

## City Manager's



### Weekly Update Friday, June 13, 2008

**Live, from downtown Lodi:** The webcam is up and running on the city's web page. Viewing requires a Windows-based computer running Internet Explorer. Cameras available to all operating systems and browsers could not reproduce the image quality of the camera now in use. Also, 83 percent of web site visitors use Windows Internet Explorer.

**Sales tax down:** No surprise that sales tax receipts were down in the fourth quarter of 2007. Adjusted annual sales were down 5.8 percent from the October-December quarter of 2008 compared to 2007. Declining auto sales and building materials were the chief causes. Sales tax receipts have declined for three consecutive quarters and in four of the last five quarters.

**Electric rates rising:** PG&E is raising electric rates in October. PG&E announced this week it will increase electric rates 4.5 percent in October, and another 2 percent in January. The cost of generating electricity is going up because of rising natural gas prices.

**Lodi, Italy:** During his recent vacation, Police Chief David Main delivered a proclamation to our sister city of Lodi, Italy. Chief Main was accompanied by retired police Capt. Larry Manetti, who speaks fluent Italian. No public funds, with the exception of printing the proclamation, were expended.

**A&W Root Beer:** TV personality Huell Howser returns to Lodi on Friday, June 20, for a dedication of a plaque marking the site of the first A&W Root Beer location (Pine Street). The Lodi Conference and Visitors Bureau is coordinating the 11 a.m. dedication, which is followed by lunch at the A&W restaurant at 216 E. Lodi Ave.

**Lodi Community Foundation:** The nonprofit foundation is raising funds for a variety of local organizations. Here are the figures as of March 31: Save the Grape Bowl, \$111,811; Joyce C. Harmon-Tree Lodi, \$1,206 spendable, \$28,884 endowment; Lodi Community Foundation, \$5,208 spendable; Lodi Library Foundation, \$5,000 endowment; Lodi Library Foundation improvement, \$4,980; Lodi Community Concert Association, \$5,000 endowment; All Veterans Plaza Fund, \$11,954 endowment; Children's Endowment Share Homes, \$5,000 endowment; Women's Center of San Joaquin County-Phoebe Watt, \$86,291.64 endowment.

**White Slough Project:** Rehabilitation of the main sewer transmission line is completed, the work on the treatment plant is winding up, and some type of dedication will be scheduled.