

# City Manager's Update

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

I hope that this email finds you all doing great and enjoying a tremendous week!

In an effort to provide an update of important news and notes from this last week, the following report has been prepared. As always, please feel free to let me know if you have a question about any of the items contained in this update – I can be reached via email at [ochi@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:ochi@ci.monrovia.ca.us)!

Please have a wonderful rest of the week!

Best regards,  
Oliver

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## **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come.*

-Victor Hugo

## **INFORMATION REGARDING SERVICES FOR FORMER MAYOR BOB BARTLETT**

On the evening of Sunday, October 11, 2015, former Monrovia Mayor Bob Bartlett passed away. During this past week, the services for Bob were finalized as follows:

### ▪ **Viewing**

- Thursday, October 22, 2015 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Woods Valentine Mortuary (1455 North Fair Oaks, Pasadena)

### ▪ **Services**

- Friday, October 23, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at United Methodist Church (140 East Palm Avenue, Monrovia)
- Parking for the services will be available at the following three locations:
  - Public parking lot at the north-west corner of Ivy Avenue and Lime Avenue
  - Parking lot at the Bethel AME Church at the south-east corner of Lime Avenue and Primrose (shuttle service from this location will be available to transport guests to the United Methodist Church)
  - Public parking structure at the Colorado Commons located on Colorado Boulevard between Primrose Avenue and Myrtle Avenue (shuttle service from this location will be available to transport guests to the United Methodist Church)

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- **Burial**

- Friday, October 23, 2015 immediately following services at Live Oak Cemetery (200 East Duarte Road, Monrovia)

- **Repat**

- Friday, October 23, 2015 immediately following burial at Second Baptist Church (925 South Shamrock Avenue, Monrovia)
- Parking for the repast will be available at the former Albertson's shopping center parking lot located on the north side of Huntington Drive between Shamrock Avenue and Mountain Avenue (shuttle service from this location will be available to transport guests to Second Baptist Church)

The City will be working to assist former Mayor Bob Bartlett's family in preparation for the services on Friday.

## **STATION SQUARE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

During the last few weeks, staff has been working in concert with our contractors to coordinate the completion of the overall Station Square project. Based on the progress that has been made to date, we anticipate that substantial completion for the project will be achieved by mid- to late-November 2015.

Based on the remaining work and estimated completion schedule, and given scheduling challenges during the holiday season, staff is recommending that we coordinate the official dedication and grand opening of Station Square Park for early 2016.

## **NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF PECK ROAD / DUARTE ROAD IS SCHEDULED TO BE TURNED ON THIS WEEK**

During the past few weeks, we have been working in cooperation with Southern California Edison to complete the electrical work necessary to power on the new traffic signal that has been installed at the intersection of Peck Road and Duarte Road. We are pleased to report that all of the necessary electrical improvements have been made, and that the new signal is scheduled to be turned on this week!

## **NEW SIGNS AT EL NIDO AVENUE AND HILLCREST BOULEVARD**

In response to concerns that were raised by neighbors living in vicinity of the Hillcrest Boulevard / El Nido Avenue intersection, the Traffic Safety Committee commissioned a study of El Nido Avenue that was undertaken by the Monrovia Police Department. The review determined that there was a sufficient amount of vehicular traffic on the street moving at a speed that would warrant citations. It appears that drivers have been using El Nido Avenue as an alternative route to get around traffic congestion.

Given the results of this review, the Traffic Safety Committee voted to authorize the installation of a "No Left Turn" sign and additional street striping to help calm the traffic in the area to improve safety. Given this

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approval, the City installed the "No Left Turn" sign for west bound traffic on Hillcrest Boulevard looking to turn south onto El Nido Avenue and also put down additional street striping at the location. We will continue to monitor the situation moving forward.

## **WATER VALVE BREAK RESULTS IN A GEYSER ON COLORADO BOULEVARD**

On Wednesday, October 14, 2015, we had a valve break that resulted in a geyser erupting on Colorado Boulevard! During a scheduled water shut down to perform routine repairs, in the 600 block of West Colorado Boulevard near Mayflower Avenue, a twelve inch (12") water valve malfunctioned and created the scene, as captured in the attached picture below!



Our City crews did an outstanding job of working together and responding to the incident. The geyser was stopped quickly, however, water services located one block to the north and south in each direction of the break had to be shut-off from Violet Avenue to Magnolia Avenue. Going that extra mile, our team went ahead and coordinated a redirect of water supplies to ensure that temporary water would be available to two schools in the area to minimize interruptions for our students. In addition, City staff also delivered water to an elderly resident who was unable to leave their home.

Working throughout the day, our team was able to get all water services restored by the afternoon. Special thanks to John Dunncliff for his leadership in responding to the situation, and to Daniel Lee for his work on coordinating our response and communicating the issues involved with our team!

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## **HISTORICAL MUSEUM ROOF REPAIRS UPDATE**

We wanted to share that we have run into a slight delay with the repair of the roof at the Historical Museum. The repair work at the Historical Museum was supposed to begin this past week, however, the contractor that was identified as the selected vendor for the repair work was unable to supply the City with the appropriate insurance certificates.

Based on this development, staff identified Navarro Roofing as the selected contractor to perform the repair work. The cost estimate supplied by Navarro Roofing is \$32,000, which is above the staff authorization limit of \$25,000. Therefore, this item was brought forward for City Council consideration at our October 20, 2015 City Council meeting and was approved..

## **ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITOES IN MONROVIA, UPDATE FROM SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

Recently, the City was informed by the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District (MVCD) that Asian Tiger Mosquitos are in the area, and that they are aggressive and biting even during the daytime hours! This specific breed of mosquitos are invasive to our area and getting bitten by one of these insects tends to cause more irritation, larger bumps, and more itching than other types of mosquito bites. Additionally, Asian Tiger Mosquitoes are known vectors of several types of human arboviruses, including chikungunya and dengue in humans.

Asian Tiger Mosquitos can be recognized by their small black body, which have distinctive white stripes. Feel free to watch the MVCDs public services announcement regarding the Asian Tiger Mosquito at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRwy0TZCiOQ>

Some tips that were shared by the MVCD regarding preventing the spread of mosquitos include the following:

- Mosquitoes require stagnant, or standing, water to breed. Residents should strive to eliminate any standing water from their yards, watered vegetation, planters, and flower pots.
- After every rain, remember to "Dump and Drain" any areas with standing water. Even a small amount of water will create a breeding ground.
- Residents who suspect that Asian Tiger Mosquitoes are present in their yards should routinely dispose of or carefully clean and disinfect any containers that hold water.

A brochure outlining additional tips has been included as an attachment to this email. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the MVCD at (626) 814-9466. Additional information can also be found online at: <http://www.sgvmosquito.org/index.php>, and service requests can be submitted electronically at [http://www.sgvmosquito.org/submit\\_service\\_request.php](http://www.sgvmosquito.org/submit_service_request.php).

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Finally, in an effort to provide additional information regarding this particular matter, the City has tentatively scheduled to have a representative from the MVCD attend our November 3, 2015 City Council meeting to address the matter publicly.

## **GOLD LINE OPENING DATE SET TO BE ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK**

Last week, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) shared that they will be announcing the future opening date for the Metro Gold Line this Thursday, October 22, 2015. The overall Gold Line extension project cost from Pasadena to Azusa cost nearly \$1 billion, and the 11.5-mile rail extension will connect the cities of Arcadia, Monrovia, Duarte, Irwindale and Azusa to Metro's rapidly growing countywide rail network. We will be certain to share the news once the official opening date for the Gold Line has been announced!

## **25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY" SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 24, 2015**

Just a reminder... on Saturday, October 24, 2015, hundreds of volunteers, together with the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley and the City of Monrovia, will participate in the *25<sup>th</sup> Annual Make a Difference Day* event. Created by the Points of Light Foundation, *Make a Difference Day* is the largest community service effort in the nation and rallies volunteers, community leaders, youth and charitable organizations into action serving community members in need.

This year, 20 community beautification projects have been identified in Monrovia and range from park and neighborhood clean-up activities to home repairs for senior citizens and residents who are economically distressed. Giving back and making a difference is a central part of the character of our community, and to date, there are approximately 250 volunteers who have signed up to assist and are looking forward to giving back to Monrovia. Anyone who is interested in participating or who would like to obtain additional information can contact the Monrovia Volunteer Center at (626) 256-8187!

## **ASSEMBLY MEMBER HOLDEN ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR YOUNG LEGISLATORS PROGRAM**

We received word last week that Assembly Member Holden's office is now accepting applications for the "Young Legislators Program." The program targets high school seniors who are interested in gaining leadership experience to help impact the community in a positive manner. Selected participants will have the chance to learn about how ideas become laws, visit successful local companies, and even take a trip to the State Capitol!

The application deadline is November 15, 2015, and questions should be directed to Ms. Alex Zucco via the following contact information:

- [Alex.Zucco@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Alex.Zucco@asm.ca.gov)
- (626) 351-1917

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## **WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE FROM TURCH AND ASSOCIATES**

The latest update from our federal lobbying firm of Turch and Associates has been uploaded to our website at the link below for your review and focuses on the House transportation schedule, debt ceiling deadlines, and sanctuary city legislation.

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/citymanagersoffice/page/washington-dc-legislative-updates>

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT SEMI-WEEKLY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REPORT**

The most recent Police Department semi-weekly neighborhood watch report for the period October 12 – 14, 2015 has been uploaded to our website at the link below for your review and reference. During the past seven-day period, the Monrovia Police Department handled 437 service events, resulting in 67 total investigations.

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/police/page/semi-weekly-report>

That's it for this update, I do hope you have a wonderful rest of the week!

Best regards,  
Oliver

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