



# City Manager's Weekly Report

*For the Week Ending Noon on Thursday, April 22, 2010*

<http://www.templecity.us>

**TO:** The Honorable City Council

**DATE:** April 22, 2010

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

**SUBJECT:** CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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## MEETINGS THIS WEEK

**Code Enforcement Follow-up – 6149 Loma Avenue:** I met with the property owners (i.e., Ron and Karen Wendt) to discuss their current code enforcement situation stemming from the illegal construction that took place in the attic space after their new home was completed in 2009. Mr. and Mrs. Wendt felt that from the beginning City staff could have been more proactive in finding a solution to their problem instead of allowing nearly nine months to elapse and losing a potential homebuyer in the process. In spite of this, they are interested in working with the City to find an amicable solution as soon as possible. I will be working with both Code Enforcement and Community Development staff to find a solution in the near future.

## GENERAL COUNCIL INFORMATION

### Athens Services – City Waste Collection Survey Update

After a few months of meetings between the City Council Ad-Hoc Committee (i.e., Mayor Pro Tem Tom Chavez and Council member Yu), City staff and Athens Services representatives, the much anticipated tri-lingual (i.e., English, Mandarin and Spanish) “Waste Collection Option Survey” has been reviewed and finalized for distribution to the City’s residents beginning next week. The purpose of this survey is to solicit residents’ input through the selection of one of four waste collection options that are as follows:

*Option One:* “I am satisfied with the current two times per week manual collection program;”

*Option Two:* “ I want the current manual collection system collected one time per week versus two for a slight monthly savings;”

*Option Three:* “ I favor the three container automated source separated program giving me various container sizes to meet my needs;” and

*Option Four:* “I favor the two container automated weekly collection program with no need for me to sort out the recyclables.”

Residents will have two options to complete and return their surveys: 1) Mailing back the hard copy surveys to the City Manager's Office; or 2) via the City webpage at the "City of Temple City Waste Collection Survey" link. **The deadline to submit the completed surveys is May 15, 2010.** In an effort to obtain a high survey response rate, Athens through a random drawing, will be giving three lucky households free waste collection services for one year!

### **Artic Luv Kennel Update**

On March 24, 2010, the City Prosecutor and City staff met with the business owner and her attorney regarding the ongoing noise complaints from neighborhood residents. At this meeting, the business owner agreed to purchase anti-bark collars and to sound proof the kennel facilities. Since that time, my office has continued to receive many noise complaints from residential property owners across the Eaton Wash regarding dogs howling in the late evening and early mornings nearly every day. As you may recall, this business was approved under a 1967 Conditional Use Permit with numerous conditions of approval that are suppose to regulate noise from this kennel – it is clear that the business owner is not in compliance with the CUP conditions of approval.

A second meeting with the business owner will be scheduled shortly, and based on the outcome of that meeting, this item may be referred to the Planning Commission for a public hearing as part of a CUP revocation process for failure to comply with the CUP conditions of approval at the regularly scheduled May 11, 2010, Planning Commission Meeting.

Please refer to the Public Services section of this City Manager's Report for a more extensive update regarding the Artic Luv Kennel.

### **Los Angeles County Library Proposed Service Reduction**

In a letter received by Mayor Vizcarra this week, County Librarian Margaret Todd notified the City that they are currently facing an \$8.8 million deficit in the FY 2010-11 County Budget, and in an effort to reduce this budget gap, they have proposed service reductions to libraries (including Temple City) as part of their proposed FY 2010-11 County Budget.

If adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 7, 2010, this means that the Temple City Library's hours of operation will be reduced from six to five days a week, effective July 1, 2010. Since the Temple City Library receives additional funding directly from Supervisor Antonovich to operate for an additional day, the Temple City Library will not be reduced to four days a week, as will be the case in other cities.

*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)

**Façade Improvement on Las Tunas Drive**

Earlier this week, staff authorized payment for another façade improvement, this one is located at 9531 & 9533 Las Tunas Drive. This two-unit building received a significant aesthetic and structural upgrade by totally redesigning the entire facade, including new storefront windows, doors, and frames, new exterior stucco. Other nice touches that were added include new signage (individual channel letters instead of "can" signs), and decorative wall sconce lighting. The property owner received a \$15,000 reimbursement through the Façade Improvement Program, and the total cost of the improvement was \$38,500. Before and after pictures are attached.

**Next Regular Planning Commission Meeting**

The regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting will be held on April 27, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

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

**Fourth Quarter Sales Tax Update**

Last week, staff met with Mr. Jose Sanchez from The HdL Companies to review fourth quarter sales tax. This tax is for sales during October to December 2009, and is received by the City in January to March 2010. In comparison to the same quarter last year, Southern California was 6.8% lower; Los Angeles County was 8.0% lower; and Temple City was 6.6% lower. Though we continue to be in the negative each quarter, Temple City is seeing a slight improvement in sales tax revenues.

Attached is a "Temple City Sales Tax Update" report produced by The HdL Companies for your review.

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

**Youth Committee**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2010-11 Youth Committee. Terms of the current members will expire June 30, 2010. Current members, who continue to meet the eligibility requirements, are encouraged to reapply. Applications are due on or before May 31, 2010.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House and Walking Tour**

The first of the main events celebrating the City's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is only two weeks away. City Hall, Civic Center, the Los Angeles County Library, Fire Station 47, and the Historical

Society will open their doors inviting residents to view firsthand the operations of each facility and visit with staff and other officials. Refreshments and giveaways will be available at all five locations. Stop by City Hall first to pick up your 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bag, then fill it up with goodies as you tour the various facilities. The event is free and open to the public. Special giveaway items will be available for children.

Temple City Park is being spruced up for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. Several trees in the park will be trimmed, and flowers are being planted in anticipation of these special events.

### **Marine Corps Band Back in Temple City**

We are thrilled to welcome the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Band from Camp Pendleton back to Temple City to kick off our summer concert series this year. The band will play in Temple City Park on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. Free hot dogs will be given out at the concert.

### **Expansion of Dial-A-Ride Eligibility**

The Parks and Recreation Commission, at their meeting on April 21, 2010, considered a request from Councilmember Sternquist to expand the Dial-A-Ride eligibility area to include residents from unincorporated County areas. After discussion, the Commission recommended that no changes be made to the eligibility area, and to continue offering the program to Temple City residents only.

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

#### **New Traffic Signal on Temple City Boulevard at Ellis Lane**

This project is commonly referred as the Ellis Lane Project. The construction is funded 100% with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. The City Council awarded a construction contract to Freeway Electric in the amount of \$112,012 in December 2009 and traffic signal materials were ordered. Typical delivery of these items is three to four months on average. Project construction began on Wednesday, April 21, 2010, and staff has coordinated with Southern California Edison to ensure minimal delay in energizing the signal once construction is completed. The construction is expected to be completed by the Memorial Day holiday. The scope of work consists of installation of new traffic signals and safety lighting at the intersection of Temple City Boulevard and Ellis Lane, appurtenant signing, striping and pavement marking modifications.

#### **Traffic Signal Upgrades Project On Rosemead Boulevard**

This project will modify traffic signals on Broadway and Longden Avenue at their intersections with Rosemead Boulevard. The construction is funded 100% with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. The City Council awarded a construction contract to Christopher Morales, Inc. in the amount of \$112,885 on March 2, 2010. A pre-construction

meeting has been held and the Notice to Proceed has not yet been issued pending the arrival of the necessary traffic signal materials. The construction duration will be six weeks and will be coordinated to not interfere with the larger Rosemead Boulevard Landscape Improvements Project.

### **Sewer System Management Plan Audit**

Public Services Manager Bill Tidwell met with Nicholas A. Agbobu, Senior Civil Engineer, County of Los Angeles, Department of Sewer Maintenance Division for the purpose of performing an audit of the City's Sewer System Management Plan. This audit is a requirement of the State Water Resources Control Board General Waste Discharge Permit and has eleven separate elements included in the management plan. Temple City met or surpassed each element of the plan. The notable improvements in the plan were in the reduction of sewer overflows to only two in 2009 and the response to both of those in less than two hours after notification.

There are issues of sewage capacity that must be addressed in the coming years as the population of Temple City and the surrounding area increases, but the current sewer service and the response to those needs are continuing to be met by the City of Temple City and the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Sewer Maintenance Division.

### **Tree Safety in Temple City**

This past week the Public Services staff has responded to several emergency calls concerning fallen tree limbs. The rain and wind have weakened and stressed many limbs, and this combined with the added weight of new tree growth can cause limbs to break and fall unexpectedly. Residents are encouraged to observe and report any trees that could pose a safety threat, regardless if on public or private property. Often trees fall without warning, but at other times a noticeable change can be observed before the limb falls. If the tree is on public property please call the Civic Center at 626-285-2171 and alert City staff to the problem. We will respond to the location and determine what action needs to be taken.

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

### **Artic-Luv Kennel Complaints**

Staff continues to receive complaints regarding dogs barking and howling from the kennel during the late evening and early morning hours. Last week staff conducted an early morning investigation of the kennel and was able to hear the dogs howling, while being housed in the kennel. A Notice of Violation was issued to the kennel owner, as she was not complying with conditions set forth in the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). If the kennel owner does not abate the violations by the completion date set forth in the Notice of Violation, the matter will be referred to the Planning Commission for revocation of the CUP. Staff is proposing to hold a public hearing (revocation of CUP) during the first Planning Commission meeting in May.

This case has been referred to the City Prosecutor's office to assist in our efforts to gain compliance. The City Prosecutor has advised the kennel owner's attorney of the complaints received from the neighbors and the possibility of a public hearing to revoke the CUP if the violations continue to remain unabated.

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

**MAY 4, 2010 MEETING**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**MTA Metro Pass Seller Agreement**

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

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Poppy Week Proclamation**

**Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition Presentation**

**Appointment of Liaison to Sister City Organization**

**Chamber of Commerce Monthly Update**

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Older American Proclamation**

**50 Books for 50 Years Donation to Library**

**Parks & Recreation Commission Actions of April 21 Meeting**

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Update**

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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

**Introduction of Ordinance - Municipal Code Amendment re Parking Permit  
Process**

**MAY 18, 2010 MEETING**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Planning Commission Actions of April 27 Meeting**

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Adoption of Ordinance - Municipal Code Amendment re Parking Permit  
Process**

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Update**

**JUNE 1, 2010 MEETING**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Planning Commission Actions of May 11 Meeting**

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Chamber of Commerce Monthly Update**

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Parks & Recreation Commission Actions of May 19 Meeting**

**JUNE 15, 2010 MEETING**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Annual Service Agreements**

**Planning Commission Actions of May 25 Meeting**

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Annual Service Agreements**

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Annual Service Agreements**

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Annual Service Agreements**

TEMPLE CITY CRIME BLOTTER

APRIL 13 - 19, 2010

April 13, 2010

**Residential  
Burglary:**

Between 7:15 a.m. and 1:45 p.m., person(s) unknown entered a home in the 10500 block of Lynrose Street, through an unsecured doggie door attached to the kitchen door. The home was ransacked and a laptop computer and approximately \$2,500 in jewelry was taken.

April 09, 2010

**Vehicle Burglary:** Between 12:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m., a vehicle burglary occurred in the 9000 block of Rancho Real Road. There were no signs of forced entry. The interior of the vehicle was ransacked, but nothing was taken from the vehicle.

**Vehicle Burglary:** Between 2:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m., a vehicle burglary occurred in the 6000 block of Primrose Street. Entry was made by shattering the front passenger window. A laptop case containing a laptop and miscellaneous school books were taken from the front seat.

April 15, 2010

**Residential  
Burglary:**

Between 10:30 a.m. on 4-15-10 and 6:00 a.m. on 4-16-10, person(s) unknown entered a home in the 10100 block of Bogue Street that was tented for fumigation. Entry was made by removing a part of the tent and forcing a window open.

Due to the dangerous and toxic poisons in the home, a "HAZMAT" team from the Fire Department and Sheriff's Department were called. Members from the Sheriff's Department Hazmat team and Special Enforcement Bureau cleared the location for any possible suspects or victims. Nothing in the home appeared to have been disturbed or taken.

**Grand Theft:**

Between 5:00 p.m. on 4-15-10 and 7:00 am on 4-16-10, person(s) unknown stole a \$2,500 electronic gate opener from the front gate of a home in the 6100 block of Reno Avenue.

April 16, 2010

**Vehicle Burglary:** Between 8:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., a vehicle burglary occurred at the "Church of the Nazarene" 9953 Las Tunas Drive. A messenger bag containing clothing, wallet and an I-pod was taken from the back seat. The property was lying in plain view. Entry was made by shattering the rear passenger side window.

April 17, 2010

**Petty Theft**

**Arrest:** A 46 yr old female from Rosemead was detained in front of "TJ-Max" 5749 Rosemead Boulevard, after Loss Prevention Officers observed her exiting the store with paying for approximately \$446 in merchandise.

April 18, 2010

**Residential  
Burglary:**

Between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., person(s) unknown entered a residence in the 5000 block of El Monte Avenue through an unlocked bedroom window and stole a 2001 Mercedes and a 2008 Toyota Scion from the garage. The Mercedes was recovered abandoned later that day in Temple City and the Scion is still outstanding.

**Driver Arrested:** At approximately 1:30 a.m., an 18 year old Pasadena man was detained on a traffic stop in the 8800 block of Las Tunas Drive for a traffic infraction. Upon contacting the driver, deputies could smell a strong odor of alcohol emitting from his breath and he was detained pending a driving under the influence investigation. After further investigation, the driver was arrested for possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under 21 yrs old.

**Stolen Vehicle:** Between 9:00 p.m. on 4-18-10 and 7:00 a.m. on 4-19-10, a 1991 Acura Integra was stolen from the 6100 block of Avon Street. The vehicle is still outstanding.

**Stolen Vehicle:** Between 1:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m., a 1989 Ford Thunderbird was stolen from the 5400 block of Rosemead Boulevard. The vehicle was recovered later in the day by San Gabriel Police Dept.

**April 19, 2010 (continued)**

**Narcotics Arrest:** At approximately 11:00 a.m., several adults from El Monte were detained on a traffic stop in the 10600 block of Lower Azusa Road for not wearing a seat belt. Due to some of the passengers not having identification, deputies asked for consent to search the car for their identifications. While checking the vehicle, suspected narcotics were found where a 46 year old female passenger was sitting. After further investigation, the female was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

During the booking process, deputies were advised the suspect had an outstanding "No Bail" warrant for a parole violation and a second "No Bail" warrant for possession of a controlled substance. She was additionally charged with both warrants.

