



NORTH COUNTY

..... News

2025 Year in Review: Making Progress Where it Matters Most

This year, San Joaquin County made meaningful progress on issues that matter to you. From protecting the Delta to expanding mental health care and strengthening local partnerships, I was focused on results that make a real difference.

One of our biggest priorities was protecting the Delta. For the first time, the County launched an aggressive outreach effort to stop the Delta Tunnel project from being fast tracked in Sacramento. That effort worked. Lawmakers pulled back proposed shortcuts that would have put the Delta's environment and water supply at risk. This is not the end of the fight. It is a pause. When this issue returns next session, we will be ready, and our voices will be stronger than ever.

We also took a major step forward on behavioral health. In September, County and State leaders broke ground on the SJ BeWell Campus in French Camp. This \$261 million investment will bring outpatient services, crisis care, residential treatment, and supportive housing together in one place. Construction began late this year, with the first building opening in 2027. This campus will change lives and improve safety across our community.

Partnerships were another key focus this year. Working with the City of Lodi, we approved funding for transitional respite beds and moved forward on the Housing on Main project. Together, these efforts will help people stabilize, access care, and move toward permanent housing. This project will allow police and fire to bring individuals to this location instead of clogging our emergency room, the first of its kind in the County and a roadmap for the country.

Finally, at the National Association of Counties Annual Conference, my resolution to remove outdated federal limits on mental health treatment capacity was adopted. These changes will help counties provide care closer to home and bring in more funding. As we head into 2026, I will keep fighting for practical solutions that protect our region and help people get the support they need.



Public Works Projects Update

During my tenure as Supervisor (2023-2025), San Joaquin County Public Works has been active in District Four:

- Over 160 miles of roads treated (road seals and resurfacings)
- Six bridges rehabbed or replaced
- New roundabout at Duncan & Comstock
- \$57.3 Million in contracts awarded for this work
- New Stop Sign at Lower Sacramento and Acampo Road
- Completion of the Fine Road culvert and west side ditch improvements to help in reducing flood risk during large storm events in that area by improving westerly flows.

Supporting Local Growers

In 2025, I continued working to support the wine industry by passing a Business Improvement District to market the region, arranged a meeting in Washington, D.C., with the Ag Committee ranking member for Lodi growers, and advanced executive-order language aimed at limiting excise-tax drawback practices that disadvantage U.S. grape growers.

Making a Difference for San Joaquin County Foster Children

In collaboration with Ken Littleton, Koe's Whiskey and Tap House General Manager, Miguel Villapudua, the San Joaquin County Human Services Agency, and American Medical Response, my office organized a Toy Drive at Koe's on December 16th. We collected toys for over 800 children residing in foster homes across San Joaquin County during this holiday season. The Christmas Toy Drive offered the community a meaningful opportunity to contribute by bringing a new, unwrapped gift to ensure these children feel remembered. This marks the fifth annual Toy Drive hosted in partnership with Koe's Whiskey and Tap House, and we deeply appreciate the support from local businesses in our efforts to assist children in need.



Report Illegal Dumping

With NEXGEN 311, residents now have several options for submitting service requests:

- Downloading the new smartphone app available now on Apple and Android devices
- Online through the [NEXGEN 311 Web Portal](#)
- By calling (209) 468-3000

Community Development Department Liaison



The Board of Supervisors has appointed Jeff Archer as the new liaison to assist residents with the permitting process. With a decade of experience in customer service and construction as a building inspector, Jeff is available to help with project inquiries.

Contact him at jarcher@sjgov.org or 209-468-2097.

5th Annual Toy Drive



Waste Management to Launch New Garbage Service in Area C with Senior Discounts Starting January 2026

As a result of my leadership on the issue, Area C customers, which includes Linden and Morada, will receive lower rates and improved services when Waste Management takes over the trash service in January 2026.

When this issue came to the Board in April 2024, I fought for a competitive process to allow the free market to determine the best possible rate and services for County customers.

With this contract award, we see that an open and transparent process produces better results for our rate payers. I am proud to be able to bring this improved service and lower rate to consumers, who are being squeezed by inflation. The new contract will include up to 45% savings for residents with the largest refuse carts and will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

Eligible senior residents of San Joaquin County will receive a 20% discount on their monthly bill. [Apply here.](#)

Linden FFA Sales Team wins 3rd Place at National Competition

Congratulations to the ag sales team who placed 3rd at the national competition in Indianapolis. Ava Avansino got 10th high individual and Abigail Samuel got 5th high individual for the contest.



Critical Resources

24/7 Mental Health Crisis Phone Line
209-468-8686

24/7 Peer Support Warmline
209-468-3585

Suicide Hotline
1-800-SUICIDE
(784-2433)

Institute for Aging Friendship Line
1-800-971-0016

Veterans' Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255

Local Resources
211

SJREADY
Sign up for emergency alerts at www.sjready.org

SJReady
Office of Emergency Services

Supervisor Ding pushes back on proposed Union-Only Project Labor Agreement for San Joaquin County Public Works Projects

On October 7th, I was the only vote to dissent when the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors directed staff to negotiate a Project Labor Agreement with the San Joaquin Calaveras Building and Construction Trades Council for all county construction projects.

Why this is bad: Your local hometown construction companies and workers would be excluded from building projects right here in their backyard.

They are the construction professionals right here in your community, building your community. They are diverse apprentices, journey workers and craft trainees who come from all walks of life – some are fresh out of high school, some are starting a second career, and some are desiring a fresh start. They emerge from the programs with a good-paying job, health benefits and the skills and training that can take their career in many directions. It is truly a path of endless opportunities.

They come from community partner programs that have proven track records that transform communities, reduce recidivism rates, improve job readiness skills, and create long-term employment.

These are the people who will be left out if a Project Labor Agreement is passed, the people who desperately need these opportunities where they live to emerge out of poverty, transform their lives and to provide for their families.

In 2026, I will continue to work to keep all work open to those who live and work here.

Meet Your Community Car Liaisons

The Sheriff's Office provides a deputy to the communities of Lockeford, Woodbridge, Morada, Linden and Thornton in District 4. They are assigned to keep your communities safe.

You will see them patrolling Monday-Thursday, 7am – 5pm.

Please call on them if you see something or need assistance.

Woodbridge and Lockeford

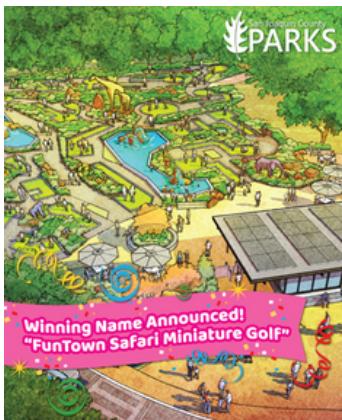
Deputy Westwood
Email: SWestwood@sjgov.org
Phone: 209-684-2918

Thornton

Deputy J. Lopez
Email: JLopes@sjgov.org
Phone: 209-905-3467

Morada and Linden

Deputy Aaron Silva
Email: asilva@sjgov.org
Phone: 209-636-7584



Building for the Next Generation

I'm excited to share progress on two projects at Micke Grove Park that reflect our commitment to education, recreation, and family-friendly spaces across District 4.

First, congratulations to Natalia Ruiz Duran from Leroy Nichols Elementary in Lodi and Grace Gianelli from Venture Academy in Stockton. Their award-winning submissions were combined to name Micke Grove's newest attraction: FunTown Safari Miniature Golf. More than 50 students participated in the naming contest, celebrating creativity while honoring the park's long history as a community gathering place.

FunTown Safari Miniature Golf will include both 9- and 18-hole courses, a kids' play zone, water features, and other amenities designed for families of all ages. I was proud to approve \$1.3 million in the 2023–24 budget to bring this project forward. The full 18-hole course will replace the former Fun Town amusement park, which closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are hoping to break ground this spring, with construction expected to take six to nine months.

I also secured \$1.6 million in the 2024–25 budget for the development of Pioneer Village, a living-history center that expands the Valley Days and Pioneer School programs. Since 1990, more than 140,000 local students have taken part in these immersive experiences, learning local history and 19th-century skills in a hands-on setting.

I'm proud to play a small part in preserving these educational traditions while investing in new attractions that support tourism and strengthen our local economy. These projects ensure Micke Grove Park continues to serve our community for generations to come.

Upcoming MAC Meetings

Lockeford MAC

January 15, 2026

7 pm

Lockeford Community Center

Woodbridge MAC

January 22, 2026

6:30 pm

Woodbridge Fire Department

Thornton MAC

January 7, 2026

6:30 pm

Thornton Community Center

Morada MAC

January 8, 2026

5:30 pm

Waterloo-Morada Fire District

Linden MAC

January 21, 2026

7 pm

Linden-Peters Fire District Classroom



District 4 Funds Invested in 2025

Grace & Mercy- \$10,000.00
AgVenture \$2,300.00
Angels Discovery Dive Team \$8,245.00
Deputy Sheriff's Association \$5,000.00
Clements School Community Center \$20,500.00
Lodi Boys & Girls Club Commercial Stove and Oven \$10,000.00
Leadership Stockton Vet Mural Project \$1,700.00
Cool Cats and Barking Dogs \$5,000.00
Lodi Salvation Army \$50,000.00
Gospel Center Rescue Mission \$50,000.00
Our Lady of Fatima \$1,000.00
4-H Youth and Development Program \$5,000.00
Lodi Boy & Girls Club Flooring Replacements \$15,000.00
Loel Senior Center \$25,000.00
Linden Ag Boosters \$4,911.00
The Village \$1,000.00
Glen View Cemetery \$6,000.00
SJC Sheriff's Foundation Fallen Heroes Memorial Monument \$5,000.00
Pals Haven \$5,000.00
YMO \$5,000.00
Read to Me Stockton \$5,000.00
Thornton MAC Banners and Supplies for National Night Out \$ 315.00
Port City Patriots \$1,000.00
Luis G. Alvarez Rewards for Justice \$5,000.00
Family Justice Center "Camp Hope" \$4,000.00
Grape Bowl Band Classic \$5,000.00
Stockton Symphony \$5,000.00
Lodi Association of Realtors \$5,000.00

San Joaquin County CBO Funds Invested in District 4 FY 2024-2025 (partial list)

Clements School Community Center Remodel and Addition \$113,818.00
Community Partnership for Families of San Joaquin – United for Stability \$5,000.00
Lodi House - Transitional Housing Renovation \$53,375.00
RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Support - Stockton Rotary Endowment \$18,950.00
Outreach Ministries International \$55,000.00
PALS Haven HVAC System Replacement Project \$99,000.00
Team Elevate 7 on 7, Inc. After School Program \$1,500.00

Around the County



Contact Information

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On Facebook and Instagram
Supervisor Steve Ding

