

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



At the Vons fuel islands in Bishop, you can actually power up (see electrical outlet above the garbage can). Poaching free electricity is a big draw in the smartphone age. See Lunch p. 2

Saturday, March 8, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. 10

CIVILIAN SHOT, KILLED IN MAMMOTH BY LAW ENFORCEMENT

By Lunch

On Tuesday morning, outside the Mammoth Lakes Library, a man was shot and killed by a Mammoth Lakes Police Officer responding to a civil disturbance call.

The man shot has been identified by The Sheet as Jesus Corona Uribe, 39, a Mammoth Lakes resident who has lived in town for about two decades.

Police dispatch put out a call of a man who appeared to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol who was throwing rocks at passing cars at 11:40 a.m.

As it happens, two MLPD officers were inside the library attending a meeting and two more were at/arriving at Giovanni's, so the response was immediate.

The shooting took place at 11:41 a.m.

Police could not confirm how many shots were fired, and different people said they heard

different numbers. One witness who had been standing outside Mammoth Business Essentials said she thought there were 6-8 shots.

Witnesses in other locations thought they heard three shots.

Police Chief Dan Casabian could neither confirm nor deny whether or not there were multiple shooters.

It appeared to witnesses that Mr. Uribe died on scene. He had been standing, facing officers, near the stop sign at the intersection between the road leading to the library and the spur leading to the Mammoth Unified School District Offices.

While the California Attorney General formerly had discretionary authority to conduct investigations of officer-involved shootings, Assembly Bill 1506, which went into effect in July, 2023, now requires a state prosecutor from the Attorney General's office to investigate

any incidents where an officer-involved shooting resulted in the death of an unarmed civilian.

According to government code 12525.3, "Unarmed civilian" includes anyone who is not in possession of a deadly weapon.

"Deadly weapon" includes, but is not limited to, any loaded weapon from which a shot, readily capable of producing death or other serious physical injury, may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, pilum ballistic knife, metal knuckle knife, dagger, billy, blackjack, plastic knuckles, or metal knuckles."

The Mono County District Attorney's office was initially the investigating agency in this case until it was deemed the incident would fall under AB 1506.

The state prosecutor is now tasked in this case to determine if the civilian (Uribe) was unarmed or if there is a reason-

able dispute as to whether the civilian was armed.

According to Chief Casabian, of the four "involved" MLPD officers in the incident, those that did not discharge a firearm will resume their regular shifts.

Any officer who discharged a firearm will be placed on paid administrative leave.

The Sheet has learned that one of those involved was a sergeant.

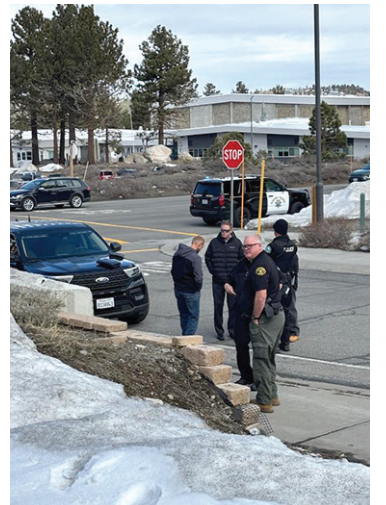
The Sheet spoke to a former employer of Mr. Uribe's who described him as a hard worker who had fallen on some hard times due to substance abuse but was trying to rebuild his life.

A cursory online search which unearths past MLPD media bulletins revealed Mr. Uribe was arrested in both April and May of 2024 on a variety of charges such as drunk in public, felony vandalism and probation violations.

He was also arrested in 2020 for driving on a suspended license due to a DUI conviction.

His previous employer did not characterize Mr. Uribe as being a violent person.

In the interest of transparency, MLPD plans to host a critical incident community debrief in the coming weeks.



Taken from Gio's back door



The scene of the officer-involved incident, approx. 12:15 p.m.

Bishop Commons

p. 5/

Klasmire

p. 9/

Simple Math

p. 2/

Rail jam

p. 14/

County blows it

p. 8/

SIMPLE MATH FOLKS

When I first heard about the shooting on Tuesday, it was my impression that there was a disturbance inside the library, which had precipitated the 911 call.

In fact, Mr. Uribe had not set foot in the library. This according to the desk clerk when I swung by there the next afternoon. And corroborated by Mono County School Superintendent Tammy Nguyen.

Then I was told that there's an outside electrical outlet which is popular for people who like to charge their phones, and that there may have been a dispute over access to the outlet.

Mammoth Police could not confirm this.

I do know this is now a thing ... everybody in need of juice.

I see this at the Vons fuel station in Bishop (see top right photo on the front page). There are electrical outlets located on the islands in between the fuel pumps. And sometimes I see what I assume to be homeless people sitting on the curb charging devices. And I've also seen the store clerks come out and try to chase them off because it can interfere with drivers pulling in to access the pumps.

This next one ... demonstrates that you've got to be VERY careful when it comes to jumping to conclusions and claiming something is simple.

I received the following email from Bishop resident Mark Vincent.

Simple Math Folks

There are 162 million taxpayers in the USA, Joe Biden gave Ukraine \$185 Billion and Zelenskyy wanted more. Had he given that money to each one of us, YOU would be 2.6 MILLION DOLLARS richer. Need I say more about the previous government? Don't dis DOGE because the wealth of this country was squandered by the government by the people for the government and their friends.

Hmmm, I thought, the math seems off.

So I did the math and I don't know where he gets \$2.6 million apiece.

\$185 billion divided by 162 million taxpayers equals \$1,142 per taxpayer.

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News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

"These are people of the land. The common clay of the New West. You know ... morons."

-The Waco Kid
from Blazing Saddles

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Fisher can't help but chime in here.

She says given Elon's math at DOGE, maybe Vincent should apply for a job in D.C.

According to Fisher, DOGE published a "wall of receipts" online last week saying it has saved the federal government \$55 billion – a figure President Trump has joked he could disperse among the American public as a "DOGE dividend."

Unfortunately, the math on those receipts doesn't line up either ... Some contracts listed were double or triple counted, some had simply expired naturally, and one contract contained an error which said it saved \$8 billion when the number was really \$8 million. DOGE chalked that mistake up to a typo.

FYI ... \$8B is roughly the budget of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The kicker? Some of the contracts DOGE said it terminated were actually closed under the Biden administration.

It's still hard to say exactly how much is being "saved" by DOGE, but it's clear they've got a math problem on their hands.

In the coming week, Bishop City Council is holding a special meeting on Tuesday afternoon (2 p.m. in Council Chambers on West Line St.) to consider an appeal by Sterling Heights Principal Aaron Schat.

Schat had his conditional-use permit (CUP) pulled recently by the City of Bishop.

According to City Manager Deston Dishion, who also does double-duty as the City's de facto Planning Director, the CUP wasn't pulled so much as it expired.

According to state code, "a CUP shall expire two (2) years from the date of its approval unless the holder of the permit obtains a building permit or, in those instances where no building permit is required, a certificate of

see LUNCH, pg. 13

Meet Rocket!

He's a beautiful youngster who loves everything: the other dogs, the people, even those barn cats. He'd make a loyal friend and bring fun into any family. Please give Rocket a look, and also others like him who are in search of their forever home – at the Inyo County Animal Shelter, located at 1001 County Road in Big Pine. For more information, call (760) 938-2715. To see more dogs available for adoption, visit www.easternsierradogrescue.com

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LETTERS

The current state of liability

Hello Ted and Jack,

While we are talking about ski area negligence, gross and otherwise, attached is a link to an interesting article out of Idaho about its Supreme Court ruling - unanimously - that the state statute shielding ski areas from liability requires, in some cases, interpretation/application by a jury.

And that has the industry freaking out because, as the industry representative says, juries are "unpredictable" i.e., will actually see what's what.

I worked with immunities my entire legal career - both when working for counties, and later on my own.

And it's my experience that, whether it's cops, Presidents, or ski areas, immunities that have a laudable purpose - to shield against liability for actions taken in good faith - are often turned into swords that allow intentional wrongdoing and gross negligence to go unpunished.

So from my perspective the Idaho Supreme Court's ruling is a good thing.

In my opinion, the culture of peace-officer immunity led to George Floyd, which should have led to criminal justice reform; but politicians being politicians, that did not and will not ever occur.

Instead the spineless Dems gave us superficial, nonsensical DEI that did nothing but screw the whole effort.

**Kim Kardashian did more for criminal justice reform than did the entire the Democratic party!*

And the Repubs seized on that failure and gave us Elon Musk.

Anyway, the article says the Idaho Supreme Court granted rehearing, so maybe they got the word and things will be returned to the status quo ante re-application of the statue.

Allen Berrey
Bishop

Read the Idaho coverage here: <https://boisedev.com/news/2025/02/03/sun-valley-milus/>

When is a NIMBY not a NIMBY?

Dear Editor,

I am one of the Creekhous residents who is fighting the cell phone tower that AT&T is trying to install at the fire station on Old Mammoth Road. The developer for AT&T, during the town council hearing back in April of 2024, accused the owners of Creekhous of being NIMBY's. For those that don't know, this stands for Not In My Backyard, implying we are opposed to a development in our neighborhood, but it would be fine if it were proposed in someone else's. Sadly, in a world that relies less on facts, and more on personal attacks, we have been judged. As proposed now, the facts are:

-The 80 to 100 tall tower will be placed approximately 35 feet from a homeowner's wall, despite Mono County requiring a fall zone of 110% of the height of a cell tower from any residential building

-The area along Old Mammoth Road has frequent winter winds of 80 to 100

MPH, which are Category 1 hurricane wind speeds. Besides the risk of toppling, homes, cars, residents and visitors will be pelted by falling ice as the gargantuan metal structure accumulates tons of snow and ice over the winter.

-The tower will be placed in the parking area of the fire station, where massive vehicles will be maneuvering around it, and live-fire suppression exercises will take place near it, by trainee fire personnel.

Who wouldn't want this structure just

mere feet from their homes? What could go wrong?

So, whose neighborhood should it be in? That answer is nobody's. Because there is a more suitable location that meets all the criteria yet impacts nobody, and that location is the Snowcreek Athletic Club (SAC).

-AT&T's developer claimed that the owners of the SAC declined to have the tower built there, however, the owners stated at the town council hearing that they were not approached by anyone

from AT&T.

-AT&T's developer claims the SAC location is unsuitable as it is lower in elevation, requiring a taller tower. A simple altimeter reading shows this to be false.

-AT&T's response to our lawsuit claims the SAC location would put the tower even closer to homes than at the fire station. This is wildly false. It would be less than 40' feet from the nearest structure at Creekhous. It would be over 140 feet from the nearest Aspen Village unit, and

more LETTERS, page 4



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LETTERS

continued from page 3

190 feet from the nearest Snowcreek 4 unit, if built at the SAC location.

-AT&T stated the fire station was a more suitable location as it was manned 24/7 and provided a degree of safety for their equipment. The fire chief had to stand up and correct this at the council meeting by clarifying that this is an unmanned fire station.

Additionally, the fire station location makes the tower visible from almost everywhere in Mammoth Lakes, while the SAC location has it well hidden from view by a large stand of trees, even from nearby Creekhouse and Snowcreek 4 homes.

I do not know why AT&T refuses to consider the superior SAC location. I am guessing it comes down to AT&T's cost-to-build being higher there. Whatever the reason, AT&T is ignoring Mono County guidelines, local weather patterns, land use considerations, and most importantly, life safety priorities.

As a member of the Mammoth Lakes community, I will continue to oppose placing this tower in a location that jeopardizes the health and safety of my neighbors when a superior alternative exists—one that poses no risk and is welcomed by the property owners. So, in conclusion, I don't think this makes us NIMBY's at all. We are just concerned members of the community looking out for each other.

Eric Larsen
Mammoth Lakes

Not MOFO, MOFA

Dear Editor,

Several weeks ago, the Trump/Musk Administration had fired thousands of seasonal National Park employees, and effectively shut down Yosemite's reservation system for summer 2025 -- both of those short-sighted decisions will have a serious, negative impact on our local economy.

Due to widespread public outcry, fortunately, the Administration has "un-fired" those seasonal workers.

**How many times has the new but fictional Dept. of Government Efficiency done this now with terminations in other agencies, firing and re-hiring? This is government efficiency? This is a clown show of sheer ineptitude.*

Looking today, however, Yosemite reservations for entrance and certain campgrounds are still not available for next summer. They need to be, and soon. Our economy needs the Park and its reservations system to be operating normally.

That is not the only issue though, as a thousand full-time probationary (1 to 3 years) employees of the National Parks have been fired but not rehired. The Sheet recently reported on one of them, a maintenance worker who cleans restrooms. Without any true vetting or cost-efficiency analysis, these sudden and indiscriminate terminations will without question negatively impact Park services.

If this were not all bad enough, the

Los Angeles Times reported that Trump and Musk have also fired Bureau of Land Management employees, cutting funds to firefighting services, too. While the BLM's role has been criticized, the agency does manage all the land surrounding Mammoth Lakes and other Eastern Sierra communities, and the importance of firefighting should be obvious. Indiscriminate cuts here will also have a negative effect on local planning, services and activities.

Perhaps even worse, next on the chopping block is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Everyone and everything (including air travel, sea shipping, trucking, fisheries, state and local municipalities, businesses, etc.) depends on NOAA for accurate and up to date, by the hour, weather forecasting and storm warnings, safety and other valuable information. It is reported that 5% of the NOAA workforce has already been terminated. Every business and resident in this region relies on NOAA forecasts.

Every local government official, business owner, employee and resident of Inyo and Mono Counties needs to contact our Republican Congressman for the 3rd District, Kevin Kiley, and object to these destructive, genuinely stupid and dangerous policies and decisions. It's easy to do. Google Congressman Kevin Kiley and go to his website. There's a "Contact Me" tab on the top right of the home page. Click on it and send a message.

It can be very simple. "Dear Congressman Kiley, I vehemently object to many of the Trump Administration's reckless and harmful policies and actions, including but not limited to: (1) The widespread termination of National Park employees, (2) the closure of our reservation systems for Yosemite National Park, summer 2025, (3) the termination and reduction of BLM employees, including firefighters, and (4) any and all current and impending budget cuts or reductions to NOAA. All of these policies and actions will damage our local economy and negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of your constituents here in the Eastern Sierra. Please stand up for us."

Complain about anything else too, as you wish, for example, "the unchecked and unconstitutional role of Elon Musk, an all-powerful but unelected and unconfirmed official in our government," "Trump's attacks on our international allies and business partners," and/or "Trump's unprecedented realignment of American interests with Russia and Vladimir Putin, a true adversary of democracy and the West."

There's an observant new saying going around, showing up on bumper stickers and elsewhere: MOFA, or Make Orwell Fiction Again. Regardless of party affiliation, everyone needs to speak up.

Daniel J. O'Connell
Mammoth Lakes

more LETTERS, pg. 15

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LOCAL NEWS

UNCOMMON PROPOSAL

Old Bishop Kmart property, dormant for 27 years, to get a makeover

By Lunch

Redevelopment is coming to Bishop. And promises to clean up one of Bishop's biggest eyesores. Foothill Partners of Reno is in escrow on the "old" (twice removed) Kmart property at the intersection of North Main and Yaney Streets and plans to create approximately 100-units of rental housing as well as some commercial frontage spaces along Main.

The plans are not set in stone and the developers are planning to host a community meeting to discuss the project on Tuesday, March 11 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at C5 Studios, located at 210 South Warren St. in Bishop.

The developers will also make public comment at the Bishop City Council meeting scheduled for Monday evening.

As one development partner, Nettie Oliverio, told The Sheet this week, completion of escrow is dependent upon getting entitlements - the process goes hand-in-hand. But she says the city has been excellent to work with and is hopeful escrow can close within the next 3-4 months.

Mayor Karen Kong spoke with The Sheet this week, and believes she is speaking for the entire council in saying, "I think we're all thrilled about the idea of that space being useful and productive."

Kong said she is 100% in support of the project and believes an increase in Bishop's housing stock is good for everyone.

Oliverio's partner is Doug Wiele of El Dorado Hills.

While she acknowledged there is not a "hard design" in place, there is at least consensus that the old Kmart building is unredeemable.

"It has lived a long, vacant life," she said, and now that life is nearing its end.

It was built in the mid-1980s, operated for about ten years, and has since stood vacant for the past 27 years.

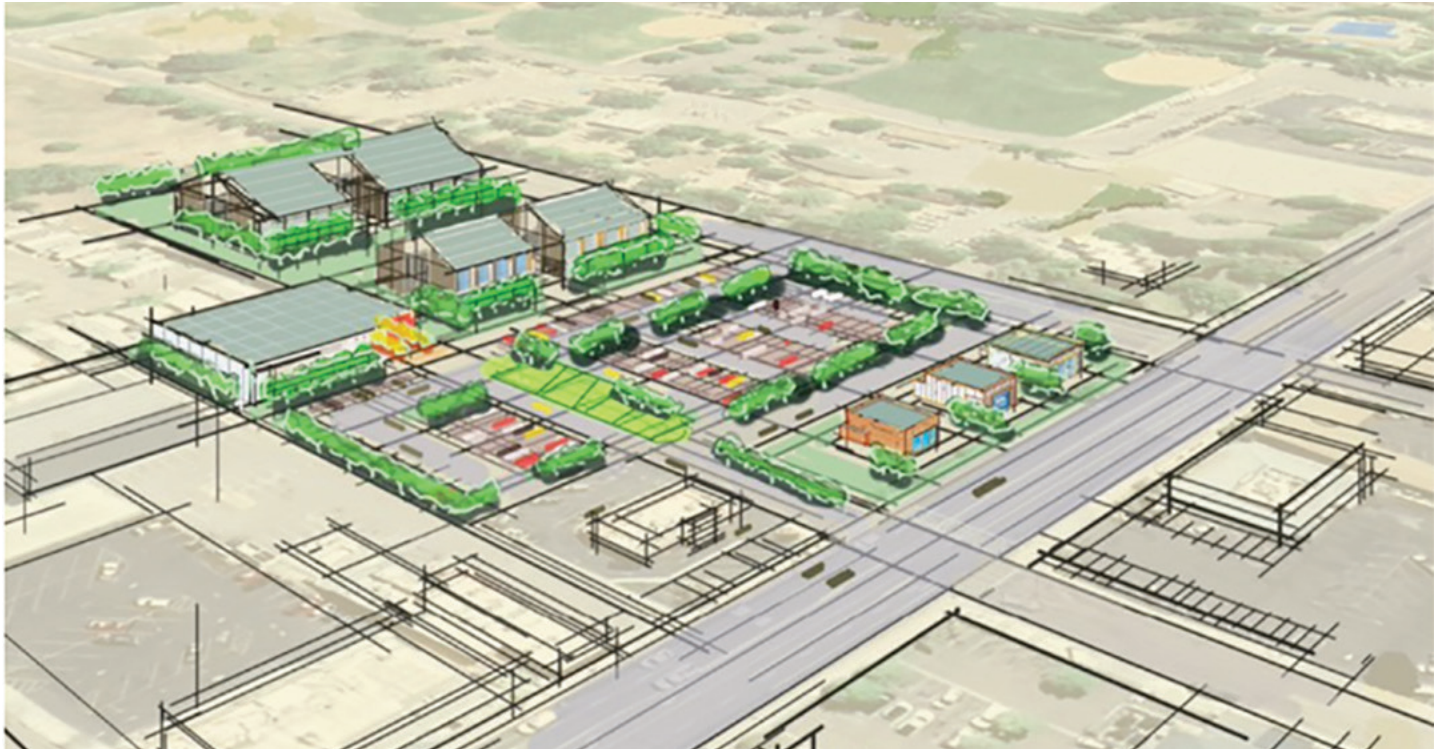
The tentative plan is to remove the building and replace it with modular housing. "It's foolhardy to think you can bring in construction crews," said Oliverio. The plan would be to construct the modulars off-site and then bring them in on flatbeds and position them.

But Oliverio does not wish to proceed without community buy-in, which she deems is akin to "coming into someone else's living room and rearranging the

furniture [without their blessing]." "We've looked at it [the property] for a long time," acknowledged Oliverio. "Doug has stared at that building driving through town for 25 years."

Oliverio said she also had a local friend who had frequently bugged her about possibly doing something with the property. The constant reminders finally took

their toll! In any event, there's good odds something is going to get done. As Mayor Kong said of Foothill Partners, "This developer doesn't whine."



A draft rendering of the proposed "Bishop Commons" project



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FREEZE! PUT THE CLIF BAR DOWN

Mammoth Council debates wildlife policy
By Fisher

At the Mammoth Lakes Town Council meeting on Wednesday, the Council voted unanimously to update the Municipal Code to clarify responsibilities about waste management that attracts wildlife.

Nobody at the meeting said explicitly, but the update was the town’s response to a controversial bear incident in the fall, in which beloved Victor the Bear swiped a visitor and was consequently killed by US Fish and Wildlife (USFW).

At the time, the town was chastised because it did not issue a citation to the visitors and poor education efforts about wildlife. Apparently, the municipal code was too vague, and didn’t allow for appropriate citation at the time. Soon after the public outrage, the Town launched an outreach program seeking to inform visitors how to behave around wildlife. The code change was one part of that.

The additions were largely linguistic (i.e. changing the title of one chapter from “Feeding of Wildlife Prohibited” to “Feeding of Wildlife and Wildlife Attraction Prohibited”), but also amended the code to include a clear definition of “responsible party,” clarifying who is responsible for issues related to solid waste.

If you were around for the Victor the Bear situation, you remember this was a big problem in the citation arena – who was responsible for poor trash management at the campsite? Does the blame fall on the camp host or on the tourist?

And, predictably, this caused a ruckus in Council Chambers Suite Z as well. Councilmember Bill Sauser was unhappy with the proposed amendments because he has a personal dumpster at his house which he keeps unlocked (for humans) in the name of samaritanism, to “keep trash off his street.”

He also picked a bone with the idea that he could be cited if he didn’t clean his barbeque every time he used it and a bear broke into his house. Bears have broken into Sauser’s house many times, evidently, the most recent time being that one broke into his bedroom window and “chased [him] through the yard.”

He insisted instead, that the problem was more so that bears are no longer as afraid of people as they once were. Councilmember Rice asked if the Mammoth Lakes Police Department still hazes bears, and Daniel Cassabian, MLPD Chief, said they do not routinely because it requires a permit from USFW.

Councilmember Brent Truax took issue with the consistent use of the term “storage or possession” in the amendments, because he was worried he would get cited if he had a granola bar in his pocket.

Town Attorney Andrew Morris assured him nobody would yell, “freeze, put the CLIF bar down,” even if “possession” was the language included in the code. Cassabian backed him up, and said this code was ultimately to give enforcement the “tools” to cite people, and it was go-

ing to be used at discretion.

Truax remained fervent in his abhorrence of the word, and brought up the fact that he presently had eggs in his car and didn’t want that to get him in trouble. He made a motion to approve the amendment with the redaction of the word “possession,” which passed unanimously.

Town staff intend to follow up on the ordinance with an educational campaign to inform residents about the new regulations and best practices for living with wildlife, available in both English and Spanish.

Ribbon-cutting for 60 Joaquin

Prior to the meeting, Mammoth’s Council held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its newest affordable housing development at 60 Joaquin.

The new apartment complex comprises four deed-restricted units aimed at middle-income buyers.

Nolan Bobroff, during a presentation in February, described this project as the town’s “first endeavor into building our own units rather than purchasing existing units.”

First recent endeavor anyway.

Editor’s note to Bobroff: The Town also built Meridian Court, Aspen Village, et. al. in the mid-2000s but you were in college at the time.

The Town has another program, the Bridge program, in which it subsidizes a

property in order to make it more affordable to purchase.

It’s a program similar to what the Water District has been doing for decades.

On Joaquin ... the Town spent approximately \$3 million on the four-unit development and has set the preliminary purchase price for each unit at \$550,000.

Still, that number is “not set in stone,” said Nolan Bobroff, Mammoth’s Community & Economic Development Director in February. While aimed at middle-income households (150-200% AMI), he said this price point may still pose challenges for some potential buyers.

So, town staff is working with Eastern Sierra Community Housing (ESCH) to determine whether it can lower the price.

As for who’s eligible for the units, the town is advertising the development via social media outreach, ESCH and the Chamber of Commerce to attract buyers.

The current ESCH list for people looking for housing is 15 households long for homebuyer programs, with incomes ranging from 80-200% AMI.

In the meeting soon after the ribbon cutting, Angie Tapley, a hairdresser in Mammoth, said she’d been on the list for years, initially in the 180th spot and is now at the top of the list during the public comment section.

She was grateful for the town’s help in assisting her with housing in the past,

see COUNCIL, page 7



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COUNCIL

continued from page 6

but said the subsidies in the Bridge program were too low. The average subsidy awarded through the Bridge program is \$100,000 - \$150,000 per unit, according to the Town’s website.

Tapley said for her AMI bracket, the subsidy cap didn’t allow her to afford a one-bedroom loft or a two-bedroom. Tapley also spoke at ESCH’s meeting on Monday night.

If applications for potential buyers at 60 Joaquin exceed the four-unit capacity, the town will either hold a lottery or fill it through a first-come, first-served basis, depending on the level of interest in the limited units available.

The third phase of the Parcel will similarly be built and sold through the Town, but that development is still in early design stages.

Airport update

Mammoth Yosemite Airport is again trying to construct a storage unit for their equipment, Sierra Waugh, Deputy Airport Manager, presented to the Council.

Mammoth Yosemite Airport first tried to build the storage facility – housing an Aircraft Rescue Firefighting vehicle and snow removal equipment – in 2023. But

it didn’t get any bids.

It was an inopportune time to go to bid, Waugh said, because there were lots of people looking to contract buildings. Additionally, due to changes in commercial service, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) determined that some of the designed spaces were no longer eligible for federal funding.

Staff has since redesigned the building plan and renamed the building to include a “multipurpose” use in order to

open it up for funding outside the FAA.

The re-designed building will include seven bays, two restrooms, a lobby, workshop, training room, break room and office space.

Design is on track to be completed this year with the building structure and phase 2 sitework likely going out to bid in early 2026 for construction next summer.



60 Joaquin

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AIRFARES ARE TAKING OFF.

A photograph of a snow-covered mountain range under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a small, light-colored airplane is parked on a snow-covered runway. The scene is serene and winter-themed.

Terms and conditions apply. Rates and dates subject to change without notice.

The logo for Mammoth Lakes, California, features a stylized mountain peak inside an orange hexagon. Below the peak, the words 'Mammoth Lakes' are written in a script font, and 'CALIFORNIA' is written in a smaller, sans-serif font below that.

This winter, Eastern Sierra locals get unreal flight discounts. Save up to 40% off Advanced Air with service from MMH four days a week, starting November 27. Or save up to 10% on United with daily service from BIH to SFO starting December 12 and DEN starting December 19. Thank you for being such unreal neighbors. Learn more at VisitMammoth.com/FlyLocal.

The logo for United Advanced Air features the word 'UNITED' in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by a stylized globe icon. Below this, the words 'ADVANCED AIR' are written in a smaller, sans-serif font.

The United logo features a stylized, winged 'U' shape.

A square QR code that, when scanned, likely leads to the website mentioned in the text.

OBITUARY CONOR LARKIN DWYER 1991-2025

Conor Dwyer, born and raised in Mammoth and a lover of the Sierra Nevada mountains, passed away on February 13, 2025 due to health complications related to pancreatitis.

The son of Wendy and Kip Dwyer and the youngest of three siblings, Conor had been living in Oceanside.

He loved the outdoors and was passionate about mountain biking, skiing, hiking, racing RC cars, and spending time with any and every dog he could find. Conor had a unique sense of humor and possessed a special ability to make others laugh. His smile could light up any room and he was always keeping busy, earning him his childhood nickname of "Sparky." Conor had a strong work ethic and was skilled in his creative abilities including guitar playing, cooking, building his RC cars, and fixing up his truck. Conor will be deeply missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him, especially his family who will miss him forever.

His father Kip preceded him in death in 1999 and the prospect of their reunion offers comfort during this time of grief.

Conor was a beloved son, brother, uncle, nephew, and grandson. He is survived by his mother Wendy Carter, brother Nick, sister-in-law Mayra, their two sons Ebbet and Lewis Dwyer, sister Krista and brother-in-law Matthew, and their two sons Luke and Beckham Stecker.

A celebration of life for Conor will be held on April 7th, 2025 at The Camp Store at South Carlsbad State Beach from 5-7:30pm.



Conor with Una, who preceded him in death by six months



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MONO COUNTY SCREWS LODGING COMMUNITY

By Fisher

In November, constituents in both Mono County and Mammoth Lakes voted to up the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) rates in their respective entities this year, but the implementation of the rate upticks has differed.

As a reminder, TOT is a local tax placed on hotel and short-term rental stays. The county elected to increase its rate from 12% to 15% (Measure K), and the Town decided to increase its rate from 13% to 15% (Measure L). Both ballot items were approved.

The lingering question, though, is what will happen to reservations which were booked prior to the increase. Event planners for ski teams, weddings, and festival-goers frequently book expensive stays in advance; sometimes years in advance.

Do you then tell those people they owe 2-3% more on their invoice? Or do you make an exception, and lose out on tax dollars that were promised to voters?

As Don Morton of June Lake Accommodations wrote, "Our vacation rental company takes reservations up to a year out. This is done to stimulate bookings to increase return guest/clients.

Mono County makes the date of the tax due on the date of the stay. Unlike Mammoth Lakes, that made the tax due on the date of the reservation was made.

We have tried to reach out to collect the tax increase. Most of our guests do not understand and think we are just ripping them off and trying to steal from them. AirBnB and VRBO will not assist us at all, saying once a reservation is made and paid for, it is a done deal. These same guests are not inclined to leave a decent review.

The long and short of it is we have to eat the tax increase on reservations made before the official tax increase eventually went into effect."

Indeed, Morton is correct in that the county and town went in different directions: the county went by check-in date, the Town went by booking date.

By collecting based on the booking date, the Town anticipates it will collect less revenue than owed during this implementation period, but "this loss would be insignificant over the life of the tax measure," staff wrote.

Mammoth's Council discussed the item in their December 16 meeting. In that meeting, Council decided the change date would apply to bookings after January 1.

"It is the fair thing to do for customers who have already contracted or booked rooms," Councilmember Bill Sauser said at that meeting.

The County, on the other hand, did not ever discuss the implementation date ... it's included in its code that "the transient shall pay the tax to the operator of the transient occupancy facility at the time the rent is paid," according to Section 3.28.060.

This policy has been in place since 2004 and wasn't changed as a part of the TOT increase, County Administrator Sandra Moberly said in an email to the Sheet.

The county is "looking to review this ordinance for potential changes in the future," but it hasn't yet set a date for the Board's discussion, Moberly said. The County ordinance became effective on December 20, ten days after the election results were certified on December 10.

To give credit where it's due, raising the TOT means different things for each municipality based on their separate economies, said Lynda Salcido, Mono County Board of Supervisors Chair.

"The number of TOT generating facilities in the county is minuscule compared to the town, It's a different market," she said.

According to the ballot prompts, the County's increase will bring in just over \$1 million in additional funds annually, where the Town's increase could mean an additional \$4 million

The town also monitors their TOT properties through its Certified Properties Program to make sure all affected businesses are informed and legal, Salcido said. "The county doesn't have anything like that - the TOT goes directly to the finance [department] and finance applies it to the right account."

Salcido said she's not personally been contacted by anyone about the implementation process, but said that's likely because her district is in Mammoth and so that was covered by the town's increase in the TOT.

At next week's Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board will hear a resolution to allocate the additional 3% entirely to housing programs.

meet
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FILL ‘EM UP

Fill ‘em up.
To be more precise, “infill” ‘em up.
The Inyo County Planning Department is in the throes of an interesting, two-step project: First, figuring out how many privately owned empty lots are sitting vacant in Lone Pine, Independence and Big Pine. Second, exploring whether current zoning and development regulations are hindering or downright stopping those empty lots from being developed for housing. (Granted, this is a land-use planner Geek project where tinkering in theory with rules and regulations might eventually generate a desired result.)
The initial findings after a sweep though those three towns might be a bit surprising considering it’s become a cliché that there is very little private land available for development in Inyo County. The consultants (hired with a state planning grant) from Precision Civil Engineering identified 59 vacant lots in the three towns. All the lots are privately owned and are a mix of residential and commercial core zoned lands.
The Big Theory behind the vacant land review is that it should be easier to build housing on empty lots in

town which link easily into existing infrastructure as opposed to developing “raw” land that needs water, sewer, streets, etc. So, fill up the current town before plowing up a nearby hay field. In planner-speak, that’s “infill development.” Thus, the name of the project, Residential Infill Opportunities.
A total of 59 empty lots might not sound like a lot, but considering the size of those three communities, it’s not insignificant, either.
Lone Pine, with an estimated population of about 2,000 folks, has 21 vacant lots.
Big Pine, with just under 2,000 souls, has 22 empty lots.
Independence, with 600 people, has 14 vacant lots.
Those lots are all privately owned, stressed Jenna Chilingierian of consulting firm PCE, during a recent presentation in Independence. Not included are any parcels owned by Inyo County or the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Also left out were the long-promised, never-delivered LADWP “land releases.”
The vacant parcels’ zoning was a mix of residential and multi-family along with “commercial core” parcels. Those

parcels along US 395 could be developed as a mix of commercial and residential uses, or converted completely to residential, she noted.
The second part of the project involves some theoretical detective work to try and find reasons those empty lots are still empty despite the pressing need for more housing in each community.
The PCE folks will look at each lot and consider if changes to the current zoning regulations, development code and design guidelines could make it easier to actually build a home on the lots, and even make it possible to build a home and an Accessory Dwelling Unit on a vacant lot. Those code requirements and regulations include everything from property line setbacks, density limits, parking requirements, minimum lot size, height restrictions and plenty more. Chilingierian cited the example of the 25-foot front property line setback in the R1 zone. Changing that to 15 feet, as an experiment, might provide enough leeway for a home and ADU, she noted.
The county Planning Department and the consultants presented the infill info at well-attended public meetings

in each community. That public input, mostly positive with the expected, “yeah, but, not too much” reservations, will be included in the ongoing analysis.
Chilingierian said the end result should be recommendations and other concepts that might help spur home building on the vacant land. Those ideas will be presented in additional public workshop at the end of May. Deciding if any of those possible changes would spark the lengthy effort to change the county’s current General Plan, Housing Element, or zoning and development codes, would be a whole new, separate undertaking.
Jon Klusmire of Bishop is happy to report that when it comes to stressing the importance of infill development, Inyo County is a step ahead of Los Angeles. On March 5 the city launched a similar program to help spur development on vacant city lots. The scale is a tad different, though. LA has 24,000 vacant lots that could hold housing.



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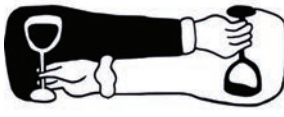
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Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 13*
The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar. Food and drink specials.
Lakanuki happy hour 3-6 p.m. daily AND karaoke every Sunday, starting at 8:30 p.m.
Main Street Pizza - *See ad this page for details.*
Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5pm. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

March 7-8/
Weekend Apres Ski parties @ Canyon Lodge. Starts 2 p.m. DJ Mikey Lion headlines Friday, DJ WLDCT opens. **Arc'teryx Academy Music Series** at Kitchen 53. Runs from 11:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. both nights. Bianca Oblivion headlines on Friday, Mary Droppinz on Saturday. *Tix \$25 on mammoth.arcteryxacademy.com.*
The Crooked Stuff deliver Disco/Funk/Punk DJ and Live Band Mashups to Liberty Bar. Music starts 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 9/
Cassie Dunn plays Distant Brewing from 7-9 p.m.

Monday, March 10/
Open mic night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 11/
Vinyl night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12/
Weekly Pool Tournament @ Distant Brewing. Hosted by Eastern Sierra Pool from 4:30-9:30 p.m.

March 12-16/
Elevation: Mammoth Gay Ski Week kicks off Wednesday with a set by DJ Josh Peace from 4-7 p.m., followed by a set by DJ Litch Please 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. at Lakanuki. *For event tix and info, check mammothgayskiweek.com.*

TOWN STUFF

March 7-9/
Arcteryx Backcountry Academy comes to Mammoth. *For info: mammoth.arcteryxacademy.com.*

Saturday, March 8/
Alabama Hills "Ask a Ranger" popup table at the Mobius Arch Trailhead parking lot from 10-12. Ask a Sierra Forever ranger questions about anything related to the Alabama Hills. **Alabama Hills Geology Walk.** Meet Death Valley NPS Ranger Joel at the Mobius Arch Trailhead from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. to learn about the forces that created the Alabama Hills landscape.

March 8-9/
Chamber Music Unbound Winter Concert Series continues. Saturday's concert at Cerro Coso College in Mammoth starts 7 p.m. Sunday's concert at Cerro Coso in Bishop starts 4 p.m. *For tix and more info: see ad p. 5*

TOWN STUFF

Sunday, March 9/
Free Women's Nordic Clinic at Tamarack Lodge. Pass is free, rentals are 50% off. Clinic runs from 2:15-3:15 p.m. *To reserve a spot or get more info, call 760.934.5293 or visit the Yurt.*
Buttermilks Trail Work meetup. Time: 10 am - noon. Location: Birthday Boulders parking area. Free donuts and coffee for volunteers. *Info at friendsoftheinyo.org.*

Monday, March 10/
Bishop City Council meets. Time: 6 p.m. Location: Council Chambers, 301 West Line St.

Tuesday, March 11/
Inyo County Supervisors meet. Public session starts 10 a.m. Location: 224 N. Edwards in Independence or online via inyocounty.us
Mono County Supervisors meet. Location: Bridgeport Courthouse or online via monocountyca.gov. Time: 9 a.m.
Bishop City Council special meeting to hear Aaron Schat's appeal of the expiration of Sterling Heights Conditional-Use permit. Time: 2 p.m. Location: Council Chambers @ 301 West Line St.
Bishop Commons community workshop meeting @ C5 Studios in Bishop. Time: 9:30 a.m. *More info: see story page five*

Wednesday, March 12/
Mammoth Lakes Planning and

TOWN STUFF

Economic Development Commission meets. Time: 9 a.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Bishop Chamber of Commerce Board meets. Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Location: Conference room at Alta One Federal Credit Union or online at bishopchamberofcommerce.com.
Avalanche Awareness Evening by ESAC at Mammoth Brewing Company. Time: 6-8 p.m.
BUSD Board of Trustees meet. Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: BUHS Carl Lind Board Room or online at bishopschools.org.

Thursday, March 13/
"Lunch and Learn" with the Bishop Chamber of Commerce. Time: 12-1:30 p.m. Location: Bishop Country Club Golf Course. Cost \$20. *More info at bishopchamberofcommerce.com*
"No Man's Land" Film Festival opens. Doors open at 6:15, show starts 7 p.m. Location: Bishop Twin Theater, 237 N Main Street in Bishop. *Tix \$15 pre-sale at sierraforever.org, or \$18 at the door.*

Friday, March 14/
"POTUS: Behind Every Great Dumbass are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive" by Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre opens at the MHS MPR and runs weekends through March 30. *More info: See ad p. xxx*

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-Mammoth \$22

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-Mammoth \$20.77

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-Mammoth \$19-24

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-Mammoth \$30-45

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Mammoth Roots Dispensary is hiring an asst. manager and budtenders. Please email info@mammothroots.com with resume/references



Mammoth Mountain Reservations is Looking for a part time office help in Mammoth. Must live in Mammoth. At least 20 hours/week. Please email resume/work experience to info@mammothres.com.



Whitebark Institute Seeks Environmental Planning Program Director
Whitebark Institute, a nonprofit dedicated to environmental resilience in California's Eastern Sierra, is hiring an Environmental Planning Program Director. This leadership role will provide strategic leadership for Whitebark's environmental planning initiatives. Salary \$115K-\$135K/year, benefits, hybrid work. Apply at whitebarkinstitute.org/careers.

mammoth

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Physical Therapist – Starting wage \$48.72 to \$59.05 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus

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To view more open positions and apply, please visit www.mammothhospital.org/jobs

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MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT's Operations Department is currently recruiting for one permanent Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. I/II/III (DOQ) position. FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/ TO APPLY: Please see the District website <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>



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Reservations Desk Clerk immediate opening at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA (20 min from mammoth). Must have excellent customer service and computer skills. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Creekside Spa and Fitness Desk at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa, immediate opening for enthusiast team member. Help in creating a wonderful experience for our spa and fitness center guests. Customer service, computer, cleaning, food service. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Restaurant Server for Eagles Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA. Experience in restaurant service, computers and working as team member are essential. Full and part time available, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to \$99238.5 of the Transportation Development Act, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) will conduct a Public Hearing on unmet transit needs on **March 12, 2025 at 9:00 am.**

The PEDC is soliciting input of transit-dependent and transit-disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, disabled, and persons of limited means. The PEDC will also receive comments from interested citizens on unmet transit needs that may exist within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and that might be reasonable to meet by establishing or contracting for new public transportation or specialized transportation services or by expanding existing services in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Identified unmet needs within the Town of Mammoth Lakes will be considered the Mono County Local Transportation Commission for allocations of Transportation Development Act Funds for FY 2025/26. All persons interested in these matters are urged to attend and make comments. Comments may be sent to clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

NOTE This meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor’s Executive Order which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. It is strongly encouraged that you watch the Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings on the Town of Mammoth Lakes’ website at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or on the local government cable channel 18. Public comments can be submitted to the Town Clerk at clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov before and during the meeting.

ZOOM INFORMATION
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TS #2025-0021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Wednesday, March 19, 2025**, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and continuing until finished, at the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z, within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, the Mammoth Lakes Town Council hear an application request for the following (a teleconference option via Zoom is available for remote participation by the public):

Application Request:
District Zoning Amendment (DZA) 24-001, Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 24-003, and Use Permit (UPA) 24-004, for the Outbound Hotel “Villas” Project. The application request is for a subsequent amendment to the Amended Phase 1 Clearwater Specific Plan document to allow the subdivision of five (5) existing four-plex structures “Villas” into twenty (20) condominium hotel units that may be sold individually.

The Planning and Economic Development Commission held a public hearing for this application on February 12, 2025, which concluded with a 3-1 vote of the Commission in favor of recommending approval of the application to Town Council.

CEQA Determination: The proposed action is within the scope of the project analyzed in the previously adopted 2021 Addendum to the Clearwater Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2006062154). No additional CEQA review is required.

Location: 164 Old Mammoth Road
Zoning: Clearwater Specific Plan (CSP)
Applicant: Matthew Mering / WH SN Mammoth, L.L.C.

All persons having an interest in the proposed application request may appear before the Town Council either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Executive Secretary written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing.

For additional information, or to obtain a copy of the staff report which will be published no later than March 14, 2025, contact Kim Cooke, Senior Planner, at (760) 965-3638 or email: kcooke@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
Mammoth Lakes Town Council, PO Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
TS #2025-0022

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to \$99238.5 of the Transportation Development Act, the Mono County Local Transportation Commission (LTC) will conduct a Public Hearing on transportation and unmet transit needs on April 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting will be accessible remotely by live cast at: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/86459217269> and by telephone at: 669-900-6833 (Webinar ID # 864 5921 7269) where members of the public shall have the right to observe and offer public comment.

The LTC will consider public input on all transportation matters and the transit needs of transit-dependent and transit-disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, disabled, and persons of limited means. The LTC will also receive comments from interested citizens and the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) on unmet transit needs that may exist within Mono County, and that might be reasonable to meet by establishing or contracting for new public transportation or specialized transportation services or by expanding existing services. The LTC will identify unmet needs within Mono County prior to considering requests by claimants for allocations of Transportation Development Act Funds for FY 2025-26.

INTERESTED PERSONS are strongly encouraged to attend the zoom meeting by phone or online. Written comments for inclusion in the record must be received on or before 5 p.m. on April 11, 2024. Comments may be sent to Secretary of the LTC, PO Box 347, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 or by email to cddcomments@mono.ca.gov. For information, please call 760.924.1800.

TS #2025-0024

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

The Resonant Mind

Heather Anderson
233 Wagon Wheel Rd., P.O. Box 294
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on January 8, 2025
File Number 25-005
2025-0016 (02/15, 02/22, 03/01, 03/08)

Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY - MAMMOTH PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a vacancy in an unexpired term exists on the Planning and Economic Development Commission due to a resignation. The term of appointment will expire on July 31, 2026. The Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, March 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms (“Application for Public Appointment”) may be obtained from the Town’s website, www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov; Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; or by phoning 965-3602.

Dated: February 12, 2025
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS #2025-0017

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

Unique Design Construction

Kevin Robert Gair
29 Crawford Ave. #3., P.O. Box 110
June Lake, Calif. 93529

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on January 17, 2025
File Number 25-011
2025-0020 (02/22, 03/01, 03/08, 03/15)

PERSONALS

I saw you ... are binge-watching The White Lotus. Once you finish that, how about swinging by my place for a binge sesh - lotus position!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION BOARD will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and continuing until finished, at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber, Suite Z within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road to consider the following:

Allocation of Measure U Funding Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2025/26.
(Per Municipal Code: Section 3.44.210: The tourism and recreation commission, or such other commission or committee as is hereafter designated by the town council, shall annually conduct at least one public hearing where it takes public testimony as to how tax revenues collected under the Mammoth Lakes Mobility, Recreation, and Arts and Culture Utility Users Tax Ordinance (Measure U) should be expended.)

All persons having an interest in the proposed resolution request may appear before The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with Mammoth Lakes Recreation written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to Mammoth Lakes Recreation at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, please contact Kim Anaclerio, Executive Director by telephone (760) 660-4948 or email at kim@mammothlakesrecreation.org.

PUBLIC HEARING ZOOM INFORMATION
Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/95249139779>

Or join by phone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592
Webinar ID: 952 4913 9779 Callers: To Raise your hand Press *9, to Unmute/Mute Press *6

International numbers available: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/95249139779>
Public comments can also be given through Zoom by logging in and raising your hand.

BY ORDER OF THE MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION BOARD
Dated: March 1, 2025
Kim Anaclerio, Executive Director
TS #2025-0023

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice Inviting Bids

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

AIP NO. 3-06-0146-____-2025
Multipurpose Building - Site Work Phase 1
Base Bid - Reconstruct and Extend Service Road
Alternate 1 - Relocate Taxiway A3

Sealed proposals for the work shown on the plans entitled:

Construction Plans for
Multipurpose Building - Site Work Phase 1
Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Base Bid - Reconstruct and Extend Service Road
Alternate 1 - Relocate Taxiway A3

in The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California

Bids will be received through the Town's eProcurement Portal at:

Online Bid Portal
<https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1016/Bids>

until 2:00 pm PST on Friday, April 4, 2025, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contractors can attend the bid opening by Zoom (information will be posted on the Online Bid Portal page). Proposal forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled:

Contract and Bid Documents for Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Multipurpose Building – Site Work Phase 1
Base Bid - Reconstruct and Extend Service Road
Alternate 1 - Relocate Taxiway A3 In
The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California

Each bidder must supply all the information required by the bid documents and specifications.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The project generally consists of the following work:
Base Bid – Reconstruction and extension of the service road from the airport entrance to Taxiway A (24’ x 1,750’) including grading, drainage, utility stubs, paving, marking, and fencing.
Alternate 1 - Construct new Taxiway A3 connector taxiway between Taxiway A and the runway (35’ x 225”) and remove existing Taxiway A3 including pavement removal, grading, drainage, paving, marking, lighting, and signage.
This project will be partially funded by the Airport Improvement Program of the Federal Aviation Administration (F.A.A.).
The Engineer’s Estimate for the construction cost of the Base Bid only is \$1,400,000 to \$1,500,000.
The Engineer’s Estimate for the construction cost of Alternate 1 is \$500.000 to \$600,000.
The Engineer’s Estimate will be made public at the Bid Opening.

OBTAINING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

Plans and specifications can be obtained from the Online Bid Portal.
Questions or requests for clarifications should be submitted through the Online Bid Portal under the project’s Question and Answer section. The contact is Sierra Waugh, Deputy Airport Manager, Mammoth Yosemite Airport, via email swaugh@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or 760-965-3654. Oral clarifications are non-binding, and any changes shall be issued by written addenda only.

CONTRACT TIME:

This work shall be constructed in accordance with details as shown on the plans and described in the specifications for this project. The contractor will be allowed 40 (forty) working days to complete the project if the Base Bid only is awarded and within 60 (sixty) working days if the Base Bid plus Alternate 1 is awarded.

BIDDER’S BOND:

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier’s check payable to the order of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, or by a bid bond executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in the State of California in the sum of not less than 10% of the total amount of the bid, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into the proposed contract if it be awarded him/her.

CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS:

The contractor shall have a valid Class A Contractor’s license, a current Town of Mammoth Lakes Business Tax Certificate, and shall maintain all required licenses throughout the duration of the Contract. The contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by having adequate equipment in good working order, experience, and ability to perform the work.

AWARD OF CONTRACT:

The contract will be awarded on the basis of UNIT BID price and will provide for progressive payments and liquidated damages as fixed in the specifications. All proposals must be made on the forms as contained in the specifications for the previously described project and shall in all respects comply with the Instructions to Bidders and Contract Documents. Bids must be in writing and signed by or on behalf of the bidder.
The contract will be awarded on the basis of the Base Bid only or the Base Bid plus Alternate No. 1. The award of this project is contingent upon a grant offer from the Federal Aviation Administration and acceptance of the grant offer by the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Each bid shall remain good for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days.

BONDING REQUIREMENTS:

The successful bidder shall furnish a payment bond and a performance bond for 100 percent of the contract price to secure fulfillment of all the bidder’s obligations under such contract and to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract. All bonds shall be executed by an admitted surety insurer meeting the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120.

FEDERAL PROVISIONS:

The work to be done is being financed in whole or in part by means of a grant made by the United States acting through the Federal Aviation Administration of the Department of Transportation. This project is subject to the Federal provisions, statutes and regulations as set forth in the project specifications.
This project is under and subject to the Equal Opportunity Clause, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, and Wage Rate Decision contained in the contract documents.
The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 apply to this contract. It is the policy of the Sponsor to practice nondiscrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in the award or performance of this contract. The Sponsor encourages participation by all firms qualifying under this solicitation regardless of business size or ownership.
The Town of Mammoth Lakes, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and no businesses will be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), creed, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), age, or disability in consideration for an award.

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION:

The Sponsor has established a Small Business Element in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 to facilitate competition by small business concerns, taking all reasonable steps to eliminate obstacles to their participation and to create a level playing field on which small businesses can compete fairly. While there is no specific numerical goal assigned to small business participation the prime contractor should make every effort to solicit small business concerns (as defined in 13 CFR Part 121) to participate as subcontractors, service providers, suppliers, etc.
The Bidder must submit the Small Business Participation information with its proposal on the forms provided herein (Fostering Small Business Participation & Non-Certified Small Business Verification Form).

SOCIALLY/ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS:

The Sponsor encourages Contractors and Subcontractors to utilize the services of financial institutions owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in the community. You can find a link to Minority-Owned Financial Institutions and their branches on the FDIC website: <https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/resources/minority/mdi.html> or the U. S. Department of Treasury – Bureau of the Fiscal Service <https://fiscal.treasury.gov/mbdp/>.

CARB CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS:

The California Air Resources Board (“CARB”) implemented amendments to the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulations (“Regulation”) which are effective on January 1, 2024 and apply broadly to all self-propelled off road diesel vehicles 25 horsepower or greater and other forms of equipment used in California. A copy of the Regulation is available at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/barcu/regact/2022/off-roaddiesel/appa-1.pdf>. Bidders are required to comply with all CARB and Regulation requirements, including, without limitation, all applicable sections of the Regulation, as codified in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations section 2449 et seq. throughout the duration of the Project. Bidders must provide, with their Bid, copies of Bidder’s and all listed subcontractors’ most recent, valid Certificate of Reported Compliance (“CRC”) issued by CARB. Failure to provide valid CRCs as required herein may render the Bid non-responsive.

WAGE REQUIREMENTS:

Pursuant to Section 1770, and following, of the California Labor Code, the Contractor shall pay not less than the prevailing rate of per diem wages as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. Copies of such prevailing rate of per diem wages are on file at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Works Department, which copies shall be made available to any interested party on request.
All labor on the project shall be paid the higher of the minimum wage rates as established by the U.S. Secretary of Labor, or the California Director of Industrial Relations. If a discrepancy exists between these two determinations, then all labor on the project shall be paid the higher of the two minimum wage rates.
DIR Registration: In accordance with Senate Bill 854

(SB 854) and Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, all contractors and subcontractors that wish to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, or enter into a contract to perform public work must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations. No bid will be accepted nor any contract entered into without proof of the contractor’s and subcontractors’ current registration with the Department of Industrial Relations to perform public work. If awarded a Contract, the Bidder and its subcontractors, of any tier, shall maintain active registration with the Department of Industrial Relations for the duration of the Project.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held in the Airport Manager’s Office at the Mammoth Yosemite Airport, 1300 Airport Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. Contractors may attend in person or may participate via Zoom. Information will be posted on the Online Bid Portal page. For those who can attend in person, a site walk will be conducted after the pre-bid meeting.

RETAINAGE FROM PAYMENTS:

Monthly progress payments shall be made to the Contractor for the value of the work completed during the preceding month, less a five percent (5%) security withhold pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 7201.
Pursuant to Government Code Section 4590, at the request and expense of the Contractor, securities equivalent to the amount withheld shall be deposited with the Town or with a state or federally chartered bank as the escrow agent, who shall pay such monies to the Contractor upon satisfactory completion of the contract. Securities eligible for investment under this section shall include those listed in Government Code Section 16430 or bank or savings and loan certificates of deposit. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for monies withheld and shall receive any interest thereon.
The Town of Mammoth Lakes reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids or to utilize any alternative procedures authorized by the Public Contracts Codes Sections 20166 and 20167 and accept such bids as are to the best interest of the Town. The Town reserves the right to waive any informality, or irregularity in a bid.

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIFORNIA
TOWN CLERK: Jamie Gray
TS #2025-0025

Notice of Vacancies



NOTICE OF VACANCIES - MAMMOTH LAKES TOURISM BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board (MLT) has two seats with terms expiring as of June 30, 2025, which are available for candidacy: one from the Retail Industry, and one At-Large position. The term of appointment for the Retail position will expire three years after appointment to the Board, and the At-Large position will expire two years after appointment to the Board.

The Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meetings are scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month. Interested parties should file a letter of interest with Mammoth Lakes Tourism Office Manager, Jetsabel Aleman, via email at jaleman@visitmammoth.com no later than 5:00 p.m. March 28, 2025. Applicant interviews will be conducted by the MLT Nominating Committee in April and May. Recommendations and Board vote will take place in June and new Board Members will start their service at MLT’s July 2025 meeting.

Dated: March 3, 2025
TS #2025-0026

LUNCH

continued from page 2

occupancy for the use, within such two (2) year period. The city council may, upon submittal of a written application for a time extension by the holder of the permit and prior to the expiration of the CUP, grant a one year extension of time; provided, however, that the total number of extensions for a CUP shall not exceed three (3) ... Failure to develop the use within the time limits of this section shall amount to the forfeiture of all development entitlement under the CUP.”

Schat contends a building permit application was abruptly canceled just days before his CUP was terminated by Dish-ion, and that Building Inspector Tyson Sparrow keeps asking for things that are not in the code. “I’m just trying to get my plans done and comply,” he said. “And my payment on that building is \$50,000/month.”

Speaking of appeals, the complaint by the Snowcreek VII Homeowners Assn. against the Town of Mammoth Lakes and AT&T is set for a March 14 hearing in Mono County Superior Court.

Snowcreek VII owners are appealing Town approval of an 80-to-100’ cell tower to be located on Fire Station #2 property off Old Mammoth Road. The opening brief was initially filed on November 18, 2024.

Two things stuck out for me. One was the fact that these towers are not supposed to be located in residential areas, but because Snowcreek is zoned “resort,” (even though it also houses a lot of residents), that makes it eligible.

The other part was that Snowcreek Athletic Club owner Ralph Lockhart said he might be interested in hosting the tower on his property, which would increase the distance to the nearest local residence to 140’ - at Snowcreek, the nearest residence to the tower would be within 40’.

But then, Lockhart would be receiving the lease payments and not the Fire District.

Mohun is the presiding judge in the case. Should be interesting.



JOB OPENINGS

BASE SALARY OR WAGE RANGES
SHOWN IN COMPLIANCE W/ CA LAW

FULL-TIME Full-time total compensation includes competitive benefits package

Building Inspector/Plans Examiner
\$71,269.00 – \$100,282.00

Programs & Facilities Administrator
\$51,320 – \$72,212/year

PART-TIME | TEMPORARY | SEASONAL POSITIONS

Parks & Recreation Positions
Whitmore Pool & Summer Camps
\$19.06 – \$30.90/hr

Office of Outdoor Recreation Positions
\$20.01 – \$30.90/hr

Temp. Airport Maintenance Worker
\$29.36 – \$33.99/hr

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townofmammothlakes.ca.gov | (760) 965-3604



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Sean Flavin, Owner

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LIC# 923994

DISTANT BREWING HAS BEER AND CIDER AND SELTZER AND KOMBUCHA AND WINE AND BEER AND SODA AND SOUPS AND SALADS AND PIZZAS AND COOKIES AND SANDWICHES AND APPETIZERS AND BEER AND COFFEE AND LIVE MUSIC TWICE A WEEK AND AN OPEN MIC EVERY MONDAY AND BEER AND A POOL TOURNAMENT EVERY WEDNESDAY AND A MONTHLY VINYL NIGHT AND OH YEAD DID WE FORGET TO MENTION ALL THE BEER?



OUTBOUND RAIL JAM



Outbound Mammoth, partnering with an entity called the “Part Time Babe Club,” hosted a Rail Jam on Saturday, March 1

EIGHTH GRADE CERRO COSO DAY

Press Release

Thanks to the coordination and support from the Inyo County Office of Education and Cerro Coso Community College, 159 8th grade students visited Cerro Coso Community College in Bishop on Friday, February 28th, to learn about the transition to high school and preparing for post secondary education opportunities in Inyo County and beyond.

Students attended a variety of engaging sessions to introduce topics about financing secondary education, A-G requirements in high school, opportunities with Cerro Coso, and the impact of everyday choices on future aspirations. Students also had the opportunity to talk with current high school students and guidance counselors, as well as graduates of Inyo county schools that completed post secondary education and returned to the area for their career.

This ‘Grad Panel’ was enjoyed by both students and panelists who are able to impart wisdom and inspiration for our future generations.

One student reported after the learning sessions that, “my goal is to work hard, save money, and get into the best college I can to get my best chances in life.”

This opportunity was made possible by the Inyo County Office of Education in partnership with Cerro Coso

Community College and with support from Bishop, Big Pine, Owens Valley, and Lone Pine schools. ICOE extends sincere gratitude to all of the teachers, bus drivers, and community volunteers who enthusiastically supported this event and provided encouragement and insight to our youth.

Below: Three 8th graders share their artwork from the art session (left). Right: A Home Street Middle School student at the “My Future is Bright” session with Jane Pace of Inyo Council for the Arts.



LETTERS

continued from page 4
Give us something

Editor,

I'd like to praise Ted Carleton for his column last week, which comprised some wonderful writing that represents the best of what newspapers are for, bringing truth to power.

In particular, I am referring to that portion of Ted's editorial that addressed the death of ski patroller, Claire Murphy.

In it, Ted mentions "conspicuous Alterran silence." And "It'll blow over soon ... seems to be the Alterran strategy." That appears to be the case.

"In the old days," Ted intones, "Rusty would have come down to a Council meeting and faced the music. He was good in the big moments. He communicated and he cared deeply. And then he sat respectfully and listened. This is a leadership moment. And if none of you have been empowered to lead, that is a profound indictment of Alterra Mountain Company."

Ted is right.

Claire Murphy worked for Alterra, she gave her life for Mammoth Mountain and Alterra. That deserves a lot more than silence. Why am I joining Ted in picking on Alterra? Because when a young girl like that, her whole life ahead of her, her parents devastated beyond belief; her employer, the 800 lb. gorilla in the room, cannot sit silent. As the community depends on Alterra for its very livelihood, we have to know it has a heart. It is super important in a small community like ours to know that the biggest employer gives a damn about the little people like us that make the big gears go around, who clean the tables, who ski all over the mountain to make sure it is safe,

Our hearts break for Claire's poor parents, whose lives have been irrevocably damaged, if not destroyed by this terrible event. I know that Rusty is a parent. I know that Alterra must be filled with people who are parents; for God's sake, stand up and say something more than "corduroy's good on Chair 3, have fun."

One thing I disagree with Ted on, he says "There is no universe where rushing to open up terrain is worth any risk to a person's life." A good sentiment. The truth is, however, that if the Mountain closed down every time it snowed in order for the avalanche hazard to abate before patrollers went out to do their thing, it couldn't reasonably operate. The truth is that every time those patrollers go out, they take their lives in their hands, and as Ted mentioned, four patrollers have lost their lives in recent years, so "taking their lives in their hands" is not just some abstract notion. That is the name of the game, the Mountain knows it, the patrollers know it. But when a precious young lady loses her life in service to the Mountain, the Mountain cannot, should not, must not, please, under no circumstances, remain silent. I'm begging you, say something!

Paul Rudder
Mammoth Lakes

IMPENDING USFS CUTS THREATEN MONO COUNTY

By Fisher

Following Elon Musk's initial cuts to federal staff through the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), local government officials are bracing for more cuts to forest management programs in Mono County.

On February 26, federal officials put out a memo directing agencies to submit plans for a Reduction in Force (RIF) by March 13 to eliminate a number of federal positions, according to an AP news report. This memo came after about 2,000 probationary employees were terminated from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS).

"We don't know exactly what this is going to look like right now, but we can all be very, very sure that more employees will get laid off both here in the National Forest and in the Park Service," said Lawson Reif, Mammoth Lakes Outdoor Recreation Manager.

His department, the Office of Outdoor Recreation, is looking at supporting some of those federal workers who lost their positions and hiring them internally as Town employees.

"We asked [the Forest Service] to write out what exactly they are looking for in this position," he said. "I can assure all of you this will not just be a position that we hire and let run willingly on the landscape - we really want to make sure that this work is focused."

Town staff expect to have the position outlined before Mammoth Town Council at the next (March 19) meeting, Mammoth Town Manager Rob Patterson said.

In the meantime, the New York Times reported Wednesday morning that almost 4,000 campsites across California's National Forests could close for part or all of the summer season.

The data came from a spreadsheet shared internally within the USFS. The report stated that Kennedy Meadows, a campground with 37 sites near the Mount Whitney trail, could close for the season.

For the time being, Reif has not heard that Kennedy Meadows will close, but said his office was actively pursuing answers. He also said, as of a meeting Monday, that Deadman Campground, Glass Creek Campground, Big Springs Campground and Hartley Springs Campground are still expected to open.

The Sheet reached out to Lisa Cox,

Inyo National Forest Public Affairs Officer, about the cuts, and received the following response:

"Secretary Rollins fully supports the President's directive to improve government, eliminate inefficiencies and strengthen USDA's many services to the American people. We have a solemn responsibility to be good stewards of the American people's hard-earned taxpayer dollars and to ensure that every dollar spent goes to serve the people, not the bureaucracy. [...] It's unfortunate that the Biden administration hired thousands of people with no plan in place to pay them long term. Secretary Rollins is committed to preserving essential safety positions and will ensure that critical services remain uninterrupted."

The statement came directly from the USFS press office, atypical from Cox's usual responses - she usually writes more specific responses herself and clears them with the federal office.

"This is a typical procedure for media requests after a new administration takes over, which allows more control from the administration over messaging in alignment with new policies," she said of the direct response.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors formally expressed its concerns about the local USFS cuts in a letter to key federal and state representatives.

"Mono County is home to vast tracts of public land, including the Humboldt-Toiyabe and Inyo National Forests,

which serve as critical recreational and economic assets for both residents and visitors," the letter states. "Unfortunately, due to staff reductions within the USFS, we are witnessing a rapid deterioration in the oversight and management of these lands."

The letter was targeted at U.S. Representative Kevin Kiley, U.S. Senators Alex Padilla, Adam Schiff, State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil, and State Representative David Tangipa.

Letters are one way for the County to fight back against the cuts, said Lynda Salcido, County Board Supervisor Chair. She is worried about cuts to other programs, like Medicaid and the SNAP program.

Mono County relies on an estimated total \$17.5 million annually in federal funds, according to a report drawn up by Sandra Moberly, Mono County Administrator. Those funding sources include the Substance Use Block Grant, American Rescue Plan Act, Medi-Cal, and the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program.

"Mono County benefits significantly from federal funding across various departments and programs," she wrote in the report. Federal dollars support a range of initiatives, from housing and behavioral health services to emergency management and public works."



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SHOWN IN COMPLIANCE W/ CA LAW

FULL-TIME Full-time total compensation includes competitive benefits package

Building Inspector/Plans Examiner
\$71,269.00 – \$100,282.00

Programs & Facilities Administrator
\$51,320 – \$72,212/year

PART-TIME | TEMPORARY | SEASONAL POSITIONS

Parks & Recreation Positions
Whitmore Pool & Summer Camps
\$19.06 – \$30.90/hr

Office of Outdoor Recreation Positions
\$20.01 – \$30.90/hr

Temp. Airport Maintenance Worker
\$29.36 – \$33.99/hr

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