



UPDATE

JULY 31, 2009

PRESIDENT/CEO UPDATE Robert Keenan, President/CEO

Porterville Increase DIF's by Consent

The HBA has requested that the city council rescind its action of June 16th and schedule a public hearing for fee increases as required by the Mitigation Fee Act. The city has been given to the effective date of the fee increase, August 15th, to comply with our request. If the city council does not comply, further action will be taken.

.....

The city council addressed the issue of creating a hybrid planning commission called a Planning Committee. The intent was to get more citizens active in local decisions. After a lengthy discussion and comments from HBA members; Woodard Homes, Sme Builders, Ennis Homes and James Winton & Associates, the council unanimously voted to table the issue indefinitely.

Tulare Fees For Service

The city is increasing fees for service in increments, the first of which will be

Police and Fire at the next meeting and the others will be presented at subsequent meetings.

.....

The city is revamping the impact fee structure and updating the fees, which could double. HBA representatives Daley Homes, Blain Construction, Lane Engineering, Pickett Construction and HBA CEO/President, Bob Keenan, are engaged in the process. The final draft document should go to council for adoption in September/October.

SJVAPCD

Green House Gas Emissions Plan

The 5 BIA/HBAs in the Central Valley, CBIA and Attorney Burt Doyle are reviewing the Staff Draft Proposal, which is well done, but the mitigation measures laid out for residential construction are questionable. Our member builders have been asked to review these for feasibility, cost effectiveness, practicality, etc. A meeting of the BIA/HBA executives, CBIA, Doyle, Air District staff and consultant is being scheduled for the week of August 17th.

Visalia

On August 18th, the city council will review the pros and cons of creating an Ag Land Mitigation Program. The HBA is opposed to such a plan. For a copy of HBA's comments/questions, contact the HBA office.

Kings County Housing Element Update

This update includes the county and cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore. HBA has reviewed the Element and believes that they meet the requirements of the Department of Housing & Community

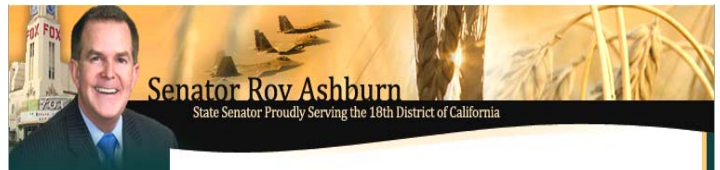
Development. Public hearings will be held throughout August.

For more information about these or other matters of interest to the industry, contact Bob Keenan, President/CEO at (559) 625-5447 or build@hbatk.com.

LOCAL EVENTS

GENERAL LUNCHEON MEETING Thursday, August 13th, 2009 LampLiter

3300 W. Mineral King Ave., Visalia CA
Reg. 11:15 a.m. / Lunch 11:45 a.m.
Program 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Cost: \$20 p/person Deadline: 8/11



Senator Roy Ashburn will provide his insight & comments on a variety of topics.

A few of them are:

- "The Capitol"
- "The Homebuyer Tax Credit Extension"
- "The New Budget Deal"
- "California's Future"

The Senator has been a long-time friend and supporter of the HBA and he homebuilding industry in his district and statewide.

In February of this year, he put his political career on the line by getting the \$10K homebuyer tax credit into the budget deal then voting for the budget.

Please join us at what will prove to be an informative and entertaining presentation.

Contact the HBA office for reservations.



You build their house.
We'll supply their water.

Working together, we can make a house a home.

At Cal Water, we are dedicated to our partnership with The Home Builders Association of Tulare/Kings Counties to provide a reliable supply of high-quality water to Visalia homeowners and residents.



MEMBERSHIP

Elaine (Renteria) Castillo,
Administration/Member Services

Below, I've listed some member benefits and discount reminders:

- ★ Bring a prospective member to lunch and receive 50% off 1 lunch fee.
- ★ For every prospect brought to a major event, receive 30% off one registration.

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

- ★ Verizon ★ GM
- ★ UPS ★ Pitney Bowes
- ★ Hertz ★ Office Depot
- ★ Dell ★ Williams Scotsman
- ★ Paychex ★ Omaha Steaks
- ★ Biz Forms & Checks

CONTRACTORS

- ★ State Compensation Insurance Fund Discount Rate (must meet eligibility)
- ★ SCE Incentives (Rebates)
- ★ The Gas Company Incentives (Rebates)
- ★ Green Building Certification Program
- ★ VAMA: Dept. of HUD Agreement which saves our builders time and processing costs for VA, CHFA, FHA financing.

Remember it doesn't cost - it pays to belong to your local/state/national associations.

Each member is eligible to include a company profile in an Update. Contact HBA for info.

NEW/REINSTATED MEMBERS

Blue Book of Building & Construction

Mario Esparza
10144 E. Belmont, Sanger CA 93651
Phone: 559.213.8887 Fax: 559.456.0566
Email:
mesparza@mail.thebluebook.com
Type of Business: Advrtsng/Publishing

RE/MAX Visalia

Jayne Willis
801 W. Main Street, Visalia CA 93291
Phone: 559.734.1400 Fax: 559.734.1065
Email: jaynewillis@remax.net
Type of Business: Real Estate

SAFETY REPORT

James Boretti, Boretti, Inc.

"Nevada New Law & Value of Safety Meetings"

Ever wonder what the fallout would be if safety was ignored on construction sites? Well, take a look at what is happening next door.

If you do construction business in the state of Nevada, you'll want to know about a new law. For the rest of us, this law will be interesting as it surpasses California's safety legislative efforts.

In the wake of the numerous fatalities at construction sites on the Las Vegas strip over the past two years, the Nevada legislature has passed a bill designed to increase workplace safety by focusing on worker awareness of safety concerns and knowledge of safety practices.

Nevada will be requiring a 10-hour OSHA Construction course on safety to be completed by all construction workers within 15 days of being hired, and supervisors are being required to take a 30-hour OSHA Construction course. The law requires employers to suspend or terminate any employee who fails to provide valid proof they completed the required training in the timely manner (within 15-days of hire). The completion cards, issued by OSHA, will be valid for 5 years. These new measures will take effect on Jan. 1, 2010. How such courses can be scheduled around business activities is entirely unclear, but obviously important, and it would be unwise for us in California to ignore this. Let us urge and train for safety to avoid this situation here in our own Golden State!

While it may seem to some that such a law is harsh, consider the value of safety meetings. Sometimes things have greater value than we think, and safety meetings are certainly in that category. Research has shown consistently and across settings and industries, workers' awareness of and commitment to policies increases when they have participated in discussion meetings about those policies. Safety meetings have this effect, and not only make workers more aware of safe practices but

strengthen the likelihood that they will comply with the safety best practices, even if they themselves were reluctant about some of those practices and policies.

Communication increases best results for everyone in this way, so safety meetings, which some might have been inclined to dismiss as time wasted, actually are time well-invested by the companies using them effectively. Open discussion is the key that turns the tumblers in this lock, and safety practices can be honed and improved by these meetings, and also will be more likely to be implemented and enforced across the company or work site. Keep this in mind as you consider spending your greatest resource, time, on your greatest asset, people, when choosing who conducts safety training such as that required in Nevada.

We think the time investment for safety meetings is time well-spent, and so we continue to encourage construction companies to follow this path of action.

Remember, safety makes good business sense. I welcome your feedback on what you'd like our articles to focus on and how they help you: I look forward to hearing from you.

James Boretti, CSP
(559) 679-8659

ONE OF THE BEST GREEN BUILDING MATERIALS IS SOUND ADVICE.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY offers you a single source for the information and services you need on green building and sustainability issues. Your personal account representative will show how

you can help save your home buyers money and give them the kind of 'green design' they're demanding. With incentives of up to \$2,000 per unit, we can help make your bottom line a little greener too. **To find out more, call Steve Lott at 1-818-701-3341.**



Sempra Energy utility
Glad to be of service™

This program is funded by California utility customers and administered by Southern California Gas Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. This program may be modified or terminated without prior notice and is provided to qualified customers on a first-come, first-served basis until program funds are no longer available. Eligibility requirements apply. Southern California Gas Company is not responsible for any goods or services selected by the customer. ©2009 Southern California Gas Company. All copyright and trademark rights reserved.