

# City Manager's Update

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Hello everyone!

I hope that this email finds you all doing well and enjoying a terrific week!

In an effort to provide an update of important news and notes from this past 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 report – 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,  
Oliver

---

## **MONROVIANS DOING MORE THAN THEIR PART TO CONSERVE WATER**

Recently, the City adopted updated water conservation measures, and an overview of the new regulations that are in place are outlined in a separate update item listed below. In advance of highlighting components related to the new regulations, however, we wanted to share that Monrovia residents are doing more than their part to conserve water in the midst of our current drought.

As you may recall, the water conservation goals that have been established by the State mandate that we compare our current monthly water usage levels with the same corresponding period in 2013. Furthermore, we had previously reported that **in May 2015, Monrovia residents as a whole reduced our overall water consumption levels by 20.25% when compared with May 2013!**

As we have moved into the summer months, we are delighted to report that Monrovia residents have continued to do their part! As a community, we have been able to **reduce our overall water usage levels by 34.5% in June 2015 when compared with June 2013!** What tremendous work by the community!

It should also be noted that the City as a water customer has also been doing a great job of conserving water during this drought. For April 2015, the City reduced its water usage level by 29% when compared with April 2013. Furthermore, for May 2015, the City was able to reduce its water usage levels by 46% when compared with May 2013.

All told, Monrovia residents are certainly stepping up to the plate and doing their part during this drought! Great job to our entire community!

## **PHASE IV OF MONROVIA'S WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE NOW IN EFFECT**

On Tuesday, July 21, 2015, the City Council voted to elevate the City to Phase IV of the Water Conservation Ordinance. Additional information regarding the changes, along with the updated regulations, can be viewed online at the following locations:

[http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city\\_council/meeting/1877/ph-1.pdf](http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city_council/meeting/1877/ph-1.pdf)

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/publicworks/page/water-conservation-emergency-regulations>

A summary of the key items regarding the transition to the Phase IV water conservation level includes the following:

- Monrovia moved from a voluntary 10% reduction in water use in Phase I to a **mandatory** 28% reduction in Phase IV. This means it is now required to follow the regulations listed in Phase IV.

# City Manager's Update

- The 28% reduction in water use is to be measured by comparing current monthly water usage against the same period in 2013.
- If a customer would like to see how they are currently doing compared to their 2013 base year usage, they may email a request to [MyWaterUse@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:MyWaterUse@ci.monrovia.ca.us) or call the Water Conservation Hotline at **(626) 932-5573**.
  - Customers should provide the following information when requesting water usage data:
    - Name
    - Email address (preferred) or phone number
    - Customer address
    - Customer number and account number found at the top of your water bill
  - Once a request is received, staff will respond within 1-2 weeks with a water usage report and percent savings level.
- Although the stricter regulations are now in effect, we have begun a 45-day Educational Period. Through September 4, 2015, we will be conducting significant outreach to the community to help raise awareness of the Phase IV mandatory regulations, and any enforcement / penalty mechanisms will not be engaged until September 5, 2015
- Residents and businesses are restricted to watering no more than every fourth day (or about once per week) between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m., for a maximum of 15 minutes for any landscaped area (i.e., 15 minutes per watering station, and not 15 minutes for the entire property).
  - Limiting watering to these hours helps minimize water lost to evaporation or the heat of the day.
  - Additionally, watering efforts should not be engaged if there was measurable rain over the last 48 hours or if there is high wind.
- The enforcement mechanism included with Phase IV restrictions includes the following six-step Enforcement Plan:
  - First violation results in a door hanger containing water conservation information.
  - Second violation results in phone or in-person Staff contact providing conservation information.
  - Third violation results in a formal written notice containing information on the fines that may be issued if additional violations occur.
  - Fourth violation may result in a \$100 fine.
  - Fifth violation may result in a \$200 fine.
  - Sixth or more violations may result in a \$300 fine.
- The City wants to emphasize that the goal is to conserve water and comply with State mandates, not to issue a high number of fines or collect more money from our residents and businesses.
- The City Manager or his designee can issue variances for customers who have received a violation notice and have extenuating circumstances that require them to conserve less water.

It is also important to note that the Public Services Department will be hosting a Water Conservation outreach booth at the Friday Night Street Fair every Friday evening through September 4, 2015. Please feel free to stop by to ask questions, pick up informational materials, and win free giveaways! In addition, more information will soon be available online at the City's website, and City staff will also be taking the overall water conservation presentation "on the road" to service clubs, senior clubs, and community groups. Lastly, we will all soon see banners and lawn signs throughout Monrovia highlighting the need to continue to conserve water during this current drought.

# City Manager's Update

## **CITY COUNCIL AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD LAST MONDAY**

Just a quick FYI... last week, the newly formed City Council Audit Committee met with staff and our financial auditors for a pre-planning meeting in advance of our Fiscal Year 2014/15 Audit. The subcommittee members – Council Member Shevlin and Council Member Crudginton, along with finance staff – met with our auditors to provide background and information regarding key components to focus on as we prepare to engage in our annual audit activities.

## **LABLAUNCH MONROVIA UPDATE**

Just a quick note to let everyone know that LabLaunch Monrovia is a national finalist in the Small Business Administration's "Growth Accelerators" competition. As part of that competition, the following video was developed highlighting some of the great biotechnology work happening here in town!

<https://vimeo.com/133087004>

Moving forward, staff has been engaged in discussions with LabLaunch Monrovia regarding further partnership opportunities, and we are tentatively planning on providing an overview of those efforts at our August 4, 2015 City Council meeting.

## **NEW SIGNS GO UP AT STATION SQUARE!**

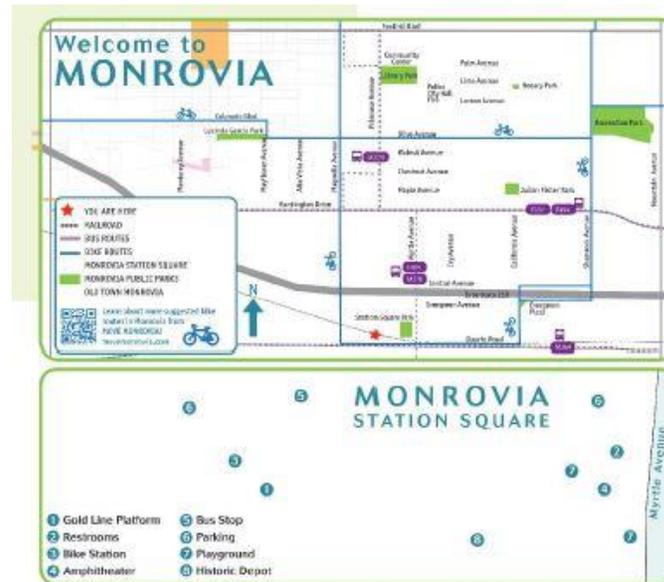
Station Square is beginning to show off some of the finishing details as we near completion of our construction activities. This past week saw the installation of two very visible items at the project site, including the installation of the "Monrovia" sign by the 210 Freeway and Myrtle Avenue, and the installation of the trellises for the new band shell at Station Square Park.



Regarding the "Monrovia" sign that was installed on the south side abutment of the 210 Freeway at Myrtle Avenue, the updated signage certainly adds a great new feature highlighting our community! Initial feedback that we received was that the sign may look a bit small, however, as we move forward, additional artistic leaf details will soon be added to the "Monrovia" sign, as well as more landscape to finish off the area. When those components are included, the scale / size of the sign will begin to blend better with its surroundings.

One additional piece of information included for your information is a sneak peek at some of the new signage that will be placed in Station Square Park. Below is one of the proposed maps that have been developed for installation at a kiosk at Station Square for your review! As we move forward, the overall project is expected to be completed within the next 4-6 weeks, and we are all looking forward to the new park being finished!

# City Manager's Update



## **TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT MYRTLE & POMONA SET TO "GO HOT"**

The traffic signal at the intersection of Myrtle and Pomona is scheduled to "go hot" (or be turned on) this coming Friday, July 31, 2015. At that point in time, the road construction activities at the location will be complete, thereby allowing the traffic signal crew to finish their work.

## **BANNERS IN OLD TOWN**

Last week, our Parks Team, downtown caretaker and YES interns placed nearly 100 streetlight banners in Old Town. The banners were submitted by Monrovia High School as part of their recognition of the graduating seniors from the Class of 2015. The team was able to work together to complete the job in half a day, and they certainly do add a great sense of community downtown!

## **TRAFFIC ON DUARTE**

Just a quick FYI... the Public Services Department received multiple calls this past week regarding traffic buildup on Duarte Road between Myrtle Avenue and California Avenue. The congestion was caused by the loss of the advance vehicle detector from our recent street paving activities. Our team is working with our contractors and the updated traffic loops will be replaced in the very near future to facilitate smoother traffic flow patterns in the area.

## **NEW CITY FLEET VEHICLE WASHING PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTED**

We wanted to share that in light of the current need to conserve water, the City has implemented new fleet vehicle washing procedures. Currently, the City washes all passenger vehicles every other week, and also washes ½ ton or larger trucks on a monthly basis. As part of the new program, we will be washing passenger vehicles once per month moving forward, and ½ ton or larger trucks on a bi-monthly basis. Of course, the City will not be jeopardizing the maintenance of our fleet with these procedural changes, and at times, a more frequent washing schedule may be needed.

# City Manager's Update

## FOOTHILL GOLD LINE UPDATE

Last week, the Foothill Gold Line shared that they are only about two months away from reaching substantial completion of the Foothill Gold Line from Pasadena to Azusa, and that their work is ramping down. Final touches are being made at each station along the new Gold Line route and at the intermodal parking facilities, and testing is ongoing. Moving forward, station dedications have been scheduled for each City, per the following schedule:

- Duarte/City of Hope Station Dedication: Saturday, August 15, 2015 - 10:00 AM
- Arcadia Station Dedication: Saturday, August 22, 2015 - 10:00 AM
- Irwindale Station Dedication: Friday, August 28, 2015 – 5:00 PM
- **Monrovia Station Dedication: Saturday, September 12, 2015 – 10:00 AM**
- Azusa Downtown & APU/Citrus College Station Dedication: Saturday, September 19, 2015 – 10:00 AM

Please note – Monrovia's Station Dedication event is scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2015, at 10 a.m. Concurrently, the City is also planning a dedication event to formally open Station Square Park that same day following the Gold Line Station Dedication event. Moving forward, the actual new Gold Line services are scheduled to begin operating in the Spring of 2016.

## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT COMPLETED AT CANYON PARK

Just a quick note to let the team know that Angel Benitez from Boy Scout Troop 483 recently completed his Eagle Scout Project by making improvements at Canyon Park. Angel led a team in the creation of a new fence around a native plant garden at the Nature Center. Canyon Park staff was very impressed with how Angel was able to lead his team, and we appreciate the efforts of Troop 483 in helping to enhance Canyon Park!



## 2015 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES OFF TO A RAINY START

The City of Monrovia was set to host the second concert of the 2015 Summer Concert Series on July 19, 2015, until the rain started! Fortunately, the band and staff were able to get all of the equipment and supplies put away before the down pour began. Staff posted signs, manned the front counter and answered phone calls to inform the public of the cancellation. Staff is currently looking to extend the Concert Series one additional week to make up for the loss, and additional information will be shared once the details have been coordinated.

# City Manager's Update

The Summer Concert Series resumed this past Sunday, July 26, 2015, at the Rotary Club Bandshell, in Library Park. The community enjoyed rock ballads sung by "The Bulldogs Classic Rock Band," with the event having been sponsored by Bowden Development, Inc. and Century 21 Adams and Barnes.

Looking forward, the schedule for the remainder of the summer includes the following:

- August 2: Cold Duck - Old School 40's Music
- August 9 - Time Bomb - Hits from 1975 to 1985
- August 16 - Mariachi Divas - Mariachi Music
- August 23 - Pickleback Shine - Today's Country Music
- August 30 - Yari More Latin Band - Latin/Salsa Music

All concerts begin at 7 p.m. at the Rotary Bandshell at Library Park – looking forward to seeing everyone there! And if you have any questions, please contact the Public Services Department at (626) 256-8246.

## **RAINY WEEKEND IN CANYON PARK**

The sky is not falling, but a tree or two in Canyon Park may have! Last weekend's rainfall in Monrovia brought much needed rain to our City. Unfortunately for our trees, the extra moisture caused some problems. We had an Oak tree limb and Alder tree fall on the Canyon Park access roads. Fortunately staff and volunteers were quick to respond, and the tree and limbs were cleared from the roads allowing full access to the park within couple of hours.

## **JUICING 101 PROGRAM**

On Friday, July 17, 2015, the Library hosted a Juicing 101 program. City employee Niles Boyer discussed the benefits of juicing and how it may improve health. Niles' wife and grandchildren assisted with this free presentation. Twenty-five enthusiastic attendees enjoyed sampling a variety of juices and asked a lot of follow-up questions.



# City Manager's Update

## **FREE SUMMER MOVIE SERIES SET TO WRAP-UP ON AUGUST 8, 2015**

The City of Monrovia and Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) is hosting a free Summer Movie Series for the community. Our final movie night event is scheduled to take place on August 8, 2015, starting at 8 p.m. at Grand Avenue Park! For more information regarding the Summer Movie Series, please contact the Monrovia Community Center at (626) 256-8246. The schedule for the remainder of the summer is as follows:

- **Big Hero 6** – Saturday, August 8 at Grand Avenue Park (movie begins at approximately 8 p.m.)

Don't forget to bring your chair, and we're looking forward to seeing everyone in the park on August 8, 2015!

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

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

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

Best regards,  
Oliver

---

**OLIVER CHI**  
City Manager

City of Monrovia  
415 South Ivy Avenue  
Monrovia, CA 91016  
Office: (626) 932-5501