

Mike Reagan REFLECTIONS

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YOUR ADVOCATE FOR SOLANO COUNTY'S 5TH DISTRICT

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"If you would like me to come and talk with your organization about items in this newsletter, please just give me a call."

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105 days and I'm still having fun

On this day of mourning, Tax Day, I felt I could ease my guilt by telling you about what this public servant was doing for you. A quick look at the tally says nine speeches, three trips across California and one to Washington, D.C., 10 afternoons conducting office hours in the four cities of the 5th District, 26 public events, 18 committee meetings, 24 office visits by constituents, and reading my height in staff reports. Despite the headlines, it has been much more than park districts, mega dairies, landfills and bio-solids. This newsletter points out that I am also trying to get the county moving ahead on several long-term solutions. My days and, often my nights, are busy doing what I was elected to do. Thank you for giving me that opportunity. I think you are getting your money's worth.

Getting the message out: Military value will save Travis AFB

From coast to coast, I have been trumpeting the message to state and federal officials that the military value of Travis AFB is essential to the Department of Defense. Airlift and air refueling are critical links to deploying forces anywhere in the world. But you will also hear me talking about the possibilities of adding runways to allow for a joint-use commercial cargo hub. For the base it would mean reduced operating costs. For Solano County, it would be an economic boon. For the Bay Area, we could avoid impacting the bay. As soon as the Base Realignment and Closure report is unveiled, I will help the Solano Economic Development Corp. and Travis Community Consortium to lead a symposium that will map out our next steps.

Subcommittee focuses attention on veteran issues

On April 22, Solano County veteran and military organizations will converge on the County Government Center for their first county-wide forum. Presenters will talk about BRAC, the Veterans Cemetery in Dixon, VA health care, and county veteran halls. But the crux of this meeting will be to carve out an organization that can unite veterans and bring their issues to the forefront.

Tackling management compensation packages

Before I took this job, there was a lot of talk about the compensation packages for the county administrator and county's Management Incentive Program. Our newly formed Personnel Subcommittee quickly tackled this topic. The Board of Supervisors will soon hear the subcommittee's plan to do a salary survey that considers county, state, federal and private sector employers. Our recruitment area for management isn't just the seven comparable counties, so we need to see what the real market value of our management team is.

Picking your brain! Looking for ideas on these topics

- Attracting speculative building to Solano for UC Davis technology spin-offs
- Locations for monthly office hours in Dixon, Rio Vista, Vacaville & Suisun
- What can the county do to create more jobs?
- Our roles in preserving senior quality of life and preventing elder abuse
- Bridging the digital divide and making broadband available to all
- Enhancing public safety: from creating a Citizens Corps to building jail cells

Serving You on These Committees

Board of Supervisors

- BRAC Subcommittee
- Personnel Subcommittee
- Military and Veteran Affairs Subcommittee

Delta Protection Commission

Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management Board

ABAG Bay Area Hazardous Waste Management Facility Allocation Committee

Fout Springs Youth Facility Board of Directors

Solano County Water Agency Board of Directors

Remote Access Network Board

Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission

Solano Economic Development Corp. Executive Committee & Board of Directors

City-County Coordinating Committee

Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee

Travis Community Consortium

Children's Policy and Planning Council

Partnership Health Plan of California

Winters Branch Library Financing Authority

Travis AFB Environmental Restoration Advisory Board

Tools of Learning Foundation Board of Directors

Vacaville Sunrise Rotary Board of Directors

Tackling issues important to Solano County

Looking beyond tomorrow for real strategic planning

The county is talking strategic planning, and the new goals are exactly what we need to move us forward. But we should not get stuck in looking at the next 20 years when what happens 30, 40 and 50 years out is equally as important. Roads, water, jobs and housing are just a few of the impacts that we need to consider now. Keep in mind, in 2050 our population projections are 830,000-plus.

Legislative advocacy keeps tabs on state, federal agenda

Transforming the county into a player in the legislative process at both the state and federal levels is going to be the kind of project I really like to get into. We were once that place between the Bay Area and Sacramento ... now we are the place between the two regions. We need to take advantage of that market shift and the political clout that comes with it. We can affect policy and the dollars that come into the county.

Biotech resolution and championing ag infrastructure

The Board of Supervisors approved the resolution I proposed that publicly supports biotechnology and its contributions. This is only one of several efforts I am working on to upgrade the ag infrastructure – without it our farmers cannot sustain an industry that accounts for one-fourth of our economy. Let me know your thoughts on what the county can do to develop our ag industry. Coming up on April 29, I am getting together with farmers in Dixon to hear their ideas.

Water: we need to plan for a supply that we can control

No commodity will be more precious to the survival of this county than water. People need it for drinking, for jobs and for recreation. We may have an opportunity to meet those needs by converting the failed Delta national wildlife refuge project on Liberty and Prospect islands into surface water storage. This may also prove helpful in reducing Delta salinity caused by pumping out water for other water projects. I am bringing this issue to the California Bay-Delta Authority, the Solano County Water Agency and anyone else who'll listen.

Office hours get me out in the district; I need you to come in

Once a week I am out there in the district somewhere in a convenient place to meet with people who might need the help of their supervisor. Whether it is talking about a community block grant for the Dixon High School, an issue with a county department or concerns over the proposed landfill expansions, it has been a great opportunity to stay in touch. I would also like to tour the employers in the district to ensure the county is doing what it can for them.

Road strategy: more than fixing potholes ... but fill them too

One more thing to think about ... realign Highway 113 from Interstate 80 at Kidwell Road to Highway 12 ... then perhaps take it through Collinsville over the river to Highway 4 or extend Interstate 505 down Highway 12 past Rio Vista and connect with Interstate 5 & Highway 99. Just think about the potential ...

Thank you for stepping up and serving Solano County

- Dan Mahoney of Rio Vista to the Solano County Planning Commission
- Craig Leathers of Dixon to the Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Patricia Gates, Leila Mazo and Jean Rubier to the Rio Vista Montezuma Cemetery District
- Barbara Jones of Dixon to the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee
- Appointment of Ronald Heinrich of Rio Vista to the Library Advisory Council
- **MORE APPOINTMENTS:** Seeking volunteers for the Suisun Fairfield Cemetery District, Dixon Fire Protection District, Area Agency on Aging Serving Napa-Solano and the Vacaville Fire Protection District.