The County of Sonoma is comprised of 27 departments and agencies that provide a full range of services to the community. Sonoma County encompasses over 1,600 square miles and is home to 500,000 residents. Sonoma County government has a history of providing excellent and responsive public service while operating under sound fiscal principles. To learn more about your County government, please visit:

sonomacounty.ca.gov
We are proud to highlight some of the County of Sonoma’s accomplishments of 2016. We hope you’ll enjoy planning your future successes while looking back at a wonderfully productive year.

The **YEAR OF THE ENTREPRENEUR** initiative brought over 20 local business development organizations together to link marketing and promotional efforts, and supported workshops, networking, inspirational talks, and maker events for youth and adults.

With $255,000 in investments from eight local financial institutions, the **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD** successfully launched the Sonoma County Loan Fund, which gives micro loans to local businesses as an alternative to traditional financing.

- **30,000 CUSTOMERS SERVED**
- **38,000 INSPECTIONS PERFORMED**
- **70% OF PERMITS ISSUED THE SAME DAY**
- **900 PERMITS ISSUED ONLINE**

**Clerk Recorder** implemented the **ELECTRONIC RECORDING PROGRAM**.

**PERMIT SONOMA**, a system that increases transparency and efficiency, launched to enable people and businesses to obtain and track permits online.

**SUPPORTING OUR BUSINESSES**
Providing opportunities to enhance innovative partnerships with local organizations and businesses exemplifies the kind of success that is possible when we work together.”

— David Rabbitt, 2nd District Supervisor
The Permit and Resource Management Department opened a one-stop shop for both Vacation Rental Permits and Transient Occupancy Tax certificates, increasing efficiency and enhancing enforcement.

The County worked with multiple departments, agencies, and counsel to advance the annexation of and ensure services to County “islands” in the Roseland area of Santa Rosa.

County Counsel actively litigated 28 civil code enforcement cases, resulting in the abatement and cleanup of multiple public health emergencies and longstanding environmental hazards.
CREATIVE SONOMA hosted 23 professional development workshops and conferences, which were attended by more than 300 creative professionals.

"Giving our neighbors an opportunity to share their voices is a key component of working toward solutions to help families get the services they need to live, work, and thrive in our community."

— Susan Gorin,
1st District Supervisor

Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT
“Engaging and supporting our agricultural community is critical to sustaining who we are as Sonoma County.”
— James Gore, 4th District Supervisor

UCCE conducted research with UC Berkeley evaluating potential shifts in Pierce’s Disease epidemiology, a bacterium that blocks the movement of water in an infected vine, by 

**MAPPING DISEASE INCIDENCE IN 13 VINEYARD BLOCKS** totaling 73 acres.

ADVANCING AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER 
**COLLECTED AND RECYCLED NEARLY 17,000 POUNDS OF AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS** 
**THAT OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF IN A LANDFILL**

The Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District provided **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING TO 3,000 STUDENTS** to increase awareness and knowledge of natural history and agricultural practices on District protected lands.

University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) offered **MONTHLY “FARMING 101” WORKSHOPS** focused on helping farmers boost their businesses with information about managing grasslands, agri tourism, irrigation, specialty crops, accessing land and loans, and more.

THE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS AT THE SONOMA COUNTY FAIR SET A NEW RECORD, RAISING **$1.5 MILLION** FOR LOCAL YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE
UCCE analyzed the economic impact of the Livestock and Rangeland Management industry, including exploring different payment structures to **Maintain Sustainability and to Address Climate Change**.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES reviewed permit applications for **139 VINEYARD AND ORCHARD PROJECTS** representing **760 ACRES** of NEW VINEYARD AND ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT, and over **1,400 ACRES** of REPLANTED VINEYARD AND ORCHARD LAND.

Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT
"Through our budget, we advance strategic investments in our people, communities, and infrastructure while continuing to strengthen the County’s fiscal health."

— Efren Carrillo,
5th District Supervisor

$14 MILLION IN TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES WAS COLLECTED FROM REGISTERED HOTELS AND VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES, PROVIDING 9% MORE REVENUE THAN THE PRIOR YEAR

76% of benefits paid by the Sonoma County Employees’ Retirement Association are paid to Sonoma County residents — RETIREES STAY IN SONOMA COUNTY AND REINVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY.

THE AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT RAISED OVER $12 MILLION IN OUTSIDE FUNDS

$8 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDING WAS SECURED to conserve and restore land and ensure resilience to climate change by supporting healthy soils, high quality surface and groundwater supplies, healthy habitat for fish and wildlife, and a thriving agricultural industry.

LEVERAGING YOUR TAX DOLLARS
The District Attorney’s Office received two federal grants totaling over $1.4 million to improve criminal justice response and better understand and serve victims of abuse.

The Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector audited more than $1.8 billion in assets, and identified ways to improve internal policies and procedures to potentially save the County more than $1.3 million and enhance County revenues by more than $260,000.

SOCOBUDGET app launched, allowing the public to interactively view the County’s budget.

**National County Government Month** celebrates the vital role county services and programs play in residents’ lives every day.

Sunday  Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday  Saturday

2  3  4  5  6  7  8

9  10  11  12  13  14  15

Passover begins

16  17  18  19  20  21  22

Easter Sunday  Tax Day  Passover ends

23  24  25  26  27  28  29

30

**SONOMA COUNTY FINANCES**

2016-17 Budget: $1.55 Billion

- Justice Services: 28.5%
- Administrative & Fiscal Services: 25.5%
- Development Services: 19.8%
- Health & Human Services: 16.9%
- Capital Projects: 7.8%
- Other County Services: 1.6%
- Increase to Fund Balance / Net Assets: 0.5%

Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT
THE 19TH ANNUAL SENIOR ART SHOW FEATURED 120 SENIOR ARTISTS WHOSE WORK WAS DISPLAYED AT THE FINLEY CENTER.

The Area Agency on Aging published The Art of Aging: A NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND COMMUNITY REPORT based on 1,500 surveys completed by seniors and 92 focus group participants to help identify priorities and needs of local seniors.

4 H, administered by UC Cooperative Extension, ENGAGED 1,028 YOUTH with 340 adult volunteers in long term, high quality youth development programs. Youth shared their voices and DEVELOPED LEADERSHIP SKILLS by participating in 11 Sonoma County Boards and Committees.

The Road to Early Achievement and Development of Youth (READY) project SUPPORTED 105 TEACHERS to assess kindergarten students in order to advance readiness initiatives to help close the achievement gap.

TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH INTENSIVE TEAM PROVIDED MENTAL HEALTH WRAPAROUND SERVICES to over 50 individuals age 18-25.

SERVING SENIORS AND YOUTH
Older Americans Month celebrates the contributions of older adults to our nation, and raises awareness about the important issues our elders face.

17% MORE SENIORS RECEIVED CALFRESH FOOD BENEFITS

As part of the Financial Abuse Specialist Team, 10 local volunteers with financial expertise provided 540 hours of consultation and ANALYSIS ON 22 CASES OF ALLEGED FINANCIAL ELDER ABUSE.

Adult and Aging Services helped 500 SENIORS RECEIVE 2,500 HOURS OF LEGAL SERVICES on issues such as landlord-tenant disputes, estate planning, wills and trusts, and elder protection.

ADULT AND AGING SERVICES HELPED MORE THAN 6,000 SENIORS IN NEED GET 275,000 HOME-DELIVERED AND COMMUNAL MEALS

Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT
“Providing safe and affordable housing is essential for Sonoma County to thrive.”
— Shirlee Zane, 3rd District Supervisor

The SHARE Program, which BRINGS TOGETHER SENIORS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO HOUSING with those in need of housing, has created a sense of community, along with affordable housing, and assisted some to leave the shelter system.

24 BUILDING PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR 109 AFFORDABLE UNITS

The Homes for All Summit helped launch a series of short-, medium- and long-term actions to build more housing to address Sonoma County’s SEVERE SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING.

Implementation of the Building Homes Toolbox continued, advancing innovative programs such as Junior Accessory Dwelling Units, micro apartments, and workforce housing on commercial and industrial lands, aimed at ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN SONOMA COUNTY by 2025.
Community Development Commission coordinated construction of Fetters Apartments, 60 NEW AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS in the Sonoma Valley.

THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM PROVIDED $2.2 MILLION EACH MONTH TO PRIVATE LANDLORDS, ENABLING MORE THAN 2,800 SONOMA COUNTY RESIDENTS TO AFFORD SAFE, STABLE HOUSING

A new playground and park were installed at ROSELAND VILLAGE and master plans for additional project development were approved.

250 BUILDING PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR 360 UNITS OF NEW HOUSING

Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT
“Improving roads is one of the most tangible ways local government can make a difference in people’s everyday lives. The Board has been relentless in addressing a state legacy issue of underfunded infrastructure, dedicating more than $65 million dollars of local funds over five years to paving.”

— Efren Carrillo
5th District Supervisor

Sonoma County Airport FLIGHT OPTIONS CONTINUED TO EXPAND as Alaska Airlines added daily nonstop service to Orange County, and Allegiant Air added twice a week service to

A FULLY ELECTRIC 30 FOOT BUS was added to supplement the County’s predominantly natural gas fleet.

340,000 PASSENGERS traveled through Sonoma County Airport, up 30% over 2015

THE COUNTY MADE FREE RIDES FOR VETERANS ON SONOMA COUNTY TRANSIT A PERMANENT OFFERING

MOVING TRANSPORTATION FORWARD
SONOMA COUNTY TRANSIT AND PARATRANSPORT PROVIDED AN ACCESSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO DRIVING IN A SINGLE-PASSENGER CAR AND MADE BETWEEN 4,250 AND 4,700 PASSENGER TRIPS EACH WEEKDAY.

Transportation and Public Works completed 1,162 REQUESTS submitted through the SOCO REPORT IT app.

The county COMPLETED CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS to Highway 12 in Agua Caliente for pedestrians and bicycles, including roadway widening, sidewalks, street lights, and traffic signal modifications.

OVER 70 MILES OF ROADS WERE RESURFACED.
CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

REGIONAL PARKS OPENED THE FLOATING WATER PARK AT SPRING LAKE ATTRACTING MORE THAN 20,000 VISITORS FROM THROUGHOUT THE BAY AREA.

The Sonoma County Water Agency completed construction of the RUSSIAN RIVER FISH LADDER AND VIEWING GALLERY, located downstream of Wohler bridge, to allow observation and monitoring of fish safely bypassing an inflatable dam.

EXPANDED COMMUNITY SEPARATORS TO STRENGTHEN CITY-CENTERED GROWTH POLICIES BY PROTECTING 53,576 ACRES OF GREEN SPACE BETWEEN CITIES.

Regional Parks opened the newest segment of the Bodega Bay Pedestrian & Bicycle Trail, adding to the California Coastal Trail network and improving pedestrian and BICYCLE ACCESS and safety along Highway 1.

Since 2002, the County Hybrid Electric and All Electric fleet of vehicles has surpassed 12.1 million miles of operation, REDUCED FUEL CONSUMPTION by 191 thousand gallons and reduced CO₂ emissions by 1,701 metric tons.
The Sonoma County Water Agency was **RECOGNIZED AS A NATIONAL WATER LEADER** at the White House Water Summit for its innovative local projects, including Carbon Free Water by 2015, Lake Mendocino Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations, and efforts related to promoting recycled water.

The Westside Water Education facility was completed for students to learn about the connection between drinking water and the Russian River, water quality parameters for endangered Russian River salmon, and the **IMPORTANCE OF WATER EFFICIENCY AND AQUATIC LIFE**.

**REGIONAL PARKS PROVIDED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TO MORE THAN 23,000 STUDENTS** and hosted several hundred children in summer camps teaching natural history, physical fitness, and life-saving skills.

Over 25,000 Regional Parks memberships were purchased by community members, and more than **400 ANNUAL PASSES WERE DONATED** for seniors, families and individuals with limited incomes, improving access to health and recreation opportunities.

“We will continue to prioritize and enhance the innovative environmental protection and conservation initiatives that have put Sonoma County on the national map.”

— Susan Gorin, 1st District Supervisor

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**Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT**
"Our Board’s vision and our collective priorities start with ensuring critical community services."
— David Rabbitt, 2nd District Supervisor

REGIONAL PARKS’ AWARD-WINNING RUSSIAN RIVER PATROL LOANED 3,000 LIFE VESTS AND MADE 17,000 SAFETY CONTACTS WITH SUMMER RIVER-GOERS

After six years of collaborating with the winegrape industry and federal, state, and local partners, the Agricultural Commissioner contributed to the ERADICATION OF THE EUROPEAN GRAPEVINE MOTH from Sonoma County.

The Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office offered over 100 classes per week to more than 1,100 inmates in the County’s adult detention facilities, providing opportunities for inmates to learn valuable skills to assist in SUCCESSFUL REENTRY into the community.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAB CONDUCTED OVER 4,000 TESTS ON WATER SAMPLES FROM THE COUNTY’S BEACHES, LAKES, RIVERS, AND WELLS TO KEEP THE COMMUNITY WATERS SAFE

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY
PROBATION SUPERVISED 2,500 ADULTS AND 370 JUVENILES

The District Attorney’s Office PROSECUTED THOUSANDS OF CASES, ranging from misdemeanors to violent felonies, and helped thousands of individuals navigate the criminal justice system, connecting many with valuable services at the Family Justice Center.

1,800 residents registered with Fire and Emergency Services new SoCoAlert EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM.

187 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS RESPONDED TO 1,531 CALLS FOR SERVICE

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTORS COMPLETED OVER 5,140 FOOD INSPECTIONS

National Preparedness Month serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare for various types of emergencies that could affect us.

Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT
“Serving vulnerable people, especially seniors, veterans, and mentally ill individuals, is one of our absolute top priorities in Sonoma County.”

— Shirlee Zane, 3rd District Supervisor

Behavioral Health was awarded over $870K to double available Crisis Residential Services and allow for 10 additional beds as a community based ALTERNATIVE TO PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALIZATION.

The Bridge to Health program, an adult behavioral health outpatient clinic, EXPANDED TO SERVE 200 CLIENTS to integrate primary health care for individuals with severe, persistent mental illness.

The MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM responded to over 730 calls for field based support to law enforcement officers responding to behavioral health crises, and completed over 1,640 follow up calls.

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO OVER 10,000 CLIENTS AND SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES TO OVER 5,000 CLIENTS
HEALTH SERVICES’ COMMUNITY INTERVENTION PROGRAM PROVIDED OUTREACH SERVICES TO OVER 600 HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED CLIENTS IN AN EFFORT TO CONNECT THEM WITH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Sonoma County was awarded a $40,000,000 grant to build a 72-bed facility for inmates with serious mental illness, which will provide individual and group EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT AND RESTORATION SERVICES.

THE CRISIS, ASSESSMENT, PREVENTION, AND EDUCATION TEAM PROVIDED PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES TO OVER 230 YOUTH IN HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FIRST ONSET OF SERIOUS PSYCHIATRIC ILLNESS.
The Community Development Commission’s (CDC) collaborative outreach, funding, and outcome metrics helped REDUCE HOMELESSNESS FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW.

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SERVICES WERE PROVIDED FOR 308 HOUSEHOLDS

DAY SERVICES WERE PROVIDED FOR OVER 4,000 HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

The CDC provided transitional housing, day labor and WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, wraparound counseling and crisis intervention services, and fair housing counseling for the homeless population.

The Human Services Department helped 45 homeless families MOVE INTO PERMANENT HOUSING, with assistance from the SonomaWORKS program.

General Services supported HOMELESS HOUSING FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES with completed improvements to Russell Avenue houses.

RAPID RE-HOUSING WAS PROVIDED FOR 297 PEOPLE, WITH 74% EXITING TO PERMANENT HOUSING

The CDC provided EMERGENCY FOOD SERVICES FOR OVER 4,000 PEOPLE

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS
**EMERGENCY SHELTER STAYS** were funded for 1,397 people, with 24% entering permanent or transitional housing.

“We are committed to ongoing collaborations with our community partners and local leaders, and further dedication of resources, to achieve our shared goal of ending homelessness in Sonoma County.”

— James Gore, 4th District Supervisor

![Calendar Image]
SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

SONOMA WAS RANKED THE #6 HEALTHIEST COUNTY IN THE STATE, UP SIX SPOTS SINCE 2011

200 County employees TUTORED CHILDREN IN LOCAL SCHOOLS through the Schools of Hope Program.

Upstream Investments has trained more than 100 community programs to incorporate PREVENTION-FOCUSED STRATEGIES into their services.

200 County employees TUTORED CHILDREN IN LOCAL SCHOOLS through the Schools of Hope Program.

The Registrar of Voters HELPED 71,653 VOTERS GET REGISTERED TO VOTE

The Law Office of the Public Defender REPRESENTED 14,000 CASES including misdemeanors, felonies, juvenile criminal/truancy cases, conservatorships, and child support contempt defense cases.

County employees and United Way of the Wine Country coordinated the 26th annual Combined Fund Drive, RAISING OVER $230,000 FOR SONOMA COUNTY NONPROFITS.

Volunteer drivers provided more than 7,000 RIDES FOR SENIORS IN NEED OF TRANSPORTATION.

Supporting Our Community
The Department of Child Support Services shared information with approximately 450 students on the **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH TEEN PARENTING**.

Valley of the Moon Children’s Home provided **SAFE EMERGENCY SHELTER AND CARE** for 200 children and youth removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect.

**THE VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE HELPED 1,000 VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES OBTAIN BENEFITS OF MORE THAN $14.2 MILLION**

The Veterans Services Office filed more than 170 CalVet **TUITION FEE WAIVERS FOR DISABLED VETS** and their children, allowing them to attend college.

**PROBATION BEGAN PROVIDING INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND STABILITY FOR YOUTH RETURNING FROM OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT**

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**Sonoma County ANNUAL REPORT**