



WPRA sets date, theme for 61st annual meeting Pasadena 101: Meet our new City leaders

The West Pasadena Residents' Association invites you to join us — in person — for our 2023 annual meeting on Wednesday, May 31, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., in the Maranatha High School Student Center, 169 S. St. John Ave. Free parking is available next to the school on S. St. John: general parking is underground (beneath the athletic field); handicapped parking is on the surface lot.

5:30 p.m.: Meet and greet

The evening starts with an information fair (and sweet treats) featuring representatives from multiple city agencies, community groups and organizations exhibiting their services and programs. In addition, we've invited a number of local elected luminaries including:

- **Victor Gordo**, Pasadena Mayor
- **Steve Madison**, Pasadena Councilmember (District 6)
- **Kathryn Barger**, LA County Supervisor (District 5)
- **Chris Holden**, State Assemblymember (District 41)
- **Anthony Portantino**, State Senator (District 25)

6:30 p.m.: Business program

This is an auspicious time in Pasadena history. As we emerge from the pandemic, we have before us an unprecedented opportunity to build a healthier, happier and more harmonious community. Decisions we make today will impact our neighborhoods for generations to come.

For example, we must come together to develop a thoughtful plan to heal the physical and emotional scars from the eviction of thousands and the gouging out of dozens of acres in the heart of our neighborhood to figure out what to do with the 710 "ditch" that California recently transferred to the City.

Fortunately, our City is managed by talented and experienced professionals – and that's a good thing, since its annual budget approaches \$1 billion and covers more than 2,300 full-time employees.

This year's annual meeting offers attendees unique access to leaders of a number of critical city services, and an opportunity to learn more effective ways to access those services, resolve issues, get information, help shape City policy, and of course, help make Pasadena an even better place to live, work, play, and raise a family. Delivering this information and guidance will be:

Miguel Márquez, city manager. Before joining the City of Pasadena in 2022, Márquez served as the chief operating officer of Santa Clara County. Previously he served as an associate justice of the California Sixth District Court of Appeals, county counsel for Santa Clara County, general counsel of the San Francisco Unified School District, and deputy city attorney in the San Francisco City Attorney's Office. A native of Sacramento, Márquez received his law degree from UC Berkeley Law School, his

Save the date

What:

WPRA 2023 annual meeting

When:

Wednesday, May 31, 2023
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Where:

Maranatha High School
Student Center
169 S St. John Ave.

master's degree in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and his bachelor degree in public policy from Stanford University.

Sidney Jackson, general manager of Pasadena Water and Power. Jackson has a long tenure in the water-and-power industries. Before joining PWP, he served as the chief operations officer and deputy general manager at Austin (Texas) Energy, and chief operations officer at Rochester (New York) Public Utility. Jackson earned a bachelor degree in electrical engineering from Kansas State University and a master's in business administration from the University of Missouri.

Tim McDonald, acting director of Libraries and Information Services. McDonald joined the City of Pasadena in 2016 as a Central Library services manager. He later was promoted to deputy director to oversee branch services

West Pasadena Residents' Association



Healing of west Pasadena's deep wound begins

By Evan Davis
President, WPRA

On page 3 of this issue, WPRA Board member David Bise ably summarizes the City's first step – appointing citizens to a 710 Stub Working Group – in what will be a long process to decide what to do with the 710 “ditch” that California recently transferred to the City.

All Pasadena residents have had to live with the millions per year in lost tax revenue, making us all victims of the State's mistake, but WPRA-area residents especially have endured the brunt of health, aesthetic and traffic problems for decades.

The good news is that local visionaries anticipated this possibility nearly 10 years ago when it provided a forum for citizens and community experts to envision what good could come of the State abandoning a 710 tunnel and how Pasadena could shape its own future.

The Connecting Pasadena Project (CPP) produced a masterful report that reflects the immense effort and talent of a wide spectrum of participants and could serve as a helpful starting point for the present debate.

For more on 710/CPP visit wpra.net for the 710/CPP listing under the “Current” dropdown window on the home page.

The bad news is that the State has handed over property that puts Pasadena in a hole, literally and financially. The CPP report estimated in 2015 that “fill the ditch” alternatives would require an initial outlay of up to \$80 million, with the hope that property sales and later tax revenues would



Evan Davis

reimburse our cash-strapped City's outlay.

Although relinquishing the ditch was welcome news, it has come as a surprise to me and others who weren't involved in the CPP that simply making this neighborhood whole carries such a high cost.

Public input, particularly from the most affected residents matters, and appointing citizens representing every district in the City is a good thing, as any recommendations should have citywide support. Given the wide range of backgrounds and experience reflected on the Working group, I expect a vigorous and wide-ranging debate. I'm hopeful that those involved can find more areas of agreement than disagreement, and that we can build something that's great for all of Pasadena and in particular for those closest to the ditch, who deserve nothing less given what they've had to live through for decades.

About us

2022 – 2023 officers

President: Evan Davis
president@wpra.net

Vice President: Dan Beal
vp@wpra.net

Treasurer: Blaine Cavena
treasurer@wpra.net

Secretary: Kenyon Harbison
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.

Service 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.

2022 – 2023 board of directors

- Geoffrey Baum, *Rose Bowl & Central Arroyo Seco*
- Dave Bise, *Public services*
- Pete Ewing, *Land use & planning*
- Donna Furey
- Mic Hansen
- Joan Hearst
- Carlos Javelera
- Susan Kinney
- Mark Mastromatteo
- Lee Wallace
- Linda Zinn (membership@wpra.net)
Membership, Open Space & Conservation

2022 – 2023 WPRA Advisory Board

- Justin Chapman
- Catherine Stringer
- Vince Farhat
- Fred Zepeda
- Tom Seifert



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

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

BRIEFLY

“DURING MY TWO YEARS AS MAYOR I’ve worked with three city managers, four police chiefs, two planning directors, three Water & Power general managers, and two fire chiefs. In total we’ve had 16 interim directors and executives since December 2020.” – *Mayor Victor Gordo, in 2023 State of the City address*



Brenda Harvey-Williams

David Reyes

BRENDA HARVEY-WILLIAMS AND DAVID REYES HAVE BEEN PROMOTED to assistant city managers. Harvey-Williams was first hired in 1987 and, since 2018, served as director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. Reyes was first hired in 2012, and, since 2016, has served as the City’s director of Planning & Community Development.

THE PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT announced the following new command staff appointments (alphabetically):

- Cmdr. Javier Aguilar, Patrol division
- Cmdr. Art Chute, deputy chief
- Lt. Monica Cuellar, Public Information Officer (PIO)
- Cmdr. Bill Grisafe, Special Operations division
- Exec. Administrator Karen Peterson, Strategic Services division
- Cmdr. Marcia Taglioretti, Criminal Investigations division

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORTS IT HAS FINISHED reconstruction of 11,000 of the 18,000 known damaged sidewalk locations in the City. The department indicated it would need an additional \$8 million to complete everything on its list. In 2015, over 18,000 sidewalk locations were inventoried as part of the city’s American Disability Act (ADA) Sidewalk Improvement Program.

Source: Pasadena Now

City Council establishes 710 advisory working group

*By Dave Bise
Director, WPPA*

Pasadena City Council recently appointed those who will serve as members of the 710 Community Advisory Working Group. The 16-member group will provide guidance and advice to City Council on the redevelopment of the nearly 50 acres in west Pasadena known as the 710 stub.

The Working Group will provide input to City Council on the vision, land use, massing, circulation and other urban design aspects of the plan, as well as other key policy issues, including potential restorative justice efforts relating to the displacement caused by the proposed and, ultimately, cancelled 710 freeway expansion.

At its meeting on February 27, Council appointed nine members to the Working Group:

- **Cynthia Kurtz** and **Wayne Brandt**, nominated by Mayor Gordo
- **Nevil Green**, nominated by Vice Mayor/District 2 Councilmember Felicia Williams
- **Tina Williams**, nominated by District 1 Councilmember Tyron Hampton
- **Danny Parker**, nominated by District 3 Councilmember Justin Jones
- **Bryan Takeda**, nominated by District 4 Councilmember Gene Masuda
- **Blair Miller**, nominated by District 5 Councilmember Jess Rivas
- **Ali Barar**, nominated by District 6 Councilmember Steve Madison
- **Randy Shulman**, nominated by District 7 Councilmember Jason Lyon.

Subsequently, City Council appointed the following to seven additional seats:

- **Jose Luis Correa**, nominated by councilmembers Hampton, Jones, Rivas and Lyon
- **Joel Bryant**, nominated by councilmembers Hampton, Jones and Madison
- **Mic Hansen**, nominated by Mayor Gordo
- **Jasmine Shupper** and Pasadena

Unified School District Board President **Michelle Richardson Bailey**, nominated by councilmembers Hampton and Jones

- **Remy De La Peza**, nominated by Councilmember Rivas
- **Adriana Lim**, nominated by Councilmember Gene Masuda

Two of the members – Correa and Bailey – were designated as descendants of community members who were displaced due to the proposed freeway expansion.

The 710 Community Advisory Working Group may consider leveraging some of the ideas of the Connecting Pasadena Project (CPP), the group formed in 2015 to find a more positive way to develop master-planning alternatives for the 710 stub and provide long-term social and economic value to the City.

Pasadena’s July 4th tradition collides with soccer match

The Rose Bowl Stadium has long served as home for AmericaFest, Pasadena’s stellar July 4th community celebration. This year, however, the Rose Bowl will host a rescheduled – and sold out – Major League Soccer match on July 4th, so the traditional AmericaFest will not take place.

According to stadium management, the current plan is to have an alternative fireworks show, as part of the soccer match, that is, in some ways, comparable to the traditional July 4th display. Whether it will rival the usual grand display is unknown. Additional information regarding the fireworks, viewing options, and related activities (if any) was not available at press time.

While many folks travel to Brookside and the areas around the Rose Bowl to view the fireworks, much of the Rose Bowl area will open only to soccer game ticket holders. We hope the Rose Bowl and Pasadena Police will demonstrate their usual skill in managing traffic with these overlapping events.

WPRA comments on Brookside miniature golf plans, and questions viability of Planned Developments

Is adding two mini golf courses at Brookside Complex a good investment of public funds?

[Editor's note: The WPRA Board sent this letter in February to the Rose Bowl Operating Committee (RBOC)]

The WPRA Board of Directors applauds the RBOC's efforts to achieve self-sufficiency through new revenue sources. After all, we, too, want the Rose Bowl to thrive, and recognize that identifying new revenue streams is critical to its long-term success.

However, at the present we can not support the proposal to create two miniature golf courses at Brookside Golf complex. The WPRA urges the RBOC to reconsider the approach and invest in plans and financial analyses that will demonstrate to the community that these proposed changes will add to RBOCs bottom line without an undue impact on the neighbors.

The WPRA has identified two areas of the proposed project that are of major concern:

1. The filing of the CEQA Mitigated Negative Declarations document that does not provide an accurate, stable and finite description of the proposed project.
2. The project lacks specific financial and other details, as outlined below.

From our perspective, the RBOC is marching down the CEQA path without having delineated the proposed changes to Brookside or demonstrating to the community – which will foot the bill if the revenue projections are too rosy – that these changes are a good investment of public funds.

A recent public meeting also highlighted that neighbors remain concerned about the collateral effects of any mini golf course or expansion of the driving range. We also support arguments made by the Linda Vista-Annandale Association that included concerns about a variety of legal issues, which we would also like addressed before any decisions are made.

If this were a project by any private entity, we would have seen plans at the same time as the CEQA review. But because the RBOC is a public-benefit corporation that's treated as part of the City government, it exercised its power to make up different rules for its own project. However, the RBOC is a public benefit corporation with obligations that extend beyond balancing its budget.

Choosing to save money by pursuing CEQA approval first has a substantial non-economic cost: Brookside's neighbors are, understandably, concerned that once the RBOC has cleared the CEQA hurdle citizens will have little impact on whether the project should be built and what design features will be adopted. We recognize the need for fiscal restraint, but this approach certainly hasn't built any trust in RBOC in the eyes of its neighbors.

Planned Developments are no longer effective development tools

[Editor's Note: The WPRA sent this letter to City Council just prior to Council's late February decision to abolish Planned Developments (PDs) entirely, as recommended by a unanimous vote of the Planning Commission, and to encourage judicious use of the available planning exceptions. The WPRA applauds both City Council and the Planning Commission for their decisions on this matter.]

Since its inception in Pasadena in 1977, over 40 Planned Developments (PDs) have been submitted and designed, many of which have provided benefits to both developers and the City.

Developers save time, benefit from an easier approval process, and gain flexibility for size and design. In return, the City benefits from better fit into the area's design context, enhanced amenities, and open space (either residential or commercial), and superior design and quality of materials.

However, this was all prior to the recent multiplicity of state planning and land-use mandates, which override the appropriate and necessary oversight management by the City's Planning and Community Development staff.

As a result, local oversight has become much more difficult, and in some instances prohibited, while the use of PDs has become more prevalent. PDs have become a tool used by developers to maximize density and circumvent city zoning requirements and guidelines, negatively affecting neighborhoods, trees, mobility and open space.

We already have a carefully crafted General Plan, eight specific plans, and zoning laws — all developed over the years with outreach and robust citizen participation. These tools are explicit, practical and efficacious.

Consequently, PDs are no longer an effective development tool, and, in fact, undermine the City's ability to provide systematic and reasonable development oversight.

BRIEFLY

THE CITY OF PASADENA IS CONDUCTING A COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF ITS HISTORIC RESOURCES to identify and document buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts with historical significance. The project will be carried out in three phases:

- Phase 1: develop a historic context statement that outlines the themes and patterns of the City's history
- Phase 2: conduct a reconnaissance survey that identifies potential historic resources across the City
- Phase 3: conduct an intensive survey that evaluates the eligibility of selected resources for historical designation or listing. *Source: Pasadena Now*

HOMEOWNERS OF SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A STATE GRANT to seismically strengthen their "soft-story home," which is defined as a living space built above a garage. These houses are more vulnerable to collapse during an earthquake. The City expects grants of up to \$13,000, depending on the type of house and required retrofit. *Source: City of Pasadena*

THE CITY OF PASADENA HAS RELEASED THE 2023 HISTORIC PROPERTY CONTRACT GUIDELINES and application form, offering a reduction in property taxes as a financial incentive for the preservation of historic buildings in the City. Applications must be submitted by May 31 at 5 p.m. *For more information, contact Stephanie Cisneros, senior planner and program manager, at (626) 744-7219 or at scisneros@cityofpasadena.net. Source: City of Pasadena*

THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION IS FINALIZING REGULATIONS for California's new historic rehabilitation tax credit (HTC). The program permits homeowners of historic properties to receive a 20% tax credit on qualified expenditures on their home, up to \$25,000 (or 20% of a \$125,000 restoration). *Source: Pasadena Heritage*

State continues to drive housing density higher

*By David Sanchez
Principal Planner, City of Pasadena*

Assembly Bill (AB) 2334, which became effective Jan. 1 and updates various components of State Density Bonus Law (SDBL), gives housing developments that consist of five or more units and provide affordable housing, the right to additional density and incentives that reduce affordable housing costs.

In addition to various other tweaks to SDBL, AB 2334 substantially amended the definition of "maximum allowable residential density," or "base density," in SDBL. The amended language states that, if a range of density is permitted, then base density means, "the maximum number of units allowed by the specific zoning range, specific plan, or Land Use Element of the General Plan applicable to the project."

For housing developments in the City requesting a density bonus, the "base density," for the purpose of calculating the bonus, previously had been the maximum density identified in the Zoning Code, but not necessarily the maximum allowed by the Land Use Element of the General Plan.

For instance, if the Land Use Element specified a density range of 0 to 87 units per acre, but the Zoning Code and Specific Plan allowed a maximum of 48 units per acre, the "base density" was considered to be 48 units per acre. This was consistent with SDBL, which previously stated that "maximum allowable residential density" (or base density) includes both the maximum density shown in the General Plan and Zoning Code, but that General Plan density applies if the Zoning Code density is "inconsistent with" General Plan density. Since the City's Zoning Code density falls within the range of the General Plan density, as in the example above, the two were not inconsistent and therefore the Zoning Code density was used.

To comply with the changes to SDBL made by AB 2334, the City must allow the base density for any density bonus project to be

the greatest density identified for the site in the Zoning Code, Specific Plan or Land Use Element. These density bonus projects will see a commensurate increase in affordable units.

In the example above of 0-87 units per acre, this would mean that the base density would be 87 units per acre. Under the law, the *highest* density in each range would apply.

The General Plan land-use designations that specify residential densities may be as low as six units per acre and go up to 87 units per acre depending on the location within the City. The areas with higher densities in the range will generally be closer to L-Line (Gold) stops and be consistent with the overall approach to density in the City's General Plan.

For more information, please contact David Sanchez, Principal Planner, at dsanchez@cityofpasadena.net or (626) 744-6707.

Excerpts from Mayor Gordo's 2023 State of the City speech

"With the 710-corridor planning process soon underway, we must keep in mind the complexity ahead. This is no planning exercise, and it is essential that we get it right! Restitching our City requires imagination, expertise in planning, finance, open space, transportation, municipal infrastructure, housing, history, and commerce -- just to name a few.

"On the Housing front, our regional partnerships were strengthened and expanded last year. We have rejoined the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and are lending our voice, the 31 cities of the San Gabriel Valley have created a housing trust fund and are building much-needed housing in the region.

"Also neighboring cities of Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena established a Regional Housing Trust to construct housing opportunities in the region. That Trust is already funded with \$23 million."

BRIEFLY

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES RECEIVED FOUR PLANNING GRANTS from the U.S. DOT's first round of grants under the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program. Included in those grants is \$2 million for Pasadena's North 710 Freeway Stub Re-envisioning Project to study transportation and land-use needs. *Source: StreetsBlogLA*

PASADENA'S DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HAS BEEN AWARDED A GRANT OF \$200,000 in Safe Streets and Roads-for-All funding. The grant, awarded to the City's Local Roadway Safety Plan (LRSP), will advance planning and development of critical projects and strategies aimed at enhancing street safety. The LRSP aims at reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries. *[See related article on this page.] Source: Pasadena Star-News*

LA COUNTY METRO VOTED TO REALLOCATE \$181 MILLION of Measure R Mobility Improvement Projects (MIP) funding, previously awarded to Pasadena for the now abandoned California Boulevard Grade Separation project, to nine other projects recommended by City Council. Metro also committed to preserving the balance of \$49.1 million for future City requests, once other projects are further developed. The nine projects awarded funding by the Metro Board advance the City's goal of improving safety for all road uses, including motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. The proposed projects accommodate regional and local north-south travel demands in the study area while providing bus infrastructure improvements, bikeway improvements and pedestrian improvements. Among the Pasadena projects Metro rejected was \$6.8 million to install continental (aka zebra) crosswalks at more than 100 intersections in the N. 710 stub area. *Source: StreetsBlogLA*

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE WANT TO REVISE THE CITY'S PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY NAMING POLICY to allow for more public input that when naming public space in Pasadena. The current policy requires City staff to solicit input from property owners within a 1,000-foot radius of the site. Residents can submit name suggestions and public input to the Recreation and Parks Commission (RPC). *Source: Pasadena Now*

KPM addresses citizens' road concerns

Opinion

By Frank Duerr
Keep Pasadena Moving (KPM)

KPM is a grassroots, volunteer organization with the goal of promoting safe streets and common-sense traffic alternatives. Our members live in Pasadena, raise our families here, shop here, and vote here. Protecting our neighborhoods and our quality of life is our highest priority.

Some of you may recall the [proposed] E. Orange Grove "road diet" in late 2018. KPM's opposition to the plan took the City and the community by surprise. It was, as a WPRA member called it, a case of David vs Goliath.

KPM based its position on research and input from community meetings and surveys. By contrast, the City, in our opinion, did not seek enough opinions from those living and working in most impacted neighborhoods.

Despite this, Pasadena residents successfully defeated the plan to reduce E. Orange Grove's two lanes to one lane (each way). As then-Councilmember Victor Gordo stated, "traffic is like water," ultimately pushing traffic into quiet neighborhood streets where families recreate, walk and bike.

KPM received considerable positive feedback from the Orange Grove debacle,

urging the board to focus on two initiatives:

- Responding to what residents care most about
- Collaborating with City leadership

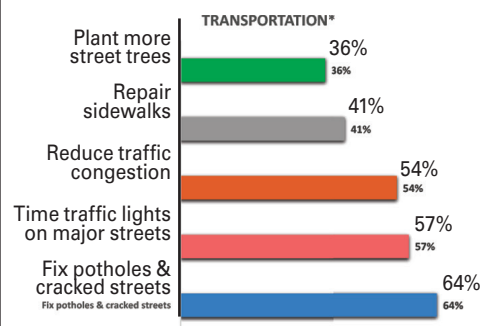
To determine the transportation issues Pasadena residents care most about KPM conducted an online survey of 2,000+ Pasadena residents. Respondents cited the following major transportation concerns:

1. Roads and sidewalks need repair.
2. Traffic safety must be sensible and less costly.
3. Streetlights need to be repaired or installed.
4. The disabled and other pedestrians, strollers and cyclists need safer access to or across roadways.
5. Residents must have a voice on street projects.

To help address these vital concerns, KPM maintains contact with City leadership, including the Mayor, the City Manager, councilmembers, the directors of the Planning and Community Development and the Transportation Department. KPM also works closely with neighborhood associations, like the WPRA, as well as other citizen groups.

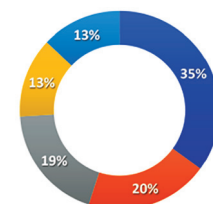
For more information about Keep Pasadena Moving send an email to: contactkeeppasadenamoving@gmail.com

TOP 5 RESPONSES OUT OF 22 QUESTIONS RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION



WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN WITH THE 710 "STUB"

- Preserve freeway access to Huntington Hospital
- Remove it and turn it into a park
- Leave it the way it is
- Remove it and fill the space with a high-density urban village with retail and condos
- Fill the median with affordable housing



BRIEFLY

CALTRANS IS REPLACING THE BRIDGE RAILING ON THE ARROYO SECO BRIDGE on State Route 134 over the Arroyo Seco Natural Park to bring the railing up to current state and federal standards and provide aesthetic improvements. Construction is expected to be completed by early 2024. Since some operations may take place at night, residents and businesses located near the work zone may experience noise and bright lights associated with construction activities. In addition, work will involve periodic closures of the eastbound on-ramp from N. San Rafael Avenue and the westbound on-ramp from W. Colorado Boulevard. Up to four lanes in either direction of S.R. 134 will also close intermittently overnight. The park space below the bridge will remain open throughout the course of the project. *For the latest closure and traffic information, visit [Quickmap.dot.ca.gov](https://www.quickmap.dot.ca.gov).*

BEGINNING APRIL 28, GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS WILL BE BANNED IN PASADENA. Also, electric-powered leaf blowers may only be used between 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturdays. It remains unlawful for leaf blowers to be operated on Sundays and holidays. All leaves, grass cuttings, and other debris from leaf blowers must remain on the same property or be removed within 15 minutes from adjacent property and public right of way. *Source: City of Pasadena*

CITY COUNCIL APPROVED A LICENSE AGREEMENT with Live Nation for two concerts to be held in the Rose Bowl area on or around September 30 and October 1. The attendance for each event is expected to be approximately 60,000. These concerts will be the 22nd and 23rd displacement events in 2023. *Source: Pasadena Now*

CITY YEAR-OVER-YEAR COMPARISON OF THIRD-QUARTER 2022 SALES TAX DATA continues to reflect positive growth at an adjusted rate of 6.5% locally. The growth lags slightly behind LA County (7.3%) and the State (8.0%). *Source: City of Pasadena*

Bridge Party is coming back. Save the date: Saturday, July 15

By Sue Mossman
Executive Director

Pasadena Heritage is thrilled to announce that its famous Colorado Street Bridge Party will return this summer. This Saturday evening extravaganza on the historic bridge has been the signature community and fundraising event for our organization since 1979. Favorites including live music, dancing, festive foods and beverages, children's activities and a classic car show will be part of the party once again. We hope that all our friends at WPRA will come out and join us for a summer evening on the Bridge on **July 15**.

Update: Colorado Street bridge fencing

The City's Public Works Department reported that it has received only two responses to the latest RFP for a new architectural team to design a vertical barrier to replace the temporary fencing on the Colorado Street Bridge. Staff hopes that one of these two will be the right choice to take on the challenging project. The earlier mock-ups of possible fence solutions, which failed to meet with public approval, have now been removed. A fresh set of concepts, drawn by ICAA architects during a charrette process hosted by Pasadena Heritage, can serve as examples of the creative thinking needed for the project.

Advisory committees at work and architectural firm signed for Central Library

Gruen Associates was selected by the City in February as the architectural firm to undertake critical seismic strengthening and other improvements at the Central Library. The firm has notable experience with historic structures and libraries, including the historic Brand Library in Glendale. The Technical Advisory Committee, on which Pasadena Heritage holds a seat, meets regularly now to review information presented by the engineering firms involved and now also the architects. They raise questions, will help develop options, and consult on major decisions as appointees of the mayor.

A second committee has been formed to



focus on planning for the library's future and its changing use beyond tradition library services. Its final report on the needs, uses, and space allocation is nearing completion. Pasadena Heritage was delighted to have a Board member serve on this visioning group, and we are so pleased that historic preservation emerged as one of its top priorities. Broader public outreach will be part of the process going forward, and we hope all library lovers will lend their voices.

Pasadena's Housing Element achieves compliance

The Housing Element of Pasadena's General Plan has been approved by the State. It is now in compliance with State mandates. This news came as a great relief to us at Pasadena Heritage, as without an approved Housing Element, Pasadena could be subject to more intense and less contextual development under provisions of State law.

The City and various stakeholders, including Pasadena Heritage, have worked diligently to craft our own rules and regulations for new development and target where it should be and how it should look, taking into account our valued neighborhoods and historic resources which we are determined to protect.

The threat of potential "Builders' Remedy" projects has now been curtailed, and a victory achieved for local control in Pasadena. Work on Pasadena's Specific Plans continues for various parts of the community where increased development is projected. Recent changes to the Central District Specific Plan allow for more housing uses and more flexibility for mixed use, especially on North Lake Avenue and elsewhere where housing or mixed use makes sense.

The end of Planned Development Zoning is also a change we strongly supported, and commend the Planning Commission for spearheading this effort.

A thank-you and reminder to our members

The WPRA appreciates the financial support we receive from our members. Since it is our only source of funding, we depend on it to achieve our organizational objectives. **The member-donors listed below have contributed \$100 or more during 2022.** If your name is not listed or is incorrectly listed, please contact me. As always, we thank you for your generous support.

- Linda Zinn, Membership chair, membership@wpra.net

We need your continuing support

To make it easier for you to help fund WPRA services and initiatives, we have enclosed an envelope within this issue. Just insert (1) the completed form on the envelope flap and (2) a check (made out to WPRA) into the pre-addressed envelope, add a stamp, and mail it. You may also donate securely online using a credit card by visiting wpra.net and clicking on "Donate," at the top of our home page.

Platinum [\$500+]

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Benefactor [\$250-\$499]

Anonymous (6)	Richard and Jinny Dalbeck	Heather Lenkin and Taylor	Chuck and Sarah Steidel
Bruce and Judy Bailey	Evan Davis	Heidenheim	William and Barbara Steinwedell
John Baldeschwieler and Marlene Konnar	John and Elena DeMarco	Mark Mastromatteo and Sharon Bonner	Roger and Priscilla Stephens
Dan and Sandy Bane	Bill and Martha Denzel	Don and Suzanne McConnell	Edmund Sutro
Michael and Janice Barker	Carl and Jean Dickerson	Joel McNeely and Margaret Batjer	Marshall and Judy Taylor
Dan and Laura Beal	Jon Dudley and Colleen Williams	Carolyn L. Miller	Jim Ukropina
Cynthia and Ed De Beixedon	David and Rebecca Ebershoff	Shahbano Nawaz and Usman	Paul and Char Vert
Mrs. Louise Bhang	Mic Hansen	Mohammed	Chris Wadden and Susan Booth
David and Keiki Bianchi	Stephanie Fox	Teresa B. Nally	Paul and Elizabeth Walker
Bill and Claire Bogaard	Tamerlin Godley	Steve and Robin Newquist	Mel and Gail Werbach
David and Cheryl Brickey	Avram and Christina Gold	Ayako and Dale Okuno	Carl and Peggy West
Bruce and Belinda Broughton	Beth Fishbein Hansen	Gordon J. Pashgian	Susan Wilson
Sheldon and Annette Bull	Barbara and John House	John and Barbara Poer	Carl D. Winberg, M.D.
Tom and Karen Capehart	Peter Jensen and Mary Ann McGovern	Bill and Christy Rakow	Fred Zepeda
Roxanne Christ-DeWitt	Helga Johnstone	Charles and Eileen Read	Linda Zinn
Niels and Christiane Christiansen	Mireya and Larry Jones	Daniel and Sarah Rothenberg	Sanford Zisman and Janis Frame
Bill Cockrum and Rita Whitney	Mary Lou Judson	Fred Schwarzenbach and Leslie Prussia	
Knox and Mary Cologne	Harvey Kaslow and Alicia McDonough	KB Schwarzenbach	
Michael Connell	Bill and Priscilla Kennedy	Jerry and Donna Secundy	
Mary Coquillard			

Patron [\$100-\$249]

Anonymous (24)	Alexander Beebee	John and Louise Brinsley	Walter and Ruth Chameides
Paul and Allison Alanis	Bob and Louise Beggs	Jean Brodhead	Don and Sally Clark
Juan Pablo Alban	John Bell	George and Marilyn Brumder	Michelle Clark
Dr. and Mrs. David Antion	Martyn Belmont	James Buese	Richard and Hilary Clark
Bob Aronoff	Chris Benter	Anne Buettner	Doug and Linda Clarke
John and Laura Babcock	Michael and Mary Ann Bernath	Kirk Bull	Arroyo Seco Books
Charles Bakaly Jr	Bailey and Barbara Bishop	Velton and Tina Bunch	Lorraine Clearman
Richard Bakke	Jack and Lasley Biven	Rod and Toni Burgoyne	Richard and Lindsay Cleary
Gene and Liz Baldrige	Heather Blair	Frank Burkard Jr	David and Susan Codiga
Christie Balvin Hinz	Marsha Bohr	Bob and Bobbie Burns	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M Collins
Michael Barish	Jim and Joan Bolton	Rick Button and Mary Hinkley	Ralph and Shirley Contreras
Richard Barkhurst and Katy Plumb	Shirley Botsford	J.S. Cahill	Carl W. and Lynn Cooper
Olin and Ann Barrett	Michael Boytim	Dr and Mrs Cantwell	John and Bette Cooper
Edmund and Aida Bedrosian	Brad and Claire Brian	Blaine and Virginia Cavena	George Corey and Eugenie Schlueter

Ramon Cortines	Sam and Sylvia Hale	Tom Marble and Cynthia White	Richard and Esther Schuster
Charlie Craig and Donna Furey	Michael and Megan Hamilton	Daniel Markowicz	Linda Ledeen Schwartz
Gary Crews	Mr. And Mrs. Edward Hannan	Sharon Marsh	Teri Schwartz
Wendy Currier	Kenyon Harbison and Kimberly Wheeler	John and Dorothy Matthiessen	Dr. and Mrs. Cornelius C. Scott
Evelyn Cutting	Jim and Tina Hart	Paul Watson and Stacie Mayoras	Joe and Gigi Scully
James and Frances Cutts	Terry J. and Trudy M. Hatter	David and Carlin McCarthy	Thomas Seifert and Dianne Philibosian
Bill Daly and Patti Yamate	Elaine Hawkes	Allan McDonald	Michael and Karen Sharp
The Dantzler's	Ed and Joan Hearst	Joyce McGilvray	Han J. Shin
Tony and Nadine Danz	Michael and Diana Hecht	Joseph P McNulty	Rod Shingu
John and Anne David	Janie Heinrick	Mel and Marcia Means	Elena Shoch
Mike and Paula Davis	Richard Henderson	Markus Meister and Elizabeth Gibb	Valeri Siegel
R-lene de Lang	Phyllis and Michael Hennigan	Mr. William Meurer	Norri and Betty Sirri
Bob and Marlene Decker	Curt and Christine Hessler	Al and Vaida Mikuckis	Karen L. Sisson
Tim and Gay Degani	Sally Hinckley	Allan and Diane Miller	Richard and Marie-Christine Slater
Sharon deLuna	David and Martha Ho	Craig and Sharon Miller	Luchus Smith
Deping DeQuattro	Gary and Priscilla Hoecker	Mr and Mrs Phil J Montoya Jr	William D. Snyder
Gene and Deanna Detchemendy	Martin and Heather Holford	Norah Morley and Anthony Koerner	Jim and Judy Spencer
Matthew and Jennifer DeVoll	Sue Holliday	Phyllis Mueller	Alexandra Stadtler
Steve and Dana Dewberry	Robert C. and Mary Favre Holmes	Marilyn Murphy	Alan and Janet Stanford
Brendon Dixon	James Hopkins	Dr John and Gail Nackel	The Steiman Family
Janet Doud	Lisa Williams Horning	Carol Nakauchi	Nancy Stimson
Anne M. Dougherty and David Dobrikin	Andrew and Mari Hsu	Negin Nazemi and Christopher Muno	John Stipanov and Cynthia Sherman
Sarah Doupe	David Baltimore and A.S. Huang	David Nelson and Michele Montllor	Stan Stocks
Josh and Heather Drake	Ralph and Linda Hubbard	Robert and Gail Nishinaka	Storrier-Stearns Japanese Garden
Rick and Heidrun Drumm	Chuck and Jody Hudson	Dave Nixon	Mary Scott Strockis
Thomas Dunn	John and Linda Huetinck	Don and Judy Nollar	Courtney Stuart-Alban
Carol Anne Econn	Josey Iannotti and Reno Yu	Angie O'Brien and Dan Smith	Lynne Sullivan and Dennis McNamara
Steve and Janet Elkins	Barbara Ito	Lo-Mari O'Brien	Kaoruhiko and Stephanie Suzuki
Calvin Eng and Janice Low	Paul and Missy Jennings	Kathleen O'Kane and Cheryl Groves	John and Norma Svendsen
Ron and Joan Evans	Dr. and Mrs. Jeyaranjan	Brian O'Neil	Marty and Pam Tanigawa
Lowry and Randall Ewig	Michael and Janet Kadin	Kristin Ockershauser	John and Beverly Tarr
Douglas and Margaret Ewing	Laila Karme, MD	Curtine Olsen	John D. Taylor
George and Jami Falardeau	James and Ilona Kendall	Steve and Casey Olson	Vicky L. Thomas
Patrick Feely	Lisa A. Kenyon	Frank and Susan Osen	Joan Thompson
Edward and Molly Fehrenbacher	Greg and Alfrida King	Alfred and Jeanne Paiz	Martha Thompson
Jeffrey Fesenmaier	Levon and Silva Kirakosian	Brian and Kathy Palmer	Robert Thorell
Don Fife	Richard Kirtland	Gary and Julie Pantiskas	Tolleson Family
Robert M. and Janet S. Fitzgerald	Nathaniel and Deborah Kirtman	Pasadena Heritage	Creighton and Susan Turner
Josh Fleagane and Madeline Yang	Julian and Tina Kleindorfer	Pasadena Museum of History	Frank Uchalik
John and Ruth Fleck	Richard and Darleen Kleinert	Jim and Theresa Patterson	Pete and Joan Ulyatt
Ralph Flewelling	Richard and Darleen Kleinert	Rick Phegley and Carol Pfaffmann	Nancy Van den Hout
Christina Folz	Judith S. Klump	Chris and Jean Pisano	Nancy Van Tuyle
Mrs. Dawn Suttle Forkner	Ryan and Alison Knoll	Sandra Portaro	Paula Verrette
Louise Fox	Borivoj and Heather Krgin	Jeffrey Postman	Patricia Vick
Susan Frank	Bob and Liz Krug	Mary Prickett	James and Robin Walther
Howden and Joan Fraser	Terry and Teresa Krupczak	Thomas Priestley	Barbara J Way
Anita Freeman	Bill and Alison Kuehn	Warren and Linda Procci	The Webb Family
Carl and Shirin Friedlander	Coralie Kupfer	Barry and Melina Pyle	Marilyn Webster
Katherine Gabel and Eunice Shatz	Kai and Wendy Kuwata	Janice and Robert Raney	Brad and Joan West
Lynn Caffrey Gabriel, OD	Jim and Laura LaBarge	Mrs. Joan Reddy	Blair and Kate Westlake
Judy Gain	Richard and Kris Laski	Bonnie Reed	J. Patrick Whaley and Lynda Jenner
Jim and Priscilla Gamb	James and Grace Lee	Henry and Gretchen Reed	Ian White-Thomson
Scott and Leslie Gaudineer	Reza and Hilde Leiaghat	Bob and Christine Reiter	Warren and Kathy Wimmer
Ryan George and Asma Saraj	Josh and Nancy Leichter	Brent and Carla Riggs	Robert A Wolf, M.D.
David and Dianne Germany	Ted Levin and Jennifer Crolius	Brock and Hannah Robertson	Michael and Stephanie Wolff
Kathy Gibbons	Chris and Kristen Link	James Robinson	Diana Wong
Nelson and Priscilla Gibbs	Ethan and Joanne Lipsig	Marsha V. Rood	William and Rebecca Woods
Frank and Susan Gilliland	Yvonne Llewellyn	Adam and Rebecca Rose	Mrs. Anita Yagjian
Brian and Suzanne Gilman	Donald F. Lomas	Janet Rose and Eric Bosc	Leonard and Marsha Young
Corinne Glassman	Robert and Else Lord	Virginia Rose	Joseph and Alice Yuen
M Glick	Margo Louis	George R. Rossman	Eileen Zimmerman
Paul and Janet Gordon	Gail Lovejoy	David and Cara Rubin	Barbara Zimmermann
Ted and Marcia Grace	Dennis and Shelly Lowe	Loring Rutt and Ronna Dishnica	
Maria Grant	Emundo Luna	Caryn Ryan	
Sandra Greenstein	Sarah MacDowall and Jim Levin	Jose and Tess Sandoval	
James Griesgraber and Patricia Grant	Elsa Macias	Mr and Mrs Frank Sata	
Margie and Paul Grossman	Rick and Jennifer Madden	Mary Lea Schander	
Jim Gruettner	Cyndia and Karl Maier	Gail Schaper-Gordon	
Kathleen Grzegorek	Julie Schoenfeld Maleki	Ann Scheid	
Hank and Heather Haldeman	Jane Mallary	John and Susan Schmid	
	Larry and Kristen Mantle	Michael and Mary Schneider	

BRIEFLY

CALIFORNIA ENDED 2022 WITH AN “ATMOSPHERIC RIVER” EVENT — a ton of rain dumped at once — and began the new year with a series of “bomb cyclones” that brought deluge after deluge. Whether these events, and subsequent rain pull the state out of drought likely won’t be known until spring. To find current and historical perspectives on water issues facing the state, CalMatters has created a California Drought and Water Tracker dashboard. Visit tinyurl.com/2p93z45t. Source: CalMatters

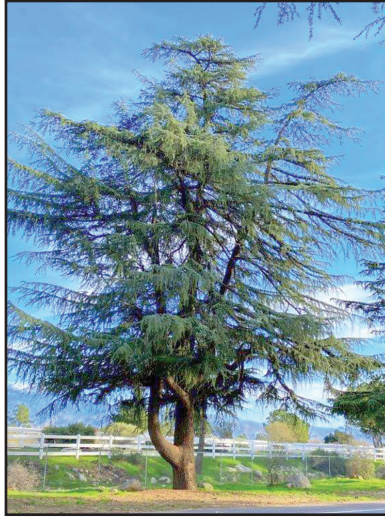
LA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS REMOVED OVER 20,000 CUBIC YARDS OF SEDIMENTS that flowed into the Devil’s Gate Reservoir during the past storm season. The impacted area is approximately 36 acres at the bottom of the reservoir. Source: Pasadena Now

CITY COUNCIL IN LATE JANUARY ADOPTED A ZERO-EMISSION BUS (ZEB) ROLLOUT PLAN that lays out a schedule for the City’s bus service to replace both its 35-foot fixed-route buses (29) and its 25-foot dial-a-ride vehicles (44). Transit agencies in California must have full ZEB fleets by 2040, but coming much sooner in 2026, 25% of all new bus purchases by smaller agencies must be zero-emission models. Source: StreetBlogLA

CITY COUNCIL’S MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED A 10-YEAR CONTRACT with Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA) for the purchase of geothermal energy and capacity from Calpine Geysers, LLC for \$188 million. Source: Pasadena Now

CITY COUNCIL HAS DECLARED A CLIMATE EMERGENCY and, as a policy statement, set a goal of sourcing 100% of its electricity from carbon-free sources by 2030. The unanimous resolution directs the City Manager to use Pasadena Water and Power’s 2023 integrated resource planning process to bring the council different approaches that will help meet the carbon-free goal. Source: Pasadena Star-News

PASADENA COLLECTED \$2.85 MILLION during the 2021-2022 fiscal year in Library Special Tax funds, which finance the maintenance and operational costs of the Pasadena Library System. Source: City of Pasadena



The main characteristic feature of a Deodar cedar is graceful soft branches that droop toward the ground.

Young green developing female cones look like upright barrels and can take up to two years to mature.

Tree of the quarter: Cedrus deodara – deodar cedar

By Emina Darakjy
President, California Urban Forests Council

The deodar cedar is a member of the Pinaceae family and is native to the Himalayas, thus its other name of “Himalayan cedar.” In the ancient language of Sanskrit, the word deodar means “tree of the Gods.”

This tree was first introduced to Europe in 1822 and to the United States in 1832. This is a large, fast-growing evergreen tree, reaching a height of 40 to 80 feet with a spread of 30 to 40 feet.

The tree trunk is very straight, the bark is dark gray turning scaly and deeply furrowed as the tree matures. The arching branches drooping all the way to the base of the trunk are covered with 1-2” bluish-green needles giving the tree a stately look. The crown of the tree is a pyramidal shape.

In the spring unnoticeable flowers appear followed in late summer by cones that grow upright on the branches and can take up to three years to mature before they open releasing winged seeds. The tree produces an aromatic oil that deters insects. In India the deodar cedar wood is revered for its durability and is used in different carpentry and woodworking projects as well as making incense.

The deodar cedar grows easily in any

type of soil with good drainage and is considered drought tolerant once established. It performs better in full sun to partial shade with ample room to grow and tolerates both the heat and the humidity.

This tree requires very low maintenance, but benefits from an occasional structural pruning every now and then to remove any dead wood or crossing branches. Avoid excessive irrigation, which can cause root disease.

This tree makes a good landscaping specimen in a park, in a garden or as a street tree. When used as a street tree the lower branches are removed for pedestrian clearance.

Many neighborhoods tend to string thousands of colorful lights on these trees at Christmas time. Two such neighborhoods that come to mind are “Christmas Tree Lane” in Altadena, where these trees were planted in 1882, and on St. Albans Road in San Marino.

Emina Darakjy is chair of the Pasadena Beautiful Tree Program and engaged with other tree organizations, including California Re-Leaf, the Arbor Day Foundation and American Forests. She is also a past president of Pasadena Beautiful and Street Tree Seminar, Inc.

BRIEFLY

WATER AGENCIES ACROSS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (including Metropolitan Water District) will receive an additional 35% supply of water as a result of the storms earlier in the year. That will provide an additional 210,000 acre-feet of water to the state through its 29 public water agencies. *Source: Pasadena Now*

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT, WHICH PROVIDES ABOUT 60% OF PASADENA'S WATER SUPPLY, has rescinded its June 2022 emergency outdoor watering restrictions. The City has not yet announced whether this MWD decision will lead to changes in its regulations. *Source: Pasadena Now*

DESPITE THE RARE WEATHER, the barrage of recent storms isn't enough to singlehandedly take California out of its drought. For Southern California, the U.S. Drought Monitor <[tinyurl.com/43hazycp](https://www.tinyurl.com/43hazycp)>, as of March 14, describes Los Angeles County as "abnormally dry." *Source: Pasadena Star-News*

IN FEBRUARY CALIFORNIA GOV. GAVIN NEWSOM ISSUED A NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER (N-3-23) regarding water use and supply conditions in California. The new order reaffirms that a prior order will remain in effect. Under that order counties, cities or other public agencies are prohibited from approving a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area. *Source: Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo*

THE MOUNTAINS THAT FEED THE COLORADO RIVER, from which Pasadena gets up to 25% of its water, already have received more snow than it would normally have through an entire snow season. The snowpack in the Upper Colorado River Basin was at 133% of the 30-year historical average (as of February 27), and at 101% of what the basin has received on average through an entire season. In fact, this year may turn out to be the wettest year since 2011. *Source: Las Vegas Review Journal*



The only solution to isolation like P-22's is to preserve, build, or re-create safe inviting passage in and out of these biological islands.

P-22's legacy: connect wildlife habitats

by John Howell
Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel,
Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

This past December the greater Los Angeles area heard the tragic news that longtime local mountain lion "celebrity" P-22 had died. "P-22 never fully got to be a mountain lion," said National Wildlife Federation cougar expert Beth Pratt in her deeply moving eulogy to P-22. She was absolutely right.

Laid to rest a few weeks ago in the wilderness of the Santa Monica Mountains, P-22 spent his whole life in a habitat of just eight square miles, penned in by dangerous freeways and busy roads. Without a means of passage between Griffith Park and other areas of natural habitat, he couldn't move out to find a mate, nor could potential mates move in.

For many decades, preserving land has been a standard approach to conservation, and certainly we have many beautiful parks, preserves, and wild spaces that are the legacy of that work. According to the California Pathways to 30x30 Plan, about 24% of California's lands and 16% of its coastal waters are already conserved, with a strategy to conserve an additional 6 million acres of land and half a million acres of coastal waters in the remainder of this decade.

But P-22's legacy is to remind us, constantly, that those preserved lands and waters must be ecologically connected for the benefit

of all wildlife. Just 9% of the world's migratory bird species are adequately covered by protected areas across all stages of their annual cycles. Western Monarch Butterflies cover thousands of miles between Canada and Mexico on their seasonal flights, and depend on native milkweed plants not just in protected habitat, but in backyards and on patios, along traffic medians and in elementary school gardens because this essential native plant is in such short supply.

The only solution to isolation like P-22's is to preserve, build, or re-create safe inviting passage in and out of these biological islands. We know that a wildlife corridor for cougars becomes a wildlife corridor for all manner of life, meaning genetic diversity and biological and ecosystem stability. As efforts continue to connect Griffith Park with the Verdugo Mountains, the San Rafael Hills and the biodiverse San Gabriel Mountains, and with the greater Santa Monica Mountains, the Santa Susanna Mountains and Simi Hills, P-22 remains in our hearts.

As connections and corridors are secured, established and stabilized, we can be grateful to him for bringing attention to the plight of urban wildlife living in fragmented habitats, and for underscoring the need for safe passage for wildlife so they can roam freely and safely for generations to come.

Excerpts from Mayor Gordo's 2023 State of the City speech

"Pasadena continues to attract the best and brightest. Last year, the Carnegie Institution for Science, an independent nonprofit research institution established in 1902, announced its plans to expand in Pasadena with a new state-of-the-art research facility in the fight against climate change.

"In October of 2022, I welcomed Protomer Technologies, a private biotech company, a subsidiary of Eli Lilly, and a Caltech spinoff, that seeks to cure diabetes.

"The General Motors Design Center has arrived in Pasadena and will begin designing GM's automobiles within a year.

"Xencor, a biotechnology company using cutting-edge protein engineering technologies to make new medicines for patients with cancer and autoimmune diseases, recently established its new Corporate Headquarters on Halstead Street, which includes space for research laboratories and in-person workspaces for over 175 employees.

"We must also continue to find ways to support our school district, students, and their families as we look to the future of public education. Everyone must have a pathway to becoming a successful and contributing member of our community. I have invited the Pasadena Unified School District, Pasadena City College, and the Los Angeles and Orange counties Building Trades Council to form a partnership that will expose interested Pasadena residents to successful careers in various trades and professions.

"I am committed to ensuring we address mental health challenges experienced by our residents. I've asked [LA County] Supervisor Kathryn Barger to join me, Dr. Lori Morgan from Huntington Hospital, Dr. David Goatley from Fuller Theological Seminary, and our community partners to challenge the LA County Department of Mental Health and other partners to bring a desperately needed comprehensive outpatient mental health clinic to Pasadena to augment the services provided by our local mental health service providers. Some say we may be dreaming, but we are going to dream big."

Pasadena studying housing design standards to meet new State bill

By Martin Potter
Senior planner, City of Pasadena

In 2019 Senate Bill 330 (the Housing Crisis Act) was signed into law. It specified that local jurisdictions shall not impose or enforce new design standards on housing projects established after Jan. 1, 2020, *unless such standards are objective in nature.*

Objective, as defined by the Government Code, means "involving no personal or subjective judgement by a public official and being uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official."

Pasadena currently has an extensive "library" of objective standards in the Zoning Code as well as various adopted design guidelines. These standards include massing, frontage, façade, and open-space requirements that are intended to encourage multi-family building forms that serve as sensitive transitions between low-density single-family structures and higher-density residential and commercial development.

Recently, objective design standards have also been included in the newly adopted Lincoln Avenue, E. Colorado, and S. Fair Oaks specific plan areas. These standards address features such as street wall height, building modulation, step-back

requirements, transitional massing when buildings are adjacent to historic structures, parking structures, the requirement for paseos and various types of open space etc.

In conjunction with the local architecture and urban design firm of Moule & Polyzoides, the City is developing additional objective design standards for high-density residential projects (a density greater than 48 units per acre), most of which are expected to appear within specific Plan areas.

The proposed approach includes reviewing the City's existing design standards, building upon or modifying some of these standards, and creating new standards as needed.

In late January City staff presented a summary of existing standards and an overview of the project as part of a study session with the Planning Commission. A walking tour with commissioners and the public was conducted on March 4, providing an opportunity for discussion of recent projects in the City and a study of design features to learn from.

To provide comments on objective design standards, or for more information on the project and additional public hearings, please contact Martin Potter, senior planner, at mpotter@cityofpasadena.net or (626) 744-6710.

Pasadena 101

Continued from page 1

and assist the library director supervise library operations, and has served as acting library director since February 2022. He holds a bachelor of arts from Swarthmore College, a master's in teaching and learning from DePaul University, and a master's in information science from the University of North Texas.

Election and recognition

WPRA members will also elect WPRA directors for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Additionally, the WPRA Board will recognize an individual who has made

extraordinary contributions to our community.

We look forward to seeing you on May 31.



Miguel Márquez (left), Sidney Jackson (center), Tim McDonald (right)

BRIEFLY

PASADENA AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARE PARTNERING to expand homeless services and bring an outpatient mental health facility to northwest Pasadena, an area identified as a high priority for increased health services due to a lack of nearby access. The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to look into potential co-location and joint occupation sites for health and housing services in Pasadena and create a funding plan for the purchase and operation of the site. *Source: Pasadena Star-News*

CITY COUNCIL APPROVED TRANSFERRING \$75,000 from the General Fund to the City's health department to provide supplemental emergency shelter services. The money will be used to provide temporary emergency shelter to help the homeless stabilize and prepare for permanent housing. *Source: Pasadena Now*

THE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES ASSOCIATION has named Alex Aghajanian as president and chairman of the 2024 board. It also announced Ruth Martinez-Baenen will serve as the association's president in 2031. *Source: Pasadena Now*

ASSEMBLYMEMBER CHRIS HOLDEN (AD-41) HAS BEEN REAPPOINTED as chair of the California State Assembly Committee on Appropriations, which oversees all fiscal bills including bonds and alternative public financing. *Source: Pasadena Now*

CITY COUNCIL HAS GREENLIGHTED PUBLIC HEARINGS for the proposal to increase by 2 percentage points the Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID) assessment rate. The assessment is charged on individual room-night stays across a collection of lodging properties. The current 2.89% assessment rate funds the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and hasn't increased in more than 20 years. A 1 percentage point increase will be effective on July 1, while the additional percentage point will be implemented in July 2024. The rate increase will help support Rose Bowl sales and marketing efforts to attract events that generate hotel room stays. The increase could generate up to \$5.1 million in its first year and up to \$6.4 million in year two and going forward. *Source: Pasadena Now*



Photo by Pasadena Senior Center

Compete, connect and shine at Pasadena Senior Games

By Ann Erdman
Public Relations Consultant

Tennis, anyone? Or has pickleball become your game? How about archery, swimming or just about every other competitive sport? No matter what your go-to sport is, you can sign up for the Pasadena Senior Games beginning March 20 if you're 50 to 99+.

Each competition is organized in age divisions with medals awarded at each level. Last year at the Pasadena Senior Games, Diana Charles took first place in the 50-yard women's freestyle swimming competition in the 50-to-59-year-old division and Alan Rosen won the men's shotput contest in the 85-to-89-year-old division.

Mature athletes show up ready to meet new friends, catch up with other competitors they haven't seen in a year, make new memories and possibly even set new records while they're at it. At the Olympics-style Pasadena Senior Games, set for May 21 to July 15, anything is possible.

If you're not keen on competing, you can gather up the family and be a spectator at any of the 14 competitive events at venues throughout the greater Los Angeles area, including our very own Pasadena, of course.



Whether you compete or not, the games are a great motivation for staying in shape and getting to know like-minded older adults who appreciate the merging of fellowship, fun and fitness. Even moderate exercise and positive lifestyle changes can lead to health improvements. Pasadena Senior Games athletes, whether experienced in competition or not, are an inspiration to others who want to become more active and healthier.

To register for the Pasadena Senior Games or for more information, visit www.pasadenaseniiorcenter.org and click on Activities & Events, then Senior Games, call (626) 795-4331 or email sports@pasadenaseniiorcenter.org.

Another way to participate is to volunteer for tasks including registering athletes, timing, scoring or manning water stations. Volunteers of all ages may call 626-685-6755 or email sports@pasadenaseniiorcenter.org.

Everyone 50 and older is invited to experience the Pasadena Senior Center for themselves. Simply visit pasadenaseniiorcenter.org or call (626) 795-4331 to learn more.



The Arnold home is at the left of four mansions fronting Terrace Drive. Ralph Arnold remembered that "Four large 'store front' windows on the east and a cupola on the top of the large house gave us an unsurpassed view of the entire country. We could even see Catalina Island on a clear day (no smog then)."

Memories of Terrace Drive and early Pasadena

By Kirk Myers
Assistant Archivist

On March 28, 1948 C.F. Shoop wrote in his *Pasadena Star-News* history column, "Auld Lang Syne," about a reunion that hearkened back to the early days of a very different Pasadena. The article was titled "Pasadena 'Boys' of Sixty Years Ago Relive City's Early Days at Reunion."

Shoop wrote "...I heard today about a reunion held recently by four Pasadena 'boys' now grown to sturdy manhood." They "met the other day at the home of Ralph Arnold in San Marino, and whiled away several happy hours just talking about old times and what they have been doing since they last met."

The four, Ray E. Conger, Howard Kernaghan, John Blick and Ralph Arnold were neighbors. "All lived near each other not far from the corner of Orange Grove Avenue (as it was called in the early days) and Colorado Street; and all were students at Throop Polytechnic Institute." Howard Kernaghan and Ralph Arnold were next

door neighbors; their homes were separated by a dirt road known as Olcott Place.

A few years later, C.F. Shoop, then supervising editor of the *Pasadena Star-News* and president of the Pasadena Historical Society, wrote the forward to the "Ralph Arnold Edition" of the 1955 Pasadena Community Book: "...Much credit is due Dr. Ralph Arnold, Pasadena pioneer, for conceiving this novel method of chronicling history and who has spent much of the last four years collecting and arranging this series of autobiographies. It has been a painstaking task, for few of the early residents felt capable or worthy. Only by perseverance and what Dr. Arnold calls 'wheedling and near-threats' did he induce a representative group of 'pioneers' to perform this civic service."

Ralph Arnold included the friends he reunited with in 1948 in detailing one of his childhood memories in the 1955 edition: "John Blick, Ray Conger, Howard Kernaghan and I were a self-appointed group to see that the young newcomers to Pasadena were properly toughened. We had many ways of

accomplishing this purpose: (1) We sold feathers from the 'original eagle' of Eagle Rock for 35c each. Our source of supply was an old Red Tailed Hawk found dead in the San Raphael hills ..."

Arnold also mentioned the children living nearby: "The Kernaghans – Lou, Grace and Howard – lived in a large house on the hill across Olcott Place. Dr. [G. Roscoe] Thomas and his family of three boys – Carl, Paul and Ray – and their sister, Jessie, lived a little farther south on the brow of the hill. Rev. and Mrs. E.L. Conger, with their children, Ray and Lyda, lived just north of us on Orange Grove Avenue. South of our place on Terrace Drive was the Gaylord family, consisting of the father and mother, five boys and one girl. They had arrived in the late 80's and completed the group of children with whom I grew up."

In his 1948 article, C. F. Shoop didn't list any specifics about the "old times" that were talked about, but the reunited friends must have had quite a perspective on the vanished world of the Pasadena of the 1880s. So much had changed. Paved roads

and automobiles, radio, penicillin and other medical advancements, and two world wars had created a very different world.

In 1955 Charles Coleman recalled “There were dirt roads, horses and carriages and horse-drawn street cars, but walking was a common way of getting places. Every well-appointed home sported a feather duster outside the front door for the cleaning of dust laden shoes before one entered the house.”

A photograph of a home on the corner of Terrace Drive and Howard (now Green) at the turn of the century shows a small broom or feather duster hanging next to the front door. The dirt streets surrounding the home help us realize the need of a duster or broom “for the cleaning of dust laden shoes.”

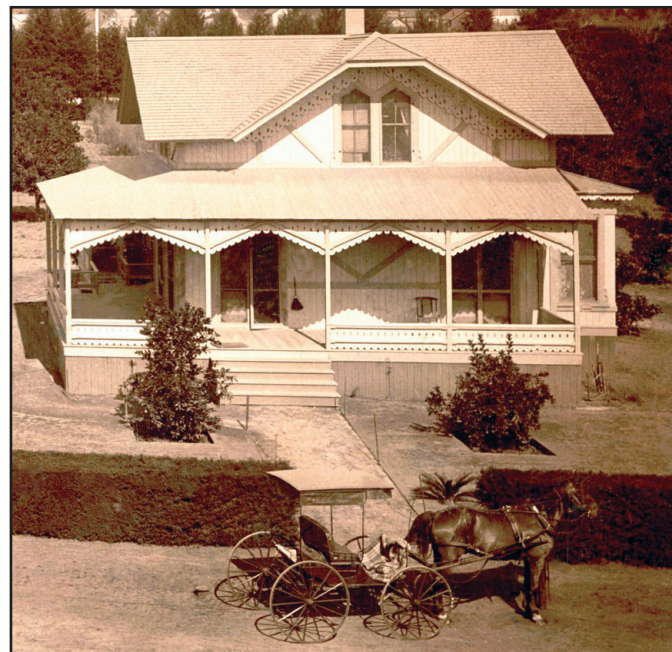
Animals were a big part of daily life in early Pasadena, and Ralph Arnold wrote of his burro, Ginnie: “Ginnie liked to eat at 5:00 A.M. and if no hay was on hand made her hunger known by a series of raucous brays which woke up the whole neighborhood. I used to try to stop her by rushing out in my nightgown (everybody wore nightgowns in those days) and belaboring the poor beast with a lath. But I never quite cured her of braying. She would not drink water out of a pail so I had to ride her down to the Arroyo to drink from the stream.”

Mrs. Vora Pierce Maull, who in the 1880s lived for a few years in a cottage on the

Arnold property, also remembered the burro: “Ralph Arnold had a little burro on which he would sometimes let us ride up and down Orange Grove Avenue. ...I have one vivid memory of starting out on a hot day and getting quite a way from home when the burro decided he had gone far enough and stopped. ...the wise little animal proceeded to lie down in the middle of Orange Grove Avenue. There was nothing left for me to do but to dismount, whereupon the wise little burro immediately hopped to his feet and trotted off home leaving me to trudge back in the dust and the heat.”

Along with newspapers, autobiographies, diaries and letters, photographs record interesting details of early Pasadena history. Terrace Drive, where Ralph Arnold and Howard Kernaghan grew up, was a source of many early photographs of Pasadena, because of its location on the brow of a hill that provided a unique vantage point. Some of these early photographs became color postcards.

When Ralph Arnold first came to Pasadena in the autumn of 1880, he was five years old.



A close up of a photograph of the Stuart home on the corner of Terrace and Howard (now Green), showing a feather duster or broom hanging at the front door to brush off dust acquired from the dirt roads of the time.

... I was scared and thought that pioneering wasn't what I had been told.”

Pasadena had become a very different place in 1948. The orchards that in 1880 covered the location of the future Arnold home soon gave way to Victorian homes on the hill above Terrace Drive. Most of these homes were later replaced by mansions built during the Millionaires' Row era. By 1948, Millionaires' Row had come and gone.

In May of 1948 the City Planning Commission would approve a restricted residential zone for S. Orange Grove, and in March 1949 approval would be given to construct Orange Grove Manor, the first luxury apartments constructed as a result of the zoning change. The apartments were not far from the Arnold residence, which by then had been acquired and remodeled by Hulett C. Merritt.

Of the four friends who reunited in 1948, only Ralph Arnold and Ray E. Conger made contributions to the 1955 Pasadena Community Book. It was “dedicated to the man who conceived the idea and persisted in its promotion until fulfillment – Dr. Ralph Arnold.”

*Pasadena Museum of History |
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A view looking north from Olcott Place at the south and east sides of the Arnold home. Ralph Arnold wrote in 1955 that “It had all the gadgets current at the time - push button electric lighters for the gas-jets; electric burglar alarm connecting all windows and doors with an annunciator in the master bedroom, and a small fire alarm gong in the upper hall to get the family out of bed; a large icebox; coal and wood heating furnaces; et cetera.”

He stayed the first night with his parents at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Moritz Rosenbaum, near the present site of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He wrote, “the howling of the coyotes and wild cats in the jungles of the Arroyo Seco, just below our windows, did a good job of banishing sleep



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Pasadena

Mayor Victor Gordo
vgordo@cityofpasadena.net

City Manager Miguel Márquez
miguelmarquez@cityofpasadena.net

Police Chief Eugene Harris
eharris@cityofpasadena.net

Fire Chief Chad Augustin
caugustin@cityofpasadena.net

City Clerk Mark Jomsky
mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net

City Council

Tyron Hampton, Council District 1
thampton@cityofpasadena.net

Felicia Williams, Council District 2
and Vice Mayor
fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net

Justin Jones, Council District 3
justinjones@cityofpasadena.net

Gene Masuda, Council District 4
gmassuda@cityofpasadena.net

Jessica Rivas, Council District 5
jrivas@cityofpasadena.net

Steve Madison, Council District 6
smadison@cityofpasadena.net

Jason Lyon, Council District 7
jlyon@cityofpasadena.net

Los Angeles County

LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger
(District 5): Kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov

California

Governor Gavin Newsom
govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/

Senator Anthony Portantino (D-25): senator.portantino@senate.ca.gov

Assemblymember Chris Holden (D-41):
assemblymember.holden@assembly.ca.gov

United States

President Joseph R. Biden Jr.
president@whitehouse.gov

Vice President Kamala Harris
vice.president@whitehouse.gov

Senator Dianne Feinstein
feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me

Senator Alex Padilla
padilla.senate.gov/contact/contact-form

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