

## Apple Valley's debt

The Town of Apple Valley is in debt big time. The adopted budget of \$103 million contains only \$91 million in revenues so \$11 million is being transferred/ borrowed from Enterprise Sewer and Wastewater funds and there is no plan to pay it back again this year. The same old, same old for last three years as these reserve balances decline; general fund needed \$7.5 million to pay for expenditures over revenues including the golf course and Parks and Recs events. Salary and benefits are being increased. There seems to be no interest in controlling costs to taxpayers.

Councilmember says borrow a million dollars to pay for an irrigation well and a new acquisition budget of \$3.2 million is being established with transfers coming from where?

Did Apple Valley quietly make an offer of \$86 million for Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company? The out-of-town appraiser's warrant payments have gone from \$86,000 to \$127,400 recently. Do the town's numbers really add up now and where are revised numbers factually coming from since \$12 million was absent on previous valuation? Has he made any other trips to Apple Valley or the California Public Utilities Commission or is he just staying at home/ office making visions of whatever from his panoramic ocean view.

Do taxpayers have any say or voice in their large future obligations as the Town Council has both hands on their wallets to use for self-interest pet projects including the Hilltop House property offer? Town officials said they could go up to \$200 million for Ranchos, but who is going to be really responsible for managing it?

The Draft EIR now has a grade of D minus. Can it be improved by out-of-area writers?

— *Al Rice, Apple Valley*

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