

# Calistoga Tribune

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## County, city fairgrounds deal stalled

■ Latest negotiations don't end gridlock over sales terms and conditions

By Kim Beltran  
Tribune Editor

More than two months after county officials agreed to sell half the Napa County Fairgrounds property to the city of Calistoga, the two entities have yet to finalize the paperwork that would set that plan in motion.

City Council members met in closed session Tuesday night with Napa County CEO Minh Tran, who is negotiating the terms of the deal on behalf of the county.

No action was taken as a result of that meeting, and per closed session legalities, neither party could say what is holding up execution of a purchase and sale agreement for the 34.3 acres that includes all fairgrounds facilities except the golf course.

"It's now been 10 weeks since we've signed and executed a Letter of Intent, which should have very quickly resulted in a purchase and sale agreement but we're still working through some of the details," mayor Chris Canning said in open session at Tuesday night's City Council meeting. "At some point, we may ask you as residents of the county to weigh in with your supervisor on how you feel about this topic but we'll get back to you on that."

Contacted by phone on Wednesday, Tran had no comment other than to say that negotiations are "ongoing."

The Letter of Intent, signed by Tran and city manager Dylan Feik on Nov. 8, 2018, calls for a cash purchase price of \$225,000 per

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PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

Caltrans crews scurried to complete work on the Lincoln Avenue bridge last week before the rainstorms arrived with flash flood and snow advisory warnings. There are at least three more weeks of work to be done.

## Rainy weather drowns bridge's finish deadline

■ At least three weeks of work left to do on \$22M Lincoln Avenue bridge

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

Rainfall and cold weather are delaying the anticipated replacement of the Lincoln Avenue bridge according to a Caltrans site superintendent.

On Thursday, the supervisor, who declined to give his name, said there were at least three weeks of work to be done before the main

construction phase of the \$22 million project would be completed, but cautioned it was "all weather dependent."

He said with recent change orders and rain predictions, there was no set deadline for the bridge work to be finalized. He then pointed to the lighted Caltrans billboard by the brick AT&T building that shows a completion date of 2020.

Tribune weatherman Larry Kuzdenyi says 18.65 inches of rain has fallen since January 1 for a total of 25 inches to date. At this time last year Calistoga had recorded a total of 13 inches of pre-

cipitation. By the end of January 2017, Kuzdenyi said 41 inches of rain fell in a record-breaking year.

Sidewalk repairs in front of the August Briggs and Maldonado wine tasting rooms and replacement of part of the driveway entrance to the parking lot shared by those businesses and Bank of the West extended the number of weeks for work to be completed, he said.

The project started in June 2017 when the northbound lane was shut down to traffic and two lanes

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## School leaders outline plans for student improvement

By Claudia Aceves  
Tribune Reporter

Principals at Calistoga schools have drafted strategic plans that meet state accountability goals and are designed to improve district-wide student achievement when measured against past performance data.

The School Plan for Student Achievement, or SPSA, that each principal created lays out specific goals for improving student academic performance and school climate, as well as the steps needed to achieve those goals.

"The first goal is related to the idea that we are reviewing our data in a timely manner and that we are creating supports for our students based on what their daily needs are," said Calistoga Elementary School principal Nicole Lamare, who with Calistoga Junior Senior High School principal Craig Wycoff on Monday night, outlined their SPSAs for school board members.

The SPSA, which all public schools are required to submit annually, is created using data from state test scores – the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) – as well as the new California School Dashboard performance results.

Lamare said the second and third goals in her SPSA are to have, by June 2019, a minimum four percent increase in the number of students that meet or exceed standard reading levels in English Language Arts in all student subgroups, including Hispanic and English learners, as well as a two percent minimum increase in the

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Nicholas Dellia was named 2018 Calistoga Police Officer of the Year.



Yudiana Galvan was named 2018 Calistoga Dispatcher of the Year.

## 2018 officer, dispatcher of the year announced by chief

■ Galvan, Dellia hailed as competent team players who serve community reliably

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

Handing out accolades for professionalism, dedication and commitment to the community, Police Chief Mitch Celaya introduced his department's recipients for Dispatcher and Police Officer of the Year awards to the City Council Tuesday night.

The award, he said, was based on nominations by their peers, overall performance and meeting certain criteria.

Significant contributions to the community, actions above and beyond the call of duty, professional comport on and off the job.

Yudiana Galvan has been employed at the police department for six years and three months, serving as code enforcement officer, part-time dispatcher, evidence officer, abandoned vehicles abatement and "is kind of a jack-of-all-trades," Celaya said. "She's a remarkable individual. She

gets the job done, no questions asked."

Officer of the year Nicholas Dellia has been on the force almost three years and presently works on the night patrol, 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. "He's a rising star in our ranks," Celaya said. "He's always easy to work with, flexible, a team player and never complains."

Mayor Chris Canning thanked the two honorees, noting that, "You already know you're part of a fantastic team, a very dedicated police department through and through, and thank you very much for your service."