



City of
Greenfield *Where Historic El Camino Real Meets Monterey Wine Country*



**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
NO. 07
Week Ending August 2, 2013**

From the office of the City Manager:
Susan A. Stanton



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FIRED UP AND READY TO GO!

It's been an exciting four weeks and its hard to believe that summer is almost over and school will begin in a few weeks. Coming from sunny Florida, it so hard to remember that it is summer outside! Something about those strong winds and 50 degree evenings that don't feel like summer!

As you will see in this issue or our newsletter, it's been a very productive three weeks. Much of my personal time has been devoted to working with our employees on negotiating new collective bargaining agreements for the next two years. Public employee unions have an undeserved bad reputation for making unreasonable demands on city government during these very difficult economic times. Here in Greenfield, both The Service Employee's International Union, led by Joel Hill and the Greenfield Police Officers Association, let by Dave Cariaga, have been very cognizant of the City's financial position and reasonable in their wage expectation and employment benefits. The City will be approving both agreements in the next week which is possible only because employees are committed to the community and willing to invest their own wages in the management and operation of their departments.

During the next several weeks, the City will be making many important decisions about Greenfield's future. One of the most important issues which I am discussing with elected officials is the necessary steps Greenfield needs to take to reestablish funding for our South County Courthouse. This needs to be a primary focus of City government and one that I cannot delegate to staff members. With the finalization of the budget and approval of the proposed collective bargaining agreements, I am ready for this next challenge. I am excited and hopeful! Fired up and ready to roll... But, we have our work cut out for us. This will require a full community effort...which I will discuss in more detail in the weeks to come.



RESTORING FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH COUNTY COURTHOUSE!

On March 19th, 2010 the City was selected as the preferred site for the courthouse for South County. The proposed project was to replace the King City Courthouse, a small, 40-year-old building shared with several county agencies. The current courthouse has only one courtroom and one hearing room. The proposed project for Greenfield was to provide the southern region of Monterey County with a modern, secure, full-service facility of three courtrooms and approximately 47,200 square feet. ([see the March 2009 Fact Sheet here](#))

As most people know, Greenfield was selected as a central and convenient location for South Monterey County residents, as it is midway between Soledad and King City and at the midpoint of South County, between southern Salinas and the county line near San Ardo. By increasing judicial capacity in South County, the proposed courthouse would have allowed the Court to expand the types of cases and services available which would have expanded access to our juridical system. At the time, the new courthouse project was among the judicial branch's highest-priority infrastructure projects. It is one of 41 projects funded by Senate Bill 1407, which was in legislation from 2000 providing funding for critically needed courthouse construction and renovation through a portion of judicial branch fees, fines, and penalties, without impact on the state's General Fund.

It is imperative that the City begin the process of restoring funding for this project. In the next month, the City Council will be discussing this effort and beginning a dialog with other elected officials in the region and state to restore funding for this project. Stay tuned for more details.



MARY CHAPA / EL CAMINO REAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS CROSSING GUARD...COMING SOON!

In the continuing effort to provide the most important assets in our community, our children, the City and school Administration at Mary Chapa and El Camino Real Schools at Walnut and El Camino Real will be employing school crossing guards at the NE and NW corners of El Camino Real and installing a no-parking zone in front of the school. The restricted parking zone and crossing guards are being deployed to control both the movement of our children and automobiles entering and leaving the school site. As with any new change, I suspect there will be a period of adjustment as parents and students become more comfortable about where to enter the school in the morning and what the proper protocol is when picking up their children.

In the weeks to come, parents will be getting specific information directly from the school and be given a phone number if they need additional clarification or have any special need that impacts their children.



SALINAS VALLEY ENTERPRISE ZONE DISSOLVED!

The City of Greenfield, in partnership with the Cities of the Salinas Valley (Salinas, Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield, and King City) and the County of Monterey have formed the Salinas Valley Enterprise Zone to promote economic growth in the Salinas Valley. Unfortunately, Governor Brown will be signing legislation that will eliminate this valuable economic tool. (For more information of the EZ program, see [here](#)) For a few businesses in Greenfield they have been able to take advantage of hiring credits, sales/use tax credits, business expense deduction for depreciated equipment and a number of other incentives to reduce their operating business expenses.

Along with the elimination of the City's Development Agency, this is another big loss in the City's economic tool box. In discussing our collective future here in South County, each of the Salinas Valley Cities and County are in the process of exploring other partnerships that might replace the EZ Program. Looking back here in Greenfield, the community has not taken full advantage of these programs to expand business opportunities. However, the City must become proactive in this area and will also be exploring ways to expand its tax base and create employment opportunities.

From Garbage to Garden



It's Compost Time!

**GREENFIELD IS PLANNING
TO HAVE A COMPOSTING
WORKSHOP AND A
COMMUNITY GARDEN!**

Mark your calendars! On February 22nd 2014, Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority and the City of Greenfield are partnering to build a Community Garden and Compost Area at our Patriot Park. This Garden and Compost area is will be located next to the basketball courts, by the tree line. Please stay tuned for more information and how you can help!



HELPING OUR GREENFIELD SENIORS!

If you are a senior (60 years of age or older), you might be eligible for some really important benefits. One of the most important program is called CalFresh which could help you put healthy food on your table. By using this program, CalFresh can help you buy fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean meats, even seed for your vegetable garden.

CalFresh is easy to use and has special rules to make it easier for older adults, age 60-plus to qualify. You can have a house, savings, cars, and still join the program. Your housing costs and medical bills may be deducted from your income in determining your eligibility. You may receive Social Security Income but not Supplemental Security Income (SSI). All legal residents are qualified. For more information on this program click [here](#)



CITY AND UNION APPROVE CONTRACT

In recognition of the City's financial position, the SERVICE EMPLOYEE'S INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 521, has approved a two year labor agreement. Unlike in many communities, employees and city management worked collaborative to reduce the cost of personnel services while also developing a new pay-for-performance program that will reward employees who are successful in getting critical state certificates and licenses for the operation of the City's water and sanitary system. City employees have accepted a small 1% wage increase for FY 2014 and a wage freeze in 2015. This wage "increase" did not restore a City wide wage reduction that was mandated in 2012. These negotiations were very professional and productive because City employees recognized the financial limitations in the City and were willing to do their share and sacrifice until the local economy improves. The City Council will be taking formal action on the agreement in the next few weeks. If you do happen to see one our city staff working in the community, please express your appreciation for their dedication and selfless contribution to making Greenfield a great place to call home.

The agreement for FY 2013-15. Our negotiations took place over a three week period in about five sessions. We also dedicated a tremendous amount of effort developing a Pay-for-

Performance Plan that is attached in the Appendix to the agreement. The pay plan I proposed, and accepted by the Union, replaces a traditional "Step Plan" where each employee gets an annual 5% wage increase (until they reach the maximum pay for their position).



CONTAMINATED RECYCLING IN GREENFIELD!

The City was recently informed by our Solid Waste provider Tri-Cities Disposal that we are having a very high contamination for household recycling materials. This is a really big problem because high contamination rates will cause the entire truck to be rejected resulting in lost revenue for both the City and Tri-Cities. Because this problem seems to be getting worse, Tri-Cities may be forced to start charging a penalty fee for people who mix non-recycling in their blue Container.

This can be confusing.... But remember the brown container contains garbage such as Styrofoam, Napkins & tissue paper, Food soiled paper & cardboard e.g. pizza boxes, Ceramics & china, e.g. broken dishes, Drinking glasses, Window and mirror glass, Dog poop & kitty litter (put in plastic bag and tie off top), Chips bags and candy wrappers, Food waste, Diapers and Shoes & clothing.

We encourage everyone to recycle. Its good for the environment, it keeps our solid waste disposal and collection cost low ...and in California, it's the law. For a complete list of things you can recycle in your blue container [click here](#)....



Literacy and Community Program Group Update:

The Literacy Community Group will be meeting on Friday, August 16th at 12:00p.m. at the Community Center. Please come by if you are interested in

What is adult literacy? You Ask...

This may seem like a simple question to answer -- adults being able to read and write, right? - but in fact educators have been puzzling and arguing over it for at least a hundred years. It encompasses reading and writing, of course, but at what level? A hundred years ago, people were considered literate if they could write their names, a qualification that would certainly be woefully inadequate today. And what about math? To be literate, do you have to be able to at least add, subtract, multiply, and divide, so you can balance your checkbook and figure your gas mileage? Do you need a certain amount of general knowledge in order to be literate? A lot of educators who use the term "cultural literacy" think so. How about people who can't speak or read or write English: are they literate, if they can read and write in their own language? And do you have an obligation to help learners understand how to use their literacy?



New Employees Sworn Into Public Service

I want to extend a special welcome to three new employees into our Greenfield family. Our most recent addition, Ocatavio Tamayo, working as Maintenance Worker in Public Works, Jeri Corgill, as the new Accounting Operations Manager and Nina Aguayo, my Executive Assistant and the editor of this fine newsletter... Kudos, Kudos to everybody!

Let's Keep Greenfield Clean!!!

If you see a code matter that you feel needs to be addressed by the City, please email: [I love Greenfield](#)

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

If you are interested in serving on a particular board and would like to apply... [click here](#) to download an application and turn it in to City Hall.

**Spread the Word!!!
We would love to have more readers!**

If you know of anyone that would be interested in receiving our Report, please have them contact: [Nina Aguayo](#) or call City Hall @ 831.674.5591. Thank you for your support!



Upcoming Events...

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY!!!

When: Sunday, August 18, 2013
Time: 11:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.
Where: Rancho San Miguel Market

STAY TUNED!!!!!!

