



Ventura County Special Districts Association

Sept/Oct
2016

Offering Quality of Life Services Through Direct Representation



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mike Paule

Hello VCSDA Members,

As Summer winds down and Fall takes hold, I hope everyone had a pleasant summer and was able to spend some time with family and friends.

The November Election is just around the corner and I think we will all be happy to see this election cycle behind us.

We have some interesting ballot initiatives to learn about and an important transportation tax measure for Ventura County that we will be voting on. At our August VCSDA meeting we learned about this transportation measure from Darren Kettle (VCTC Executive Director) and some of the challenges and issues facing our transportation system in the County.

Some of our VCSDA members are facing re-election campaigns this November and I wish all the candidates good luck.

The State legislature wrapped up its session and the state of various bills impacting special districts is detailed in some of the CSDA correspondence you receive (as well as in summary form in this newsletter).

Our next meeting is coming up on Tuesday, October 4th and we have a wonderful speaker and important topic that will be presented. Special Agent, Frederick Simon, will be presenting information about the FBI's InfraGard program and how we can learn about keeping our facilities, employees and operations safe through free training that InfraGard provides.

I encourage you to attend our VCSDA meetings and also hope to see you at the CSDA annual meeting in San Diego which is coming up in October. See you October 4th!

How to reach us:

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VCSDA BI-MONTHLY MEETING

October 4, 2016 at

Conejo Recreation & Park District—
Community Room
403 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

5:30 PM Dinner
6:15 PM Meeting

Guest Speaker:
Special Agent
Frederick J. Simon
FBI-InfraGard—Los Angeles

More details with the RSVP form
RSVP before deadline with enclosed form



FBI Special Agent—Frederick J. Simon

Special Agent Frederick J. Simon has been with the FBI for 18 years. During this time he has been assigned to a variety of squads where he worked on International and Domestic Terrosim, Espionage, and a variety of violent crimes.

SA Simon has also served as an interrogator in Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, an Evidence Technician for the FBI's Evidence Response Team, and has traveled overseas to represent the FBI. He is currently the Coordinator of the Los Angeles Region's InfraGard Program.

VCSDA Board Members



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Mike Paule



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Legislative Update



LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Ventura County Special Districts Assoc. (September 2016)

Here are some highlights from the September 2016 CSDA Grassroots Action Brief.

Revenue, Finances, and Taxation

AB 2476 (Daly) New Parcel Tax Requirements (CSDA—Oppose). Status: Governor's Desk.

Mandates special districts and other local agencies to notify a property owner of an approved parcel tax following its successful passage, if the property owner does not reside within the jurisdiction where the parcel tax is levied. Notification must be done by mail and local agencies may rely on the parcel tax revenues to recover reasonable costs associated with providing the notice. This measure is redundant to the current public elections process and mandates local agencies to send a special notice to only a specific subset of owners.

Governance and Accountability

Little Hoover Commission Zeros in on Climate Change and Healthcare Districts

On August 25, the Little Hoover Commission held a nearly four hour hearing in Sacramento reexamining its May 2000 report, "Special Districts: Relics of the Past or Resources for the Future." After hearing from CSDA and other witnesses on a wide range of topics, including consolidation, property taxes, and reserve funds, the Commission has decided to focus on the issue of climate change for its second hearing on special districts, scheduled for October 27th. Additionally, the Commission will hold a less formal "Roundtable" meeting on healthcare districts November 16th.

CSDA Sponsored Bill AB 2613 (Achadjian) was signed into law.

The legislation sponsored by CSDA, will provide small special districts with some financial relief in regard to their annual audit requirements while maintaining proper oversight and accountability. It will take effect January 1, 2017



Legislative Update Cont'd



AB 2257 (Maienschein) Website Mandate (CSDA Oppose). Status: Governor's Desk

Micro-manages how special districts and other local agencies design their websites by mandating they place their online agenda postings on their homepage.

AB 779 (Garcia) Local Gov Financial Disclosures (CSDA Oppose). Status: Governor's Desk.

Requires special districts and other local agencies to post a link on the homepage of their websites that contains the names, positions, and total compensation, including a breakdown of the types of compensation provided, for each elected official within that entity for the previous fiscal year. This report would be in addition to the existing report that is filed with the State Controller's Office and linked to the agency's website.

Infrastructure, Innovation and Investment

SB 957 (Hueso) Design– Build for Healthcare Districts (CSDA Support). Status: Signed.

Would authorize until January 1, 2025, any health care district to use the design-build process when contracting for the construction of a hospital or health facility building.

Human Resources and Personnel

CSDA and Coalition Partners Block Costly Union Orientation

The legislature adjourned for the year without taking action on AB 2835 (Cooper). As a result, the legislation that would have granted public employee unions 30 minutes to provide orientations to new employees, on paid time, has died.

CSDA partnered with the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, public school organizations and numerous other public agency associations in opposing and successfully stopping the bill that would have cost our agencies, and ultimately taxpayers, hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

Photos from the August 2, 2016 Meeting at the Pleasant Valley Rec and Park—Senior Center

Investment/Expenditure Item	2016-2017	% of Total
1. Local Street and Roads	\$1,600,000,000	48.4%
2. Freeway Program	\$500,000,000	15.2%
3. Regional Roads	\$227,700,000	6.9%
4. Bus Transit Enhancements/Fair Support	\$191,400,000	5.7%
5. Caltrans Rail Enhancements	\$98,000,000	2.9%
6. Bicycle & Pedestrian	\$98,000,000	2.9%
7. Transportation Environmental Mitigation	\$191,000,000	5.7%

