



***Protecting our rural environment by promoting citizen participation in sustainable land use planning since 2006***

***The Community Action Project (CAP) administers the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC), which is comprised of regional and local organizations, community groups, and concerned individuals who promote public participation in land use and resource planning to ensure a healthy human, natural, and economic environment now and in the future.***

**Learn more at [www.calaverascap.com](http://www.calaverascap.com)**

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### Join Us!

*Get a glimpse into what CPC membership is like by attending a meeting.  
There is no commitment, just show up and listen in!*

#### **Next Calaveras Planning Coalition Meeting**

**June 7, 2021 3 P.M. - 5 P.M.**

#### **New Members Welcome at CPC Meetings**

Organizations, groups, and individuals (known as associate members) may join the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC). Prospective members may attend two consecutive meetings before making a final decision on membership in the Coalition. The membership form is a pledge to support and advocate for the Coalition's eleven Land Use and Development Principles, which you will find on our website:

[www.calaverascap.com](http://www.calaverascap.com).

There is no membership fee. However, members are encouraged to donate to the Community Action Project/Calaveras Planning Coalition. Visitors and prospective members will, by necessity, be excluded from attorney/client privileged discussions.

If you are interested in membership, please email CPC Facilitator Tom

Infusino, tomi@volcano.net, to receive a membership form, agenda, and the Zoom meeting connection.

*To help prevent the spread of Covid-19 in our county, all CAP and CPC meetings will be held online via Zoom until restrictions are lifted by the Public Health Department.*

## **BOS Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 25, 2021**

### **Agenda**

**24.Integrated Waste Management(ID # 6078) Adopt a resolution pursuant to Govt. Code § 25830 establishing the annual solid waste parcel fee schedule for the 2021-22 fiscal year and removing the exemption available to certain residences occupied on a part-time basis.**

**25.Integrated Waste Management(ID # 6079) 1) Contingent upon adoption of the Resolution in Item 6078, introduce, waive full reading of, and 2) authorize summary publication of a repeal of Ordinance 2510 establishing a fee schedule and exemptions for solid waste systems.**

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## **Planning Commission meeting May 27, 2021**

### **Agenda**

**2020-010 Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance Amendment Testing and Distribution  
(This item was continued from May 13, 2021)**

**Addendum**

**Resolution**

# **Local News**

# Utica Water and Power Authority seeks public participation in water needs survey

*Noah Berner / Calaveras Enterprise / May 14, 2021*

The Utica Water and Power Authority (Utica) is requesting the public to participate in a brief survey to better determine community water and wastewater needs in Alpine, Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties.

Utica is a member of the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Agency (T-S IRWMA), which works to address issues including water quality, local water supply reliability, enhanced integration of water and land use management, resource stewardship and ecosystem protection.

“In cooperation with the T-S IRWMA, a survey is being conducted by regional water management agencies to support a study of community water and wastewater needs in Alpine, Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties,” a press release from Utica reads. “The information will help these agencies advocate for and seek grants and other funding to meet these community needs. The information you provide will remain confidential.”

To fill out the Water Needs Survey, visit [research.net/r/CRWASurvey](https://research.net/r/CRWASurvey). The deadline for completing the survey is June 11.

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**Take the Water Survey Now!**

## Leonard Resigns from City Council

*Noah Berner / Calaveras Enterprise / May 20, 2021*

Angels Camp City Council Member Jeremy Leonard has resigned his position effective May 13.

“(Leonard) has been a lifetime city resident and in his short tenure as councilman proudly facilitated a community clean-up day and led several construction projects at the Angels Camp Museum,” a press release from the City of Angels reads. “His hard work and grit were welcomed additions and appreciated by staff.”

Leonard was elected to the city council for a four-year term on Nov. 3 of 2020. In his letter of resignation, he cited the increased demand of his business and an inability to find local housing as the reasons for his departure.

“The increased demand of my business requires more of my personal time and commitment,” he wrote. “I find myself not being able to give the necessary time needed to the position and meet my level of expectations. Sadly, it looks like I will have to relocate outside the city limits as the availability of housing is severely lacking and I have been unable to find the necessary and permanent housing for myself and my business equipment.”

Leonard is a fifth-generation resident of Calaveras County, and the owner of Whiskey Slide Land Services and Whiskey Slide Productions.

“Over the past few months, I have learned an awful lot about the inner workings of our city and county government and feel privileged to have served just a few short months,” Leonard wrote. “I will continue to volunteer for the good of our community as my time allows. I have enjoyed getting to know the city staff and admire their dedication to the betterment of our community.”

Angels Camp Mayor Alvin Broglio thanked Leonard on behalf of the council and staff for his passion and commitment to the community

“We recognize that stepping down was a difficult decision and we are sad to lose a longtime city resident and hardworking team member,” Broglio said in the release.

Following the resignation of a council member, the city council has 60 days to appoint a new council member or call a special election.

At a meeting on May 18, the city council made the decision to fill the vacancy by appointment.

Mayor Broglio and Councilmembers Jennifer Davis-Herndon, Gretel Tiscornia and Isabel Moncada all voiced concerns about the cost to the city in holding a special election.

The city council authorized staff to solicit and collect applications from interested persons for the council's consideration.

It was noted that a special election will be needed if an additional member of the council resigns because the council must have a majority of elected council members under state law.

The five-seat council already has one appointed member, Moncada, who joined the council on Dec. 15 of 2020 after Amanda Folendorf resigned following her election to the county board of supervisors.

The new appointee will serve until the city's next general election on Nov. 8 of 2022, at which point city voters will decide who will serve until November of 2024, which is the remainder of Leonard's term.

Successful applicants must be a resident of the city, a registered voter and at least 18 years old.

The city council's deadline for appointing a new council member is July 12.

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## Moke River flood inundation maps online

Inundation maps for East Bay Municipal Utility District's Pardee and Camanche reservoirs are now publicly available on the California Division of Safety of Dam's website. The maps provide information about a hypothetical failure of a dam or its related structures, such as a spillway or outlet, to assist in emergency preparedness and planning.

As part of state regulations enacted following the Oroville Dam spillway failure in 2017, California dam owners are required to submit inundation maps showing potential flooding that could result from a dam failure. After the maps are approved, the state makes all inundation maps available to the public.

EBMUD's dams have been evaluated and deemed safe for continued operation; failure of any EBMUD dam is extremely unlikely.

These maps are available on the DSOD website: <https://fmds.water.ca.gov/maps/damim>.

EBMUD relies on dams to store much of the water it supplies to customers, and regularly assesses, upgrades and improves its East Bay and Sierra foothills dams to ensure they are safe. EBMUD engineers monitor dams using instruments, monthly visual inspections, and periodic dam safety reviews to protect the public, prevent personal injury, and prevent property damage from dam failures. The safety of each dam is continually reevaluated with advances in geotechnical, structural and earthquake engineering. Regulatory agencies also perform independent annual dam inspections

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## Trove Of Fossils Discovered In Mokelumne River Watershed Near Valley Springs

Adrienne Moore / CBS13 / May 21, 2021

VALLEY SPRINGS (CBS13) – A trove of 5- to 10-million-year-old fossils of prehistoric species was discovered in the Mokelumne River watershed in Calaveras County, the East Bay Municipal Utility District announced on Tuesday.

Among the fossils were samples of species including a two-tusked mastodon, a four-tusked gomphothere, rhinoceros, camel, horse, fish, bird, tortoise, and tapir. The EBMUD said others are still to be identified.

[Click here to read more](#)

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# How many more candles, slippers, potted plants, or power drills do you need?



When your next birthday rolls around, ask your friends and family to make a donation in your name to the **Community Action Project/Calaveras Planning Coalition** instead of giving you a toaster or a set of socket wrenches. Celebrate your birthday and a great cause at the same time. It's easy. Here are some tips.

1. Tell people about CAP/CPC and why our mission is important to you. Tell your story. That's what they want to hear.
2. Spread the word with Facebook, Twitter, or whatever platform you prefer. Reach out with personal emails, notes, texts, or let your birthday wishes be known in person.
3. Make your birthday the deadline for gift giving.
4. Ask everyone to be generous, but let them know that no gift is too small and all gifts will be greatly appreciated. You may also ask for a specific amount, \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or whatever is appropriate. You know your audience.
5. Please direct your birthday well-wishers to [www.calaverascap.com](http://www.calaverascap.com). Ask them to click on "donate" or mail their birthday donation to CAP/CPC, PO Box 935,

San Andreas, CA 95249.

6. Ask your birthday buddies to let CAP/CPC know they are donating in your honor.
7. Another option is to just ask guests to bring your gift to the big birthday bash you can't wait to have now that you've been vaccinated against Covid-19.

CAP/CPC will feature the most compelling stories in the ReCAP and on our website.  
And many happy returns of the day!

## ***Did you know... May is Wildfire Awareness Month***



There is a lot you can do to prepare your home for wildfire. This helpful article put together by the University of California Cooperative Extension lines out the many different steps you can take, and even prioritizes which actions to take first. You can influence whether your home survives a wildfire or is consumed by the flames.

[View the UCCE document here](#)

## **Regional News**



# Grant funding available to address wildfire risks

*Appeal Staff Report / Appeal-Democrat / May 20, 2021*

The California Fire Foundation (CFF) is now accepting applications from fire departments and community-based organizations for grant funding meant to help address ongoing wildfire risk around the state.

The CFF is a nonprofit organization that aids firefighters, their families and the communities they protect. The funding, made available through CFF's Wildfire Safety and Preparedness Program, has supported 145 fire departments and fire agencies statewide since 2018. Funding targets specific communities identified as having extreme or elevated fire risk as identified by the California Public Utilities Commission's High Fire-Threat District map.

"The Wildfire Safety and Preparedness Program is a partnership with PG&E that was created to address the new normal in California of drier and hotter seasons. There is no end to a wildfire season in our state now, and residents must understand the steps to take to evacuate safely," said Rick Martinez, executive director of the CFF, in a press release. "After 2020 surpassed 2018 in the number of acres burned, it demonstrates an alarming trend that proves programs like WSPP are necessary for Californians to stay ahead and stay alert."

PG&E provided \$1.4 million to the program this year and has provided \$4.6 million in total over the past three years.

"Our ongoing partnership with the California Fire Foundation and support for this program brings resources and awareness to underserved residents living in high fire-threat areas. Being a good neighbor means showing up for those in need. We have increased our support this year to reach even more communities with important fire-safety information and further strengthen local fire resilience," said Sumeet Singh, senior vice president and chief risk officer for PG&E, in a press release.

Since 2018, the program has funded specialized fire equipment and personal protective equipment; defensible space and vegetation management efforts; fuel/hazard reduction programs; fire prevention and emergency preparedness education; fire safety outreach campaigns; and partnerships with community groups in high fire-risk areas to distribute fire-safety information.

Grant applications must be submitted by June 18 at [www.cafirefoundation.org](http://www.cafirefoundation.org). Award notification will begin on July 31.

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## Surging lumber prices weigh on U.S. homebuilding

*Lucia Mutikani / Reuters / May 18, 2021*

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. homebuilding fell more than expected in April, likely pulled down by soaring prices for lumber and other materials, but construction remains supported by an acute shortage of previously owned homes on the market.

The plunge in homebuilding reported by the Commerce Department on Tuesday was concentrated in the single-family housing market segment. The number of houses authorized for construction but not yet started increased to the highest level since 1999, suggesting hesitancy on the part of builders.

"Builders are delaying starting new construction because of the marked increase in costs for lumber and other inputs," said Mike Fratantoni, chief economist at the Mortgage Bankers Association in Washington. "These supply-chain constraints are holding back a housing market that should otherwise be picking up speed, given the strong demand for buying fueled by an improving job market and low mortgage rates."

Housing starts tumbled 9.5% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.569 million units last month. Data for March was revised lower to a rate of 1.733 million units, still the highest level since June 2006, from the previously reported 1.739 million units. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast starts would fall to a rate of 1.710 million units in April.

Starts surged 67.3% on a year-on-year basis in April. Groundbreaking activity dropped in the Midwest and the densely populated South, but rose in the Northeast and West.

Demand for bigger and more expensive accommodations amid the COVID-19 pandemic, which has forced millions of Americans to work from home and take classes remotely, has fueled a housing market boom. But the virus has disrupted labor supply at saw mills and ports, leading to shortages of lumber and other raw materials, boosting prices and threatening to sideline first-time homebuyers from the market.

U.S. stocks were trading mixed and the dollar slipped against a basket of currencies. Prices of longer-dated U.S. Treasuries fell.

## **LOW INVENTORY**

The inventory of previously owned homes is near record lows. Tariffs on steel imports are also adding to building costs. Lumber prices surged 89.7% on a year-on-year basis in April, according to the latest producer price data.

A survey from the National Association of Home Builders on Monday showed confidence among single-family homebuilders holding steady in May. The NAHB noted that "some builders are slowing sales to manage their own supply chains."

According to an Institute for Supply Management survey published early this month, businesses in the construction industry reported challenges finding and retaining skilled and unskilled workers, with some companies saying "we are not accepting all the work that we could if we had the labor."

Permits for future homebuilding rose 0.3% to a rate of 1.760 million units in April. They soared 60.9% compared to April 2020, and are running ahead of starts, which suggests a rebound in homebuilding in the months ahead.

Single-family homebuilding, the largest share of the housing market, dropped 13.4% to a rate of 1.087 million units in April. It retreated further below the more than 14-year high scaled in December, a sign that builders could be holding back because of the more expensive materials and lack of labor.

Building permits for single-family homes fell 3.8% to a rate of 1.149 million units. The number of housing units authorized to be built but not started surged 5.0% to a rate of 232,000 at the end of April, the highest since the government started tracking the series in January 1999.

"It is currently somewhat uncertain when exactly supply issues could be resolved," said Isfar Munir, an economist at Citigroup in New York. "Eventually, however, we expect that backlogs of demand could keep housing activity supported into the end of the year."

The housing market has been the star performer in the economy's recovery from the COVID-19 recession, which started in February 2020. Residential construction investment has enjoyed double-digit growth since the third quarter of last year. Most economists expect housing will have a neutral impact on gross domestic product growth in the second quarter.

Starts for the volatile multi-family segment rose 0.8% to a pace of 482,000 units in April. Building permits for multi-family housing projects accelerated 8.9% to a rate of 611,000 units. With more than a third of the American population vaccinated against COVID-19 and restrictions on services businesses being lifted, people are flocking back to cities.

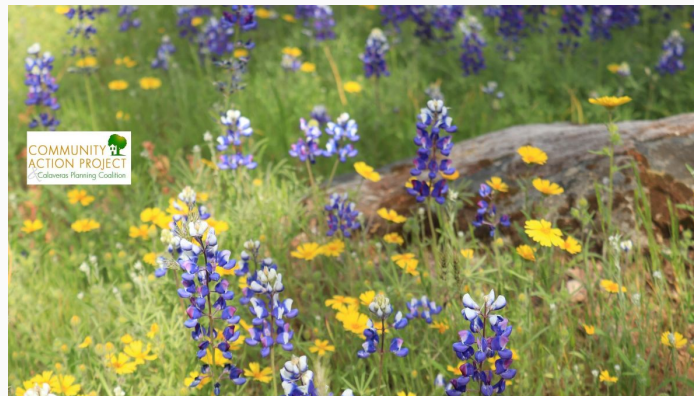
Housing completions fell 4.4% to a rate of 1.449 million units last month. Single-family home completions edged up 0.1% to a rate of 1.045 million units.

Realtors estimate that single-family housing starts and completion rates need to be in a range of 1.5 million to 1.6 million units per month to close the inventory gap.

The stock of housing under construction increased 0.6% to a rate of 1.312 million units last month.

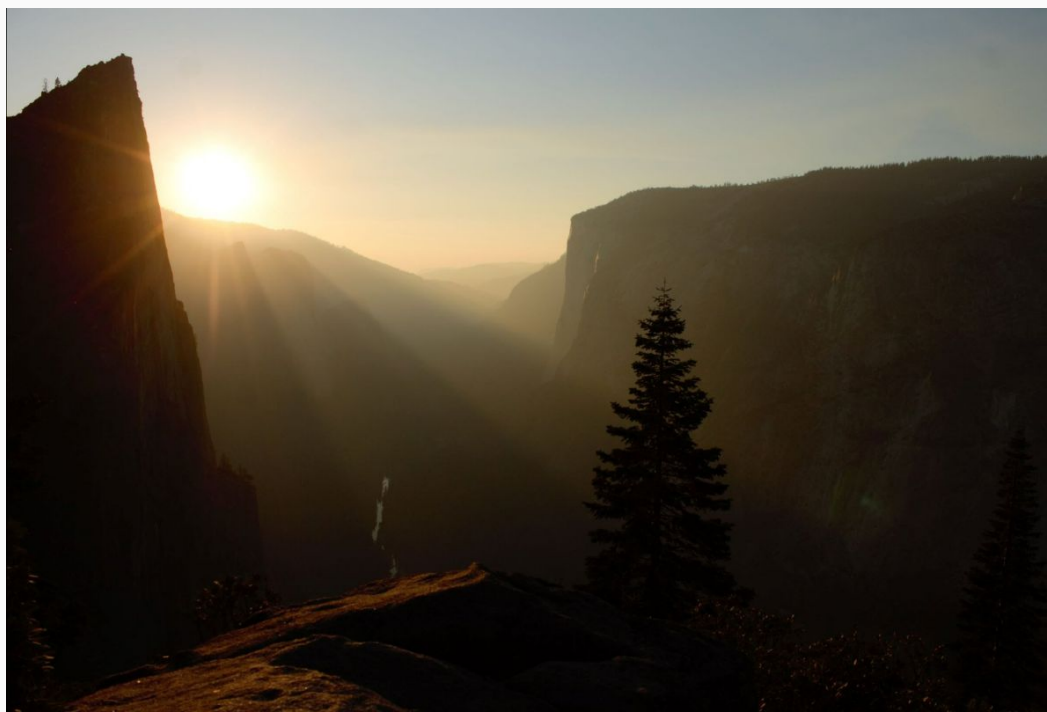
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## Sierra Nevada Conservancy Funding Opportunities Newsletter for May/June



*This is an electronic newsletter published every two months containing information on upcoming grant and funding opportunities for the Sierra Nevada region. The newsletter includes federal, state, and private foundation funders as well as additional resources and information related to grant funding. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy provides the Funding Opportunities Newsletter as a free resource under its Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program.*

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*Yosemite Valley by Megan Fiske (c) [yosemitenorthphotography.com](http://yosemitenorthphotography.com)*

## **Galen Clark Recalls Sunrise in the High Sierras**

*by SEBASTIAN BITTICKS*

An intimate friend asked, “Galen, you are a good observer of Nature and have studied the clouds up here for many years, what is your prediction of the coming weather?” He quietly replied: “Ask the new arrival, the fellow that just came here yesterday. He knows more about it than I do.”  
—from *The Call of Gold* by Newell D. Chamberlain (1936)

I’ve not come on the good works of last year  
but lived so long under Sentinel Dome its shadow

seems more the sweep of my own hand.  
Ask someone who’s coiled our new roads

in his mind, whose heart is warm  
as a carriage house. He knows better than I do.

Pack bacon spent, the bivouac’s deer down  
to a shoulder, what would you guess remains?

In truth, my memory shifts like smoke  
escaping a flue. Say I know the valley

better than myself. Who could choose?  
And nothing stays where it's supposed to.

Stone in the roads becomes a powder, the Merced  
overflows. I would walk atop moraine for days

never touching dirt. Now it's broken, rolls away.  
How long then to turn the weedy mind?

Even the falls follow the wind. Here I stoop  
to touch my cheek on the fresh-faced golf green

though it's been finished a full season. So  
ask someone carried in with the stew bones;

he keeps faith with the Nation's steady time  
where I had a dozen dawns just yesterday.

THE HOPPER, THE LITERARY MAGAZINE OF GREEN WRITERS PRESS,  
ISSUE III 2018: Galen Clark — The Hopper | Environmental Lit. Poetry. Art.  
(hoppermag.org)



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