



# THE NEWS

Pasadena, California

Celebrating 63 years  
of community service

Spring 2025

WPRA IN MOTION

CITY IN MOTION

LAND USE/PLANNING

PUBLIC SAFETY

DONORS/MEMBERS

COMMUNITY

OPEN SPACE/NATURAL RESOURCES

## WPRA sets date, theme for 63rd annual meeting

# Find out how we can better protect our lives and property from wildfires

The West Pasadena Residents' Association invites you to its 2025 annual meeting on Thursday, June 5, 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), and handicapped parking is on the surface lot.

### 5:30 p.m.: Meet & greet

The evening starts with an information fair 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/appointed luminaries to mix and mingle with us. They include:

- Victor Gordo, Pasadena Mayor
- Miguel Márquez, Pasadena City Manager
- Steve Madison, Pasadena Councilmember (District 6)

- Chad Augustin, Pasadena Fire Chief
- Eugene Harris, Pasadena Police Chief
- Kathryn Barger, LA County Supervisor (District 5)
- Sasha Renée Pérez, State Senator (D-25)
- John Harabedian, State Assemblymember (D-41)
- Adam Schiff, U.S. Senator
- Judy Chu (D-28): U.S. Representative (D-28)
- Laura Friedman, U.S. Representative (D-30)

### 6:30 p.m.: Business program

The Pasadena area got a wakeup call in January. What once seemed unlikely was suddenly all too real: The Eaton Fire destroyed nearly 10,000 structures over 14,000 acres in Altadena and, to a lesser degree, Pasadena, and resulted in 17 deaths in Altadena.

That is, the odds that we will continue to escape largely unscathed from future fires have decreased dramatically. This is why the WPRA's 2025 annual meeting will focus on what we can do to reduce the risk of fire and better protect our property and lives. The meeting will address these critical issues:

- The current and future state of property insurance, and what can be done to limit the likelihood of large premium increases and coverage cancellation

## Save the date

### What:

WPRA 2025 annual meeting

### When:

Thursday, June 5, 2025  
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### Where:

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

- Arroyo Seco brush clearance, fire issues, jurisdictional authority, and project funding
- Hardening of homes/community against wildfire. Vendors will be available to discuss their solutions.
- Communications between the City and community in case of fire

### Looking forward

Also, the annual meeting provides the opportunity for WPRA members to elect directors for the 2025-2026 membership year, meet their WPRA officers, and hear remarks from the WPRA president and other special guests.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, June 5.

## West Pasadena Residents' Association

YEARS  
1962 - 2025

# Wildfire risk in the Arroyo Seco

By Pete Ewing  
President, WPRA

The WPRA Board of Directors extends its deepest condolences to those who suffered injury or loss of property or life due to the recent wildfires. Further, the Board deeply appreciates the bravery and extraordinary efforts of our fire fighters, police, and City personnel, including our transit staff, who bravely helped evacuated residents from the danger zones.

These recent fires, however, should serve as a serious warning. The Western Fire Chiefs Association reports that approximately 90% of wildfires are caused by humans and exacerbated by hurricane-force winds carrying wildfire embers. In an excerpt from a 2021 study commissioned by a WPRA member, "... it is not a question of whether a wildfire will occur, but only a question of when."

[For an executive summary and the full study, visit [wpra.net](http://wpra.net), select "Current" and then "Public Safety" dropdown menus.]

Over recent years the WPRA Board has

grown increasingly concerned about potential wildfire hazards, especially in the Arroyo Seco, which is currently overgrown with debris, dried brush and dead trees. There are many remedies, but the first is to remove the excess "fuel" from the Arroyo Seco floor and enforce cleanup of private hillside property. To address this, the WPRA has met with the City to discuss remedial plans and that the City has not assigned a sufficient staff to perform this task.

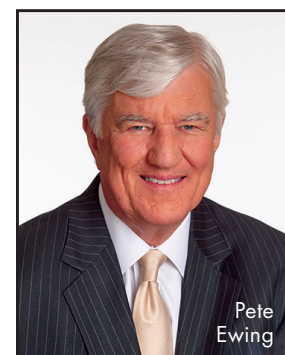
And then come the budget issues, which have been a challenge for many cities and counties. This is remarkable in that the cost of fighting a fire is logarithmically more expensive than the simple removal of excess the fuel.

The bottom line for the Arroyo Seco is that we have very limited resources for a VERY big job that hasn't been well maintained on a regular basis for some time.

To remedy this situation, the WPRA Board has strongly encouraged the City to continue developing tactical plans to better prepare for and manage future wildfires or other natural emergencies. It should

start with risk assessment and prioritization. Second, all City departments with Arroyo Seco responsibilities should be engaged in the effort. Lastly, City Council must budget adequately for a continuing mitigation program.

More on this at our June 5 annual meeting, which is being organized by Carlos Javelera, WPRA Safety chair.



Pete Ewing

## The WPRA needs you!

Want to make a real difference in your community? By contributing as few as three hours a month you can help the WPRA be more efficient and effective — and no special skills are required. If we've piqued your interest, please send an email to [president@wpra.net](mailto:president@wpra.net)

## 2024 - 2025

### Officers

**President: Pete Ewing**  
[president@wpra.net](mailto:president@wpra.net)

**Vice President, Land Use & Planning: Rick Madden**  
[vp@wpra.net](mailto:vp@wpra.net)

**Treasurer: Blaine Cavena**  
[treasurer@wpra.net](mailto:treasurer@wpra.net)

**Secretary: Kenyon Harbison**  
[secretary@wpra.net](mailto:secretary@wpra.net)

### Board of Directors

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Dan Beal                       | • Mark Mastromatteo   |
| • Dave Bise, Public Services     | • Ann Scheid  |
| • Evan Davis                     | • Lynne Sullivan  |
| • Mic Hansen                     | • Lee Wallace   |
| • Joan Hearst                    | • Linda Zinn ( <a href="mailto:membership@wpra.net">membership@wpra.net</a> ) |
| • Chuck Hudson, Communications   | Membership, Open  |
| • Carlos Javelera, Public Safety | Space & Conservation  |
| • Susan Kinney                   |   |

### WPRA Advisory Board

- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| • Vince Farhat | • Catherine Stringer |
| • Tom Seifert  | • Fred Zepeda        |

**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.

## THE NEWS

The News is mailed each quarter to more than 9,000 homes and businesses in the 91105 and 91103 ZIP codes and beyond.

**Editor:** Chuck Hudson  
[editor@wpra.net](mailto:editor@wpra.net)

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

Visit our website at [wpra.net](http://wpra.net)  
Visit our Facebook page at [facebook.com/westpasadena](https://facebook.com/westpasadena)

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

### MANUEL CARMONA IS THE CITY'S NEW PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR.

He has served the City as acting director of Public Health since 2022 and as deputy director since January 2020.

Carmona first joined the department in 2014 as a management analyst. He earned a master's degree in public health from the University of Washington, a master's in public administration from the University of Southern California, and a bachelor of science in community & regional development from the University of California, Davis. *Source: City of Pasadena*



Manuel Carmona

### JAMES (JIM) WONG

**WILL SERVE AS** the City's acting director of Housing until a permanent director is hired. Wong has 40 years of experience in housing programs and administration, and has been with the City for 35 years. *Source: City of Pasadena*



James Wong

### KRIS MARKARIAN, PASADENA'S FORMER ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,

has retired after 26 years with the City. She has served as acting director twice and in other leadership positions in the department. *Source: Pasadena Now*

### THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HAS BEEN AWARDED

a \$1.6 million grant to implement, as a demonstration project for temporary traffic calming measures on El Molino Avenue from Atchison Street to Bonita Drive, connecting the city's northern and southern limits. This stretch is one of four planned Greenways in Pasadena, designed as traffic-calmed streets prioritizing walking and biking. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**FINANCIAL SERVICES FIRM WEBBUSH SECURITIES** has relocated to Pasadena from downtown Los Angeles. *Source: LA Times*

**PASADENA RELEASED** environmental test results showing no alarming levels of hazardous materials in city facilities and air quality following the recent Eaton Fire. The testing, completed at eight of nine planned city facilities, found no detectable asbestos and lead measurements exceeding federal safety thresholds. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**OVER THE PAST YEAR, PASADENA** has welcomed new companies including electric vehicle dealerships for Lucid and Rivian, Hyundai's Genesis, and Porsche (Rusnak). With institutions like Caltech, the new Resnick Sustainability Institute and the Ginsburg Center for Quantum Precision Measurement at Caltech shows that Pasadena is tackling not only local challenges, but global challenges such as climate change, water quality and sustainable energy. Motiv Space Systems announced plans for expansion, as did Huntington Hospital's and Keck USC's new medical office buildings — both on S. Fair Oaks Avenue — each clocking in at 100,000 sq. ft. Also, the AC Hotel by Marriott, with 95 guest rooms, broke ground on construction. *Source: State of the City address by Mayor Victor Gordo*

**PARKING CONCEPTS INC., WHICH BEGAN MANAGING** all City-owned parking garages in February 2022, reported that it has been able to save the City \$2.4 million annually by eliminating redundant positions and streamlining services previously split among three different vendors. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**PASADENA WATER AND POWER HAS LAUNCHED** a new mobile application. MyPWP offers a one-stop solution for managing utility service. Residents and businesses can use the app to monitor usage and requesting service or reporting a power outage. Download the

app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Search for "Pasadena Water and Power." For more information, call (626) 744-4005 or visit [PWPweb.com](http://PWPweb.com). *Source: City of Pasadena*

**PASADENA WATER AND POWER (PWP) IS ACCELERATING** a critical \$51 million power infrastructure upgrade ahead of the 2028 Olympics. Instead of the original completion date of 2031, the City will replace major transmission lines that connect the east and west sides of the city by 2027. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**CITY SALES TAX RECEIPTS** from July through September of 2024 were 8.6% below the same period in 2023. Luxury and alternative energy auto sales slumped, new vehicle dealership sales declined 21%, and gas station sales declined by 13%. *Source: City of Pasadena*

**CITY COUNCIL HAS APPROVED** a \$175,000 contract with OIR Group LLC, to serve as an independent police auditor for a year. OIR Group also currently serves Burbank, Anaheim and Santa Monica in this capacity. *Source: Pasadena Star-News*

**THE CITY'S CENTRAL SERVICE HUB** (see back page of this newsletter) processed more than 10,000 resident calls in October 2024, with public works issues leading among citizen concerns. Of the 4,395 new service requests opened in October, the Center successfully resolved 3,820 cases. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**A NEW STATE LAW PROHIBITING VEHICLES FROM PARKING** within 20 feet of crosswalks took effect Jan. 1. Assembly Bill 413, known as the "daylighting" law, applies to both marked and unmarked crosswalks at all intersections statewide, regardless of whether the curb is painted red or displays no-parking signs. *Source: Pasadena Now*

Screened Water Color Painting by Joseph Stoddard

## OPINION

# Addressing the elephant in the 710 project room

Lynne Sullivan  
Director, WPRA

**N**early three years have passed since Caltrans transferred title of the 50+ acres of land previously designated for the expansion of the I-710 freeway. The State relinquished and deeded the property to the City of Pasadena in August 2022, thus ending a 50+ year battle to defeat the proposed freeway connection.

Since taking title to the property, much work has been done. Historical information about the property has been gathered, consultants hired, advisory groups formed, and land-use wish lists made, all in pursuit of the best way to both weave the fractured community back together with new construction and to make amends to some of the residents displaced by Caltrans.

The City engaged architectural firm Perkins



Eastman to create a long-term master plan for the physical development of the property — a 20-month project currently underway with expected completion by December. While Perkins Eastman promises many interesting ideas, we can see one glaring omission: Thus far, there has been no public discussion on how to fund the land development and infrastructure costs.

The 710 stub area is not currently in a buildable condition. Land development will

first require significant demolition, construction of both on and off-site improvements such as connections to public utilities, roads, stormwater management systems and grading the property to a buildable condition.

These infrastructure costs — expected to be hundreds of millions of dollars — may be publicly funded by municipal debt or the customers of private utility companies, or privately funded by selling/leasing the improved entitled land, to name just a few options.

As we all know, there is no free lunch. Developing the 710 Stub land will be expensive and must make economic sense so that we can all reap benefits.

As our community seeks a unified vision for this project, we must stay tethered to the reality of the significant development and construction costs and balance our expectations with reality.

## BRIEFLY

**Pasadena officials held a “topping out” ceremony** for a new affordable housing project designed to support low-income families -- Rose Town Apartments at 170 N. Halstead St. This six-story, 100% affordable rental-housing development will have 48 units. *Source: Pasadena Star-News*

**The City-led “Historic Places Pasadena: Completing Our Story!”** reported that one eligible landmark building (Pasadena YMCA, 1968, Boyd Georgi architect, 2750 New York Dr.) as well as six houses within the eligible Walworth Avenue Landmark District were lost in the Eaton

Fire. *Source: City of Pasadena*

**CITY COUNCIL WILL REVIEW AN APPEAL** challenging the Board of Zoning Appeals’ approval of a Conditional Use Permit that would allow up to 21 private events annually at the historic Maxwell House. The Western Justice Center, which has operated from the Maxwell House at 55 S. Grand Ave. since 1989, seeks formal permission to host weddings and other private events. The nonprofit has been hosting approximately 47 events per year for the past 15 years without proper permits. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**CITY COUNCIL HAS APPROVED FULLER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY’S** request to amend its master plan. The amendments

enable the seminary to reduce its campus footprint and potentially convert some properties to residential use as it adapts to declining on-campus enrollment. The approved changes will shrink Fuller’s maximum student capacity from 2,014 to 500 students and reduce required parking from 450 to 181 spaces. *Source: Pasadena Now*

**SITE PREP IS UNDERWAY ON THE CALTECH CAMPUS** for the Dr. Allen and Charlotte Ginsburg Center for Quantum Precision Measurement. The project calls for the construction of new offices, labs, and accessory facilities in a 65,000-square-foot structure with four above-grade levels and two basement levels. *Source: Urbanize LA*

## Focus on 710

# Embrace traditional values; push back against car supremacy

By Ian Lockwood, PE

*[Editor's Note: This is the second installment of a series of responses by Ian Lockwood to questions raised during the WPRA's 2024 annual meeting.]*

**Q: Did any newer cities such as Brasilia or new California suburbs, get the traffic-car culture issue right? What lessons have we learned from them?**

Brasilia was built, from scratch, in a lightly populated area, away from the coast, to become the capital city. In 1960, the capital was moved there from Rio de Janeiro. There was no historic or geographical reason for the new city to be developed in that specific location. Other cities began because they were located at natural places for social and economic exchange such as junctions of rivers, railways or ports.

Brasilia is a modernist place that was planned and built quickly. As a new city, it could have been designed to be walkable, multimodal and equitable. It was not. Rather, it was designed to favor autos, and suit middle-class and wealthy citizens ... much like modern American suburbs.

Unlike some other large capitals such

as London, Paris, D.C., Madrid, Brasilia lacks effective transit, human scale, walkability and urbanism. Its blocks tend to be too large, creating circuitous routing and other problems. Again, American suburbs tend to suffer from the same problems.

For new large from-scratch developments to be sustainable and livable, they need to embody traditional values, because cities are fundamentally about people, not cars. Cities (and city streets) have been around for 10,000 years and, over that time, a lot of city-making lessons were learned through trial and error, including the effective patterns for street network/block structures.

The modernists, who built Brasilia and most American suburbs, discarded

traditional lessons due to the car, lot-yield, ease of planning and profit being the center of their design universe, and not walkability or city-making.

Fortunately, Pasadena is not a new city. With the exception of the State and Interstate highways and ramps, Pasadena does not have an experimental street network. It is not a suburb. Pasadena was, and is, a traditionally designed city, with a traditional block structure in areas that have not been fully or partially destroyed by major highways.

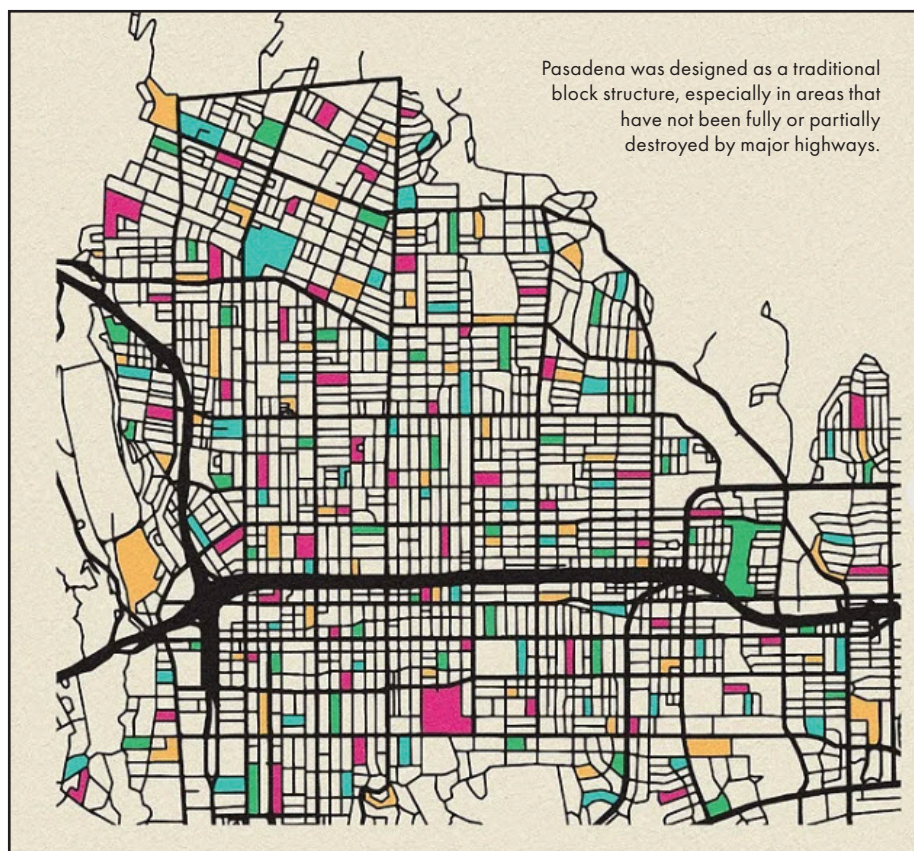
The harm that has occurred to Pasadena over the last 80 years was at the hands of *modernists* who championed highways in cities, greater speed, large blocks, one-way streets, and car use, while dismantling most of the rail infrastructure and minimizing the importance of access, walking and cycling.

The 210, 710, and 134 highways did tremendous damage to the structure of the city. If Pasadena wishes to approach

its remaining potential in the 710 stub, it will need to embrace its traditional roots and values, and push back against car supremacy and dependency policies, plans, and projects.

Stopping the extension of the 710 freeway was a great step in that direction. And now we have the opportunity to replace the stub's open wound with something much better.

**Ian Lockwood,**  
P.E., is a livable transportation engineer with Toole Design Group.



# A preservation perspective

## Our significant personal tragedy will gradually yield to recovery

By Sue Mossman

Former executive director, Pasadena Heritage

I often think about the devastating Eaton Fire and its aftermath. This catastrophic event will certainly go down in history and, as we learn more every day about the terrible losses, yield stories of community and personal tragedy.

However, attention is turning now toward recovery and rebuilding, and what the future will bring. It will take time, and it will take continued community support to see Pasadena and Altadena reimagine their next chapters. Although things will never be the same, what follows are thoughts about the path forward.

### Documentation

An essential step in this process should be documentation. As thorough a record as possible of what was lost needs to be compiled and preserved. Amazing architectural landmarks like the McNally House, one of the most elaborate and best-preserved homes of the Victorian era; the beautiful Zane Gray estate; and

thousands of smaller historic places were irretrievably lost.

Related cataloging efforts are underway at the Altadena Historical Society, Altadena Heritage, the Pasadena Museum of History, and an information-gathering project by WikiLA, in which Pasadena Heritage is collaborating. I hope a comprehensive record of buildings, places, personal experiences, and memories will be recorded and preserved.

### Future planning

In Pasadena, restoring and rebuilding will happen under well-established planning and zoning guidelines. The City's Planning Department is offering to consult with anyone who needs help understanding the rules and procedures. But in Altadena, with so much more destruction, planning for the future will be a far greater challenge. It can also be a real opportunity.

Many good minds are already thinking



Sue Mossman

about what to do and how to go about it, as it will mean planning a whole community where thousands of buildings and entire neighborhoods — residential and commercial — were lost. The community must have a vital voice in planning for a new Altadena.

### Some bright spots

As is my nature, I keep looking for bright spots— some joy amidst the devastation. And there have been many that have warmed my heart, especially where historic places were transformed to serve urgent, unprecedented needs. For example:

- The historic Rose Bowl turned into a hub for first responders from near and far by providing centralized coordination and space for equipment and personnel. (The Rose Bowl also served as a donation center until that activity was moved to Santa Anita Race Track, another historic venue nearby.)
- The Convention Center served as an emergency shelter by offering beds, food and necessities for those displaced by the fire.
- The Elks Club stepped up to welcome and distribute donations.
- Professional masons and volunteers offered to help homeowners rescue precious Batchelder tiles that survived the fire through a "Save the Tile" effort.
- The Pasadena Community Foundation established a dedicated Eaton Fire Fund to accept and distribute critical financial assistance.
- Many churches, schools, non-profits, and other venues opened their doors to welcome institutions, organizations and congregations that had lost use of their buildings.
- The Pasadena Humane Society took in scores of pets and rescued wildlife; the Gamble House became a haven for displaced hummingbirds.

The stories of help, heroism, and generosity are legion and inspiring. I hope this positive energy and community spirit — so much a part of Pasadena— will continue unabated. There is a long road ahead, and we all need to be on it together.



The Pasadena Jewish Temple & Center burns during the Eaton fire in Pasadena. (Josh Edelson/AFP/Getty Images)

## OPINION

# The State of California vs the City of Pasadena

By Rick Madden  
WPRA Vice President

Everyone agrees that making sure that there is sufficient housing that is affordable for Californians is a critical issue facing our state and our city. In an effort to solve the lack of affordable housing, Sacramento has passed hundreds of land use laws since 2016, with nearly 30 passed just last year.

Many of these laws are aimed specifically at reducing the independence and authority of cities to control their zoning and urban development. Many state politicians and academics point to the existence of single-family housing and single-family zoning as a key cause of the lack of affordable housing.

This battle of the State of California vs the cities has been aimed principally at creating greater density in each city, under the theory that greater supply will inevitably result in lower prices (a concept that those living in New York City and San Francisco might find humorous). Some in Sacramento have gone so far as to say that the continued existence of single-family housing is itself both immoral and racist. We are now beginning to see the effects of these laws.

Accessory dwelling units are now permitted virtually everywhere, single-family zoned areas are being “upzoned” to permit higher density multi-family units, the design and planning commissions are now limited to a certain number of meetings that they can have with a developer (often encouraging developers to simply wait out the process rather than respond to concerns), parking requirements for multi-family housing have been sharply reduced, and the list goes on.

In many cases, developers are given “Builder’s Remedy” rights, which allows them in some cases to build even over the express objection of the city’s planning department. Housing advocates view this as a victory over NIMBY homeowners who are, in their minds, enemies to affordable housing.

Lost in the takeover by Sacramento is the actual means by which this revolution is unfolding. Developers have taken up the mantle of crusaders for affordable housing. With their significant campaign contributions to many of the candidates advancing this legislation in Sacramento, developers are systematically being given greater authority to determine what cities like Pasadena look like.

Many of these laws are written by the lobbying groups representing developers and are passed by a legislature that has little direct experience with urban planning. In trying to increase affordable housing, why are we letting the fox guard the hen house?

We should bear in mind that, while real-estate developers may be fine people, their businesses focus is on making a profit, not on providing the least expensive housing. In fact, there are multiple instances in our own city in which promised affordable units never materialized. Cities are being left to pick up the pieces as buildings with inadequate parking increase the pressure on street parking and density in areas that do not have roads and infrastructure up to the task.

So, one might ask, should Sacramento be taking city planning from cities and effectively turning it over to developers (however much their campaign contributions might help with elections),

It is entirely possible to maintain [housing] diversity and choice while increasing affordable housing, but having Soviet-style central planning from Sacramento will ultimately result in Soviet-style cities.

or should they instead mandate that cities increase their affordable housing against measurable targets (with real penalties if they fail to deliver), and allow the cities to determine how and where such development should occur?

Many of Los Angeles’s cities have a distinctive feel. Redondo Beach, El Monte and Pasadena are different, and they attract diverse populations that are attracted to these differences. While I think Pasadena is the place to live, I have many friends who could not fathom moving east of the 405. It is entirely possible to maintain this diversity and choice while increasing affordable housing, but having Soviet-style central planning from Sacramento will ultimately result in Soviet-style cities.

It is also important to ask ourselves how these densification rules are going to affect the rebuilding from the wildfires. Like it or not, many historic homeowners will likely sell their lots rather than deal with the time and expense of rebuilding, and many of the buyers are going to be developers.

Is housing densification in fire-prone areas a good idea? The rules coming out of Sacramento for the most part do not distinguish between the center of town and the wildlife-urban interface where wildfire risk is highest. If anything, this is the perfect example of the need for local planning to ensure that there will not be greater impact and loss of life when, inevitably, the next fire comes.

# A thank-you and reminder to our members

**T**he 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 in **2024**. 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](mailto:membership@wpra.net)

## Platinum [\$500+]

|                                   |                            |                                     |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Anonymous (3)                     | Mary Coquillard            | Susan and George Kinney             | Brock Robertson                       |
| Bruce and Judy Bailey             | Tim and Gay Degani         | Robert and Elizabeth Krug           | Janet Rose                            |
| Dan and Sandy Bane                | Barney and Courtney Evans  | Dennis Levitt and Jane Gordon       | Daniel and Sarah Rothenberg           |
| The Bert and Darrell Banta Family | Dave and Mitsuko Felton    | Jack and Charlene Liebau            | Betty Sargent                         |
| Scott and Barbara Bice            | Martha Fitzpatrick         | Sam and Darla Longo                 | Fred Schwarzenbach and Leslie Prussia |
| Bill and Claire Bogaard           | Bob and Kathy Gillespie    | Steve Madison                       | KB Schwarzenbach                      |
| Jonathan and Marie Boggs          | Donald Hall                | Howard and Ilene Marshall           | Nancy Van Tuyle and D. Martin         |
| Tom and Karen Capehart            | Fishbein Family Foundation | George and Muriel Newell            | Watterson                             |
| Joe and Dottie Clougherty         | Cece Horne                 | Steve and Kay Onderdonk             | Rose Bowl Operating Company           |
| Paul and Sherrill Colony          | Bryan and Debi Jacobs      | Terry Perucca and Annette Serrurier | Randy and Judy Wilson                 |
| Shirley Contreras                 | Helga Johnstone            | Bill and Christy Rakow              |                                       |

## Benefactor [\$250-\$499]

|  |                                 |                                     |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Anonymous (6)                          | The Davis Family                | Barbara and John House              | T Schwartz                      |
| John Baldeschwieler and Marlene Konnar | Robert and Kira DeBlasis        | Carlos and Joan Javelera            | Gerald Schwarzenbach            |
| Michael and Janice Barker              | John and Elena DeMarco          | Peter Jensen and Mary Ann McGovern  | Jerry and Donna Secundy         |
| Geoffrey Baum and Lisa Gallaway        | Bill and Martha Denzel          | Mireya and Larry Jones              | Michael and Karen Sharp         |
| John and Martha Bell                   | Matthew and Jennifer DeVoll     | Patricia Loonam Kaminsky            | Chuck and Sarah Steidel         |
| Cynthia Bennett                        | Steve and Christina Doerfler    | Harvey Kaslow and Alicia McDonough  | Roger and Priscilla Stephens    |
| Mrs. Louise Bhang                      | Todd and Michele Doney          | Richard and Darleen Kleinert        | Greg Stone and Cindy Vail       |
| Steve and Colleen Boyer                | Janet Doud                      | Gale Kohl and Rene Chila            | Lindsay and Dan Sullivan        |
| Sheldon and Annette Bull               | Stephen and Megan Drake         | Doug and Susan Kranwinkle           | John D. Taylor                  |
| Bob and Bobbie Burns                   | David and Rebecca Ebershoff     | Luan Family                         | Marshall and Judy Taylor        |
| Walter and Sara Chameides              | Max and Jane Factor             | Kathleen Lund                       | Ara Tchaghlassian               |
| Roxanne Christ-DeWitt                  | Jim and Priscilla Gamb          | Hoss and Cathy MacVaugh             | Dickran and Geraldine Terrizian |
| Don and Sally Clark                    | Scott and Leslie Gaudineer      | Rick and Jennifer Madden            | Nancy Van den Hout              |
| David and Susan Codiga                 | Gilliam Family                  | Mark Mastromatteo and Sharon Bonner | Paul and Char Vert              |
| Knox and Mary Cologne                  | Avram and Christina Gold        | John and Dorothy Matthiessen        | Paul and Elizabeth Walker       |
| George Corey and Eugenie Schlueter     | Sandy Greenstein                | Don and Suzanne McConnell           | Carl and Peggy West             |
| Patricia S Cornelius                   | Margie and Paul Grossman        | Carolyn L. Miller                   | Carl D. Winberg, M.D.           |
| Margaret T. Cunningham                 | Mr and Mrs Henry L Hancock      | Phyllis Mueller                     | Mrs. Anita Yagjian              |
| Evelyn Cutting                         | Mic Hansen                      | Alfred and Jeanne Paiz              | Linda Zinn                      |
| Richard and Jinny Dalbeck              | Carol T Hanson                  | Gordon J. Pashgian                  |                                 |
| Mike and Paula Davis                   | Nancy Hathaway                  | John and Barbara Poer               |                                 |
|  | Robert C. and Mary Favre Holmes | Kevin Rossi and Mary Pezzini        |                                 |

## Patron [\$100-\$249]

|  |                                      |                               |                                       |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Anonymous (21)                         | Bailey and Barbara Bishop            | Rick Button and Mary Hinkley  | John and Anne David                   |
| Tolvon Group                           | Jack and Lasley Biven                | J.S. Cahill                   | Cheryl Davis                          |
| Ladelle Alinsod                        | Cheryl Bode                          | Dr and Mrs Cantwell           | Jay M and Christine Davis             |
| Ms. Grace Anderson                     | Tom and Karen Bogaard                | Mike and Joan Cathcart        | Robert and Marlene Decker             |
| David Armillei                         | Ashok and Meera Boghani              | Blaine and Virginia Cavena    | Justin and Mary Dedeaux               |
| Bob Aronoff                            | Arthur Bolstein                      | Teresa Cheung                 | Catherine Dees                        |
| John and Laura Babcock                 | The Bradleys                         | Helena Chui                   | Gene and Deanna Detchemendy           |
| John Bakaly                            | Felix Breden and Jamie Scott         | Darrell and Virginia Clarke   | Steve and Dana Dewberry               |
| Richard Bakke                          | Stephen Bridges and Krista Kelly     | Stephen Clauser               | Dolores Diaz-Carrey                   |
| The Baltimore Family Fund              | John and Louise Brinsley             | Michael and Susan Connell     | Anne M. Dougherty and David Dobrikin  |
| Mark and Janet Baratta                 | Annie Brose and Chris Anzalone       | Francine Talkin Cooper        | Richard L. Dougherty                  |
| Michael Barish                         | Bruce and Belinda Broughton          | John and Bette Cooper         | Josh and Heather Drake                |
| German and Rosalinda Barrero           | George and Marilyn Brumder           | Catherine Coquillard          | Rick and Heidrun Drumm                |
| Priscilla Battelle                     | Paul and Jo Buczko                   | Ramon Cortines                | Patrick and Claire Dunavan            |
| Dan and Laura Beal                     | James Buese                          | Lauren Cory                   | Mark Dwight                           |
| Edmund and Aida Bedrosian              | Anne Buettner                        | Charlie Craig and Donna Furey | Richard Easterlin and Eileen Crimmins |
| Bob and Louise Beggs                   | Kirk Bull                            | Bill Crowfoot                 | Carol Anne Econn                      |
| Chris Benter                           | Rod and Toni Burgoyne                | Albert D Cruz                 | Barbara Eddy and Stephen Socki        |
| Paul Bergman and Andrea Sossin-Bergman | Burkard Family                       | Wendy Currier                 | Steve and Janet Elkins                |
|  | Timothy Butler and Robert Morris, MD | Terza and Shawn Dantzler      | Navy & Sylvie                         |

Ron and Joan Evans  
 Lowry and Randall Ewig  
 George and Jami Falardeau  
 Vince and Betsy Farhat  
 Patrick and Kathy Feely  
 Edward and Molly Fehrenbacher  
 Don and Jackie Feinstein  
 Racquel Fineza  
 Robert M. and Janet S. Fitzgerald  
 Josh Fleagane and Madeline Yang  
 John and Ruth Fleck  
 Christina Folz  
 Louise Fox  
 Susan Frank  
 Howden and Joan Fraser  
 Scott Fraser and Catherine Jurca  
 Anita Freeman  
 Carl and Shirin Friedlander  
 David and Eugenia Furukawa  
 Lynn Caffrey Gabriel, OD  
 Judy Gain  
 George and Cleola Gavalas  
 Jose A. Gavina  
 Don and Meg Gertmenian  
 Tom Gertmenian and Sally Barngrove  
 Kathy Gibbons  
 Nelson and Priscilla Gibbs  
 Frank and Susan Gilliland  
 Brian and Suzanne Gilman  
 Michael Glick  
 Anil Gopala  
 Paul and Janet Gordon  
 Ted and Marcia Grace  
 Suzanne Greenberg  
 Marijke Grotz  
 Jim Gruettner  
 Kathleen Grzegorek  
 Michael Gurevitch and Lori Wynstock  
 Kee W. Ha  
 Sam Hale  
 Dave Hall  
 Paul and Chery Hardy  
 Ben and Carrie Harr  
 Katharine Harrington  
 Helen Harris  
 Mark and Cherie Harris  
 Jim and Tina Hart  
 Mark Hassan  
 Mary Hayden and Carla Tomaso  
 Ed and Joan Hearst  
 Michael and Diana Hecht  
 Richard Henderson  
 William Hendrickson and Teresa Tritch  
 Curt and Christine Hessler  
 Charles Hilliard and Laila Munderspach  
 Jimmy and Suzanne Holder  
 Martin and Heather Holford  
 Sue Holliday  
 Andrew and Mari Hsu  
 Ralph and Linda Hubbard  
 Chuck Hudson  
 Josey Iannotti and Reno Yu  
 Andy and Joanne Ice  
 John Irigoyen  
 Paul and Missy Jennings  
 Dr. and Mrs. Jeyaranjan  
 Fred Johnson  
 James and Ilona Kendall

Bill and Priscilla Kennedy  
 Lisa A. Kenyon  
 Maranatha High School  
 Jonathan and Carolyn Kezele  
 Levon and Silva Kirakosian  
 Judith S. Klump  
 Richard and Marie Knowles  
 Patricia Korbel  
 Terry and Teresa Krupczak  
 Bill and Alison Kuehn  
 Carolyn Kunin  
 Hiroko and Sidney Kunitake  
 Coralie Kupfer  
 Jim and Laura LaBarge  
 David Farah and Stuart Landau  
 William and Nancy Larr  
 Sandra and Chuck Law  
 Brian and Candida League  
 Josh and Nancy Leichter  
 George and Valerie Leiva  
 Dan and Denise Levenick  
 Ted Levin and Jennifer Crolus Levin  
 Ethan and Joanne Lipsig  
 Donald F. Lomas  
 Gail Lovejoy  
 Emundo Luna and Brian Nores  
 Elsa Macias  
 Cyndia and Karl Maier  
 Jane Mallary  
 Chuck and Margot Malouf  
 Philip and Ginny Mann  
 Larry and Kristen Mantle  
 Tom Marble and Pae White  
 Daniel Markowicz and Elizabeth Dillon  
 Sharon Marsh  
 arry Matheu  
 Laura Matz  
 Paul Watson and Stacie Mayoras  
 David and Carlin McCarthy  
 Nancy McDonald  
 Stephen and Judith McDonald  
 Mary A McDonnell  
 Joyce McGilvray  
 Jason and Kathryn McGuire  
 Steve and Heidi McLean  
 Lynne Sullivan and Dennis McNamara  
 Mel and Marcia Means  
 Mr. William Meurer  
 Lary and Mary Anne Mielke  
 Al and Vaida Mikuckis  
 Allan and Diane Miller  
 Fritz and Angie Miller  
 Debbie Mitchell  
 Walter and Heather Mix  
 Mr and Mrs Phil J Montoya Jr  
 Norah Morley and Anthony Koerner  
 Arnie and Gretl Mulder  
 Marilyn Murphy  
 Dr John and Gail Nackel  
 Negin Nazemi and Christopher Muno  
 Robert and Gail Nishinaka  
 Don and Judy Nollar  
 Dallas and Linda Oakley  
 Angie O'Brien and Dan Smith  
 Kathleen O'Kane and Cheryl Groves  
 Curtine Olsen  
 Steve and Casey Olson  
 Brian O'Neil

Thomas and Mary Ortiz  
 Frank and Susan Osen  
 Tom and Cheryl Palfrey  
 Gary and Julie Pantiskas  
 Randy and Lee Parks  
 Pasadena Heritage  
 Pasadena Museum of History  
 Benjamin and Sylvia Paz  
 Rick Phegley and Carol Pfaffmann  
 Janet Pine  
 Chris and Jean Pisano  
 Mary Prickett  
 Thomas Priestley  
 Buddy and Ellie Prude  
 Isabel Pulvers  
 David and Cathy Pumphrey  
 David and Laura Quigg  
 Janice and Robert Raney  
 Keith Rawlinson and Lori MacPherson  
 Bonnie Reed  
 Henry and Gretchen Reed  
 Michael and Mary Reiter  
 Ramon and Christine Reynoso  
 Robert J. Riewerts and Susan J. Regas  
 Brent and Carla Riggs  
 Cottage Co-Op Nursery School  
 Paul Rogers and Jill Von Hartmann  
 Gail Rolf  
 Marsha V. Rood  
 Terry and Ron Ross  
 Cara Martin Rubin  
 Loring Rutt and Ronna Dishnica  
 Elizabeth Loucks Samson  
 Jonnalagedda Sarma  
 Frank and Marian Sata  
 Mattew and Christine Scalese  
 Mary Lea Schander  
 Ann Scheid  
 John and Susan Schmid  
 Jerrold and Sharon Schoenholtz  
 Joe Schulman and Leslee Leong  
 Dr. and Mrs. Cornelius C. Scott, III  
 Rod Shingu  
 Elena Shoch  
 Mike and Jill Sigler  
 Richard and Marie-Christine Slater  
 Norman and Claire Slaught  
 David Smith and Louise Nelson  
 Luchus Smith  
 Virginia Smith  
 William D. Snyder  
 Katherine Solaini  
 Jim and Judy Spencer  
 Alan and Janet Stanford  
 Jeff and Peg Stephens  
 Michael Stevens and Melina Root  
 Timothy Still  
 Storrier-Stearns Japanese Garden  
 Trevor Stutz and Lauren Blas  
 Kaoruhiko and Stephanie Suzuki  
 John and Norma Svendsen  
 Soo and Patricia Tan  
 Sarkis and Elizabeth Tatikian  
 John Tegtmeyer  
 Vicky L. Thomas  
 Joan Thompson  
 Martha Thompson  
 Tolleson Family

James Treidler and Lian Dolan  
 Jim Ukropina  
 John B. Ulmer  
 Pete and Joan Ulyatt  
 Virginia P Underwood  
 Bill and Jaine Urban  
 Paula Verrette  
 Patricia Vick  
 Nancy T. Walker  
 James and Robin Walther  
 Lily L. Wang  
 Barbara Way  
 Jessica Webb-Simpson & Andrew Hinkley  
 Marilyn Webster  
 James and Mary Weidner  
 Rick Weisman  
 Mike and Lucy Weiss  
 Alexis Wernberg  
 Blair and Kate Westlake  
 J. Patrick Whaley and Lynda Jenner  
 Polly Wheaton  
 Ian and Barbara White-Thomson  
 Lou Whitley  
 Bill and Kathy Wishner  
 Robert A Wolf MD  
 James and Grace Lee  
 Dianna Wong  
 William and Rebecca Woods  
 Leonard and Marsha Young  
 Fred Zepeda  
 Marilyn Zeronian  
 Daniel and Stephanie Ziese  
 Eileen Zimmerman  
 Barbara Zimmermann

## We need your continuing support

To make it easier for you to help support 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 the WPRA) into the pre-addressed envelope, add a stamp, and mail it. You may also donate securely online using a credit card by visiting [wptra.net](http://wptra.net) and clicking on "Donate," at the top of the home page.

## At 65 years young ... The PSC pitches in to help Eaton Fire victims

By Charmaine Nelson  
Director of Marketing and  
Communications, PSC

It was in 1960 that the Pasadena Senior Center (PSC) was started as a response to needs in the Pasadena community. Now, 65 years later, and in a time of great need, PSC is still focused on being a vital resource for older adults.

We are leading the charge for all older adults and our community affected by the Eaton Fire devastation. Two months after, PSC is uniquely situated and ready to provide an anchor to all with a variety of fire-related resource initiatives and support.

Within two days of the firestorm, the PSC re-opened its doors and discovered that more than 50 members and four PSC staff members had lost their home in Altadena. Soon, we began our extensive outreach to fire victims, as well as the broader community affected by the fire, smoke and ash.

First up? Our Eaton Fire Resource webpage, a place where folks can go to find much needed recovery assistance and navigate available local, state and federal support options. You can find this valuable resource on the PSC website at [tinyurl.com/5f2semhr](https://tinyurl.com/5f2semhr).

Soon thereafter, the caring PSC staff and volunteers pulled together an extensive health and well-being event that included a variety of free health services, fresh food and water, and hygiene products. This event was followed in the ensuing weeks with our staff members making more than 2,000 wellness-check phone calls to our members, providing more than \$3,000 in member scholarships

to Altadena seniors, distributing free air filters and offering access to pro bono attorney services. We also hosted a wildfire disaster relief event at the Center.

What's more, we've learned from our members that there is significant need for ongoing mental health support. We're answering this need by holding regular seminars led by social workers and other mental health professionals. We're also launching in-house and Zoom counseling sessions.

Through it all, we have continued to be a place of not only refuge, but of joy, and our ongoing programs illustrate this perfectly. From the recent Alvin Ailey Dance Company performance to various music and arts events and workshops, and of course, our wonderful fitness center — our doors and our hearts — remain open.

We have become a community hub of sorts. A place where fire survivors can visit, attend online seminars to connect with former neighbors, and recreate, in

a way, with that unique community they once had.

As we navigate through these difficult moments, it is our strength and supportive spirit that defines our community. Let us continue to stand together and extend care and assistance to one another.

Join us at the Pasadena Senior Center. For an organization serving the community for 65 years, we've got a lot going on — and we're getting better with age!



PSC staff and volunteers pulled together an extensive health and well-being event that included a variety of free health services, fresh food and water, and hygiene products



This aerial view is of the San Pascual site just south of San Pascual Avenue. According to the plan, water would be diverted from the Arroyo Seco stream and piped to irrigate the parkland and golf course in South Pasadena.

By Tim Brick  
Executive director, Stewards of the  
Arroyo Seco

**A** determined band of neighbors near San Pascual Park in the Arroyo Seco has succeeded in forcing Pasadena and South Pasadena to complete a full environmental impact report for the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

The settlement resulted from a lawsuit initiated by Clara Solis on behalf of the Save San Pascual Park group. It will require the two cities to revise their plans and prepare a full environmental impact report. The San Pascual group focused on the program's impact to a treasured stretch of the Arroyo Seco near where the cities of South Pasadena, Pasadena and Los Angeles converge.

The San Pascual site is a key component of the program. Another linked component involves San Rafael Creek, which drains from the San Rafael Hills to the Annandale Country Club and then down to the Arroyo Seco.

Solis and her allies fear that the project will at the least clutter the Arroyo Seco with more pipes and plumbing to irrigate

a golf course in South Pasadena. They hope that the EIR process will force Pasadena and South Pasadena to respect their neighborhood and restore the natural character of the Arroyo Seco.

When the Pasadena City Council approved the project last June, Solis quickly filed the lawsuit. After months of behind-the-scenes controversy, the Pasadena City Council on January 27 formally revoked the preliminary environmental report and design plan, and agreed to prepare a full environmental impact report.

The Save San Pascual Park group has raised some serious questions about the project that proponents call a "water reuse" program to clean up the Arroyo Seco stream. Many of the concerns were raised during a community outreach and environmental review process, but were not addressed in the "official" mitigated environmental document.

Project approval slipped past the Pasadena City Council without any discussion. Councilmembers were unaware that a key part of the project would be located in a Los Angeles city park, or that the water rights are problematic since the State Water

Resources Control Board has declared the Arroyo Seco to have an insufficient supply of water for new right applications (a "fully appropriated stream"), or that the land is sacred to indigenous people.

The biggest failure of the project, though, is that it does not respect the natural character of the Arroyo Seco or fit it into an integrated approach to enhancing the stream and watershed to meet the challenges of dwindling water supplies and climate change.

Projects like this should be guided by nature-based solutions and community participation. Hopefully, Pasadena and South Pasadena will now redesign their program and develop a plan that will enhance and restore the Arroyo Seco.

## BRIEFLY

### THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL SERVICES

**COMMITTEE HEARD A REPORT** detailing significant challenges in achieving the City's goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030 during a meeting in March. A representative from energy consulting firm Energy and Environmental Economics presented findings showing that transmission limitations and the current state of renewable technology might make completely replacing the City's Glenarm power plant with carbon-free alternatives technically infeasible by the near-term goal of 2030. The presentation sparked strong reactions from some committee members who felt they were being prepared for failure, rather than given pathways to success. Source: Pasadena Now

### CITY COUNCIL RECENTLY APPROVED

**PLANS** for two new energy contracts: a 10-year wind power contract with CalWind Resources, and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at the Glenarm Power Plant. These efforts will diversify Pasadena Water and Power's (PWP) energy resource portfolio and contribute to the City's progress toward 100% carbon-free energy sources by the end of 2030. Source: City of Pasadena



Pasadena 100 is a coalition of 22 non-profit and non-partisan organizations, and hundreds of individuals, that came together because we identified one local action that could make a big difference.

## Pasadena 100: Advocating for a safer future

By Cynthia Cannady  
Co-chair, Pasadena 100

For most of us, the question is not whether climate change is a threat to our quality of life and the survival of future generations. We understand that the cause of climate change is greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) from burning fossil fuels like coal, methane gas and petroleum. The question in many people's minds is what, if anything, we can do about it.

Pasadena 100 is a coalition of 22 non-profit and non-partisan organizations, and hundreds of individuals, that came together because we identified one local action that could make a big difference in GHGs. Electric power production from burning coal and gas causes about 20% of GHG emissions in the United States, and somewhat less, around 17%, in California. These percentages are growing because of EVs, building electrification and electricity hungry AI.

Although vehicle transportation accounts for a higher percentage (27%) of GHGs than electric power, changing

transportation choices is a longer and more culturally challenging proposition. Changing electric power resources can be accomplished comparatively quickly by policy change and smart use of new technologies.

This is particularly true if the utility is a publicly owned utility (POU), as in Pasadena, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Glendale and Burbank where elected officials have authority to steer public policy. There are almost 2,000 POUs in the United States, so changing utility buying practices can have a major effect on GHGs in our country.

That is why Pasadena 100 advocated for our City Council to set a policy goal of 100% carbon free electric power in our city by 2030. In January of 2023, Pasadena's City Council did just that, unanimously enacting Climate Emergency Resolution 9977 and its 100% carbon free by 2030 mandate.

Pasadena 100 prides itself on being "fact based and objective." Thanks to the fact that we have members who are JPL and Caltech faculty, staff and students,

we have enthusiastic and talented researchers. These members have helped us to understand that the 100% carbon free goal is technologically achievable. In the words of Stanford professor Mark Z. Jacobson, who offered a webinar for our group, "no miracles are needed" to transition away from dangerous fossil fuels; "the biggest obstacles are social and political, and the will to do it."

The current status of the 100% carbon free mission is exciting. PWP has made major progress in securing carbon-free power purchase agreements to import electricity from remote suppliers, such that, if we do nothing else, we should be at 88% by 2030.

In Pasadena, achieving the remaining 12% depends on increasing local (not imported) rooftop solar, batteries and implementing new technologies that make our local grid more efficient. Much of the Pasadena focus is now on educating and advocating for these local resources and technologies.

For more information, visit [pasadena100.org](https://pasadena100.org).

# Tree of the quarter *Hymenosporum flavum*, commonly known as sweetshade

## Sweetshade

Origin: Australia

Family: Pittosporaceae (Pittosporums)

By Emina Darakjy  
President, California Urban Forests  
Council

**T**he sweetshade is a very slender, upright evergreen tree, but can be pruned to any shape. It grows between 20 and 40 feet tall and 15 to 20 feet wide.

The tree prefers full sun but can take partial shade. It does well in any type of soil, benefits from infrequent but deep watering, is considered drought tolerant, requires little maintenance, and has no known insect or disease problems.

The bark of the trunk is light grey and rough. The leaves are 2" to 6" long, shiny green, alternate and pointed. Wooden fruit capsules appear in late summer, green at first, turning dark brown. When they crack open they reveal several layers of stacked flat-winged seeds.

From spring to early summer masses of small flowers cover the entire tree. They appear cream color at first changing to a dark yellow. The flowers are very fragrant and remind me of orange blossoms. Some people say the scent reminds them of plumerias.

The sweetshade was first introduced to California in the early 1900 by



The sweetshade grows between 20 and 40 feet tall and 15 to 20 feet wide.

From spring to early summer masses of small flowers cover the entire tree. They appear cream color at first changing to a dark yellow.

Wooden fruit capsules appear in late summer, green at first, turning dark brown. When they crack open, they reveal several layers of stacked flat-winged seeds.

Dr. Francesco Franceschi, an Italian horticulturist living in Santa Barbara, where you can find one of the best and largest specimens. The Santa Barbara tree was planted in 1904 on Dibblee Avenue and is listed on the California "Big Tree" registry.

If you are looking for an ornamental tree that rewards you with an explosion of

scented flowers every spring, look no further the sweetshade.

Emina Darakjy is also 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.



Wildlife camera captures blaze

## Scenes from Eaton Fire through the lens of a wildlife camera

By John Howell  
CEO, Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

In the early hours of January 8, the Eaton Fire reached Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy's Rubio Canyon Preserve in Altadena, and then burned through it.

Since 2016 the A&FC has maintained and monitored remote trail cameras on these 41 acres to study wildlife behavior and travel. After the fire, we returned to Rubio as soon as we safely could. Miraculously, we found one trail camera that survived the flames.

We've all seen devastating imagery of the fire moving through neighborhoods, but the photos provided an additional perspective to understand the effects of this catastrophic event. They put us right in the middle of it, along with a deer.

The remarkable pace and drama are captured in just a few still images. You'll see the quiet that followed the fire.

While the area appears to be a drastically different place for its wildlife inhabitants, they will adapt as the habitat

recovers. While these images show the fury of the fire, they also give us a feeling of resilience and hope.

The Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy and our wonderful volunteers are committed to supporting the land's recovery by removing opportunistic invasive plants that rush in and compete with native plants. As our foothills recover, our work to help save other areas of natural habitat for wildlife continues unabated.



Deer scrambles to survive fire

### **BRIEFLY**

#### **THE PASADENA BEAUTIFUL**

**FOUNDATION HAS SUSPENDED** its signature Golden Arrow Awards this year to address a more pressing community need: redirecting funds to support recovery efforts following the Eaton fire. *Source: Pasadena Now*

#### **BILL NYE, CEO OF PASADENA-BASED**

Planetary Society, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Joe Biden. Nye has served as the CEO of The Planetary Society. His passion for science extends to advocating for climate policies on the national stage, including appearances at events and media campaigns aimed at addressing climate change. *Source: Colorado Boulevard*

#### **THE ATMOSPHERIC CONCENTRATION**

**OF** lead in Los Angeles reached 100 times average levels even miles from the flames. Concentration of chlorine was 40 times the average level. This underscores the added danger from wildfires when cars, homes and other structures burn. *Source: NY Times and LA Times*



Pasadena, LA and Sierra Madre firefighters and public safety partners received a standing ovation on March 2 at the 97th Academy Awards program for their heroic actions during the Eaton Fire. In photo are, from left to right, LA Fire Department firefighter **Lyndsey Lantz**, Pasadena Fire Department Chief **Chad Augustin**, LAFD Capt. **Bryan Nassour**, LAFD Fire Capt. **Robert Hawkins**, O'Brien, Sierra Madre Fire Chief **Brent Bartlett**, PFD firefighter/paramedic **Joey Bess**. [Photo by Pasadena Fire Dept.]



On the red carpet at the Oscars are, left to right, PFD firefighter **Joey Bess**, Capt. **Jodi Slicker**, District 6 Councilmember **Steve Madison**, PFD Chief **Chad Augustin**, and PFD engineer **Chien Yu**. "On behalf of all of Los Angeles, thank you for all that you do," said Conan O'Brien, program host. (Photo by Pasadena Fire Dept.)

## BRIEFLY

**LA COUNTY, THE CITY OF PASADENA AND PASADENA UNITED SCHOOL DISTRICT FILED LAWSUITS** against Southern California Edison alleging the utility's equipment sparked the deadly Eaton Fire. Pasadena's complaint relates to extensive damage to several key municipal assets including the Pasadena Police Department's Advanced Officer Training Facility and critical water management infrastructure. The fire substantially damaged or destroyed five PUSD campuses. Sources: City of Pasadena and News Channel 3

**PASADENA'S HEALTH OFFICER HAS ISSUED AN ORDER** requiring all health workers to receive updated, annual flu and COVID-19 vaccines. The order comes on the heels of a summer upward spike in COVID-19 cases in Pasadena. Underpinning the order – which covers works at all licensed acute-care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, emergency medical services, and other health facilities – is that Pasadena has a higher per capita population living in long-term care facilities as compared to the rest of LA County. Source: Pasadena Star-News

**THE FEROCIOUS FLAMES OF THE EATON FIRE** stalled when they reached the Arroyo Seco. While canyons and neighborhoods to the east were devastated, Millard, the last mountain tributary, was the only part of the Arroyo stream that suffered damage, amounting to 8% of the total watershed area. The homes in the Altadena Meadows, situated on the ridge of El Prieto Canyon to the west and Millard Canyon to the east were largely destroyed. Source: Stewards of the Arroyo Seco



**WEST PASADENA  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Post Office Box 50252  
Pasadena, CA 91115-0252  
Visit our website @ [wpra.net](http://wpra.net)

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PASADENA, CA  
PERMIT #1105



## Pasadena: city on call

### Police Department

Emergency ..... 9-1-1  
Pasadena Crime Stoppers . . . . (800) 222-8477  
Non-emergency . . . . . (626) 744-4241

### City services

Full listing of city phone numbers:  
[cityofpasadena.net/contact](http://cityofpasadena.net/contact)



One Call to City Hall  
**626.744.7311**

**Submit service requests — Get answers**  
**Call center hours of operation:**  
**Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Download the CSC App!



ANDROID



IPHONE

## Express yourself

### Pasadena

Mayor Victor Gordo  
[vgordo@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:vgordo@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
City Manager Miguel Márquez  
[miguelmarquez@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:miguelmarquez@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Police Chief Eugene Harris  
[eharris@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:eharris@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Fire Chief Chad Augustin  
[caugustin@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:caugustin@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
City Clerk Mark Jomsky  
[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)

### City Council

Tyron Hampton, Council District 1  
[thampton@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:thampton@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Rick Cole, Council District 2  
[rcole@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:rcole@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Justin Jones, Council District 3  
[justinjones@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:justinjones@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Gene Masuda, Council District 4  
[gmaseda@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:gmaseda@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Jessica Rivas, Council District 5  
and Vice Mayor  
[jrivas@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jrivas@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Steve Madison, Council District 6  
[smadison@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:smadison@cityofpasadena.net)  
  
Jason Lyon, Council District 7  
[jlyon@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jlyon@cityofpasadena.net)

### Los Angeles County

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

### California

Governor Gavin Newsom  
[gov.ca.gov/contact/](http://gov.ca.gov/contact/)

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-25):  
[senator.perez@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.perez@senate.ca.gov)

Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-41):  
[assemblymember.harabedian@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.harabedian@assembly.ca.gov)

### United States

President Donald J. Trump  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

Vice President JD Vance  
[vice.president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:vice.president@whitehouse.gov)

Senator Adam Schiff  
[schiff.senate.gov/share-your-opinion](http://schiff.senate.gov/share-your-opinion)

Senator Alex Padilla  
[padilla.senate.gov/contact/contact-form](http://padilla.senate.gov/contact/contact-form)

Representative Judy Chu (D-28):  
[chu.house.gov/contact](http://chu.house.gov/contact)

Representative Laura Friedman (D-30):  
[friedman.house.gov/contact](http://friedman.house.gov/contact)