MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 31, 2006

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
       County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: CAO Weekly Report for July 31, 2006

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer to the Board of Supervisors. This report provides information on issues affecting the County and the progress of County activities.

Monterey County Commission on Disabilities – Tour and Meeting
On June 26, 2006, the Monterey County Commission on Disabilities was provided a guided tour of the new Hartnell College Learning Center. The tour included both public and non-public areas of the Learning Center with an emphasis on the building’s highly regarded innovative and disability-friendly design elements and equipment. Dr. Stanley Crane, Special Assistant to the President, conducted the tour. Immediately after the tour, Hartnell College hosted the Commission’s regular meeting in the Hartnell College Board Room. The meeting included a presentation by College Counselor, Wayne Davis, on the Hartnell College Disabled Students Programs and Services.

Planning Commission Workshop
The Resource Management Agency conducted a workshop for the Planning Commission on July 19th. This was a first of a series of overview workshops scheduled for the summer followed by formal public hearings in September and October as the Planning Commission prepares its recommendations to the Board on the draft General Plan and EIR. The July workshop focused on the key policy issue direction provided by the Board of Supervisors. The Planning Commission will develop a schedule for additional workshops pairing several chapters with relevant sections of the Draft EIR and some evening meetings.

Pit Snip & Chip
Friends of County Animal Services (FoCAS) has approved a $5,000 donation to Monterey County Animal Services to be used for an incentive program to spay or neuter pit bulls and pit bull mixes from unincorporated Monterey County and contracting cities. Barbara De Groodt,
Chair of FoCAS and owner of From the Heart Dog Training, also donated money to microchip all dogs altered under this new program. Owners must agree to pay for rabies vaccination and dog license, and registration for the microchip. The initial surgeries under Pit Snip & Chip will be through referrals from the community by animal control officers, or pits being reclaimed at the shelter. If there aren’t substantial referrals for the program, Animal Services will launch a very specially orchestrated media campaign, with the help of Maia Carroll, County Communications Coordinator, to expand the program to other pit bull owners in the community, offering a $20 incentive to any dog owner who brings their pit bull in for surgery.

This campaign was launched because Animal Services staff realized that the pit bulls and pit bull mixes seemed to be increasing in number at the shelter, and was the breed most often euthanized at the shelter. Pit bulls are plentiful in all local shelters, and appear to stand out excessively in the pet overpopulation problem. The fate of pit bulls has become a true tragedy, within the larger tragedy of pet overpopulation. Not only is this the most abused breed, due to their illegal use for dog fighting, they are apparently the most over-bred and most easily discarded, also.

The FoCAS Board recognized the need to proactively approach this need in the animal community, and did so with its $5,000 donation, which will allow the Animal Services Spay/Neuter Clinic to alter 50 dogs which may have never crossed Clinic’s path, thereby saving hundreds of lives of unwanted puppies.

Sheriff’s Minutes
Carol C. McCrone, was sworn in as the Criminal Intelligence Specialist for the Sheriff’s Office Agricultural Crimes Task Force.

Recruitment for Enforcement Operations Bureau Commander will close on August 22, 2006. Oral interviews will be scheduled for September.

The Sheriff’s Office will now be following the County of Monterey’s procedures regarding requests to review personnel files. Effective immediately, the following forms: Supervisor/Manager Request to View Personnel File, Employee Request to View Personnel File, and Copy Request are to be submitted when requesting to view a personnel file.

The inmate count at the jail over the weekend was 1167 inmates. The Custody Operations Bureau’s five-day early program has been in affect for one year. On average we are saving 21.8 beds per day.

Chief Brassfield met with Tom Maloney, Deputy Director of the Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center regarding training and the threat assessment process for the County. Mr. Maloney will also arrange for Terrorism Response Officers training for the Sheriff’s Office. A meeting will take place with selected EOB staff in the near future.

Parks
The 2006 MotoGP Motorcycle Race at Laguna Seca was a huge financial success for the community; the event generated in excess of $100 million to the local economy. Considerable improvements were made to correct the traffic and parking problems experienced at last year’s race (2005). In fact, there were virtually no problems entering and exiting the facility both Friday (7/21) and Saturday (7/22) and entering on Sunday (7/23) morning. The busing program, parking at Fort Ord and shuttling race goers in worked beautifully until Sunday evening when
everything went askew resulting in three to four hour delays in transporting people to their cars at Fort Ord. This problem was compounded by the extreme heat that spiraled upwards to 100 degrees. Distribution of and the availability to obtain water in a few areas of the Park was a bit of a challenge but was handled reasonably well considering the circumstances. Post event meetings, as is the case with all Parks-related special events, are being scheduled with the appropriate agencies to address all the issues. Overall the event was a success. I will keep you posted as to what remedies will be implemented for next year’s event.

Lake San Antonio and Lake Nacimiento experienced triple digit temperatures (as high as 115 degrees) over the past weekend. Overall attendance was down slightly, but normal weekend troublesome incidents were way down as a result of the extreme hot weather. Year-to-date revenue at the Lakes is right on plan.

San Lorenzo Park, outside of King City, is being used as a staging area and communication center for CDF fire crews fighting South County wildfires. The Park is also providing dining and shower facilities for the fire crews.

**Safety Evaluations Performed by Adult Services Staff**
In response to the Governor's concern for the safety of vulnerable populations in the prolonged heat wave and the directive from CDSS, Aging and Adult Services staff were deployed to contact IHSS recipients and Adult Protective Services clients. Staff used the IHSS Disaster Preparedness Report, which identifies those IHSS recipients most in need of being contacted in an emergency for medical attention. Staff also focused on those individuals who live in the "hot zones" of Monterey County including South County, parts of North County, and Carmel Valley. Beginning on Wednesday afternoon and continuing through Friday evening, staff made a total of 315 contacts with IHSS recipients and APS clients. Two individuals required medical attention for heat related problems, which was arranged by their provider/caregiver prior to our contact. At the request of staff, the Sheriff's Office conducted a health and safety check on a vulnerable APS client we could not contact. Ten recipients were provided assistance with referrals to the Central Coast Energy program for non-medical related problems; i.e., obtaining fans, etc. There are approximately 15 IHSS clients listed in the "hot zones" area and staff has not been successful in contacting, but none are categorized as very high risk. We will continue efforts to contact on Monday. Staff did a yeoman’s job of contacting our most vulnerable clients to check on their welfare. Our customers were genuinely pleased that County staff made the effort.

This concludes the CAO report.