



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Sean Rabé, City Manager  
**DATE:** August 25, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** City Manager Report for the August 25<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting

Mayor and Council Members,

The following report provides an update on some of the major activities City Staff has been working on recently:

### **City Manager's Department:**

#### Management Analyst/City Clerk Amy Lind Named Employee of the Year

Amy Lind has been selected by the Executive Team as this year's Employee of the Year! She will be celebrated at the Auburn Chamber of Commerce's Celebrate the Community event, held September 25.

Amy has worked for the City of Auburn for 16 years, starting first as an Assistant City Clerk. She became the City's appointed City Clerk when voters approved changing the Clerk from elected to appointed in 2016. She received her Certified City Clerk designation in 2013, and her Master City Clerk designation in 2023. She graduated from Leadership Auburn in 2012 (she says best class ever).

Amy has worked for four different fulltime City Managers (one twice) and numerous interim City Managers and has worked with 10 Mayors (many several times).

Amy has been a tremendous help to me since I started with Auburn and has proven to be an incredible asset to the City of Auburn, in so many ways – which is why she was unanimously selected by the Executive Team as Employee of the Year!

#### City Team Defends Kickball Title

This past Friday the City Team successfully defended our title as Kickball Champions at the Kidzapalooza event during Food truck Fiesta! The City team included Vice Mayor Kelley Davis and her husband Matt, City Council Member Rachel Raddell Harris and her husband Duane, City Manager Sean Rabé, Auburn Police Chief Bryan Morrison, Auburn Fire Chief John Rogers and his son, Public Works Director Mengil Deane, Public Works Project Manager James Taber, and Police Reserve Officer Michael Smoot.

## **Police Department:**

### Explorer Program is Up and Running

The Auburn Police Department's Explorer Program is officially up and running! This program provides local youth with the opportunity to learn about law enforcement while developing leadership skills and teamwork. Explorers participate in ride-alongs, training sessions, and community events, gaining hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of public safety.

### Pancake Breakfast Success

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to support the Auburn Jeep Club's Pancake Breakfast benefiting the Placer County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy and the Auburn Police Officers Association. The event was a great success, with the community enjoying a delicious breakfast while helping raise funds for programs that support local law enforcement and their families. We're grateful for the strong turnout and the continued support of our fantastic community!

### Welcome to the Team

Today was an exciting day at the Auburn Police Department as we welcomed four new volunteers and two new officers to our team! Each brings unique skills and energy that will strengthen our department and help us continue serving the Auburn community with pride. We're thrilled to have them join the APD family and look forward to the positive impact they'll make both in the department and out in the community.

### All-American Cook-Off

The Auburn Police Department was honored to take part in this year's All-American Cook-Off! The Auburn Police Department Honor Guard proudly presented the colors, followed by Chief Morrison leading the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance to begin the festivities. The event brought the community together to celebrate patriotism, good food, and camaraderie, all while supporting a meaningful cause. Proceeds from the Cook-Off went to Crime Victims United, helping provide resources and advocacy for those impacted by crime. It was a privilege to stand alongside our community for such a fun and impactful event.

## **Planning Department:**

### Auburn Station Infill Project (The Domes site)

The City's consultant, AECOM, has prepared the Draft Project-Focused Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Domes site located on Fulweiler Avenue. The draft EIR is expected to be released for public review early next week. Once available, it can be viewed on the City's website under the "Public Notices" page or in person at the public counter in Room 3.

## 2025 California Building Code (CBC)

A new building code cycle is adopted every three-years. We are now nearing the end of the 2021 cycle and preparing to transition into the 2025 cycle. Following the recent wildfires in Los Angeles, there has been significant discussion about how jurisdictions can implement local amendments, particularly when such amendments might slow the pace of new home construction.

This discussion is closely tied to Assembly Bill 130, which passed in June of this year. Under this legislation, while the 2025 Building Code Cycle will go into effect on January 1, 2026, for both Residential and Nonresidential Standards, local jurisdictions may not establish new reach codes – except when necessary to align with the jurisdiction's adopted general plan, greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy, and home hardening.

As a result of the “pause” in code adoption, there will be no Residential 2028 Code Cycle or any intervening code updates until the 2031 Code Cycle, at which point new residential standards may again be considered. Nonresidential codes, however, are not impacted by this legislation and will continue to follow the standard three-year update cycle.

## **Economic Development:**

A new business, The Lounge, opened last Thursday in Auburn at the former location of The Tavern in the White House (previously the Tap and Vine location). They have only held a soft opening so far, with more public outreach and promotion planned in the near future. Current hours are Thursday through Saturday, 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The Lounge's opening further enhances the growing mix of dining and nightlife options in Auburn's core.

On August 7, 2025, a single-engine aircraft experienced a power loss and made an emergency landing in the City's closed landfill on the west end of the Auburn Airport. The aircraft, owned by the United States Air Force, sustained damage, but both pilots walked away unharmed. Recovery of the plane took approximately one week.

The City of Auburn is seeking new volunteers from the business community to join the Economic Development Commission (EDC). The EDC is currently looking to fill three positions. Members play an active role in shaping Auburn's economic future and supporting regional tourism. If you are passionate about Auburn and want to be part of the effort to strengthen our community, we encourage you to [apply](#).

## **Finance Department:**

### FY 2024-25 Year-End Preliminary Results

Finance is two weeks further with fiscal year-end processing and they've calculated some interesting statistics worth sharing.

**Investment Income:** The total investment earnings posted to FY 2024-25 was \$622,508. The City also had a CAMP Term investment that matured in July 2025 yielding \$164,192 attributable to FY 2024-25 (but not able to be posted to June because of the July maturity date). This is a total of \$786,670 in investment earnings, up 28%, as compared to FY 2023-24 which yielded \$614,578. This is mainly due to two main successes of opening a CAMP account with higher yielding returns than LAIF, and Finance's active role in monitoring the City's checking account to ensure every possible dollar was being invested and not sitting idle.

**Personnel Expense:** The total salaries paid to our employees (excluding overtime and benefits) was \$8,631,012 as compared to the prior fiscal year of \$9,294,999. A decrease of \$663,987 which captured the beginning of our labor reduction effort that helped the City achieve its General Fund deficit elimination goals.

**Grant Reimbursement:** While awaiting final Sales Tax receipts for the period ending June 30, 2025, another cost recovery effort has been taking place to strengthen the City's financial condition. A focused lens on grant reimbursement has resulted in approximately \$1 million in revenue accruals that Finance will post to FY 2024-25. Though much of this was anticipated and factored into the year-end projections, Finance was able to move past estimates and finalize the grant reimbursement total at \$184,812 higher than previously projected. Depending on how the final sales tax dollars materialize, this \$185k will undoubtedly help the General Fund's bottomline.

**Invoices Paid:** Finance processed and paid 4,712 vendor invoices for a total amount of \$18,601,876 in FY 2024-25. This is less than the prior year of 4,893 invoices paid at a total of \$19,161,459. Several factors can cause fiscal year invoice totals to fluctuate, such as how many active special projects are underway versus ongoing, routine expenditures.

## **Fire Department:**

### Auburn Fire Department – Code Enforcement Officer Partnership

The Auburn Fire Department has partnered with the Auburn Police Department to share Code Enforcement Officer Elijah Keim one day per week. Officer Keim will be assigned to the Fire Department office on Wednesdays to assist with fire code compliance. He has already hit the ground running, making contact with multiple outstanding violators. Officer Keim is also learning the Fire Department's complaint process and will provide input to help streamline communication between departments. We look forward to supporting his efforts to strengthen the City's overall code enforcement program.

### Auburn Fire Department – Multi-Family Structure Fire

On August 20th, Auburn Fire Department units responded to a reported multi-family structure fire on Lincoln Way. The fire had been extinguished prior to arrival, but three

occupants reported injuries, and two were transported to the hospital for medical care. The incident also involved damage from an undetermined explosion. This incident is under investigation by the Auburn Police Department.

## **Public Works Department:**

### Aeolia Water and Sewer Line Project

The project is in full swing, having started on Tuesday, June 19th. As is often the case with older infrastructure that lacks thorough documentation, staff encountered some unexpected issues in the roadway, including an undocumented raw water line that once served the old orchard. Staff is actively working with the line's owner to identify a solution and keep the project on schedule.

### Emergency Work in South Auburn

Emergency repairs are underway after a stormwater line shifted onto a sewer main line, requiring immediate attention. The manhole where this occurred is directly fed by a lift station, making the situation urgent. Fortunately, the City already had a contractor on board for the annual sewer line rehabilitation project. Because several change order reductions created flexibility, this emergency work was able to be added to the existing contract without requiring any budget adjustments.

### Highway 49 & Borland Roundabout Project

Perhaps most importantly, the City has received the encroachment permit from Union Pacific, allowing work on the Highway 49 and Borland Avenue roundabout project to resume. Construction is scheduled to restart in early September, with anticipated completion in December 2025.

## **Human Resources:**

### August Work Anniversaries!

We proudly acknowledge the team members who help make the City of Auburn a great place to live and work. Your dedication, passion, and hard work strengthen our community and inspire those around you.

This August, we recognize these outstanding employees for reaching their milestones:

- ◆ **Andy Ferkin** – 19 years of service
- ◆ **Tony D'Ambrogi** – 13 years of service
- ◆ **Matt Bowers** – 7 years of service
- ◆ **Aaron Berthelsen** – 5 years of service
- ◆ **Matt Jelle** – 4 years of service
- ◆ **Jonathan Wright** – 4 years of service

- ◆ **James Murphy** – 4 years of service
- ◆ **Jamie Rossitto-Doyle** – 3 years of service
- ◆ **Eric Lynch** – 2 years of service
- ◆ **Cadance Mitchell** – 2 years of service
- ◆ **Justin Orton** – 2 years of service
- ◆ **Matt McCarthy** – 1 year of service

Thank you for your continued contributions! You make City of Auburn better place every day. Here's to many more years of success and celebration!

**City Clerk:**

 [City Council Meeting Schedule](#)

- **September & October** – Regular schedule
- **November** – Meeting on **Monday, November 10**  
(No meeting November 24 for Thanksgiving week)
- **December** – **Monday, December 1:** Council Re-Organization  
**Monday, December 8:** Regular business meeting

QUESTIONS? Please contact me at the phone number below or by email at [srabe@auburn.ca.gov](mailto:srabe@auburn.ca.gov).



Sean Rabé, City Manager