

City Manager's Update

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

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!

Please have a wonderful rest of the week!

Best regards,
Oliver

KRIS MARICONDA PASSED AWAY LAST WEEK

As I am certain you have heard by now, longtime Monrovia Kris Mariconda passed away last week. A terrific obituary piece penned by the Monrovia Weekly summarizes the positive impact that Kris had on our community throughout her life. The article can be found by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.monroviaweekly.com/obituaries/long-time-monrovia-kris-mariconda-passes-away/>

With service arrangement pending, in lieu of flowers, Kris' family has requested that donations may be made in memory of Kris Mariconda to either of the following organizations:

- Monrovia Historical Museum, 742 E. Lemon Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016
- Monrovia Reads, P.O. Box 1033, Monrovia, CA 91017

L. SPICER LEADS MONROVIA TO VICTORY OVER ARCADIA

I'm certain that you all know the "L. Spicer" I'm talking about... Lawrence Spicer! As has been notated in several publications, Mayor Pro Tem Spicer's son led the Wildcats to victory over the Arcadia Apaches this past Friday. In a performance that is usually reserved for video game scenarios, Lawrence led Monrovia with six rushing touchdowns, including three long runs of 59 yards, 51 yards, and 90 yards! The following link has some great video footage of Lawrence from the game:

<http://www.hudl.com/athlete/2945885/highlights/289062808/v2>

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STUDY SESSION SET FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2015 TO ADDRESS HISTORIC PRESERVATION / NEIGHBORHOOD COMPATIBILITY WORK PLAN

During the past several months, the City has been engaged in an extensive initiative aimed at addressing historic preservation and neighborhood compatibility related issues in Monrovia. These efforts have included engaging the public in a broad based outreach effort to solicit feedback from the community on a variety of important development-related issues. The result was a substantial amount of feedback which provided essential information in identifying issues, potential policy changes, and alternatives.

Based on the feedback received during the public outreach phase of the overall study, the City Council adopted a Policy Direction Statement to guide the Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission and City staff in developing policies and regulations to address issues raised by the community regarding neighborhood compatibility and historic preservation.

As the overall assessment moves forward to the policy development phase, a Historic Preservation Commission study session has been scheduled to allow commission members and staff an opportunity to discuss the development and prioritization of work to be initiated next year. **That meeting has been scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 23 at 5:30 p.m. Monrovia City Hall in the City Council Chambers.**

Additional information regarding this matter can be found on the City's website at:

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/communitydevelopment/webform/monrovia-neighborhood-study>

MONROVIA RENEWAL AND PROPOSITION 218 WATER / SEWER RATE ADJUSTMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19TH AND SEPTEMBER 29TH

As you may recall, the City is currently in the midst of coordinating a Proposition 218 Hearing, which is scheduled to take place on October 6, 2015. At that hearing, the City will consider proposed adjustments to our water and sewer rate structures that have been developed to address our current deferred maintenance related issues associated with our water system and sewer system. In addition, the City has developed a comprehensive multi-year capital improvement program called *Monrovia Renewal*, which seeks to repair our road infrastructure, sidewalk / curb / gutter infrastructure, water infrastructure, and sewer infrastructure over the next 3-5 years.

In an effort to provide additional background related to the *Monrovia Renewal* capital improvement initiative, along with detailed information on the proposed water and sewer rate adjustments, the City has coordinated two community meetings, which are set for the following dates / times:

- Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at the Library Community Room (321 S. Myrtle Avenue)
- Tuesday, September 29, 2015, from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers (415 S. Ivy Avenue)

We hope that you will join us at either or both of these meetings.

MONROVIA-ARCADIA-DUARTE (MAD) TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

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The Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte Town Council will be meeting on September 16, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at Santa Fe Middle School (148 West Duarte Avenue, Monrovia) to discuss issues related to the Foothill Gold Line.



“Monrovia Arcadia Duarte Town Council Meeting”

Wednesday, September 16, 2015 @ 7pm
Santa Fe Middle School
148 W. Duarte Ave., Monrovia, CA

The Town Council would like to invite you to our meeting to learn more about the Foothill Gold Line construction and completion in our area. Come prepared with questions for the following:

**FOOTHILL GOLD LINE
METRO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MONROVIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CITY OF MONROVIA
LA COUNTY SUPERVISORS OFFICE**

Come Join Us

Please join us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/pages/Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte-Town-Council
P.O. Box 893 / Monrovia, CA 91017

52ND ANNUAL CELEBRATE THE ARTS SHOW SET TO TAKE PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 26 – 27, 2015 IN LIBRARY PARK

The Monrovia Association of Fine Arts (MAFA) has been hard at work to coordinate the 52nd Annual “Celebrate the Arts” Show, and Monrovia’s first ever ChalkFest, which will take place on September 26 and 27, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day in Library Park. Nearly 50 area fine artists and 10 chalk artists will display and demonstrate their mastery, and a dozen live musical and dance acts will perform in the afternoons. This year, the show will include many firsts, including:

- The first ChalkFest for Monrovia
- The first kids chalk activities and coloring contest
- The first appearance by students from Mt. Sierra College (11 fine artists and 2 chalk artists)
- The first live glass blowing demonstration
- The first appearance by 18 artists new to MAFA

In addition, students from Monrovia High School and Canyon High School will be on hand to display and demonstrate their ceramics and urban art work. A Silent Auction has also been coordinated to feature the work of participating artists, with all

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proceeds generated from the auction going to support arts education for kids and teens in Monrovia. And as an added feature, food trucks will be on hand throughout the event.

The "Celebrate the Arts" show is truly a joint community event. In addition to the wonderful volunteers at MAFA, the overall program is supported by the City, the Volunteer Center, the Arcadia Association of Realtors, Advantage Ford, Blick Art Supply, ChapCare, Chicago Title, Ward Auto Service, Donna Baker – Realtor, Hugo Torres – Realtor, and Brian Huffman Photography.

We are certainly looking forward to seeing everyone at the event! Also, please feel free to visit the MAFA website (<http://www.monroviafinearts.org/>) for additional information regarding the event.

FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS – NEW MONROVIA TRANSIT BUSES ARE HITTING THE STREETS

Monrovia Transit is rolling out some new vehicles! The first of four new vehicles for the Monrovia Transit dial-a-ride fleet hit the road this week, and the three additional vehicles will be deployed shortly. Three of the new vehicles are mid-sized dial-a-ride buses, designed to fit 12 passengers and 2 wheelchairs. The fourth vehicle has a larger layout, which can accommodate 16 passengers and 2 wheelchairs. Equipped with on-board and road-facing cameras, each of these four new buses are committed to passenger and driver safety.



For additional information regarding the Monrovia Transit system, feel free to call (626) 358-3538, or visit us on the web at:

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/planning/page/monrovia-transit>

SIGN UP FOR THE "ON THE ROAD TO READING CHALLENGE," PRESENTED BY THE MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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The Monrovia Public Library is hosting a reading program for children ages 0-5 to help them gain school readiness skills. The goal is for adults to read as many books as possible to children from September 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016. For every 50 books read, children will receive an incentive to encourage lifelong reading and early literacy skills.

Learning to read begins at birth, and parents and caregivers are a child's first and best teacher. Reading everyday can increase a child's narrative skills, letter knowledge, print awareness, phonological awareness, print motivation, and vocabulary before they head off to kindergarten. In fact, CNN reported in 2014 that by age 4, children who have not been read to on a regular basis often hear fewer words, which leads to a limited vocabulary. 30 million children start Kindergarten with a 'word gap,' and have trouble catching up in their academic future.

Parents and caregivers that are interested in participating in the "On to Road to Reading Challenge" can sign up at the Youth Services Desk at the Monrovia Public Library, or online at <http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/library>. We hope that you will step-up to the challenge!

MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY IS CELEBRATING "BATMAN DAY" ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2015

Did you know that Batman Day is right around the corner? To celebrate the occasion, on Wednesday, September 23, 2015, the Monrovia Public Library will be hosting a Batman Day celebration. The public is welcome... so head towards the Bat Signal at 321 South Myrtle Avenue and join in the festivities!

- All day, patrons can stop by in costume to take their picture in front of the Batman backdrop in the Youth area.
 - Post your pictures online! Be sure to use either the hashtag [#MPLBatmanDay](#) or the hashtag [#MyMonrovia](#)
- Make Batman masks and Batman origami in the Adult and Youth areas of the Library

That day, your dedicated team at the Library is also going to be dressed up as Superheroes! If you have any questions about this fun event, please feel free to contact the Library at (626) 256-8275.



MONROVIA PARK RANGERS AT THE LA COUNTY FAIR

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During the month of September, our very own Monrovia Canyon Park staff will be hosting a booth at the L.A. County Fair. As the attached photo illustrates, Canyon Park staff and volunteers are collaborating with neighboring departments such as Bureau of Land Management, the US Forest Service, & the Los Angeles County Forestry Unit. Visitors at the L.A. County Fair can meet with Monrovia's Park Rangers to learn about resources in recreational parks, educational programs, and environmental outreach. So... if you're at the L.A. County Fair, make time to stop by and say hello to our Canyon Park staff!



KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR THE NEW WATER CONSERVATION SIGNS

In an effort to remind the community that water conservation is the new in-vogue thing to do, the City has installed a new Monrovia Conserves banner on Myrtle Avenue, and is having "Conservation Area" signs placed along our public medians. See the attached photos, and keep your eyes peeled as you travel throughout Monrovia for these new water conservation markers!

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DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR PICTURES VIA THE #MYMONROVIA PROGRAM

Just a reminder that the City has launched a new social media program called, #MyMonrovia. The intent of the program is to provide those that love our community with a chance to share pictures that articulate what Monrovia means to them. Those that enter will have a chance to have their picture shared on the City's Facebook and Twitter pages. To participate, simply post a picture of what Monrovia means to you and be sure to use "#MyMonrovia" or email Candace Rogers in the City Manager's Office at crogers@ci.monrovia.ca.us for a chance to have your picture shared on the City's Facebook and Twitter pages!

"MY MONROVIA"

What does Monrovia mean to you?

Enter for a chance to have your picture shared on the City of Monrovia Facebook and Twitter pages!

1. Post a picture of what Monrovia means to you and be sure to use #MyMonrovia for a chance to have your picture shared on the City's page
2. A picture containing inappropriate content like profane language, nudity, racism and any other offensive content will not be shared
3. Not all pictures submitted will be shared

For information, contact Candace Rogers at crogers@ci.monrovia.ca.us

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WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE FROM TURCH AND ASSOCIATES

The latest update from our federal lobbying firm of Turch and Associates focuses on the Iran nuclear resolution, the highway reauthorization, the Positive Train Control (PTC) extension, John Boehner's future as Speaker, and 9/11 commemorations. To view the Washington D.C. update go to our website at:

<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 September 7 – 9, 2015, has been updated on our website here:

<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,
Oliver

OLIVER CHI
City Manager

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