DISTRICT 3 NEWS

Councilmember John J. Kennedy

Message from Councilmember Kennedy

Dear Friend and Neighbor,

Pasadena is a complex city. Every time there is a strong rain, the sun eventually shines bright to reveal the majestic San Gabriel Mountains as a backdrop to a wonderful vibrant place we call home. As the holiday season continues, 2016 is rapidly coming to a close. I want to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the progress we have made together in the areas of fiscal integrity, public safety, parks, affordable housing, local hiring, contracting and supplies, and progressive social justice issues, including the environment.

Finance and Audit Committee: as a member of this committee, it has been my rallying cry that the budget of the City remains balanced in a time of basically flat revenue and serious competing financial demands.

(cont. pg. 7)

Utility Underground Program

The Water & Power Department has just completed a series of community meeting's throughout the Districts to determine the future of the Utility Underground Program. Construction costs for the Underground Program are funded in part by an Underground Surtax, collected from all PWP electric customer bills. The Underground Surtax generates approximately $5 million per year, enough revenue to fund the construction of approximately 0.5 to 0.7 miles of construction per year. Based on the current funding structure, the cost of undergrounding is about $90,000 per property affected-or about $10-12 million per mile-for a total cost of about $2 billion to complete all feasible City streets.

OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE UNDERGROUND PROGRAM

Option 1: Continue the Undergrounding Program at the current pace. At the rate of funds collected at this time, it would take about a 100 years to complete the remaining

NEWS/EVENTS:

District 3 Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game lottery open Wednesday, November 23 to Sunday, December 4 at www.cityofpasadena.net/district3/

E-waste/Document Shredding on Saturday, December 10 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Rose Bowl Lot I

Pasadena UN Day on Sunday, December 11 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Creveling Lounge at Pasadena City College

District 3 Holiday Gathering and Community Meeting on Sunday, December 18 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Pasadena Central Library

128th Tournament of Roses Parade and 103rd Rose Bowl Game will take place on Monday, January 2, 2017

Mayor Tornek's State of the City Address on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at Washington STEAM Magnet Academy. Doors open at 6:30 pm

Category I streets.
Option 2: Stop the Surtax. The Undergrounding Program would discontinue when the funds that have already been collected have been spent on undergrounding-related efforts.
Option 3: Increase the surtax to accelerate the program. This means construction would increase from 0.7 miles to 1.5 miles per year. It would still take about 200 years to complete the program, and approximately 70 miles would not be completed.

You can click on the link below to provide your input on which direction you think the program should take:

http://www.cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/undergrounding/#101

Pasadena Named as Top Ranked City in 2016 Digital Cities Survey

The Center for Digital Government has recognized Pasadena as one of the top ten digital cities, ranking eighth overall for a City of its size. The selection criteria is determined by cities that use technology to improve citizen services, enhance transparency and encourage citizen engagement. This is the second recognition Pasadena has received for its continued work towards making our City more accessible to our residents.

Little Free Library Program

Started by Todd Bol and Rick Brooks in 2010, the goal of The Little Free Library (LFL) movement is to make books accessible to the public, promote literacy and foster community involvement. LFL's complement our City's Library services by offering children an opportunity to access books on their own, via the honor system, at any time.

Residents and business owners joined Councilmember Kennedy and the Flintridge Foundation's Apprenticeship Preparation Program on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 236 W. Mountain St. Pasadena, CA 91103 10:30 am to 1:00 pm for an exciting kickoff event. LFLs will be placed on permanent or temporary display in various locations throughout Northwest Pasadena.

For more information on the Little Free Library movement, please visit www.littlefreelibrary.org and for more information on how you can be part of this program, please contact Jana West jwest@cityofpasadena.net or Susana Porras sporras@cityofpasadena.net 626-744-4738.

To view City Council Agendas, click on the following link:
http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/councilagendas/council_agenda.asp

To view the City Manager's Weekly Newsletter, click on the following link:
http://cityofpasadena.net/CityManager/CM_Newsletters/

To view the latest edition of In Focus, click on the following link:
http://cityofpasadena.net/PublicAffairs/Pasadena_In_Focus_PDF/

To view the FY 2016 Adopted Capital Improvement Budget, click on the following link:
http://cityofpasadena.net/PublicWorks/Capital_Improvement_Program/

For the latest Northwest Commission Newsletter, click on the following link:
http://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/northwest/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2016/03/Northwest- January-February-2016-Newsletter.pdf

To join the District 3 Mailing List, click on the following link:
http://cityofpasadena.net/District3/

NEWS/EVENTS CONT.:

37th Annual Black History Parade & Festival on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 10:00 am

YOUR COUNCILMEMBER AT WORK:

August 2016

8/2 — National Night Out

8/10 — Meeting with Human Services & Recreation Department Director Horace Warmly about concerts

8/11 — Monthly meeting with City Manager to discuss District concerns and issues

8/11 — Community Occupancy Inspection Program

8/12 — Ice Cream Social and CERT Overview training for Pilgrims Tower residents

8/12 — Meetings with representatives of the NAACP

8/14 — Attended 28th Annual Michael Bryant Back to School event at Robinson Park - "Haircuts for boys and Hair Styling for girls"

8/24 — Attended reception to welcome officially Steve Mermell as our new City Manager

8/25 — Attended retirement event for Library Director Jan Sanders

8/29 — Met with representative of the D'Veal Family Center

8/30 — District 3 Community Meeting at the Pasadena Central Library

8/31 — Attended meeting for the accreditation of Pasadena's Public Health Department

8/31 — Attended bond discussion meeting with Finance Director Matthew Hawkesworth

September 2016

9/6 — Meeting with Water & Power Department Interim General Manager Gurcharan Bawa

9/7 — Meeting with District 3 residents to discuss affordable housing

9/8 — Monthly meeting with City Manager to discuss District concerns and issues

9/13 - 9/18 — Attended Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference in Washington D.C.

October 2016

10/1 — Brought greetings on behalf of the City at the Heritage Housing Partners Homeownership Workshop

10/2 — Participated in Firefighters Go Pink Walk at the Rose Bowl in support of breast cancer

YOUR COUNCILMEMBER AT WORK, CONT.

10/3 — Attended Pasadena City College African American Advisory Committee new faculty meet and greet at the office of Assemblymember Holden

10/6 — Attended Wells Fargo San Gabriel Community Connection Breakfast

10/7 — Participated in "Where the Holy Meets the Hurting", a gathering of Pasadena clergy coming together to find solutions to the problems facing our community

10/11 — Attended meeting with Kings Villages residents at Jackie Robinson Center

10/12 — Attended Pasadena Police Department Curbside Coffee & Chat with residents from the Sunset and Sunset Oaks Neighborhood Associations

10/13 — Monthly meeting with City Manager to discuss District concerns and issues

10/15 — Participated in the Latino Heritage Parade & Jamaica

10/17 — Attended the YWCA Women for Racial Justice breakfast

10/20 — Attended unveiling for plaque commemoration of William Henry Harrison, Pasadena's first African American real estate broker

10/27 — Brought greetings on behalf of the City at the Pasadena Beautiful Foundation Commercial Design Awards

10/29 — Attended Saving Our Young Black Men Symposium at Pasadena City College sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

10/29 — Attended Sunset Oaks Neighborhood Association block party

November 2016

11/1 — Participated in Change Matters radio interview

11/3 — Attended Chinese American Film Festival at the Westin Hotel, brought greetings on behalf of the City

11/11 — Attended Veterans Day Ceremony at City Hall

11/12 — Meeting with Boualem Bousseloub, Chair, Sister Cities Ad Hoc committee on Africa

11/11 — Enduring Heroes drop in to see progress of monument

11/15 — Kick-off of Little Free Library Program at Flintridge Center with Apprenticeship Program

11/ 16 — Monthly meeting with City Manager to discuss District concerns and issues

11/16 — District 3 Community Meeting at Robinson Park

11/17 — China Airlines Dinner - Celebrated Airlines' 60th Anniversary

11/20 — Attended 27th Anniversary celebration for New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church

11/25 — Attended Day of Service, Marengo and Orange Grove

Body Worn Camera Program

Starting November 7, 2016 the Pasadena Police Department fully implemented the Body Worn Camera Program. You will now see Police personnel throughout the City - the 239 sworn officers, community service officers, park safety specialists, detention officers, and various others throughout the Department equipped with cameras in an effort to make our Police Department more transparent. It is the intention that everyone in the Department that has any type of interaction with the public be equipped with a camera. The policy for the program can be found on the Police Department webpage at the following link: http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/EkContent.aspx?theme=Navy&id=8589944294&bid=0&style=news&bid=0

Metro Bike Share Program

The Department of Transportation applied for and was awarded a 2015 Metro Call for Projects grant to participate in Metro's Countywide Bike Share Program. The purpose of the program is to provide transit users with more reliable options to improve the commuter experience through the shared use of a bicycle. Bicycles will be available at kiosk locations throughout Pasadena allowing commuters to rent them to travel for short distances throughout the City. The fare structure will be determined by the amount of time the bicycle is rented, with options to purchase monthly passes. The purpose is to encourage transit ridership, reduce automobile use and improve access to City destinations.

Robinson Park Update

I am pleased to announce that we are in the final stages before reconstruction on Robinson Park begins. Request For Proposals for the construction company have been submitted, and the City Council is expected to make a final selection at either the December 5th or December 12th meeting. Once that final selection is made, we will be on track to start the project in February 2017. Robinson Park will be fully closed by January 13th with staff and programming relocated to various venues throughout the City, however the football field and outside basketball courts will remain open. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony to kick off the construction phase on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 1:00 pm.

Message From Pasadena Water & Power

REMINDER: ONE DAY A WEEK WATERING

As of November 1, outdoor watering is only permitted in Pasadena on Saturdays before 9:00 am and after 6:00 pm. Additional water use restrictions will remain in place under the Level 2 Water Shortage Plan, including:

-No watering during and 48 hours after rain

-No filling of ornamental lakes or ponds

-No washing vehicles except by using a handheld bucket or hose equipped with a water shutoff nozzle

Message from Councilmember Kennedy, (cont. from pg. 1):

Additionally, we have made a special effort to hold staff accountable with problem infrastructure acquisition and implementation. The City has already received approximately $5.2 million back from the $6 million that was embezzled. The City now has a reasonable expectation that it will receive all of the money it lost.

Serving as Chair of the Public Safety Committee: in my role as the chair of this committee, I have ensured that the community has a voice in public safety issues, while supporting public safety professionals with equitable pay and modern equipment. The Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) are the newest tool being used by our police department to help make the community safer. The City is considering whether to make minor changes to the policy that accompanied BWCs' deployment. We are grateful to our police personnel who are working hard to keep crime trending downward in District 3. Additionally, your tips have made a difference: "see something, say something."

Sidewalks: we have seen increased and steady funding for the replacement of thousands of linear feet of damaged sidewalks in District 3 and across the City of Pasadena. Several of the individuals who have a role in the City's sidewalk program are local. This is part of our plan to ensure that Pasadena continues to invest in its infrastructure for safety and a beautiful landscape.

Parks: the community was given an important voice in the Robinson Park Community Center Renovation Project, and we now see that construction may begin as early as January 2017 with the awarding of the construction contract for the project expected within the next two weeks. The development of p*ocket parks* (... urban open spaces at the very small level, serving the immediate local population) is a priority, particularly in the downtown area of District 3.

Housing: we can be most proud that elders in our community are now moving into Heritage Square Senior Housing Project Site I, 69 units of affordable housing recently completed. Soon, the City Council will consider proposals to build an equal amount of affordable housing just south of this site at the Northeast corner of Fair Oaks Avenue and Orange Grove Boulevard, commonly referred to as Heritage Square Site II. On October 13, 2016, the Council passed the following Permanent Supportive Housing Policy: "The City of Pasadena believes that decent, safe and affordable housing is the right of every Pasadena resident. Furthermore, a key long-term solution for homelessness is the provision of permanent supportive housing. Therefore, consistent with the *Housing Element*, the City will facilitate a balanced geographical dispersal of affordable housing including permanent supportive housing throughout the City."

Local hiring, contracting and Supplies: in every real estate development project in the City, I have had one clear objective beyond seeing that world-class development takes place, and that is to ensure that when taxpayers' dollars are engaged, the residents of Pasadena are included in the success of the project. One example is the commitment by the developer of the Parsons site, bounded by Walnut Street, Fair Oaks Avenue, Union Street and Pasadena Avenue, to incorporate local jobs, contracting and materials supply in the project. Additionally, the developer of the site agreed to provide a monument to the historic relevance of those persons and businesses who were historically displaced by eminent domain under the auspices of *urban renewal*. The referenced development, when fully completed, will be the largest real estate development ever in District 3 and the City of Pasadena.

Libraries and Education: recently we helped to host the kick-off celebration of a wonderful partnership with the Flintridge Center's Apprenticeship Preparation Program to build at least nine (9) *Little Free Libraries* in District 3. It is my goal to make certain that every child in District 3 has access to transformative literature. The ability to read a book early in life is one of the important steps along a pathway to life-long learning, achievement and a happy life. "Little Free Libraries are about connecting with our neighbors and community; they are *mini-town squares* where people can meet over a good book and get to know each other."

Progressive Social Issues: this year Council passed a gradual pathway to a livable wage. The City of Pasadena is blessed as one of the few cities in all of California with its own Public Health Department. Along with two of my Council colleagues, we helped find solutions for health care delivery services in the wake of right-sizing the department. This effort was a success as the City had the vision to establish a deeper collaboration with two *Federally Qualified Health Centers* (FQHC) to prevent diminution in services to vulnerable populations.

Rain oftentimes causes conflicting emotions to well-up in our psyche, but without rain, growth is compromised or limited. So, let us continue to celebrate the fact that Pasadena has a reservoir of talented people to provide valuable input to the Council on the critical issues we face as a community, as a City. Please send Susana Porras or Jana West a note sharing your interest to volunteer for matters in District 3 or the City as a whole. Neighbor helping neighbor, Pasadena is truly a special place.

Again, at this magical time of the year, I wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and a productive 2017. God Bless Pasadena, and God Bless the United States of America!

Warmest regards,

John J.Kennedy

P.S. Please join us at the upcoming Community Meeting and Holiday Gathering on Sunday, 18 December - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The holiday fun will take place at the Central Library – 285 East Walnut Street. I hope to see you at this family affair.