

Council Report from Vice Mayor John Uy January 23, 2024

I. Council Report: Regular Meeting of the DRO City Council on December 19, 2023

I am thrilled to provide you with an update on the recent regular City Council meeting held on December 19, 2023. This meeting was a testament to our commitment to transparency, collaboration, and progress as we work together to shape the future of our beloved community.

Appointment of Councilmember John Uy as Vice Mayor for the 2024 Calendar Year

One of the highlights of the meeting was my appointment as Vice Mayor for the 2024 calendar year.

With a heart brimming with gratitude and a deep sense of responsibility, I am incredibly honored to share a momentous announcement with all of you. Following our recent City Council meeting, I am humbled to have been unanimously appointed as the new Vice Mayor of Del Rey Oaks.

This opportunity to serve our remarkable community is both a privilege and a profound responsibility. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to each of you for your unwavering support, encouragement, and belief in our shared vision for Del Rey Oaks.

As I step into this new chapter, I am guided by a profound commitment to serve with humility, integrity, and an unwavering dedication to the betterment of our beloved city. I stand here today not merely as an individual but as a representative of our collective dreams and aspirations.

Together, we have an incredible chance to shape a future that is inclusive, vibrant, and thriving for all. Your voices, perspectives, and ideas are the cornerstone of our progress, and I am committed to fostering an environment where every opinion matters.

I am deeply honored by the trust placed in me and pledge to work tirelessly, collaborating with each of you to create positive change and uphold the values that make Del Rey Oaks, California, an extraordinary place to call home.

Let us embark on this journey together, united in our determination to build a community where everyone feels heard, valued, and empowered.

Thank you so much for your unwavering support, and I am genuinely excited about the possibilities that lie ahead as your Vice Mayor.

Meet the New Vice Mayor of Del Rey Oaks, California!

Honored and Humbled to Serve as Your New Vice Mayor

"I am dedicated to serving our community with utmost sincerity, integrity, and passion."

-Vice Mayor John Uy

Thank you for your unwavering support, encouragement, and belief in our shared vision!



Authorize the Establishment of a Deputy City Clerk/Permit Clerk Position in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget

During the meeting, we also recognized the need to address the increased workload and service demands on the City Administration. To ensure the efficient delivery of services to our residents and businesses, we approved the establishment of a Deputy City Clerk/Permit Clerk position in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget. This addition to our team will help us better meet the needs of our community and provide the level of service our residents deserve.

Financials November 2023

We also received the November 2023 Financial Reports, which showcased a healthy cash balance and responsible financial management. Thanks to the work and efforts of our City Hall Staff! This demonstrates our commitment to fiscal responsibility and ensures the long-term sustainability of our city. We will continue to monitor our financial situation closely and make informed decisions to support the prosperity of Del Rey Oaks.

First Reading of Tobacco Retailer License Ordinance and Smoke-Free Public Place Ordinance

Another important topic of discussion was the proposed ordinances related to tobacco control and smoking regulations. As part of our commitment to the Blue Zones Project, we are actively working to create a healthier and more vibrant community. These ordinances will contribute to reducing smoking rates and promoting overall well-being among our residents.

These ordinances represent a significant step forward in our collective efforts to create a healthier, safer, and more vibrant community for all. By adopting these measures, we are taking a stand against the detrimental effects of tobacco use and secondhand smoke, and we are prioritizing the well-being of our residents, particularly our youth and vulnerable populations.

The comprehensive Tobacco Retailer License Ordinance will ensure that tobacco retailers in our city comply with tobacco control laws and adhere to business standards that promote responsible retailing. By implementing this licensing system, we are not only safeguarding the health and welfare of our residents but also sending a clear message that we prioritize the responsible sale and distribution of tobacco products.



Furthermore, the Smoke-Free Public Place Ordinance will create an environment where smoking and the use of nicotine are less desirable, accessible, and acceptable. This ordinance will protect our residents from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke, including aerosol

from e-cigarettes and smoke from marijuana. It will also contribute to the overall reduction in smoking, vaping, and tobacco use, aligning with the goals of the Blue Zones Project and our commitment to promoting a long and healthy life for all.

I am inspired by the collective efforts of our community, the County of Monterey Health Department, and our dedicated city staff in bringing forth these ordinances. Their tireless work and commitment to public health have paved the way for us to take this crucial step forward.

As a councilman, I firmly believe that it is our duty to ensure the well-being of our residents and to create an environment that fosters their growth and prosperity. These ordinances align with our vision for a vibrant and inclusive community, where everyone can thrive and enjoy the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

II. Council Report: My Appointment to the Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee of the League of California Cities

It is with immense honor and heartfelt enthusiasm that I share with you my appointment to the Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee by the Monterey Bay Division president to the League of California Cities. This prestigious one-year term stands as a testament to my exemplary leadership and commitment to advancing the interests of our community.



My appointment is not merely a recognition of my capabilities but a call to serve at the forefront of policy shaping and advocacy efforts. My participation throughout the year will provide a unique platform to effectively represent our division and contribute to the greater good.

As a committee member, my role is paramount to the success of Cal Cities' advocacy endeavors. My commitment to keeping the division president informed, and the possibility of

providing periodic updates on committee activities showcase my dedication to transparent and informed governance. My active engagement will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in shaping policies that resonate with the needs of our community.

The committee is set to convene at least three times this year, combining virtual and in-person sessions, commencing with a virtual orientation meeting on January 4th. This not only promises a dynamic exchange of ideas but also signifies the beginning of a journey marked by collaboration, innovation, and meaningful contributions.

It is noteworthy that my one-year appointment is slated to culminate with the conclusion of the 2024 League of California Cities Annual Conference, underscoring the significance of my role in shaping the future of our community.

My appointment adds a distinguished chapter to my service to our entire community, and I am honored to represent you on such a grand platform.

III. Council Report: Message of Vice Mayor John Uy for the New Year (January 1, 2024)

Dearest Residents of Del Rey Oaks and City Hall Staff,

As we stand at the threshold of a brand-new year, I am filled with gratitude and excitement to extend my warmest New Year's greetings to each and every one of you. I am honored to serve as your newly appointed Vice Mayor and embark on this journey together as we navigate the promise and potential that 2024 holds for our beloved Del Rey Oaks.

The start of a new year is a moment of reflection, hope, and fresh beginnings. It's an opportunity for us to look back at the milestones we've achieved, the challenges we've overcome, and the lessons we've learned. Together, we form the heartbeat of this vibrant community, and it is our collective spirit that makes Del Rey Oaks truly special.

As we usher in 2024, let us carry forward the warmth of community, the strength of unity, and the power of shared dreams. Each one of you plays an integral role in the tapestry of our town, and I am committed to working hand in hand with you to build upon our successes and face the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Del Rey Oaks is not just a place on the map; it's a community of diverse individuals, each with unique stories, aspirations, and contributions. Let us celebrate this diversity and find strength in our shared values. In the coming year, my focus as your Vice Mayor will be to foster open communication, encourage community engagement, and ensure that the voices of each resident are heard and valued.

GREETINGS FROM VICE MAYOR JOHN UY



Wishing You A Happy New Year!

As your new Vice Mayor, I am excited to be part of this community and to work together toward a better future.

Let's continue to make Del Rey Oaks a great place to live and thrive.
#HappyNewYear #CommunityLove #DelReyOaks

May the canvas of the New Year be painted with moments of joy, kindness, and shared accomplishments. Together, let's continue to make Del Rey Oaks a place we are proud to call home and an excellent place to work.

Wishing you and your loved ones a New Year filled with peace, prosperity, and the warmth of community.

Warm Regards,

Vice Mayor John Uy
Del Rey Oaks

IV. Council Report: Seaside County Sanitation District Board of Directors Meeting – January 9, 2024

I am writing to provide you with an update on the recent Seaside County Sanitation District (SCSD) regular meeting that took place on January 9, 2024. As a member of the board of directors, I am pleased to share the highlights of the meeting and the positive outcomes that were achieved.

First and foremost, I am thrilled to announce that I have been elected as the 1st Vice Chair of the SCSD Board of Directors. This is a great honor for me, and I am excited to take on this new role and contribute to the continued success of the district. Additionally, Mr. Jerry Blackwelder was elected as the Chair, and Mayor Ian Oglesby was appointed as the Second Vice Chair.

Together, we form a strong leadership team that is committed to serving the community and ensuring the efficient operation of the sanitation district.

During the meeting, several important agenda items were discussed and acted upon. One of the key items was the approval of the minutes from the previous special meeting held on December 5, 2023. The minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved by the board, ensuring accurate documentation of the district's activities.



Another significant agenda item was the approval of the Seaside County Sanitation District Operations Report for November and December 2023. This report provides valuable insights into the district's operations and maintenance activities during that period. It is crucial for us to stay informed about the district's performance and address any issues promptly to ensure the smooth functioning of our sanitation services.

Furthermore, the board approved the November and December 2023 expenditure report for the Seaside County Sanitation District. This report outlines the district's

financial activities and ensures transparency and accountability in our financial management. The board also approved a drawdown request of \$272,446.08 to cover the expenses incurred during that period. This financial decision was made with careful consideration and in line with the district's budgetary constraints.

Lastly, the board received staff reports, which included updates on various ongoing projects and initiatives. Staff also provided updates about the sewer capacity fee assessment of the Marriott Dual Brand Hotel Project (a Residence Inn and a Courtyard Inn) located at 880 Tioga Avenue in Sand City. The project will feature a Residence Inn, a Courtyard Inn, associated office space, one bistro kitchen and seating area, one restaurant kitchen and seating area, a gym, and a conference space. The Residence Inn portion of the project contains 88 rooms, with a kitchenette and bathroom in each room. The kitchenettes contain a sink, refrigerator, stove top burners, dishwasher, and microwave, while the bathrooms contain a toilet, a combination shower bathtub, and a sink. The Courtyard Inn contains 127 standard hotel rooms, with only one bathroom in each room.

These reports provide valuable information to the board and help us make informed decisions regarding the district's operations and future plans. We appreciate the dedication and hard work of our district staff in ensuring the smooth functioning of the sanitation district.

In conclusion, the Seaside County Sanitation District regular meeting was a productive and successful gathering. The board of directors remains committed to serving the community and ensuring the efficient and effective operation of the district. We are confident that our collective efforts will continue to enhance the sanitation services provided to the residents of Del Rey Oaks and the surrounding areas.

V. Council Report: AMBAG Board of Directors Meeting – January 10, 2024

I am pleased to present this council report on behalf of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), summarizing our regular meeting held on January 10, 2024. It was an inspiring and productive session, and I am excited to share the highlights with you.



ASSOCIATION OF MONTEREY BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

During the meeting, we discussed a range of important topics that are of great significance to the City of Del Rey Oaks and the entire Monterey Bay Area. Our primary focus was on advancing regional cooperation and addressing the pressing challenges that our communities face. I am proud to report that the meeting was marked by a spirit of collaboration and a shared commitment to creating a sustainable and prosperous future for all.

One of the key items on the agenda was the AMBAG Regional Growth Forecast. This forecast plays a crucial role in guiding our regional planning efforts, and it was heartening to see the dedication and enthusiasm with which our board members approached this topic. We recognize the importance of accurate and informed projections in shaping our policies and initiatives, and we are confident that the Regional Growth Forecast will provide a solid foundation for our future endeavors.

Additionally, we had the opportunity to discuss the AMBAG Sustainability Program, which aims to promote energy efficiency and sustainable practices in our communities. We firmly believe that by working together, we can make a significant impact on reducing our carbon footprint and preserving our natural resources. The City of Del Rey Oaks has always been a leader in environmental stewardship, and we are grateful for your continued support and partnership in advancing our sustainability goals.

Furthermore, we explored the concept of complete streets policies, which prioritize the safety and accessibility of all users of our transportation system. We understand the importance of creating streets that are not only efficient but also safe and inclusive for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists alike. By implementing complete streets policies, we can enhance the quality of life in our communities and foster a more connected and vibrant region. We were encouraged by the positive response from our board members and their commitment to working towards this shared vision.

However, I must also share some challenging news that was presented by AMBAG staff during the meeting. The Governor's proposed 2024/25 budget includes a \$300 million cut to the REAP 2.0 funding. This represents a significant 50% reduction in the REAP 2.0 Program and will result in a corresponding 50% cut to all REAP 2.0 awards. While this is the Governor's proposed budget and discussions will continue over the next few months, it is important for us to be aware of this potential impact.



In light of this development, AMBAG staff recommends that REAP 2.0 Local Suballocation Grant Program (LSGP) and Regional Suballocation Grant Program (RSGP) awardees do not spend more than 50% of their REAP 2.0 awards. Additionally, it is advised that awardees refrain from initiating any projects that cannot be completed with only 50% of the awarded funding. AMBAG staff will continue to participate in budget discussions and advocate for REAP 2.0 funding. We will keep you informed as we receive more information and direction.

In conclusion, the AMBAG Board of Directors meeting held on January 10, 2024, was a resounding success. The spirit of collaboration and shared commitment to regional cooperation was evident throughout our discussions. I am inspired by the dedication and passion of our board members and their unwavering commitment to serving our communities. Together, we can make a positive impact and create a better future for all.

VI. Council Report: Message of Councilmember John Uy on MLK Day (January 15, 2024)

 Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 

As we come together to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, let us reflect on the profound impact of a man who dreamt of a world where equality and justice prevailed. Today, we pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy and the timeless values he stood for.

 "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." 

These powerful words by Martin Luther King, Jr. remind us that even in the face of adversity, unity and love have the strength to overcome. Let us embrace these words as a guiding light for our community, fostering compassion, understanding, and respect.

On this special day, let's commit ourselves to building bridges, breaking down barriers, and creating a community where every voice is heard and every person is valued. Dr. King's dream was not just for his time but for all times, and it lives on through each one of us.

Together, we can continue the journey towards a more just, inclusive, and harmonious society. Happy Martin Luther King, Jr. Day! 🌟

[#MLKDay](#) [#UnityInCommunity](#) [#DelReyOaksStrong](#)

