



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



**Date:** April 7, 2016  
**Board Meeting Date:** April 12, 2016  
**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:**

**Public Safety**

**Working name chosen for new County dispatch center**

The County's new dispatch center now has a new working name. The facility, which is expected to break ground later this year, was formerly referred to as the CEDAR project and has been christened the San Mateo County Regional Operations Center. The formal proposal for the permanent name will come back to the Board at a later date.

This month, demolition begins on the motor pool site to make way for the ROC. The plan currently calls for removing the existing tanks and, depending on steel production, either move ahead with construction or use the space as a parking lot for two months. Effective April 18, 2016, project will permanently close the Redwood City Mechanic Facility and temporarily relocate motor pool vehicles and County employee parking stalls. During this process, County employees with a permit can park at one of 70 County-rented spaces down the street at the 707 Bradford Street surface lot.

## **County, partners updating federally mandated hazard response plan**

The County and several partnering agencies are updating a federally mandated plan to prepare for and respond to local natural disasters like floods and earthquakes. The uniform hazard mitigation strategy will be an umbrella plan for the entire county with specific annexes created by the County, its cities and special districts. The County Office of Emergency Services, Redwood City Fire Department and Central County Fire Department, with support from a technical consultant, are managing this process to ensure sustainable and resilient communities. The process will take approximately eight months to complete and includes a resident survey available at

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMPublic](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMPublic)

## **Health and Human Services**

### **‘No wrong door’ approach results in thousands of health care enrollments**

During the Affordable Care Act’s third open enrollment period between November 2015 and early February 2016, 62,875 San Mateo County residents signed up for health insurance through Covered California and Medi-Cal. The County promoted the “no wrong door” approach which let residents sign up using the mode easiest for them. We also worked with community-based partners to target uninsured “hot spots” in East Menlo Park, Redwood City, East Palo Alto and North Fair Oaks. The result was more enrollment of local families. For example, Fair Oaks School, which provides on-campus supportive services, reported 100 percent enrolment of their families.

## **Community Services**

### **New Assistant Parks Director hired**

Sarah Birkeland will join the Parks Department as Assistant Director effective April 18, 2016. Sarah is a natural resource attorney for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in San Francisco where she has served for 11 years counseling the U.S. Forest Service about management of National Forest System lands in California. Previously, Sarah was a practicing landscape architect at a Seattle, Washington firm, working on park, school, and residential projects. As a graduate student, she also worked on an innovative watershed protection program for King County, Washington.

Sarah holds an undergraduate degree in botany, a Master’s degree in landscape architecture and a law degree.

### **Arts Commission offers record number of grants to local educators**

This year, the San Mateo County Art Commission awarded a record number of \$100 grants to K-12 educators at Title I schools for purchase of visual art materials tied to specific lessons. Teachers at 41 schools in 16 districts will receive a total of \$10,600 in grants for lessons covering traditional painting, drawing, and ceramics and also include digital mobile art, papermaking, postcards, inner/outer masks and a collaboration with the Museum of the African Diaspora.

The schools awarded grants include 33 elementary, six intermediate and two high schools and include court, community and newcomer schools and special day classes.

The grants are distributed once a year in collaboration with the San Mateo County Office of Education.

### **News, events and updates**

#### **County library short-listed for national medal**

San Mateo County Library (SMCL) was named by the Institute of Museum and Library Services as one of 30 finalists for the 2016 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The medal is the nation's highest honor awarded to museums and libraries for service to the community. SMCL was selected as a finalist after an extensive application process including nomination by U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier. SMCL programs support critical community needs including summer learning, early learning, family engagement and technology access.

National Medal winners will be named this spring and winning representatives will travel to Washington, DC for a White House ceremony.

### **Upcoming**

#### **Board to consider support of single-user restroom bill, energy policy language**

At an upcoming meeting, the Board will consider a resolution in support of Assembly Bill 1732, authored by Assemblyman Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) to require that single-occupancy restrooms in California businesses, government buildings and public space be identified as "all gender." The resolution is coming to the Board at the request of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Commission of San Mateo County.

The Board will also be asked to approve policy language in support of Peninsula Clean Energy for insertion into the environmental section of the County's 2016 Legislative Program.

#### **County, cities connecting through high-speed fiber**

The County's Information Services Department is working with several cities to improve data sharing between local government agencies through secure high-speed fiber. The fiber connections were previously installed for public access TV transmission and, when repurposed into a shared network, will be a tool for faster and greater access to government services via the cloud. During a disaster, critical infrastructure can be replicated and accessed on a near-real time basis.. Other benefits include efficiency, greater attraction of businesses requiring high-speed inter-connectivity and improved citizen engagement.

ISD reached out to Belmont, Millbrae, Redwood City, Burlingame, San Carlos, San Mateo and South San Francisco with a list of potential hubs including city halls and fire stations that it hopes to connect in the next 18 months. After the pilot cities are connected by June 2016, other cities could be added in the future.