

THE RICKMAN REPORT

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 5



CONTACT ME

SUPERVISOR
ROBERT RICKMAN
RRICKMAN@SJGOV.ORG
209-468-3113

CHIEF OF STAFF
SCOTT TYRRELL
STYRRELL@SJGOV.ORG

BOARD AIDE
MARIA VALENZUELA
MARIA VALENZUELA@SJGOV.ORG



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@SupervisorRobertRickman

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State of the County 2025

This year's State of the County celebration marked 175 years of "Growing Greatness" in San Joaquin County.

As Supervisor for District 5, representing Tracy, Mountain House, Ripon, Escalon, and rural San Joaquin, I'm proud of the progress we've made together. From strengthening public safety through the STAART retail-theft initiative to expanding mental-health access with the upcoming Be Well Campus, our focus remains on improving lives right here at home.

We've opened a new WorkNet Center in Tracy, connecting residents to job training and small-business support, while continued infrastructure investments are preparing our region for the future. Infrastructure is the backbone of progress, and nowhere is that clearer than in South County. The long-awaited State Route 120/Highway 99 Interchange Project is now advancing a major regional improvement that will enhance safety, reduce congestion, and strengthen connectivity for residents, commuters, and local businesses.

Public-safety investments like the new Dorothy J. Heisler Detention & Program Facility and modernized fire stations ensure faster, more effective service for every community in the District.

As we celebrate this milestone year, we're reminded that progress is built on people, families, farmers, and first responders who embody what it means to be South County Strong.

Together, we're not just growing — we're growing greatness.

— Supervisor Robert Rickman

Tracy High School Senior Abigail Avila Recognized as a Youth Future Leader

During the Board meeting on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, I, along with the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, had the pleasure of recognizing Tracy High School senior Abigail Avila. Ms. Avila is the Vice President of her Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter and the Delta Valley Sectional Vice President. Recently, she showcased outstanding leadership by taking on the refurbishment of the school's Ag Barn as her FFA Senior Project. Abigail successfully secured funding for this initiative by applying for a grant through my office.

For the full story, visit

<https://www.sjgov.org/departments/bos/districts/district-5>



CAMP HOPE: Helping Local Children Heal from Trauma

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors approved a combined contribution of \$20,000 to the San Joaquin County Family Justice Center Foundation to support Camp HOPE, a program that helps children and teens recover from the trauma of abuse or loss. Each Supervisor contributed \$4,000 from their district funds, expanding access for local youth to attend Camp HOPE in 2026 and bringing the county closer to establishing a permanent Camp HOPE program locally.

The nationally recognized, trauma-informed program provides mentorship, activities, and emotional support, helping children rebuild trust and self-esteem. The Board's support highlights San Joaquin County's ongoing commitment to collaboration, prevention, and recovery for families impacted by domestic violence.



SJCARES: A Year of Results for San Joaquin County

The Board of Supervisors joined the San Joaquin County Probation Department to mark the first full year of the SJ CARES initiative — a bold step toward bridging behavioral health, housing, and public safety in partnership. In just 14 months, outreach teams made 4,400 contacts, engaging 770 people across the county. 484 individuals were connected with services like medical care, housing assistance, and behavioral-health treatment. 85 people transitioned off the streets, nearly one-third secured permanent housing, and others reunited with family.

This initiative gives those it serves a second chance. To learn more, visit **HEADLINE UPDATE:** or to refer someone, you can send an email to sjcares@sjgov.org.



CalFresh Update

CDSS has launched a [CalFresh FAQ webpage](#) dedicated to addressing questions related to the Federal shutdown and its effect on benefit issuance

Link to Food Bank Locations

<https://www.sjfoodforyou.org/Find-Food>



Update your App to
NexGen311

Use the non-emergency reporting system to report issues such as illegal dumping, potholes, inoperative traffic signals.

Available in the app store



SJ CARES

Homeless
Response Team

sjcares@sjgov.org



Visit

www.sjgov.org

View past or upcoming
Board meeting materials or
watch a Board meeting.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY: MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD

Another PG&E Rate Hike (OPPOSED)

Consistent with my previous positions, I wrote – [view my letter here](#) - to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to express my opposition to the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) 2027 General Rate Case (GRC) application and urged that they reject it. The CPUC held virtual Public Forums in October and will hold an in-person Public Forum in November to receive comments from PG&E customers regarding the utility's GRC application. Public Forums are an opportunity for PG&E customers to share input directly with the CPUC about PG&E's request to increase revenues to cover natural gas and electric operations, distribution, and generation costs for 2027–2030.

Although the next forum is being held in-person at the Hugh Burns State Building, 2550 Mariposa Mall, Suite #1036 (Assembly Room), Fresno, CA 93721 – on November 7, 2025, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., you can have your voice heard by:

- Submitting comments electronically to the CPUC using the “Add Public_Comment” button on the “Public Comment” tab of the Docket Card for A.25-05-009. You can also see other public comments related to this application:
<https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2505009>
- Mail a letter to the CPUC's Public Advisor, include the proceeding number and name A.25-05- 009 PG&E GRC to: CPUC, Public Advisor's Office, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102.

For more information about the increase and the CPUC process, visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/news-and-updates/all-news/cpuc-to-hold-public-forums-on-pacific-gas-and-electric-2027-rate-case>.

2025 Legislative Session

The County advocated for and against several bills this legislative session and recently received a report from our legislative consultants. At the end of the first year of Sacramento's two-year legislative session, over 2,833 bills were introduced, with 863 bills having been signed, and 54 bills vetoed during the 2025 Legislative Session.

The Delta. The Delta Counties Coalition (San Joaquin County is a member) stopped the Governor's budget trailer bills to accelerate the regulatory process and override court decisions related to the Delta Tunnel plan. Proposition 4 allocation key developments include; \$3.3 billion approved by the Legislature and Governor, explicit tunnel neutral language in the Bond, and \$150 million for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to improve levees, not part of the agreement for this budget year's bond allocations.

Prop 36. Overwhelmingly supported by California voters, yet underfunded by Sacramento. The 2025-26 State Budget includes; \$50 million for behavioral health and \$15 million for public defenders to implement. California counties sought \$250 million for this purpose.

Looking ahead, the State faces a projected deficit exceeding \$10+ billion. Early 2026 will bring rapid budget adjustments, updates to trailer bills, and renewed discussions on unresolved measures.

TRACY

- Pregnancy Resource Center of Tracy 40th Anniversary
- James McDermott American Legion Post 172 Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and Remodel Grand Opening
- Tracy Golf & Country Club 70th Anniversary Celebration
- Tracy Firefighters' Pancake Breakfast
- CIFFA Film Festival Opening Night Red Carpet & Press Event
- 2025 Boys & Girls Club Gala
- Dedication of Duke's Dog Park & the opening of Western & Orchard Parks in Ellis Community
- West High School Plaque Presentation of Appreciation to Supervisor Robert Rickman
- Our Lady of Fatima Annual Festa at St. Bernard's Catholic Church
- D.A.R.E. Graduation
- Check presentation to DELTA DRAGON BOOSTER CLUB - for the Delta Charter FFA Officer Team Building Retreat (\$545)



RIPON

- Chamber Coffee Mixer hosted by Valley Chiropractic Center
- Weekly District Operating Hours and Business Check-In
- 40th Annual Main Street Day Community Event
- Ripon Business Monthly Meeting



MOUNTAIN HOUSE

- Mountain House Fire Department Pancake Breakfast
- 8th Annual Mountain House Diwali Mela, hosted by Royal Kings and Mountain House Cultural Events
- Mountain House Sports and Recreation Club Local Business Expo
- Judged Community Halloween Parade Costume Contest



ESCALON

- Soul Coffee Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting
- Weekly District Operating Hours and Business Check-In
- Harvest on Main Community Event
- County's 175th Anniversary Celebration at City Hall
- Community Clean-Up Event at Van Allen Elementary School
- Pinning and Swearing-In Ceremony Honoring Escalon Fire Firefighter Engineer Dylan Criteser



COUNTYWIDE MEETINGS AND EVENTS (PARTIAL LIST)

- Stockton Diocese Honors the Honorable Barbara Kronlund, Recipient of the 2025 Thomas More Society Award
- San Joaquin Farm Bureau Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
- 2025 Mental Health Services Act Showcase
- Annual Multi-Chamber Mixer Event
- SJC Trunk O' Treat event at Micke Grove Park
- SJC Historical Museum 5th Annual Tractor Fest
- Community Clean-Up Event at San Joaquin River Club
- San Joaquin County State of the County Event
- San Joaquin Drone Operations Group Training
- SJC's 25th Annual Diversity Luncheon
- Central Valley Asian-American Chamber of Commerce 'Breaking the Bamboo Ceiling' 8th Annual Women's Leadership Event
- Honoring Executive Director Stacey Mortensen's 30 years of service with the SJ Regional Rail Commission
- Dedication and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for the Dorothy J. Heisler Detention and Program Facility

