



Joint 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness

The collaborative effort between the City of Fresno and Fresno County to develop a 10-year plan to end chronic homelessness which began in December 2007, continued on April 14, 2008, when approximately 40 people gathered in the Fresno County Plaza Ballroom. In attendance were members of both the Leadership Council, comprised of City and County elected officials and administrators, and members of the Planning Council, which consists of individuals from the community representing businesses, service providers, faith based groups, community members and the homeless.

Mayor Autry and Henry Perea, Chairman of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, addressed the group and explained their vision and hopes for the council. Eduardo Cabrera, Regional Coordinator of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness also made a presentation addressing the homeless issue that is affecting the United States and provided examples of three 10-year plans successfully developed by various cities across the nation. These three plans will be used as a model by the Planning Council to develop Fresno's 10-year plan. The Planning Council has committed to the task of developing a plan to end homelessness within 100 days of their first meeting.

Once the Planning Council has developed their plan, and the Leadership Council has accepted it, the plan will be presented to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors and the Fresno City Council for approval and adoption.

Mayor & Community Leaders Promote Mental Health and School Safety

Mayor Autry responded quickly to the officer-involved shooting that occurred on the Roosevelt High School campus in April. In a press conference with Fresno County Board of Supervisors Henry Perea, Fresno Police Chief Jerry Dyer, and officials from Fresno Unified School District, the Mayor announced a partnership that would strengthen our city's ability to provide appropriate mental health services for our adolescents and improve the safety of our schools.

The Mayor's partnership will:

1. Immediately establish a team of professionals to serve on a steering committee. The team will include representatives from law enforcement, government, education, and the mental health services community.
2. Conduct an assessment of current services, policies, and procedures that are in place for families and agencies dealing with mental health concerns with children.
3. Research the creation of a database that serves as a guide to people seeking help for mental illness.
4. Seek legislation that clearly defines the Constitutional Right to Privacy while maintaining the safety of our schools.
5. Create a team of our elected officials who can access funding from Proposition 65.



Mayor Autry stated that cities must overcome the "ignorance of the condition" to effectively treat our troubled youth and avoid future tragedies.



VIBE at Sports Town on Kern Street 'Sings'

On April 11th, thousands of people joined Mayor Autry in celebrating the grand opening of one of the City's major downtown revitalization projects. The Mayor, along with members of the City Council and Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame, cut the ribbon to celebrate the opening of Sports Town on Kern Street prior to the Grizzlies opening day game against the Tucson Sidewinders. The first phase of the project included improved street lighting, new and additional public seating, upgraded landscaping, LED lights in trees, and banners honoring Fresno's sports heritage along Kern Street. The event provided a spectacular atmosphere for people who enjoyed a variety of foods, a beer garden and music by the Super Lucky Catz. Kids were treated to face painting, balloons and bounce houses. A



BMX stunt demonstration thrilled fans and four Peak Broadcasting radio stations covered the entire event live.

Future improvements will include the addition of Fresno sports legends plaques in the sidewalks. The VIBE continues each month throughout the Grizzlies summer season and links the upcoming Legacy Project at the Convention Center to Chukchansi Park. With restaurants and activities to keep families entertained, there are now many reasons for Frenshans to come early and stay late in downtown!

Upcoming VIBE dates: May 16, June 27, July 18, August 22.



Beloved Tot Lot Re-Opens on the Fulton Mall

On April 24, 2008, the City of Fresno proudly unveiled two newly renovated tot lots on the Fulton Mall. As part of the Mayor's continued focus on Downtown Revitalization, the Parks, After School, Recreation & Community Services Department (PARCS) worked for nearly two years with the Downtown Fresno Coalition, the Downtown Association, and the Fresno Arts Council to preserve the historic nature of the 40 year old play areas in order to provide recreation facilities for the many families that visit the area. The \$109,000 renovation project was funded by grants from the State of California Department of Recreation's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the 2002 Resources Bond Act.

The opening of the play areas also coincided with National Playground Safety Week that occurred on April 21-25th. The City is pleased to share that the newly installed equipment meets local and state health and safety standards along with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access requirements for the physically challenged.



Inaugural Job Fair a Resounding Success

The Parks, After School, Recreation & Community Services Department (PARCS) as part of the Mayor's Job Initiative (MJl), in collaboration with the Workforce Connection and PG&E were pleased to host that the inaugural Mayor's Youth Summer Job Fair held Saturday, April 19, 2008 at Manchester Center in central Fresno. The event was an overwhelming success with more than 5,000 youth in attendance! Teens (many with their appreciative parents) from all over the community attended with hopes of landing a summer job or long term employment.

The MJl arranged for 56 employers to be at the mall for the purpose of recruiting youth and conducting on-site interviews for more than 1,500 entry level jobs, including seasonal and permanent positions. Combined, more than 30,000 total applications were distributed. The event also featured multiple workshops including: Getting Into the Entertainment Industry, Making Your Career Move, The Myths About the Fast Food Industry, and What To Do After The Job Fair.

For additional information about the MJl program, contact Darryl Du'Chene at 621-2919.



Candidate Briefing Follows Private Sector Model

Mayoral and council candidates were treated to an unprecedented opportunity to earn valuable insight into how City of Fresno Departments' operate. On Thursday, April 17th, various Department Directors made presentations on how their staff uses performance metrics to provide for prudent decisions regarding the effectiveness of programs and the manner in which resources are allocated. The use of objective data, rather than relying on anecdotal information, provides the information needed to make informed decisions, track the results of those decisions, and draw on statistical analysis to confirm or amend future decisions.

Initially, Mayor Autry removed himself from the presentation out of respect for all the candidates, noting that his absence provided a freedom for both the candidates and Department Directors to "ask the tough questions." After each department presentation, Directors fielded questions about how his/her department was utilizing performance metrics to make the best and highest use of the City's fiscal resources.

A follow up date has been scheduled on Thursday, May 15th for the remaining departments to complete the presentation process.



Upcoming City Events

May 15, 2008— Chandler Executive Airport Renovation

Chandler Lobby will enjoy a return to its original 1930's grandeur with the completion of the historic renovation! Celebrate the modern day craftsmanship and view vintage aircraft on display at the Airports Open House. Contact Airports Public Affairs Vikkie Calderon at 621-4522 for additional information.

May 16, 2008— The 2nd VIBE at Sports Town on Kern Street

The Opening Day event was such a success that the public will have four more opportunities to enjoy it again! The next VIBE event, again in connection with a Grizzlies Baseball home game, will have expanded activities, interactive entertainment for the entire family, music, food, drink and so much more! Check the City website for more details!

May 20, 2008— National Public Works Week

The community is invited to City Hall to marvel at some of the equipment and technology that the Public Works Department uses daily. New this year is an 8,000 gallon water tanker for the Waste Water Treatment Plant featuring a state-of-the-art EPA Tier 3 emission rated diesel engine and exhaust after-treatment device that further lowers both ozone forming and diesel particulate emissions.

May 30, 2008— Mayor's State of the City Address

Mayor Alan Autry will address the community at the Annual "State of the City" luncheon at noon in the New Exhibit Hall. The event is hosted by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce, Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Fresno Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, San Joaquin Valley Black Chamber of Commerce and the Hmong Business Association. A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fresno County. Call the Greater Fresno Chamber of Commerce for info & reservations at 495-4815.

Honors and Awards

City Waste Collector Leadworker Wins Driver of the Year Award

Mr. Robert Overton was named as 2008 Driver of the Year by the Environmental Industry Association. A ten year City employee at Solid Waste, Robert was proudly nominated for this honor by his department, and recognized by supervisors, peers and customers for his outstanding attitude and excellent customer service. Robert clearly represents the intent of the EIA Award, for he is truly—"Committed to Safety, Quality, and Service."

Fresno Area Express Receives Kudos for Newsletter

FAX received two separate awards for its Fall 2007 newsletter. The first, the 2008 TMCA Compass Award from the Transportation Marketing & Communications Association, offered well deserved recognition to FAX out of the more than 200 entries submitted. The second was the 2008 PRSA Image Award, recognition by the Public Relations Society of America - Central California. Both entities judged the FAX Newsletter as the "best in marketing and communications."



Mayor on the Move

Summer Watering Schedule



Call 559.621.5480



Recycle TIP From City of Fresno Recycling division:

Are Plastic Drink Containers Safe?

The answer depends on the type of plastic, as indicated by a number on the bottom! Those with a #3 or 7 can leach toxins when heated and should be discarded.

Remember, ALL plastic is recyclable—so place items in the blue container!



City employment

- 4/1/08 Mayor served as Keynote Speaker for the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Conference "Navigating the Future: Accessing and Sustaining Resources for Community and Faith-Based Organizations" in Los Angeles.
4/3/08 Met with State Department of Agriculture Secretary A.G. Kawamura in Fresno to discuss apple moth eradication efforts.
4/9/08 Attended a meet and greet luncheon at Hoover High School with NASA Astronaut Barbara Morgan and presented her with a proclamation honoring her for her accomplishments with NASA.
4/10/08 Attended a special session of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley in Lemoore.
4/11/08 Spoke at the inaugural "The Vibe at Sports Town on Kern Street" event in downtown Fresno.
4/14/08 Attended the kick-off meeting of the Planning Council for the 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.
4/16/08 Spoke at the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Amigo Luncheon at Pardini's.
4/22/08 Held a joint press conference with Fresno Unified School District administration and the Fresno Police Department unveiling an initiative addressing mental health and school safety.
4/23/08 Appeared as a guest on the Ray Appleton Show on KMJ radio.
4/24/08 Participated in the Armenian Genocide Flag Raising event at Fresno City Hall.