

SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND
NEWS BULLETIN
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, District 3



February 2025

Volume 5, Issue 2

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COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Please join me at one of my upcoming **community meetings** to discuss **transportation and our roadways**. The condition of our roadways in unincorporated Sacramento County is a constant source of frustration for many residents, including me! Come join the discussion to provide feedback about roads in your neighborhood, learn about the maintenance backlog we face, how we prioritize repairs, and what we are doing to address the budget shortfall for transportation projects. I have invited **Ron Vicari, Director of the Sacramento County Department of Transportation**, and **Lupe Rodriguez, Chief of Transportation, Division of Operations and Maintenance**, to join me. **Please see below for dates and locations.**

Foothill Farms Community Meeting

DATE: Monday, February 10, 2025

TIME: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

LOCATION: Liberty Towers Church, 5132 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95842

Fair Oaks Community Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, February 11, 2025

TIME: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

LOCATION: Fair Oaks Water District, 10326 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Carmichael Community Meeting

DATE: Thursday, March 6, 2025

TIME: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Supervisor Rich Desmond
Third District
Sacramento County
Board of Supervisors
700 H Street, Suite 2450
Sacramento, CA 95814
richdesmond@saccounty.gov

PHONE: (916) 874-5471
FAX: (916) 874-7593

[Follow Us on Facebook](#)

LOCATION: Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave, Carmichael, CA 95608

Arden Arcade Community Meeting

DATE: Monday, March 10, 2025

TIME: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

LOCATION: Sacramento Suburban Water District, 3701 Marconi Ave, Ste 100, Sacramento, CA 95821

SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND
DISTRICT 3

**COMMUNITY MEETINGS
TRANSPORTATION
& OUR ROADWAYS**

**GUEST SPEAKER: RON VICARI,
DIRECTOR OF THE SACRAMENTO
COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

MEETING INFORMATION:

MONDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2025 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm LIBERTY TOWERS CHURCH 5132 ELKHORN BLVD SACRAMENTO, CA 95842	TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2025 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm FAIR OAKS WATER DISTRICT 10326 FAIR OAKS BLVD FAIR OAKS, CA 95628
THURSDAY MARCH 6, 2025 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm CARMICHAEL PARK CLUBHOUSE 5750 GRANT AVE CARMICHAEL, CA 95608	MONDAY MARCH 10, 2025 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN WATER DISTRICT 3701 MARCONI AVE, STE 100 SACRAMENTO, CA 95821

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [RICHDESMOND@SACCOUNTY.GOV](mailto:richdesmond@saccounty.gov) OR CALL (916) 874-5471

**WATT AVENUE SAFE STAY
GROUNDBREAKING**

Last month, I attended the groundbreaking of the **Watt Avenue Safe Stay in North Highlands**. I was joined by my fellow Sacramento County supervisors, County leadership, and our nonprofit partners as we broke ground on a large-scale campus that will get people off the streets with diverse services and resources to meet their needs.

The 13-acre property, on Watt Ave south of Roseville Road, is already equipped with a 130,000-square-foot warehouse and is designed as a mixed-use campus with tiny home shelters, weather respite beds, and safe parking spaces. Behavioral Health services will be located on-site with case management, and property storage, pet respite, laundry services, showers, bathrooms, job training, and more, will complete the vision of having a dynamic, multi-use, facility to serve the homeless in the immediate area and beyond.

The Watt Avenue Campus will have the capacity to host (at any given time):

- 225 beds in Safe Stay cabins
- 50-person capacity in Safe Parking
- 75-person capacity for emergency/weather respite beds

The Campus's size and configuration offer a unique opportunity to serve folks immediately exiting homelessness in the emergency/weather respite center and those more stabilized and working towards permanent housing in the Safe Stay cabins. Additionally, it will allow staff to serve people living in vehicles, which includes the working poor, and those who are only recently homeless.

The site will allow for a myriad of community-based supports – behavioral health, physical health, employment services, treatment services (and many more) – to co-locate at the site and support clients towards a permanent exit from homelessness.

The County has been working on this project for years, and the Watt Safe Stay site will be the County's fourth Safe Stay Community, with other locations in south Sacramento at Florin, East Parkway and on Stockton Blvd. In addition to these shelters, the County also has scattered site shelter homes across the County, as well as several other sheltering programs. The County continues to pursue new and innovative programs and services to address homelessness, stretch limited funding and partner with its cities, community-based organizations and local non-profits in the mission to end homelessness.

Conservative estimates, based on the data from other county sheltering and respite projects, show that over 15 years, the Watt Campus will serve 18,000 people – which pencils out the cost to less than \$3600 per person – a drastic reduction to what it costs to leave people unhoused and burden the cost of response.

For more information about what the County is doing to address homelessness, [visit our website](#).



SWEARING IN

At the January 7 Board Meeting, I was officially sworn in for my second term as a Sacramento County Supervisor. I am filled with gratitude to be able to continue serving the residents of the Third District. I have lived in District 3 all my life, and my life is woven into the fabric of our community. I will continue to be an accessible and responsive representative for all the diverse neighborhoods in District 3 and strive to do what is best for our residents and businesses. The urban unincorporated communities in our District rely heavily on the County for municipal services, public safety, and economic development, and I will continue to be a tireless advocate for ensuring those services are provided reliably and effectively. In my second term, I am committed to continuing the work of fixing our roads, creating conditions for our small businesses to thrive, and reducing homelessness, including getting people meaningful and necessary treatment programs. Thank you to my wife, Lisa, for issuing my oath of office!



LOVE IS IN THE AIR: VALENTINE'S DAY EVENTS

February is always a special month and a reminder to express affection for the ones we love. Below are a few activities for seniors and the entire family this month.

Senior Valentine's Concert

What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than enjoying live music from the Kiwanis Swing Band and light refreshments? Bring your special someone or your best friend.

- Date: Saturday, February 7, 2025
- Time: 2:30 – 4:30 pm
- Fee: \$5.00/person (50 % of proceeds go to the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael)

Location: La Sierra Community Center, John Smith Hall, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael, CA 95608

Sweetheart's Dance

The whole family can enjoy an evening out at the Mission Oaks Community Center for a dance. This afternoon, live music by Ken Meyers Trio and refreshments will be provided!

- Date: Friday, February 14, 2025
- Time: 1:15 – 3:45 pm
- Fee: \$8/person
- Location: Gibbons Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608

Cupid's Crew Valentine Dance

Cupid's Crew Valentine Dance is back with a whole new spin at the North Highlands Recreation and Park District! Participants will be "glowing" through the night with glowstick swag and disco lights. Dress in your best neon or white to really maximize the glow.

Entry includes beverages, dinner, desserts, a live DJ and games! All ages are invited.

Date: February 7, 2025

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Location: Kay F. Dahill Community Center

Fee: \$8.00 per participant and Registration closes Monday, February 3, 2025. The link can be found here: [EVENT REGISTRATION](#)

For questions, please email our Recreation Supervisor, Kayla, at kayla@nhrrpd.org.

Family Valentine's Dance

All family members are welcome at Arden Park Recreation and Park District's Family Valentine's Dance! The night will be filled with dancing, laughter, and fun. Come dressed to impress, and head to the dance floor to show off your dance moves or go to the photo booth to make memories! Admission includes light refreshments and craft activities. Purchase tickets in advance to reserve your spot.

Date: Friday, February 7th

Time: 6:30-8 pm

Location: Arden Park Community Center

Fee: \$5 per person and register Online at this link:
[REGISTER HERE](#)



ANNUAL TROUT FISHING DERBY

Enjoy the outdoors and grab a fishing rod on **Saturday, February 15, 2025, for the Annual Trout Fishing Derby at Howe Park**. The Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District is teaming up with the California Department of Fish and Game's Fishing in the City Program for a day of fishing, fishing instruction and prizes. The event will be held at the Howe Park Pond at 2201 Cottage Way. Howe Park Pond will be freshly stocked with trout, and prizes will be awarded for the longest and fattest fish.

Youth ages 15 and under will be allowed to enter the fishing area first, and a "Children Only" fishing area will be provided. The event is rain or shine! A fishing license is required for those aged 16 and up, but there is a discounted price for pre-registration. Please contact Jaden with the Park District at 916-927-3802 ext. 125 or visit the [Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District's website](#) for more information.

FULTON-EL CAMINO RPD'S ANNUAL

FISHING DERBY 2025

Saturday
15
 FEBRUARY

HOWE PARK POND 2201 COTTAGE WAY

KIDS DERBY 8:00AM
 WHO: KIDS AGES 15 AND UNDER ONLY
 TIME: 8:00 - 10:00 AM (SIGN-IN BEGINS AT 7:30 AM)
 FEE (PER DERBY):
 PRE-REGISTRATION: \$4 PER PERSON
 \$18 PER HOUSEHOLD (MAX 5)
 DAY OF REGISTRATION: \$5 PER PERSON
 \$20 PER GROUP

PRIZES awarded for Longest & Fattest FISH!

OPEN DERBY 10:30AM
 WHO: ALL (FISHING LICENSE IS REQUIRED 16+)
 TIME: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ALL AGES)
 FEE (PER DERBY):
 PRE-REGISTRATION: \$4 PER PERSON
 \$18 PER HOUSEHOLD (MAX 5)
 DAY OF REGISTRATION: \$5 PER PERSON
 \$20 PER HOUSEHOLD

RODS AVAILABLE FOR LOAN FROM CA DEPT. OF WILDLIFE'S FISHING IN THE CITY PROGRAM. EVENT IS RAIN OR SHINE.

For More information or to register visit our website
www.fecrpd.com

FEC Fulton-El Camino Recreation & Park District

THIS IS NOT A PROGRAM OF THE SAN JUAN SCHOOL DISTRICT AND SAN JUAN ACCEPTS NO LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROGRAM.

OFFICE HOURS

In an effort to provide more opportunities for residents to meet with me and my office staff, I will be hosting another round of **office hours in the District**. This will be a time for you to meet individually with me and my staff to discuss issues in your neighborhood.

To maximize time, office hours will be **by appointment only**. Please call my office at (916) 874-5471 to reserve a 15-minute meeting time period. To help assist you, please be prepared to let my staff know what issue you would like to discuss. We cannot guarantee a meeting if you do not have an appointment.

DATE: Friday, February 21, 2025

TIME: 9:00 am - noon

LOCATION: 4500 Orange Grove Ave, Sacramento, CA 95841

5 OVER 50 VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMNATIONS FOR 2025

If you know someone who makes Sacramento County a better place to live and is 50 years old or older, now is your chance to celebrate them. Each year, the 5 Over 50 Award recognizes outstanding members of our community. The Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission is now taking applications for its 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award.

Nominees must be 50 or older, actively involved in volunteer work, and residents of Sacramento County. If you know someone who meets the criteria and has made an impact in Sacramento County, nominate them for the 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award. Learn more about the application process and access the form by visiting the [Adult and Aging Commission page](#). **Two letters of reference are required. Applications are due Friday, Feb. 7.**

The 5 Over 50 Awards will be presented during a Sacramento County Board of Supervisors meeting in May. The award is presented in May to coincide with Older Americans Month. Five nominees will receive the award, with one person selected from each district within Sacramento County.

Sacramento County's Adult and Aging Commission members look forward to celebrating the winners. Winners will also be featured on Sacramento County's website and YouTube channel. [You can read about last year's winners here.](#)



TOT GRANT APPLICATION PERIOD COMING TO AN END

The County Board of Supervisors intends to continue providing \$1 million through the **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Grant Program** to support **nonprofit organizations** located in Sacramento County in Fiscal Year 2025-26. For the last 8 years, the Board of Supervisors has awarded funds to organizations that carry out community-based programs and/or services in the areas of economic and workforce development, arts and culture, community development, and health and human services. The County began setting aside funding for this purpose in 2017.

Grants will be allocated through a competitive process and applicants must meet [eligibility and funding requirements](#). Applications will continue to be accepted online through the County's Office of Budget and Debt Management from now **through February 14, 2025**.

Funding for the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Grant Program comes from the revenue generated by the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT). This tax is applied to individuals who stay in accommodations such as hotels, motels and other temporary lodging options within the unincorporated areas of the County.

2025-26 TOT Grant Program Application Dates & Details:

Application Period

Now – Feb. 14, 2025

- Applications are only accepted online through the [TOT Grant Portal](#).
- Application and requested materials must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Feb. 14, 2025.
- Late applications will not be accepted, and incomplete applications will be disqualified.
- Applicants will receive electronic receipt notification upon submission of the application.

Evaluation Timeline

Feb. 18 – 21, 2025

County staff will review applications for completeness and compliance with minimum eligibility requirements. Applicants will be notified electronically if proposals do not meet the minimum qualifications and will not continue to the evaluation process.

March 3 – April 18, 2025

Subject Area Expert Panel Application Review: Subject area experts will review, evaluate, and rank qualifying applications.

April 30, 2025

TOT Board Review Committee: Board Review Committee reviews recommendations of the Subject Area Expert Panel's Recommendations and awards District-directed grants based on input from Subject Area Experts.

Grantee Award Approval

June 2025

Grant Program Hearing Notification: Applicants will receive an electronic notification of the schedule for the Board of Supervisors Hearing where recommended award selections will be made.

The Board of Supervisors will make the final determination and approval for all TOT Grant Program recipients.

County Budget & Debt Management staff will notify applicants of funding selections within 5 business days of Board Hearing approval. All notifications will be made electronically.

County Budget & Debt Management staff will draft and administer agreements between the County and grantees.

For more information about the grant program, visit the [TOT Grant Program website](#).

BIKE GIVEAWAY

I was pleased to join the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA) at Katherine Johnson Middle School to provide 50 students with free bicycles, helmets, lights, and locks. This event supported a school where 85% of students are economically disadvantaged, giving them access to safe,

reliable, and fun transportation. Bikes also promote independence, physical activity, and a love for cycling! Many thanks to Deb Banks and the SABA team who inspected, outfitted, and sized the bikes for students, as well as Taylor Munion and April Maple from KJMS for identifying the need and coordinating the event with students and families. I am honored to have the opportunity to support such wonderful community partners!



FAIR OAKS RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT WINTER/SPRING ACTIVITY GUIDE

The Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District (FORPD) has many programs for families this season. Check them out in [FORPD's newly released Digital Activity Guide for Winter 2025](#). 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.

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



THE JACKSON LABORATORY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Many promising students are unable to pursue higher education due to the financial burden a college education presents. **The Jackson Laboratory**, through the [JAX College Scholarship Program](#), will award a **\$10,000 scholarship to three students** from underserved backgrounds who will pursue a college degree and **aspire to a career in biomedicine**. This program is open to graduating high school seniors who reside in Connecticut, Maine, or Sacramento County, California.

The mission of The Jackson Laboratory is to discover precise genomic solutions for disease, and scholarships will be awarded to students who share this goal by pursuing a career in research or medicine.

Applicant Information:

- Must be nominated by a teacher, administrator, or guidance counselor
- Demonstrate either significant financial need or status as a first-generation college student, including individuals whose parents have not completed a Bachelor's degree
- Applicants must be on track to complete their high school diploma with a cumulative GPA greater or equivalent to 3.5 on a standard 4.0 scale
- Online teacher nominations will open on January 13, 2025, and must be submitted by February 14, 2025
- Nominated student applications must be submitted by March 31, 2025
- Scholarships will be awarded in late Spring 2025

In addition to the financial award, JAX will facilitate internship programs for scholarship recipients throughout their college career and sponsor annual campus visits to Bar Harbor, Maine and Farmington, CT. Scholarship recipients are expected to maintain strong academic performance and provide periodic updates on their college experience through blog posts and presentations.

Nominate a Student

To request a link to a Nomination Form, please email scholarship@jax.org with the subject line, 'Scholarship Nomination Form Request'.

Include the following information:

Nominator: your name, title, school affiliation, and email address.



Links starting with "https://lnks.gd/l/" in this established County Communication channel are safe.

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