



October 6, 2016

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager 

SUBJECT: CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT: September 30-October 6, 2016

CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

- The 2016 State of the City—Montclair's 60th Anniversary and *Taste of Montclair*—was held on October 5 at the Community Center. This year's theme, *Montclair's 60th Anniversary*, highlighted the City's early history with current and proposed developments. The video covered early Native American history, 1900 citrus development to an overview of City accomplishments from the City's 50th Anniversary in 2006, to current and future developments.

The Community Center beamed with a heavenly glow as guests were welcomed to an elegant display of hanging and beaming lights throughout the ceiling and above the wood pilasters. The lighting décor created a magical glow that brought a lively and festive atmosphere to the event. A special thank you to Facilities and Grounds Superintendent Mike McGehee for calculating the precise location in displaying the string lights that effectively created a brilliant display. His contribution included the handmade 60th Anniversary glittery "M" centerpieces displayed on each table.

Mayor Paul Eaton – Video Welcome Address

Mayor Eaton began his appearance in the video by announcing that on April 25, 1956, the area known as "Montclair" was incorporated as the town of Monte Vista. "Today, 60 years later, I am proud and honored to congratulate our GREAT CITY on its 60th Diamond Anniversary."

We look with pride at the hallmark of good governance that comes from enjoying long-term stability within Montclair's City Council that has provided Montclair with clear goals and objectives for developing strong public safety programs; community health and outreach services; large-scale citywide infrastructure projects; and quality residential, commercial, and industrial developments. The City's visionary direction guided Montclair in the past, and will continue serving as our foundation for the next decade and beyond.

Early History to Time of Incorporation

- ✓ The area that was to become San Bernardino County had long been inhabited by the Serrano, Gabrieleno, and Vanyume Native American tribes.
- ✓ The early 1900's became a bustling agricultural area.
- ✓ Land developer Emil Birth bought 1,000 acres, was named the Monte Vista Land Track, and evolved into the world's producer of citrus. Later, after expansion of the nation's interstate highways, the land would become home to development of affordable homes in western San Bernardino County.
- ✓ On April 25, 1956, local residents voted to incorporate as the City of Monte Vista. The new town had a population of roughly 8,000 citizens, spread over 4.2 miles. In 1958, citing conflict with a California community sharing the same name, the US Postal Service refused to open a post office in Monte Vista. In response, voters approved a name change to the City of Montclair.

In the video, each member of the City Council addressed accomplishments, as follows:

Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Raft – Public Safety

The core service of a city is Public Safety. The Montclair Police and Fire Departments are committed to providing exceptional services to residents and the business community—services designed to strengthen trust and establish a community presence. In recent years, these concerted efforts included the following programs:

- ✓ In 2012, the Police Department reactivated its Crime Suppression Unit to enhance its crime-fighting abilities and partnerships within the community.
- ✓ To reduce traffic-related deaths and injuries, the Police Department, in 2014, established a Traffic Safety Division focused on high-visibility enforcement and promotion of pedestrian and bicycle safety programs.
- ✓ In 2014, utilizing federal grants and local funds, Montclair acquired a KME fire engine equipped with the latest communications equipment.

- ✓ In 2016, the Police Department welcomed Bo, a bloodhound trained to perform a variety of canine-related duties, including the tracking of suspects and locating lost or injured victims.

Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ruh – Economic and Community Development

Montclair pursues an active role in planning for, and attracting quality residential, commercial, and industrial developments by proactively engaging both local and national corporations, businesses, and developers. Areas of major concentration for development have included the Holt and Mission Boulevard and Central Avenue corridors; North Montclair, including Montclair Place; and adjacent properties.

- ✓ Adopted in 2006, the North Montclair Downtown Specific Plan establishes a Transit-Oriented District in an area encompassing 150 acres. The Specific Plan envisions a mixed-use district featuring urban development land uses that promote walkability and bike ridership, and high-density residential developments close to transit.

Completed and recently approved projects in the Transit District include

- ✓ The Paseos, a 385-unit residential community built around a public park; Arrow Station, a 129-unit residential development; and Vista Court, a 23-unit 3-story project approved in July. Construction is anticipated for early 2017.
- ✓ Building Gold Line light rail service between Los Angeles' Union Station and the Montclair Transcenter, is vital to the Transit District's success. The next segment of Gold Line construction from Azusa to Montclair is scheduled to begin in 2018.

Recent development in Montclair is revitalizing and upgrading the community and securing the City's tax base. Some of these projects include the following:

- ✓ Ashley Furniture, completed in 2013; Gold's Gym, completed in 2014; Metro Honda dealership, completed renovation and expansion in 2015; Montclair Shoppes, completed in 2016; and Orchard Plaza retail center, completed in 2016.
- ✓ CIM Group, owners of Montclair Place, plans to renovate the mall beginning with a new food hall at the mall's main entry portal, soon to be followed by demolition of the former Broadway building and construction of a mega-plex luxury theater, new entertainment uses, and several restaurants.

Council Member J. John Dutrey – Infrastructure Projects

The Montclair City Council continues its focus on developing new public facilities and maintaining a well-functioning city through an infrastructure upkeep program for streets, parks, sewers, and other facilities. City leaders have developed and sought federal, state, and local funding to finance capital improvements. The list of public facilities and infrastructure projects completed during this last decade demonstrates a City hard at work for residents and the business community.

- ✓ In 2004, Montclair voters approved "Measure F," authorizing a .25 percent transactions tax to secure financing for construction of a new Police facility, Senior Center, and Youth Center—augmented by Redevelopment Agency funding, included the following projects:
- ✓ A 45,000 square foot Police facility was completed in 2008; the former police facility at the civic center was renovated in 2010 into a 13,000 square foot Youth Center; the 13,000 square foot Senior Center opened in 2010; and the Ramona Avenue Grade Separation was completed in 2010.
- ✓ From 2003 to 2011, the former Redevelopment Agency helped fund a nine-phase street improvement project along the Mission Boulevard Corridor which included construction of an extensive storm drain system, landscaped median islands, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, street lights, and new traffic signals.

Future Projects

The Montclair City Council and staff are vigorously working to bring the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension to the City. The City has worked with the Gold Line Foothill Construction Authority and the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) on laying the ground work for the Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2B to Montclair.

- ✓ City Council approval of a \$2.2 million dollar agreement between the City of Montclair and the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority for the cost of advanced engineering and environmental clearance work paves the way for the Montclair Segment Phase 2B. Construction of Phase 2B to Montclair will allow transit access to Los Angeles through the San Gabriel Valley and Pasadena.
- ✓ The City Council and staff are gearing up in an attempt to secure \$36 million in state cap-and-trade funding and another \$36 million in federal transit grant funds to actually construct the Montclair Segment of the Gold Line.
- ✓ Plans are under development for extensive streetscape and infrastructure improvements in the City's Transit District. The plan incorporates a walkable street and bikeway network, sustainable

landscaping, and other traffic and street improvements.

- ✓ The Monte Vista Avenue Grade Separation Project is scheduled to start construction in 2017. This project constructs a bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks at Monte Vista Avenue.
- ✓ Reconstruction and widening of the Central Avenue/Union Pacific overpass is currently in development. In addition to widening the bridge to improve traffic circulation, supporting pillars will be replaced to improve seismic stability.
- ✓ Widening of Monte Vista Avenue at the I-10 Freeway is part of a regional widening of the freeway to add express lanes through San Bernardino County. The widening will eliminate traffic congestion and improve access to North Montclair.

Council Member Trisha Martinez – Human Services Programs

Montclair's commitment to improving the quality of life for our residents incorporates an exceptional blend of recreation programs; youth and senior services; nutritional, educational and social programs; and health and wellness services.

- ✓ The Human Services Department's After School activities, Youth Center and camp programs, and sports activities provide a variety of choices for preschoolers to teens, are designed to improve academics and promote opportunities for better education
- ✓ Montclair's award winning Online to College Program funds a two-year Chaffey College scholarship for participating, college-bound students graduating from Montclair High School.
- ✓ Healthy Montclair is a signature program that encourages and promotes healthy lifestyle choices through access to physical activity, nutritious food, and quality health care. Health-related programs supporting this effort include the 2013 opening of the Montclair Community Fruit Park and the 2015 opening of the Montclair Community Garden.
- ✓ Since 1993, Montclair's Por La Vida Program has offered nutrition and education classes designed to strengthen and promote a healthy lifestyle with focus on the City's Hispanic population.
- ✓ The Montclair Medical Clinic offers low-cost medical services including immunizations to elementary school students in Montclair and their families for people with limited health care options. Operating in conjunction with the clinic, the Montclair Family Resource Center provides mental health services through the Montclair Community Collaborative.

The video ended with a closing statement from Mayor Eaton and many happy anniversary greetings from all City Council Members, Police staff, preschoolers to middle school age students from the City's after school programs and senior citizens.

Guests were treated to a special 60th Anniversary booklet and special monkey inside a two-sided tote displaying the 60th Anniversary and the *Build the Gold Line to Montclair* logos. The booklet presented a brief summary of early history and included photos and descriptions of completed City projects and future developments planned or in the works.

Event dignitaries included Mayor Paul and Ginger Eaton; Mayor Pro Carolyn Raft, Council Members J. John Dutrey and Trisha Martinez; Joanna Valenzuela represented the 52nd District office of Freddie Rodriguez, Karen Haughey represented the 4th District County Supervisor office of Curt Hagman, and Benny Ayala, represented the 20th District office of State Senator Connie M. Leyva.

As Master of Ceremonies, David Fakhoury, Customer Relations Manager for Ashley Furniture, welcomed attendees and introduced the dignitaries and sponsors. Barbara Johnson, Chamber of Commerce Board Chair and owner of Travel by Design, presented a live address to thank all sponsors and was featured in the video. Police Chaplin Vicki Brobeck gave the invocation and Police Officer Eric Rivera led the flag salute.

Attendees were treated to an impressive assortment of food and desserts from 12 participating food vendors: Anna's Café, Applebee's, Costco Wholesale, Dolce Bistro & Bakery, El Torito, Jersey Mike's Subs, John's Incredible Pizza, Los Portales, Olive Garden Italian Kitchen, Red Lobster, Starbucks Coffee, and The Taco Man. Special thanks goes to the participating restaurants that helped create a fabulous dining environment for "Taste of Montclair."

The State of the City event and video was sponsored and produced by the City of Montclair. The event was hosted by the Montclair Chamber of Commerce. Other major event sponsors were:

Title Sponsor—Montclair Hospital & Medical Center

Presenting Sponsor—Wells Fargo Bank

Major Sponsor—The Gas Company

Chairman's Circle—Burrtec Waste Industries, City of Montclair, Cuning Dental Group, Montclair Metro Auto Group, Metro Nissan/Infiniti, Montclair Hospital Medical Center, Montclair Place, Monte Vista Water District, Wells Fargo Bank

Headline Table Sponsors—Ashley Homestore, Building Industry Association, Burrtec Waste Industries, Chaffey College, City of Montclair, Cuning Dental Group, Metro Honda/Acura, Metro Nissan/Infiniti, Montclair Place, Monte

Vista Water District, Our Lady of Lourdes School, Soroptimist of Montclair/Inland Valley, Trammell Crow Residential, Travel by Design, and Southern California Gas.

State of the City Event planners were Deputy City Manager Marilyn Staats, Director of Human Services Marcia Richter, Facilities and Grounds Superintendent Mike McGehee, Planning Manager/Assistant Director of Redevelopment Christine Caldwell, Economic Development Coordinator Melinda Flores, Senior Management Analyst Mikey Fuentes, Public Works Superintendent Xavier Mendez, Information Technology Supervisor John Nguyen, and Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Myra Kirscht.

Audio and video services and programming were provided by Information Technology Manager John Nguyen, IT Specialist Robert Castillo, GIS Specialist Steve Dague, and Senior Intern Edmund Garcia.

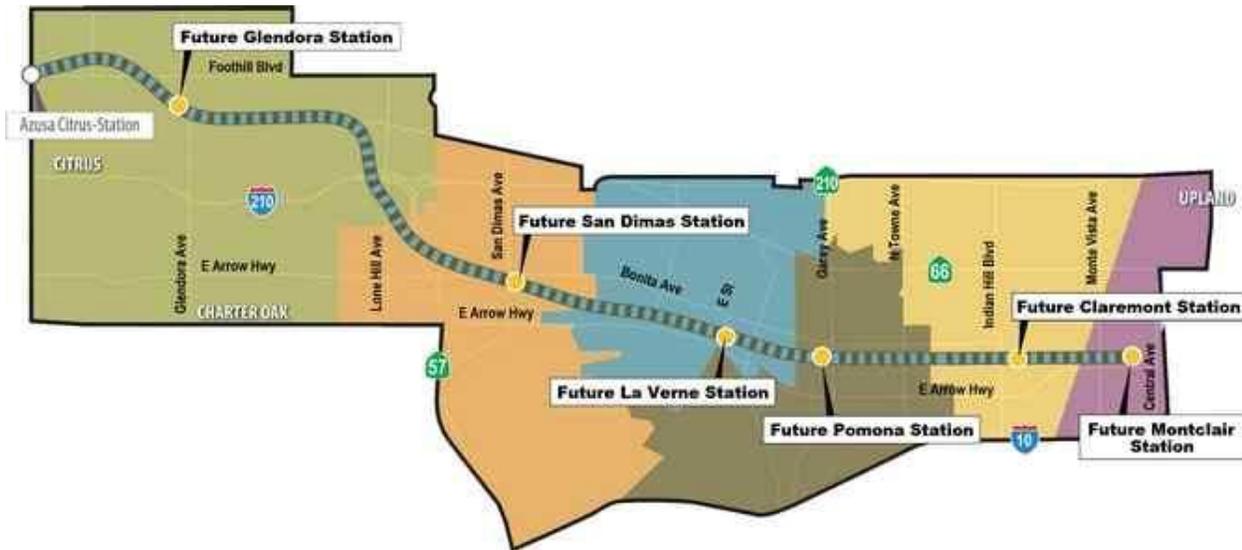
Public Works crews refurbished the Civic Center ground and provided building clean up, painting, logistical support, and traffic control.

Personnel Services Coordinator Lisa Shannon and Public Works Leadworker Chad Quidor provided excellent voice-over video narration.

Enjoy the collage of photos starting on Page 19.

Additional photos are available on the City's "Z" Drive: [Z:\Department_Shares\Human Services\Event Photos\2016\State of the City 2016](Z:\Department_Shares\Human_Services\Event_Photos\2016\State_of_the_City_2016)

- Last week, the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority board of directors approved the advanced conceptual engineering (ACE) draft documents for Phase 2B of the 12.3-mile, 6-station Foothill Gold Line light rail project from Glendora to Montclair. The Construction Authority is expected to distribute the draft documents to the Phase 2B corridor cities (Glendora, LaVerne, San Dimas, Pomona, Claremont, and Montclair) and key agencies for a 60-day review period. Construction of Phase 2B is estimated to cost \$1.2 billion, with the majority of the funding anticipated to come from Measure M, and the balance from state cap-and-trade auction funds.



Metro map of the planned route of the Phase 2B Gold Line connection between Glendora and Montclair

In 2014, the Montclair City Council took a leadership role in extending the Gold Line to Montclair by committing up to \$3 million in loans and administrative costs to the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) to pay for San Bernardino County’s share of the cost to participate in preparation of the ACE documents. SANBAG, at that time, stated it would not participate in the advanced engineering without a commitment from Metro to fund the Phase 2B extension.

This November, Los Angeles County residents will be asked to enact Measure M, extending the existing one-half cent Measure R transportation tax for 30 years and approving an additional one-half cent sales tax, without a sunset, to continue constructing and maintaining a network of completed and planned transportation and transit projects. If Measure M passes, SANBAG would be required to reimburse Montclair for any loan payments made—Phase 2B would also be one of the first projects funded by Measure M to break ground. Montclair only recently received its first statement from SANBAG for oversight-related costs on a TOD study; however, the City has contested the billing, arguing it is not related to preparation of the ACE documents. If approved by voters, the Foothill Gold Line will be one of the first projects funded by Measure M to break ground. The Construction Authority projects it could award a design-build contract by July 2018, with completion no later than 2025.

Completion of the ACE draft documents is considered a milestone step in preparing the Glendora to Montclair extension for construction. Engineering for the project began in fall 2014, requiring approximately 35,000 hours to complete.

The ACE documents contain more than 700 pages of engineering drawings detailing all elements of the light rail project—the study was completed at a cost of approximately \$15 million. Fourteen categories of project components are covered in the document including the design for the 6 future stations and parking facilities, 2 dozen grade separated bridge structures, 2 dozen at-grade crossings, walls and fences, street improvements, safety and communications systems and other related

construction elements. With the entire 12.3-mile corridor running parallel with freight traffic, the drawings also detail the relocation of freight track to make room for the two new light rail tracks.

The Gold Line route, currently 31-miles in length, is Metro's longest system running from East Los Angeles to Citrus College in Azusa. Phase 2B would extend the Gold Line to 43 miles. When the Gold Line reaches Montclair, it would be the first light rail service penetrating into San Bernardino County. Available parking spaces along the Phase 2B route would be 4 times the number of available parking spaces on the Pasadena-to-Azusa extension, with Montclair serving as the largest station along the route outside of Los Angeles' Union Station. Phase 2B parking at each station includes:

- Glendora (Ada and Vermont Avenues) – 450
- San Dimas (San Dimas Avenue, between Bonita Avenue and Arrow Hwy.) – 450
- La Verne (E Street, between the University of La Verne and Fairplex) —600
- Pomona (north of the existing Metrolink Station)—980
- Claremont (at the existing Metrolink Station)—1,260
- Montclair (at the Montclair Transcenter)—600

Daily Gold Line service averages approximately 51,000 riders; in contrast, Metrolink carries approximately 42,125 daily riders over 388 miles of rail network consisting of 7 lines and 55 stations in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura counties.

Metro projects a trip from Montclair to downtown Pasadena will take approximately 40-minutes; to Los Angeles would take approximately 75 minutes.

For more information on Measure M, visit theplan.metro.net.

To view the latest fact sheets on each future station, visit foothillgoldline.org.

Click on the following link for a 6-minute video to learn about some of the points of interest located within a short walk, bike or bus ride from the 6 future Foothill Gold Line stations:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery&v=h0aT7jMczEo

- Last Wednesday, at the Montclair Police Department's Community Room/EOC, Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez (52nd Congressional District) hosted an informational workshop on transportation issues in the Inland Empire. The workshop featured several presentations from representatives of transportation and transit agencies serving the Inland Empire. Presenting were:

Caltrans Presentation - Gerald Kam

Mr. Kam discussed planned improvements to State Route 71 through the Pomona area from the I-10 Freeway, south to the State Route-91, including the addition of one High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) and one Mixed Flow Lane in each direction; camera system upgrades; surface overlays; and interconnects to Phillips Ranch Road and Ranch Camino Drive; and other upgrades for conversion from an expressway to a full freeway.

Alameda Corridor - Mark Christoffels

Mr. Christoffels addressed increased rail and truck traffic along the Alameda Corridor especially at-grade crossings. The increased traffic is directly related to the success of the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach as destinations for products from Asia and the centralization of distribution, logistics, and warehousing in the west end of the Inland Empire.

Mr. Christoffels also spoke of a study conducted by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (COG) to determine their focus for potential Measure M funds, including an estimated \$1.01 billion for the Foothill Gold Line extension from Azusa to Claremont, and \$534 million for a future parallel extension of the Gold Line from Los Angeles to El Monte, heading east along SR-60.

Foothill Goldline - Habib Balian

Mr. Balian discussed Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority project timelines and objectives. In addition to the projected \$1.01 billion from Measure M, Phase 2B will require an additional \$180 million to complete construction from Azusa to Claremont. The Construction Authority, along with Montclair and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), is targeting Cap-and-Trade auction funds for additional funding and to complete the Montclair Segment in San Bernardino County. Adequate funding exists to complete plans for the Phase 2B design build bid package.

Metrolink - Roderick Diaz

Mr. Diaz indicated that Metrolink focuses efforts on reducing the number of vehicle miles driven by moving automobile drivers to transit through expansion of the rail system. Mr. Diaz noted that Metrolink is the first transit system in the nation to implement Positive Train Control (PTC). He also indicated that in late fall, Metrolink would complete its transition to new engines for the rail line.

To facilitate ridership-friendliness, Mr. Diaz discussed the introduction of a smartphone application for e-ticket purchases.

Mr. Diaz concluded his comments with a discussion on expanding Metrolink access to Ontario International Airport (ONT) from both the San Bernardino and Riverside lines, and double tracking of the San Bernardino line to facilitate re-introduction of a rapid service line between Los Angeles and San Bernardino, with limited stops.

Foothill Transit - Andrew Papson

Mr. Papson discussed Foothill Transit's successful deployment of electric buses and the agency's intent to expand its electric bus fleet. The Foothill Transit Board directed a full-fleet conversion to electric buses by 2030, the first fleet in the nation to complete an all-electric fleet transition. Foothill Transit is also looking at deploying double-decker electric buses in 2019 as part of its electric service transition.

Omnitrans - Jeremiah Bryant

Mr. Bryant discussed transit partnerships with various agencies including Foothill Transit, Metrolink and Rapid Transit District (RTD). Omnitrans currently serves an estimated 13 million passengers each year and plans to expand service directly to ONT. Montclair has advocated a shuttle service from the Montclair Transcenter directly to ONT when the Gold Line arrives at the Transcenter.

Mr. Bryant also pointed to its pilot program under AB 2766, offering free transit to college students. The service has provided an estimated 7.5 million student trips through that program.

Caltrans District 8 - John Bulinski

Mr. Bulinski discussed various freeway improvement projects within the 52nd Congressional District; he also discussed pilot programs related to transition away from the gas tax to Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). VMT is part of a national effort to fund transportation infrastructure improvements by charging drivers for actual miles driven, rather than through the current excise tax charged to fuel purchases.

County of San Bernardino - Gerry Newcombe

Mr. Newcombe discussed a joint project with Caltrans to improve Cedar Avenue off the I-10 Freeway. He also highlighted deficiencies on 137 bridges on Route 66—the bridges are not in the 52nd Congressional District.

SANBAG – Dr. Raymond Wolfe

Dr. Wolfe discussed the Measure I funding mechanism for San Bernardino County. He also noted that geographic diversity in the county makes the transportation agency's efforts difficult, controversial, and expensive. Dr. Wolfe noted 82 percent of Valley Subarea Measure I dollars are dedicated to highway improvements, and only 8 percent of Valley Subarea Measure I dollars are programmed for rail and transit, limiting opportunities to expand the County's transit network. Dr. Wolfe also discussed the development of transit districts along the Metrolink line, with emphasis on the progress in Montclair.

California Air Resources Board (CARB) - Matt Botill

Mr. Botill discussed the state Cap-and-Trade Program, noting \$2.3 billion was appropriated by the state legislature in 2015. The objective of cap-and-trade is to reduce greenhouse gas effects by transitioning drivers to transit. Because San Bernardino County lacks any significant transit effort, the substantial majority of cap-and-trade dollars are distributed to other parts of the state.

California Air Resources Board - Jack Kitowski

Mr. Kitowski discussed funding through the state's low-carbon transportation program:

- \$150 million is currently assigned for consumers investing in
 - Hybrid/zero emissions incentives
 - Low NOx engine incentives
 - Air Quality improvements

Assembly Member Rodriguez concluded the event by noting his intention is to give voice to the demand by communities for improvements in transportation and transit, and to bring funding equity to the area for transit and transportation projects.

Montclair City staff asked Assembly Member Rodriguez if the Legislature was planning to address the potential loss of future cap-and-trade dollars if the state loses a lawsuit to halt the program. The lawsuit alleges cap-and-trade is a tax that was not properly approved by the Legislature. Assembly Rodriguez indicated the Legislature would address the issue starting with the 2017 session. Mr. Botill from CARB also indicated the agency does not project future earnings at cap-and-trade auctions; therefore, the agency could not project if the next auction would reflect the same low earnings that occurred in the first auction in 2016.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The City of Montclair is in the process of amending the North Montclair Downtown Specific Plan (NMDSP) adopted in 2006. The NMDSP is the master planning document for North Montclair and focuses on the development of a mixed use transit oriented community. The amendment proposes the expansion of the current NMDSP boundary to include the area at the southwest corner of Arrow Highway and Monte Vista Avenue, and the area that is currently located within the Turner Center Specific Plan along Richton Street between Central Avenue and Monte Vista Avenue. The update would also include modified or new development standards pertaining to land use, architectural, and other aspects of the plan.

The project requires the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess potential adverse environmental impacts that may result from implementing the Proposed Amendment. The first step in the environmental review process is the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) and a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Supplemental EIR. The IS was released on Monday for a 30-day public review period. During this time, the City is soliciting comments on the NOP and IS for the Proposed Amendment, as well as comments regarding the scope and alternatives of the Supplemental EIR for the Proposed Amendment.

As part of this first step in the environmental review process, a Scoping Hearing will be held by staff on Wednesday, October 19 in the Council Chambers. The meeting is open to the public and will begin at 6 p.m.

- Two retail trade groups forecast holiday spending will increase at a faster pace this year, an upbeat outlook for the important year-end shopping frenzy, even as the election and unpredictable weather could derail the expected gains.

The National Retail Federation (NRF) on Tuesday said it expects total holiday sales (excluding autos, gas, and restaurant sales) will increase 3.6 percent to \$655.8 billion, slightly higher than the post-recession average of 3.4 percent since 2009. Last year, holiday spending fell short of the NRF's 3.7 percent forecast, coming in at 3.0 percent.

The International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) also gave a rosy projection, forecasting a 3.3 percent spending increase at physical stores, compared with a 2.2 percent gain in sales last year. Holiday shoppers in the survey said they plan to spend an average of \$684 this year. The numbers are based on an online survey of about 2,000 adults conducted from September 19-22.

Consumer spending has been strong this year as Americans have benefited from low inflation, rising wages, and high levels of employment. But people are shifting spending online and making fewer trips to stores, according to retail executives. While holiday sales rose last year, foot traffic fell, according to data released in January by RetailMetrix, which collects data through software provided to retailers.

Consumer spending patterns have been shifting from the accumulation of goods normally bought in retail stores to services and experiences like travel, entertainment, and food.

In addition, lower prices have allowed shoppers to spend less on the same goods, presenting a challenge for retailers who must sell more merchandise to show an increase in sales.

The NRF projected that non-store sales, including purchases made online, will increase between 7 percent and 10 percent to as much as \$117 billion.

In the ICSC survey, shoppers often cited the ability to try on clothing, return easily, and avoid shipping fees as reasons they planned to shop in stores for the holidays. However, 85 percent of shoppers said they would browse online first before going to the store to shop, and 59 percent said they planned to spend at Amazon.com.

Seasonal hiring is expected to remain flat, according to the NRF.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- On October 2, the Montclair Fire Department welcomed two new firefighter/paramedics on the first day of their week-long Recruit Orientation Academy (ROA). Once the ROA is completed, Robert Estrada and Carlos Sandoval will begin their on-duty assignments.

Fire Captain Chris Jackson is facilitating the ROA, with instruction in various sections conducted by Suppression and EMS personnel.

Training topics covered during the ROA include:

- ✓ hose operations
- ✓ auto extrications
- ✓ wildland-situational awareness
- ✓ fire shelter assembly
- ✓ ventilation procedures
- ✓ search-and-rescue operations

As a crucial component of the recruitment process, the ROA meticulously prepares new firefighters for the challenges and responsibilities that lie ahead of them.

In the photos below, Carlos Sandoval and Robert Estrada review ladder manipulation and auto extrication procedures at the Fire Station No. 152 Training Tower, as part of their ROA.



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- The 2016 Candidates' Forum will be held on Wednesday, October 12 at 7 p.m. in the Senior Center. Presented by the Montclair Community Action Committee and the Montclair Chamber of Commerce, the Forum provides a setting for Montclair residents to pose written questions to the candidates regarding civic-related duties.

All candidates running for the two open council seats were invited to participate, and incumbents Carolyn Raft and J. John Dutrey and challengers Ida Allen, Benjamin Lopez, and Juliet Orozco have confirmed their attendance. Montclair residents are encouraged to attend.

In addition, the Forum will be videotaped and broadcast on Montclair Channel 3 on various dates after October 24, prior to the November 8 Election.

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

- The 2016 Montclair Community Health Fair will be held on Tuesday, October 18 from 9 a.m. to noon in 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, dental, and structural. Complimentary seasonal flu shots for those 18 years and older 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 be available.

Complimentary flu shots will be offered to all City employees from 11:30 a.m. to noon at the Fair. Additionally, employees can also receive their complimentary flu vaccines on Thursday, October 20 and Thursday, October 27 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Montclair Medical Clinic. Appointments are not necessary; however, vaccines are on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please contact Senior Human Services Supervisor Michelle Castillo at ext. 451.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- The City's newest Police Officer to join the ranks, Anthony del Rio, is pictured (center) below, with Captain Jason Reed and Chief Robert Avels to the left, and Lieutenants Brian Ventura and Brandon Kumanski to the right.

Officer del Rio was formally introduced by Chief Robert Avels at Monday's City Council meeting.



ECS:spa

"If man does not keep pace with his companions,
perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer.
Let him step to the music which he hears, however
measured or far away."
~ Henry David Thoreau

OCTOBER 2016



10	Planning Commission Meeting - Canceled	
11	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
12	Candidates Forum Senior Center	7:00 p.m.
14	Youth Talent Showcase Community Center	6 p.m.
17	Real Estate Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	5:30 p.m.
17	Code Enforcement/Public Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:15 p.m.
17	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
18	Montclair Community Health Fair Community Center	9 a.m. - noon
19	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	10:30 a.m.
20	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	4:00 p.m.
20	Lights on After School Community Center	6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
24	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
31	Children's Halloween Party Community Center	5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Montclair's 60th Anniversary - State of the City 2016



SPECIAL THANKS TO PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS





