

President's Message

Anita Lawrence, Finance Director, City of Camarillo

As many of you know, CSMFO's number one goal is to assist in the protection of local government revenue by supporting the Local Taxpayers and Public Safety Protection Act. This Act is an initiative sponsored by the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties and the California Special District Association. Planned for the November 2004 statewide ballot, the measure is intended to increase local control over local tax dollars, so that funding for critical local services is more dependable and predictable.

The initiative would require a majority vote of the people before the state government would be allowed to take and use local government funds. It also strengthens existing law that says when the state mandates a program, service or added cost to local governments, the state must reimburse the local governments in a timely manner for the cost of providing that program or service. CSMFO made a \$50,000 contribution to help get this initiative passed!

In order to qualify for the ballot, nearly 600,000 certified signatures must be gathered and remitted to the State by April 16, 2004. I know that many of you, like me, have been standing in front of grocery stores or in your workplace parking lot collecting signatures from registered voters. I also know, that many of you, like me, have written a check to help raise the necessary funds to support the initiative. Please don't stop helping yet! There are more signatures and more money needed if we are to get this initiative on the ballot and passed by the voters. If you do nothing more than gather signatures from friends and family, every signature helps to get the initiative on the ballot. If you do nothing more than write a check in support of the ballot measure, every dollar will help us get the measure passed.

On the first super Saturday, March 13, I was standing in front of Albertson's and was able to get a feel for what professional signature gatherers endure. I will forever be a kinder person to them because of my experience. But I also had a lot of fun. In addition to all of the signatures I gathered, I was able to register one new voter on her 18th birthday and got three members of one family to sign my petition together. During the next couple of weeks, I will be attending two Rotary meetings and a Lion's Club meeting to obtain additional signatures for the ballot measure. Two weeks ago, I spoke to an MPA class and promoted the ballot measure there. One of their students also had a petition, so we had a signature gathering during the break. I'm sure many of you are either in a service club or know people in one or more associations who would be happy to escort you to their meeting to gather signatures. I think the biggest bang for my buck was standing outside of City Hall and catching coworkers as they left for the day.

When I paid my \$750 to support the initiative, sure, it was painful, but not as painful as it will be if we can't get this measure passed. Like you, I am tired of playing the annual guessing game associated with the adoption of the State's budget. I believe the \$750 is a small price to pay for all of the benefits I have received by being in this business. It is also a small price to pay for all of the good things my City has done for me over the past 14 years and will continue to do for me throughout my retirement.

(cont'd on pg. 5)

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Take advantage of our monthly publication by sharing with us your ideas. CSMFO is always seeking input from all members on topics in any department section. Don't forget to visit the website at www.csmfo.org for the latest news or call us at 916/658-8210!

**The MINI NEWS
is your newsletter!**

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League Policy Committee Update: Community Services

Jim Koser, City of Morro Bay
 Gary Nordquist, City of Fontana

The second meeting of the Community Services Policy Committee took place on Friday, March 19, 2004. The meeting began with a discussion of the current status of the State Budget and Information on November Ballot Measures. To sum it up rather bluntly, partisan politics continues unabated. However the new Governor has proven with the passage of Propositions 57 & 58, that his personal influence on voters remains a force to be reckoned with. His support of any of the November ballot measures would be extremely effective for those measures favorable approval.

The Committee heard from Barry Hessenius, Director of the California Arts Council, a State Agency. The Arts Council funds efforts to bring all forms of art to local communities through various programs. Its budget has been decimated, dropping to 1.9 million from a high of \$30 million. The Committee had a vigorous debate but ultimately decided to follow the Board of Directors desire to focus our energies on the singular issue of Local Control of Local Revenues. The Committee compromised on direction to staff to wax eloquent regarding the Arts Council's vital role in society and to support funding restoration in future years when the State's economy improves.

Brenda Ross, Council Member from Laguna Woods, presented information on the Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness program operated under the auspices of Stanford University's research study. The program costs nothing, relies on a local volunteer to come to Stanford and be trained as an "Ambassador" for the program with the research project funding up to \$2,000 in expenses. The Ambassador returns to the local community to educate seniors and youth on the

Chapter Corner Monterey Bay

Marc Pimentel, Financial Services
 Manager, City of Monterey



The Monterey Bay Chapter consists of 18 municipalities across three counties. Our meetings are upbeat, friendly and informative and occur at least once a quarter for either a luncheon meeting in one of Monterey's excellent restaurants (Tarp's Roadhouse) or, as part of a larger, local GASB Reporting Model round-table group.

The general attendance at our meetings is 20-25 members and guests and includes participants from local special districts and private sector companies.

We have expanded our 2003 meeting schedule to include 4 GASB 34 sessions in addition to our quarterly meetings. In addition, we hope to coordinate our efforts with local CMTA meetings for 2003.

We are looking forward to another year of enjoyable and informative meetings. We use traditional mail in addition to e-mail to notify members and other participants of future events. We strongly encourage and receive participation from other agencies (districts and city's outside our area) and thank them and our wonderful Chapter members for their participation and support and thank our speakers for their professional knowledge and insight.

If you would like more information regarding our chapter or would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact me at the City of Monterey Finance Department, City Hall, Monterey, CA 93940, 831-646-3947 or pimentel@ci.monterey.ca.us.

Intermediate Governmental Accounting

Another session of the Intermediate Government Accounting workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2004 hosted by the City of Monterey. The class is a full day and is appropriate for individuals that already have some accounting background, but may be new to the government sector or someone that has recently assumed responsibility for financial accounting and reporting. Also sure to benefit is anyone interested in brushing up on basic government accounting skills. This class will assume GASB 34 compliance although it is not meant to address these issues specifically. This class is offered to earn 8 CPE credits, and attendees will receive a certificate of completion. The cost of the class is \$125 and includes materials, lunch and refreshments.

Registration flyers and a class outline may be downloaded from the CSMFO website at www.csmfo.org. If you don't have access to the website, please call Menka Singh at 949-221-0025 for registration information.

Chapter Meeting Notices

Inland Empire

Tina Kundig, City of Redlands

Date: May 20, 2004

Time: 11:30am- 1:00pm

Place: Cask 'n Cleaver
1333 University Ave.
Riverside, CA

Spkr: Elena Zaretsky, PFM

Topic: GASB 40

Cost: \$17.00

RSVP: Mary Ellen Lambert
mlambert@cityofredlands.org
Ph: 909/798-7541
Fax: 909/335-4735

Channel Counties

Christy Pinuelas, City of Camarillo

Date: April 28, 2004

Time: 11:45am- 2:00pm

Place: Camarillo Police Dept.
Community Room

Spkr: Fran Mancia, MBIA

Topic: Ramifications of the election

Cost: \$20.00

RSVP: Jill Gordon
jgordon@ci.camarillo.ca.us
Ph: 805/388-5320

San Diego County

Maria Kachadoorian,
City of Chula Vista

Date: May 13, 2004

Time: 11:30am- 1:00pm

Place: Handlery Hotel
950 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA

Spkr: Ray Lane, PERs

Topic: PERs Update

Cost: \$25 govt. \$30 comm.

RSVP: Jan Seeley
jseeley@ci.chula-vista.ca.us
Ph: 619/585-5700 x3311
Fax: 916/585-5685

CSMFO Chapter Chairs

Chapter Assistant - Tawni Escudero, League of California Cities 916/658-8210 or tescudero@cacities.org

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Central Coast	Lynda Snodgrass	805/473-5432	lsnodgrass@arroyogrande.org
Central Los Angeles	Susan Bergeron-Vance	562/868-0511	susanbergeronvance@santafesprings.org
Central Los Angeles	Rod Hill	562/464-3340	rhill@whitterch.org
Central Valley	Greg Baird	209/577-5458	gbaird@modestogov.com
Channel Counties	Christy Pinuelas	805/388-5358	cpinuelas@ci.camarillo.ca.us
Coachella Valley	Jerry Carter	760/ 342-6560	jcarter@indio.org
Desert Mountain	Kevin Smith	760/240-7000	ksmith@applevalley.org
East Bay (S.F.)	Mary Dodge	925/671-3182	maryd@ci.concord.ca.us
Imperial County	Vacant		
Inland Empire	Tina Kundig	909/798-7543	tkundig@cityofredlands.org
Monterey Bay	Marc Pimentel	831/646-3947	pimentel@ci.monterey.ca.us
North Coast	Bill Mushallo	707/543-3092	bmushallo@ci.santa-rosa.ca.us
Northeast Counties	Steve Strong	530/225-4087	sstrong@ci.redding.ca.us
Northwest Counties	Carolynn Thomas	707/441-4114	cjthomas@ci.eureka.ca.gov
Orange County	Kathy Rafferty	949/724-6027	krafferty@ci.irvine.ca.us
Peninsula	Thomas Fil	650/595-7435	tfil@ci.belmont.ca.us
Sacramento Valley	Susan Mahoney	916/725-2448	smahoney@ci.citrus-heights.ca.us
San Diego County	Maria Kachadoorian	619/476-5376	mkachadoorian@ci.chula-vista.ca.us
San Gabriel Valley	Josh Betta	626/403-7250	jbetta@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us
San Gabriel Valley	Tracey Hause	626/574-5400	thause@ci.arcadia.ca.us
South Bay	Jag Pathirana	310/970-7927	jpathirana@earthlink.net
South San Joaquin	Judy Bier	559/896-7516	judyb@cityofselpa.com

Up the Ladder

ACCOUNTANT- City of Healdsburg. Salary: up to \$5,345 per month, DOQ, plus excellent benefit package including City paid PERS and 9/80 work schedule. The City of Healdsburg is seeking a highly skilled finance professional for a full-time position in the City's Finance Department. The successful candidate will perform professional accounting work related to the preparation and maintenance of the City's annual budget documents, comprehensive annual financial reports, municipal accounting records and budgetary policies and procedures. Candidates must be knowledgeable in the principles of governmental accounting, finance and budgeting and the principles and practices of supervision and office management. Position requires a four-year degree in accounting, finance, business administration or closely related field and at least two years of professional accounting experience in a public agency setting. Sufficient professional accounting support work may be substituted for the education on a year for year basis to a maximum of two years; however, a minimum of 30 units in accounting, auditing, financial analysis or similar coursework is required. Apply by April 19, 2004, 5:00 PM. Resume and City application required. For application packet contact the City of Healdsburg, Personnel Office, 401 Grove Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448. Phone (707) 431-3322. Find us on the Web at www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us.

ACCOUNTANT II - City of Lathrop, CA. Salary Range: \$3,819 to \$4,642/month, with excellent benefit package. This position fill a key role in the Finance Department and requires a thorough knowledge of governmental accounting procedures and the ability to exercise sound independent judgment. For more information, contact HR Department, at 209-858-2860, ext. 326. email: bjohnson@ci.lathrop.ca.us

BUDGET OFFICER - City of Palmdale, CA. Salary \$4,867 - \$6,211 monthly: Responsible for preparation of the City's Annual Budget. Provides complex professional & technical assistance in the development & implementation of a variety of dept functions & programs. Works w/ all depts in reviewing & analyzing requests and

making recommendations regarding feasibility of new programs/projects. Assists in the preparation of the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report & other special projects. Bachelor's degree in finance, accounting or related field required. 5 years exp. in performing complex research, and/or municipal budget and financial statement preparation, and program/policy development desired. Exp w/ computer spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel) required. Deadline is April 12, 2004. Application required. See job flyer for details. Apply To: City of Palmdale, Personnel Dept. 38300 Sierra Hwy. Suite A, Palmdale, CA 93550 (661)267-5400 TDD (661) 267-5167 EOE/Drug Free Workplace. Application & job flyer at www.cityofpalmdale.org.

PORT DEBT COMPLIANCE ANALYST - Port of Oakland, CA - (Salary: \$5,261 - \$6,517/Mo. Excellent benefits, Port paid employee PERS contribution.) Performs and coordinates activities related to all Port debt related compliance matters, analysis, calendars, checklists and support for the Debt Compliance Coordinator, Financial Planning Manager, and Chief Financial Officer regarding issues related to the management of the Port's financing, compliance and other financial matters. Prepares and presents a variety of reports to senior management. Qualifications: bachelor's degree in finance, accounting, bus. admin. or a related field, incl. course work in financial analysis plus three years of increasingly responsible experience in the financial area. Debt Compliance/Financing Administration experience desirable. Obtain copy of complete job announcement, supplemental questionnaire and job application at <http://www.portofoakland.com>. Click on "Job Center" OR call our Hotline (510) 627-1142. Closes: April 9, 2004. No postmarks.

PORT FINANCE CAPITAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR - Port of Oakland, CA - (Salary: \$6,875 - \$8,516/Mo. Excellent benefits, Port paid employee PERS contribution.) Manages and coordinates the Port's procedures, practices, systems interface and actions to support the capital improvement program for Aviation,

Maritime, CRE and the Support Divisions. Assists the Manager, Financial Planning in direction and management of issues associated with the Capital Improvement Program. Qualifications: bachelor's degree in finance, accounting, bus. admin. or a related field and five years of professional experience as a senior financial professional. Registration as a C.P.A. or Certified Internal Auditor desirable. Obtain copy of complete job announcement, supplemental questionnaire and job application at <http://www.portofoakland.com>. Click on "Job Center" OR call our Hotline (510) 627-1142. Closes: April 16, 2004. No postmarks.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - PAYROLL SUPERVISOR - The Santa Margarita Water District in south OC (Mission Viejo) seeks an experienced supervisor with thorough knowledge of governmental, fund, and general accounting principles to oversee and supervise the accounting, debt administration, and payroll functions, of the District. Will coordinate budget process, annual audit, and prepare detailed statistical and financial reports. Bachelor's degree and five years experience required. \$4,543-\$6,170 per mo DOE. To apply or learn more about the position, visit our website at www.smwd.com. Contact: Santa Margarita Water District, Human Resources. Website: www.smwd.com. Fax: (949) 459-6632. Deadline: Open Until Filled A District application required. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of application. Applications may be downloaded @ www.smwd.com or obtained in person at 26111 Antonio Pkwy, Las Flores between 8 am-4:30 pm. EOE

(cont'd on pg 5)

Up the Ladder

(cont'd from pg 4)

ACCOUNTANT – Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. Full-time; Salary Range \$34,705-\$44,422. Hiring Range \$34,705-40,258. Contact www.trpa.org for full job description. Send resumes to: HR, TRPA, PO Box 5310, Stateline, NV 89449 or email: hr@trpa.org Recruitment closes: 4/15/04 TRPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in the work force

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT - City of Yorba Linda, CA Salary: \$57,372 - \$69,732 annually. Under the general direction of the Finance Director, the Senior Account oversees the accounting and cashing functions, participates in various annual financial audits, purchasing & budget process, debt administration and investment activity. The ideal candidate shall be a self-starter and team player, have strong financial, statistical and decision-making skills, and possess a strong customer service orientation. The position requires a Bachelor's degree (Master's and/or CPA preferred) in accounting, business administration, finance or a closely related field and four years progressively responsible experience in performing professional, analytical, supervisory and administrative duties in the public and/or private sector. City application required by April 13, 2004. Apply: CITY OF YORBA LINDA, PO Box 87014, 4845 Casa Loma Avenue, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 (714) 961-7107. www.ci.yorba-linda.ca.us

**HELP
WANTED**

Email your classified job ad to Tawni Escudero at tescudero@cacities.org (rich text or plain text format only). The charge to advertise is \$8.00 per 40-character line, this price also includes a listing on our website at www.csmfo.org in the Job Listings section. Please also include billing information, or indicate if you wish to pay via credit card. Ads must be received by the 25th of each month for the next month's insertion.

President's Message

(cont'd from pg. 1)

This may be one of the most important efforts ever initiated to protect local governments and to keep our local funds local. But it's very expensive, requiring a lot of effort and money from a lot of people, and we only get one shot at it. Please join me in making a difference for our cities, our counties and our special districts. Every signature and every dollar counts. To find out how you can help, you can contact me through my home email at anitalawrence@adelphia.net or your local League of California Cities representative. Thank you.

League Policy Committee Update

(cont'd from pg. 2)

importance of walking and prepares the Ambassador with a tool kit of methods and ideas. Brenda Ross will be working with Yvonne Hunter, League lobbyist, to prepare a Resolution for consideration by the Board for the Annual Conference.

The Meeting adjourned after a roundtable discussion on budget impacts as perceived by the various Committee members. This meeting was the most substantive and productive in recent years. It made the drive worthwhile and was a most positive experience.

CSMFO MiniNews



1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814
Contact: Frances Medema or
Tawni Escudero
Phone: 916/658-8210
Fax: 916/658-8240
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Coaching Corner

"Small Group Coaching"
4-5 p.m., Thursday, April 8
dial 415-732-5999

"Managing Yourself and Others Effectively"
3-4 p.m., Wednesday, April 21
dial 646-519-5883 (PIN: 5205#)

Be sure to look at the resources in the
"Coaching Corner" at www.csmfo.org.
They include notes from past sessions,
an opportunity to receive a
personalized 24-page management
style profile report (compliments of CSMFO),
and many more resources.

Mark Your Calendars

Intermediate Governmental Accounting

May 11, 2004
Monterey, CA

Legislative Seminar

May 20, 2004
Sacramento, CA
(see attached registration form)

CMTA Annual Conference

April 19-23
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Fundamentals of Debt Financing hosted by CDIAC

May 6-7
Pasadena, California
For more information visit:
www.treasurer.ca.gov/cdiac/seminars/20030219_prelim.pdf

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