MEMORANDUM

DATE:    October 23, 2006

TO:  Board of Supervisors

FROM:  Lew C. Bauman
        County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT:  County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for October 26, 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.

RMA- Planning Department

The Planning Commission has completed another 16 hours of meetings on the General Plan. There are two sessions remaining - scheduled for all day Tuesday, October 24th and Wednesday, October 25th. The Commission has completed its initial review of all of the Elements, Master Plans and Area Plans. It is now completing its review of suggested revisions to each component as well as the DEIR. On October 25th, the Commission will consider its recommendations to the Board and adopt a resolution transmitting those recommendations.

Sheriff’s Department

The Monterey Peninsula College Law Enforcement Intensive Academy #206 graduation was held on October 14, 2006. The Sheriff’s Office graduates were the following: Deputy Barbara Fulkerson, Deputy Rene Guevara, Deputy Brian Kennedy, Deputy Flavius Micu, Deputy Jacob Orozco and Deputy Jason Rudolph. Deputy Fulkerson was the Academy President and Deputy Kennedy presented the class speech.

The Monterey County Sheriff’s Office was impressively represented at the Public Safety Career Expo on Saturday, October 14th. The Bomb Squad, SWAT, SAR, Flash and Recruiting did a great job lining up applicants for the October testing.
Human Relations and Recruiting personnel will be participating in Showcase 2006 at the Monterey Conference Center on Friday, October 20th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., showcasing the Sheriff’s Office and handing out employment applications.

Deputy Stephen Sinor graduated from the Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville, Alabama on October 13, 2006. Sgt. English, Deputy M. Smith and Deputy Sinor are certified Public Safety Bomb Technicians. The Monterey County Sheriff’s Office Bomb Squad is the 465th accredited squad in the United States.

Health Department

As required by the provisions of the County's paramedic/ambulance franchise agreement with Westmed Ambulance, Inc., on October 20, 2006, the Director of Health formally notified the franchisee (Westmed Ambulance, Inc.) that it is not meeting the contractually required response times in the Salinas Rural Fire Protection District zone. Although technically a breach of contract, this is the only area of the County in which Westmed has not been able to consistently achieve the response time requirements stipulated in the franchise agreement.

The Salinas Rural Fire Protection District zone response area is considered Urban, requiring arrival of an ambulance within 8 minutes, 90% of the time. Due to the size of the response zone, combined with the low call volume (averaging less than two calls per day), geographic dispersal of medical assistance requests has presented a significant challenge to Westmed.

Despite this technical breach, the EMS Agency views the level of service presently provided within the Salinas Rural Fire Protection District, and the County as a whole, to be superior to that provided under the previous contract with American Medical Response. The contractor will have 5 calendar days from receipt of the notice of breach to present a written plan to "cure the breach". The EMS Agency, and officials from the Salinas Rural Fire Protection District, will work with Westmed Ambulance, Inc. to ensure that the appropriate corrective action plan is developed and implemented.

Elections

The Monterey County Elections Department is looking for Monterey County employees to work as poll workers during the up-coming November 7, 2006 Gubernatorial Election. The link to the on-line application to participate in this program is: http://www.montereycountyelections.us/poll_app.htm

This concludes the CAO report.