

**SUPERVISOR
KEVIN JEFFRIES
RIVERSIDE
COUNTY
DISTRICT #1**



Jeffries Journal

Volume 3, Issue 9

September 2015

Kevin's Corner

If you've read my Corner before, you know that I routinely welcome fellow First District residents to write and share (or even vent) about how our county government can do a better job - or just to give us a heads-up about a festering issue. The emails I receive are often all over the map. On occasion I'm accused of being a part of the good-ole-boy club and then the very next email says I need to tone down my impatient quest to overhaul the county bureaucracy.

I've said it before and I'll say it again - I'm not here to be a rubber stamp, or to be a member of the government "family." I see myself as the representative of the taxpayers to the government - not the other way around. Now to be honest, I make mistakes (elected officials are not supposed to admit that), and I do have to pick my battles - as not every issue is worth going to war over. But I'm also not afraid to be the lone dissenting vote on issues like pay raises for elected officials, hiring lobbyists, over-budget projects or even our recent discussions about the legal turf-war between the Grand Jury and our County (legal) Counsel.

There is a culture in government, especially on the regional boards and commissions, where the members (some elected, some appointed) seem to believe that their job is to pretty much rubber stamp the recommendations made by the "professional" staff, and staff often seems to share that expectation. We have a lot of hard working employees in the county system, and I believe most of them are giving 110%, but they, like the rest of us, are not infallible. I believe it is important to ask questions, verify the information provided, and of course demand performance and good customer service from our agencies.

This philosophy extends to my own staff and the commissioners I appoint. I don't hire yes-men (or women) and rubber stamps to work for me. We have robust discussions in our Monday staff meetings about priorities and policies, and I encourage them to speak up when something we are doing isn't working, and every one of them is held accountable. My appointed commissioners and board members are given the same direction in what they do.

Specific instructions have been given to my appointed commissioners that they are to be my eyes and ears on these boards and commissions and they are to ask questions of the agencies and work within their own communities to advance the interests of our district and bring issues forward for discussion at their meetings.

This has not gone over well with some of the departments and agencies that work with these boards or commissions. They've grown accustomed to having them do what they are told and simply providing cover for their decisions, with the appearance of having consulted the public for the decisions they've already made internally. Some have complained to my appointees directly, and some have complained to me that they are over-stepping their authority or asking too many questions and would I please call off the dogs???

No. I won't.

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If these boards and commissions aren't there to ask questions and respectfully challenge decisions, then we may as well disband them. But I believe they can be useful, and they can provide an important role in the decision making process, while also giving citizens the opportunity to have a more direct say in what is happening in their communities. That is why I highlight a different commissioner each month in this newsletter—I want to recognize the hard work these individuals are doing, and also educate others on what kind of commissions exist in the county, and what it is that they do.

We've already seen evidence that these kinds of commissioners asking these kinds of questions can make a difference in the level of service our district receives, and in resolving community concerns. And similarly, even in cases where I may have been the lone dissenting vote, or the only one to raise concerns in a Board Meeting, I've seen changes that result from that effort that may not come at that meeting, but are implemented later.

One recent example came just a couple of weeks ago, when I was informed that because state judges had just received a pay raise, the Board of Supervisors would also receive another increase in our pay, because the Board had voted to tie our salaries to theirs automatically. Last year, I voted (unsuccessfully) against the policy, and then when I attempted to refuse the pay raise, I was told I couldn't. Only after a series of emails and legal threats did they admit I didn't legally have to accept the pay raise. This time when I received the notification, it specifically offered the opportunity to decline the increase in the email—which of course I did.

That's not going to balance the county's budget, and it isn't an Earth shattering policy change with great impacts, but we see those sorts of changes in many departments as we make it clear that the status quo isn't acceptable and that we are not going to stop asking questions or requesting that changes be made. Some agencies are certainly more responsive than others, and some changes are bigger than others, and some don't like it at all! But as I said above—I didn't come here to represent them, but to represent you.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries



Supervisor Jeffries speaks recently at the Mead Valley Town Hall event held at the community center.



Thanks to a donation from a local business owner, cameras were recently installed at the Mead Valley Community Center.

Supervisor Jeffries recently toured one of the local emergency operations centers in the West County. Pictured to the right viewing the inside of one of the nerve centers for emergency management.



Pictured above, Supervisor Jeffries views emergency trailers and supplies all stored locally for quick response

Supervisor Success Stories



Each month this column will highlight recent successes in Supervisor Jeffries' Office, whether it is assistance for a single citizen dealing with the county bureaucracy, a change in county policy to improve our community, or a promise kept by the Supervisor.

New Live Broadcasts of Important Government Meetings

In keeping with Supervisor Jeffries' interest in expanding the public's access to their government, at the end of July he introduced a measure to encourage all government meetings that use the Board Room at the County Administrative Center to begin live video broadcasting of their meetings. To further incentivize their cooperation, it included a provision for the county to pick up whatever additional costs might result from those broadcasts. The reform passed unanimously at the Board Meeting, and since the development of the measure, several boards and commissions (including the Riverside County Planning Commission) are now making their meetings available live to the public, so you no longer have to drive to Downtown Riverside just to watch a single item at a commission meeting. In the coming weeks, other agencies, including the Riverside County Transportation Commission are expected to begin broadcasting live as well.



Volunteer Code Enforcement Program

The County of Riverside is proud to announce the addition of a Code Enforcement Volunteer Program. Through this program, volunteers from District #1 will work together with Code Officers and Enforcement staff to preserve and improve residential neighborhoods and make the County of Riverside a better place to live and work.

Residents from throughout District #1 are encouraged to apply. Please note that to avoid conflicts of interest volunteers will not be assigned to the area in which they live in.

For more information on how you can volunteer with the County of Riverside contact Emma Gutierrez at (951) 955-2004 or via email at codeadmin@rctlma.org

To download an application, follow this link... <http://rctlma.org/ce/Home/Code-Enforcement-Volunteer-Program>



County Boards and Commissions Appointee Profile

Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC)

Jerry Sincich, Chair

What does your Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council do?

The Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council (TVMAC) consists of appointed community members with experiences and backgrounds that help them in their capacity as a communication vehicle between the County of Riverside 1st District Supervisor Kevin Jeffries and his staff, and the Temescal Valley Community. The TVMAC provides the community a forum to discuss complex and significant community matters in greater depth than is possible in other venues. The TVMAC is a two-way communications vehicle forwarding community views and opinions on community issues/opportunities, as well as supplying information about county proposals and planned development activities in the Temescal Valley. Through this two-way communication, the TVMAC has helped the Temescal Valley achieve its goals as a desirable community to live and work in, as well as an area where businesses can flourish.

What interested you in serving on the Temescal Valley MAC?

Over the years I had lived in cities in California, Missouri, Ohio and Florida. Becoming a resident of the Temescal Valley was a new experience, since it was not city life as I knew it, but life in an unincorporated area. I quickly became aware that the Temescal Valley MAC functioned as a conduit by which Temescal Valley residents and businesses could address issues and communicate information to the County of Riverside 1st District Supervisor and his staff that would provide for: 1) community residents quality of life; 2) business growth; 3) and the development of the Temescal Valley. My interest in becoming a Temescal Valley MAC member was to assure that the vision, development plans and amenities that previous MAC members had worked so hard on would be brought to fruition. In addition, the TVMAC creates an opportunity for unsurpassed levels of communication between the Temescal Valley community and 1st District Supervisor Kevin Jeffries and his staff. This level of communication and the opportunity to impact the current and future development of the Temescal Valley continues to draw me and other community members to participate in the TVMAC activities. Being a TVMAC board member provides me the opportunity to give back to my community and help its future growth and prosperity.

THERE IS NOW AN OPENING on the Veterans Advisory Committee to fill an unexpired term until 6/30/16. Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month, excluding July and August. Applicant must be a current member of a congressionally chartered veteran's organization. For more information, please contact our office.

Non-Profit of the Month

Community Connect

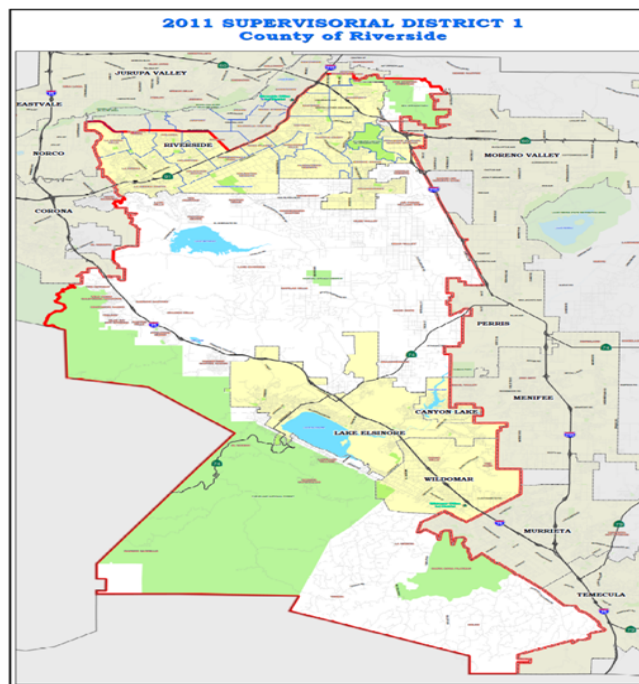


COMMUNITY CONNECT – 18TH ANNUAL NONPROFIT CONFERENCE

The Nonprofit Resource Center (NRC), a program of Community Connect, will be hosting the 18th Annual Nonprofit Conference. The “Community of Collaboration Conference” will be held Friday, September 25, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Grove Community Church located at 19900 Grove Community Dr., Riverside, CA. This conference is designed to meet the demands of hundreds of nonprofits within the Riverside County area that are challenged with strategic planning, management and all the basic components that facilitate the development of a nonprofit.

One of the challenges many nonprofits in Riverside County face is finding affordable, local education opportunities with topics that are geared specifically to the nonprofit realm. This one day conference is designed to share resources related to viable community solutions, strengthen leadership skills, and create valuable partnerships. During the conference there will also be an awards ceremony honoring agencies throughout Riverside County who have demonstrated excellence, initiative and achievement.

For more information contact Arbaz Nazimi, Program Director at Community Connect, (951) 300-1810, or visit their website at: <http://www.connectriverside.org/>



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, Spring Hills, Warm Springs and DeLuz

County of Riverside 22nd Annual Health Classic Golf Tournament

**Friday
September 18, 2015**

**Jurupa Hills Country Club
6161 Moraga Ave, Riverside**

Check-in: 8:00AM / Shotgun Start: 9:00AM

OPEN TO EVERYONE

Four person teams- Scramble format
\$65.00*/person or \$260.00*/ team

*Includes green fees, golf cart, range balls, lunch, gift bag and team awards.

Contests: Longest drive, closest to the pin and putting contest.

Registration Deadline: September 11, 2015

**Tournament
is limited, submit
your entry early!**



For more information, please contact, Julisa Alviso-Silva, Community Outreach or Debra Johnson, DES Riverside at 951.358.5255.

Proceeds will benefit the American Heart Association, RivCo Employee Campaign and DOPH Auxiliary

**PLEASE JOIN SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES
AND COUNCILMAN PAUL DAVIS FOR A**

Community Town Hall

OCTOBER 8, 2015, 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
ORANGECREST COMMUNITY CENTER
2010 ORANGE TERRANCE PARKWAY, RIVERSIDE

OR

OCTOBER 14, 2015, 5:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
YSMAEL VILLEGAS COMMUNITY CENTER
3091 ESPERANZA STREET, RIVERSIDE



INVITED AGENCIES INCLUDE:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, FIRST DISTRICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY •RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION •ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH •REGISTRAR OF VOTERS •VETERANS SERVICES •OFFICE OF AGING | <p>RIVERSIDE CITY COUNCILMAN, WARD 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •RIVERSIDE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGERS •COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT •RIVERSIDE CITY CODE ENFORCEMENT •RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT •ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT •PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT •RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES •RIVERSIDE CITY CLERK •RIVERSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT |
|--|---|

ADDITIONAL AGENCIES INCLUDE: MARCH JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY & WESTERN MUNICIPLE WATER DISTRICT

We welcome your feedback and appreciate your views

Questions:
County: (951) 955-1010 or District1@rcbos.org

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLAR: Ways Forward for Inland Southern California 2015

This conference is designed for city leaders, planners, council members, businesses, utilities and the general public to learn about the state of solar energy by discussing the latest technology, public policy/regulations, economics, and the associated environmental/sustainability issues. Attendees will learn about the challenges and opportunities for incorporating solar energy in their communities, including how the marketplace works, local policies, and initiatives already in place.

**SAVE THE DATE
SEPTEMBER 30,
2015**

8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

1200 Columbia Ave
Riverside, CA 92507

Registration Opening Soon:
\$50 Early Bird Registration



Hosted by UCR CSSD, SC-Rise & CE-CERT

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- V. JOHN WHITE (Executive Director, Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies)
- BERNADETTE DEL CHIARO (Executive Director, California Solar Energy Industries Association)
- KAREN DOUGLAS (Commissioner, California Energy Commission)

www.cert.ucr.edu/events/solar2015

For more information, contact ALFREDO MARTINEZ-MORALES at (951) 781-5652 or alfredo.martinezmorales@ucr.edu

70s Disco Karaoke Dinner

Come to our very first karaoke dinner hosted by Moses Schaffer Community Center. Eat, have fun, and participate in our karaoke contest. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. This event is themed so please wear your best 70's inspired outfit.

Price: \$5.00 for Dinner and \$5.00 to enter the contest.

When: Friday September 18th 2015

Time: 5:00pm-8:00pm

Where: Moses Schaffer Community Center
21565 Steel Peak Dr. Perris Ca

For more information Please call Moses Schaffer Community Center at
(951)943-9126

Entrees include a full Pozole dinner and Bunuelos deserts.

