



From the City Manager's Desk

a weekly report from Scott Ochoa, City of Monrovia



February 29, 2008

City Council Meeting Preview

The March 4 City Council Meeting appears to be a short meeting based on the number of agenda items (the last meeting ran long despite only a handful of items).

We will begin the meeting by recognizing Ms. Angie Haven, a member of Monrovia's Aquatix Club, who qualified for the Olympic Trials in the 200 Meter Breaststroke. The City of Monrovia recently began contracting out its aquatics program offerings. Obviously, Coach Jan Lopez has done an outstanding job to help her participants maximize their potential.

Under the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency, there are two items. Both MRA-1 and MRA-2 are in regards to purchases of real property in the Station Square project area. MRA-1 is the proposed purchase of 124 and 126 West Pomona Avenue from Robert K. Brown for the total consideration of \$841,000. MRA-2 is the proposed purchase of 142 West Pomona Avenue from Local Union No. 345 for the total consideration of \$415,000. The value for the Brown property was determined by an independent appraisal by the MAI appraisal firm of Mason & Mason. The Union Hall property was offered for sale to the Agency at a per-square-foot price consistent with other units that the Agency has purchased in the Hamby Park industrial complex. Resources for these acquisitions are available in the Agency's capital funds. Staff recommends approval of these acquisitions.

Under Reports of Council Members, Mayor Hammond has directed staff to provide a brief update on the City's current fiscal year budget, and the prospects for a State takeaway. As you probably have read, the State of California faces a deficit of more than \$16 billion dollars. Initially, the Governor and other State officials spoke primarily of cuts to State agencies, schools, counties and special districts. Now, reports are emanating from the Capitol that cities will not escape unscathed. Thus far, the most likely targets appear to be the delay in the payment of Gas Tax revenues to cities (a cash flow problem that can be dealt with), the reduction or cut in COPS funding and/or Prop 172 funds, and possibly a reduction in the Prop 1B monies that would have come to Monrovia to be used for street repair projects.

The most problematic of these cuts would be the estimated \$500,000 loss in the COPS (Citizens' Option for Public Safety) and Prop 172 funds (a small concession the State made to cities when they redirected property tax revenues under the ERAF shifts of the mid-1990s). Unlike the Redevelopment Agency funds being used to purchase land for economic development, the COPS and Prop 172 are operational resources that flow to the City's General Fund and ultimately to the Police Department. Naturally, the entire organization will shoulder the burden of these cuts if they do come to pass. However, the City Council has done well to prepare for this scenario; while these cuts will impact our operations, they will not preclude the City from executing our critical missions.

Under Administrative Reports, item AR-1 is the long awaited re-roofing of the Monrovia Historical Museum. The proposed contract of \$103,475 was the low bid received from Solar Integrated Technologies, Inc. The funds for this project will come from the Building Replacement Reserve that the Council established several years ago. Following on the heels of the Fire Station No.1

rehabilitation and the recent work completed at the Community Center however, this project will temporarily exhaust this Fund's resources. We generally allocate \$400,000 per year into this Fund, with a goal of establishing a rolling \$2 million reserve. At the time the Fund was established, a master Capital Improvement Project list was also adopted. We are almost half-way through the list. The two largest projects remaining are the re-roofing of the Police Station and the remodel of the first floor of City Hall. As part of this staff report, Public Works Director David Fike will also provide an overview of the CIP program and highlight the options available to the Council on the remaining projects. Staff recommends the approval of the proposed contract to re-roof the Historical Museum.

AR-2 is the proposed amendment to Title 2 of the Monrovia Municipal Code regarding the date of Monrovia's general municipal election. In 1994, Monrovia's election date changed from April of even-numbered years to March of odd-numbered years. A State law adopted in 1994 allowed General Law cities such as Monrovia to make this change as a way of providing more opportunities for election dates. This change was realized in the March 4, 1997 General Municipal Election. Yet, now that California has moved its presidential primary date up to the month of February, General Law cities have an opportunity to move their municipal elections back a month to April. This change would allow both the City Clerk's Office and all potential candidates more time after the holiday season to prepare for the upcoming election. Staff recommends the proposed amendment to the Monrovia Municipal Code as it is described in Ordinance No. 2008-04.

As always, if you have any questions about any of the items on the agenda, please feel free to contact me directly.

Annexation an Answer?

Over the last couple of weeks, and likely as a reaction to the recent gang activity, we have begun to receive inquiries about the possibility of Monrovia annexing all or a portion of the unincorporated county areas to our south. You may recall that I wrote about this topic in September 2007. It was then, and is still today, a very complicated proposition.

The overall annexation process is governed by a body referred to as LAFCO – the Local Agency Formation Commission. This Commission is comprised of a number of elected officials from around the County and a couple of "at-large" citizens. Each county in California has its own LAFCO. The basic purpose of a LAFCO is to determine if, how and for how much an unincorporated area should incorporate or be incorporated into an adjacent city. Keeping in mind that cities are "municipal corporations" under California State law, there is a plethora of issues to be considered when an annexation/incorporation is considered – water rights, infrastructure concerns, public safety service levels and inter-governmental revenue sharing, just for examples. The three main players in a LAFCO process are the neighborhoods that would potentially be annexed, the city they would be annexed into, and the county. Essentially, all three must determine a settlement of all of these issues.

The unincorporated residents must vote for the annexation and the County must agree to give up the various revenue streams associated with these properties. In turn, the city performing the annexation must be secure in its financial and service analyses that the incorporation of new customers will not diminish its ability to deliver services throughout the entire community.

Lastly, as I noted above, we have received inquiries from folks who live in different parts of the unincorporated areas. It may sound Byzantine, but in the unincorporated area there are three "spheres of influence" – the Monrovia sphere, Duarte's and Arcadia's sphere. The most straightforward look at this would be that Monrovia would incorporate the Monrovia sphere. However, as we preliminarily looked at this matter last fall, it would seem that if the Duarte sphere (in particular) were left unincorporated, then we really would not be achieving anything. Keeping in mind that the original premise for this business plan was to elevate the level of service over the long term in order to

root out problems from these neighborhoods, leaving such unincorporated islands really wouldn't achieve much. Thus, we will be communicating with the cities of both Duarte and Arcadia to determine whether they are receiving the same inquiries, as well as their responses.

Monrovia staff continues to study this issue and, if truly a petition is presented to the City Council requesting annexation, our analyses will become more formalized. We will keep you posted.

Colorado Commons Nears Completion

Colorado Commons enjoyed a successful opening last weekend. There are now at least two models that are open and the feedback has been very positive. At the same time, much of the work – both on-site and off-site – is nearly finished. Most notable, on Friday morning, Lemon Avenue returned to two-way traffic. The street has been re-paved and re-stripped, and looks fantastic. Also, if you notice the sidewalks being poured on the north side of Colorado Boulevard on Monday and wonder, “I thought that was already done?” – put your mind to rest. It was. However, the workmanship was not up to Monrovia's standards and the contractor was forced to tear it out. They will re-pour that segment of sidewalk on Monday. I hope and expect that the parking garage will be released to public use and the street returned to two-way traffic in the next two-weeks. If you have any questions about this project or the City's first-time homebuyer program (a number of the units have been reserved for first-time buyers) please feel free to contact either Kevin O'Brien or Darlene Sanchez at the Redevelopment Agency.

Henry's Market Coming to Monrovia

We received confirmation this week that Henry's Market will be coming to Monrovia, at the old Rosedale Center at Mayflower and Huntington Drive. This property has been an eyesore for 12 years, ever since Lucky's Supermarket closed. Unfortunately, the property was tied up in a longstanding lawsuit that precluded much development for more than a decade. Probate court sold off the property after the Redevelopment Agency amended the property into the Project Area several years ago. Since then, we have worked with the new owners to ensure that the prospective tenants would bring true amenities to the Monrovia community.

I believe Henry's (and the other co-tenants that we will be announcing in the coming weeks and months) fits that bill. Although Henry's has now split from the Whole Foods brand, I think they will still offer the panache and high-quality food selections that Monrovia's desire. Additionally, Henry's will prove a great compliment for Trader Joe's and Pavilions. Although they will not generate much sales tax revenue, I am excited about such a quality tenant coming into what was a white elephant of a center. Kudos to Redevelopment Division Manager Kevin O'Brien and his staff for helping to put this deal together.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

MAP Follow-up Meeting. On Wednesday, January 30, community leaders met with anxious residents from Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) neighborhoods. These MAP “Points of Contact” (POC) expressed concerns for their safety and asked questions about the steps being taken to curb gang violence.

The meeting produced a number of valuable dialogues aimed toward combating gang related crime on a number of levels. It was suggested that those present return in about 30 days to evaluate the progress of anti-gang measures and discuss other measures suggested. A follow-up meeting is

scheduled for Thursday, March 6, at 6 p.m., at the Monrovia Community Center, 119 W. Palm Avenue.

Neighborhood Barbeque Schedule. Mark your calendars - MAP is coming to your neighborhood! Based on the success of the last summer's neighborhood barbeques, MAP is gearing up to bring "Hot Dogs, Hot Links & Hot Topics" to neighborhoods near you. The MAP barbeques will be held on **Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** on the following dates and locations:

- March 15, 2008, 400-600 Block - Almond Avenue
- April 5, 2008, 400-600 Block - Royal Oaks Avenue
- May 10, 2008, 400-600 Block - E, Walnut Avenue
- June 7, 2008, 200 Block E. Chestnut Avenue
- July 12, 2008, 400-600 Block E. Olive Avenue
- August 13, 2008, 400-600 Blk E. Colorado Boulevard
- September 13, 2008, 200-300 Blk E. Colorado and Olive

Development Review Committee Meeting Recap of February 27, 2008

- A remodel with minor variances for 710 Wildrose Avenue was found to be lacking information and the applicant will be contacted to provide the additional information.
- An addition for 790 Oakglade Avenue was approved with conditions to protect the oak trees.
- A monument sign was approved for 315 S. Primrose Avenue.

Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Recap of February 27

- A Certificate of Appropriateness was approved for constructing a pitched roof on a detached flat roofed garage at 252 Aspen, and an appropriate new garage door.
- A conceptual review of a remodel of 419 South Myrtle Avenue was continued to expose the façade of the building to see if there were any original materials to use. Unfortunately, there is nothing original that can be used so an entirely new façade will need to be approved in the future. Conceptual plans were shown and a direction was given by the Commission.
- Demolition was approved for 515 King Street as PCR, the City consultant, rated the house a 6L. The new two-story house will have wood siding, a porch and display architectural features that are compatible with the block.
- A façade remodel was approved for the rear of 525 South Myrtle Avenue. This is a timely remodel as the rear of the building faces the new Colorado Commons and will significantly upgrade this entire area. The Commission noted satisfaction with the existing Myrtle Avenue elevation and did not require repainting or changing of the semicircular awnings.
- The first historic district composed of 18 structures on 17 lots was recommended for approval to the City Council for the Wildrose Historic District located in the 300 block of Wildrose Avenue between Canyon Boulevard and California Avenue. This will go forward to the March 18 City Council meeting (see below).



COMMUNITY SERVICES HAPPENINGS

RECREATION DIVISION

Free Bone Density Screening. This free screening involves measuring bone density in the area of the heel. Results will help to determine risk of osteoporosis and bone density of the hip and spine. Participants will be given printed results that can be used when consulting with a physician. Screenings are hosted by Health Care Partners & Inter Valley Health Plan. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (626) 256-8246.

Date: Monday, March 10
 Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 Location: Monrovia Community Center
 Cost: Free

Red Hat Excursion. Gene Autry realized his dream “to build a museum which would exhibit and interpret the heritage of the West.” Experience the old west through the museum’s extensive collection of art and artifacts. This trip is open to the public 50+ years and older who are interested in a relaxing excursion and meeting new friends. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (626) 256-8246.

Date: Wednesday, March 12
Time: 12:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Location: Monrovia Community Center
Cost: \$10 (Red Hat Members)
\$15 (Non-Members)

2008 Arbor Day Celebration. The Monrovia Youth Commission will host the 2008 Arbor Day celebration on March 5 from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Reads and Plays program location on Sherman Avenue (between Cherry and Cypress Avenues). The Youth Commission will plant a tree in recognition of the City’s environmental accords. The event will also display environmentally friendly works of art created by the Reads and Plays program participants. For additional information please contact the Department of Community Services at 626.256.8246.

Monrovia Youth Baseball League’s (MYBL) Opening Day and Pancake Breakfast. The Monrovia Youth Baseball League’s (MYBL) Opening Day and Pancake Breakfast are scheduled for March 8 at Recreation Park. This is the official kick-off to the MYBL season and more than 1,000 people attend this event. This season there is a record number of children registered with MYBL and the Board of Directors is excited about the bright future of organized baseball in Monrovia. The Pancake Breakfast is scheduled from 8 to 10 a.m. The Opening Ceremonies and Parade of Teams are scheduled for 10 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Canyon Park Bird Count. This month, Canyon Park staff and volunteers hosted a segment of the nation-wide Annual Backyard Bird Count held in conjunction with the Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Mini introductions were given to more than 40 visitors who then monitored the area for birds. Sixteen different species were observed by these novice birders, including a Great Blue Heron, hawks, a Belted Kingfisher, and Acorn Woodpeckers.

LIBRARY DIVISION

D.I.Y. -- Design It Yourself. Youth Services’ trial run of *D.I.Y. – Design It Yourself* was a smashing success. In spite of starting a few weeks after the Library’s move to temporary quarters, the four-week after-school session for elementary-aged youth drew a great attendance. Nearly 20 young students came to the Library every Wednesday afternoon to create and design something fun. Librarian Rebecca Diaz had four unique and interesting crafts to make-and-take that perfectly sparked the interest of 2nd – 5th graders. Crafts included sun-catchers and sand art, fantastic sock puppet creations, duct tape wallets and purses, and incredible marshmallow shooters. More than one young student and parent were disappointed that the program ended its run so early. A second session of *D.I.Y.* will definitely follow this summer and will highlight the Summer Reading Club theme, *Catch the Reading Bug*.

Library Player’s Readers Theatre. Seven talented young Monrovians under the direction of Librarian Annette Simpson presented five enchanting tales on Thursday, February 21. A wowed crowd of parents, friends, supporters and little library patrons enjoyed *The Frog Prince Continued*, *The Fourth Little Pig*, *Too Much Noise*, *Uwungelema*, and *The Stonecutter*. The cast included Megan Card, Maya Feldthouse, Whirlwind Feldthouse, Feather Flores, Joshua Goodrich, Luis Gutierrez, and Mikenzie Orozco. Special guest star (and librarian) Shawn Thrasher also made a cameo appearance. The next Library Player’s Readers Theatre will start rehearsals in August 2008.

AmeriCorps Members Busy in Literacy Services. Each year, Literacy Services receives a grant from the State Library to have two AmeriCorps members working part-time promoting literacy. Chris Hynes and Miga Wang, our 2008 AmeriCorps members, have only been volunteering for a month and are already busy working on several literacy projects. They both work at *Monrovia Reads and Plays*, Community Services' mobile literacy and recreation program, helping kids with homework and designing educational projects. Miga, who speaks Chinese, is developing a marketing strategy to let the Chinese language population know about Literacy Services. Chris, who is studying for a Masters in English, has already trained new tutors on good writing skills and is preparing several other programs to encourage literacy students to write. Library staff is excited to have such capable, skillful, and hard-working volunteers with us for the whole year.

America Reads Challenge. The *America Reads Challenge* is a grassroots national campaign that challenges every American to help all our children learn to read. Mt. Sierra College has funding to pay a work-study student to read with kids 20 hours a week; this tutor is stationed at the Library and is part of Literacy Services. Khoi Mai, our current *America Reads Challenge* tutor, currently tutors 45 elementary school students at the Library for half an hour a week. Each student reads independently to Khoi, with his help getting through difficult words. Students love reading with Khoi, so students improve their reading skills and increase positive associations with reading and coming to the Library. Our collaboration with Mt. Sierra College adds an excellent program to Literacy Services without costing the City anything. Thanks to Mt. Sierra College for their collaboration and to Khoi for his excellent tutoring skills.

FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Personnel responded to 99 emergency calls from 0800 hours February 20, to 0700 hours February 27.

FIRE PREVENTION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

The Center for Disease Control indicates that it will be vital that you and your household (including your pets) eat enough to maintain your strength during a disaster. Their recommendations are as follows:

- Store foods that you eat regularly. Foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking are best. Include vitamin, mineral and protein supplements to ensure adequate nutrition.
- Store enough food for two weeks. It is better to have extra you can share than to run out.
- Individuals with special diets and allergies will need particular attention, as will babies, toddlers, ill and elderly people. Nursing mothers may need liquid formula, in case they are unable to nurse. Canned dietetic foods, juices and soups may be helpful for ill or elderly people.
- Make sure you have a manual can opener and disposable utensils.

During and after a disaster, eat at least one well-balanced meal each day, more if you are working hard. If activity is reduced, healthy people can survive on half their usual food intake for an extended period and without any food for many days. Food, unlike water, may be rationed safely, except for children and pregnant women.

For emergency cooking, you can use a fireplace or a charcoal grill or camp stove outdoors. Use only approved devices—like candle warmers, chafing dishes and fondue pots—for warming food. If you heat food in its can, be sure to open it and remove the label before heating. Never leave open flames unattended

How and Where to Store Food

- Keep food in a dry, cool spot—out of the sun, if possible.
- Wrap perishable foods, such as cookies and crackers, in plastic bags and keep them in sealed containers.
- Empty opened packages of sugar, dried fruits and nuts into screw-top jars or airtight cans to keep them fresh and unspoiled.

Avoid

- Canned goods that have become swollen dented or corroded.
- Fatty, high-protein or salty foods when your water supply is low.

Do

- Keep your hands clean — it's one of the best ways to keep from getting sick. If soap and running water are not available, use alcohol-based hand gels or wipes to clean hands.
- Inspect all food for signs of spoilage before use. Throw out perishable foods, such as meat and poultry that have been left out at room temperature for more than 2 hours.
- [Replace your stored food on a regular basis](#) with fresh supplies, dated on the container.
- Eat salt-free crackers, whole grain cereals and canned foods with high liquid content if your water supplies are low.
- If there's a power outage, eat food in the refrigerator first, the freezer next and lastly from your stored supplies. In a well-filled, well-insulated freezer, foods will usually still have ice crystals in their centers (meaning foods are safe to eat) for at least two days.

TRAINING AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Paramedic units are continuing to experience extended wait times at the emergency room when transferring care to emergency room staff. Fire Department personnel are standing by for as long as two to three hours when transporting patients to local hospitals. When people walk into the emergency room to see a doctor, they are experiencing wait times in excess of four to five hours. Part of this delay is attributed to a severe flu season.

Flu symptoms include fever, headache, cough, stuffy nose, and muscle aches. Most of these symptoms can be treated with rest and over-the-counter medicines. Other symptoms may include vomiting, dizziness loss of appetite, and even periods of shortness of breath. If any of these symptoms persist one should consider making an appointment with their personal doctor, or go to an urgent care center.

There are many steps to take to protect against the flu. A flu vaccine is a good preventive measure, but does not always provide a cure all. Covering your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze helps to prevent the spread of germs. Try not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs often spread this way. If possible, stay away from people who are sick. The single most effective way to prevent the spread of germs is to **wash your hands vigorously with soap and water for approximately 60 seconds after the possibility of an exposure.** If you are not near water, use an alcohol-based hand cleanser.

If you get the flu, stay home from work or school. Remember to drink plenty of clear fluids and get as much rest as possible.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

This week Fire Chief Donovan was a guest lecturer at the Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association (LAAFCA) Fire Officer's Academy. This unique training venue allows newly promoted and perspective Fire Officer's an opportunity to receive valuable training from area Fire Chiefs in a five-day/40 hour week schedule. Each day several new topics are presented with an opportunity for questions and feedback. Topics included employee relations & the law; Motivation/Persuasion; Leadership; Strategic planning; Customer Service; Performance Evaluations; Diversity; Ethics; And problem solving to name a few. The topics presented by Chief Donovan were Discipline & the newly enacted Firefighter Bill of Rights law. In attendance at the Fire Officer Academy were over 60 students, including three Monrovia Firefighters – Michael Bailey, Todd Lambert and Jeremy Sanchez.

ON THE POLICE BLOTTER

During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 529 calls for service resulting in 106 investigations. Following are this week's highlighted issues and events:

Robbery. On February 21 at 3:11 p.m., store security at a business in the 300 block of West Huntington observed a male subject removing items from a shelf and concealing them inside his jacket. Security followed the suspect out of the store and stopped him. The suspect threatened to shoot the security officer if he tried to stop him. The suspect ran west on Huntington to Highway Esplanade and to a residence in the 600 block of King Street. An officer responded and located the suspect in the garage. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.

Traffic Collision / Driving Under the Influence. On February 21 at 4 p.m., a Honda Accord and a Toyota minivan crashed at Myrtle and Duarte. The driver of the Accord was determined to be driving under the influence. The party in the minivan complained of pain to her neck. The Accord driver was arrested for felony driving under the influence.

Possible Burglary. On February 21 at 7:20 p.m., officers responded to a business in the 1600 block of South California regarding an alarm activation. Officers found the entrance door on the southwest side open approximately one inch. The officers checked the outside and found a broken glass window on the west side. They entered and cleared the building, no suspects were located. It's very likely the alarm activation spooked the suspects and they fled. The responsible party could not state if anything was taken. Investigation continuing.

Mental Health Evaluation. On February 22 at 9:15 a.m., a former employee at a business in the 100 block of West Huntington returned to the office with a samurai sword. The sword was found to be a wooden replica used for training purposes. Based on the officer's investigation, the subject was taken to a mental health facility for evaluation and treatment.

False Impersonation / Forgery / Grand Theft / Possession of a Controlled Substance. On February 22 at 6 p.m., a suspect in a fraud and check cashing scheme was contacted by officers at her residence. She had a warrant out for her arrest for narcotics related crimes. She signed a consent to search form and officers found evidence of identity theft and narcotics use in her home. The suspect was arrested.

Shooting at an Inhabited Dwelling. On February 24 at 1:29 a.m., dispatch received several 9-1-1 calls reporting shots heard. When officers arrived, they canvassed the area for evidence and found shell casings on the ground and impact marks in an apartment residence in the 600 block of Monterey. The apartment was checked and cleared, but no suspects or victims were located. The owner of the residence was called by a neighbor. The victim reported she has recently been harassed by a female who has been held for mental evaluation in the past. Investigation continuing.

Grand Theft / Burglary. On February 24 at 4:02 p.m., two female suspects were observed stealing from a business in 500 block of West Huntington. Store security called the Police Department and a description of the suspects and their vehicle was broadcast. Officers were in the area and observed the car leaving. A traffic stop was conducted, and after being positively identified by Mervyn's security, both female occupants were arrested. All of the stolen property was recovered. One suspect was determined to be on parole for theft related offenses and the other suspect had numerous arrest warrants, also for theft related offenses.

Residential Burglary. On February 25 at 2:40 p.m., an officer responded to Monrovia High School regarding a juvenile problem. Upon arrival, the officer found three students being detained by school security for being off campus without permission. A search of the student's backpacks revealed numerous items which appeared suspicious – digital cameras and equipment, jewelry and cell phones. The officer questioned the juveniles involved and then called one of the owners of the cell phones and learned the cell phone should have been at his residence. During the investigation, officers were able to determine that several residences had been burglarized. The juveniles were arrested and booked. The investigation is continuing.

Prowling / Parole Hold. On February 26 at 11:24 p.m., dispatch received a call from a residence in the 400 block of Sunset reporting a suspicious subject in the backyard. Officers responded to the scene and located the suspect. He was arrested for prowling and parole hold. The suspect has a history of related arrests and is an active parolee.



ENGINEERING:

Chantry Flats Road Repair. We have received confirmation from FEMA for the additional funding request based upon the engineer's estimate to complete the work. Staff will begin scheduling and coordinating the project for bidding. The roadway improvement plans are 95% complete. We are meeting with the consultant to review the latest plan check comments and corrections.

Colorado Commons Street Improvements. Colorado, Lemon and Primrose were paved on Wednesday, and striping was scheduled for Thursday, February 28. Lemon was opened to two-way traffic on Thursday afternoon and Colorado will remain one-way until Friday afternoon due to sidewalk repairs. The sidewalk on the north side of Colorado from Myrtle to the parking structure entrance will be replaced due to poor workmanship, along with several panels next to Wells Fargo Bank. The sidewalk replacement was scheduled for Friday.

Public Works Inspections:

- Colorado Commons Street Improvements; Curb, gutter, sidewalks, irrigation for street trees, street light locations, utility vault adjustments are continuing.
- Bus Shelter Construction
- 911 Royal Oaks
- California/Monrovista/Duarte Development
- 202 E. Foothill
- 208 Terrace View
- 1419 S. Myrtle
- 335 Genoa

OPERATIONS – Environmental – Facilities – Parks:

Green Team Meeting Update Held February 27.

- Intergy Corporation presented its current list of energy inventory for most of the City facilities. The firm anticipates issuing a draft of the Energy Management Plan in May 2008. The Final Report will be issued in June 2008, and presented to the City Council in late July 2008.
- A revised draft of the Low Emission Vehicle Purchasing Policy was presented to committee members for review and comments.
- Vermicomposting was presented. Fire Station 102 and Public Works are currently composting their food waste and giving it to feed red worms. .
- Office recycling for City Hall and the Police, Community Services and Fire departments was discussed. Individuals were asked to report back at the next meeting as to whether or not their departments are interested in participating in an office recycling program. The program would require each office space to have two types of receptacles - a blue receptacle for recyclable items and a black receptacle for regular (non-recyclable) trash. If there is an interest from each department, the program will begin in April or May.

CWEA Conference. Environmental staff attended the California Water Environmental Association's Pretreatment, Pollution Prevention, and Storm Water Conference in Long Beach from February 25-27. The conference included various workshops on NPDES permit updates, infiltration and best management practices for low impact developments. Staff also attended a seminar regarding Fat, Oil, and Grease Education and Inspection Programs that will be valuable information incorporated into the City's Sewer System Management Plan.

Street Lights. Through testing, our Facilities staff and Southern California Edison personnel determined the cause of the street light failure on Evergreen and California, east to Shamrock, and south to Duarte. The wiring was thoroughly tested from pole to pole, and a bad segment of wiring was located. The repair is scheduled for Thursday.

Old Town Lighting. Exchanging the five globe street lamps for single globes on Myrtle in the Old Town area was completed this week as scheduled.

Corporate Yard Landscaping. Park Staff has added new plants, trenched and installed conduit for future lighting needs, and laid irrigation lines and heads as part of the landscaping portion of the Corporate Yard Renovation Project. The Sequoia Semperviren trees, which were transplanted from Library Park, are doing well and are showing no significant signs of stress since the time of transplant. The landscaping project should be complete by mid-March.

Excessive Weed Growth. Park Staff has been busy removing the excessive weed growth around town due to the large amounts of rain in combination with irregular temperature changes.

Recreation Park. Recreation Park, the Skate Park, and the Youth Center suffered additional vandalism and graffiti this week. Parks Staff removed the graffiti and the Utilities Division staff assisted in unplugging the restrooms, which required the use of the City jetter truck.

STREETS:

Traffic Signs:

- Graffiti was removed from 37 traffic signs.
- Replaced and/or installed traffic signs and devices:
- Replaced reflector sign at 1525 Alamitas

- Striped parking stalls including one ADA compliant stall at the Public Works Facility customer parking lot.
- Install seven No-Parking signs and post at the vacant lots along the alley in the 100 block of east Huntington Dr. in preparation for the demo operations the week of 3/3/2008

Miscellaneous:

- Removal and Replacement of concrete the sidewalk along with the curb, gutter and section of asphalt pavement at 412 Heliotrope Ave.
- Removed damaged driveway approach and the gutter in the 100 block of east Colorado Blvd. crews also set header form board at this location to allow American Asphalt to pave at this location.
- Patched pothole at 818 Naples

UTILITIES:

Customer Service

- 2,996 meters were read and recorded
- 43 utilities work orders were completed
- 2 service requests were completed
- 155 shut-off notices were distributed
- 5 backflow devices were tested
- 6 water meters were replaced
- 4 water services were reactivated

Water Production

Water consumption is 32.2 millions gallons, a decrease of approximately 11% compared to last week's reported water usage.

Department of Health Services Required Water Samples:

- 17 water system samplings
- 6 water treatment facility samplings

Staff recorded 0.69" of rain last week bringing the annual total to 15.86".

Utility Maintenance

- 1 - 1" water service was upgraded to copper line
- 2-1" water meter boxes were installed
- 1-8" leaking water main valve was repaired
- 11 fire hydrants were inspected and flushed
- 26 water main system valves were inspected and operated
- 25 underground service alert's utility location requests were completed
- 7,351 feet of sewer mains were cleaned
- 657 feet of sewer mains were video inspected

Have a great weekend!

FOR YOUR CALENDARS:

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| Tues., March 4, 7:30 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |
| Weds., March 5, 4:00 p.m. | Annual Arbor Day Ceremony, 1200 Block of Sherman Ave. (between Cherry and Cypress Avenues |
| Thurs., March 6, 8:00 a.m. | Read Across Monrovia, Monrovia Schools |
| Sat., March 15, 11 to 1 p.m. | MAP 2 Block Party, 400-600 Almond & Maple |
| Tues., March 18, 7:30 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |
| Thurs., May 1, 11:30 a.m. | Annual Volunteer Luncheon, Community Center |
| Tues., April 1, 7:30 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |