

City Manager's Update

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Hello everyone!

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!

And of course... all the best to you and yours as we continue through this week!

Best regards,
Oliver

And now... on to this week's update!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history.
– Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

LA TIMES ARTICLE REGARDING STATE AUDITOR IN MONROVIA CONTAINS SEVERAL INACCURACIES

Recently, the City was made aware of an article that the LA Times ran which seemed to indicate that Monrovia was being audited by the State Auditor. The article contained a couple of errors that and we wanted to be sure to share some additional details related to the matter.

You may recall the report in late 2015, that the State Auditor had completed a review of Monrovia and determined that they would not be performing an audit of our organization. We shared those details in the December 8, 2015 City Manager's Update which can be accessed online at:

http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city_managers_office/page/976/cm_update_-_december_8_-_public.pdf

As was mentioned, the more recent LA Times article (which can be accessed online at: <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-state-auditor-program-20161023-snap-story.html>) is not entirely accurate with respect to the State Auditor's involvement here in Monrovia, and to provide some additional background information, it is important to note the following factors:

- First and foremost... **Monrovia is no longer on the list of cities being audited by the State Auditor.**
 - We were notified on July 1, 2015, by the State Auditor that they intended to perform a review of the City.
 - That review was completed, and the assessment made by the State Auditor during their close-out letter stipulated the following:

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- **“As a result of our initial assessment, the state auditor concludes that the city of Monrovia is now taking steps to address the risk factors previously described, and as a result, we will not be seeking approval at this time from the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (audit committee) to perform an audit.”**
 - Based on that assessment, all that we are required to do at this point in time is send the State Auditor an overview of our continued efforts / progress every few months.
 - We have sent the State Auditor additional information in February 2016 and April 2016, and additional information will be shared with the State Auditor later this month.
 - Each time we have sent the State Auditor follow-up information, they have been satisfied that we are continuing to address the issues that they initially identified as being high risk factors.
- When the State Auditor notified the City that we would be assessed in July 2015, at the same time, they also notified six other cities that they were going to be reviewed.
 - Those six cities that were audited in July 2015 included:
 - Chico, Richmond, Ridgecrest, Monrovia, Hemet, and Maywood
 - The City's understanding is that of the six cities contacted, Monrovia and Chico were the only ones who were not subjected to any additional audit.
 - Maywood and Hemet were required to undergo a full audit by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.
 - Richmond and Ridgecrest were required to undergo some type of partial audit by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.
- The LA Times has recently been running a series of articles on issues in the City of Maywood, which has experienced multiple controversies of late.
 - As part of their reporting, we assume that the LA Times recently learned that Maywood was one of the six cities that the State Auditor assessed in July 2015, and they are reporting on this matter as though the developments occurred recently.
 - The LA Times report has also failed to identify that the State Auditor has now audited dozens of communities from throughout California.
 - In discussions with other city representatives, we are aware of several other communities in the San Gabriel Valley that are undergoing reviews / audits by the State Auditor's Office that were not referenced in the LA Times article.
 - The headline of the article (“The state is watching these 6 cities closely for financial fraud”) is obviously misleading!
 - Also, please note that the LA Times article states, *“Most of the six cities were ranked poorly in some or all of the categories. But it was Maywood and Hemet that required audits after they failed to address issues raised by the state auditor.”*

I hope this overview provides some additional background information related to the matter, and if you have any questions, please feel free to let me know!

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWS GROUP SET TO HOST A COMMUNITY TOWN HALL MEETING – “POT, PUBLIC SAFETY AND PRISON: HOW CALIFORNIA’S BALLOT PROPOSITIONS IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY” DISCUSSION WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016, AT THE MONROVIA COMMUNITY CENTER AT 6:30 P.M.

This past week, staff connected with representatives from the Southern California News Group (SCNG) regarding their proposed town-hall style meeting that is scheduled to take place on October 27, 2016. The event is currently being

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coordinated to take place at the Monrovia Community Center at 6:30 p.m., and has been dubbed, "*Pot, Public Safety, and Prison: How California's Ballot Propositions Impact Our Community.*"

The issues that will be addressed at the Community Forum include Proposition 57 (early parole / early criminal release), 62 (death penalty repeal), 64 (recreational marijuana use legalization), & 66 (death penalty process changes to speed up executions), all of which could have a significant impact on local law enforcement and public safety issues. The attached flyer developed by the SCNG provides additional event information, and we hope you will take time on Thursday, October 27, 2016, to participate in this important dialogue regarding significant issues that California voters will be addressing this year!

SAVE THE DATE
SPECIAL COMMUNITY FORUM

**Pot, Public Safety
and Prison:**
*How will California's ballot
propositions impact our community?*
Pros & Cons Discussion Panel

Thursday, October 27
6:30–8:00 p.m.

Monrovia Community Center
Kay Dalton Room
119 W. Palm Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016
Free Parking

Panelists will discuss the pros and
cons of Proposition 57, 62, 64,
& 66 which could have sweeping
impacts on law enforcement,
public safety and more.

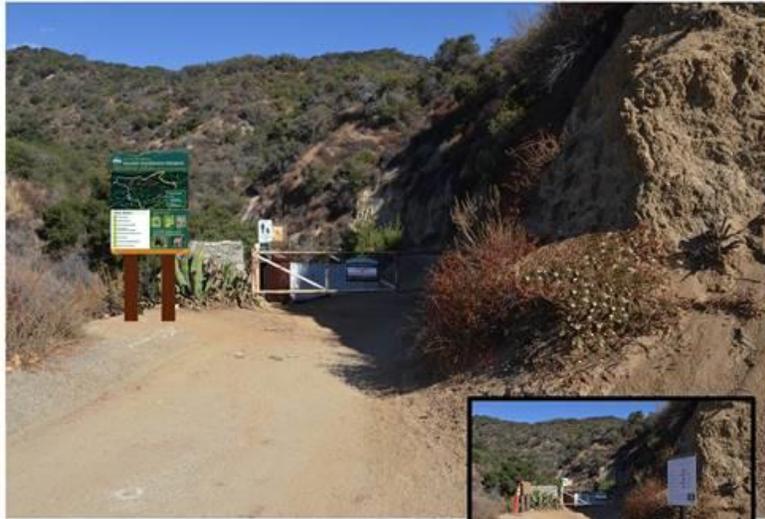
For more details and to
submit your question please visit
bit.ly/scng-communityforum

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NEW HILLSIDE WILDERNESS PRESERVE SIGNAGE BEING DEVELOPED

During these past several weeks, as we have worked to complete all of the requisite assignments associated with the opening of the City's Hillside Wilderness Preserve (HWP), staff has also spent time on the development of updated trail and directional signage. We still have some work to do before the proposed signs are finalized, however, an advance preview of our current signage drafts are as follows:



Entrance 1
1 Utility sign & Sign post installation



Directional 4
1 directional sign include trail no access & share
Sign post installation 8x8x10 6x6 squares



The new signage we are working to develop will hopefully enhance the public's experience while hiking in the HWP!

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WATERMASTER LOOKING TO IMPLEMENT GROUNDWATER RECHARGE ASSESSMENT FEE STARTING IN MID-2017

This past week, staff engaged in additional discussions with the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) regarding their plans for implementing a new assessment that would be used towards purchasing imported water to recharge our local aquifer. All of the water experts that staff has spoken to have identified that groundwater levels in the Main San Gabriel Basin (Basin) are at such a critically low level that no matter how much rain we receive, we will not be able to restore the Basin to a safe level without purchasing imported water. That imported water would then be placed into spreading grounds located throughout the Basin's service area (including for Monrovia) to recharge and increase our overall groundwater levels.

As the Watermaster has assessed this issue, they have indicated that in order to purchase the imported water that is needed, it will be necessary for their agency to consider implementing a special assessment that will be charged to every water producer in the Basin. As we have discussed this issue with the Watermaster, they are still assessing details related to the assessment, with that analysis set to be completed in mid-2017. There are multiple moving parts related to this matter, and staff has additional meetings scheduled with the Watermaster in the next few weeks to further address this issue. In the meantime, please feel free to let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter.

DRAFT STORMWATER POLICY DEVELOPED BY THE SGV COG WATER COMMITTEE

During the past several months, the SGV COG Water Committee (which counts Council Member Crudgington among its members) has been working on the development of a comprehensive stormwater policy. The document was revised multiple times, and a copy of the draft policy has been included as an attachment for your review and reference. The proposed policy begins by offering the SGV COGs unequivocal support for meeting stormwater quality standards and using captured stormwater as a resource. This perspective is followed by a listing of the challenges that have arisen as the MS4 permit process has unfolded, and also includes strategies that can be used to help cities comply.

This overall document is currently being reviewed by various SGV COG committees, and will likely be brought forward for the Governing Board's consideration next month.

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San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Stormwater Policy

Adopted XXXXXXXXX

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) seeks to promote quality of life for all residents by preserving and protecting the watershed and natural environment from polluted stormwater and to capture it and dry weather runoff to augment local water supplies. We support compliance with stormwater quality standards and strive to comply in a reasonable, practical, feasible, and affordable manner.

How are stormwater quality standards implemented in California?

Statewide, nine regional water boards, whose members are appointed by the Governor, issue local Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) permits for operation of local stormwater infrastructure. In 2012, the Los Angeles Regional Board issued a new MS4 permit which strongly favors attaining stormwater quality standards through Enhanced/Watershed Management Programs (E/WMPs). E/WMPs achieve stormwater quality standards and enhance local water supplies through capture and infiltration of stormwater and urban runoff.

While most cities in LA County, including the SGVCOG member cities, agreed to join E/WMPs to achieve MS4 permit compliance, the capital costs of stormwater infiltration projects are much higher than originally anticipated. For example, in the San Gabriel Valley, these costs are estimated at \$6 billion. Beyond these costs, there are other challenges which frustrate MS4 permit implementation and compliance. Among these are:

- Regulatory and legal restrictions that impede the use of existing regional stormwater infrastructure to access preferred infiltration sites, which would result in economies of scale and greatly reduced costs;
- Inadequate funding and unrealistically short timelines for SGV city permit compliance;
- Uncertainty over “ownership” of captured stormwater to permit monetization of augmented groundwater supplies;
- Potential future liability resulting from unintended dispersion of pollutants through stormwater infiltration; and
- Disagreement over the scientific evidence supporting some numerical Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) pollutant targets, which may necessitate costly studies and/or result in projects that fail to remove proscribed pollutants.

To overcome these constraints, the SGVCOG will assist member cities in their efforts to comply with stormwater quality standards by coordinating efforts and supporting relevant programs and legislation. Specifically, the SGVCOG will pursue strategies that include, but are not limited to:

- Advocate for regulatory and legislative changes as identified in a legislative/regulatory agenda;

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- Support comparatively cost-effective regional, multiagency projects that use existing regional infrastructure;
- Develop funding sources and extend E/WMP compliance timelines;
- Modify Porter-Cologne to adopt Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) guidance issued by USEPA in November 2014 in consideration of MS4 permits;
- Clarify ownership of captured stormwater;
- Indemnify cities from liability for infiltration;
- Undertake scientific studies when there are disagreements over the scientific evidence supporting TMDL targets;
- Support cost recovery for products that contribute pollutants to stormwater;
- Modify criteria for appointment of Regional Board membership to more fully represent the diverse views of stakeholders appearing before the respective Boards;
- Create a Municipal Ombudsman position at the Regional Board to represent the interests of residents and the public;
- Regularly engage with Regional and State Boards to ensure they are aware of local concerns;
- Coordinate and disseminate information among member cities and other regional COGs; and
- Continually educate local elected officials and residents regarding efforts to meet stormwater quality standards and the challenges thereof.

LABLAUNCH MONROVIA UPDATE – COMPANY SPINNING OFF A FOR-PROFIT OPERATION

Last week, staff met with representatives from LabLaunch regarding a pending transition they are working to effectuate. The company is currently a registered non-profit corporation, however, representatives from the firm are working to develop a licensing agreement to allow a for-profit spin-off entity to utilize the LabLaunch name and identification materials.

Based on the discussion with LabLaunch representatives, it appears that their current operations are functioning great, as they currently have 11 tenants in their facility. However, it appears that representatives from LabLaunch were approached about two expansion opportunities, with one being in the Chatsworth area in the northwestern area of the San Fernando Valley, and the other being in Phoenix, Arizona. To pursue those new opportunities, company representatives are looking to restructure their operations by establishing a spin-off, for-profit company. They expect the new for-profit operation to be functioning in January 2017.

LabLaunch representatives were quick to point out that they have no intentions of changing their operating model in Monrovia, and emphasized that everything is working well currently. They simply are trying to take advantage of new growth / expansion opportunities that they have been presented with.

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING AND HOLIDAY PARADE SET TO TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER 1, 2016 – PARADE GRAND MARSHALL WILL BE THE MONROVIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION GROUP (MOHPG) AND THE PARADE THEME WILL BE HISTORIC HOLIDAY: A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!

Can you believe that the holiday season is here and upon us? As is our tradition here in Monrovia, we will be kicking off the festivities on Thursday, December 1, 2016, with the Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Parade event!

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As you may recall, each year leading up to the event, the City selects a parade theme and a Grand Marshall for the event. This year, Monrovia will celebrate our past by having a *Historic Holiday* themed parade! In addition, we are pleased to be able to share that we have selected the Monrovia Historic Preservation Group as the 2016 Parade Grand Marshall!

This theme was selected to celebrate all of the great work MOHPG has done during the past 1+ year to lead the neighborhood compatibility / historic preservation charge! MOHPG was a big part of starting the historic preservation and neighborhood compatibility conversation in Monrovia, and the group certainly contributed to finding a smart solution. The Monrovia Historic Preservation Group mission is to be entrusted with Monrovia's heritage through preservation, education, and community involvement, and the work that they have done is truly a cause worthy of celebration!

Looking forward to December 1, 2016, and our *Historic Holiday Community Celebration!*

209 WEST SCENIC AVENUE PROJECT UPDATE

This past week, staff had additional meetings with representatives who initiated the rehabilitation of the property at 209 West Scenic Avenue without the proper permits. The construction company responsible for the work did this past week pay their administrative citation fine of \$2,000. Furthermore, representatives from the company have agreed to bring their plans forward for Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) review. We are currently awaiting the requisite application materials from Coronado Construction, and should we receive those documents in time, we will be scheduling the overall project for HPC review at the November 30, 2016, meeting. As we have worked through the matter, the company at fault has expressed their apologies for not better managing the overall process that resulted in demolition work occurring prior to the proper permits being issued, and the ownership group has committed to investing the time and funds necessary to perform a proper restoration of the property at 209 West Scenic Avenue.

LARGE CHINESE ELM TREE BRANCH ON MONTEREY AVENUE FALLS ONTO A MOVING CAR THIS PAST WEEK

Just a quick FYI... this past week, on Thursday, October 20, 2016, a Chinese Elm tree located in the 700 block of South Monterey Avenue had a large branch break off, which proceeded to fall onto a vehicle traveling southbound on the street. Both the driver of the car and the passenger were okay and did not suffer any injuries, however, the car they were driving was destroyed.

City staff responded to the incident quickly, and we have taken all steps necessary to mitigate any further issues at the location. As the photos below illustrate, we are thankful that no one was injured in this particular incident!



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LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY AVAILABLE NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 3, 2016, AND WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Here at the City, we are always looking to improve! To that end, we recently launched a comprehensive process to develop a Library Strategic Plan. As part of the development process, we are looking for feedback from the community, and we have developed an online survey that individuals can take to tell us how we're doing and where we can improve!

If you have a few minutes, we hope that you'll click on the following link to participate in the Library Strategic Plan survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/monrovia-library

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Interested participants will be able to access the survey between now and November 3, 2016. The survey should only take 3-5 minutes to complete and is completely anonymous. The more feedback we get, the better equipped we will be to improve our existing services and develop new ones to meet the evolving needs of our community! So please take a moment to complete the survey. We value your feedback and are looking forward to making our library even better than it is today! For additional information, please see the flyer attached to this email!

MOHPG PUBLISHES THEIR FIRST BOOK – “HOUSES BY HAND” IS AVAILABLE FOR SALE ONLINE, AND CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED AT THE 53RD ANNUAL MAFA ART SHOW ON OCTOBER 29-30, 2016

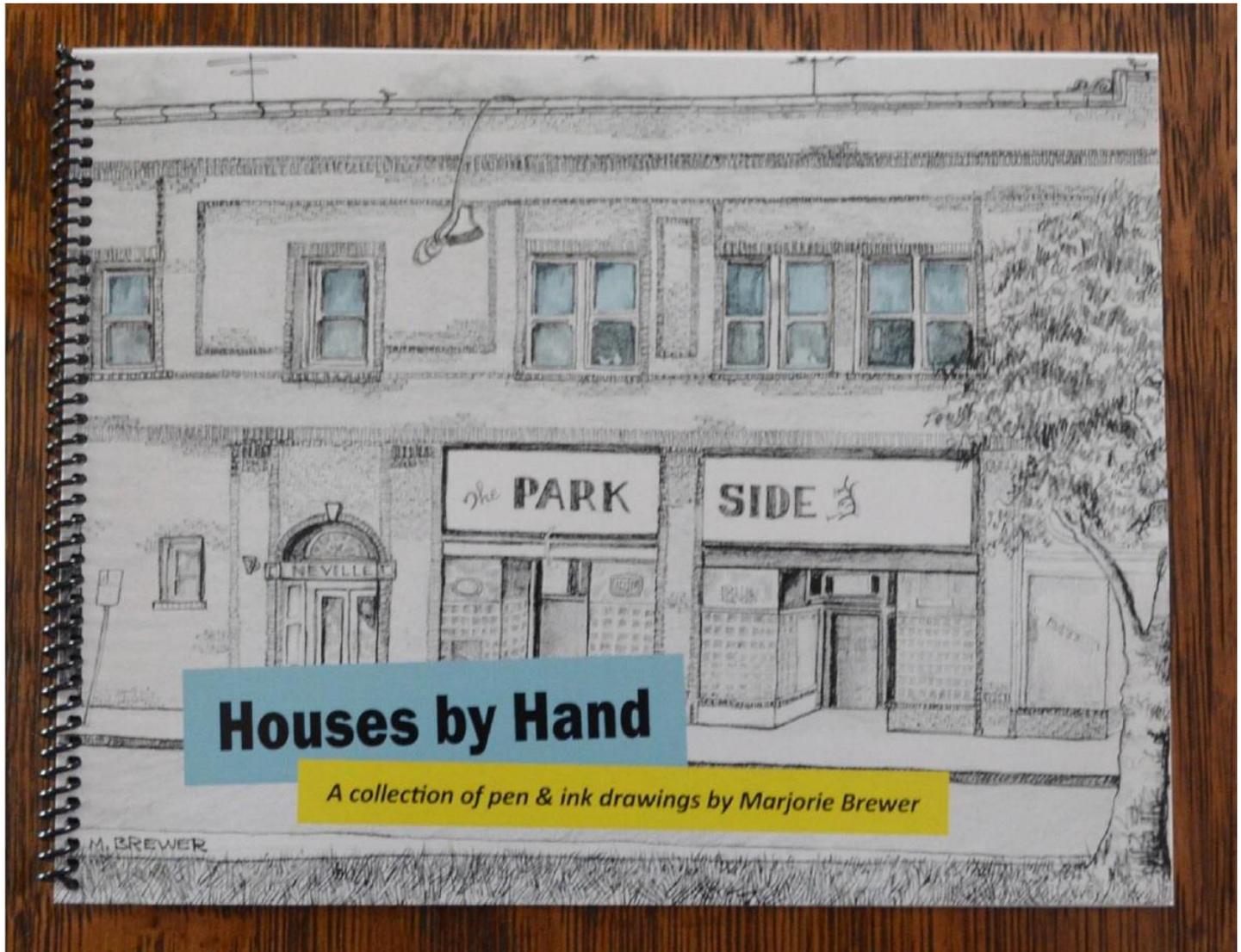
Recently, MOHPG published their first book, which is titled, *Houses by Hand*. The book is a soft cover, spiral-bound, 26-page collection of drawings, house histories, and vintage photographs! It is the first publication by MOHPG in 20 years, and the book contains a collection of thirteen pen and ink drawings done by Monrovia artist Marjorie Brewer, who started drawing homes in the late 1950s.

In addition, Ms. Brewer was active with MAFA and was the guest artist at the 1984 MAFA art festival. To that end, the book will sell for \$10 and will be available for purchase at the MOHPG booth in Library Park during MAFA's 53rd Annual Art Show on both October 29-30, 2016. In addition, the book can be purchased online at:

<http://www.mohpg.org/online-store.html>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact MOHPG at (626) 599-8187!

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NATIVE GARDEN PLANT SALE AND WATERWISE GARDENING WORKSHOP SET TO TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 12, 2016, AT LIBRARY PARK FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

Canyon Park personnel are excited to be able to host the annual Native Garden Plant Sale, which will take place on November 12, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Library Park. In addition, the water conservation team from our Public Works Division will be on hand to provide a series of Waterwise Gardening presentations. So be sure to mark your calendars and come on out to learn more about smart gardening, water conservation, and rainy season preparation! While you're at the event, you'll even be able to pick-up a few native drought tolerant plants from the native garden plant sale! All proceeds from the event will go towards supporting the Canyon Park Volunteer fund. If you have any questions, please contact the Community Services Division at (626) 256-8246.

LOOK FOR A MONROVIA RENEWAL CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW IN YOUR NEXT UTILITY BILL!

In order to help keep everyone informed about the street construction that has begun as part of the Monrovia Renewal project, the City has developed a quick reference guide of what residents, businesses, and property owners can expect to see while these critical repairs occur. This overview will be included as an insert in your next utility bill, arriving late October

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2016 / early November 2016, however, as a preview, an advanced copy of the mailer insert has been included as an attachment for your reference and review!



CONSTRUCTION NOTICE THROUGH SPRING 2017

ATTENTION RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES:

Monrovia has aging water and sewer pipelines and damaged streets and sidewalks that require significant maintenance. The City has a 5-year plan to fix the major issues in these systems through a project called Monrovia Renewal.

Over the next six months, road, water, and sewer work will occur between Colorado Blvd and the I-210, starting on the western edge of the City and working east.

WHAT: Major road work including sidewalks, curbs, driveway approaches, and gutters; water and sewer repairs in specific areas.

WHEN: October 2016 – April 2017

WHERE: See map on reverse side to find out what repairs are taking place. Once these repairs are complete, construction will begin in other areas.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Door hangers one week and 2 days prior to any work on your street
- 3-4 weeks of sidewalk/curb/gutter work prior to work on the road itself

During work hours (7 a.m. – 5 p.m.), expect:

- Road closures
- No parking on the street
- Overflow parking onto other streets in the area
- Residents can access driveways
- Rough, dirt driving surface during some repairs
- Steel plates & equipment on streets overnight
- No work on weekends and City holidays



QUESTIONS?

Visit our website for the latest construction information:

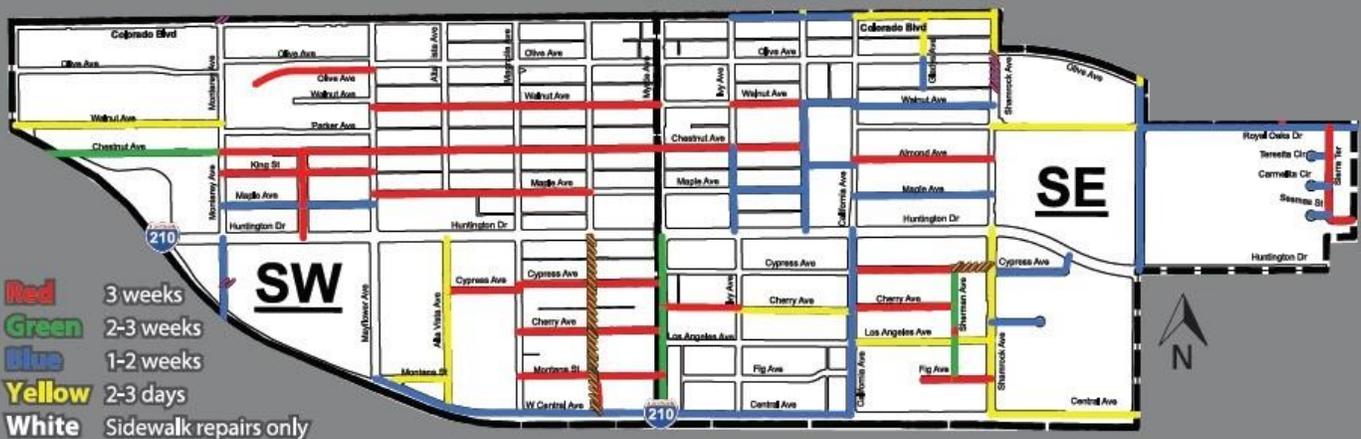
www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal

(626) 932-5575

monroviarenewal@ci.monrovia.ca.us

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MAP OF ROAD WORK THROUGH SPRING 2017



Looking for other areas of town or more info? Visit www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal

As you can see from the utility bill insert, the document provides a quick overview of the repairs that are taking place as part of the first phase of the Monrovia Renewal project (the southwest and southeast sections, which are bordered to the north by Colorado Boulevard, to the south by the I-210 Freeway, and extend east and west to the City boundaries). In addition, anyone who has any questions regarding this matter can find additional information online at: www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal

MONROVIA RENEWAL STREET IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEGUN IN THE SOUTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST PROJECT SECTIONS

During the past several weeks, staff has been working with our contractors on developing the next set of improvements associated with the overall Monrovia Renewal infrastructure enhancement initiative. And as you may have noticed of late, street related construction work in the Southwest and Southeast portions of town (between Colorado Boulevard and the 210 Freeway and east and west to our City limits) has started!

The work initially started in the Southwest area of Monrovia renewal, beginning at the western edge of the City and working their way east towards Myrtle Avenue between Colorado Boulevard and the I-210 Freeway (see the attached guide to street repairs document included with this email). Based on the phasing of the work, City contractors will initially begin their improvement efforts by making a variety of concrete repairs, including curbs, gutters, driveway approaches, and sidewalks. This work will occur in waves, focusing on one task at a time, similar to an assembly line that follows the process outlined below:

- A crew will make cuts in the damaged concrete areas.
- The next crew removes the broken concrete pieces.
- Then, a crew sets up the wooden forms that will hold the concrete in place while it dries.
- A crew pours the new concrete.

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- After the concrete dries, the final crew comes through and removes the wooden forms and performs finishing touches.

All residents will receive one week's advance notice ahead of when work is scheduled to begin on their street, and no parking signs will be posted at least 48 hours in advance. In addition, from start to finish, the initial concrete work will take approximately three weeks on each street. Given this timeframe, the concrete work is expected to last through the end of November in the Southwest area, excluding November 24 – 25, 2016, in observance of Thanksgiving.

Once all the concrete work has been completed, the repairs to the road itself can begin. Based on our current timeline, road work will begin in early December 2016, and will last through the beginning of the New Year, excluding December 23 – 26, 2016, and December 31, 2016, in observance of Christmas and New Year's.

Please visit us online at www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal for all the latest information related to the Monrovia Renewal Project. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at monroviarenewal@ci.monrovia.ca.us, or give us a call at (626) 932-5575!

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A Guide to Street Repairs Taking Place in Your Neighborhood

Starting on or around October 10th, construction crews will begin working on street-related improvements in the Southwest area of Monrovia Renewal, starting at the western edge of the city and working their way east towards Myrtle Avenue. The Southwest street work is expected to last through the end of the year, at which time street work will begin in the Southeast area lasting through the end of March.

Residents in the impacted area will receive one week's notice ahead of when work is scheduled to begin on their street, and no parking signs will be posted 48 hours in advance. Next, crews will arrive to work on a variety of concrete repairs, including curbs, gutters, driveway approaches, and sidewalks. This work will occur in waves, focusing on one task at a time, similar to an assembly line:

- A crew will make cuts in the damaged concrete areas.
- The next crew removes the broken concrete pieces.
- Then, a crew sets up the wooden forms that will hold the concrete in place while it dries.
- A crew pours the new concrete.
- After the concrete dries, the final crew comes through and removes the wooden forms and performs finishing touches.

From start to finish, this work will take approximately three weeks on each street. Given the amount of repairs that will be taking place, this work is expected to last through the end of November in the Southwest area, excluding November 24th and 25th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Once all the concrete work has been completed, the repairs to the road itself can begin. Based on our current timeline, road work will begin in early December through the beginning of the new year, excluding December 23rd – 26th and 31st in observance of Christmas and New Year's.

The amount of time that construction crews will be on your street will vary widely depending on the condition of your street and the type of work being done. The streets in need of major repairs will be done first, followed by those with more minor repairs, as outlined below:

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General Order of Street Work*

- Red streets (reconstruction) will be under construction first for approximately 3 weeks.
- Green streets (mill & overlay) will be under construction next for approximately 1-2 weeks.
- Once red and green streets have been completed, work will begin on blue and yellow streets. This is to allow drivers to take detours and park on these streets while the red and green streets are under construction.
- Blue streets (cape seal) will take approximately 10 days from when they lay the gravel, allow the gravel to be compacted by vehicles driving through, and then a new top-coat (slurry) is laid.
- Yellow streets (slurry seal) will be minimally impacted with 1-2 days of work to lay down the slurry seal and allow it to dry.
- Please see the Monrovia Renewal SW/SE construction handout to learn more about which streets will receive which type of repairs and the impacts of each.

*This is a general guideline; conditions in the field may lead to changed schedules and length of time on your street.

Note that residents will not be able to park on their street during the crew's working hours from approximately 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, but will be able to access their driveways and park on the street overnight.

Crews will be working on multiple streets at once, so remain alert when driving through the area and adhere to all crew member instructions and signage.

Questions? We're here to help.

- Visit www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal
- Email monroviarenewal@ci.monrovia.ca.us
- Call Monrovia Public Works at (626) 932-5575

MONROVIA CITY HALL NOW SERVING A VOTE-BY-MAIL DROP-OFF LOCATION FOR THE NOVEMBER 8, 2016 GENERAL ELECTION!

Beginning this past week, voters can now drop off their Vote by Mail (VBM) ballot here at Monrovia City Hall (415 South Ivy Avenue). This service was coordinated by the City with the LA County Registrar-Recorder / County Clerk's office to offer another way for interested individuals to participate in the upcoming November 8, 2016 election. Given the interest in the upcoming Presidential General Election, coordinating a process to allow voters to drop off their VBM ballots at Monrovia City Hall was seen as another way to make voting easier for all those in the community. Our City Clerk, Alice Atkins, has worked to coordinate this program for our community, and we now have a ballot box publically available in a visibly secure

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location during normal business hours at City Hall. Individuals will be able to drop off their VBM ballot at City Hall through November 7, 2016. In addition, credentialed, identifiable teams from Los Angeles County will exchange the ballot boxes on an ongoing basis leading up to election day on November 8, 2016. We are excited to offer this program during the upcoming election cycle!

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY – YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON ALL THAT OUR LIBRARY HAS TO OFFER!

The Monrovia Public Library has way more to offer than just books! As a central hub of activity to help connect those in our community, the City Library operation provides a rich offering of special events and activities that we hope you will come check out! Upcoming events at the Library include:

- **Pajama Storytime – October 26, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.**
 - Put on your PJs, bring your favorite stuffed toy, and join us for bedtime stories, songs, and fingerplays! Come dressed up in your Halloween costume! Event will be in the Library Storytime Room.
- **Crazy Kid Concoctions – October 29, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
 - Join us for an afternoon of excited experiments in the Library Storytime Room! We'll get messy, have fun, and learn how to make awesome crazy kid concoctions out of everyday household items. All ages welcome.

LIBRARY'S NEW VETERANS' RESOURCE CENTER SET TO OPEN SOON, STAFF TOURS BOB HOPE PATRIOTIC HALL IN LOS ANGELES TO ASSESS PROGRAMING OPPORTUNITIES.

On Friday, October 14, 2016, Reference Librarian Mabel Cross and Adult Services Supervisor Rebecca Elder were given a tour of the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall by Brigadier General Ruth Wong, who serves as the Director of Military and Veterans Affairs in Los Angeles County. The ten-story Bob Hope Patriotic Hall building is home to military artifacts and memorabilia and was renovated to serve the veterans community and patriotic events, and General Wong volunteered to provide education and information to the Library's new Veterans Resource Center that will be opening soon.

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer for Monrovia Library's Veterans Resource Center, please call Mabel Cross at (626) 256-8294, or reach her via email at mcross@ci.monrovia.ca.us.



City Manager's Update

53RD ANNUAL CELEBRATE THE ARTS SHOW & CHALKFEST SET TO TAKE PLACE OCTOBER 29-30, 2016

The Monrovia Association of Fine Arts (MAFA) has been hard at work during the past few months to coordinate the 53rd annual Celebrate the Arts Show & Chalkfest, which is scheduled to take place on October 29-30, 2016, at Library Park in Old Town Monrovia. This year's event theme is "Art in Motion," and the featured artists' will be Steve & Marianne McCarthy. On Saturday, October 29, 2016, activities will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., while Sunday's events on October 30, 2016, will occur from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Make sure you plan on participating in what will certainly be an incredible weekend filled with art demonstrations, amazing chalk art displays, live music, and a beer garden & food court!

For more information, be sure to check out MAFAs website at <http://www.monroviafinearts.org/>, or call (626) 483-0560. Also, additional information can be found on the attached event flyer!

MONROVIA ASSOCIATION OF FINE ARTS

**53RD ANNUAL
CELEBRATE THE ARTS SHOW
& CHALKFEST**

PRESENTS
ART IN MOTION

Featured Artists
Steve & Marianne McCarthy

October 29 – 10am to 6pm
October 30 – 10am to 4pm

Monrovia Library Park

**BEER GARDEN | KIDS' CHALK ACTIVITIES | LIVE MUSIC
LIBRARY COLLECTIBLE BOOK SALE**

City Manager's Update

OLD TOWN TRICK-OR-TREAT & HALLOWEEN BASH SET TO TAKE PLACE ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2016, FROM 3:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. IN OLD TOWN MONROVIA!

The City and the Monrovia Old Town Merchants are teaming up once again to host the annual Old Town Trick-or-Treat & Halloween Bash! This year's event will take place on Monday, October 31, 2016, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., in Old Town Monrovia and at Library Park.

The entire afternoon will be filled with ghoulish fun for the entire family! Planned activities include:

- Trick-or-Treating in Old Town
- Youth, Adult and Group Costume Contests with registration beginning at 3:00 p.m.
- Don't forget to also register your pooch in the Dog Costume Contest!

This great community event is made possible through the generous donations of our VIP sponsors. Many thanks to:

- Sierra Family of Dealerships
- Wendy's Hamburgers
- BMW Mini of Monrovia
- C.R. Stelling Insurance
- BMW of Monrovia

Be sure to bring your "little goblins" to what promises to be an exciting Halloween Event! And keep in mind that the Trick-or-Treat event will be held rain or shine, with the Costume Contest set to be held in the Community Center in the event of rain. For additional information, please contact the Public Services Department at (626) 256-8246.

City Manager's Update

A Halloween-themed poster for a 'Trick or Treat & Halloween Bash 2016'. The background is dark red with a large yellow full moon, silhouettes of a haunted house, and flying bats. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of children in costumes. The text is in various colors and fonts, including yellow, white, and green. The Monrovia logo is in the top left corner. At the bottom right, there are two glowing jack-o'-lanterns.

 MONROVIA OLD TOWN MERCHANTS &
THE CITY OF MONROVIA PRESENT

TRICK OR TREAT & HALLOWEEN BASH 2016

FREE

ACTIVITIES IN LIBRARY PARK MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 3:00-6:00 P.M.

Costume Contest & Parade of Characters
Dog Costume Contest • Library Storytimes
Toddler Area • Activity Booths • Arts & Crafts
Parachute Games • Photo Booth

SPONSORS
BMW of Monrovia
BMW Mini of Monrovia
Sierra Family of Dealerships
Wendy's Hamburgers
C.R. Stelling Insurance

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
THE PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT (626)256-8246



City Manager's Update

LOOKING FOR A DIFFERENT KIND OF TRICK-OR-TREATING? THEN YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK OUT THE CITY'S TRICK-OR-TREAT EVENT SET TO BE HELD IN THE CANYON PARK ON OCTOBER 31, 2016, FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.!

Looking for a different kind of trick-or-treating experience this year? Have you ever thought about combining a search for candy with a hike towards a waterfall? If that sounds interesting to you, then you'll want to try out the City's new Trick-or-Treating in Canyon Park event, which is set to take place on October 31, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Canyon Park!

Our very own Park Rangers will be hosting the trick-or-treat event, and event participants will be able to hike on a portion of our Canyon Park Waterfall Trail. Along the way, you'll be met by Park Rangers who will be dressed in costume and ready to offer treats to all... to all who dare to participate, that is! For additional information, please contact the Public Services Department at (626) 256-8246.

MONROVIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY CELEBRATION SET TO TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 6, 2016, FROM 3:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

Just a quick note to let everyone know that the Monrovia Historical Society will be hosting a celebration to recognize the "rebirth" of their organization! The event will be held on Sunday, November 6, 2016, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Initially, the event will begin at 3:00 p.m. at the Monrovia Public Library, and at 4:00 p.m., the celebration will move to the Anderson House (215 East Lime Avenue). A flyer advertising the event has been included as an attachment to this email, and we hope that you can make it to this celebration event!



Monrovia Historical Society

Celebrate Our Rebirth



Celebrate accomplishments of the Anderson House restoration & Legacy Project, then help us plan & explore where you fit.

Members & friends are welcome.
Please bring a friend or two to spread the word!

Sunday, November 6, 2016 3-5 pm

3 pm Monrovia Public Library Community Room (show & refreshments)
& 4 pm Anderson House visit (215 E. Lime)

City Manager's Update

TAYLOR PERFORMING ARTS CENTER SET TO PRESENT "SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDEHEIM," DECEMBER 2-4, 2016

You may have heard... the Taylor Performing Arts Center has announced that their December 2016 musical production will be, Side by Side by Sondheim! Stephen Sondheim is considered by many to be musical theatre royalty and Side by Side by Sondheim is a sparkling retrospective of musical numbers from shows as diverse as Follies, Company, A Little Night Music, Pacific Overtures, and Sweeney Todd. The show will be presented December 2-4, 2016, and tickets can be purchased online at www.BrownPaperTickets.com.



SIGN UP TODAY FOR MONROVIA RENEWAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES

Monrovia Renewal has started construction! As you may recall, Monrovia Renewal is a multi-year initiative that will make priority repairs to the all of the City's water & sewer pipelines, water facilities, streets, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. The initial work related to Monrovia Renewal has begun in the Southwest and Southeast portions of town, which includes the areas located to the eastern and western City limits located between Colorado Boulevard to the north and the 210 Freeway to the south (see attached project map).

Stay connected to everything related to Monrovia Renewal and visit us online at www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal. While at the site, you can sign-up for e-mail updates by clicking on the "[Monrovia Renewal Project Updates and Work Notices](#)" tab, and following the instructions to subscribe! An email sign-up instruction guide has been included as an attachment for your reference. We have also included a FAQ guide regarding the overall project for your information.

Monrovia Renewal is the largest public works project that the City has ever undertaken, and we appreciate your patience and support while we work to execute the identified infrastructure improvements throughout our community!

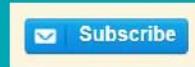
City Manager's Update



Sign Up for E-mail Updates!

Step 1: Visit www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal and click on the Project Updates and Work Notices tab.

Step 2: Scroll down the page and click the Subscribe button.



Step 3: Enter your name and email address.



Step 4: You will receive a confirmation email. Click the link and you're all set!



Infrastructure Repairs Begin August 2016!



The Southwest (SW) and Southeast (SE) are the first two segments of Monrovia Renewal scheduled for construction, starting this summer through mid-2017.

Find your street below to see what work will be done in your area. Pipeline and sidewalk repairs will begin in early August, and street-related work is expected to begin in October, starting in the Southwest section and moving east.



Treatment	Color on Map	What is it?*	What's the impact?*
Slurry Seal	Yellow	Thin, smooth top coat added - To prevent damage from worsening	Full working day to lay and allow to dry/cure - Road closed while drying
Cape Seal	Blue	Loose chip layer + slurry seal on top - For minor damage	Temporary, 7-10 days of rough chip layer, then slurry seal
Mill & Overlay	Green	Removes and replaces top 2 inches of asphalt - For major damage	Intermittent road closures for 2-3 weeks, can drive on rough bottom layer, restricted parking
Reconstruction	Red	Rehabilitation of base layer, then new top layer added - For replacement	Road surface returns to dirt, hot asphalt poured, intermittent road closures for 3 weeks, restricted parking
Water & Sewer Pipelines	Yellow / Red Dashes	Repairs to the water or sewer pipelines underneath the street	Varies depending on size on length of repair. Partial or full road closures during the day, reopening the street at night. Heavy equipment will be in use.

*Note that details are subject to change depending on in-field conditions and the contractors' assessment.

City Manager's Update



Frequently Asked Questions

❖ What is Monrovia Renewal?

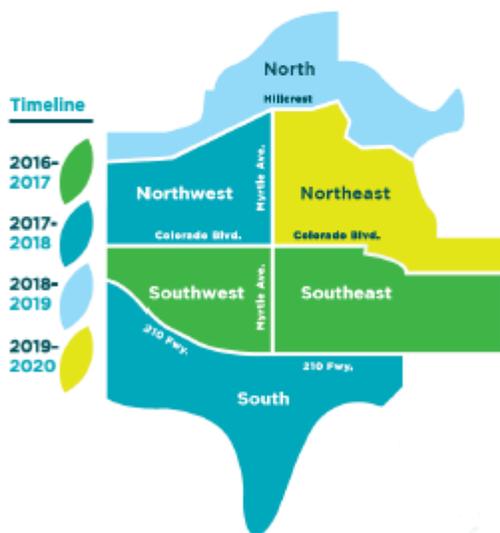
Monrovia Renewal is a multi-year initiative that is making large-scale repairs to aging infrastructure across the city, including water and sewer pipelines, water facilities, streets, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters.

❖ Why is the project divided into segments?

Because the repairs are extensive, construction will occur one segment at a time to help minimize disruption and the number of times the pavement is cut into. This also improves efficiency and lowers the overall cost of construction.

❖ When will construction begin?

Monrovia Renewal will be completed within 4-5 years. Construction will occur by segment, starting with Southwest & Southeast in August 2016, Northwest & South in 2017, North in 2018, and Northeast in 2019.



❖ How much will this cost and how is it funded?

Monrovia Renewal is estimated to cost \$51.7 million, making it the largest public works project in the City's history! In November 2015, water and sewer rates were adjusted to pay for repairs to these systems. Street repairs are funded by L.A. County sales tax that must be used on transportation projects.

❖ What can I expect during construction?

Repairs vary by street and may include repairs to water and sewer lines, the street and/or sidewalk. There will be short periods when a lane or entire road is closed and a route detour is required. Sometimes you will not be allowed to park on a particular street. At these times, signs will be posted on the street in advance. Noise, dust, untidy conditions, and large equipment may be present.

❖ How much notice will I be given?

Residents will have at least 72 hours' notice prior to construction on their street. Construction is inconvenient, and work schedules often change with little or no notice. We will work to mitigate these impacts as much as possible, but we thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility!

❖ Why aren't there repairs on my street?

The City conducted a study to rate the pavement condition of each street on a scale of 0 to 100. Any street that scored less than 70 has a less than satisfactory condition and is in need of repairs. Streets that scored 70 or above will be repaired in the future as part of the City's ongoing maintenance.

❖ Who is overseeing this project?

The City Council approves all engineering and construction contracts in advance and gets quarterly updates on the project. The Council also established an Oversight Committee to monitor progress and spending that meets on a quarterly basis.

❖ What's going to happen to trees causing sidewalk damage?

Every effort will be made to keep trees in place. Only trees that are diseased or dying will be removed, and new trees will be planted elsewhere to replace them.

❖ How can I stay up to date on what's happening?

Visit www.cityofmonrovia.org/monroviarenewal and subscribe to receive e-mail updates! If you have questions, call Public Works at (626) 932-5575 or e-mail monroviarenewal@ci.monrovia.ca.us.



Updated: 7/14/2016

City Manager's Update

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 as an attachment for your review. This most recent report provides an overview of the Justice Department's plans to collect use of force data, the FY 2016 Federal Deficit (it's \$587 billion!!!), the state of disrepair of our nation's dams, and an overview regarding the issues related to getting a Federal spending bill approved by December 9, 2016. A copy of the report can be accessed at:

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

HDL HEADLINES NEWSLETTER

The most recent edition of HdLs Headlines Newsletter, which highlights economic trends happening in California, has been included to this email as an attachment for your review and reference.

Oliver Chi

From: HdL Companies <headlines=hdcompanies.com@mail117.suw11.mcdlv.net> on behalf of HdL Companies <headlines@hdcompanies.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:19 AM
To: Oliver Chi
Subject: Trends Affecting California's Economy

Trends Affecting California's Economy
Vol. 6 Issue 19 - October 19, 2016

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[View it in your browser.](#)

HeadLines

HdL
COMPANIES

Our HeadLines e-news service provides HdL clients with the most up-to-date information on trends affecting California's economy and is meant to provide you with insight and support in your budget preparation and economic planning.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- [Bargain Chains Lead List of Fastest-Growing Retailers](#)
- [Ulta Beauty Steps Up Store Expansion, Raises Outlook](#)
- [Fast Fashion Retailers Struggle with Slower Growth](#)
- [Wal-mart Plans to Slow New Store Openings, Invest Online](#)
- [Online Sales to Hit Major Milestone This Holiday Season](#)
- [Amazon Expands Grip on QC with New Distribution Center](#)
- [Sears Saga to Continue for Some Time](#)
- [HdL Retail Analytics - California's Second Quarter Tax Results](#)

Bargain Chains Lead List of Fastest-Growing Retailers

Not all retailers are trimming back their brick-and-mortar footprints. Dollar stores and off-price chains, taking advantage of solid sales and bargain-hunting shoppers, are on an expansion kick, claiming half the spots on a list of 10 retailers adding the most new store square footage, according to commercial real estate and analytics firm CoStar. Dollar General, second overall, led a trio of dollar stores in CoStar's top 10, based on retailers' announced U.S. store openings as of the second quarter of 2016. [Read More](#)

Ulta Beauty Steps Up Store Expansion, Raises Outlook

City Manager's Update

A sizzling Ulta Beauty announced aggressive store expansion at a time when many brick-and-mortar retailers are cutting back. Accordingly, the beauty retailer raised its outlook for U.S. store expansion to a range of 1,400 to 1,700 stores. As of October 1, 2018, the company operates 928 retail stores across 48 states and the District of Columbia. [Read More](#)

Fast Fashion Retailers Struggle with Slower Growth

Apparel chains haven't always been in the spotlight of regional mall line-ups. That starring role, and the job of generating mall foot traffic, traditionally rested on the shoulders of department stores. Specialty retailers just needed to focus on posting consistent sales growth, or they risked losing prime mall real estate to a competitor or a newer, fresher concept. All retailers, especially the fast-fashion retailers, are struggling to maintain the positive same-store sales growth that drives rents for retail centers. [Read More](#)

Wal-mart Plans to Slow New Store Openings, Invest Online

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is planning to slow new store openings as it looks to pour more money into its online efforts, technology and store remodels. Wal-Mart closed on its more than \$3 billion buyout of the fast online retailer Jet.com last month, showing how heavily it's willing to invest as it tries to boost online sales that totaled \$13.7 billion last year — still just a fraction of the company's annual revenue. [Read More](#)

Online Sales to Hit Major Milestone This Holiday Season

According to eMarketer's holiday sales preview forecast, ecommerce will surpass 10% of total U.S. holiday retail sales for the first time this year. Total retail sales will increase 3.3% over the same period last year, to \$884.50 billion, according to the report. [Read More](#)

Amazon Expands Grip on OC with New Distribution Center

Amazon's reach in Orange County is growing as the online retail giant prepares a large warehouse and distribution center in Irvine. The Irvine distribution facility will be smaller than fulfillment centers in the Inland Empire, which typically span more than 1 million square feet. With its proximity to Los Angeles, Orange County was among the first areas to get access to Amazon's enhanced delivery services, such as Prime Now, a one-hour and two-hour delivery program, and AmazonFresh, which focuses on groceries. [Read More](#)

Sears Saga to Continue for Some Time

City Manager's Update

Sears Corp. recently signaled its intent to exit leases on 17 unprofitable stores totaling 1.7 million sq. ft., and as part of an existing master lease agreement will pay its REIT spin-off, Seritage Growth Properties, rent through January 2017, plus a termination fee equal to an aggregate of one year's base rent. These stores are reportedly Kmart locations, following on a mid-September announcement that Sears subsidiary Kmart will be closing 64 stores.

[Read More](#)

HdL Retail Analytics - California's Second Quarter Tax Results

Statewide local sales and use tax receipts were up 1.9% over last year's spring quarter after adjusting for payment aberrations. The largest gains were for building supplies, restaurants, utility/energy projects and the countywide use tax pool allocations. Tax revenues from general consumer goods and business investment rose slightly while auto sales leveled off. [Click Here](#) to view HdL's statewide report.

Prepared for you by
[HdL Companies](#)

- Sales, Use and Transaction Tax
- Property Tax
- Business License Tax
- Software Solutions
- Marijuana Regulation
- Economic Development

HdL provides relevant information and analysis on the economic forces affecting local government agencies. We serve over 400 cities, counties and districts in California and across the nation. Our allocation audits and software help our clients maximize their revenues.



By The Numbers

Percent of change from one year ago.

CALIFORNIA DATA

Ports (September):

Containers

Imported ↓ **-4.97%**

Exported ↑ **7.51%**

Airport Traffic (August)

Passengers

Domestic ↑ **5.29%**

International ↑ **7.97%**

City Manager's Update

We Deliver Revenue, Insight and Efficiency to Local Government.

Unemployment Rate:
August 2016 **5.5%**
August 2015 **6.0%**

ARCHIVE

To view past issues of HeadLines, click the link below:
[Vol. 6 Issue 16 August 26, 2016](#)
[Vol. 6 Issue 17 September 8, 2016](#)
[Vol. 6 Issue 18 September 26, 2016](#)

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SGV COG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MEMO FOR OCTOBER 2016

The SGV Council of Governments Executive Director's Memo for October 2016 that was received this past week has been uploaded to our website for your review at the following link:

<http://cityofmonrovia.org/citymanagersoffice/page/administration>

POLICE DEPARTMENT SEMI-WEEKLY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REPORT

The most recent Police Department semi-weekly neighborhood watch report for the period October 17 – 19, 2016 has been included for your review and reference. During the past seven-day period, the Monrovia Police Department handled 400 service events, resulting in 75 total investigations, and a copy of the report can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/police/page/947/10_neighborhood_watch_report_october_17-19_2016.pdf

That's it for this update, thanks so much for taking the time to read this report and I do hope you have a wonderful rest of the week!

Best regards,
Oliver

OLIVER CHI
City Manager

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