



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

DATE: MAY 1, 2009
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
BEN REYES, CITY ATTORNEY
FROM: BELINDA B. ESPINOSA, CITY MANAGER

PLACES TO BE

- MAY 5 – WASTEWATER JPA TO MEET IN HERCULES

The Wastewater JPA is scheduled to meet at Noon in Hercules at 1:30 PM.

- MAY 6 - JAMBA JUICE FUNDRAISER FOR YOUTH CENTER

Shop locally, support Pinole businesses and help fundraise for the Pinole Youth Center all in one smoothie! Buy any item at Jamba Juice on either Friday, May 1 from 5pm – 7pm or Wednesday, May 6 from 2:30pm – 4:30pm and 20% of the proceeds go toward the Youth Center. You must bring the Youth Center fundraiser flyer attached at the end of this report.

- MAY 16 - COMMUNITY HEALTH DAY 1:00PM – 5:00PM

Community Health Day is a free community gathering for all ages from small children to seniors on Saturday, May 16, 1pm - 5pm in Fernandez Park and Pinole Youth Center. It's an event for all ages focused on creating awareness of health and wellness and providing direct access to information on everything from nutrition and living "green" to mental health and fitness activities. Community Health Day is designed to fight the rising obesity crisis by encouraging youth, seniors, teens, families and adults to adopt a healthier, active lifestyle.

Community Health Day includes informational exhibitors; a bike safety rodeo for 5 - 12 year olds; 3-on-3 co-ed basketball tournament for teens and adults; Wii and DDR active video game tournaments; plus demonstrations of martial arts, dance, hula hooping and more. The community will find exhibitors on mental and physical health, water conservation, weight loss and more. The Youth Commission will lead active old-fashioned games such as sack races, three-legged races and twister.

This event is presented by the Pinole Youth Foundation whose mission is to foster healthy youth and promote community responsibility. The Youth Foundation raises funds to support

the Pinole Youth Center and youth services. This event will directly fund activities such as KidStrong that develops healthy, fit youth. Major event sponsors include Kaiser Permanente and Farmers' Insurance – Madeline Crandall & Michael Teague.

For information on Community Health Day, contact Amy Wooldridge at (510) 724-9062 or awooldridge@ci.pinole.ca.us.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- INFORMATION ON SWINE FLU

We've all heard the news about this Swine Flu reaching epidemic and possibly pandemic proportions. In California there are 19 confirmed cases. In Contra Costa County, the swine flu has caused a one-week closure of Highlands Elementary School in Pittsburg. As of the writing of this document, there have not been any cases reported in West Contra Costa County.

The symptoms are very similar to the "regular" flu virus, and the virus is passed from person to person in the same manner. If medically necessary, there are medications available by a physician's prescription. You can protect yourself from the swine flu in the same way you do other similar viruses – frequent hand washing, covering your nose and mouth when sneezing, and of course, avoiding someone who is already sick.

Attached is a Fact Sheet issued by Contra Costa County Health Services on April 29th. Additional information is available on their website at www.cchealth.org, or at the Center for Disease Control website at www.cdc.gov/swineflu.

According to County Health Services, Emergency Medical Services agencies have not, as yet, seen any increase in the transportation of people with flu-like symptoms, in fact the numbers are slightly down from the normal amount. Providers in the health care and response fields have precautionary measures to follow in the event that they come into contact with possible patients with H1Ni (Swine) flu. This includes maintaining relative distance from the patient when possible (2-3 feet), wearing N95 bio masks and goggles as well as placing a surgical mask on the patient.

If the public observes this type of activity they can assume that is a blanket procedure for certain types of calls and should not assume that a particular illness is confirmed.

As far as **school closures** are concerned, only Highland Elementary School in the City of Pittsburg is closed. Students from a second Pittsburg school were sent home for illness which was later confirmed **not to be swine flu**. The CDC (Federal Center for Disease Control) recommends that a school be closed for two weeks if a single student is confirmed to have the swine flu. While there is no current expectation that school closures will be widespread, parents may wish to establish a family contingency plan for their (healthy) child's

care in such an event. This type of plan is good to have for many emergency scenarios so this discussion is helpful for a family in any event.

- **EDHAC CONSIDERS RESTAURANT USE FOR 2300 SAN PABLO AVE.**

The Economic Development and Housing Advisory Committee reviewed a proposal for a new restaurant to locate at 2300 San Pablo. The restaurant owner has four other successful restaurants in Fairfax, Novato and San Rafael. The discussion will be continued at the next EDHAC meeting on May 12, 2009.

- **NO SMOKING IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACES ORDINANCE**

At the last City Council meeting, the Staff presented a draft of a new "No Smoking" Ordinance in public parks. This ordinance will be considered again at the May 19 City Council meeting as a first reading and public hearing with a second reading and recommendation for adoption at the June 2 City Council meeting. If approved on June 2, the ordinance becomes effective 30 days after July 2, 2009.

- **CITY'S FINANCIAL REVIEW CONTINUES**

Staff will be presenting the Third Quarter FY 2008-09 Budget report at the May 5 City Council meeting. Our financial outlook continues to be dim however, staff is taking steps to try and make adjustments to our expenditure and revenue projections. The City continues to draw approximately \$64,199 a month on a \$2.389 million Redevelopment loan to the General Fund to make our operating expenses.

Staff is busy making reductions in our line item expenditures, eliminating non-essential expenditures and looking for ways to enhance revenues to the City. To date, we have made \$1.4 million in expenditure transfers and \$1.739 million in expenditure reductions. On the revenue side, we have found an additional \$551,000 in new revenues through various means. Management and Mid management personnel have forgone their 3% Cost of Living increase (effective July 1, 2009) and have taken a three day unpaid work furlough in FY 2008-09 and are planning for another one in FY 2009-10. Discussions with all of our labor groups have been taking place in an effort to find cooperative ways of further reducing our budget expenses.

There are four major expenditure reductions that are still being analyzed. This includes offering Pinole Police dispatch services to neighboring entities, identifying alternative revenues sources for keeping the swim center open, exploration of alternative scenarios for reducing the cost of fire services, and the installation of solar panels to reduce energy costs.

- **PINOLE PET HOSPITAL DONATES TO THE PINOLE YOUTH CENTER**

The Pinole Youth Center is happy to announce a \$150 donation from the Pinole Pet Hospital and would like to thank them for their generosity. The money will be used towards providing scholarships for underprivileged and struggling youth to attend summer camp. In this difficult economic time every donation, large or small, helps. Thanks!

- **PINOLE VALLEY ROAD AT INTERSTATE 80 RAMPS SIGNAL TIMING**

This is a follow up on a request from Councilmember Long asking Staff to evaluate the timing of the traffic signals at the Interstate 80 ramps at Pinole Valley Road. Traffic signals have a one to two minute cycle that is divided between each movement of traffic through the intersection. Caltrans staff reduced the green light time for the westbound Interstate 80 off-ramp by five seconds and added those five seconds of green light time to the northbound of Pinole Valley Road to accomplish two goals:

1. Discourage cut through traffic that attempts to by-pass the congestion on Interstate 80 in the vicinity of Pinole Valley Road.
2. Help dissipate the line of vehicles in front of Jack in the Box much faster.

During the week of April 20 to April 24, Caltrans staff discovered an error in the internal clock of the signal controller at the westbound Interstate 80 ramps, which caused the malfunction of the communication between the signals at the eastbound and westbound I-80 ramps. Caltrans staff set the clock to the proper time, so the signals are back in synch and working in tandem. Last week, the signal timing at Pinole Valley Road and Estates Avenue was also adjusted to improve the traffic flow on Pinole Valley Road.

On April 30, a field observation was conducted by Staff and it was confirmed that measurable improvements in traffic circulation was realized. Staff requested Caltrans Staff to change the northbound signal at the westbound ramps near the AMF Pinole Lanes to get a green light from 5 to 10 seconds before the northbound signal at Jack in the Box gets a green light. This proposed timing will help move all of the northbound vehicles more efficiently. Caltrans will be making the modifications on Tuesday, May 5th around 8:30 AM. City Staff will continue to monitor traffic flow at this location and request further modifications to the signal timing, if necessary.

- **POLICE AND COMMUNITY PRESERVATION**

Graffiti Arrest

Community Preservation and Patrol personnel arrested a juvenile Pinole Shores resident for spray-painting graffiti on the Pinole Shore railroad under crossing. The Police Department is arresting and seeking prosecution on EVERY graffiti vandal identified.

Youth Academy Graduation

After eight weeks of visiting various justice locations, learning how investigations are done and driving the same vehicle simulators that our police officers drive, the 30 members of the Citizen's Youth Academy will be graduating from the program this Saturday. This program is presented to educate our youth on the various aspects of police work and encourage them to look further into the many careers connected to the justice system. We are hoping some of these graduates will also become members of our regenerated Police Explorer Program too.

Search Warrant

After developing information that a sexual crimes registrant living in Pinole was lying about his name and where he lived, police served a search warrant on his house on Estates Drive. Various computers were seized for further analysis and the subject was booked into the County Jail.

- **SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**

Saturday, April 25, 2009, a group of approximately 20 students and parents from the Pinole Valley High School Conservatory of the Arts spent their morning working to make Pinole a more attractive place. Through the Community Group Funding Program, the Redevelopment Agency provided a grant to compensate the group for spending their morning clearing trash, weeds, and debris along the walking path connecting the Pinole Valley High School football field to the north side of the footbridge at Pinole Valley Shopping Center. The students report that the experience gave them a real sense of accomplishment and contribution to the community, and the Agency thanks them for their efforts to beautify Pinole! The attached photograph shows the group hard at work keeping Pinole clean.

-END

RAISING MONEY FOR PINOLE YOUTH

Help **Jamba Juice** and the **PINOLE YOUTH CENTER** give back to the youth in Pinole. Bring this flyer with you to the Jamba Juice at 2794 Pinole Valley Road during the fundraising dates and times below and 20% of proceeds will benefit the **PINOLE YOUTH CENTER**.

Make sure to present this flyer at the time of purchase.

Wednesday, April 1st, May 6th, & June 3rd 2:30—4:30 PM
Friday, April 17th, May 1st & 22nd, June 12th & 26th 5:00—7:00 PM
Friday, July 10th & 24th, August 14th 5:00—7:00 PM



Valid only at location listed, on date and time indicated. This flyer may not be altered. Incomplete flyers are not valid. 20% of total proceeds will be donated back to the organization listed. Offer not valid on jambacard purchases. No cash value. One flyer per visit. © Jamba Juice Company.

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Swine Flu Fact Sheet

Information for People Living in Contra Costa County:

This is a rapidly evolving situation and guidance may change. We are updating our website, www.cchealth.org, as soon as new information becomes available.

Health officials closed Highlands Elementary School in Pittsburg starting Wednesday, April 29 after preliminary tests indicate three students were infected with swine flu. So far none of the cases appear to be severe. Local health officials are working closely with state and federal health authorities. There have been cases of swine flu in California. All of those cases have been mild to moderate and those infected have recovered. For information on cases in California and other states, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/investigation.htm>

Swine flu (also known as swine influenza) is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza that regularly cause outbreaks of influenza among pigs. Swine flu viruses do not normally infect people, but human infections with swine flu do occur. The CDC has determined that this swine flu virus is contagious and is spreading from person to person.

What are the symptoms of swine flu?

The symptoms of swine flu in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu and include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Body aches
- Headache
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting associated with swine flu.

In the past, severe illness (pneumonia and respiratory failure) and deaths have been reported with swine flu infection in people. Like seasonal flu, swine flu may make underlying chronic medical conditions worse.

What should I do if I get sick?

If you become ill with influenza-like symptoms, including fever, body aches, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, or vomiting or diarrhea, you should contact your health care provider. Your health care provider will determine whether influenza testing or treatment is needed. If you do not have a health care provider, you can call the Contra Costa Health Services Advice Nurse Line at 1-877-661-6230. Please do not go to the Emergency Room unless you have a medical emergency.

- If you are sick, you should stay home from work or school and avoid contact with other people as much as possible to keep from spreading your illness to others.
- If you become ill and experience difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen, sudden dizziness, confusion and/or severe or persistent vomiting, seek emergency medical care by calling 911 or going to the nearest hospital. In children, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include: Fast breathing or trouble breathing, bluish skin color, not drinking enough fluids, not waking up or not interacting, being so irritable that the child does not want to be held, flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough, and/or fever with a rash

How serious is swine flu infection?

Like seasonal flu, swine flu in humans can vary in severity from mild to severe. Between 2005 until January 2009, 12 human cases of swine flu were detected in the U.S. with no deaths occurring. However, swine flu infection can be serious.

How do you catch swine flu?

Spread of swine flu can occur in two ways:

- Through contact with infected pigs or environments contaminated with swine flu viruses.
- Through contact with a person infected with swine flu. Human-to-human spread of swine flu has been documented and is thought to occur in the same way as seasonal flu. Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people. Like regular flu, the swine flu virus can live for several days on surfaces such as doorknobs so frequent hand washing is important.

Are there medicines to treat swine flu?

Yes. Your doctor can determine if you need medication, such as when you have been exposed or are ill. CDC recommends the use of oseltamivir (Tamiflu) or zanamivir (Relenza) for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with these swine influenza viruses. Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaler) that fight against the flu by keeping flu viruses from reproducing in your body. If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster. They may also prevent serious flu complications. For treatment, antiviral drugs work best if started soon after getting sick (within 2 days of symptoms).

We are not recommending treatment with antivirals unless your health provider advises you to do so.

We are not recommending that anyone who is not sick get tested for swine flu.

How long can an infected person spread swine flu to others?

People with swine influenza virus infection should be considered potentially contagious as long as they are symptomatic and possible for up to 7 days following illness onset. Children, especially younger children, might potentially be contagious for longer periods.

What can I do to protect myself from getting sick?

There is no vaccine available right now to protect against swine flu. There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza. Take these everyday steps to protect your health:

- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Like regular flu, the swine flu virus can live for several days on surfaces such as doorknobs.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick with influenza, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way. Contact your provider.

Should I wear a mask?

We are not currently recommending the general public wear facemasks. We are recommending that people who are sick with flu symptoms wear a facemask around others. Whenever possible, rather than relying on the use of facemasks or respirators, people should avoid close contact with people who might be ill and being in crowded settings. People who come into close contact with a person who has flu symptoms should consider wearing a mask. The mask should be put on before contact with the sick person. A person who is sick with flu symptoms should wear a mask when around others.

Can I get swine influenza from eating or preparing pork?

No. Swine influenza viruses are not spread by food. You cannot get swine influenza from eating pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork products is safe.

More information on swine flu in English and Spanish is available on the Contra Costa Health Services website: www.cchealth.org and on CCHS' Health Emergency Information Line at 1-888-959-9911

