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January 8, 2025

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Jason Behrmann, City Manager

Subject: City Manager's General Administrative Report for January 8, 2025

Horn BBQ Coming Soon to Elk Grove's Historic Downtown

As has been reported in the news and discussed on social media, Slow & Low, the BBQ restaurant located on Railroad Street in historic downtown has closed effective January 1. Staff have been advised that plans are in place for the space to reopen as Horn BBQ, the third location for this dining concept from acclaimed Bay Area chef, Matt Horn. We are excited to welcome Horn BBQ to Elk Grove and look forward to their grand opening soon.

Council and the public will recall the City provided a loan guarantee to River City Bank in favor of Slow & Low LLC in the amount of \$500,000 by pledging funds already on deposit at the bank as collateral for the loan. The loan is still active, and no City funds have been forfeited. Most of the loan funds guaranteed by the City were used to make permanent improvements to the building and purchase equipment and fixtures which remain in place and will be used by the new users of the restaurant space.

Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant

In September, the City partnered with SMUD and the City of Sacramento to apply for a Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grant through the Department of Transportation. We were notified this week that the application was successful, and an \$11.63 million grant will help us to install electric vehicle charging stations at nine locations-- five of those being in Elk Grove at publicly accessible locations. As we begin to implement the project, the City will be working with SMUD to engage with the community about the benefits of electric vehicles.

Calling All Foodies!

Elk Grove Restaurant Week kicks off this Friday and will run from January 10-19. Residents can explore Elk Grove's vibrant dining scene, try something new, and take advantage of special offers through the free Elk Grove Restaurant Week Mobile Pass. Visit elkgroverestaurantweek.com to learn more.

An Inspiring Breakfast

The community is invited to start the MLK holiday weekend at a community breakfast hosted by the National Action Network and sponsored by the City of Elk Grove on Saturday, January 18 at District56. Community members will reflect on Dr. King's enduring message of equality and justice with a program featuring guest speakers and entertainment that honors Dr. King's dream. Purchase your tickets online through Eventbrite. Details are available on the city's website.

Elk Grove 101 Applications Now Open

Applications are now being accepted for the spring cohort of Elk Grove 101, an immersive eight-session course for community members interested in learning more about their local government. The program is free and open to anyone 18 and older who lives or works in Elk Grove. Spring classes will run from April 1 through May 20 on Tuesday mornings from 9-11:30 a.m. at District 56. Details and an online application can be found on the city's website.

Applications Now Open for the Spring 2025 Citizens Academy!

Elk Grove PD is also accepting applications for their Spring 2025 Citizens Academy. This 11-week program will be held on Tuesday nights beginning on February 4. This is a unique opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at the Elk Grove Police Department. Visit the Police Department's website for details.

Non-Profit Grant Application Period Opens This Week

With additional funding, nonprofits can do so much more for our community. To support this work, the City will open the application period for grants in FY 2025-26 this Friday, January 10. The City will host a technical assistance webinar on Tuesday, January 21 from 12:30 – 2:30 pm to provide an overview of the eligibility requirements and the application process for prospective applicants. More information about these grant programs and the application deadlines can be found on the City's website.

Stars of Service Volunteer Awards

Nominations for 2025 Stars of Service Awards will open on Monday, January 13. If you know an individual or organization making Elk Grove a better place to live, work, or play, recognize their volunteer efforts by submitting a nomination online on the city's website before February 28. Award recipients will be recognized at a Council meeting in April.

Join Elk Grove's Arts & Creative Economy Commission

Recruitment is currently underway for seven (7) positions on the Arts and Creative Economy Commission. The Commission will advise the City Council and staff on programs, projects, and strategies to grow and sustain Elk Grove's arts and creative economy. Details are posted on the city's website, and applications will be accepted through February 5.

City Hall Holiday Schedule

In accordance with the City holiday schedule, City Hall will be closed Monday, January 20 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday. The Animal Shelter and Special Waste Collection Center will also be closed.

Staffing Update

Matt Paulin, the City's Finance Director, has announced his resignation, effective January 24. Jaqui Guzman, our Assistant City Manager, will be serving as Interim Finance Director until a recruitment is completed. Matt has made a tremendous impact in Elk Grove, and we wish him well in his new role as Finance Director for the City of Sunnyvale.

I am available to answer any questions regarding this report.

ATTACHMENT A

STANDING CITYWIDE INITIATIVES UPDATE

Updated as of Wednesday, January 8, 2025

District56

Description: The City is developing a multi-phased recreational campus on 56 acres just east of Big Horn Boulevard and south of Civic Center Drive. The site is known as District56 to honor the suggestion of "District" during the public naming process and 56 for the number of acres on the site. Individual projects are described in detail below. The Elk Grove Aquatics Center, the Center (including Senior Center and Veterans Hall), The Avenue of the Arts/Commons, Veterans Grove and the Preserve Nature Area are complete and operational. Future planned phases include a library and performing arts center.

The District56 website has been launched and can be found at: <http://www.district56elkgrove.com/>.

Amenity: Library and Performing Arts

The City has finalized a plan for the future Library and Cultural Arts Center (including a Performing Arts Center). Recommendations were presented to the Council on August 22, 2018 and were well received. The cost estimate (prepared in 2018) for the facility is between \$82-\$113 million depending on the program size and additional amenities desired.

Project Elevate: An Elevated Retail, Dining, and Entertainment Experience for Elk Grove

Description: The City owns a 20-acre property at the southeast corner of Elk Grove and Big Horn Boulevard, just north of District56 (the Civic Center/Aquatics Center) and is exploring future opportunities for the site. Specifically, the City is evaluating development of a mixed-use project that includes retail, dining, entertainment, office, and residential uses, as well as a hotel. The objective of the project is to elevate the level of retail, dining, entertainment, residential, and hospitality amenities in the City, while at the same time developing a site with enhanced design elements that promote pedestrian activity and include central, public gathering spaces. For these reasons, the City refers to this as Project Elevate.

Update: At its April 24, 2024, City Council meeting Council authorized the City Manager to execute a Letter of Intent (LOI) with CenterCal Acquisitions, LLC, a subsidiary of El Segundo, California-based developer CenterCal Properties, LLC. During the term of the LOI, CenterCal and the City will negotiate a Purchase Agreement by which CenterCal will act as developer of project elevate and present the same to Council for consideration in early 2025. If successfully negotiated, the Purchase Agreement will replace the LOI and the developer will commence with project entitlements targeting the close of escrow and commencement of construction within a further approximately 12 to 18 months.

Sacramento Zoo Relocation

Description: The City is working with the Sacramento Zoological Society (SZS) on a possible relocation of the Sacramento Zoo to Elk Grove. A potential site for the zoo has been identified along Lotz Parkway just north of Kammerer Road.

Update: The City Council approved the New Zoo Project at the May 8, 2024 meeting. A Cost Sharing Agreement was approved at the June 26, 2024 meeting. Staff, the Sacramento Zoological Society, and the consultant team are progressing with design and fundraising work.

Capital Southeast Connector Joint Powers Association (JPA)

Description: The Five agency Joint Powers Association (City of Elk Grove, City of Folsom, City of Rancho Cordova, County of Sacramento, County of El Dorado) are working to develop a connector road linking Hwy 50 in El Dorado County at the future Silva Valley Interchange in El Dorado Hills with Interstate 5 at the Hood Franklin Interchange.

Update: Sheldon Area
The Grant Line Road Precise Roadway Plan Study that focused on the 2.7-mile Segment C of the Connector was presented to City Council on August 24, 2022 where Council agreed with the recommended Roundabouts versus Signals and the inclusion of an additional intersection between Sheldon Road and Calvine Road to reduce out of direction travel. Direction to initiate further analysis of the Wilton Road Intersection alternatives, and the incorporation of the preferred intersection controls into the Rural Area Community Plan of the General Plan as part of a future General Plan Update was also provided. Project WTR091, Grant Line Rd. and Wilton Road Operational Improvements is in design with AECOM Engineering. Dokken is concurrently working to complete the environmental assessment of Grant Line Road between Sherman Oaks Court to Aleilani Lane. This process is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

Kammerer Road Extension

Description: The City plans to extend and eventually widen Kammerer Road between Highway 99 and Interstate 5, providing an east-west connector bypassing downtown Sacramento and alleviating traffic congestion on Laguna and Elk Grove Boulevards. The project also includes a grade separated crossing over the railroad tracks.

Update: Kammerer Road Extension
The City is preparing 35% plans for the extension of Kammerer Road from I-5 to Bruceville. Staff applied for the FY 2025-2026 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG). This single application positions the project to potentially receive funds from three US Department of Transportation funding sources (Mega, INFRA and Rural). The total funds requested by the City in the grant application is 80% of the estimated Construction costs. The Project was not successful for the Mega and INFRA sources and is awaiting notification regarding the Rural notification which should be forthcoming shortly. In addition to this grant effort, design continues to progress, and right-of-way acquisition activities have begun.

ATTACHMENT B

UPCOMING FORUMS AND OUTREACH EVENTS

Updated as of Wednesday, January 8, 2025

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Elk Grove Restaurant Week	January 10-19	Various locations ElkGroveRestaurantWeek.com
Tire Collection Event	January 11-15	Special Waste Collection Center 9255 Disposal Lane
Historic Preservation Committee	January 13 6 p.m.	Council Chambers 8400 Laguna Palms Way
Disability Advisory Committee	January 15 6 p.m.	Council Chambers 8400 Laguna Palms Way
Planning Commission	January 16 6 p.m.	Council Chambers 8400 Laguna Palms Way
MLK Community Breakfast	January 18 8 a.m.	The Center at District 56 8230 Civic Center Drive
<i>City Hall Closed Observance Martin Luther King Jr</i>	<i>January 20</i>	
March for the Dream	January 20 8:30 a.m.	Sacramento City College 3835 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento
Trails Committee Meeting CANCELED (Rescheduled to January 27)	January 20	
Diversity and Inclusion Commission	January 21 6 p.m.	Council Chambers 8400 Laguna Palms Way
City Council Meeting	January 22 6 p.m.	Council Chambers 8400 Laguna Palms Way

ATTACHMENT C

STATUS OF COUNCIL DIRECTION/FOLLOW UP MATTERS

Updated as of Wednesday, January 8, 2025

The following is a status report of matters requested by the City Council during prior Council meetings.

Date	Direction/Follow Up	Status
5/22/24	Provide a report back on potential expansion of the student free ride program to seniors and other transit/transportation programs (e.g., Uber/Lyft).	Staff is preparing this item for a future meeting.
5/22/24	Provide an update on the City's workforce development programs.	This item is tentatively scheduled to return in January or February 2025.
6/12/24	Bring back a discussion of potential service rate reductions/discounts/benefits for residents with limited means that may benefit from financial assistance.	Staff is preparing this item for a future meeting.
11/13/24	Would like a table created and returned that identifies costs associated with homelessness.	Staff will return this during the next budget cycle and pull together known costs.
11/13/24	When the ordinance for bars, breweries, and wineries is returned for Council discussion, include a component on safety for Old Town.	Staff will incorporate this in the bars, breweries, and wineries discussion that is anticipated to return on February 12, 2025.
12/11/24	Would like an item returned regarding Planning Commissioner stipends.	This item is tentatively scheduled to return to Council on January 22, 2025.