



CFC Newsletter

August 2006

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Legislation
- Fire Season Update
- Outreach
- Staffing
- Board Meeting
- Film Location News
- Education Issue
- Articles

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On August 7th the California Legislature reconvenes in Sacramento to complete the 2006 legislative calendar. The last day for all bills to pass through their respective houses is September 9th and the Governor has until October 9, 2006 to sign, veto or not sign all bills that have reached his desk.

The California Film Commission continues to work with key Republican and Democratic legislators to move AB 777 through the legislature before the end of this final legislative session. In its current form, AB777 is a California Film Production Tax Credit targeting specific types of motion picture productions (primarily features, MOWs, and commercials) that continue to shoot their projects outside the state due to budget reasons.

Representatives from IATSE, Teamsters, California Labor Federation, Screen Actors Guild, DGA, PGA, AFTRA, CFC board members, Studios, Valley Industry Commerce Association, IFTA, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and FLICS members continue their outreach efforts to elected officials on the urgent need for this film incentive.

FIRE SEASON UPDATE

Throughout the past several weeks more than 85,000 acres of the Yucca Valley in San Bernardino County has burned and affected film and TV productions shooting in that region. As this fire continues to burn filmmakers must remember to contact the CFC directly in order to determine current fire conditions and the availability of Fire Safety Officers and CHP Officers to monitor their filming activities. To view current fire information go to: www.fire.ca.gov

CFC OUTREACH EFFORTS

Amy Lemisch, Director of the CFC, continues her efforts to reach out to a variety of organizations throughout the state and further educate them on the policies and programs that the CFC finds successful in making California more film friendly. On July 15th Amy participated in the Independent Cities Association Conference panel discussion on the pros and cons of filming in your local city. The panel's participants included: Manhattan Beach City Council member Richard Montgomery, Location Manager Brian Haynes, San Diego Film Commissioner Cathy Anderson, and Joe Cerrell, Chairman of Cerrell and Associates.

On July 25th Amy, along with Steve MacDonald of Film LA inc., presented an overview of Foreign and Domestic Film Production Incentives, the competition, and the economic benefits motion picture production brings to an area.

This Entertainment Industry Conference was hosted by the California CPA Education Foundation. Other notable speakers at the conference included Bernie Brillstein (Brillstein/Grey Entertainment) and Rob Moore (Paramount Pictures).

California Film Commission
7080 Hollywood Blvd.,
Suite 900
Hollywood, CA 90028
323-860-2690
www.film.ca.gov

Save the Date:

CFC Board Meeting
Friday, Sept. 8, 2006
1:30 – 3:30
Screen Actors Guild
5757 Wilshire Blvd.

STAFF UPDATE

It was a sad day for us at the CFC when Deputy Director, Michael Kelly finally packed his bags for his new post covering Government Relations for the Boeing Company based in Seal Beach. While he will be deeply missed, we appreciate all the hard work, dedication, and integrity he gave to the CFC over the years and we wish him all the best in his new position.

CFC QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING UPDATE

The next CFC Board meeting is scheduled for September 8th at 1:30 and will be held at the Screen Actors Guild, located at 5757 Wilshire Blvd. (East of Fairfax). Meetings will be held in the James Cagney conference room.

For more information, please contact Joseph Cruz, 323/860-2960 x170.

NEW OR IMPROVED FILM LOCATIONS

The CFC in partnership with Caltrans offers filmmakers a multitude of roadways throughout California. California's state operated roadways wind through seaside towns, cities, mountains, valleys and deserts. Please contact the CFC throughout the year to inquire about unique opportunities to film on roadways that have yet to be opened to the public because of construction. In the past, CFC and Caltrans have worked with numerous productions, granting them the great opportunity to capture that one shot that would not be available once the road has opened.

Currently, Caltrans has made a portion of the 210 freeway in Rialto (San Bernardino County) available to filmmakers. The section of freeway from Alder Street east for ½ mile has four lanes in each direction and is empty and scheduled to open in 2007. It is available to filmmakers who meet the state's filming guidelines. Please contact Catherine Adamic at the CFC cadamic@film.ca.gov or 323-860-2960 x104 for further information.

EDUCATIONAL ISSUE

In August 2004, Governor Schwarzenegger issued an Executive Order that established a list of Executive Film Liaisons for numerous Agencies and Departments within state government. The California Film Commission continues to work closely with a wide variety of Departments, Commissions and Agencies on developing film friendly policies and programs.

Please visit the CFC's www.cinemascout.com web site for updated filming locations at any of these facilities and please feel free to contact the CFC with any questions or concerns you may have when filming on state owned property. The CFC should always remain your first point of contact when filming on state property and stands ready to work with all of state government to resolve your production related issues.

NEWS ARTICLES

7/7/06 - Palos Verdes - Daily Breeze - On screen: Long Point's Final Close-Up
7/14/06 - Shoot - Filming incentives missing from California
7/15/06 - Contra Costa Times - Hollywood bill raises fear of slippery slope for tax cuts
7/16/06 - The Eureka Reporter-County film commissioner, production crews favor Canada
7/16/06 - Ridgecrest-The Daily Independent - Guest commentary Ridgecrest Film Comm
7/26/06 - LA Daily News - Local production slips
8/1/06 - Variety - Runaway drain

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