



From the City Manager's Desk

a weekly report from Scott Ochoa, City of Monrovia



September 7, 2007

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Development Review Committee (DRC) Recap September 5, 2007 Meeting

- 1833 Estrella Avenue/Charles Chen– An addition to front and rear of single family residence was approved. No one spoke in favor or in opposition.
- 339 S. Madison Avenue/Chuck Williams– Minor exception to encroach into south side yard setback with single family addition was approved. No one spoke in favor or in opposition.
- 623 S. Monterey Avenue/Kari Hellman – A minor exception to encroach into north side yard setback with single family addition was approved with a condition to relocate the utility closet. No one spoke in favor or in opposition.
- 704 Montana Avenue/Scott Dowell – Recommended approval of a conditional use permit for a second unit (2-story) to the Planning Commission. No one spoke in favor or in opposition.

September 12, 2007 Planning Commission Meeting

- Tentative Tract Map TTM 068620/CUP 2007-14/1415 Alamitas Avenue/Vance Pomeroy, applicant – This is a request to convert an existing 32-unit apartment complex to a condominium in the RM 2500 Zone.
- Tentative Tract Map 069790/CUP2007-15/309 Violet Avenue – The applicant, Twen Ma, is requesting to construct a 4-unit, 2-story detached Planned Unit Development in the RM2500 (Residential Medium Density) Zone.
- Conditional Use Permit CUP2007-08/950 West Foothill Blvd/CVS Pharmacy – This application was on the agenda for the July 11 Planning Commission meeting. The applicant is requesting that a 24 hour drive-thru pharmacy be allowed at the location. Due to neighborhood concerns, the applicant asked to continue the item until the September 12 Planning Commission meeting, so the public hearing was opened and continued. However, as per the applicant's request, the application has now been withdrawn.
- Conditional Use Permit CUP2007-12/Variance V2007-07/410 West Evergreen Avenue -/T-Mobile – T-Mobile is requesting to erect a 65' high mono-palm cellular antenna in the M (Manufacturing) Zone. Variances are requested for exceeding the maximum pole height (65' in lieu of 45'), not meeting the required setback from a public right-of-way and being within 500' of a residential zone.
- Conditional Use Permit CUP2007-13/331 West Colorado Blvd./Alex Fernandez – This particular application is a request to construct a two-story, 2,604 square-foot-residential unit behind an existing single-family residence in the RM3500 (Residential Medium Density) Zone. A two 2-car garages will be provided.

Installation of Pex Plumbing Workshop. Chon Cervantes, Building Division Manager, along with the Community Development Department and Mega Western-Zurn Pex, is sponsoring free training for Code Officials, Building Inspectors and Plumbing Contractors. A workshop explaining inspection procedures and an opportunity to become a certified Pex Installer will be provided. The training will be held on Thursday, September 13 at the Monrovia Community Center. The class will commence at 8 a.m. and will end at 1 p.m.

Articles Attached

- **MacCreedy, Aviation Pioneer, Dies.**

COMMUNITY SERVICES HAPPENINGS

RECREATION DIVISION

2007 "Summer Sets" Family Concerts Series. The Department of Community Services would again like to thank all the sponsors of the 2007 Family Concert Series, "Summer Sets." Without their generosity, this event would not have been possible. Their donations ensured more than 10,000 participants (over the 10-week series) enjoyed great music, pre-concert entertainment and delicious food. There were many complimentary remarks regarding the concerts and much of the success of the event is due to the generous contributions of the sponsors. A big "THANK YOU!" to the following sponsors:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| •John and Katie Watson, Swing -N- Country | Century 21, Adams & Barnes |
| •Monrovia Rotary Club | Donna Baker, Dickson Podley Realtors |
| •Diane Balsamo, Countrywide Home Loans | Chris Shevlin, Chicago Title |
| •Monrovia Escrows | Focus One Community Credit Union |
| •Los Angeles County Arts Commission | Richard, Watson & Gershon |
| •Jodi Breneman, Dickson Podley Realtors | Facilities Operations Plus |
| •Champion Broadband | Bowden Development |
| •Citizens Business Bank | Ewing & Beland |
| •Monrovia Historic Preservation Group | Monrovia Kiwanis Club |
| •Athens Services | Creative Woman, Inc. |
| •Wing • Stop | |

LIBRARY DIVISION

Library Hours. The Monrovia Library returns to its regular hours on Monday, September 10. Those hours are: Monday–Wednesday 10 a.m.–9 p.m. and Thursday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Storytimes have also resumed.

Great Adventurers. The Library's Youth Services Department is resuming its *Great Adventurers Series* next Wednesday, September 12 at 3:15 p.m. For students in 2nd-5th grades, this seven-week series features short stories, crafts, imagination stretchers and library-related games. It teaches kids how to use the library and also includes an author study! This session will be held every Wednesday, at 3:15 p.m., from September 12 through October 24.

Free Computer Classes for the Public. The Library's Adult Services Department's computer classes for the general adult population also begin next week. *Computer for Beginners* will be held from 10:30 a.m.–noon on Monday, September 10 and Saturday, September 15 and from 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m. on

Monday, September 17. *Email Basics* will be held from 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. on Monday, September 10. *Microsoft Word Basics* will be held from 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 15 and *Internet Basics* will be held from 10:30 a.m. – noon on Monday, September 17. The *Computer for Beginners* class does not require any computer experience. Knowledge of mouse and keyboard is required for the other classes. Call Adult Reference, 626-256-8274, to be placed on the class list and confirm times (space is limited).

Save the Date. The Friends of the Monrovia Public Library will hold its Fall Used Book Sale on Friday, October 5 from 7 – 9 p.m. (for members of the Friends only); Saturday, October 6 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, October 7 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. for the general public. Two Bucks-a-Bag sale will take place from 2 – 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 7.

FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Personnel responded to 81 emergency calls from 0800 hours August 29 to 0800 hours September 5. Significant incidents include:

Strike Team Response. On September 3 at 3 a.m. Water Tender 101 was dispatched to the North Fire. The Water Tender is assigned to a structure protection group and is currently on night operations.

Strike Team Response. On September 3 at 4:40 p.m., Engine 101 was dispatched as part of strike team 1204-A to the North Fire, near Acton. Engines from 1204-A were placed in a neighborhood near the head of the fire to provide structure protection. During the hours following the arrival of strike team 1204-A, high temperatures and strong winds created intense fire behavior and rapid fire spread. A coordinated assault between air and ground resources resulted in significant progress in containing this fire.

Power Lines Down and Power Pole Fires. Due to the extreme heat conditions the department experienced an elevated call volume responding to downed power lines and transformer fires this weekend. Edison had extended response time (hours) that resulted in extended standby times for fire department personnel.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Firefighter Kaliman is attending Emergency Preparedness Animal Shelter Training. This class, taught at the LA Zoo, is designed to assist agencies with developing a plan for animal sheltering during a disaster.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

National Preparedness Month. National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. National Preparedness Month 2007 is sponsored by the [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#). The goal of the month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and to encourage individuals to take action. Throughout September, Homeland Security will work with a wide variety of organizations, including local, state and federal government agencies and the private sector, to highlight the importance of family emergency preparedness and promote individual involvement through events and activities across the nation. For more information please visit the web site www.ready.gov

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The Fire Department is proud to announce that enrollment has filled up and registration is now closed for Monrovia CERT Class No. 1. As a reminder, CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Training and Class No. 1 will take 20 local Monrovians through a three-day curriculum that includes, disaster preparedness, light search & rescue, basic first aid, disaster psychology and many other training techniques to better prepare them in the event of a disaster. The class will begin September 22 and run for three consecutive Saturdays with graduation for those participants that complete all 24 hours of training scheduled for October 6.

Registration is open for Class No. 2, with information available on the City Web Page www.ci.monrovia.ca.us or through our CERT hot line at (626) 256-8144. You can also receive additional information by emailing cert@ci.monrovia.ca.us Please take the time to learn more about CERT, become more involved in your community and learn skills that may save a life!!

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Greetings fellow CERT members!

Thank you again for the phone call, it was really nice speaking with you guys. As I said earlier, it has been a long 7 years, and I am so glad to know Monrovia will finally be on the same page as FEMA and other CERT volunteers!!!

This program will go hand in hand with Monrovia being one of the All-America Cities. Once the program is completed and certified, CERT Monrovians will, (in the event of an emergency), be able to provide assistance to other cities in need. This is such a great moment and I am so looking forward to being a part of this new beginning with Monrovia.

If there is anything I can bring to the meeting...let me know.

*Christine Holland-Caoim (CERT/Simi Valley)
161 North Myrtle Ave.
Monrovia, CA*

ON THE POLICE BLOTTER

During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 569 calls for service resulting in 129 investigations. Following are this week's highlighted issues and events:

Conspiracy / Attempt Grand Theft / Burglary Tools. On September 4 at 1:14 a.m., police received a call from a security guard at a business in the 1400 block of South California. He reported seeing two males trying to break into the property. Police responded, and the two subjects were eventually located and detained. A field show-up was conducted. After investigation, the suspects were arrested for the above listed charges. One of the suspects is currently on active parole, and a parole hold was obtained.

Animal Control Call. On September 4 at 6:22 p.m., the first night of going operational with Monrovia's Animal Control Program, the animal control officer responded to an after-hours call. This call involved a semi-feral cat that had severe injuries. A resident tried to help the cat and was bitten on the left hand. The cat was taken to an emergency pet clinic.

Shots Fired – 300 block West Walnut. On September 5 at 2:19 p.m., an adult male subject who is a known gang member was walking east on Walnut from Alta Vista on the south side of Walnut. He

observed four male subjects following him walking east on Walnut. The four subjects yelled out to him the name of a rival gang and one of the subjects pulled out a pistol from his waistband, pointing it at the victim. The victim began running away east on Walnut when he heard several gun shots. The victim was not hit. He looked back and saw the suspects running away west on Walnut. Monrovia Police Department officers responded and contacted the victim. An area check was made for the suspects, and several subjects matching the descriptions were detained. The victim did not identify any suspects, and all parties were identified and interviewed. Investigation continuing.



ADMINISTRATION:

Graffiti on SCE Property: Southern California Edison will now be handling graffiti removal from their green electrical boxes and wooden poles. If graffiti is noticed on SCE property, please phone 1-866-421-4688.

ENGINEERING:

Storm Drain Improvements, Encinitas between Scenic and Hillcrest. Residents on Encinitas requested that we investigate the stormwater runoff down Scenic that enters driveways during heavy rains. At an evening meeting, staff presented several alternatives:

- Construction of an underground storm drain; estimated cost \$250,000. (Could establish an assessment district, resulting at an estimated cost of \$9,000 to each resident).
- Construction and reshaping the street to raise the roadway crown to maintain water on the east side of Encinitas (street resurfacing).
- Re-construction of the individual driveways; raising the driveways and constructing landscape berms on the property to divert the water

Staff also explained each alternative and resolved that the most cost effective solutions are the scheduled street resurfacing project and individual driveway and landscape improvements. The residents agreed and staff stated that information regarding the driveway rehabilitation program is available on the City's Internet. The neighbors were satisfied with staff and our willingness to address their concerns at a time convenient to the neighbors.

OPERATIONS – Environmental – Facilities – Parks:

Two Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste/E-waste Events. On Saturday, September 15, Los Angeles County will host two free household hazardous/e-waste (HHW/E) events at the following locations: Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters (900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra) and South Pasadena Unified School District Headquarters Parking Lot (Diamond Avenue and Mission Street, South Pasadena).

The events accept household hazardous waste and electronic waste items including batteries, fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, fertilizers, household cleaners, paint, old computers, televisions, game systems and other items. For directions, event hours, and a detailed list of accepted items, log onto www.888cleanLA.com and click on *Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Collection Events*.

Annual NPDES Report for Stormwater. Environmental Services staff filed the City's Annual NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Report to the State Water Resources Board. The report covers program effectiveness, expenditures, detailed how many catch basins were cleaned over the last year to the number of construction plans that were reviewed for proper storm water compliance, and the City's outreach and education campaigns for storm water education.

Royal Oaks & Bradbury Traffic Signal. On Friday, August 30, the new traffic signal at the intersection of Royal Oaks & Bradbury Road defaulted to four-way flash condition due to the extreme heat causing the controller unit to overheat. The programming for the intersection was re-entered and normal operation was restored that same evening.

Traffic Signal Down. The traffic signal at the southeast corner of Lemon and Mountain was destroyed by a commercial big-rig on Thursday morning. Our traffic signal company will remove the demolished traffic signal and a new one will be replaced as soon as possible.

STREETS:

Concrete Rehabilitation:

Sidewalk in the 700 E. block of Greystone Ave.

Miscellaneous:

- Work continues on dirt removal from the Mountain Ave. Reservoir site.
- The retaining wall along the Saw Pit Flood channel was completed this week.
- Construction work continues on material and handling storage facility at 2655 S. Myrtle Ave.
- Completed concrete work on the new walkway to the administrative offices at Fire Station 1.

UTILITIES:

Customer Service

- 85 work orders were completed
- 130 shut-off notices were distributed
- 9 backflow devices were tested
- 1 water meter was replaced
- 2 water services were reactivated

Water Production

Water consumption is 73.1 millions gallons which is the average water consumption at this time of the year.

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

- 4-1" water services were installed
- 1-1" water service was repaired
- 12 underground service alert's utility location requests were completed
- 14,000 feet of sewer main were cleaned

2006 -2007 Sewer Main Replacement Project Update – Street striping for Primrose Avenue and Canyon Boulevard will be completed this week.

Have a great weekend!

FOR YOUR CALENDARS:

Sun., Sept. 9, 5-9:00 p.m.	Food, Wine & Jazz Festival, Library Park
Mon., Sept. 17, 10-6 p.m.	Boys & Girls Club of the Foothills Golf Tournament, Via Verde Country Club
Tues., Sept. 18, 5:30 p.m.	City Council Study Session
Tues., Sept. 18, 7:00 p.m.	Salute to Service
Tues., Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m.	Regular Council Meeting
Tues., Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m.	Regular Council Meeting
Thurs., Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m.	Holiday Parade, Myrtle Avenue

ATTACHMENTS:

MacCready, Aviation Pioneer, Dies

By Kevin Smith, Staff Writer

Article Launched: 08/30/2007 12:23:56 AM PDT

MONROVIA - Paul MacCready, a renowned innovator and aviation pioneer whose Gossamer Condor aircraft made the world's first sustained flight powered solely by a human, died Tuesday. He was 81.

The founder and former chairman of AeroVironment Inc. had recently been diagnosed with a serious but undisclosed ailment, company officials said. He died in his sleep at his Pasadena home.

"The world has lost a man of unique vision, and the people of AeroVironment have lost a mentor and friend," Tim Conner, the company's chairman, chief executive officer and president, said in a prepared statement Wednesday. "Paul was an inspiration to so many people around the globe who were touched by his accomplishments and his innovative approach of `doing more with much less.'"

Born in New Haven, Conn., in 1925, MacCready founded Monrovia-based AeroVironment Inc. in 1971 and this month celebrated the 30th anniversary of the record-setting flight of the Gossamer Condor, which took place on Aug. 23, 1977. That flight earned him the title "father of human-powered flight." It also earned him the \$95,000 Henry Kremer Prize, which had gone unclaimed for 18 years.

Two years later, MacCready's 70-pound Gossamer Albatross earned the second Kremer prize worth \$213,000 as the first man-powered aircraft to cross the English Channel. The trip took nearly three hours. Both aircraft now hang in the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

"He was a guy who was very quiet ... but very deliberate," said Hans Hornung, an emeritus professor of aeronautics at Caltech, who has known MacCready for 20 years. "He was soft-spoken and a slow speaker, but everything he said was absolutely right on. I would classify him as one of the top engineers and innovators in aeronautics."

MacCready offered a brief glimpse into the genesis of his fascination with flight at a 2005 event at Pasadena's University Club, where he received the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership's Technology Leadership Award.

"My summers on the peninsula kept me away from other kids," he said. "But it worked to my advantage - it gave me the opportunity to do stuff on my own. I started out building model airplanes. I also flew sail planes ... but those quickly turned into research projects."

Blaine Fetter, the Partnership's immediate past chairman at the 2005 event, described MacCready in simple terms. "Paul MacCready is a national treasure," he said.

MacCready was named Engineer of the Century by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and selected Graduate of the Decade by Caltech. He was also named one of the 100 greatest minds of the 20th century by Time Magazine.

Over the years, MacCready also grew increasingly interested in energy efficiency - a move that led him into several partnerships with General Motors in the 1980s and '90s. GM's Impact was introduced in 1990 and evolved into the EV-1. But when the world's largest car manufacturer eventually pulled the plug later that decade, MacCready faced the cold reality of oil-consuming big business.

AeroVironment now makes unmanned surveillance planes as well as a high-current electric vehicle charger called the "PosiCharge."

Last year, the company generated \$139.4 million in sales and netted \$11.4 million in profits. AeroVironment went public on Jan. 23 under the ticker Nasdaq symbol "AVAV," with an IPO price of \$17 per share.

MacCready's family did not wish to comment on his death. He is survived by his wife, Judy, sons Marshall, Tyler and Parker, and two grandchildren. Private funeral arrangements are pending. AeroVironment has established an online book of condolences and biography of MacCready at www.avinc.com/maccready.

kevin.smith@sgvn.com (626) 962-8811, Ext. 2701