rapid Transit Study. The delay was caused by the U.S. Federal Transit Administration in approving an application for federal funding (to implement a bus rapid transit project on Fremont Ave. in

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Monterey). Appointments were approved to the District's Advisory Committee. Janet Brennan (Director Jane Parker); Conrad Newberry (Director Simon Salinas); Lee Haskin (Director Sam Storey); Roberta Smith (Director Sam Storey); and Jay Tully (Director Carmelita Garcia). The Cemex cement plant in Davenport has closed. The fiscal impact due to the closure will be significant. Annual fees paid by Cemex are \$939,965. A reduction in revenue for FY 2010-2011 is expected to be \$880,000. As a result, the District identified certain programs where all costs are not being fully recovered. Those fees include: Title V Emission Fees, Permit Renewal Fee Non-major, Gasoline Dispensing Fees, General Application Fees, Fees for Prescribed Burns. By increasing them a total of \$432,100 in additional revenue will be generated. Additionally, a reorganization of staff was approved and the annual savings will be approximately \$304,000. AB2766 (Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Grant Program) was discussed and released on February 17, 2010. Staff will hold three workshops for potential applicants on applications, scoring, selection, Grant Acceptance Agreements, reimbursement, and monitoring. Call 647-9411 for more information. The new Chair for the Board of Directors of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District is Director Sam Storey and the Vice Chair is Director Jane Parker.

February 19, 2010 Attended a lunch with the Chowder Heads, a professional group in Carmel. Provided an overview of the City, which included the budget, projects, and future.

February 19, 2010 Police Chief Darius Engles and I traveled to the City of Soledad to attend the swearing-in ceremony for Soledad's Police Chief Eric C. Sills. Assembly Member Anna Caballero administered the oath and Congressman Sam Farr was in attendance as well.

February 22, 2010 I attended the monthly meeting of the Monterey County Airport Land Use Commission. Project review (conceptual review) of the Santa Catalina School Modernization Master Plan was held. The project consists of a total of 40,000 square feet of which 20,000 is new square footage. New parking garage to go underneath the field with a parking capacity for 60 vehicles, no additional lighting, student population and number of faculty to remain the same. The modernization will consist primarily of demolishing existing facilities and replacing them, some with additional square footage. Laguna Seca Villas Condominiums – The ALUC reviewed the formal review completed for the Laguna Seca Villas Condominiums and approved a letter to sent to the County memorializing that the ALUC considered and approved the Laguna Seca Villas project on April 24, 2006.

February 22, 2010 The regular programming of "Your Town" was held this date. My guests included Bruce Obbink from the Pacific Grove Hometown Bulletin, Police Chief Darius Engles, and Adrienne Jonson owner of Artisiana Gallery on Forest Avenue.

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February 22, 2010 I attended the monthly meeting of the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency. The Chair for 2010 is Monterey County Supervisor Lou Calcagno and Vice-Chair is Ron Stefani from the Castroville Community Services District. The following employees were recognized: Jose O. Guzman for fulfilling the requirements for certification as a Grade III wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, and Patrice Friedmann Parsons for certification as a Grade IV Laboratory Analyst. The board approved a study/analysis of providing sewer services to Toro Park Region, which may also include analysis of Indian Springs and Las Palmas, at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. The Board approved the request to hire a contract Laboratory Analyst in order to meet the needs of the SDRF beginning in March.

February 23, 2010 The 14th Annual Young Entrepreneur Awards (YEA) presentation was held at the Museum of Natural History. YEA was created in 1996 in an effort to stimulate an interest in entrepreneurial enterprise among Pacific Grove Middle School students. Thank you to Craig and Rebecca Riddell for their continuing support and coordination of this great opportunity for our youth. Winners of the Young Entrepreneur Awards were Eric O'Hagan (1st place) for his concept of a Robin Hood Directed Charity; Hayley Walker (2nd place) for her Wool Wonder pins; and Sonia Garfinkel (3rd place) for making house numbers out of scrap metal.

February 24, 2010 The City of Pacific Grove held a Water Summit to discuss water supply problems, regional water solutions, local water solutions, and present and future needs for the City of Pacific Grove. The panel of presenters included representatives from the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, California American Water, Marina Coast Water District. Keith Israel from the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency was also in attendance. The slide presentation is on the City's web site for your viewing (www.ci.pg.ca.us).

February 25, 2010 St. Mary's by the Sea Episcopal Church held a "tea" to celebrate the ministry of the Christian Social Concerns committee. This historic ministry has been in existence for over 50 years. At the City Council meeting of February 17th, a resolution was presented recognizing this group, Rev. Richard Nance Jr. for his 60 years of community service and retirement from the First Baptist Church on Laurel and 4th, and also to recognize February as Black History Month.

February 26, 2010 The California Comprehensive Water Package Informational Forum was held at the Government Center, Monterey County Board of Supervisors Chamber. A comprehensive water package panel presented an overview of the current water situation and the bond measure gearing up for the November ballot. The package will include four policy bills and an \$11.14 billion general obligation bond measure. The bond would fund improvements to California's aging water infrastructure and would also support vital ecosystem restoration in the Delta. The Central Coast would receive \$58 million for water supply reliability programs and projects. The Central Coast would also be eligible for a share of \$6.38 billion in other regional and statewide funding for water management programs and projects,

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eligible for a share of \$327 million in statewide drought funding for local and regional drought relief projects, and grants for small community wastewater treatment projects and economically disadvantaged communities, eligible for a share of an additionally \$350 million for local and regional conveyance projects, and eligible for a share of conservation and watershed protection programs. Panelists included Louis R. Calcagno, Supervisor, Monterey County; a message from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger; Sue Sims, Chief Deputy Director California Department of Water Resources; Curtis Weeks, General Manager Monterey County Water Resources Board; Tim Quinn, Executive Director Association California Water Agencies; Darby Fuerst, General Manager Monterey Peninsula Water Management District; Stephen Collins, Board Member Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors; Catherine Bowie, Manager External Affairs, California American Water; Mary Bannister, General Manager Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency; and Jim Heitzmann, General Manager Marina Coast District.

February 27, 2010 A very special luncheon recognizing Ben Jealous the youngest President/CEO of the NAACP was held at Fandango's. Mr. Jealous grew up in Pacific Grove, where his parents still reside, attended PG schools and eventually graduated from York School. Ms. Jessie Bray was at the event to greet Mr. Jealous, where she teased him about being his second grade teacher and she felt good because "no harm" was done, realizing how well he has done in his life. Mr. Jealous addressed a group of 40 speaking about the uphill battle African Americans still face today. He also shared that the NAACP is rigorously pursuing employers who use credit ratings as part of their screening process for hiring people. A highlight of his talk addressed his hour-half conversation he had with President Barak Obama in the Oval Office a couple of weeks ago.

February 27, 2010 I attended the 38th Annual Membership Dinner for the Monterey Branch of the NAACP. Mrs. Agnes Tebo (95 years old) was honored as the recipient of the President's Award as well as Bettye Saxon, who was the recipient of the Spirit of Partnership Award.

March 4, 2010 Attended the Employee of the Year event. Congratulations Lisa Maddalena Senior Librarian of our great library. The event was hosted by Ted and Cindy Walter of Passionfish.

March 5, 2010 The monthly Mayors Luncheon was held. Topics discussed included an update by the League of California Cities on their ballot initiative to protect local revenues from State take-aways.

March 8, 2010 The League of California Cities Monterey Bay Division held its meeting. Special Guest Speaker was Gina Antonini, Deputy Director from the office of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. She provided an update regarding the State budget. The State is looking at a 19.9 billion dollar deficit. Of that deficit, 6.6 billion is this current fiscal year; 12.3 billion is fiscal year 2010/2011, and one

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billion in reserves. Deanna Sessums from the League of California Cities discussed the local taxpayers, public safety and transportation protection act.

March 10, 2010 The 34th Annual Community Service Awards was held at the Monterey Plaza Hotel on Cannery Row. Pacific Grove had a great presence with the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History Monarch Docents, Nancy Dolton, Mona Schoenwisner, Matt Overfield, Tama Olver, Gordon Williams, Sylvia Schuck, and the Museum of Natural History Monarch Docents (Jack, Mark, and Don), all being nominated as outstanding volunteers.

March 11, 2010 I attended the Annual Membership Luncheon of the COC. Congratulations to the following for Awards of Excellence recipients: Best Retail Gail Abelow from Back Porch Fabrics & Quilt Gallery; Best Environmentalist Kristin Cushman, The Offset Project; Best Service, Brian Gill, The Gill Law Office; Best Restaurant, AJ Kishk, Pizza My Way; and Best Hotel, Diane and Jerry McKneely, Old St. Angela Inn. The event was held at the Inn at Spanish Bay.

March 12, 2010 I attended the Heritage Society Lecture on the Chinese Village. Thank you to the Heritage Society for organizing such a great event.

Mark your calendar for my next Meet & Greet, Saturday, March 20, 2010 from 12:30-3:00 p.m. The council office is located off Forest Avenue. The door will be opened.

Respectfully submitted,



MAYOR