



MELISSA WILK

ALAMEDA COUNTY

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER/CLERK-RECORDER

Summer 2024 Newsletter

Message from Melissa

Dear Alameda County,

This summer has been a great time to get out and enjoy community events and visit beautiful destinations around the County. We're fortunate to have such great East Bay weather that enhances every setting, creating the perfect atmosphere to connect with others and strengthen community bonds. It's also been the perfect season for families to make lasting memories through fun activities and celebrations. I hope you've had a joyful and connected summer!

Every summer in June, the Board of Supervisors and County leaders proudly honor Juneteenth and Pride Month, celebrating the rich diversity of our communities and acknowledging the ongoing fight for equal rights. I'm proud to stand with my colleagues in recognizing these important efforts. June also marks the approval of Alameda County's budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Please read below for more details on our inclusive budgeting process.

July brought us 4th of July festivities, the Annual Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton, and Disability Pride Month, which honors the disability community's history and achievements. We also celebrated the start of the New (fiscal) Year, thanks to our staff's hard work in closing out the previous one.



In This Issue

- County Budgeting Process
- Property Tax Process
- Apostille Pop-Up Shop
- Interns Gain Valuable Experience
- Save Time and Order Online
- 33rd Annual USOAC Convention

As we transition to Fall, I extend an invitation for you to join us at some of our upcoming community events, like the Castro Valley Fall Festival on September 7-8, the Healthy Living Festival on September 26, and the Science in the Park Event on October 5. These and other events around

- Ashland Cherryland FamFest
- National Arts in Education Week
- Castro Valley Fall Festival
- Healthy Living Festival
- Science in the Park
- Stay In Touch



our County offer lively celebrations for both residents and visitors. To find out more, check out the event details below.

Thank you for your interest in our Office and for reading our 2024 Summer Newsletter. Please see our [website](#) for more information about our services, and as always, your questions, comments, and feedback are welcomed at ACCR.info@acgov.org.

Best,

Melissa Wilk

Board of Supervisors Approve a Balanced \$4.6 Billion Budget

On June 28th, the **Alameda County Board of Supervisors** unanimously approved a \$4.6 billion budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year. This balanced budget successfully closed a \$68 million funding gap. The approval followed a comprehensive, months-long process involving collaboration with agency department heads, local community-based organizations, and residents who participated in a series of public meetings to discuss the proposed budget's impact on public safety, social services, health care safety net programs and other County services. The new budget went into effect July 1, 2024 and goes through June 30, 2025.



The balanced budget prioritizes critical safety net programs and services, including nearly \$750 million to address mental health needs, \$850 million for over 270 community-based organization partners providing direct client services to our most vulnerable populations, over \$80 million to support affordable housing projects and services, over \$420 million in public benefits and assistance payments, and funding to support a workforce of nearly 10,500 employees.

At the final budget adoption, County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi and Board Members honored long-time supervisor and chair of the Alameda County Budget Committee, Keith Carson, who announced his retirement last December after thirty years of service. "This budget represents our County's commitment to responsible stewardship and ongoing investments in essential programs and services for those who need them most. I am grateful to the public for entrusting me with the responsibility to make decisions that have a meaningful impact on

people's daily lives. It's been a great honor," said Supervisor Keith Carson.

The [Alameda County budget website](#) is part of the County's larger goal to provide information about our services in a transparent, user-friendly, and informative format. It is designed to give community members a better understanding of how tax dollars are invested with highlights on funding for mandated and essential services.

The Property Tax Process



Each summer, I have the pleasure of partnering with [County Assessor](#), Phong La, on the annual property tax process. At the end of June, our Agency receives the assessed values for all taxable properties in Alameda County from the Assessor. During the months of July and August, the Auditor-Controller Property Tax Analysis team calculates and applies the appropriate tax rates to the assessed values and "extends the tax rolls." In other words, the amount of taxes due is determined. The tax rate applied to the assessed property value depends on the property's location, and includes the Countywide 1%

tax and any additional amount needed to pay voter-approved debt. Most voter approved debt comes from General Obligation Bonds, which were approved through ballot measures in past elections. The Auditor-Controller also has the responsibility of adding any special assessments and/or fixed charges that are levied by other taxing districts in the County. After the Auditor-Controller completes the calculations, the [County Treasurer-Tax Collector](#) prepares and mails the property tax bills, and collects the taxes. As the last step in the process, the Auditor-Controller team apportions the tax collections to the County, cities, schools, and over 80 special districts.

Apostille Pop-Up Shop

The Alameda County Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder Agency, in partnership with the California Secretary of State's Office, is excited to host our second Apostille Pop-Up Shop on Thursday, September 26, 9am-4pm at the Dublin Public Library located at 200 Civic Plaza in the city of Dublin. Apostille services are used to authenticate California public officials' signatures on documents intended for use outside of the United States.

Visit the [California Secretary of State's website](#) for more information on Apostille Services and upcoming Pop-Up Shop events throughout California.



Interns Gain Valuable Experience

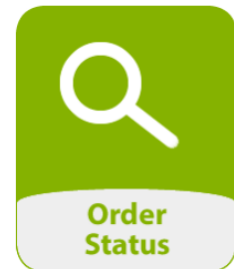
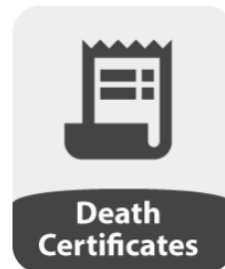
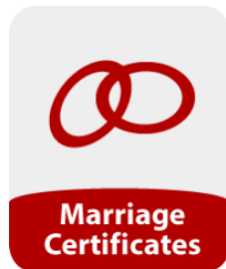


We are pleased to have Jeremy Raffetto working in our General Accounting Division. Jeremy began his internship in April and has quickly become a valuable asset to our team. He completed his Bachelor of Science in Economics from California State University, Sacramento in June 2023, and will be finishing his Master of Science in Finance from St. Mary's College in September 2024. Jeremy chose to work for the Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder Agency because of his interest in governmental accounting. He is excelling in various tasks, including reviewing, recording, and posting transactions to the general ledger, which includes daily departmental deposits. Jeremy is also gaining hands-on experience with practical application of accounting practices and principles as

he learns the County's financial system and prepares monthly cash reports for various departments. Additionally, Jeremy provides excellent customer service by researching and responding to customer inquiries about the County's claiming procedures for payments that remain uncashed for more than six months. Jeremy is a very valuable addition to our Agency!

Interested in an internship opportunity? To apply, submit your resume with a cover letter telling us about your educational focus and why you are interested in working with our Agency. Applications should be emailed to hr.auditor@acgov.org. To learn about current Alameda County job openings, visit the [Alameda County Human Resource Services website](#).

SAVE TIME AND ORDER ONLINE



Need a birth, marriage, or death certificate? Save yourself time and order online! Select our pick-up option, and we can typically turn around your order within a few days.

Once you've submitted your order, you can check the status of your request online. You can then request the document be mailed to you, or you can pick it up from our Office.

It's just that easy!

33rd Annual USOAC Convention

The Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder Agency was proud to be a sponsor of the annual convention of the **United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County** (USOAC). The event took place at the St. Columba Catholic Church on San Pablo Avenue in Oakland on June 21. USOAC's mission is to support seniors, and encourage their participation in public and political matters that impact their lives.



The all-day event was filled with fun activities as well as information about County services and the many ways USOAC is serving seniors throughout Alameda County. The event also included a forum with candidates who are running for elected positions at the County, state and federal levels.

Ashland Cherryland FamFest



Our Agency was thrilled to participate in the Ashland Cherryland FamFest Event on Saturday, June 22!

The festival took place along East 14th Street in front of REACH Ashland Youth Center in the unincorporated community of Ashland near Cherryland and San Leandro. Organized by the **Castro Valley/Eden Area Chamber of Commerce** in partnership with District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley's office.

FamFest featured live music, children's areas, games, shopping, food, and booths showcasing local businesses and County services. Our team provided information about the Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder Agency's services and offered fun, free, hands-on art activities for community members of all ages. This was a fantastic opportunity to connect with the community and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of the event.



National Arts in Education Week



In celebration of **National Arts in Education Week** during September 9 -13, the **Alameda County Arts Commission** is sharing a free coloring page! [Click on this link](#) to download the page. Print it at home and color it using markers, colored pencils, crayons, or watercolor paint.

The arts are an essential part of a complete education, no matter if it happens in the home, school, or community and allows students of all ages—from kindergarten to college to older adult and aging programs—to benefit from artistic learning, innovative thinking, and creativity. Celebrating National Arts in Education Week is a way to recognize this impact and share the message with friends, family, and communities. The coloring pages will be available all year.

51st Annual Castro Valley Fall Festival September 7 - September 8

The Fall Festival is an exciting community tradition in Castro Valley. This two-day event is filled with entertainment, activities, food and local vendor booths. Held on Castro Valley Boulevard in front of the Shopping Center, it draws over 30,000 attendees. The festival features more than 150 arts and crafts, community and non-profit booths, along with live music and dance performances by both youth and adults, and plenty of fun activities for kids to enjoy.



We invite you to visit our Agency booth on Saturday, September 7 and Sunday, September 8, 10am-6pm located on Castro Valley Boulevard near Redwood Road. For more information, visit the [Castro Valley Fall Festival website](#).

21st Annual Healthy Living Festival September 26



The Healthy Living Festival is a free event for Alameda County residents aged 55 and older. This annual event promotes health and wellness for aging adults, and includes free food, music, fun and more. Community members are invited to take collective action to improve the quality of life for seniors throughout our County. Together, we can make a positive change! Friends and family are welcome to attend, but must register in advance.

The **United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County** are proud to present the 21st annual Healthy Living Festival event, and I look forward to continuing our Agency support. If you are able to attend, please visit our booth! (Image from the 2023 event with Melissa Wilk and County Supervisor Nate Miley).

This event is held on Thursday, September 26, 9am-2pm at the Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Road in Oakland. For more information visit the [Healthy Living Festival event page](#).

Science in the Park Event

October 5

Science in the Park is a biennial event hosted by **Alameda County Supervisor Elisa Márquez**. Our Agency is proud to be a supporter of this important community event that was founded by the late County Supervisor Richard Valle. The event is an opportunity for the community to learn more about STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math), the environment, and health, while having fun and supporting the school districts within Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 2.



This free event for families and people of all ages includes interactive hands-on activities like building and launching a water rocket, interactive live animal demonstrations, an egg drop contest, a bicycle repair station, health screenings, and much, much more! Come experience a day of STEAM exploration that is sure to spark a lifetime of curiosity!

Please visit our Agency booth and participate in our fun art activity. This event will be on Saturday, October 5, 9am-3pm at the California State University East Bay located in the city of Hayward. Learn more at the [Science in the Park website](#).



QUESTIONS FOR OUR AGENCY?

Are there upcoming community events that you would like us to attend? Do you have a specific question you would like to ask? Is your community or organization interested in a presentation about the services provided by the County and the Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder Agency?



Email us at ACCR.info@acgov.org to let us know what questions we can answer and how we can support your efforts.

STAY IN TOUCH

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