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# Jeffries Journal

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## Kevin's Corner

**Deep Cuts:** While the Governor is starting to lift his restrictions on businesses across the state, the Great COVID Recession/Depression crisis is now upon us. Businesses, non-profits, families, and government at all levels are feeling serious economic pain.

For businesses, that may mean layoffs or even permanent closures. For out of work families that can mean going into debt just to pay your basic bills. For government, it translates into cuts and reductions in services that our residents depend on. The question is, which services get cut and by how much? The County CEO is charged with running the county operations and its 22,000 employees. He is proposing a new budget that anticipates \$100+ million in revenue reductions and has asked each department to cut between 5 (mostly public safety agencies) and 10 (everyone else) percent of their budget, with the possibility of an additional 5% later.

Those being asked by the CEO to trim more than a million dollars from their budget are 1) Sheriff-- \$16.7 million, 2) Correctional Health (RUHS)--\$7.5 million, 3) DPSS--\$6.8 million, 4) Probation--\$4.1 million, 5) District Attorney--\$3.9 million, 6) Fire--\$2.8 million, 7) Public Defender--\$2.1 million, 8) Public Guardian/Detention Behavioral Health--\$1.7 million, 9) Registrar of Voters--\$1.2 million, 10) Public Health--\$1.2 million, and 11) Animal Services--\$1 million.

The final decision on the cuts will ultimately rest with the Board of Supervisors. The Board might decide to spare some or much of the public safety service cuts and transfer those dollar reduction cuts to other departments, but because they are by far the biggest agencies, it is impossible to make up enough cuts in the smaller, non-public safety departments to balance the budget. It will be ugly in all cases. On Monday, June 15th, there will be a special Board meeting to hold budget hearings and review the proposed budget, which must be passed by June 30th. If you have suggestions for spending priorities or cuts, please attend the workshop or send the Board an email or letter.

**Looking Backward:** At the May 19th Board meeting the Board approved my proposal to go back and review ALL of the past Board proposed and approved directives that have an ongoing cost to the county, whether directly, or in staff time. These requested policies and reports were all requested with good intentions for a specified purpose, but amid the extreme budget crisis I mentioned above, it is necessary to reevaluate all of those programs to make sure they are still worthy of their costs to the county, when we are being asked to cut public safety services.

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**Real Help for Small Businesses:** On Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, I expect the Riverside County Board of Supervisors will pass a new grant program to assist small businesses struggling with COVID related costs. If approved as written, this federally funded grant program (NOT a loan) will allow businesses with fewer than 50 employees to apply for up to \$10,000 in assistance to help with retrofitting workspaces (plexiglass dividers, floorplan redesigns, outdoor dining furniture, etc.) or protecting staff and clients/customers (e.g. masks, sanitization stations), or a number of other potential or already absorbed expenses encountered by businesses trying to compete in a COVID world. Information and applications will be available here after it is approved by the Board: [www.rivcobizhelp.org](http://www.rivcobizhelp.org).

**Don't Forget the Census:** If you never got your census in the mail, or you lost it, or forgot about it, or were just ignoring it because you thought it was annoying and intrusive, you can and should still fill it out online here: <https://www.census.gov/>. It is very important in determining various funding and service formulas for our county, as well as the basis for drawing legislative and electoral lines when we redistrict next year. And if you think simply answering the survey online or on paper is annoying, it will be a lot more annoying when census representatives start calling you or showing up at your house! Save yourself the aggravation and get counted!

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries

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*Interested in serving your local community?  
Perhaps you are more of a regional advocate?  
If you live in or have a business in District #1, be sure to look at the list  
of openings we have below for local commissions.  
If you feel you have the time to dedicate to making the district a better place feel free  
to apply online at [www.supervisorjeffries.com](http://www.supervisorjeffries.com), under Boards & Commissions*



**In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient of IHSS Services**

**Behavioral Health Commission - Contact our office for details on eligibility**

**RivCo Parks District Advisory Commission - Open (seeking qualified applicants)**

## *Local District #1 Events*

### **Lakeland Village Community Plan Project**

The Lakeland Village Community Planning Project (General Plan Amendment No. 1208) Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is now available for public review.

GPA No. 1208 consists of General Plan Land Use Designation and policy updates, generally within the Lakeland Village Policy Area (LVPA), including General Plan Foundation Component changes. This amendment proposes to revise the existing Elsinore Area Plan to provide direction for the orderly development of the Lakeland Village community, which may include appropriate land use, infrastructure, services, design and character. Beyond land use changes, GPA No. 1208 will also include a review of existing General Plan policies and focus on Mixed Use Areas along the Grand Avenue corridor.

Constituents can get PDF versions of the CEQA documents, maps, and draft policies from the dedicated project webpage: <https://planning.rctlma.org/LV>

This project is scheduled to go to the June 17<sup>th</sup> Riverside County Planning Commission.





## *Local District #1 Events*

### **Mead Valley Rider Street Trail**

After months of working to get our fencing repaired along the horse trail on Rider Street (next to the community center) we are glad to report that the work was finally completed!

As you can see from the pictures below, our community trail is back to looking brand new! Thank you to our Transportation Department and their staff for making this possible.



# Non-Profit Spotlight

## Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center

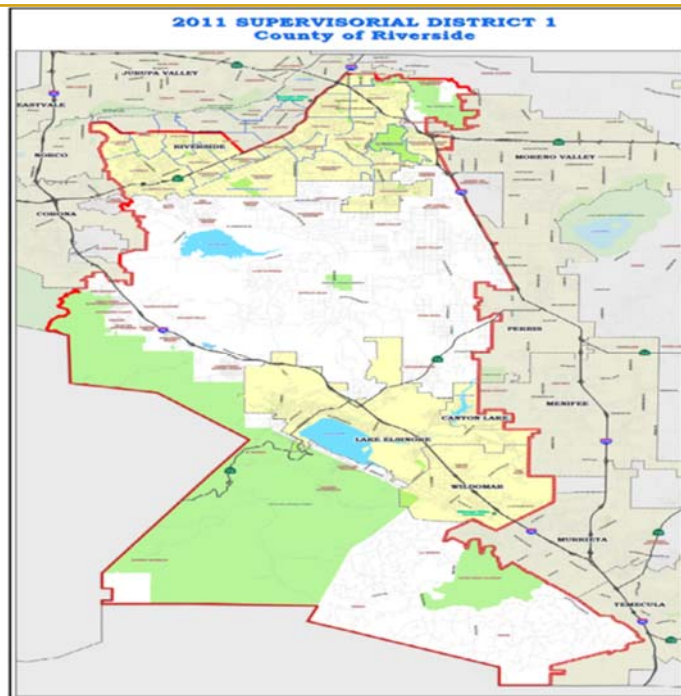


The Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center (MSRPAC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public benefit charitable organization committed to giving homeless cats and dogs another chance for a healthy and happy life by finding them good, loving homes. MSRPAC is supported solely by private donations and fundraising projects.

The Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center strives to eliminate the suffering of homeless cats and dogs by providing humane care for pets in transition, facilitating adoptions to good homes, supporting pet overpopulation education, and supporting sterilization of companion animals.

All pets while in their care receive food, a comfortable environment, medical attention and loving socialization from both staff and volunteers. Their staff and volunteers monitor the physical, emotional and mental health of the animals daily. A progressive “stress reduction” program helps keep their residents healthy, happy and adoptable. All animals are vaccinated, micro-chipped and spayed or neutered. For animals that are too young to be adopted, volunteers offer temporary homes through their pet foster care program.

For more information, or to become a volunteer, visit: <https://www.petsadoption.com/> or contact them at (951) 688-4340.



### First District Profile



*Kevin Jeffries was elected in November 2012 to represent the residents of the 1st Supervisorial District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. This district covers the cities of Riverside, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and Wildomar, and unincorporated communities including Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Temescal Valley, Good Hope, Lakeland Village, El Cariso, Meadowbrook, La Cresta, Tenaja, DeLuz and Spring Hills.*

## Attention High School Students

### Apply for Riverside County Youth Advisory Council Now

My name is Dorothy and I am the new legislative intern for Supervisor Kevin Jeffries. I will be First District's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Coordinator for the next two years and I am currently in the process of recruiting next year's council.

The YAC acts as a county-wide student government that are a voice for the youth in their community, by holding meetings, community service activities, and Youth Commission projects and events. YAC provides numerous opportunities and resources (hands on experience, scholarships, letters of rec, community service, etc.) for the students. It is crucial now more than ever to keep our youth hopeful, connected, and supported by their community.

Here is the link to the application: <https://forms.gle/1tevv4thJiNSQouL6>

Here is the link to our website: <https://www.rivcoyac.org/1st-district/>

**The application deadline is the last Thursday of June, the 25th.**

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at: [DDoronila@rivco.org](mailto:DDoronila@rivco.org)  
or 951-955-0618





If you received a Tax Penalty recently....please see the information below....

## **COVID-19 PROPERTY TAX CANCELLATION OF PENALTY REQUEST DUE TO FINANCIAL/HEALTH IMPACT FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

You are receiving this tax bill because the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment payment due on April 10, 2020 is currently unpaid. If you have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, you may request a penalty cancellation. These requests will be determined on a case by case basis and must have documentation substantiating a COVID-19 related hardship such as: being under a physician-ordered quarantine during the April 10th due date, diagnosed and ill or caring for a diagnosed and ill person, loss of employment or the closure of a personal business due to the pandemic. The COVID-19 Cancellation of Penalty Request form can be found by going to [www.countytreasurer.org](http://www.countytreasurer.org) - then, under Forms and Fees, select Forms and click on **Request For Cancellation of Penalties COVID-19 Hardship**.

Your request for cancellation of penalty will need to be submitted with supporting documentation along with payment of the base taxes. Requests received after 6/30/2020 will only be considered if they are submitted for Owner occupied residential real property, or real property owned and operated by a taxpayer that qualifies as a small business under the Small Business Administration's Regulations, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 13, section 121.201. Please note that this request only applies to taxes due later than March 4, 2020. If you still owe the December 10<sup>th</sup> 2019, 1st installment, you will need to include this payment with penalties.

## **COVID-19 SOLICITUD DE CANCELACION DE IMPUESTOS DE PROPIEDAD CON PENALIDAD DEBIDO A IMPACTO FINANCIERO/SALUD DE COVID-19 PANDEMIA**

Usted está recibiendo esta factura de impuestos porque el segundo pago del 10 de Abril 2020 no se ha pagado. Si usted ha sido afectado directamente por la pandemia COVID-19, puede solicitar una cancelación de penalización. Estas solicitudes se determinarán caso por caso y deberán contar con documentación que corrobore una dificultad relacionada con COVID-19, como: estar bajo una orden médica de cuarentena durante la fecha de vencimiento del 10 de Abril, diagnosticado y enfermo o cuidando a una persona diagnosticada y enferma, pérdida de empleo o el cierre de un negocio personal debido a la pandemia. El formulario de cancelación de solicitud de penalización COVID 19 se puede encontrar yendo a [www.countytreasurer.org](http://www.countytreasurer.org) - bajo Formas y Tarifas, seleccione Formas y elija la **Solicitud de cancelación de multas COVID-19**.

Su solicitud de cancelación de penalidad deberá presentarse junto con su documentación y el pago de los impuestos de base. Solicitudes recibidas después del 30 de Junio 2020 solamente serán consideradas si son enviadas para propietario ocupado residencial bienes inmuebles o dueños de bienes inmuebles que están funcionando como el pagador de impuestos que califique como un negocio pequeño bajo las regulaciones de administraciones de negocios pequeños, Código de las Regulaciones Federales, Título 13, sección 121.201. Por favor tenga en cuenta que esta solicitud solamente se aplicara a los impuestos adeudados después del 4 de Marzo 2020. Si todavía debe el pago del 10 de Diciembre 2019, el primer pago, deberá incluir este pago con penalizaciones.



May 6, 2020

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Contact:**

Matthew Jennings

Assistant Treasurer-Tax Collector

[mjennings@rivco.org](mailto:mjennings@rivco.org)

(951) 955-3982

## **Aug. 3rd is the deadline to file with Riverside County for unclaimed property tax refunds**

Owners of residential or business property in Riverside County have until Aug. 3 to file for unclaimed property tax refunds.

Board of Supervisors Chairman V. Manuel Perez and Treasurer-Tax Collector Jon Christensen issued the reminder today to give taxpayers sufficient time to file for refunds and not be caught short by the deadline.

“During these challenging times, it is even more important for these funds to go back to the rightful owners,” said Perez.

Filing instructions and a list of all unclaimed property tax refunds from tax year 2015 and prior years are available on the Treasurer-Tax Collector’s website at:

<http://www.countytreasurer.org/TaxCollector/UnclaimedMoney/PropertyTaxUnclaimedRefund.aspx>

According to Christensen, 609 refunds totaling \$651,006.30 remain unclaimed. Most refunds stem from valuation reductions by the county assessor and are related to corrections or cancellations to the tax roll after taxes were already paid.

Under California law, property tax refunds unclaimed for four years after the payment date – or one year after a requested claim form has been mailed back to a taxpayer by the county, whichever is later – may be transferred to the county general fund by order of the Board of Supervisors. After Aug. 3rd, any unclaimed money shifts to the general fund and no longer can be claimed.

Completed claim forms and supporting documentation should be emailed to [PropTaxUnclaimed@rivco.org](mailto:PropTaxUnclaimed@rivco.org) or mailed to:

Riverside County Treasurer-Tax Collector

Attn: Property Tax Unclaimed Refunds

P.O. Box 12005

Riverside, CA 92502-2205





## California Public Utilities Commission



### Public Forums on Southern California Edison's Rate Request

You are invited to participate in a public forum – four to choose from – regarding SCE's application to raise electricity rates.

At the public forum, you can tell the CPUC what you think about SCE's rate request. Comments from the public help the CPUC make an informed decision.

The public forums can be viewed via Internet or listened to via phone (call if you want to make a comment) at:

- Webcast: [www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc](http://www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc)
- Toll Free Phone:(800) 857-1917, passcode: 1673482

Written comments can be submitted any time during the proceeding using the "Add Public Comment" button at: [www.cpuc.ca.gov/SCE2021GRCPublicComments](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/SCE2021GRCPublicComments).

### PUBLIC FORUM

Southern California Edison's General Rate Case

**June 30, 2020  
& July 1, 2020**  
2:00 pm & 6:00 pm

*Please participate to provide comment!*

#### LOCATION:

#### Phone number:

(800) 857-1917

#### passcode:

1673482

#### Webcast:

[www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc](http://www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc)

#### Protecting California since 1911

The CPUC regulates privately owned electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, railroad, rail transit, and passenger transportation companies.



@CaliforniaPUC



# How Saving A Pet Might Just Save Your Life

Physical and Emotional Benefits of Owning Pets & Ways You Can Help

## Physical Health

Oxytocin is the "bonding hormone" that is released in humans and dogs during mutual interactions



On average, those who own a pet **live 2 years longer** than those who do not



Oxytocin reduces blood pressures, increase tolerance to pain, and reduces anxiety



Owning a cat can dramatically reduce a person's chance of dying from heart disease and stroke



Dogs can learn to **detect & warn** owners of oncoming seizures before they happen



**Estimated 4.3 million animals enter into shelters each year.**



## Mental Health

Animals increase serotonin levels (the "feel-good" hormone)



**67**

of pet owners said their pets provide companionship and reduce loneliness

Prescription: A Pet  
Therapists have prescribed a pet as a way of dealing with and recovering from depression

x \_\_\_\_\_



**15 to 30 minutes**

with your pet will make you feel less anxious and stressed

## Ways You Can Help

**+Rescue a Pet TODAY**

You can adopt at your local shelter or on websites such as [petfinder.com](http://petfinder.com)

Never buy a pet; due to pet overpopulation "Four million cats and dogs—about one every eight seconds—are put down in U.S. shelters each year."  
[http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/pet\\_overpopulation/](http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/pet_overpopulation/)

**Can't Rescue?**

- Volunteer at a shelter walking dogs or cleaning cages
- Donate to a shelter or help with fundraising
- Cross post shelter pets on Facebook