



Community News and Events

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi Co-Authored Legislation to Save State Parks



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi co-authored an important bill to save California's state parks. AB 1589, the California State Park Stewardship Act of 2012, directs the Department of Parks and Recreation to prioritize the creation of a plan that will increase funding for state parks.

This bill recognizes the historical legacy of California's state parks, the importance of protecting the state's natural resources, and the vast benefits that parks provide to communities and the public. California's state parks significantly increase tourism and generate billions of dollars for the state economy; however, their budgets have not kept up with the growing demand.

Maintenance, staffing, and public safety have become major issues due to a significant decline in funding. These budget issues have led to the Governor's decision to close up to 70 state parks by July 2012.



In order to save the parks, Assemblymember Mary Hayashi was pleased to co-author AB 1589. This bill will give the Department of Parks and Recreation the authority to implement new revenue strategies, including sale of annual passes, creation of a new state parks specialty license plate, and voluntary contributions. It will also make it possible for taxpayers to make contributions to state parks on their return form.

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi is Appointed to Special Committee on Governor's Reorganization Plan



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi has been appointed by Assembly Speaker John Perez to a special committee that will assess the Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 2012. This plan proposes a reorganization of several parts of the executive branch to save tax dollars and to operate government agencies more efficiently.

The committee will provide a comprehensive evaluation of the Governor's plan to reorganize the executive branch of California's government. The plan includes revising the structures of agencies such as the State and Consumer Services Agency, and transferring jurisdiction of certain state boards to different departments.

The special committee is composed of chairs and vice chairs of other Assembly committees, bringing together diverse expertise on state issues. The other members include Assemblymembers Katcho Achadjian (R-San Luis Obispo), Bill Berryhill (R-Stockton), Joan Buchanan (D-Alamo), Roger Dickinson (D-Sacramento), Linda Halderman (R-Fresno), Isadore Hall (D-Los Angeles), Alyson Huber (D-El Dorado Hills), Kevin Jeffries (R-Lake Elsinore), Bonnie Lowenthal (D-Long Beach), V. Manuel Pérez (D-Coachella) and Norma Torres (D-Chino).

Garrett Contreras Appointed as Hayward's Fire Chief



On May 17th, Hayward Deputy Fire Chief Garrett Contreras was sworn into office as the Fire Chief of Hayward, replacing retired Fire Chief Craig Bueno. Chief Contreras began his service with Hayward Fire Department in 1996 as a firefighter and rapidly rose through the ranks to Deputy Fire Chief in January 2011. He is an accredited paramedic and certified in fire suppression and prevention. His experience includes fighting wild fires with the California Department of Forestry and urban wild lands. In June, he will attend the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University as part of an elite leadership development program for administrators in state and local government.

Chief Contreras' commitment to the Hayward community is unsurpassed. As a former president of Hayward Firefighters Local 1909, he played an instrumental role advocating for the best fire suppression services for our residents. He led effective collective bargaining teams towards mutually agreeable contracts with the City. His dedication to working families across California and our nation is evident by the countless hours he has volunteered for civic issues, measures and programs. He has helped raise funds for Hayward schools and student scholarships, collected toys for the holidays, and prepared residents for earthquake disasters. Assemblymember Mary Hayashi thanked Chief Contreras for his distinguished record of accomplishments and service to our state.

San Lorenzo Unified School District Celebrated Its Solar Power Project



On May 21st, San Lorenzo Unified School District celebrated its first solar power project, paid for by Measure O, a general obligation bond passed by voters in November 2008. The bond allowed for the renovation and modernization of its schools. San Lorenzo Unified School District anticipates generating over \$4.5 million in savings to its general funds over the next five years, savings may be used to increase the District's academic performance and enhance student achievement.

The solar project incorporated solar canopies at various campuses throughout the District, as well as its bus depot. The canopies provide protection from the weather and also generate 1,021 kilowatt hours of energy to help reduce energy demand and utility costs.

The San Lorenzo Unified School District's solution to its energy needs serves as a model for other school districts and agencies. Assemblymember Hayashi authored an Assembly Resolution to commend the countless individuals involved in making this important, environmentally conscious project possible.

Pleasanton Unified School District Named Its "Teacher of the Year" at Its Annual "Salute to Service"



On May 31st, Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) held its annual *Salute to Service* event and recognized more than 100 teachers and staff. It honored employees who have served in the district for 10, 15, 20, 30, 35, and even 40 years. The event also recognized more than 30 teachers and staff who are retiring at the end of the school year.

Mr. Jonathan Grantham, the band director at Amador Valley High School (AVHS), was named PUSD's *Teacher of the Year*. His nomination came from colleagues at AVHS and the district for his hard work and dedication to his students. AVHS marching band has won numerous awards under his direction. Mr. Grantham is known and admired by his peers, parents and students for his commitment to a learning-centered environment and creating a firm foundation upon which each student can excel.



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi honored the teachers and staff with certificates of recognition for their outstanding service to PUSD and the State of California.

Free School Lunch Programs Available During the Summer Break



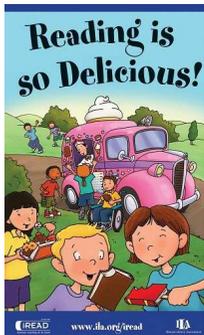
During summer break, parents are reminded that the free and reduced-priced school lunch program is available at more than 100 locations throughout Alameda County all summer long. Children and teenagers, aged 18 years and younger, qualify regardless of family income. There is no paperwork or registration required.



To find out more information, please call the Alameda County Community Food Bank's toll-free Food Helpline at (800) 870-FOOD or for the free school lunch location nearest you, please go to the following website: http://www.accfb.org/summer_lunch.html.

Additionally, the City of Hayward will also be providing all eligible Hayward kids, aged 18 years or younger, free breakfast and lunch every day this summer. The program will continue its services until August 10th. For more information please visit: http://www.husd.k12.ca.us/cms/page_view?d=x&piid=&vpid=1306062401808 or call (510) 723-3890.

Alameda County Library Hosts its 2012 Summer Reading Game



Alameda County Library has announced that it will expand its summer reading game to all ages. This year's theme is "Reading is so Delicious!" as it addresses the importance of healthy eating. The program will begin on June 11th and ends August 11th. Library patrons can sign up at any of Alameda County's Library branches including Albany, Castro Valley, Centerville, Dublin, Fremont Main, Irvington, Newark, Niles, San Lorenzo, Union City and the Bookmobile.

Once a participant registers at his or her local library, a game board will be given to track time spent reading. The program helps advance reading skills while incorporating fun activities. Participants who join will be eligible for free books and prizes.

For more information please feel free to visit: www.aclibrary.org

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi Recognized Eden Area ROP Students



On May 31st, Eden Area Regional Occupational Program (ROP) board members, administration, teachers, staff, students and their families gathered for a student awards evening. Students received recognition and honors for displaying exceptional skills in their courses. Eden Area ROP offers high-quality, cost-effective career preparation programs to high school students and adults. The programs include classroom education, as well as hands on training so that students have an opportunity to develop a clear understanding of the demands and skills needed to be successful in the workplace.

Assemblymember Hayashi provided certificates of recognition to these student for their dedication, focus, and discipline towards preparing themselves for their careers. Congratulations to Catherine Williamson of East Bay Arts High School, who was the

“Student of the Year” award recipient in the field of Construction Technology, as well as all of the Eden Area ROP 2012 award recipients.

Hayward Unified School District Celebrated its 5th Annual Latino Recognition Night



On May 31st, parents, teachers, principals, district staff, and the Hayward Board of Trustees gathered at Chabot College’s Reed L. Buffington Visual and Performing Arts Center to recognize Latino and Latina students in grades 6, 8 and 12 who have worked hard to maintain their high academic standing. This special recognition honored students for their success and encouraged them to continue furthering their education.

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi authored an Assembly Resolution to recognize Hayward Unified School District’s English Language Learners Department on its 5th year milestone. She also provided Certificates of Recognition to honor the students for their high academic achievement.

Nearly 12,000 students in Hayward Unified School District are recognized as being of Latino heritage among its twenty-one elementary schools, five middle schools and three high schools.

Congratulations to the district and its students and best wishes for continued success!

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi Recognized Center for Elders’ Independence’s 20th Anniversary



The Center for Elders’ Independence (CEI) celebrated a milestone anniversary on May 4th. For the past 20 years, CEI has been providing the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), a nationwide program that allows those who would otherwise require nursing home care to stay in their own homes by providing 24-hour a day medical care, home care services and transportation. Its team approach assesses each client’s needs and develops a comprehensive package of services to meet those needs. CEI operates four PACE centers in their service area, which stretches from Hayward to El Sobrante.

Since its inception, CEI has worked diligently to enhance the quality of life and autonomy of disabled older adults. It enables them to live in their own homes and in the community as long as medically and socially feasible, and preserves and supports their family units. CEI care team members work with family caregivers on a regular basis to make sure participants are safe and healthy in their living situations. Assemblymember Mary Hayashi recognized CEI and its invaluable community contributions with an Assembly Resolution to mark its 20th Anniversary. Congratulations and best wishes as CEI proceeds with plans for two new PACE centers in Hayward and Richmond.

In Memoriam

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi Adjourned in Memory of Hayward Police Officer Rodney Pierce



On May 17th, Assemblymember Mary Hayashi adjourned the Assembly floor session in memory of Hayward police officer Rodney Pierce. Officer Pierce passed away on May 11, 2012 after a motorcycle accident three days earlier on his way to work at the Hayward Police Department.

“Officer Rodney Pierce will be deeply missed, not just because of his contributions to the police force, but for his dedication to the community, especially Hayward’s youth,” stated Assemblymember Mary Hayashi. “I ask that we take this moment to express our condolences to his family, as well as to his friends and colleagues at the Hayward Police Department.”

Officer Pierce was only 46 years old. The senior member of the SWAT team would have made ten years with the Hayward Police Department this August.

As a graduate of Hayward High School, Officer Pierce served as its School Resource Officer with enthusiasm, often going beyond the usual role and responsibilities of the position. He gave much of his time to work with the school’s athletic teams, as well as the community’s Junior Giants Program, where he taught baseball skills to keep Hayward’s youth productive and out of trouble in the summer vacation months. He also counseled Hayward students on a daily basis.

Officer Pierce was remembered as a caring and warm individual. He is survived by his wife Susan, and their four young children. The adjournment can be seen at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=D5RimhNFRkg

Community Gathered to Honor the Life of Dr. James Kohnen of Dublin



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi was deeply saddened to learn that Dr. James Kohnen passed away suddenly on May 29th in Dublin. Jim Kohnen was a remarkably accomplished individual of widely diverse interests and talents. Born in Chicago, he became an Eagle Scout, earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Ripon College in Wisconsin and five additional degrees at St. Mary’s College and the University of San Francisco. He served in the U.S. Army for 30 years, retiring as a Colonel. With Pat, his wife of 47 years, he raised two sons, Bill and Mark.

Following a successful career in industry, Jim taught high school science and became very involved in public service, serving on the boards of the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District, The Dublin San Ramon Services District, Zone Seven Water and Flood Control District, Alameda County Special Districts Association, and American Society for Quality. He continued to support the Boy Scouts as a District Commissioner for the San Francisco Bay Area Council. He was also involved with Little League and other organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, the Dublin Historical Preservation Association, Friends of the Dublin Library, and the League of Women Voters.

Jim Kohnen's passion for participation in the political process led him to volunteer for many causes and organizations, contributing his time and energy in countless ways to make his community better for all its residents. His generosity of spirit will serve as a wonderful example for those to follow who are committed to public service. Assemblymember Hayashi expressed her condolences in a memorial resolution to his family. He will be greatly missed by the wide community of family and friends who knew and loved him.

State Public Works Board Meeting and Agenda



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi was appointed to the State Public Works Board (SPWB) as a legislative advisor. The State Public Works Board was created by the Legislature to oversee the fiscal matters associated with construction of projects for state agencies, and to select and acquire real property for state facilities and programs. The SPWB is also the issuer of lease-revenue bonds, which is a form of long term financing that is used to pay for capital projects.

The Legislature appropriates funds for capital outlay projects such as acquiring land, planning and constructing new buildings, expanding or modifying existing buildings, and purchasing equipment related to such construction. Through review and approval processes, the SPWB ensures that capital outlay projects adhere to the Legislature's appropriation intentions.

Next Board Meeting:

Friday, June 8, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: State Capitol, Room 113

[MEETING NOTICE CLICK HERE](#)

Online Link: <http://www.spwb.ca.gov>

Events

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi's Mobile District Office at Hayward's 3rd Thursday Street Event



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi will host a Mobile District Office at the Hayward Chamber of Commerce's 2012 Street Party on June 21st from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Held each summer on the 3rd Thursdays of June, July and August, the street party showcases Hayward's business community, restaurants, entertainment, and community organizations.

The mobile district office will provide attendees with state resources available on a wide range of topics and an opportunity to talk with district staff about state issues and legislation.

What: Mobile District Office at Hayward Chamber of Commerce's 2012 Street Party

When: Thursday, June 21st from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Where: Downtown Hayward, Along "B" Street between Foothill Blvd. and Mission Blvd., Hayward

Assemblymember Hayashi's Previous Voting Record and Helpful Links

AFSCME	100% Rating
Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality	100% Rating
California Alliance for Retired Americans	100% Rating
California Labor Federation	100% Rating
California League of Conservation Voters	100% Rating
California Public Interest & Research Group	100% Rating
California Small Business Association	Highest Ranking
California State Sheriffs' Association	Highest Ranking
California State Bldg & Construction Trades	100% Rating
Children's Advocacy Institute	Highest Ranking
Clean Water Action	Highest Ranking
Congress of California Seniors	100% Rating
Consumer Federation of California	100% Rating
Equality California	100% Rating
Lambda Letters Project-People of Color	100% Rating
Lambda Letters Project-Women's Issues	100% Rating
National Association of Social Workers – CA	100% Rating
National Organization for Women - California	100% Rating
PawPac's Animal Rights and Wildlife Issues	A+ Ranking
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California	100% Rating
Sierra Club	100% Rating

Assemblymember Hayashi's Website ([Click Here](#))

Assemblymember Hayashi's Biography ([Click Here](#))

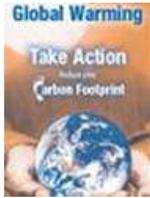
Email Assemblymember Hayashi ([Click Here](#))

District Events ([Click Here](#))

Assemblymember Hayashi's District Map ([Click Here](#))

Resources Available

Publication Available



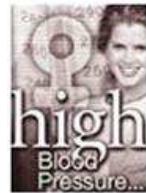
Global Warming – How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint



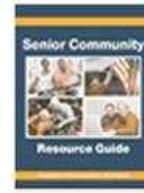
Public Safety Resource Guide



Child Immunization Law



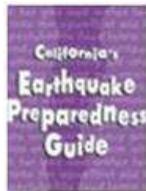
High Blood Pressure



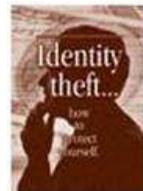
Senior Resource Guide



Home Mortgage Crisis Resource Guide



Earthquake Preparedness Guide



ID Theft Guide



Diabetes Guide



Stroke: Don't ignore the risk factors!



Breast Cancer Resource Guide



Children's Coloring Book – How a Bill Becomes Law



The California State Budget Process

Free community resource guides are now available online or in print through Assemblymember Mary Hayashi's district office. Copies are available throughout the 18th Assembly District at senior centers, libraries, health clinics, and community organizations. If you or your organization would like printed copies, contact the district office at (510) 583-8818.

[State Resources Website](#)



Want to find energy saving tips? Find these and over 170 other state resource links that offer valuable information on a wide range of topics such as how to find a smog-check only station, how to receive free cash for college, how to protect yourself from identity theft, and how to apply for a FasTrak toll device.

To visit the new webpage, log on to Assemblymember Mary Hayashi's official homepage at www.assembly.ca.gov/hayashi and click on the *State Resources Websites* link. This will lead web surfers to a list of service-based websites. From there click on any of the service links and be directed to the appropriate state agency's website.

Whether you're looking for tips on how to save on prescriptions or attempting to find the nearest recycling center, this new webpage is a convenient and comprehensive resource.

If you prefer not to receive email updates or correspondences from the Office of Assemblymember Mary Hayashi, please opt-out by emailing your request to Christopher.parman@asm.ca.gov.