

# CITY OF REEDLEY COMMUNICATOR



## Points of Interest:

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- **VAC-CON**
- **Spring Clean Up**
- **Engineering Updates**
- **Quiet Zone Project**
- **Dates to Remember**

Información en estas hojas informativas están disponibles en español llamando 637-4200 ext. 212.

### HOW TO CONTACT US:

City Services	637-4200
Administration	Ext. 212
Public Works	Ext. 214
Commy Dev.	Ext. 222
Building	Ext. 225
Code Compliance	637-4230
Fire	637-4230
Police	637-4250 or 911
Community Svcs	637-4203
Senior Services	637-4207
Dial-A-Ride	637-4202

### Reedley City Council

- Mary Fast**, Mayor
- Pete Chavez**, Mayor Pro Tem
- Anita Betancourt**, City Council Member
- Steve Rapada**, City Council Member
- Ray Soleno**, City Council Member

## CITY MANAGER'S BLOG

*"Be Available, Be Ready!" - By Rocky Rogers*

I'm finding it difficult to write something this time. I wish to inspire all who read and motivate them with the words on the page. I then realize the folly of my thoughts. Inspiration comes from the Latin word meaning to "breath into" and motivate comes from the Latin word meaning "to move".

My folly then is to think I am the one who breathes into you or that I am the one who moves you. I trust you see what I mean. What I discovered is I can be the instrument to accomplish both inspiration and motivation. What I need to do is make myself available and to be sure I keep myself



ready to be that instrument. What this does is it keeps me from being responsible for anyone but myself. That is however a great responsibility but it is also a great relief knowing I only have to do my part. If I am not available and ready it's my fault and I am or should be held accountable. Inspiration can come through

me or you if we are available and ready. Motivation is entirely your response to the circumstances or request. God inspires through us to others. It's up to you and I to then move accordingly.

**BE AVAILABLE, BE READY!**

## VAC-CON



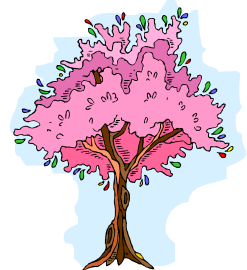
During your daily drive around town, you may spot City employees performing their duties along, on or around the road. One particular crew that you may come across is the collection system maintenance crew who is part of the Wastewater Division. You cannot miss them because they drive a rather large piece of equipment called a "Vac-Con." These gentlemen are responsible for maintaining the sewer collection system free of blockages and providing the public with a safe and free-flowing sanitation system. They achieve this by rodding and vactoring grease, plus other large debris from the manholes found throughout the City. They usually will be working in the middle of the street and many times during heavy traffic. As a safety precaution the unit has flashing lights and the employees will set out traffic cones to warn oncoming traffic. As a token to your safety and theirs, please slow down and be cautious while driving near these and any other employee working on or around the city roadways.

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## SPRING CLEAN UP

Spring is finally here and with it comes the City's annual Spring Clean Up event! This year it will be held on April 16th and 17th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Residents are encouraged to participate by bringing one free gen-

eral refuse load. Please check fliers or contact the Public Works Department for a list of acceptable items and disposal sites.

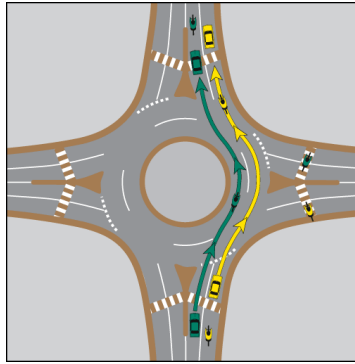


## ENGINEERING UPDATES

The Dinuba-Buttonwillow Roundabout is anticipated to go out to bid in early April with construction probably starting in mid-May.

Construction of the Downtown streets pavement restoration is anticipated to begin towards the end of March with completion in late April. This pavement restoration project is been funded by the CDBG Program.

Construction for the paved walking path at Grant Middle School is anticipated to start in April. This pro-



ject is been funded through the Safe Routes to School Program and Kings Canyon Unified School District.

The Dinuba Avenue Improvements Project is anticipated to go out to bid in mid March with construction starting in late April.

The Airport Taxiway Widening Project is anticipated to go out to bid in mid March with construction probably starting in early June.

## QUIET ZONE PROJECT



The City is in the process of researching the possibility of establishing a railroad “Quiet Zone”. This zone will encompass the entire portion of rail crossings within city limits. This includes a total of seven crossings. An additional crossing on Buttonwillow Avenue is also being considered to be included, although County approval will be needed since it is located outside of Reedley’s city limits. The City is responsible for beginning the process of establishing the Quiet Zone, however it is ultimately approved and authorized by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

What is a Quiet Zone? Once approved, it is a series of public grade crossings where additional safety precautions are constructed, reducing the requirement for trains to sound their horns when approaching the crossings. When the Quiet Zone is in effect, the train will not be legally required to blow the horn when approaching crossings, except in an emergency.

How will the Quiet Zone benefit Reedley? A major reduction in train noise would improve life for residents and visitors. Also, the possibility of safety upgrades would add precautions for pedestrians and vehicles at the railroad crossings.

What safety upgrades could be installed at railroad crossings and who determines what is needed? Officials from the FRA, the railroad, the City of Reedley, and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will need to evaluate the physical factors at each of the rail crossings in order to assess the current conditions and the necessary upgrades for each location. Rail crossing improvements could be combinations of additional vehicle crossing gates, pedestrian gates, median islands and extended medians, additional flashing lights, additional warning signage, and restriping.

What has been completed to date, in establishing Reedley’s Quiet Zone? Traffic studies have been completed by City staff at each rail crossing including the crossing at Buttonwillow Avenue. These traffic studies provide an accurate count of vehicles traveling over these rail crossings on a daily basis, which in turn will help determine which type of safety upgrade may be needed. The next step in the process will be to contact the FRA to start the evaluations of each crossing. Be on the lookout for a detailed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the City’s website: [www.reedley.ca.gov/quietzone.html](http://www.reedley.ca.gov/quietzone.html)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Diabetic Support Group**—A representative from Adventist Health Care will be at the Reedley Community Center from 9:30—11:00 am on **Wednesday, April 21** speaking on Diabetes and skin care. A local pharmacist will speak on Medications and how they affect you on **May 19** from 9:30—11:00 am. These are continuing monthly meetings that are a free service.

**Blood Bank**—The Central California Blood Bank is sponsoring a Blood Drive on Thursday, May 20 in the California Room at the Reedley Community Center from 4:00—7:00 pm. Please consider giving the “Gift of Life” if you are in good health with no cold or flu symptoms. Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 lbs; Photo ID and Social Security number are required at donor registration. You must also provide a list of medication you are currently taking.

**Spring Yard Sale**—Start your Spring Cleaning and get money for items you are no longer using. On Saturday, June 5, the Reedley Senior Commission will have a Yard Sale at the Community Center. You may rent a table and space for only \$15. For more information call (559) 637-4207.

