



April 2, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager 

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT: March 27-April 2, 2015

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

- In mid-March, the first light-rail vehicles (LRVs) arrived at the nearly completed \$265 million, 24-acre Gold Line Operations/Maintenance Campus in Monrovia. The full-service, state-of-the-art facility will be completed and turned over to Metro in early June, ahead of the previous delivery schedule of September, with Phase 2A revenue operations (Pasadena to Azusa) anticipated to begin in spring 2016. Completion of the maintenance facility allows Metro the ability to establish maintenance capabilities at the new Division 24 campus and provides a place to accept and commission new LRVs for operations on the Foothill Gold Line and Expo Phase 2 Line projects in 2016.

A community open house and a campus tour is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, May 23, 2015.

- Last week, Council Members John Dutrey and Trisha Martinez, Director of Human Services Marcia Richter, Administrative Analyst Mikey Fuentes, and I attended the 2015 San Bernardino City-County Conference. The 31st Annual City-County Conference, held in Lake Arrowhead, offered an opportunity for elected officials, managers, and staff from San Bernardino County's 24 incorporated cities and the County to come together and discuss topics of mutual interest.

This year, the two-day summit focused on "Many Parts Make Up a Whole"—transforming our communities through collaborative community approaches. Guest speakers included Dore Barilla, Assistant Vice President for Strategy and Innovation, Loma Linda University Health; Sean O'Conner, Maintenance and Operations Manager, City of Chino Hills; Mike Podegracz,

City Manager, City of Hesperia; William Steele, Area Manager, Bureau of Reclamation; Leslie Boozer, Superintendent, Fontana Unified School District; Tomas Hogerman, Superintendent, Apple Valley Unified School District; Dale Marsden, Superintendent, San Bernardino City Unified School District; Robert McCoy, Sergeant, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department; John McMahon, Sheriff-Coroner, San Bernardino County; Tim O'Brian, Finance Specialist, California Department of Veterans Affairs; Robert Lovingood, First District Supervisor; Janice Rutherford, Second District Supervisor; James Ramos, Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, Third District Supervisor; Curt Hagman, Fourth District Supervisor; Josie Gonzales, Fifth District Supervisor; Gregory Devereaux, Chief Executive Officer, San Bernardino County; and several other representatives from throughout Southern California. The guest speakers offered their perspectives on how the County and cities can work together through collaborative community approaches to address local needs.

Guest speakers discussed various topics including "Nothing Grows Without Water," "Collaborative Education Partnerships for Pivotal Change," "Connecting Our Vets," "Future of Transportation Funding," as well as legislative updates by the League of California Cities, SANBAG, and SCAG.

Water

The Sierra Nevada snowpack, which the state relies on heavily during the dry summer months for its water needs, is at a near-record low. The overall water content for the Northern Sierra snowpack is roughly 4.4 inches, just 16 percent of the yearly average. Central and southern Sierra snowpack readings are roughly 5.5 inches (20 percent of average) and 5 inches (22 percent), respectively.

As a result, Governor Brown joined legislative leaders in announcing legislation to help local communities cope with the devastating drought. The \$1 billion package is meant to expedite bond funding to make the state more resilient to the disastrous effects of climate change.

The legislation includes more than \$1 billion for local drought relief and infrastructure projects to make the state's water infrastructure more resilient to extreme weather events. The package accelerates \$128 million in expenditures from the Governor's budget to provide direct assistance to workers and communities impacted by drought and to implement the Water Action Plan. It also includes \$272 million in Proposition 1 Water Bond funding for safe drinking water and water recycling and accelerates \$660 million from Proposition 1 for flood protection in urban and rural areas.

Since last February, the state has pledged over \$870 million to support drought relief. Last month, Governor Brown met with U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell in Sacramento to announce nearly \$20 million in federal drought relief for California's Central Valley.

Education

On July 1, 2013, Governor Brown signed into law a new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) to overhaul funding for California K-12 public schools. The funding formula replaces the old system of "revenue-limits"—general-purpose funding from the state, which was based on complex historical formulas and made up approximately 70 percent of a district's budget—with a per-student base grant that varied by grade span.

The LCFF is intended to direct more resources to California's highest needs students—English language learners, low socio-economic, and foster youth. It leaves significant spending decisions to local discretion and calls for parents and local communities to have a voice in how funds are used.

The transition to the new formula began during the 2013-14 school year, but full implementation is slated to take eight years. Although the majority of school districts will receive more funding under the new formula, districts that were already receiving more funding than what they would get under LCFF are protected by a provision specifying that no district will receive less state aid than it received in 2012-13.

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools has been working closely with local stakeholders and partners in developing the county's Local Accountability Plan Priority Areas as part of the LCFF target levels.

Transportation Funding

Last August, the Legislature approved Senate Bill 1077 (DeSaulnier), which authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop a pilot program to assess the use of a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) tax structure in California. SB 1077 is intended to test the practicality and feasibility of shifting away from a gas consumption tax to that of a vehicle miles traveled tax.

SB 1077 includes language that requires an assessment of methods for calculating vehicle miles traveled, the development of a process for transmitting data from vehicles, safeguards to ensure privacy, and the types of equipment (including advantages and disadvantages of each) to be used to monitor vehicle miles traveled. The pilot program is scheduled to begin by July 1, 2015, and a report would be due to the Legislature in July 2016.

The pilot program is the first in California, but the third in the nation, behind similar test programs in Washington and Oregon. Lawmakers in Minnesota, Utah, and Missouri are also expected to consider similar proposals this year.

Currently, motorists pay nearly 50 cents per gallon in state gas taxes, plus 18 cents per gallon in federal charges; however, gas consumption has declined steadily since 2005 as gas prices have spiked and fuel-efficient and alternative energy cars have flourished.

In 2011, the California Transportation Commission projected a \$300 billion shortfall to repair, manage and improve the state's transportation system during the remainder of this decade.

- Governor Brown and the Legislature are proposing that half of the electricity produced in the state will come from renewable sources by 2030, an increase from the target of one-third by 2020. While the plan is both politically and economically feasible, it will still need to overcome the challenges of storing electricity produced by renewable sources.

Renewable energy can be difficult to manage because it is intermittent, and no one can control the amount of energy produced at any given time. Sometimes California ends up generating more energy than needed and power plants need to be shut down in order to ensure the power grid is not overloaded. As a result, renewable energy power plants are often taken off-line during times of high production.

For example, last April, renewable energy power plants were pumping far more energy into California's electricity grid than the grid could safely handle. As a result, state officials requested that all wind and solar plants cut back their output. For 90 minutes, clean energy production was slashed by 1,142 megawatts, enough electricity to supply hundreds of thousands of homes, while dirtier power from less flexible sources stayed on to keep the system stable. It was the largest curtailment of green energy last year, according to grid operators, and it highlights a hurdle for Governor Brown's plan to increase the state's reliance on renewable energy. Peak demand for electricity rarely coincides with the brightest sunshine or the strongest winds, so finding a way to store clean power and deliver it when needed will be critical as California relies more on renewable energy.

Some power facilities, like nuclear plants, cannot be shut down. Natural gas plants can be scaled back, but they can't be turned off all the way. In addition, some plants are subject to production contracts that cannot be altered, or they are needed to keep the electrical grid stable.

In 2013, in an attempt to address the issues of peak demand and peak production for electricity produced by renewable sources, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) voted to adopt a statewide energy storage mandate. The mandate requires the state's three major power companies to develop electricity storage capacity to safely and efficiently store energy produced from renewable energy sources. The mandate requires that the state's three major power companies must be able to store 470 megawatts by the end of 2016 and 1325 megawatts by 2020.

The mandate issued by the CPUC will be key to the implementation of the state's ambitious renewable portfolio rules. While power companies scramble to invest and develop the technology to store electricity in an efficient and cost-effective manner, many are relying on decades old technology to meet the current state mandates.

Reservoirs are a time-tested way to store electricity by pumping water uphill and then releasing it to generate hydroelectric power when needed. However, grid operators are interested in newer technology, like massive lithium batteries, that may be able to react more quickly to fluctuations in electricity generation. The equipment could also have other applications. For example, a factory could install batteries to charge when the price of electricity is low, and then supply power to machinery when the price is high, helping to cut costs.

Another storage technology in use, but not widely, is molten salt. Some solar power plants store heat in large cylinders of salt that efficiently maintain high temperatures. That heat can be tapped to run turbines when solar plants begin to go offline in the late afternoon.

Why isn't there more energy storage now?

The market for storage is still getting off the ground and the technology remains expensive. Many of the projects and experiments in California are supported by taxpayer dollars from the state or federal government. There are also questions about whether they can be financially integrated into California's system for buying and selling electricity on the grid.

Energy officials hope that demand will drive innovation and help overcome engineering hurdles. Companies are experimenting with supersized batteries and tanks of compressed air in the hunt for the best way to hold an electrical charge and respond quickly to shifts in power supply and demand.

- Following the lowest snowpack ever recorded, and with no end to the drought in sight, Governor Jerry Brown announced actions that will save water, increase enforcement to prevent wasteful water use, streamline the state's drought response, and invest in new technologies that will make California more drought resilient.

For more than two years, the state's experts have been managing water resources to ensure that the state survives this drought and is better prepared for the next one. Last year, the Governor proclaimed a drought state of emergency. The state has taken steps to make sure that water is available for human health and safety, growing food, fighting fires, and protecting fish and wildlife. Millions have been spent helping thousands of California families most impacted by the drought pay their bills, put food on their tables, and have water to drink.

The following is a summary of the executive order issued today by the Governor.

Save Water

For the first time in state history, the Governor has directed the State Water Resources Control Board to implement mandatory water reductions in cities and towns across California to reduce water usage by 25 percent. This savings amounts to approximately 1.5 million acre-feet of water over the next 9 months, or nearly as much as is currently in Lake Oroville.

To save more water now, the order will also:

- ✓ Replace 50 million square feet of lawns throughout the state with drought tolerant landscaping in partnership with local governments;
- ✓ Direct the creation of a temporary, statewide consumer rebate program to replace old appliances with more water and energy-efficient models;
- ✓ Require campuses, golf courses, cemeteries, and other large landscapes to make significant cuts in water use; and
- ✓ Prohibit new homes and developments from irrigating with potable water unless water-efficient drip irrigation systems are used, and ban watering of ornamental grass on public street medians.

Increase Enforcement

The Governor's order calls on local water agencies to adjust their rate structures to implement conservation pricing, recognized as an effective way to realize water reductions and discourage water waste.

Agricultural water users—which have borne much of the brunt of the drought to date, with hundreds of thousands of fallowed acres, significantly reduced water allocations, and thousands of farm workers laid off—will be required to report more water use information to state regulators, increasing the state's ability to enforce against illegal diversions and waste and unreasonable use of water under today's order. Additionally, the Governor's action strengthens standards for Agricultural Water Management Plans submitted by large agriculture water districts and requires small agriculture

water districts to develop similar plans. These plans will help ensure that agricultural communities are prepared in case the drought extends into 2016.

Additional actions required by the order include:

- ✓ Taking action against water agencies in depleted groundwater basins that have not shared data on their groundwater supplies with the state;
- ✓ Updating standards for toilets and faucets and outdoor landscaping in residential communities and taking action against communities that ignore these standards; and
- ✓ Making permanent monthly reporting of water usage, conservation, and enforcement actions by local water suppliers.

Streamline Government Response

- ✓ Prioritizes state review and decision-making of water infrastructure projects and requires state agencies to report to the Governor's Office on any application pending for more than 90 days;
- ✓ Streamlines permitting and review of emergency drought salinity barriers necessary to keep freshwater supplies in upstream reservoirs for human use and habitat protection for endangered and threatened species;
- ✓ Simplifies the review and approval process for voluntary water transfers and emergency drinking water projects; and
- ✓ Directs state departments to provide temporary relocation assistance to families who need to move from homes where domestic wells have run dry to housing with running water.

Invest in New Technologies

The order helps make California more drought resilient by:

- ✓ Incentivizing promising new technology that will make California more water efficient through a new program administered by the California Energy Commission.

For more than two years, California has been dealing with the effects of drought. To learn about all the actions the state has taken to manage our water system and cope with the impacts of the drought, visit Drought.CA.Gov.

Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com.

➤ **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- On March 31, a desert wildfire, named the River Bottom Fire, started around noon in the Mojave Narrows Regional Park near Pelican Lake. The park is on the border of Apple Valley and Victorville.

Strike teams from regional agencies were dispatched to assist with the fire. Montclair Medic Engine151, Captain Ed Cook, Engineer James Colby, and Firefighter Stan Boehm, along with Upland Medic Engine163, Captain Joe Barna, Engineer John Hurt, and Firefighter Nick Vasquez responded to the fire and assisted with structure defense and hose lays.

More than 200 fire fighters from various agencies participated in combating the fire. Two bulldozers helped to create a containment line. Four water-dropping helicopters from the Sheriff's Department assisted with water drops, collecting water from nearby ponds, lakes, and streams.

The fire appeared to be the result of a permitted, controlled burn conducted by the County Regional Parks Department to clear the area of cattails. The winds were the primary reason for the spread of the fire.

Structure defense teams had been in place to protect homes that were immediately threatened. Fortunately, no homes were burned.

As of 9 a.m. today, the fire is 95 percent contained and more than 185 acres have been scorched. Full containment is anticipated by this evening.

➤ **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

- Last Thursday, the Senior Center hosted an Antique Appraisers Presentation. Two certified appraisers discussed when items become antiques vs. collectables. Over 70 seniors attended the presentation.

Seniors were encouraged to bring up to two items they wished to have appraised. A variety of items were valued with the highest item appraised at more than \$10,000—a pleasant surprise for the owner!

Seniors were provided useful information about searching for or selling their antiques. The presentation was so enjoyed that participants requested a follow-up event in the near future.

Photos are included on Page 13.

- The public is invited to attend the City's Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday, April 4. The event will also include a Pancake Breakfast and will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Montclair Community Center and adjacent Starlite Patio.

Games, activities, Easter eggs, and candy will be included for children 10 and younger. Children are invited to bring their own baskets from home to carry their candy-filled eggs won as game prizes.

Per tradition, the Easter Bunny will arrive in a fire engine and will be available for photo sittings (\$3 per photo or \$1 using personal cameras).

The pancake breakfast, offered for \$4 per breakfast, will also include sausage, orange juice, and coffee.

This event is sponsored by the City of Montclair, Montclair Kiwanis Club, Montclair Fire Fighter's Association, Montclair Police Officers Association, and Montclair-Ontario Junior Women's Club.

For additional information, call (909) 625-9479.

➤ **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- On March 31, the Montclair Police Department conducted a traffic enforcement detail from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. that specifically targeted moving violations—the primary causes of collisions.

This detail was part of our ongoing Selective Traffic Enforcement Program grant, which is provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Four officers working targeted enforcement made 53 stops and issued 35 citations for the targeted moving violations and 3 for other equipment violations. Also, 2 of the drivers were found to be unlicensed.

➤ **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- Last month, water backing up from a clogged sewer line caused significant water damage to walls and the wood flooring throughout the Senior Center.

After conferring with the City's liability insurance carrier and evaluating several courses of action, including replacement or restoration of the existing flooring, Facilities and Grounds Superintendent Mike McGehee recommended the services of a water damage restoration company.

In a bid to save the flooring, the restoration company has strategically placed heaters and blowers throughout the Senior Center to reduce the floor's moisture content--a process that should last approximately ten days. If the

drying-out process is successful, the cupping in the wood flooring is expected to flatten out. The flooring would then be sanded and refinished. If the process is not successful, the City would ask the insurance carrier to pay for replacement of the flooring throughout the Senior Center.

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

- Last week, Housing Associate Fabiola Lizaola and Administrative Aide Thailin Gavilanes attended a Mobile Home Parks and Manufactured Housing 101 seminar at the Nixon Presidential Library & Museum. The seminar was organized by the Manufactured Housing Educational Trust (MHET) which serves the counties of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino.

The seminar went into detail on several different topics, including the history of mobile homes and parks, codes and regulations specific to mobile home parks/communities; rental and lease agreements, sub-leasing, rules and regulations in a mobile park; responsibilities of park owners vs. renters; types of ownerships; manufactured homes; and park closures.

MHET, established in 1982, is a California non-profit association dedicated to promoting mobile home parks and the manufactured housing community. MHET acts as a resource to provide vision and protect property rights, and leads in the resolution of public policy issues affecting mobile home communities. Some of the services MHET provides and/or assists with are rental assistance program, tenant screening, management forms, education and publication, and advocacy.

The history of mobile home parks began with travel trailer parks and goes back to the 1920's and 1930's during the great depression when people were migrating, looking for jobs and a better quality of life. With time, those parks transitioned to mobile home parks, and the park's land was limited to being either a "land lease" or "rental park." Today, mobile home parks have expanded to house all individuals, regardless of age, and have provided ownership opportunities to many individuals. Rising ownership opportunities have not remained limited to mobile homes, but modern manufactured housing as well.

Many laws and regulations have been written throughout the years specific to mobile home parks since then. The Auto Camp Act of 1929 was the first law to be written and was specific to auto and trailer camps along main roads and freeways. Mobile home parks are regulated by the California Code of Regulations, Title 25, Division 1, Chapter 2 (Mobile Home Parks Act) which is carried out by the Department of California Housing and Community Development. Title 25 includes specific requirements for park construction, maintenance, use, occupancy, and design; and also includes requirements for items such as lot identification, roadway width and lighting, plan structures and buildings, earthquake resistance bracing system, applicable procedures, fees, enforcement, and appeal procedures.

Stepping away from mobile home park communities and entering the growing realm of modern manufactured homes, many individuals are discovering an evolution of new homes. Modern manufactured homes are built to accommodate individuals in a more luxurious place at a lesser price of a site-built home. In addition to the lower costs, the average build time for a modular home is less than six months.

After the seminar, attendees were able to tour the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, which was Richard Nixon's birth and burial place.



ECS:spa

"The most important thing in communication is hearing what isn't said."

~ Peter Drucker

APRIL 2015



04	Easter Eggstravaganza & Pancake Breakfast Montclair Community Center	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
05	Easter	
06	City Council Workshop – Police Department Update	5:45 p.m.
06	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
08	Montclair Farmer’s Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
13	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
14	City Manager’s Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	7:00 p.m.
15	Montclair Farmer’s Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
16	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
16	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	4:00 p.m.
20	Code Enforcement/Public Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
20	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
22	Montclair Farmer’s Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
27	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
28	City Manager’s Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
29	Montclair Farmer’s Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Senior Center Antique Appraiser Presentation

