

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE
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To: Board of Supervisors
From: Birgitta Corsello, County Administrator
Date: November 19, 2013
Subject: Biweekly Update of Significant Issues

1. County Administrator's Update on Contracts

The County Administrator did not sign any contracts of significance since the last Significant Issues update.

2. Fairfield Flood Protection Validation and Conceptual Study – Project Status Update

On March 26, 2013, the Board of Supervisors approved the County's participation in the joint Fairfield Flood Protection Validation and Conceptual Study with the State of California Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) with the understanding that the AOC staff would contract for services with a consultant using an existing contract to expedite the process. At the time of Board approval, the County understood that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be finalized concurrently with the Study to ensure the AOC could receive the County's share of the cost, in the amount of \$222,458 as approved by the Board.

Subsequently, per AOC Administrative requirements, the AOC staff informed the County that the MOU would need to be in place prior to initiating services for the Study which necessitated a change from the original schedule communicated to the Grand Jury and the Board of Supervisors. To date, the County has signed the Shared Cost letter with the AOC, finalized and signed the MOU with the AOC, and provided input and approvals within the timeframes required to meet the AOC requirements.

On November 6, 2013, the County Administrator provided an update to the Solano County Grand Jury in response to the Grand Jury's October 29, 2013 request for information regarding the status of the Study.

The AOC is currently finalizing the contract with the proposed consultant with the intent of issuing the Notice to Proceed by November 25, 2013. On December 6, 2013, the County will participate in a Goals Definition/Scope Confirmation Meeting conducted by the consultant and will include representatives from the City of Fairfield. Information gathered during this planning session will be organized within the overall scope of the project with the anticipated completion of the Study in July 2014.

- Contact: James M. Bezek, Associate County Architect, General Services, 784-7908

3. Workforce Investment Board Common Measures

The WIB of Solano County has met or exceeded nine out of nine Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Common Measures goals for the 2012-2013 Program Year. Over the last five years, the WIB has met or exceeded all nine of the performance goals, except in the 2008-2009 Program Year where it met or exceeded eight of the goals.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF SOLANO COUNTY WIA PERFORMANCE REVIEW & GOALS			
STANDARD	YEAR 13 - FINAL PY 2012-2013		
	Goals	Final Reported	% of Goal
Adult			
Entered Employment Rate	72.0%	75.4%	105.0%
Retention Rate	81.0%	98.0%	121.0%
Average Earnings	\$14,000	\$12,980	93.0%
Dislocated Worker			
Entered Employment Rate	75.0%	79.3%	106.0%
Retention Rate	85.0%	91.7%	108.0%
Average Earnings	\$16,100	\$17,998	112.0%
Youth			
Entered Employment/Education	72.0%	83.30%	116.0%
Attained Degree/Certificate	60.0%	84.0%	141.0%
Literacy/Numeracy Gains	54.0%	79.6%	147.0%

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) uses these common measures to evaluate and improve performance of the WIA and other programs with similar goals. "Meeting" a goal is defined as achieving 80% or higher. "Exceeding" the goal is defined as exceeding 100% of the performance measurement.

The Executive Director congratulated WIB managers, coordinators, and line staff for this accomplishment, and will share the success at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting. In addition, the WIB has recently finished successful negotiations with the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) for slightly increased performance goals for the current 2013-2014 Program Year.

- Contact: Robert Bloom, Workforce Investment Board, 863-3501

4. Status Update on Solano and Yolo County Farmbudsman Program

On January 15, 2013, the Boards of Supervisors in Solano and Yolo counties adopted a joint operating agreement with the Solano Community College Small Business Development Center to establish a farmbudsman program that serves both jurisdictions by assisting farmers, ranchers and agriculture-related businesses with various permitting processes, including assistance with agricultural permitting and standards as required by regulatory agencies. The program's objective is to facilitate and expedite the development of promising value-added agricultural projects and was a key opportunity identified in the Solano and Yolo Counties Joint

Economic Summit in November 2011 to accomplish that objective. Michelle Stephens started serving as the part-time Farmbudsman in April 2013, working approximately 20 hours a week.

In her first six months, the Farmbudsman has worked on 24 different projects: 11 in Yolo County and 13 in Solano County. These projects ranged from requests for information to larger projects that start at the information gathering stage and will progress to county departments for permitting. The Farmbudsman is currently assisting with nine projects – four in Yolo County and five in Solano County – and anticipates an increase in projects during the next few months, which will correspond with the work slowdown in the fields.

Successful projects to date include:

- Minor use permit for a chicken and pig farm in Solano County
- Assistance with a building permit in Yolo County
- Research on air quality management requirements in Yolo County
- Research on non-oak tree removal requirements in Yolo County

The Farmbudsman is continuing her outreach within the agricultural community and is meeting with specific groups including the local farm organizations, the University of California of Davis, and local finance resources.

- Contact: Michelle Stephens, Farmbudsman, Solano & Yolo Counties, (530) 863-9073

5. Use Permit Modified for Truck Storage and Recycling Business

On September 19, 2013, the Planning Commission conducted a revocation hearing on Minor Use Permit 12-07, a trucking and recycling business located at 400 Benicia Road in Vallejo. This project was approved by the Board on February 19, 2013. One of the conditions of approval required that a compliance review be conducted within six months of approval.

At a public hearing on August 15, 2013, the Zoning Administrator concluded that the project was not operating in compliance with a condition of approval requiring recycling materials to be kept in enclosures and out of sight from public view.

The Planning Commission concurred with the determination and modified the minor use permit to eliminate the truck storage and recycling business from the list of permitted land uses. The owner of the property reported that he had delivered a notice to vacate to his tenant and agreed to the permit modification.

- Contact: Jim Leland, Principal Planner, Resource Management, 784-3166