



# CITY FOCUS

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## MONTEREY LAUNCHES PRIORITY-BASED BUDGETING Public Input Sought

By Communications & Outreach Manager Anne McGrath

The City of Monterey is launching a public review of its budget priorities this fall and your participation is vital to the success of the Priority-based Budgeting project. In good times, the City allocated its resources to a wide range of programs and services. Now, the City needs to adjust to "the new normal" of reduced revenues. In Monterey, revenue from hotel, sales and property taxes have fallen to levels not seen in years. Significant recovery is unlikely for the next several years. So, the City needs to tighten its belt just like other municipalities, businesses and citizens have done.

Several public meetings will be held in October and November to gather public input on City priorities for the future with the assistance of two nationally known consultants who are working with 16 other cities. Monterey is in much better financial shape than many other municipalities, and taking these steps pro-actively is critical to continuing on a path of fiscal soundness.

Please join us for the first public meeting at the Monterey Conference Center on Wednesday, October 6 from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. At that session, you will learn about the Priority-based Budgeting, and participate in an exercise to help define the community's priorities. A second round of meetings will be held Tuesday, Nov. 9 and Wednesday, Nov. 10.

You can sign up for the Priority-based Budgeting Newsletter for e-mail updates and notifications about upcoming meetings. For more information visit [monterey.org/prioritybasedbudget](http://monterey.org/prioritybasedbudget) and The Monterey Channel on cable TV 25.

## NEWS

### Downtown Plan Workshop

By City Traffic Engineer Rich Deal



Come to the first public Downtown Specific Plan workshop on Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Monterey

Conference Center! This is an amazing opportunity to set the course of development in Downtown Monterey through creation of a "Specific Plan." The City of Monterey wants to hear your ideas for a better Downtown.

Specific Plans provide greater planning and design guidance than can be included in a General Plan, and they allow local governments the ability to address complex land ownership patterns and infrastructure needs.

Specific Plans can jump-start new development in depressed areas, and can ensure that the public gets the quality it desires in any new development.

This first workshop builds on the vision to improve the Downtown as Monterey's City center with various land use alternatives and development guidelines. The resulting specific plan will provide guidance for the development of transit-oriented, mixed-use development as directed by the City of Monterey General Plan goals and policies. This project will be accomplished through your creative and direct community engagement.

For more information visit [monterey.org/downtownspecificplan/](http://monterey.org/downtownspecificplan/)

## Waterfront Master Plan Takes Shape

By Principal Planner Elizabeth Caraker

The City of Monterey has come a long way in establishing broad community support for a number of goals and a vision for the Waterfront area and a variety of ideas for the Waterfront area have taken shape through the community planning process.

Based on input from the community meetings on a variety of components of a preferred concept plan, the Historic Preservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Planning Commission will recommend a preferred concept plan for acceptance by the City Council. Aspects of the plan include improved pedestrian promenades along the harbor and bicycle connections, simpler parking, more attractive and inviting gateways and signage to the Waterfront, and locations for new buildings, open space, and activity areas.

During the coming months, staff will develop the plan details and environmental review document based on the preferred concept plan. Please continue to review the project website at [monterey.org/waterfrontmasterplan](http://monterey.org/waterfrontmasterplan) for the latest news and information regarding this exciting planning process.



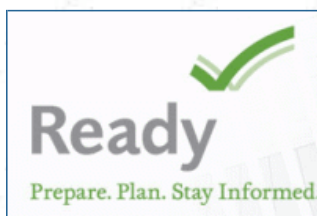
## Sewers Need Help!

By City Engineer Tom Reeves

Most people never even think about the sewers that lie under our streets, that is, so long as they are doing their jobs. But when they fail to do their jobs, it's a calamity. Not only is there the nuisance caused by the smells, but there are very real dangers from pathogens that can infect humans; from nutrients that can harm the environment and from chemicals that can harm both.

The sewer system in Monterey was first established in the late 1800's. Some of the pipes are well over 100 years old. Many of these pipes are cracked, which then allows tree roots to get in and sewage to get out. There are even some pipes under roads with pieces missing from them. In 2000 and 2001, the sewer system was inspected with closed circuit television cameras (CCTV) and every pipe was given a letter grade from "A" to "F". An "A" pipe is in new condition with no defects, while an "F" pipe has numerous significant faults, such as holes or severe cracks. In all, there is \$14.2 million worth of repairs that needs to be done to make our sewers reliable. And while that's a lot of money, most of those pipes have been doing their jobs for years without any attention other than regular cleaning.

Currently, the City of Monterey adds a surcharge to the sewer bills that you receive from the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA). The surcharge pays for operations and maintenance of the sewer system. The current surcharge will not cover the costs of major repairs and improvements to the sewer system. The City is in the process of evaluating those surcharges and we will be holding public meetings in the next few months to discuss solutions.



## Emergency Preparedness

By Fire Marshal David Brown

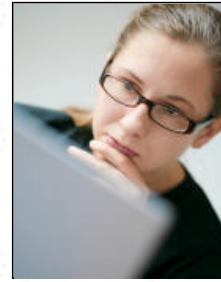
The City of Monterey stands ready to respond to and manage any disaster or emergency incident. Preparedness is an essential element of a resilient city, and an important part of the preparedness process is providing city staff the tools necessary to do their job. Members of the various city departments have participated in emergency management training. To effectively manage emergencies, staff is required to change from what they do during their normal daily assignment and become part of the emergency management team.

As part of the City's preparedness effort, we participated in a joint training exercise with the Presidio of Monterey. Both the City of Monterey and the Defense Language Institute activated their Emergency Operations Centers (EOC). The exercise provided us an opportunity to strengthen our coordination and communication and also increase our ability to have effective incident mitigation. In addition, the exercise facilitated the utilization of the City's new incident management software. This new software (E-sponder Express) is a turn-key Incident Command and Management solution designed to manage the paperwork and reporting associated with a disaster.

For more about emergency preparedness and to stay informed go to [monterey.org/emergency](http://monterey.org/emergency)

## Recycling - What Do I Do with That?

By Solid Waste Manager Angela Brantley



Even though we strive to make recycling simple, there are some items that people often are not quite sure about. Here are a few helpful hints on various items you may have questions about (in alphabetical order):

**Batteries:** Household (AA, AAA, etc.), and rechargeable batteries. All of these are banned from the landfill and must be taken to facilities that will process them. In Monterey, residents can take advantage of the drop-off sites at the neighborhood centers, Library, City Clerk's office or Whole Foods Market. Businesses can utilize the MRWMD (Monterey Regional Waste Management District) Drop-Off Center to process their batteries for a fee. Do not place them in the trash or your recycling bin.

**CD Cases, Toys, Buckets:** Yes, these are recyclable. Place in your blue cart.

**Chip Bags and Candy Wrappers:** Individually they are not recyclable. If you are diligent and want to place the empty bags and wrappers with your bagged plastic bags, then that is okay. Otherwise, throw them in the trash.

**Coffee Cups (take out):** Even though the symbols on the cups and lids say that they are recyclable, they are not. The body of the cup is compostable or biodegradable meaning it will eventually disappear in a landfill or in a compost bin. Please place both the body and lids in the trash. The sleeve that protects you from the heat is recyclable. Don't include coffee cups in your recycle bin. Instead of using single-use cups, bring your own refillable cups whenever you go for your favorite hot or cold beverage.

**Extension Cords or Wires and Hangars:** Do not put these in your recycling carts. The cords and wires wrap around machinery and can damage them and/or harm workers. If they are still in good working condition, donate them to a thrift store. If you are receiving metal hangars with your cleaning service, ask if you can return them for reuse.

**Fluorescent Bulbs and Small CFL Bulbs:** These are actually a hazardous waste and must be taken to a location for special handling. The Last Chance Mercantile at the MRWMD (Monterey Regional Waste Management District), Orchard Supply and Home Depot will take either one or both of these types of bulbs. This service is offered to residential customers at no charge. Businesses may use the facility at the MRWMD for a fee. Working regular bulbs (incandescent) can be donated to thrift stores but the non-working types can be placed in the trash can.

**Glasses, Dishes and Mirrors:** These are not recyclable at all but they are reusable. Donate your glasses, dishes and mirrors to a thrift store if they are in decent condition. Otherwise, these items need to go into the trash.

**Individual Plastic Bags:** Plastic bags are recyclable when they are grouped together in one bag, tied at the top and placed in your recycle bin. Individual bags can also wrap around machinery and cause damage as well as stop the machinery and workers from working efficiently. Do not put your recyclables in plastic bags and then into your recycling cart. This requires extra labor and causes waste.

**Paper Towels and Paper Plates:** Again, these are compostable or biodegradable but they are not recyclable. If you have a home compost bin, these are great additions to your bin as they are part of the dry ingredients you can add. Otherwise, place them in your trash bin. In the landfill they will eventually disappear.

**Pharmaceuticals (Prescription Drugs):** Containers are recyclable when empty but pharmaceuticals **must not** be placed in your recycling bin, thrown down the toilet or sent through our sewage system. Please take them to your favorite pharmacy. Contact them first and ask about their program. Ordway Drugstore offers this program to their customers and others may pay a nominal fee. This program will also be offered by our Police Department.

**Pizza Boxes:** If they are perfectly clean, no grease or cheese, they can be recycled. Otherwise, these must go into the trash or your compost bin.

**Plastic Plates and Glasses:** These need to be placed in the trash. Better yet, don't buy them any longer. They are not recyclable nor do they ever go away in the landfill. Use paper or reusable dishware and cutlery.

**Shredded Paper:** This is highly recyclable. Make sure this is bagged in either a clear plastic bag or paper bag. Shredded paper is also a great item to put in your worm or compost bin as a substitute for dry material.

**Styrofoam:** Styrofoam®, in any form, is not recyclable. This item is confusing in that it has the chasing arrows and a #6 on it but the chasing arrows and numbering system is actually generated by the plastics industry. The City only recycles numbers 1 through 5. Number 6 (usually Styrofoam ® or polystyrene plastic) is not recyclable. Packing peanuts can be given to your favorite shipping store as they can use it for shipping purposes. Otherwise, all other Styrofoam® must be placed in the trash. Please bag this material as it can easily take flight and is a detriment to wildlife when it becomes litter.



**Syringes:** It is illegal to place syringes in the trash. Please take advantage of some of the free or low fee options for disposal at your favorite pharmacy.

For more information, visit our website at [MontereyRecycles.org](http://MontereyRecycles.org). For questions or comments, please contact Angela Brantley or Lesley Milton at 831.646.5662 or [Brantley@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:Brantley@ci.monterey.ca.us) or [Milton@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:Milton@ci.monterey.ca.us).

## 2010 Community Survey

By Communications & Outreach Manager Anne McGrath

We're extending the deadline for filling out the 2010 Community Survey. So if you haven't filled it out yet, please take a few minutes and rate City programs and services. This year, for the first time, we are conducting the survey online only. Just click on this [Survey link](#), answer the questions, add comments and submit your responses, which will be tabulated automatically with our online survey software.

We are collecting responses through October because some people ran into problems using computers at the City's community centers, where software issues prevented them from filling out the surveys. The software has been upgraded and now the survey is accessible.



The City has conducted comprehensive community surveys every two years for the past 10 years. The City Manager and Department Directors use the information from the survey to fine tune their operations and respond to the community. We'll report on the results of the online Community Survey in the next issue of City Focus.

You can view previous year results at [www.monterey.org/survey](http://www.monterey.org/survey).

## New Look for I-SEARCH

By Communications Assistant Laurie Huelga

I-SEARCH provides online access to City records ,and it continues to grow each month as more and more documents are stored in this electronic repository. The second version of I-SEARCH has just debuted, and several important interface enhancements have been incorporated. From the **Documents Tab**, we've made critical behind the scenes upgrades for much easier searching. Hit results now allow for as many as 100 items at a time instead of the previous 50. And the results now list in **chronological order** by most recent first.

A screenshot of the "DOCUMENTS QUICK SEARCH BY KEYWORD(S)" interface. It shows a search box with the text "Del Monte and Murras". Below the search box is a message: "If you don't get the results you expect, please click on the Help Desk tab for more guidance and troubleshooting information." There is a "Search" button. A red arrow points to the "Help Desk" link in the message.

The Help Desk now provides easy to read keyword search suggestions.

Documents found: 53 View: All

View	Legislative Body	Meeting Date	Meeting Type
	Architectural Review Committee	6/16/2010	Architectural Review Committee
	City Council	5/19/2009	Council Regular Meeting
	City Council	5/5/2009	Council Regular Meeting
	Neighborhood Improvement Program Committee	4/23/2009	Neighborhood Improvement Program Committee
	Zoning Administrator	4/9/2009	Zoning Administrator

Meeting date is now in chronological order by most recent.

The **keyword searching** section of the Help Desk gives you more specific keyword searching suggestions that are easy to follow, including using "exact phrase" or "number combinations", and using the wildcards ( \* ), ( ? ), ( ~ ) to find various forms of spellings of words or grammatical variations. Proper use of search vocabulary is essential; just entering key words as you would in a Google search does not guarantee a complete set of results. The Help Desk also has the **latest content summary** of what you can find through I-SEARCH.

From the **Meetings Tab**, I-SEARCH now displays additional meeting types for the other boards, committees and commissions. The goal is to be able to search these specific meetings by the end of this year. Once you've typed in your keyword(s) and date range your results can be more easily viewed with an **accordion-style feature** that lets you open or close the results for a particular meeting.

Soon, I-SEARCH will store meeting information for all Boards and Commissions and other important city records such as legal agreements, so until that time we encourage you to try the suggested keyword search methods to find out the best and quickest way for you to find the information you need. Doing so will make it that much easier as the repository builds and evolves from the current lake of information into a vast ocean.

Find I-SEARCH at [www.isearchmonterey.org](http://www.isearchmonterey.org)

A screenshot of the "SEARCH BY MEETING TYPES" interface. It shows a list of meeting types with checkboxes: "City Council", "Architectural Review", "Colton Hall/Cultural Arts", "Historic Preservation", "Library Board", "Neighborhood Improvement", "Parks and Recreation", "Planning", and "Zoning Administrator". There are "Select All" and "Deselect All" buttons. A red arrow points to the "Neighborhood Improvement" checkbox. Below the list is a "Keyword(s):" field and a "Date Range:" field with "thru" in between. A "Search" button is at the bottom.

Additional meeting types listed will be available for use by the end of the year.

## KinderJam® and Hula Dancing

By Recreation & Community Services Supervisor Shannon Beltran

The Monterey Recreation & Community Services Department has several new program offerings. KinderJam® is a fun, new, exciting and high-energy music and movement program for parents and children that emphasizes kinesthetic learning of preschool skills and concepts. KinderJam® is fun but it isn't simply recreational. The focus is on introducing and reinforcing basic preschool skills and concepts in a spirited manner using upbeat music that captures and holds a little one's attention from beginning to end. Younger siblings under one year of age are always welcome. Wear comfortable clothing. KinderJam® sessions are offered Tuesdays from 10:45-11:30am beginning Sept. 14 or Thursdays from 10:45-11:30am beginning Sept. 16.

We also are excited to be offering Hula Dancing. Classes are available for all ages. On Monday mornings at the Monterey Youth Center, we are offering Beginners Hula Dancing for the Busy Mommy. On Tuesday evenings at Hilltop Park Center, there are two sessions (6-17 years or 18 and older) of Hula Dancing being offered starting at 5:30pm. Come learn the basic steps to beautiful Polynesian dancing and get a great workout at the same time.

Don't forget the Monterey Recreation & Community Services Department also offers a variety of afterschool and school holiday programs for children, including Fall & Winter Holiday programs, Sports Camp Plus and Cheerleading Camp. More information about all of our available programs can be found online at [monterey.org/rec](http://monterey.org/rec) or call 831-646-3866.

## Ready for Reading at the Library

By Library Special Services Coordinator Jeanne McCombs

Research shows that, for early literacy to flourish, libraries need to provide a place where families help children get ready to read through shared enjoyment of books, play and through feeling comfortable being together in the library. They need an area that is easily identified and welcoming to all, which allows for self-guided exploration and quick visual access to trained and enthusiastic Youth librarians.

Typically, when these needs are met child and parent satisfaction rises, as does attendance at storytimes and check-outs of picture books and early literacy materials for parents and children.

The Monterey Public Library is working toward meeting these needs through reconfigured shelving and seating areas for the new picture book area to enhance safety and oversight in the Youth area. The Library has applied grant funding to make the area even more welcoming, colorful and "early-literacy" friendly with new ocean-themed soft, cozy furnishings, new signage and an eye-catching displayer to hold new books and booklists. For more information contact Youth Services Manager Karen Brown at 831-646-3744 or email [BrownK@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:BrownK@ci.monterey.ca.us)



Visit the Library at 625 Pacific Street, M-W 12 noon – 8 p.m. and W-Sat 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. The Library is closed on Sundays, but you can always visit us online at [monterey.org/library](http://monterey.org/library).



## Volunteers Make a Difference!

By Community Resources Coordinator Tish Sammon

Have time available? Skills and talents you would like to develop or share with the City of Monterey? There are many ways to step-up and help support programs and activities as a City of Monterey volunteer. From the Library, Museums & Cultural Arts, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), to office support, gardening, and recreation programs, extra hands are always welcome.

Do you have a group that is looking for service opportunities? The City is expanding its Adopt a Trail program to include more public spaces program including parks, trails, beaches, traffic circles, green space – you name it! Special short term opportunities coming up this fall include Coastal Clean-up Day on Sept. 25 and First Flush with training to start on Sept. 16 AND don't forget the holidays – decorating Colton Hall or helping with Christmas in the Adobes. For more information contact Community Resources and Volunteer Services: 831-646-3719 or [sammon@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:sammon@ci.monterey.ca.us) and on the web at [monterey.org/volunteer](http://monterey.org/volunteer).

## Buy Local Monterey

The City of Monterey and its business organizations are working together to encourage you to *shop, dine and enjoy the entertainment* that's available right here in Monterey. The City's business districts are home to a variety of shops, restaurants and entertainment, with many offering specials for local residents. Learn more about each of the City's distinct shopping destinations by watching our Buy Local Monterey programs on Channel 25 or on the web at [monterey.org/buylocal](http://monterey.org/buylocal)



Click on the logos below to visit our Buy Local Partners and see their special offers:



## SOCIAL MEDIA

facebook

The City maintains several Facebook pages to stay in touch with our thousands of fans and keep them engaged with Monterey. Become a fan of the City of Monterey and any or all of its department Facebook pages. They include:

**City of Monterey**  
**Monterey Sports Center**  
**Monterey Public Library**  
**Monterey Recreation Department**  
**Human Resources Department**  
**Monterey Conference Center**  
**Waterfront Master Plan**

YouTube  
Broadcast Yourself™

The Communications & Outreach Office showcases Monterey's many assets to viewers worldwide on our YouTube Channel. One of our most popular videos "What To do in Monterey" has been seen by 20,000 people in just the last few months. Our newest video focuses on Family Vacations in Monterey. You'll find us at [youtube.com/cityofmonterey](http://youtube.com/cityofmonterey)

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The City is using Constant Contact as its e-mail subscription service to deliver newsletters and publications. We're saving tens of thousands of dollars in printing and mailing costs and are building our subscriber base every month. You can sign up to receive the City Focus newsletter, the Library IDEA newsletter and the Recreation department newsletter. And in this issue, we're distributing the Community Survey online.

CITY FOCUS is now published online only. CITY FOCUS is published quarterly in September, January, April and July. If you sign up for CITY FOCUS, you will receive an e-mail notification and link to the newsletter when its published. We would like to know what you think about CITY FOCUS online. Send your comments to us at the link below.

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