In Your District

District by district, learn about the initiatives and projects that impact your life

County Spotlight

Behind the scenes, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors ensures meetings are run smoothly. Find out why the Clerk's role is essetial to the Board's success

Message from the Chair

Chair Dhaliwal recaps the State of the County and provides his outlook for the future

County Crossroads

Official Newsletter of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors October 2026 Vol. 3 Issue 5

FROM DC TO THE DELTA, SUPERVISORS RALLY SUPPORT AND RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT GOLDEN MUSSELS AHEAD OF EL NINO





The Board of Supervisors is stepping up efforts to raise awareness about the threat golden mussels pose to the community as the region prepares for a potentially strong El Niño winter. In September, Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency to prepare for a potentially historic El Niño. With golden mussels present in our waterways, there is added concern that it could obstruct channels, pipes, drains, and infrastructure, potentially worsening flooding.

In September, Board members traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with state and federal representatives and emphasize the need for funding to combat the golden mussel threat, among other requests. Supervisors met with U.S. Sen. Adam Schiff, Rep. Josh Harder, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to advocate for resources and support.

Closer to home, First District Supervisor Mario Gardea and Second District Supervisor Paul Canepa led a tour of the Delta for nearly 60 participants from the Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species. The panel consists of state, provincial, federal, tribal, academic, industry, and nonprofit representatives who work to limit the spread and impacts of aquatic nuisance species throughout western North America. The tour gave participants a firsthand look at the infestation and the challenges it poses to the region.

The Board's efforts underscore the need for a coordinated response to a growing regional challenge. By bringing the issue to the attention of state and federal leaders and connecting experts with conditions on the ground, Supervisors are working to build support for the resources and strategies needed to address the infestation. As the region prepares for the potential impacts of El Niño, the County will continue raising awareness, advocating for assistance, and working with its partners to protect public safety, and infrastructure.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who helped make our State of the County an event to remember. From our volunteers and staff to our Department heads, your teamwork and dedication reflect the spirit of service that has been essential to San Joaquin County's success.

Thirteen County departments hosted interactive exhibits showcasing their services, community members joined us to connect, learn about our work, and share in our vision for the future.

I also want to thank County Administrator Sandy Regalo, who provided several important updates. From progress on our SJ BeWell Campus and a 50% decrease in the number of unsheltered individuals (SJCoC) in the County to our balanced budget and the Sheriff's Office ongoing efforts to keep our communities safe, the updates highlighted the meaningful work happening across County government.

As we look toward 2027, we know that an evolving federal and State financial landscape will bring uncertainty and challenges. But I am confident that by working together, remaining focused on our priorities, and making responsible decisions, we can navigate those challenges and continue delivering essential services to the people we serve. Our State of the County theme, "United in Service. Focused on the Future," reflects both who we are and where we are headed. As our nation celebrates its 250th anniversary, we are reminded of the history, hard work, and resilience that have shaped San Joaquin County into the vibrant and prosperous community we call home.

COUNTY SPOTLIGHT



Rachél DeBord
Clerk of the Board

Many residents may not be familiar with the Clerk of the Board. Can you explain what your office does and how it supports the Board of Supervisors?

The office of the Clerk is one of the oldest institutions in local government. Established by California law, my responsibilities extend beyond the Board that appoints me. My core duty is to safeguard the integrity of the governmental process and ensure continuity, transparency, and accountability to the public. Beyond preparing agendas, coordinating public meetings, and maintaining the Board's official records, we administer assessment appeals and other public bodies, receive claims against the County, coordinate over 500 appointments to boards and commissions, oversee annual ethics filings and lobbyist registration, coordinate special events and recognitions of our community, and manage the day-to-day administrative operations of the Board. The Clerk helps uphold the fundamental principle of government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

What I enjoy most is working with the people who are Growing Greatness in San Joaquin. I'm incredibly proud to lead a team of supportive, professional, and dedicated public servants. Watching my team grow, take pride in their work, and succeed is one of the most rewarding parts of my job. I also have a front-row seat to the extraordinary work happening throughout the County. I get to see the dedication, creativity, and perseverance that County departments pour into projects and initiatives. I genuinely enjoy working with our elected Board members, each bringing their own personality, perspective, and passion to public service. It is especially rewarding to support them as they find their voice, grow in confidence, and turn their ideas into meaningful accomplishments for the communities they represent.



IN YOUR DISTRICT

First District - Supervisor Gardea continues to strengthen community engagement, youth development, park revitalization, and homelessness response efforts. The Parks After Dark initiative successfully hosted five free community events, welcoming nearly 500 people. Surveys showed 90% were very satisfied, 86% were likely to return, 90% rated park safety excellent, and 95% rated cleanliness excellent. 71% were first-time or infrequent park visitors. Supervisor Gardea will partner with local organizations for SSC Service Day on November 7 from 9 AM to 1 PM at Gianone Park, bringing volunteers together for tree planting, cleanup, and beautification.

Second District - In August, Supervisor Canepa provided $150,000 of discretionary funds to the Emergency Food Bank Stockton/San Joaquin. He also provided testimony before the Delta Stewardship Council during the public hearing for the Delta Conveyance Project in Sacramento where he continued to fight to protect our Delta.

Third District - Chair Dhaliwal spent this last month focusing on improving the lives of our residents and increasing public safety. In Manteca, he attended groundbreakings for the new Manteca Police Station and Fire Station. Also, new county partnerships happened with the City of Manteca leading to expanded beds and treatment for our homeless, and a homelessness forum that brought together stakeholders from across the county to have a large discussion on homelessness. Thank you to all of those who help bring these initiatives from a vision to a reality!

Fourth District - Supervisor Ding and Health Care Services Director Genevieve Valentine continue to garner national attention for our County's behavioral health advocacy. They attended the Lean Congress Institute to share best practices for designing and bringing the campus to life. Also, congratulations to Waste Management, the recipient of the Love Lodi Heart of the City Business Award!

Fifth District - Supervisor Rickman continues to push for the progress and development of the South County Regional Park Project. At its regularly scheduled August 18 meeting, the Board received an update on the Project and authorized a $1,062,546 task order to advance the Project into Phase III. Phase I, Conceptual Design, and Phase II, the Feasibility Study, have been completed. Phase III will further define the Project and establish its design intent at a schematic level. Feedback from our community helped identify community priorities and shape the park's proposed recreational features and overall vision. Phase III is expected to take approximately nine months to complete. This work will prepare the Project for Phase IV. Once construction begins, it is estimated to take approximately 15 months. This investment represents another major step toward delivering the regional park South County residents have long deserved. View South County Regional Park Rendering here.

By the Numbers

$7.492 BILLION

San Joaquin County agriculture pumped $7.492 billion into the local economy in 2024 and supported 35,958 jobs.

By the Numbers

7

in California and the U.S. for gross value of agricultural producetion

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS



Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip



Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip



State of the County



State of the County



Homeless Forum



Delta Tour

ON THE AGENDA



- November 10, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting, Board Chambers
- November 17, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting, Board Chambers

Agendas, Minutes, Live Stream

@sjc_supervisors

BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION



District One
Supervisor Mario Gardea
dist1@sjgov.org
Chief of Staff:
Michael Anderson
Aide: Mafae Belasco



District Two
Supervisor Paul Canepa
dist2@sjgov.org
Chief of Staff:
Gina Calder
Aide: Nancy Muniz



Chair, District Three
Supervisor Sonny Dhaliwal
dist3@sjgov.org
Chief of Staff:
Beckett Kelly
Aide: Claudia Sanchis



Vice Chair, District Four
Supervisor Steve Ding
dist4@sjgov.org
Chief of Staff:
Nicole Goehring
Aide: Gavin Cline



District Five
Supervisor Robert Rickman
dist5@sjgov.org
Chief of Staff:
Scott Tyrrell
Aide: Maria Valenzuela

Clerk of the Board
Rachel DeBord
rdebord@sjgov.org

Public Information Officer
Stefanie Cruz
scruz@sjgov.org