



# CITY OF LODI

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

**AGENDA TITLE:** Consider Adoption Of Resolution In Support Of The Proposal For An Executive Director Of The Central Valley Mayor's Conference And Agreement To Contribute Lodi's Proportionate Share To Fund The Position (\$2,472)

**MEETING DATE:** August 20, 2003

**PREPARED BY:** City Clerk

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** That Council consider adoption of a resolution in support of the proposal for an Executive Director of the Central Valley Mayor's Conference and agreement to contribute Lodi's proportionate share to fund the position.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** This item appears on the agenda as requested by Mayor Hitchcock.

Attached for informational purposes are:

- **Exhibit A**—letter from Fresno Mayor Alan Autry (dated June 2, 2003) announcing that at the April 14 Central Valley Mayor's Conference a resolution was passed to explore staffing the Central Valley Mayor's Conference with an Executive Director, and further requesting funding for this position based on population (Lodi's proportionate share would be \$2,472).
- **Exhibit B**—letter from Clovis Mayor Lynne Ashbeck (dated June 19, 2003) providing additional information and clarification on this subject.
- **Exhibit C**—tabulation of responses from Central Valley cities, as prepared by the City of Fresno.

Should Council vote to contribute Lodi's proportionate share (\$2,472) to fund the Executive Director position for the Central Valley Mayor's Conference, a resolution formalizing this action will be prepared following the meeting.

**FUNDING:** If approved, \$2,472 – Contingency Fund.

  
Vicky McAthie, Finance Director

  
Susan J. Blackston  
City Clerk

SJB/jmp

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

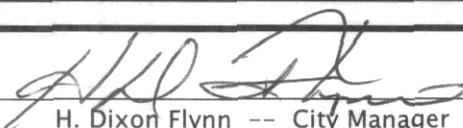
  
H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

EXHIBIT A

RECEIVED

JUN 06 2003

City Clerk  
City of Lodi



MAYOR ALAN AUTRY

June 2, 2003

Mayor Susan Hitchcock  
City of Lodi  
P.O. Box 3006  
Lodi, CA 95241

Dear Colleagues:

During our April 14 Central Valley Mayor's Conference, we passed a resolution to explore staffing the Central Valley Mayor's Conference with an Executive Director. Gary Podesto and I have had further discussions on the subject and would like to recommend that we proceed with this effective July 1, 2003.

With the California fiscal crisis getting deeper and more contentious every day, it is important that the united voice of our central valley be heard as decisions are made. Further, we are beginning to identify some projects of common interest to all of us in the Central Valley that require sustained attention.

We envision that the major functions of the Executive Director will include:

- Identifying opportunities for Central Valley Cooperation.
- Identifying issues that the Central Valley Mayors may wish to address jointly.
- Maintaining regular communications with all Central Valley Mayors on matters of common interest.
- Managing projects of common interest.
- Coordinating lobbying activities in Sacramento and Washington D.C. on issues that the Central Valley Mayors have agreed to pursue.
- Organizing the annual (or-bi-annual) meeting.

CITY OF FRESNO  
CITY HALL • 2600 FRESNO STREET • FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93721-3600  
(559) 621-8000 • FAX (559) 621-7990



June 2, 2003

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The Executive Director can immediately help us on such initiatives as the Central Valley Operation Clean Air Initiative and the project to obtain Interstate designation for Highway 99 (see separate letter mailed to you recently).

The Community and Economic Development Offices at Fresno State University has agreed to host the Executive Director and handle the administrative aspects of the position. Funding of the position on a full-time basis would require a total annual budget of \$92,000, including expenses. Our proposal is that funding be based on each city's percentage of the total incorporated population in the 62 cities that comprise the Central Valley Mayor's Conference, exempting the City that will host our annual conference since that city will incur significant costs in hosting the conference.

The amount of the budget to be allocated to each City on this basis is shown in the attached document. As the largest City in the Valley, Fresno would be the largest contributor. Twenty-three cities would pay less than \$500/year; 19 would pay between \$500 and \$1,000/year; 9 would pay between \$1,000 and \$2,000/years; 8 would pay between \$2,000 and \$4,000/ year; and only four cities (including Fresno) would pay more than \$4,000.

We have an excellent candidate for the position, Lynne Ashbeck, the recently elected Mayor of Clovis. As you will see by reading the attached resume, Lynne is superbly qualified. Those of you who have had an opportunity to get acquainted with Lynne know her to be bright, personable, and high-energy, with excellent organizational and leadership skills. Her background in both the private and public sectors, and her extensive civic experience, make her an excellent fit for our needs.

Mayor Podesto and I have made arrangements through the Community and Economic Development Office at Fresno State to retain Lynne on a part-time consulting basis for the months of May and June and she is already managing our initiative to obtain Interstate designation for Highway 99. This part-time consulting arrangement is being funded by Fresno and Stockton.

A favorable response from you will enable us to extend a full-time offer to Lynne beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We realize this is a difficult time to ask any of our cities to incur a new expense. On the other hand, there has never been a more important time for the voices of our 62 cities in the Central Valley to be united in support of our interests. We believe the modest investment we are proposing will provide attractive returns for all of us.

June 2, 2003  
Page 3

If you are in agreement with this proposal, please so indicate by signing in the space provided below and return a copy of this letter to Mayor Alan Autry. We would appreciate hearing from you by June 20, 2003.

Sincerely,



Mayor Alan Autry  
City of Fresno

I support the proposed approach and agree to fund my portion of the Executive Director's budget, in accordance with the attached allocation schedule.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

**Central Valley Mayor's Conference**  
**Allocation of Executive Director's Budget**

City	County	Population 1/1/02*	% of Central Valley Population*	\$ Allocation of \$92,000 Executive Director Budget
1 ARVIN	KERN COUNTY	13,518	0.6%	618
2 ATWATER	MERCED COUNTY	24,040	1.0%	1030
3 AVENAL	KINGS COUNTY	14,827	0.6%	618
4 BAKERSFIELD	KERN COUNTY	257,914	10.6%	10,918
5 CALIFORNIA CITY	KERN COUNTY	10,818	0.4%	412
6 CERES	STANISLAUS COUNTY	35,656	1.5%	1,545
7 CHOWCHILLA	MADERA COUNTY	14,359	0.6%	618
8 CLOVIS	FRESNO COUNTY	72,808	3.0%	3,090
9 COALINGA	FRESNO COUNTY	16,423	0.7%	721
10 CORCORAN	KINGS COUNTY	21,129	0.9%	927
11 DELANO	KERN COUNTY	40,904	1.7%	1,751
12 DINUBA	TULARE COUNTY	17,503	0.7%	721
13 DOS PALOS	MERCED COUNTY	4,662	0.2%	206
14 ESCALON	SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	6,358	0.3%	309
15 EXETER	TULARE COUNTY	9,456	0.4%	412
16 FARMERSVILLE	TULARE COUNTY	9,022	0.4%	412
17 FIREBAUGH	FRESNO COUNTY	5,954	0.2%	206
18 FOWLER	FRESNO COUNTY	4,161	0.2%	206
19 FRESNO	FRESNO COUNTY	441,870	18.2%	18,746
20 GUSTINE	MERCED COUNTY	4,988	0.2%	206
21 HANFORD	KINGS COUNTY	43,575	1.8%	1,854
22 HUGHSON	STANISLAUS COUNTY	4,231	0.2%	206
23 HURON	FRESNO COUNTY	6,619	0.3%	309
24 KERMAN	FRESNO COUNTY	9,569	0.4%	412
25 KINGSBURG	FRESNO COUNTY	10,047	0.4%	412
26 LATHROP	SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	11,586	0.5%	515
27 LEMOORE	KINGS COUNTY	20,650	0.8%	824
28 LINDSAY	TULARE COUNTY	10,384	0.4%	412
29 LIVINGSTON	MERCED COUNTY	10,830	0.4%	412
30 LODI	SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	59,431	2.4%	2,472
31 LOS BANOS	MERCED COUNTY	28,172	1.2%	1,236
32 MADERA	MADERA COUNTY	46,161	1.9%	1,957
33 MANTECA	SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	54,975	2.3%	2,369
34 MARICOPA	KERN COUNTY	1,129	0.0%	0
35 MCFARLAND	KERN COUNTY	9,801	0.4%	412
36 MENDOTA	FRESNO COUNTY	8,055	0.3%	309
37 MERCED	MERCED COUNTY	66,059	2.7%	2,781
38 MODESTO	STANISLAUS COUNTY	198,633	8.2%	8,446
39 NEWMAN	STANISLAUS COUNTY	7,538	0.3%	309
40 OAKDALE	STANISLAUS COUNTY	16,218	0.7%	721
41 ORANGE COVE	FRESNO COUNTY	8,511	0.4%	412
42 PARLIER	FRESNO COUNTY	12,058	0.5%	515
43 PATTERSON	STANISLAUS COUNTY	13,027	0.5%	515
44 PORTERVILLE		41,009	1.7%	1,751

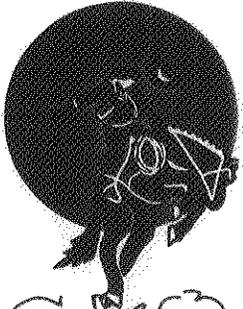
City	County	Population 1/1/02*	% of Central Valley Population	\$ Allocation of \$92,000 Executive Director Budget
45 REEDLEY	FRESNO COUNTY	21,218	0.9%	927
46 RIDGECREST	KERN COUNTY	25,483	1.0%	1,030
47 RIPON	SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	11,155	0.5%	515
48 RIVERBANK	STANISLAUS COUNTY	17,004	0.7%	721
49 SAN JOAQUIN	FRESNO COUNTY	3,400	0.1%	103
50 SANGER	FRESNO COUNTY	19,539	0.8%	824
51 SELMA	FRESNO COUNTY	20,337	0.8%	824
52 SHAFTER	KERN COUNTY	13,045	0.5%	515
53 STOCKTON	<b>SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY</b>	<b>253,800</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>10,712</b>
54 TAFT	KERN COUNTY	8,929	0.4%	412
55 TEHACHAPI	KERN COUNTY	11,101	0.5%	515
56 TRACY	SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	65,643	2.7%	2,781
57 TULARE	TULARE COUNTY	45,295	1.9%	1,957
58 TURLOCK	STANISLAUS COUNTY	59,367	2.4%	2,472
59 VISALIA	TULARE COUNTY	95,812	3.9%	4,017
60 WASCO	KERN COUNTY	21,656	0.9%	927
61 WATERFORD	STANISLAUS COUNTY	7,165	0.3%	309
62 WOODLAKE	TULARE COUNTY	<u>6,843</u>	<u>0.3%</u>	<u>309</u>
		2,431,430	100.0%	103103
	Less Conference Host City (Bakersfield) Allocation			-10918
	<b>Total</b>			<b>92185</b>

**Three Largest Cities in Bold**

Source: State of California Department of Finance as of Jan. 1, 2002

<b>Total in Incorporated Areas</b>	<b>2,431,430</b>	<b>70.7%</b>
<b>Total in Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>1,009,064</b>	<b>29.3%</b>
<b>Total 8 County Population</b>	<b>3,440,494</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

*\*Incorporated Areas Only*



# CITY OF CLOVIS

CITY HALL • 1033 FIFTH STREET • CLOVIS, CA 93612

(559) 324-2010

RECEIVED

JUN 23 2003

City Clerk  
City of Lodi

June 19, 2003

Mayor Susan Hitchcock and City Council  
City of Lodi  
P.O. Box 3006  
Lodi, CA 95241

Dear Colleagues:

There has been much discussion around the idea of the Central California Mayors Conference, my role in such a venture, and Mayor Autry's motivation behind the idea. Please accept this letter as an effort to relay additional information to you.

- As you will recall, the idea of formalizing the Central CA Mayors Conference and the hiring of an Executive Director was *unanimously* approved at the March 15, 2003, meeting of the group with approximately 30-40 mayors in attendance from small and large cities throughout the Valley.
- At that point, the Mayors Conference was associated with the Maddy Institute at CSUF. I had been in conversations with the Maddy Institute about possible ways we might work together. When the idea of an Executive Director role was approved, it simply became another project for consideration. There were no agreements or commitments...only possibilities.
- I had a conversation with Mayor Autry about my interest in the Mayor's Conference role *should it become a reality and after all of the necessary "due process"* (City Attorney review, MOUs, etc.) were in place. According to Mayor Autry's office, the letter you received in early June was actually written in mid-April. The purpose of the letter was two-fold: first, to ask for support for the position in general and *in advance of any agreements*; and, second, to offer my skills as a possible match for the role. The mailing of the letter was delayed until June 2 and it clearly raised all sorts of "red flags" at that point in time. In hindsight, those two issues should have been raised independently of one another...but they were not. The rest is history, as they say!

City Council

Lynne Ashbeck, Mayor • Nathan Magsig, Mayor Pro Tem  
Harry Armstrong, Councilmember • José G. Flores, Councilmember • Bob Whalen, Councilmember  
Kathleen A. Millison, City Manager

[www.ci.clovis.ca.us](http://www.ci.clovis.ca.us)

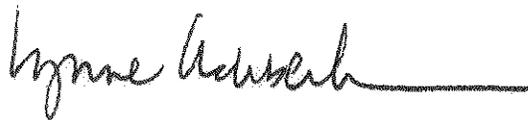
- *There is no agreement in place, no money has changed hands and there is no position.* I have communicated with Mayor Autry's staff and asked to be "removed" from any current discussion about the role. The first question is whether there is adequate support for the position at all and that question cannot be fairly answered with an individual attached to the discussion.
- There are rumors of a "conspiracy" because of my work with Mayor Autry on Highway 99. My limited work on the Highway 99 corridor was in my role as a Central Valley mayor, not in exchange for any money. Fresno and Clovis have a history of strained working relations and I was simply trying to collaborate with them on an issue that many in the Valley supported. It is disappointing that collaboration is mistaken for conspiracy.
- There is concern that this organization is a direct affront to the League of California Cities. That is certainly not the intent behind Mayor Autry's idea. The Mayor's Conference was unanimously supported as a value-added service by the 30-40+ mayors in Stockton...not because the League was not performing or did not meet a need. Quite the contrary...the League is an essential organization. Our region is in desperate need of some unity...and Mayor Autry and the other mayors who supported this idea thought a separate organization would add value. There is certainly enough work for all to do.

I apologize for the chaos, special meetings, and resolutions this has created. Much of that is based on an incomplete set of facts...so I hope this letter helps explain "the rest of the story," as someone much more famous than I said. A call to Mayor Autry or myself might have helped redirect some of the confusion from the beginning.

The Valley is in a perilous situation with the state budget, lack of jobs, air quality, housing, access to health care and many other issues of concern. For any part I may have played in diverting your attention from the real work of our cities, my sincere apologies.

Please feel free to call me if I can answer any questions directly.

Regards,



Lynne Ashbeck, Mayor  
City of Clovis  
559.324.2063 (City Hall)  
559.284.9731 (cell)  
[lynne@ci.clovis.ca.us](mailto:lynne@ci.clovis.ca.us)

c: Ron Ramsey, President SSJ Division, League of CA Cities  
Catherine Medina, Regional Representative, League of CA Cities  
Kathy Millison, City Manager, City of Clovis  
Jeanette Ishii, Executive Director, Maddy Institute  
Clovis City Council Members

**Central Valley Mayor's  
Executive Director Responses**

City	Yes	No
ARVIN		
ATWATER		
AVENAL		
<b>BAKERSFIELD</b>		
CALIFORNIA CITY	X	
CERES		
CHOWCHILLA		
CLOVIS		
COALINGA		
CORCORAN		X
DELANO		X
DINUBA		
DOS PALOS		
ESCALON		
EXETER		
FARMERSVILLE		
FIREBAUGH		X
FOWLER		
<b>FRESNO</b>	X	
GUSTINE		
HANFORD		
HUGHSON		
HURON		
KERMAN		
KINGSBURG		
LATHROP	X	
LEMOORE		
LINDSAY		
LIVINGSTON		
LODI		
LOS BANOS		
MADERA		
MANTECA		
MARICOPA		
MCFARLAND		
MENDOTA		
MERCED		
MODESTO		
NEWMAN	X	
OAKDALE		
ORANGE COVE		
PARLIER		
PATTERSON		
PORTERVILLE		
REEDLEY		
RIDGECREST		
RIPON		
RIVERBANK		
SAN JOAQUIN		
SANGER		
SELMA		
SHAFTER		
<b>STOCKTON</b>		
TAFT		
TEHACHAPI		
TRACY		
TULARE		
TURLOCK	X	
VISALIA		X
WASCO		X
WATERFORD		
WOODLAKE		

**CITY CLERK'S NOTE:**

This list indicates how many cities have responded to the June 2, 2003, request from Fresno Mayor Alan Autry. The information was obtained from the City of Fresno on August 14, 2003.

CITY COUNCIL

SUSAN HITCHCOCK, Mayor  
EMILY HOWARD  
Mayor Pro Tempore  
JOHN BECKMAN  
LARRY D. HANSEN  
KEITH LAND

# CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET  
P.O. BOX 3006  
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910  
(209) 333-6702  
FAX (209) 333-6807  
cityclrk@lodi.gov

H. DIXON FLYNN  
City Manager  
SUSAN J. BLACKSTON  
City Clerk  
RANDALL A. HAYS  
City Attorney

August 21, 2003

Honorable Mayor Alan Autry  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721-7990

**RE: Proposal for an Executive Director to the Central Valley Mayor's  
Conference and Contribution of Proportionate Share to Fund the  
Position**

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Please be advised that the Lodi City Council, at its meeting of August 20, 2003, voted to deny the request to support the proposal, or to contribute toward, an Executive Director position for the Central Valley Mayor's Conference.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (209) 333-6702.

Sincerely,



Susan J. Blackston  
City Clerk

SJB/JMP