



Ask the CEO



I am pleased to report that the Board has approved labor agreements with four employee groups. The groups have ratified the agreements as well. In my view, the result works to the advantage of all our employees and the County in general. I would like to thank each of you for your patience, support and participation during the time we were working through the pro-cess.

The agreements save and retain a modified retiree medical program for both active and retired employees. This is important because it is not a vested benefit. The County will take over the funding of the program and will establish a Trust to administer it. Employees will contribute one percent more toward the 2.7 percent @ 55 pension program reflecting the cost estimates for 2006-07.

Of course, the packages include salary adjustments which reflect the balancing of all the issues in the package and which take inflation into account. The following increases for the various bargaining units are as follows.

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Strategic Focus Efforts Near Completion



The ground-breaking journey for the first phase of the County's Strategic Focus efforts is nearing completion. Some of the milestones reached include the employee survey, stakeholder interviews, balanced scorecard pilot by Probation and a survey of county residents conducted at the Orange County Fair.

On October 12 and 13, the Board of Supervisors, agency and department heads, graduates from the Leadership Academy, and a facilitator will convene a Strategic Summit to map a course for the future of the County.

Materials that will be used for the two-day session include:

Summary of Findings - Employee Survey; Summary of Findings from External Focus Groups (key County stakeholders) and Supplement; Summary of Findings from Internal Focus Groups (Board, CEO, Department Heads and Organized Labor); Summary of Balanced Scorecard Effort accomplished by Probation, and Orange County 2006 Community Indicators Report.

These various materials contain critical observations, insights and ideas for discussion at the Strategic Summit. Some overarching themes from the resources include:

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Chairman Bill Campbell works with the planning group at the beginning of the Strategic Focus process in May.

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OCEA Units	4.75%
Operations and Service (SEIU)	4.75%
Attorneys Association (OCAA)	New salary schedule approved incorporating both general salary and market adjustments
Administrative Managers (OCMA) and un-represented management	4.5%

The package(s) received the support of the Board, Orange County Taxpayers Association, and the employee groups involved. It is an excellent example of the cooperation of a number of groups working together to address a major and a difficult issue. Our next challenge – as directed by the Board – is to work with the retirees as we move toward a January 1, 2008 implementation date for the split pool approach to the Retiree Medical Program.

Upcoming on our list is to work through the successor contract issues with the Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs, a process that has already begun.

Thanks to all of you who sent me e-mails over the last several weeks. Your comments were an important part of the input into the decision-making process.

Regards,
Thomas G. Mauk
 County Executive Officer

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- A strong expectation for the County of Orange to become a regional leader for multi-jurisdictional issues
- The desire for the County to create a more innovative culture that fosters creative thinking and appropriate risk-taking
- The expectation that the County will employ collaborative methods for solving problems and addressing issues
- The desire for the County to create a culture that attracts and retains the best and brightest and which strives for best practices

As materials and reports are finalized, they will be posted on

the Strategic Focus web site at <http://www.ocgov.com/strategic/strategicfocus.asp>. The summary report for the employee survey will be posted mid-October.

“The completion of the first phase of the Strategic Focus process will redefine our mission and vision as we guide the County into the future,” said Board Chairman Bill Campbell. “I want to thank everyone who participated in this landmark effort that will allow the County to go from good to great.”



Being Ready Starts With Your Family

Most Californians feel secure in their emergency preparedness – until the emergency happens. More than seven out of 10 Californians are not prepared for an emergency.

Being ready for an emergency is as simple as one, two, and three, according to ReadyOC. The ReadyOC educational campaign is designed to inform businesses and residents about the importance of preparing for any kind of natural, health or man-made disaster. The campaign is funded by the Department of Homeland Security with oversight by the City of Anaheim, City of Santa Ana and the Or-

ange County Sheriff's Department. Here are the three steps you should know about being ready:

1. Create a Plan - Your family and loved ones may not be together in the event of an



Your family sets the stage for emergency preparation.

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emergency, so plan now on how you will contact each other and review what you should do in different situations.

2. Make a Kit - Make an emergency supply kit with enough food, water and other essentials for at least three days. Learn what you will need to make your own kit.
3. Be Involved – Be involved in your community and at work by spreading the word about being ready. Working with neighbors and co-workers can save lives and property.

“Disasters and major emergencies will continue to affect our Orange County community. It

is up to each one of us to be prepared to ride out disaster impacts on a personal level. We all need to be prepared for three days, at a minimum,” said Donna Boston, Emergency Manager with the Orange County Sheriff’s Department, Emergency Management Bureau. “ReadyOC is Orange County’s initiative to raise awareness among community members and businesses about the need to be ready for any type of emergency – natural or human-caused.”

For more detailed information about the three steps and to download your guide to emergency preparedness, you can visit www.ReadyOC.org.

Some of Orange County's top businesses and organizations are actively engaged in the

ReadyOC campaign as part of the Advisory Council including: Albertsons, Anaheim Ducks, Arrowhead Pond of Anaheim, American Red Cross, Automobile Club of Southern California, Disneyland Resort, The Gas Company, The Irvine Company, Kaiser Permanente, Orange County Department of Education, Orange County Transportation Authority and Yamaha Corporation of America.



Fire Chief Chip Prather (left) discusses emergency plans with Sheriff Mike Carona at an EOC drill.

Registrar of Voters Web Site Goes High-Tech

The long-anticipated Registrar of Voters (ROV) web site will launch on October 20 – perfect timing for November’s general election. The new site is a product of two years of research and development aimed at providing County election information with up-to-date technology.

“The new web site will help us continue to offer services via the Internet,” said Registrar of Voters, Neal Kelley. “Acquiring information online has been very popular among our stakeholders. With the November general election just around the corner, our entire office is working hard to produce a smooth election.”

Users of the site will navigate with ease through a host of new features. Some of the new features will include mobile delivery of election results, podcasts of important election information and an elected official directory which will allow residents to view a map with district boundaries to look up their elected representatives.

The new Registrar of Voters web site will launch on Oct. 20 and will integrate high-technology into its new features.

Erik McCauley Receives Officer of the Year Award At CPPCA Conference

Deputy Probation Officer Erik McCauley was honored last month at the California Probation, Parole and Correctional Association's 75th Annual Conference where he received the Probation Officer of the Year Award.

After earning a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of California, Irvine in 1989, McCauley began a law enforcement career that has echoed his personal dedication to the educational process. He received additional specialized training through the U.S. Department of Justice in Internet and High Tech Crime Investigation as well as Chat/Instant Messaging Sting Operations. He is currently assigned to the Adult Sex Offender Unit.

McCauley was recently con-

tacted at home in the middle of the night by investigators who needed help developing a case against a suspected child molester. Although the suspect was not a probationer and, thus, not in his jurisdiction, McCauley offered his expertise and retrieved evidence that brought a criminal to justice for the kidnap, rape and murder of a five-year-old girl.

"Erik embraces all the best qualities of our profession including integrity, fairness and commitment to community safety," said Chief Probation Officer Colleene Preciado. "He is certainly deserving of recognition for his distinguished service."

Learn more about the Probation Department at <http://www.ocgov.com/Probation/>.

Fountain Valley Council Honors Good Samaritan

Robert Deal, surveyor with the Resources and Development Management Department/ Geomatics, was recognized last month by Fountain Valley's City Council for being a Good Samaritan after witnessing a crime. Deal saw a car strike a man riding a bicycle and leave the scene without stopping. As the car fled, Deal quickly responded by writing down the vehicle's license plate number and calling the police.

Deal waited with the elderly victim of the accident until paramedics arrived. Due to his quick action, the suspect was arrested and charged.

Stanton Library Receives Makeover

A cosmetic makeover is underway at the Stanton Library, thanks to a partnership between the City's Redevelopment Agency and the Orange County Public Library (OCPL) network.

The branch, which has been in operation for more than 60 years, has kept pace with changing times by continually updating the collections and technology available to patrons. Due to \$100,000 in funding provided by the Redevelopment Agency, the property itself will soon reflect the modern-day treasures inside.

As owners of the building, OCPL will ensure that, over the next few weeks, new carpeting, signage and automatic doors are installed, furniture is refinished and reupholstered, walls are freshly painted and landscaping is renovated.

"This is a wonderful partnership between the City and the County," said John Adams, County Librarian. "It is an example of how we can work together effectively and, at the end of the day, it's the community that benefits."



The Stanton Library is ready for business after receiving a makeover last summer.

County Parks Included in 'Best of OC' List



Yorba Regional Park, located in Anaheim, was featured in the Register's annual "Best of OC" list as one of the best places to jog or bike and also noted as a "hidden gem."

The pure and picturesque County parks dotted throughout the area have joined other top entertainment spots in the Orange County Register's 13th annual "Best of OC" list. The parks were noted for their family-friendly environment.

The premier parks, maintained and operated by Resources and Development Management Department's Harbors, Beaches & Parks (HBP), offer everything from relaxing afternoons to the more active hikes and investigative excursions.

- Best Places to Hike: Irvine Regional Park, O'Neill Regional Park and Peter's Canyon Regional Park.
- Best Places for Picnics or Reunions: Irvine Regional Park, Mile Square Regional Park and Craig Regional Park.
- Best Places to Jog and Bike: Mile Square Regional Park and Yorba Regional Park
- Best Golf Course / Driving Range: Mile Square Regional Park
- Best Hidden Gems: Yorba Regional Park and Craig Regional Park

Take in the real OC at your local park. For a complete list of HBP's parks, visit www.ocparks.com.

Get The 411 On OC John Wayne Airport

- John Wayne Airport (JWA) served 9,627,032 passengers in 2005.
- A total of 349,936 airplanes took off and landed at JWA in 2005 (246,920 of those were by general aviation aircraft).
- JWA is the 42nd busiest commercial airport in the nation and the country's 22nd busiest general aviation airport.
- Formerly known as Santa Ana Airport, the Board of Supervisors renamed the facility John Wayne Airport in 1979.
- In addition to more than 160 JWA-budgeted employee positions, the Airport is supported by out-stationed, contract employees from the Auditor-Controller, County Counsel, Resources & Development Management Department, Orange County Fire Authority, and the Sheriff's Department. Airport staff works in close cooperation with nearly 2,900 employees from a variety of private and public airport-related entities to provide safe, secure, and efficient aviation services and to facilitate services around-the-clock, 365-days-a-year.

County Mentoring Program Receives CSAC Award

The County program that has helped elementary students improve reading skills by up to three grade levels will be honored next month in Anaheim by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC).

For seven years, the Orange County Employees' Academic Volunteer Mentoring Program has allowed County employees to use their lunch hours to tutor children one-on-one in areas such as reading comprehension and language development. In addition to scholastic progress, participants at approximately 50 schools have required less behavioral discipline and have shown higher attendance rates than their counterparts who have not received the mentoring.

CSAC will grant the program a 2006 Merit Award at its statewide conference because, in part, of the program's effectiveness and potential to be used as a model for other counties. Jane Dawson, Volunteer Coordinator, began the program with Santa Ana's Pio Pico Elementary, and the success spawned the program's growth.

For more information, visit www.csac.counties.org or contact Dawson at 714.834.7440.

Help a Child Succeed; Become a Reading Tutor

Pio Pico Elementary School lies in a humble neighborhood within walking distance of Santa Ana's bustling Civic Center. Many of Pio Pico's students are trying to perfect their English skills at the same time they pursue a strictly academic workload, the basis of which is the ability to read and write. Since 1998, more than 700 County and Superior Court employees have volunteered as mentors at Pio Pico and have made a difference in the students' academic futures.

Since the inception of Pio Pico's academic mentoring program and the involvement of County employees, 90 percent of Pio Pico students have increased their language proficiencies by one reading level, and 80 percent have advanced by two to three grade levels.

For more information about volunteering, contact Volunteer Coordinator Jane Dawson at 714.834.7440 or jane.dawson@ocgov.com.

Annual Open Enrollment Approaches; Check or Change Your Benefits Coverage

The upcoming annual open enrollment period allows employees the opportunity to change their benefits coverage for next year. The open enrollment period is from Nov. 1 - 27. Personalized open enrollment packages will be sent to your home address at the end of October.

To make changes to your benefits coverage for 2007, visit the Benefits Center web site at <https://www.benefitsweb.com/countyoforange.html> or call the toll-free benefits resource line at 866.325.2345.



Steve Bishop
Sheriff-Coroner

Evangelina Chavez
Social Services Agency

Teresa Rodriguez
Social Services Agency

Daisey Whitehead
Social Services Agency

Nelda Stone
Public Library

Rose Marie Morelli
Social Services Agency

Susanna Urbina
Social Services Agency

Gloria Dominguez
Socail Services Agency

Tan Nguyen
Social Services Agency

Leslie Morales
Treasurer-Tax Collector

Terry Jackson
Resources & Development
Management Department

40 Years

Jose Morales
Resources & Development
Management Department

35 Years

Juliette Poulson
Health Care Agency

Barbara Rier
Social Services Agency

25 Years

Eric Hutson
Assessor

Barbara Young
Child Support Services

Alexander Soles
Health Care Agency

Harry Persaud
Resources & Development
Management Department

Mary Mooradian
Public Library

Dorothy Kaminski
Public Library

30 Years

Steve Dunivent
County Executive Office

Guille Millan
District Attorney

Donna Inouye
Probation

Tim Stanford
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