ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

DATE: MARCH 19, 2010

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
BEN REYES, CITY ATTORNEY

FROM: BELINDA B. ESPINOSA, CITY MANAGER

PLACES TO BE

- ***MARCH 24 – CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE WOMEN IN HISTORY CELEBRATION***

The annual Contra Costa College celebration of Women in History will take place at 7:00 PM on March 24 at the John Knox Theater in San Pablo. Georgia Manessis is among the women being honored that night for their service to community.

- ***MARCH 24 WWTP JPA MEETING IN CITY OF HERCULES***

The next Wastewater JPA meeting is scheduled for Noon in the City of Hercules. Among the items to be discussed is the transition of the City of Hercules to the West County Sanitation District.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- ***CITY OF PINOLE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL UPDATE***

On Tuesday March 16, staff presented the City's Quarterly Financial Report to the City Council. Our financial news is not good, like most of the other surrounding cities and counties. For Pinole, we have continued to make reductions in personnel and benefit costs, services and supplies, as well as capital equipment.

There have already been major reductions totaling almost $4 million. At the current time, we are projecting a deficit this year by June 30 of $251,891. On Tuesday night the Council approved additional reductions for FY 2009-10 to bring this number down by $224,550, leaving a projected deficit of $27,341.

Adding to our financial woes, is the projected forecast of another bad year in FY 2010-11 of a deficit of $556,282, The City of Pinole no longer has any General Fund Reserve to draw upon or use for cash flow. By year end, the Redevelopment Loan to the General Fund that was approved in 2008 will also be exhausted.

- ***PINOLE VALLEY HIGH RECONSTRUCTION MEETINGS BEGIN***

West Contra Costa County School District has begun efforts at placing a $380 million bond issue on the November 2010 ballot. Reconstruction of Pinole Valley High School is a high priority for this measure and meetings have already begun with District personnel, parents, teachers and community members.

The first reconstruction meeting was already held and the 2007 Master Plan was reviewed as well as a summary of the geotechnical report findings.

The future meetings are scheduled for 5:00 PM at the high school:

March 31, 5pm	Design Workshop (use of model buildings that can be moved to get a visual perspective).
April 7, 5pm	Results of Design Workshop presented and discussed.
April 21, 5pm	Final options presented & possible committee vote
May 10,	Presentation to WCCUSD Facilities subcommittee
TBD	Presentation to Pinole City Council
May 12 or 26	School Board Presentation

For more information, please contact Principal Sue Kahn at (510) 758-4664.

- ***RECREATION DEPARTMENT DONATIONS***

Several groups have recently provided generous donations both to the Recreation Department and to other City Departments. The Senior Center Board of Directors this year have donated $100,000 for senior services including their annual $60,000 donation plus $15,000 to cover janitorial costs and an additional $25,000 donated last week in their effort to assist the City during these difficult financial times. In addition, the seniors have “adopted” the Pinole Police Department’s dog, Spike, by donating $500 to send him to specialized training and another $1,900 for a bullet-proof vest. They have raised these funds through Dimes for Spike and other donations. The Senior Board has also put over $40,000 toward building repairs at the Senior Center including new carpet and counter tops and resurfacing the main hall floor. The Board also supports youth in our community by donating funds for youth summer camp scholarships and their annual scholarship fund for graduating high school seniors who plan to attend community college or a technical/trade school.

Other donations include the Pinole Area Senior Foundation, which is a separate nonprofit organization, who paid to replace all of the blinds at the Senior Center. The Pinole Youth

Foundation is also a separate non-profit entity, and recently donated $15,000 to the City for youth services.

The West Contra Costa Youth Soccer League donated $35,000 to the City toward complete renovation of the Pinole Valley West Soccer Field. This donation frees up Measure WW funds for other projects such as the skate park and/or bocce ball courts.

- ***2010 CENSUS IS COMING***

The U.S government counts the population every 10 years and uses Census data to allocate federal funds. Undercounting the population statewide can result in the loss of tens of billions of dollars over the following decade. Data collected in Pinole will help secure critically needed federal funds for local services. Census data also guides local decision makers in important community planning efforts including where to locate and build new infrastructure, medical facilities, and educational facilities.

Your Census questionnaire should arrive in the mail during mid-March 2010. Please be sure to take a few minutes to complete the 10-question questionnaire and encourage your friends and family to do the same to ensure an accurate count. All responses are used for statistical purposes only, and the information provided is strictly confidential.

- ***RAMP CLOSURE FOR I-80 EASTBOUND HOV LANE PROJECT***

On Monday morning, April 5, after 12:01 am, Caltrans will close the State Route 4 on-ramp to eastbound Interstate 80. Please see attached announcement.

- ***PARTIAL CLOSURE OF WILLOW AVE. PARK AND RIDE LOT***

Due to construction activities for the Eastbound I-80 HOV Lane Extension Project, the western end of the Willow Avenue Park and Ride Lot (northwest of the Interstate 80/Willow Ave. Interchange) will be closed for two to three months, beginning Monday Night/Tuesday Morning, March 23, 2010. Please see attached announcement.

- ***POLICE***

Crime Statistics – The February Crime Statistics are in and show a continuing downward trend. Overall, Part I crimes are down 24% compared to the same period last year. Robberies, which are the more violent partner of general thefts, are down 36% and assaults are down 27%. These reductions are attributable to the directed actions we are taking against problem residences and a similar commitment to seek long terms solutions to neighborhood problems. The entire document can be found on the Police Department's website.

Volunteers at the Police Department provided 47 hours of service during the last week.

- ***SUPERCUTS GRAND OPENING***

Join Supercuts on Saturday, March 20, 2010 at 9 am for the Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of their store in the Pinole Valley Shopping Center next to Jamba Juice. Supercuts will be celebrating their Grand Opening all weekend with promotions for cuts, waxes, and other services. Stop by and welcome them to Pinole.

- ***BAY CITY MECHANICAL WITHDRAWS OFFER***

Bay City Mechanical withdrew their offer to purchase two buildings at the Pinole Shores Business Park. Unfortunately the company received notice last week that numerous large contracts that had been agreed to with various large accounts that Bay City Mechanical has held for a long period of time were canceled effective immediately due to economic conditions. The brokers are continuing to work with interested parties.

- ***FIRE DEPARTMENT***

- A 48 year old resident was killed in a house fire on Tennent Ct. early Monday morning. Crews arrived on scene quickly at 5 a.m. to find heavy flames at the rear of the house. Two occupants, a 72 year old woman and a 48 year old man had escaped but did not know the whereabouts of the third occupant. The elderly woman was treated at the scene and transported to the hospital for smoke related issues. Engine 73 and Engine 74 crews entered the burning structure to perform search and rescue and extinguishment. After knockdown of the fire the woman was found deceased in her bedroom. The cause of the fire has been determined to be accidental and related to smoking materials. No smoke detectors were evident in the home although it has not been determined that they would have been significant in this case.

  The home received more than $130,000 in damage mostly to contents. Similar to a serious house fire earlier this month on Wright Avenue, the fire was contained quickly upon arrival of the fire units. Both fires utilized five companies of our Battalion 7 resources for a period of time with Rodeo-Hercules, Pinole and Contra Costa County Fire units involved. Contra Costa Fire also covered two Battalion 7 stations including Pinole, with central county engines to fill the void and also provided an arson inspector for crucial assistance in the investigation.

- Based on a successful grant award last year (submitted by Capt. Steve Akre) the Fire Department has entered into a monitored occupational health and fitness initiative this month. This monitored program combines participation in the aggressive Cross Fit exercise regimen with a very controlled nutritional program designed to promote “Occupational Athletes” as the program describes. The average age of the eighteen members of the Fire Department is currently 44 years old. With this in mind, a high

emphasis with ongoing fitness and health is crucial for safe and effective field performance from the department.

- On Thursday March 25th, the fire department is hosting a Car Seat Check-Up at the Target parking lot on Fitzgerald Drive. Our three certified car seat techs receive numerous requests for assistance with installation or adjustment of child and infant car seats. These important devices have become increasingly complex to properly install and adjust over the years. Our three certified car seat techs must continually recertify their skills in the Dept. of Transportation program. The event is co-hosted by the John Muir Child Safety Coalition and will operate from 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on the 25th.

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State of California • Department of Transportation

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Date: March 11, 2010
District: 4 - Oakland
Contact: Allyn Amsk
Phone: 510/286-5445
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ramp Closure for I-80 Eastbound HOV Lane Project

Hercules – Monday morning, April 5, after 12:01 a.m., Caltrans will close the State Route 4 on-ramp to eastbound Interstate 80. The connector ramps from eastbound and westbound SR 4 to eastbound I-80 will be closed at this time. The eastbound I-80 on-ramp will remain closed for at least six months for construction activities related to the Interstate 80 Eastbound High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Extension project.

Detour: Continue on John Muir Parkway. Turn right on San Pablo Avenue. Continue on San Pablo Avenue to Willow Avenue and turn right. Continue on Willow Avenue. Take the on-ramp to eastbound I-80.

For more information about the project, please go to www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects.htm

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SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE
CALTRANS

State of California • Department of Transportation

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Date: March 18, 2010
District: 4 - Oakland
Contact: Allyn Amsk
Phone: 510/286-5445
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Partial Closure of Willow Ave. Park and Ride Lot

Hercules – Due to construction activities for the Eastbound I-80 HOV Lane Extension Project, the western end of the Willow Avenue Park and Ride Lot (northwest of the Interstate 80/Willow Ave. Interchange) will be closed for two to three months, beginning Monday Night/Tuesday Morning, March 23, 2010.

Handicapped parking will be relocated to the eastern side of this lot. This closure is necessary to begin work for the widening of the Eastbound Interstate 80 Willow Avenue Undercrossing.

Additional parking is available at the Hilltop Drive Park and Ride Lot in Richmond.

Caltrans apologizes for the inconvenience. All work is weather dependent.

If you have questions about the project, please visit the Caltrans District 4 website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/80ebhov

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SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE
CALTRANS

Free Car Seat Check-up

Where:

Target Parking Lot
1400 Fitzgerald Dr., Pinole

When:

Thursday, March 25 from 10:30-1 p.m.

Hosted by

- John Muir Child Safety Coalition
- Pinole Fire Department

Come ensure your car seat is installed correctly & free of recalls

For more information related to child passenger safety, call the Coalition hotline at (925) 941-7989

For more information on event, call (510) 741-2074

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