

City Manager's Update

June 2, 2015

Happy Tuesday, I hope that this email finds you doing great!

For your reference, please enjoy the following collection of City news and notes from the past week. And also, please feel free to let me know if you have any questions regarding the update items – I can be reached via email at ochi@ci.monrovia.ca.us.

Have an amazing rest of the week!

Best regards,
Oliver

HOMELESSNESS AND PARK CONDUCT COMMITTEE BEING RECONVENED

During the past several weeks, staff has been working to review the effectiveness of our current response to the homelessness issues that exist in our community, and to assess potential responses to new transient population issues that have arisen more recently. To that end, Chief Hunt has worked to reconvene the Homelessness and Park Conduct Committee to review the effectiveness of our current strategies, as well as discuss potential adjustments moving forward.

Our current efforts have been based on the recommendations developed by the Homelessness & Park Conduct Committee that was established in 2014. The six ideas that the group came up with include:

1. Community Outreach Educational Programming
2. Directed Giving Campaign
3. Populate the Parks with Programs
4. Neighborhood Park Watch
5. Video Surveillance Cameras
6. Restorative Court Program

Of late, new issues transient oriented concerns have been raised, and we plan on engaging the committee in a discussion regarding the following items:

- Assess strategies for addressing the rise in transient populations living in recreational vehicles throughout the City
- Determine next steps for the directed giving campaign
- Discuss current status of the six initial recommendations adopted by the City Council

The committee will be meeting here again in the next week or two, and we will be sure to keep everyone apprised of the progress that we make here moving forward.

MOTHER OF CITY TREASURER STEVE BAKER PASSES AWAY

As you may have heard by now, our City Treasurer and Monrovia's Historian Steve Baker lost his mother last Friday, May 29, 2015. She lived to be 101 years old, and it appears that she passed quite peacefully. There will be a service in Ventura where she lived, and likely one here in Monrovia. Steve and his sister plan on coordinating all details related to those arrangements, and if anyone would like to send a card or a note to Steve, correspondences can be forwarded to City Hall,

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where we'll ensure that they get passed along. Additionally, we honored Steve's mom by adjourning Tuesday's City Council Meeting in honor of Mr. Baker's mom.

TWO DRINKING FOUNTAINS IN OLD TOWN GETTING FIXED

Last week, we were made aware of problems with two drinking fountains in Old Town that were not functioning. The first drinking fountain was the old Wishing Well Drinking Fountain, and the other drinking fountain is the one located in the walkway between Chang Thai Bistro and Pinkberry. It appears that the Wishing Well Drinking Fountain was totally inoperable, while the drinking fountain located in the walkway was leaking and in need of maintenance.

Staff did look into both of these issues this past week, and we are happy to report that both drinking fountains are currently getting fixed and should be fully repaired within the next week or two. It appears that there was a mechanical failure with the valve connected to the water line at the Wishing Well Drinking Fountain, and new parts have been ordered and the work has been scheduled. As for the other drinking fountain in the walkway, our crack staff at Public Services fixed the leak, polished the equipment, and ordered some new replacement parts that should be here soon. We will continue to monitor these drinking fountains, and all of the other drinking fountains we have, moving forward!

PUBLIC SERVICES TEAM COORDINATES SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

Our team at Public Services has been busy these past few weeks completing various projects throughout Monrovia. An overview of the significant initiatives that were recently completed include the following:

- Our Street Team recently completed a comprehensive review and removal of all small trip hazards in Old Town. The project included grinding all sidewalk lifts that were less than 1 inch in height. Moving forward the more pronounced lifts have been recorded and we have scheduled those for removal and replacement.
- As you may recall, our Parks Team coordinated the trimming of our Morton Bay Fig Tree in Library Park this past Friday, May 29, 2015. We have also scheduled to have all of the other trees in Library Park trimmed on Saturday, June 13, 2015.



- On Tuesday May 26, 2015, our Facilities Team coordinated the installation of new carpeting in the Canyon Park Cabin. The previous carpet was installed when the cabin was remodeled in the 1990s and was beginning to look worn. Staff was able to install the updated flooring using a new 'carpet tile' system that will allow for the seamless change-out of individual carpet tiles should any of them be damaged and/or stained, rather than have to replace the entire carpet section.
- In addition to the new carpet at the Cabin, a new restroom privacy screen was purchased and is available for renters. The screen allows more discrete access to the very public restroom.
- New sinks and automatic faucets are being installed at the Community Center. The men's restroom received the new fixtures last week and the ladies restroom is scheduled for Monday, June 1, 2015.

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4TH OF JULY CONCERT AND FIREWORKS SHOW

The City of Monrovia's 4th of July Concert and Fireworks Show is scheduled for Saturday, July 4, in Library Park; located at 321 South Myrtle Avenue. After saving seats for the Fireworks show, those who attend the event can look forward to great shopping and dining along Myrtle Avenue. Live entertainment featuring the band *Person to Person* will begin at 7:00 p.m., followed by the free 20 minute fireworks show at 9:00 p.m. As we have allowed in past years, spectators may reserve a park space no larger than 10 x 10 feet, which must be supervised at all times. A new program that will be offered this year will be a decorating contest, where spectators display their patriotic decorations within their 10 x 10 foot park space, with a chance to win a prize for most patriotic, most creative, or the judges award! We have also been coordinating several other new events to coordinate with our 4th of July event, and we are looking forward to hosting a spectacular function for Monrovia!

EMERGENCY BOOSTER PUMP REPAIRS NEEDED FOR THE MOUNTAIN AVENUE BOOSTER STATION

One of the City's most important booster stations is located at 510 South Mountain Avenue. That facility, which is known as the Mountain Avenue Booster Station, feeds both the Cloverleaf Reservoir and the other portions of the Cloverleaf Pressure Zone. In total, 90.95% of all of the water supplied to customers runs through this particular booster pump location.

It appears that one of the critical booster pumps (Booster 2-4) at the Mountain Avenue Booster Station has been inoperable since February 2005. This situation does need to be resolved, as we are relying on our other pumps at the station operating at full capacity in order to be able to supply enough water to our customers during our summer months. In fact, our team observed that during the summer of 2014 that we on several occasions nearly ran out of water for the Cloverleaf Pressure Zone due to the fact that our remaining booster pumps could not quite keep up with the customer demand on our water systems.

To further exacerbate the situation, during a very recent inspection, staff determined that one of the remaining critical booster pumps (Booster 2-1) at the Mountain Avenue Booster Station is in need of major repairs. While that booster pump is operating now, staff is certain that the pump will fail at some point in the near future.

Given this situation, we are currently undertaking emergency repairs to Booster Pump 2-4 at the Mountain Avenue Booster Station to ensure that we will not have a system failure should Booster Pump 2-1 stop working.

ENHANCEMENTS TO THE MUD / DEBRIS BARRIERS DEVELOPED BY OUR PUBLIC SERVICES TEAM

In an effort to continually develop improvements for our residents, our Public Services Team recently hit upon an inexpensive and brilliantly simple solution to a problem that was vexing residents on Highland Place who had mud / debris barriers installed.

After the last rain event, while the barriers worked beautifully, we found that the holes that are used to hold the mud barriers in place were getting filled with debris. After looking into the issue, our team found some plumbing caps that would fit into the holes, and we installed about a dozen of them to see if they would hold up to the weathering and the street sweeper. Upon additional review, it turns out that the plumbing caps solution does work great, and we are now in the process of coordinating the implementation of this project throughout Highland Place.

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GOLD LINE M&O YARD TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY BEING EXTENDED THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015

Just a quick note... the Gold Line M&O Yard is currently operating under a temporary certificate of occupancy that is set to expire on June 1, 2015. Our Fire Department was notified this week by Gold Line staff that they will not be able to complete everything needed to obtain their full certificate of occupancy by the current June 1, 2015 deadline. In working with the Gold Line staff, we plan on processing an extension of their temporary certificate of occupancy through June 30, 2015. It also appears that Metro will be formally taking over the M&O Yard by June 30, 2015.

MONROVIA'S OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNIZED BY THE LA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS (LACCOA) AND THE LA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) held their 50th Annual Older American Recognition Day Awards on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion Music Center Grand Hall. Monrovia's Older Americans of the Year, Aynn and Tom Freeman, were recognized at the event by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and LACCOA for their generous volunteer contributions to the City of Monrovia. Special thanks to Aynn and Tom Freeman for all they do in support of Monrovia!

YOUTH SOCCER ENDS A SUCCESSFUL SEASON

The spring soccer semi-final and championship games were played on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at Recreation Park. The semi-final game was played between the Boys and Girls Club, Shamrock Falcons and the Mayflower Mariners. The winner of that game advanced to play Bradoaks Bobcats for the championship title! The Boys and Girls Club team came out strong from the beginning and eventually won the semi-final game by a score of 4-2.

The Championship game was nothing short of a thriller! Bradoaks scored a goal in the first half and then the defenses took over. Neither team scored after that, and Bradoaks won the championship title 1-0!

The final standings for this season's successful youth soccer season were:

1. Bradoaks Bobcats
2. Shamrock Falcons
3. Mayflower Mariners
4. Monroe Lions
5. Wild Rose Bears

The final awards program for the season was also held on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at the Community Center. A great season, and many thanks to the players, staff, and volunteers that made it all possible!

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION POT LUCK SET FOR JUNE 17, 2015

On June 17, 2015, Canyon Park Volunteers and Ranger Reserves will be hosting their annual Public Services Department Volunteer Recognition Summer Picnic/Pot Luck. Volunteers come together to start the summer season with a delicious BBQ, fun raffle prizes, and entertainment in a fun social gathering. During this picnic event, an individual will be awarded the Honorable Golden Pinecone Award, which is presented to the volunteer that has demonstrated outstanding volunteerism and leadership for 2015. We hope you will all be able to join us, as the theme for this year's event is *Aloha in the Forrest*... so break out your best Hawaiian attire and come celebrate the amazing work of our volunteers!

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

Best regards,
Oliver

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City Manager

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