

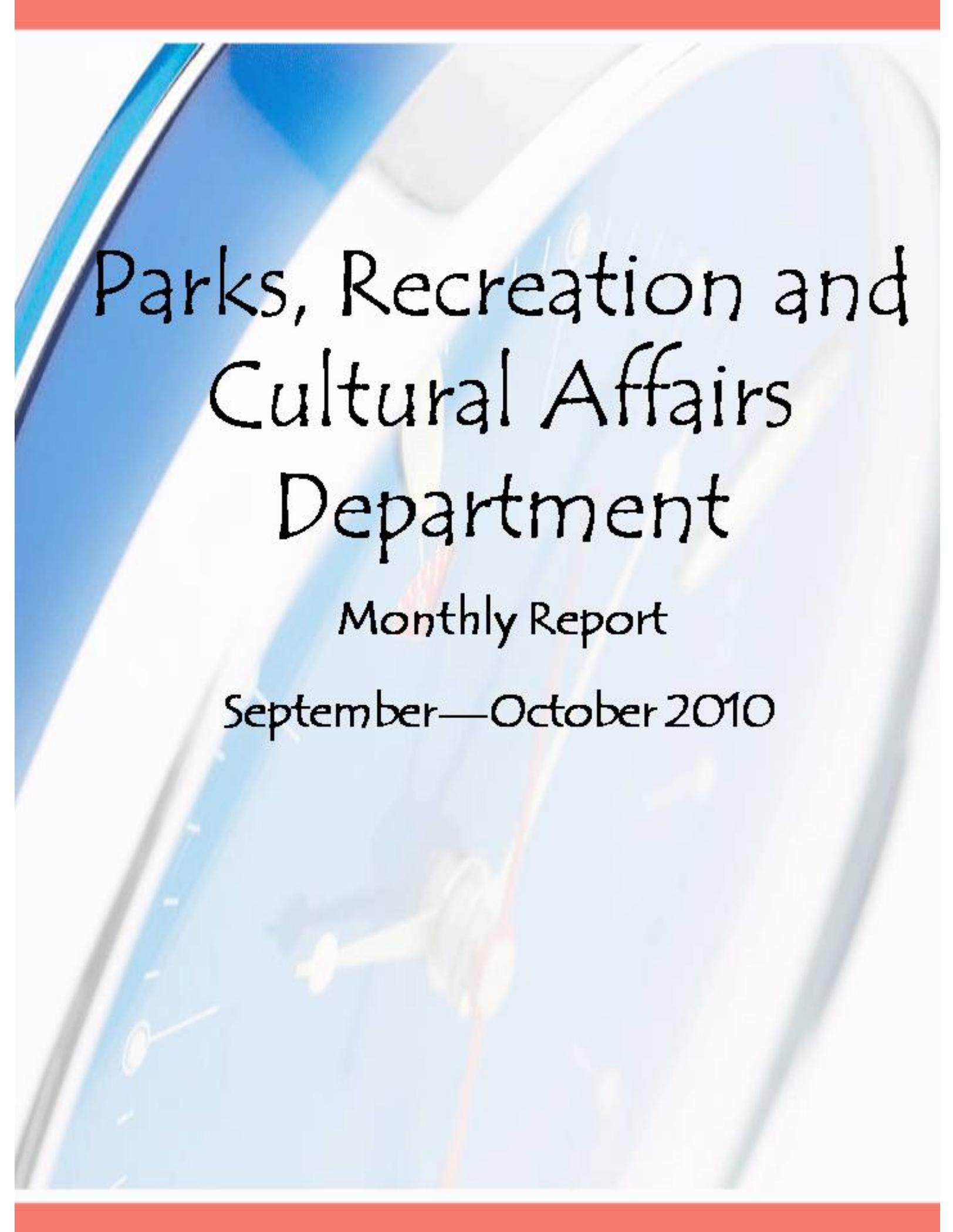
The City of Ridgecrest Monthly Report



(AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty)

A maple tree shows its fall colors, Friday, Sept. 17, 2010, in Woodstock, Maine. A vast network of county foresters, volunteers and others contribute their observations to state tourism officials, who in turn work up "foliage forecasts" published online and elsewhere to let leaf-peepers know where to find the best fall foliage.

September 2010



Parks, Recreation and
Cultural Affairs
Department

Monthly Report

September—October 2010



PRCA Department Monthly Report

Monthly Report

September—October 2010

This Month in PRCA News

- McDonalds Sponsors Big Mac Flag Football League
- Zumba helping keep community fit
- New PRCA Coordinator

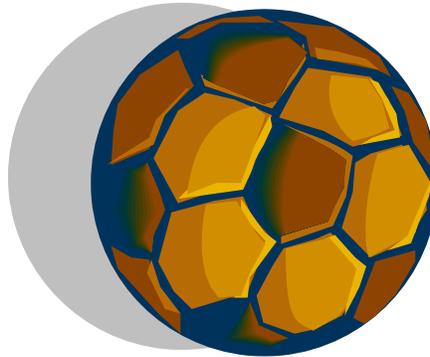
Youth Soccer Season Cooling Down

The leaves are turning and so are heads! Another great season of fall soccer is keeping Ridgecrest excited to watch some fun games Friday evenings and Saturday mornings at the Matt Armstrong and Upper Fields.

Youth ranging from age 5 to 14 have been showing their skills on the field over the past month and will keep on going until the upcoming season end right before Halloween.

The players have been practicing hard and playing even harder to finish the fall season strong.

The 2010 Youth Soccer Season started at the beginning of September and the final games will be held the last Friday and Saturday of October. Teams in Divisions 4 and 5 will be playing a single elimination tournament to finish the season.



Division 1 Teams

Bulldogs
Jets
Warthogs
Kickers
Racers
Phantoms
Rovers
Missles
Strikers
Leopards
Mutiny
Galaxy

Division 2 Teams

Panthers
Lions
Cougars
Foxes
Pumas
Lynx
Wolves
Ravens

Division 4 Teams

Tornadoes
The Fury
Stingers
Lazers
Express
Cosmos

Division 5 Teams

The Crew
Metro Stars
Fusion
Rockets



Big Mac Youth Football League

McDonald's is sponsoring the Youth Flag Football program for another promising season. Their support helps to pay for the players' shirts and offer coupons to players after every game.

Signups for the flag football league go until October 14th. The season will run from November 1st through December 18th and is available for youth ages 5 through 15.



Zumba Classes at KMCC Helping Keep Community Fit

Classes are held Monday/ Wednesday/ Friday at 9:30 AM, Tuesday/Thursday at 5:35 PM, and Mondays at 6:40 PM. Each of these classes go for 1 hour. Jennifer also teaches Zumba Gold Classes for beginners, older people and deconditioned (out of shape) people at least once a month.

Zumba classes at KMCC have become a huge success. Every day of the week Jennifer Mangrum, Licensed Zumba Instructor, holds a Zumba Fitness class in the Kerr McGee Community Center. The classes have a dedicated following with new participants joining every session. One of KMCC's top selling items is the multi-class punch card offered for Zumba classes.



Zumba is a Latin dance-based aerobic fitness program that combines rhythm and movement to build cardiovascular fitness in a fun and exciting way. Its also a great way to burn calories and tone muscles.

New Parks and Recreation/Cultural Affairs Coordinator

This month the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department welcomes a new Coordinator to the department, Sean Benson. He recently moved back to Ridgecrest after graduating from CSU Chico with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and a Certificate in Outdoor Education Leadership.

Sean was born in Ridgecrest and graduated from Burroughs High School before going to Chico, CA to finish his education. He has worked in the recreation field for three years, primarily within youth outdoor sports environments. Most notably as a director of a Mountain Biking program in the Northern Tahoe region of California.



Looking Forward in PRCA Events

Maturango Junction October 15th and 16th

The upcoming Maturango Junction looks to be a promising event for the community and the PRCA Department is excited to be involved with the event. The Kerr McGee Center will contain the offices of Ken Charlon Auto Sales, Bud Eyre Car Sales and Alta One FCU during the event.



There will be car sales, as well as live bands, dancing, singing, food & drink, the Kiwanis sponsored pancake breakfast, Knights of Columbus sponsored sausage BBQ, Remax sponsored chili cookoff, a children's art fair, a youth pow-wow from Four Winds, interactive booths, a children's parade, carnival games and even more.

KMCC Weekly Schedule

**September 20, 2010 -
September 26, 2010**

September 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

20	Monday	21	Tuesday
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym ☺	10:00am	12:30pm Perks Interviews; R/C Rm
5:00pm	7:00pm FPCS; R/C rm ☺	10:00am	12:30pm Parks Interviews; Red Rock
5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro ☺	10:00am	12:00pm Parks Interviews; Fossil Falls/Ballararat
6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym ☺	5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro ☺
		6:00pm	8:30pm ICS Volleyball AWAY; N/S Gym ☺
22	Wednesday	23	Thursday
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym ☺	8:00am	1:00pm IWV Water District; Petroglyph
11:00am	11:00pm DI Ladies Night; Pinnacles	12:30pm	2:30pm Rec Coordinator Interviews; Fossil Falls/Ballararat
5:00pm	7:00pm FPCS; Chimney Pk ☺	12:30pm	2:30pm Rec Coordinator Interviews; R/C Rm
6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym ☺	3:00pm	4:00pm Parks Interview; R/C Rm
7:00pm	8:30pm CERT Meeting; Red Rock ☺	5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro ☺
8:00pm	10:00pm ACES Volleyball Club; Gym ☺	6:00pm	8:30pm ICS Volleyball AWAY; N/S Gym ☺
24	Friday	25	Saturday
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym ☺	12:00pm	4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym ☺
3:00pm	6:00pm ICS Volleyball GAME; N/S Gym ☺	4:00pm	10:00pm Concert in the Park - starts at 7:30 pm; Freedom P
26	Sunday		

KMCC Weekly Schedule

**September 27, 2010 -
October 03, 2010**

September 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

27 Monday		28 Tuesday	
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym	11:30am	1:00pm Youth Advisory; Fossil Falls/Ballarad
5:00pm	7:00pm FPCS; R/C Rm	2:30pm	5:30pm ICS Volleyball GAME; N/S Gym
5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro	5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro
6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym	6:00pm	8:00pm KC Engineering Wkshop; Chimney Pk
29 Wednesday		30 Thursday	
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym	5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro
5:00pm	7:00pm FPCS; R/C Rm	6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym
5:30pm	7:00pm Military Banner Program; Chimney Pk		
6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym		
8:00pm	10:00pm ACES Volleyball Club; Gym		
1 Friday		2 Saturday	
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym	12:00pm	4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym
3:30pm	5:30pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym		
3 Sunday			

KMCC Weekly Schedule

October 04, 2010 - October 10, 2010		October 2010	November 2010
		M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
4	Monday	5	Tuesday
9:30am 10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym ☺ 5:00pm 7:00pm FPCS; R/C Rm ☺ 5:35pm 7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro ☺ 6:00pm 9:00pm Desert Artists; Red Rock/Chimney ☺ 6:00pm 8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym ☺	8:00am 6:00pm Lifeline Screening; Pinnacles 8:00am 11:00am Preschool Pix (empty rm); Fossil Falls ☺ 12:00pm 5:00pm Harrison Nichols; Chimney Pk 2:30pm 6:30pm ICS Volleyball GAME; N/S Gym ✖ 5:35pm 7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro ☺ 6:30pm 8:00pm CERT Mtg; R/C rm ☺		
6	Wednesday	7	Thursday
5:00am 11:00am Preschool Pix (empty rm); Fossil Falls ☺ 9:30am 10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym ☺ 3:30pm 5:00pm Quickstart Tennis; Petro ☺ 5:00pm 7:00pm FPCS; R/C Rm ☺ 6:00pm 8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym ☺ 8:00pm 10:00pm ACES Volleyball Club; Gym ☺	8:00am 11:00am Preschool Pix (empty rm); R/C rm ✖ 11:30am 1:30pm IWWESC; Red Rock/Chimney ☺ 12:00pm 1:00pm Quality of Life; Fossil Falls/Ballarad ☺ 5:35pm 7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro ☺ 6:00pm 8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym ☺		
8	Friday	9	Saturday
9:30am 10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym ☺ 3:30pm 4:00pm ICS Volleyball AWAY; N/S Gym ✖	12:00pm 2:00pm Open Gym BASKETBALL ONLY; N/S Gym ✖ 2:00pm 4:00pm Logan - Volleyball 1 net; N/S gym 11am - 11pm McDonalds		
10	Sunday		

KMCC Weekly Schedule

**October 11, 2010 -
October 17, 2010**

October 2010							November 2010						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

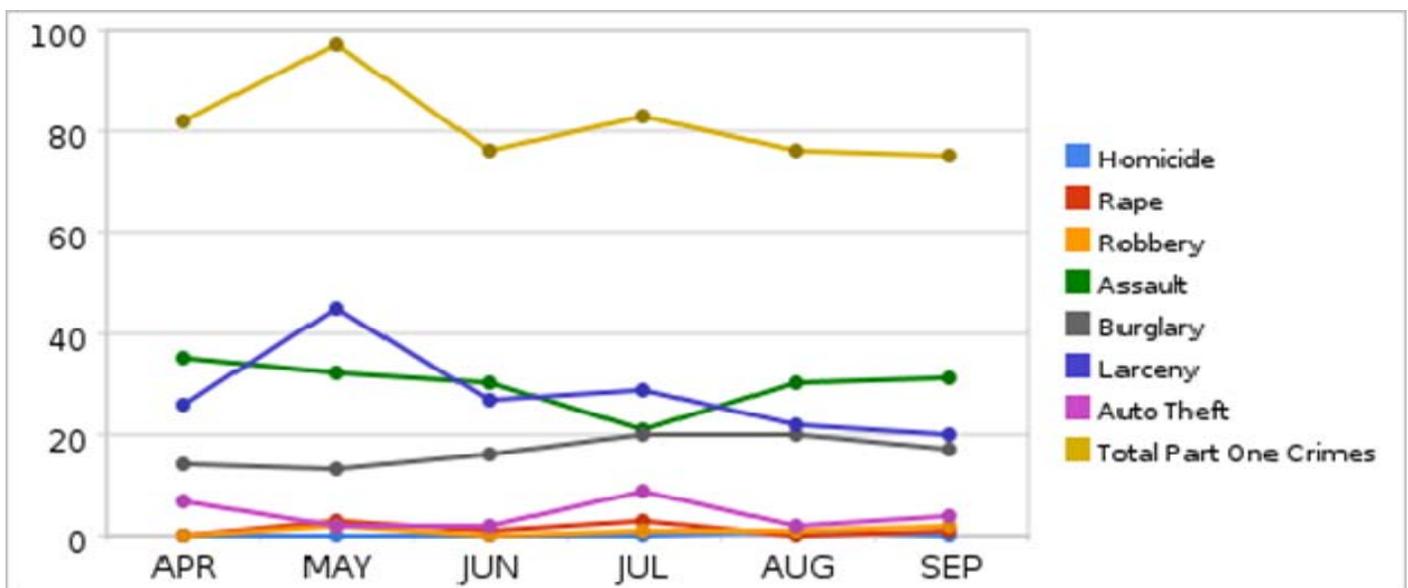
11	Monday	12	Tuesday
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA CXL; N/S Gym	8:00am	11:00am Preschool Pkx (empty rm); Fossil Falls
5:00pm	7:00pm FPCS; R/C Rm	11:00am	1:00pm Youth Advisory ; Red Rock/Chimney Pk
5:35pm	ZUMBA CXL; Petro	2:30pm	6:30pm ICS Volleyball GAME; N/S Gym
6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym	5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; outside
		6:00pm	7:30pm Trash Workshop; Pinnacles
13	Wednesday	14	Thursday
8:00am	11:00am Preschool Pkx (empty rm); Fossil Falls	12:00pm	9:00pm Alta One FCU; Chimney Pk
9:00am	12:00pm IWW Collaborative; Red Rock/Chimney Peak	12:00pm	9:00pm Bud Eyre Car Sales; Fossil Falls/Ballararat
9:00am	10:00am Multi DSC Trm; R/C Rm	12:00pm	9:00pm Ken Charlton Auto Sales; Red Rock
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym	5:35pm	7:35pm ZUMBA; Petro
3:30pm	5:00pm Quickstart Tennis; Petro	6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym
5:00pm	7:00pm FPCS; R/C Rm		
6:00pm	8:00pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym		
8:00pm	10:00pm ACES Volleyball Club; Gym		
15	Friday	16	Saturday
8:00am	8:00pm Alta One FCU; Chimney Pk	7:00am	5:00pm Alta One FCU; Chimney Pk
8:00am	8:00pm Bud Eyre Car Sales; Fossil Falls/Ballararat	7:00am	5:00pm Bud Eyre Car Sales; Fossil Falls/Ballararat
8:00am	8:00pm Ken Charlton Auto Sales; Red Rock	7:00am	5:00pm Ken Charlton Auto Sales; Red Rock
9:30am	10:30am ZUMBA Fitness; N/S Gym	12:00pm	4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym
3:30pm	5:30pm ICS Volleyball Practice; N/S Gym		
<i>Maturango Junction / Car Sales</i>		<i>Maturango Junction / Car Sales</i>	
17	Sunday		
7:00am	3:00pm Alta One FCU; Chimney Pk		
7:00am	3:00pm Bud Eyre Car Sales; Fossil Falls/Ballararat		
7:00am	3:00pm Ken Charlton Auto Sales; Red Rock		
CAR SALES			

Ridgecrest Police Department

CrimeStatistics

Prepared October, 2010
Last Six Months

Crimes	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	Total
Homicide	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Rape	1	3	1	3	0	1	8
Robbery	0	2	0	1	1	2	6
Assault	35	32	30	21	30	31	179
Burglary	14	13	16	20	20	17	100
Larceny	26	45	27	29	22	20	169
Auto Theft	7	2	2	9	2	4	26
Total Part One Crimes	82	97	76	83	76	75	489
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	Total
Total Incidents	2,872	3,329	3,164	3,180	3,149	2,943	18,637



INVESTIGATIONS

This month under the ABC grant, one (1) Shoulder Tap Operation was conducted resulting in the arrest of three (3) persons for alcohol (BP) and drug (HS) violations. Twenty-three (23) persons were solicited at five (5) different ABC licensed premises. Two (2) Minor Decoy Operations were conducted at all twenty (20) of the ABC Off-Sale licensed businesses within the city. Three (3) clerks were arrested for the direct sales of alcohol to the minor decoys.

Detective Atkins attended an 8-hr Wiretap Training class this month. He also handled a couple unattended death investigations this month.

This month, Detective Lawson attended a 40-hr Basic Homicide Investigation class and an 8-hr Wiretap Training class. She investigated and made an arrest in a sexual assault case where the victim was highly intoxicated and sleeping when the suspect, a friend, entered her bedroom and raped her. Detective Lawson assisted on several other priority cases this month.

Detective Castaneda also attended the 40-hr Basic Homicide Investigation class. He assisted Detective Merzlak in the forcible rape/sodomy investigation and in the suicide investigation at Motel 6. Detective Castaneda was active in ABC grant enforcement activities this month.

During the month of September the Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) was assigned a total of 18 cases to investigate and closed five. Detective Merzlak and Detective Ballestero also conducted 24 probation and parole searches, which resulted in a total of 9 arrests. The CSU Detectives spent approximately 26 hours in court and assisted three different agencies throughout the month. One of the agencies assisted was the Mendocino and Kern County Sheriff's Departments with attempted apprehension of a parolee at large, Shane Hutchinson. During this time, Detective Merzlak and Detective Ballestero along with several other officers from the Ridgecrest Police Department tracked Hutchinson through the desert for approximately 8 hours.

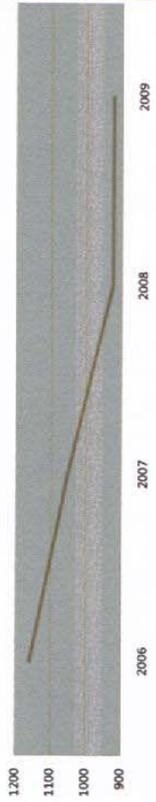
Detective Merzlak was assigned to investigate a forcible rape and sodomy of a juvenile that occurred on 09/11/2010. During this investigation Detective Merzlak and Detective Castaneda obtained Search and Ramey warrants, which resulted in the seizure of evidence related to the case and the arrest of the suspect, Zarin Lee. Detective Merzlak along with Detective Castaneda were also assigned to investigate an unattended death that occurred at Motel 6 on 09/29/2010. The investigation determined that the unattended death was a suicide.

Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Crime

	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Sept 09	Sept 10	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
Violent Crime	12	22	83%	124	105	-15%
Murder	0	0	0%	0	1	100%
Rape	1	1	0%	12	11	-8%
Robbery	1	2	100%	6	10	67%
Aggravated Assault	10	19	90%	106	83	-22%
Property Crime	47	41	-13%	397	480	23%
Burglary	13	17	31%	117	167	43%
Larceny	28	20	-29%	229	273	19%
Auto Theft	4	4	0%	36	40	11%
Arson	2	0	-100%	15	10	-33%
Part 1 Crimes	69	63	7%	521	595	14%

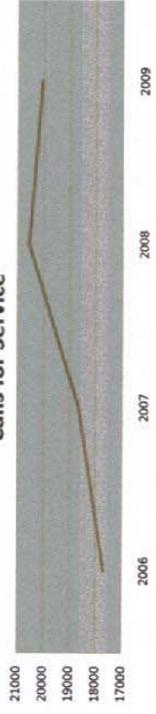
Part 1 Crimes



Performance Measures

Patrol Activity	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Sept 09	Sept 10	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
Total Incidents	3165	2943	-7%	30521	27991	-8%
Calls for Service	1564	1748	12%	15249	15363	1%
Officer Initiated Incidents	1601	1195	-25%	15272	12628	-17%
Traffic Stops	714	534	-25%	7089	4801	-32%
Other OIA Incidents	887	661	-25%	8183	7827	-4%
Reports Taken	367	355	-3%	3343	3311	-1%
Total Arrests	209	200	-4%	2057	1965	-4%
Felony Arrests	53	31	-42%	564	394	-30%
Juvenile Arrests	43	38	-12%	391	390	0%
Drug Related	19	15	-21%	230	238	3%

Calls for Service



Personnel

	Allocated	Filled	Vacant
Total	51	50	1
Sworn	35	34	1
Professional Staff	16	15	0

Vacant Positions

Police Officer	Status
COPS grant position left open - salary savings	

Traffic

Citations	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Sept 09	Sept 10	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
Moving	55	116	111%	1975	864	-56%
Non-Moving	48	8	-83%	526	210	-60%
RMC Violation	28	22	-21%	207	198	-4%
Collisions	30	24	-20%	174	161	-7%
Fatal	0	0	0%	0	4	400%
Injury	8	3	-63%	47	35	-26%
Non-Injury	19	20	5%	111	114	3%
DUI Related	3	1	-67%	16	8	-50%

Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD

1. W. Ridgecrest Blvd. / S. Downs
2. W. Ridgecrest Blvd. / N. Sanders St.
3. W. Church Ave. / S. Warner St.
4. N. China Lake Blvd. / French Ave.
5. N. Norma St. / W. Las Flores Ave.

- ## Top 5 PCF's YTD
1. Failed to yield right-of-way, turn
 2. Failing to stop at posted stop sign
 3. Unsafe backing
 4. Unsafe speed
 5. Failed to yield right-of-way, highway

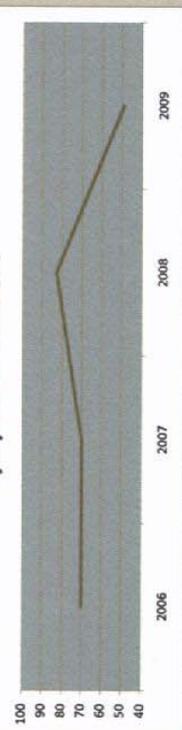
Investigation

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Sept 09	Sept 10	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
News Cases	374	363	2%	2691	2666	-1%
Cleared DA or Other	95	93	-2%	1097	958	-22%
Arrests	20	2000%		161	16100%	
Inactivated	58	23	-60%	328	286	-13%
Active	181	523	189%	1354	2692	99%

K-9 Deploy

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Sept 09	Sept 10	% Change	2009	2010	% Change
Deployments	11	1100%		137	13700%	
Apprehensions	0	0%		0	0%	
Building Searches	3	300%		10	1000%	
Vehicle Searches	7	700%		63	6300%	
Drug Finds	2	200%		26	2600%	

Injury Traffic Collisions



PACT MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2010

<u>PACT Volunteer</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Executive Director	23.5
Financial	2.0
Fundraiser	61.0
Training	21.5
Training Admin	10.0
Administrative RPD	259.0
Administrative Org	272.0
Vehicle Maint.	277.0
Animal Welfare	618.0
Child ID	31.0
EOC	9.0
Graffiti Task Force	18.6
Nuisance Abatement	21.0
Patrol	659.0
Preventive Patrol	0.0
Surveillance	15.0
Neighborhood Watch	0
Teen Court	2.0

Sites 17

Houses Checked 94

PACT HOURS	2,394.1	YTD Hours for 2009	5,881.5
Non-member hours	46.0	YTD Hours for 2010	7,074.0
Chaplain hours	0.0		
TOTAL HOURS	2,440.1		

Volunteers served twenty subpoenas and attempted to serve one more.
 Two evidence runs were made to Bakersfield.
 One child was transported to Jamison for the month of September by Shirley Bates
 Seventeen graffiti sites were cleaned up with eighteen and a half volunteer hours being spent.
 Child ID gave out 157 ID's at Family Fun Fair
 Twenty-one volunteers assisted with the MotoCross
 Three volunteers gave up their time to assist with the McDonalds Fundraiser
 Sixteen volunteers attended the monthly coffee
 We had sixteen volunteers that attended the Eagles Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner
 We had seven volunteers that responded to a Lost Child Call Out
 Seventeen volunteers were on duty for the 9/11 1000 Flags Parade

RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESERVE ORGANIZATION

MONTHLY SUMMARY

SEPTEMBER 2010

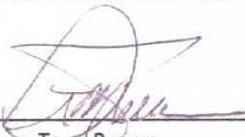
	Current Month	YTD Total
Reserve Hrs.	111	912.5

During the Month of **SEPTEMBER** Reserve Officers worked the following hours:

Officer Kiren	0.0 RETIRED
Officer Dysart	42.0
Officer Schatz	04.5
Officer Robbs	09.5
Officer Dorrell	25.0
Officer Regan	14.0
Officer Mitchell	04.0
Officer Kinslow	07.0
Officer Podell	07.0

This month, members of the Reserve Organization augmented Patrol, Range, 1000 Flags Parade, BHS Football and assisted with Teen Court.

Prepared by;



Tony Brown
Sergeant

Reserve Report for the Month of September 2010

The Reserve Officers achieved a total of 111 hours for the month of September. Officers Dysart and Dorrell contributed 42 and 25 hours respectively.

Admin Meetings accounted for 14 percent of administration time with 16 hours.

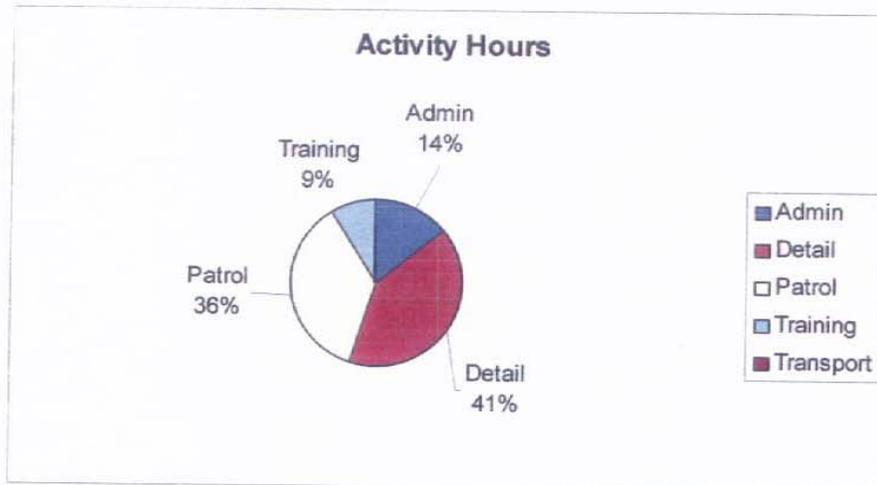
Detail time consisted of 44.5 hours providing assistance during the Parade of 1000 Flags, Teen Court, and security at Burroughs High School football games. This accounted for 41 percent of the reserves time.

Patrol time accounted for 36 percent of the total reserve hours. Reserve Officers Dysart, Dorrell, Robbs, and Podell provided 40.5 hours of patrol time, with Officer Dysart providing 26.5 hours of those hours.

Training accounted for 9 percent of the reserves total time for the month. Range Qualification accounted for 10 hours of this time.

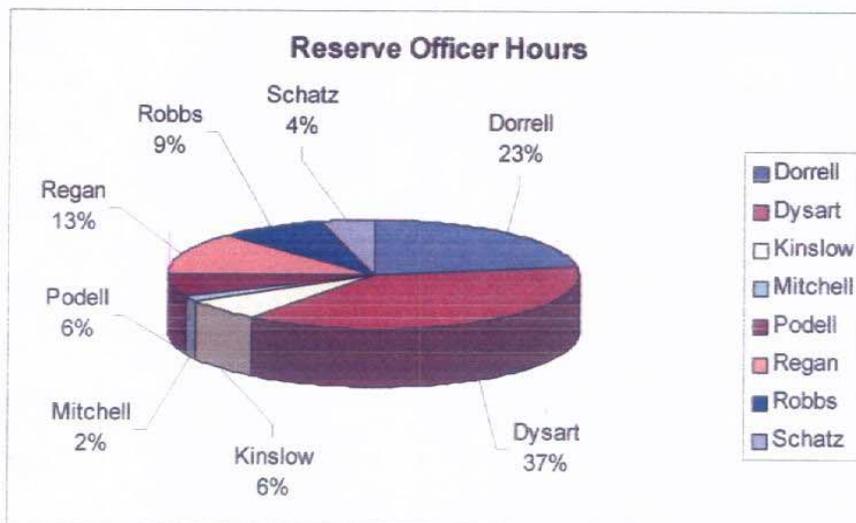
The following is a breakdown of the Reserve hours:

Administration	16.0 hours	14%
Details	44.5 hours	41%
Patrol	40.5 hours	36%
Training/Range	10.0 hours	9%
Transportation	0.0 hours	0%



Reserve Officer hours for the month of September:

Dorrell	25.0 hours	23%
Dysart	42.0 hours	37%
Kinslow	7.0 hours	6%
Mitchell	2.0 hours	2%
Podell	7.0 hours	6%
Regan	14.0 hours	13%
Robbs	9.5 hours	9%
Schatz	4.5 hours	4%



Ridgecrest Police Department Animal Control Section

Monthly Report of Activities
September 2010

	CITY	NAWS	KERN CO	SAN BERN	Current Year		Previous Year	
					MTD	YTD	MTD	YTD
Dispatched Calls	181	0	1	0	182	1541	189	1533
Field Calls	23	0	1	0	24	163	14	119
Emergency Calls	7	0	0	0	7	67	4	40
Impounded Dogs:								
Public	29	1	20	0	50	301	30	360
A.C.O.	40	0	8	0	48	409	58	378
Total	69	1	28	0	98	631	88	825
Impounded Cats:								
Public	62	0	25	4	91	759	108	966
A.C.O.	5	0	1	0	6	99	13	75
Total	67	0	26	4	97	858	121	1040
Miscellaneous Animals:								
Dead Animals:	4	0	0	0	4	39	1	32
	9	0	2	0	11	82	12	111
Cumulative of Animals Handled:	149	1	56	4	210	1610	222	1921
Dispositions								
Dogs Adopted	3	0	4	0	7	125	11	119
Dogs Released	33	1	6	0	40	295	33	266
Dogs Euthanasized	19	0	10	0	29	128	27	211
Cats Adopted	1	0	0	0	1	64	6	37
Cats Released	0	0	0	0	0	21	1	17
Cats Euthanasized	44	0	24	4	72	703	103	906
Animals Euthanasized:	63	0	34	4	101	810	168	1155
Fees Collected								
Licenses	\$2,072.00		\$15,782.00			\$2,217.00		\$18,366.00
Vaccinations	\$131.00		\$3,392.00			\$176.00		\$1,869.00
Shelter Fees	\$2,850.00		\$26,925.00			\$3,092.00		\$28,837.50
Total Fees Collected	\$5,053.00		\$44,644.50			\$5,485.00		\$49,072.50

Prepared By: Mary Stage Reviewed By: _____

RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT
EXPLORER POST #806
MONTHLY STATS

SEPTEMBER 2010

ACTIVE EXPLORERS/last year

HOURS/last year

19/9

81/159

The Explorer Post has changed to the summer schedule in which there is only one meeting a month because our events decrease drastically. The above hours include teen court, ride a longs, and assistance in major incidents. This month's hours are lower than last year's because we no longer participate in the Desert Empire Fair.

Prepared by: Detective Kristen Lawson

Ridgecrest Police Department
 Code Enforcement Division
 October 2010 Monthly Report
 Cases Currently Open - 29

File #	Address	Description	Open Date	Current Status
<u>09-000165</u>	620 West UPJOHN Avenue RIDGECREST	Owner of 25 mobile homes that are in various degrees of disrepair has left the blight in the park without pulling permits or making a continous effort to fix them up and resell them.	6/16/2009	In Kern County Superior Court
<u>09-000293</u>	1109 South MAYO Street RIDGECREST	Open case file in regards to properties owned by Dale Howard and any associate or other property owner where Howard's property is stored and constitute a blight within the community.	12/8/2009	In Review
<u>10-000022</u>	1445 South MAYO Avenue RIDGECREST	Property is a mess with junk and debris. Boats parked in the yard, access to the home is a fire hazard.	3/1/2010	Extention granted to build a fence
<u>10-000070</u>	402 West MOYER Street RIDGECREST	Health Hazard at home where junk, cars, machines and weeds can be found.	7/13/2010	Citation Issued 9/29/10
<u>10-000085</u>	420 North NORMA Street RIDGECREST	Police reported an extreme filth issue at 420 S. Norma. Advised to check on residents "squatting" in the back yard. Possible trash hazard as well.	8/2/2010	Letter sent to the owner or his family. Contact with Coldwell Banker verified Home is in probate.
<u>10-000089</u>	945 UPJOHN Avenue RIDGECREST	Police contacted owner of home at a different call. They indicate the outside of the home has trash all over and the weeds are dead and a fire hazard.	9/13/2010	No response from the owner. Citation to be issued.
<u>10-000090</u>	721 South ALLEN Street RIDGECREST	Police were called out to an area for a residence check. Residence was vacant. They did find the yards to be in disarray with the fence down, debris in the yard and an old truck on the property.	9/13/2010	Letter sent to owner. Owner contacted CEO and will repair the fence.

Ridgecrest Police Department
Code Enforcement Division
October 2010 Monthly Report
Cases Currently Open - 29

<u>10-000094</u>	1259 EL PRADO Street RIDGECREST	Home in neighborhood is vacant and it has dead trees. Another neighbor said someone does water it, but it remains a fire hazard. Trees in the front and north side yard are a fire hazard.	8/31/2010	Letter sent to the owner. No action taken as of yet.
<u>10-000095</u>	321 North SANDERS Street RIDGECREST	Trash trailer parked in the street. Trash and junk can be seen through chain link fence from the street.	8/31/2010	Owner contacted CEO. Will abate.
<u>10-000096</u>	324 North SANDERS Street RIDGECREST	While on routine patrol, it was noticed that the yard in question has severe over growth of the lawn and tree in the front yard. Tree is growing over and into the sidewalk.	8/31/2010	Letter sent. No response as of yet
<u>10-000099</u>	306 West UPJOHN Avenue RIDGECREST	Fire hazard piled up in the backyard of residence.	9/28/2010	Letter sent. No response
<u>10-000100</u>	612 South GORDON Street RIDGECREST	Vehicle up on jacks. All four wheels off the ground. This is a public safety hazard.	9/29/2010	Letter sent. Given until 10/18 to abate.
<u>10-000101</u>	609 GLEN Court RIDGECREST	Vehicles that are not running or are partial vehicles in the driveway must be covered with a car cover when not being worked on. This is a public nuisance.	9/29/2010	Owner responded. Will abate
<u>10-000102</u>	608 GLEN Court RIDGECREST	Possibly inoperable vehicle on the side yard needs to be covered if not being worked on. This is a public nuisance.	9/29/2010	Owner responded. Will abate
<u>10-000103</u>	636 GLEN Court RIDGECREST	Disabled vehicle in side yard (right front flat tire). All vehicles must be operable. If not they must be covered with a car cover. This is a public nuisance.	9/29/2010	Letter Sent, No response
<u>10-000104</u>	212 West VANESSA RIDGECREST	RP is concerned with the look of the yard across the street from her. I/R there to be some construction materials in the driveway, a tree stump and a broken fence.	9/29/2010	Letter Sent, No response

Ridgecrest Police Department Code Enforcement Division October 2010 Monthly Report Cases Currently Open - 29

<u>10-000105</u>	1140 COLLEGE HEIGHTS Boulevard RIDGECREST	RP reporting mold, termites and other issues with apartment. He says landlords/manager not fixing the problem.	9/27/2010	Items fixed. Awaiting report.
<u>10-000106</u>	Shenandoah at Norma Ave Ridgecrest	Rp complained a brickwall has rebar sticking straight up and could injure a motorcyclist in an accident.	9/21/2010	Personal contact with owner. Will check for abatement.
<u>10-000108</u>	542 West LAS FLORES Avenue RIDGECREST	While on routine patrol I saw a home that had a trailer and travel trailer parked on the road with an extension cord across the sidewalk. Made contact with the owners to abate the situation.	9/30/2010	Personal Contact made and letter sent.
<u>10-000110</u>	1536 North MAHAN Street RIDGECREST	RP forwarded an email which complained about vehicles stacked up on each other on the street near recycling center.	9/27/2010	Personal Contact made and letter sent. Pearson will clear off the road.
<u>10-000113</u>	525 West WARD Avenue RIDGECREST	Officer initiated activity of an apartment complex that looks to be building a fence with PVC pipe. Photos taken and card left with resident.	9/27/2010	Personal Contact made and letter sent. PVC Pipe taken down.
<u>10-000114</u>	1334 North DOWNS Street RIDGECREST	RP reports there are 8 to 10 trash bags piled in the front yard. and left over garage sale items. "It looks like hell".	9/30/2010	Personal Contact made and letter sent.
<u>10-000116</u>	1140 COLLEGE HEIGHTS Boulevard RIDGECREST	RP reports mold in the bathroom. Indicates she put a work order in during April. Nothing has been done.	9/30/2010	Repair is on-going.
<u>10-000119</u>	312 North NORMA Street RIDGECREST	Officer initiated activity at residence that is runniing a 24/7 yard sale. Attempt to contact met with negative results.	9/30/2010	Home appears to be abandoned. Letter sent

Ridgecrest Police Department
Code Enforcement Division
October 2010 Monthly Report
Cases Currently Open - 29

<u>10-000120</u>	509 COTTONWOOD Drive RIDGECREST	Next door - vacant home has trash and dog feces in the backyard. The smell is bad.	10/4/2010	Letter Sent
<u>10-000123</u>	405 East RIDGECREST Boulevard RIDGECREST	Officer initiated activity on vacant business property, which had signs of dead grass and weeds along the west perimeter of the property.	10/6/2010	On - hold for 90 Days
<u>10-000124</u>	350 East RIDGECREST RIDGECREST	Officer initiated activity regarding vacant business which presents a public nuisance.	10/7/2010	On Hold

**Ridgecrest Police Department
Code Enforcement Division
October 2010 Monthly Report
Closed Cases in the Month - 13**

File#	OpenDate	CloseDate	Description	PropertyAddress	CycleTime
09-000237	8/13/2009	9/14/2010	Dry waist high weeds in the front and back yards. Dead tree in the back yard and a fence that is falling apart or is being damaged by vandals.	1051 North SHERRI Street	397
10-000071	6/5/2010	9/14/2010	Home has residents living in an RV in the backyard and now the residents are bringing in a lot of trash.	1400 West IOWA	101
10-000084	7/14/2010	9/14/2010	Welfare check of the property owner, Elaine Stewart (Age 92) was conducted. There was a report the home was uninhabitable.	1599 North NORMA Street	62
10-000086	8/4/2010	9/14/2010	RP states there is a dead pine tree at 405 N. Norma that will fall into the street if not taken care of.	405 North NORMA Street	41
10-000093	8/31/2010	10/4/2010	Neighbor storing vehicles in his front yard. There is also a trailer with trash in the driveway.	1324 West PORTER Street	34
10-000098	9/20/2010	9/28/2010	RP concerned with placement of political signs.	Various areas in Public Right of Way	8
10-000107	9/30/2010	9/30/2010	Rp reported the yard next door has lots of vehicles and trash.	653 SONJA Court	0
10-000109	9/22/2010	9/30/2010	RP claimed dog feces are piled up in backyard of neighbors home. It smells real bad.	1024 South SIMS Street	8
10-000111	9/15/2010	9/15/2010	On routine patrol I noticed three panhandlers, two women and 1 man near Arbys in the Stater bros. parking lot. I contacted them and warned and advised against panhandling.	800 North CHINA LAKE Boulevard	0
10-000115	9/30/2010	9/30/2010	RP reports she has been trying to keep the vacant lot next door to her clean, but the weeds are overgrown and present a fire hazard. There are also tree branches on the lot.	1212 W. Willow Ave	0
10-000118	9/30/2010	9/30/2010	Officer initiated activity on construction work going on at 723 N. China Lake Blvd. (Old Diamond Motors). A check of the site for permits and the City of Ridgecrest Building Department revealed permits were in place.	723 North CHINA LAKE Boulevard	0
10-000121	10/4/2010	10/5/2010	Officer initiated activity regarding a political sign in the public right of way. Located NB Downs from Las Flores in a sidewalk planter.	NB Downs at Las Flores	1
10-000122	10/4/2010	10/5/2010	Officer initiated activity regarding a political sign that was found in the public right of way. Sign located at Bowman and S. Norma Ave.	Bowman at S. Norma	1

Finance Department



September 2010

Staff

Tyrell Staheli – Finance Director
Tess Sloan – Controller
Kristi Cole – Accountant
Margaret Rana – Payroll
Kelly Brewton – Accounts Payable
Virginia Johnson – Account Clerk / Front Counter

Phone: (760) 499-5020
Fax: (760) 499-1520

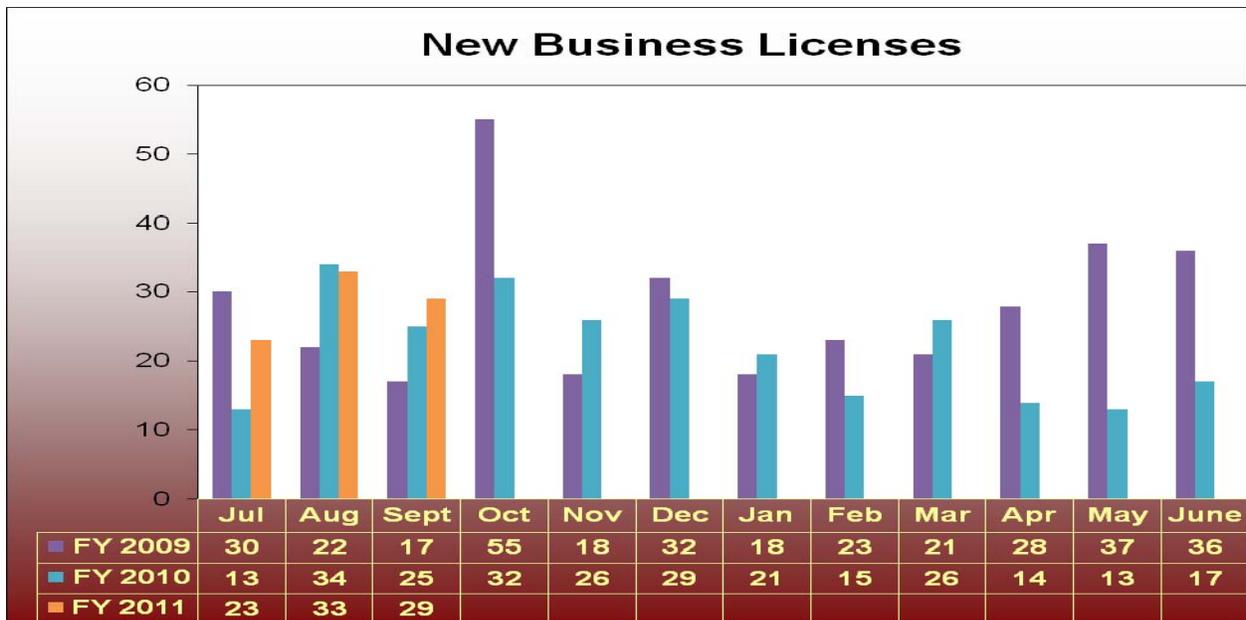


Finance Department – September 2010

FRONT COUNTER

Business License

1. Processed 53 new business licenses.
2. Processed 21 renewals.
3. Processed changes to business licenses as received.
4. Printed and mailed new and modified business licenses.
5. Problems encountered:
 - a. None to report
6. To Do:
 - a. Continue to process (new, changes, and inactivations) business licenses as received.
 - b. Print business licenses on non-pay run Thursdays



Transit

1. Counted Transit vaults daily.
2. Created the PDF monthly totals for Kristi.
3. Problems encountered:
 - a. None to report

Trash

1. Processed payments as received.
2. Transferred phone calls and directed walk-ins with problems to Admin.

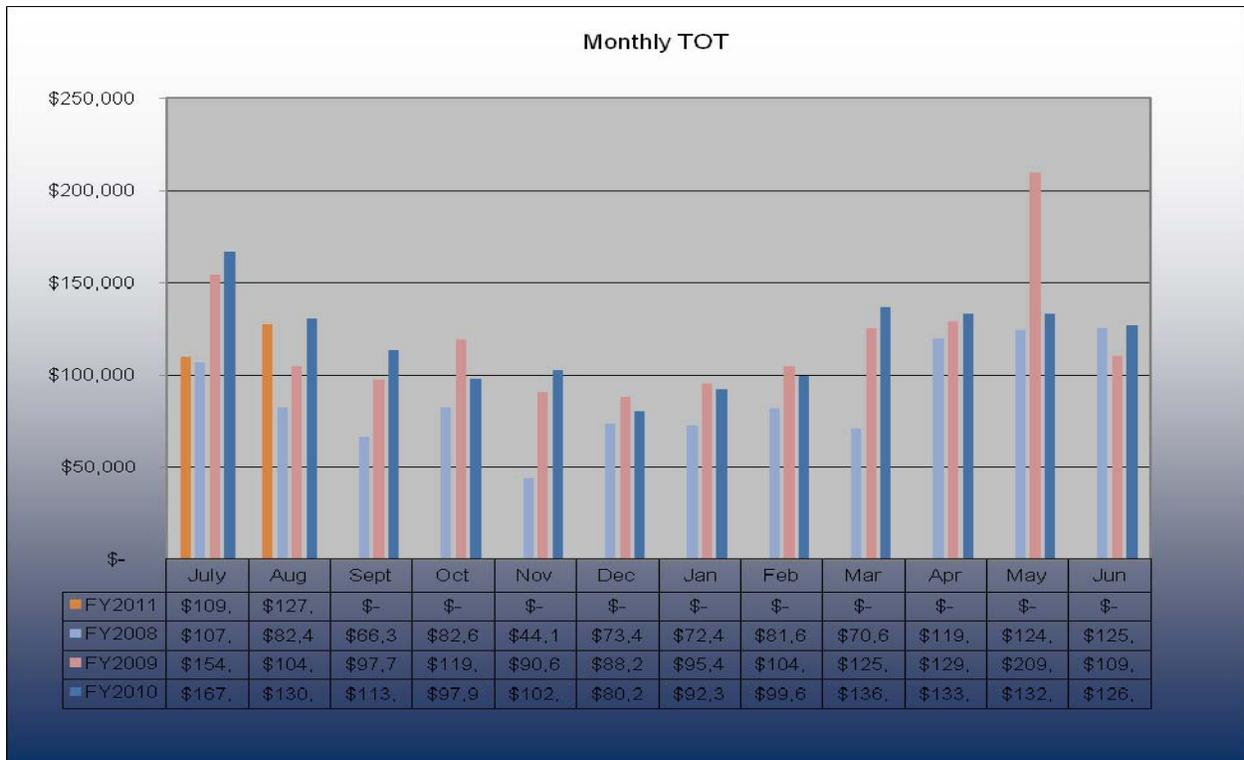


Finance Department – September 2010

3. Problems encountered:
 - a. None to report.
4. To Do:
 - a. Continue to process payments.
 - b. Continue to send phone calls and walk-ins to “War Room” and Admin, respectively.

TOTs

1. Processed TOTs as received.
2. Updated TOT spreadsheet.
3. Problems encountered:
 - a. None to report
4. To Do:
 - a. Send Ridgcrest Motel another letter regarding their TOT submittals, citing the City ordinance for noncompliance
 - b. Send Rose Garden letter regarding TOTs from FY 10.



Cash Receipts

1. Processed cash receipts.



Finance Department – September 2010

2. Filed Cash Receipts.
3. Problems encountered:
 - a. None to report
4. To Do:
 - a. Continue to clear cash receipt on a daily basis.
 - b. File cash receipts as soon as time permits.

Miscellaneous projects – In addition to answering the phone, helping customers at the counter, and processing payments, Virginia updated monthly spreadsheets and distributed mail daily.

1. Sent out any utility invoices daily.
2. Sent out other invoices once or twice a week

There has been a problem with some invoices going straight to the departments from the mail room instead of coming to Finance first, so please keep an eye on your mail and get invoices turned into Finance as soon as possible

In preparation for the new fiscal year, Virginia will:

1. Send out RFPs to Spectrum Graphics, Pack Wrap, and Staples for envelopes.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE



- **All payables must be received no later than 10 am on the Thursday before the check run, unless otherwise specified.**

~If something needs be paid with the next check run and you will be unable to get it to Accounts Payable (APs) by the deadline, arrangements must be made **prior** to the deadline. We will not accept any request made after the deadline and invoice payment will be made the following check run.

- When you receive utility bills get them coded, signed and returned to APs the next business day. We try to get the utilities put in the blue and white inter-department envelopes so please pay close attention to these.
- When submitting invoices to be paid verify that they have been signed and coded.
- When submitting an invoice to be paid, check the account number to make sure there is budget available in the account. If there is not sufficient budget available, a budget adjustment must be done, and a note made on the invoice of when budget adjustment was submitted (i.e., BA submitted to FN on 9/1/10).
- Prior to using a vendor, verify that they are an active vendor in our system; if they are not please obtain a W-9 prior to purchase or services.
- If submitting a check request in which back up needs to be sent with the check, include an additional copy. If an additional copy is not attached, nothing will be sent with the check.



Finance Department – September 2010

- Cal-Card: Hold on to receipts until you receive the Cal Card statement. Once statement is received, sign and code then submit to APs within five (5) business days along with receipts.
- Write description of what was purchased if it is not clearly stated on the receipt or invoice. Do not write over descriptions on receipts. If there is no room on the receipt, you may write it on the back of the receipt or you may tape it to a piece of paper to write the description on.
- Keep receipts away from heat and do not highlight receipts, as most receipts are now printed on thermal paper and the heat turns them black and highlighter erases the text.
- When submitting travels: If a both a registration check and an advance check are needed, please submit 2 copies of the travel request- one with the employee name highlighted, and one with the registration highlighted.
- Remember any purchase or service costing over \$1999.99 will need a purchase order and needs to be completed before the purchase is made or services are rendered.

Check pick up



- Checks are generally ready for pick up at 4pm on the Thursday of the check run. If you have checks you need to pick up please send me an e-mail to let me know what checks you need and I will contact you as soon as they are ready for pick up.
- If a vendor wants to pick up a check, arrangements must be made with me no later than Wednesday of the check run, they can pick them up after 4pm on the Thursday or if they leave a phone number; I will contact them once the check is ready for pick up.

Work Completed July & August 2010:

1. Processed a total of 240 checks
2. Paid out \$555,154.98 to vendors

ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Kristi also has spend MANY hours trying to reconicle the Benz spreadsheets. She has been trying to get the information more organized so bills for past due amounts can be sent out.

In preparation for the audit that will occur the beginning of October, Kristi has been reconciling accounts and helping to close the books for Fiscal Year 2010.

Kristi also continues to assist the City Controller with month end processes for closing the accounting period – bank recons, various allocations; verify edits for Accounts Payable; prepare LAIF investment transfers; and prepare and send out billing to Kern County for the Transit System services and Senior Center charges and rent.



Finance Department – September 2010

PAYROLL



PAYROLL DEPARTMENT-SEPTEMBER 2010			
	PR #18 09/08/10	PR #19 09/24/10	TOTAL
GROSS WAGES PAID	\$ 252,910.28	\$ 260,817.31	\$ 513,727.59
NET WAGES PAID AFTER TAXES & DEDUCTIONS	\$ 178,116.27	\$ 183,979.83	\$ 362,096.10
Number of Overtime Hours Reported	352.25	309.75	\$662.00
Number of Overtime Hours Paid	311.75	279.25	\$591.00
Number of Overtime Hours Banked	40.5	30.5	\$71.00
OVERTIME PAID	\$10,577.10	\$10,296.13	\$20,873.23
Number of Full Time Employees Paid	104	103	207
Number of Part Time Employees Paid**	37	33	70
Total Employees Paid	141	136	277
NOTE:			
**City Council and Planning Commissioners are classified as part time employees and they are paid the second payday of each month.			

Public Services Department

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

- Sept.02 - Wastewater Mtg.
- Sept.02 - EOC Mtg.
- Sept.06 - Labor Day Holiday
- Sept.08 - CA Works Intern Mtg.
- Sept.10 - InterAgency Water Mtg.
- Sept.15 - LCC Annual Confer. San Diego
- Sept.16 - LCC Annual Confr.
- Sept.17 - LCC Annual Confr.
- Sept.20 - El Chili Pepper Mtg.
- Sept.21 - Planning Staff Mtg.
- Sept.22 - Jensen Abatement Mtg.
- Sept.22 - Planning Staff, Intern; CM.
- Sept.23 - IWVWD Conserv. Mtg.
- Sept 23 - RAHO Mtg.
- Sept.23 - China Lake All. Mtg.
- Sept.23 - InterAgency Water Mtg.
- Sept.27- TAB Finance Mtg.
- Sept.28 - Kern County Bldg. Code.
- Sept.29 - TAB Bond List Mtg.
- Sept.29 - 31 Budget Work Session

James McRea
Public Services Director

Gary Parsons
Economic Development Manager

Matthew Alexander, AICP
City Planner

Pam Hill
City Planning

Ricca Charlon
Administrative Secretary

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Administration and the Public Services Department continue to work in partnership with the City Council, Benz Sanitation, CalRecycle, and the County of Kern to improve the level of service and options to the community to resolve many of the concerns reported and expressed with respect to Universal (Mandatory) Curbside Pick-up and Recycling Program. A Self-haul Notification for Residential Premises Exemption Form is available on the City Website or at the counter of City Hall to allow a voluntary Opt-out option. Property Owners and occupants will be required to take personal responsibility to increase recycling and diversion by utilization of the commercial recycling centers and/or a new Self-haul Drop Off Area still in development. A Mini Recycling Center & Drop Off Facility is additionally available at the City Corporate Yards at 656 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. during day light hours. At this point implementation by Benz Sanitation takes a short period on a monthly basis after completion of the notification request. Approximately 87 residential accounts have requested recycling curbside service only, 971 solid waste service only, and 743 requesting no service.

Additional information may be obtained from:

- 24 hour Hotline: 760-499-5069
recycle@ridgecrest-ca.us
- City Website: <http://ci.ridgecrest.ca.us>
- Benz Sanitation: 760-375-8455



Commercial on-site Recycling allows right sizing and remains mandatory. All Business, Commercial, Institutional, and Multi-family (5 or more units) are required to participate in an on-site recycling diversion program.

“Waste Assessments” are the way many different businesses and multi-family dwellings (MFD) have been managing their efficiency of trash disposal & recycling. Waste Assessments provide baseline information about what’s in the waste stream at typical MFD units or businesses, which is helpful data when identifying materials to target for collection. Assessments can also help determine the best size for recycling containers. Information on waste assessments may be found on the following Cal-Recycle Websites:

MFD unit info may be found at:
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Library/Innovations/MultiFamily/>
(under the ‘Program Characteristics’ tab)

Business info may be found at:
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/ReduceWaste/Business/Assess.htm>
(under the ‘Establishing a Waste Reduction Program at work’ tab)

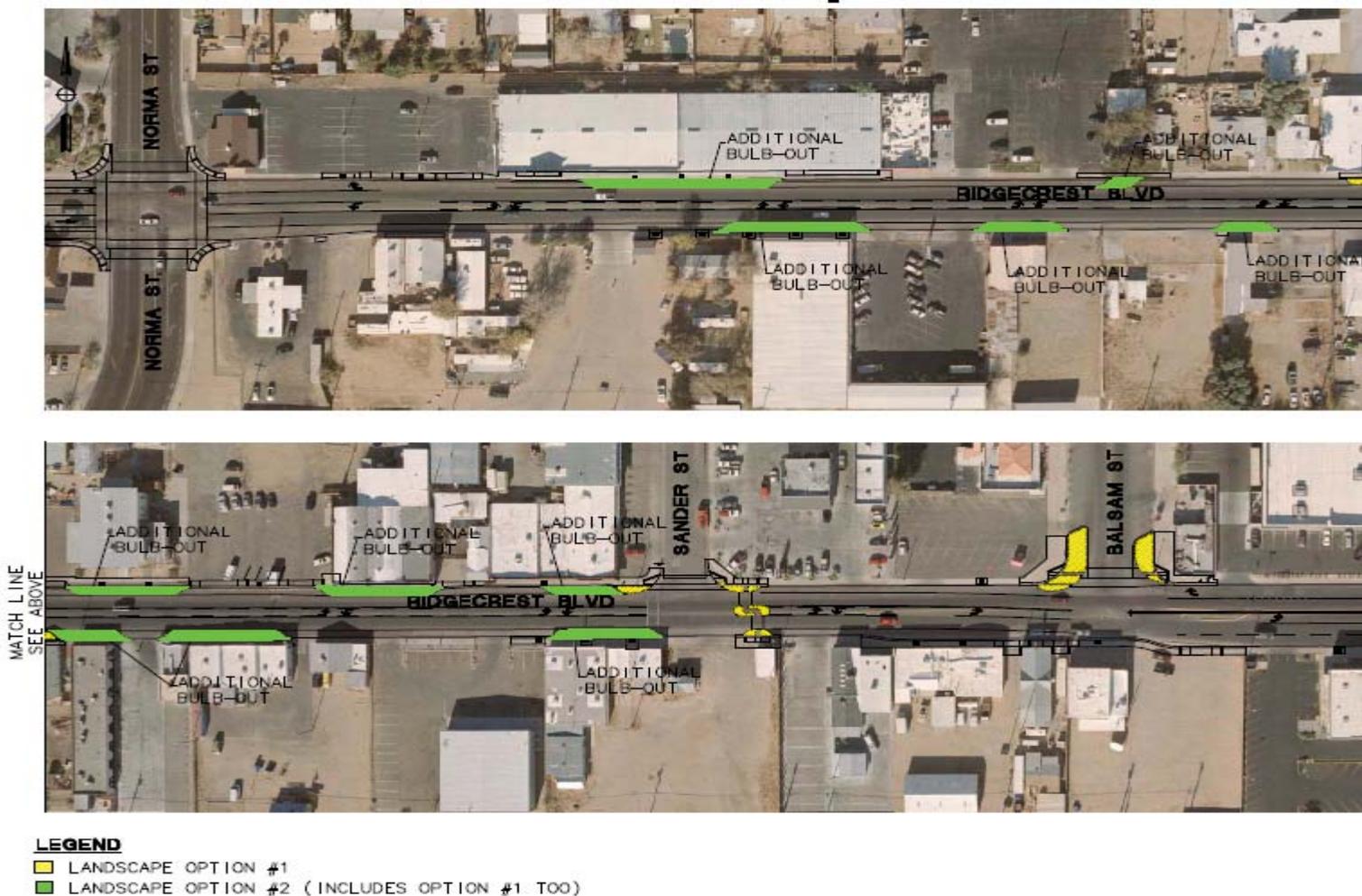
OLD TOWN ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE:

OTAP Committee Meeting September 21, 2010

On September 21, 2010 the Old Towne Action Plan Committee considered the completed 3-D Downtown Visualization video prepared by the Kern Council of Governments, an update of the Ridgecrest Blvd. Improvement Plan and a Draft Circulation Element for the Old Town Action Plan.

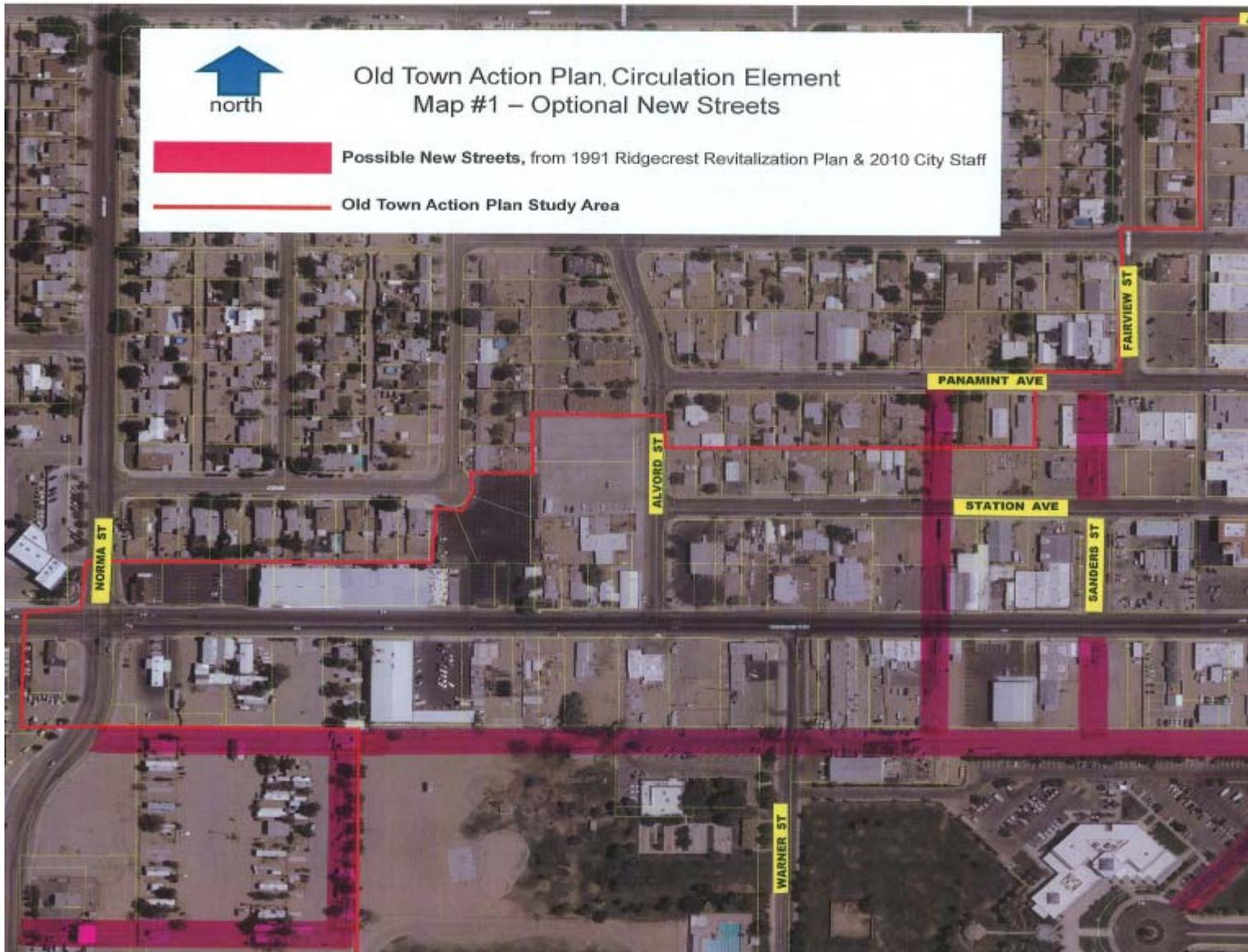
3-D Downtown Visualization video, City Planner Matthew Alexander presented the final Downtown Visualization video. It was decided that the staff will ask Eric Kauffman to provide the narration in order to provide a video presentation to the City Council on October 20, 2010.

RIDGECREST BLVD. IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE, City Engineer Loren Culp presented the latest bulb-out and landscape plan and solicited comments from OTAP Committee Members and the public.



OTAPC Members decided to hold a Special Meeting and walk Ridgecrest Blvd. on September 28, 2010. The City Engineer agreed to paint the proposed locations of the bulb outs and cross walks prior to the Special Meeting so that Ridgecrest Blvd. merchants and property owner would be able to see the intended street improvement locations.

- ◆ OLD TOWN ACTION PLAN DRAFT CIRCULATION ELEMENT, The City Engineer and City Planner presented alternative plans for new roadway extensions and parking within the Old Town Study Area



The 1991 downtown Plan recommended the following new streets:

1. An extension of Fairview St. between Panamint and Ridgecrest Blvd.,
2. An east-west street on the north side of the City Hall complex,
3. A north-south street on the east side of the City Hall complex,
4. A east-west street on the south side of Sandy's Mobile Home Park,
5. A north-south street on the east side of Sandy's Mobile Home Park,

In addition, the City staff recommends the following new streets be considered:

6. An Extension of Balsam Street from Ridgecrest Blvd into the City Hall complex,
7. A new street running south of and parallel to Ridgecrest Blvd. from Norma St. to the Balsam Street extension,
8. An extension of Fairview St. from City Hall to Ridgecrest Blvd., and
9. An extension of Sanders St. north and south of the one block portion.

OTAP Committee Members agreed to consider the alternative proposed new streets at the October 20, 2010 OTAPC meeting.

OTAP Committee Meeting September 29, 2010

On September 29, 2010 the Old Town Action Plan Committee hosted a Special Public meeting in order to walk Ridgecrest Blvd. to assess the preliminary Ridgecrest Blvd. Improvement Plan.



Some people in attendance were reluctant to take away on street parking spaces in order to provide the traffic calming landscaped bulb outs.

Currently there are 89 on-street parking spaces on Ridgecrest Blvd. from China Lake blvd. to Norma St. By implementing the Option 2 Plan that was considered on September 29th, (bulb outs painted on the asphalt), the on-street parking spaces will be reduced to 29.

The City Planner was instructed to prepare a compromise that will yield a healthy number of bulb outs but leave more in the neighborhood of 70 on-street parking spaces. Also, the intent will be to provide bulb outs next to parking lots in lieu of businesses by and large.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

September 28, 2010 Planning Commission Meeting

On September 28th the Planning Commission held a workshop to consider the new draft Sign Ordinance. The City's Community Development Committee directed the staff to begin work on re-writing the current sign ordinance in February, 2009. A first draft was completed and reviewed by the Community Development Committee on April 21, 2009, followed by revised second and third drafts considered by the Sign Ordinance Subcommittee on May 7, 2009 and May 15, 2009 respectively.

A Special meeting was conducted to consider the draft Sign Ordinance by the Chamber of Commerce in May, 2009. Input and comments were received from those attending the Special chamber of commerce meeting. A Sign Ordinance Community Opinion Survey was handed out to those who attended the Special Chamber of Commerce meeting in order to generate community sentiment regarding the extent that sign regulation that is appropriate. Also, the members of the Planning Commission responded to the Sign Ordinance Community Opinion Survey.

The Planning Commission considered the final Draft Sign Ordinance within a workshop format as a Discussion Item at August 10, 2010 Planning Commission meeting. At the conclusion of the workshop on August 10, 2010 the Planning Commission directed the staff to amend the draft Ordinance to permit signs on all exposed sides of a business as well as allowing aggregate permissible sign area based upon the number of exposed sides of a business. Also, the staff was directed to eliminate any restrictions to electronic signs except for the maximum permitted size.

A Motion was made and approved to send ordinance back to staff. Have pictures of other cities signs and ordinances brought back to Planning Commission; then choose one to possibly modify and move forward.



October Monthly Report



City of Ridgecrest

Public Works Department

October 15, 2010

New Sign Retro reflectivity Requirements

One of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) primary missions is to improve safety on the nation's roadways. Approximately 42,000 people have been killed on American roads during the last decade. While only one-quarter of all travel occurs at night, about half of the traffic fatalities occur during nighttime hours. To address this disparity, the FHWA has adopted new traffic sign retroreflectivity requirements that are included as Revision 2 of the 2003 MUTCD.

To comply with the new

requirements, public agencies will have until January 2012 to implement and then continue to use an assessment or management method that is designed to maintain traffic sign retroreflectivity at or above the minimum levels specified. Five assessment or management methods are defined in the MUTCD as acceptable maintenance methods for traffic signs. Agencies are also permitted to develop and use other methods based on engineering studies.

Public agencies will have until January 2015 to re-

place any regulatory, warning, or post-mounted guide (except street name) signs and until January 2018 to replace any street name signs and overhead guide signs that are identified by the assessment or management method as failing to meet the minimum retroreflectivity levels.

If an assessment or management method were being used, an agency would comply with the requirements of the new provisions even if there were

(Continued on page 2)



Wastewater Department

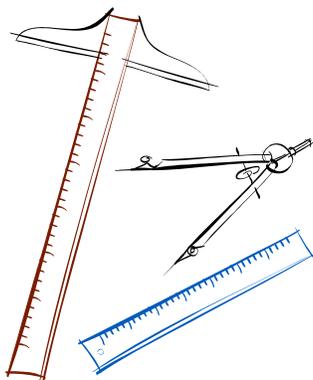
The City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Facility operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56. The Treatment Facility operated with no discharge violations or abnormal conditions. The Department inspected and passed five (5) new connections to the sanitary sewage system. The Depart-

ment responded to one (1) requests for service, after inspection proved to be home owner related. The Department is continuing the treatment of man holes with a Boric Acid solution for the control of pests and vector reduction. The Reclamation Department reclaimed 6.44 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.

The Department hydro flushed 8,175 feet of main line sewer for compliance with the SSO and SSMP program. The Semi Annual Ground Water Analysis Report for the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Reclamation Facility is complete and included with this month's SMR.

Creating Safer Work Zones

(Continued from page 1)



some individual signs that do not meet the minimum retroreflectivity levels at a particular point in time. Because of the seven to 10-year compliance period adopted for replacing signs that have insufficient retroreflectivity, highway departments will be able to implement improved sign inspection and management procedures and subsequently replace the signs in a period that is consistent with the typical sign replacement cycle.

New National Requirements

The *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) is the national standard for all traffic control devices on any street or highway open to public travel.

The MUTCD requires signs to be either illuminated or made with retroreflective sheeting materials. Most signs in the U.S. are made with retroreflective sheeting materials, which degrade over time and therefore have a limited life. Until now, there has been little information available to determine when signs need to be replaced based on retroreflectivity.

Revision number two of the 2003 Edition of the MUTCD introduces new language establishing minimum retroreflectivity levels

that must be maintained for traffic signs. The new MUTCD language and changes are highlighted on the MUTCD web page: <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/>.

Retroreflective Sheeting Materials

ASTM D4956 describes the types of retroreflective sheeting materials that can be used on traffic signs. The new MUTCD minimum retroreflectivity requirements refer to sheeting types as defined in ASTM D4956. Sheeting types that can be used according to the new requirements (current as of March 2008).

Even though a particular type of sheeting might initially meet the minimum retroreflectivity levels when new, it might quickly degrade to below the minimum retroreflectivity levels.

The use of higher performance sheeting, even though it has a higher initial cost, might provide a better life-cycle cost for the agency.

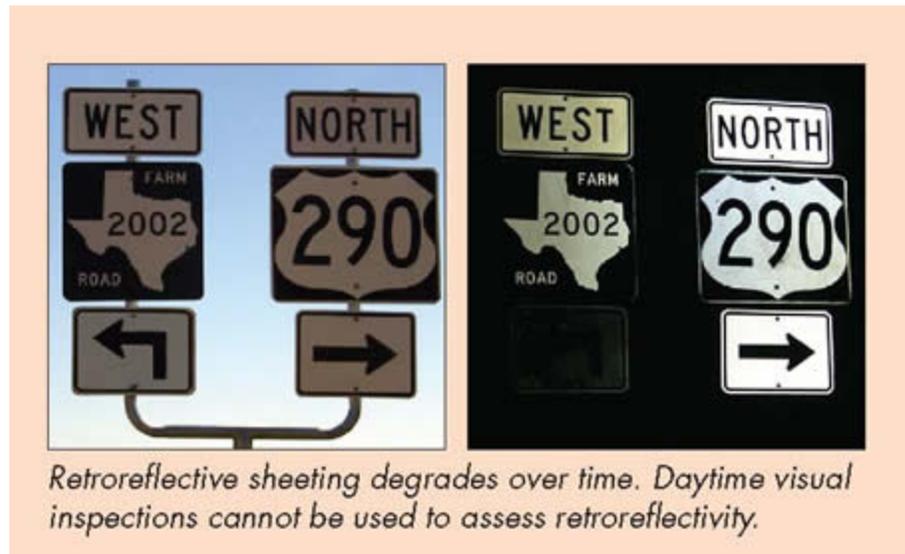
The FHWA has developed a sheeting ID guide and has posted it at: www.fhwa.dot.gov/retro

Sheeting types (as defined in ASTM D4956) that can be used according to the new requirements are as follows:

- All prismatic sheeting materials may be used for all signs.
- High Intensity Beaded (Type III) and Super Engineer Grade (Type II) may be used for all signs except for the white legend on overhead guide signs.
- Engineer Grade (Type I) may be used for all signs except for:
 - The white legend on guide signs,
 - The white legend on street name signs, and
 - All yellow and orange warning signs.

For additional information on this rulemaking and sign retroreflectivity, please visit the FHWA retroreflectivity web site www.fhwa.dot.gov/retro.

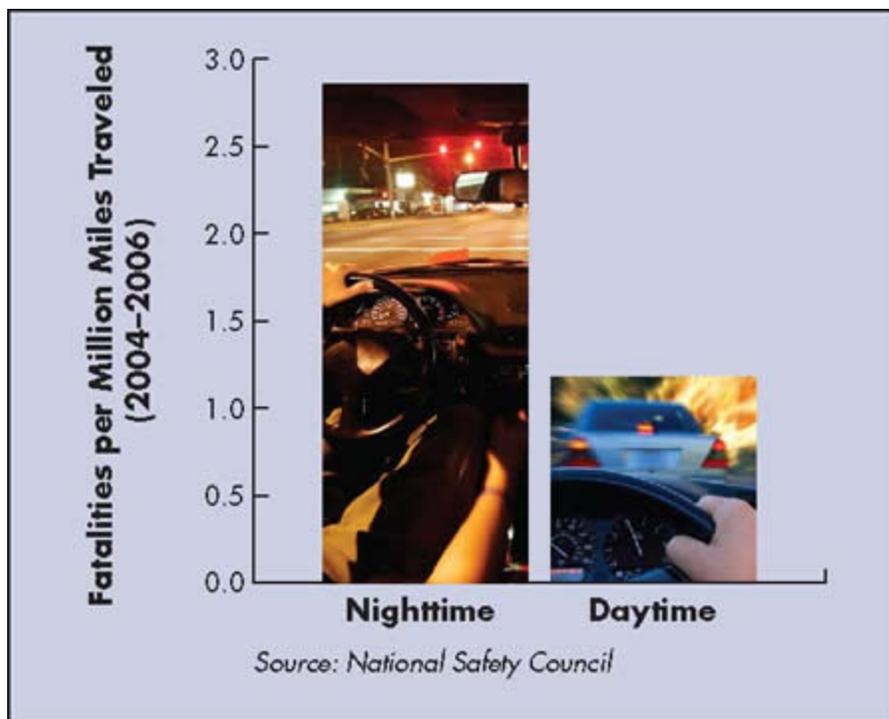




Adding Flexibility

The MUTCD now requires that agencies maintain traffic signs to a set of minimum levels but provide a variety of maintenance methods that agencies can use to be in compliance with the new MUTCD requirements. The FHWA believes that the new MUTCD language will promote safety while providing flexibility for agencies to choose a maintenance method that best fits their specific conditions.

The minimum retroreflectivity requirements do not imply that an agency must measure every sign. Rather, the new MUTCD language describes methods that agencies can use to maintain traffic sign retroreflectivity at or above the minimum levels.



Nighttime visibility of traffic control devices is becoming increasingly important as our population ages. By the year 2020, about one-fifth of the U.S. population will be 65 years of age or older. In general, older individuals have declining vision and slower reaction times. Signs that are easier to see and read at night can help older drivers retain their freedom of mobility and remain independent.

It's All About Safety

Providing retroreflective delineation and signing is important as a means of reducing the higher nighttime crash rates. Signs that have sufficient retroreflectivity during nighttime conditions are especially beneficial to older road users. Safe and efficient highways are a benefit to the motoring public and the health and viability of a community.

Source: FHWA