Dear Friends,

Your City's heart remains beating stronger than ever. COVID-19 has changed the way we operate and communicate with each other. Black Lives Matter has brought issues such as policing and social justice to the forefront. And: a financial crisis has caused a new recession visible in business closures, unemployment numbers, and homelessness. Throughout these challenging times, we all have respectfully collaborated together. Yesterday’s controversies (pickle ball comes to mind) sound like ‘good old times’ today.

We come to realize that the year 2020 is presenting a great chance for all of us to evaluate how we interact with each other. Are the promises for social justice and racial equality just aspirations or are we actually living up to them? How is your City responding to residents? How can we engage all residents in lieu of responding to a very small, yet verbose fraction of voters and businesses? How do we deal with Monterey’s colorful history dating back to our founding by Spanish discoverers?

2020 is demanding that we all need to rise up to the challenges. We need to take an inventory and then take action about what we can do to address the issues head-on with meaningful, often incremental changes. Thousands of young folks stood in front of Colton Hall protesting and sharing their message. There was a strong symbolism in this: the 1849 California Constitution, signed at Colton Hall, contains the following promise: "Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people; and they have the right to alter or reform the same, whenever the public good may require it."

Our City has a strong tradition in listening. We want you all to know, yes, we are listening to all. We, as your public servants, and your elected officials remain committed to alter or to reform our governmental structure, organizations and procedures for the benefit of the public good.

Vaccines for COVID-19 are being tested right now, and soon, very soon, COVID-19 will be in the rear mirror. Yet, 2020 has given us a chance to pause and look inward. That is what your City team is doing. Anda!

poster by MaKenzie

monterey.org/coronavirus
Perspectives during the pandemic

Speaking on the topic of hope, we asked a few people how they are coping with our coronavirus situation. Wendy responded, "During the past few months, I've learned how to prepare delicious soups with local Soup Diva, Chef and Cookbook author, Mary Chamberlin. I've also started journaling in a new book, Socially Distanced: A Keepsake Journal, to help express my thoughts and feelings which really helps!"

Linda told us, "In this time of isolation, I am fervently trying to keep educating myself as to how I can be effective in helping to eradicate racism, antisemitism, bigotry and all forms of hatred. I also ardently support our outstanding law enforcement and first responder agencies we are fortunate to have on the Monterey Peninsula. These personal goals are not mutually exclusive, although sometimes a delicate balance."

One thing we know during this difficult period in history is, people are doing their best to get through. One recent post really made an important point. It read, "Today you could be standing next to someone who is trying their best not to fall apart. So whatever you do today do it with kindness in your heart."
Two emergency orders directly aimed at helping local economy

As the Director of Emergency Services, City Manager Hans Uslar recently enacted two emergency orders to help local businesses during the pandemic:

1. **Emergency Order, July 23, 2020** - Order of the Director of Emergency Services to Allow Temporary Outdoor Business Permits
2. **Emergency Order, June 26, 2020** - Order of the Director of Emergency Services to Allow Covid-19 Temporary Encroachment Permits for Businesses to Establish or Expand Outdoor Dining and Retail Areas

Both of these orders aim to help businesses expand their services outside, safely and without a permit fee. As of the first of August, the Building permits office reports 31 permits issued and more in the works. The temporary permits are good for six months. We will determine if and when they may need to be extended.

The City of Monterey has proactively made business sustainability a significant priority after public safety while we continue to endure the pandemic and shelter in place order. Parklets and other outdoor use areas for restaurants and retailers are being explored.

*Find the links to the orders at monterey.org/building.*

Monterey Police Monthly Report for June

Monterey Police just published the June Monthly Report for the department. The issue is a very comprehensive report that includes narratives on the COVID-19 pandemic, protests, patrol, Community Action Team (CAT), Multi-Disciplinary Outreach Team (MDOT) and Investigations.

There’s also staffing and department activity statistics, including reported crimes.

*You can see this report as well as past reports on the Monterey Police website at monterey.org/police/Get-Informed/Monthly-Reports*
City creates $1 million stimulus plan

From the beginning of this unprecedented fiscal and health crises, the City of Monterey recognized the crucial need to work together with area partners to help local small businesses ride out the Shelter in Place Order.

In late March, the City of Monterey partnered with the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and the Community Foundation for Monterey County to create a COVID-19 Business Action & Economic Recovery Team. Shortly thereafter, the City Council passed a Local Economic Stimulus Plan (LESP). This Plan allotted $500,000 from the Parking Fund, and $500,000 from the Tidelands Fund, both Non-General Fund reserves, as a City funded grant program for small business relief. The purpose is to augment federal and state small business relief, support small businesses, reduce business closures and workforce layoffs, sustain the local economic base and City character, and stimulate an early economic recovery for the City and region.

As of August 1, the City’s LESP funding has supported 87 businesses with grants ranging between $5,000 - $25,000 for a total of $705,000 of grants received. The City is working to complete processing the last of the the $1 million in the next couple of weeks.

How are the local business owners using the funds? Here are some details:
https://monterey.org/Portals/0/News/COVID19/LESP-Grant-Recipients-Details.pdf

See many more photos at
https://monterey.org/Coronavirus/Economic-Resources
In an effort to promote community pride and support local businesses, the City of Monterey shared some fun and interactive activities on our Instagram. A popular trend during Shelter in Place has been Instagram Stories games. These fill-in-the-blank surveys are shared by our followers on their Instagram pages.

Do you have an Instagram account? Follow us at @CityofMonterey and look for the Story Games tab. Use GIFs and emojis to fill in the blanks: Favorite Seafood Restaurant? Favorite Hidden Gem? Best Mood Booster? By tagging your favorite local businesses, you can give a shout out to your favorites and help during this economic slowdown. Show your favorite businesses that you care by promoting on your social media and shopping locally.

Thank you for doing your part to promote and support businesses and jobs, and for following guidelines to slow the spread of coronavirus. To protect workers, please wear a mask and practice social distancing when shopping or picking up your meal. Many businesses are offering delivery and curbside pick up to further reduce person-to-person interactions. And don't forget to tag @CityofMonterey so we can share your completed games on our Instagram page!

Support our local restaurants if you can. Purchase gift cards - show your kindness and appreciation by paying it forward. Learn more at kindnessmonterey.com
CARES Act fisheries relief for California

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act is a stimulus bill to keep businesses and individuals afloat during the COVID-19 pandemic. It includes relief for individuals, small businesses, state and local governments, big corporations, public health, education, and more. Visit the U.S. Department of Treasury website for more general information about the CARES Act, and visit our Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loan pages for more information about these CARES Act loan programs.

CURRENT FUNDING FOR THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY - The CARES Act allocated $300 million for commercial fishery, charterboat, and some aquaculture participants who have suffered an economic loss due to COVID-19. On May 7, the Secretary of Commerce announced the state-by-state allocation of this $300 million, which includes $18,350,586 for California seafood businesses.

On July 22, CDFW announced its plan for disbursing the $18 million in CARES Act Relief funding to California’s seafood sector. The approved disbursement plan can be found here. It is important for fishing businesses to confirm an up-to-date mailing address, and keep an eye out for claim forms from Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission - you will have 30 days to respond.

Read more about CDFW’s proposed plan at: CARES Act Fisheries Relief for California

Mornings with the Manager

Mornings with the Manager, every other Thursday at 9:00 AM with replays anytime.

Informative, interactive, and interesting updates from City Manager Hans Uslar.

Next event, Thursday, August 6. Be there with your questions at youtube.com/cityofmonterey.

See the play list of all past events at youtube.com/cityofmonterey or directly at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBEob3gBrpawUHWxWFvQ1kGPM989U20Fp
Great job, Monterey! Since March, U.S. residents have been responding to the 2020 Census by phone, mail or online. So far, Monterey's self-response rate has exceeded the count from the last Census in 2010. But our job is not over - we need a COMPLETE 100% count of Monterey County residents to ensure federal funding and congressional representation for our community. An undercount risks losing congressional seats in California and funding for affordable housing, roads, school programs, food assistance, hospitals and much more.

If you do not respond by mid-August, Census workers will visit your house to count your household. The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to keep this information confidential. The deadline for Census information is September 30. Learn more and get counted at 2020census.gov.

Serve on a board or commission - apply by August 17
BY CITY CLERK CLEMENTINE BONNER KLEIN

Serving on a Board or Commission is a great way to get involved in what makes Monterey a great place to live. The City of Monterey is now accepting applications for the following:

- Architectural Review Committee
- Building and Housing Appeals Board
- Disabled Access Appeals Board
- Library Board of Trustees
- Neighborhood and Community Improvement Program (NCIP) Committee*
- Planning Commission

*Applications are being accepted for the NCIP committee for the position of alternate for the following neighborhoods: Aguajito Oaks, Alta Mesa, Deer Flats, Del Monte Beach, Del Monte Grove Laguna Grande, and Glenwood.

If you are a resident of the City of Monterey and are interested in these volunteer positions, you are encouraged to apply. Position descriptions are noted on the application, available online at https://monterey.org/City-Hall/Boards-Commissions-and-Committees.

Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 17, 2020.

For more information, email the City Clerk’s Office at cityclerk@monterey.org or call (831) 646-3935. Virtual meetings have resumed for most of the board types - find them at youtube.com/cityofmonterey
Council passes resolution to take hotel tax to voters in November

The City Council at the August 4, 2020 7:00 p.m. Council meeting adopted a resolution with a vote of (5 - 0) adding a measure to the November 3, 2020 ballot to ask the voters of the City of Monterey to approve an increase in the transient occupancy tax (TOT) (also known as hotel tax). Passage of the measure would increase the TOT by 2% and expand the application of the tax to online travel companies. Sixteen percent (16%) of the revenue would be used exclusively for the Neighborhood and Community Improvement Program (NCIP) and 84% for unrestricted general purposes. The unrestricted general purposes include, but are not limited to, services provided by the library, senior and youth recreation programs, police, fire, parks, forestry maintenance, and disaster preparedness.

The City's current transient occupancy tax rate of 10% was established in 1985. The measure will require a two thirds majority approval by the voters voting on the measure to pass. A fact sheet about the measure is coming soon.

Correction on 8/6/2020 = corrected date from 1983 to 1985.

Dr. Casey Grover, medical director, Community Hospital Emergency department, COVID-19 Q&A

Dr. Casey Grover, medical director, Emergency department, shared his experiences with COVID-19 patients in the ED, how Community Hospital keeps patients safe, and what the community needs to know if they have a health condition that needs medical care during the pandemic.

Thanks to Montage Health and the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula for letting us share this important and informative video. Visit chomp.org/coronavirus for daily updates and more information.
On June 30, 2020, City Manager Hans Uslar in his role as Director of Emergency Services, signed an order adopting the guidance of the California Department of Public Health’s for the use of face coverings to be enforceable by administrative citation within the City of Monterey. The order mandates that masks are mandatory even outside along Cannery Row and Fisherman's Wharf, as maintaining a six foot distance in those crowded locations can be difficult.

Since the order began, one full time code compliance officer and one part time officer on contract work to make sure the order is mandated. To date, the officers have visited hundreds of businesses, and have given out dozens of citations for non-compliance. The Code Compliance Officers as well as Monterey Police Community Service Officers give out free masks while on patrol to those without them. Random evaluations in business areas of the past few weekends estimates 90 to 95% compliance.

Scientific evidence has proven wearing masks significantly reduces the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.

Read the City’s mask ordinance
Read the Governor’s Order

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9KDP209Bhw
Sister City Tainan, Taiwan donates medical masks and goggles to Monterey
BY ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST LAURIE HUELGA

A City of Monterey sister city since 1984, Tainan, Taiwan, reached out to the City of Monterey with concern over the significant spread of the coronavirus in the United States and graciously donated 2,900 medical masks and 300 medical goggles. The supplies arrived at Monterey City Hall on Tuesday, July 28, 2020. They will be added to inventory in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), shared with City first responders including Police and Fire, as well as other staff, and may also be shared with other community first responders as needed.

“We are so grateful for the kindness and generosity of our sister city, Tainan,” said Mayor Clyde Roberson. “This worldwide pandemic shows that we are all in this together, and it is heartwarming to see how people are helping each other, even across the seas. These are the times that truly bring the meaning of sister cities to light. Just as the sign on the boxes read - Together, Stronger.”

Tainan City Mayor Huang Wei-che said, “Friendship with people is to treat each other sincerely, and the fundamental way of urban diplomacy is the same. The rapid spread of the epidemic in the United States in the past few months shows the need, and we should stand up at this moment and take the initiative to share the surplus materials with international family and friends.” (from a Tainan City news release posted July 26, 2020 - https://www.tainan.gov.tw/News_Content.aspx?n=13370&s=7698348#)

Tainan City Mayor Huang Wei-che showing the shipments of supplies being sent to their sister cities. “True care is the foundation of urban diplomacy”

Supplies received at the City Clerk’s Office, City Hall, Monterey, CA.
Street conditions improve thanks to Measures P and S
BY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER LAURIE HUELGA

The Public Works Engineering staff use a Streetsaver software program that identifies the condition of streets. Staff inputs data and refers to a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) monthly status report to track the progress. The software analyzes the data and helps plan the schedule of streets to be resurfaced or reconstructed. Here’s an example of the monthly status report from July 2020. It shows an overall PCI currently of 69 - a three point improvement since January 2020. This is a significant improvement with overall street quality of "very good."

Measure S was approved by 82% of voters in November, 2018 as a continuation of Measure P. It authorized a 1% local district tax (sales and use tax) to be used “to address significant deferred maintenance by fixing streets, sidewalks, and potholes; improve related access and safety for senior citizens, disabled residents, and others; and repair its 100-year-old storm drain system to protect our beaches/Monterey Bay.”

https://monterey.org/Portals/0/MeasureS/PCI-Summary-July2020.pdf
also see monterey.org/fixingstreets
Wayfinding sign project phase 1 complete
BY ENGINEERING ASSISTANT MARISSA GARCIA

The City of Monterey just recently completed the first phase to update our Wayfinding Sign Program, which began in 2015. This phase included 77 signs which directs vehicles and pedestrians to our parking facilities. Many thanks to our Wayfinding Steering Committee who helped develop the artwork for these beautiful new signs!

Parking Fund and Measure X funds used for this project. For more information about the Traffic Engineering Division of Public Works please visit: monterey.org/traffic.
The Monterey Fire Department continues making great progress on fire safety inspections for all homes in areas at risk for a wildland fire within the cities of Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel, and Sand City. Inspections are done annually to help minimize the spread and growth of a wildland fire and reduce the potential loss of homes in such an event. Once the inspection has been completed, the fire department will leave a notice at homes indicating the inspection was completed and what, if any, corrective actions should be taken by the homeowner/occupant. Review the *Ready, Set, Go! brochure* for more information.

Check the [Fire Defensible Space Status Map](https://montereyfiredept.org) for the latest update. Click the legend at the top right to see the status of each parcel.

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CERT has published special editions of their newsletter during the coronavirus emergency.

**AUGUST ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Big Sur CERT graduates 18 new members
- Head-To-Toe Assessment
- MURS and CERT radio frequencies.

**JULY ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:**

- CERT provides traffic control at COVID-19 testing event
- Training Refresher: Assessing building damage/conducting a search
- CERT radio drill, Monday August 10th on CERT channel 3

*Read the July edition in PDF at:*

*Read the August edition in PDF at:*
Thanks to the Monterey Regional Waste Management District for this really important and helpful brochure that explains our sewer system. We all have a role in keeping our community’s sewer system functioning properly. Local cities and public entities safeguard the regional sewer mains, but about half of the sewer system is lateral lines owned by private citizens.

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the entire length of their lateral lines from their homes or businesses to where the lateral line meets the sewer main under the street. The brochure highlights the best practices to prevent overflows and protect human health and our environment.

VIEW A PDF COPY

LEARN MORE AT www.mrwmd.org
The City’s recycling and garbage services vendor, Monterey City Disposal Service wants to let residents know that you have options for the amount of bins you have at your place of residence. If you regularly find your bins overflowing, it’s better for you, the disposal staff, and the environment if you order additional bins. It’s called “Residential Right Sizing.” Just call 831-372-7977 to find out details.

In 2017, Monterey joined with more than 180 cities throughout California in the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities Campaign. The HEAL Cities Campaign aims to reduce and prevent obesity by engaging municipal leaders to champion healthy eating and active living in their communities through adoption of policy and promotion of opportunities for residents and municipal employees. The campaign provides coaching and technical assistance to support this process. Here’s the 2019 annual report, the second in the current series.

Learn more about the HEAL Campaign at
https://monterey.org/About-Monterey/Community-Partnerships/Healthy-Eating-Active-Living-City
Monterey Bay Community Power becomes Central Coast Community Energy in September

Exciting news! This September Monterey Bay Community Power is changing its name to Central Coast Community Energy. The new name reflects their expanded service area, which now includes service for areas of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. This will unify access to clean energy and local control for over 400,000 residential, commercial and agricultural customers on the Central Coast. These communities join existing service areas in Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz counties. Though MBCP’s name is changing, their commitment to local control and competitively priced electricity from clean and renewable energy sources will remain the same.

Learn more at mbcommunitypower.org

MPUSD reopens the school year in phases - do your part to help reopen our schools and our economy

All MPUSD schools will open the 2020-2021 school year in a distance learning model. MPUSD is committed to making sure students continue to experience the care and commitment of our staff and the routine of daily learning, even in full Distance Learning.

Do your part to help reopen our schools and our economy. Stay 6 feet apart. Wash your hands. Wear a mask when you leave your home. Join the fight to slow the spread of COVID-19.

For details, visit https://sites.google.com/mpusd.k12.ca.us/mpusd-distance-learning/home

Watch the video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MpVDV-8Sbs
Family and Senior Drive Thru Produce Distribution! Space Available Now for August! Scheduling is month to month, so check back for the fall months.

Reservations are available for the August 2020 Senior and Family Produce Distributions offered by the City of Monterey Recreation and the Monterey County Food Bank. Due to COVID-19, this is a contact-less drive thru program and reservations are required. We’ve added space for August to accommodate more families.

- Mondays, August 10, 17, 24 and 31
- 10:00am – 1:00pm (by appointment/reservation only; every half hour)
- Dennis the Menace Parking Lot, 777 Pearl St. Monterey

The produce distribution flyer contains all the details and information on this produce distribution opportunity. Please call 831.646.3866 or email montereyrecreation@monterey.org with any questions.

The Monterey County Food Bank needs your support to continue to help those in need during this challenging time. If you are able, please consider making a donation to the Monterey County Food Bank.

Thank you to the youth volunteers who help make this happen!
Meals for Seniors with Meals on Wheels

Here’s another great meal program offered to local seniors. Are you over 60 years of age and in need of a warm meal? If so, Monterey Recreation and Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula are offering a DRIVE THRU meal pick-up program. Meals for seniors will be offered Tuesday through Friday from 11am - noon at the El Estero Park/Dennis the Menace Parking Lot.

For more information and to make a reservation, please email montereyrecreation@monterey.org or call Monterey Recreation at (831) 646-3866 and leave a message for staff.

Senior Drive Thru Meal Program Flyer
Meals on Wheel Application

Monterey Recreation Presents:
That's Good! How to make campfire banana splits

The Virtual Recreation Center’s video series continues, with a total of 13 short video cooking ideas to do with your family during the continued shelter in place. Here’s number #12: How to make campfire banana splits

Check them all out at
https://monterey.org/Coronavirus/Stay-Home-Stay-Connected/Virtual-Recreation-Center/Archived-Videos
Give Blood, Save Lives - Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross Blood Drive at El Estero Park Center, 777 Pearl Street

Appointments Available for:

- Wednesday, August 26
- Wednesday, September 23
- Wednesday, October 28
- Tuesday, November 17
- Tuesday, December 15

Please sign up to donate on August 26 or any of the above Blood Drive dates.

El Estero Park Center is offering regularly scheduled blood drives over the coming months. Please consider volunteering to make a blood donation a part of your schedule.

To schedule your appointment use the donate button below or for more information visit: redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor Code: Monterey or call 1-800 RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Due to Covid-19, no day of walk-in appointments will be accepted.

For additional information, please email montereyrecreation@monterey.org.
Sports Center "making waves" as residents surf the web for online exercise classes

Monterey Sports Center staff may not be in their usual office, but they are working hard staying connected to support our customers and the exercise community. Since the coronavirus pandemic and resulting shelter in place order, the Group Exercise team led by Group Exercise Coordinator Laurie Ataide published over 50 half hour video workouts posted on their Facebook page! The classes are very popular and "making waves" as people try to stay healthy while gyms are closed.

You can probably find a favorite or two - see facebook.com/montereysportscenter. Follow them if you don't already, and if you don't have a Facebook page, we are working on adding them all to a playlist at youtube.com/cityofmonterey. - see a sampling below.

Thanks for your support and we hope to see you in person very soon!
Virtual Library offers innovative ways to provide services
BY LIBRARY MANAGER KIM SMITH

The Library building may be closed, but we’re still here! Check out library materials from our front sidewalk by placing holds in the catalog at montereylibrary.org.

Not sure what you want? Call 831-646-3933 or email refdesk@monterey.org and let us know if you’re looking for picture books for a preschooler, large print mysteries, or anything similar to that, and we’ll help create a stack for you.

Don’t have a library card yet? Fill out the form on our website and we’ll mail you one. Ebooks and audiobooks remain available for free with your library card through the Libby or Cloudlibrary apps. School is resuming, so don’t forget about Brainfuse Help Now which will connect you with a real person tutoring virtually in practically any subject you need, and you can also submit essays to their writing lab which will be returned with notes and suggestions - even adults can use it!

We of course can’t list all our services here, but if you visit our website www.monterey.org/library you’ll find more information and links or we’re just a phone call away!

The Library needs your support now more than ever before. Due to COVID-19 our funding has been drastically reduced.

Please consider joining our non-profit partner the Monterey Public Library Friends & Foundation, or make a donation at www.mplfriends.com.

The Friends & Foundation helps fund new materials, programs, and services that will keep your library a vibrant place to learn and grow. Read on to learn more, and check out their new website, investinmpl.org
City of Monterey decided to celebrate Monterey’s 250th birthday in the best way possible during the pandemic—virtually and gathering four living mayors spanning five generations. On June 3, 2020, these dynamic leaders of our time talked about the significance of our beautiful city to the establishment of California, the changes, challenges, and opportunities faced by each generation, the uniqueness of our international culture, the importance of our military as well as our fishing industry, and much more.

The event featured Mayor Clyde Roberson, and former mayors, Chuck Della Sala, Dan Albert Sr., and Peter Coniglio having a conversation that brings an in-person perspective to so many different, momentous circumstances that have made Monterey the special place it is today.

Enjoy the video!
Aptly named "Ruff Seas," new fishing boat adds to wonder at Dennis the Menace Playground - Getting ready for a reopening. We are in some "rough seas", but when it's over, Dennis the Menace Playground will be ready for you and your families to enjoy! We are taking advantage of the playground closure to get lots of improvements done.

City Focus Newsletter

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