



August 2015

MiniNews

Official Newsletter of the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers

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President's Message

Jesse Takahashi



Pay Me Now or Pay Me Later

Those of us that have been around for a while probably are familiar with this phrase, which was made popular by a company advertising automobile oil filters over 40 years ago. The moral of the ad was that you had a choice to spend a few dollars today or spend many more dollars in the future, with the implication that it was better to spend the few dollars now and avoid a volatile situation later that costs a lot more.

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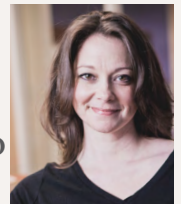
Executive Director's Message

Melissa Dixon, CAE

2015-16 Budget Awards Now Being Accepted!

Now that your fiscal-year budgets are set, it's award time! Visit the CSMFO website to submit your budget award application online.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Standardizing Threshold Exemptions in State Procurement

by Charles Belle, Founder & CEO of
Startup Policy Lab

Threshold exemptions are one of the most powerful tools in the arsenal of municipal finance officers. However, the amount of the exemption varies wildly across cities, preventing officials from leveraging threshold exemptions to pool resources. The [Municipal Threshold Exemption Database \(MTED\)](#) is a research project-funded through a [Sunlight Foundation OpenGov grant](#) – to create a repository of threshold exemptions from cities across California. With your help, we can standardize policies to empower local procurement professionals.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Opportunities to use Assessment Districts to Finance Facilities and Services Today in California *A paper published by CDIAC*

By Tim Seufert, NBS

As California finance professionals, we generally know about Assessment Districts and what they offer to cities, counties and special districts. Assessment districts have been vital to California's prosperity for 150 years, financing essential infrastructure as well as funding desired services. However, certain challenges including Propositions 13 and 218 and recent court cases have faced Assessment Districts, and there is a need for clarity and a "road map" for their continued success.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Welcome New Members!

Check out the 21 new members that joined CSMFO last month.

Education Opportunities

Power of Fiscal Policies / Long Term Financial Planning, City of Camarillo

– August 20, 8:30am - 4:30pm

– Presented by Bill Statler

Intermediate Governmental Accounting, San Diego

– August 21, 8:00am - 5:00pm

– Instructed by Susan Mayer

Chapter Meetings

Orange County Chapter and CMTA Division IX

– August 20, 11:30pm - 1:30pm

– Speaker: Kathy Lai, Macias Gini & O'Connell LLP (MGO) Solutions

Monterey Bay Chapter Meeting

– August 27, 10:30am - 2:30pm

– Speaker: Jim Fabian, Principal, Fieldman Rolapp & Associates AND Peter Becker and Arron Bonck, Investment Representatives, Time Value Investments

Central Los Angeles & South Bay Chapters Meeting

– August 27, 11:30pm - 1:30pm

– Speaker: Ken Al-Imam, Consultant to Davis Far LLP

Career Center

Director of Administrative Services, Ralph Andersen & Associates

Salary Range: \$142,800 - \$170,400/year

Application Deadline: Sep. 4, 2015

Administrative Services Director, Avery Associates

Salary Range: DOQ

Application Deadline: September 4, 2015

Financial Services Manager II, San Mateo County

Salary Range: \$8,713 - \$10,892/month

Application Deadline: August 20, 2015

Budget Program Manager, Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transport

Salary Range: \$103,272/year

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Accountant, City of Newport Beach

Salary Range: \$5,106 - \$7,174/month

Application Deadline: August 12, 2015

Accountant, Sacramento Area Council of Governments

Salary Range: \$5,848 - \$7,108/month

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Finance Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Salary Range: \$8,277 - \$11,588/month

An additional 5% for CPA

Application Deadline: August 28, 2015

Senior Accountant, City of Huntington Beach

Salary Range: \$6,337 - \$7,852/month

Application Deadline: August 13, 2015

Financial Services Manager, City of Brisbane

Salary Range: \$117,020/year

Application Deadline: August 30, 2015

Accounting Technician, San Dimas

Salary Range: \$3,845 - \$4,649/month

Application Deadline: August 14, 2015

Accountant (Program Supervisor), Livermore

Salary Range: \$7,111 - \$8,889/monthly

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Administrative Services Officer, City of Santa Rosa

Salary Range: \$6,461 - \$8,532/monthly

Application Deadline: July 7, 2015

Financial Services Supervisor, San Bruno

Salary Range: \$79,992 - \$98,160/year

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Assistant City Controller, Long Beach

Salary Range: \$110,000 to \$130,000/year

Application Deadline: August 10, 2015

Administrative Analyst - Risk Management, California Joint Powers Insurance Authority

Salary Range: \$62,868 - \$89,808 /year

Application Deadline: August 20, 2015

Coaching Corner

"Community Participation for Successful Budgeting" - Webinar

2:00 - 3:30 p.m., Thursday, August 13, 2015

Webinar topics:

* How is community involvement in budgeting valuable?

* What are innovative tools and participatory budgeting techniques to engage your community effectively?

* How can you tap best practices effectively and efficiently to serve your agency?

[CONTINUE READING](#)

In the Spotlight: Understanding Pension Obligation Bonds

By Scott P. Johnson, Partner, MGO Advisory Services

The topic of Pension Liability has found its way into the media spotlight in recent weeks, with high-profile articles appearing in the Washington Post, the New York Times and a number of other prominent news outlets. At the heart of these stories is the stark reality that many government entities continue to face growing risk from unfunded pension liabilities – an assertion that's hardly a revelation to those of us who have spent our careers managing municipal finances. However, one possible solution addressed in these articles merits a closer look: Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs).

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Chief Financial Officer, Avery Associates

Salary Range: \$220,649/year

Application Deadline: August 21, 2015

Finance Supervisor, West County Wastewater District

Salary Range: \$8,890 to \$11,013/month

Application Deadline: August 7, 2015

Business Systems Administrator, Moulton Niguel Water District

Salary Range: \$6,947 - \$9,350/month

Application Deadline: August 14, 2015

Senior Accountant-Analyst, Ventura County Transportation Commission

Salary Range: \$24-\$40/hour

Application Deadline: August 10, 2015

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