



FEDERAL LEGISLATION COULD ALTER FLOOD INSURANCE RATES:

City staff updated City Council on reauthorization legislation for the National Flood Insurance Program, including efforts by the City's representative to include provisions for increasing private insurer involvement. Language would need to be strengthened to call for a mandate that federal and private mortgage holders must accept authorized private insurance as equivalent to insurance available through NFIP. Private sector competition could benefit Visalia and other communities by providing lower costs for flood insurance. Council lauded Rep. Devin Nunes and his staff's efforts to insert legislative language in the bill that would help Visalia. The bill is in its early stages in committee, and to date, no legislators have signed on as sponsors. For more information on the staff update, click [here](#).

OTHER COUNCIL NEWS: Staff and board members of the Visitors and Convention Bureau presented its annual report, which shows the organization has booked business that has, or will in the future, bring \$1.54 million in direct revenue and have an economic impact of \$8.1 million. The City funded the Bureau in 2010-2011 with \$254,000 and provided in-kind services. The organization raised an additional \$40,000 in co-op advertising and trade show revenues and \$13,000 in membership. For more information, click [here](#).

EARTH DAY ON APRIL 16: Visalia Environmental Committee Chair Dale Simmons invited the City Council to attend the Earth Day celebration. 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 16. The event is planned and coordinated by the Environmental Committee and the Natural Resource Conservation Division. This year's Earth Day event is a combination of work projects and exhibitor booths. There will be three cleanup and planting projects along Mill Creek and a path refurbishment project. Volunteers will meet and register at the City parking lot at Mineral King Avenue and Conyer Street, across from Redwood High School. Starbucks will be providing free coffee. The planting projects will be coordinated by the Urban Tree Foundation. Those volunteers wishing to participate in the planting activities are encouraged to bring a shovel and a steel bow rake.

DAILY FLIGHTS FROM VISALIA TO LOS ANGELES AND LAS VEGAS:

Great Lakes Aviation, Ltd. recently announced NEW daily service from Visalia to Los Angeles International Airport and Las Vegas McCarran International Airport beginning May 15, 2011. "I am excited about the opportunity the area now has to connect with two major hubs serving literally the world," said Visalia Mayor Bob Link. "Service to LA has been a priority for more than a decade. It was a successful service prior to 9-11, and we are confident that it will provide the connectivity to other locations, as well as being a designation in and of itself. The same is true for Las Vegas; we know it's a place people want to fly to. With Visalia's free parking, low advance fares, easy check-in and convenient access from two major freeways, flying Visalia now is going to be a great choice!"

The Visalia flight schedule effective May 15 is as follows:

Visalia to Los Angeles:

Flight 5045	Departs	7:10a	Arrives	8:05a	Operates Daily
Flight 5197	Departs	4:12p	Arrives	5:07p	Operates Daily

Los Angeles to Visalia:

Flight 5194	Departs	8:31a	Arrives	9:31a	Operates Daily
Flight 5061	Departs	6:05p	Arrives	7:05p	Operates Daily

Visalia to Las Vegas:

Flight 5194 Departs 9:41a Arrives 11:58a Operates Daily

Las Vegas to Visalia:

Flight 5197 Departs 1:45p Arrives 4:02p Operates Daily

To purchase tickets on Great Lakes Airlines, visit www.flygreatlakes.com, call the Great Lakes' reservation center at 800-554-5111 or visit your travel agent. Additional information about Great Lakes Airlines is available at www.flygreatlakes.com

CITY ANNOUNCES VACANCIES ON FIVE COMMITTEES: The City of Visalia is accepting applications from interested citizens for the following Committees and Commissions:

Citizen's Advisory Committee – Acts as a liaison between the general public and the City Council concerning community issues. The Committee has a current opening for one regular member and is expecting three additional vacancies in June. The committee also has three vacancies for alternate members.

Environmental Committee – heightens environmental awareness and conservation in Visalia. Issues addressed include air quality, hazardous waste, recycling, water conservation and all other natural resources. The Committee currently has two regular member vacancies and one alternate member vacancy.

Historic Preservation Committee – administers and carries out the standards and specifications of the Historic Preservation Ordinance and promotes historic preservation including encouraging building owners to initiate preservation efforts. The committee currently has vacancies for two regular members and two alternate members.

North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee – serves as a liaison between the City and the North Visalia community. The Committee has openings for three regular members.

Transit Advisory Committee – researches and analyzes the community's continuing transit needs, reviews operations, markets the transit program and makes recommendations about the business affairs of the transit system. The Committee currently has two vacancies for alternate members.

Waterways and Trails Committee – advises on matters related to the Bikeway Master Plan and the Waterway and Trail Master Plan. The Committee currently has two vacancies for regular members. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis and kept for a period of two years. If you have questions you may visit our website www.ci.visalia.ca.us "Committees/Commissions" to view the informational handbook and application or you may contact the City Clerk's Office (559) 713-4512.

VICE MAYOR HOLDS OFFICE HOURS ON APRIL 13: Vice Mayor Amy Shuklian will hold her regular monthly office hours on Wednesday, April 13. Office hours will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the large conference room at City Hall, at 707 W. Acequia Ave. The first hour, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. will be a time for drop-in visits, and appointments can be scheduled in advance for the second hour, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment, contact Gladys Ruiz at 713-4314. Shuklian can be reached through 713-4400, then enter 8313, or by email at ashuklian@ci.visalia.ca.us.

NORTH VISALIA NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE HOSTS TOWN HALL MEETING: The meeting will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14, at the Wittman Village Community Center. Representatives from the Visalia City Council, Police, Fire, Code Enforcement, Community Development, the Visalia Rescue Mission and Proteus will be there to answer questions and provide information to the public.

WALK WITH VIPs: Healthy Visalia is encouraging Visalia residents to grab their walking shoes

and take a stroll with some very important people. The Walk with a VIP series gives participants a chance to get some exercise and discuss what's happening in the community. The Walk with a VIP series schedule, which began on March 12, is below:

- **8 a.m., Saturday, April 9:** Mayor Bob Link, St. Johns River Trail, Lovers Lane Trailhead.
- **8 a.m., Saturday, April 16:** Duncan Graham, Vice President, Academic Services at College of the Sequoias, West Main Park at West Main Street and Millcreek Drive.

The Healthy Visalia Committee was formed to promote healthy opportunities in the Visalia area and join forces to combat obesity. Committee members include: Kaweah Delta Health Care District, City of Visalia, Visalia Unified School District, Family HealthCare Network, Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency, and College of the Sequoias. For more information on Healthy Visalia, visit HealthyVisalia.com.

You can now self-subscribe to receive issues of "Inside City Hall". Go to the City's website at www.ci.visalia.ca.us, click on About Visalia and go to Inside City Hall Newsletter. For information, contact Community Relations Manager Nancy Loliva at nloliva@ci.visalia.ca.us or call 713-4535.