

FEBRUARY 2016

COMMUNICATOR

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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Former Postmaster General John Wanamaker said, "People who cannot find time for recreation are obliged sooner or later to find time for illness."

Winters in California are always the best, and although we still need more rain, I am grateful for the wonderful weather we are experiencing. We have little to no excuse for staying indoors, our communities deserve the best recreational programs we can provide, and that is why gatherings like CARPD are so important.

I'm hoping that like me, you are all looking forward to

this year's CARPD conference. This year, there is a wealth of information available and some fantastic sessions, from grant writing and the effect on minimum wage increase on public entities to legislative issues and a water/drought panel.

You will have a chance to learn about the



hidden stories of Lake Tahoe, Marilyn Monroe, the launch of the Republican Party, the Academy Awards, the Rat Pack, its all part of the history of America's largest mountain lake in "Tahoe Beneath the Surface".

I am also looking forward to hearing our keynote speaker James

Lloyd. He's an engaging motivational speaker who specializes in customer service, leadership and organizational issues, all of which are relatable to us in the Recreation and Park District world.

I had the opportunity to coach recreational youth sports leagues for many years. My goal was to provide a safe and fun environment for all the kids with the hope of making a positive impact in at least one of them. As a board member, for my areas District and CARPD, it is my hope that I can provide a safe and fun environment for the people making a difference and a positive impact in our communities' life.

Let's make 2016 a memorable year for Recreation and Parks.

Frank Gorman,
President

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislators Return to Complete the 2015-16 Session

The Legislature reconvened January 4th, commencing the second year of the 2015-16 Session scheduled to adjourn this year on August 31st, with Governor Brown having until September 30th to sign or veto all legislation passed by September 1st. Finally, January 31st is the deadline to pass house of origin bills introduced in 2015, so-called “2-year bills.”

Another important legislative date is February 19th, the deadline for legislation to be introduced for 2016. There are a few exemptions to this deadline, including constitutional amendments, legislation proposing a tax expenditure and legislation sponsored by a legislative policy or fiscal committee.

Since the majority of the new bills will be introduced during the week leading-up to the February 19th deadline, the CARPD Legislative Committee has scheduled a meeting for March 4th to review all the bills of interest to recreation and park districts and adopt positions on those where appropriate.

Also in January, the Governor released his 2016-17 proposed state budget, stressing the critical importance for the Legislature to use prudence relative to spending, specifically on new, ongoing programs. Clearly a hard sell to the majority party, given the state has realized billions above the Governor’s Department of Finance estimates for the budget

year. The Governor warned the next recession is “just around the corner,” and he will not allow the boom/bust budget years of the past to return. Governor Brown received some unsolicited support for his fiscal restraint position from Moody’s, who echoed the Governor’s admonition for fiscal prudence. The real state budget doesn’t emerge until after the Governor’s May Revision – the time the real budget discussion begins.



Legislation of Interest

Cited below are a number of 2015 and newly introduced bills of interest:

Assembly Bill 665 (Frazier): Relating to hunting, AB 665 would undermine local control by establishing state pre-emption of any local regulations, ordinances, or action relating to the discharge of weapons and the taking of game on specified public lands. AB 665 moved through both the Assembly and Senate last year, and can be taken up at any time in 2016 by the Assembly for concurrence in Senate amendments.

Assembly Bill 1648 (Wilk): Relating to the Public Records Act, AB 1648 would prohibit the state and any local agency from selling, exchanging, furnishing, or otherwise providing a public record subject to disclosure to a private entity in a manner that prevents a member of the public from sharing, distributing, or publishing the public record subject to disclosure.

Assembly Bill 1661 (McCarty): Would require local agency officials to receive sexual harassment training and education if the local agency provides any type of compensation, salary or stipend to the officials and would allow a local agency to require employees to received such training.

Assembly Bill 1676 (Campos): Relating to salary information, AB 1676 would prohibit employers, including the state and local governments, from seeking salary history information about an applicant for employment, with few exceptions. State and local governments would be exempt from the requirement that an employer, upon reasonable request, is to provide the pay scale for a position to an applicant for employment.

Senate Bill 218 (Huff): Would declare the Vehicle Code to be applicable throughout the State and would prohibit local authority from enacting or enforcing an ordinance unless expressly authorized by the Vehicle Code. SB 218 was designed to prevent the Mountains Recreation and Conser-

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (CONT.)

vation Authority (MRCA) from using photo stop signs among other traffic safety systems. SB 218 died in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee last week.

Senate Bill 317 (De León): Would place the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Conservation Bond Act on the November 8, 2016 ballot and if adopted by the voters would authorize \$2.45B in bonds to finance parks, rivers and

coastal protection programs. The bill is on the Senate Floor and



needs to move through the legislative process by the Summer

To qualify for the November General Election.

Senate Bill 876 (Liu): Similar to Senator Liu's homelessness measure of last year, SB 876 still contains many, if not all, of the issues that gave rise to CARPD's opposition last year, including use of parks and park restrooms, et cetera. I expect most local government association and scores of individual local agencies will oppose SB 876.

By Ralph Heim

2016 CARPD SPRING CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars!!!

The 2016 California Association for Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD) conference is scheduled for May 19-21, 2016 at the Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel in South Lake Tahoe, CA.

The conference will feature information on Legislation; Tahoe Beneath the Surface; Liability Exposures for Recreation and Park District; Grant Writing; Employment Law Update; LAFCO; Minimum Wage Effects on Public Entities; Lessons Learned on Prop 218; Legislative Issues; What Districts are Doing to Address the Drought; Armed Rangers/ Unarmed Rangers/Security - What Should We Use?

CARPD will be providing three

scholarships to first time conference attendees or those that have not attended in quite some time. This is being offered to help districts that wouldn't otherwise have the money in their budget to participate in this year's conference. Two of the scholarships will provide hotel and conference registration for one attendee and the other will provide conference registration for one attendee. Please visit the conference section of our website for more information and instructions on how to apply.

As in year's past, we will be having our Awards of Distinction ceremony on Saturday, May 21th. Start planning now to submit your applications for the following awards: **Large Districts:** Outstanding District, Outstanding New Facility, Outstanding Renovated

Facility. **Small District:** Outstanding District, Outstanding Renovated Facility.

Individual/Group Awards: Outstanding Technology, Social Media and Marketing, Outstanding Environmental Program, Outstanding Innovative Program, Outstanding Volunteer, Outstanding Professional; Outstanding Community Organization, and the **Jim Meredith Award**. We look forward to seeing all the wonderful and creative activities/programs our Districts are providing to their communities.

We are looking forward to providing a very informative and entertaining conference to the Recreation and Park Districts.

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending the 2016 CARPD Conference!



By Pat Cabulagan



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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.CARPD.NET**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Date	Event
February 26, 2016	Deadline for Scholarship Submittal.
March 7, 2016	Deadline for Awards of Distinction Application Submittal.
March 14, 2016	Deadline for Early Conference Registration.
May 19-21 2016	Dates for the Spring Conference in South Lake Tahoe!

