

NEWS

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New Government Center to be Named in Honor of Congressman Lewis

SAN BERNARDINO – The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday will consider a proposal to name the new High Desert Government Center in Hesperia in honor of U.S. Representative Jerry Lewis. The name of the facility is proposed to be the Jerry Lewis High Desert San Bernardino County Government Center.

“I cannot think of a leader who has done more for the residents of our County than Congressman Lewis has,” said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who is proposing the name. “I hope this honor conveys the gratitude we feel for his distinguished service.”

Providing for the residents of the region has been Congressman Lewis’ life work for three decades, during which time he has served as a member of the California State Legislature and U.S. House of Representatives. The county is home to many programs, facilities and institutions critical to the Inland region’s growth, prosperity and quality of life that have been realized with Congressman Lewis’ support. He has worked closely with local officials to bring federal support to improve the county’s three major highway systems and in the creation of a revolutionary cancer treatment center and space research location at Loma Linda University. He has been a leader in the transition of two closed military bases into significant aviation facilities. His efforts brought the construction of the Seven Oaks Dam and Santa Ana flood control project serving three counties. He ensured that the county has had the resources to avert a catastrophic fire in the San Bernardino Mountains, and has sponsored countless legislative measures securing relief for fire, flood, drought and earthquakes in California.

The government center, currently under construction at 15900 Smoke Tree Street in Hesperia in the city’s civic center area, is expected to open in October. It will provide a centralized location for High Desert residents to access County services, including: Agriculture/Weights and Measures, Assessor, Code Enforcement, Environmental Health Services, Fire Department, Land Use Services, Public Works, Recorder, Registrar of Voters, Tax Collector and Veterans Affairs.

The 67,000-square-foot building is being constructed on 4.42 acres of land donated by the City of Hesperia adjacent to its new City Hall and library and is being built in conjunction with the new city police station to save costs.

The county did not ask for nor receive any directed federal funding for the new government center.