

SUMMER 2024

Matt LaVere

Ventura County Supervisor District 1



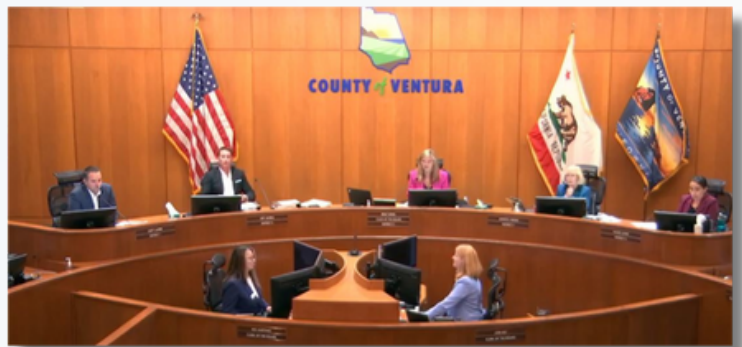
District One Newsletter

Board of Supervisors Approves 2024/25 Fiscal Year Budget

On Monday, June 17, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a \$3.04 billion balanced budget for the fiscal year 2024-25. The budget focuses on our Board's priorities and supports the long-term sustainability of our County programs, including funding for high-priority services, resources for social services, health care, and public safety.

Key budget highlights include total County appropriations of \$3.04 billion, an increase of \$186 million or 6.5% from the prior year.

General fund appropriations include \$1.44 billion, which represents an increase of \$89.9 million or 6.7% from the prior year. Countywide full-time equivalent position allocations increased by 237 from the previous year creating a total of 10,513 positions within the county workforce.



Highlights from our budget include the following projects and investments:

- **Homelessness:** \$2.6 million in homeless housing, assistance, and prevention funding, 15 full-time positions across the Human Services Agency, County Executive Office, and Sheriff's Office dedicated to enhancing our homeless prevention efforts, and new positions for Homeless and Housing Solutions Directors.
- **Capital Projects:** Over \$25 million in funding for the East County Crisis Stabilization Center in Simi Valley, the Mental Health Rehabilitation Center at Lewis Road in Camarillo, and Recuperative Care Center at Knoll Drive in Ventura.
- **Public Safety:** Implementation of the Ventura County Sheriff Office and District Attorney's Office Organized Retail Theft Task Force to combat and reduce organized retail theft.

The County of Ventura continues to maintain the highest long-term credit ratings – AAA– from Moody's, and a AAA long-term credit rating from Standard & Poor's.

Upcoming Board of Supervisors Meetings

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024
8:30AM**

**Tuesday, September 10, 2024
8:30AM**

Attend In- Person at the County Government Center 800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura
Or

Online at <https://www.ventura.org/board-of-supervisors/agendas-documents-and-broadcasts/>

MESA Ribbon Cutting

Upon entering office as the new 1st District County Supervisor, I was approached by representatives of MESA, an Ojai-based nonprofit looking to tackle youth homelessness with an idea for something unique to the Ojai Valley – a tiny home village specific for transitional aged youth ages 18 to 24 on the verge of homelessness. Over the past three years my office has been working with MESA on this dream and vision, which finally came to fruition and was completed this Summer. On June 7, MESA held a private ribbon cutting event for a new tiny-home community and farm for young adults facing homelessness. Myself, Assemblymember Steve Bennett and other key stakeholders and partners gathered in celebration of the opening of this incredible new tiny home facility at 400 Gorham Road in Ojai's East End.



Photo credit: David Sinclair for Ojai Valley News

For almost 3 years, MESA has been working feverishly in creating transitional housing for young adults who reside in Ventura County. Those living at MESA will receive customized care and services, including educational, workforce, and mental health support. Ten tiny homes have been completed and are ready to welcome young people on the 10-acre farm. These homes, along with an existing farmhouse, will accommodate up to 12 young people who are currently experiencing homelessness or at very high risk of homelessness in Ventura County, with a focus on youth leaving the local foster care system.

Working with the Ventura County Continuum of Care, MESA has been receiving referrals for potential tenants from partner agencies across the county. MESA was awarded \$4.2 million in state Homekey funds to build this groundbreaking and life-changing project. **Congratulations MESA! Visit mesafarm.org to learn more.**

Family Justice Center receives Federal and Local funding to expand housing for survivors of Domestic Violence

Congressman Salud Carbajal and Congresswoman Julia Brownley visited the Ventura County Family Justice Center's future Domestic Violence Shelter in the city of Ventura in May. Through a strong partnership between the County of Ventura, District Attorney Erik Nasarenko and our federal representatives, we recently received a federal award of \$1.66 million that will help create a short-term domestic violence shelter with 14 to 18 beds.

The shelter will be operated by the Oxnard-based Coalition for Family Harmony. Reps. Carbajal and Brownley praised the Family Justice Center, which opened its doors in 2019, for providing help for victims of elder and child abuse, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

The Family Justice Center also received an additional local funding contribution of \$440,000 from the Ventura County Community Foundation to help build emergency tiny pallets shelters at the Ventura Family Justice Center to assist domestic violence victims and survivors.



NEW!

Saticoy Certified Farmer's Market



I'm excited to announce the opening of the first ever Certified Farmer's Market in the Community of Saticoy which launched this past June. This project was initiated by Sierra Dohr, executive director of Saticoy Food Hub, a nonprofit organization established in December 2021 in partnership with the Social Justice Fund of Ventura County.

The Saticoy Food Hub's mission is to create equitable economic opportunities for food producers while providing access to fresh, local food for the Saticoy Community.

My office has been working with the Saticoy Food Hub for over a year to make this farmers' market a reality and we are so proud and grateful for all the work that went into bringing this Farmer's Market to the community in Saticoy.

Congratulations to the volunteers, staff, and board of Saticoy Food Hub!

BECOME A VENDOR!

Food Vendor Fee: \$0
Maker Fee: \$50 flat-rate fee
Nonprofit Fee: \$0

For more information:
info@saticoyfarmersmarket.org

***Space is limited. Priority will be given to Saticoy-based businesses/organizations and vendors who can attend all 6 markets**

WHEN: 1st Sunday of the month
10:00 am-2:00 pm

WHERE: Saticoy Park,
22321 Violeta St, Ventura, CA
93004

UPCOMING DATES:
August 4
September 1
October 6
November 3
December 1

Upcoming Community Meetings:

Ojai Valley Municipal Advisory Council

JULY 15, 2024
Oak View Community Center
18 Valley Rd., Oak View

Sign up for meeting agenda notifications:
OVmac@ventura.org

Saticoy Municipal Advisory Council

SEPTEMBER 16, 2024
Jose Flores Community Center
11168 Violeta St., Ventura

Sign up for meeting agenda notifications:
Saticoymac@ventura.org

Oak View Advisory Commission

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
Oak View Community Center
18 Valley Rd., Oak View

Sign up for meeting agenda notifications:
OakViewadvisorycommission@ventura.org



California funded a free college savings account for your child.

Claim it now!

CalKIDS is a program from the State of California that funds up to \$175 for eligible newborns and up to \$1,500 in free money for eligible low-income public school students to save for college and career training.*



To claim your funds, visit [CalKIDS.org](https://calkids.org) today!

*Student eligibility is defined by the Local Control Funding Formula. The California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS) is a children's savings account program, administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, an agency of the State of California. CalKIDS will provide eligible participants with college savings accounts, including seed deposits and other potential incentives, to help pay for future qualified higher education expenses. To learn more about CalKIDS or opt out of the program entirely, please see the Program Information Guide at [CalKIDS.org](https://calkids.org). CalKIDS participants may also establish individual accounts with ScholarShare 529, California's 529 College Savings Plan.

Want a HeadStart on saving for college for your kids?

For the first time in the State's history, more than 3.6 million students across California became eligible for college savings accounts.

CalKIDS is a new program from the State of California that provides eligible families with free money for college. California newborns can receive up to \$175 and eligible California public school students can receive up to \$1,500.

The California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS) is a children's savings account program, administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, an agency of the state of California.

CalKIDS was created to help families kickstart their college savings plan and increase access to higher education.

For more information and details on how to apply please visit: <https://calkids.org/>

We're Moving

We're moving to a new newsletter platform

Click on the link below to stay connected & continue receiving the District One newsletter

[Sign Up!](#)

LUNCH at the LIBRARY

Ventura County Library

offers free lunches for kids up to 18 years old this summer
See library calendar of events for dates

Lunch is
served:

AVENUE LIBRARY

606 North Ventura Avenue
Ventura, CA 93001
Monday - Thursday, 11am - 12pm

OAK VIEW LIBRARY

555 Mahoney Avenue
Oak View, CA 93022
Monday - Thursday, 12pm - 1pm



Lunch at the Library - Farm to Summer program will include daily fun activities, book giveaways, performers, and speakers to encourage children to come to the library and eat lunch all while learning about planting, composting, and the science behind growing food.

For more information, please contact:
Molly Krill, Youth Services Manager, molly.krill@ventura.org



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. The Summer Food Service Program is a program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, administered in California by the California Department of Education. Lunch at the Library is a project of the California State Library, supported with funds from the State of California.

The Ventura County Library system in partnership with the Ventura Unified School District are hosting "Lunch at the Library" summer program!

The program provides lunches for youth who are out of school during the summer months while promoting reading over the summer.

Lunch is held at both the Avenue Library in Ventura and the Oak View Library, Monday through Thursday from 12:00 - 1:00PM for children and teens through August 2024.

The summer program will include daily fun activities, book giveaways, performers, and speakers to encourage children to come to the library and eat lunch all while learning about planting, composting, and the science behind growing food.

The "Lunch at the Library" program is made possible with the help of sponsors from the Ventura County Library Foundation, the Ventura Friends of the Library, the Pacific Library Partnership, and the California State Library with funds through the State of California.

Attention Mobile Home Park Residents!

There is a current vacancy on the Mobile Home Park Rent Review Board.

If you are interested in applying email our office at District1@ventura.org.

For more information about the Mobile Home Park Rent Review Board visit:

<https://vcrma.org/en/mobile-home-park-rent-review-board-hearings>



Contact Us:

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