

# **CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE**

From: Henry Garcia, City Manager

#### **CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**

#### Administration

#### Employee Meetings with the City Manager

I held meetings earlier this month with the employees to touch base with them and discuss a number of items of importance to the organization. I briefed the employees on my major initiatives for FY 2012/13, including a 3-Year Budget, 3-Year Economic Action Plan, resolving the water issue in Edgemont, quality of life programming for the community, and the feasibility of a revenue measure for our residents' consideration.

Financial and Administrative Services Director Rick Teichert provided information on the end of the fiscal year budget for 2011/12 as well as an update on the FY 12/13 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter budget status. Human Resources Director Tom DeSantis briefed the employees on the implications of the pension reform measure recently signed into law.

# Meeting with the President of Moreno Valley College

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, Assistant City Manager Michelle Dawson, Assistant to the City Manager Michele Patterson, and I met with Dr. Sandra Mayo, president of Moreno Valley College. Dr. Mayo briefed us on the facility improvement projects that are under construction and being planned for the campus. We also discussed the need to keep the lines of communication open between the City and the College and our desire to work together to move Moreno Valley forward as part of a comprehensive strategy. To that end, Dr. Mayo is launching a strategic planning initiative for the College and we enthusiastically agreed to be an active participant and contributor to that effort.

# Meeting with the County and the Cities of Riverside and Corona

I have been meeting with officials from the cities of Corona and Riverside, and the County of Riverside, in recent weeks to discuss economic development at the regional level. Mayor Stewart and I also met with Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge and City Manager Scott Barber, Corona Mayor Eugene Montanez and City Manager Brad Robbins, and County CEO Jay Orr and Assistant CEO George Johnson. In addition to economic development, we have been discussing regional transportation issues.

### Media and Communications Division

#### Web

• Successfully launched the MoVal Election App

#### Event Coverage

- MVPD Traffic Division Improvements Ribbon Cutting
- Morrison Park Fire Station Dedication Ceremony
- Moreno Valley Auto Mall Car Display Ribbon Cutting

#### Photography

Conference & Recreation Center's Wedding Advertisement Photos

#### New MVTV-3 & YouTube Programming

- Moreno Valley Election App Video" http://youtu.be/r9-T5QgPo84
- "News Center: Pet in the Park Adoption Day" http://youtu.be/U07ytVAJ 5w
- "News Center: ArtoberFest" http://youtu.be/Kib8CNX0\_RU
- "News Center: Recycling Bin Art Contest"
- "News Center: Morrison Park Fire Station Dedication"
- "News Center: M.V. Auto Mall Car Display Ribbon Cutting"
- "Spotlight on Moreno Valley Business: Outback Steakhouse"
- "Spotlight on Moreno Valley Business: Edible Arrangements"
- "Shop MoVal This Holiday Season" Video

# COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

#### Administration

#### World Logistics Center

City staff continues to work with Highland Fairview and their consulting team on the many technical studies that will help make up the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the World Logistics Center. Look for the Draft EIR to be ready sometime early next year.

# Miguel's Jr. Restaurant

Work continues toward the development of a new Miguel's Jr. Restaurant in Towngate Center. A Purchase

& Sale Agreement (PSA) is executed for Miguel's Mexican Restaurants to acquire an undeveloped restaurant pad that fronts on Day Street—next to where Robertson's Ready Mix will be relocating its concrete batch plant from the corner of Day and Eucalyptus. The PSA spells out the terms and conditions for the sale of the property, along with establishing the process and timing for the development of the new restaurant. Now that Miguel's has opened its new Orange County Miguel's Jr. restaurant in Costa Mesa, they will focus on finalizing development plans for the new Moreno Valley location. On October 19th, the Vasquez family—the owners of Corona based Miguel's Mexican Restaurants, opened their 10<sup>th</sup> Miguel's Jr. restaurant at 141 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Street in Costa Mesa. Other Miguel's Jr. restaurant locations include Corona (three restaurants), Fontana, Menifee, Murrieta, Norco, Ontario, and Riverside. The Vasquez family also operates three larger sit-down California Mexican Concina restaurants in Corona and the Foothill Ranch area of Orange County. The Vasquez family is looking to open its new Moreno Valley restaurant early in 2013.

# New McDonald's Restaurant Opens

The 4<sup>th</sup> McDonald's Restaurant location in Moreno Valley opened on October 31st. The new McDonald's is situated at 23701 Sunnymead Boulevard, within the Moreno Valley Plaza shopping center. The new McDonald's utilizes an updated McDonald's restaurant design concept that incorporates a more upscale and comfortable environment with more earth tones and none of the more traditional McDonalds plastic yellow and red seating, as well as no child play area. The new McDonald's also offers the latest in high-tech restaurant features, along with maximum energy efficiency in lighting and the HVAC system. The restaurant currently employs 65 and the owner expects the workforce to end up at about 75. The Franchise owner also owns the other three McDonald's restaurants in Moreno Valley, as well as eight McDonald's locations in Riverside, Banning and Beaumont. The other McDonald's in Moreno Valley include 12371 Perris Blvd (NWC of Perris & Hemlock), 24440 Alessandro Boulevard (NWC of Alessandro & Indian) and 26200 Iris Avenue (NEC of Iris & Lasselle).

#### S Bar & Grill

The Lim family has opened S Bar & Grill--its 2<sup>nd</sup> restaurant concept in Moreno Valley. S Bar & Grill is located in the Lakeshore Village Marketplace in Sunnymead Ranch—just next door to its popular Oishii Sushi & Teriyaki restaurant. S Bar & Grill offers an upscale sports bar environment, with a laid-back menu with a bit of sophistication offering specialty burgers and sandwiches, along with a number of appetizers. All ingredients are fresh—Steve Lim proudly proclaims—

"nothing frozen here". More than \$500,000 was invested into renovating and upgrading the former Boompa's restaurant location into the new S Bar & Grill, including a total of 28 high definition TVs for your sports viewing pleasure. Presently S Bar & Grill has a workforce of 35, with plans to go up to about 45 people as it builds up its business. Check out the new S Bar & Grill. Many thanks to the Lim family for inviting City Council and staff members to participate in a preopening event on November 1st to showcase the new restaurant.

#### New Center Coming to Alessandro Blvd.

Grading is underway for a small center being developed at the NE corner of Alessandro Boulevard and Graham Street—next door to the U.S. Post Office. The project includes a total of 5,044 S.F. - with a 7-11 convenience store, a high-tech car wash and a Flame Broiler Restaurant.

The Flame Broiler is a popular restaurant concept that started in 1995 in Fullerton California that now has 118 locations in four states—with the vast majority in California, but also some in Arizona, Florida and Oklahoma. There presently are twenty Flame Broiler restaurants under development, including the new Moreno Valley location. There are currently 13 Flame Broiler's in the Inland Region including Apple Valley, Chino Hills (2), Corona (3), Fontana, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Riverside (3) and Temecula. The menu for the Flame Broiler focuses on healthy Asian bowls and meals.

#### China One Restaurant Opens

The new China One restaurant has opened at 27120 Eucalyptus Avenue in the Main Street area of Stoneridge Towne Centre. The new 1,600 S.F. restaurant is situated in the former Fish Shack restaurant. China One offers fresh & healthy Chinese cuisine with a mix of entrees, bowls and appetizers. The new Moreno Valley restaurant in Moreno Valley is the 2nd China One location in the Inland Empire-with the other in Upland.

# New Projects at Lakeside Terrace & Lakeside Plaza

Several new projects have opened in the Moreno Valley Ranch community at the two neighborhood shopping centers at Iris and Lasselle—Lakeside Terrace and Lakeside Plaza. At Lakeside Terrace-Edible Arrangements has relocated to a larger space. Dollar Tree is finishing up Tenant Improvements for a new 10,579 S.F. store. Look for Dollar Tree to open in November. Earlier this year, Café Gossip opened its 2<sup>nd</sup> Moreno Valley restaurant with a new location at Lakeside Terrace. In September, Starbucks Coffee opened its 6th Moreno Valley location with a new site at

Lakeside Plaza. The new Starbucks is doing a strong business and has already become popular with the Moreno Valley Ranch area, as well as Moreno Valley College and both hospitals. Just a few doors down from Starbucks, within the Cold Stone Creamery, Better Be Doughnuts has opened. Additionally, a national restaurant chain has expressed interest in a possible Lakeside location opportunity.

#### NAIOP 2012 Bus Tour

Barry Foster and John Terell represented Moreno Valley on the NAIOP (National Association of Industrial & Office Properties) Bus Tour highlighting real estate and development opportunities in the Inland Empire (IE). This year's event on November 7 had two established tours including the East IE Bus Tour (South Rialto, Riverside, Perris, Moreno Valley, San Bernardino and Redlands) and the West IE Bus Tour (Chino, Mira Loma, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana and North Rialto). Each tour looked at 28 properties in the two areas—East and West IE. The East IE Bus Tour included viewing six industrial development projects in Moreno Valley and also included a hospitality stop at the new Centerpointe Logistics Center project being developed by USAA Real Estate Company/Overton Moore Properties at the NW corner of Cactus Avenue and Frederick Street. Overall, the buzz from the more than 250 participants at the NAIOP Bus Tour--that included real estate brokers, developers and site selectors, was that Moreno Valley has quickly established a strong reputation for working with the development community towards advancing new industrial development projects aimed attracting new logistics and distribution companies.

#### **Building & Safety Division**

# Development Update

The following is a summary of current development activities being worked on within the Building & Safety Division:

#### • Certificate of Occupancy

- o PD Traffic Division Public Safety Building
- o TJ Maxx/Home Goods
- o S Bar & Grill
- Morrison Fire Station
- o Dollar General on Perris Blvd.
- Starbucks @ Lakeside Plaza
- o Edible Arrangements @ Lakeside Terrace

#### • Temporary Certificate of Occupancy

- o Round 1 @ the Moreno Valley Mall
- o Harbor Freight Tool DC @ First Inland Logistics
- Oasis Community Church

#### o McDonald's at Moreno Valley Plaza

# • Building Permit Issued – Under Construction

- Nandina Distribution Center IDS Real Estate Group
- o Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building
- o Robertson's Ready Mix Concrete Plant
- o Hemlock Apartments Rancho Belago Developers
- Centerpointe Logistics Center Overton Moore Properties
- o Rancho Dorado Apartment (Phase II) Palm Communities
- o Graham Street Center 7-11; Car wash, and Flame Broiler
- o I-215 Logistics Center Trammell Crow Co.

### • Tenant Improvements Underway

- o Moss GMC/Buick
- o Moss Chevrolet
- o Wizard's Party House Jump House
- o Fitness 19 on Perris Blvd.
- o Dollar Tree @ Lakeside Terrace
- o Southern Illinois University
- o PI Grill
- o Chipotle @ Towngate Center
- Volkswagen of Moreno Valley

#### • Plan Check Underway for New Buildings

- o Inland Empire Global Logistics Center
- o Panattoni Development
- o Alere Property Group
- o O'Reilly Auto on Perris Blvd.
- Westridge Commerce Center Ridge Property Trust
- o Family Dollar on Perris Blvd.

#### New Industrial Building Starts Construction

A building permit has been issued and construction has started on a new 1.25 million sq. ft. speculative industrial building project in the South Moreno Valley Industrial Area. The project to be called the I-215 Logistics Center, is being developed by the Trammell Crow Company (TCC). In addition to the new 1.25 million S.F building, the project situated at the NE corner of Heacock Street and San Michele will also include another future 500,000 S.F. building.

TCC is a respected development firm, based in Dallas TX that was founded in 1948. TCC (which is affiliated with CBRE) is one of the leading real development and investment companies in the U.S. with a portfolio of more than 525 million sq. ft., exceeding a combined valuation of more than \$55 billion in a wide spectrum of development including industrial, office, retail,

healthcare, multi-family, and mixed-use development projects.

TCC has done many projects all over California-including a number in the Inland Region in Redlands, Riverside, Rancho Cucamonga and Ontario. TCC and the Moreno Valley Development Services Team have quickly forged a public-private partnership to help advance the timing of the I-215 Logistics Center project to the marketplace.

# More Possible Speculative Development Coming

More speculative industrial building projects are being planned for Moreno Valley. Interest in the Moreno Valley industrial market is 'heating up'. The Trammell Crow Company is the 4<sup>th</sup> major industrial development firm to pursue the development of an industrial building project on a speculative basis in the past 15 months. The four projects total more than 3.23 million sq. ft. Two of the developers have already secured tenants (First Industrial and USSA) and the IDS Real Estate Services project has promising tenant interest ongoing. The 769,320 S.F. IDS project, to be called the Nandina Distribution Center, is nearing completion at the NW corner of Indian and Nandina.

Momentum is building for more speculative industrial building development—which clearly is the preferred development method for new distribution and logistics users—not many users such as Skechers are willing to wait years for projects to finish the planning and entitlement process—especially the possibility of facing the uncertainty with a CEQA challenge. At least twenty prospective business users are looking at the possibility of new projects in the Inland Region—Riverside and San Bernardino counties. All these user opportunities range in size between 500,000 sq. ft. to 1.5 million sq. ft. Three respected developers including First Industrial Realty Trust Inc., Panattoni Development Company and Ridge Property Trust all have expressed interest in pursuing new speculative projects in Moreno Valley totaling almost 3 million sq. ft.

#### Auto Mall Upgrades

Major upgrades are happening at the Moreno Valley Auto Mall. On November 1st, an event showcased the completion of the next phase of improvements at the Auto Mall to enhance the graphic design and signage program for the Auto Mall. Improvements have included a new freeway sign-with a state-of-the-art full color reader board, along with new corner monument features aimed at modernizing the image of the 23 year old Moreno Valley Auto Mall. Concurrently, Moss Bros. Auto Group is well underway with an effort to invest more than \$8 million to upgrade the look of its seven

dealerships in Moreno Valley. Improvement projects are presently underway at Chevrolet, Buick-GMC, and Volkswagen. All the upgrades are required by the corporate auto entities represented at the Moreno Valley Auto Mall.

#### Property Tax Value is Up

Good news—according to the recent property tax report, Moreno Valley's property tax value continues to trend upwards. The City of Moreno Valley experienced a net value increase of 1.34% for the 2012/13 tax roll, which was much better than the decrease experienced countywide at -0.5%. The assessed value increase between 2011/12 and 2012/13 was \$142 million.

While the housing market continues to rebound, the largest growth in assessed property values was in industrial properties—which grew by 21% overall. The largest value increase in an industrial property was HF Logistics-Skechers USA with the completion of its high-tech material handling system. Other large increases in property tax growth came from distribution centers for IHerb and Harbor Freight Tools. Six of the top ten property tax payers in Moreno Valley for 2012/13 are industrial-distribution facilities. The other four largest property tax payers include the Kaiser Community Hospital, the Moreno Valley Mall and two large apartment complexes.

Moreno Valley's increase in property tax value growth fared well as compared to other Riverside County cities, as only 12 out of the 27 cities in Riverside County enjoyed an increase in property tax values. Moreno Valley's 1.34% increase was the 5<sup>th</sup> highest percentage increase in Riverside County, behind only Eastvale, Indian Wells, Blythe and Calimesa. As a dollar increase of nearly \$142 million—Moreno Valley realized the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest dollar increase in value behind, only Eastvale and Riverside. Let's hope this positive trend keeps up.

# Business Services & Neighborhoods Programs Division

#### Major Plan Amendments coming for NSP

On December 11, the City Council will consider major plan amendments for the City's CDBG Action Plan to allow for modifications to Moreno Valley's Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) activities (NSP1 and NSP3). The changes will help adjust to a changing residential market, as well as adhering to HUD's timelines for expending NSP funds. The proposed changes also provide for the ability of using NSP funds in the Edgemont area to acquire foreclosed and bank-owned houses, along with demolishing blighted structures and land banking properties for future redevelopment opportunities. This will be the first step

in a more comprehensive strategy to help revitalize the Edgemont area.

#### **Business Spotlight**

The Spotlight on Moreno Valley Business program seeks to increase the community's awareness of the many diverse businesses that operate in Moreno Valley. The businesses showcased at the October 9th City Council meeting were Z & M Tailoring and the Moreno Valley Unified School District. Businesses for the November 13th meeting were Outback Steakhouse and Edible Arrangements.

Some of the new businesses in the community with recent openings include:

- Estates Furniture Cabinets & Flooring—New business at 22455 Alessandro Boulevard that provides a range of home remodel services including custom cabinets, counter tops and flooring.
- Interval Equipment Solutions Inc.—New satellite office at Olivewood Plaza for Auburn CA based company that sells and maintains variety large-scale commercial and industrial equipment.
- Starbucks Coffee—The newest location in Moreno Valley for popular Starbucks Coffee. The new store at Lakeside Plaza opened mid-September and is the 6<sup>th</sup> Starbucks location in Moreno Valley and is meant to serve the SE area of Moreno Valley College—especially Moreno Valley College and Moreno Valley Ranch.

### Code & Neighborhood Services Division

#### Squatters Update

The City of Moreno Valley has experienced some problems with vacant residences citywide because of foreclosures and bank-owned properties. These unoccupied properties are often targeted by individuals for the purpose of providing shelter. These persons will reside within unoccupied dwellings illegally without owner consent, which is referred to as squatting.

In many of these circumstances, squatters often live at these properties without running water, heat and/or electrical service. The conditions of the interior and exterior are unmaintained, unsanitary and criminal activities occur more frequently than owner occupied dwellings.

To address criminal activities, deferred maintenance and concerns expressed by the community, the Code and Neighborhood Services Division, and the Moreno Valley Police Department's Problem Orientated Police POP Team have been proactively targeting the squatting

problem citywide. Personnel have interacted with concerned residents and community associations to identify and eliminate squatting at affected residences.

So far in 2012, illegal occupants have been removed from twenty-eight separate residential dwellings within the City of Moreno Valley. Personnel will continue to work with the community and neighborhood associations to address occupancy issues.

#### Land Development Division

#### <u>Development Update</u>

The following represents a summary of the development activity currently being worked on within the Land Development Division:

# • Grading Permits Issued

- Nandina Distribution Center-IDS Real Estate Group
- o Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building
- o Robertson's Ready Mix Concrete Plan
- Hemlock Family Apartments Rancho Belago Developers
- Centerpointe Logistics Center Overton Moore Properties
- Rancho Dorado Apartments (Phase II) Palm Communities
- o I-215 Logistics Center-Trammell Crow Co.
- o Graham Street Center
- o O'Reilly Auto on Perris Blvd.

#### • Plan Check Underway for Grading Plans

- o Inland Empire global Logistics Center-Panattoni Development
- o Alere Property Group
- Vogel Development
- Westridge Commerce Center
- o O'Reilly Auto Parts on Perris Blvd.

#### Centerpointe Logistics Center Off-sites

City staff from Land Development is working closely with USAA/Overton Moore Properties, as well as their contractor, on completing a number of off-site improvements related to the development of the Centerpointe Logistics Center-situated at the NW corner of Cactus Avenue and Frederick Street. Improvements include adding new traffic lanes, reconstructing roadways to current City standards, building new curb & gutter, sidewalks, medians, landscaping, along with installing storm drains.

On October 31, the improvements on Resource Center Drive were completed and the road was reopened on time. Work on the Cactus and Day improvements continues with completion targeted for early next year.

# Moreno Valley 5K Race & Walk

On Saturday November 3, Moss Bros. Auto Group and the Moreno Valley Auto Mall hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Moreno Valley 5K Run & Walk event. About 130 people participated in this year's event, which is a fund raising opportunity for the cross country and track & field programs for four local high schools—Rancho Verde, Valley View, Moreno Valley and Canyon Springs.

The initial two years the event was held at the Stoneridge Towne Centre, but this year's event required the use of public streets which became somewhat of a permitting challenge for the organizers of the event. Many thanks to Barry Foster, Mark Sambito (Land Development), Edward Init (Transportation Division) and especially Chief Joel Ontiveros for all their hard work in a very short period of time to make sure the event happened and was safe and successful. I also want to thank Council Member Robin Hastings and Greg Donahue from Moss Bros Auto Group for their assistance in making this year's event a reality. Everyone seemed to have a great time and no problems were encountered.

# Planning Division

#### **Planning Commission**

The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for November 29, 2012. The following items are scheduled for that meeting:

- Three Plot Plans and a Change of Zone related to the RPT Centerpointe West Project. The project proposes a 507,720 square foot expansion of an the existing Harbor Freight warehouse at the northwest corner of Graham Street and Cactus Avenue, a new 607,920 square foot warehouse building at the northwest corner of Graham Street and Brodiaea Avenue and a new 164,720 square foot warehouse building at the northeast corner of Frederick Street and Cactus Avenue. The last building requires a zone change from Business Park Mixed Use to Light Industrial. The applicant is the Ridge Property Trust.
- A Tentative Tract Map, Conditional Use Permit, a Change of Zone and General Plan Amendment related to a proposed 159-lot single family residential subdivision on the north side of Cactus Avenue on both sides of the Quincy Channel. The land use change would be from R10 (Residential up to 10 units per acre) and R15 (Residential up to 15 units per acre) to R5 (Residential up to 5 units per acre). The planned unit development (PUD) would allow for

reduced size and setbacks for lots in the proposed subdivision, but still keep density below the maximum 5 units per acre allowed in the R5 zone. In exchange for the PUD, the developer has agreed to provide enhanced landscape and architectural standards, and multi-use trails with exercise stations. The applicant is CV Communities.

### **Administrative Approvals**

The following are vacant administrative approvals:

- Plot Plan to revise landscaping and a trash enclosure related to the establishment of a medical clinic in the former Hollywood Video store building at 13925 Indian Street. The applicant is Clinica Medica Familiar & Dentista.
- Amended Conditional Use Permit to expand the occupancy of an existing assisted living facility adjacent to the Riverside County Regional Medical Center from 68 to 86 beds. The expansion was accomplished by doubling up beds in rooms formerly restricted to single occupancy. The applicant is Integrated Care Communities.
- Plot Plan for a large detached garage and workshop at 24206 Fir Avenue. The approval is in conjunction with an active building code case for non-permitted structures. The applicant is Jose Vizcarra.
- Plot Plan to locate a tire store in an existing commercial building at 13978 Old 215 Frontage Road. In conjunction with the approval, the applicant has been required to remove existing non-conforming signs on the property. The applicant is Ray Waters.

#### **Recent Case Submittals**

Recent case submittals include:

- General Plan Amendment related to a previously submitted Change of Zone for property northwest of the Moreno Beach Drive interchange. The request would convert the site from RA2 (Residential Agriculture up to 2 units per acre) to OC (Office Commercial). No specific development plans have been submitted for the site.
- Plot Plan to add a modular classroom and a minor sanctuary renovation to an existing church facility (Saint Christopher's Catholic Church) located at the southeast corner of Perris Boulevard and Cottonwood Avenue.
- Plot Plan for revised house plans and a model

home complex for a partially built tract located at the southeast corner of Perris Boulevard and Ironwood Avenue. The revised plans are within one percent of the average size of the previously built homes in the tract.

- Plot Plan to install solar panels on the roof of the United Natural Foods warehouse located on Cactus Avenue.
- Plot Plan to establish an auto repair business in an existing multi-tenant complex at the northeast corner of Elsworth Street and Goldencrest Drive.
- Variance to permit the construction of higher retaining walls adjacent to a proposed residential tract on Cactus Avenue.
- Amended Plot Plan to remove a condition of approval for a block wall adjacent to the Kaiser Medical Office Building currently under construction on Iris Avenue.
- Plot Plan to establish a sports bar in an existing shopping center located at 22445 Alessandro Boulevard.

Ridge Properties Trust (RPT) Centerpointe West Project
The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the
RPT Centerpointe West Project was sent to responsible
agencies and interested parties on September 21, 2012.
Public notice was also sent to adjacent property owners
and published in the Press Enterprise. A press release
was posted on the City's website along with the DEIR
documents.

The DEIR provides a full discussion and analysis of the potential environmental impacts identified in the Initial Study for the proposed project, most notably traffic, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. The DEIR was available for public review and comment until November 5, 2012. The comments received will be reviewed and responded to by the EIR consultant and reviewed by City staff and the City's peer consultant. The resulting document will be the Final EIR (FEIR).

The project is scheduled for review by the Planning Commission on November 29, 2012, and City Council review on December 11, 2012.

The RPT Centerpointe West Project includes a proposed 507,720 square foot expansion of an the existing Harbor Freight warehouse at the northwest corner of Graham Street and Cactus Avenue, a new 607,920 square foot warehouse building at the northwest corner of Graham Street and Brodiaea Avenue and a new 164,720 square foot warehouse building at the northeast corner of Frederick Street and Cactus Avenue. The last building

requires a zone change from Business Park – Mixed Use to Light Industrial.

# Vogel Project

The Vogel Project was approved by the City Council on September 25, 2012. A Notice of Completion (NOC) was filed with the County Clerk on September 26, 2012, which commenced the 30 day period for the approval to be challenged through legal action by the appellant. On October 23rd, the law firm of Johnson & Sedlack filed a Notice of Intent to File a lawsuit related to the approval. The Notice will trigger mandatory settlement talks between the litigant and developer to determine if the lawsuit can be settled in lieu of a court trial.

The Vogel Industrial Project is a proposed 1,616,133 square foot warehouse/distribution building on a 71-acre site located at the southwest corner of Perris Boulevard and Grove View Road in the Moreno Valley Industrial Area. The proposed project is consistent with the Specific Plan for the industrial area and does not require any land use changes or variances.

# FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Animal Services Division

Moreno Valley Animal Shelter Partners with Platt College

On October 4, 2012 the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter and Platt College entered into an agreement that allows college students and faculty to use the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter as a clinical training site for their Veterinary Technology Program. Several days during the academic year students and faculty will be able to perform their "practicals" at the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter. Students studying to become Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVT) will be able to demonstrate their learned skills performing a variety of tasks commonly performed by RVTs in an animal shelter and animal clinic environment. The Veterinary Technology Program is being offered at Platt College's Riverside Campus, a short distance from the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter. Vanessa Forbes, BS, RVT, is the Program Director and can be contacted at 951-572-4300 for anyone interested in this program.

# <u>Animal Services Fall 2012 Low Cost Rabies</u> Vaccination & Dog Licensing Clinic Results

On Saturday, October 27th, The Animal Services Division conducted a low cost rabies vaccination and dog licensing clinic at the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter. During the vaccination clinic held from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., dog owners took advantage of the low cost rabies vaccinations along with discounted

prices on other important pet vaccinations. Results of Saturday's three hour clinic are as follows:

Number of Dog Licenses Sold: 33

• Fees Collected: \$828.00

The next round of low cost rabies vaccination clinics will be scheduled in the Spring 2013 with dates and times to be determined. The low cost rabies vaccination and dog licensing clinics are a cooperative effort between the Animal Services Division and Dr. Marshall Scott, DVM.

# Moreno Valley Animal Shelter Partners with PetCo to Stimulate Pet Adoptions

On Saturday, October 27th the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter highlighted 10 available dogs for adoption at the PetCo pet store located on Canyon Springs. Of the 10 dogs highlighted for adoption, 6 dogs found new homes during this 4 hour adoption event. Lead Animal Care Technician Dorathy Haun was assisted by shelter volunteer, Barbara Hamilton (Capital Projects). Dorathy and Barbara worked together helping potential adopters pick out the right pooch for their family. This off-site pet adoption event is another activity to help stimulate adoptions during the 14th Annual Iams Home 4 the Holidays Pet Adoption campaign. The Moreno Valley Animal Shelter will continue to partner with PetCo for additional pet adoption events during this Holiday Season!

### **Technology Services Division**

#### Tree and Equipment Inventory

Special Districts and GIS staff have completed the Tree and Equipment Inventory GPS project. Special Districts collected GPS locations of 15,059 trees and 195 pieces of equipment using the mobile application which GIS developed specifically for this project. GIS provides the layer on the GIS Maps Online site for spatial reference to the Special District zones, which facilitates GIS analysis. GIS led a demonstration at the Special Districts division meeting in September to show the data, attributes, and methods to extract the data.

#### Storm Water Inspection Imagery

Technology Services is working with the Maintenance & Operations division on a GPS-enabled camera system for storm water feature inspections. The system captures the results of maintenance tasks performed on a storm water feature along with its GPS coordinates and a digital photo. The data captured by maintenance crews with the camera will be beneficial in locating features based on GPS coordinates, compiling maintenance data, and it can also be imported into the City's GIS for map analysis.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### Fire Operations

The City of Moreno Valley officially dedicated its 7<sup>th</sup>

Fire Station on Wednesday October 24, the Morrison Park Fire Station # 99. Over 150 people attended the event. CDF Firefighters Honor along Guard, with two members of the New York City Fire Department's Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band participated in the FDNY Firefighter event. Jimmy Henkel and FDNY Firefighter James Dowdell





were flown out to participate in the ceremony and to dedicate the Fire Station and the World Trade Center Memorial. Comments at the ceremony were made by Deputy Public Works Director, Prem Kumar; City of Moreno Valley Fire Chief, Abdul Ahmad; Riverside County Fire Chief, John Hawkins; CAL FIRE Director Ken Pimlott; Council Member Robin Hastings; and Mayor Richard Stewart. Presentations were made to Mayor Stewart from various elected representatives as well as a letter from the New York City Fire Department, (FDNY) Chief of Department, Edward S. Kilduff which was presented by FDNY Firefighters Henkel and Dowdell.

At the conclusion of the dedication, Battalion Chief Silvio Lanzas placed Engine 99 in service. Everyone in attendance was then invited to the front of the fire station for the unveiling of a World Trade Center artifact and the first official flag raising for Fire Station 99. Chief Ahmad provided comments on the events of September 11, the effort that the Moreno Valley Fire Department went through to obtain the artifact, followed by the playing of "Amazing Grace" on the bag pipes by CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Jesse Estrada and FDNY Firefighter Jimmy Henkel while FDNY Firefighter James Dowdell played the drums.

Later that day Engine 99 ran its first call for service at 2:30 p.m. on October 24. An elderly adult male who lived within a few blocks of the Morrison Park Fire Station had called 9-1-1 as he was experiencing chest pains. The patient was treated with advance life support care by Engine 99's Firefighter II Paramedic. The patient was transported by AMR to a local area hospital and is expected to recover. From October 24 - 31, Engine 99 ran 46 calls for service, an average of 5.75 calls per day.

#### Fire Prevention

### Smoke Alarms Help Save Lives

CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department as well as the Moreno Valley Fire Department would like to remind residents about the importance of working smoke alarms in the home.

According to the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA):

- Smoke alarms cut the risk of fatality in a home fire by one-half.
- Overall, three-quarters of all U.S. homes have at least one working smoke alarm.
- Each year, nearly 3,000 people die in U.S. home fires.

Riverside County Fire Department offers the following tips to keep families safe:

- Change your smoke alarm batteries twice a year.
- Test your smoke alarms once a month.
- Never, ever disable smoke alarms, not even temporarily.
- Practice fire and exit drills in your home so that everyone in the home knows what to do in the event of a smoke alarm activation.

On Sunday, November 4, 2012 at 2:00 a.m., daylight savings time ended. Although we set our clocks back by one hour, it only takes a couple of minutes to change your smoke alarm batteries. For more tips on smoke alarms, life-safety and home fire prevention tips, visit <a href="https://www.rvcfire.org">www.rvcfire.org</a>.

#### **Staff Training**

- Fire Marshal Randy Metz and Fire Inspector Paul Villalobos attended a State Fire Marshal instructor overview for the newly created class titled: Fire Prevention 1 Fire & Life Safety Inspections for the Company Officer. This new class is written specifically for those firefighters that will perform Engine Company Inspections and will provide detailed information for what our firefighters should be looking for as they inspect our businesses. As registered instructors with the state, Randy and Paul will be able to deliver this new 32 hour class to any Moreno Valley Firefighters that may need it in the future.
- Fire Safety Specialist Carlos Rodriguez attended a one-day seminar on Fire & Building Code requirements for the installation of Photovoltaic Panels (Solar). Moreno Valley has seen a significant amount of homes take advantage of the many programs aimed at installing solar panels on residential and commercial properties. With these

panels and systems come certain hazards to firefighters and residents. Understanding these newly adopted codes will allow for their safe installation.

# Office of Emergency Management

#### LeAnn Coletta is Awarded Recognition

On October 11, 2012 at the Riverside County Operational Area Planning Committee meeting in

Beaumont, CA, LeAnn Coletta, Office of Emergency Management & Volunteer Services Program Manager received an award in recognition for more than six years of dedication and commitment as the Chairperson of the Riverside County Operational Area Mass Care and Shelter Task Force.



The Task Force was formed in 2006 as a result of findings from a nation-wide review of catastrophic response planning by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Task Force developed the nationally recognized Riverside County Operational Area Mass Care and Shelter Guidance for Emergency Planners and the Standardized Operating Procedures Annex, setting the standard for mass care and sheltering of all residents throughout Riverside County.

addition. Task Force In a Findings and Recommendations Report was presented to Riverside County Board of Supervisors, resulting in \$745,600 being awarded in Homeland Security Grant funding to purchase mass care and shelter trailers and equipment to increase response capability throughout the county. The Task Force taught four orientation and tabletop exercises in 2011 and two functional exercises in 2012, where mass care and shelter trailers, equipment and staff were deployed to shelter simulated victims. The Task Force developing was also instrumental in Cross/Government partnership training course. In 2009, the California Emergency Services Association also presented LeAnn Coletta with a Silver Award for exemplary service and key leadership role as the Riverside County Operational Area Task Force Chairperson.

#### Significant Events

At midnight on October 27, Moreno Valley Firefighters responded to a structure fire in the Kennedy Park Fire Station response area. Upon arrival firefighters found a singlewide mobile home with moderate smoke issuing from the front entry door. A rapid interior attack proved successful as the fire was contained to the living room area. Two adult occupants were displaced and assisted by the American Red Cross. A total of five fire engines.

one truck company, one breathing support, and one Chief Officer were committed to the incident, for a total of 22 personnel. Units from Riverside County Fire/CAL FIRE provided coverage of the open fire stations in the city during the time of this incident in order to provide emergency fire and medical response to all other 9-1-1 calls

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

The Human Resources Department has refined the City's hiring process by developing new tools to guide interview panels in analyzing candidate responses and identifying finalists. These refinements direct raters toward written application materials as well as interview performance, to ensure comprehensive ratings and enhance job match.

In another update to the City's hiring practices, a member of the HR staff has now been fully certified to conduct Live Scan fingerprinting via equipment at the Police Department. This refinement will accelerate the City's onboarding process, providing rapid placement support for City Departments.

The 2013 Open Enrollment process concluded successfully. The program featured on-site enrollment at City Hall, the Animal Shelter, Library and City Yard where HR assisted individual employees at their respective work locations. More than half of all employees updated their Benefits selection during this year's Open Enrollment period.

All supervisory employees were provided with Sexual Harassment Prevention Training, ensuring the City's compliance with Assembly Bill 1825 (codified at Government Code section 12950.1).

The comprehensive audit of the Workers' Compensation program and processes has been completed. This detailed analysis validated that the program is operating in a cost-efficient manner and that the City is effectively served by the third party administrator through which technical functions are performed. The review identified potential opportunities to reduce current costs for the third party administrator. The program will receive another level of review when the City's excess insurance carrier (California State Association of Counties – Excess Insurance Authority) conducts a fiscal audit early next year.

The City's MotiVate Wellness program provided a free Flu Shot clinic for all City employees.

**Talent Management:** Robust recruitments are underway for several positions in the City workforce.

Recruiting and/or selection processes are underway for the following openings:

- Vehicle Equipment Technician (FT, 52 applicants). Recruitment period closed. Applications being screened, interviews pending.
- Alternate Crossing Guard (PT/Temp, 78 applicants). Recruitment period closed. Applications being screened, interviews pending.
- Laborer (2 PT/Temp positions, 214 applicants). Recruitment period closed. Applications being screened, interviews pending.
- Recreation Aide Sports Official (PT/Temp, 106 applicants). Recruiting period closed. Selection and candidate screening ongoing.
- Recreation Aide Sports Programs (PT/Temp, 141 applicants). Closed 8/23/12. Selection and candidate screening ongoing.
- Animal Care Technician (PT/Temp, 205 applicants). Recruiting period closed. Final interviews and selection pending.
- Sr. Payroll Technician (Eligibility List for 2 PT/Temp positions). Interviews pending.
- Management Assistant Public Works. Internal recruitment process completed, candidate selected.
- Parks Maintenance Worker (FT, 379 applicants). Candidate selected, recruitment closed.
- Library Assistant (PT/Temp, 653 applicants). Candidate selected, recruitment closed.
- Alternate Crossing Guard (PT/Temp, 87 applicants). Six candidates selected, recruitment closed.
- Sr. Administrative Assistant Technology Services (via Internal Eligibility list). Candidate selected, recruitment closed.
- Administrative Assistant Code enforcement (via Internal Eligibility list). Candidate selected, recruitment closed.
- Sr. Office Assistant Facilities (via Internal Eligibility list). Candidate selected, recruitment closed.

#### Facilities Division

Facilities is assisting City Hall staff members in preparation for the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor carpet replacement project. Boxes are being supplied for temporary file storage. Facilities staff will coordinate moving of all furnishings and boxed items during the week of December 17<sup>th</sup>. Carpet will be replaced from December 20-31, while City Offices are closed for the Holidays. Facilities staff will ensure return of boxed items to their respective Divisions immediately thereafter.

# PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

#### Special Events

# Spelling Bee

The second annual THINK Together Spelling Bee Finals were held on November 17 at the Conference and Recreation Center.

#### Senior Community Center 20th Anniversary

The Senior Community Center will be holding its 20th Anniversary of the Senior Community Center on December 12 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This event will be an open house with live entertainment and a dinner. More information to follow.

#### Artober Fest

The Moreno Valley Parks & Community Services Department and the Moreno Valley Arts Commission hosted its 5th annual Artober Fest Saturday, October 13. A free, fun-filled day was well attended celebrating the arts with family and friends; Artober Fest featured the work of local artists who displayed photography, painting, sculpture, musical performances, poetry, and much more.

# Live Performances:

This exciting festival featured more than 200 performers from 3 different staging areas. The Prime Time Singers from North Ridge Elementary School began the program by singing several patriotic songs, followed by Blanca

Duran's folkloric dancers.
Other performances showcased the Vista Del Lago High School Dance Team, Dancing Images, Infusoria Band, and the Women's Inland Empire Chorus of Sweet Adelines



to name just a few. Several popular bands and other solo singers provided free entertainment for everyone attending.

#### Arts & Crafts Displays:

More than 35 artists and crafters displayed their artwork. Numerous types of art were represented, including photography, pottery making, jewelry, oil and water color artists, sculptors, etc.

#### Food & Fun

Not only was the entertainment and beautiful artwork on display, but food and wine was available for purchase on the patios. Door prizes were awarded throughout the day and a silent auction included items donated by local businesses.

#### Park Projects

#### Lasselle Sports Park

Status: The majority of the Lasselle Sports Park site has been graded. The retaining wall is going up and building permits will be issued soon.

#### John F. Kennedy Park

Work is nearly complete for the installation of the cellular antenna at John F. Kennedy Park.

#### Recreation

#### Time for Tots

Time for Tots continues to fill months in advance with some sessions filled to the end of December. In addition to the educational curriculum, special activity days held in October for children ages three to five years included Friendship Day, Columbus Day, and Culture Day.

#### Trunk-Or-Treat

The annual Fall Festival was held on October 31 at the Conference & Recreation Center, which included trunk-or-treating, a puppet show courtesy of the Moreno Valley Library, games, a pumpkin patch, and a special performance by the participants. Staff would also like to thank the city employees and local businesses and organizations: Brunswick Moreno Valley Bowl, Music Star, Moreno Valley Taekwondo Academy, Provident Bank, Comfort Care Dentistry, Wells Fargo, Aaron's Rentals, Animal Shelter, Library, and Fire Station #6 for making the event a success.





#### Contract Classes

Many of the City's contract dance classes are beginning to prepare for the Winter Holiday Performance scheduled for December.

# Fall Valley Kids Camp

Staff is planning for the fall Valley Kids Camp to open November 19 through November 21. Local children in grades kindergarten through eighth from the Moreno Valley and Val Verde Unified School Districts will enjoy their break from school spending their days at camp playing exciting themed recreational games, watching movies, playing video games, nurturing their creativity with arts and crafts, and experiencing funfilled on-site activities.

#### Fall Movies In The Park

The first fall Movies in the Park was held on October 25 at 6:30 p.m. inside the Conference & Recreation Center's Gymnasium. Local residents enjoyed the movie, Monster House, as well as themed decorations and face painting. Staff would like to thank the high school volunteers from Vista del Lago High School and Valley View High School for their assistance with the event. An additional movie night is planned for December with Polar Express.

### **Haunted House**

The Haunted House was held at the Cottonwood Golf Center in late October for those who dared to be scared. Local residents young and old came and "survived the zombie apocalypse". Each evening saw a dramatic increase of patrons (no less than 350 the first evening), who enjoyed a good scream. October 31 was no exception, with more residents enjoying the spooky maze than the other two days combined. Due to the

huge popularity and acceptance of the public, staff is already planning for next year's event. Staff would like to thank all of the



businesses and organizations for joining staff on October 31 for a special carnival-like atmosphere for the children that attended the Haunted House. In addition City employees were invited to attend a private viewing of the event on October 24. City employees were needed this evening to wander the spooky maze to assist staff in preparation of the public opening. Staff thanks all whom came and supported Parks and Community Services. Volunteers from both Vista del Lago and Valley View High Schools assisted the Parks & Community Services Department with this event.

# Fall Pet in the Park Adoption Day

The Moreno Valley Parks & Community Services Department, in conjunction with the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter, hosted their annual Fall Pet in the Park Adoption Day on October 6<sup>th</sup> at Community Park.

A costume contest for "Best Look Alike" (dogs dressed like their owner), Best Dressed and Scariest took place. The winning dog was dressed like a bumble bee with the owner dressed as a flower. A dachshund dressed like a skunk and a little girl and her dachshund dressed as Sulley and Mike from Monster's Inc. were also stars of the event.

It was our first time for our short legged Doxie race. The dogs raced the track with their owner's persuasive help.

The winner of the race was a dapple dachshund named Emma.

The real winners for the day were the dogs that were adopted to new homes. A total of 22 dogs were adopted from the 33 dogs that were brought out to the event.







#### Library Services Division

#### Fall Reading Program

Moreno Valley Public Library's 2012 Fall Reading Program runs through Thursday, November 29, so there is still time to participate. The program is open to children from ages 2-13. Readers log their reading time and can qualify for prizes. Call or visit the library for more information.

### **Puppet Shows**

The Library recently presented "Trick or Treat Tales," a program of puppet plays and music, in the Children's Room at the library, with a total of 248 attendees over the two performance days. Library staff also performed the program at the CRC on Halloween Day, for the Time for Tots program, where they enjoyed an audience of 265 toddlers and caregivers. Staff received a lot of positive feedback on the program.

#### Bilbary Ebook Project

Patrons and users of libraries in California now have access to a wide range of e-books in a way that benefits the libraries financially. Www.bilbary.com is a new e-book website that aims to carry all the e-books in the world. California libraries are providing a link to the Bilbary site so that on any purchase, half the profit will benefit the library from which the link is made. This deal—the first of its kind to be created by a library consortium—has been made by Califa, the not-for-profit cooperative of the California State Library service.

Bilbary offers public e-book prices that are competitive in the market. The e-book service can be used on any type of tablet, PC or e-reader. The range and number of e-books that any library can hold in its collections are restricted both by budgets and by the controls of publishers and rights holders. At present the Bilbary site holds 420,000 e-book titles, and in time will include titles in languages from around the world. Tim Coates, founder of Bilbary, said, "Our long-term aim is to help public and academic libraries provide e-books to their patrons and to make available the widest possible collection of e-books from all over the world. At this

stage, the site offers e-books for sale and soon will provide subsidized book rentals to help libraries fulfill their role." Look for the Bilbary Kitten button on the home page of the Library's website.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

<u>Improving Your Quality of Life through Improved</u> Awareness (Part 2 of 5)

The Moreno Valley Police Department (MVPD) is continuing its five part series to improve awareness and reduce the probability of becoming a victim of certain common crimes. This second installment provides information about a common scam often referred to as "Nigerian Money Offers."

It is an emotionally powerful experience to receive an unexpected notification that we have won a prize or more specifically an opportunity for significant financial gain. It is exactly those powerful emotions that conartists rely on to separate us from our hard earned money. Ironically, where we have not done anything whatsoever, even something as simple as purchasing a lottery ticket, to merit such an offer, most of us instinctively smell a "rat" when we are presented with these types of scams. But for some reason, when these fantastic opportunities for financial reward are combined with an opportunity to help someone else through a comparatively trivial investment of our own resources, many of us become so focused on the prize that we are oblivious to the possibility we are running headlong into a scam.

#### The Scam

"Nigerian Money Offers" come disguised in a variety of subject matter. The scams generally present an offer for us to help someone through a seemingly low risk investment of our own finances. In exchange for our help we are promised a large payout when the deal is complete. The other thing all these scams have in common is that they are all intended to separate us from our hard earned money.

The scammers are often located out the country and they send out thousands of emails in the hopes of getting the recipients to fall for their scam. Most of the emails are deleted by the recipients, but a few find their way to unsuspecting victims. Presently, out-of-country crime like this is difficult to solve, and even more difficult to successfully prosecuted. These facts combine to make the scams a very popular method theft.

#### The Solicitation

The fraudulent solicitations begin with a random and unsolicited email from someone who claims to be a

respectable official who is either from or associated with another country. The official often poses as an attorney or other officer and claims to have control of a large sum of money that he plans to bring into the United States. The official details a plan to bring that large sum of money into the United States, and offers a handsome handling fee for helping with the money transfer. The catch is that the official needs a good faith financial deposit from us to ensure our willingness to cooperate with the plan.

The prospect of helping someone, and receiving a handsome reward in exchange for a comparatively trivial investment of our own finances, often creates a level of excitement that quickly overwhelms our sense of judgment. Once we are delirious with the prospect of reaping the promised financial windfall, we willing fork over whatever money we have at our disposal. Then as soon as the foreign official receives our money, he vanishes into the abyss of internet anonymity with the same ease that he appeared. Further investigation often reveals the official does not exist and the email address is untraceable. This scam is so popular that criminals in many countries have begun using it. Many of the traceable email addresses have been track to Nigeria; which is why this type of scam has been termed the "Nigerian Money Offer."

In some of these scams, the scammer will actually send you a check as partial payment of your promised commission. The sender/scammer may ask you to deposit the check in your personal bank account and then send them back a comparatively small cash portion of the overall check amount as a show of good faith to continue with the business arrangement. When you deposit the foreign check, it takes weeks for your bank to realize it was fictitious. In the meantime, the scammer is spending your money. To add insult to injury, your bank may stick you with the fees for the bounced check.

Common sense is your best defense against scams like the Nigerian Money Offers. When we receive an unsolicited offered of a large reward that far exceeds our own investment in that reward, we should immediately be suspicious. If the offer is too good to be true, it If you find yourself in a business probably is. arrangement where your emotions are running high, take a few hours or better yet a few days to calm down, talk about it with a friend, and then come back to it with calmer less emotional eyes. The idea is that a cool head is more likely to pick up on the telltale signs of fraud. With a cool head we are more likely to question the probability that an official would use random emails to solicit help with bringing large sums of currency into the United States. We might even begin to question the

legality of moving large sums of money across international borders. A little suspicion can save you a lot of trouble.

As a general rule, we should always cautiously evaluate unsolicited offers of financial gain. The following tips are intended to help reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of these types of scams:

- 1. Protect your financial information. Be cautious when giving out your credit card or bank account number. Do not give your financial information to telemarketers, or in response to an email, or other form of cold contact marketing.
- 2. Even where you have solicited the business transaction, do some research to identify the person you are dealing with is a legitimate businessman. Identify his or her employer to aid in a better evaluation of the business.
- 3. Cold calls, faxes, letters, or emails that require your personal identifying information before they can continue the communication should be treated with a great deal of suspicion. Scammers often present an offer that seems too good to pass up in order to coax you into providing your personal information. The reality is that most legitimate businesses have all the information they need to communicate the terms of their offer. In any case, research the employee, the company, and the offer prior to providing your personal information or any type of monetary recompense.
- 4. Utilize email programs and filters to screen out spam or other unsolicited emails. If you cannot see the email, you should be less likely to fall into a scammer's trap.
- Do not meet with an unknown person in another country to discuss suspicious financial matters. The reasoning should be self-explanatory. Your recourse may be extremely limited in a different country.

Next issue: Prizes and Sweepstakes

#### **Community Advisory Meeting**

The next Citywide Camera Surveillance System Community Advisory Meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2012, at 6:00 p.m., in the multi-purpose room at the Moreno Valley Police Department. The goal of the meeting is to inform attendees of the history, purpose, benefits, and progress of the project. The meeting will also include an open forum for community input, questions, and answers.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

#### Capital Projects

<u>State Route 60/Moreno Beach Drive Interchange</u> Improvements - Phase 1

The contractor was expected to complete preconstruction requirements by the week of November 5, including the opening of a project office. Construction will extend to summer 2013. On Saturday, October 27, Southern California Edison crews successfully completed a 10-hour shift to relocate the final seven overhead lines over Route 60. It went smoothly and no interruptions to traffic on SR-60 were needed. In mid-November, the contractor is installing informational signs, storm water measures, temporary fencing, and temporary concrete barrier along SR-60. Overall, this Phase 1 project realigns the eastbound on- and off-ramps to a "diamond" configuration and completes the connection of Eucalyptus Avenue to Moreno Beach Drive, thereby providing better access to the area.

# Perris Boulevard Widening from Perris Valley Storm Drain Lateral "B" (Southerly City Limits) to Cactus Avenue

On July 23, 2012, the City issued a Notice to Proceed with Construction to Hillcrest Contracting, Inc. for the Perris Boulevard Widening from Perris Valley Storm Drain Lateral "B" (Southerly City Limits) to Cactus Avenue project. The proposed work includes street widening to a uniform six travel lanes, concrete curb and gutter, sidewalk, curb ramps, driveway approaches, minor drainage improvements, utility relocation, and relocated traffic signals. The total contract amount (base bid amount plus six alternates) is \$3,282,680, which is almost 12% below the engineer's estimate.

Construction of this project is possible only because Public Works Department staff worked diligently for several months with Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) staff to obtain funding. City staff pointed out to RCTC that the City had saved approximately \$1.7 million during the pre-construction phases of Regional TUMF projects, including this one. RCTC agreed to combine these substantial savings with another \$4 million in TUMF funds, for a total of approximately \$5.7 million. To this end, the RCTC Commission voted on March 14, 2012 to appropriate almost \$5.7 million in TUMF funding for the construction of this important regional project. The agreement to secure these funds was approved by City Council on April 10, 2012. Construction is estimated for completion in May 2013.

# <u>State Route 60/Nason Street Overcrossing Bridge</u> (Nason Interchange Phase 2)

Bids were opened on October 17, 2012. The bids are under review, and once review is complete, the contract was awarded at the November 13, 2012 City Council meeting. The improvements will replace the existing 2-lane bridge over the freeway with a wider, higher 5-lane bridge, widen Nason Street to meet the new bridge grade, adjust the ramp/Nason intersections to meet the new grade, add street lights and sidewalks along both sides of Nason Street, add a soundwall along Elder Street, and related improvements. Construction is expected to start late-December 2012 or early January 2013, and will extend to late winter 2014.

#### Alessandro Boulevard Improvements at Indian Street.

The Alessandro Boulevard Improvements at Indian Street project is being advertised for construction bids. This project involves the reconstruction of a cross gutter along north side of Alessandro Boulevard at Indian Street and approximately 480 feet of curb, gutter, sidewalk and pavement on north side of Alessandro Boulevard west of Indian Street. The purpose of the project is to eliminate the existing standing water issues along the gutter in this section of Alessandro Boulevard. The project also includes the reconstruction of access ramps, bus stop landing area, and driveway approaches to meet ADA requirements. The construction is tentatively scheduled to start in January 2013 and to be completed in April 2013.

# Heacock Bridge

Kip Incorporated, the contractor for the Moreno Valley Heacock Bridge over Perris Valley Storm Drain Lateral "A" project has



completed all the road improvements associated with the The contractor recently completed the pavement, road delineators and striping of the bridge deck, installation of the metal rail beam guards, channel safety fencing and construction of the channel maintenance access roads. Heacock Street opened for vehicle traffic on November 1, 2012. The successful completion of this project meets the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conversation District 100-year flood capacity, making the channel ready for future construction widening of the Heacock Channel between Cactus and the Bridge. The 76 foot wide road section over the bridge is constructed to the General Plan Circulation Element making the street ready for connection to future improvements as the area develops. The attached picture is looking northbound, from the south side of the bridge.

#### **Auto Mall Improvements**

The City of Moreno Valley received the Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) 2012 Project of the Year Award for the Auto Mall Improvements project. The award was bestowed upon the City for the "Auto Mall Transformation - A Redevelopment Agency Business Attraction Plan" project which encompasses both the freeway pylon sign (Phase I) and the street and landscape improvements (Phase II). Construction for the Auto Mall Improvements Phase II project has been completed. The project team will be accepting the award on behalf of the City at the APWA Southern California Chapter's Annual Awards Luncheon on December 12, 2012.

The City held the ribbon cutting ceremony for the project on November 1, 2012. The event, celebrating the successful completion of both phases of the project, was attended by Mayor Richard Stewart, several City Council members, Mr. Glenn Moss, owner of Moss Brother's Auto Group, other dignitaries and City Staff.





#### Morrison Park Fire Station

The construction contract for Morrison Park Fire Station was awarded to Silver Creek



Industries in Perris at the September 13, 2011 City Council meeting. Construction started the second week of October 2011 after the ground breaking ceremony. This new fire station is located at the northeast corner of Cottonwood Avenue and Morrison Street occupying approximately 1.5 acres.

The Morrison Park Fire Station is a two-bay fire station with low maintenance landscaping design. The front entrance of the station building includes a memorial monument displaying the 9/11 artifact which is an I-beam salvaged from the wreckage of the World Trade Center. It was placed as a



memorial to the nearly 3,000 victims, including 343 firefighters and 60 police officers who gave their lives in

the service of their fellow citizens on September 11, 2011.

Construction of the Morrison Park Fire Station meets City Council Goals of ensuring Public Safety in that it

provides a safe and secure environment for people and property in the community, it helps control the number and severity of the fire and hazardous material incidents, and it provides protection for citizens who live,



work, and visit the City of Moreno Valley.

The construction was completed on time and within budget. Occupancy was granted in mid-October 2012. Public Works Department, together with Fire Department, has proudly organized the Dedication Ceremony on October 24, 2012. The Morrison Park Fire Station #99 is now serving the public.

### EOC Family Care Center Emergency Generator

On July 10, 2012, City Council authorized the purchase from Johnson Power Systems of the generator set and tank for the EOC Family Care Center and the purchase of the additional tank for the existing generator at the City contingent upon available funding. On August 1, 2012, the Notice Inviting Bids was issued for construction of the EOC Family Care Center Generator project. Bids were opened on September 11, 2012. City awarded the construction contract to Global Power Group, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder at the September 25, 2012 Council meeting.

The project will construct a new generator set and tank located at the Conference & Recreation Center which is designated as the EOC Family Care Center, and the a new 5,000 gallon fuel tank at the existing generator at City Hall. This new tank will bring the existing generator into compliance with the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) code 110-5.1.2 which requires adequate fuel capacity to run the generator for 96 hours. Construction will start by November 2012 and will finish by end of May 2013 (weather permitting).

# City Corporate Yard Sewer Improvement Project

The north septic tank serves the Corporate Yard's Big Bay Warehouse and adjoining office facilities. Maintenance and Operations' staff recently reported that the north septic tank system failed. This has resulted in frequent pumping out of the sewage and special handling through contract services. Capital Projects' in house staff has prepared the construction documents to replace the septic tank with new sewer pipes connecting directly to public sewer system.

The project was advertised for bidding in July 2012. Bids were opened on August 8, 2012. The contract was awarded to C.P. Construction Co., Inc. at the August 28, 2012 Council meeting.



Construction started end of September 2012. C.P. Construction Co. has completed the on-site sewer construction and started installation of the 12" off-site sewer main running on Iris



Avenue in mid-October 2012. The new 12" off-site sewer main installation and video camera were completed on November 01, 2012. Construction will finish by end of November 2012 (weather permitting).

# <u>Police Department Traffic Division Office Renovation</u> Project

Construction for the Moreno Valley Police Department Traffic Division Office Renovation began on April 30, 2012. Recently, the City completed the construction of a new



Emergency Operations Center (EOC) building adjacent to the Public Safety Building (PSB). The Moreno Valley Police Department (MVPD) Traffic Division needed more space and therefore it was decided that the area left vacant by the EOC would be renovated to accommodate the Traffic Division's needs. The project includes the demolition of the existing interior walls, purchase, and installation of new partitions, removal, and relocation of existing base and wall cabinetry, removal of kitchen cabinets and fabrication and installation of new cabinets. The renovated space will be re-carpeted and re-painted as well.

The building improve-ment construction was completed



in July 2012. Furniture and partition were completely in-stalled in mid July 2012. The phone system, data lines for computer system, and PA speakers were installed concurrently with the

wall partition. MVPD Traffic Division became fully functional in the renovated space early in September

2012. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was organized on October 15, 2012 to celebrate the project completion.

# City Hall 2<sup>ND</sup> Level Floor Rehabilitation

On November 13, 2012, staff recommended to the City Council to approve an amendment to the agreement with STK Architecture, Inc. for additional work associated with the City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Level Floor Rehabilitation project. The additional scope of work includes the design for a seismic retrofit of the entire City Hall building floor and roof system and roof restoration work to be completed upon completion of the seismic support straps install in the roof section. Over the next few weeks the Project Design Team will continue working on the plans and specifications for the flooring rehabilitation, seismic retrofit, and roof restoration. The Project Design Team will also be working to refine the staff relocation plan in order to minimize the disruption to work flow and public service. Once City Council approves the amendment, the consultant will be able to submit a proposed schedule that will identify construction dates including staff's relocation schedule.

# <u>Public Works Annual Audit of Measure A and SCAG Article 3 Funds</u>

Bazilo Cobb Associates, an independent certified public accounting firm retained by the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), has completed the mandatory annual audit of Measure A and SCAG Article 3 funds. Measure A is a significant funding source for transportation infrastructure improvements. SCAG Article 3 provides grant funding for the construction of pedestrian and bikeway projects.

The audit encompassed the financial procedures and processes for Measure A and SCAG Article 3 funded projects managed by three divisions of the Public Works Department: Capital Projects, Transportation Engineering and Maintenance and Operations. The Public Works Department and the Financial Operations Division passed the audit with no exceptions. This achievement is a result of organized project management, thorough project execution, and excellent financial documentation.

Congratulations to the Public Works Department and the Financial Operations Division for excellence in project management and financial reporting.

#### Transportation Engineering

# The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

The new federal Surface Transportation Act, "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" (MAP-21), was signed into law on July 6, 2012. Under MAP-21, the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) remains

as one of the core Federal-aid programs. The purpose of this program is to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. In April 2012, Caltrans announced a Cycle 5 Call for Projects. Caltrans received a total of 276 applications, of which 221 projects were selected for federal funding totaling \$111 million. Public Works received notice that two submitted grant applications were successful in receiving project funding in the amount of \$1,193,500. The specific project locations are as follows:

#### Alessandro Boulevard and Elsworth Street

This intersection improvement project will remove two steep cross gutters, modify the existing traffic signal to improve vehicular head placement / visibility, implement dilemma zone protection, and upgrade all existing access ramps to be ADA compliant. The project has a total estimated cost of \$845,000, of which \$760,500 of federal funding was awarded. The City is required to provide ten percent matching funding in the amount of \$84,500.

# Sunnymead Boulevard and SR-60 EB on-ramp

This intersection improvement project will construct a modern 2-lane roundabout. The project has a total estimated cost of \$587,000, of which \$433,000 of federal funding was awarded. The City is required to provide the remaining matching funding in the amount of \$153,400.

#### Special Districts

#### CSD Annual Update Gets a Facelift

The Annual Update for the Community Service District (CSD) will be mailed to property



owners this week. This year's Update is a modification of the Annual Notice of a Public Hearing that has been mailed in prior years. Instead, every property owner within the CSD was mailed a postcard advising them of the CSD's Public Hearing which is typically conducted in May. The CSD conducts an annual public hearing to approve the parcel charges that will be levied on the property tax bills.

The Annual Update focusses on information specific to the CSD services provided, provides a report on activities that occurred during the previous year and let's the property owners know what is being done to control costs. A Spanish version of the document will be available from the City's website. Mailing of the Annual Update is timed to coincide with the County's mailing of the property tax bill, while avoiding the possibility of getting lost in the additional mail typically received during an election cycle. The Update will also direct customers to the City's website where additional information has been uploaded for their access and knowledge. Many thanks to Meleisa Mendonca in Graphics for redesigning and helping us to rebrand this communication tool.

# Grassroots Effort to Clean Up Neighborhood

For the second year in a row, residents in Hidden Springs coordinated a grassroots effort to pick up litter in their neighborhood. Eleven residents filled 22 garbage bags on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Lowes and Home Depot donated the trash bags. Special Districts staff collected and disposed of the trash bags on Monday the 29<sup>th</sup>. Residents started the litter pick up day after a ballot to increase their parcel charges, which would have maintained the "full service" landscape maintenance, was not supported by a majority of the property owners and services were transitioned to "reduced service".