Council Briefing

February 2007

Administrative Services

Fiscal Services:

- Police alarm permits issued in January totaled 59, making the fiscal year to date total 314. Total number of active permits as of Jan. 31 was 4,555.
- Invoices billed in January totaled 867, with a valuation of \$427,808. Invoices billed for fiscal 2006-07 to date total 4,037, with a valuation of \$2,723,629.
- Delinquent notices in January totaled 46, with a valuation of \$424. Delinquent notices for fiscal 2006-07 to date total 305, with a valuation of \$2,441.
- Total number of general checks and direct deposits in January was 791 and 197, respectively, with a valuation of \$4,855,619. The total number of general checks and direct deposits for fiscal year 2006-07 to-date totals 5,698 and 1,254, respectively, with a valuation of \$36,653,740.

Information Technology:

- Staff upgraded the Main Library's backbone network. This alleviated the slowness staff and the public were encountering when using their computers or accessing the Internet.
- Staff has completed the set up of 15 new Panasonic Toughbook computers for the Police Department. Officers will be able to use the computers to access information in the field.
- ➤ Purchasing: In January, the Division processed approximately 230 requisitions; saved \$2,700 through early payment discounts; and saved \$1,000 through competitive quotes, cooperative purchases and state/government resources. Central Services ran 118,226 copies and processed 13,470 pieces of mail.

Revenue:

- In January, 154 business registration certificates were issued. Of that total, 99 were for businesses in Fullerton and 55 were located out of the city, but will be doing business here. Business tax collected for new registrants totaled \$10,617.
- In January, 180 businesses closed: 78 in Fullerton and 102 out of the city.
- Business certificates renewed in January numbered 1,037, which totaled \$143,916 in business tax collected.

Utility Services:

- In January, customer service staff answered 2,670 calls.
- Cash register transactions in January numbered 4,658 and totaled \$24,704,338. Transactions by payment method were: credit cards, 1,382; checks, 1,504; cash, 1,102; and direct deposits, 136.

Community Development

Building:

- Inspection stops in December totaled 1,369 and resulted in 1,969 individual inspections.
 The average daily number of inspections was 99, and the average daily workload was 14.5 inspections per inspector.
- In January, 190 plans (including 21 ancillary plans) were submitted for plan check. Of that total, 81 were checked the same day, at the counter. A total of 1,591 visitors came to the permit counter in January, and 450 permits and plan checks were issued. Total valuation of the permits issued was \$2.8 million.
- The new on-line appointment program is up and running. It allows customers to make appointments on line, for any type of inquiries (i.e., initial plan review, obtain permits, etc.). In January, one on-line appointment request was received.
- Staff is working with IT on installation of a new permit program which would allow users to obtain minor building permits and pay fees on-line. Target completion date is Feb. 15.
- In January, staff completed conversion of 32,167 microfiche images of building documents to digital.
- Construction of the third level for the Providence Center parking structure, 225 Laguna Road, is complete, as is steel framing of the three-story office building.

- Construction of the building shell for the Anaheim Police heliport project at the Airport is 90 percent complete. Grading for three of seven hangers is also complete, while steel framing for two of the hangers is 70 percent complete.
- The new Bank of America at 2121 N. Harbor Blvd. is ready for final inspection.
- The new St. Jude medical office building and parking structure is in plan check.

Community Preservation:

- In January, staff received 190 complaints and resolved 1982; conducted 500 inspections; issued 128 first notices of violation and 13 citations; arranged for the pick up by MG Disposal of 22 large items (couches, appliances, etc.); received 26 requests for graffiti removal; arranged for the removal of three abandoned shopping carts; received 55 calls on the code enforcement hotline; and made \$1,400 in revenue.
- First inspections in the West Side proactive area were completed in January. The area inspected is bounded by Peckham, Gilbert and Orangethorpe avenues, and includes Iris Court. Inspections were conducted of the outside of all parcels, and the interiors of some units. Data tabulated to date shows 427 violations and 40 Notices of Violation issued.

Engineering

Construction Management:

- A \$381,968 contract was awarded to S.P. Pazargad Engineering Construction Inc. for the Brea Boulevard Slope Repair Project south of Panorama Road. The work, which began in January, includes slope stabilization, reinforced concrete grade beam and piles installation, and a redwood plank retaining wall.
- A \$1,771,211 contract was awarded to Los Angeles Engineering Inc. for improvements to the Lemon Street Underpass between Santa Fe and Truslow avenues and the surrounding area within Fullerton City limits. Improvements include sidewalk replacement, a tubular steel fence, concrete retaining wall, lighting upgrade, landscape planting, and irrigation. Work is scheduled to be completed on time in April.
- Work is to be completed in April on the Lemon Street Reconstruction and Landscape Enhancement Project from Chapman to Berkeley avenues. The contractor, All American Asphalt, began work in December. The contract includes roadway excavation; sidewalk, driveway, manhole and water valve adjustments; traffic striping and signing; crosswalk lighting system; landscaping and irrigation; and street lighting.

- Work is expected to be completed this month on the project to reconstruct the concrete floor on the west vehicle maintenance building at the City Yard. Contractor Electroserv Co. began work on the \$66,949 project in December.
- Work is expected to be completed in March on the Richman Park Area Street Improvements. Contractor R.J. Noble Co. began work on the project in October, and installation of a new water line on Valencia Drive and removal of concrete on West Avenue are complete.
- ➤ Water System Management: Work began and finished in January on the Large Meter Service Upgrade for Fiscal 2006-07. The \$48,699 contract was awarded to Precision Pipeline Inc., and included constructing a large meter and service at 2100 W. Commonwealth Ave. and 517 N. Raymond Ave.

Fire

➤ Monthly Run Statistics: The Department responded to 837 requests for service in January – down slightly from the 851 runs in January 2006. Of the 837 requests, 44 were fires, 701 were medical aids, 16 were hazardous materials incidents, and 78 were service calls. In addition, 98 automatic aids were given and 96 were received.

> Suppression:

- On Jan. 1, Truck 1 and Engine 1 responded with Anaheim Fire to a late-night structure fire in the 400 block of S. Lemon Street in Anaheim. During suppression operations, crews had to pull ceilings on the second floor of the structure. After the incident, Anaheim Fire notified Fullerton personnel that the ceiling insulation material contained asbestos.
- On Jan. 5 at 11:38 p.m., Engine 2 responded to a vehicle fire in the 2000 block of W. Commonwealth Avenue. In the process of overhauling, crews found a small can which contained the hazardous material phenyl isothiocyanate. The crew and the on-scene Police Officer were exposed to this hazardous material by inhalation and contact.
- On Jan. 8 at 10:50 a.m., Engines 6, 4 and 3 were dispatched on an automatic aid response with Anaheim Fire in a commercial "dust collection" system fire in a business in the 400 block of E. Orangethorpe Avenue in Anaheim. Engines 4 and 6 assisted with advancing supply lines and Engine 3 handled interior attack using a thermal imaging camera to check the collection system for active fire.
- On Jan. 10, Engine 1 was called out to investigate three bags of medical waste found on the street corner of Lincoln and Chapman avenues. Once on scene, the crew isolated the site and waited for appropriate cleanup crews.

- On Jan. 12 at 10:20 p.m., Truck 1, Engines 1, 3 and 4 and Battalion 1 responded on a second-alarm apartment structure fire in the 400 block of W. Orangethorpe Ave. Two Police Officers on scene evacuated the residents on both floors of the apartment wing. Truck 1 proceeded with roof ventilation, using chainsaws and hooks. Engine 1 extended a line to the roof and to the interior of the unit on fire. Engines 3 and 4 assisted with fire attack and extinguishment. Initial investigation revealed the fire had started below the fire floor in the wall heater pipe chase and was accidental in nature. Fire units were released after overhaul, fire extension investigation and verifying the safety of the apartment units.
- On Jan. 13 at 9:22 a.m., Truck 1, Engines 2 and 6, and Battalion 1 were called to the Airport on a report of an incoming plane with landing gear problems. The crews staged, but happily the plane landed safely.
- On Jan. 26 at 16:17 p.m., Engine 5 was dispatched on a medical aid at Cal State Fullerton. The male patient had jumped from the top of the parking structure, a drop of 75 feet plus. Paramedics worked on the patient for approximately 20 minutes until they were directed by St. Jude's emergency physician to stop. Police were already on scene and the coroner was contacted.
- On Jan. 26 at 16:25 p.m., Truck 1, Engines 1, 3, 4 and 6, along with neighboring fire units, were dispatched to a second-alarm apartment fire in the 2600 block of E. Milton Place. The fire was caused by a plumber sweating copper pipe, igniting the interior structure's wood framing. Four units sustained damage. The Red Cross was notified.

➤ Non-Suppression:

- A half-day planning session took place Jan. 27 between all Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members and the Fire Chief. The response was excellent. All CERT team members are motivated and will be a great asset.
- The "First Night Fullerton" fireworks display was a success; no injuries or damage were reported. A well-deserved "thank you" to the Fire Prevention Bureau for its part in coordinating the display.

Human Resources

- ➤ Liability Program: Sixteen new claims were opened in December, 11 claims were closed and two lawsuits were served. In January, five new claims were opened, four were closed, and no lawsuits were served.
- Workers' Compensation Program: Fifteen new claims were filed in November and four filed in December. No new lawsuits filed either month.

Recruitments:

- For the three-month period from November through January, staff completed or is nearing completion of recruitments for Community Liaison Officer, Events Specialist, Recreation Supervisor, Street Supervisor, Redevelopment Project Manager I/II, and Stormwater/Wastewater Compliance Specialist I. Additional management/professional positions open or soon to be opened are Accountant II and Children's Services Librarian.
- The recent recruitment for Library Director resulted in the appointment of Maureen Gebelein, effective Feb. 5.
- Planning is under way for the Parks and Recreation Director recruitment.

Employee Processing:

- In November, staff processed 11 regular and 4 non-regular appointments, five regular and three non-regular promotions, and two regular and nine non-regular separations.
- In December, staff processed four regular and 15 non-regular appointments, six regular and two non-regular promotions, and 12 regular and 10 non-regular separations.
- In January, staff processed seven regular and 13 non-regular appointments, two regular and six non-regular promotions, and five regular and six non-regular separations.

Maintenance Services

Administration:

- In January, the Department received 1,188 service requests, completing 885 (75 percent) in the month. Of the 25 emergency requests received, 10 (40 percent) were completed in one day. The Building and Facilities Division received the most requests 389, or 33 percent of the total.
- At the request of the City Manager, the Department's audit team will begin a cost-benefit
 analysis of the Downtown Restaurant Overlay District. The analysis will review the
 operating and capital investment the City has made over the past few years versus
 revenues generated within the District. The team will begin in-depth work on the study as
 soon as it completes the Department's budget request this month.
- The Department's support staff received 1,816 calls in January an average of 91 per workday, or 45 for each of our two primary customer service personnel.

Facilities:

- The Graffiti Crews removed 39,175 square feet of graffiti from 309 sites in January. This
 brought the year-to-date totals to 297,393 square feet of graffiti removed from 2,067
 sites.
- Staff completed 15 custodial inspections of City facilities.
- The capital project to replace the Museum air conditioning system and roofing is still a
 work in progress. Staff is working with the Engineering Department to insure all required
 work is properly completed.
- ➤ Sewer: In January, the Division: handled two City sewer overflows; hydrojetted 17.01 miles of sewer mains; root cut or mechanically treated 8,695 linear feet of main; mechanically treated 70 sewer laterals; inspected 38 food service establishments; did CCTV inspections of 33 laterals; did CCTV inspections of 26,350 linear feet of sewer main; approved two lifeline applications and three large lot applications; and received seven sewer fee calls and 57 sewer service requests. There were no private sewer overflows in January.
- ➤ Equipment: The Division performed 94 PM inspections, five BIT inspections, and three smog certifications in January.

Landscape:

- West Coast Arborists, the City's contract tree-trimming company, has performed the following services from July 1, 2006, through January 31, 2007: trimmed 5,752 trees; removed 380 trees and stumps; planted 198 trees; and responded to 612 service requests. Division goals for Fiscal 2006-07 are to prune 13,000 trees, remove 500 trees, and plant 700 24-inch box trees.
- The Division received five calls concerning beehives and swarms, and eradicated five hives in January.
- West Coast Arborists began the GIS tree inventory Dec. 18. Seven of the 20 trimming zones had been re-inventoried as of Jan. 31. To date, 16,130 valid sites have been geographically identified, with accurate tree species logged into the system.
- There were no instances of red imported fire ants in January.
- Orange County Juvenile Work Program crews completed clean up on the Union Pacific connector trail from Highland Avenue to Independence Park. Crews have started brush and debris removal in the Gilman Park flood control channel.
- Arbor Day 2007 will be held in Brea Dam Park on March 10. In the event of rain, the planting will take place March 17.
- The Division completed 18 service requests in January.

➤ Street: In January, crews: cleaned nine roadway spills, 334,119 linear feet of sidewalk, 3,503 miles of street and 576 drains; used 208 tons of asphalt for Water Division digouts, 373 tons for paving, five tons for street digouts, and 62 tons for patching; milled 33 linear feet of gutter; completed 73 asphalt sidewalk repairs; ground 558 sidewalks; planed 400 square feet of asphalt; installed, fabricated and cleaned 484 signs; and applied 55 gallons of paint.

Parks and Recreation

Capital Improvements:

- RJM Design Group has submitted 65 percent of the construction plans for the Laguna Lake project. Staff is coordinating with Acorn Group for preparation of the signage program for the lake. The Acorn Group will submit concept plans for review by staff and the Laguna Lake Advisory Committee
- Construction on the Richman Park improvements should begin by Feb. 12. The contractor is EMAE International Inc.
- Staff is in the process of hiring a landscape architect to prepare a conceptual master plan for Lemon Park that will include additional shaded picnic areas, walkways, a prefabricated restroom, playground improvements, and signage.
- Hirsch and Associates, hired to prepare the new master plan for Lions Field, has submitted three preliminary concepts for staff review. The preferred plan will be presented to the field users groups, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Council for approval.
- Adopt-A-Park: The fall session was successfully concluded in January. All 22 non-profit groups completed the 12-week session and received their \$325 stipends for maintaining their assigned park or trail at the Feb. 6 Council meeting.

Senior Multi-Service Center:

- The holiday open house was held Dec. 7, and included entertainment, a visit from Santa, and refreshments. Approximately 165 persons attended.
- Health services in December included bone density screenings provided to 22 individuals through Anaheim Memorial Medical Center, an osteoporosis workshop, and a program sponsored by Preventive Health Care for the Aging.

- The center's eight-week adult education memory class, "Staying Mentally Sharp," began Jan. 3, with more than 65 individuals pre-registering. Demand has resulted in a second offering of the class planned to start in April.
- A four-week diabetes education program was held in January. Attendance averaged about 28 per meeting. A diabetes support group begins in March.
- The semi-annual fitness assessment program was conducted Jan. 25 for 26 seniors, with the assistance of staff and senior volunteers. The tests measured body strength, agility, flexibility, speed and cardiovascular endurance.

Maple Center

- An after-school program aimed at youths 11-16 started in December. Volunteers from Solidarity led recreation activities and provided homework assistance. Twenty children participated in the program. They ended the month with a holiday party for participants and their parents. Each participant received a gift provided by the Solidarity members.
- The Center's After-School Program began Jan. 8. This program is funded through a 21st Century Grant from the Fullerton School District and offers students from Maple Elementary School after-school recreation and enrichment activities. There are 75 students registered in the program.

> Richman Community Center:

- The annual "Breakfast with Santa," sponsored by the Girl Scouts, drew 375 people. Children were treated to breakfast as well as arts and crafts activities. Garnet and Richman children performed various dances learned in classes sponsored through a donation from UniHealth Foundation.
- Sixty-five Richman neighborhood children went to "Snow Day" at Brea Dam.
- The Valencia Health Committee met with representatives from St. Jude Hospital and Dr. Preciado, Health Center physician, to discuss operations at the Neighborhood Health Center. The Center is now open full-time and will be open on Saturdays, beginning in February. Foot traffic has increased.
- The newly-formed resident volunteer group, Friends of the Centers, has been meeting weekly with staff to assist in planning "Family Fun Days." The group's goal is to recruit other community members to participate in center activities and programs. There are 12 volunteers in the group.

Garnet Community Center:

- An estimated 75 Garnet Center clients participated in the "Breakfast with Santa" at the Maple Center.
- The MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) class grew weekly, ending with a total of 18 women participating.
- More than 150 Garnet area families received Christmas presents from various community groups and businesses.
- Approximately 75 Garnet Center clients went to "Snow Day" at Brea Dam.
- The after-school program hosted a meeting for parents of children participating in center programs and new parents to provide information about the program.

> Tiny Tots:

- December was a busy month for the Tiny Tots Imagination Station preschool program at Independence Park. Fifty-one children were enrolled in the program. Classroom pre-registration for the winter-spring sessions took place this month.
- In January, staff met with 16 new families interested in enrolling their children in preschool. A total of 176 positions have been filled for the winter-spring months.

Youth Programs:

- The Orangethorpe After-School Program hosted the first annual "Winter Talent Show" Dec. 7, featuring various student musical and dance performances. More than 500 persons attended.
- The Maple After-School Program started Jan. 8, with 75 children enrolled.
- The Topaz Elementary School after-school program has contracted with the Department's "Playgrounds on the Go" mobile recreation program to serve approximately 100 children daily.
- The Richman Community Center PACE program operates Monday-Thursday. Staff organizes and implements infant/toddler activities, in collaboration with the Fullerton School District pre-school, for parents taking ELD classes at the center.
- ➤ Independence Park/Teen Programs: The "Rec Room" teen band night Dec.16 drew more than 100 people.

Tennis Center:

- December was quiet due to league closures for the holidays and three partial days lost to rain. All leagues closed down Dec. 14 and did not resume until the second week of January.
- January attendance numbers were the highest ever, up 15 percent from the previous January. All leagues have resumed play, including an off-season Servite High School workout twice a week. The Center is also currently hosting 12 teams that are in season.

Youth Sports:

- In December, many of the youth leagues concluded their seasons with the exception of Rugby, whose season just began. Soccer, baseball and softball start their spring seasons this month.
- Staff hosted the Sports Field Users meeting Jan. 25 to discuss field allocations. Most fields have been de-thatched and reseeded for the spring season.
- Classes: ClassEconnect (online) registration accounted for almost 30 percent of spring registration, with almost 800 residents signing up for classes.

Outdoor Recreation:

- The "Get Outdoors" section of the spring class brochure continues to attract more participants. With the continued interest in the hiking classes, the spring brochure will introduce many options including family, leisure and doggy hikes, and new classes like fly fishing, mountain biking basics, and kayaking.
- "Snow Day" continues to be one of the most popular events for the Parks and Recreation Department, with nearly 1,000 people attending this year's event. Families enjoyed two slick 40-foot sled runs heading down a mildly sloping hill. For those who needed a break from the cold stuff, a craft area had materials to make snowflake bookmarks and snowman sun catchers.

Cultural and Events:

- The Museum's newest exhibit, "Hatching the Past: Dinosaur Eggs, Nests, and Young," opened Jan. 27, offering a rare look at the life of dinosaurs through their eggs, nests, and embryos. In addition, the Museum has planned several programs related to the exhibit that will attract families with young children and provide a quality, educational program for the community.
- A "Dino-mite Opening Celebration" was held for the new exhibit Jan. 27, and included a
 pancake breakfast, bounce houses and activities for children, and a curator's talk by
 Florence Magovern who developed the exhibit with her husband.

- In an effort to appeal to families and younger children (preschool age and younger), the
 Museum is launching its weekly "Stroller Brigade." The galleries will be open before
 regularly scheduled hours for families to bring their young children to see the exhibit. In
 addition to full access to the gallery, participants can also enjoy storytelling, coloring, and
 arts & crafts. This will take place every Wednesday for the duration of the "dino" exhibit.
- The feedback about the last exhibit, "Golden States of Grace: Prayers of the Disinherited," has been very positive. High school and college students viewed the exhibit as part of their curriculum and to appreciate the artwork.
- The "You Won't Part With Yours Either" Fender Gallery exhibit continues to attract a
 diverse audience from guitar lovers and music fans to students and families. Patrons
 especially appreciate the Museum having a Fender guitar available for them to test out
 their music skills.
- The 16th Annual "First Night Fullerton" Dec. 31 was very successful, with increased attendance over recent years. KOCE was on-site with anchorwoman Sandra Robbie providing a live feed during the event.
- Wednesday Art Studio, a four-week art program, is provided by the Museum as an outlet for young artists to explore their creativity through various media, such as painting, drawing, etc. Parents have expressed appreciation for such a unique and individualized after-school art program.

Police

Patrol:

- An attempted carjacking occurred in our city. The suspects pulled the driver from his truck, hit him with their fists, stole his cell phone and a radio faceplate, and then tried to steal his truck. Investigation Division Capt. Mike Maynard responded with several Officers. Officer Gary Sirin arrested an accomplice of the suspects who posed as lookout, while Officer Ranger Garcia found a suspect sitting on a bus bench, holding the victim's cell phone. The third suspect, who had the victim's radio faceplate, was found at a nearby restaurant.
- Corporal Matt Wilkerson noticed a vehicle with its lights off behind a restaurant. He contacted the driver and found burglary tools, a replica handgun, bandanas, and gloves in the car. The suspect was arrested. A records check revealed the suspect had an extensive history of burglary and weapons violations.
- Officers Jim Bolden and Kenny Edgar, working a two-officer unit, stopped a vehicle for equipment violation. Officer Bolden blocked the vehicle to the curb and detained the driver while Officer Edgar caught the fleeing passenger. There were burglary tools and

numerous quarters in the vehicle, and a check of the area found a coin laundry machine had been burglarized.

- Officers responded to a fight at Revolucción Bar. The man had stabbed his girlfriend with a pocket knife and fled. The woman's wound was minor. While this was going on, Officer Roger Tonon had stopped a vehicle on a traffic violation. When he heard the assailant's description, he realized it was the driver of the car he stopped. Officer Tonon found the knife and arrested the suspect.
- An armed robbery occurred at the F&M Food Market. An intoxicated man entered the store and demanded whiskey. The clerk refused, but when the man displayed a pistol, the clerk reconsidered and the suspect fled with the whiskey.
- Cpl. Jose Torres, conducting patrol checks in an area hit by several auto burglaries, spotted a man walking along the street, carrying a backpack. He stopped the man and searched the backpack, locating a flashlight, binoculars, two-way radio, screwdrivers, pliers, and a garage door opener. A check revealed the man was on parole for burglary. The suspect was taken into custody.
- Cpl. Ben Lira stopped a vehicle containing "Peni" gang members. The driver was arrested for narcotics violation and for a dagger found in his waistband. A search of the vehicle located more narcotics and several items of stolen property, including a computer, forged checks, and police hats and badges. The suspects admitted to committing several burglaries in Huntington Beach.

Redevelopment and Economic Development

- Civic Center Update: LPA continues to meet with staff and stakeholders regarding finalizing the site plan. Staff and LPA are to meet with the Boys and Girls Club representatives this month to review and discuss possible site options. LPA has presented the site plan to the Library Board.
- Transportation Center Master Plan: The third community planning workshop will be held in March. Staff and consultants are working on finalizing the alternative land use plans for the workshop.
- ➤ SOCO West Parking Structure: Staff is meeting monthly with OCTA and Caltrans on the funding allocation request and other related items. The Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration public review period has passed. Staff will be taking these documents, along with responses to comments, to the City Council for consideration Feb. 20.