



Annual Report 1998

Public Safety

Promoting public safety in the City and nurturing a sense of security in our neighborhoods, business districts and in schools continue to be the focus in many of our programs

Year in Review

New Emergency Plans, Training, Building Benefit Community

When disaster strikes, there is no substitute for good planning and community involvement. To that end, the City completed and revised our Disaster Plan, trained many residents and put the finishing touches on a new base from which to coordinate the City's response to disasters. With our newly completed disaster plan tested during last year's storms, valuable "real life" feedback from various City departments has served to enhance an already comprehensive plan. Further analyzing the City's preparedness, a Care & Shelter Drill, involving the Fire and Recreation and Community Services departments, NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams) and Monterey-Salinas Transit, was conducted in June. The drill provided an additional opportunity to evaluate and assess the needs of the City's Community Centers to adequately serve as shelter facilities. Since we believe resident involvement in emergency planning is critical, our Fire Department also conducted a pair of NERT courses. We now have a total of 242 NERT graduates prepared to help in time of disaster. Foundations for NERT storage facilities for our neighborhoods, approved through the NIP (Neighborhood Improvement Program), are now out to bid. To unify and coordinate these various entities, we completed construction of our new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in August. The EOC serves as the City's emergency management headquarters during disasters.

Looking Ahead

Police Dogs, Volunteer Patrol Unit Aid Police Team Effort

At the suggestion of the public, police officers and police management, we have initiated a wide range of community oriented policing programs. The latest addition to our extensive public safety effort includes a pair of new programs.

- Two fully trained and certified German Shepherds will join the Monterey Police Department as another public safety tool. Truly a collaboration between the community and the City; local individuals, businesses and neighborhood associations have partnered with us to bring these new resources to our Police Department.

"We thought it was important because we have seen what police dogs can do in other communities," says Mary Ann Finocchi, vice president of the Monterey Police Citizens' Academy Alumni Association, which spearheaded the fundraising effort for the Canine Unit. "The presence of a dog with an officer lowers the level of violence and can prevent violence from escalating."

Today's modern police dogs can track criminals, find lost citizens as well as locate victims of natural disaster.

They have proven to save lives, reduce injuries to officers and innocent citizens and curtail criminal activity. Police dogs are able to search large areas, such as trails, parks, large businesses and shopping centers for lost persons and/or suspects more quickly

than police officers on foot. This will save the department and officers valuable time by allowing them to complete calls as quickly as possible. Additionally, the German Shepherds provide us greater opportunities to interact with our community members. Monterey Officer Mickey Roobash, a six-year MPD veteran, will head the Canine Unit. In his spare time he has been training dogs for police duty for three years, and he looks forward to getting the program up and running.

"You really need community support to get a new program started," says Roobash. "And I can't tell you how much support we have received." To date, more than \$9,000 of private money has been raised to bring the trained police dogs to Monterey.

- The Monterey Volunteers in Policing (M.V.P.) Patrol Unit acts as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Police Department. Utilizing volunteers who travel on foot, bicycle or in a car throughout the downtown and waterfront areas, the unit is out in the community listening to your concerns and issues.

The M.V.P.s allow staff to focus on other projects and provide services that weren't offered before. That's one of the reasons Ron Rountree joined the patrol unit.

"Police officers are burdened with many duties which could be handled by responsible private citizens," Mr. Rountree says.

Additionally, the M.V.P.s, who wear an identifiable uniform and carry a radio, say they enjoy being out and about.

"I love doing this. It has been a very positive experience. People have been very responsive," says M.V.P. Arlea Sylvia.

To date, nine people have joined the unit that also performs vacation house checks and assists with traffic and crowd control at special events.

All M.V.P.s are 50 years old or older, have successfully cleared a background check and have completed the 12-week Citizens' Police Academy course. Call 646.3819 for more details

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Historic Preservation

[Community to Commemorate State Sesquicentennial](#)
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Everywhere we look in Monterey, there are remnants of other times and other lives. History is part of our daily routine. We do business and work in historic buildings and stroll along century-old walkways. Recalling and enhancing our history and preserving our region's past continue to be priorities at the City.

Looking Ahead

Community to Commemorate State Sesquicentennial

Highlighting Monterey's pivotal role in one of the most important times in California history, the City will host an array of special events as part of the State's Sesquicentennial commemoration. Special exhibitions at the Monterey Public Library and most museums in the City; a newly developed curriculum for elementary grades; parades; lectures and symposia will all add to the interest and excitement of this important event.

Marking the 150th anniversary of California's statehood and the signing of its Constitution, local festivities will focus on the City's legacy as the home of the first California Constitutional Convention, which convened at Colton Hall in 1849 in prelude to California's admission to the United States. Activities will also include the celebration of the 150th birthday of our Library – the first public library in the State.

In conjunction with the State Gold Rush to Statehood Sesquicentennial Commission, local representatives of many historical and cultural agencies have met frequently this past year to plan our participation.

While the three-year State Gold Discovery to Statehood Sesquicentennial Commemoration covers the years 1998 to 2000, the most important year for Monterey will be 1998, the 150th anniversary of the California State Constitutional Convention.

Stay tuned for information about upcoming Sesquicentennial events. To volunteer for activities surrounding this commemoration, call our volunteer coordinator at 646-3719.

New Policies, Procedures Continue to Help Preserve Monterey's History

Being a part of one of the most historic cities in the western United States, we have a keen awareness of our responsibility to preserve Monterey's past.

The City already owns one of Monterey's largest collections of historic buildings, and we continue to look for new opportunities to be good stewards of our rich history.

To that end, the City has commissioned an Historic Master Plan as well as a survey of Cannery Row and formed a committee to review regulations regarding preservation.

The following is an update on each of these projects:

- **Historic Master Plan**

In an effort to call attention to our historic and cultural assets, the City plans to prepare a Historic Master Plan.

The plan will assist us in coordinating our efforts with other organizations so both residents and visitors can enjoy Monterey's history as a "seamless" experience. Once drafted, the City will gather community input to help identify the parts of history that should be saved to best capture the people and events which have made Monterey the diverse and interesting place it is today.

- ***Cannery Row Survey***

As part of our ongoing effort to identify potential historic buildings and locations, we have initiated a comprehensive survey of Cannery Row.

The final draft includes 81 buildings and sites and lists basic historic information about each.

Information pertaining to particular sites has been given to affected property owners. The survey will be sent to the Historic Preservation Commission for a review of the technical information. A copy of the full survey is available for viewing in the Plans & Public Works Department.

- ***Changes to Policies***

The City has been reviewing policies and ordinances pertaining to historic preservation over the past several months in order to understand their implications and make changes and revisions if necessary. In order to get broad public input, an ad hoc Historic Process Subcommittee was established. The Subcommittee, which includes members of the Council and the various commissions as well as business and neighborhood representatives, has recommended a framework for new historic policies and ordinances. The Historic Preservation Commission is holding public hearings on Subcommittee recommendations that include surveys of properties, a review process for surveyed buildings, an incentive program to help maintain historic buildings, a two-tier historic designation process, revised standards for historic designation and the possible creation of historic districts.

- ***Historic Lower Presidio Park and Museum to Link with Downtown***

New footpath markers will soon link Monterey and the Lower Presidio, where work is underway to breathe new life into the base's former U.S. Army Museum.

As part of our overall plan to connect downtown history with that of the Lower Presidio Historic Park and Museum, the Path of History will be revised to include the park and museum, whose master plan for development is underway.

Circular, gold ceramic tiles embedded in the path's pavement route will point the way to various historic sites.

We finalized our lease of the lower 26 acres of the Presidio of Monterey from the Army this year; and renovations to the 1,800-square-foot museum building should allow for an opening date in late 1998 or early 2000.

The museum exhibit, developed in conjunction with the Monterey State Historic Park and the Presidio, will explore the historic park's military history from the late 18th century to present. Additionally, an oral history project focusing on life at the Presidio between 1914 and 1945 will be developed.

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Social

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The City's communications tools, volunteer opportunities and projects geared to address the needs of youth and families help build and maintain a healthy community. Such programs offer ways to participate in the decision-making process, ensure that residents are informed about news and issues and provide the City with vital community input on many topics.

Year in Review

Volunteers Help Get the Job Done

Helping hands last year united the City like never before as citizen involvement in volunteer activities grew 72 percent from the previous year.

More than 1,500 people donated many hours of much-appreciated time to help make Monterey a safer and more enjoyable place to live.

Volunteers could be found in every department of the City, pitching in for special events as well as undertaking long-term, ongoing assignments.

Our citizens assisted City staff with pre-school and after-school programs, filing and computer work, database creation and entry, a redevelopment research project and taking photographs for ID cards.

They helped with community forums; shooed sea lions from waterfront locations; prompted parade entries; counted traffic on the Recreation Trail and at street intersections; cleaned streets, beaches and parks; assisted with community collaborative efforts and much more.

As we sloshed through the storms of El Niño, more than 300 local residents, including military service personnel, braved the rain to fill sandbags, unplug storm drains and aid in traffic control. Volunteers with our Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams (NERT) alone gave 2,594 hours and were very active during the storms.

Another project, "Make a Difference Day," saw volunteers cleaning El Estero Park, polishing the De Anza Walk sculpture and refurbishing tree wells.

The Police Department's Volunteers in Policing has grown to 20 citizens and now includes an Explorer Scout program and downtown patrol unit.

Additionally, the Monterey Public Library's academic enrichment and homework program, Homework Pals, has expanded to five sites with a sixth site on the horizon.

New programs and more exciting activities are coming up this year.

PEG TV Coming

Soon important community information and programs will be broadcast on local cable TV.

We finalized our franchise renewal agreement last year with the local cable company to provide channels and resources to begin a community-based Public, Education and Government (PEG) access program.

We also contracted with a new nonprofit, Access Monterey Peninsula, to help us develop a work program for broadcasting important community information, and provide opportunities to our community to air their own television programming.

We will be gearing up to go on air sometime next fiscal year.

Looking Ahead

Plans for New Childcare Center Underway

Awareness, advocacy and action are key to developing a childcare strategy rooted in collaboration. As the City begins to develop a plan for using the now-vacant childcare facility on the Presidio of Monterey, we understand that both public- and private-sector resources must be utilized to make the program a success.

The former Presidio of Monterey Child Development Center once served military families. Now the building sits empty, and the City is working to see if there are opportunities for reopening the center. One possibility is to lease the property from the Presidio on a long-term basis and then find a qualified licensed childcare provider to operate the program. City staff is working with community volunteers to identify licensed childcare providers who may be interested in this opportunity.

As this concept moves toward reality, we will look to all segments of the community – businesses and nonprofits to neighborhood groups and government agencies – to take an active role.

Creating a Caring Community on the Peninsula

Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula is continuing to grow! A coalition of the three Peninsula public school districts, local colleges and universities, the seven Peninsula cities, public and nonprofit agencies, businesses, youth and the community at large, Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula is dedicated to teaching and supporting youth and families in everyday life. The City of Monterey has been an active partner since its creation.

Many of the City's programs, both new and old, are being pursued under the Community of Caring umbrella. Examples include the Homework Pals program in the Monterey Public Library, the Youth Diversion and School Resource Officer programs in the Police Department and our many recreation and leisure services programs.

Community of Caring is an active, vibrant program, and you are encouraged to become involved. For more information visit the program's Web site at <http://communityofcaringmp.org/>, or call 646-3760.

Events, Forums Scheduled

Keeping our community up-to-date and creating additional opportunities to gather community input continues to be an important goal for the City. We are sponsoring additional community workshops and activities this year to help make this happen.

Already this July we held an Historic Preservation Workshop where local and national experts discussed the pros and cons of historic preservation. If you missed the workshop, you can still get the scoop - the video series is available at the Monterey Public Library.

Our popular Citizens' Tour of the City is scheduled again this year for late September, and we hope to see you in 1998 at "Community Connections," our town hall meeting held to gather input on community priorities.

In addition, Internet access is now available at the Monterey Public Library. Workstations are currently set up and available for use.

Don't forget to let us know what you think about these and other City services by completing the citizen survey included in this report.

Please take a moment to fill it out and mail it in. We want to know how we're doing and hear of new ways to better serve you.

Look for scheduling information in upcoming editions of City Focus. Also look for calendar updates in the local media.

City Offers More Ways to Get Involved

Adhering to the belief that "people do make a difference," the City is expanding opportunities for volunteers to participate in the rich and varied programs offered by the City this year.

As staff will attest, volunteers make many of our programs possible.

"Volunteers contribute to the success of many activities, lending their precious time and diverse talents to a variety of programs and events attended by citizens of all ages," says Recreation Superintendent Jeanne Calzada.

For example, programs encouraging teen involvement through partnerships with local agencies

are on-line. The City envisions a project linking adult volunteers with preteens to create and collect personal-care kits for City disaster shelters.

Additionally, plans are underway for national "Make a Difference Day" to be held October 24. One-day projects will highlight individual as well as family participation.

The City will also focus on creating a Recycling Team to educate residents about the importance of recycling and encourage recycling at special events; and we'll be working with Monterey Peninsula College and county agencies to place volunteers in work-experience opportunities for those transitioning off of welfare under the CalWorks program.

The City is also gearing up to participate in the California Sesquicentennial commemoration, marking 150 years of statehood. Additionally, the Monterey Volunteers in Policing (M.V.P.) Patrol Unit promises to unite residents with the Police Department to help make the City a safer community

We are looking for individuals and groups to join us in our efforts. To become a volunteer, call our Volunteer Services Program Coordinator, Susan Schiavone, at 646.3719.

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Economic

[CoRE Reactivated](#) | [New Shops, Theater On-line](#) | [City Meets Parking Needs](#)

Sustaining a healthy economy is vital to the quality of life our residents have come to depend on. And that means maintaining a balance between community and visitor needs. The City is always looking for new and creative ways to support local businesses and commercial property owners while providing services and programs more cost-effectively.

Looking Ahead

CoRE Reactivated

Strengthening bonds between our military communities and the research, education and business assets in the greater Monterey Bay region is what Project CoRE is all about. Formed in 1993, the Coalition for Research and Education has helped ensure the continued military presence and played a major role in keeping both the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and the Naval Postgraduate School off base closure lists in 1993 and 1995.

Given the continued emphasis on research and higher education in our regional economy and the high probability of future base closures, CoRE members are being asked to gear up for a new wave of activity.

The goals for CoRE include: cultivating and expanding the "synergy" between our many research, educational and training assets; creating public/private partnerships; continuing to market the region as a center of excellence for environmental, international and language studies; and actively educating and gaining public support for the unique capabilities of the institutions in the area.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in CoRE should call 646.3760, or e-mail us at cohn@ci.monterey.ca.us.

New Shops, Theater On-line

Strides at two key undeveloped properties within the City look to bring a new hotel, theaters and more affordable housing.

- **Solutions Here for Cannery Row Eyesore** Located on both sides of Cannery Row between Prescott Street and the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the proposed Cannery Row hotel development has approval to bring in a hotel, retail shops and parking facilities. A major developer of first-class hotels has been working with the Cannery Row Company and the City to update the project and bring forward development plans that will work to resolve community concerns and bring completion to this unattractive site.
- **Downtown to Get New Housing, Retail**
New theaters, retail shops and housing are coming to downtown as development continues at 330 Alvarado Street, the City-owned C-21 site.
Last fiscal year, developer Barry Swenson Builders broke ground on the Osio Plaza project located next to Bay Books and across from the Marriott Hotel in a former City parking lot.
Scheduled for completion this fall/winter, the Plaza will bring a six-screen theater, convention meeting space, retail shops and 29 affordable housing rental units for low- and moderate-income residents. The project will also produce rental income, employment opportunities and an economic stimulus to existing downtown businesses.

The housing units at Osio Plaza will be offered through a lottery drawing in 1999. Those interested in the lottery should watch for public announcements in local media.

City Meets Parking Needs

Juggling the City's many parking needs, we will continue our multi-faceted approach – public education, alternative modes of visitor transportation and parking management programs – to accommodate the needs of businesses, residents and visitors.

These efforts include the award-winning "Smart Parking in Monterey" brochure; the popular Waterfront Area Visitor Express (WAVE) transportation program; as well as a trial program for on-street employee parking for the New Monterey Business District.

We are also working with New Monterey residents to expand residential parking in their area to reduce the impact of visitor parking in their neighborhoods.

For Monterey residents who use attendant staffed facilities, we offer a program which allows residents to purchase a special permit entitling them to a 50% discount at these parking areas.

Additionally, we recently installed new electronic meters which accept smart parking cards.

These cards, encoded with a computer chip, allow you to buy a predetermined amount of parking time, in \$25, \$50 and \$100 increments, for use at these meters.

For further information on any of these parking programs, or if you have parking related questions, please call 646.3953.

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Public Facilities

[Partnerships with Our Military Neighbors Are Successful, Beneficial Public Access | City Looks for New Ways to Maintain Military Presence on Peninsula More Space for Exercise and Recreation Activities Proposed](#)

The needs of the community drive upgrades to City buildings and facilities as well as development of City-owned or leased land. Citizen input is vital to the decision-making process. The Monterey Sports Center expansion, Monterey Bay Waterfront Park and Osio Plaza are recent examples of projects identified as priorities by the community

Year in Review

Partnerships with Our Military Neighbors Are Successful, Beneficial

Our neighboring military communities are important to our success.

They provide many jobs and patrons; their research and educational pursuits attract other businesses to the area; and just as importantly, they are our friends and neighbors. We continue to work to keep the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) here on the Peninsula. As a result of our endeavors, we have contracted with the Presidio of Monterey and NPS to provide refuse collection and recycling services; completed the sand dunes restoration program at NPS and are performing on-going maintenance on a reimbursable basis; and have undertaken and completed the first two phases of the habitat restoration program at Navy Del Monte Lake and begun the third phase - tree planting.

These partnerships enable us to save tax dollars and help reduce operating costs for the military.

Learn about how we plan to build on our successes in the coming year - see the Looking Ahead story below.

Looking Ahead

Public Access: Views and Recreation Bigger and Better at Monterey Bay

Expanding our "Window on the Bay" at Monterey Bay Park remains one of the City's top priorities.

The project continues to allow residents and visitors alike the opportunity to derive more from one of our most precious assets - Monterey Bay.

The City has been negotiating to obtain the remaining privately owned parcels along this waterfront area to beautify the area, increase public access and eventually allow for widening of Del Monte Avenue, Monterey's main traffic thoroughfare. Significant progress has been made, however, more work is needed.

The recent completion of the public park areas on the bay side of Del Monte Avenue, east of Wharf #2, and the demolition of buildings at the former Luce-Carmel Meat Company and Cellular One sites are signs of our continuing interest to open this Bay window.

City Looks for New Ways to Maintain Military Presence on Peninsula

Mindful of the important role the Presidio plays in the economic and cultural life of the community, the City recently entered into an historic partnership with the U.S. Army.

Under the agreement, the first of its kind in the nation, the City has contracted with the Army to provide public works services at the Presidio of Monterey. Contracting City services at the Presidio can reduce the Army's operating costs and help retain the Defense Language Institute

Foreign Language Center, an important local resident. The Army now pays the City's costs to operate and maintain the base's waste-water, storm-water and street systems.

Opportunities for new partnerships with the military include the leasing of the Presidio Historic Park (see story Page 7); the pending lease of a childcare center; and the possible lease of other military facilities. We are also exploring the possibility of maintaining and operating additional military buildings.

Future arrangements for the City to operate and maintain other base facilities could enable us to provide additional services and provide housing to nonprofit organizations.

More Space for Exercise and Recreation Activities Proposed

Whether it be for swimming, aerobics or other sport or exercise activities, the Monterey Sports Center is a popular destination.

Because of its popularity, the City has been considering expanding the Center. At present, we are looking to design and develop new space to increase fitness and aerobics programs while providing needed office and support space.

This year, we will be examining land use and development issues concerning the City-owned BP gas station site, exterior design, functional layout and costs to complete the addition.

We will also study the benefits of using "off site" facilities at the Presidio of Monterey.

During the design and preliminary development phase, the community will have the opportunity to review the project as it goes before the various commissions and committees.

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Land Use

Managing the development of land within the City limits takes research and analysis. The impacts on traffic, residential and commercial neighborhoods, as well as the environment, must be closely considered. As a result, the City develops policies and guidelines and works with community members to ensure that orderly and harmonious physical growth occurs.

Looking Ahead

Proposed Cannery Row Project Undergoing Detailed Review

A proposal to bring a mixed-use project combining retail shops and businesses with residential condominiums to Cannery Row continues to go through environmental as well as other City reviews.

At present, a draft of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the proposed Cannery Row Marketplace project, slated for the 3.2-acre site on both sides of Cannery Row between the El Torito and Chart House restaurants, is being prepared.

The EIR addresses a number of environmental concerns including traffic and parking; public access and public views; water; archaeologic resources; historic resources and marine ecology. The EIR will also consider the impacts of hazardous materials that may be on the property. The draft EIR is scheduled to be completed this fall. The draft will then be circulated for public review and comments.

City commissions and committees will weigh the EIR findings in order to make recommendations to the City Council on how the development should be amended or conditioned to ensure that the impacts to the community and area are not significant.

Discussion of Homes Along Del Monte Beach Continues

A recently forged consensus suggests that 10 to 13 homes can be built on the vacant single-family lots in this undeveloped waterfront area, rather than the 30 homes that zoning currently allows.

Based on an economic study, property owners will be presenting a proposal that calls for fewer homes and larger lot sizes in Del Monte Beach tract No. 2, located between Beach Way and the U.S. Navy property, and Dunecrest Avenue and Monterey Bay.

A subdivision map of the development will be created showing the design and location of each home and an environmental study detailing this development's impact on the area will also be started. This information will then be forwarded to the Planning Commission, City Council and California Coastal Commission for approval.

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