

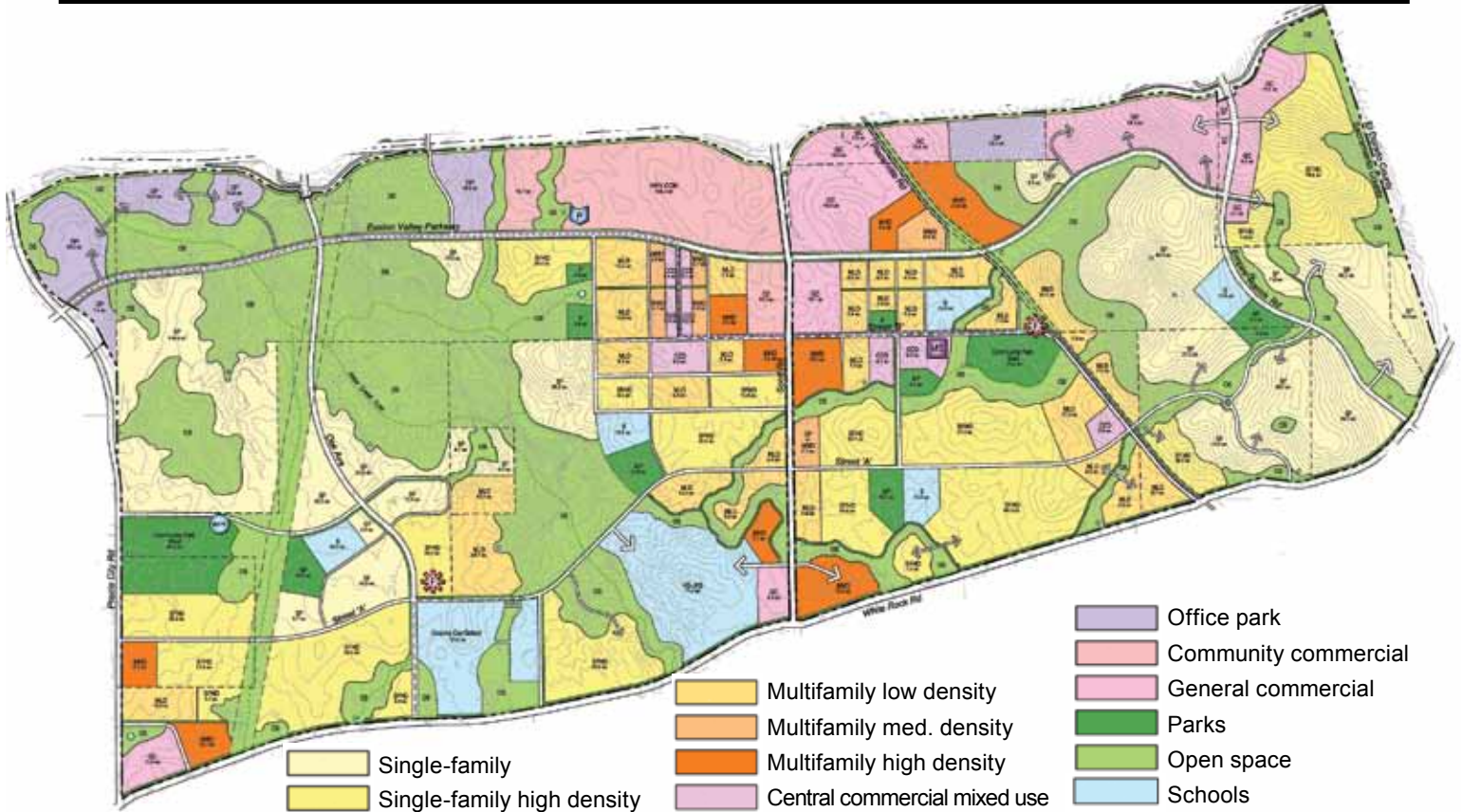


City of Folsom Newsletter

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DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE

August 2007



Land plan fulfills community's vision

The proposed land-use plan for the development of Folsom's future annexation area south of Highway 50 "strikingly resembles" the community's vision for the property, say the city staff, planners and landowners who developed it.

If you compare the proposal that was presented to the City Council in June with the conceptual drawing from the community visioning workshops held in 2005, "with just a few tweaks, there are very few differences,"

See **Plan**, page 5

What's Happening

- ◆ Play games, read, gather with old friends or make new ones: If you're over 55, **The Lounge at 48 Natoma St. welcomes you for coffee and fun.** Drop in weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 355-7285.
- ◆ School's starting, and so is **The Cave, the after-school care program for middle schoolers.** Information: 355-7366 or the city's Web site.

Inside



- ◆ Two moving personal experiences inspired Folsom Fire Chief Dan Haverty to become a firefighter. Read his story on page 3.

Budget maintains stability, quality of life

Revenues will increase only slightly in the next fiscal year, but the city's financial picture is strong, City Manager Kerry Miller reported in his annual budget message in May. The budget meets the city's two strategic goals, Miller said: maintaining fiscal stability; and maintaining or improving city services and quality of life.

The 2007-2008 budget, adopted by the City Council in June, totals \$210 million. That's \$16 million more than last year, but most of the increase – \$14 million – is the result of a new accounting method that includes, for the first time, community facility district payments – such as Mello-Roos bonds – that are not city revenues but pass directly to the agencies that fund them.

The flat budget, Miller reported, reflects reduced property tax growth caused by a sluggish housing market and decreased sales tax revenues primarily from a decline in automobile and lumber sales. One percent of all sales tax paid in Folsom is returned to the city.

The city's financial stability is ensured by a strong undesignated fund balance of \$8.7 million, or 14 percent. This fund provides for unforeseen expenses and proves financial security to bond holders and rating agencies. The budget also includes a general fund contingency of 1 percent.

Most service levels will remain high in the coming year, and some programs will be enhanced. Future projects include a pilot program to study WiMAX wireless coverage; a new fire station in Empire Ranch; the opening of a parking garage in Historic Folsom and the branch library at Vista del Lago High School; affordable housing programs; and a joint effort by Folsom and Sacramento County to formulate strategies for economic development along Greenback Lane.

Below are some budget highlights by department. You can read the full budget on the city's Web site, www.folsom.ca.us, under Finance Department, or at the Folsom Library or the City Clerk's Department at City Hall.

Fire Department: Six new firefighter positions and one fire prevention officer are added. Funding is allocated for a new fire station in Empire Ranch.

Police Department: The 2007-2008 budget maintains an optimum ratio of 1.3 police officers per thousand population. Two new positions are funded for the special neighborhood enforcement team (SENET) formed last year and two school resource officers are added for Vista del Lago High School, opening in August.

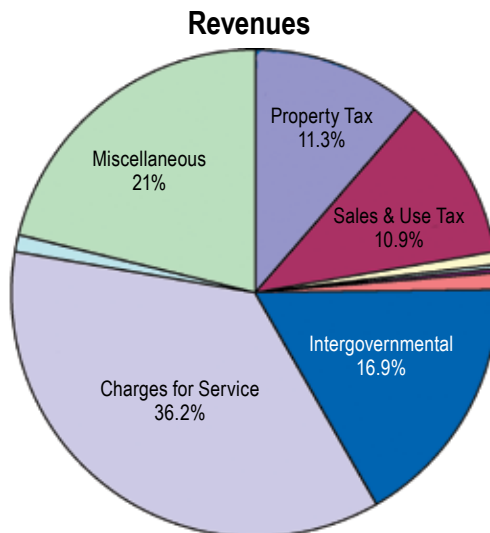
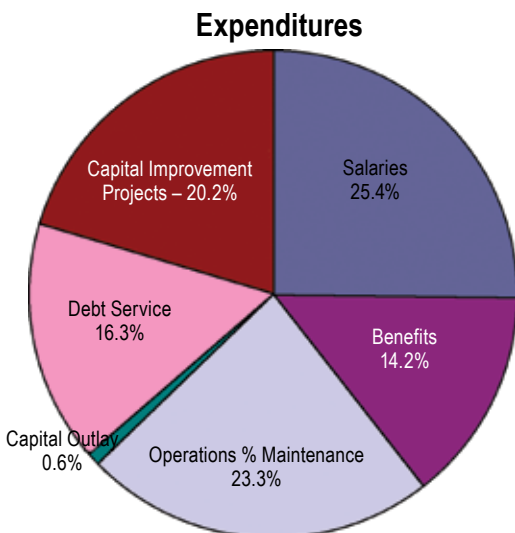
Transportation and traffic: The budget again appropriates \$350,000 for rubberized asphalt to reduce tire noise on some roadways. The bridge at Folsom Dam is funded primarily with federal, state and county money.

Water meters: As the city prepares to begin metered billing, three positions are being added to focus on customer service and billing processes.

Economic development: Progress continues on the construction of Palladio regional mall, expected to open in 2009. A few businesses planned next year are In-N-Out Burger, Circuit City, Ethan Allen Furniture, Holiday Inn and Suites, Staybridge Suites and Hampton Inn.

Folsom Public Library: This year's budget provides for a new library director plus three new staff positions for the Vista del Lago branch library to open in the spring.

Cultural and recreation services: The Parks and Recreation Department budget increases by \$128,000 for additional programs, but these funds will be offset by the revenues the programs will generate. The budget includes funding for the new Senior and Arts Center and a contribution toward the construction of a regional performing arts center at Folsom Lake College.



Expenditures for capital improvements dropped this year by 5 percentage points. Debt service reflects the new accounting method of including community facility district payments. More than a third of the city's revenues derive from fees for services. The smaller slices of the revenues graph encompass interest (1.1%), fines and forfeitures (0.1%), TOT (0.9%), real property transfer (0.4%), franchise fees (0.3%) and licenses and permits (0.9%).

Chief Haverty takes helm of Folsom Fire

Not many people know the exact moment they decided on their future career. Folsom's new fire chief Dan Haverty can remember two.

When Haverty was a boy, his father's cabinet shop burned. Haverty witnessed the destruction, but he also understood how much of the stock and equipment the firefighters had saved. Because of them, his father was able to build his business again.

The second time was more tragic. In 1978, his sister and her four children were killed in a plane crash near Ketchikan. Haverty, who went to help in the search, was deeply moved by the firefighters' dedication and their compassion toward his family.

Twenty-nine years later, Haverty is celebrating his 25th year in fire service with the start of a new chapter as chief of Folsom's Fire Department. On July 19, City Manager Kerry Miller presided over a change-of-command ceremony to pass the traditional fire trumpet to Haverty from outgoing Chief Eric Dutton.

Dutton, who served the Fire Department more than 30 years and was chief for 10, is representing the city as public safety liaison officer at the Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center until his retirement in November.

Haverty, who is "delighted" at the warm welcome he has received from the Folsom community, says he has been especially impressed with the citizens' commitments to volunteering for public safety. Among his goals as chief are strengthening public safety responses and preparedness, not only for the benefit of Folsom but of the region, and building a fire station in Empire Ranch. That station, the city's fifth, should open in 2009. Two more stations are planned for the annexation area.

If his past is a clue, Haverty will find ways to give to this community beyond his fire fighting. In fact, his life has been distinguished by his giving. As a few of



Three Folsom fire chiefs celebrate the change of command July 19: outgoing Chief Eric Dutton, 1940s-1950s volunteer chief Elmer McBeath, and new Chief Dan Haverty.

many, many examples, he worked with students in Mexico, founded a Sacramento Metro Fire District camp for children and is active in Golden State Donor Services.

The last organization has a special meaning for him. Two years ago, after learning that Bishop William K. Weigand of the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento needed a liver, Haverty "felt called" to give him part of his. When he proved to be a match, he underwent surgery to transfer 73 percent of his liver to the bishop. The bishop's health immediately revived, and within two months Haverty's liver had regenerated to 90 percent of its normal size.

Bishop Weigand, who shortened a fishing trip to speak at Haverty's ceremony, called it "a miracle liver."

For Haverty, the miracle is that the publicity about the donation – including a Venerable Cross *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* from Pope Benedict XVI and a series in The Sacramento Bee – has led others to become donors. "It's had a ripple effect," he says. "So much good has come from it."

Not 'dry' this year ... but wait

Although the state Department of Water Resources has designated 2007 a "critically dry year," Folsom's water customers can expect adequate water supplies this summer, says

Utilities Director Ken Payne.

That doesn't mean you don't need to be careful, Payne warns.

If next year also is dry, Folsom and the region could face a drought. That means, Payne says, conservation should begin now.

This year's water math works like this: Flows into Folsom Reservoir have been reduced to comply with what is called "Stage 2 dry-year mode." For Folsom, that means a cutback of water deliveries from its entitlement of

34,000 acre feet a year to 27,000 af/y.

Since the city's demands are projected to be less than 27,000 af/y, customers should see little impact for 2007.

Next year might be a different story. If 2008 gets

News Roundup

similar or less rainfall than 2007, Folsom's water deliveries could be reduced to 22,000 or even 18,000 af/y.

Conserving this year could help weather dry conditions next year, Payne says.

The place to start, says Don Smith, water management specialist, is outside, where most household water is consumed. Smith will inspect your irrigation system for free and will reprogram your sprinklers, if necessary. He also has free water-saving plumbing devices, such as low-flow shower heads. The items were acquired through state grants.

For more information on the city's water conservation services, call 355-7252.

Katy Curl new library director

Katy Curl, who has been a county librarian, library branch manager, reference and youth services librarian and a Head Start teacher, is Folsom's new library director.

She became a librarian "by accident," when, as a young mother, she took a part-time job in an Idaho library. "I realized how much fun it was," she recalls. "I loved working with the public."

She earned a master's degree in library science and has worked in both Idaho and California, most recently as County Librarian for Yolo County.

With a brand new building as her workplace, Curl is looking to the



Katy Curl

future, particularly in the area of technology.

"We have a forward-thinking, technically savvy community," she says. "I want to make sure we're up to speed with the latest technological advances."

Her ideas include increasing online services – including more borrowing from other collections – expanding collection sharing, public partnerships and outreach, and maybe equipping staff with mobile, palm-size tools that hold reference and circulation data.

"I like to see possibilities," she says.

Elaine Andersen ADA coordinator

As part of an effort to make Folsom more accessible to people with disabilities, City Manager Kerry Miller has named Elaine Andersen the city's Americans With Disabilities Act coordinator.

Andersen, assistant to the city manager, will direct the effort to improve citywide accessibility and will attempt to resolve inquiries and concerns about access in Folsom.

Andersen's responsibilities include making

residents aware of ADA services the city already offers. For example, people who need to augment their hearing at city meetings or classes can request amplification devices.

If you have questions about accessibility and related issues, or if you've noticed a problem you think needs to be addressed, call Andersen at 351-3515 or email her at eandersen@folsom.ca.us.

National Night Out is Aug. 7

One of Folsom's most effective crime-prevention tools is ... you.

When citizens form Neighborhood Watch groups – a nationwide program that enlists residents to help keep an eye on their communities – crime has been shown to go down. More than 100 Folsom neighborhoods now take part in Neighborhood Watch.

On Aug. 7, Folsom will honor its Neighborhood Watch groups by joining the rest of the country for National Night Out. City officials and police and fire staff and vehicles, along with McGruff the Crime Dog, will visit Neighborhood Watch block parties to express their support.

If your neighborhood doesn't have a Watch group, you can still greet the officials – listen for the sirens as they arrive. Everyone is asked to turn on their front porch light that night as a show of support.

For information on

forming a Neighborhood Watch group, call 355-7367.

New bus route includes school

On Aug. 13, the Folsom Stage Line begins a third bus route that includes a stop at the new Vista del Lago High School. Two buses will run each day, primarily in the Lexington Hills area. The morning bus operates between 7:07 and 7:46; the afternoon bus runs from 3:14 to 3:45.

The fare is \$2 regular, \$1 for students or seniors, \$85 a month.

For the schedule or more information, see the city's Web site www.folsom.ca.us/PublicWorks/Transit.

Vista de Lago opens on Aug. 13 with freshman and sophomore classes.

New recycling calendars out

The SmartCart recycling program pickup schedules for 2007-2008 were mailed in mid-July. If you didn't receive yours, call 355-8367.

This schedule tells you which weeks to put out your recycling and yard-waste carts. The blue carts, for household recyclables, and the green or black carts, for yardwaste, are collected in alternate weeks, depending on where you live. The gray carts, which hold the nonrecyclable garbage, are picked up every week.

The city began the Smart-Cart program in 2005. More than 90 percent of residents are participating. In 2006, the program's first full year, the city

Plan (from page 1)

says Jeff Raimundo, a consultant for the landowners.

David Miller, the city's community development director, agrees. "The open space, the job-housing mix, the core development, the trails, the transportation linkages, they're all very similar to the visioning plan."

Most important, Miller says, the plan retains Folsom's character. "When you drive around, you notice the quality of life here. We want the annexation area to feel the same."

The city, at the request of the landowners, is applying to the Local Area Formation Commission – LAFCO – to annex 3,600 acres adjacent to Highway 50. The proposed plan, which would guide the development of the property to buildout in 2030, follows the principles of the Blueprint Project adopted by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments in 2004 with developments of mixed commercial and residential uses and transportation alternatives.

The design was achieved through an unusual collaboration between the landowners, city officials and the community. The community participated in public workshops and approved Measure W, the 2004 initiative that set forth the criteria for development. Those criteria address open space, water, schools, infrastructure and transportation.

There will continue to be opportunities for public participation as the plan goes through the approval processes. Those include environmental studies, to begin in October, and further public hearings. In addition, LAFCO will hold public hearings on the annexation application.

If it is approved, annexation could be completed in a little over two years, and construction could begin as early as January 2010.

The jewel of the area is surely its open space. More than 1,000 acres, or 30 percent – the green swaths on the map – have been designated as "natural open space."

"Thirty percent is huge," Miller says. "You just don't get that amount of open space in most developments."

Miller emphasizes this is "true open space": oak woodlands, wetlands, creek corridors and trails. It does not include neighborhood parks and greenbelts. Those total another 165 acres – dark green on the map.

Transportation may be the element that holds the most regional interest. The plan includes both public transit and new roadways. The transit, Miller says, will most likely be bus rapid transit – "almost like rubber-tire light rail" – which moves along dedicated roadways or has the ability to control traffic lights.

Bus rapid transit is being planned to link with a new light rail station near Hazel Avenue.

The impact of the development on local traffic will be mitigated with new roadway connections. These include a freeway interchange at Empire Ranch Road, now approved and funded. A future interchange at Highway 50 and Oak Avenue Parkway (which will be extended) also is planned, and Rowberry Drive will be continued to the area.

Highway 50 traffic will be mitigated by a new parallel east-west route across the northern portion and the expansion of White Rock Road to six lanes with limited access.

A critical issue in developing the area is securing a new water supply. Measure W specifies water will not be taken from current residents nor will current residents be responsible for any water costs.

The area will have seven public schools and a private high school. The civic buildings being planned include a branch library, two fire stations and a police substation.

The element that will give the area its character is the mix of housing, retail and commercial uses within neighborhoods. Retail and commercial development will occupy 340 acres, or about 10 percent of the land area. Housing, with 13,000 total units, will take the most space – 1,167 acres or fully one-third of the land. Housing options will range from multifamily high-density structures, perhaps up to 25 units per acre, to executive homes. The largest lots will be half an acre.

"The opportunity for executive-style housing is important," Miller says. "It's the executives who determine where their companies are going to locate."

The number of jobs that will be created – 11,000 – will just about balance out the housing. "This isn't going to be a place where people will have to commute downtown," Miller says. "Here, people will have the opportunity to live where they work. The whole area is being designed as a place where people can live, work and play."



The south area will reflect Folsom's character, including: mixed-use – retail, commercial, residential – buildings; nature trails; attractive multi-family housing.

Special Events

Through Aug. 10– **Concerts in the Park.** Live music series is back at City Lions Park.

Fridays through Aug. 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.. Varied music. Bring a picnic. Free.

Through Aug. 17 – **“Go Figure.”** The Gallery @ 48 Natoma. Sculptures by Lisa Deniz, glass by Janet and Rick Nicholson, oils by Jennifer Maria Harris. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the new Arts and Senior Center. Free admission to gallery.

Through Aug. 23 – **Thursday Night Markets.** Vendors, produce, demonstrations, entertainment, kids area. 6-9 p.m. Thursdays. Sutter Street.

Aug. 1-Sept. 30 – **27th Antique Quilt and Vintage Clothing Show.** History Museum’s signature exhibit. Pre-1940 quilts, all handmade. Fashions from 1870s to 1940s. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day. History Museum, 823 Sutter St. \$3 admission. 985-2707.

Aug. 7 – **Neighborhood Watch National Night Out.** Honor Neighborhood Watch, greet public safety staff. See story on page 4.

Aug. 8 – **Evening Book Discussion Group.** “The World to Come” by Dara Horn. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Folsom Library. Free. 355-7374.

Aug. 23 – **Afternoon Library Book Discussion Club.** Anderson Cooper’s “Dispatches From the Edge: A Memoir of



This friendship quilt, with each block signed in ink, was a high school graduation gift in the 1930s. Signed quilts are featured in the History Museum’s antique quilt show.

War, Disasters and Survival.” Quill Award nominee. Copies at library. 1 p.m. Folsom Public Library. 355-7374.

Aug. 24 – **Introduction to Using Library Resources.** 9-10:30 a.m. Free but must reserve. 985-8190.

Coming Up

Sept. 5 – **Evening Book Discussion Group.** Anderson Cooper’s “Dispatches From the Edge: A Memoir of War, Disasters and Survival.” Quill Award nominee. 6:30 p.m. Folsom Public Library. Free. 355-7374.

Sept. 7 – **Pack Smart: How to Pack a Single Carry-On.** Senior First Friday program. Janis Cox demonstrates how to pack a carry-on for a two-to four-week trip. 10 a.m. Folsom Public Library. Free.

Sept. 7-9 – **Friends of the Folsom Library Book Sale.** First in Georgia Murray Building. Bargain books, CDs, DVDs, video and audio cassettes. Preview Friday at 6 p.m. for first choices; \$5 admission. Saturday/Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission free. 355-7374 or 608-8743.

Sept. 22 – **Vintage Fashion Show.** Wedding dress theme. Advance tickets required. 2-4 p.m. Trinity Folsom Church Parish Hall. 985-2707.

Sept. 29 – **Ride the Folsom Trails.** Family bike ride. Learn about Humbug-Willow Creek trail. Ride in small groups tailored to ability. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$10 person/\$15 family. Reservations required; you’re requested to make them early. Skimpily attendance cancels. 355-7285.

Meetings

City Council meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays, City Hall.

Planning Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays, City Hall.

Parks and Recreation Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday, City Hall.

Library Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first Monday, City Hall.

Architectural Review Commission meets 7:30 a.m. the second and fourth Thursdays, City Hall.

Historic District Commission meets 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays, City Hall.

Traffic Safety Committee meets 4 p.m. the fourth Thursday, City Hall.

Murer House Foundation meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday, Murer House classroom.

Redevelopment Advisory Committee meets 4 p.m. the fourth Thursday, City Hall.

Landscaping/Lighting Districts meets 7 p.m. the third Thursday, City Hall.

Arts and Cultural Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday, City Hall.

Utility Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday. Location varies.



City of Folsom Newsletter

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Folsom City Council

Andy Morin, Mayor
Eric King, Vice Mayor
Kerri Howell, Steve Miklos, Jeff Starsky
Kerry Miller, City Manager

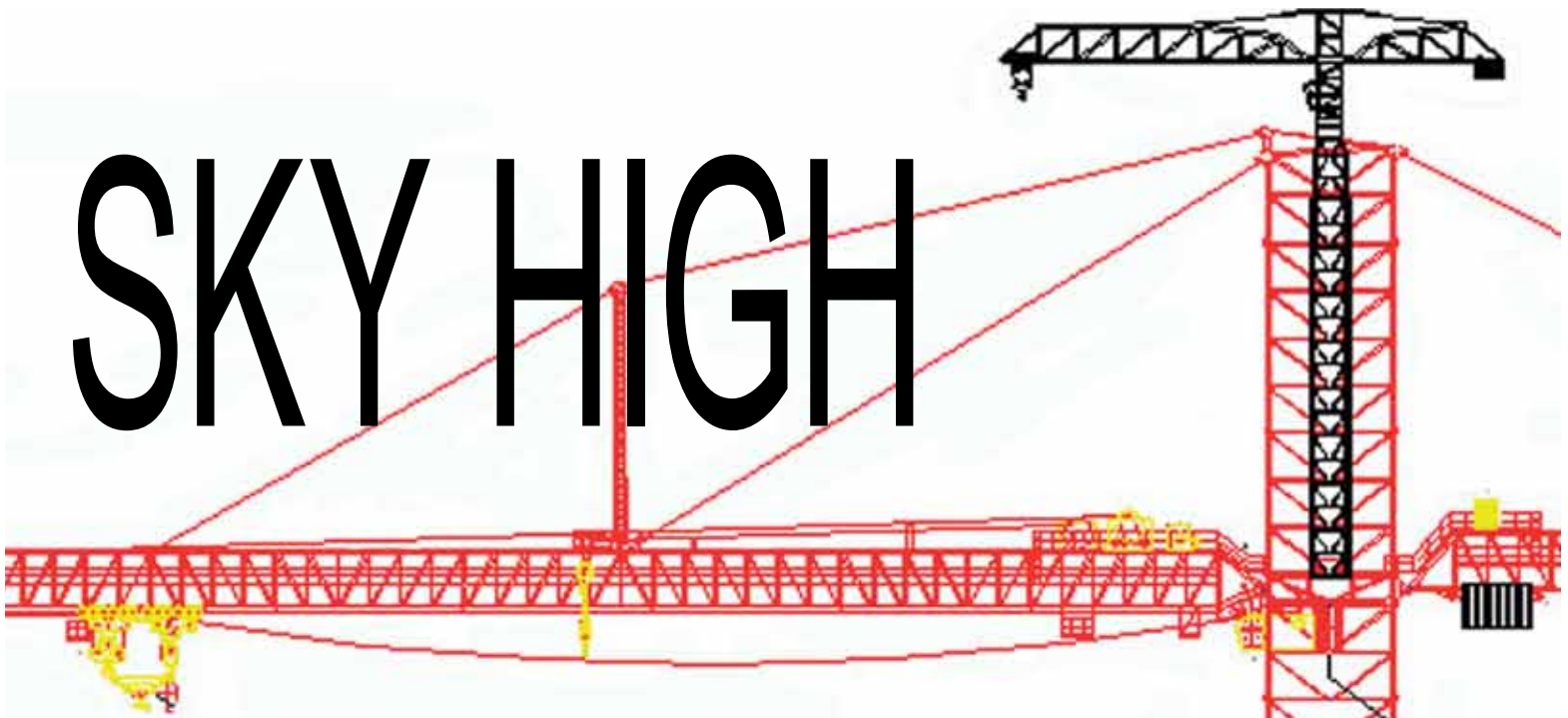
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SKY HIGH



The first structures to be built, and the tallest, two tower cranes soar over the bridge site

Every workday morning, around dawn, Dennis Dorton walks five minutes to his office – straight up. Dorton, who operates one of the two tower cranes now looming over the Folsom bridge site, climbs the ladder inside the tower to a cockpit-like cab near the top, more than 200 feet off the ground. There he stays, most days, for eight to 12 hours.

He carries his lunch up with him, and throughout his shift he pulls up buckets of ice the workers refill. The cab is air conditioned, required because operators cannot easily be shielded from the sun.

It may be a small world up there, but it's a world Dorton loves, and one he was born into. His father and grandfather were crane operators; both, at times, worked for Kiewit. Now, Dorton says with a proud-papa grin, his teenage son is showing an interest in following in his forebears' footsteps.

Dorton, who lives in Lodi, operated tower cranes for Kiewit's Benicia bridge and the company's skyway portion of the Bay Bridge.

Tower cranes lift materials and equipment too heavy to be managed by any



Why doesn't a tower crane tip over? It's anchored in concrete and the jib is precisely balanced with weights (above). Operator Dennis Dorton spends up to 12 hours in a cab 200 feet above the ground.



Bridge 1 – August 2007

other means. The Folsom cranes, brought from the Benicia site, have a mast, or tower, 230 feet tall, with a jib, or boom, equally as long. That's about as high as a free-standing crane gets, but cranes that are anchored to tall buildings can rise up to 600 feet. Their operators ride elevators most of the way up.

Though the perch on the tall, skinny shaft looks precarious, it's engineered for safety. The base is bolted to a concrete pad reinforced with steel. The jib is balanced with weights to keep it from tipping. During winds, it's "weathervaned" so it can move slightly instead of snapping. At those times, Dorton says, "it's almost like being in a boat up there."

These cranes can lift up to 88,000 pounds. A pulley moves the loads along the jib – based on a formula, the crane can carry more weight closer to the mast.

The cranes stand next to the two columns, which straddle the river. By mid-July, they'd set up the first of three levels of steel cages that give the concrete columns their strength. The cages are put together lengthwise on the ground, then the cranes pull them to a vertical position and fit them into place.

Once the steel cages are up, the cranes will lift the forms for the columns around them and haul up the concrete that will be poured to make them.

After the columns, and the pier tables topping them, are built, about seven months from now, the cranes will lift the equipment and concrete to form the road segments.

The tower is the only type of crane that's controlled from above the job. "It always gives me a little bit of a challenge to get used to it," Dorton says. "It's a whole different field of view." Distance from that height is harder to judge, he says. One guide he uses is the shadows on the ground.

Despite the confined space, Dorton doesn't get lonely at the top. He stays in constant contact with the rest of the crew by radio.



Tower cranes dwarf the bridge site, including the steel going up for the west column. Behind operator Dennis Dorton are the crane he just climbed down, steel cages for the columns and the forms for concrete the crane will lift into place.



Think your back yard is bad?

Granite is abundant in Folsom, and quarrying was a prime industry in the city's early years. Folsom Dam and the pillars at the library contain local granite. Kiewit is now unearthing tons of it to make way for the bridge. Of the million cubic yards of earth the crews will excavate, one-third is rock. In some cases, breaking it up has required blasting. The material is separated on site, as shown here, and reused or, occasionally, sold to other contractors. Some of it is crushed. Most of it will be put back to even out the hilly terrain. Kiewit also has amassed boulders to build retaining walls along the river and abutments.