



# City Manager's Weekly Report

*For the Week Ending Noon on Thursday, March 25, 2010*

<http://www.templecity.us>

**TO:** The Honorable City Council

**DATE:** March 25, 2010

**FROM:** Jose E. Pulido, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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## MEETINGS THIS WEEK

- **Vazquez and Company LLP** – I met with Gilbert Vazquez, who is the Managing Partner of this certified public accounting firm. Mr. Vazquez provided me with an overview of the accounting services they currently provide to a wide array of public sector firms. During the meeting, Mr. Vazquez mentioned that his firm had conducted an audit of the City of Los Angeles's many subcontracted waste haulers, which yielded that city over \$1 million in recovered fees. When the City issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the City's auditing services, Mr. Vazquez requested that his firm be included, and that the City really consider preparing a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (i.e., CAFR) in the future;
- **Artic Luv Kennel** – I held a meeting between City staff (i.e., City Prosecutor Ken Dapeer, Public Services Manager Bill Tidwell, Public Safety Officer Bryan Ariizumi, and Associate Planner Adam Gulick) and Bernadette Querico, the owner of Artic Luv Kennel, and her attorney, Robert M. Sullivan. The purpose of the meeting was to have the City Prosecutor review the 1967 Conditional Use Permit (CUP) conditions of approval for a dog kennel on this property and advise Ms. Querico that the City has received over 20 complaints from the adjacent residential neighborhood regarding howling dogs during the evenings, which is in violation of the CUP. The City Prosecutor requested that City staff conduct an inspection of the Artic Luv facility, and that the owner purchase bark-control collars for all dogs on the premises, which are to be worn by the dogs at all times. The City Prosecutor requested that Ms. Querico purchase five collars immediately, and he provided her with two weeks to purchase the remaining seven bark-control collars;
- **Los Angeles County Sheriff Budget** – I held a meeting between City staff (i.e., Finance Manager Monica Molina, Public Services Manager Bill Tidwell, and Public Safety Officer Bryan Ariizumi) and members of the Temple City Sheriff Station staff (i.e., Captain Joe Fennell, Lieutenant Coronel Jacobs, and Sergeant Tony Osterman) to discuss the City's upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11 Budget realities and constraints. We reviewed and discussed the fluctuations in revenue in the Sheriff's budget over the past five years, and agreed to meet again in a couple of weeks to continue review of the Los Angeles Sheriffs Temple City Station Draft FY 2010-11 Budget; and
- **The Olson Company** – I met with Senior Vice President of Community Development John Reekstin to discuss redevelopment opportunities in Temple City, such as the former Alpha

Beta site on Temple City Boulevard and the Piazza Project site on Las Tunas Drive and Rosemead Boulevard. After not having been in Temple City in over two years, Mr. Reekstin told me that Las Tunas Drive looked more vibrant and cleaner than before. I told him the City had recently installed new flags, planted potted camellias, re-painted the street stripes, and trimmed the trees on the boulevard, including the palm trees. This is truly a validation of the City Council's desire and commitment to effectuate change in the community one area at time.

## **GENERAL COUNCIL INFORMATION**

### **Rosemead Boulevard Street Improvement Project Update**

This past week I requested that the City Attorney review the City's current contract with AAE Inc., previously approved by the City Council five years ago and which was eligible for renewal by the City each fiscal year. After a thorough review, the City Attorney determined that the City did renew this contract through correspondence in 2008, but not in subsequent years.

In light of the City Attorney's findings with regards to this civil engineering services contract, the City will need to find a design and civil engineering team to revise the current version of the Rosemead Street Improvements Project into a more pedestrian friendly version that makes a design and visual statement for Temple City. In the interest of time, I requested Greg Tung from Freedman, Tung and Sasaki Urban Design to review the currently lacking Rosemead Boulevard Street Improvements Project, and to provide the City with a cost proposal to enhance the design and pedestrian amenities using AAE Inc. as a sub consultant for the civil engineering work. A cost proposal should be completed by next week, and I will discuss the outcome with the City Council during our one-on-one meetings the following week.

### **Buxton ID – Project Kick-Off**

A project kick-off conference call was held between City staff (i.e., myself, Assistant to the City Manager Gary Flod and Finance Manager Monica Molina) and Buxton Company staff to officially kick off this project. City staff will provide Buxton with a number of items (i.e., high-resolution city logo, new planned retail development, and citywide traffic counts) for their review, and Buxton expects to have a draft analysis of three locations on Las Tunas Drive (i.e., Las Tunas Drive and Baldwin Avenue, Las Tuna Drive and Temple City Boulevard, as well as Las Tunas Drive and Rosemead Boulevard) completed by next week for staff's review and comments.

### **Seifel Consulting Redevelopment 101**

This past week a joint meeting was held between the City Council and the Planning Commission to receive a Redevelopment 101 presentation from Libby Seifel from Seifel Consulting Inc. Based on the significant number of questions raised during the meeting, this highly informative redevelopment presentation was well received by both the City Council and the Planning Commission as well as by members of the public. For the community's educational benefit, the presentation will be available on the City's cable channel within the next two weeks to allow time for editing.

The indicated writers have submitted the following items. All have been reviewed and approved (but may have been edited) by the City Manager.

**Department of Community Development** (Community Development Manager Lambert)

**Former Shell Gas Station Update**

Earlier this week, Community Development Manager Joe Lambert had an opportunity to meet with a potential gas station operator at 9425 Las Tunas Drive (NW corner of Las Tunas Drive and Oak Avenue), which is known as the vacant Shell gas station. The property owner is currently negotiating with this potential tenant/owner, who has had experience operating a Shell station in another nearby city. Staff met with the potential operator to discuss the re-opening of this gas station. The gentleman seemed quite eager to start operating a gas station as soon as possible. Also discussed were future improvements to the site, such as adding a self-serve car wash and possibly a larger convenience store component, which are all possibilities. It is not yet known if the operator will lease or purchase the property from the current owner. Staff will continue to work closely with all parties involved so we can get this site occupied as soon as possible.

**Department of Financial Services** (Financial Services Manager Molina)

**Highway Safety Improvement Program**

Beginning in FY 2005-06, a new Federal-aid funding program was made available to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.

In 2008, the previous City Manager authorized Avant Garde to pursue the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant through CalTrans for Temple City. These funds were to be used for the installation of left turn phasing traffic signals at the intersections of Las Tunas Drive/Temple City Boulevard and Baldwin Avenue/Olive Street. In 2009, the City was notified that Temple City was granted \$159,469 in HSIP funds for these traffic signal upgrades.

Included on the April 6, 2010, agenda is a Program Supplement Agreement for the HSIP funds for City Council approval. The approval of this agreement will allow the City to begin submitting invoices to the State for reimbursement of HSIP funds.

**Department of Management Services** (Assistant to the City Manager Flod)

**Charter Communications to End Gratis Cable TV Service to the City**

Charter Communications has put the City of Temple City on notice it will be ending its six free cable TV subscriptions effective April 23, 2010. Since January 1, 2009, it has been operating under a State of California franchise agreement rather than a Temple City franchise agreement. The previous Temple City franchise agreement required several free subscriptions for government buildings. Under the state franchise, Charter Communications is not required to provide such subscriptions to local jurisdictions, so they are ending the practice. The City will have to decide if it wants to keep any of the subscriptions, and if it does, which ones. The only two subscriptions that may be necessary to keep would be the seldom used service for the

Emergency Operations Center and another service used by the Assistant to the City Manager to monitor Temple City's Government Channel programming. This item will be addressed by the City Council as part of the City's FY 2010-11 Budget process.

**Department of Parks & Recreation** (Director of Parks & Recreation Burroughs)

**5K Run**

During the March 16, 2010, City Council meeting, Councilmember Sternquist suggested the City sponsor a 5K run as part of the City's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Temple City Unified School District is already planning a 5K Fun Run/Walk in conjunction with their annual Health Fair on May 8, 2010. The Run/Walk will begin at 7 a.m. in Temple City Park. I have attached copies of the flyers for the 5K Fun Run/Walk for the City Council's information. Since the District has already made plans for a 5K run, staff does not suggest a City-sponsored 5K run this spring. If the City Council would still like to sponsor a 5K run, staff recommends the event be held in late summer or early fall, possibly tied in to the "National Night Out" event.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sponsorships**

As the City Council is aware, staff has been soliciting sponsorships for the City's various 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events. The purpose of soliciting sponsors is to keep the cost for the events at a reasonable level. We are very excited to report that two donations have already been received totaling \$6,000. All sponsors will be listed on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary webpage.

**Walter P. Temple Bust**

Staff has been meeting with Robert Hepler to discuss possible locations within Temple City Park for the bust of Walter P. Temple. Mr. Hepler has three recommended locations, all of which staff concurs. The first would be in the southwest corner of the park behind the two flag poles. The other two locations are both at the southeast corner of the park (at Las Tunas Drive and Golden West Avenue). One would be on the street side of the park sign; the other would be on the park side of the sign. A fourth option that staff has suggested is to place the bust closer to City Hall in, or near, one of the planters at the west entrance to City Hall. Although this location may not have the highest amount of foot traffic, it would provide greater security against vandalism and damage. The City Council will be asked to select a location at the April 6, 2010, meeting.

**Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Live Oak Park on Saturday, April 3, 2010. Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will feature free spring crafts for children and pictures with the Easter Bunny. The hunt, for children 1-9 years of age, will begin at 10 a.m.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, sponsored by the City's Superstar Drill Team, will take place in the Live Oak Park Community Center from 8-11 a.m. Cost for breakfast is \$8 which includes pancakes, sausage, muffin and beverage.

### **Temple City Park Walkway Lighting Project**

Work will begin on the Temple City Park Walkway Lighting project within the next few weeks. The project consists of replacing the underground wiring to the walkway lights throughout the park. Trenching may be required during construction. New light fixtures will be installed on the existing poles as part of the project. Once work begins, the project should be completed within a week.

### **City Council / Temple City Unified School District (TCUSD) Ad Hoc Meeting**

Staff has been trying to schedule a Council /TCUSD Ad Hoc Committee meeting to discuss the 2010-11 joint facilities use agreement. Unfortunately, due to heavy schedules for both the City Council and the School District over the next several weeks, it looks like the committee will not be able to meet until May.

### **Department of Public Services (Public Services Manager Tidwell)**

#### **Freer Street Construction Update**

At a Special City Council meeting called to address the engineering solutions proposed to resolve the subsurface water issue on the Freer Street Asphalt Overlay project, the City Council unanimously approved the solution supported by City Manager Jose Pulido. That solution places a Geogrid fabric on the existing soil that is then covered with 12 inches of new class II base material and capped with four inches of asphalt. This construction method offers the best long-term road surface stability.

The work on Freer Street is continuing in earnest. Residents in the project area are being very patient with the inconvenience, but are more than ready to have their street back. Now that the engineering solution and funding have been approved by the City Council, the project is expected to be completed in mid-April.

#### **Meeting with Golden State Water Company**

Public Services Manager Bill Tidwell met with three Golden State Water Company representatives on March 23, 2010. Superintendent David Maestro, Capital Program Engineer Edward Khong (P.E.), and Projector Coordinator Kerwin Fujikami met to discuss the waterline abandonment project that Golden State is planning to accomplish on Rosemead Boulevard south of Pentland Street. Completion of that project is being coordinated to take place before the City starts the landscape improvements along Rosemead Boulevard this summer. Their project entails removing asphalt at locations on Rosemead Boulevard to cap off the steel waterline that runs from the railroad crossing to Pentland Street. The work is expected to start and end in April 2010, and will not constitute a hindrance to the commencement of the City's landscape project.

During the meeting, the Public Services Manager brought Golden State Water Company representatives' attention to several issues that need to be addressed by both parties. The City will endeavor to include the Golden State Water Company, and all other interested water companies in our area in scheduling street and other infrastructure improvements. This effort

will assist all parties in coordinating schedules for projects that coincide and help avoid any conflict with each other.

The Golden State Water Company agreed to ensure that all work performed by them or their contractors in Temple City streets would compact the soil after repairs were completed to prevent pavement subsidence and rough pavement surfaces. Golden State Water Company also agreed to raise to grade water valves located in the streets. Bill Tidwell and David Maestro agreed to set a schedule to locate the road valves at issue and ensure their correction.

Compliance with all National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations during waterline repairs was also discussed. The City is charged with enforcing these regulations, and the Golden State Water Company is committed to comply them.

*Division of Public Safety (Public Safety Officer Ariizumi)*

#### **Planned Power Outage – Southern California Edison (SCE)**

SCE will soon be performing maintenance on the electrical system in the area. In order to perform this work safely, SCE must temporarily interrupt electric service and turn off power. This outage will allow them to upgrade aging infrastructure, make needed improvements, and complete other repairs. SCE realizes this temporary service interruption may cause some inconvenience, and they appreciate your understanding as they work to increase system reliability for the future.

*Estimated Start date:	March 30, 2010, 8:00 p.m.
*Estimated End date:	March 31, 2010, 6:00 a.m.
Number of affected Residential customers:	10
Number of affected Commercial customers:	2
Outage Boundary:	North Side of Lower Azusa Road, 68 feet East of the center line of Daleview Avenue

*\*Please note that the power may be off for the whole period, or may be turned off more than once. This planned outage may not begin exactly at the stated start time, and some conditions may cause this planned outage to be postponed. The times noted are SCE's best estimate and circumstances may affect both the start time and the completion time indicated above. For current planned outage status, please visit the SCE website at [www.sce.com/outage](http://www.sce.com/outage).*

If you have any questions, please call SCE's toll free customer service line at 1 (800) 611-1911.

**PREVIEW OF UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

**APRIL 6, 2010 MEETING**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Resolution Denying CUP for T-Mobile Monopine Cell Tower**

**Approval of Final Map for 4851 Heleo Avenue**

**Public Hearing: Medical Marijuana Urgency Ordinance Extension**

**Public Hearing: ZC & GPA Re-Zone of R-2 Property to M-1 on Encinita**

FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Approval of FY 2009-10 Prop 1B Allocation**

**Approval of Program Supplement Agreement for Highway Safety  
Improvement Program (HSIP)**

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Recognition of Those Who Aided in House Fire Rescue**

**National Library Week Proclamation**

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation**

**SGV Economic Partnership Update**

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Parks & Recreation Commission Actions of March 17, 2010**

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Progress Payment – Freer Street Project**

**Introduction of Ordinance re Parking Permit Process (Code Amendment)**

**APRIL 20, 2010 MEETING**

CITY CLERK

**Approval of Fireworks Stand Permits**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Agreement with Habitat for Humanity – Rehab Program**

FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Approval of Audit Services Contract**

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Introduction of Australian Sister City Students**

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Adoption of Ordinance re Parking Permit Process (Municipal Code Amendment)**

**Status Report on Emergency Preparedness Plan**

**MAY 4, 2010 MEETING**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Planning Commission Actions of April 13 Meeting**

**Planning Commission Actions of April 27 Meeting**

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Parks & Recreation Commission Actions of April 21, 2010**

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Accept Engineer's Report, Adopt Reso of Intent to Levy & Collect Assessments for L/LD & Set Public Hearing**

## TEMPLE CITY CRIME BLOTTER

MARCH 17-22, 2010

### March 17, 2010

**Vehicle Theft:** Between 5:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., a 1994 Honda Civic was stolen from a car port in the 5600 block of Welland Avenue.

**Residential  
Burglary:**

At approximately 6:50 a.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 5300 block of Temple City Blvd., of a home that is being remodeled. When construction workers arrived, they found a male Hispanic adult in the kitchen. The suspect ran from the workers, leaving his vehicle in the driveway with all the stolen contractor's tools in the trunk. The suspect's vehicle was a reported stolen vehicle from the City of San Gabriel. The investigation is on-going.

### March 18, 2010

**Vehicle Burglary:** Between 10:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., a handbag containing personal identification and approximately \$8,000 in cash, were stolen during a vehicle burglary in the 9400 block of Lower Azusa Road. Entry was made by shattering the front passenger window.

**Residential  
Burglary:**

Between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 9400 block of Pentland Street. The residence was ransacked and approximately \$600 in cash and \$3,000 in jewelry were taken. Entry was made by prying open the locking mechanism to the rear kitchen door.

**Residential  
Burglary:**

Between 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 6400 block of Golden West Avenue. The residence was ransacked and a camera taken. Entry was made by prying open a rear door at the locking mechanism.

**D.U.I Arrest:**

As the result of a traffic stop in the 6400 block of Rosemead Blvd., a male adult from Hesperia was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

### March 19, 2010

**Vehicle Burglary:** Between 2:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., a MP-3 player was stolen during a vehicle burglary in the 5500 block of Sultana Avenue. Entry was made by shattering the front passenger window.

**Narcotics Arrest:** As the result of a traffic stop in the 10400 block of Lower Azusa Road, a male adult from the city of El Monte was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

**March 21, 2010**

**Attempt Carjacking:** At approximately 11:45 p.m., deputies responded to Live Oak Park regarding an attempt carjacking where shots were fired. Deputies contacted the victim who stated that he was on a date with a female he just met, when suddenly, she produced a handgun and attempted to steal his vehicle. A struggle over the gun ensued, when a round was discharged striking the front driver's side window. The victim was able to throw the suspect to the side and drive away as she fired an additional round at his vehicle. After further investigation, the suspect was taken into custody approximately six hours later. Charges are pending.

**Safety Tip:** The Sheriff's Department is encouraging all citizens to protect their property by securing their vehicles and removing all personal property from plain view when leaving your vehicle unattended. Together we can reduce the opportunities for crime to occur.