



CAO's Corner

By Susan S. Muranishi,
County Administrator

Under the leadership of Alameda County, 19 Bay Area public agencies are joining together to purchase renewable energy for public facilities. The Regional Renewable Energy Procurement Project (R-REP) brings clean, renewable energy to over 120 sites including libraries, fire stations, city halls and medical facilities. Approximately 20 megawatts of power will be developed for projects in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties through new solar projects on rooftops and carports, fuel cell power generation systems, and solar thermal applications. These projects will effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the amount generated by approximately 4,000 average-sized homes annually. This groundbreaking collaboration is just one of many ways Alameda County is leveraging its leadership in the field of sustainability and partnering with other agencies to strengthen the momentum toward clean-energy alternatives. Our County currently is involved in a national demonstration project in which local governments are deploying all-electric vehicles and vehicle charging stations in 90 locations around the Bay Area. We also are teaming with other local governments in the region to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, improve air quality, reduce waste, cut energy use and save money. These efforts underscore the commitment Alameda County made by identifying the environment and sustainability as cornerstones of its long-term strategic vision – aiming to leave our community a safe and beautiful place for future generations and maximizing the return on the tax dollars we invest.

10th Annual Disability Employment Awareness Conference on Oct. 17

Alameda County is hosting its 10th Annual Countywide Disability Employment Awareness Conference and Training on Thursday, October 17. The event will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street #290, Oakland. This year's conference will focus on cutting-edge topics related to disabled workers and their workplace needs. Keynote speakers will be Phyllis Cheng, Director of California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing; and motivational speaker Jessica Cox. A program of inspiring lunchtime entertainment will also be featured.

The conference and training is open to businesses, nonprofits and government agencies who work with disabled employees or who are interested in doing so. For more information, go to <http://www.acgov.org/MS/deaconf> or call Alameda County's Diversity Programs Office at (510) 272-3895.



Pothole Reporting Using Your Smart Phone

Did you notice a pothole or graffiti on your way to work? The Alameda County Public Works Agency is deploying a new Smart Phone (Android, Apple) application called "MOBILE CITIZEN" that allows residents of the County's unincorporated areas to report issues such as potholes, graffiti and illegal dumping. Residents can report these issues and make other requests for services by simply taking a photo and submitting it directly to the Public Works Agency. The MOBILE CITIZEN application has GPS functionality, so it even maps the location. The MOBILE CITIZEN application is free and can be downloaded from iTunes and Google Play. "MOBILE CITIZEN will afford residents of unincorporated areas of Alameda County another way to communicate their needs directly with the Public Works Agency," said Daniel Woldesenbet, Public Works Agency Director. Residents can continue to report problems by calling (510) 670-5500 or by sending an email to e-noticeMaintenance@acpwa.org. For more information on this new mobile application, contact Rick Ruiz at (510) 670-5500.



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Alameda County Honors California Arts Scholars

On July 3, the Board of Supervisors honored 42 Alameda County High School Students selected as California Arts Scholars by the California State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA) and the CSSSA Foundation. Statewide, 500 students were chosen for their artistic excellence from a pool of over 1,500 well-qualified applicants. Arts Scholars have demonstrated artistic excellence in Animation, Creative Writing, Film, Dance, Music, Theatre and the Visual Arts. The 4-week California State Summer School for the Arts was held this summer at the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) in Valencia in Southern California.



Summer Interns Boost County Workforce

Summer sunshine may put more spring in the step of the average County worker, but that's not the only reason the County workforce appeared to be more youthful this summer. The number of Alameda County initiatives to provide job skills, work experience and mentorship to young residents have blossomed in recent years – and a key part of this involves an influx of energetic young workers who bolster the County ranks each summer. For the third straight summer, nearly two dozen young people have joined the County workforce as part of the **New Beginnings Fellowship Program**. Program Fellows are aged 18 to 24 and have transitioned or soon will be transitioning out of the foster care system. The program provides each fellow with 20 hours of paid employment and is augmented by additional training and mentorship sessions to help the fellows clarify their career goals and work with County professionals on establishing plans on how to achieve these goals.

This year, the fellowships have expanded from two to six months in duration, due to the belief that the longer program will better allow participants to develop fruitful professional/mentorship relationships that will help them in the future. Also this summer, 40 local high school students took part in the **Second Annual Justice Academy**, sponsored by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. This year the Academy brought together juniors and seniors from public high schools in the Tri-Valley and Eden areas of Alameda County. The students met twice monthly during the spring and summer months to learn from a wide range of experts in our Justice System. Speakers included criminal and civil attorneys, law enforcement officers, elected officials, journalists, and judges. Participants also were matched with an employer in a field of each student's interest for a paid summer internship - an opportunity that allowed each youth to apply the knowledge and information they obtained in the Academy Seminars. In June, the Academy was recognized nationally when it received an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACO). The County also received a boost this summer from 22 local young people who joined us via the Youth Leadership Academy Summer Internship Program. The interns all participated in our award-winning **Youth Leadership Academy Program** during the fall. They returned for six weeks this summer to work in paid positions with 10 different County departments to hone their work and leadership skills. These interns provide first-rate support and help us get the message out about County services in their communities. Lastly, the Social Services Agency once again this summer sponsored its massively successful **Alameda County Summer and Afterschool Youth Employment and Education Program**, which this year involved some 858 local youth and provided them with paid employment throughout the summer. When school starts in the fall, the program will transition into an after-school program that will continue to keep these young people engaged in positive endeavors, broadening their work skills and their future prospects while making our community a better place.



Local high school students worked in paid positions with the County this summer as part of the Youth Leadership Academy Internship Program

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Summer Interns Create Clever Transportation App



Stephen Ou (left) and Caleb Kim

Caleb Kim and Stephen Ou ended their summer internships with the County's Information Technology Department in late August and returned to school. But the two technologically-adept teen-agers left a lasting legacy that could mark a major new step toward meeting the transportation needs of County employees and the public. Caleb and Stephen, 17-year-old friends from Castro Valley, spent much of their summer creating and perfecting **ALCO Shuttle App**, a new web and mobile-phone application that aims to make an innovative County shuttle service easier to use. The County currently operates free weekday shuttles in Oakland, Hayward and San Leandro that link with BART to encourage use of public transportation. (The Oakland and Hayward shuttles are available only to County employees, though the San Leandro Shuttle between Bay Fair BART and the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center is open to the public). It is hoped the App will help ramp up Shuttle use by making the shuttle as convenient as possible. The app provides schedules, maps and a "trip planner" that integrates scheduled shuttle stops and BART service options. Caleb and Stephen, whose AC Parkfinder App won second place in the County Apps Challenge last December, said the App also addresses confusion expressed about the exact location of shuttle stops. The solution: the App features Google "street view" pictures of each shuttle stop to resolve any questions about where to wait for your next ride. To download the App, go to <http://shuttle.acgov.org>

County Links

Alameda County Government <http://www.acgov.org/government/>
Alameda County Board of Supervisors <http://www.acgov.org/board/>
Lookup/pay Property Taxes <http://www.acgov.org/propertytax/index.htm>
Awards won by Alameda County <http://www.acgov.org/awards/>
Links to Alameda County Departments and Agencies
<http://www.acgov.org/government/departments.htm>
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Alameda County forms <http://www.acgov.org/government/formscenter.htm>
Alameda County Superior Court <http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/>

For a calendar of Alameda County events, visit the County website at <http://www.acgov.org/calendar>. Also check the websites of the members of the Board of Supervisors (listed under Board contacts on the left side of this page).