



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
County Manager



**Date:** April 8, 2015  
**Board Meeting Date:** April 14, 2015  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** John L. Maltbie, County Manager

**Subject:** County Manager's Report #7

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Accept this informational report.

**BACKGROUND:**

This report will provide you with updates on a variety of County initiatives focusing on Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Community Services and Performance, in addition to reports on legislation and issues that require your action. We also will keep you and the public informed about new services, upcoming events and general updates.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Health and Human Services**

**County in top five of health rankings**

San Mateo County is in the top five in health rankings for 2015 on the annual list compiled by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The published rankings look at nearly every county nationwide to measure overall health based on measures including high school graduation rates, access to health foods and rates of smoking, obesity and teen births.

San Mateo County ranked fourth in "health outcomes" based on length and quality of life and third for "health factors" like behavior, clinical care and the physical environment.

**Changes coming to Health System campus**

The Health System and Department of Public Works held two community meetings April 7 to explain three improvement projects coming to the Health System campus in San Mateo. The installation of solar panels over the existing parking lot will help reduce the San Mateo Medical Center's electricity spending by \$300,000 annually and save

enough energy to power 98 homes. The project starts June 1 and will take approximately four months to complete.

A new seismically safe water tank will replace the existing 1938 structure and meet state and federal laws requiring storage of at least 72 hours' worth of water. Construction is planned for early 2016 and will last approximately three months.

The former "receiving home" for abused children at the corner of Hacienda Street and 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be renovated into Serenity House, a respite center for people with mental illness who need a short-term place to stabilize. The center will be staffed around the clock and serve no more than 10 individuals at any given time. The renovation includes landscape improvements, fencing and the potential addition of 12 to 13 parking spots on the campus.

### **Community services**

#### **Illegal dumping app has soft launch**

The County has a new and more efficient method for residents to report illegal dumping in the unincorporated area thanks to the Office of Sustainability which recently rolled out "Report It! SMC," a new mobile application. The app's official launch is May 30 to coincide with the "Be Seen Keepin' It Clean" community clean up event in North Fair Oaks. The County's first focus is North Fair Oaks but will eventually expand. Users type in an address or use a map marker of the issue, select a service request and can even attach a photograph. The report then goes directly to County departments to be addressed.

The app, now in a soft launch phase, is available for download from the Apple store or Google play.

#### **NFO business plan in works**

The North Fair Oaks Community Council requested a business sustainability plan when it approved the redesign concept for Middlefield Road. To develop that plan, the North Fair Oaks Forward team interviewed 87 businesses located on Middlefield Road and will also survey property owners. The information received is still being analyzed for a more complete future report to the North Fair Oaks Community Council but the initial take-ways show that many are family-run businesses, 52 percent have had their business on Middlefield Road for more than 10 years and about half of the customers are local. Only 16 percent actually own the property where their business is located and 87 percent employ fewer than six workers.

The North Fair Oaks Forward team will present the survey data to the local businesses and work with them on developing a plan to remain stable during the construction work and also gauge future needs.

### **News, Events and Updates**

#### **Disaster preparedness underway for county employees**

All County of San Mateo employees are designated by law as disaster service workers (DSW) which means if such an event occurs they can be required to stay at or return to their jobs and could also be assigned tasks other than their regular duties. The County will hold "Employee Emergency Response Awareness Day" Wednesday, June 3 outside County Center to inform employees about their roles as DSWs, introduce them to resources like SMCAAlert and begin preparing for the "Great Shakeout" earthquake drill in October.

**Contest open to recognize county innovation**

The California State Association of Counties is calling for entries in its 2015 Challenge Awards that recognizes county governments for using innovation and creativity in delivering programs and services to their constituents. Winners receive state and national attention and CSAC highlights them in videos on county best practices.

The County of San Mateo is a leader in originality and invention and here's hoping our departments and divisions participate in the Challenge Awards so that others can learn from the novel things we've done. The deadline is Friday, June 26 and more information is available at [www.casac.counties.org](http://www.casac.counties.org).