County of Monterey

Government Center - Board Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Meeting Agenda - Final

Special Meeting - Legislative Workshop

Friday, February 2, 2024
10:00 AM

Join via Zoom at https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747 or in person at the address listed above

Board of Supervisors

Chair Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2
Vice Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3
Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4
Supervisor Mary L. Adams - District 5
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1

Participation in meetings

While the Board chambers remain open, members of the public may participate in Board meetings in 2 ways:

1. You may attend the meeting in person; or,

2. You may observe the live stream of the Board of Supervisors meetings at https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx, http://www.mgtvonline.com/, www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV or https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/

If you choose not to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting but desire to make general public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so in 2 ways:

a. submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Board meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at cob@co.monterey.ca.us. In an effort to assist the Clerk in identifying the agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the Subject Line, the meeting body (i.e. Board of Supervisors Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 10). Your comment will be placed into the record at the Board meeting.

b. you may participate through ZOOM. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at: https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747

OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US
+1 301 715 8592 US

Enter this Meeting ID number: 224397747 when prompted. Please note there is no Participant Code, you will just hit # again after the recording prompts you.

You will be placed in the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment if joined by computer audio please Raise your Hand; and by phone please push *9 on your keypad.

PLEASE NOTE: IF ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE PRESENT IN PERSON, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY ZOOM IS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW. IF THE ZOOM FEED IS LOST FOR ANY REASON, THE MEETING MAY BE PAUSED WHILE A FIX IS ATTEMPTED BUT THE MEETING MAY CONTINUE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON.

Participación en reuniones

Mientras las cámaras de la Junta permanezcan abiertas, los miembros del público pueden participar en las reuniones de la Junta de 2 maneras:

1. Podrá asistir personalmente a la reunión; o,

2. Puede observar la transmisión en vivo de las reuniones de la Junta de Supervisores en https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx, http://www.mgtvonline.com/, www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV o https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/

Si elige no asistir a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores pero desea hacer comentarios del público en general o comentar un tema específico de la agenda, puede hacerlo de 2 maneras:

a. envíe su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el lunes anterior a la reunión de la Junta. Envíe su comentario al Secretario de la Junta a cob@co.monterey.ca.us. En un esfuerzo por ayudar al secretario a identificar el tema de la agenda relacionado con su comentario público, indique en la línea de asunto el cuerpo de la reunión (es decir, la agenda de la Junta de Supervisores) y el número de artículo (es decir, el artículo n.º 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro en la reunión de la Junta.

b. puedes participar a través de ZOOM. Para participar en ZOOM, únase por audio de computadora en: https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747

O para participar por teléfono llame a cualquiera de estos números a continuación:

+1 669 900 6833 EE. UU. (San José)
+1 346 248 7799 EE. UU. (Houston)
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+1 253 215 8782 EE. UU.
+1 301 715 8592 EE. UU.

Ingrese este número de ID de reunión: 224397747 cuando se le solicite. Tenga en cuenta que no hay un código de participante, simplemente presione # nuevamente después de que la grabación lo solicite.

Se le colocará en la reunión como asistente; cuando esté listo para hacer un comentario público si se une al audio de la computadora, levante la mano; y por teléfono, presione *9 en su teclado.

TENGA EN CUENTA: SI TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA ESTÁN PRESENTES EN PERSONA, LA PARTICIPACIÓN DEL PÚBLICO POR ZOOM ES ÚNICAMENTE POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO ES REQUERIDA POR LA LEY. SI LA ALIMENTACIÓN DE ZOOM SE PIERDE POR CUALQUIER MOTIVO, LA REUNIÓN PUEDE PAUSARSE MIENTRAS SE

INTENTA UNA SOLUCIÓN, PERO LA REUNIÓN PUEDE CONTINUAR A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE.

The Board of Supervisors welcomes you to its meetings, which are regularly scheduled each Tuesday. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated. Meetings are held in the Board Chambers located on the first floor of the Monterey County Government Center, 168 W. Alisal St., Salinas, CA 93901.
As a courtesy to others, please turn off all cell phones and pagers prior to entering the Board Chambers.

ALTERNATE AGENDA FORMATS: If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals with a disability requiring a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting may make these requests to the Clerk of the Board Office.
CEREMONIAL/APPOINTMENTS/OTHER BOARD MATTERS: These items may include significant financial and administrative actions, and items of special interest, usually approved by majority vote for each program. The regular calendar also includes “Scheduled Items,” which are noticed hearings and public hearings.
CONSENT CALENDAR: These matters include routine financial and administrative actions, appear in the supplemental section by program areas, and are usually approved by majority vote.
TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON A MATTER ON THE AGENDA: Walk to the podium and wait for recognition by the Chair. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the specific subject under discussion. Time limitations shall be at the discretion of the Chair, with equal time allocated to opposing sides of an issue insofar as possible. Allocated time may not be reserved or granted to others, except as permitted by the Chair. On matters for which a public hearing is required, please note that a court challenge to the Board’s action may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing or in correspondence delivered to the Board at or before the public hearing.
TO ADDRESS THE BOARD DURING PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item and may comment when the Chair calls for general public comment for items that are not on the day's agenda. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.
DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION: Documents related to agenda items that are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the Clerk of the Board Office, 168 W. Alisal Street, 1st Floor, Salinas, CA. Documents distributed to the Board at the meeting by County staff will be available at the meeting; documents distributed to the Board by members of the public shall be made available after the meeting.
INTERPRETATION SERVICE POLICY: The Monterey County Board of Supervisors invites and encourages the participation of Monterey County residents at its meetings. If you require the assistance of an interpreter, please contact the Clerk of the Board located in the Monterey County Government Center, 168 W. Alisal St., Salinas - or by phone at (831) 755-5066. The Clerk will make every effort to accommodate requests for interpreter assistance. Requests should be made as soon as possible, and at a minimum 24 hours in advance of any meeting of the Board of Supervisors.
La Cámara de Supervisores del Condado de Monterey invita y apoya la participación de los residentes del Condado de Monterey en sus reuniones. Si usted requiere la asistencia de un interprete, por favor comuníquese con la oficina de la Asistente de la Cámara de Supervisores localizada en el Centro de Gobierno del Condado

de Monterey, (Monterey County Government Center), 168 W. Alisal, Salinas – o por teléfono al (831) 755-5066. La Asistente hará el esfuerzo para acomodar los pedidos de asistencia de un interprete. Los pedidos se deberán hacer lo mas pronto posible, y a lo mínimo 24 horas de anticipo de cualquier reunión de la Cámara de Supervisores.

All documents submitted by the public must have no less than ten (10) copies.
The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors must receive all materials for the agenda packet by noon on the Tuesday one week prior to the Tuesday Board meeting.
Any agenda related writings or documents distributed to members of the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors regarding any open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Clerk of the Board's Office located at 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor, Salinas, California. during normal business hours and in the Board Chambers on the day of the Board Meeting, pursuant to Government Code §54957.5

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To create an Alert please Sign Up and follow the User Guide to create alerts for calendars, meeting details, agenda items and item details at the following link:

https://monterey.legistar.com/Default.aspx

If assistance is needed please contact our office at the following email: cob@co.monterey.ca.us

Regístrese para recibir alertas sobre artículos que le pueden interesar para mantenerse informado y actualizado sobre la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Monterey

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https://monterey.legistar.com/Default.aspx

Si necesita ayuda, comuníquese con nuestra oficina al siguiente correo electrónico: cob@co.monterey.ca.us

PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

Legislative Workshop - Objectives:

The purpose of the Legislative Workshop is to discuss legislative, budgetary and other issues of mutual concern with the County's legislative delegation and identify issues to work together on in 2024.

Please note, because this is a special meeting, there will not be general public comment – public comment will be allowed only for items on the agenda.

10:00 A.M. - Call to Order

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions and Corrections

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Review of Agenda and Objectives

3. State of the County

4. County Priority Presentations (3 minutes each)
   a. San Lucas Clean Drinking Water
   b. Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs Safety Projects
   c. FEMA Reimbursements
   d. Community Services Center - Seaside
   e. Homeless Funding Formulas
   f. Monterey County Veterans Home
   g. Farm Bill Reauthorization / Immigration Considerations
   h. Bike and Skate Park
   i. Old Monterey County Jail

   Attachments: 2024 LW County Priorities Fact Sheets

5. Remarks by County of Monterey Board of Supervisors Regarding 2024 Priorities (2 minutes each)
   a. Supervisor Luis Alejo - District 1
   b. Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2
   c. Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3
   d. Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4
   e. Supervisor Mary Adams - District 5

6. Remarks by State and Federal Legislators on their 2024 Priorities that relate to the County of Monterey (3 minutes each)
   a. Congressman Jimmy Panetta
   b. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren
   c. Margaret Arechiga representing U.S. Senator Alex Padilla
   d. Senator John Laird
   e. Assemblymember Dawn Addis
   f. Dominic Dursa representing Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas
   g. Anna Velazquez representing Senator Anna Caballero
   h. U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler

7. Roundtable Discussion

8. Board Direction to Staff

9. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Adjournment

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-073

Item No.1

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Welcome and Introductions

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-074

Item No.2

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Review of Agenda and Objectives

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-075

Item No.3

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

State of the County

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-076

Item No.4

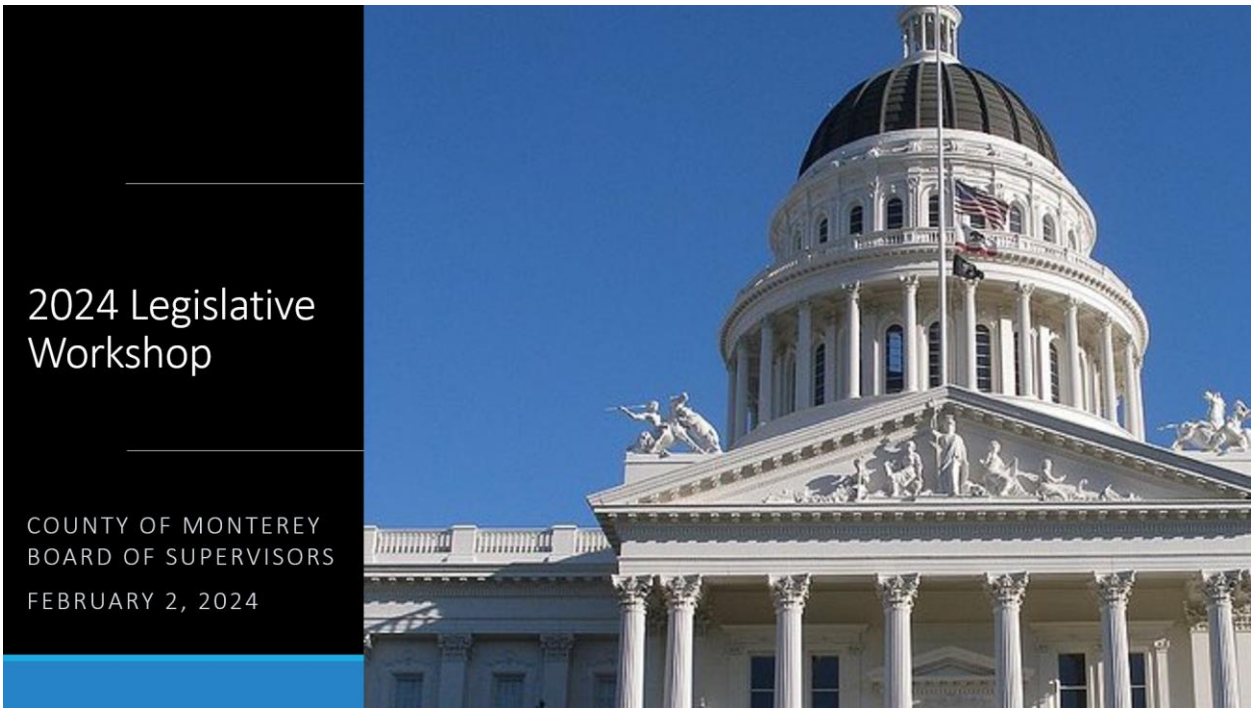
Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1
Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

County Priority Presentations (3 minutes each)

a. San Lucas Clean Drinking Water
b. Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs Safety Projects
c. FEMA Reimbursements
d. Community Services Center - Seaside
e. Homeless Funding Formulas
f. Monterey County Veterans Home
g. Farm Bill Reauthorization / Immigration Considerations
h. Bike and Skate Park
i. Old Monterey County Jail



County of Monterey Board of Supervisors Legislative Workshop February 2, 2024

Fact Sheets

San Lucas Clean Drinking Water

Clean drinking water pipeline for the severely disadvantaged community of San Lucas

San Lucas is a small, disadvantaged farming community located in unincorporated Monterey County approximately eight miles south of King City. The community water system (approximately 100 connections) is owned and operated by the San Lucas County Water District (District). The San Lucas Water Supply Project would address persistent water quality problems which have occurred since 2006. In 2011, a "do not drink" order was issued, and despite establishing an alternative well to serve the community, a second "do not drink" order was issued in 2016. The lack of safe, affordable drinking water for the community has also caused a nearly 20-year delay of a severely needed affordable housing project in San Lucas.

Nic Coury/courtesy Monterey County Weekly

Nick Rahaim/courtesy Monterey County Weekly

The County and the District are working with the State Water Resources Control Board to identify potential solutions to address the water quality issues. The County has been pursuing a project that would construct a new pipeline to tie into the Cal Water system on the east side of King City and deliver water directly to the District water distribution tank. The pipeline is anticipated to be approximately 7.8 miles long and run along the eastern side of Highway 101 and the railroad line.

While there has been a responsible party identified for the nitrate water quality issues, other water quality issues also need to be addressed. The responsible party will be partially financially liable for the treatment of nitrates, however, should the pipeline move forward. Funding is needed for project design, environmental assessment, engineering, and construction work to provide a clean, long-term, reliable source of drinking water to meet the community's current and future needs.

Request

Support legislation and budget proposals that create new or expands existing sources of funding for a long-term project that provides a reliable source of clean drinking water to the small, disadvantaged community of San Lucas.

Contact

Randy Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE
Director, Monterey County Department of Public Works, Facilities and Parks
1441 Schilling Place | Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4800 | IshiiR@co.monterey.ca.us

Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams
High Priority Safety of Dams Project

A set of subprojects for Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoir and Dam facilities to fulfill Federal and State regulatory requirements and provide flood protection and a sustainable water supply. Current cost estimate $192.5 million.

Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs supply water to Monterey County's fertile Salinas Valley for all the valley's beneficial uses. The reservoirs, built in 1957 and 1967 respectively, were put in place by the people of the Salinas Valley to provide flood control; store and release water for aquifer recharge; and combat seawater intrusion in the valley. The facilities provide water to the Salinas Valley agricultural economy, as well as valley residents; a large number who work in the agricultural industry or in the tourism-related businesses on the Monterey Peninsula. Without these reservoirs, life, culture, and the economies of Monterey County would suffer greatly.

Nacimiento Dam and Reservoir

The water released from these reservoirs utilizes the natural Salinas River channel for approximately 100 miles of conveyance through the Salinas Valley. The releases percolate into the ground for groundwater aquifer recharge and are seasonally diverted about 90 miles downstream to augment recycled water supplies used for irrigating crops in northern Monterey County.

San Antonio Reservoir

Aging infrastructure is a national phenomenon. The problems in California and other states indicate there is a significant need to protect, maintain, enhance, and renew existing infrastructure, which is far more cost effective if done early and consistently. At Nacimiento, the condition of the spillway and plunge pool limits the volume of releases from the high-level outlets. This limitation can adversely affect the dam's storage and flood control potential. San Antonio is currently operated under self-imposed, risk reduction measures that limit the amount of water that can be stored pending the California Department of Safety of Dams mandated replacement of the spillway following the 2017 Oroville Dam spillway failure.

San Antonio Dam and Spillway

This is a multi-benefit Project. It provides flood control, drought resiliency, and groundwater recharge to drinking water supply aquifers for over 250,000 residents, including disadvantaged communities that support our hospitality and $11.7 billion agricultural industry. In addition, having both facilities fully operational is crucial to implementation of several

Groundwater Sustainability Plans. Monterey County does not receive any imported water from State or Federal water projects. Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) is the lead agency for the Project. The Agency received just over $6 million in the 2022-23 State Budget, and a commitment for an additional $17 million in the 2023-24 State Budget to advance these projects. While appreciative of these investments, a large financial obligation remains to achieve project completion.

San Antonio Dam Spillway:
In September 2023, the Agency let a contract to conduct a feasibility study of the replacement of the San Antonio Dam spillway. The study is expected to be complete in February 2024 and will provide the basis for future design and permitting steps as well as updated cost estimates.

After the feasibility study, the Agency currently estimates design and permitting costs for the spillway replacement to be about $3 million over a 2-to-3-year timeframe. The Agency currently plans to utilize a portion of the $17 million in 2023-24 State Budget funding to support this work.

Nacimiento Plunge Pool Rehabilitation:
Also, in November 2023, the Agency let another contract to begin the design of the Nacimiento Plunge Pool Rehabilitation, and more specifically removal of the Plunge Pool rock outcropping. This work is expected to be complete by the Fall of 2024 and will provide the basis for future design and permitting steps, as well as updated cost estimates, to complete the Rehabilitation.

The Agency currently estimates full design and permitting costs to be $1.1 million over a 2-to-3-year timeframe and the construction cost to be about $17 million. The Agency currently plans to utilize a portion of the $6 million in 2022-23 State Budget funding and the $17 million in 2023-24 State Budget funding to support this work. The Agency has also applied for an additional $5 million of funding assistance from the United States Department of Energy for the Safety of Dams Project at Nacimiento for this project. The Rehabilitation Project is expected to be complete by 2028.

San Antonio Dam Low-Level Outlet Works:
The Agency must secure an additional $8.6 million over the next three (3) fiscal years to modernize the San Antonio Dam Low-Level Outlet Works. This project entails seven (7) sub-tasks laid out in an order of successive steps to ensure safety and efficiency. To achieve this goal, the Agency is seeking $1.8 million in funding in FY 2024-25, $5.6 million in FY 2025-26, and $1.2 million in FY 2026-27.

Request

Secure funding for a set of projects for Nacimiento and San Antonio Dam and Reservoir facilities to fulfill Federal and State regulatory requirements and provide flood protection and a sustainable water supply. Support legislation and budget proposals that protect existing and create new sources of funding for these projects. Tremendous momentum has been achieved to advance these critical dam safety projects over the past few years. The Agency seeks continued assistance and support in securing funding to complete the full suite of dam safety projects, and specifically $8.6 million over the next three (3) fiscal years to complete the San Antonio Dam Low-Level Outlet Works project.

Contact

Ara Azhderian, General Manager
Monterey County Water Resources Agency
1441 Schilling Place | Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860 | AzhderianA@co.monterey.ca.us

FEMA Reimbursements

Improve the FEMA Public Assistance Program, provide guidance to clarify expenses eligible for reimbursement, and expedite the grant award process.

The County continues to work with the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to recover costs related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, 2020 Wildfires, and 2021 and 2023 Winter Storms. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events in recent years and is concerned that FEMA may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the way disaster events qualify for reimbursement. The County has submitted millions of dollars in FEMA Public Assistance grant requests to recover costs related to these disaster events. FEMA takes considerable time to review these applications - in some cases, the County has waited two plus years to recover approved and expended costs for disaster response and recovery efforts. The process creates a significant administrative burden and creates a need for dedicated staff and training to keep up with FEMA's ever-changing requirements. There is also a need for clear and consistent guidance and policy interpretation from FEMA, as constant changes lead to major difficulties in documenting and seeking reimbursement.

More recently, the County has been working with Cal OES and FEMA towards reimbursement for costs related to non-congregate shelters (NCS) under FEMA Public Assistance following the 2023 Winter Storms and the COVID-19 Pandemic. NCS is an activity eligible for reimbursement under FEMA Public Assistance, and the County has spent several months working to clarify the guidance surrounding eligibility criteria. FEMA has continued to issue retroactive guidance for both disasters which contradict previously issued guidance and Public Assistance Policy.

Request

Support efforts to improve the FEMA Public Assistance Program including written guidance to clarify expenses that are eligible for reimbursement and expedite the grant award process to ensure the County is reimbursed for eligible costs as quickly as possible.

Contact

Kelsey Scanlon, Director of Emergency Management
Department of Emergency Management
1322 Natividad Road | Salinas, CA 93906
(831) 796-1902 | ScanlonK@co.monterey.ca.us

Community Services Center - Seaside

Secure funding to construct a Community Services Center that reimagines County services by designing an integrative community-based approach to service delivery.

The County has invested in planning and architectural design work for the planned construction of a new Community Service Center. The design calls for a 60,000 square foot, four-story building to replace the current 11,000 square foot Social Services facility in the City of Seaside.

The new Community Services Center is envisioned to house Social Services, a Family Justice Center, and Monterey County Free Libraries' new Seaside Branch. The Center will be a hub for the City of Seaside and surrounding communities and will include community spaces, meeting rooms and outdoor public spaces for community programing.

The Center will serve as a one-stop location for customers to secure public benefits, employment services, adult services, and family and children's services. The Seaside Library Branch will include spaces for children's programming and family activities. The Family Justice Center will provide a safe and convenient location for victim advocate services. Flexible workspaces will be used as hoteling stations for Women, Infants, and Childrens (WIC) nutrition classes, Department of Social Services (DSS) eligibility assessments, Health Department services, and Behavioral Health services. Multipurpose community spaces and meeting rooms will also be available for community-based organizations, resource classes, and hosting public forums.

The new building is more than a social service location, as it is designed to simultaneously serve as a center for a broad spectrum of community engagement and wellbeing. The goal is to not only improve access to and satisfaction with County services, but also the outcomes associated with those services through a holistic approach to community engagement.

Request

Secure funding to construct a Community Services Center that reimagines County services by designing an integrative, community-based approach to service delivery. The estimated cost of the Center is $112 million. To date, the County has invested $3 million for the design, engineering, and environmental tasks.

Contact

Lori A. Medina, Director
Monterey County Department of Social Services
1000 S. Main Street Suite 301 | Salinas CA 93901
(831) 755-4434 | MedinaL@co.monterey.ca.us

Homeless Funding Formulas

State and Federal partners need to identify a different means to assess community needs when allocating funds to address homelessness.

The County of Monterey is committed to efforts that address homelessness so that it is rare, brief, and non-recurring. Part of that commitment is advocating for adequate resources to support the homelessness response network that the County has created and has found to be successful. Federal and state funding formulas make it difficult to continue to implement services that are achieving success because allocations rely on population, poverty, and the biennial Point-in-Time (PIT) census. This means communities who are actively reducing their PIT counts are inadvertently penalized, because funding is reduced as homelessness is reduced. Programs established to serve people experiencing homelessness are at risk of closure if funding levels do not remain the same or increase. Therefore, the County supports performance-based funding for countywide plans that meet metrics in reducing homelessness. Funded entities should be rewarded for aggressive goals and achieving success.

Request

Support advocacy efforts to establish performance-based funding for countywide plans that meet metrics in reducing homelessness. Funded entities should be rewarded for aggressive goals and achieving success.

Contact

Roxanne V. Wilson, Homeless Services Director
County Administrative Office
168 W. Alisal Street | Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-5445 | WilsonR@co.monterey.ca.us

Monterey County Veterans Home

Establish a new Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the areas' aged and disabled veterans' community and honor their service to our Nation.

Monterey County seeks to sponsor State legislation that permits the construction of a Veterans Home in Monterey County – preferably on or near the former Fort Ord. Establishing a Veterans Home in Monterey County will address the needs of our nation's heroes living in California by significantly reducing wait times, providing close proximity to veteran health care and several other veteran services, and reducing the risk of veterans' homelessness. The scope of the project, location and cost are to be determined in coordination with the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

The Proposal seeks to authorize legislation similar to SB 1234 (Johannessen) in 2002, that would authorize the State Public Works Board to issue lease-revenue bonds to finance acquisition, design, and construction of an additional Veterans Home in Monterey County, and to allow the State Department of General Services, on behalf of the State Department of Veterans Affairs to construct an additional Veterans Home. The legislation should also seek a continuous appropriation for its operation.

Federal legislative efforts are also needed to secure two-thirds of the costs for the acquisition, design and construction and a continuous appropriation for its operation through the VA.

✦CalVet has eight (8) Veterans Homes that offer affordable long-term care to Veterans who are age 55+, eligible spouses and domestic partners are eligible to apply for admission.

✦The age requirement is waived for disabled or homeless veterans needing long-term care.

✦Services range from independent living programs with minimal support to 24/7 skilled nursing and dementia care for veterans with significant clinical needs.

✦Four (4) of the Veterans Homes offer skilled nursing and dementia care, all of which 2 to 5+ year waiting lists.

✦All the Veterans Homes are at a considerable distance from Monterey County with the closest in Fresno and Yountville (both 2.5 hours away) and Ventura (4 hours away).

California's Veteran Population

California has the largest Veteran population in the United Stated – with over 1.6 million Veterans. Monterey County and its surrounding area is home to thousands of these veterans plus thousands more active and reserve military members. The Veterans population in the local area is 108,000:

- 21,000 in Monterey County
- 57,000 in Santa Clara County
- 10,000 in Santa Cruz County
- 17,800 in San Luis Obispo County
- 2,500 in San Benito County

Economic Impact

California's Veterans are accessing their earned benefits, VA Compensation and Pension (C&P) Benefits, at greater levels than ever before. In 2011, 15.8% of Veterans accessed these benefits, which increased to 27.8% by 2019. Overall, these benefits total over $8 billion annually and represent a tremendous positive economic impact on California's economy. California is losing veterans at an alarming rate – much faster than the next 2 largest veteran population states (Texas and Florida). We owe all we have to the veterans of this Nation, and it is our joint obligation to do all we can to care for those who have selflessly served for the freedoms we have today.

Benefits to Locating a Veterans Home in Monterey County

Locating a Veterans Home in Monterey County will provide an attractive geographical location with a rich Military History and current Military presence. Residents of the Veterans Home would have easy access to the Major General William H. Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic, Commissary's, Military Gyms and other Military / Veteran accessible facilities. There are a large variety of beaches, walking/bike trails and County/ State/National parks that will promote outdoor activity.

Request

Support efforts to establish a CalVet Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the needs of our growing veterans' population and support the veteran's community's contributions to our local economy.

Contact

Jack Murphy, Interim Military & Veterans Affairs Officer
Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Office
2620 1st Avenue | Marina, CA 93933
(831) 647-7613 | MurphyJ1@co.monterey.ca.us

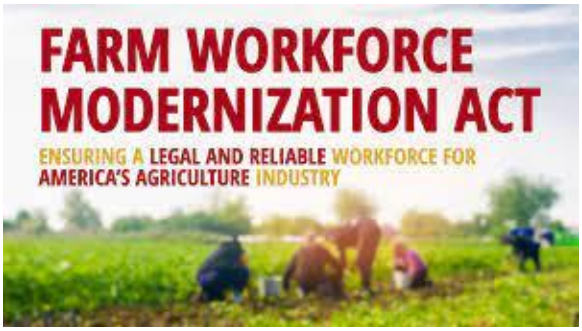
Farm Bill Reauthorization and Immigration Considerations

Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, especially an update to the definition of "rural" and funding for the USDA Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program – PL-566. Support the Farm Workforce Modernization Act and other comprehensive immigration reform legislation that addresses the County's labor force needs and provides a path to citizenship for the nation's undocumented immigrant population.

Farm Bill Reauthorization: The Farm Bill is a package of legislation passed roughly once every five years that has a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods, how food is grown, and what kinds of foods are grown. Covering programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families, from beginning farmer training to support for sustainable farming practices, the farm bill sets the stage for our food and farm systems. Several components of the current Farm Bill expired in September 2023, with others set to expire on December 31, 2023. However, in November 2023, Congress extended the Farm Bill provisions through September 2024. The County supports reauthorization of the Farm Bill to support the local agricultural industry, consumers, and the natural environment.

Update the Definition of "Rural": Significantly, there has been discussion about updating the federal definition of "rural" in the new Farm Bill. For many programs covered in the Farm Bill, the adjusted gross income (AGI) is capped at $900,000. However, this cap sometimes makes California farmers and ranchers ineligible because their income thresholds are higher, and because the calculation is based on gross numbers and not net numbers.

Funding for the USDA Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program – PL-566: This program provides technical and financial assistance to States, local governments and Tribal organizations to help plan and implement authorized watershed projects for the purpose of flood prevention, watershed protection, public recreation, public fish and wildlife, agricultural water management, municipal and industrial water supply, and water quality management.



Immigration: Current immigration policies make it increasingly difficult to meet the workforce needs of the local agricultural industry that is highly dependent on an adequate supply of immigrant labor. The County is becoming increasingly concerned with labor shortages affecting the agricultural industry that threaten the economic vitality of the region. In California alone, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates losses attributed to labor shortages has cost

farmers millions of dollars per year as fruit and other crops are left to rot in the field because of a lack of farmworkers to bring in the harvest. The County believes the Farm Workforce Modernization Act strikes the right balance between the needs of workers and employers, as evidenced by the support it has garnered from over 300 agricultural groups, including the United Farm Workers and California Farm Bureau Federation.

Taken together, these policy proposals are critically important to the economic health of Monterey County.

Request

Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including agricultural reforms that will improve health and protect the environment of all County residents through significantly strengthening federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, protecting our food supply, and robustly funding rural development initiatives based on best practices in coordination with local officials. Support efforts to update the definition of "rural" in the new Farm Bill and to protect or expand funding for the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program – PL-566.

Support the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which would establish a program for agricultural workers in the United States to earn legal status through continued agricultural employment and contribution to the U.S. agricultural economy; reform the H-2A program to provide more flexibility for employers, while ensuring critical protections for workers; and establish a nationwide E-Verify system through which agricultural employers would electronically verify the employment eligibility of their workers.

Contact

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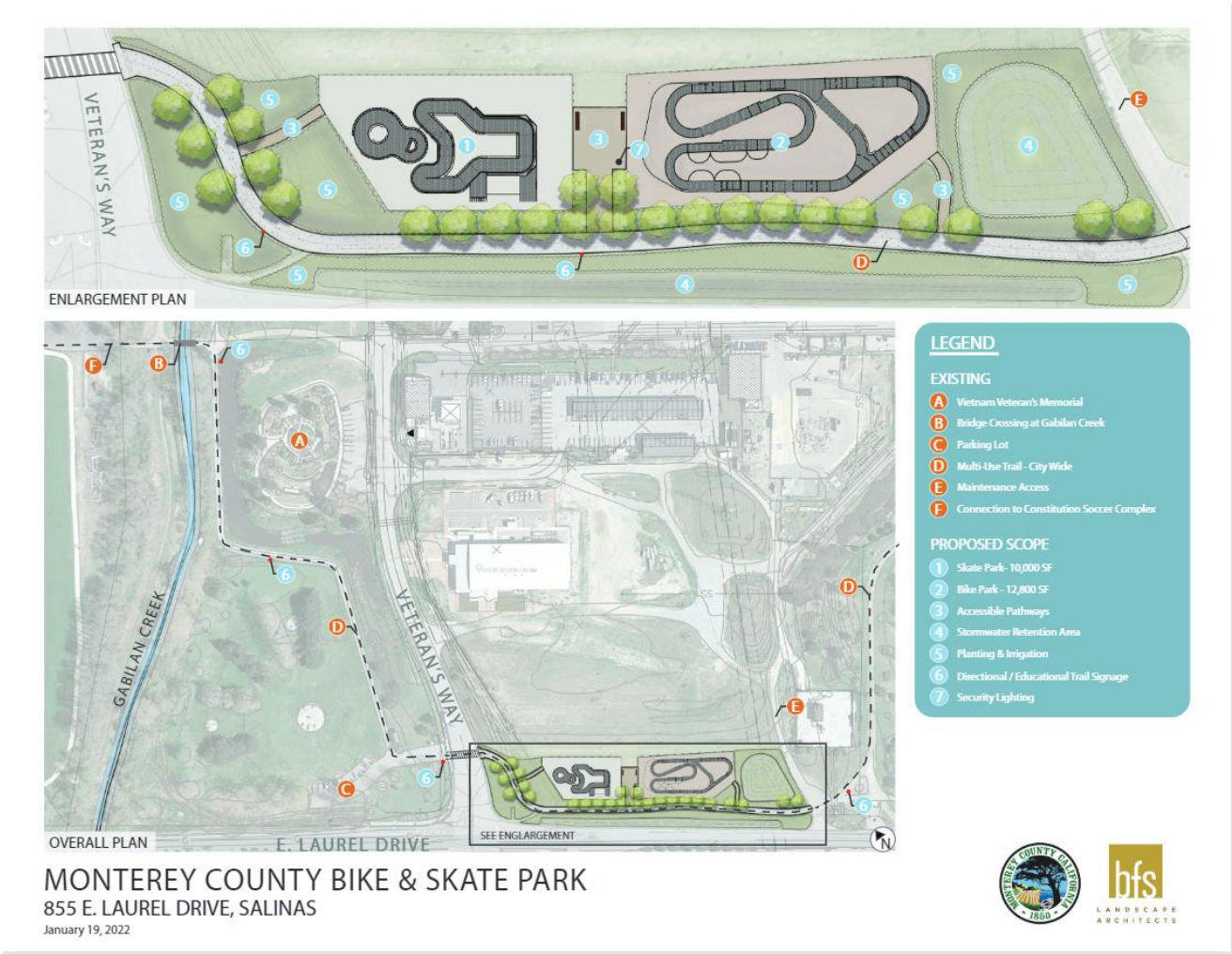
Monterey County Bike and Skate Park

Construct a regional Bike and Skate Park. In partnership with the City of Salinas, the property includes the expansion of the Salinas Regional Soccer Complex, multi-use trails, and the Monterey County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park.



Monterey County does not have a public bike park available to the community. Creating a Bike Park and Skate Park will create a safe, accessible, and unique recreational facility that will enhance the community and draw participants from surrounding regions (Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties).

The proposed site is linked by several multi-use trails connecting the proposed project to some of the most underserved neighborhoods and several elementary schools. The two recreation features together will enhance recreation offerings for Monterey County, creating a regional draw that will complement the adjacent existing recreation features near the proposed project site.

The property is easily accessible from U.S. Interstate 101, nested within the County's most densely populated area and contiguous to the following recreation features: Salinas Regional Soccer Complex,

Monterey County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park, Carr Lake, Natividad Creek Park, and the Twin Creeks Golf Course/First Tee Monterey County.

The Bike Park:

Approximately 12,800 square feet, will include various terrain and riding conditions that will allow riders to progress their skills (beginner to advanced) and safely practice their sport – and will include perimeter fencing, lighting, and accessible pathways.

The Skate Park:

Approximately 9,470 square feet, will include quarter pipes, half pipes, and bowls along with street skating features including the following: stairs, rails, curbs, ramps, and ledges – and will include perimeter fencing, lighting, and accessible pathways.

The proposed project will include trail crossing and split rail fencing to enhance safety, environmental education interpretive panels and direction signage, native landscaping and irrigation, trash receptacles and stormwater retention.

Important partners for this project include the City of Salinas, the Salinas Regional Soccer Complex, and the Monterey County Blue Zones Project.

Request

Funding in the amount of $3 million is sought to construct a regional Bike and Skate Park. In partnership with the City of Salinas, the property includes the expansion of the Salinas Regional Soccer Complex, multi-use trails, and the Monterey County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park.

Contact

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Old Monterey County Jail

Adaptive reuse project for the Old Monterey County Jail, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004 for its significance in the national farm labor movement. Estimated project cost $17.25 million.

The Old Monterey County Jail (Old Jail) located at 158 West Alisal Street, Salinas, California, was built in 1931 in the Gothic Revival architectural style during the Art Deco period. The facility originally consisted of a multi-level administrative building with access onto Alisal Street, with the jail located behind the building connected by a stairwell. Additions were made circa 1950 around the original building. It served as the County's primary jail until a new jail was completed in 1977.

In 2004, the Old Monterey County Jail was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places reflecting its architectural significance and for areas where César Chávez was imprisoned. It is the only historic landmark of the farmworker rights movement on the Central Coast.

In December 1970, César Chávez, co-founder of the United Farm Workers, was held in the Old Monterey County Jail for 20 days for refusing to call off a lettuce boycott, thereby raising national and international attention to farmworkers. His incarceration brought national figures such as Ethel Kennedy and Coretta Scott King to the jail to visit and advocate for his release. This event is considered pivotal in the struggle for farm labor rights.

SALINAS CALIFORNIAN

SALINAS, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 4, 1970

Judge Orders Chavez Jailed

Judge Gordon Campbell at 1:25 this afternoon ordered that Cesar Chavez be imprisoned in the Monterey County jail "until he and the union notify all UFWOC personnel to halt their boycott against Bud Antle Inc."

Chavez was to be taken into custody immediately and he issued a statement to his followers: "Be boycott-free—out of them."

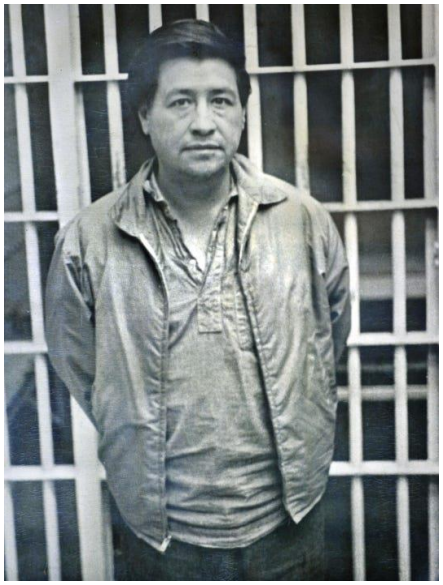
SUPPORTERS of Cesar Chavez line courthouse corridors today.

Cross Ordeal Ended

Pullout to Top Nixon's Goal

Rescue Search Continues

Jobless Rate Rise Draws Demo Fire

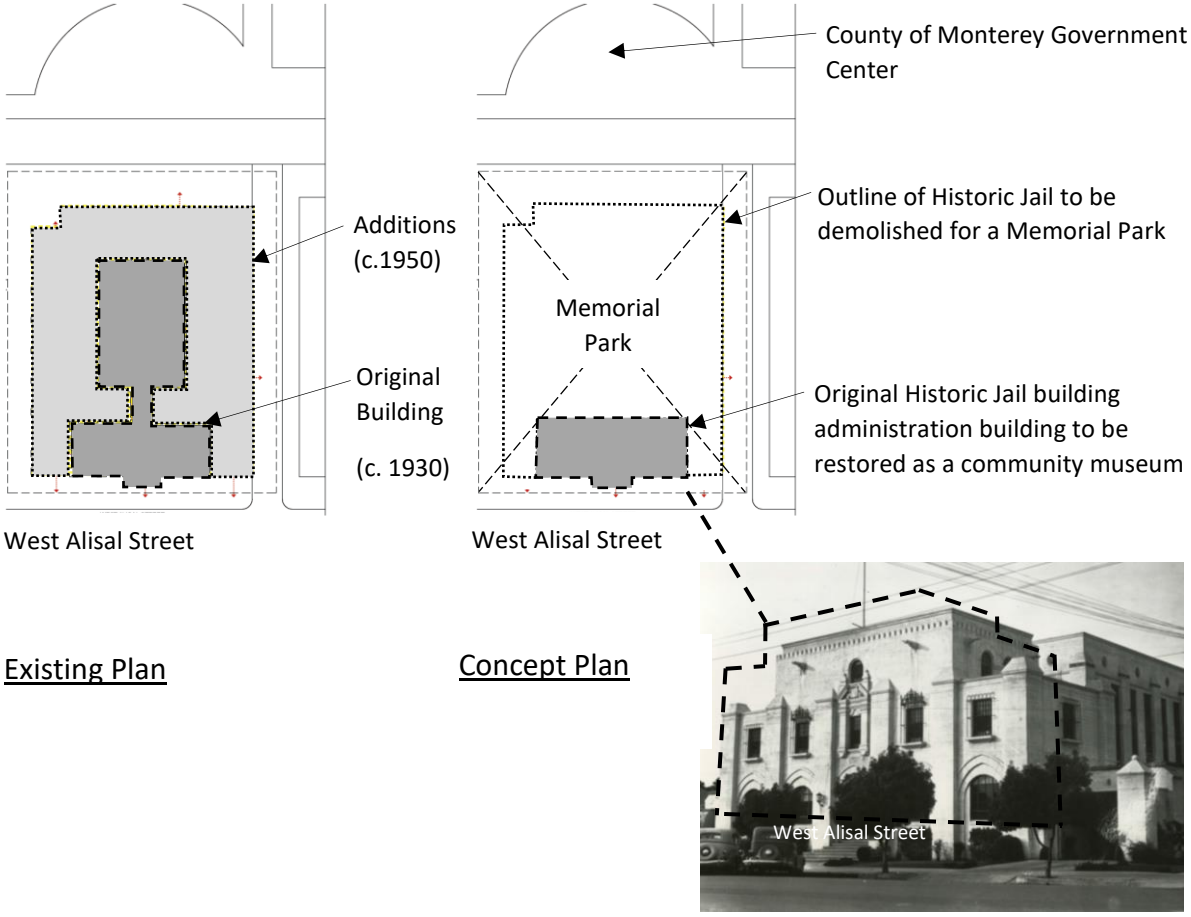


In 1998, the County began planning for redevelopment of the County Government Center which included demolition of the Old Monterey County Jail. The Jail demolition action was challenged and resulted in the County abandoning the effort. The Jail was inspected finding mold and some structural deterioration, and the County performed work to stabilize and mothball the facility and restrict access.

Around 2014, the County began efforts to assess potential reuse of the facility and site. A feasibility study evaluated nine options ranging from demolition ($4 million) to full restoration ($34 million). In 2016, the Board selected to demolish the facility, but in 2017 changed course to explore adaptive reuse of the facility. Requests for Proposals were issued in 2018 and 2019 which generated no responses. Later in 2019, the Board provided direction to seek State Budget funding to restore the Administration Wing and add new building; preserve the Alisal Street Façade and add a park; or preserve the Administration Wing and add a park. If funding is available, the Board would also consider full restoration for reuse.

Request

Monterey County seeks $17.25 million to retain the Administrative Building portion of the Old Monterey County Jail. This would retain a significant piece of the historic resource that fronts Alisal Street, which could be used as a museum of the Labor movement. The area behind the Administrative Building could be a new memorial park dedicated to César Chávez that could be used for civic rallies similar to the Labor movement and is located at the west end of a promenade leading to Historic Downtown Salinas.



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County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-077

Item No.5

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1
Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Remarks by County of Monterey Board of Supervisors Regarding 2024 Priorities (2 minutes each)

a. Supervisor Luis Alejo - *District 1*
b. Supervisor Glenn Church - *District 2*
c. Supervisor Chris Lopez - *District 3*
d. Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - *District 4*
e. Supervisor Mary Adams - *District 5*

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-078

Item No.6

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1
Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Remarks by State and Federal Legislators on their 2024 Priorities that relate to the County of Monterey (3 minutes each)

a. Congressman Jimmy Panetta
b. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren
c. Margaret Arechiga representing U.S. Senator Alex Padilla
d. Senator John Laird
e. Assemblymember Dawn Addis
f. Dominic Dursa representing Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas
g. Anna Velazquez representing Senator Anna Caballero
h. U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-079

Item No.7

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Roundtable Discussion

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-080

Item No.8

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1
Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Board Direction to Staff

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 24-081

Item No.9

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

February 02, 2024

Introduced: 1/29/2024
Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready
Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Public Comment on Agenda Items