



WPRA convenes annual meeting, takes care of business

BY CHUCK HUDSON

EDITOR, *THE WPRA NEWS*

ALL ANNUAL MEETING PHOTOS, UNLESS MARKED OTHERWISE, ARE BY BOB REITER

The West Pasadena Residents' Association on May 8 convened its 57th annual membership meeting, held this year at Mayfield Senior School.

The event kicked off with a stimulating

meet-greet-and-eat session marked by fellowship, a tasty and light Mexican buffet catered by Los Tacos, and the time to commune with exhibitors from 15 local organizations, and, upon request, a student-led tour of historic Strub Hall, the Italianate Beaux Arts home at the heart of the eight-acre campus. Exhibiting organizations included:

- Arlington Garden
- Arroyo & Foothills Conservancy

- Ban SUP (Single Use Plastics)
- Day One
- Friends of the Pasadena Public Library
- Invisible Alta Pasadena
- La Casita Foundation
- No 710 Freeway Fighters
- Old Pasadena Management District
- Pasadena Community Garden
- Pasadena Heritage
- Pasadena Museum of History
- Pasadena Police Department
- Pasadena Sister Cities
- River LA

Getting down to business

With the close of the social segment of the event, frequent WPRA annual meeting master-of-ceremonies and WPRA treasurer Blaine Cavena opened the business portion of the meeting with his characteristic ease and aplomb. Following the introduction of special guests, Blaine invited the Blair High School JROTC color guard to lead a presentation of flags and Pledge of Allegiance.

A Mayfield welcome. On behalf of Mayfield School, Geoffrey Baum, former WPRA president, current WPRA Advisory Board member and proud father of a Mayfield freshman (Amy), welcomed guests to the Mayfield campus and noted that Strub Hall is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

The Mayor's thoughts. Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek opened with comments about the citizen-led Arroyo Seco planning effort, citing its evolution into a new non-profit organization, the One Arroyo Foundation. Tornek explained that the foundation is moving into the design phase of its recommended demonstration trails project.



WPRA President Dan Beal awards the WPRA Community Service Award to Sarah Gavit. "In spite of holding a senior position at Jet Propulsion Lab," said Beal, "she has somehow found countless hours to dedicate to the 710 freeway. Sarah, and the 27-member team she assembled, elevated our community organization so we could join the fight – on a level playing field – against LA Metro, Caltrans and their salaried professionals."

Continued on page 8

Now is the time to come to the aid of your neighborhood

BY DAN BEAL
PRESIDENT, WPRA

The WPRA bylaws and rules direct us to preserve the architecture, history, ecology and appearance of west Pasadena; to inform the public about these issues; to promote civic pride in west Pasadena; and take positions on issues affecting west Pasadena and its environs. These descriptions mostly relate to “things” – buildings and trees and trails and such.

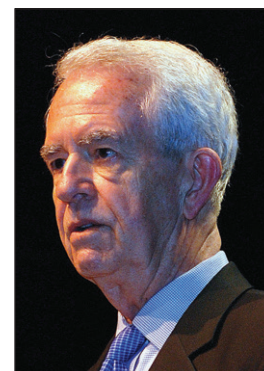
But these physical things are there to support people. And Pasadena is, foremost, its people – not all of whom are safe and comfortably housed and fed. This is why we also need to consider “people” issues, and why we picked our topic, “Homelessness in Pasadena,” for our annual meeting this year. Many thanks to the experts who enlivened us and to our Board members who organized the session on homelessness – and to those of you who joined us at the meeting on May 8 at Mayfield Senior School. *[Editor’s note: For coverage of the annual meeting turn to pages 1 and 8-11.]*

The WPRA board and those we represent understand what makes Pasadena “Pasadena” and will work to preserve and enhance it. We have much of value here in our city. That’s why we must take care when we set about to “improve” or “change” it. And that’s why the WPRA (and others) often question contemplated development.

Development – how fast, how much, what kind, where and how big – is a contentious issue for most communities. In Pasadena, our density may be reaching a point of diminishing returns. Going beyond this point could materially degrade our quality of life. We could become just another homogenized suburb ... our unique character gone. The thing about land, as Mark Twain famously put it, is “They aren’t making any more of it.” So we better be good stewards of what we have.

Much of the struggle this year and into the future will be about how to deal with and hopefully fend off state dictates that are intended to increase housing production, which we need, but not at the expense of local plans, laws and governance and local wishes.

Other development issues looming ahead include density bonuses and concessions (how developers get to build more square footage) and mansionization (how your neighbor gets to build more square footage).



Dan Beal

These and many other issues will require a difficult and continuing effort. Fortunately, we have experts on our board and Advisory Council, but we can use any expertise and vigilance on this topic that you can bring us.

We’ve rung this bell many times before but it needs to be rung loud now. Please let us know if you would like to participate. We’re a volunteer organization and depend on the community to help us.

About us

2019 – 2020 officers

- Dan Beal
(president@wpra.net)
- Avram Gold
(vp@wpra.net)
- Blaine Cavena
(treasurer@wpra.net)
- Evan Davis
(secretary@wpra.net)

Mission: Founded in 1962, the West Pasadena Residents’ Association is dedicated to maintaining the character of our community and enhancing the quality of life in west Pasadena.

Area: The WPRA service area is bounded on the north by Colorado Boulevard, on the east by Fair Oaks Avenue and on the south and west by the city limits.

Funding: All WPRA activities are funded through membership dues and contributions. The WPRA receives no public funding and has no paid employees. Since the WPRA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public benefit corporation, contributions and donations are fully deductible to the extent permitted by law.

2019 – 2020 board of directors

- Dave Bise
- Bill Christian
- Mic Hansen (planning@wpra.net)
Land use, Planning
- Kenyon Harbison
- Joan Hearst
- Susan Kinney
- Priscilla Taylor
- Bill Urban, past president
- Nancy Walker
- Linda Zinn (membership@wpra.net)
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- Catherine Stringer
- Fred Zepeda



The News is mailed each quarter to nearly 8,000 homes and businesses in the 91105 and 91103 ZIP codes and beyond.

Editor: Chuck Hudson
(editor@wpra.net)

P. O. Box 50252
Pasadena, CA 91115-0252

The West Pasadena Residents’ Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public benefit corporation.

Visit our website at wpra.net
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In passing: Jaylene Moseley

Jaylene Moseley, one of Pasadena's beloved civic leaders, died on Saturday, May 25. Memorial services for her were held on Saturday, June 8, at the Rose Bowl UCLA locker rooms before a capacity crowd.



Jaylene Moseley
(Photo by Pasadena Now)

For more than 30 years, Jaylene was a tremendous presence in Pasadena and a guiding light for scores of youth who benefited from her help during reintegration into our community from jail or hardship. She was a founding member and driving force behind the Flintridge Center, as well as the founder of the J. L. Moseley Co., a development company in northwest Pasadena and Altadena, which she leveraged for the betterment of the community.

"Her life's work and her business investments exemplified her values and her commitment to Northwest Pasadena and Altadena in a manner that few people if any match," State Sen. Anthony Portantino remembers. "She also did her good works with the overwhelming goal of making a positive change with no interest in the limelight or accolade," he said.

"Jaylene was a shining symbol of selfless dedication," echoed State Assemblymember Chris Holden. "Jaylene had the ability to light up a room with her smile and charisma. The vision and heart she carried for our community lives on within the many lives she impacted through the years. She was a treasure to our community," Holden said, "and will never be forgotten."

[Editor's note: Quotations from State Sen. Anthony Portantino and State Assemblymember Chris Holden are courtesy of Pasadena Now.]

Keeping the Civic Center civic ... and green

BY ANN SCHEID

Pasadena's historic Civic Center is of national significance as one of the few Beaux Arts designs developed in the period of America's City Beautiful movement that was actually realized. The three major buildings – City Hall, the Public Library and the Civic Auditorium – were completed within five years, from 1927 through 1932. Edward H. Bennett, famed Chicago architect and city planner, integrated his plan for Pasadena into the framework of existing buildings, the Post Office, the Julia Morgan YWCA and the YMCA, and existing streets, Garfield, Marengo, Euclid and Walnut. To add meaning to the space, Bennett had Holly Street and Garfield cut through to create dramatic approaches for City Hall, the Library and the Auditorium.

The plan provided generous areas of green space surrounding the major buildings; broad panels of green line Garfield and Holly, the principal axes of the plan. Double rows of shade trees flank the sidewalks. Twin parks across from the Auditorium at Garfield and Green Street (lost to development) mirrored the still-existing twin parks at Garfield and Holly facing City Hall. Open courtyards at City Hall, the Library, All Saints Church, First Baptist Church, and the Police Building add to the special character of this National Register Historic District.

The concept of a civic center was a response to the chaotic, unplanned growth of American cities, and demonstrated the important role of democratic government in the American tradition. In the public squares of Europe, the church was the dominant building. Here it was the City Hall, seat of local government, along with the public library symbolizing educational opportunity, and the auditorium which offered entertainment and culture. The two Y buildings, built as housing

and social centers for young people on limited incomes, further enhance the civic character of the District.

The park-like layout evokes L'Enfant's plan for Washington, which created a space apart for the great public buildings of the nation's capital, characterized by a grand green space, the Mall. Bennett knew this plan well, for he served as Chair of the Board of Architects developing the Federal Triangle, the complex of government buildings north of the Mall. He also knew Julia Morgan, architect of the YWCA, who was a fellow student at Berkeley and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris.

As the city launches another effort to restore the YWCA and allow private development in the Civic Center, we are confronting the following questions:

- How do Pasadenans feel about commercial development intruding into our historic Civic Center?
- What about the existing park-like character, and the ideal of a civic space for the citizens?
- Will the quality of the existing architecture be matched by the new development?
- Would we like to see a hotel in front of the Capitol in Washington?
- Shall we keep the Civic Center civic ... and green?

Ann Scheid is an architectural historian and preservationist, former city planner in historic preservation for the City of Pasadena, the City of Redlands, and certified Architectural Historian for the State of California. She has authored scholarly articles on the history of Pasadena's civic center and civic centers in Southern California. A life member of the Society of Architectural Historians, Ann holds degrees from Vassar College, the University of Chicago, and Harvard's Graduate School of Design. She is currently the Curator of the Gamble House's Greene and Greene Archives at the Huntington Library.

City rewards positive contributions to historic preservation

BY PHYLLIS MUELLER
DISTRICT 6 COMMISSIONER, HISTORIC
PRESERVATION COMMISSION

May was Preservation Month, an effort spearheaded by the National Trust for Historic Preservation that began in 1971 as Preservation Week and was expanded to a month-long celebration in 2005.

In Pasadena, historic preservation month has been celebrated since 2004 with an annual awards program that recognizes positive contributions to historic preservation in the city. Awards are given to property owners, designers/architects and contractors for exceptional historic resource restoration or rehabilitation projects. Awards have also been given to recognize individuals that have contributed to multiple projects, for positive infill projects in historic neighborhoods, and for historic preservation educational efforts. Award nominations are accepted beginning in February each year and the awards event is held in late May.

The 2019 Historic Preservation Awards event, which was held at the Constance Hotel, cited the following award recipients:

- **Constance Hotel** – Rehabilitation of historic Mediterranean-style commercial storefront and infill new construction of a new commercial building and hotel additions. Hotel and commercial building were built in 1926 and are designated landmarks.
- **440 S. Grand Ave.** – Honorable mention award for re-painting and landscaping an Arts & Crafts period single-family residence built in 1910.
- **1091 N. Marengo Ave.** – Rehabilitation of a Vernacular Hipped Cottage built in 1897 in

the Garfield Heights Landmark District. Project included restoration of the original house's exterior and construction of a compatible addition and new detached garage.

- **627 S. Marengo Ave.** – Preservation of a Craftsman Bungalow built in 1912 in the Marengo-Pico Landmark District. Project included replacement of severely deteriorated wall shingles to match the original design.
- **982 N. Mentor Ave.** – Rehabilitation of an altered chimney on a Colonial Revival Bungalow built in 1921 in the Bungalow Heaven Landmark District. Project involved research into the original design as well as similar chimney designs on other similar houses and sourcing historic brick to apply to the chimney.

- **Myers residence** – Rehabilitation of a Mid-Century-Modern-style single-family residence built in 1950 and designed by significant architect Harold Zook. The house is a designated landmark. Project involved restoration of previously altered elements of the house's exterior, interior remodeling, and reconfiguration of previous additions to be more compatible with the design of the house.
- **1189 N. Wilson Ave.** – Restoration of a previously altered kitchen in a Craftsman Bungalow built in 1910 in the Bungalow Heaven Historic & Landmark Districts. Project involved extensive research of the original condition of the kitchen to implement the restoration.



This home at 440 S. Grand Ave. received an honorable mention for re-painting and landscaping an Arts & Crafts period single-family residence built in 1910.

Caltrans houses could be in danger; national register could help

BY SUE MOSSMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With the 710 Freeway extension and tunnel now finally off the table, properties owned by Caltrans are beginning to be evaluated for eventual sale. As defined by the Roberti Act, former owners, tenants and affordable housing entities have priority in purchasing the houses, but with various qualifications that need to be met. Then the remaining homes will be sold on the open market.

Once Caltrans transfers ownership of the properties – about 130 homes in Pasadena alone – the responsibility to regulate them will pass to local jurisdiction, meaning that City of Pasadena regulations will apply. The properties within the Markham Place Historic District and the Governor Markham Landmark District (with similar boundaries) will be subject to review and restrictions according to local codes, which is fine. The properties south of Bellefontaine, however, have no local or National Register designation and are not currently protected from major remodeling or even demolition according to the City's rules.

Pasadena Heritage argued for years that Caltrans needed to be sure the properties had an historic designation that would protect them, however Caltrans took no action. To prevent an unknown future for scores of historic homes in the Pasadena Avenue Historic District (which has been determined National Register eligible but is not listed), Pasadena Heritage is going forward to do the work and bear the cost of officially nominating these buildings to the National Register. In addition, the organization is negotiating historic preservation covenants on about a dozen of the most intact and distinguished properties in the corridor to provide more intensive and permanent protections.

A consultant has been hired to help prepare the nomination which will be submitted early this fall. If you would like to support this effort, please consider a donation to the Pasadena Heritage Advocacy Fund.

Fuller Campus future still an unknown

There has been no news on the sale of the Fuller Seminary properties in Pasadena, including the Ford Place National Register Historic District in the heart of the city, just east of the Civic Center. Word on the street is that a private educational organization is negotiating with Fuller to purchase all its holdings. The use may be a good one but at present nothing is known about plans for the historic Ford Place homes and other buildings. Fuller would like to sell the campus but lease back various facilities for a number of years while it prepares to move to Pomona.

Pasadena Heritage celebrates its own on July 13

This summer's alternative to the famous Colorado Street Bridge Party will be a lively and entertaining reception at



the historic Castle Green, honoring Executive Director Sue Mossman's 25 years in the leadership role and 40 years as a staff member. "This is not a retirement party!" says Sue who plans to stay onboard for a while yet. "There is still so much work I want us to get done!" She reminds everyone that while she has been proud to be at the helm, everything the organization does and all its accomplishments are attributable to the work of many – staff, board, volunteers, members and supporters. All of them deserve credit.

Nonetheless, a quarter century is a long time to be the leader of such an active and productive non-profit. Known for her grace under pressure, public speaking, written word, and true dedication to the cause, Sue's legacy is worth celebrating. If you want to join the festivities, reservations can be made at pasadenaheritage.org.

Please join
Pasadena Heritage
in our salute to

9,136 DAYS

of extraordinary leadership

This summer's alternative to the famous Colorado Street Bridge Party will be a lively and entertaining reception on July 13 at the historic Castle Green, honoring Executive Director Sue Mossman's 25 years in the leadership role and 40 years as a staff member.



The current temporary fencing on the Colorado Street Bridge (in this photo) will ultimately be replaced by a permanent suicide-deterrent system. *Photo by Avram Gold.*

City signs contract for bridge safety fence design

BY AVRAM GOLD
VICE PRESIDENT, WPRA

On May 20, 2019, the City Council unanimously authorized the City Manager to enter into a \$500,000 contract with Donald MacDonald Architects for environmental and design services of a suicide deterrent system on the Colorado Street Bridge.

MacDonald specializes in new and historic bridge designs. The founding principal architect of the firm has already worked on several well-known bridges that implemented suicide-mitigation systems, including the San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge, the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge in Charleston, SC, and the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge in Vancouver, BC. MacDonald is partnering with Biggs Cardosa Associates and Galvin Preservation Associates (GPA).

Biggs Cardosa Associates specializes in the design, seismic retrofit, modification and rehabilitation of bridges, including the Colorado Street Bridge, having been part of the 1993 retrofit construction team.

GPA Consulting also has extensive experience in evaluating historic resources. Teresa Grimes, part of the GPA team and a Pasadena resident, has been the principal architectural historian on the project's environmental documentation. GPA Consulting worked on the La Loma Road Bridge Rehabilitation project (now the John K. Van de Kamp Bridge) and is currently working on the Holly Street Bridge seismic retrofit as a sub-consultant.

Variations of suicide prevention fencing and spikes on the Colorado Street Bridge have been implemented since the 1920's. More recently however, on April 23, 2018, City Council unanimously approved recommendations by the Colorado Street Bridge Task Force for a new vertical barrier system.

On October 17, 2018, Pasadena's Department of Public Works issued a Request for Proposals for professional services overseeing an environmental report and design development for the Colorado Street Bridge suicide-deterrent system. The city received two responses on January 24, 2019, from T.Y. Lin International and MacDonald, with MacDonald being recommended with a score 92.5.

In as much as the Bridge Task Force had previously recommended vertical barriers as the preferred deterrent, MacDonald must also produce bridge safety protection that does not cause a substantial adverse change to the Colorado Street Bridge as a historic resource. Accordingly, if the suicide barriers preserve the bridge's Beau Arts integrity, the project will be exempt from CEQA guidelines and eliminate the need for an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) thereby reducing the project's environmental and design phase schedule by 10 months and the contract cost by \$200,000 compared to what was previously presented to Public Safety Committee on April 17, 2019.

Starting this October, MacDonald will survey the bridge, prepare environmental reports and develop conceptual designs for vertical barriers along the balustrades and at the east and west entrances to the bridge. The preferred concept will then be vetted through public presentations to the city's Historic Preservation and Design commissions. Bridge construction is intended to commence August 2020 pending budget appropriations.

Troubling Senate land-use bill tabled for now

BY MIC HANSEN
CHAIR, LAND USE

Controversial state Senate Bill 50, authored by San Francisco state senator Scott Wiener, was tabled on May 16 by the Senate Appropriations Committee, under the leadership of Sen. Anthony Portantino. The bill mandated high-volume housing construction in “job-rich” and “high-quality schools” areas. Under SB 50 — the successor to last year’s SB 827 — neighborhoods within half a mile radius of transit would be subject to “enhanced development,” effectively encouraging four or five story multi-family housing in single-family residential-zoned neighborhoods. Parking requirements would be diminished or omitted and, effectively, single-family neighborhoods eliminated.

This bill essentially seeks to put housing construction on overdrive by superseding local zoning laws to maximize the construction of new multi-family dwellings. This one-size-fits-all approach has created a great deal of anxiety and opposition to this bill. Small communities and large cities alike have been vocal in decrying the state’s compulsory negation of local planning prerogatives, including the overriding of local zoning regulations and the removal of local density and height limits. This bill states that the reported housing shortage is a statewide issue, and therefore mandates have to go beyond municipal control and must apply to all cities (with a few exceptions for smaller and seaside communities), including charter cities like Pasadena.

Last month the City of Los Angeles’ Planning Department submitted a lengthy report analyzing the potential effects of SB 50 on the city. The findings were troubling, and showed that at least 43% of the city would be impacted by this legislation. “SB 50,” according to the report, “may compromise the ability to maintain unique community scale and form, as well as neighborhood features such as yards, trees, adequate off-street parking, sunlight and privacy.”

Related articles:

- LA City Planning Report: <https://bit.ly/2GJNQqg>
- LA Times: <https://lat.ms/2JCe5D1>
- Livable California: SB 50 impact map — check your neighborhood: <https://bit.ly/2WhLNj1>

Look to Rose Bowl for more family-friendly events, better traffic control

BY BILL URBAN
DIRECTOR, WPRA

Rose Bowl management is establishing as many family-friendly events as possible with minimum impact on its neighbors. This is especially important because competition for large-stadium events in the Los Angeles area will be more difficult very soon. The new NFL stadium in Inglewood for the Rams and Chargers is nearing completion, and the LA Coliseum is finishing its \$300 million renovations. Both will compete directly with the Rose Bowl for stadium events.

The new family-friendly events revealed to date include:

- **Final Friday.** A family-oriented series of events featuring premier food and drink vendors and family activities including foot golf, outdoor games, moon bounces, photo opportunities, and tours of the Rose Bowl Stadium. The events will be from 4-8 p.m. on five Fridays this summer. The last of the five Fridays will be held on July 26.
- **Apollo 11 — An Immersive 360 Adventure.** This combination of live performance and immersive 360-degree video began its nation-wide tour on July 5 at the Rose Bowl and runs daily through the summer. Apollo 11 is the story of the first moon landing, told through the eyes of a man who was part of the original NASA Apollo team. This will be a touring show presented in its own temporary, purpose-built, state-of-the-art venue complete with 360-degree video projection and mapping. The auditorium will have 1,600 seats, and be built around a central stage. It includes a replica lunar lander, and a video planetarium trip to the moon.
- **Pasadena Daydream Festival.** This new music festival, curated by The Cure, is scheduled for August 31 as a one-day event held in Brookside park. Scheduled performers include Pixies, Deftones, Chelsea Wolfe, Throwing Muses, The Joy Formidable, The Twilight Sad, Emma Ruth Rundle and Kaelan Mikla.

Arroyo Seco Festival takes a year off

The promoters of the Arroyo Seco Festival, Goldenvoice and AEG “decided that this year, in their opinion it’s in their best interest to take the year off and hopefully come back better in 2020,” according to Rose Bowl General Manager

Darryl Dunn. Dunn added that Goldenvoice’s hit Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival took a year off and “came back obviously. So we’re hoping for the same thing here.”

Pasadena police address traffic snarls from BTS concerts in May

The sold-out BTS concerts at the Rose Bowl on May 4 and 5 caused unusually bad traffic, even for a major event. In response to concerns from residents, including WPRA, Lt. Art Chute, who manages the Event Planning section of the Pasadena Police Department wrote the following:

“Traffic was terrible after the concert on Saturday night as there was an exorbitant amount of drop-offs for this particular event – 60% of the guests (approximately 30,000 fans) were dropped off. Although we had a plan in place for rideshare, parent drop-off, and parent pick-up, the plan proved to be ineffective resulting in traffic congestion, and in some areas of the city, gridlock. These issues and concerns led to the re-evaluation of our traffic plan and implementation of a revised plan for Sunday night. The adjustments we made for Sunday night proved to be beneficial as traffic was never at a standstill and cleared the area approximately 1 ½ hours earlier than Saturday night. This is the plan we will use moving forward when we have a similar event.”

“Traffic was terrible after the concert on Saturday night as there was an exorbitant amount of dropoffs for this particular event – 60% of the guests (approximately 30,000 fans) were dropped off.”

WPRA encourages you to call the Rose Bowl Event Hotline at (626) 397-4141 if you see problems during Rose Bowl events. The hotline goes directly to the event command post which includes Rose Bowl management, Police and Fire Department.

WPRA convenes annual meeting

Continued from page 1

He encouraged all to become involved as the proposed project passes through the planning stage.

Tornek closed his remarks with an alert that the city is currently engaged in solving its annual financial puzzle. “The budget process this year has been somewhat eased by your willingness to raise the sales tax (measures I and J) to help the city (and Pasadena Unified School District) cover anticipated budget shortfalls that would have resulted in reduced city services and reinvestment in

our aging infrastructure. However, we must remain disciplined and not spend our way into a deepening structural deficit.”

A councilmember’s musings. District 6 Councilmember Steve Madison praised the grass-roots effort to stop the 710 surface and tunnels plans. “We’ve crossed one Rubicon by killing the 710 tunnel project, and the mayor and I are committed to supporting legislative efforts to help repatriate to Pasadena the land, the homes and the property that was intended for the 710, so we can do something along the lines

of the Connecting Pasadena project.”

As it relates to the evening’s program, Madison noted that “we really have a problem on our hands in providing a safe and clean and secure environment for our residents and businesses. In my view, we need more resources for permanent supportive care and, frankly, the law hasn’t permitted us to do what needs to be done to take care of the homeless.”

The annual election. Next up was former WPRA president and current board



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- ① Representatives of the Arlington Garden, which is not only friendly to people and pets, but also serves as a refuge for Pasadena’s native fauna.
- ② WPRA Treasurer and meeting emcee Blaine Cavena and WPRA director Mic Hansen share a moment with District 6 Councilmember Steve Madison.
- ③ Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek chats with a member of the Pasadena Police Department.
- ④ Blair High School JROTC color guard leads a presentation of flags and Pledge of Allegiance. *Photo by Chuck Hudson*



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member Bill Urban, who conducted the annual election of WPRA officers and directors. [See page 2 for a list of elected board officers and directors, and members of the WPRA Advisory Board.]

Presidential address. As is customary, re-elected WPRA president Dan Beal set the stage for his second term by noting that “Pasadena is foremost its people. And not all of them are safe or have comfortable housing. This is one reason for choosing homelessness as our topic for our annual meeting.” [For more of his thoughts, see his column in this issue on page 2.]

Recognizing the best among us. President Beal also presented this year’s winner of the WPRA Community Service

Award. “Sarah Gavit is the epitome of that old saying ‘If you want to get something done, give it to a busy person.’ In spite of holding a senior position at Jet Propulsion Lab, she has somehow found countless hours to dedicate to opposing the 710 freeway.”

While he allowed that there have been many people over the past 60 years who worked on the 710 issue, “Sarah, and the 27-member team she assembled, elevated our community organization so we could join the fight – on a level playing field – against LA Metro, Caltrans and their salaried professionals. It’s out of respect for her enormous contributions as a tenacious leader dedicated to stopping the 710 tunnel project, that we celebrate her achievements.

The main event. Former WPRA president and current board member Kenyon Harbison moderated the evening’s main event: “Homelessness in Pasadena.” He led a panel of experts, including, William Huang, director of the Pasadena’s Housing Department; Shawn Morrissey, director of Advocacy and Community Engagement, Union Station; and Patrolman Donovan Jones, a team leader for the Pasadena Police Department’s Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluation (HOPE) team in a wide-ranging discussion from which emerged important insights into homelessness and details about what the community is doing to address the issue in Pasadena. [See pages 10-11 for detailed coverage of this discussion.]



- ⑤ Former WPRA President Geoffrey Baum welcomes the assembly to Mayfield Senior School.
- ⑥ Former WPRA President Bill Urban conducts election of 2019-2020 Board officers and directors.
- ⑦ District 6 Councilmember Steve Madison noted that “we really have a problem (homelessness) on our hands in providing a safe and clean and secure environment for our residents and businesses.”
- ⑧ Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek encouraged the WPRA members to engage in the city’s budget process and the One Arroyo project.
- ⑨ WPRA President Dan Beal, former WPRA board member and Pasadena Heritage co-founder Claire Bogaard, and former Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard enjoy a moment before the evening program.
- ⑩ WPRA director Bill Urban, WPRA President Dan Beal, City Manager Steve Mermell and meeting emcee Blaine Cavena happily hobnob.

Panel examines homelessness in Pasadena

Featured deep-dive for 2019 annual membership meeting

BY JUSTIN CHAPMAN
MEMBER, WPRA ADVISORY COUNCIL
ALL ANNUAL MEETING PHOTOS, UNLESS
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“It took us over 40 years to figure out that the solution for homelessness is an actual home, but we finally figured that out and that’s where our effort is now: to get people into housing,” said Shawn Morrissey, director of advocacy and community engagement at Union Station, on a panel about homelessness during the WPRA’s annual meeting on May 8.

William Huang, director of the city of Pasadena’s Housing Department, and Patrolman Donovan Jones, a member of the Pasadena Police Department’s

Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluation (HOPE) team, also served on the panel, which was moderated by former WPRA President Kenyon Harbison.

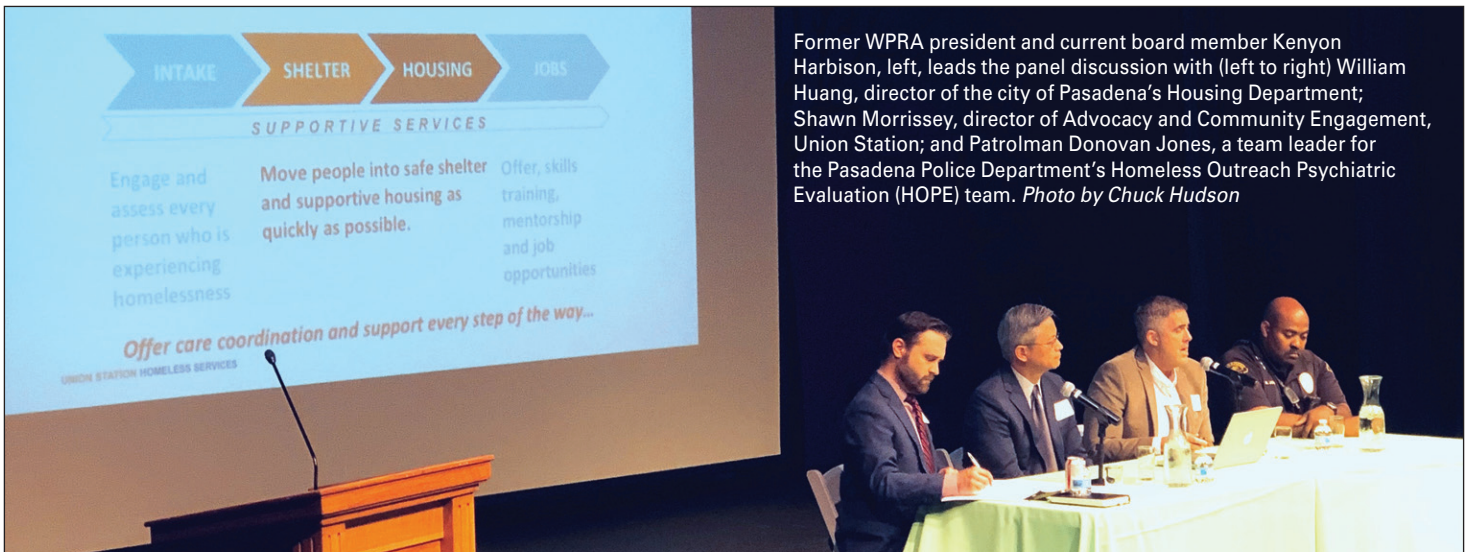
“During the early periods of homeless services, all we had to offer people were shelters,” Morrissey said. “We didn’t have housing solutions, just temporary solutions. We became dependent on the massive shelter system we built in LA.”

In 2011, the city and homeless service providers implemented a new approach: “housing first.” City officials and homeless advocates say that approach has been highly successful. Partly due to that approach, the number of homeless individuals in Pasadena decreased by 20% this year

compared to 2018, according to the 2019 Homeless Count Report released by the city on May 20.

The annual count is a one-night snapshot of those living in unsheltered locations and temporary shelters. This year’s count was conducted on the evening of January 22 into the early morning of January 23, 2019, and tallied 542 people experiencing homelessness in Pasadena, compared to 677 in 2018. That makes 2019 the second lowest year after 2016, in which 530 people were counted, since the count began in 1992.

“Permanent supportive housing is the only thing that ends homelessness,” said Huang, adding that there is a misperception among the public that the development of



Former WPRA president and current board member Kenyon Harbison, left, leads the panel discussion with (left to right) William Huang, director of the city of Pasadena’s Housing Department; Shawn Morrissey, director of Advocacy and Community Engagement, Union Station; and Patrolman Donovan Jones, a team leader for the Pasadena Police Department’s Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluation (HOPE) team. *Photo by Chuck Hudson*



William Huang



Shawn Morrissey



Patrolman Donovan Jones

more permanent supportive housing in their neighborhood will cause crime rates to go up and property values to go down.

“The safety level is actually enhanced because the person who is housed and is now stable is far less likely to commit crimes,” he said. “Barbara King, a local realtor, looked at property values around the three permanent supportive housing developments we have in Pasadena and found that nobody’s property values went down because the supportive housing developments were well designed and well maintained.”

However, just because officials now know housing is the solution doesn’t mean they have enough housing available.

“There’s a real bottleneck to building more housing,” said Huang. “There’s also a disincentive for landlords even with rental

vouchers, because it’s simpler and they get more money when they rent units out at market rate. We need to get more units, either by building them or through willing landlords. It’s a big ask, we realize that, so we do have financial incentives for them if they’re willing to do it.”

Huang said the good news is that the city will be receiving new homeless funding soon from both the county and the state. City officials plan to use that money to utilize more rapid and supportive housing, hire more housing navigators and case managers, expand prevention efforts, enhance landlord incentives, distribute more motel vouchers, and provide more job development.

Huang identified several things anyone can do to help homeless individuals: refer them to services through websites like LA-HOP.org; get educated by reading the

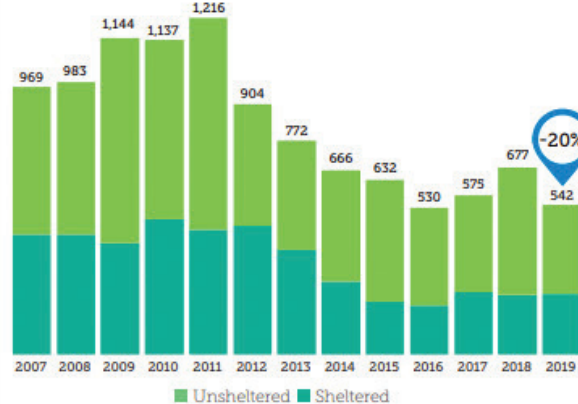
Homeless Count Report; donate to the nine orange parking meters around the city that are part of the Real Change Movement designed by ArtCenter; engage landlords to consider renting units to homeless individuals; and volunteer with organizations that serve the homeless such as Union Station, Friends in Deed, Foothill Unity Center, and many others.

“We’re never going to end this problem, but Pasadena is uniquely positioned to ostensibly end this problem as it exists today with the political will, the infrastructure, and the robust services that we have,” said Morrissey. “What’s really going to turn the tide is getting the appropriate information out to the community in order to tear down some of these myths and stigmas and help people see there really is a solution here: developing or making available housing for people.”

\$12 million

How much the city of Pasadena has budgeted to spend in fiscal year 2019-2020 on various direct and indirect services and support of the homeless. Of this total, \$9.5 million will come from grants.

Fewer People Experiencing Homelessness



20%

total decrease in the homeless population from 2018 to 2019

135

fewer people experiencing homelessness in 2019

2019 Homeless Count

542

People are experiencing homelessness on a given night

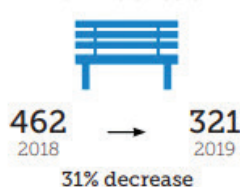
More Vulnerable Population



Housed in 2018



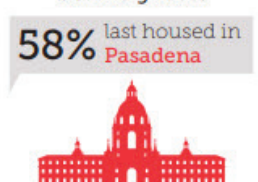
Fewer People Living on the Streets



Aging Population



People Experiencing Homelessness are Our Neighbors



The 2019 Pasadena Homeless Count was conducted between sunset on January 22 and sunrise on January 23. The annual count measures the prevalence of homelessness by collecting information from people who are living in unsheltered locations and temporary shelter. The 2019 Homeless Count Report is available at <https://bit.ly/2QbNJIw>



The current FCD plan would require over 400 round trips per day by heavy-duty tandem diesel trucks extending over four or more years during the dry season — presumably April through October. The trucks would enter and exit the 210 freeway via neighborhood streets adjoining the dam. The sediment would be transported to either Irwindale or Sun Valley for disposal in depleted gravel pits. *Photo by Bill Christian*

‘Big Dig’ sediment removal begins in earnest, but could change

BY BILL CHRISTIAN
DIRECTOR, WPRA

LA County’s sediment removal program behind the Devil’s Gate Dam began in earnest in mid-May, with about 65 tandem diesel trucks making up to five round trips each day to disposal pits in Irwindale and Sunland, accessed from routes on the 210 freeway.

The initial Impacts of the project are just now being felt. The number of trucks and roundtrips will increase in the coming months to the predicted 450 total daily roundtrips projected to extend for four years or more from April through the month of November.

However, that could change.

Most recently, a draft ruling in a lawsuit filed by Pasadena Audubon and the Arroyo Seco Foundation may well lead to changes in key aspects of the project.

The court found that the project had not properly complied with public notice and other CEQA requirements, pressing the parties to enter settlement talks.

The principal challenges raised about the project center on air emissions, environmental mitigation, traffic and noise impacts. While the county has begun to be responsive to some community concerns, the longer-term effects of the project and the county’s steps to satisfy those concerns are uncertain, particularly in light of impending settlement talks.

Both air quality and mitigation issues may be significantly affected by the court ruling. So far, the county has contracted with a third party — TetraTech — to install air-quality monitors to measure dust and nitrogen oxides. These monitors are temporary and battery operated until electrical power can be supplied to the monitoring locations. A major issue is monitoring the emissions performance

of individual trucks that may not meet the EPA testing standard for that variety of diesel engine.

Dust control and truck cleaning are being implemented, although truck bed covers have not been required. Truck routes are being varied to balance impacts on Pasadena, Altadena and La Cañada-Flintridge communities, and, in the fall, will be varied to accommodate school traffic. Nearby recreational trails along the Arroyo are closed during the week from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., but reopened after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

Lastly, whether the county’s promised environmental mitigation actions are adequate is at issue in the lawsuit, including a potential reduction in the permanently disturbed area in the dam reservoir and whether the restoration program for natural areas on the margins of the dam reservoir will be successful.

Protecting our ‘Big Dig’ air quality requires cooperation

BY ELIZABETH S. KRIDER, PH.D.
CO-FOUNDER, LA CAÑADA-FLINTRIDGE
FOR HEALTHY AIR

Designed and implemented by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (FCD), the Devil’s Gate sediment removal project, or “Big Dig” as its opponents refer to it, is a demanding endeavor on many levels due to the overlap of significant habitat and health issues that warrant thoughtful planning.

While some believe the project is solely about one or two downstream flooding events for which the dam must perform, it’s also about the long-term health compromises that have the potential for great harm to the three communities affected by the project. That is, the current problem with any effort to restore flood capacity, which can be diminished by an overfilled dam, is not just the dust from excavation. It’s also from the potential for carcinogenic and poisonous pollution generated by the diesel trucks doing the hauling. Even passenger cars are smog-checked to verify that their pollution controls are working. Sadly, the heavy-duty engines in the project’s diesel trucks are not.

La Cañada-Flintridge and Pasadena residents have been working since last year to educate LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger and her staff to the very real flaws of the diesel industry and its potential impact on public health. This collaboration has resulted in a list of public health safeguards that, if fully implemented, may help reduce the cancer and health risks to a level that, at the least, is deemed “acceptable” by the Air Quality Management District.

Several continuing law suits and county commissioner Kathryn Barger’s urging notwithstanding, it would appear that the county is finally treating seriously the views and recommendations offered by relevant regulatory agencies and community advocates. For example, although the county is not required to monitor air quality during the project, the county has placed a network of devices in the project area to report dust levels. These reports could make it easier for the project contractor to keep harmful dust out of neighborhoods. Also, the county is now rewarding with steady work those truckers who comply with existing state laws. All truckers must now verify that their diesel trucks comply with state regulations and that their engines are not under recall for emissions failures. Recalled engines that have been repaired can return to the project.

Hard work is now required to implement the remaining public health safeguards since “paperwork” measures and dust-tracking devices address hazards only to a limited extent. For example:

- What will the county do when, especially in hot months, the ambient air quality is unhealthy — even before trucks arrive to get their loads?
- How will nearby residents and school principals know when its time to alter outdoor activities, much like they do when a “smog alert” is issued.
- How will the county act when the monitoring devices show high levels of diesel pollutants?
- What will the county do about truckers whose engines spew diesel pollutants, but have not yet been recalled?
- How can such faulty trucks be screened and sent for repair sooner rather than later?

Additionally, the county would be wise to develop a written and transparent community safety plan to fully describe the decision-making process and appropriate action if current measures fall short.



Even passenger cars are smog-checked to verify that their pollution controls are working. Sadly, the heavy-duty engines in the project’s diesel trucks are not. Photo by Bill Christian

Striving to ban one-time use plastics is a noble objective

By CHERYL AUGER
FORMER DIRECTOR, WPRA

Pasadena residents produce 558,000 tons of waste each year (four tons/person/year). Although many residents may separate their waste into the three containers: nonrecyclables, recyclables, and yard waste, only 10% of the waste that goes into that recycling bin actually gets recycled.

Where does the other 90% of our recycling materials go?

These materials are piling up in recycling centers, being hauled to landfills and sent to facilities in Southeast Asia where they are sifted through for higher-value materials, incinerated and dumped in impoverished areas where the toxic waste is never dealt with.

There are three primary reasons for this. One is that there are almost no markets for plastics with resin codes number 3 or higher.

- #3 – PVC (not recyclable)
- #4 – LDPE (not recyclable)
- #5 – PP (Rigid one-gallon or larger containers are currently recyclable)
- #6 – PS (not recyclable)
- #7 – Other (not recyclable)

These plastics are more complex and usually integrated with other materials, such as the plastic coatings on disposable cups that must be removed before reprocessing. Another issue is contamination of the bins with items such as dirty diapers, unwashed plastic food cups, oily pizza boxes, uncleaned yogurt cups, margarine tubs, takeout containers, etc. These all need to be cleaned before they can be accepted if they can be accepted at all. And plastic bags thrown into recycling bins plug up recycling machinery.

Pasadena bans a small percentage of plastic bags provided by businesses, primarily the plastic bag used to hold all the other plastic bags at a grocery store. Styrofoam is mostly banned, and recently

plastic straws were banned state-wide. But these measures only address a tiny fraction of the plastic waste we generate.

Pasadena has a Zero Waste Plan (ZWP) that targets achieving recycling goals by 2040, but the plan fails to adequately address the problem of plastics among many other things. It currently is only reviewed every three years and since inception in 2012, little progress has been made on any of Pasadena's ZWP goals. The city

needs to update this plan to make more immediate and sensible changes and look at awareness campaigns and voluntary plastic reductions from businesses.

Individual change will be necessary as well. Mounting evidence more than suggests that we cannot recycle our way out of the world's plastic proliferation problem, so it is essential that we reduce the amount of plastic we use and that our ZWP adequately reflects this.

9 TIPS FOR LIVING WITH LESS PLASTIC

1. Bring your own shopping bag
2. Carry a reusable water bottle
3. Bring your own cup
4. Pack your lunch in reusable containers
5. Say no to disposable straws & cutlery
6. Skip the plastic produce bags
7. Slow down and dine in
8. Store leftovers in glass jars
9. Share these tips with your friends

LESS PLASTIC.

WWW.LESSPLASTIC.CO.UK

11398. Pasadena, Cal. in 1906.



A postcard view of Pasadena in 1906 shows the Gaylord home in the left foreground, at the intersection of Terrace Drive and Mentoria Court. Vernon Avenue was one block east of the home.

John D. Gaylord's horse and the elixir of life

BY KIRK MYERS
ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST
PASADENA MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Runaway horses were a fact of life in early Pasadena, often causing much excitement and wreaking havoc. But on an August morning in 1907, John D. Gaylord of 146 Terrace Drive had a different experience.

He was driving his old horse and carriage along Vernon Avenue, not far from his home, "when his horse gave every evidence of supreme surprise and then sat down in the road and rolled over on his side. As there was nothing in sight that could by any possibility make an ordinarily well-behaved horse act so, Mr. Gaylord proceeded to investigate." (*The Pasadena Star*, August 14, 1907).

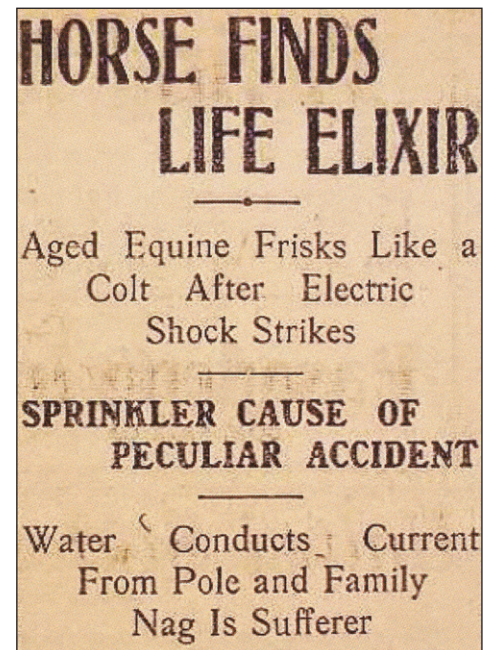
The section of the street where the "peculiar accident" occurred had just been heavily sprinkled by a water wagon, to keep the dust down. A live wire from a metal electric light pole passed current along the wet road and "connected with

the 500 volts in the electric street railway." (*The Pasadena Daily News*, August 14, 1907)

"When the horse came along, his wet shoes attracted some of the current and gave him a gentle shock. The animal was not injured nor was the current strong enough to affect the men who stood around the horse and helped him to his feet. The unusual feeling of the current so surprised the animal that he evidently sat down to think it out." (*The Pasadena Star*)

After a short rest, the horse was back on his feet again. *The Pasadena Daily News* reported that the "aged equine" appeared to have been rejuvenated by the episode. "Once thereafter the effects of the shock seemed to act as a sort of elixir of life and caused the aged animal to frisk and kick like a colt."

The Pasadena Museum of History is located at the corner of Orange Grove Boulevard and Walnut Street (470 W. Walnut); free parking in the museum lot. The Research



Library & Archives are open to the public free of charge Thursdays-Sundays from 1-4 p.m. For additional information, please visit the Museum's website, pasadenahistory.org, or call (626) 577-1660, ext. 10.



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ANDROID



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Pasadena

Mayor Terry Tornek
ttornek@cityofpasadena.net

Steve Mermell, City Manager
smermell@cityofpasadena.net

Police Chief John E. Perez
jperez@cityofpasadena.net

Fire Chief Bertral Washington
bWASHINGTON@cityofpasadena.net

City Clerk Mark Jomsky
mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net

Tyron Hampton, Council District 1
thampton@cityofpasadena.net

Margaret McAustin, Council District 2
mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net

John Kennedy, Council District 3
johnkennedy@cityofpasadena.net

Gene Masuda, Council District 4 (vice mayor)
gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net

Victor Gordo, Council District 5
vgordo@cityofpasadena.net

Steve Madison, Council District 6
smadison@cityofpasadena.net

Andy Wilson, Council District 7
awilson@cityofpasadena.net

Los Angeles

LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger
(District 5): (213) 974-5555

California

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Assemblymember: Chris Holden (D-41):
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