



From the City Manager's Desk

a weekly report from Scott Ochoa, City of Monrovia



June 29, 2007

CITY MANAGER ATTACHMENTS:

- **'An institution' retires: Millet to end 50-year career at Monrovia Police Department**
- **OUR VIEW: On Track for Urban Renewal**
- **HOUSTON CHRONICLE: AeroVironment Estimates 2008 Revenue, and Ducommon Gets Helicopter Blade Contract**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

BUILDING DIVISION UPDATE

May was a busy month all around. Construction valuation was \$3,279,788, an increase of 8.47% compared to \$3,023,893 at the same time last year. The high valuation was attributed to several permits for room additions and alterations averaging from \$10,000 to \$300,000. This also includes permits for two single family residences in the 700 block of West Lemon. Total valuation year to date is \$49,417,083 or an increase of 47.50% compared to last year's valuation of \$33,502,893. Reaching the \$50 million in construction valuation at the end of this fiscal year is a real possibility.

A total of 75 permits were issued and, as a result, the Division collected \$68,022.46 in fees. This brings the total year to date to \$666,434.48 an increase of a modest 1.91% as compared to last year's year to date of \$653,924.55 or an additional \$12,509.93.

The customer service counter has issued 1852 permits year to date, a decrease of 3.39% from last year's 1'917 year to date. The inspection section made a total of 781 inspections bringing the total year to date to 8,168, an increase of 22.68% compared to last year's 6,658 inspections year to date.

The Building Division has been very busy all year long. From issuing small permit projects to large projects, to making small foundation inspections to large (Colorado Commons) projects it is all the same when it comes to providing excellent customer service and the Division has done that all year.

In fact, one person who has done customer service for the past 35 years is about to say goodbye. Petra Avila, Senior Building Inspector, is retiring July 6. If there was an inspector who cared about building safety for the customer, the residents of Monrovia, and coworkers, there's none other than Petra. Petra has been the cornerstone for the Building Division Inspection Services and she will be greatly missed.

Projects Update

- The Royal Oaks 47 PUD is completed and all Certificate of Occupancy have been issued.

- The Magnolia/Duarte 14 PUD are completed and Certificate of Occupancy has been issued.
- 13 PUD at 335 Genoa are in the framing stages. 8 PUD at 333 Genoa are in the finishing stages.
- 14 PUD at Monrovia are in the finishing stages.
- 6 PUD at Foothill/Ivy are in the finishing stages.
- 4 PUD at 536 Fano St are in the finishing stages.
- Colorado Commons. The parking structure is schedule to pour concrete on the last deck within the next 10 days. The framing electrical and the plumbing has begun. The Division has been making progress inspections on a daily basis to move the project in a timely manner.



NEIGHBORHOOD & BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION UPDATE

C-NST Update. On June 20, 2007, the Monrovia Arcadia Ministerial Association (MAMA), a member of the C-NST requested a MAP Presentation at their monthly luncheon meeting. Staff presenting the MAP program included Alexis Newell, Dan Mc Connell, Kerri Zessau, Melanie Goodyear and Bill Skiles. The presentation was well-received by the approximately 25 members present.

Dr. John Mastrogiovanni led the discussion and spoke of the importance of members getting involved in C-NST hosted neighborhood activities including MAP. After a round table discussion, it was agreed that as members of the C-NST Committee, MAMA would become more active in MAP Area 1 Neighborhood Get Togethers starting with the June 30, 2007 BBQ.

MAP Neighborhood Get Together. On Saturday, June 30, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., C-NST will meet on the 100 and 200 blocks of LA Street to host a neighborhood BBQ. Members of the C-NST include City Staff from all departments, MUSD, YMCA, Monrovia Youth Alliance, MAMA as well as resident members. Again, our slogan of “hot dogs, hot links and hot topics” set the tones for these successful meetings.

CORE Update. On Thursday, June 28, the Community Officers Resource Exchange (CORE) met at the Community Center to discuss regional graffiti abatement strategies, view graffiti tracking software and learn the ins and outs of successful zero tolerance anti-graffiti programs. Approximately 65 police officers, code enforcement officers and other municipal representatives from 22 neighboring agencies

received training on various issues including the latest in anti-blight and crime strategies. It was agreed that the quarterly meetings would allow these community officers to effectively network on a regional basis. This meeting was truly a success and again marks Monrovia as a regional leader in cutting edge programs.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING. At their regularly scheduled meeting on June 28, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the following applications:

Status of 311 West Foothill Boulevard–Aztec Hotel - In 2003, the Aztec Hotel was designated a Historic Landmark. A few years later, the Hotel received a grant from the National Park Service Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. One of the requirements of the grant was the preparation of a Historic Structures Report which defines historic elements of the structure and recommends appropriate restoration measures.

In order to accommodate the ongoing restoration, at the May 17, 2006 Historic Preservation Commission meeting, a subcommittee was established comprised of Tim Shea and Coulter Winn. Their duties were to work with the Project Manager to review the various aspects of the restoration. The Commission determined that this approach was working well and approved the subcommittee to assist in the ongoing restoration efforts.

The property owner also provided an update on the status of the improvements. The Historic Structures Report should be approved sometime late this summer and then work on the exterior of the building can occur. One of the first projects will be to remove the aluminum store front at the Hotel Entrance and return it to its original use as open Foyer. The Coffee shop would return and the Brass Elephant bar would be closed and renovated in July, returning with a Mayan theme.

Special Review – 805 South Shamrock Avenue - At their meeting of June 13, the Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit for a veterinary care facility pending the City Council's approval of the General Plan Amendment and Zone change. As part of the conditions of approval, the Planning Commission required that: the exterior changes to the building shall be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission; the existing brick exterior of the building shall be maintained, and that a final materials board shall be submitted to the Historic Preservation Commission for review.

The Commission approved the appointment of a subcommittee consisting of Commissioners to work with the applicant on the proposed materials for the exterior changes. Specific areas that will be reviewed include:

- Window glazing
- Window material
- Gutter system
- Brick coursing especially above the windows
- Integration of new brick into old brick
- Proposed trellis

The subcommittee will approve or recommend modifications to the proposed changes or bring back to the Commission items that need the full Commission review.

Special Review – 226 West Colorado Boulevard – As specified in the Historic Preservation Ordinance, any alteration or demolition to a Potential Historic Landmark must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission to assist the property owner in maintaining the historic character of the site. The City has limited authority over Potential Landmarks, however, the Historic Preservation Ordinance provides for advisory review of proposed changes to these structures. This gives the Commission the opportunity to “assist and guide” the property owner with regard to proposed alterations on an advisory basis with the intention of finding solutions and directing the owner toward designation and/or appropriate changes that safeguard the resource.

The Commission recommended that the new pitch on the porch shall match the gable pitch on the second story of the front elevation; the new posts were in keeping with the architecture, and the new wood composite porch flooring was an improvement to what existed.

Special Review – 264 North Ivy Avenue - The property at 264 North Ivy Avenue recently transferred ownership. The new owner is weighing his options and requested a determination of historic significance of the property. No demolition is proposed at this time however, the owner wanted to know if he would be allowed to demolish the structure in the future. If demolition was to occur, the applicant would be required to follow the City's historic homes demolition ordinance.

After considerable debate, the Commission approved the Primary Record Form and assigned the status code of "5S3" to the property, indicating that the property appears to be eligible for local listing. On this basis, the property owner will be required to conduct an environmental assessment prior to demolishing the structure.

COMMUNITY SERVICES HAPPENINGS

LIBRARY DIVISION

Summer Reading Clubs Packing Them In. At the end of the first week, 1,112 children have registered for the library's in-house infant to middle school Summer Reading Club "*Get a Clue.*" Approximately 150 of these registrants are babies, participating in the library's inaugural program for infants. Staff is also taking the reading club on the road to the Boys & Girls Club and the summer schools at Monroe and Bradoaks, reaching another 800 students at the summer schools alone. The children in the department's Summer Extravaganza Program will also be joining the club and visiting the Library during the summer. To date, 25 teens have signed up for the Teen Summer Reading Club "*You Never Know @ Your Library.*"

Literacy. Adult literacy remains strong with 50 adult learners and 45 active tutors with over 2,200 hours of volunteer time. In addition, 67 children are being tutored by 7 volunteer tutors and 32 children are being tutored by the America Reads Challenge Tutor sponsored by a partnership between the Library and Mt. Sierra College. Over 200 hours have been volunteered with the children.

RECREATION DIVISION

Annual Butterfly Count at Canyon Park. On June 23 a group of 14 staff and volunteers conducted the seventh year of a longitudinal study of the butterfly population in Monrovia Canyon Park. More than 680 butterflies were counted in four hours encompassing 12 different species that thrive along 2¼ miles of the Sawpit Road. This year's numbers significantly decreased by more than a thousand from 2006's total due to one of the lightest rainfalls on record.

2007 Concerts in the Park: Summer Sets. On Sunday, June 24, more than 900 participants enjoyed the 80s and rock sounds of the *Under Cover Girls*. Commissioner Brian Ulm was on hand to present a plaque of appreciation to concert sponsor Donna Baker of Dickson Podley Realtors. The evening started off with the pre-entertainment provided by Center Stage Theatre who performed a variety of musical tunes to the delight of the crowd. King Ranch Market, Scratch Bakery and Wing Stop were available to satisfy the refreshment needs of the concert participants. Get ready for some great entertainment at Sunday's concert on July 1 which features the high energy and classic pop sounds of The Answer. All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in Library Park.

For more information please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256.8246

FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Personnel responded to 74 emergency calls from 0800 hours June 21 to 0800 hours June 27. Significant incidents include:

Traffic Collision with Vehicle Extrication – On Sunday, June 24, at 6:18 p.m., fire and rescue crews responded to a three-vehicle traffic collision at the intersection of Mayflower Avenue and Duarte Road. Upon arrival, personnel found six patients. Four of the patients were minor injuries; however, two elderly women were trapped in their vehicle with serious extremity injuries. Personnel used the “Jaws of Life” to cut the patients out of the car. Personnel treated and transported both patients to the Trauma Center at Huntington Memorial Hospital. While their injuries were serious, both patients are expected to recover well.

Electrical Fire - On Monday morning, firefighters responded to the 300 block of west Olive on a report of an electrical fire inside the home. Firefighters located a fan that had short circuited. Damage was confined to the fan and light smoke removed from the home.

Vehicle Accident with Overturned Car - On Wednesday morning firefighters responded to a vehicle accident at Myrtle and California. The driver of the vehicle lost control and struck a wall, resulting in the vehicle overturning. The driver was able to climb out of the vehicle and sustained only minor injuries.

TRAINING AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

This week the Fire Department sent nine members to attend Confined Space Operational training. The 40-hour class includes a combination of classroom and manipulative training. The majority of the training is hands-on skills oriented techniques geared towards meeting the needs of local and federal operational standards. Training is being conducted in Arcadia at the US Department of Forestry training facility on Santa Anita Ave.

FIRE PREVENTION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

The Prevention Bureau is working on the preparation for the upcoming International Fire Code adoption. This new code has been released in draft form and local jurisdictions are reviewing the code and making appropriate amendments.

The bureau attended a fire protection training class on the new codes this week. This class outlined the changes in the codes with sprinkler systems, alarm systems and the procedure for adoption.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

As we prepare for the July 4th celebration the Monrovia Fire Department would like to remind everyone that fireworks are illegal in the City. Given the extremely hazardous conditions in the foothills with dry brush, low humidity, high temperatures and strong winds the potential for large brush fires is at an all-time high. Furthermore, the use of even so-call “safe and sane” fireworks can lead to injury and death, so this 4th of July, avoid the bad side of fireworks! To have a truly safe and fun 4th of July go to the professional fireworks show in the downtown district on Myrtle and for more information on enjoying your July 4th visit the web site www.safejuly4th.org

ON THE POLICE BLOTTER

During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 584 calls for service resulting in 124 investigations. Following are this week's highlighted issues and events:

Assault with a Deadly Weapon. On June 21 at 10:50 p.m., officers responded to the 500 block of West Olive in regards to shots being fired. One female juvenile and four male juveniles were walking in the park when two male suspects walked within 40 yards of the four, yelled at them, and fired four rounds from a pistol at them. The two suspects ran southbound on Mayflower out of sight. A witness in the area said they saw a red Ford Explorer leave the area at the time of the shooting. The one female victim sustained a very slight grazing wound to her upper right arm and was treated by Monrovia Fire Department Paramedics at the scene. Officers conducted an investigation at the scene, while an area search was done by patrol and Special Enforcement Team personnel. The suspects were not located and the investigation is continuing.

Burglary / Fraud. On June 22 at 11:05 a.m., an officer was flagged down near the 1600 block of South Mountain. He was told a female and a male suspect who had used fraudulent credit cards at one business on Mountain had now gone inside another. Units responded to the area and were able to detain and arrest the two suspects. Between the two, they had 17 credit cards with different accounts and numerous receipts from various businesses. The two were arrested for numerous of charges. Stolen property was found in their vehicle, also.

Arson. On June 22 at 7:38 p.m., officers responded to the rear of a residence in the 1800 block of South Myrtle regarding a suspicious subject. At the location, a witness told officers the subject, who had left the location, was attempting to ignite several pallets of wood. When the suspect realized he was being watched, he fled. An area search was conducted and officers located the suspect in the 1700 block of South Peck. While the officers were contacting the suspect, the bushes the suspect had been standing near, became fully engulfed in flames. Apparently, just before the suspect was contacted by the officers, he had lit the bushes on fire. Officers immediately arrested the suspect and put out the fire with a fire extinguisher. Monrovia Fire Department responded to ensure the fire was out. During the booking process, it was discovered that the suspect is on felony probation in Maricopa County, Arizona. The suspect's probation officer was notified.

Commercial Burglary. On June 23 at 7:17 a.m., an officer went to the 800 block of West Duarte Road in response to the report of a burglary. On arrival, the victim told the officer his shop had been broken into during the night. No signs of forced entry were found and the entry point is unknown. Miscellaneous tools were taken. Investigation continuing.

Dog Bite. On June 24 at 8:45 p.m., paramedics and police responded to a park in the 400 block of Grand, where a two-year-old girl had just been bitten on her face by a large dog that was allowed to run free by its owner off its leash in the park. The girl was taken to the hospital by her parents and should be okay. The dog owner was issued a citation for not having her dog on the leash and for not having a dog license.



ADMINISTRATION:

City Yard Renovation: As the City Yard Renovation project nears completion, the Public Works field staff will schedule their workday activities to include working on site landscaping, marking parking stalls, installing fencing and contributing to other site improvements. The entire Public Works Department looks forward to serving the public at our newly renovated location in the near future.

ENGINEERING:

Peck Road Pavement Repair. The County Sanitation District is repairing a section of Peck Road between Wyland Way and Brisbane that failed due poor compaction after the installation of a sewer line. A large section of the concrete street was removed and replaced with additional base material, re-compacted, and new concrete pavement was installed. The work began on Tuesday, June 26 and will be completed by this Friday.

Old Town Myrtle Avenue Improvements - Concrete Issue. Our Engineering staff met with representatives from the concrete supplier, who provided the concrete for the sidewalk project, to find a resolution of the small holes that are appearing in the concrete at the northwest corner of Myrtle and Colorado (Wells Fargo Bank). Based on their discussion and lab analysis, it was determined the small holes are due to poor installation. The decorative concrete will need to be removed and replaced, and the contractor will provide a work schedule and coordinate with the Bank officials and building owner to minimize impacts during the reconstruction.

Caltrans Right-of-Way Improvements around Myrtle Avenue. On Tuesday, June 27, we met with Caltrans to discuss landscape and hardscape improvements on Myrtle Avenue at the 210 Freeway. They were very receptive to the City maintaining the landscape in these areas through their "Adopt a Highway" program. Any new landscaping must be from their approved plant material list; monument signs, painting of the bridge abutments are also included in this program. Staff will start preparing plans for new improvements to coordinate this project with the Transit Village project.

OPERATIONS – Environmental – Facilities – Parks:

Block Tree Trimming. Our City contractor, TruGreen, will be trimming trees on the streets south of Foothill and east of Myrtle, on Cypress and Los Angeles streets over the next few days.

Recreation Park. Parks staff has been extra busy in Recreation Park due to all of the summer activities and programs offered by The Boys and Girls Club, Y.M.C.A. and Community Services Department. Summertime always adds another 150-200 visitors to our parks each week day.

STREETS:

Driveway Approach Rehabilitation:
252 May Ave.

Concrete Rehabilitation:
Sidewalk in the 100 block of Stedman Ave.

Graffiti Removal:
29 traffic signs

Traffic Sign and/or Painting Installation/Replacement:
Repainting of "SLOW SCHOOL XING" on S. Shamrock from Foothill to Royal Oaks

Miscellaneous:
Pot hole repair on Huntington Dr. at 210 Freeway
Pick up broken glass from pedestrian pathway tunnel underneath railroad crossing at Fifth Ave.

UTILITIES:

Customer Service

- 2,829 water meters were read and recorded
- 36 work orders were completed

- 2 water meter lids were replaced
- 5 backflow preventer were tested
- 2 water services were reactivated

Water Production

Water consumption is 66.1 millions gallons, an increase of approximately 3% compared to last week's water usage.

The following weekly water samplings were collected by staff per the requirements of the Department of Health Services:

- 17 water system samplings
- 3 water treatment facility samplings

Utility Maintenance

- 1-1" and 3-2" residential water services were installed
- 1-1" service leak repaired
- 75 water main system valves were inspected and operated
- 18 underground service alert's utility location requests were completed
- 16,000 feet of sewer main were cleaned

2006 -2007 Sewer Main Replacement Project Update. (*Canyon Boulevard, Colorado Boulevard, and Primrose Avenue*). Mobilization, pavement marking, and survey work for the sewer construction will start during the second week of July 2007. Affected residents and business owners will receive advance notice prior to construction. Construction notice signs will also be posted in the construction area.

Have a great weekend!

FOR YOUR CALENDARS:

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| Tues., July 3, 7:30 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |
| Sun., July 1, 6:30 p.m. | Family Concert Series "The Answer", Library Park |
| WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 | INDEPENDENCE DAY, CITY HALL CLOSED |
| Wednesday, July 4, 9 p.m. | 4th of July Celebration, Myrtle Avenue |
| Sun., July 8, 6:30 p.m. | Family Concert Series "Cold Duck", Library Park |
| Tues., July 17, 7:30 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |
| Tues., Aug. 7, 7:30 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |
| TUESDAY, AUGUST, 21 7:30 P.M. CITY COUNCIL MEETING CANCELLED | |

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE ATTACHMENTS:

`An institution' retires

Millett to end 50-year career at Monrovia Police Department

By Emanuel Parker Staff Writer

Pasadena Star-News

Article Launched: 06/30/2007 10:51:04 PM PDT

MONROVIA - When Jane Millett started work at the Monrovia Police Department in May 1957, staffers used Teletype machines, typewriters, carbon paper and erasers. Gasoline was around to clean suspects' hands after fingerprinting them. Fifty years and six police chiefs later, Millett will retire this month in an era of computers, fax machines, copiers/sorters and instant worldwide communications.

"Computers have made a big difference," said Millett, 73, who was born and raised in Monrovia and now lives in Glendora. "You can get information so much faster. You have access to departments all over the United States and even the world if you want to go that far. You get registrations on vehicles, (find out about) wanted persons, find out about outstanding warrants. It's phenomenal," she said.

Millett started out as a clerk/matron, charged with writing crime reports and booking and looking after female prisoners in a department that had yet to hire a female officer. "I loved the action of being out in the field and going out on rape and abandoned children cases, and transporting females to downtown L.A. and the psychiatric ward," she said.

She recalls the 1965 Watts riots, when someone tossed a Molotov cocktail on top of police headquarters here and a passer-by warned those in the station the roof was on fire.

She vividly remembers the widespread fear and panic caused by Richard Ramirez, "The Night Stalker," after he brutally killed two elderly sisters in Monrovia in May 1984. "People were very frightened and scared," she said. "It didn't seem to matter how old or young you were. It was hot summer weather and people were afraid to leave their doors or windows open."

She also recalls a Monrovia that was filled with orange groves, vegetable fields and dairies.

"Monrovia was all orange groves," she said. "They tore them out for the freeway and the shopping centers on Huntington Drive. I use to ride horses down where there were fields of flowers, vegetables and dairies in the south part of town."

She said she'll use her July 19 retirement party to say goodbye to all the officers she's worked with over the years. "I've stayed in touch with a lot of former officers and I update them on deaths, what other officers are doing," she said. "I like to keep them apprised of what's going on. That's kind of one of my hobbies, staying in touch with the old timers."

She will also miss the friends she's made staffing the department's front counter and dealing with the public. "That's the part of the job I enjoy so much, helping people, being there for them," she said.

"I've made a lot of good friends through the years just through conversations at the front counter. If you can do something good for somebody, it makes you feel good. I think that's what law enforcement is all about."

Monrovia police Chief Roger Johnson, who went to school with one of Millett's sons, said she will be missed. "It's tough for us to lose somebody who's kind of an institution at the police department," he said. "Jane has been a great resource to our department for many years. I mean 50 years, who can imagine that anybody would last 50 years anywhere, let alone in law enforcement.

"It's going to be both an exciting day when we celebrate her retirement and a sad day, all at the same time," he said.

Millett is married to Tom Millett, a retired El Monte police officer and former El Monte city councilman. She has two sons from a previous marriage, a son with Millett, and three grandchildren.

emanuel.parker@sgvn.com (626) 578-6300, Ext. 4475

On track for urban renewal

Article Launched: 06/24/2007 08:10:39 PM PDT

THERE'S a lot riding on local mass transit projects. And we don't just mean the passengers.

Today, mass transit means more than just leaving your car in the garage and hopping on a train or bus. Development of light-rail, rapid bus routes or even fixed-rail can trigger millions of dollars in commercial, office and residential development, badly needed tax revenues for cities, and a new urban look that some say could bring about the death of the suburb. It is something planners call transit-oriented development, or TOD.

It remains to be seen if TOD can save us from total gridlock, or from global warming and more smog, if we have not already succumbed. But until we hear a better idea, we're supportive of cities planning for this type of future development. To say we want no development is unrealistic.

Many U.S. cities have a jump on Southern California when it comes to this concept, and they're not all on the East Coast, where trains and buses are used by all, regardless of economic background or status:

Denver, for example, added 14 miles of light rail lines in 2006. With that came \$4.25 billion in new residential and commercial projects clustered around the city's new light-rail stations.

The Wall Street Journal on June 11 reported the following cities leading the way with transit-oriented developments: Portland, Ore.; Charlotte, N.C.; and Denver. The story by Kemba J. Dunham featured Naugatuck, an industrial town in Connecticut, eyeing mixed-use TOD as an alternative to industries moving away (including a recent announcement that Hershey Co. was closing its Almond Joy/Mounds plant).

The Journal reported that for every dollar the public sector spends on mass transit, it can expect three to five times that amount in private money from new development.

Locally, some San Gabriel Valley cities are testing the TOD waters. Pasadena has two exemplary developments built around Gold Line stations, one at Memorial Park where the Holly Street Apartments are intertwined with the station, and more recently the residential units completed at the Del Mar station.

Monrovia introduced residents to plans for its Station Square Transit-Oriented Village on Myrtle Avenue. Conceptually, it would wrap around a new Gold Line station and include between 1,400-3,800 new dwelling units, 750,000 square feet of office space and a maximum of 151,200 square feet of retail/restaurants, as well as the possibility of a new hotel and a new park.

Other cities such as Azusa, Glendora and Claremont are planning development clusters around future Gold Line stations. The idea is to allow residents to live within walking distance of the train station, so they can get to and from work without a car.

Residential TODs can be cheaper to build because cities can severely reduce parking requirements. The cost of parking runs between \$15,000 to \$30,000 a space. That savings could be passed on to the buyer.

However, cities along the Gold Line Foothill Extension route planning such developments are gambling on the federal funding for the extension being awarded, something that is not yet a sure thing. And every month gone by without such a commitment not only delays a partial solution to freeway gridlock and air pollution, but also delays smart solutions to the growth that will come to the San Gabriel Valley one way or the other.

FROM HOUSTON CHRONICLE:

AeroVironment Estimates 2008 Revenue

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MONROVIA, Calif. — AeroVironment Inc., which makes small, unmanned aircraft systems for military use, said Tuesday it expects to post revenue growth of 20 percent to 25 percent in fiscal 2008.

The percentages imply a revenue prediction of \$208.5 million to \$217.2 million for the year. Analysts polled by Thomson Financial expect revenue of \$215 million for the year.

The company also predicted an operating income margin of 12 percent to 14 percent for the fiscal year, which began May 1.

AeroVironment shares fell 12 cents to \$22.63 in aftermarket trading, after rising \$1.03, or 4.7 percent, to \$22.75 in the regular session.

Questions or comments about this story should be directed to AP Financial News at 212-621-7190.

June 27, 2007, 11:53AM

Ducommun Gets Helicopter Blade Contract

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LOS ANGELES — Ducommun Inc., which provides engineering services to the aerospace and defense industry, said Wednesday that its Ducommun AeroStructures Inc. subsidiary has been awarded a follow-on contract for S-61 helicopter rotor blades.

The composite main rotor blades are sold by Carson Helicopter as part of an upgrade package that results in additional payload, speed and range.

The follow-on contract is worth about \$21 million beginning in 2008 and includes plans for Ducommun AeroStructures to increase its current production rate, the company said.

All work will be performed at Ducommun AeroStructures' Monrovia, Calif. facility, the company said.

Ducommun shares fell 21 cents to \$25.61 in afternoon trading.

Questions or comments about this story should be directed to the Financial News desk of The Associated Press at 212-621-7190.