LIVERMORE
CALIFORNIA

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LIVERMORE WINTER/SPRING 2012 ▪ Issue 36

City Budget Development Underway
Community Budget Workshop and Survey

Mark your calendar for February 16th, and get ready to share what makes Livermore a great place to live, work, and play! Don't miss this opportunity to be part of the City's budget development process.

City staff and Council are busy preparing the Fiscal Year 2012-2014 City Budget for approval this June. As in prior years, Livermore residents will have the

opportunity to provide input and feedback via a community workshop and online survey. On Thursday, February 16, 2012, the community is invited to play "A Penny for Your Thoughts" at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, from 7:00pm. – 9:00pm. This award-winning game, developed by the City of Concord, is a fun way for participants to discuss City services and share ideas.

After a brief City Budget Update by City Manager Marc Roberts and Assistant City Manager Troy Brown, workshop attendees will have the opportunity to identify priorities and share ideas with all participants.

For additional information or to register for the workshop, call 925-960-4660. Residents can also register via e-mail at cmvolunteer@cityoflivermore.net. RSVP's are encouraged, but not required. For ADA accommodations, please call 925-960-4586/4582 or email the previous address at least 72 hours prior to the workshop date.

Residents who are unable to attend the workshop can still participate in the budget process via an online survey. Beginning February 17 through February 24, 2012 visit the City of Livermore's website at www.cityoflivermore.net and click on the link "A Penny for Your Thoughts" to provide your input on budget goals and priorities.

The information gathered from the Community Budget Workshop, the online survey will be presented to the Council and public during the City Council Budget Workshop in May. The final Fiscal Year 2012-2014 Budget will be adopted in June 2012. Additional information on the May and June City Council meetings will be posted on the City's website.

For the latest news, the budget calendar and more information about the budget process, visit the City's website at www.cityoflivermore.net.

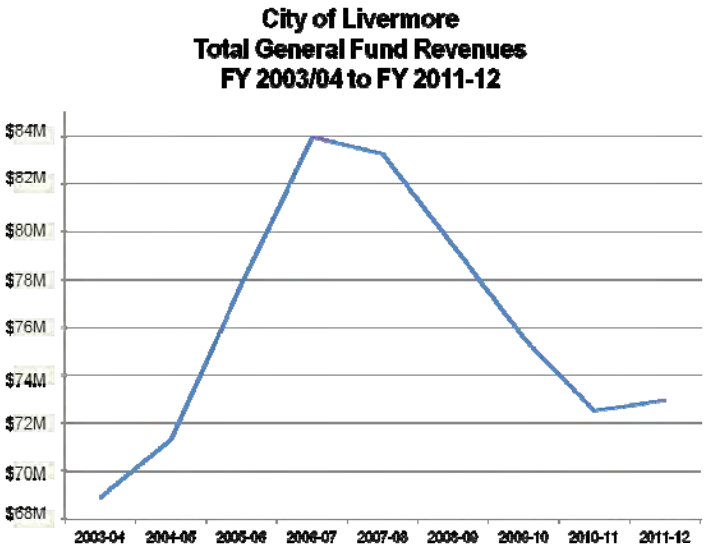
What's Inside...

- 2012 Amgen Tour of California
- Budget Update
- Redevelopment Agency

Budget Update

The global economic recession of 2008 drastically impacted the City's General Fund revenues. The City's General Fund is used to provide money for the overall daily operation of the City. Three primary sources of revenue for the General Fund are property tax, sales tax and development related revenues. These sources have decreased nearly 15% or by $12M over the past three years. To address this dramatic decrease in revenues, the City has taken responsible, prudent steps to adjust to the economic changes while maintaining its goal to provide a high level of core services to residents.

Over the past year, the City of Livermore's financial picture has stabilized. Positive indicators for the local economy continue. Nevertheless, the development of the next budget will again require careful analysis, difficult-decisions making, and input from a variety of stakeholders. Residents may provide their input on the development of the upcoming budget by participating in "A Penny for Your Thoughts" in February. More details are found in this issue's cover story. To view a comprehensive financial report on the City's finances, visit www.cityoflivermore.net and click on "Finance" under the City Government tab. Then click on "Budget Process" on the left-hand column.



In the Spotlight

Redevelopment Agencies Dissolved

In June 2011, the California Legislature passed the bill proposed by Governor Brown eliminating redevelopment agencies. Redevelopment agencies were defined areas in a community where the tax revenues from that defined area would be re-invested to improve economic vitality and eliminate blight. In 1982, the City Council designated the Livermore downtown area as a Redevelopment Agency.

The renaissance of Livermore's downtown is directly attributable to the Redevelopment Agency. This important economic tool played an integral role in the development of the Downtown Streetscape, parking garage, movie theater, Bankhead Theater, new retail buildings, and the renovation and expansion of the Valley Health Care Center. The City's Redevelopment Agency also funded numerous affordable housing projects. In response to the legislation to dissolve redevelopment agencies, the League of California Cities and the California Redevelopment Association filed a lawsuit challenging the authority of the State's right to dissolve redevelopment agencies. In late December, the California Supreme Court, in *CRA et al v. Matosantos,* ruled in the State's favor dissolving redevelopment agencies effective January 31, 2012.

The City of Livermore, along with cities throughout the State, is now taking the steps required by the dissolution legislation to wind down redevelopment agency activity. City staff is working to explore alternative programs to continue economic development and revitalization. For more information regarding the Redevelopment Agency, visit the City's website at www.citylivermore.net and click on "Community Development" under City Government. Then click on "Redevelopment Agency" on the left-hand column.

Around Town

2012 Amgen Tour of California
Stage 3 Finishes in Livermore

Livermore will shine once again in the 2012 Amgen Tour of California. The City is excited to host the Stage 3 Finish of the Tour on Tuesday, May 15th. The Amgen Tour of California is a Tour de France-style cycling road race that challenges the world's top professional riders on a eight day, 750-plus mile state-wide course.

The Tour begins in Santa Rosa on May 13th and will traverse the state, traveling to new locations on its way to the finish in Los Angeles on May 20th. Stage 3 of the Tour begins in San Jose and finishes in Livermore. Livermore's enthusiastic route crowds and warm hospitality of 2011 helped the City win the coveted Stage 3 Finish for 2012.

Hosting the Stage Finish brings international prominence to Livermore. The event is expected to fill hotels and bring residents and visitors to local restaurants and shops. The City's Local Organizing Committee, a group of City staff and community partners including Livermore Downtown Inc., the Chamber of Commerce, and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, is organizing the event. Local bike-themed events, cycling related restaurant and retail promotions will entice all ages to join the fun and once again welcome the Amgen Tour of California to Livermore.

Watch for future announcements about race day volunteers, sponsorships, temporary street closures, events, and more. So mark your calendars and get set for an exhilarating finish as the Amgen Tour of California rolls into Livermore. For more information please visit www.amgentourofcalifornia.com or the City's website www.cityoflivermore.net.

Your Tax Dollars At Work

Measure B Half-Cent Tax

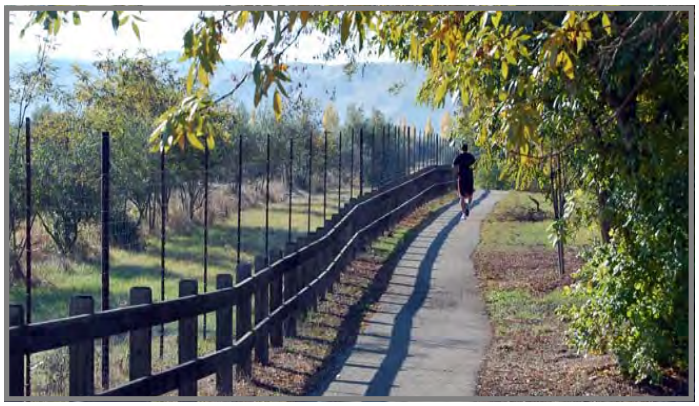
In November 2000, nearly 82% of Alameda County voters approved Measure B, which authorized a half-cent sales tax for transportation expenditures. Measure B funds are used to deliver a broad range of transportation projects and programs that improve transportation infrastructure both locally and regionally. Measure B Funds are administered by the Alameda County Transportation Commission. The funds are intended to support the design and construction of essential transportation improvements and to fund services that are essential to keep the City of Livermore and the Tri-Valley moving.

The City of Livermore receives about $1 million annually from this tax source. The following projects used Measure B funds during Fiscal Year 2010-2011:

Project Description	Measure B Funds
Street Pavement Treatments	$500,000
Sidewalk Repair and Curb Ramps	$135,000
Traffic Signal Upgrades	$ 3,500
Trail Design and Construction	$135,000

The trail improvement projects, including the Arroyo Mocho Trail, the Arroyo Las Positas Trail and the Iron Horse Regional Trail, are key components of the City's local trail network and are being designed with future regional trail connections in mind.

For more information on Measure B, visit the Alameda County Transportation Commission website at www.actia2022.com or visit the City of Livermore's website at www.cityoflivermore.net.



Library Lore and More

Livermore Reads Together 2012

Every February, the Livermore Public Library invites the community to read one great work of literature together. This year's selection is *A Bell for Adano,* a Pulitzer Prize winning novel by John Hersey. *A Bell for Adano* tells the story of Major Victor Joppolo, the leader of the American military government in the Sicilian village of Adano after World War II. Hersey's book examines cross-cultural conflict and the challenges and ultimate goals of nation building. Throughout February, the Library will host a series of programs related to World War II, Italian culture, music, and the legacy of John Hersey. Visit the Library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net for program listings, or visit the Library to checkout a copy of the book. Livermore Reads Together is sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Library.

Programs for Children -

Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue

- Storytimes through May 11: Baby/Toddler - Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:30am; Preschool - Wednesdays, 11:00am; Family storytime - Mondays, 7:00pm.
- Sing, Ring, Listen, and Paint: Saturday, Feb. 11, 10:30am.
- Come Learn with LEGO™!: Saturday, Mar. 17, 2 - 4pm.

Rincon Branch Library, 125 Rincon Avenue

- Storytimes through May 11: Baby/Toddler - Fridays, 10:30am; Preschool - Fridays, 11:00am.

Programs for Teens, Civic Center Library

- Duct tape friendship bracelets: Tuesday, Feb. 14, 3:30-5pm
- Entries accepted for Teen Art Exposition & Contest: March 1-March 31.

Mark Your Calendars

Livermore Wine Country Festival - Sat./Sun., May 5 & 6
Sponsor: Downtown Livermore, Inc.
Information: 925-373-1795 or www.livermoredowntown.com

Livermore Rodeo Parade - Saturday, June 9
Sponsor: Livermore Rotary
Information: www.livermore-rotary.org

94th Annual Livermore Rodeo - Sat./Sun., June 9 - 10
Sponsor: Stockmen's Rodeo Association
Information: 925-447-3008 or www.livermorerodeo.org

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John Marchand, Mayor	960-4020
Doug Horner, Vice Mayor	980-2655
Stewart Gary	960-4019
Laureen Turner	960-4018
Bob Woerner	960-4017

CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Attorney's Office	960-4150
City Clerk's Office	960-4200
City Manager's Office	960-4040
Community Development	960-4400
Building Inspections (24hr Rec)	960-4430
Engineering	960-4500
Housing & Human Services	960-4580
Neighborhood Preservation	960-4444
Permit Center/Building Permits	960-4410
Planning	960-4450
Economic Development	960-4140
Finance	960-4300
Animal License	960-4315
Business License	960-4310
Utility Billing	960-4320
Fire Department	454-2361
Human Resources	960-4100
Job Hotline	960-4120
Library	373-5500
Police	371-4900
Abandoned Vehicle Hotline	371-4824
Graffiti Hotline	373-5600
Public Works	960-8000
Airport	960-8220
Public Golf Course	455-7820
Maintenance	960-8020
Water Resources	960-8100
Water Resources Emergency	960-8160

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Information	960-4000
Website	www.cityoflivermore.net
E- mail	info@cityoflivermore.net

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