MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 9, 2006

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for October 9, 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.

Sheriff’s Department

Congratulations to Deputy Recruit Ted Brown, who was sworn-in on Monday Oct. 2nd. He is the third generation Brown to be sworn-in as a deputy sheriff with Monterey County. On Saturday, October 14th six additional Sheriff’s Office Deputy Recruits will be graduating from the Monterey Peninsula College Academy. Those pending graduates are: Brian Kennedy, Flavius Micu, Rene Guevara, Barbara Fulkerson, Jason Rudolph and Jacob Orozco. Also, three of Sheriff’s Department Motor Squad volunteers have recently completed the POST certified motorcycle course. Those volunteers are Bill Hijja, Ron Ralph, and Julian Hatt.

On November 2, 2006 the Sheriff’s Advisory Council will be hosting its annual fundraiser and awards dinner. This year’s fundraiser will be held at Bernardus Lodge. Ticket price is $150.00 per person. The Sheriff’s Advisory Council was established to assist the Sheriff’s Office in obtaining specialized equipment, which could not be obtained through regular funding sources. Since its inception, the Sheriff’s Advisory Council has raised over $500,000 for non-budgeted equipment for the Office.

Effective immediately courts in Salinas and Marina now have a single point entry system and are conducting security screenings. Non-uniformed armed personnel will be required to show their badge and identification card.
On October 3, 2006, the Land Use Division of the County Counsel’s Office inaugurated its first in a series of training sessions for County land use staff regarding various aspects of planning and zoning, environmental law, and general land use. Held in the Monterey Room, the training session was attended by over 50 land use staff from the Planning and Building Inspection Department, Public Works, Environmental Health, and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.

Moderated by Senior Deputy County Counsel and Land Use Division Chief Efren Iglesia, the training session featured presentations by Deputies County Counsel Mary Grace Perry and Kathy Paul on the basics of contract law and practical pointers regarding contract preparation and review, as well as a presentation on the Permit Streamlining Act by Deputy County Counsel Kay Reimann. The session also featured a robust question and answer period during and after each presentation.

The next session will involve presentations by Efren Iglesia and Deputy County Counsel Wendy Strimling on the California Environmental Quality Act and the Subdivision Map Act. Other subjects will be addressed in future training sessions, as requested by the County’s land use staff.

The Planning Commission held two evening meetings the week of October 2nd, with a primary focus on receiving comments from the Land Use Advisory Committees on Area Plan issues. Staff was directed to work with LUAC liaisons to attempt to resolve outstanding issues.

The Planning Commission also began its discussion of the Wine Corridor Plan and Agriculture Element. There were a number of consensus motions providing direction to staff on modifications to the text in each document.

The Board of Supervisors modified the Planning Commission schedule to provide additional work time for completing its recommendations and adopting a resolution. The deadline is now October 25th. The Planning Commission added an all day session on Tuesday October 24th for its deliberations.

The Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday and Thursday during the week of October 9th. The discussion on Agriculture will conclude. The Land Use Element and Housing Element as well as Public Services and Safety are on the agenda. The Planning Commission will be reviewing suggested changes based upon its own directions to staff and recommendations from the Housing Advisory Committee with respect to Community Areas and Rural Centers.

Comments on the DEIR were due October 6th. These have been copied and distributed to the EIR consultant and appropriate staff.

This concludes the CAO report.