

#### **COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**

Inter-Departmental Correspondence County Manager



Date: Jan. 21, 2016

Board Meeting Date: Jan. 26, 2016

Special Notice / Hearing: None Vote Required: Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: John L. Maltbie, County Manager

Subject: County Manager's Report #2

#### **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**

## New jail temporarily certified for upcoming occupants

The Maple Street Correctional Center, scheduled to fully open in March, recently received a temporary certificate of occupancy from the state which allowed the Sheriff's Department to begin transferring personnel and stocking supplies at the site. The temporary certificate is one of the final milestones of the project ahead of its permanent occupancy by inmates and staff, confirming the building complies with applicable building codes and laws and is largely habitable aside from areas still under minor construction. Another inspection is scheduled for February to allow full occupancy.

## Super Bowl alert system launched

With less than two weeks until Super Bowl 50, several County of San Mateo departments — especially those in law enforcement, emergency services and public information— are working both here and regionally to help the event operate smoothly and safely for visitors and residents alike. The Joint Information Center for the Super Bowl, in which our County is participating, rolled out a new text alert and notification system to keep users informed about weather, traffics, safety and emergencies leading

up to and during game day. Simply text the word SB50 to 888777 to opt in. The system is only operational until the main event and then shuts down permanently.

## **Health and Human Services**

# County EMS serves as model for Vietnamese delegation

A group of elected officials doctors and health department representatives from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam visited San Mateo County to meet with our Health System's emergency medical services and the County 911 ambulance contractor American Medical Response (AMR). The delegation learned about the County's partnership with AMR to provide daily services and disaster response, and our overall County EMS system.

## **Community Services**

## Student consultants will evaluate County programs in new pilot

As part of the effort to be a more agile organization, the County in two cycles this spring and summer will pilot the Student Consultants Program which offers current San Francisco State MPA students an opportunity to enhance their academic experience by conducting evaluations of County programs and initiatives. The pilot will include evaluations of approximately 5-10 SMC Saves and Lean process improvement projects, as well as Measure A initiatives.

Deputy County Manager Reyna Farrales and Budget Director Jim Saco will oversee the pilot with Human Resources and SFSU faculty, and use a team-based model that partners students with analysts in the County Manager's Office and departments. Each assigned project will last eight to 10 weeks with participants earning \$12 per hour. This is a great opportunity not only for the students and the County to learn from each other, but also to develop internal evaluation capacity and build a leadership pipeline for the future workforce.

Active transportation grant expands school program, rewards alternative uses The Safe Routes to Schools program operated by Redwood City 2020 at five North Fair Oaks public schools will expand, thanks to the County's Active Transportation Program implementing the Sustainable Transportation Encouragement Program (STEP). STEP is a three-year effort funded by a \$960,000 grant through Caltrans which uses education, marketing and rewards to increase the proportion of trips people make by walking, bicycling, sharing rides or riding the bus.

In addition to recognizing and rewarding the sustainable trips many NFO residents already make, the project will provide concierge-type personalized service to help more people find ways to participate — and win prizes. The big win for the County will be detailed transportation data that documents real taxpayer savings: reduced rates of drive-alone trips, reduced parking demands, and increased rates of physical activity.

#### **Performance**

County's AAA bond ratings equal millions in savings

The County's dual AAA ratings spell big savings. The County will save \$22.7 million over the next 20 years thanks to our impressive rating. The County refinanced its 2008 Youth Services Center Series A bonds, reducing debt service from \$185.3 million to \$162.6. Because the County was able to replace the debt service cash reserve of \$9.4 million with a surety and pour those funds back into the refinancing, the present value savings are a robust \$18.9 million. The All-In True Interest Cost, including the cost of issuance for the new bonds, is 2.86 percent. The favorable pricing and the ability to replace the cash reserve with a surety is largely due to the County's strong credit. We are one of only three California counties with AAA ratings from both Moody's and Standard & Poor's.