

City Manager's



Weekly Update September 5, 2008

A sign of the economic times?: CMT Construction in 2006 entered into a public improvement agreement for Interlake Square, a proposed 11-lot housing development between Sacramento and Schools streets on the block north of Park Street. The public improvements were not installed by the August 2, 2007 deadline, but the City Council on May 8, 2008 gave the developer until August 2, 2008 to complete the public improvements and pay impact mitigation fees. CMT Construction has failed to meet that extended deadline. So, for the first time in decades, if not in Lodi's history, the City is seeking to enforce the public improvement agreement by demanding \$93,095 from Pacific State Bank, which provided the needed security for CMT Construction with a letter of credit. CMT has not been responsive to City telephone calls in recent weeks.

Borchardt traffic: The City Manager's office received a complaint about traffic problems around Borchardt Elementary School. A resident complained that vehicles are speeding in the neighborhood. The Police Department responded by increasing traffic enforcement in the area, which resulted in a complaint that officers were ticketing motorists who were lined up outside the school waiting for kindergarten classes to be dismissed. In the Police Department's opinion, traffic speeds in the area around Borchardt School are not out of the ordinary. Also, motorists picking up children after school are blocking the road because the school site is not designed to accommodate the traffic, but officers requested to enforce the Vehicle Code in the neighborhood will not ignore obvious violations.

White Slough Award: The White Slough wastewater plant was named Project of the Year in the environmental engineering category by the American Public Works Association's Northern California chapter. West Yost & Associates nominated the facility, which we learned this week was chosen first out a record 25 nominations.

Expanding hotel zone? San Joaquin County has agreed to allow Flag City hotels to be included in the business district that includes Lodi hotels and charges overnight guests a 3-percent surcharge. Funds are used by the Lodi Conference and Visitors Bureau to promote the Lodi region. Because Flag City has a Lodi address, the hotels have benefited from the LCVB's efforts to draw visitors.

Fire dispatch: We have received notice of our new fire dispatch fees from Stockton Fire. The CPI-adjusted figures are now (up 4.5 percent) \$10.12 for a medical dispatch and \$20.23 for each non-medical dispatch.

Electric purchase: The City Council had previously provided authority to purchase power to supply the City's base load for the next three years. The Electric Utility consummated the purchase of \$29 million worth of power between July 2010 and March 2012, closing its "open" position significantly. The average price for 25 megawatts of around-the-clock power was \$75.62 per megawatt hour, compared to the roughly \$95/megawatt in the current fiscal year. The buy covers the gap between the expiration of the City's current 25MW power contract with Conoco Phillips and the opening of the proposed Lodi Energy Center.

GrapeSox pay: Parks and Recreation on Thursday received a cashier's check, drawn on a local bank, in the amount of \$6,597 that covers the Lodi GrapeSox's unpaid balance for renting Zupo Field this summer.

Budget and Finance: The committee is scheduled to meet Monday to talk about Fire Department overtime and the water and wastewater utility funds.

Proposition 7: NCPA is encouraging member cities to oppose Proposition 7, which would impose greenhouse gas restrictions on utilities.

Web traffic: The City's home page received an all-time record number of visitors (736) on Tuesday.

Narrowing it down: Preliminary background checks are being performed on the most promising candidates for Deputy City Manager. We anticipate interviews to be held in late September or early October.