

VALLEY VOICE TRIP

Last month, a delegation of more than two dozen elected officials, staff and other regional stakeholders from the San Joaquin Valley, including Merced Mayor and MCAG Director Mike Murphy, spent the day in Sacramento discussing issues of regional significance related to goods movement, transportation funding and air quality. The delegation met with several members of the State Legislature including Assembly Member Adam Gray and Senator Anthony Cannella, as well as, Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency Brian Kelly.

“Valley Voice provides local leaders from across the valley the opportunity to work together to advocate for solutions that will improve the quality of life in our communities” said Director Murphy. “When in Sacramento, we are louder and stronger when we speak as a region rather than individual communities.”

The trip is part of an annual program known as Valley Voice, a collaborative effort that identifies the region’s legislative priorities and provides the opportunity to advocate for policies in Sacramento and Washington, DC that will benefit the San Joaquin Valley. For more information about Valley Voice visit www.sjvcogs.org.



Valley Voice delegation in the State Capitol -2017

THE BUS TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Merced County Association of Governments’ Social Services Transportation Advisory Council and the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County are holding public forums to seek input from residents and discuss the future of transit service in the region.

Six public hearings are scheduled throughout the region to receive testimony from community residents on unmet transit needs that may exist in Merced County. These hearings are part of the ongoing commitment to improve the overall transit system and provide efficient service to the greatest number of people in Merced County. The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

City of Atwater	City of Merced	City of Los Banos
April 4, 2017	April 6, 2017	April 10, 2017
3:00pm & 6:00pm	3:00pm & 6:00pm	3:00pm & 6:00pm
Atwater Council Chambers	Merced Council Chambers	Los Banos Community Center
750 Bellevue Road,	678 W 18 th Street,	645 7 th Street,

Residents who are unable to attend a hearing, but would like to provide comments, may contact Natalia Austin via email at natalia.austin@mcagov.org or 209-723-3153 by April 10th.

The Bus will provide free fixed route transit service to members of the community who are interested in attending a public hearing. For members of the community who are ADA eligible, transportation can be arranged by reservation by calling (209) 384-3111. Spanish translation services will be available at each hearing. For additional language accommodations, contact TJPA staff at (209) 723-3100.

DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT: JOE OLIVEIRA

Director Joe Oliveira was appointed to the Gustine City Council in 1999 and was elected in the year 2000. He has been re-elected every election since. In addition to serving on the MCAG Governing Board, Director Oliveira has been involved in the One Voice Delegation to Washington D.C. and Sacramento, School District Facilities Committee, and Merced LAFCO. Director Oliveira was employed by PG&E for 38 years until his retirement. His hobbies include golf, hunting and playing poker. He is also past president of the Gustine Lion’s Club and Gustine High School Boosters Club and president of the Gustine Alumni Association. He is a life long resident of Gustine. He and his wife Cheryl, have one son and two grandchildren.



APRIL MEETINGS & COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- 04/07 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, MCAG
- 04/12 Technical Review Board Meeting, Merced County
- 04/20 Governing Board Meeting, Merced County Bldg.

ATWATER

- 04/01 A Day of Service at Bloss 10:00am - 2:00 pm
Bloss Medical Center, 1251 Grove Ave, Atwater

DOS PALOS

- 04/01 City Cleanup Event; For more information please check your utility bill
- 04/08 South Dos Palos Community Cleanup Event
8:30 am – 2:00 pm For more information contact: County Public Works at 209-385-7602.

LE GRAND

- 04/01 Community Cleanup 8:30 am - 2:00 pm
For more information contact County Public Works 209-385-7602.

LIVINGSTON

- 04/09 “Time to Fly” Kite Festival 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Livingston Middle School, This event is free.

LOS BANOS

- 04/08 Cleanup Event, 7:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 04/08 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event; 7:00 am - 2:00 pm. Event is open to all Merced County residents and small-quantity generators. For more information visit: www.mcrwma.org/hhw.html

MERCED

- 04/15 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event; 8:00 am - 12:00 pm, this event is open to all Merced County residents and small-quantity generators. For more information visit: www.mcrwma.org/hhw.html
- 04/29 City Cleanup; for more information please check your utility billing or call 209-385-6800.
- 04/29 Franklin-Beachwood Community Cleanup 8:30 am – 2:00 pm. For more information call County Public Works at 209-385-7602.
- 04/30 City Cleanup; for more information please check your utility billing or call 209-385-6800.

MCAG RECRUITING TRANSPORTATION STAFF

Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) is currently recruiting a new Transportation Planning Manager and Associate Planner.

The Transportation Manager, works closely with all member agencies, outside agencies and public participants. The transportation manager leads the development and maintenance of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Transportation Expenditure Plan (Measure V), as well as other planning duties.

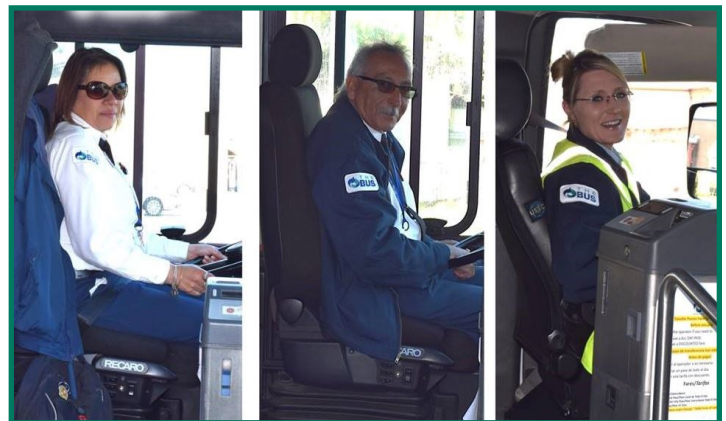
The Associate Planner is the journey level class in the professional planning series in which incumbents are expected to independently perform the full scope of assigned duties. Incumbents in this position work independently in the research, analysis and administration of transportation plans and grant/loan programs.

For more information about these positions and to apply, please visit the MCAG website at:

<http://www.mcagov.org/jobs.aspx>

TRANSIT DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

The Transit Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) celebrated National Transit Driver Appreciation Day on Friday, March 16th by greeting bus drivers with breakfast and goodies. On behalf of the TJPA Staff and Merced County Association of Governments, we would like to thank all of our bus operators for all they do!



Pictured above are bus operators: Peggy, Gus & Lee.

STAY CONNECTED!

To receive text and/or email notifications from MCAG related to public meetings, traffic alerts, RFP releases, job opportunities, and more, visit www.mcagov.org and click on the “Notify Me” icon. You can also follow us on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube!

