



June 19, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager 

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT: June 13-19, 2014

➤ **CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**

- Last Week, Mayor Paul Eaton was unanimously elected chair of San Bernardino Associated Governments' (SANBAG) Commuter Rail and Transit Committee. Mayor Eaton's election to the Chair is important and significant to the City's effort to push for SANBAG cooperation in extending Phase 2B of the Gold Line from Azusa to Montclair.

Over the past five months, Montclair officials have sought to mediate disagreement between SANBAG and the Gold Line Construction Authority regarding extension of the Gold Line from the Los Angeles-San Bernardino County line to the Montclair Transcenter.

Earlier this year, SANBAG refused to fund its 6 percent share of the cost to complete consulting work on an advanced engineering and environmental study for Phase 2B. In March 2014, recognizing that failure to participate with the Gold Line Construction Authority in the consulting work would effectively eliminate Montclair as the terminus for the Gold line, the City Council agreed to step into the breach and advance SANBAG's share of costs. SANBAG also insisted Montclair would be required to advance costs related to its administrative oversight of the project portion in San Bernardino County.

Montclair was also instrumental in convincing Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez to withdraw a bill he introduced that would have extended the Gold Line from Montclair to Los Angeles-Ontario International Airport (ONT). Montclair leaders are not opposed to extension of the Gold Line to ONT, believing it would significantly enhance the lines daily

ridership; however, SANBAG and other Inland Empire communities were frustrated that they were not consulted in advance regarding the intent and purpose of the bill. A majority of SANBAG member cities voted to oppose the bill, AB 2574, and SANBAG's Executive Director indicated unwillingness to discuss extension of the Gold Line from County line to Montclair until and unless the bill is withdrawn. In April, Assembly Member Rodriguez hosted a summit on AB 2574 at his Chino office. Following testimony from a number of agencies for and against the bill, including Montclair, Assembly Member Rodriguez agreed to withdraw the bill and submit a revised version next legislative session after stakeholders have an opportunity to weigh in on its purpose and concept.

Later this month, Montclair will host a summit between executive personnel from the City, Gold Line Construction Authority, and SANBAG. The objective of the meeting is to secure commitment from SANBAG to fund construction of the Gold Line to Montclair.

Through his position as Chair of the Commuter Rail and Transit Committee, Mayor Eaton will have influence in facilitating agenda issues related to transit projects, including extension of the Gold Line into San Bernardino County. Recommended actions of the Commuter Rail and Transit Committee are influential in securing transit project support from the SANBAG Board of Directors.

Congratulations, Mayor Eaton, on your unanimous election as Chair of the SANBAG Commuter Rail and Transit Committee.

- Arguments in the Stockton bankruptcy trial concluded earlier this month without any indication from the presiding judge on whether the city's flow of pension money to CalPERS can be curtailed to satisfy demands of another creditor. Instead, the U.S. Bankruptcy Judge set a hearing for July 8, indicating he would rule then on certain aspects of the case.

The Stockton bankruptcy has become an epic fight over a huge issue: Are public pensions sacred, as CalPERS says? Or can CalPERS be treated like any other creditor, subject to bankruptcy and possibly see its income reduced, as an opposing creditor argues?

In closing arguments, CalPERS' legal team argued the pension fund is not seeking preferential treatment. However, opposing counsel for Franklin Templeton Investments suggested CalPERS is seeking just that—to be excluded from bankruptcy actions affecting other creditors. In earlier statements, lawyers for CalPERS stated that even if the pension fund is found to be a creditor and contributions are scaled back, other municipal agencies in the CalPERS system would be required to keep Stockton's employees and pensioner whole.

Two Franklin bond funds loaned Stockton \$35 million in 2009 to build golf courses, fire stations, and other city assets. During negotiations in the months before the city filed for Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection in 2012, Stockton offered Franklin 50 cents on the dollar. However, when common ground could not be reached, the city reduced its proposed payout to just \$350,000, or a penny on the dollar. Other bond creditors have deals in place to get repaid 50 cents on the dollar or more.

Franklin lawyers argue Stockton has unfairly discriminated against the bond fund. They also argue federal and state laws allow pensions to be "impaired" through bankruptcy. Therefore, Stockton's annual contribution to CalPERS, now more than \$29 million and growing, can be scaled back legally.

The Stockton case is the second major test of whether public pensions can be sustained when a city goes bankrupt. The judge overseeing Detroit's bankruptcy has ruled pensions aren't sacred. Detroit's employees and retirees have tentatively agreed to a plan that makes modest cuts in their benefits. CalPERS argues the Detroit ruling does not apply to California, where pensions are constitutionally guaranteed.

Stockton officials said they have no choice but to continue paying CalPERS in full, and no choice but to leave Franklin with a penny on the dollar. Not paying CalPERS would mean termination of the city's pension plan. Existing benefits would be scaled back by around 60 percent, and employees would quit the city, according to testimony from a Chicago-based pension expert. Stockton retirees have already been stripped of their city-paid health care benefits, according to court documents.

Franklin attorneys are dismissive of the "exodus" logic, noting there has not been a significant departure of Detroit employees, even after the bankruptcy judge said pensions could be scaled back in that city.

- The Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority and Gold Line Corridor cities, including Montclair, were dismayed to learn last week that Phase 2B of the Gold Line Extension from Azusa to Claremont is not included on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) Short Range Transportation Plan. The plan calls for speeding up the completion dates for the following Metro projects:
 1. Green Line Extension from 2035 to 2023
 2. Westside subway (Purple Line Extension) from 2036 to 2025
 3. LAX Metro Connector from 2028 to 2023
 4. Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor from 2039 to 2027

5. Planned extension of the Eastside Gold Line from East Los Angeles to either South El Monte along the 60 Freeway corridor or to Whittier along Washington Boulevard from 2035 to 2025.

Metro's short-range plan is an effort to appeal for more tax dollars, possibly through an additional tax measure for transportation set for the November 2016 ballot in Los Angeles County. However, in 2014, voters in San Gabriel Valley helped to narrowly reject a Metro tax measure because of in-fighting among members of the Metro Board and because the tax measure excluded extension of the Gold Line from Azusa to Claremont.

The current omission is a reminder of earlier battles with the Metro Board to garner support for the Gold Line first from Union Station in Los Angeles to Pasadena, then from Pasadena to Azusa, and now from Azusa to Claremont. The California State Legislature has been an active participant in lending support for each stretch of the Gold Line Extension project.

The battle over Phase 2B is the latest in Metro's drive to end the Gold Line Construction Authority's easterly drive. Earlier this year, Metro was not supportive of AB 2574, a bill proposed by Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez, supporting extension of the Gold Line from Montclair to Los Angeles-Ontario International Airport.

In May, Members of the Construction Authority board voted unanimously to direct Metro staff to list Phase 2B in the Short-Term Plan. Except for the \$851 million Metro provided for Phase 2A from east Pasadena to the Azusa/Glendora border, currently under construction and scheduled to be completed in September 2015, monies for Phase 2B of the extension to Claremont, and possibly beyond to Montclair or the Ontario International Airport, remain unmentioned. The total cost of the Gold Line Foothill extension to Claremont is about \$1.86 billion.

Under Measure R, a half-cent sales tax passed by Los Angeles County voters in 2008 for transportation projects, the full project (Phase 2A from Pasadena to Azusa and Phase 2B from Azusa to Claremont) was listed. The fact that voters approved the entire project is ammunition being used by members of the Gold Line Construction Authority and members of the state Legislature to get Metro to amend the short-range plan by including each phase of the Gold Line Extension.

Already, frustrated legislators are addressing the failure to include Phase 2B. Assemblyman Chris Holden, D-Pasadena, in a letter to Metro's transportation planning manager, noted that Phase 2B was listed by Metro as a capital project in the 2009 Long Range Transportation Plan as "first in line for any new funding sources outside federal New Starts."

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, who has tremendous power on the Metro board, has indicated his support for Phase 2B, leading many to believe that opposition is coming from Metro staff, notably the Executive Director, who has publicly stated his lack of support for Phase 2B. Comments on the Metro short-range plan are being taken until June 18. The Metro board is scheduled to vote on the plan at its July board meeting.

Montclair will send a letter to the Metro Board articulating the City's full support of Phase 2B to Claremont. Over the past year, Montclair has taken a strong advocacy position on Phase 2B. In March, the Montclair City Council approved an agreement with the Gold Line Construction Authority, advancing San Bernardino Associated Government's (SANBAG) 6 percent share of the cost for the Gold Line Construction Authority to hire a consulting firm to complete advanced engineer and environmental work. The City has also conducted meetings with SANBAG officials to secure their cooperating in supporting extension of the Gold Line from the Los Angeles-San Bernardino County line to the Montclair Transcenter.

- The state Legislature on Sunday night approved a record \$108 billion budget that has some new spending aimed at helping California's most vulnerable, but also reflects Governor Jerry Brown's insistence on fiscal prudence.

The main budget bill cleared the Assembly 55-24 and passed the Senate 25-11, with only one republican in the democratic-controlled Legislature voting in favor of it. Lawmakers worked on Father's Day because they had to meet a constitutional deadline to send a balanced budget to the Governor or risk losing pay, pursuant to Proposition 25.

The spending blueprint for Fiscal Year 2014-15 is \$7.2 billion larger than last year's general fund budget. It includes \$10.6 billion to pay down old debts, \$1.6 billion for a "rainy day fund" to ease the pain of possible future recessions and a long-sought plan to fully fund the teachers' pension system, CALSTAR.

Key deals struck in the final days of budget negotiations will finance preschool for all low-income 4-year-olds and overtime pay for in-home aides who care for the elderly and disabled. Spending on public schools is set to rise \$5.6 billion—a 10 percent increase over last year.

Many democrats who voted for the plan, however, said it was too skimpy considering the state is flush with cash given dramatic growth in the economy over the prior year.

Democrats and republicans both complained when they learned late last week the budget would not include an increase in Medi-Cal providers' reimbursement rates, which were lowered during the economic downturn and have not risen since. The Brown administration said the state simply could not afford it this year, but hopes to increase reimbursement rates next fiscal year.

California's rates are now among the lowest in the country, making it difficult, if not impossible, for some doctors to accept low-income patients or keep clinic doors open. Failing to boost rates puts millions of Californians at risk of not having access to care when they need it, lawmakers said.

Republican lawmakers applauded the budget's commitment to saving and paying down old debts. But Senate Republican Leader Bob Huff said some compromises, including a long-term funding plan for California's controversial bullet train, were nothing more than "back-door deals drafted by democrats, for democrats."

Republican Senator Anthony Cannella of Ceres was the only republican to vote for the budget, which requires a simple majority vote.

After months of negotiations, Governor Brown and Democratic leaders nailed down a plan for spending the cap-and-trade proceeds collected annually from the state's worst polluters in the fight against greenhouse gases and climate change. The plan allocates a third of the fees—which will total about \$850 million next fiscal year—to construction of the bullet train. Democrats in the Legislature wanted to set aside half as much. They agreed to use a quarter of the money for high-speed rail and a third for construction of affordable housing near "green" transit, such as light rail.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, applauded the budget agreement on cap-and-trade, but conceded the spending plan does not go far enough to reinvest in California's most vulnerable populations, including the 6 million people living here in poverty.

- The City of Montclair extended family lost an extraordinary member of its team this week when former Junior Accountant Nobu Ikeda passed away at her Upland home. Longer-term employees understand her passing touches each of us in both unique and similar ways. For those who sought her advice, Nobu broadened their understanding of the world; and for everyone else, she was the architect who laid the foundation of many of the organization's fiscal operating procedures.

Nobu came to us late in her working career, and stayed even later into her life because work was her *raison d'être*—her reason for existence—and Nobu truly loved working for this grateful community. To watch Nobu work tired the average person—she was a force of nature! Despite her petite stature, she possessed the energy of a tornado, the force of a hurricane, and the power of an earthquake. Perhaps God gave us weather so we would know what to expect when Nobu came into our lives.

The first to arrive at work each morning, she worked tirelessly to the end of the day, taking only minutes to break for a bite to eat, and only because it was expected of her. The fact is, Nobu eschewed food—for her, nourishment came from the toil of her work; and in that toil, she pursued constant improvement.

Nobu demanded excellence, and gave excellence to each task set before her—it was simply the Nobu-way. If you worked for the City of Montclair during the era of Nobu, then you were guided by her standards, and you are a better person for it. Nobu instilled drive and purpose, making people achieve better than they thought they could give.

As Accounting Specialist and then Junior Accountant, Nobu embraced her job as though it were the most important assignment in the universe; and from that perspective, she tied everything together with precision and exactness. Sir Isaac Newton may be the father of modern mechanical physics, but our Nobu brought the laws of physics down from an astronomical plane, applying them to practical purpose. Everything in her working universe had a physical law that guided even the most minuscule element of the job with unchallengeable science.

Nobu's City Hall place of dominion was the Finance Department. From there, she gave instruction to a series of City Managers, Department Heads, Finance Directors, and all fellow employees until they each understood the essential "Nobuesqueness" of an issue, concern, problem, or other job-related matter. In her judgment, there was not a human failing that could not be corrected by logical application of effort; and if you failed to find satisfactory resolution, then you just didn't really try hard enough; or worse, you chose not to find the correct answer.

If others climb to the top of the mountain to seek universal truths from the wise old man, we at Montclair trekked to Nobu's work station to seek answers about a similar range of more earthly issues. Through her rich life, Nobu shared with us her lessons learned. She had a real-life experience for every occasion. When I look back to our conversations, I realize that from Nobu I learned not theory, but practical knowledge—information to be applied to everyday life and everyday situations.

We respected what Nobu said because we respected Nobu. She lived a life many of us simply cannot relate to. As a young girl, she and her family found their lives uprooted shortly after the United States entered World War II. Sadly, for a period of four years, they were forcibly removed to Civilian Assembly Sites and War Relocation Centers after President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, allowing authorized military commanders to designate "military areas" at their discretion, from which any or all persons may be excluded. These "exclusion zones" were applicable to anyone that an authorized military commander might choose, whether citizen or non-citizen. Ultimately, through the implementation of Executive Order 9066 and subsequent directives, 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry living on the Pacific Coast lost their jobs, way-of-life, possessions, and contact with friends and family and were interned at war relocation centers.

True to her nature, Nobu took these wartime experiences and incorporated them into her character, but not as lessons of bitterness; rather, Nobu grew stronger and more committed to making life better for her and her family. Nobu's husband, John, shared with Nobu similar experiences of internment and a similar desire to forgive and move beyond the sadness that war brought to their lives.

Perhaps it was during her years at the Granada War Relocation Center in Colorado that Nobu developed her strong sense of right and wrong. Wized and opinionated and firm in her beliefs, Nobu was the human counterpart to the Rock of Gibraltar. In any event, we were the beneficiaries of her world order.

Because of her wized nature, or in spite of it, Nobu chose to elevate her office associates by attempting to make their work less tedious and a thing to be proud of. For example, during the annual budget preparation cycle, Nobu initiated the Golden Star Program—the simple placement of a golden star on a Department budget that received the much sought after “Seal of Nobu Quality.” A small gesture; but by this simple action Nobu created competition among Departments to produce flawless budgets. Seeking that Golden Star was a bit like Charlie looking for the Golden Ticket in a Wonka Bar. Perhaps the proud recipient of the Golden Star did not enjoy the coveted visit to Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory, but he or she certainly earned bragging rights for a full year, and a friendly smile from Nobu, accompanied with these fine words: “You did good!”

As she enters her paradise, I offer this one refrain to her maker—words that we at City Hall know well: “Give to Nobu whatever Nobu needs!”

Our thoughts and prayers are with Nobu's family during this difficult time in their lives; and to Nobu we say the following: *Thank you for sharing with us your beautiful life—you did good! You did real good!*

Services for Nobu have been scheduled as follows:

Viewing: Sunday, June 29 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Stone Funeral Home, 355 East 9th Street, Upland

Funeral: Monday, June 30 at 11 a.m.
Claremont Methodist Church, 211 W. Foothill Boulevard,
Claremont

➤ **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

- At its meeting Monday evening, the City Council approved a General Plan Amendment creating a new land use classification, and adopted an ordinance amending the development standards for new multifamily developments in the City. The General Plan Amendment creates a "High Density Residential" (15-30 units per acre) land use category. The

ordinance, which makes significant changes to the City's antiquated R-3 (multifamily residential) standards in order to comply with the Policy Actions approved by the State of California in the City's Housing Element, was the subject of numerous revisions by Council over the past ten months, culminating in a productive discussion at the Strategic Planning Session on April 24.

The Policy Actions in the Housing Element focused on eliminating constraints to developing affordable housing in the City, including the following:

- ✓ Reducing minimum unit sizes
- ✓ Relax the requirement for resident parking in multifamily developments to be within enclosed garages
- ✓ Increase the maximum density allowed on lots that are suitable for higher densities

In addition to the above, staff seized the opportunity to modify and enhance certain R-3 development standards in response to problematic issues that have occurred in the City's multifamily neighborhoods for the past several decades. For example, developers of new multifamily projects will be required to construct and maintain resident amenities such as swimming pools, spas, sports courts, playground equipment, outdoor cooking facilities and community buildings dependent upon the size of the development. Parking will now be based on unit size: studios will be required to have one parking space; one- and two-bedroom units, two parking spaces; three-bedroom units or larger will require three parking spaces.

With respect to density, the City's current base maximum is 14 units per acre, but is often less based on proximity to less intensive zoning districts. The new maximum densities are based on lot area. Parcels of less than 5 acres are entitled to a maximum density of 20 units per acre; 5-10 acres, maximum 25 units per acre; and sites greater than 10 acres, 30 units per acre. However, as was emphasized to Council during the public hearing, developers desiring to build to the stated maximum densities will be required to demonstrate compliance with all other applicable development standards, including, but not limited to, setbacks, building height, parking, landscaping, and provision of required amenities.

Since management of multifamily developments has been a long-running problem, staff included operational and management standards in the new ordinance, requiring projects of 30 units or less to have a resident on-site manager and developments of greater than 30 units to have a permanent, staffed rental office and to employ a professional property management company. Staff believes these long-overdue changes to the City's multifamily development standards will raise the bar to help ensure future developments will be of a higher quality than most that have been constructed in Montclair over the past 50 years.

➤ **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

On June 23, the Fire Department will convert from Ontario Dispatch Services to CONFIRE Dispatch for all radio communications.

Yesterday, technicians from San Bernardino County Information Services Department converted all hand-held radios and the radios in all of the Fire Department's mobile units. Channels were added to allow communication with the surrounding agencies and to provide a seamless transition in the process.

- Mark your calendars for the Fire Department's inaugural Apparatus Dedication Ceremony that will be held on Monday, July 7 at 5:45 p.m. at City Hall's Memorial Garden. The Fire Department's new 2014 KME fire engine will be dedicated to a life of service to the City.

Featured at this event will be remarks from local officials, an apparatus christening, and refreshments. The whole community is invited to attend! Please refer to the "Save the Date" flyer on Page 15.

➤ **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

- On Wednesday, Senior Center participants took a field trip to the Chino Basin Water Conservation District (CBWCD) for a tour of the garden and classrooms. Everyone was impressed with the recent renovations and the beautiful landscaping. After the tour, lunch was enjoyed by all. A photo collage of the trip is included on Page 16.
- Mark your calendars to join us at Alma Hofman Park on Tuesday nights starting July 1 for the 2014 Summer Concert Series. The concerts begin at 7 p.m., and are presented to the public free of charge. Bring your lawn chairs and a picnic dinner and enjoy a fun evening in the park. Free children's activities will also be offered.

The concert schedule is as follows:

July 2	Suave (Latin favorites)
July 9	The Silverados (country)
July 15	To Be Announced
July 23	The Ravelers (classic rock)
July 30	Mariachi El Aventurero (mariachi)

➤ **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Responding to an invitation from Montclair Little League, Police Officers attended the closing ceremonies this past Saturday at Saratoga Park. Officers Jerad Burns and David Vest spoke with the little leaguers and encouraged them to stay in sports and out of trouble.
- CSU Officer Eric Ruziecki attended a health fair at Briarwood Manor last Friday where he discussed Nixle, the notification service the Police Department uses to disseminate information to residents. He also spoke on senior targeted crimes, including the top scams targeting seniors.
- Please save the date for the Police Department's Open House to be held on Saturday, July 19. A flyer on Page 17 provides the details.

➤ **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- The City's Capital Improvement Program for the current fiscal year includes a project to replace the north wall at Sunrise Park. Approximately 500 feet of the block wall needs to be replaced, due in part to how the wall was originally constructed. The Public Works Department recently solicited bids for the removal of the existing wall and the construction of a new block wall. The City's construction cost estimate for this work was \$100,000.

On May 15, the City received and opened six bid proposals for the project. The proposals ranged from a low of \$131,502 to a high of \$546,250. After evaluating each of the bid proposals for completeness and accuracy, the low bid of \$131,502 was found to be incomplete and deemed non-responsive. The second bid proposal was \$207,450, over twice the City's estimate and nearly 45 percent more than the low bid.

After a further review of the project and the bids received, this past Monday night staff recommended that the City Council reject all bids, restructure the project to reduce the amount of wall being replaced, and readvertise the project. The project limits for removal and replacement will be reduced from the original 500 feet to approximately 300 foot.

Based on the bids previously received, the City now estimates the revised project to cost approximately \$130,000. Funding for this project will come from the Park Development Fund. The bid opening is scheduled for July 24 at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

- National Community Renaissance (National CORE) held its Grand Opening on Tuesday for the newly constructed San Emi development located at the southwest corner of Kingsley Street and Pradera Avenue. The Special

Needs Project is the latest, and most probably last, affordable housing project to be constructed in the San Antonio Gateway neighborhood. San Emi is the fourth affordable housing project developed and managed by National CORE. Combined with the other three projects, San Antonio Vista, San Marino, and Vista Del Cielo, National CORE provides homes for more than 600 residents.

Present were Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ruh and Council Member John Dutrey, as well as a number of staff members. Also in attendance were Planning Commissioner Luis Flores and a representative from Supervisor Gary Ovitt's office.

San Emi is an 18-unit apartment community designed and built specifically for adults with developmental disabilities, and includes on-site services provided by United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara Counties (UCPLA). National CORE's partnership with UCPLA provides for high-quality on-site programs and services to San Emi residents. UCPLA works with residents to develop and implement an individualized service plan, goal plan, or independent living plan.

The San Emi development is a gated community and provides a host of on-site amenities that include a community center with a computer lab, laundry facilities, and an outdoor community lounge. The apartment units are all designed for comfortable accommodation of wheelchair users, including roll-in showers.

The former Montclair Redevelopment Agency owned the property and staff worked with National CORE to consider developing a special needs housing project on the small lot. Through collaboration between staff and National CORE, the San Emi project was conceived. The City Council embraced and supported the concept thereby making San Emi a reality. Photos of the Grand Opening are included on Page 18.

- The Elephant Bar Global Grill/Wok Kitchen casual-dining chain filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization on Monday and has closed 16 restaurants. The restaurant in Montclair was not closed.

The Costa Mesa-based S.B. Restaurant Co., operator of the 34-year-old chain, is seeking \$3.3 million in debtor-in-possession financing to continue operating the remaining 29 units while the company looks for a buyer, according to documents filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Santa Ana.

Robert Holden, S.B. Restaurant Co.'s president and chief executive, said the 16 closures will allow the company to "get back to focusing on operations and enhancing the concept to establish a stronger foundation for the future."

According to the bankruptcy filing, S.B. Restaurant Co. recorded revenue of \$165.5 million in 2013, a decrease from \$171.4 million the prior year. Same-store sales fell 3.4 percent last year, following a 2-percent decline in 2012. Over the past 6 months, same-store sales have dipped 9 percent, largely on falling traffic. S.B. Restaurant Co.'s financial woes were blamed on an overleveraged balance sheet and increased competition, combined with declines in traffic and sales, as consumers cut back on discretionary spending, according to court documents. Efforts to turn around sinking sales—including new advertising campaigns, marketing, menu initiatives and cost-cutting programs—were not enough to address the impact of the sagging economy and rising commodity and labor costs, in addition to the chain's declines in profitability, the filing said.

S.B. Restaurant Co. also has struggled to meet debt service obligations since late last year, resulting in defaults on loans. A bankruptcy auction was seen as the "best way to preserve the jobs of their employees and maximize value for stakeholders," as stated in the filing.

Elephant Bar was founded in 1980 as a concept offering an eclectic mix of globally inspired dishes, with a lively bar scene and an average check of about \$18.

In 2000, the chain was acquired by private equity firm Saunders Karp & Megrue, which later became KarpReilly LLC, an active investor in the restaurant space. KarpReilly's portfolio includes chains such as Café Rio, Café Zupas, Sprinkles, The Habit Burger Grill, Z'Tejas Southwestern Grill, and Hooters, according to the company's website.

ECS:spa

"Nothing is more memorable than a smell. One scent can be unexpected, momentary and fleeting, yet conjure up a childhood summer beside a lake in the mountains." ~ Diane Ackerman

JUNE 2014

		
21	Summer Begins	
23	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.

JULY 2014



1	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
3	City Hall Closed in Observance of Independence Day	
4	Independence Day	
7	Fire Department Apparatus Dedication Ceremony Montclair Civic Center – Memorial Garden	5:45 p.m.
7	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
9	Oversight Board Meeting Council Chambers	6:00 p.m.
14	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
15	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
17	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
17	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	2:00 p.m.
19	Police Department Open House 4870 Arrow Highway	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
21	Code Enforcement Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
28	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
29	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.



SAVE THE DATE

Montclair Fire Department



Apparatus Dedication Ceremony

**You are invited to a dedication ceremony for the
Fire Department's new 2014 KME fire engine**

Monday, July 7, 2014

5:45 p.m.

**City Hall ♦ Memorial Garden
5111 Benito Street, Montclair**

Senior Center Field Trip Chino Basin Water Conservation District



THE MONTCLAIR POLICE DEPARTMENT



**Invites You
To Our Second**

OPEN HOUSE



**SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2014 ♦ 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
4870 ARROW HWY, MONTCLAIR CA 91763**

The public is invited to visit our police station and meet our staff! Festivities throughout the event will include:

- ♦ **Station Tours & Police Demonstrations**
- ♦ **Photo Booth & Face Painting for Children**
- ♦ **Police Vehicles and Equipment Displays**
- ♦ **\$3 Donation for Hamburgers & Hot Dogs**



Supported by Montclair Hospital Medical Center



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (909) 448-3603

Sam Emi Apartments Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting, June 17, 2014
Mayor Pro Tem Bill, Council Member John Dutrey, National CORE Representatives and Public/Private Officials



Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ruh (left) and Council Member John Dutrey (right) next to Sue Ovitt, Member of Chaffey Joint Union High School District



San Emi Apartments

