



January 23, 2014

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Edward C. Starr, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** WEEKLY REPORT: January 17-23, 2014

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➤ ***CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS***

- Early last week, with California facing 2014 water shortfalls during what is projected to be the driest year in recorded state history, Governor Brown, invoking Section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, proclaimed a State of Emergency, directing state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for drought conditions.

The proclamation gives state water officials more flexibility to manage water supply throughout California under drought conditions. State water officials say that groundwater levels and California's rivers and reservoirs are below record lows, and readings record the snowpack's statewide water content at about 20 percent of normal average for this time of year.

In his State of Emergency declaration, Governor Brown directed state officials to assist farmers and communities that are economically impacted by dry conditions and to ensure the state can respond if Californians face drinking water shortages. The Governor also directed state agencies to use less water and initiated a greatly expanded water conservation public awareness campaign. For details related to the public awareness campaign, go to [saveourh2o.org](http://saveourh2o.org). The campaign will be coordinated with local water agencies and calls on Californians to reduce water usage by 20 percent.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture will launch a one-stop website ([www.cdfa.ca.gov/drought](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/drought)) that provides timely updates on the drought and connects farmers to state and federal programs that they can access during the drought.

Local urban water suppliers and municipalities are called upon to implement local water shortage contingency plans immediately in order to avoid or forestall outright restrictions that could become necessary later in the drought season.

The Governor's State of Emergency proclamation follows a series of actions the administration has taken to ensure that California is prepared for record dry conditions. In May 2013, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order directing state water officials to expedite the review and processing of voluntary transfers of water and water rights. In December 2013, the Governor formed a Drought Task Force to review expected water allocations, California's preparedness for water scarcity, and whether conditions merit a drought declaration.

The Governor's Drought Task Force will monitor drought impacts on a daily basis and advise the Governor's office of subsequent actions that should be taken if drought conditions worsen.

➤ **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

- At Tuesday's City Council meeting, three military banners were presented to Montclair veterans who were recently discharged. This year's honorees were:

Jeffery Swinford	–	Served in the Army from 2004-2013
Emmanuel Cortez	–	Served in the Marines from 2008-2013
Noah Samuel Koehl	–	Served in the Marines from 2008-2013

Military banners of those in active duty are displayed along City streets from February through November. Submissions for new banners are taken in the fall, and the banners of discharged veterans are presented in January to the veterans and/or their family members.

Congratulations to our veterans and, on behalf of the City of Montclair, thank you for your service to our country.



Pictured, from left: Emmanuel Cortez, Robin and David Swinford (parents of Jeffery Swinford), Noah Samuel Koehl

➤ **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

- No new information to report.

➤ **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- Last month, David Pohl was promoted to Battalion Chief. This past Tuesday, he was introduced to the City Council as Battalion Chief with his wife, daughter, and father-in-law in the audience.

David's City history goes back to 1989 when he was hired as a Reserve Firefighter. He became a full-time Firefighter in 1992. Ten years later, David was promoted to Fire Engineer, and he became Captain in 2009. David has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Cal Poly Pomona.

As an original member of the Urban Search and Rescue Team, David instructs and assists with department training on Swift Water Rescue and Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics. Currently, he oversees the Wellness and Fitness Program. As a hazardous materials specialist, he represents the Department on the West End Hazardous Materials Team. David was Firefighter of the Year in 2003 and Employee of the Year in 2012.

Congratulations, David; and thank you for your dedication to the City and the Montclair Fire Department.



Battalion Chief David Pohl

➤ **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez of the 52nd District held a Public Safety Legislative Roundtable on January 9 for Fire and Police Chiefs from Chino, Montclair, Ontario, and Pomona. Chief Mike deMoet represented Montclair and joined in the sharing of legislative ideas for the new session of the California State Assembly.

Freddie Rodriguez is the newest member of the State Assembly. He was born and raised in Pomona and has dedicated his life to serving his community. Besides serving on the Pomona City Council for two terms, he was an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in the San Gabriel Valley for over 29 years.

➤ **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- Two weeks ago, I reported the theft of copper wiring from light poles on the Central Avenue overpass, south of Holt Boulevard. The cost to replace the stolen wire was estimated at \$5,000. The recycled value of the stolen copper was estimated at \$40.

Last week, the copper wire was replaced, anti-theft devices were installed, and the lighting system on the Central Avenue overpass was back in operation. As expected, when the lights came on, the copper thieves were on the alert to come back for more. Facilities and Grounds Superintendent Mike McGehee happened by the overpass on Saturday afternoon and noticed the pull box lids were laying next to the boxes. Further investigation showed that the attempts to steal the wire had been foiled by the anti-

theft devices. Mike notified Police dispatch and asked if Patrol Officers could make a few extra passes around the overpass for the balance of the three-day weekend.

On Monday, Mike returned to the overpass and checked all light poles and boxes and found the wiring was still intact. Although the new security devices passed the first hurdle, the thieves may next attempt removal of the security devices. The hope is that these criminals are looking for an easy score, and now that the security devices are in place, perhaps they'll just move on.

- On Tuesday, Maintenance Worker Christopher de los Rios reported a swing seat was missing from Alma Hofman Park. These seats were replaced a few months ago because vandals had broken three of the four seats. The seats are installed with tamper resistant bolts which require a special security tool in order to be removed. The remaining seats will be taken down for a week or so to deter additional thefts.

➤ **SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/MONTCLAIR HOUSING CORPORATION**

- No new information to report.

ECS:spa

"It is good to love many things, for therein lies the true strength, and whosoever loves much performs much, and can accomplish much, and what is done in love is well done."

~ Vincent van Gogh

# JANUARY 2014



27	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
28	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.

# FEBRUARY 2014



03	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
05	Community Action Committee Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
10	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
11	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
12	Midyear Budget Review Council Chambers	6:00 p.m.
14	Valentine's Day	
17	Presidents Day – City Hall Closed	
18	Code Enforcement Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
18	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
20	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
20	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	2:00 p.m.
24	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
25	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
25	Strategic Planning Session Senior Center Dining Room	4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.