



Communicator

February 2014

President's Message



By Gene Hostetler

Welcome to a new year! I hope that everyone had a good holiday. We at CARPD have been preparing for the Spring Conference which, this year, is being held at the Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel in South Lake Tahoe, CA from May 15-17, 2014.

This year we will be awarding two scholarships to attend the conference. These scholarships will be awarded to first time attendees who are from Districts that have not or have rarely attended the conference due to budgetary constraints or to Districts who regularly attend the conference, but due to budgetary constraints must limit the number individuals that may attend. Please visit the CARPD website for full information and instructions on how to apply. The deadline to apply is February 28, 2014.

We will be featuring numerous classes and guest speakers at the conference this year. Some of the topics that will be featured include: Ethics Training; Affordable Care Act Update; Legislative Update; Ballot Measures: Beyond the Basics; LED Lighting and Alternative Energy Solutions; Programs for Seniors; Park Liability and Risk Management for Child Abuse. Conference registration forms have been sent out to all of our Districts and are also available on the CARPD website.

Also featured at the conference will be the Awards of Distinction for Districts and Individuals. We have some new categories this year and are hoping for a good turnout. The deadline for submitting an application is Friday, March 7th, so be sure and get your application in soon!

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**Check out the
CARPD Website!**

[CARPD website](#)

[CAPRI website](#)

Notices:

To everyone registering for the upcoming Spring Conference, we wanted to let you know that the

let you know that the room prices on the form that was sent to our Member Districts was incorrect and has been updated. The form that is currently on our website is now correct.

Please click [HERE](#) for the updated registration form!

We are planning a great conference this year featuring a lot of important information for Special Districts. The conference represents a good way to meet and network with other people and Districts that may have information that could be useful to you and your District. Also, if your District or any of your District's contractors or vendors would like to become a sponsor or bring a raffle item, please contact Pat or Tara at (916) 722-5550. There will be plenty of free time to explore and enjoy South Lake Tahoe; also, be advised that the hotel provides free breakfast and an evening happy hour. We hope to see you there and thanks for your support!

Legislative Report



By Ralph Heim

February 2014 Legislative Update

2013-14 Session Overview

The Legislature reconvened on January 6, 2014, to commence the second legislative year of the 2013-14 Session. This year's Final Recess is scheduled for August 31st.

Governor Unveils 2014-15 Proposed State Budget

On January 9th, Governor Brown unveiled his 2014-15 proposed State Budget, a budget constructed around an estimated \$6 billion surplus, the first such surplus in many years. While the proposed budget does contain increased spending in a number of programs, the Governor cautioned members of the Legislature that they must exercise restraint relative to spending, specifically on new programs, as overspending and/or another economic state or national downturn could move California back to the days of deficits.

In addition to calling for a significant budget reserve, coupled with an equally significant "rainy day fund," the Governor also highlighted his proposals to spend down California's huge and growing "wall of debt." Included in the

and growing wall of debt. Included in the “wall of debt” are millions of dollars owed local governments for past-year state mandated program costs. Clearly, the budget reserve, rainy day fund and spending down the wall of debt will undergo modification during the Legislature’s budget subcommittee process and may look very different in the Legislature’s adopted state budget.

New Assembly/Senate Leadership Elected

With Assembly Speaker Perez and Senate President Pro Tem Steinberg termed-out this year, both houses have selected their respective members to replace Perez and Steinberg later this year.

Democrat members in the Senate have elected Senator Kevin de Leon of Los Angeles to replace Steinberg, while the Assembly Democrats have chosen Assembly Member Toni Atkins of San Diego as their next Assembly Speaker. As stated above, both will assume their new positions later this year.

2-Year Bills Deadline

January 31st was the deadline for all bills introduced in 2013 to pass their house of origin.

Bill Introduction Deadline

This year’s deadline to introduce new legislation is February 21st, and while introductions to date are few, that pace will increase significantly as the February 21st deadline approaches.

Redevelopment Initiative Filed

On December 24, 2013, an organization called “Redevelop California” submitted an initiative to “restore and modify redevelopment.” Simply, the initiative proposes the restoration of pre-existing redevelopment agencies and authorizes them to continue and complete redevelopment plans and projects on a going-forward basis **and continues the use of tax increment financing without your approval.**

The Attorney General’s Office will be preparing the title and summary for the initiative in the

the title and summary for the initiative in the coming weeks and you may review the initiative's text by going to the Attorney General's website at: oag.ca.gov/initiatives under the Active Measures tab. The initiative is #13-0065 --"California Jobs and Education Development Initiative Act."

Legislative Committee to Meeting

The CARPD Legislative Committee held its first 2014 meeting on February 7th. The Committee reviewed all newly introduced legislation of interest to the CARPD membership and where appropriate, adopted positions on all such bills.

SB 751 - Brown Act



By Pat Cabulagan

Effective January 1, 2014, SB 751 amended Section 54953 of the Government Code relating to local government. The bill changed Section 1. Section 54953 by adding, "The legislative body of a local agency shall publicly report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present for the action."

Basically, Districts must now show how each board or committee member voted on each item. The statute is a little ambiguous and doesn't really spell out how the votes should be reported and doesn't mention meeting minutes specifically; however going forward, the standard format for minutes should likely read: "Ayes: Smith, Harris, Jones. Noes: None; Abstentions: None."

A copy of the statute can be found on the CARPD website under Legislation.

Ethics Training



By Pat Cabulagan

AB 1234 Government Code Section 53235 requires all elected and appointed officials to take two hours of ethics training every two years. This requirement applies if elected officials receive

requirement applies if elected officials receive compensation for their service or are reimbursed for their expenses.

A local agency official who serves more than one local agency shall satisfy the requirements of this article once every two years without regard to the number of local agencies with which he or she serves.

53235.2. (a) A local agency that requires its local agency officials to complete the ethical training prescribed by this article shall maintain records indicating both of the following:

(1) The dates that local officials satisfied the requirements of this article.

(2) The entity that provided the training.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a local agency shall maintain these records for at least five years after local officials receive the training. These records are public records subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1).

Your District needs to ensure and maintain records for **5 years** and make sure that these requirements are being met. You should maintain a listing of the board members and employees serving on committees, etc. and the documentation that this requirement has been met. There are many online resources for training for Ethics and CARPD offers Ethics training every year at their conference.

2014 Special District Legislative Days



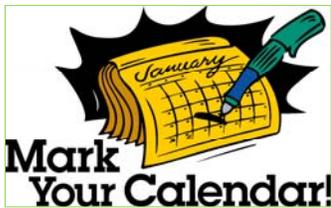
By Pat Cabulagan

The California Association for Parks and Recreation Indemnity is a proud Partner of the 2014 Special Districts Legislative Days (SDLD), scheduled for May 20-21, 2014 at the Sacramento Convention Center.

Special Districts Legislative Days is a compelling two-day legislative conference that features a dynamic lineup of speakers and activities. Representatives from all types of special districts attend this event to ensure the successful delivery

of the core local services special districts provide to millions of people statewide. Hear from and interact with some of California's key elected officials and leading policy experts on the most important issues currently facing special districts. Take this opportunity to meet with your legislators and exchange ideas with other special district leaders, both in the Capitol and at a private legislative reception. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.csda.net/special-district-legislative-days/>.

Dates to Remember



Date	Event
February 28, 2014	Deadline to Apply for a Scholarship to the Conference.
March 1, 2014	Deadline for Early Conference Registration.
March 7, 2014	Deadline for Awards of Distinction Application Submittal.
May 15-17, 2014	Dates for the Spring Conference in South Lake Tahoe!

Questions or Comments? Email us at pcabulagan@capri-jpa.org or call (916) 722-5550
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