



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



**Date:** July 15, 2015  
**Board Meeting Date:** July 21, 2015  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**From:** John L. Maltbie, County Manager  
**Subject:** County Manager's Report #14

**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:**

**Public Safety**

**At-risk youth receive help with truancy, graduation**

An inaugural class of 40 students kicked off Students With Amazing Goals (SWAG) this summer, receiving case management and other support to overcome the truancy, drugs and violence prevalent in the East Palo Alto and Belle Haven community around the program's Green Street location. The enrollees are fifth-year high school students working toward a December graduation by participating in a variety of SWAG activities now and soon starting credit recovery. Around July 21, full-time probation officer Mignon Page-Broughton joins the SWAG team. She is an outstanding asset and really looking forward to working with the students.

As the Board may recall, the County was awarded a competitive, three-year \$885,000 grant to create SWAG with partners One East Palo Alto and Live in Peace.

**Job trainees renovate reentry center**

Conversion of the David E. Lewis Community Reentry Center in East Palo Alto into a satellite office of the County's Service Connect program for the formerly incarcerated is

taking another step forward thanks to the hard work and construction know-how of JobTrain staff and students in its pre-apprenticeship carpentry program “Project Build.” JobTrain begins work the weekend of July 25 and after a mid-way building inspection will finish the walls the weekend of Aug. 1 with painting to follow.

The County is footing all material costs such as drywall, hardware and paint while Menlo Park-based JobTrain provides all the tools and volunteer labor to create a fully walled office in the southeast corner of the interior. The office gives staff members a private place to discuss sensitive information with clients.

## **Health and Human Services**

### **Foster youth graduate from independent living program**

The County recently hosted its annual graduation celebration for foster youth in the Independent Living Program (ILP) and awarded each a new laptop computer in recognition of their achievements. ILP provides support and services to youth 14 to 21 in foster care and extended foster care.

To date this year, 68 percent of the 2015 ILP class earned their high school diploma or GED and the Human Services Agency projects that number will hit 78 percent by the end of summer. That figure nears the high school graduation rate of 80 percent for the general population in California. Of those graduates, an estimated 67 percent have enrolled in some form of post-secondary education.

## **Community Services**

### **Utility boxes receive a makeover**

Painting of artwork on North Fair Oaks utility boxes began this month with the first at Fifth Avenue and Middlefield Road. Muralist Shayne Oseguera will be busy throughout July to complete all three boxes by Aug. 5. As requested by the NFO Community Council, Shayne will also enlist youth from the Siena Youth Center summer camp to finish the box in front of Garfield Elementary School.

### **Bee-based neighbor conflicts addressed**

Hoping to take the sting out of bee-related complaints, the Agriculture Department is working with UC Cooperative Extension and the San Mateo County Beekeepers Guild to develop a voluntary process to help mitigate conflicts between local beekeepers and their neighbors. Training was held for those interested in becoming volunteer impartial beekeeper evaluators and work started on a “process” using mediation and local code enforcement. Once done, the documents will be available on websites like the Agriculture Department, UC Extension and Beekeepers Guild.

## **Parks**

### **Parks annual report now available**

Curious what the Parks Department has been up to? The Department recently released its first “Report to the Community” highlighting major park events and projects in 2013-2014 along with its financials. For example, the department added 883 acres and three new parks, including the Devil’s Slide Trail, and hosted roughly 286,318 walkers,

runners and cyclists on the Crystal Springs Trail. Find out more interesting details by perusing a copy of the report, available online at [www.SMCoParks.org](http://www.SMCoParks.org) under the “About Us” tab.

### **News, Events and updates**

#### **County launches civic technology group**

Organized by Open Data Community Liaison John Ridener, the County of San Mateo is starting a civic tech meetup where members of the public can work together and with the County to solve community challenges.

The idea capitalizes on the energy and excitement of the County’s successful hackathon to create a stronger connection between the County and its residents. Everyone is invited, especially those without computer programming experience. As Ridener explains, without any actual issues to tackle the group will just be hackers sitting around wondering what tools to build.

The inaugural gathering is July 21 at County Center followed by meetings the third Tuesday of every month through December. RSVP for the San Mateo County Civic Engagement and Technology Meetup through [meetup.com](http://meetup.com).