

# SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND

## NEWS BULLETIN

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, District 3



JANUARY 2024

Volume 4, Issue 1

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## WINTER STORMS

During extreme winter weather we face each year, the Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SACDOT) is prepared to provide a quick response to flooded roadways and broken traffic signals.

**When storms hit, crews will respond** twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, to clear roadways, remove fallen trees, repair streetlights, fix traffic signal malfunctions and keep traffic moving safely. Flooded roads are monitored and closed when necessary. When roads are flooded, they are posted to the [SACDOT website at this link](#) to allow you to check routes for problem areas.

**We need your help, especially during bad weather conditions, to report roadway issues by calling 311 (or 875-4311) or [reporting online at the 311 website](#).** You can also report with the 311 app on your phone.

**Fallen Trees and Branches:** During severe weather conditions, crews may clear just the material in the roadway and move on to the next incident. Additional cleanup work is performed when crews have handled all incidents that require immediate attention. (Note trees or branches that fall on private roads or property are the responsibility of the property owner so please contact a private tree service for fallen trees or branches on your property)

**Flooded Roads:** Crews respond immediately to flooded roads and attempt to clear what is causing the problem right away. If the flooded road cannot be cleared, signage will be placed to close the road and maintenance crews will work to continue to clear the roadway.

**Plugged Culverts** (a tunnel carrying a stream or open drain under a road or railroad): If a culvert is plugged, SACDOT crews will flush the culvert until it's clear.

**Traffic Signals Out:** Technicians are dispatched immediately to make repairs to traffic signals that are out or malfunctioning.

**Downed Street Signs and Stop Signs:** Street signs will be replaced as soon as possible. Downed stop signs are a

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priority and SACDOT's goal is to have them back up within two hours of notification.

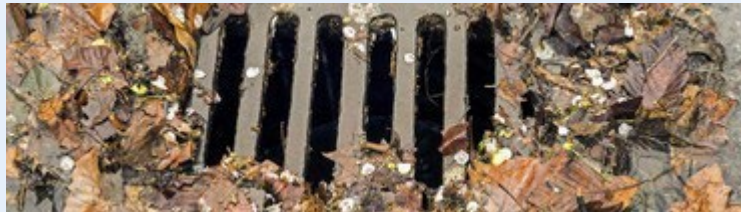
**Street Lights Out:** When reporting a problem, have the pole number or property address available. The pole number can be found on a sticker approximately 8 feet high, usually on the traffic side of the pole.

**Plugged Storm Drains** (a major cause for localized street flooding): Call 311, give the location and the Department of Water Resources will dispatch crews to remove leaves and/or other debris from the drain.

**Potholes:** The number of potholes increases during winter weather, and DOT will prioritize their response to repair potholes based on safety and traffic impacts. Please report potholes any time of year by calling 311 or using the 311 website app.

**Sandbag Sites:** If your property has a history of flooding, get sandbags in advance at Sacramento County's sandbag self-serve sites. Locations can be found online at the [Department of Water Resources website](#).

**If you encounter a downed power line, electrical sparking, or any other emergency that is a danger to yourself or others, please immediately call 911.** For any other power outages please report them or verify they are reported to **SMUD at 1-888-456-7683** or on [SMUD's website](#). For any **PG&E outages contact 1-800-743-5000** or report them on [PG&E's website](#).



## RETAIL THEFT OPERATION BAD ELF

In case you missed the story, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office conducted a week-long operation to combat retail theft across the region. The Sheriff's Department focused on popular retail establishments such as Target, Walgreens, and Walmart, primarily in District 3. The operation was a strategic effort to address the rising concerns surrounding theft and its impact on local businesses and communities. Retail theft has been a growing issue throughout the State of California and has had a big impact on Sacramento County businesses, employees and customers. I regularly hear firsthand from business owners, chambers of commerce, Property Business

Improvement Districts, and retail property owners that theft is growing and causing harm to the local economy.

Deputies and detectives from the Sheriff's Centralized Investigations Bureau collaborated seamlessly in a coordinated effort to identify, track, and apprehend individuals involved in retail theft. The operation, which took place over the course of a week, utilized both uniformed and plain clothes officers strategically positioned within targeted retail locations. This approach aimed to deter theft and catch perpetrators in the act. During the operation, the Sheriff's Office successfully recovered stolen merchandise worth tens of thousands of dollars and made 285 felony and misdemeanor arrests.

I am extremely grateful that Sheriff Cooper and the Sheriff's Department is emphasizing the importance of safeguarding businesses and ensuring the safety of community members. This was the first of many operations to send a clear message that criminal activity will not be tolerated in Sacramento County.

The Sacramento County Sheriff's Office remains committed to combating crime, protecting local businesses, and ensuring the safety and well-being of residents. The success of the recent retail theft operation reflects the dedication and effectiveness of law enforcement professionals in addressing pressing community concerns.

To see a video highlighting the operation, please visit the Sacramento Sheriff's Office social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube.



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## HOMELESS POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT

Every other year, Sacramento County conducts a count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness, as mandated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and volunteer registration for the 2024 PIT count is now open.

Led by Sacramento Steps Forward (SSF), the PIT count provides valuable data on the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, as well as trends in subpopulation demographics such as veteran status, chronic homelessness, and transition-age youth. Data from the PIT count, combined with the experiences of service providers, outreach workers, and law enforcement, is crucial to help guide policy and funding decision made by the Board of Supervisors.

The PIT count is a wide-ranging community effort made possible by the incredible support of many volunteers and partners. Your help is important to capture this crucial community data. You can get involved in various activities such as street canvassing, counting, surveying, site set up/clean up, volunteer check-in/check-out, and more! Please consider volunteering the evening of Wednesday, January 24, and Thursday, January 25, 2023.

The PIT's main deployment center will be at Sacramento State's Harper Alumni Center. Several other satellite locations will also operate in the region. Canvassers will fan out to predetermined census tracts across the Sacramento region. The 2024 PIT also will include more intensive coverage of known homelessness locations along the American River Parkway.

More than 500 volunteers participated in the last PIT count in February 2022. It concluded that an estimated 9,278 individuals experienced homelessness on a single night. Find the full report on the [SSF website](#).

All volunteers must be 18 years of age and be willing to travel by foot or car to predetermined locations. They will need to use their personal smartphone and flashlight. Volunteers are also required to complete volunteer training, which will be offered live via Zoom, with a new recorded option providing added flexibility for those unable to attend live. The live training is intended for new PIT volunteers. Complete the [volunteer registration form](#) to receive the link for the training.

# SACRAMENTO PIT COUNT

## HOLIDAY TREE RECYCLING FOR FREE!

Give your holiday tree the proper send-off and recycle it into a new life as beneficial mulch or compost – for free!

Requirements:

- Trees must have all tinsel, lights, decorations, nails and stands removed.
- Flocked trees are not accepted for recycling.
- Please ensure transported holiday trees are properly secured during transport.

**Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023, Free Mulching Event**

**Residents can bring holiday trees to be mulched for free:**

- **SMUD Corporation Yard**([Read the December SMUD Connections newsletter](#))
  - 6100 Folsom Blvd., (just off Hwy 50)
  - 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
    - Mulched tree offered free to the customer.

[Free Drop-Off Holiday Tree Recycling Events Flyer](#)

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY LOCATIONS**

**Saturday, Jan. 7 and Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023**

**Residents can recycle holiday trees for free at:**

- **Kiefer Landfill\***
  - 12701 Kiefer Blvd. (Jackson Hwy, north on Grant Line Road, right on Kiefer Blvd)
  - 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **North Area Recovery Station\***
  - 4450 Roseville Rd. (Hwy 80, north on Watt Ave., left on Roseville Road)
  - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

*Loads in excess of 5 trees must be issued a voucher for the trees to be accepted at no charge. Nonprofit civic groups and community organizations can obtain vouchers by submitting the [Annual Holiday Tree Recycling Program Application Form](#). For more information, email [SacGreenTeam@SacCounty.gov](mailto:SacGreenTeam@SacCounty.gov).*

## **OTHER LOCAL DROP-OFF LOCATIONS**

**Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023**

**Residents can also recycle holiday trees for free at:**

- **Elder Creek Recovery and Transfer Station**
  - 8642 Elder Creek Rd (Jackson Hwy, south on Florin Perkins Rd., left on Elder Creek Rd.)
  - 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Sacramento Recycling & Transfer Station**
  - 8491 Fruitridge Rd (Jackson Hwy, south on Florin Perkins Rd., right on Fruitridge Rd.)
  - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
    - Also accepting trees Dec. 26 – Jan. 7, Monday - Saturday | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Folsom - Dan Russell Rodeo Arena Rodeo Park**
  - Located at the end of Stafford St., next to the arena
  - 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

## **CURBSIDE ORGANICS COLLECTION OF HOLIDAY TREES**

County residents with the [Department of Waste Management & Recycling](#) curbside collection service can also recycle their live holiday tree (all tinsel, lights, decorations, nails and stands removed) by cutting it up and putting it in the [curbside Organics cart](#). Please make sure the lid will close. The cart will be emptied on your regular Organics collection day.

Flocked trees can be cut up and placed in the [curbside Garbage cart](#) for collection - ensure the lid will close.

***Please do not put holiday trees on curbs or roadsides!***





## IMPACT100 GREATER SACRAMENTO GRANT OPPORTUNITY

In 2024, Impact100 Greater Sacramento will award at least one nonprofit organization with a \$100,000 grant. The grant application window will begin at 8:00 a.m. on January 1, 2024, and close at 5 p.m. on March 31, 2024. Don't miss out on this opportunity to secure funding for your projects. Mark your calendars and prepare your applications early to ensure you meet the deadline.

Impact100 Greater Sacramento will offer grant training sessions that will guide you through the application process, offer suggestions on how to make a more compelling application, and answer your questions. These sessions will be held at Impact Foundry, 2030 West El Camino Avenue #210, Sacramento, CA, as follows:

- Tuesday, January 16, 2024
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 24, 2024
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Register for one of these sessions by visiting the [Impact100 Greater Sacramento event page](#).

**IMPACT100**  
GREATER SACRAMENTO

## PROBATION AND WORKFORCE SKILLS

As part of the Sacramento County Probation Department's Adult Day Reporting Centers (ADRC), Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA) recently started a collaboration with Relgnite Hope Welding Program. The program has a Mobile Welding Training Center that is brought into Sacramento, CA

four times a year and is fully operated by volunteer trainers and donated equipment. Through the ADRC program, participants are provided with work boots, attire, gas cards or bus passes to ensure they are set up for success before and during the program. With completion of the program, clients are eligible to test and receive two American Welding Certifications.

One recent success is a client who graduated from ADRC-North in November. He also completed the Relgnite Welding Program, earning two American Welding Certifications and was one of the top students in the latest Relgnite Welding class. He completed the training program with 100% attendance and is on track to be employed. Programs like these are important tools to change the trajectory of the lives of participants while ensuring that we have a trained workforce.

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## MASTER PLAN FOR AGING

California launched the [Master Plan for Aging](#) in 2021 to create a California for All Ages by 2030.

Sacramento is seeing a growing aging population and, according to the California Department of Aging, the population of Sacramento County residents over age 60 will increase 187% from 2010 to 2060. Conversely, the population of younger residents is decreasing. This comes with many challenges facing seniors, such as living longer, inflation, isolation, and an increased need for services.

In February 2021, Sacramento County joined AARP's Age-Friendly Network of States and Communities. Created by the World Health Organization and implemented by AARP, age-friendly communities identify eight domains that make communities more livable. Those domains include accessible and affordable housing and health care, transportation options, green spaces, and opportunities for social and civic participation. Age-friendly communities help older people thrive and experience connection and joy in their lives. In 2023, Sacramento received a grant from the California Department of Aging to develop an Action Plan, the next stage of becoming an age-friendly community.

While Sacramento is working towards an age-friendly future, there are many current resources, programs, and supports available. The Aging and Disability Resource Connection helps older adults and people with disabilities stay in the community by providing resources through information and assistance, person-centered case management, and other important services. The goal is to keep people out of long-term care. Multiple community agencies and government programs are part of the Aging and Disability Resource Connection and



work together to help older adults and people living with disability connect to services that are right for them.

#### General Resources for Older Adults

1. [Senior Resource Guide](#)

Phone: 2-1-1 or 1-844-546-1464

2. [Agency on Aging Area 4](#)

Phone: 916-486-1876

3. [Aging and Disability Resource Connection](#)

Phone: 1-800-211-4545

4. [ACC Senior Services \(includes Meals on Wheels\)](#)

Phone: 916-394-6399

5. [Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services](#)

[Adult Protective Services \(APS\)](#) Phone: 916-874-9377

[In-Home Supportive Services \(IHSS\)](#): Phone: 916-874-9471

6. [Resources for Independent Living](#)

Phone: 916-446-3074



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# COUNTY BUDGET PRIORITIES

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, at its December 12 meeting, approved recommended budget priorities based on the [results of a survey of County residents](#). The Board also approved the [General Fund Contingency Policy](#).

The public opinion survey, conducted by a professional public opinion firm, was conducted in October and November of 2023. The survey was a follow-up to the [County's first public opinion survey in 2021](#), which was conducted so the County could develop budget priorities based on public input. The professional polling firm conducted focus groups of County residents as well as surveys through telephone and online interviews with 1,061 respondents surveyed. Residents were drawn from communities in proportion to the County's adult population by age and gender, and came from a mix of educational backgrounds and household incomes.

The results of the 2023 survey were remarkably similar to the results in 2021, with focus areas of homelessness and road improvements identified as priorities.

The recommended priorities for the use of General Fund discretionary funds in the FY 2024-25 budget are:

Complying with the County's legal, financial, regulatory, and policy obligations, including providing mandated services, ensuring the collection of revenues, and complying with the General Fund Reserve policy.

Optimizing the use of County resources, with budgeted service levels for County programs informed by community priorities, improving effectiveness and efficiency where possible, and limiting the extent to which reductions in dedicated revenue are backfilled with discretionary resources.

Funding new or enhanced programs that focus on the most critical and urgent needs, with the following priority focus areas identified in the survey of County residents:

A Countywide focus area of addressing homelessness, its impacts, and contributing factors, including the cost and availability of housing, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment.

An unincorporated focus area of improving the condition of roads.

Survey result highlights include:

The top concern survey respondents wanted the County to address, by far, was homelessness, and participants

associated many overlapping issues with this concern, including substance abuse, mental health, blight and illegal dumping, the quality of parks, housing costs, and crime.

Of the respondents identified, 58 percent reported homelessness as the most important problem (compared to 53 percent in 2021). The second and third categories were crime/safety/drugs at 18 percent and housing/affordable rent at 15 percent (both were at 13 percent in 2021).

Infrastructure/road repairs was in the fourth category at 8 percent (same in 2021) cost of living/inflation was fifth at 7 percent (versus 5 percent in 2021).

Road conditions are a bigger issue in the unincorporated areas than in the cities, with 66 percent of residents in the unincorporated areas citing road conditions as an extremely or very serious problem.

Residents were asked to imagine they oversaw the County budget and were asked how they would prioritize County spending in six broad areas. On average, residents allocated more funding to reducing homelessness and public safety than other areas. Infrastructure maintenance came in third, followed by services for children, seniors, and families, economic development such as job creation, and parks and environmental protection.

Please click on this link to [view the full survey and results](#).



## BYE BYE MATTRESS

The Mattress Recycling Council reports that Californians have recycled more than 10 million mattresses since the Bye Bye Mattress program began in the state in 2016.

If you are planning to get rid of old mattresses this season, the Bye Bye Mattress Program offers Californians easy access to no-cost mattress recycling and disposal options.

[Visit this link where you can recycle mattresses:](#)

- Find the nearest location to drop off your mattress at no cost for recycling.
- Learn about the mattress retailer's obligation to offer to take back an old mattress at no added cost when a new one is delivered.
- See if you live in an area where your waste collector offers free collection of a bulky item and if that waste collector recycles with the Bye Bye Mattress program.

**Help us raise awareness of this program to curb illegal dumping and encourage Californians to recycle.**

Thank you for helping the environment!



## **VOTES (Volunteer Officials Trained for Election Support) CORPS**

Vote Corps is a service program for regular employees of the County of Sacramento. Its mission is to encourage partnership

between volunteer civil servants and local election administrators in the spirit of civic duty.

VOTES Corps members will primarily be called upon to assist in providing secure ballot transport on Election Day. They will not be assigned to work as Vote Center Inspectors or Clerks.

Before applying, ensure you can:

- Obtain permission from your supervisor.
- Remain politically neutral in dress and speech.
- Be non-combative under scrutiny and remain calm under pressure.
- Maintain a professional demeanor and represent the County in the field.
- Lift at least 50 pounds with a partner.

To receive certification, applicants will be required to complete a two-hour virtual training. Apply today to become a certified member of VOTES Corp by visiting the [VotesCorps Application](#) website.

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## FAIR OAKS RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT WINTER/SPRING ACTIVITY GUIDE

The Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District (FORPD) is hard at work adding programs to benefit you and your family. The **FORPD has released its new Digital Activity Guide for January through April 2024.** The Guide is a terrific resource for Fair Oaks and surrounding communities for upcoming events, classes, and programs like preschool, sports, dance, childcare, and more. **The Digital Activity Guide can be found at the following link: [Fair Oaks Recreation & Park Activity guide: January - April 2024 by FORPD - Issue](#)**

For more information about the Park District or available activities, please visit the [FORPD website](#).