

Mayor Donaldson Report

Below is a summary of board meetings I attended:

Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)



June 25, 2025

TAMC Board Receives Presentation on Potential Gas Tax Replacement Mechanisms

Transportation Agency state legislative analyst, Gus Khouri, Principal, Khouri Consulting, presented an update on state legislative activities to the TAMC Board of Directors. His presentation (available online [here](#)) included information on the complexities of state negotiations related to potential replacement mechanisms for the gas tax to ensure reliable funding for transportation in the future.

Today, the main source of funding for transportation is the gas tax. Mr. Khouri explained that the purchasing power of the gas tax is waning in the face of increasing adoption of electric vehicles and increased fuel efficiency. Potential replacement mechanisms include a mileage-based user fee (also known as a vehicle miles traveled fee or a road user charge) or a vehicle registration fee. Mr. Khouri discussed the issues of equity and regressive vs. progressive fees.

Following an engaging and inquisitive conversation with Board members, the Board will continue to discuss this issue at future meetings to reach a consensus on a position on gas tax replacement options that best serves the residents and businesses of Monterey County.

TAMC Board Takes a Support Position On To Reduce Speeds in School Zones

The TAMC Board of Directors took a “support” position on Assembly Bill (AB) 382 (Berman) to support pedestrian safety in school zones. The bill reduces the speed limit in a school zone when children are present, from 25 miles per hour (mph) to 20 mph. With proper enforcement, this bill will enhance safety for school children, pedestrians, and cyclists on local arterials near schools.

Monterey One Water (M1W)

June 30, 2025



Board Actions:

- Public Hearing held and adopted a resolution declaring liens against real property for delinquent sewer user charges
- Adopted resolution certifying compliance with State Law w/respect to levying of general and special taxes, assessments and fees/charges levied as an incident of property ownership
- Approved blanket/open Purchase Orders to vendors over \$135k or more for FY 25/26
- Awarded contract for Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program public education/outreach and public involvement/participation services to Environmental Innovations in the amount of \$147,768
- Approved amendment to Professional Services Agreement with TM Process & Controls Inc. for 1 year SCADA/PLC support on the amount of \$340,026
- Approved purchase of a 100kw portable trailer mounted generator from Energy Link in the amount of \$571,438.64
- Awarded equipment contract purchase for a Skid Mounted Permanent Tier 4 Final Diesel-Powered pump CS-500 for the Salinas Pump Station Bypass capabilities for station reliability to Pac Machine in the amount of \$673,693.75
- Approved contract increase with Brown & Caldwell for Outfall Improvement Projects for Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project by 220,780 for a not to exceed amount of \$88,310
- Approved waiving minor deviations in the bid submitted by Edges Electrical Group and approve purchase of a new Standby Generator Square D Custom QED2 Switchboard in the amount of \$239,138.04
- Authorized participation in a Co-op Purchasing Agreement through Sourcewell and approve purchase of one new/used Freightliner M2106, Cummings ISB Engine, Allison 2500 RDS transmission with Warner 10k body, Liftmore 60100 Crane Truck from National Auto Fleet Group in the amount of \$263,469.35
- Adopted resolutions establishing salary classifications and ranges for FY 2025/26 for General Employee's Bargaining Group, Management Employee's Bargaining Group and Executive Staff, Mid-Management Employee's Group, Confidential and Limited-Term Employees and Operations Employee's Bargaining Group
- Authorized submittal of the Amended Report of Waste Discharge to the Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Approved amendment 4 to the Amended and Restate Water Recycling Agreement (ARWRA) between Monterey One Water and Monterey County Water Resources Agency

Monterey One Water (M1W)



July 28, 2025

Informational Items:

- *Director of Information Systems/Chief Technology Officer, Frank Rich presented an Information Technology Strategic Plan update*

Board Actions:

- *Approved the nomination of Executive Officer Paul Sciuto to the Advisory Committee of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency*
- *Approved the Central Coast Long-Term Environmental Assessment Network (CCLEAN) Budget for FY 25/26 in the amount of \$171,739.*
- *Awarded construction contract to Specialty Construction for CP346 Fire Pump House, Fire Storage Tanks and Well Water Tank Project in the amount of \$1,951,000.*
- *Approved second amendment to USP Technologies for the Full-Service Sulfide Control Program for the collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant for the amount of \$2,466,560.89.*
- *Approved a professional services agreement with Black & Veatch for Engineering Services for Solids Handling and Resources Recovery Improvements in the amount of \$2,315,451.*
- *Approved amendment extending the negotiation period in the 9/29/23 outfall capacity negotiation, cooperation and funding agreement for 24 months.*
- *Approved a fifth amendment to the employment agreement with Executive Officer/General Manager Paul Sciuto.*

On Wednesday, August 13th, the Mayor and City Manager hosted the 2nd Annual State of the City presentation at the Moose Lodge in Del Rey Oaks.

It provided an opportunity for all residents to hear the latest updates and ask questions.

The topics covered are shown below:

State of the City

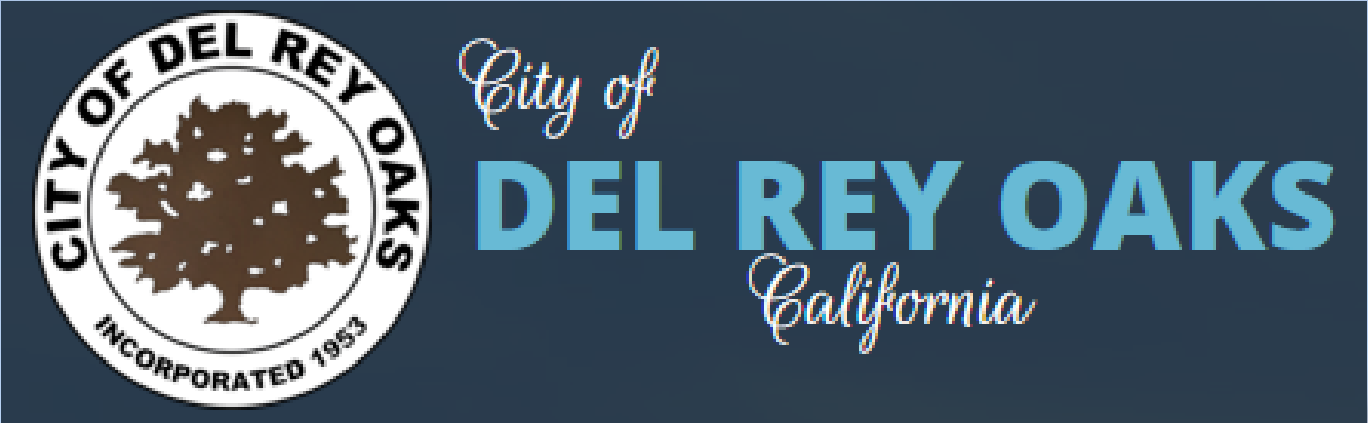


- **Budget**
- **Committees**
- **Partnerships**
- **Ft. Ord Development**
- **S. Boundary Rd.**
- **FORTAG**

Budget



- **Balanced**
 - **No Reduction in Services**
 - **Sufficient Reserves**
- **Revenue/Expenses**
 - **Top 5 Revenue Sources**
 - **Top Expense - Police Services**
 - **Focus – Sustainability/Create New Revenue**
- **Projects**
 - **Rosita Rd, Fire Fuel Reduction, Cal Am Pipes**
 - **City Hall, Park ADA, Adair Stairway**



Committees



- **Purpose**

- **Make Recommendations**
- **Receive Community Input**
- **Add Transparency**
- **As Needed**

- **Finance**

- **Update/Revise Budget**

- **Public Works**

- **Review Capital Projects**

- **Parks/Rec**

- **Determine Best Use**

- **Public Safety**

- **Public Outreach Event**

Partnerships



- **3 Adjacent Jurisdictions**
 - **Parks District**
 - **Caltrans**
 - **Airport**
- **Examples**
 - **Fire Fuel Reduction**
 - **Maintenance**
 - **Safety – Hwy 218 Crosswalk**
 - **Noise**
 - ✓ **Airport Resolution**
 - ✓ **New Terminal**
 - ✓ **FAA Ombudsman**

Ft. Ord Development



- **Developer**
 - **Exclusive Right to Negotiate (ERN)**
 - **Viability Determination**
- **Next Steps**
 - **Request for Proposal (RFP) Process**
 - **Surplus Land Act Requirement Met**
 - **Community Outreach**
- **Focus**
 - **Community/Revenue Opportunities**
 - **Housing Element Requirements**

S. Boundary Rd.



- **Safety**
 - Intersection at Gen. Jim Moore
 - Original Design from Army
- **Design & EIR**
 - Roundabout with Sufficient Lane Capacity
 - Avoids Native Plant Site
 - Utility Infrastructure
- **Funding**
 - \$8 Mil
 - Govt/Developer Funding

FORTAG



- **Current Situation**

- PG&E – Transmission Pole
- City Oversight/Quality Control

- **Timeline**

- Fall 2026 Est. Completion
- Utility Resolution and Weather

*City Website for
Latest Information*

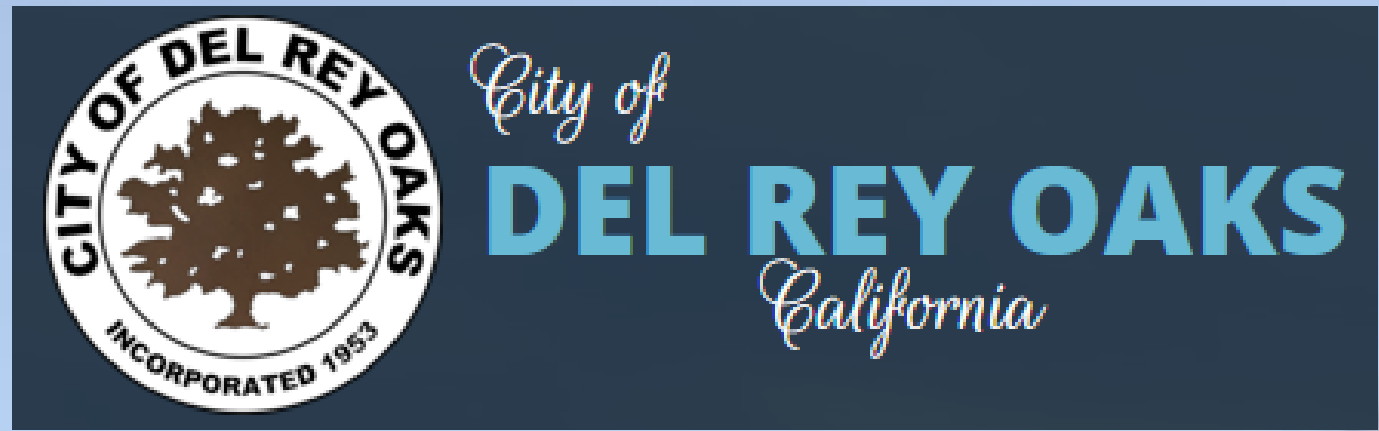
- **Impacts**

- Traffic at Carlton/Highway 218
- Access – Frog Pond, Work Memorial, Safeway
- Shift Construction Resources



City of
DEL REY OAKS
California





Questions?

Kim Shirley's Council Report for Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Wednesday, June 18th- Tri-County Press Conference in Support of Immigrants in our Communities- I was happy to attend this press conference outside the Monterey County Board of Supervisors' offices where elected officials, sheriffs from all three counties, leaders from non-profit agencies, and leaders from hospitality, medical, and agricultural industries, came together to share their support for immigrants in our communities. I deeply appreciated everyone's comments and the acknowledgement that immigrants add so much to our communities through their hard work, their integration into our everyday lives, as well as the cultural benefits they provide, too. It was important to hear that in our tri-county area, we have the largest immigrant population in comparison to anywhere else in California. Knowing that we're dominated by industries such as hospitality and agriculture explains this and shows how much we depend on them in order to maintain our local economies. Immigrants make up the fabric of our tri-county area, and we all benefit when they can live and work without the fear of their lives being instantly upended.

Friday, June 20th- ReGen Monterey Board Meeting- Not too many items needed to be discussed today, but we did talk about the money ReGen gives to the County of Monterey for litter abatement. Continuing with the same memorandum of understanding that we've had since 2020, staff decided that we would contribute our usual \$25,000 and extend the partnership for one year. Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority also contributes \$100,000 to support litter abatement efforts. The litter abatement program provides for the collection and disposal of litter (waste) and hazardous materials that are dumped illegally along County roads, public rights-of-way, and public lands. The program removes 150-200 tons of household and industrial materials from roads annually. Representatives from our communication and education team participate in this committee, which allows ReGen some input into how they're using these funds. Our board will be learning more about their efforts at a future board meeting. Some are questioning how the money is spent (they'd like to see more cameras that can operate at night), and others are wondering about this donation, which essentially benefits the city of Marina. I think this is a big issue that many cities tackle (including ours), so I look forward to these future discussions.

The only other item was getting an update on the planning that's happening to address our franchise agreements, which will be up in 2030. The committee put out a request for contractors who can help us evaluate these agreements, and we'll be learning more about the MOU for member agencies and which contractor they've chosen at our next board meeting.

Tuesday, June 24th- City Council Meeting- As usual, our council meeting started off with some great celebrations. We had two proclamations celebrating Chief Bourquin's 30 years

of service as well as Detective Salopek's 25 years of service. Next, the good times continued with a presentation from resident Mike O'Brien about the one-year anniversary of the Del Rey Oaks Chess Club for kids that he's been running. He's done an incredible job, donating many, many hours to provide coaching and playing opportunities for students to learn chess and spend one day a month playing each other while they practice their skills. Thank you, Coach Mike!

We also had a very informative presentation from Sophia Schwirzke at Central Coast Community Energy (3CE). I particularly enjoyed hearing how they were growing their profile of clean energy and the programs that they're offering to help residents move towards a cleaner energy future through battery purchases or various ways of electrifying homes/transportation. I'm happy to hear they'll be working with DRO staff to see how the city might benefit from their programs. I look forward to learning more and staying engaged with 3CE.

After passing our consent agenda, we interviewed the four applicants who attended (5 applied) for the four vacant spots on the Planning Commission. That night we happily reappointed three current commissioners (Mike Hayworth, Ann Ahmadi, and Gary Kreeger) and appointed Vincent Machi as our fourth new commissioner. Thanks to all of them for being willing to volunteer their time for these important positions within our city. Congratulations on your appointments!

Next, we adopted our budget for FY 2025-26. I spent lots of time the day before our council meeting reviewing all of our documents and ended up sending a dozen questions to our city manager. One of the items was realizing that we were missing our Section 115 Trust for \$150,000, which funds our CalPers liabilities. This had been discussed previously, but somehow it was missing from the budget in our packet. Another question I had was asking more specifics about some larger line items (\$70,000 for city hall upgrades/fixes) and (\$75,000 for a park consultant). I was told that these expenses would be discussed further at future "Parks and Rec", "Public Works", and "Finance" committee meetings. During our council meeting, I expressed my disappointment that we didn't spend more time talking and discussing these items prior to passing our budget. I do feel that we need to encourage more resident participation and council participation in these discussions, and providing more opportunities that aren't mid-day meetings would be helpful.

I also took this opportunity at the council meeting to initiate a discussion about strategic planning, since we put this in the budget every year, but it never gets done. I was hoping to hear more from my fellow council members about their thoughts on advocating for this type of planning. Unfortunately, Council Member Hallock and Mayor Donaldson thought this discussion was a potential Brown Act violation, and the Assistant City Attorney agreed, so the discussion was stopped. I disagreed with this since we were talking about an item in the budget, and that was the agenda item, but I declined to push forward and instead asked for this topic to be put on a future agenda. I look forward to that conversation.

Besides the lack of specifics and planning in our budget, I was pleased with the 5% COLA for our staff (outside of the city manager and police chief), the balanced budget (operation expenses equal revenue), and money available for needed capital projects (Adair stairs, city hall parking lot, etc.).

Our last item was reviewing our job vacancies in the city. Since we only have one police position that's open, police chief Bourquin gave the presentation. Our budget this year will fund that position, so we did talk briefly about recruitment. According to Chief Bourquin, it's harder to bring in and hire police officers, but thankfully, we have a much better time retaining our police officers.

Saturday, June 28th- Monterey Pride Event- Big thanks to Council Member John Uy for organizing space for Del Rey Oaks in the Monterey Pride parade! Along with organizing our place in the parade, Council Member Uy brought along his DRO Pride banner, friends and family, and lots of bubbles, which was an excellent addition. It was lovely to see residents join us as we marched (danced!) down Alvarado with pride for our city and for absolute acceptance of diversity and love. I'm always impressed with the event that Monterey Pride puts on, as they make sure to create such an inclusive and joyful celebration. It was an excellent way to round out Pride month!

Saturday, June 28th-MST SURF! Groundbreaking- As a Monterey-Salinas Transit Board member and a supporter of the MST SURF! Project, I was honored to attend the groundbreaking at the future site of the 5th Street Station in Marina. Over 100 people attended, including many local and state elected officials. I spoke in favor of this project at the Coastal Commission, and staff, along with Senator John Laird, worked very hard to get the funding and the necessary permits for this project. With climate change and our freeways only becoming more congested, we will have to look at mass transit to take cars off the road and make it more convenient for people to travel, and I believe this is a great step in that effort. I look forward to the completion of this important project.

Wednesday, July 2nd-ReGen Monterey Finance Committee Mtg- Our big discussion today was the edits that were brought to us from staff on the Guiding Principles. The Guiding Principles document is an update to documents that were board-approved in 2004, 2005, and revised in 2007. It addresses governance structure, labor policy, reserve policies, landfill capacity, and rate policies. Our big discussion today was over the rate policies and the newly edited sentence that stated, "ReGen will aspire to have at least 80% of our base operating costs funded by member agency tip fees, with non-member revenue treated as supplemental", essentially making up the financial differential. At this point, we're about 50% relying on outside revenue for our services and staff. In looking at our regional contracts (non-member agencies), we are keeping track of when they end, so we can make sure to increase our revenue in other places (regular tip fees, other potential revenue through the production of electricity, and possibly renewable natural gas) to make up for the decrease in regional revenue. In the meantime, when regional contracts come

up, staff are looking for more favorable contracts to help bridge the difference. Mayor Delgado has asked that the staff give us some scenarios for what this 80% might look like in terms of our tip fees and other revenue sources, so we'll definitely be hearing more about this topic at our next board meeting.

Wednesday, July 9th- Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster Technical Advisory Committee- One of two large topics we discussed today was a presentation of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) Seawater Intrusion Model. This model is being developed along with the Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. They are also working on a larger Integrated Hydrologic Model for the larger region, but our interest today was for the Seawater Intrusion Model, which will also encompass parts of our Seaside Basin. The idea is that you might as well develop a model that everyone can use (yes!), which is important since all of our basins have some connections. We have asked that our consultant work with the SVBGSA consultants on this model, so that all data sources are included, making for a more robust model. This model will likely be completed late summer, early fall. We'll be talking more at the Watermaster Board level to talk more about this model and how it fits into our modeling needs and how it might influence our approach with the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan.

Our second topic focused on the draft 2026 Monitoring and Management Program. Many of the areas needed additional information in order to come up with the costs associated with the tasks. As of now, there are no new monitoring wells that will be needed (although that may change once we talk more about the seawater intrusion response plan). There was money set aside for another year of subsurface electromagnetic imaging. Remember, this year is the first that was done, and we haven't seen the results yet, so that may also influence some of our actions for next year. We'll also have to continue talking about the modeling updates, as that will influence our costs for next year, too. One of the more shocking things that was in this document was that CalAm is still saying that they'll be sticking shovels in the ground for their desalination project in October 2025. Given that they still need to go before the Coastal Commission, this seems very unlikely. Regardless, I'm sure the Watermaster will be having additional discussions on replenishment options for our basin.

Monday, July 14th- Monterey-Salinas Transit Board Meeting- Please see the MST board highlights in our agenda packet.

Monday, July 14th- Monterey County Regional Taxi Authority Meeting- Please see the Regional Taxi Authority board highlights in our agenda packet.

As a taxi authority, we meet once a year to approve the budget and deal with any other issues that may have come up. We received a report that shared that the companies we approved last year have done a great job with their businesses and were nice additions to our regional fleet. This year, we had 81 vehicle permits for cars that operate on the

Peninsula and in Salinas. The budget for next year will have a shortfall, but it will be covered by reserves. A question came up about a reserve policy and whether the taxi authority has one or not. Next year, staff will bring this topic back to the board. If we continue with the shortfall, we may need to raise prices for the next year, but for now, they're keeping the prices stable.

Friday, July 18th- ReGen Monterey Board Meeting- Unfortunately, I had to skip this month's meeting because of my knee surgery.

Wednesday, July 23rd- Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster, Water

Replenishment Ad Hoc Committee- In an effort to bring in more water to our basin to achieve a more protective elevation, the Watermaster Staff prepared this agenda to allow us to review some ideas that may be within our reach. I actually thought it was an excellent way to get us talking in a more proactive manner. For this meeting, the staff prepared four strategies for us to review.

1. **No Alternative Producer Underproduction Added to Standard Producer Allocation-** the short version is that when our alternative producers (producers are those who are pulling water out of the ground) don't use their entire allotment, their unproduced water is allowed to be produced by the "standard producers" (these are generally the larger producers). As a Watermaster, we could stop these "carryovers" to the standard producer and theoretically lessen the chance of this water being produced, thus leaving it in the basin. The estimate was that this would save an average of 600 AFY (acre feet/year). Overall, the committee was supportive of this idea. It's not "new" water, so it's not guaranteed, but we felt this was something that should be discussed at the wider board level.
2. **Reduce the Natural Safe Yield of the Basin to 2,370 AFY-** this would reduce the total amount of water production. Essentially, by saying that the amount of water we're taking now is causing the potential for sea water intrusion, thus causing a "material injury," we'd be able to lower the amount that everyone takes. This would basically provide an average of 630 AFY of water that would be left in the basin. Interestingly, the past two water years, we've actually taken less than this amount, but it's not that way every year. This option was not as well received because of the greater restriction and our lack of agreement on exactly what the "Natural Safe Yield" should be, and therefore, this idea will likely not be put forth to the larger board.
3. **Basin Storage Sustainability Contribution-** this basically means that we'll shave off 10% of everyone's water allotment to "pay" for their storage use of the basin. This makes sense, and it's used widely in other adjudicated basins, sometimes even shaving off up to 35% as payment. If we stick to the 10% we could keep an additional 720 AFY in the basin. This concept will be brought forth to the larger board.

4. **California American Water Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project-** this is the only “new” water that was discussed. Really, no discussion here. This is talking about the 700 AFY that would be left in the basin if Cal Am’s desalination plant is completed. There is nothing that the Watermaster will do regarding this option.

The last item on this agenda was an informational item called: **Consider Recommendation to Board to Enter into Agreement with Marina Coast Water District for Aquifer Storage and Recovery Cooperation-** we weren’t presented with many details, but the staff report was produced by Dave Stoldt at the Water Management District. This item was in reference to our last presentation we had at our last Ad Hoc committee meeting (if you’re interested, check out the meeting minutes in this packet). Basically, Marina Coast Water is thinking about taking water that would normally flow into the 180/400 basin (the next basin over from the Monterey Subbasin) and injecting it into the Seaside Basin for storage. The infrastructure already exists, so this might be an easy solution that provides more water to the Seaside basin and allows Marina Coast to keep their water from flowing out of their basin (our basin generally flows into their Monterey Subbasin). All we heard is that we will be presented with this potential project sometime in the next couple of months. I look forward to getting more information!

Thursday, August 7th- Joint Meeting between our City Council and the Planning Commission- Unfortunately, because of scheduling, I had to miss this meeting. I was very happy to hear that they successfully approved our 6th Cycle Housing Element. I now look forward to doing the work for implementation.

Monday, August 11th- Monterey-Salinas Transit Board Meeting- Please see the MST board highlights in our agenda packet. This was a longer meeting, primarily made up of strategic planning activities.

Council Report from Councilmember John Uy August 26, 2025 Meeting

I. Council Report: 2025 DRO Contingent at the Monterey Peninsula Pride Parade on June 28, 2025

On **Saturday, June 28, 2025**, Del Rey Oaks was flying with pride and color as we joined the **Monterey Peninsula Pride Parade** in downtown Monterey.

This annual event is one of the most joyful and moving celebrations on the Peninsula, and this year's parade was no exception. Our contingent proudly marched alongside community members, friends, and allies, showing the Monterey Peninsula that Del Rey Oaks is a city where **love, inclusion, and belonging** are not just values but lived commitments.

With rainbow flags waving, signs of support held high, and neighbors walking together, our presence sent a powerful message: **Del Rey Oaks stands united with the LGBTQ+ community.** The energy was contagious—filled with cheers, music, and moments that reminded us all why representation matters.



I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined our contingent and to those who supported us from the sidelines. Your presence made our group stronger and our message louder. Together, we showed what **Del Rey Oaks Pride** looks like: small but mighty, diverse yet united, joyful and inclusive.



Marching in this year's Pride Parade was a deeply moving and uplifting experience because my brother from the Philippines was visiting and joined us in the parade. I was humbled to see the outpouring of support from my family and residents across the Peninsula and proud to see Del Rey Oaks represented with such vibrancy. What stood out most to me were the smiles, the hugs, and the heartfelt words of thanks we received along the way. It reminded me that our role as leaders extends beyond city business. We are here to affirm the dignity of every person in our community. Walking together in this parade was not only a celebration, but also a reaffirmation of our city's commitment to compassion, respect, and inclusivity.

This was more than just a parade. It was a moment of community pride and solidarity, and I look forward to building on this momentum in the years ahead.

II. Council Report: Regular Meeting of the Seaside County Sanitation District (SCSD) Board of Directors – August 12, 2025



As Chair of the Seaside County Sanitation District, I am pleased to update the Council on our most recent meeting held on **August 12, 2025**. The SCSD continues to provide reliable and efficient wastewater services for Del Rey Oaks, Sand City, and Seaside.

At the meeting, the Board received the **July 2025 Operations Report**, which showed very positive results. Notably, there were **no stoppages, no sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), and no emergency repairs** reported during the month. More than **38,600 linear feet of sewer mains** were proactively cleaned across the District, including in Del Rey Oaks, helping to keep our system in strong working condition.

I want to commend our dedicated staff for their continued focus on preventative maintenance and environmental stewardship. Their hard work ensures the protection of public health and the natural environment that our communities value so highly.

As Chair, I am proud that SCSD remains a strong example of inter-city collaboration, and I will continue to ensure Del Rey Oaks' voice is represented in shaping policies and projects that safeguard our shared infrastructure.

III. Council Report: AMBAG Board of Directors Meeting – August 13, 2025

On August 13, 2025, I attended the **Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)** Board of Directors meeting, where representatives from across the tri-county region (Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties) gathered to address pressing regional challenges and opportunities.

Regional Planning and Housing



One of the central topics was the ongoing development of the **Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)**, which ties together housing, transportation, and land-use planning to meet state-mandated greenhouse gas reduction targets. The Board discussed how local jurisdictions must continue aligning their housing production goals with regional planning efforts to ensure eligibility for future state and federal funding. This is particularly relevant for smaller cities like

Del Rey Oaks, which benefit directly when regional planning bodies advocate for equity in funding distribution.

Climate Action and Sustainability

AMBAG staff provided updates on regional **climate action initiatives**, including greenhouse gas inventory tracking and long-term sustainability strategies. The discussion underscored the importance of collaboration in addressing climate impacts, from transportation emissions to energy efficiency. These efforts not only reduce our region's environmental footprint but also position our communities for future **grant funding opportunities** tied to climate resilience.

Transportation and Infrastructure

The Board reviewed progress on **regional transportation planning**, including coordination with Caltrans and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). Transportation improvements remain a critical focus, as they directly impact mobility, economic vitality, and quality of life for residents across the Peninsula. Emphasis was placed on ensuring transportation planning supports housing growth and sustainable development patterns.

Representation and Advocacy

As your representative, I emphasized the importance of ensuring that **small cities like Del Rey Oaks have a strong voice** in these regional decisions. While our population may be modest, the policies and funding allocations developed at AMBAG directly affect our infrastructure, housing opportunities, and environmental future. By being at the table, we help guarantee that the unique needs of our community are recognized and addressed.

Reflection

The AMBAG meeting was a powerful reminder of the importance of **regional collaboration**. Issues such as housing affordability, climate resilience, and sustainable growth cannot be solved by one city alone. By working together, we can achieve solutions that serve the entire Monterey Bay Area while ensuring that communities like Del Rey Oaks continue to thrive.
