



City Manager's Weekly Update

February 26, 2015

The City of Claremont is working hard on a variety of projects and programs that serve the Claremont community. To keep our residents informed, I have compiled this weekly list of projects, events, and news stories. I am pleased to share with you this week's update.

--Tony Ramos, City Manager

CITY NEWS

City Council Meeting

The following is a summary of City Council action from its regular meeting held on February 24, 2015:

All members were in attendance.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The City Council took the following actions:

1. Unanimously adopted a resolution approving City warrant registers dated February 12, 2015.
2. Unanimously voted to approve and file the City Council minutes of February 7, 2015 (special) and February 10, 2015 (regular).
3. Per staff's recommendation, the City of Claremont's Active Transportation Plan was removed from the agenda and tabled to an upcoming City Council meeting.
4. Unanimously adopted a resolution directing the preparation and filing of an annual report pertaining to Landscape and Lighting District No. LL001 (pursuant to the Landscape and Lighting Act of 1972) authorizing Willdan Financial Services to begin work on the annual LLD report for 2015-16.
5. Unanimously voted to take the following actions related to the Bicycle Priority Zone Expansion – Traffic Signal Video Detection on Foothill Boulevard:
 - A. Award a contract to Iteris, Inc., in the amount of \$127,258, to purchase bicycle video equipment for five Foothill Boulevard intersections;
 - B. Award a contract to Aegis ITS, Inc., in the amount of \$27,480, for the installation of bicycle video detection at five Foothill Boulevard intersections; and

CALENDAR

February 26

Traffic and Transportation Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Council Chamber

March 4

Community & Human Services Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Council Chamber

March 5

Special Community & Human Services Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Hughes Center

March 5

Police Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Council Chamber

March 10

City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- C. Authorize the City Manager to execute the contracts.
6. Unanimously voted to take the following actions related to the request for authority to award – Reflective Street Signs, C.I.P. 2015-2:
- A. Award the contract for the Reflective Street Name Signs Project, C.I.P. 2015-2, to Aegis ITS, Inc., of Anaheim, in the amount of \$135,671, and authorize a 10% contingency of \$13,567, for a total amount of \$149,238; and
 - B. Appropriate \$57,262 from the Equipment and Facility Revolving Reserve Fund and \$19,383 from the Foothill Boulevard Relinquishment Fund to fund this project.
7. Unanimously voted to receive and file the following letters and financial reports for the year ended June 30, 2014:
- A. Audit Committee Letter
 - B. Management Letter
 - C. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the City of Claremont
 - D. Transportation Fund Financial Statements
 - E. Area Agency on Aging (Nutrition Program) Financial Statements
8. Unanimously voted to authorize the City Manager or his designee to enter into an agreement in the amount of \$34,970 with Executive Communication for the purchase of a 48-channel voice logging recorder.
9. Unanimously voted to approve the proposed Facility Rental Policy.

ORDINANCES

10. Unanimously voted to take the following actions related to the extension of a moratorium on massage establishments:
- A. Adopt an interim ordinance to extend interim urgency Ordinance No. 2015-03 for an additional 10 months and 15 days and continue the temporary prohibition against the issuance or approval of new permits, licenses, or other entitlements to establish or operate massage establishments, all new businesses that provide massage therapy as an ancillary service to the primary use, and the expansion or modification of existing massage establishments within the City to allow more time for the City to study how best to regulate these establishments; and
 - B. Approve the report prepared by staff on the measures taken to alleviate the conditions which led to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2015-03, and enacted an interim moratorium on massage establishments; and direct staff to continue drafting the new regulation of massage establishments to be reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council at a future meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

11. The City Council unanimously agreed to remove from the agenda the Tree Removal Request for 112 and 120 East Green Street at the request of the applicant. This item will be reviewed by the City Council in approximately 30 days.

12. Unanimously voted to take the following actions related to the Proposed Park Picnic Area and Wading Pool Policy:
 - A. Approve the proposed Park Picnic Area and Wading Pool Policy;
 - B. Approve the addition of a designated Park Picnic Area at El Barrio Park with a maximum capacity of 49 persons, and appropriate \$15,000 from the Park Dedication Fund for the construction and equipping of the new Park Picnic Area;
 - C. Approve the combination of Park Picnic Areas 1 and 2 at Cahuilla Park with a maximum capacity of 149 persons, and the renaming of Area 3 to Area 2; and
 - D. Approve the removal of Park Picnic Area 2 at Larkin Park.

13. Unanimously voted to take the following actions related to the 2015 Council Priorities Workshop Confirmation and Consideration of Commissioner Term Limits:
 - A. Approve the 2015 City Council Priorities and action items; and
 - B. Add the following language in the City Council's Best Practices/Norms and the Commissioner Handbook:
 - Each Commissioner and Council appointed Committee member can serve a total of eight years on a Commission and/or eight years on a Committee or any special City Council appointments. Upon conclusion of this service, they are no longer eligible to serve on any other Committee or Commission.
 - An individual cannot serve on a Commission, Committee, and/or any special City Council appointment simultaneously. The City Council can vote to extend the term of an individual on a Commission if a major project being reviewed or considered by the Commission would benefit from consistency of leadership and/or consistency of background knowledge to complete.

ENGINEERING

Southern California Edison Pole Replacements

Beginning Wednesday, March 4, Southern California Edison's contractor, American Site Builders (ASB), will begin removing and replacing deteriorated transmission power poles at three separate locations. The individual information for each location is as follows:

- 1. Base Line Road - East of Oxford Avenue:**

On Wednesday, March 4, ASB will be removing and replacing two transmission poles on the north side of Base Line Road, just east of Oxford Avenue. Westbound traffic will be reduced to one lane (using the center lane) beginning west of Indian Hill Boulevard. Eastbound traffic will not be affected. This job will take one day to complete.

- 2. Foothill Boulevard – Mills Avenue to Claremont Boulevard:**

Beginning Thursday night, March 5, ASB will be removing and replacing 11 transmission poles on the south side of Foothill Boulevard, between Mills Avenue and Claremont Boulevard. This work will be performed at night to accommodate

the businesses that will be affected by the required power outage associated with the pole replacements. Eastbound traffic will be reduced to one lane between Mills Avenue and Claremont Boulevard. This job will take three nights to complete. On each night, construction will take place between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

3. Foothill Boulevard – Towne Avenue to Regis Avenue:

On Sunday night, March 8, ASB will be removing and replacing three transmission poles on the north side of Foothill Boulevard, between Towne Avenue and Regis Avenue. This work will be performed at night to accommodate the businesses that will be affected by the power outage. All westbound travel lanes will be closed to through traffic at Mountain Avenue. Detour signs will be provided to direct traffic around the closure area. The construction will take one night to complete, and will take place between the hours of 9:00 p.m. (Sunday) and 6:00 a.m. (Monday).

During this construction, drivers and pedestrians are directed to follow the appropriate construction signs. Please contact the Engineering Division at (909) 399-5465 with any questions.

Pavement Repair Project

The City has recently awarded a contract to Hardy & Harper, Inc., for the upcoming construction work on sections of Claremont Boulevard and Mountain Avenue. The pavement repair project will consist of the removal and replacement of damaged asphalt, the majority of which is located adjacent to the curb and gutter, in those areas where tree roots have lifted the asphalt pavement. Along with the pavement repairs, the associated areas of damaged curb and gutter will also be removed and replaced. The City's arborist will evaluate the condition of the tree roots in the affected area throughout the course of the project.

The project locations will be as follows: (a) Mountain Avenue, between Harrison Avenue and Baseline Road; (b) Claremont Boulevard, between First Street and Sixth Street; and, (c) Claremont Boulevard, between Foothill Boulevard and Monte Vista Avenue. This project is set to begin on Monday, March 2, 2015, (weather permitting) and is anticipated to be completed by early April. Questions regarding the construction may be directed to the City's Engineering Division at (909) 399-5465.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City Receives Congressional Recognition of Excellence Awards

This past fall, the City of Claremont received two Congressional Recognition of Excellence Awards for programs funded by the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG). The CDBG program focuses on programs that benefit low and moderate income persons, and activities that are designed to meet other community development needs that have particular urgency. The City of Claremont received awards for its Job Creation and Business Incentive Program that has created over 54, full-time positions for low and moderate-income persons since it began in 2010, and for the Mallows Park ADA Accessibility Project, which made several ADA-compliant improvements to the City's oldest park. Recently, Congresswoman Chu presented the

City with the Congressional Recognition of Excellence Awards at her Pasadena office. For more information on the City's CDBG program, please contact the Community Development Department at (909) 399-5470.

Village Lofts Project Preparing to Start Construction – Developer Holding Neighborhood Meetings on March 2, 2015

The developer of the Village Lofts, a four-story mixed-use project to be constructed at 127 Oberlin Avenue in Claremont, is preparing to start work on the project, which is located along First Street between Oberlin and Cornell Avenues. Demolition of a vacant industrial building on the site, previously occupied by Rich Products, is slated to begin in late March or early April with construction beginning as soon as demolition is complete.

Denley Investments and Management, the developer of the project, is holding neighborhood meetings on March 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The meetings are open to the public and will be located in the Claremont City Hall Citrus Room, which can be accessed through the Council Chamber doors, located at 225 Second Street, on the second floor. At the meetings, Denley staff will outline the project, demolition schedule, construction schedule and measures that will be taken to minimize impacts the construction will have on neighboring residents, properties and businesses.

PLANNING

Proposed Ordinance change to Outdoor Displays and A-Frame Signs, and Temporary Banners

Over the past two years, the City of Claremont has been working in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce to gather input from the Village Marketing Group (VMG) regarding modifications to the City's Sign Code and Outdoor Displays standards, which would affect businesses citywide. To continue gathering input regarding this matter as this ordinance moves forward, the City of Claremont is holding a meeting to discuss the changes and respond to questions related to proposed modifications to the Claremont Municipal Code which would make specific modifications to outdoor displays, A-framed signs, and temporary banners. The meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 5, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.**, in the Citrus Room of City Hall, located at 207 Harvard Avenue.

If you would like to be notified electronically about this matter in the future, please provide your email address to Associate Planner Luke Seibert at lseibert@ci.claremont.ca.us or call (909) 399-5483.

Massage Ordinance Changes – Public Meeting March 4

Over the past few years, several massage related regulatory laws have changed. To address the current regulations, the City of Claremont is holding a meeting at City Hall on **March 4, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.** to discuss land use and public safety activities and how they affect Massage Therapy Establishments within the City.

The City of Claremont encourages a representative from each Massage Therapy Establishment to attend the meeting to discuss the current changes in State Law and how the City will be enforcing businesses to remain in compliance.

If you have any questions, please contact Luke Seibert in the Planning Division at (909) 399-5483 or lseibert@ci.claremont.ca.us.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Garage Sale Regulations Reminder

Community Improvement has received inquiries regarding garage, yard or occasional sales on private property. Such sales are allowed in the City without a permit; however, the sales are limited to two sales per calendar year, for a period of no more than three consecutive days per occurrence. As a reminder, garage sale signs may only be posted on private property. All signs posted in public rights-of-way, such as utility poles, traffic signal poles, and traffic signs will be removed and disposed of. For more information regarding garage or occasional sales in the City, please contact the Community Improvement office at (909) 399-5467, or you can view Claremont's Municipal Code Section 16.157.00 online at www.ci.claremont.ca.us under the "City Government/Municipal Code" link.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Anthem Blue Cross Scams

In early February, health insurer [Anthem announced a data breach](#) affecting more than 80 million customers. Following the announcement, there have been reports of scammers using the phony "Anthem" emails that pretend to help customers, but actually [phish](#) for their personal information.

The phony email is designed to look as if it comes from Anthem and asks customers to click on a link for free credit monitoring or "credit card account protection." Don't let that fool you. Anthem says it will contact current and former customers by postal mail with specific information on how to enroll in credit monitoring. Anthem also says it's not calling customers about the data breach or asking for credit card information or Social Security numbers over the phone.

So, if you get an email that says it's from Anthem offering you services in response to the data breach, **don't** reply, click on any links, or open any attachments. Instead, forward it to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov, and delete the message from your inbox.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mandatory Commercial Recycling

Assembly Bill 341, which went into effect July 1, 2012, requires all businesses that generate four or more cubic yards of waste and all multi-family complexes with five or more units to implement a recycling program. According to a 2008 study, the commercial sector generates nearly three fourths of the solid waste in California. Much of the commercial sector waste disposed of in landfills is readily recyclable. The goals of AB 341 are to:

- Reduce commercial solid waste from landfills.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Create jobs and expand recycling manufacturing in California.

To be in compliance, Claremont-based businesses must take one or any combination of the following actions in order to reuse, reduce, compost or otherwise divert commercial solid waste from disposal:

- Self-haul
- Arrange for recycling services through the City of Claremont Sanitation Division
- Implement another method of recycling acceptable to CalRecycle, such as mixed waste processing

A property owner of a commercial business or multi-family residential dwelling may require tenants to separate their recyclable materials to aid in compliance. For more information on these regulations or to set up recycling services, please contact the Community Services Department at (909) 399-5431.

City Tree Pruning

The City's tree trimming contractor, West Coast Arborists, recently began trimming trees in the south-west portion of the city as part of the City's seven year trimming cycle. Trimming work will take place west of Indian Hill Boulevard, between American and Harrison Avenue. The contractor will inspect each City tree and will prune as necessary to preserve good health, proper structure, natural appearance, and to maintain street and sidewalk clearance standards. Trees that do not require pruning will be skipped. The City and West Coast Arborists utilize professionally accepted pruning standards set by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). A City Arborist will be on site during all pruning activities to direct and oversee the contractor's work. The project is anticipated to take three weeks. During pruning activities, traffic control will be in place to ensure public safety and minor traffic delays may occur. For more information regarding tree pruning, please contact the Community Services Department at (909) 399-5433.

Annual Reforestation Program

Each year, the City plants trees throughout the community in an effort to maintain a healthy and vibrant urban forest. Trees are a defining feature of the Claremont community, provide numerous health and environmental benefits, and have even been shown to increase property values. Over the last several months, staff arborists have identified 300 planting sites for new City trees. Approximately 224 of these planting sites are street trees in the City easement on private property. The City has sent information to property owners that will be receiving a new City tree and, whenever possible, have provided the property owner with the opportunity to select the species from the newly expanded Designated Street Tree List.

For purposes of carrying out the reforestation program, the community is broken down into twelve geographic grids. Please see the attached map at the end of the weekly update. The breakdown of newly planted trees by grid is as follows:

Grid 1	36 trees
Grid 2	42 trees
Grid 3	15 trees
Grid 4	26 trees
Grid 5	10 trees

Grid 6	21 trees
Grid 7	10 trees
Grid 8	8 trees
Grid 9	14 trees
Grid 10	23 trees
Grid 11	2 trees
Grid 12 (arterials)	17 trees

Trees will be planted throughout the community based upon available planting space and resident requests. In addition to the street trees, 64 trees will be planted in City parks to maintain the existing tree canopy. Tree planting will take place throughout the community from early to mid-March. For more information on the annual Reforestation Program, please contact the Community Services Department at (909) 399-5431.

HUMAN SERVICES

Community Use Committee Now Accepting Applications

The City of Claremont Padua Hills Theatre Community Use Program reserves dates each year for local non-profit organizations interested in hosting community events at substantially reduced rates. This program offers a unique opportunity for non-profits to host community events in an exquisite, historic setting. The Padua Hills Theatre Community Use Committee is now accepting applications for events that will take place between January 1 and December 31, 2016. Applications are subject to the review and approval of the Community Use Committee. Agencies that are awarded a community use date will receive an event rental package that is valued at over \$5,550.

There are currently nine community use dates available throughout the year that accommodate both weekend and weekday events. All applications must be submitted to the Alexander Hughes Community Center, 1700 Danbury Road, Claremont, 91711, by **Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.** for priority consideration, otherwise, applications are considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Non-profit organizations interested in submitting an application may download an Application and the Venue Rules and Regulations on the City website at www.ci.claremont.ca.us. An optional meeting will be conducted at the Padua Hills Theatre on Tuesday, March 10 at 10:30 a.m. to tour the site and answer any questions. Please RSVP to Management Analyst Lauren Marshall if you plan to attend. Photos of the facility are available for viewing at the Chantrelles Catering website at www.chantrellescatering.com. For more information regarding the Padua Hills Theatre Community Use Program, please contact Lauren Marshall, at (909) 399-5356 or lmarsshall@ci.claremont.ca.us.

Street Banners

Businesses, organizations, schools and residents are invited to purchase a Fourth of July Celebration street banner. The banners will be showcased in prominent locations beginning Memorial Day weekend and will remain on display through July 4th. Each banner will boldly list the name of a sponsor who supports the Fourth of July Celebration. The purchase of a street banner contributes to the community's 67-year tradition of offering a quality day of celebration to its residents. The deadline to

purchase a banner is April 9, 2015. If you have any questions, please call (909) 399-5490 or visit www.Claremont4th.org to download the banner order form.

RECREATION CLASSES

Exploring Color

Students will use color media to create fabulous works of art. Registration deadline is one day prior to the start date of class. Materials fee: \$5.00 Location: Alexander Hughes Community Center. Thursday, March 5, 2015, 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m., Cost of class: \$70.00, Ages 6 to 11, Instructor: Anat Levi.

Painting and Dyeing Fabrics

Explore a wide variety of dyeing methods for both cotton and silk fabrics using stamping, stenciling, and painting on our dyed fabrics. Material fee: \$20.00. Location: Alexander Hughes Center, Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Cost of class: \$70.00. Ages: Adult.

Parent & Me Cooking

Make a mess in someone else's kitchen! This hands-on class incorporates age appropriate culinary skills, tasty recipes, and nutrition basics into a one-hour class that is perfect for preschoolers' attention span. Material Fee: \$20.00. Location: Alexander Hughes Community Center, Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., Cost of class: \$75. Ages: 3 to 5, Instructor: Claremont Chefs Academy Staff.

Dance Like Stars at Your Special Event

This class is for couples celebrating a special event, for members of a wedding party, or anyone desiring a more personal dance experience. Location: Alexander Hughes Community Center, Wednesday, March 4, starting at 6:00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m., Cost of class: \$70. Ages: 16 to Adult.

Pilates Mat

This class is designed for students to learn correct postural alignment and functional muscle/body awareness through a series of mat work, based on the Pilates method of exercise. Location: Alexander Hughes Center, Wednesday March 4, 2015, starting at 7:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m., Cost of class: \$128. Ages: Adult, Instructor: Caridad Espinosa.

JR. HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

BBQ at the YAC – Friday, March 6

On Friday, March 6, there will be a BBQ at the YAC that will be available to 40 YAC participants. The TRACKS Activity Center will be joining us for some hot dogs and activities. For more information, please call the YAC at (909) 399-5360.

Volunteer Meeting – Wednesday, March 4

On Wednesday, March 4, the TAC will be holding a meeting for all TAC volunteers. We will be reviewing rules and guidelines and discussing upcoming opportunities to volunteer. For more information, please call the TAC at (909) 399-5378.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Coffee Talk – Overview of Community Senior Services

On Tuesday, March 3 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joslyn Center, Community Senior Services will outline the many resources available to community members. Services include caregiver support, transportation options, and REAL Connections, a resource network that can help individuals to live and age well in their homes and communities. Coffee Talk is a series of interactive presentations on a wide variety of topics. Presentations are free and open to the public. Register online at www.claremontrec.com. For more information, please call (909) 399-5488.

Instructors & Volunteer Activity Leaders Wanted

The Claremont Senior Program is seeking talented individuals interested in sharing their passion with the community this summer (June, July, and August). Proposals must be submitted to the Joslyn Center by Thursday, March 5, 2015. For more information, please call (909) 399-5488.

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY VECTOR CONTROL:

Mosquito Populations exploding early due to hot, dry winter

Vector control specialists at the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District are responding to an abnormally high volume of mosquito calls. Disease surveillance teams are concerned about finding larger than normal mosquito populations so early in the year.

Although most Southern Californians enjoy the balmy winter weather, the heat and lack of rain creates a perfect environment for mosquitoes. A typical winter in Los Angeles gives vector control agencies a break from the dangerous pests because the cooler temperatures slow down their development. However, this winter is unusual. The average daytime temperature, so far, in February is about 80 degrees and mosquitoes are already out in full force.

"We are about a month ahead of our typical mosquito season. Our specialists are finding mosquitoes in sites that usually are not active until late March or even April," says Jason Farned, Public Information Officer for the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District. The District attributes this population boom to not only the recent heat but also the lack of rain. Farned explains, "Mosquitoes need sources of standing water to develop. In a typical winter, rain washes away debris so fewer sources are created. With so little rain this year small pockets of water are trapped by debris in storm drains and gutters. The recent storm dropped enough precipitation to fill empty swimming pools and all of these factors create a perfect habitat for mosquitoes."

The early emergence of large numbers of mosquitoes is a big concern for the District for a many reasons. Large populations of mosquitoes increase the likelihood that West Nile virus will be transmitted. Another concern is acceleration in the expansion of invasive species like Asian tiger mosquitoes.

The District has adjusted its operations to meet this accelerated timeline and is asking all residents to immediately eliminate all sources of standing water (no matter how small) where mosquitoes might grow and protect themselves from mosquito bites. Here are some tips to follow:

- Examine property regularly to identify, DUMP, or DRAIN standing water
- Call and REPORT mosquito activity, especially when mosquitoes bite during the day
- Call and REPORT green pools and standing water around neighborhood
- Wear insect REPELLENT and LONG SLEEVES to prevent bites
- Keep screens tightly closed on windows and doors

Report mosquitoes and/or request service by calling San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District at (626) 814-9466 or by visiting www.SGVMosquito.org.

Helpful City Phone Numbers:

City Hall/General Info	(909) 399-5460
City Manager	(909) 399-5441
City Clerk	(909) 399-5460
City Council	(909) 399-5444
Code Enforcement	(909) 399-5467
Building	(909) 399-5471
Engineering	(909) 399-5465
Planning	(909) 399-5470
City Yard	(909) 399-5431
Hughes Center	(909) 399-5490
Joslyn Center	(909) 399-5488
Blaisdell Center	(909) 399-5367
YAC	(909) 399-5363
TAC	(909) 399-5378
Police Department	(909) 399-5411

Website: www.ci.claremont.ca.us

GRID TREE TRIMMING SCHEDULE

2/10/15

Tree Count

- 1. 1756
- 2. 2280
- 3. 1711
- 4. 2205
- 5. 1772
- 6. 2425
- 7. 1576
- 8. 1758
- 9. 2134
- 10. 1250
- 11. 2202
- 12. **3025**

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