

City Manager's Update

May 5, 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

CELLULAR TOWER PLACEMENT DISCUSSION - RIDGESIDE WATER RESERVOIR

During the past several months, staff has been interfacing with representatives from Verizon Wireless, who have requested that the City consider leasing them space to place a cell tower on our water reservoir off of Ridgeside Drive. Before we would consider the application, however, staff informed Verizon Wireless that they would have to do outreach to the neighbors in the area to ascertain issues of concern in the neighborhood.

An initial meeting that was hosted by Verizon Wireless a few months ago did not go well. Representatives from Verizon Wireless were late to the meeting and were unable to address some very basic concerns raised by the neighbors off of Ridgeside Drive. Following that meeting, we informed Verizon Wireless that we would no longer be considering their application unless they took the outreach process more seriously.

Those discussions culminated in an additional meeting with the neighbors that was coordinated this past week. Representatives from the Community Development Department and the City Manager's Office did a great job facilitating the meeting, and based on feedback from those that participated in the discussion, the conversation with Verizon Wireless at this second meeting resulted in feedback from the residents that they vehemently oppose locating a cell tower on the City's water reservoir off of Ridgeside Drive.

Staff will be meeting this upcoming week to address next steps in the matter, and we will be sure to keep everyone informed moving forward.

COMMISSIONER RECRUITMENT APPLICATION DEADLINE BEING EXTENDED TO MAY 15, 2015

As you may be aware, the application deadline for those interested in serving a Commissioner was initially scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2015. However, given the results of the most recent City Council election, which created an additional vacancy on the Community Services Commission, and given the fact that several incumbent commissioners have decided not to reapply, staff has extended the recruitment period through Friday, May 15, 2015. Please contact City Clerk, Alice Atkins for more information – aatkins@ci.monrovia.ca.us

LAB LAUNCH MONROVIA UPDATE

Working in cooperation with Samuelson Fetter, a new biotech incubator company called Lab Launch Monrovia has executed a lease agreement to locate their operations here in our community. Lab Launch Monrovia is leasing approximately 11,000 square feet of research space at 605 East Huntington Drive via a unique leasing arrangement in

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which Samuelson Fetter discounted their typical lease rates by several hundred thousand dollars in an effort to support local job creation in the science and technology sector here in Monrovia.

At this point in time, based on the work that Lab Launch Monrovia has done to date, they anticipate being able to open their doors by July 1, 2015. Included as an attachment to this email are several outreach and marketing materials that their firm has developed touting their new operations.

In parallel with the efforts of Lab Launch Monrovia, staff has continued working with representatives of Oak Crest Institute of Science in an effort to develop a supplemental science and technology incubator program. This additional program will be focused on attracting entrepreneurs who are not yet at a point where they need the type of lab space offered by Lab Launch Monrovia, and will, in our estimation, enhance the appeal of Monrovia as one of the first places that those working in the science and technology industry will consider when deciding where to locate their business.

GOLD LINE CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY OPERATIONS CAMPUS GRAND OPENING CEREMONY SET FOR 9:30 AM TO 12:30 PM ON SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2015

This past week, staff had a chance to interface with representatives from the Gold Line Construction Authority, who reminded us that a dedication ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Maintenance and Operations Campus will be held on May 23, 2015, from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. As part of that celebration, a portion of the event that day will include the dedication of the park plaza located at the south-east corner of Evergreen and California. That particular park property, which has been named Evergreen Plaza by the Gold Line Construction Authority, will at some point be deeded over to the City. Representatives from the Gold Line have been working with staff to coordinate the process of transferring the park to the City, and we will be certain to keep you informed as to the status of this project as we move forward.

POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY SET FOR MAY 7, 2015

On Thursday, May 7, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., the Police Department will hold its Annual Awards Ceremony in the Monrovia City Council Chambers. A cake and punch reception will follow immediately after in the Police Department Emergency Operation Center. The outstanding men and women of the Monrovia Police Department who will be recognized this year with a Distinguished Service Medal include:

- Sergeant Tom Loy
- Detective Sarah Bushmeyer
- Detective Wendie Contreras
- Detective Chad Harvey
- Detective Stewart Levin
- Detective Kevin Oberon
- Detective Robert Van
- Officer Damien Bartholomy
- Officer Jose Pacheco
- Officer Richard Schneider
- Officer Steven Bracci

Many thanks to these officers for their dedication to changing the world that is Monrovia for the better.

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HAMBY PARK UNITS GETTING INTEREST FROM POTENTIAL BREWERY OPERATIONS

During this past week, staff had inquiries from two separate beer / wine brewery operations that expressed an interest in purchasing one of our Hamby Park units. Based on the inquiries, we did show the site to the potential users and discussed with both the exciting things that are happening down in the Station Square area. In addition to the new Gold Line stop, we described the \$24 million dollars in public enhancements that the City is making, the 261-unit Parks at Station Square residential project, and the exciting development potential of the Wine of the Month Club project. We will continue to work with these new potential users at Hamby Park and will be sure to provide updates regarding this process as additional information becomes available.

FRANCHISING SEMINAR BEING HOSTED BY THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ON MAY 28, 2015

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) will be co-hosting a Franchising Seminar with the International Franchising Association. Information regarding the event includes the following:

"How to Be in Business for Yourself, But Not By Yourself"

Thursday, May 28, 2015

Embassy Suites, Arcadia

211 Huntington Dr.

Arcadia, CA 91006

8am-3pm

\$25 (includes Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Materials)

Those interested in registering for the event can find additional information online at:

<https://arcadiaifa.eventbrite.com>

According to the SGVCOG, those who should attend this event include individuals who:

- Yearn to own their own business
- Have their own business and want to expand it through franchising
- Want to take control of their own destiny
- Desire to understand how franchising works

FOUNTAIN TO THE FALLS RUN/WALK – REGISTRATION FILLING UP FAST!

Registration for *5th Annual Fountain to the Falls* race began February 20, 2015, and to date, we have over 200 participants registered! The overall event, which includes a fitness expo, is scheduled at open at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 9, 2015. The overall race, which is a 7 mile out-and-back race, from the Library Park Fountain to the Canyon Park Waterfall, has been developed in cooperation with the Santa Anita Family YMCA. Medals will be awarded to the best time for male and female participants who finish in first place, second place, and third place in each of the age categories. Please note, the race is limited to 325 participants and advance registration is required as no race day registration will be accepted. The \$35 entry fee includes a participation ribbon and a t-shirt and registration is accepted on-line at www.cityofmonrovia.org. Interested participants can register through May 6, 2015, or until we hit the maximum participant threshold of 325 people. For additional information, please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256-8246.

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CONGRESS WOMAN GRACE NAPOLITANO SET TO HOST A CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST ON MAY 27, 2015

Congress Woman Grace Napolitano will be hosting a Congressional Prayer Breakfast event on May 27, 2015, at the Pacific Palms Hotel in the City of Industry. We will be sure to provide additional information regarding the event as details become available.

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

Best regards,
Oliver

OLIVER CHI
City Manager

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