

CVAG Chronicle

January 2010

HOT TOPIC: Roy's Desert Resource Center Update

By Aurora Wilson

Roy's Desert Resource Center in North Palm Springs opened its doors to the homeless in the Coachella Valley on Monday, December 21st. A ribbon cutting was held on Wednesday, December 16th for the media, the CVAG Homelessness Committee and ex-officios.



Ron Stewert, Amanda Keil, Councilmember Karl Baker, Aurora Wilson, and Bruce Craven at Roy's DRC fundraiser.

Photo courtesy of Caroline Craven.

Hats off to the operator, Jewish Family Services of San Diego (JFSSD) and Project Director, Linda Barrack; Tony Manriquez, Project Manager; and their staff for the countless hours spent preparing for the opening, e.g., purchasing and storing needed supplies including towels and blankets; bagging toiletries; preparing the beds; preparing the filing and office systems; establishing office spaces; hiring and training of additional staff and overall staff preparation.

where clients will receive case management services and other resources to help the clients return as working and contributing members to the community and give back to the local economy. There is also a public health nurse at the Center which will be providing limited medical services to the clients.

Inspirational quotes will be placed on several walls inside of Roy's and a permanent sign has been placed over the front door of the outside of the facility which is lit during evening hours.

The cities of the Coachella Valley have been major partners with financing the operations of Roy's. With the State's fiscal crisis impacting local governments, CVAG appreciates the efforts of those cities that have come forward to fund this homeless center. Recently, the City of Desert Hot Springs Human and Community Resources Committee held a fundraiser at the home of Alibaba and Eveleen Farzaneh in Rancho Mirage. The City was challenged to match a \$50,000 contribution from Supervisor



Jennifer Garant at Roy's DRC Fundraiser
Photo courtesy of Caroline Craven.

As of this writing more than 70 of the 90 available beds are occupied. The kitchen remains the last component of the DRC that is undergoing completion but that is not stopping JFSSD from providing meals to the clients. Service providers for the Access Center component are being recruited to provide services at Roy's. This is the critical component of Roy's

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Coachella Valley Association of Governments



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Marion Ashley for Roy's DRC. The fundraiser featured an auction of artwork from local artist Jennifer Garant and attendees were treated to Eveleen's incredible cooking. Ms. Garant recently opened an art gallery on El Paseo in Palm Desert. The photos reflect the event which net over \$18,000!!

Federal Census officials have been working closely with Riverside County's Complete Count effort which includes the Western Riverside Council of Governments and CVAG. The County has established a Technical Advisory Committee of County staff and staff from WRCOG and CVAG. The County also established a Steering Committee of elected officials from Eastern and Western Riverside County and two members from the Board of Supervisors which has oversight of the entire County's Census efforts.

At the direction of the Executive Committee, CVAG's Human and Community Resources Committee "morphs" into the Eastern County's Complete Count Committee. City Census Liaisons attend and provide updates to the committee on Census related activities going on in their jurisdiction. Given the strain on local government and lack of federal and state dollars, the pressure is high to increase the Census response. Federal dollars held fund programs such as transportation, public safety, fire services, homelessness, housing and education and population numbers play a key role.

A Resolution to support the Census 2010 will be sent to each member jurisdiction for consideration and action. The Census links are available on the CVAG website (www.cvag.org) with the latest information.

- Aurora Wilson



CVAG would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the late Councilmember Alan Seman, for his many years of service on the Public Safety Committee, the Executive Committee and CVAG's General Assembly. You will certainly be missed!



Host Alibaba Farzaneh, Supervisor Marion Ashley, and Bruce Craven

Photo courtesy of Caroline Craven.

A grand opening of Roy's will be done sometime in April or May – upon completion of the kitchen.



CENSUS 2010 - The local Census effort is well under way! With low scoring response rates from Eastern Riverside County in the previous 2000 Census, the Coachella Valley must take up the challenge and increase its response rates. Each person that is counted equals \$2000 in federal dollars; over ten years that equals \$20,000!

With no funding for a Census Coordinator, each jurisdiction has developed its own Complete Count Committee (CCC). The responsibility for response success now falls to each jurisdiction to educate and outreach to their residents on the importance of completing the Census.

CVAG Department Heads

Tom Kirk
Executive Director

Gary Leong, CPA
Administrative Services

Allyn Waggle
Transportation

Aurora Wilson
Community Resources

Katie Barrows
Energy & Environment

Toni Eggebraaten
General Counsel



Executive Committee Meeting January 25, 2010

ACTION

- Approved the funding agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for capital funds for Roy's Desert Resource Center in the amount of \$475,000; and approved this amount be paid directly to the County for tenant improvements specified by CVAG in the HUD application.
- Approved an agreement with Edison and the Gas Company for the Desert Cities Energy Partnership for 2010 - 2012, including funding to CVAG for coordination and marketing; and approved a resolution declaring support for the Desert Cities Energy Partnership program for 2010 - 2012.
- Approved an Implementation Agreement amendment for the regional transportation program management and administration.
- Approved the allocation of SAFETEA-LU Demonstration Funds for the Palm Drive/Gene Autry Trail Project; authorized staff to terminate, with County concurrence, the \$800,000 loan from Riverside County to assist in recirculation of the MSHCP; authorized staff to prepare an agreement between CVAG, Riverside County, and the City of Desert Hot Springs in which CVAG will waive any right of reimbursement from the City and the County will waive any right of reimbursement from CVAG for costs associated with the 2007 MSHCP recirculation, conditioned upon the City's approval of the MSHCP; and authorized CVAG to utilize approximately \$450,000 of transportation funds to assist CVCC in the facilitation of the MSHCP.
- Approved transferring \$1.5 million surplus 15% State Highway Measure A funds for the Avenue 66 and Harrison Street project.
- Approved an amendment to the reimbursement agreement with Riverside County for the Date Palm Drive Interstate 10 Interchange project providing an additional \$6,519,750 of regional funds; and denying the request to enter a 10 year payback agreement for the County share of the 25% local responsibility costs.
- Approved a \$149,755.44 amendment to the agreement with the City of La Quinta to provide 75% of the cost for Fred Waring Drive widening between Washington Street and Adams Street.
- Approved an agreement with the City of La Quinta to provide 75% of the local share of costs for a Highway Bridge Program Grant for the Adams Street bridge project, in the amount of \$2,014,035, as the CVAG Regional Share of the Project Costs, pending availability of funds at the time of payment.
- Approved a resolution supporting designation of a portion of Highway 74 in honor of Supervisor Roy Wilson.
- Approved the existing CVAG Investment Policy.
- Adopted a resolution and recommended CVAG member jurisdictions consider adoption of a model resolution in support of the Regional Earthquake Early Warning System (CREWS).
- Approved a resolution designating March 2010 Census Month.
- Approved a MOU with Coachella Valley Water District to become a non-voting member of the E & E Committee.
- Approved an amendment to the agreement between CVAG and CleanStreet for addition of streets to the Regional PM10 Street Sweeping Program.
- Approved a resolution authorizing CVAG to submit an application for a Waste Tire Cleanup and Amnesty Program in coordination with our member jurisdictions.

UPCOMING CVAG MEETINGS FEBRUARY 2010

Executive Committee

February 22 at 6:00 p.m. (Suite 119)

Technical Advisory Committee

February 12 at 10:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Transportation Committee

February 8 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)

Transportation Technical Advisory Subcommittee

February 22 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)

Energy & Environmental Resources Committee

February 11 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)

Coachella Valley Conservation Commission

February 11 at 11:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Energy & Water Conservation Subcommittee

March 18 at 8:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

AB939 Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group

March 8 at 3:00 p.m. (Suite 119)

Public Safety Committee

February 8 at 10:00 a.m. (Roy Wilson Fire Station & Training Center, Thousand Palms)

Homelessness Committee

February 17 at 10:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Human & Community Resources Committee

February 17 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)



CVAG will be closed on February 15 in Honor of Presidents' Day.

CVAG's Executive Committee comprises 30 members. Voting members (17) are Riverside County supervisors, mayors and chairs of CVAG cities and tribes or their designees. Nonvoting members (13) are county, city and tribal managers.



Executive Committee Roster

Mayor Stephen Pougnet, City of Palm Springs
CVAG CHAIR

Mayor Yvonne Parks, City of Desert Hot Springs
CVAG VICE CHAIR

Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe
Mayor Kathy DeRosa, City of Cathedral City

Mayor Eduardo Garcia, City of Coachella

Mayor Ed Monarch, City of Indian Wells

Mayor Pro Tem Ben Godfrey, City of Indio

Mayor Don Adolph, City of La Quinta

Mayor Cindy Finerty, City of Palm Desert

Mayor Gordon Moller, City of Rancho Mirage

Supervisor John J. Benoit, **Supervisor Marion Ashley**,

Supervisor Bob Buster, **Supervisor John Tavaglione**, and

Supervisor Jeff Stone, County of Riverside

Tribal Chair Richard Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

2nd Tribal Vice Chair David Roosevelt, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians



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