

MARCH 2012

# City Council Update



## **Projects:**

City Hall Electronic Door Access System and Lobby Cameras Upgrade (**Engineering**): Beginning this month, all City Hall doors that currently have electronic access will be upgraded to ensure compatibility with the access systems at the Library and new Community Center. City Hall lobby cameras will be upgraded to high definition cameras. The contract is for \$23,491 with Pyro-Comm Systems; construction is estimated to be complete within the month.

Puente Street Bike Lane Connection (**Engineering**): Council awarded this \$509,341 contract to Excavating Engineers in December 2010. Construction began in May 2011 and includes a bicycle path, striping, bridge, and retaining wall. Landscaping and irrigation are scheduled to be completed this month, after which the 90-day maintenance period begins.

Library Photovoltaic System (**Engineering**): The solar panel system is pending Southern California Edison's approval. All contract work is complete.

Rosecrans Avenue and Harbor Boulevard Signal Improvement and Coordination (**Engineering**): The project was completed at the end of November.

Commonwealth Avenue Sewer Improvement (**Engineering**): The project was completed in February.

Building Demolition – 312, 324, 336 W. Valencia Dr., 455 West Ave. (**Engineering**): The project was completed in February.

## **Programs:**

Water Savings Achieved (**Engineering**): On Sept. 29, 2008, the City Manager mandated a 10 percent reduction in water consumption from the three-year average use in calendar years 2004, 2005 and 2006. Water Engineering, Parks and Recreation and Maintenance Services have been actively working together to reduce water usage at all City-operated sites. For calendar year 2011, the City saved approximately 62.7 million gallons - or 25 percent. Thus far this calendar year, the City has saved approximately 3.4 million gallons – 18 percent.

Additional Revenue - "Share the Power" (**Engineering**): In an effort to generate additional revenue for the City, Water staff from the Engineering and Maintenance Services departments enrolled in a program called "Share the Power." Under this program, the City agrees to reduce its electrical demand on the grid during a power shortage event by turning off various wells and booster pumps for a minimum of one hour and a maximum of four. In return, the City receives a monthly standby payment. If the City is unable to reduce its power demand during an event, the amount of each monthly standby payment thereafter will be adjusted to reflect actual energy reduction achieved by the City. The "Share the Power" program is a no-cost, no-risk

program which the City can terminate at any time. From January through November 2011, the City received a total of \$41,470 in monthly standby payments. The City is expected to receive approximately \$48,000 for calendar year 2012.

Additional Revenue-Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Grant (**Engineering**): Engineering staff secured an MWD Grant (rebate) as part of upgrade funding for the Fullerton Golf Course. The grant amount, \$54,200, partially funded installation of water-efficient central computer irrigation controllers and sprinkler heads.

Publisher Presentations (**Library**): On Feb. 23 more than 100 children's and teen services librarians from around Southern California descended on the new Community Room in the Main Library's Conference Center. The event was the "Publisher Presentations for spring, 2012" presented by Baker & Taylor, "a leading distributor of books, videos, and music products to libraries, institutions and retailers." The librarians in attendance got an advanced peek at many of the new books and DVDs being released this spring. The program ended with internationally known picture book creator David Shannon speaking to the crowd.

Housing Information (**Library**): For the last two weeks in February, the Library staff assisted more than 100 families in applying for low-income housing. The low-income housing list was last open in 2005 and served thousands of Orange County families.

Passport Processing (**Library**): The passport service at the Main Library continued to be very popular in February, with nearly 200 passport applications accepted. The passport service at the Library helps bring in people who might not otherwise use the Library, and allows staff to not only help with passport-related questions but share some of the resources that might be of interest to travelers, such as travel books, DVDs, etc. The passport service is offered seven days a week most hours that the Main Library is open. On Saturday, March 10 the Library celebrated "Passport Day in the U.S.A.," with special giveaways and lots of helpful information.

Downtown Fullerton Art Walk (**Parks and Recreation**): On March 2, the Downtown Fullerton Art Walk partnered with the Fullerton Museum Center Association to celebrate the two-year anniversary of the monthly Downtown Art Walk. The anniversary event brought art institutions from all over the city to the Downtown Plaza for a collaboration of art experiences such as dance, theater, visual and performance art. The art venues also showcased their programs, and official Art Walk venues displayed works from local artists. The Plaza stage hosted dance performances early in the evening, followed by music by bands. Mayor Sharon Quirk-Silva helped launch the festivities.

Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum (**Parks and Recreation**): The sacrifices made by American servicemen and women who fought – and died – in the Vietnam War are remembered in "The Wall that Heals" on exhibit in Tri-City Park through March 18. The "Wall," also known as the Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum, is a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. In its first visit to North Orange County, the "Wall" was given a motorcycle escort from Ontario to Tri-City Park by veterans groups on March 13. At 10 a.m. March 14 a public opening ceremony for the exhibit was held at the park. The "Wall's" visit to Tri-City Park is being coordinated by the cities of Fullerton, Placentia and Brea, who share joint authority over the park. Other sponsors include the Orange Plaza Veterans and Patriots Committee, TravelCenters of America, CVS Pharmacy, American Legion Riders Post 555, J&R Industries, HD Industries and Demaria Electric.

Officer Training (**Police**): The Police Department hosted a one-day Hazmat P.O.S.T. Certified Training for 36 Commercial Enforcement Officers from Orange County and surrounding counties.

## ***Month in Review:***

***Police:*** In February, the Police Department was dispatched to 3,416 calls for service and initiated 1,966 additional contacts. There were 1,103 criminal reports taken during the month, and 435 persons were arrested for various criminal offenses.

***Community Development:*** In February, the Department: conducted 197 plan checks; issued 282 building permits; conducted 1,490 building inspections; visited 680 building sites; received 129 code enforcement complaints; handled 558 active code enforcement cases; conducted 535 code enforcement inspections; and closed 170 Code Enforcement complaints.

***Fire:*** In February, the Department had 1,005 requests for service, up very slightly from the 1,002 requests in February 2011. Of the 1,005 requests, 748 were for emergency medical aid, 28 were for fires, three were hazardous materials incidents, and 56 were service calls. Of the medical aid requests, 471 required advanced life support response and 277 required basic life support response. In addition, the Department responded on 123 automatic aid calls and received 99 in return.