

Quarterly Community Issues

2018: July - September

KXPR 6:04 – 6:06 pm Weekdays

July

02: NORFIRESMON

The fires in Yolo and Lake counties have doubled the total acreage burned so far this fire season in California.

02: SPDHELO

San Joaquin County is one of the few counties in the state for its size and population that doesn't have a helicopter. But with the state funding, the City of Stockton can now buy a helicopter and equipment perhaps before the end of the year.

03: FIREAIR

Everyone should reduce the time they spend outdoors when smoke from fires is visible and can easily be smelled. That's the message health officials are giving out, even if you're healthy. Thomas Hall is with the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

03: SFICE

Protests at ICE facilities in California are expected to continue as demonstrators and politicians speak out against current Trump Administration policies.

05: SANCTJUDGE

A federal judge has denied a request by the Trump administration to block California's "sanctuary state" law, which shields immigrants in the country without legal documentation.

05: ACASUIT

The constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act is again up for debate, this time in a Texas lawsuit. California's attorney general has already vowed to defend the law, and state legislators are looking to pass measures that would keep coverage affordable.

06: FIRETASK

There appeared to be a lot of illegal fireworks going off in Sacramento last night, but it could have been worse. A new task force conducted three undercover operations in the last 40 days and collected more than a ton of illegal fireworks.

06: NEUTDEAL

A couple of weeks after gutting a California net neutrality bill over the objections of its author, a state Assemblyman and that author announced a deal to restore the measure's restrictions on Internet providers.

09: SACANNEX

One part of the City of Sacramento could be shaped like a donut if a proposal by a group of Sacramento County property owners is approved.

09: CAD BB CEQA

The 1970s law deputizes every Californian to litigate potential damage to their communities. But developers and some housing advocates say it's now the primary impediment to an affordable home for many Californians.

10: SANCTDISMISS

A federal judge in Sacramento has upheld California's law shielding immigrants in the country without legal documentation.

10: AVOCADO

It's avocado season in California, but many farmers are in trouble. They don't have enough workers to pick and maintain Hass avocados ... which are in high demand.

11: POTVOTE

Voters in San Joaquin County will decide in November how to spend money raised from taxes on commercial marijuana.

11: HICKMAN

Typically about a dozen people attend a City Council meeting here in Dixon. Last night 300 were here and almost all of them were in support of the LGBT community.

12: MARIJUANA

Seven months after California began phasing in new testing, packaging, and dosing rules for marijuana farmers, dispensaries have experienced widespread cannabis shortages and farmers are struggling to meet new compliance tests.

12: CUTTING

A variety of forces buffeted California's emissions down and sometimes up over the past two decades, but Stanford energy researcher Michael Wara says one factor helped make 2016 the year the state hit its 2020 climate goal.

13: COOLFAIR

The California State Fair opens today and promises to be cooler than last year's, in more ways than one.

13: THEATER REVIEW

Alan Menken score includes catchy melodies, and this briskly-staged production is both fun-loving and user friendly. So enjoy "Newsies" at the Music Circus for what it really is... an appealing, up-tempo dance show, with a very capable cast.

16: GRIDDEBATE

One final climate change-related priority of Governor Jerry Brown's is moving through the state Legislature but faces opposition from some Democrats.

16: CALIFORNIA JOINTLY

If California jointly planned electric use with other Western states, the thinking goes, it could pull in wind or hydro power from those states when solar plants shut off at night. And, Lauren Navarro of the Environmental Defense Fund told lawmakers last month.

17: KJVSPAPER

Hundreds of emails from public and private email accounts between former Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson and his staff were released two years ago, thanks to a public records act request by the Sacramento News and Review.

17: YOSEM-STARBUCKS

More than four million people visit Yosemite every year. Its identity is changing and some say not always for the better. In Capital Public Radio's new podcast YosemiteLand environment reporter Ezra David Romero explores the future of sharing Yosemite with the world while not ruining it.

18: HOUSEFUNDS

Democratic candidates looking to unseat Republican congressmen in California have generally outraised their opponents in recent months. Capital Public Radio's Ben Bradford reports.

18: FERGFOLLO

Thunderstorm activity in the Sierra Nevada today could cause dangerous conditions for crews fighting a major wildfire burning near Yosemite National Park.

19: CENSUSHIRE1

The U.S. Census Bureau is putting out a call for millions of job applicants to work the 2020 count. Capital Public Radio's Rich Ibarra reports the Census Bureau could find it a little harder to fill those jobs since its last tally.

19: CAL3SUIT

Silicon Valley venture capitalist Tim Draper paid to gather hundreds of thousands of voter signatures to qualify Proposition 9. He's argued California is so big, it's impossible to govern effectively. An environmental group sued, arguing that Proposition 9 was not simply a constitutional amendment but rather a sweeping revision that requires a constitutional convention.

20: BALLOT CASH

Campaigns for and against some of California's November ballot measures have already raised millions of dollars in contributions.

20: JUNEJOBS

California's unemployment rate remains at a record low of four-point-two percent [4.2%] in the latest jobs report out today [FRIDAY]. But a closer look shows 2018 has not exactly been a banner year for the state's labor market. Capital Public Radio's Ben Adler reports.

23: WESTNILESPRAY

Airplanes will spray a fine mist of an insecticide called Trumpet EC over sections of Elk Grove, the Pocket Neighborhood and neighborhoods south of Fruitridge Road. The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District says about two dozen mosquito samples collected within those areas have tested positive for West Nile.

23: STARBUCKS

Starbucks is no longer throwing out food at the end of the day from its U.S. stores. Capital Public Radio's Rich Ibarra reports the company has partnered with Feeding America to rescue that food for the poor and hungry here in the Central Valley.

24: HAIRCUT

California heavily regulates barbers, cosmetologists and aestheticians—people who do hair, make-up and nails. A state board is changing a strict rule about where they can work that you may not know even exists.

24: BLACKVOICESPT3

The calls for economic equity that sprung up after Stephon Clark's death are driving a new push for summer jobs for the city's black youth.

25: PPICGOVSEN

With just over 100 days to go before California's November election, the races for governor and U.S. Senate continue to show clear frontrunners. Capital Public Radio's Ben Adler has more on the latest Public Policy Institute of California poll.

25: PFMORSE

The Democratic challenger in California's 4th Congressional District east of Sacramento ... recently claimed the Republican incumbent, Tom McClintock, has authored just a handful of laws during his nearly 10 years in office.

26: FARMAID

Midwest farmers are among those who will most likely benefit from the federal aid – those who produce soybeans and corn. But according to the Trump administration, dairy farmers will also receive funding. And that...will greatly affect the more than 1,300 dairy farmers in California.

26: HOMEDATA

The median price of a Sacramento area home was \$394,000 in the second-quarter. Daren Blomquist with research firm ATTOM Data Solutions says that's an annual increase of 9 percent.

27: MOODYS

California's growing economy and billions in budget reserves has earned the state a better outlook from one of the key credit ratings agencies.

27: FEDHELP

As California lawmakers and Governor Jerry Brown debate who should have to pay for the billions of dollars in wildfire damages striking the state, Californians might wonder how much governmental help is available to rebuild their homes.

30: YOSEMITELATEST

Yosemite Valley remains eerily quiet as the Ferguson Fire continues to burn near the park, keeping visitors out during the busiest time of year.

30: POLICEHIT1

Yosemite officials are hoping enough progress can be made on the Ferguson Fire that the Valley will be reopened this Friday. The northern part of the park...like Tuolumne Meadows and Hetch Hechy....remains open.

31: RIGRECALL

The California Air Resources Board found excess emissions in heavy-duty trucks with model years from 2010 to 2015. CARB's Heavy Duty In-Use Compliance program determined the catalytic reductions systems were defective. That's an emissions control system used in diesel engines.

31: CENSUSCHANGES

Kamala Harris is co-authoring a bill to require the Census Bureau to begin the process of adding questions related to sexual orientation and gender identity. Harris says the changes are needed to make sure the LGBTQ community is not only seen, but fully accounted for in terms of government resources provided.

August

01: NEWUVOTE

The Sacramento City Council last night decided to put a 1-percent sales tax measure on the November ballot. It would replace and increase the half-percent Measure U sales tax.

01: AGPESTICIDE

A group of nine scientists on California's Scientific Review Panel agreed that a pesticide used on more than 60 crops should be listed as a toxic air contaminant.

02: FRONTRUNNER

It's a time-tested rule of politics: If you're the frontrunner, give yourself as few opportunities as possible to mess that up. Which brings us to the California governor's race, where it appears Democrat Gavin Newsom might only participate in one general election debate against Republican John Cox.

02: CARFIGHT

On one hand, it's familiar: The Trump administration announced today [THURSDAY] it's attempting to undo another Obama-era pollution standard—this time scaling back strict rules for how efficient cars must be.

03: NEONICS

A new study released by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation says neonicotinoids [nee-oh-nik-uh-tin-oids] - a group of pesticides – harm bees. Now, wildlife advocates say it's time to ban these pesticides in California. But citrus growers say such a ban...will endanger their crops.

03: PFSANCTUARY

McClintock is the incumbent in the district, a heavily Republican area that includes the suburbs east of Sacramento and rural counties in the Sierra Nevada. The conservative politician is clear about his opposition to the state's sanctuary law.

06: FIREBIZ

This isn't new for the town. The fire comes on the heels of two rockslides and the Detwiler Fire. That fire destroyed homes and closed down the town for four days. Cal Fire says this summer's large fires have grown faster and are becoming more frequent than ever before.

06: PFFIRETWEET

President Trump said in a recent tweet that California's wildfires are "made so much worse" by environmental laws that block firefighters from accessing water.

07: POLICELEG

Black Lives Matter activists and law enforcement groups debated in the Capitol Monday over bills that could change the way officers use force

07: WHITEBREAD

The sourdough bakery scene in Sacramento has long lived in the shadow of San Francisco's world-famous breads. But scenes change, as our region has witnessed recently with craft beer.

08: FIREEMIT

California's wild fires are releasing millions of metric tons of carbon into the air— exacerbated by and contributing to climate change. But Capital Public Radio's Ben Bradford reports scientists don't know to what extent.

08: YOSEMFIRE

Its peak tourist season in Yosemite, but the most popular destination is eerily quiet. There are no hikers on trails or climbers on the Valley's cliffs, because smoke from the Ferguson Fire has shut down parts of the park indefinitely.

09: BADAIRLATEST

Tomorrow [Friday] has already been declared a Spare the Air Day in the Sacramento region due to the continued smoke from the wildfires. It's the 15th such warning in a row, but Capitol Public Radio's Drew Sanders says those alerts could be coming to an end.

09: CITYKIDS

The kids made their presentations to city council last night and were applauded for their efforts. Some were invited back to attend council discussions of future city programs. Every year, the Summer at City Hall program brings teenagers from all over Sacramento to the hub of government, the olive-green chairs and wood paneling of city council chambers.

10: NEXTWINTER

A donation by a private health group will keep the Sacramento Homeless Triage Shelter open another three months, but it's not a permanent solution.

10: BUSWASH

Sacramento RT is switching to a new water-and-energy friendly train washer for its light rail system.

13: FOOTRULE

Up until three weeks ago, the Sacramento Police Department did not have a policy for chasing people on foot.

13: YOSMEOPEN

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14: POLICERECORDS

California lawmakers are poised to change the rules governing the release of police records as this year's legislative session moves into its final weeks.

15: FIREROUNDUP

Crews in California are getting a better handle on a number of large wildfires burning throughout the state.

15: THILE

He's also a talented mandolin player, who is at ease in bluegrass and classical circles. And ... he's a genius.

16: SMOKEHARM

Wildfire smoke is affecting the health of California's farm workers, according to a researcher from UC Davis.

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17: SLOWFIRES

Cal Fire says mandatory wildfire evacuations in the state are down to roughly 200 people... the lowest level in weeks.

17: WOW

The Wide Open Walls mural festival is happening now with talent from all over the world ... including one artist who organizers say will elevate the city's street cred.

20: BEEHIVE

This month, the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival is pairing a Shakespeare classic with a second show that has nothing to do with The Bard – a retro musical revue named “Beehive,” featuring songs made famous by girl groups with high-rise hairdos 5 decades ago.

20: FIRESCIENCE

What happens when farmlands sprayed with pesticides and other chemicals burn up? They're wondering if these fumes make wildfire smoke especially toxic.

21: FIREDEATH

It appears a fire retardant drop is likely to blame for killing a firefighter in the Mendocino Complex-Ranch Fire. CapRadio's Ezra David Romero has more from a preliminary report from Cal Fire.

21: SHORTTERM

Californians will not have the option to buy short-term health insurance if Governor Jerry Brown signs a bill headed to his desk.

22: PFMILKBILL

Would restaurants in California be forced to serve only milk or water to children ... under a bill headed to Governor Jerry Brown's desk.

22: WORKHARASS

Backed by labor unions and against the will of industry groups, the California state Legislature has passed new limits on non-disclosure agreements and workplace arbitration.

23: NETMOVES

An effort in California to impose net neutrality through state legislation has passed a key vote. An Assembly committee approved the measure two days after Santa Clara County Fire Department blamed a lack of internet protections for hurting their attempts to extinguish the state's largest wild fire. Capital Public Radio's Ben Bradford explores the connection.

23: HOMECOOK

Home cooks rallied on the steps of the state Capitol today in support of a bill that would make California the first state to permit and regulate the small-scale sale of meals from home kitchens.

24: WILDCONF

California lawmakers have released an outline of a plan to improve the state's preparedness and response to wild fires — and to soften the financial cost of those fires on electric utilities.

24: COPCAMS

Turlock Police have a growing number of eyes across the city to fight crime.

27: VOTESIGS

California would give its voters another chance to sign their mail-in ballots correctly, under a bill nearing passage in the Legislature's final week of session.

27: CITYSCHOOL

The City of Sacramento and the Sacramento Unified School District are joining forces to get more kids into community colleges and trade schools.

28: CALTRANSLEAFLET

Those behind the repeal of the gas tax and vehicle license fee increase have filed a criminal complaint accusing Cal Trans of breaking the law by campaigning while on the job against the proposition.

28: HOUSINGPROPS

Voters will choose this fall whether to spend \$4 billion to subsidize housing for veterans and farmworkers.

29: FULLCLEAN

A bill that would require California to pursue 100 percent zero-emission energy by mid-century has passed the state Assembly.

29: MOREGUNBILLS

California lawmakers are passing new restrictions on firearms as the two-year legislative session winds down this week.

30: DMVBUDGET

Lawmakers are offering the Department of Motor Vehicles more money to relieve long customer wait times under a bill passed by the California State Assembly.

30: VOTINGPROFILE

Voter registration is up in California with 19 million voters on the rolls.

31: NETPASS

California has made a major move toward implementing its own version of net neutrality, in defiance of the Trump administration. The state Assembly passed a bill today [WEDNESDAY] that would seek to regulate internet providers after a federal rollback.

31: DRUGCOST

After two years of battles in the legislature, a bill to regulate drug industry middlemen is on California Governor Jerry Brown's desk.

September

04: FIN

California Governor Jerry Brown has hundreds of bills awaiting his signature, after a late-night rush by the Legislature before its two-year session ended on Friday.

04: PROP101

The future of rent control in California will be in the hands of voters this November.

05: PLASTICS

One of the bills would force people to ask for straws at full-service restaurants. Another would increase funding for recycling centers and a third would ban the use of non-recyclable or non-compostable containers at state facilities. Mark Murray is with Californians Against Waste.

05: MURDERSUICIDE

A violent episode between a California Highway Patrol officer and his wife last night [Monday night.] marks the second murder suicide in Amador County in a span of five months.

06: HOMELESSSLEEP

A ruling by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco clarifies how cities can regulate where homeless people sleep.

06: FIRSTSHOT

The Sacramento Police Department says it followed new foot pursuit policy while responding to a report of a man with a gun.

07: DAVETOES

California prosecutors are urging Governor Jerry Brown to veto a bill that would prohibit all 14- and 15-year-old criminal defendants from being tried as adults.

07: BEERSUMMIT

The California Craft Beer Summit is underway in Sacramento and a big focus this year is sustainability. One challenge is that brewing takes a LOT of water.

10: PFMOVEOUT

Republican candidate for governor John Cox said in a recent TV interview that ‘fully half’ of all Californians want to leave the state.

10: SCUSDCUT

Sac City Unified can't pay for the 11 percent raises it negotiated last fall with teachers. And, it can't cover (150 percent) increases in retirement benefits it owes teachers and staff over the next two years.

11: SUMMITKICKOFF

Thousands of activists, researchers and scientists are gathering in San Francisco this week for the Global Climate Action Summit.

11: PARKING

Eleven parking meters are being tested to see if they measure up to the more than 14-hundred meters that have been stolen over the past few years. The new meters can take coins or credit cards, with drivers selecting their time and simply entering their license plate.

12: CENSUS

California saw a major drop in the number of residents without health insurance between 2013 and 2017 - larger than any other state during that time.

12: CATOSCVVA

Two teams of rescue and recovery experts from California are headed to help along the East Coast as Hurricane Florence arrives.

13: WESTNILE

The first two deaths from West Nile Virus in California this year were reported in Glenn and Yuba Counties.

13: PFPARROT

CapRadio's PolitiFact reporter Chris Nichols fact-checked that statement by the lieutenant governor.

14: MOONBEAM

California Governor Jerry Brown wrapped up his international climate change summit in San Francisco today (FRIDAY) with an announcement that's out of this world: a new satellite to track and reduce climate pollutants.

14: CLIMATEWOODS

It's not all doom and gloom at California Governor Jerry Brown's Global Climate Action Summit this week in San Francisco.

18: STEPHONSIX

About 150 people rallied at the Sacramento Convention Center Tuesday to protest a lack of criminal charges in the six months since Stephon Clark was shot and killed by Sacramento Police officers.

18: PRESCRIBEFIRE

Returning fire to the forest in a managed way has been touted as an approach to prevent wildfires in California.

19: DOCPROB

California will soon become the first state to require doctors placed on probation by state regulators for serious misconduct to notify their patients.

19: CAVOTEPOLL

California voters say they care about the economy, health care, and immigration... all factors as they head to the polls this November.

20: ELEXSECURE

California election officials are launching a new effort to fight disinformation during political campaigns. But it comes with thorny legal and political questions.

20: STKNAIRPORT

Airports in Stockton and Fresno received the lion share of federal grants in the Central Valley.

21: UPINFLAMES

Cal Fire has already burned through all the money the state had budgeted for fighting wildfires this fiscal year. So the Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown's administration are rushing over a fresh infusion of cash.

21: CONCUSSION

Worries about concussions for kids playing sports have become paramount for many parents and coaches in California. Now, doctors are learning to spot and treat them.

24: HEALTH4ALL

A package of bills intended to make medical treatment more accessible and affordable got the OK from California Governor Jerry Brown this weekend.

24: MEDIABILL

The new law requires the state to publish a list of media literacy resources online. The goal is to help students better evaluate different sources of digital information -- to help them distinguish between news stories and advertisements.

25: YOUCENTER

The new center at 8th and S Streets is twice the size of the old drop-in center and offers showers, meals, a rest area, laundry room, employment center, financial workshop and case management.

25: GASTAXALT

The initiative would establish two so-called “citizen lockboxes”, one allocating gas tax revenues to road repairs and the other dedicating sales tax revenue from cars to support public transportation. It was spearheaded by Yes on Proposition 6 chairman Carl DeMaio. He says using existing revenues to fix roads would eliminate the need for lawmakers to raise gas taxes.

26: REDFLAG

It all started before the Internet with signs and an actual red flag hung outside places like forest headquarters when fire danger is high. Today that red flag is issued by the National Weather Service.

26: SCOOTER MIXDOWN

Electric scooters are overtaking streets -- and sidewalks -- in cities all over California. They're controversial ... including claims that scooters have injured pedestrians.

27: APPLEROBBERIES

Seventeen people have been charged in connection with a series of robberies at Apple stores in California. Eight of those suspects are in custody.

27: PFLMILITARY

Federal law already allows up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave in that situation for eligible employees of private companies with 50 or more workers.

28: JERRYTOO

Jerry Brown has cleared his desk for the final time in his 16 years as governor of California. He acted on the last of nearly 20-thousand bills yesterday [SUNDAY] ... including a flurry of measures spurred by the “Me Too” movement.

28: NOTREATS

Pizza parties, birthday cupcakes and Halloween candy are being slowly evicted from the classroom at Sacramento City Unified and other school districts throughout the state.