



CITY OF MONTCLAIR

Montclair Civic Center
5111 Benito Street
Montclair, CA 91763

October 11, 2012

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager

SUBJECT: CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT: October 5-11, 2012

➤ **CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**

- This past Tuesday, a story in the *Los Angeles Times* projected an economic recovery for the Inland Empire that will lag behind a broader California recovery. The article went on to predict an unemployment rate that will remain in double digit territory at least through 2014, when it is expected to decline from the current 12.3 percent to 10.6 percent—still well above the 8.5 percent projected for the state as a whole, according to a report from Claremont McKenna College and UCLA. The projected decline in unemployment is attributed primarily to an upswing in job gains from the professional and business service sectors, accounting for roughly two-thirds of the area's job gains in the last year. White-collar jobs in this sector include such fields as architecture and legal services.

A nascent housing market recovery is seen as a secondary contributor to the Inland Empire's economic improvement. Home prices in the Inland Empire rose 5.1 percent in the second quarter of 2012 compared with the same period a year earlier. The rise was largely driven by low inventories of properties for sale and high demand for low-priced homes to flip into rentals.

The region is also seeing a modest boost to construction jobs, which grew by a few thousand over the last year; although the region lost almost 54,000 such jobs during the economic downturn. Conversely, the logistics sector, which serves as the distribution hub for goods that arrive through the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and employs thousands in the Inland Empire, remains vulnerable to a sluggish global economy.

The study does find that Riverside-San Bernardino area cities bordering Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties tended to have lower unemployment rates. However, that does not necessarily translate to more work in those cities; instead, the study finds the border cities house commuters to jobs in neighboring counties.

Since there is nothing a city can do about its location, the report recommends for cities to invest in education and try to attract businesses that generate higher household incomes. For example, the prospect of a new medical school at UC Riverside could attract pharmaceutical companies and generate high-paying jobs in that field. Investment in education, however, begins at the grade school level. The City of Montclair's Online to College Program is a model for community investment into educational advancement.

The report concludes that the region's gross domestic product growth was an anemic 1.2 percent in 2011—the first positive reading in five years. Economists predict it will improve to 1.7 percent by the end of this year and jump to 3.3 percent in 2013.

- The Monte Vista Board of Directors recently elected Tony Lopez as its new vice president. Mr. Lopez was elected into the new position after the passing of former vice president, Maynard Lenhert.

Mr. Lopez is a long-time resident of Montclair and was first elected to the Monte Vista Water District in 2003. He also serves as the board's auditor.

➤ **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

- Join us next Wednesday, October 17 at 7 p.m. at the Montclair Senior Center for the 2012 Candidates' Forum. Presented by the Montclair Community Action Committee and the Montclair Chamber of Commerce, the Forum will provide a setting for Montclair residents to pose written questions to the candidates regarding civic-related duties.

Council candidates invited to participate are incumbents J. John Dutrey and Carolyn Raft; and challengers Richard Beltran, Sean Brunske and Philip Ruiz. Montclair residents are encouraged to attend. The Forum will be videotaped and broadcast on Montclair Channel 3 on various dates prior to the November 6 election.

Questions regarding the Candidates' Forum should be directed to Assistant Director of Human Services Marcia Richter at 909-625-9453.

- Last Thursday afternoon, the Senior and Youth Centers participated in an intergenerational knitting and crocheting event, where our youth relived two of grandma's greatest pleasure. Generations before us created handmade crafts, learning from family members and friends in community gatherings. In our current technology-dependent society, so many people have missed out on learning the art of creating from scratch.

The seniors enjoyed sharing the crafts with the younger generation who were amazed at the items that can be made with needles, hooks, and yarn.

A photo collage is included on Page 7.

- This Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, the Montclair Mini-School Program will host an Open House at its new location—the Kids Station building at the Montclair Transcenter. Attendees can enjoy free activities for children and tours of the building, see current projects, meet the Mini-School teachers, and receive information on the upcoming winter session. There will be a special performance at 11:15 a.m. by our current Mini-School participants.

For additional information, call 909-625-9458.

- Do not miss the 2012 Community Health Fair on Tuesday, October 16! It will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Montclair Community Center. Local sponsors include Chino Valley Medical Center, City of Montclair, Montclair Hospital Medical Center, and the Montclair-Ontario Junior Women's Club.

The Fair will offer free health screenings, including blood pressure, glucose, hearing, structural, pulse oximetry, and dental screenings. Complimentary seasonal flu shots for those 18 years and older, pending availability, will be given at the Fair. Health-related agencies will be available to distribute educational material to community participants. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the event, and refreshments will also be available.

Complimentary flu shots will be offered to all City employees from 11:30 a.m. to noon at the Health Fair. Or, employees may opt to receive their complimentary flu shots on Tuesday, October 23 or Tuesday, October 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Although appointments are not necessary, the vaccines are available on a first come, first served basis.

Please direct questions to Senior Human Services Supervisor Michelle Roche at 909-625-9451.

➤ **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- No items to report.

➤ **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- During the first week of October, Firefighter/Paramedic Carlos Becerril instructed a 12-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) refresher class for all Fire Department Paramedics. The class focused on the parameters used to recognize signs of a heart attack on an EKG monitor. Paramedics view the EKG monitors and evaluate multiple areas of the heart for signs of injury. They also determine the appropriate patient treatment and hospital transportation. Patients displaying EKG tracings indicative of a heart attack are transported to hospitals that have specialized cardiac treatment teams.

This is the second year the Fire Department has participated in this annual refresher class.

- Congratulations to Nathan Brooks on completing the Fire Department's two-week Recruit Orientation Academy on Friday, October 5. At the conclusion of the academy, Nathan was sworn in as Firefighter/Paramedic by Keith Jones, Executive Director of Public Safety. Nathan's mother, Heather Brooks, had the honor of pinning Nathan's badge during the swearing-in ceremony. Nathan's father, Ward, and his youngest brother, Travis, also attended the ceremony. Nathan began his first 24-hour shift on October 7.

Please join me in congratulating Nathan!

- The Montclair Fire Department's Annual Open House and Pancake Breakfast will take place this Saturday, October 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon at Fire Station No. 1, located at 8901 Monte Vista Avenue. The Montclair Fire Fighters Association will host the pancake breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at a cost of \$3 per plate. Guests will have opportunities to view Fire apparatus and equipment, observe live demonstrations and static displays, take station tours, and have their pictures taken with a Firefighter. Parking for attendees is available at the Police Department, located at 4870 Arrow Highway.

A flier is included on Page 8.

➤ **PUBLIC WORKS/SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

- Last July, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) issued a call for projects under the State Local Partnership Program (SLPP) Competitive Grant Program. The funds are available on a competitive basis and can be used for road projects. Funding comes through Proposition 1B, the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, voted and approved by the California voters. Stipulations of the grant require a dollar for dollar local match from applicant counties or cities through transportation development impact fees.

In August, the Engineering Division identified the Monte Vista Avenue Roadway Widening Project as a potential project meeting the requirements and guidelines by the SLPP and then prepared and submitted an application to the CTC. The Monte Vista Avenue Roadway Widening Project would widen Monte Vista Avenue from Howard Street to Mission Boulevard. Street improvements would expand the northbound lanes from one lane to two lanes and would include street lighting; curb, gutter and sidewalk; and new asphalt pavement.

This week, the City received notification that CTC staff would be recommending the project to the CTC Commissioners at its meeting later this month. If approved by the Directors, the City will receive \$180,000 of Proposition 1B funds towards the estimated project costs of \$475,000. Remaining funds would come from the transportation development impact fees collected from developers since 2006.

Construction of the project is expected to be completed by December 2013.

- *Atomic Ranch* magazine published a letter from Director of Community Development Steve Lustro in which he espoused the Montclair Housing Corporation's (MHC) conscientious renovation of the residence at 9945 Central Avenue. The quarterly magazine specializes in highlighting mid-century buildings and residences. Steve informed the magazine of MHC's efforts to restore the property to its original architectural style and vintage. The careful selection of colors, materials, creation of outdoor living spaces, and drought-tolerant landscape design were emphasized.

For the magazine to publish Steve's letter and photo of the house is a great compliment to the MHC!

Steve's letter and a photo of the residence published in the magazine can be found on Page 9.

ECS:spa

*"I would rather sit on a pumpkin and
have it all to myself than be crowded on
a velvet cushion."*

~ Henry David Thoreau

OCTOBER 2012



13	Fire Department Open House and Pancake Breakfast, Fire Station No. 1	8:30 a.m. - noon
13	Montclair Mini-School Open House Kids Station at Montclair Transcenter	9 a.m. - noon
15	Code Enforcement Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
15	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
16	Montclair Community Health Fair Community Center	9 a.m. - Noon
17	Candidates' Forum Montclair Senior Center	7:00 p.m.
18	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
18	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	2:00 p.m.
18	Lights on After School Community Center	6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
22	Planning Commission Meeting City Hall Conference Room	7:00 p.m.
31	Children's Halloween Party Community Center	5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Senior & Youth Center
Participate in a Intergenerational Event
Knitting and Crocheting



ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
HOSTED BY THE MONTCLAIR
FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
8:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
\$3.00 DONATION PER PERSON
DONATIONS BENEFIT A LOCAL CHARITY

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE
UNIT EXHIBIT

AUTO EXTRICATION DEMONSTRATION

FIRE APPARATUS DISPLAY

FIRE PREVENTION INFORMATION,
DISPLAYS, AND DEMONSTRATIONS

VARIOUS SERVICE/PRODUCT
VENDORS AND DISPLAYS

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS UNIT EXHIBIT

FREE PHOTOS FOR CHILDREN

STATION TOURS

MONTCLAIR FIRE DEPARTMENT

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 13, 2012

8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

8901 MONTE VISTA AVENUE

FOR MORE INFO. CALL: (909) 447-3540

PARKING AT POLICE STATION (4870 ARROW HWY.)



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND PARAMEDIC SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

No one likes to think they will need paramedic assistance or emergency services, but each year thousands of Montclair residents call 9-1-1 for medical help. By simply subscribing to the EMS Subscription Program, you will save as much as \$387 per visit for paramedic emergency responses. It is an easy way to protect yourself, your family, and employees from the unanticipated cost of emergencies, while helping to maintain the quality of the paramedic program in the City of Montclair. For more information about this program or to download an enrollment form, please visit: <http://www.cityofmontclair.org/depts/fire/ems/program.asp>.



Below is the letter as it was published in the "More Wisdom" column of the fall edition of *Atomic Ranch*:

As Community Development Director of a small, Southern California city where we like to joke that the majority of our housing stock was built over two or three weekends in 1957, I look forward to receiving my quarterly Atomic Ranch, as do my staff members in the Planning Division. Desiring to lead by example, the Montclair Housing Corporation (MHC) recently renovated a modest residence on a busy street.

The MHC owns approximately 100 residential units that are deed restricted for income-qualifying families. While most are multifamily units, there are a handful of single-family dwellings, including the 1955 ranch pictured. Eleven years after acquiring it, MHC undertook a modest renovation that respected the architectural style and vintage of the modest 1,200 square-foot, three-bedroom, two-bath home.

The original bedroom clerestory windows, which had been painted over, were replaced, the house was painted a conservative green, a new fence was constructed to provide the residents with a private yard to enjoy, and a hopscotch-style concrete entry path was installed. A landscape palette of drought-tolerant and native plants and Neutra-style house numbers completed the transformation.

It is the City's hope that other homeowners in Montclair, which has more than its share of modest mid-to-late '50s ranches, will notice and appreciate this mini-renovation and replicate similar improvements on their own homes.

9945 CENTRAL AVENUE

