

MCAG APPOINTS 2022 ANNA MARIA FUENTES SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Last month, the MCAG Governing Board appointed Livingston High School senior, Emily Solorio the 2022 Anna Maria Fuentes scholarship recipient.

The MCAG Board established the scholarship program in 2010 in memory and tribute to MCAG grants analyst, Anna Maria Fuentes.

The scholarship, in its 12th year, continues to be funded by staff and community donations and is awarded annually to a graduating high school senior from a high school in Merced County with a grade point average of 3.8 or higher and who has demonstrated a high level of participation in extracurricular activities.

Ms. Solorio was selected for her tremendous academic achievements which include being ranked 2nd in her class with a 4.37 cumulative GPA, 'A' honor roll, Seal of Biliteracy (Spanish), California Scholarship Federation, Hispanic Youth Leadership Council, BASP Plant Science Certificate, Key Club and Science Technology Engineering Math club. Ms. Solorio plans to attend UC Merced in the fall and pursue a degree in Environmental Science.

On behalf of the Fuentes family and the MCAG team we would like to congratulate Ms. Solorio for all of her hard work and accomplishments!

For more information about the scholarship please visit: www.mcagov.org/Scholarship.



YARTS RESERVATIONS FOR SUMMER NOW AVAILABLE

Reservations for the 2022 summer season are now open for trips to Yosemite National Park on board YARTS. The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System operates year-round coach service from Merced and Mariposa to Yosemite but will transition to its expanded summer service schedule on May 16, 2022. Seasonal summer service also begins from Sonora and Groveland on May 16, from Fresno and Oakhurst on May 9, and from Mammoth Lakes on June 15, 2022.

Passengers riding into Yosemite on YARTS do not need a day-use pass issued by the National Park Service and YARTS fares always include the gate entrance fee. Reduced ticket prices are available for seniors, disabled passengers, veterans, and older children. Children under five are always free and those between the ages of 6 and 12 years-old ride free if accompanied by a full-fare paying adult.

Interested individuals can make their travel plans now by reserving seats on any of the four corridors at yarts.com. Reservations are highly encouraged to ride YARTS as only a limited amount of walk-on tickets will be issued.

"People who choose to ride YARTS quickly appreciate its value in terms of time and affordability," said Christine Chavez, Transit Manager. "With the Valley shuttles scheduled to run all summer and the high price of gas, going carless into Yosemite is even more appealing this year."

All YARTS buses are equipped with lavatories and over head and under carriage storage. For more information about YARTS schedules, fares, routes, to reserve tickets, or apply for free passes for Merced or Mariposa residents, visit www.yarts.com or call (877) 989-2787.



MAY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- 05/06** CAC meeting, 8:30 am
- 05/11** Technical Review Board meeting, 8:30 am
- 05/19** Governing Board meeting, 3:00 pm
- 05/30** Memorial Day, MCAG offices closed

The meeting location or Zoom information is listed on the cover of each agenda. To access all meeting agendas, please visit:

www.mcagov.org/agendacenter

For more information about these meetings, please contact info@mcagov.org.

RWA CELEBRATES 50 ON EARTH DAY!

Last month, RWA celebrated its 50th anniversary by marking Earth Day with a special event at the Highway 59 landfill. Merced County residents who visited the site on the morning of Saturday, April 23 were treated to as much free compost as they could haul home! In total, about 50 cars took advantage of the compost giveaway.

The event also featured a partnership with the UC Cooperative Extension's Master Gardener program. Master Gardeners were on hand all morning sharing information about the benefits of composting and how to create compost at home. Those who participated in the compost demonstration received a special bucket to collect food scraps in their kitchen to make their own compost. The bins will also be helpful when SB 1383 regulations come into effect this year. Senate Bill 1383 require residences and businesses to dispose of their food waste separately from their regular trash.

For more information on SB 1383 regulations and when they will go into effect, contact your local waste hauler.



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HIGHWAY 59 LANDFILL

7040 N. Highway 59
Merced, CA 95348
Phone: 209-723-4481

Monday - Saturday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

BILLY WRIGHT LANDFILL

17173 S Billy Wright Road
Los Banos, CA 95348
Phone: 209-826-1163

Monday - Saturday:
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

For more information about Regional Waste Authority please visit:

www.mcrwma.org or download the 'Merced Recycles' app on the App store and Google play.



MeasureV

www.mcagov.org/MeasureV

MAY 2022 - UPDATE

The 5th anniversary edition of On the moVe – the annual Measure V report to the community – has been released to the public by the Citizens Oversight Committee. The 2022 report highlights transportation improvements that have been completed throughout Merced County since the local, half-cent sales tax went into effect in April 2017.

Most notable in this year's report is the celebration of the Measure reaching the \$100 million mark in new revenue collected. These funds have resulted in significant enhancements in local road, bridge, bicycle, sidewalk, and public transit networks in the first five years of the Measure's 30-year span. The most impactful infrastructure projects in each of the Measure V funding categories are showcased in On the moVe 2022. This includes work done by the County of Merced, the cities of Atwater, Dos Palos, Gustine, Livingston, Los Banos and Merced, as well as The Bus. In addition, large, regional transportation projects completed with Measure V funds dedicated to the East and West side Regional Project Committees are also presented.

"Measure V has done so much more for local transportation systems in its first five years than we even imagined," said Stacie Guzman, Merced County Association of Governments Executive Director. "To reach the \$100 million milestone as quickly as we have and to see all that has been accomplished throughout the County in only five years is a testament to how much these funds were needed in our region."

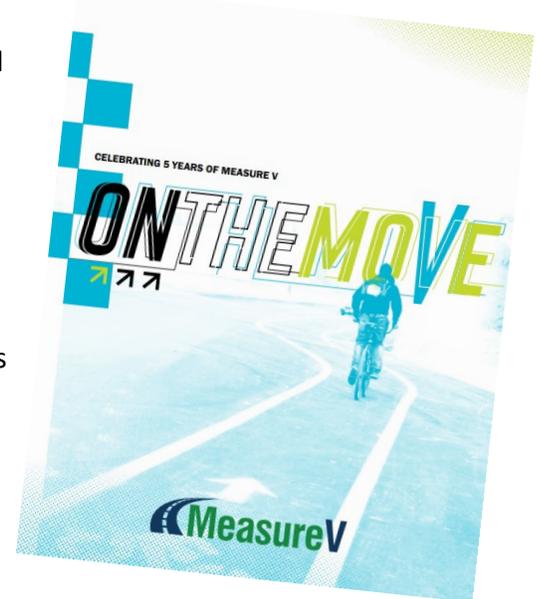
This 2022 On the moVe report is available online at:

www.mcagov.org/onthemove2022 or in hard copy at each of the six city halls, the County Administration building, and MCAG office. In addition to both English and Spanish versions of the report, the public can also find additional work happening in each Merced County community by viewing the slideshow and interactive map on the website.

Measure V was passed by Merced County voters in November 2016 and will be in place until 2047. Half of all Measure V revenue goes directly to the six cities and the County of Merced and must be used for local transportation improvements; of this share, the jurisdictions must use 20 percent on alternative transportation modes projects such as sidewalks and bike lanes. Regional transportation projects located on both the east and west sides of the county receive 44 percent of the Measure V dollars and five percent goes toward public transit. Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) receives one percent of the funding for administrative work related to Measure V.

HAVE YOU SPOTTED MEASURE V AT WORK IN MERCED COUNTY?

Snap a picture and send it to measurev@mcagov.org or tag us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @mcag_merced or use the hashtag #MeasureV_mcag



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