

# **MININEWS**

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICERS

### Inside:

Executive Director's Message	3
Bond Market Review	4
Prop 218 Brief Update	5
New GFOA Board Member	6
League of California Cities Annual Conference Session to Focus on Cit	ty
Finances	7
Training & Events	9
Chapter Updates	12
Inh Postings IIII V 2010	14

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**JULY 2010** 

# **President's Message**

 Ronnie Campbell, Director of Finance, City of Camarillo, 2010 CSMFO President

### "It's just not the same...a New Fiscal Reality"

By now most of us have completed the Budget Process for FY2010/11 and will all agree that it's not simply business as usual. While our respective budget issues may not have made the local news headline or prompted outcry from our rank and file, I think it fair to say we have all felt the effects of the current recovery economy. In the June 2010 MiniNews, a request was made to share your budget dilemma and how you resolved it with your colleagues via this MiniNews edition. Having received none, I then thought to take this President's Message in a slightly different direction.

When you search the term "new normal" online, nearly half a million responses are noted. Further define the search to "new normal – local government finance" and there are more than 13 thousand responses listed, refine the search to "new normal – local government finance California" and a little more than 250 thousand responses display. What does that say to all of us? There is a whole lot being said about the "new normal," it's the new fiscal reality of our times. The same way that we have done things in the past, may not work for us in the same way moving forward. As finance professionals, we are going to be challenged now more than ever to think outside of the box and present alternative ways of delivering the same or more services with the same or less resources.

When and where possible, we need to be more proactive and not simply reactive. There are various ways of doing this and a variety of spectrums that could be covered. The key is that you should start somewhere. As a part of the Budget Process here in Camarillo, both Budget Adoption and Mid-Year Analysis, we take a look at the fiscal stability of the City via our Projected Reserve Level for several of our major funds in relation to our established reserve goals. If there are any perceived deficiencies, the issue must be addressed noting the contributing factor(s) and the proposed solution. It's an attempt to stay ahead of the curve and be out in front of a perceived problem in order to react in sufficient time to minimize or diminish the issue. Like other cities, we also prepare a Five-year Capital Improvement Plan, which encompasses an additional five years of projects that are on the near horizon. This year we will complete a General Fund Fiscal Forecast, with the assistance of retired Finance Director and now turned consultant, William "Bill" Statler. We also will complete a Long Range Fiscal Plan for both the City and our Redevelopment Agency toward the latter part of the fiscal year, not because of a fiscal issue but to ensure prudent fiscal planning in the "new normal."

On the other end of the spectrum there is the 20-year financial plan that has been maintained by the City of Sunnyvale most recently under the leadership of retired Finance Director Mary Bradley. Each year the Finance Staff of that city in coordination with other city departments have prepared a fiscal plan for all city funds detailing foreseeable elements of revenue and expenditures. Major assumptions that are made in regards to key revenues (i.e. sales tax,

### President's Message, continued

TOT tax, property tax, etc.) and expenditures (salaries/benefits, PERS costs, etc.) are noted and discussed with their City Council that ultimately adopts the plan. While the City of Sunnyvale has not been immune to the various economic downturns recently experienced (i.e. dot-com bust or the recent recession of 2009), its long range plan has allowed it to better weather those economic storms. It has been able to "reset" its revenue base and make appropriate and sometimes permanent adjustments to the City's service levels. This long range plan also altered it to take a good look at its pension cost and address it sooner than later.

Lesson learned: things are different. The "new normal" is no longer a buzz phrase, it's a fiscal reality. We have to learn to operate in the "new normal." Whether you attempt a 5year or 20-year planning horizon, start somewhere. We have to look beyond the current budget cycle so that we are better prepared and positioned to navigate through years to ahead.

### League Update

By now all of you should be aware that the Local Taxpayer Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010 has qualified for the November ballot. It will be known as Proposition 22. You should become well versed with the specifics of the proposed legislation because of the tremendous impact it could have on protecting local revenue dollars and allowing them to be spent to deliver much needed services at the local level. Chris McKenzie, Executive Director of the League of California Cities provided a wonderful overview on the June 2010 MiniNews.

### Congratulations

Mary Bradley: Retirement from the City of Sunnyvale Bill Statler: Retirement from the City of San Luis Obispo

Joya De Foor: Appointment as Chief Financial Officer for the City of Atlanta

Julia James: Appointment to the GFOA Executive Board

Melissa Dixon: Attained Certified Association Executive from the American Society of

Association Executives

### Officers, Directors and Standing Committees

Ronnie Campbell, City of Camarillo

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Thomas Fil, City of Belmont

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Annual Conference Jesus Nava, City of Burlingame Mark Alvarado, City of Monrovia Viki Copeland, City of Hermosa Beach Harriet Commons, City of Fremont

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Barbara Boswell, City of Lancaster Joya De Foor, City of Los Angeles Mark Moses, City of Stockton John Adams, City of Thousand Oaks

Bill Statler, City of San Luis Obispo



# **Executive Director's Message**

- Melissa Dixon

Hot town, summer in the city...

Can you believe the year is half over already? I'm having trouble processing that. At least the weather is finally starting to act like summer...which I'm happy about because that means it's closer to being done! (Points for anyone who can tell me the band.)

One of the benefits of the summer, in the association world, is that not much is happening. Kids are out of school, families go on vacation, and the phones don't ring so much in our office. I thought I'd take advantage of this lull and share some exciting personal news.

I just became a Certified Association Executive (CAE)! That probably doesn't mean much for you number people, but it's a big deal in associations. It's a professional designation given by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), the association for association people (ironic, eh?). Candidates must qualify for the program with so much professional experience and continuing education, and then take a 200-question examination. I took the test back in May, and just found out that I passed.

For those of you who are certified, you know what I'm feeling right now. For those of you who aren't, I'll share. There's an amazing sense of satisfaction and personal accomplishment that comes with achieving a professional designation. You know that you can do your job...but now \*others\* know you can do your job! My husband and I often watch Chopped on the Food Network, and more often than not the chefs say they're there to prove that they made the right career choice. While my three little letters didn't come with a \$10,000 purse, I completely understand what they mean.

CSMFO members have the chance to feel something similar, with GFOA's Certified Public Finance Officers (CPFO) program. To earn the CPFO designation, candidates need at least a bachelor's degree and at least three years of government work during the past 10 years. There are five separate exams: 1. Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting; 2. Cash Management Investments; 3. Debt Management; 4. Operating and Capital Budgeting; and 5. Pensions & Benefits, Risk Management and Procurement. You have seven years to complete and pass all five exams. Click here to download the application.

This may seem daunting, but I guarantee you will feel an overwhelming sense of pride and accomplishment once you pass and can put "CPFO" on your business cards.

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### **Bond Market Review**

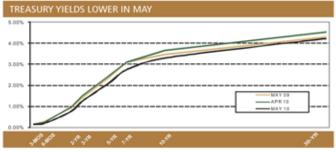
### **By Chandler Asset Management**

### **Market Summary**

Continued concerns over European sovereign debt problems helped push Treasury bond prices higher, and interest rates lower in May. Market participants are worried that sovereign debt problems in Greece, Portugal, Spain and other European countries could spread and derail the global economic recovery. There is also concern that a sovereign debt default or restructuring could prompt losses at banks, leading to a repeat of the turmoil that followed the collapse of Lehman Brothers.

In the US, economic data is still mixed, but the economy does appear to be strengthening—the one notable exception was the employment report that came in weaker than expected. Inflation remains tame, lessening pressure on the Federal Reserve to tighten monetary policy. The FOMC is being extremely careful not to harm the incipient economic upturn; to that end they have reiterated their pledge to keep financial conditions extraordinarily easy for the foreseeable future.

Markets are likely to remain volatile into the summer as traders debate the impact of sovereign debt concerns and improving underlying economic fundamentals. Many market participants are also nervous about financial reform and its ultimate impact on the markets and the economy.



Treasury yields ended the month lower as market participants grew concerned that deteriorating conditions in Europe might derail the global economic recovery.

YIELDS	5/31/10	4/30/10	CHANGE
3 Month	0.15	0.15	0.00
2 Year	0.77	0.96	(0.19)
3 Year	1.25	1.48	(0.23)
5 Year	2.10	2.42	(0.32)
7 Year	2.76	3.11	(0.35)
10 Year	3.30	3.66	(0.36)
30 Year	4.22	4.53	(0.31)

### The Fed

By gaining a better understanding of the Federal Reserve's structure and mechanisms for controlling monetary policy, market participants can better monitor future Federal Reserve movements and their impact on economic growth and interest rate movements. This understanding can then translate into more effective fixed income portfolio management.

### **Key Interest Rates**

### The Federal Funds Rate (Fed Funds)

The fed funds rate is the rate at which banks and financial institutions lend money amongst themselves on a short-term basis. It is the most important short-term rate the Fed uses in implementing its monetary policy. The Fed targets a fed funds rate through its open market operations (explained later).

### The Discount Rate

The discount rate is the rate that the Federal Reserve charges banks to borrow directly from it. This rate is less important than the fed funds rate in implementing monetary policy.

### The Prime Rate

The Federal Reserve has no direct impact on the prime rate, which is set individually by various banks and other financial institutions. In practice though, most banks set their prime rate at a level three hundred basis points above the fed funds rate. Therefore, when the Fed raises rates, the prime rate usually increases, and when the Fed cuts rates, the prime rate decreases. The prime rate is used in pricing a wide range of consumer and commercial loans such as credit cards, construction loans, and small business loans. Therefore, when the prime rate fluctuates in response to Fed actions, it serves to further promote or discourage economic growth.

### Tools of the Fed

The Fed attempts to manage short-term interest rates and the money supply in order to facilitate economic growth and promote price stability. It has several tools that it employs in order to accomplish its goals. The two most commonly used tools are open market operations and discount window lending.

### Click here to read more of the Bond Market Review from Chandler Asset Manegment

### **San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector**

## Fraud Prevention Seminar

July 23, 2010 8:15 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

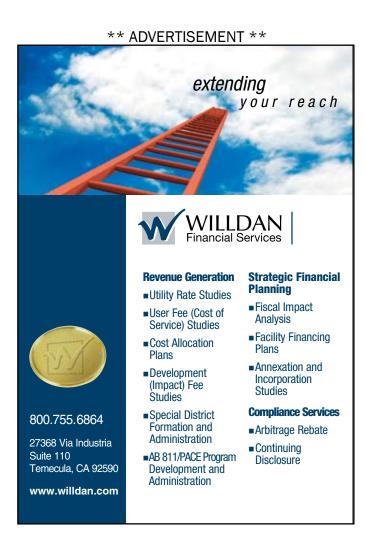
Marina Village Conference Center, San Diego

Cost: \$25

Fiscal and operations managers, please join us to learn about the latest trends in fraud prevention strategies. Fraud can impact organizations both large and small and this is an opportunity for you and your staff to stay informed.

### Register by July 9!

Click here to register and download the agenda.



# **Prop 218 Brief Update: Two Recent Cases**

### By K. Tim Seufert, NBS

The long running drama (aka soap opera, or Telenovela en Espanol!) of implementing Proposition 218 continues. Recall that Proposition 218 was a 1996 policy initiative designed to limit local governments' ability to exact revenues including special taxes, assessments, and property-related fees. Legislation and court cases have punctuated its day to day implementation.

The most recent developments are the following two cases. This is a very brief summary to convey the basic message (and not legal advice, of course). Further details can be found in the full case discussions.

- Beutz vs. County of Riverside: This case is a special assessment related decision. In simple terms, the verdict raises the bar on separating and quantifying general benefits, as well as ensuring that the special benefits are rigorously proportional to properties. The Court of Appeal found in their review that the County did not demonstrate that the assessment was proportional to and did not exceed the value of the special benefits.
- Greene vs. Marin County Flood Control: This is a propertyrelated storm drainage fee case. The bottom line is that local agencies need not comply with onerous Election Code details including strict ballot secrecy, as was proposed by the plaintiff. Instead, a local agency can adopt processes for property-related fee balloting (sent to property owners) that are similar to assessment ballot procedures. Such ballots should remain confidential until the ballot tabulation at which time they become public record.

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## **New GFOA Executive Board Member**

CSMFO extends congratulations to Julia Cooper who was recently elected during the annual Government Finance Officers Association of the U.S. and Canada conference to become the new GFOA Executive Board member, serving a three year term.

Cooper's new role with GFOA will add value to the City as they continue to be a voice in the municipal finance arena and are committed to advancing policies consistent with GFOA's values. This includes being at the forefront during the unprecedented time of fiscal uncertainty and continuing to raise public awareness of sound financial policy and practice, financial leadership, and enhance cooperation.

"I fully support Julia's achievements and commitment to GFOA and acknowledge the added value to the City for Julia's professional commitment," said Scott P. Johnson, Director of Finance for the City of San Jose Finance Department.

Cooper has been very active in municipal finance; she has been a GFOA member for more than 10 years, a member of the GFOA Committee on Government Debt Management since 2003 and served as vice-chair from 2008 to 2010. She has been committed in carrying out professional development by being an instructor

for GFOA trainings and a presenter at various GFOA, CSMFO and other professional organizations. She has also contributed to the Government Finance Review and co-authored a chapter in the GFOA book, Capitol Project Planning and Evaluation.

Continuing her success, Cooper has been a major contributor in the City's success in our "decade of investment," resulting in over \$4.2 billion of debt for the city and excellent bond/credit ratings; she has been a key leader in the Finance Department and valued "consultant" on city-wide issues regarding public finance issues and polices.

"Julia has been an active member of CSMFO and served several time as a presenter at our Annual Conference. I congratulate her on her advancement to the GFOA Executive Board. We want her to know that her local CSMFO family stands with her lending our continued support," said Ronnie Campbell, Director of Finance for the City of Camarillo, 2010 CSMFO President.

A well-earned congratulations to Julia on your accomplishment being elected to the GFOA Executive Board, we look forward to hearing about your future achievements.

# **Under Pressure?**



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# League of California Cities Annual Conference Session to Focus on City Finances

By League of California Cities, City Advocate Weekly



On Friday, Sept. 17, Michael Coleman, fiscal policy advisor to the League of California Cities and creator of

CaliforniaCityFinance.com, and Michael G. Colantuono, city attorney for Auburn and Calabasas, will lead the session "Top Ten Things You Should Know about City Finances." Colantuono and Coleman have been leading this session at the annual conference for several years and it is back by popular demand.

The session will cover the latest and most important issues that city policy makers and top officials need to know about city budgets and revenues. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask the presenters questions.

The session will provide:

- Expert speakers on California city finances;
- Essential rules and hot issues effecting your city's budget
- An opportunity to network with your colleagues.

Register now for the 2010 Annual Conference by visiting www. cacities.org/AC. Act now, space is limited and our headquarter hotels are filling quickly.

Scheduled for Sept. 15–17 at the San Diego Convention Center, this year's conference theme is "Rebuilding California from the Ground Up." More than 1,500 California mayors, council members, city officials and staff will be on-hand to discuss important issues facing cities.

For the latest information on League conferences and events follow the League on Facebook and Twitter.

### \*\* ADVERTISEMENT \*\*

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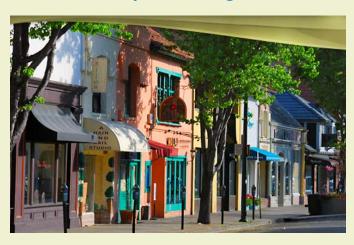


# "Change is the Name of the Game" in 2011 in Burlingame!

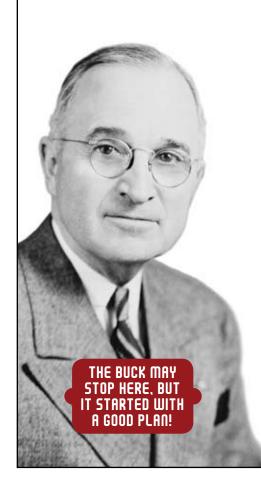
You've survived long budget sessions as the economic landscape of the State has changed dramatically over the past several years. You've been a "game changer" as you've helped your community navigate through tough budgets and difficult financial decisions. Come join us at the 2011 Annual Conference to learn from others and share your ideas with your finance colleagues across the State.

The 2011 Annual Conference will take place at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport in Burlingame between Wednesday, February 23 and Friday, February 25, 2010. Burlingame is located 5 minutes south of San Francisco International Airport and 40 minutes north of San Jose. Stay tuned for more information on the conference in the coming months!

# CSMFO 2011 Annual Conference "Change is the Name of the Game" February 23-25, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport in Burlingame



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# The BUCK STOPS here!

In this economic climate, no one wants to waste time or money. The buck probably "stops" at your desk. In public financing, solutions must be practical and effective, so that when the buck "stops" the results are clearly beneficial to your situation.

Practical means approaches that make good business sense – they should be financially sound and easy to understand and implement.

Effective means they must improve the situation. They should be measurable. They should produce results consistent with your goals and objectives.

Having a good plan – a starting point that establishes goals and objectives – produces better outcomes. Before that buck stops at your desk, it should start with a clear, understandable approach aimed at the right objectives.

The advisors at Magis have been setting and meeting financing objectives for public agencies for more than thirty years. The buck starts here – at Magis – call us; we'll help you get the right start on your project. Then when the buck stops, you'll have the right answers.



1301 Dove Street, Suite 380, Newport Beach, CA 92660 Telephone: 949.428.8363 www.magisadvisors.com

### **2010 Training Opportunities**

# Introduction to Government Accounting & Intermediate Government Accounting

# Introduction to Government Accounting training dates:

August 11 – Merced August 25 – Watsonville

# The Intermediate Government Accounting training dates:

July 12 – Belmont August 9 – West Covina September 13 – Irvine October 6 – Lakewood November 8 – Hollister

For more information on these training opportunities, including course descriptions and registration information, please visit the CSMFO website.

### **GFOA Group Training Seminar**

August 16-19, 2010 Sacramento, California

Click to view the program and registration information

### **Earn CPE Credit!**

**Evaluating Internal Controls - 8 CPE Credits** 

NEW Best Practices & Effective Budget Presentation - 16 CPE Credits

Planning and Sale of Municipal Bonds - 16 CPE Credits

Advanced Financial Reporting - 20 CPE Credits

Managing Budgets During Fiscal Stress - 16 CPE Credits

Hotel reservations can be made at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento.

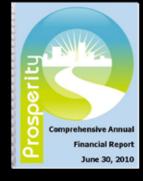
Phone: 800-233-1234, Fax: 916-321-3099 Room rate: \$109 Tax: 12% Group rate is available until August 2, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding these seminars, please contact the GFOA at 312-977-9700 or at <a href="mailto:training@gfoa.org">training@gfoa.org</a>.

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# 2010 CAFR Statistical Reports

- · Direct & overlapping tax rates
- · Taxable sales by category
- "Where Your Tax \$ Goes"
- Largest sales taxpayers
- Assessed value history



- · Assessed value by use category
- Largest property taxpayers
- Demographic statistics
- Economic statistics
- Largest employers

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# Statewide Emergency Management Conference

The California Emergency Services Association (CESA) is hosting the one and only annual statewide emergency management conference & training, planned and developed by professional emergency managers, in Monterey, CA on Sept 14-17, 2010.

Visit www.CESA2010.org for information about registration, accommodations and training opportunities. Check out the early bird registration discount! First 100 registrants will be placed in a drawing to win an Ipod Touch!

# Make Your Required Reports Complete and Accurate Attend Redevelopment Accounting 101 and Financial Reporting Workshops

By Roger Bunting, CRA



Redevelopment staff who are responsible for preparing their agencies' annual reports including the Redevelopment Agencies Financial Transactions Report, the Statement of Indebtedness (SOI), and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Redevelopment Agency Annual Housing Activities Report, should attend CRA's Redevelopment Accounting 101 and Financial Reporting workshops. This year's

workshops are being held July 21 - 22 at the Marriott Hotel in Pleasanton and August 25 - 26, at the Crowne Plaza Anaheim Resort in Garden Grove.

The Redevelopment Accounting 101 workshop will be especially valuable for finance department staff who need to understand the nuances of redevelopment agency accounting. It will cover the life of a redevelopment agency, including its formation, establishment of indebtedness, receipt of tax increment, low and moderate housing set-aside and bonding. There will be discussions regarding how to implement the various fund accounting structures and how to record the appropriate accounting entries. In addition, the workshop will discuss the basics of redevelopment accounting, how redevelopment budgeting works and how to provide program staff with accurate, reliable financial information. This workshop will also discuss the types of bonding available to redevelopment agencies, including who the players are, the roles and responsibilities of each player in the process, and how bonding works.

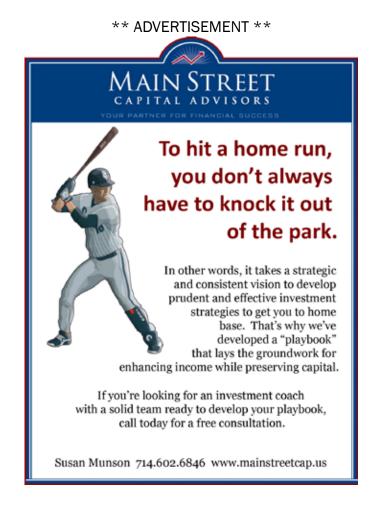
The Financial Reporting workshop provides detailed instructions on the preparation of the annual SCO report, including the financial portions of housing activities submitted to HCD and the Statement of Indebtedness (SOI). This workshop reviews each form used in the SCO's and HCD's automated reporting systems and discusses the audit and statutory requirements needed to complete these reports. It will also discuss the best approach and procedure in preparing the SOI, including the types of debt that can be designated in the SOI.

The trainers at these workshops are experts in redevelopment accounting and reporting. The Redevelopment Accounting 101 workshop trainers include Don Parker, a partner with the firm of Lance, Soll, and Lunghard, LLP, CPA, and Lee Squire, Financial Services Manager for the City of Brea. Don Parker will share his many years of experience in assisting clients to establish

and implement sound accounting systems for redevelopment agencies. Lee Squire brings the agency perspective to the training, sharing his experience in doing the accounting for an active agency.

Don Parker and Lee Squire will also be the trainers for the Financial Reporting Workshop. They will be assisted by Betty Moya, Fiscal Manager, SCO and Jeff Newbury, Policy Analyst, HCD. Betty is responsible for preparing SCO's Community Redevelopment Agencies Annual Report and Jeff is responsible for preparing HCD's annual Redevelopment Housing Activities Report. Don Parker and Lee Squire share their extensive experience in preparing and submitting the required reports.

For further information on the workshops and to register online, go to www.calredevelop.org, click on Event, then click on the workshops.



# UCDAVIS EXTENSION

# Free! Accounting Information Session

Learn about career trends, program content and format, and meet our instructors and staff.

- August 3, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m.
- Sacramento: Sutter Square Galleria, 2901 K St.
- · No Charge.
- Enroll in section 1010PE100

### Free!

### **Personal Financial Planning Information Session**

Meet with our staff, faculty and industry leaders to discuss and learn about CFP® educational requirements.

- August 10, Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
- Sacramento: Sutter Square Galleria, 2901 K St.
- No Charge.
- Enroll in section 1010PE300.

### **Accounting for Governmental and Nonprofit Organizations**

Gain an understanding of the characteristics of governmental and nonprofit accounting with an emphasis on the various fund types and account groups. Review and evaluate the most recently recommended accounting and financial reporting practices for state and local governmental units.

- August 12 through October 14, Thursdays 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Sacramento: Sutter Square Galleria, 2901 K St.
- \$695
- Enroll in section 101ACC106.

# UC Davis Courses in Accounting and Financial Planning

### **Financial Statement Analysis (online course)**

Focus on the effective analysis of financial statements and how to integrate accounting concepts and principles into your statements. Examine the analytical tools for assessing a company's performance, the concept of quality of earnings and the approaches to valuation.

- Enroll now through September 22 and complete by December 9. Passwords issued starting Sept. 15.
- \$695 (\$745 if postmarked after 09/15/2010).
- Enroll in section 102CAN113.

### **Individual Income Taxation**

Examine the most current laws affecting capital gains and losses, adjustments to gross income, itemized deductions, tax credits and payments, and estimated taxes. Learn about sole proprietorship and small business taxation, as well as real estate property transactions, with an emphasis on issues relating to all aspects of individual taxation.

- September 21-December 7, Tuesdays,
   5:40 p.m. 9:00 p.m.
- \$695 (\$745 if postmarked after 09/07/2010).
- Enroll in section 102ACC150.



To view more current course listings or to enroll, call 800-752-0881 or visit http://extension.ucdavis.edu/bm

# **Central Valley Chapter**

**Date:** Thursday, July 15

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Subject:** Central Valley Economic Forecast

Speaker: Dr. Jeff Michael, Director University of the Pacific Business Forecasting Center

**Place:** Bass Pro Shop

Conference Room 1356 Bass Pro Drive Manteca, CA 95337

Menu: Pasta, salad, focaccia bread, dessert.

**Cost:** \$12

RSVP: RSVP by noon on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 (no shows will be invoiced), payment accepted at the door, checks

should be made payable to City of Manteca. Contact Melody Wilson at 209-456-8772 or mwilson@mantecagov.com.

# **Coachella Valley Chapter Meeting**

**Date:** Monday, July 19

**Time:** 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Subject: Roundtable discussion: How is your City coping? Come commiserate with your peers, and share what positive things your

City is doing. (Seating grouped by job duties)

Place: Escena Golf Club

1100 Clubhouse View Drive

Palm Springs, CA

Menu: All-American BBQ buffet: mixed green salad, hamburgers, hot dogs, apple pie (vegetarian meal available on request)

**Cost:** \$20

**RSVP:** Please respond by Monday, July 12 to Cindy Cairns at 760-323-8229.

# Joint Meeting of the Inland Empire Chapter and CMTA's Division X

**Date:** Thursday, July 15

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Subject:** Impact of Health Care Reform Act on Municipal Agencies

Speaker: Joel Graves & Daniel Kopti, Wells Fargo Insurance Services

**Place:** Dave & Buster's

4821 Mills Circle Ontario, CA 91764

Menu: Beef taco bar, Spanish rice, beans, fresh baked cookies and iced tea

**Cost:** \$21 - Cash preferred or bring a check payable to the City of Rancho Cucamonga.

RSVP: RSVP no later than July 6 to idam@cvwdwater.com, no shows will be invoiced.

# Joint Meeting of the Central Los Angeles Chapter, South Bay Chater and CMTA's Division II

**Date:** Thursday, July 8

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Subject:** Hot Topics in Municipal Finance

Speaker: Michael Coleman, League of California Cities, Fiscal Policy Advisor

Place: Marriott Hotel - Torrance

3635 Fashion Way Torrance, CA 90503 310-316-3636

Cost: \$35 - checks made payable to SBRPCA

RSVP no later than July 1 to Agnes Walker at 310-973-1802 or awalker@rcc911.org, no shows will be invoiced.

# **Job Postings JULY 2010**

### **Director of Finance, City of Petaluma**

Salary Range: \$109,865-\$142,584

### The Community

With a population of 58,401, Petaluma is located in the heart of Sonoma County, 39 miles north of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. Petaluma is the County's second largest city and is located on Highway 101 and the east/west artery of Highway 116. Petaluma offers a wide array of amenities including community and neighborhood parks, golf courses, a downtown waterfront area, a historic downtown, outlet mall, theater district, museum, and airport. Petaluma also has beautiful wetlands and boasts the Alman Marsh, Shollenberger Park, and a newly developed trail system surrounding the Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility, the City's treatment plant, which provides wonderful opportunities for walking, biking, bird watching, and observing nature. An astonishing variety of birds may be found here in every season. Large flocks of shorebirds and waterfowl arrive in fall and stay throughout the winter. Birders share the trail with bicyclists, joggers, walkers, and dog owners. Fortunately the design of the wetland area allows for relatively undisturbed pursuit of each of these healthy outdoor activities. The Petaluma River meanders through the heart of the City providing a backdrop for dining and events, and offering opportunities for recreation, boating, and small craft activities. Additionally, Petaluma is the ideal location from which to explore Sonoma County's 140 wineries, the dramatic Sonoma Coastline, Point Reyes National Seashore, and California's Redwoods.

### The Organization

The City of Petaluma is a charter city operating under the council/manager form of government. The City was incorporated in 1858, and operates with a

seven member City Council, including the Mayor. Six council members are elected at-large for four year overlapping terms. The Mayor is directly elected to a four year term. The City Council appoints a City Manager to be the chief executive officer of the City government. Reporting directly to the City Manager are the departments of Finance, Community Development, Fire, Recreation, Public Works, Police, and Water Resources & Conservation. The City Attorney and City Clerk are appointed by and report to the City Council. The City has 301 full-time funded positions with a total operating budget of \$157,697,550 for FY 2010-11.

### The Department

The Department manages the City's daily financial operations, maintains the financial integrity of the City, procures goods and services in a timely and cost-efficient manner, and effectively uses the City's information technology resources to improve productivity, customer service and public access to City

information. The Finance Department provides professional support and analysis for fiscal and organizational decisions. In addition to the Director, the department is staffed by six degreed Accountants, two of which are managers and two of which are CPAs. Additionally, there are six accounting assistants, one administrative technician, one office assistant, and one mail assistant, for a total of 16 employees.

### The Position

The Director plays a critical role on the City's management team, and works in partnership with, and reports to, the City Manager. He/She provides leadership and management of department staff, serves as City Auditor and Treasurer, and is responsible at the technical level for developing and managing the City's annual budgets and capital programs. The Director is responsible for the efficient and effective administration of the City's finances, and oversees general accounting, payroll processing, investment, debt management, and bond administration; prepares financial analyses, special studies and reports, and financial statements; and provides expert professional assistance to the City Manager and City Council on financial matters.

### Challenges and Priorities

A backlog developed during the past two years following the retirement of several key finance positions, including the former Director. The Interim Director is working with the experienced accounting staff and professional consultants on addressing this backlog. Projects recently completed include the cost allocation plan, fee study, and CIP and overhead cost calculation; updates and completion of the CAFR, Treasurer's Reports and AB 1600 annual reporting. Converting to monthly utility billing is also in progress. The City has successfully implemented the Eden financial software for general ledger. payroll, accounts payable, business licenses, miscellaneous billing and utility billing. The Fixed Assets module is currently in process and should be finished in the next two months. A fiscal sustainability plan is currently being prepared, and is expected to be completed before the arrival of the new director. Arranging financing to re-finance wastewater debt, responding to current financial conditions, and reestablishing the General Fund reserve are among the challenges facing a new director. Priorities facing the new director include the evaluation of department and City financial policies, practices, and procedures, and the recommendation of changes based on best practices, as well as the need to provide high level financial management support for economic and redevelopment programs. There are additional Eden modules which can be installed and it will be a priority for the new Director to determine which modules if any should be installed.

### The Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate will have direct experience in a municipal finance environment and will have a record of successfully managing financial operations and personnel in a similar or larger sized organization. The Director will value and foster a close working relationship with the City Manager and will work cooperatively and in partnership with Department Directors in achieving the City's goals and objectives. As the City's Chief Financial Advisor, he/she will provide sound, timely, and expert advice on fiscal matters.

The ideal candidate must be a local government finance expert and an exceptional problem solver who embraces complex challenges with enthusiasm, innovation, and creativity. He/She will stay abreast of current advances and best practices in all aspects of municipal financial administration, with the ability to provide recommendations and solutions that are consistent with the best practices in municipal finance. He/She will have a positive, service oriented, can-do attitude and possess a big picture prospective. He/She will be able to provide informed guidance to Finance staff, as well as perform hands-on project work. The ideal candidate will also need to thrive in the midst of challenge, create positive change, inspire and motivate staff, remain calm and focused under pressure, and have a good sense of humor.

Candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in finance, accounting, or related field and have five years of increasingly responsible public sector experience in municipal finance, including at least three years in a supervisory capacity. Experience as a Finance Director in a similar sized City, or experience as an assistant in a more complex organization is desirable. A Certified Public Accountant License or Master's degree is also desirable and experience in developing program based budgets would also be advantageous.

For details on the benefit package, please visit the City of Petaluma's Human Resources webpage at: http://www.cityofpetaluma.net/hr/mou.html. (see Unit 8)

For further information, refer to the recruitment brochure, which is available online at www.Calopps.org. If the online application process is not convenient for you, you may hand deliver or mail an application and resume to City of Petaluma, Human Resources, 11 English Street, Petaluma, CA 94952

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 11, 2010. EOE

# Finance Manager, San Diego Association of Governments

Salary Range: \$75,202 to \$126,340

SANDAG has great pride in being a fiscally responsible public agency and has implemented rigorous accounting processes and financial reporting procedures to monitor expenses, encumbrances, grant funds, and project budgets, and accurately document various types of financial transactions. The agency has been awarded the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the past three years.

In May 2010, the Board of Directors adopted an FY 2011 annual Work Program with a total budget of almost \$1 billion. Funding for the various projects and programs comes from more than 30 different federal, state, and local sources in the form of formula and discretionary grants, city revenues, and local transportation sales tax revenues. The Accounting Division has a role in supporting all agency programs – through functions such as accounts payable/receivable, payroll, and cash receipts through to cash flow analysis, debt management, and financial reporting. The Accounting team is highly regarded for their ability to maintain an exceptional level of accuracy and for providing outstanding customer service.

The Finance Manager will oversee the functions of the Accounting Division and provide leadership for a team of nine highly-talented professionals who, in close collaboration with program managers, conduct the financial reporting and accounting functions for the agency. The Finance Manager also will perform technical accounting duties, conduct complex analyses, provide financial advisory services, and recommend and implement financial management policies.

Qualifications include a bachelor's degree with major course work in accounting, finance, business administration, or a related field, and seven years of progressive career development in accounting or finance preferably in a government environment including two years of supervisory responsibility. An advanced degree or CPA certification is highly desirable.

SANDAG rewards the efforts of its employees with a comprehensive compensation package. Competitive salaries are supplemented with a flexible and generous offering of health, financial security, and time-off benefits to meet the work and life needs of employees and their families.

How to Apply

We encourage all interested candidates to apply for this position by completing a SANDAG Employment Application

form. Resumes, cover letters, and work samples may be submitted in addition to the Employment Application but are not a substitute for this document.

Completed applications and related materials can be submitted via e-mail, fax, regular mail, courier, or delivered by hand. See our Careers / How to Apply Web page for additional information.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5 p.m., July 16, 2010

### **Management Analyst I/II,**

Salary Range: (I) \$4,501-\$5,762/mo (II) \$5,355-\$6,856/mo

Administrative Services Department - Revenue & Budget Division

The City will hire at either Level I or Level II depending on qualifications

The City of Brea is dedicated to providing excellent responsive municipal services to the community. We are proud of our innovative approach to top-notch programs and service delivery. Our employees are conscientious and customeroriented. When you come to work with our team, you can be assured that, like yourself, we are committed to high professional standards, using our energy to foster cooperation among ourselves and with the public. The City of Brea has committed itself to providing quality training, education, and development opportunities for all employees. Continuous training educates, renews, and prepares employees to remain competitive in today's job market. By committing ourselves to learning, and continually enhancing our knowledge and skills through training, we guarantee success not only for our organization, but also for ourselves.

FILING DEADLINE: Employment applications and supplemental questionnaires must be completed and returned to the Personnel Department by 5:30 p.m., Thursday, July 8, 2010. Employment application forms and supplemental questionnaires are available to fill out on-line at www. cityofbrea.net, or by mail, or can be picked up at the 3rd floor main reception desk at the Brea Civic & Cultural Center (please call 714-990-7600 to confirm the City's closed every other Friday schedule). Resumes cannot be accepted in lieu of a City of Brea employment application; facsimiles and postmarks cannot be accepted.

THE MANAGEMENT ANALYST I/II performs responsible professional and technical administrative duties in providing staff assistance to departments and major divisions or offices; assumes significant responsibilities in a functional area such as budget and treasury, cultural programs, housing, technical services, or special projects; and related duties as assigned.

General supervision is provided by higher-level management personnel. Responsibilities may include the technical and functional supervision of technical and clerical personnel. This position reports to the Revenue and Budget Manager.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS may include, but are not limited to, the following: assist in preparation and review of the Citywide budget; perform treasury functions; conduct surveys and perform research and statistical analyses on administrative, fiscal, personnel, and operational problems: compile and analyze data and make recommendations on the formulation of policy and procedure, and staffing and organizational changes; may participate in employee negotiation process; participate in the installation of new and revised programs, systems, procedures, and methods of operation; coordinate the research, development, review, and preparation of grant applications, and monitor existing programs for compliance with regulations; compile materials and assist in the preparation of reports, manuals, and publications; participate in administering contracts; assist in the design and implementation of systems and forms for use in operation; respond to complaints and requests for information; represent the City in interdepartmental, community, regional and professional meetings as required; provide staff support to the various committees, commissions, or other groups; and write and administer grants.

IN ORDER TO QUALIFY candidates must possess knowledge of: principles, methods, and practices of municipal finance, budgeting, accounting, and personnel management; principles and practices of organization and public administration; modern office methods, practices, and procedures; and research techniques, methods, and procedures and report presentation.

Candidates must have the ability to: collect and analyze data and prepare accurate reports and correspondence; analyze complex data and prepare written reports; prepare and maintain accurate and complete records and reports; communicate effectively, orally and in writing; review organizational and administrative problems, and recommend and implement effective courses of action; establish and maintain effective working relationships with City officials, employees, co-workers, supervisors, and the general public; understand and carry out oral and written instructions; and properly interpret and make decisions in accordance with laws, rules, and policies.

Candidates must have the physical ability to: frequently sit, stand, reach, lean, twist, turn, grasp, lift, push, pull, bend and kneel; and sit for prolonged periods of time; input data into computer, and calculator for prolonged periods of time; hear and speak to the general public and City staff on the telephone and in person; read reports, contracts, correspondence, memorandums, and other records. Candidates may be

exposed to: vibrations and pitch of computer, and other office equipment; and computer glare.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Candidates must possess a combination of education and experience that will produce the required knowledge and abilities and enable the individual to successfully perform the essential functions of the position. A typical combination for Management Analyst I is: One year of general administrative local government experience and the equivalent to a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major work in public or business administration or a closely related field. For Management Analyst II, an additional year of related work experience is required.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES: A valid California Class "C" Driver's License is required upon appointment.

THE SELECTION PROCESS shall consist of two phases. The first phase will be a detailed review and appraisal of each candidate's application and supplemental questionnaire. (If you should need assistance in completing the employment application, or in participating in the selection process, please notify the Personnel Department prior to the filing deadline.) Those candidates determined to be most qualified on the basis of education and experience, as submitted, shall be invited to participate in the second phase, the oral appraisal interview. Candidates achieving a minimum rating of 70% as a result of the oral appraisal interview shall have their names placed on the Employment Eligibility List for Management Analyst I or II. Eligibility Lists are generally valid for a one-year period. Appointment to the position will be made from the Eligibility List.

The prospective candidate must successfully complete a thorough background review, which for some positions may include a credit history check. Upon a contingent offer of employment, the prospective candidate must successfully complete a medical examination, and provide proof of legal work status. All new employees will be fingerprinted as a part of the employment process, and a criminal history check will be conducted with the Department of Justice.

DISASTER SERVICE WORKERS - In accordance with Government Code Section 3100, City employees, in the event of a disaster are considered disaster service workers and may be asked to respond accordingly.

THE CITY OF BREARECRUITS, HIRES, AND PROMOTES WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, PHYSICAL DISABILITY OR CONDITION, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AGE OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, EXCEPT IN THOSE SPECIFIC INSTANCES WHEREBY A BONA FIDE OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATION DEMANDS OTHERWISE. THE CITY OF BREA HIRES ONLY UNITED STATES CITIZENS OR LAWFULLY AUTHORIZED ALIENS.

The provisions of this bulletin do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, and any provisions contained in this bulletin may be modified or revoked without notice.

Telephone (714) 990-7600 - TDD (714) 671-4440 - www. cityofbrea.net

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:30 p.m., July 8

# Director of Administrative Services, City of Irvine Salary Range: \$124,633.60 - \$185,203.20

The City of Irvine seeks a seasoned, talented and innovative individual to serve as the next Director of Administrative Services. Reporting to the Assistant City Manager, the Director serves as a business partner to all City departments by providing input on all significant City issues and leadership in the areas of human resources, labor negotiations, risk management, payroll, finance and accounting, treasury, purchasing and information technology services. Serving as the City's Chief Financial Officer, the Director will be responsible for developing and carrying out financial strategies and overseeing a variety of City programs with a focus on assuring consistency, compliance, best practices and superior service to customers. The Administrative Services Department has a FY 2010-2011 budget of approximately \$24 million with 50 full-time employees.

Requires a Bachelor's in public administration, business administration or related field, and eight years of highly responsible municipal management experience, or any equivalent combination of education and experience. A Master's degree and prior experience as Finance Director, Administrative Services Director or Assistant/Deputy City Manager is preferred. Candidates should have thorough knowledge of public agency financial management, including redevelopment and good working knowledge of human resource functions.

Visit www.cityofirvine.org/jobs by July 19, 2010 to apply for this exciting opportunity. EEO/ADA

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 19

# Finance Director, The City of North Las Vegas Salary Range: DOE

### JOIN US IN BEAUTIFUL NORTH LAS VEGAS!

The City of North Las Vegas stretches across the northern rim of the Las Vegas Valley. The City, which was incorporated in 1946, encompasses 98.4 square-miles within Clark County in Southern Nevada. Since 2000, the City's population has grown by 91.3 percent, making it home to approximately 215,000 residents. North Las Vegas is the fourth-largest city in Nevada. The City embraces its' diversity, living up to its' motto of being "Your Community of Choice."

### THE POSITION:

Reporting to the City Manager, the Finance Director functions as the department head of the City's centralized Finance department in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and sound business practices. Work involves planning, organizing, directing and coordinating the activities of the department, including accounting, grant and debt management, budget, capital improvement plan (CIP), City investments, business license, payroll, purchasing and risk management. The Finance Director exercises supervision over management, supervisory, professional, technical and clerical staff that provides for the professional operation of the Finance Department to include finance, accounting, budget, purchasing, risk management, utility bill collection and City investments. A high level of analytical skills is necessary in order to develop and implement department mission, goals and procedures; determine needs for capital expenditures, personnel and operating budgets; and to prepare special reports or analyses for jurisdiction or outside agencies. Our ideal candidate will possess a Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or related field, and, a minimum of ten years of progressively responsible and complex experience related to finance management to include five years managerial experience. A Master's degree in Finance, Accounting, Public Administration, or a related field, as well as experience in municipal government, is highly desirable. Professional certification as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is preferred. Designation as a Certified Local Government Finance Officer or Certified Public Finance Officer is also desired.

### THE DEPARTMENT:

The Finance Department is organized into four areas (Accounting/Treasury, Budget and Capital Improvement Planning, Business License, and Purchasing and Risk Management), each of which provides support services to the City's operating departments. The Finance Department's foremost responsibility is to conduct the fiscal affairs of the City in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and sound business practices. The Finance Department diligently safeguards the resources of the City and ensures that prudent fiscal management policies are maintained. The budget for the Finance Department is approximately \$4.8 million.

### HOW TO APPLY:

To be considered, please email a letter of interest and a detailed resume no later than Thursday, August 12, 2010, to humanresources@cityofnorthlasvegas.com If you do not have access to email, you may submit hard copies to:

City of North Las Vegas Human Resources 2225 Civic Center Drive, Suite 226 North Las Vegas, NV 89030

References will not be contacted until reciprocal interest has been expressed. EOE

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 12

### Finance Director, City of San Leandro Salary Range: Up to \$159,876 annually, DOQ

San Leandro (pop. approx. 82,500), on the eastern shore of the San Francisco Bay, is a progressive community with a strong business and commercial sector, a vibrant downtown and a reputation as a well-managed city. A strong emphasis is placed on community participation in public policy decisions.

The City of San Leandro is currently recruiting for Finance Director. A full-service city, San Leandro maintains an all funds budget of \$125M with a General Fund of \$70M and a workforce of 404 FTEs in nine departments. The Finance Department is staffed with 14.5 employees in three divisions: Administration, Budget and Compliance, and Accounting Operations.

The position requires a very technically competent municipal finance professional with six years experience, four at the division management level or higher. Strong interpersonal and effective communication skills will be key to success in this position. To apply, submit cover letter, resume with current salary, and five work related references (email preferred) by July 23, 2010. Salary range is for this position is up to \$159,876, with excellent benefits. For further information contact Bill Avery at 408-399-4424 or Ann Slate at 805-459-5132. A formal job announcement is available at http://www.averyassoc.net/jobs.

Avery Associates 3½ N. Santa Cruz Ave., Suite A Los Gatos, CA 95030 jobs@averyassoc.net (email)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 23

# **Deputy Director II, City and County of San** Francisco

Salary Range: \$98,774.00 - \$126,048.00

AContribute to the growth and development of the City and County of San Francisco as a Chief Investment Officer who will be responsible for managing and monitoring the investment of the City's pooled fixed income investments, including long-term planning and executions of strategy.

Help to keep the city on track by:

- Managing the overall investment performance of asset class: City and County surplus cash portfolio of more than \$3 billion
- Developing strategy, performance criterion, applicable benchmarks and performance measurement reporting
- Directing activities of the assigned staff including delegating transaction authority, preparing investment management reports, investment analysis, credit research and other functions as required
- Developing and maintaining policies, procedures and internal controls that fulfill fiduciary responsibility and meet the goals of the City and County of San Francisco
- Managing the cash flow system to ensure maximum investment of funds and assurance of fund availability to cover daily cash requirements of county pooled fund
- Maintaining control of subsidiary investment and accounting records
- Evaluating investment securities for compliance with the County's and statutory rating requirements, type of security, term of issue, and the asset allocation needs of the portfolio
- Providing expert knowledge to other City offices, acting as a lead liaison with other City departments on projects involving treasury services
- Interacting with various officials, City and County representatives, outside governmental agencies, banking institutions, rating agencies, and investment brokerage firms in connection with investment policies, treasury management services, and financial issues

### Desirable Qualifications

- Working knowledge of principles and practices of governmental financial administration,
- accounting and financial management; laws regulating the investment of public funds; techniques and principals of managing a short term portfolio; methods of cash management and cash flow analysis for a large organization
- Strong knowledge of short and long term investments appropriate for government
- investments; financial and investment terminology and techniques; methods used in the purchase, sale and transfer of securities and other investment instruments; computer-based financial and investment management tools and systems, and ability to create and analyze complex computer-based cash flow forecast models
- Demonstrated ability to analyze financial and market data and situations and to make prompt and sound decisions based

on such analysis; establish and maintain effective working relationships with financial professionals, co-workers, the general public and relevant governing bodies; communicate effectively and efficiently on all matters pertaining to the assignments; and deal effectively with and direct the work of others

How to Apply:

For more information and to be considered for this position, please visit www.jobaps.com/sf/sup/BulPreview.asp?R1=PE X&R2=0952&R3=056457

# Accounting Supervisor, Orange County Sanitation District

Salary Range: \$8,458.67 - \$10,280.40 monthly

The Orange County Sanitation District operates the third largest wastewater agency west of the Mississippi River. For over 50 years, we have safely collected, treated and disposed of and or reclaimed the wastewater generated by 2.5 million people living and working in central and northwestern Orange County.

Under general direction of the Controller, the Accounting Supervisor assigns, reviews, supervises and participates in the work of professional and clerical staff responsible for accounting activities, including: financial reporting, general ledger maintenance, accounts payable, cost accounting, and fixed assets. Specifically, this individual is responsible for planning and prioritizing work, assisting in the implementation of goals and objectives, participating in the selection of staff, coordinating training, conducting performance reviews, implementing discipline procedures, and working with employees to correct deficiencies. This individual is responsible for ensuring work quality and adherence to established policies and procedures; and performing the more technical and complex tasks relative to assigned area of responsibility. The Accounting Supervisor will establish schedules and methods for providing accounting services; identify needs for management review, and allocate resources accordingly; participate in preparing the budget, monitor expenses; provide assistance to external auditors in the review of financial operations; develop and maintain accounting systems and internal control procedures; and make recommendations for changes and improvements. The selected individual will be required to stay abreast of new trends and innovations in the field of governmental accounting; analyze and interpret laws and regulations impacting financial transactions, prepare and review a variety of documents and forms including monthly, and quarterly financial reports; and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; analyze financial reports and records to determine trends or irregularities; and perform other related duties, as required.

This position requires a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in accounting, finance, business administration, or related field; and six (6) years professional accounting or financial management experience, which is comprised of at least two (2) years of administrative and/or lead supervisory experience. A Certified Public Accountant license is highly desired. Computer skills using applications such as Microsoft Excel, Word, and Office are necessary. Knowledge of PeopleSoft Enterprise One ERP (previously known as JD Edwards OneWorld XE) is desired. Excellent customer service skills are essential. The ideal candidate will have experience in local government utilities, excellent organizational and analytical skills, and the ability to multi-task in an effort to meet tight deadlines. Knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles, governmental accounting principles and practices, and the ability to apply these accurately is also required. Knowledge of governmental laws and regulations, and the ability to interpret and apply laws to a variety of financial transactions is required. The ability to gather and analyze data and prepare timely and accurate financial reports is required, as well as the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Visit www.ocsd.com for a full description of the job duties and required qualifications, and to submit your application online.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Principal Financial Analyst, Bay Area Rapid Transit

### **Salary Range:**

BART offers the satisfaction of providing an invaluable public service, while accomplishing your own career goals, earning highly competitive pay, and enjoying an unparalleled benefit programs.

### POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This is a lead position in the Operating Budget Department that will work directly with program managers to identify issues with budget impacts, analyze the elements of these issues, and collaborate with them in devising options and alternatives. A key responsibility of this position will to identify and resolve financial and analytical issues of moderate complexity, which requires expertise of strong execution and analytical abilities such as identifying and understanding issues, problems and opportunities, and devising alternative solutions, the ability to define workload, and pursue it independently, completing projects accurately and timely, taking initiative, including the introduction and support of changes; theability to build and maintain relationships; understanding operational needs, and translating them into financial realities.

The successful candidate will demonstrate the following criteria beyond the minimum qualifications: Substantive experience

with public agency budgeting and governmental accounting; proven financial analysis skills; including ability to frame the issue and structure the data appropriately for analysis; ability to develop and foster relationships with internal and external customers; advanced software skills ¿ Excel, Word, Power point, Access etc., as well as significant, in depth experience in manipulating advanced relational database budgeting systems (Peoplesoft, Oracle etc.) including use of report writing software, queries, etc.

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

### Education:

A Bachelor's degree in business administration, accounting, economics or a closely related field from an accredited college or university.

### Experience:

Four (4) years of (full-time equivalent) verifiable professional budgetary, financial or management analysis experience.

### Substitution:

Additional professional experience as outlined above may be substituted for the education on a year-for-year basis. A college degree is preferred.

For more information about the position and/or apply go to www.bart.gov/jobs.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

### Controller, Rancho California Water District Salary Range: \$110,662 to \$146,074

Rancho California Water District (RCWD) is the second largest agricultural water purchaser in the Metropolitan Water District service area and provides service to the City of Temecula, portions of the City of Murrieta and the unincorporated areas of southwest Riverside County. The District services a population of 145,000 and has an operating budget of \$68 million, a non-operating budget of \$47 million, and a capital budget of \$19 million. The District currently manages \$811 million in assets. Under general direction of the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, the Controller plans, directs and oversees the Finance Department, providing budgeting, accounting, billing, procurement, data processing, job cost and bond administration services, and provides highly complex staff assistance to the CFO/Treasurer. Requires a BA/BS (a Master's degree and/or certification as a public accountant is desirable) and seven to ten years of financial management experience with at least five years experience in a managerial capacity. Salary \$110,662 to \$146,074. For more information, please contact Sherrill Uyeda or Syldy Tom at (562) 901-0769 or email info@alliancerc.com. Apply online by July 9, 2010 at www.allianceresourceconsulting.com. EEO/ADA.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 9

### **Finance Director, City of Salinas**

### **Salary Range: under review**

The City of Salinas and the Salinas Valley area is proudly known as "The Salad Bowl of the World" and the City is home to the world famous Steinbeck Festival. Salinas is the County Seat of Monterey County and is a culturally and ethnically diverse community of over 145,000 residents.

The Finance Director with a staff of 26.5 FTEs, oversees the City's annual all funds budget of approximately \$134 million and manages the Finance Department budget of nearly \$3.7 million. The divisions within finance consist of Accounting, Purchasing, Information Technology, Administration and Revenue & Licensing. Within the current environment of fiscal constraint, the major focus will be budget management and operational efficiency.

A background equivalent to eight years experience in professional accounting, including four years at a management policy-making level and a Bachelor's degree in Business, Accounting, Finance, Public Administration, or related field is required. An MBA is preferred. To apply, submit letter of interest, resume, current salary and five work related references (email preferred) to Paul Kimura. Close date has been changed to July 9, 2010. The salary range is currently under review. A formal job announcement is available at http://www.averyassoc.net/jobs.

Paul Kimura Avery Associates 3½ N. Santa Cruz Ave., Suite A Los Gatos, CA 95030 Fax: 408-399-4423 E-mail: jobs@averyassoc.net

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 9

### **Finance Director, City of Coachella**

### **Salary Range: under review**

City of Coachella, CA — Population 43,000. Salary: Currently under review - Excellent Benefits including PERS 3% @ 60. Plans, organizes, manages, and provides administrative direction and oversight for all functions and activities of the Finance Department, including finance, treasury, accounting, purchasing, utility billing, customer service, budgeting and investments; also responsible for IT operations. City operates water and sewer utilities.

Education and Experience: Equivalent to graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major coursework in finance, accounting, economics, business or public administration, or a related field and seven (7) years of management and/or administrative experience in municipal finance and accounting. Certification as a Certified Public Accountant in the State of California is desirable, but not required. Apply by July 29, 2010.

For details and City application, contact: City of Coachella, 1515 Sixth Street, Coachella, CA 92236. Phone (760) 398-3502. www.coachella.org.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 29

# Administrative Manager/CFO, Goleta Water District

### Salary Range: \$8,482.15 - \$12,532.03 per month

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT - (RE-OPENED) ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER/CFO \$8,482.15 - \$12,532.03/mo. Excellent benefits including district paid PERS 2.7% at 55. This position is responsible for directing and managing the work activities of those engaged in: fiscal management, general accounting and business operations, purchasing and procurement, personnel administration, customer services and billing. Directs the development of the District budget and the annual cash flow model and Serves as chief advisor and consultant on all financial planning, personnel issues and the fiscal conditions of the District. Requires a Bachelor's degree in business, public administration or related field; or 10 or more years of experience as a CFO or Controller in an organization of equal or greater size; certification as a Certified Public Accountant is highly desired. Specialization in Accounting, Information Technology or Human Resources is desirable. Five (5) years of increasingly responsible and diversified management/supervisory experience in managing a business or an administrative function within the public sector or closely related industry. Requires a valid California Driver's License. To obtain an application package please visit our website at www.goletawater.com or call for us at (805) 879-4650 and an application package will be sent to you. We will be interviewing current qualified applicants in June. New Applicants are encouraged to apply immediately. Open until filled. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Management Analyst II-Finance, Eastern Municipal Water District

**Salary Range: \$5136 - \$6380 per month** 

EMWD is seeking a responsible professional to perform financial, budgetary, statistical and other management analyses in support of departmental or District-wide activities; performs various financial and cost analyses; provide support in the preparation of annual operating budget; monthly financial review and closing adjustments; and other financial duties. Requires graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in business or public administration,

with major course work in accounting or finance; and two years of professional experience in administrative and management analysis (emphasis on financial, accounting or budget analysis); or equivalent education and experience.

EMWD offers a generous benefits package, including PERS 2.5% @ 55; medical, dental, vision, life and disability insurance; 401(a); tuition reimbursement; holiday, sick, vacation; etc.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Accountant, Association of Bay Area Governments

### Salary Range: \$4,735 - \$5,755 per month

### **POSITION SUMMARY**

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is recruiting for an Accountant who reports to the Assistant Finance Director. The Accounting Department consists of a team of six individuals comprised of the Finance Director, Assistant Finance Director, three Accountants and one Account Clerk. Departmental responsibilities include at least six sets of books for the various entities under the umbrella of the Association of Bay Area Governments, as well as contracted financial services for two to three additional entities. Because of the limited size of staff, each team member is expected to crosstrain to cover leaves and provide assistance, as needed.

### THE ORGANIZATION

ABAG is the Council of Governments and Regional Planning Agency operating under a joint powers authority established in 1961 by the counties and cities in the San Francisco Bay Area. All 9 counties and 101 cities in the Bay Area are members of ABAG. For more information about ABAG, please visit our web site at www.abag.ca.gov.

TYPICAL DUTIES: (The examples may not cover all duties which may be performed)

- · Prepare journal entries and bank reconciliations.
- Reconcile balance sheet accounts (prepaid accounts, accounts receivable, accounts payable, etc.).
- Perform month-end and year-end close for ABAG's affiliated entities.
- Review bi-monthly payroll reports.
- Generate monthly financial reports.
- Prepare audit schedules and assist with grant audits/ reviews.
- Develop employee billing rates for annual budget and update actual rates in the Payroll Cost Allocation system on a monthly basis.
- Responsible for grant billings and completion of certain grants reporting forms. Ensure compliance with granting agency requirements and restrictions.
- Provide accounting information to program managers for grant applications.

- Responsible for benefits management and work with the HR Department to research benefit issues.
- Prepare quarterly sales tax returns.
- Prepare 1099s, 990s and state tax returns for non-profit entities.
- Required to learn all major functions of the department to assist in the absence of staff.
- Prepare agenda packets for the worker's comp program annual board meeting.
- Collect payroll information from worker's comp members and work with them regarding claims and the loss prevention program. There are four members in the pool. The accounting responsibilities are shared by two accountants.
- Prepare and send quarterly premium invoices to members.
- Work with third party administrator and actuary regarding claims and actuarial reports.
- Work closely with other accounting staff to resolve accounting issues, investigate old outstanding receivables, etc.
- Assist in the maintenance and implementation of accounting and financial reporting systems and procedures.
- Perform other duties and responsibilities as required.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of accounting and finance procedures and principles.
- Demonstrated experience preparing financial statements.
- Demonstrated experience with budget preparation or cost accounting required.
- Experience in employee benefits is highly desirable.
- Demonstrated experience in grants management is required.
- Ability to work in a team environment.
- Ability to plan, organize and set priorities for assigned work.
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, and Access). Knowledge of Oracle E-Business Suite 11i is desirable.
- Effective oral and written communication skills.

### **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

High School diploma or equivalent and four years progressively responsible accounting experience. Bachelor's degree desirable (preferably in accounting) or equivalent and four years of progressively responsible finance or accounting experience or an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job.

### COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Salary: \$4,735 - \$5,755 per month

Pension: Employer Paid CalPERS 2.5% @ 55

Deferred Compensation: STARS 457 and/or ICMA-RC Retirement Plan (Voluntary)

Health and Dental Plans: Three HMO and two PPO Medical Plans, Dental Insurance, and VSP Vision. Out-of-pocket contribution may be required depending on selected coverage.

Life Insurance: ABAG Paid coverage equal to 2 times annual salary

Other Benefits: Public Transit Vouchers and pre-tax options for eligible health care and dependent care expenses

Vacation, Sick Leave, Holidays: Competitive leave package including 11 paid holidays and 3 floating holidays annually

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and employment application (can be downloaded from http://www.abag.ca.gov/jobs.html) to:

Association of Bay Area Governments H.R. 10-40 P.O. Box 2050 Oakland, CA 94604-2050

Position is open until filled. ABAG is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified disabled individuals are protected against discrimination.

ABAG Employment Website: http://www.abag.ca.gov/jobs.html

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled

### Finance Manager, Los Alamitos Salary Range: \$5,931-\$7,210/mo

Saiary Range: 45,951-47,210/ into

Finance Manager – Los Alamitos, a pleasant community of 12,580, located adjacent to the 605 Freeway on the border between Los Angeles County and Orange County, is seeking a Finance Manager. The Finance Manager must be an experienced hands-on finance professional with direct experience in performing and supervising municipal finance operations, including accounting and revenue management; financial reporting; internal and external audits; cost accounting, debt financing; budget development; revenue forecasting, and maintenance of the general ledger and fixed assets. Final filing date: open until filled. Apply at: City of Los Alamitos, 3191 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos, CA 90720, (562) 431-3538, for City Application or visit www.ci.los-alamitos. ca.us

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Director of Administrative Services, Marina Coast Water District

Salary Range: \$92,936 - \$118,612

The newly created Director of Administrative Services functions as a department head overseeing the Utility Billing, Accounting and Finance staff. Responsibilities include managing areas such as enterprise fund accounting, grant research and administration, purchasing and procurement, fixed asset accounting, coordination of outside audits, as well as preparation and presentation of the District budget.

Ideally, candidates should possess a BS in Accounting, Finance, Business Management or a closely related field from an accredited university. MS in Public Administration desirable. Seven years of increasingly responsible experience with at least five years at the management/supervisory level.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Director of Finance, Treasurer, City of Delano Salary Range: \$6,876 - \$8,358 /mo.

The City of Delano is seeking a highly qualified individual with a hands-on approach to administering the financial operations and treasury functions of the City. Must possess strong communication skills and exceptional interpersonal and professional relations abilities. Minimum qualifications include; five (5) years directly-related professional experience in government accounting and auditing, including a minimum of two (2) years supervisor experience. A Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, public administration or business administration with major course work in government accounting is required. A Master's degree is highly desirable. Job Hotline: (661) 721-3305 option 2.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Senior General Ledger Government Accountant, Interwest Consulting Group

Salary Range: based on experience and skill

Interwest Consulting Group is looking for a senior level GL accountant with extensive governmental accounting experience for a part time position (20-30 hours per week) located in the City of Wildomar, California.

Senior General Ledger Government Accountant

Job Description/Skill Requirements:

- Familiarity with Municipal Fund Accounting Requirements
- -monthly Fund Reconciliation
- -fiscal year-end fund tie-out to government-wide statements
- Bank Account Reconciliation

- · Developer Invoicing
- Accounts Pavable and Accounts Receivable Experience
- Journal Entries
- Account Analysis
- Exposure to multiple software applications including specialized government accounting programs, timecard systems and Excel
- A minimum of 3 years of Governmental General Ledger experience is required. California city/county experience is preferred.

### To Apply:

Send resume and cover letter to careers@interwestgrp.com.

Interwest Consulting Group is an Engineering Consulting Firm serving Public Agencies and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# Senior Accountant, Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority

**Salary Range: \$63,405-\$77,253** 

The Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority is currently seeking experienced and qualified individuals for the position of Senior Accountant. Provides supervision and management to the accounting staff, financial and investment consultants.; responsible for planning, organizing and directing accounting functions of capital assets accounting, investment/portfolio management, monthly financial and investments reports, construction financing and cash flow, preparing rate schedules, preparing multi-year user charge and sewer connection fee projections, bank account reconciliation, banking services, budget preparation, expenditures, purchasing, prepares requests for proposals for various professional services, auditing, depreciation schedules, fund management, and filing, records. Employee must possess (at a minimum) a Bachelor's degree, preferably in Accounting; four years experience supervising employee teams and managing government finances, including budgeting and investment management. Registration as a CPA is preferred but not required. Full medical/dental benefits. Employer paid medical at retirement after 5 years vested with VVWRA.

Submit application to: Attn: Human Resource Department, 15776 Main Street, Suite 3, Hesperia, CA 92345 or email applications to thenning@vvwra.com.

Applications available @ web: www.vvwra.com

VVWRA is an EEO Employer. (760) 948-9849

APPLICATION DEADLINE: open until filled

# Finance/Accounting Manager, City of Camarillo Salary Range: \$78,725 - \$106,188 annually

### **DEFINITION:**

Directs, manages, supervises, and coordinates the activities and operations of the Accounting Division within the Finance Department including accounting, financial reporting, audit process management, debt management and compliance reporting, specialized redevelopment reporting, and other accounting related services and activities as assigned; supervises staff assigned to accounts payable, accounts receivable, purchasing, and payroll; assists in development of annual budget and mid-year analysis; coordinates assigned activities with other divisions, departments, and outside agencies; and provides highly responsible and complex administrative support to the Director of Finance.

### EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS:

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in accounting, finance, public administration, business administration, or related field. Five years of increasingly responsible professional experience in a complex government administration and finance environment including two years of supervisory experience. Certification as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is desirable. Certification as a Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) is desirable.

Additional information regarding this position is available on the City's website, www.ci.camarillo.ca.us.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a completed application, resume and supplemental questionnaire on or before 5:00 p.m. July 23, 2010.