

VOL. 3 ISSUE 2 · JUNE 2023

IN THE WORKS

Employee Newsletter -
Public Works Department - Fairfield, CA

Message from the Committee

Dear Public Works Team,

Every quarter we gather to brainstorm and highlight the great work that our colleagues perform for the City of Fairfield. We have now published several editions of the employee newsletter. We hope that you have had an opportunity to enjoy them, and also to learn more about your fellow employees and the department as a whole.

We are constantly looking for content, whether it be an interesting project you are working on, an exciting life event, or simply a fun photo you would like to share. This is a space for all of us to participate in and learn more about the important work we perform and the people behind the work.

One of our committee members is currently enrolled in Fairfield 101 and was very impressed by the Public Works session (the best one in her opinion)!

So, we ask that the next time a committee member reaches out to ask if you are interested in being the "Employee Spotlight," or if you/your project could be featured in an upcoming edition, that you accept the opportunity to be showcased. We appreciate all the work that you do and encourage you to highlight and promote your hard work!

Keep up the awesome work!



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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Corey Beavers
Marisa Cumpian
Melissa Minton
Lindsay Parker
Ria Sherman
Valerie Standfill

Trucks of the Trade Event

On Saturday, June 3rd, the City of Fairfield and Fairfield Cordelia Library partnered to host a successful Trucks of the Trade event at the Fairfield Cordelia Library. Parks & Recreation, Public Works, FAST, Police, and Fire staff teamed up with community partners MV Transportation, Medic Ambulance, Republic Services, and CHP to offer participants of all ages the opportunity to climb aboard vehicles and equipment to learn more about how the vehicles and equipment are safely used.

CHP's helicopter, Public Works' tractor, and the Police and Fire vehicles were a big hit with event attendees! Approximately 500 visitors learned about how FAST busses operate and heard firsthand from MV Transportation bus driver, Don Collins, the important safety responsibilities of a bus driver. The event also provided FAST staff an opportunity to educate the public about system fare increases beginning July 1 and learn more about the upcoming implementation of microtransit in two zones of Fairfield (Cordelia/Green Valley and Northeast Fairfield) on September 2. The pictures below show the active interaction of participants at this family-oriented event.



A Bright Future For Fleet



Please welcome our most recent new hires!

Drew Hernandez; Equipment Mechanic I
Ramon Perez; Equipment Mechanic I
Armando Zendejas; Equipment Mechanic I
Diego Zendejas; Equipment Mechanic I

Our very own David Renschler, CFPF, fleet division manager and 2022 Public Sector Fleet Manager of the Year at the 2022 Government Fleet Expo & Conference in Detroit, is one of three public fleet professionals who have been chosen for induction into the Public Fleet Hall of Fame for 2023! This event is produced by Government Fleet and the American Public Works Association (APWA) and sponsored by Sourcewell. New inductees are selected by industry professionals via online ballot.

Honorees are recognized industry leaders and pioneers who have significantly contributed to the public fleet profession. To be eligible, they must have at least 20 years of experience in the industry, 10 of which must be spent working for a public fleet or a private company contracted to manage a public fleet.

Congratulations David!



Several long-vacant positions in Fleet were filled this past Spring. These new up and comers are helping Fleet rebuild our award-winning team to better serve you! There will be a lot of learning going on, and we still have vacancies for senior mechanics, but the future is looking good at Fleet!



Q: What is your role with Public Works and how long have you been with the City?

I am the Public Works Building Maintenance Supervisor and I started in January 2023.

Q: What part of your role here in Fairfield is most rewarding for you?

I enjoy the fact that no two days are ever the same; there's a new challenge and new activities every day. I'm a problem solver by nature and love the opportunity to use those skills while finding the most efficient and economic solution to challenges.

Q: What energizes you at work?

I'm a farm kid and grew up in Suisun Valley working with my Dad on our walnut orchard. Throughout my career I've learned, and that gives me a different perspective, and I look at problems differently - how can a problem be solved without dumping money into it? So, I enjoy getting to solve problems and I enjoy working with like-minded people.

Q: Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

I don't ever want to stop learning and growing, that's what adds the flavor to working. I hope to have grown in my job and with the the City of Fairfield and I'd like to spend more time travelling with my wife.

Q: What is your favorite local activity?

I've spent all of my career commuting to the Bay Area until I took this position, so it's nice to be able to spend my free time around here instead of on the road. I enjoy spending time with my family, time at Sonoma Raceway with my son, and I'm looking forward to spending time fishing again.

Q: What is one thing left on your bucket list?

The people in my family tend to live into their 90's, so I keep adding things to my bucket list. My most immediate objective is taking a piece of machinery I patented to the next level and see where it goes.

Q: What are you most proud of?

I'm most proud of my family - my wife, Georgia, who works at the VA, and our son, Andrew who's an electrical engineer with Lawrence Livermore Labs. I'm proud of my late girls - Korry and Rachael, who brought joy to our lives and inspired everyone around them.

Q: What is one thing most people don't know about you?

I'm a pretty open book - if you ask me a question, I'm likely to answer it. So, most people know that I'm a car guy and love using my plasma cutter to fabricate metal at home. I'm not sure everyone knows that I'm a Solano County native, I went to Fairfield schools and grew up on a farm. I'm also an A&P mechanic and spent 25 years working on aircraft at Untied Airlines.



In Memory



Amber Villarreal
11/10/1969 - 05/28/2023

Amber worked for the City of Fairfield as an Operations Manager at the FTC for 3 1/2 years. Amber was passionate about providing great customer service to FAST riders, serving as a long-term Girl Scouts of America leader, and was a dedicated Mom to three adopted children. Amber was always upbeat and focused on positive outcomes. Thank you, Amber for your service.



Michael O'Connell
6/03/1965 - 03/22/2023

Mike worked for the City of Fairfield as an Engineering Technician for more than 21 years. Mike also served in the United States Air Force, last stationed at Travis AFB. Mike was kind, lighthearted, and always willing to crack a joke to make someone smile. He is survived by his only daughter, Meghan O'Connell who he was so very proud of! Thank you, Mike for your service.



2023 PWEM BBQ



The Public Works Employee Meeting BBQ is held each year in spring to thank employees for all the work that they do.



A huge thank you to the Operations Team and all those who helped to put on an awesome BBQ lunch!

Organizational Excellence

Congratulations to Eyra Gonzalez and Melissa Minton as recent recipients of their MPA!



"After three years, I'm happy to announce that I completed my Master's degree in public administration at San Francisco State University. It was not an easy journey, and I'm grateful for my family for supporting me every day. I hope to keep contributing my work to the communities I feel connected to, and to never stop learning."

- Eyra Gonzalez

Congratulations



"In April 2020, I made the decision to go back to school to continue my education in public service and learn how I can further serve my surrounding communities. I'm so excited to say that I've now earned a Master's degree in public administration with an emphasis in government and policy from Grand Canyon University.

While it was a struggle to balance work, school, and normal life obligations, the support of my family and friends made all the difference in this endeavor. I look forward to leveraging the knowledge I've gained over the past few years and learning more within our Public Works Department."

- Melissa Minton

DOWNTOWN FAIRFIELD

Events 2023



APRIL	22: Blues, Brews, & BBQ Cook-off*~
MAY	4, 11, 18, 25: Farmer's Market* 12: Summer Concert Series - The Time Bandits* 20: MAYkers Market~
JUNE	1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Farmer's Market* 9: Summer Concert Series - Orchestra de la Soul* 17: Juneteenth Celebration* 24: Taste of Downtown
JULY	4: Independence Day Parade~ 6, 13, 20, 27: Farmer's Market* 14: Summer Concert Series - Darrell Edwards Lighting up the Soul*
AUGUST	1: National Night Out~ 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Farmer's Market* 11: Summer Concert Series - Project 4* 19, 20: Tomato & Vine Festival~
SEPTEMBER	7, 14, 21, 28: Farmer's Market* 8: Summer Concert Series - TBD*
OCTOBER	7: Fairfield Community Services Dinner~ 21: Oktoberfest~ 28: CAN Movie Night* 31: Halloween Stroll TBD: Matt Garcia Foundation Spookfest
NOVEMBER	11: Veteran's Day Parade~ 25: Small Business Saturday~
DECEMBER	1: Christmas Tree Lighting~ TBD: Menorah Lighting*

* Event on County Lawn
~ Event has street closures



CITY OF

FAIRFIELD

CALIFORNIA