



Council Briefing

May 2009

Administrative Services

- Fiscal Services:
 - Police alarm permits issued in April totaled 45, bringing the fiscal year-to-date total to 406. Total number of active permits as of April 30 was 4,871.
 - Invoices billed in April totaled 709, with a valuation of \$1,454,962. Invoices for the fiscal year-to-date total 7,942, with a valuation of \$20,180,274.
 - General checks and direct deposits in April totaled 396 and 180, respectively, with a valuation of \$6,898,082. The number of general checks and direct deposits for the fiscal year-to-date total 6,807 and 2,690, respectively, with a valuation of \$63,848,490.
- Information Technology:
 - Staff completed installation of the Orange County Sheriff's Department's router transition to an encrypted T-1 line. This will ensure a better encryption of Police data that is transferred over this T-1 line.
 - Information Technology created a connection to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for Human Resources for Employee Pool Number interface. This software will allow real-time access to DMV records for City new hires as well as other employees on an as-needed basis.
 - The City's Webmaster completed installation of the Police Department Intranet site that will automatically load new parolee data when available. This will give Police personnel up-to-date information on parolees.
- Revenue:

- In April, 202 new business registration certificates were issued. Of that total, 125 were for businesses in Fullerton and 77 were for businesses located out of the city, but conducting business here. Business tax collected totaled \$15,757.
 - A total of 226 businesses closed in March: 109 located in the city and 103 located out of the city.
 - Business certificates renewed in April numbered 750, which totaled \$120,816 in business tax collected.
 - **Utility Services:** In April, the Division answered 2,061 calls and processed 3,536 cash register transactions totaling \$24,643,591. Of those transactions, 1,032 were credit cards, 1,073 checks, 641 by cash, and 171 direct deposits.
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Community Development

- **Planning Division:**
 - In April, seven project applications were submitted, including two minor site plans, one major development project, two conditional use permits, one subdivision, and one modification to a previously approved project.
 - Also in April, six applications were acted upon by the final hearing body, including three minor site plans, two minor development projects, and one modification to a previously approved project.
- **Community Preservation:** In April, staff: received 168 complaints (2,391 year-to-date); resolved 226 complaints (2,055); had 536 active cases (new category; no comparable data); conducted 646 inspections (6,472); issued 29 courtesy notices (440), 151 first notices of violation (1,360), and 35 citations (469); sent 26 compliance letters (69); arranged for the pick up of eight large items, such as sofas (149); received 22 graffiti complaints (219); received 51 Hotline calls (646); and billed \$6,800 in revenue (\$55,900).
- **Building Division:**
 - Inspection stops in April 2009 totaled 972 (down 12.7 percent from April 2008) and resulted in 1,594 inspections. The average daily number of inspections was 80, and the average daily workload was 16.6 inspections per inspector. During April, Inspectors also responded to 25 complaints.
 - In April, 201 plans (including 36 ancillary plans) were submitted for plan check. Of that total, 85 plans were checked the same day, at the counter. There were a total of 1,340 visitors (a decrease of 22 percent from April 2008) to the permit

counter, and 451 permits and plan checks were issued (a decrease by 33 percent from April 2008), with total valuation of \$4,416,345 (decrease by 66% from April 2008)

- On April 25, Division staff members Hadi Tabatabaee, Chi Yang, Jim Crane and Eric Nunez worked on the “Rebuilding Truslow Park” project.
- In celebration of “Building Safety Week,” staff will have an information booth at the Coast Guard Auxiliary’s “Fly-Float and Show” May 9 at Fullerton Municipal Airport.
- Staff issued a demolition permit for Phase 1 (low-rise apartments) of the Jefferson Commons project at 555 W. Commonwealth Ave.
- Construction is 45 percent complete on the new St. Jude parking structure, 2143 N. Harbor Blvd.

Engineering

- **Project Development and Design:** Bids were opened in April for the Placentia Avenue Reconstruction Project between Quartz Lane and 660 feet south of Madison Avenue. Pena Grading and Demolition of Sun Valley was the low bidder for the project, at \$569,788. The scope of work consists of street reconstruction, including clearing and grubbing; excavation; placing asphalt concrete and aggregate base; reconstructing curb, gutter, sidewalk, alley return; and adjusting water valves and manholes to grade. Construction is scheduled to begin in June and end in August.
- **Airport:** On May 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fullerton Municipal Airport will host the “Fly-Float and Show” hosted by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. This event includes: free admission; first aid and safe boating information; a Coast Guard helicopter rescue demonstration; airplane and helicopter rides; aircraft-boat-classic car displays; local fire and rescue equipment; and a free 2009 vessel examination to any boat on a trailer; food and music. The Mayor and City Council Members will be invited to participate in the opening ceremony.

FIRE

- **Statistics:** In April, the Department responded on 861 requests for service – a slight increase over the April 2008 total of 847 requests. Of the 861 requests, 32 were for fires, 718 were medical aid calls, 10 were hazardous materials incidents, and 46 were service calls. Crews also responded on 95 automatic aid calls, and received 67. Of the medical aid calls, 468 were advanced life support cases and 250 required basic life support.

- Suppression:

- At 1:07 p.m. April 4, Engine 5 responded to a medical aid in the 2700 block of E. Nutwood Ave., where CSUF Police had tazered an individual. Paramedics evaluated the patient and found no injuries. The Police took the patient to St. Jude Medical Center for further evaluation.
- At 6:50 p.m. April 5, Fullerton SWAT Paramedics were sent on a barricaded suspect call in La Habra with the North County Swat Team.
- At 2:45 p.m. April 6, Engines 1, 2 and 5 and Battalion 1 were sent to a fire in a home in the 1000 block of E. Walnut Avenue. On arrival, crews found a small fire on a work bench was already out. Cause of the fire was a battery charging station.
- At 2:15 p.m. April 6, Engine 21, NPDES Specialist Miner and Anaheim HazMat responded to an unknown chemical container found in the 800 block of E. Nutwood Avenue. It was determined the product was water and oil, and the crew called Maintenance Services for product disposal.
- At 12:11 a.m. April 8, Engines 1, 3 and 5, Truck 1 and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a three-vehicle accident at Lemon Street and Orangethorpe Avenue. Four patients were treated and transported to UCI and Western Medical; two persons died at the scene, and one died at the hospital. This was the accident in which Angels pitcher Nick Adenhardt was killed while he and his friends were on their way to Incahoots. Their car was broadsided by a drunken driver, who is in custody and awaiting trial.
- At 4:16 p.m. April 9, Engine 2 and neighboring units were sent to a reported vehicle engine fire in a school bus that was being towed. The fire, which had originated in an air filter cartridge, was swiftly extinguished.
- At 4:30 p.m. April 10, Engine 6, Battalion 1 and LA County Engine 192 were dispatched to Imperial Highway and Palm Drive on an auto vs. pedestrian accident. An air ambulance was requested for the patient. Engine 6 and Battalion 1 handled the landing zone assignment on Palm. Mercy Air landed safely and the patient was taken to UCI Medical Center.
- At 12:02 a.m. April 10, Engine 1 was sent to the 100 block of E. Santa Fe Avenue after a man committed suicide by stepping in front of a freight train. The incident was turned over to the Police for investigation.
- At 9:13 a.m. April 14, a full structure response was sent to the 200 block of S. Montague Avenue for a reported explosion. Engine 3 noted a large column of smoke coming from the rear of the building and, responding to that location,

found a burning vehicle. The intense fire blistered paint on a nearby building. Police are investigating as the vehicle had been stolen.

- At 4:06 p.m. April 25, Engine 5 was sent out on a report of power lines down in the courtyard and alley in the 1500 block of N. Placentia Avenue. As a precaution, one apartment building was evacuated. Edison responded to repair the power lines.
 - At 11:14 a.m. April 26, Engine 4 was dispatched on an automatic fire alarm in the 2200 block of N. Harbor Boulevard. The crew noted smoke coming from a lower level of a parking structure at the medical facility and called for a full-structure assignment. Engine 4 crew pulled lines into the structure to extinguish the fire, and Truck 1 and Engine 1 crews evacuated the medical building. LA County Truck 15 removed the smoke. No injuries were reported and there was only minor smoke damage to the building.
 - **Downtown Activities:** On April 5, Engines 1 and 4 were dispatched to the 100 block of W. Commonwealth Ave., where Paramedics found two intoxicated females who had fallen asleep in the alley. The Police Department was called to handle the incident.
 - **Other Activities:**
 - In April, the Department received 81 pairs of wild land boots through a grant from the Firemen's Fund and BB&T Insurance Services. The boots are designed to provide extra traction and stability in uneven terrain and will greatly assist fire personnel in wild land area firefighting.
 - The Department ran the first test of "AlertOC," the county-wide emergency notification system.
 - CERT volunteers hosted a booth at the FACES event April 25.
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Human Resources

- **Employee Processing:** In April, staff processed four regular and three non-regular new employees, and seven non-regular separations.
- **Employee Picnic:** The Employee Picnic has been scheduled for June 9 at Amerige Park. A committee of 15 City employees representing all departments has been established to help plan the event. The committee is headed by Parks and Recreation and Human Resources.

- **Liability Program:** Seventeen new claims were filed, 10 claims were closed and no lawsuits were served on the City in April.
 - **Workers' Compensation Program:** There were 12 new claims filed in April; nine claims were closed; and two new lawsuits were filed.
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Library

- **Special Election Information:** This year the Library co-sponsored an election gathering in April to educate the community about the special election this month dealing with State budget issues. Two speakers associated with Cal State Fullerton spoke about the state budget and two League representatives discussed the ballot propositions in detail. The large, enthusiastic crowd asked many good questions. The Library, in collaboration with the League and other community groups, is able to offer these gatherings free to the public along with the "Easy Voter Guide" booklet which explains the ballot propositions in simple, basic terms.
- **Independent Films at the Library:** The Library is approaching the one-year anniversary of its "Film Movement" independent film series. Over the past year these films from around the world and which normally are shown only at film festivals or in limited release, have explored a variety of important topics including autism, terminal cancer, and survival of a small business. A discussion of the topics presented follows the film. One of the best aspects of the film subscription is that after the film is shown it becomes part of the Library's permanent film collection and can be checked out by patrons to enjoy at home. The films are typically shown at the Main Library's Osborne Auditorium the first Friday of the month..
- **Fully Engaged Customer Service:** Approximately 35 regular Library staff members recently participated in "Fully Engaged Customer Service," a one-day training program funded by the Friends of the Library. The program was offered by Infopeople, which is a statewide project that acts as the training arm of the California State Library. The training allowed a majority of Library staff to engage in library-specific customer service training with their colleagues. Staff enjoyed the interaction, as well as the techniques learned, and felt this was a nice follow-up to City-sponsored customer service training. Public service desks were staffed by substitutes during the workshop.
- **Passports:** The passport acceptance service at the Main Library was very busy in April, with revenue exceeding any month this fiscal year. In April, 237 passport applications were processed and 102 photos were taken. Beginning June 1, the Department of Homeland Security will begin enforcing the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative passed by Congress. This mandates that anyone crossing the border into the U.S. must have proof of citizenship. The passport is currently the only document that satisfies this requirement.

- **Imagination Celebration:** On April 29, the Hunt Branch Library held an “Imagination Celebration” event featuring storyteller Karen Rae Kraut. Also featured were hands-on art activities, games and food. Fullerton’s National Charity League donated cookies for the event and the storytelling performance was part of the Target Storytelling Series.
 - **Dear Troops:** May is national “Military Appreciation Month.” In anticipation of this event, young patrons were invited to write letters of thanks to the troops serving in the Middle East. Paper was provided with plenty of space to draw a picture, write a message, or do both. Some letters filled the page and overflowed to the back, others just simply said “thank you for fighting for us.” The letters were mailed the first week of this month.
 - **Earth Day:** Children attending the After School Club at the end of April were treated to a special “Earth Day” program when Fullerton Arboretum staff joined Library staff in the celebration. Arboretum staff brought a large container full of worms to both the Main Library and Hunt Branch. Children got to handle the worms and look closely at these living recycling machines. They also shared information on different plants and some of the many things available at the Arboretum. The Library portion of the program looked at the beauty of the earth and the importance of recycling. The youngsters finished up their visit making balls, beads and boxes - all by recycling other materials.
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Maintenance Services

- **Administration:**
 - The Department received 1,308 service requests in April, completing 1,024 (78.3 percent) in the month. Of the six emergency requests received, all were completed within one day. The Building and Facilities Division received the most requests, 757, or 57.9 percent of the total.
 - In April, the Department’s support staff received 1,445 calls, an average of 72 per workday, or 36 for each of our two primary customer service personnel.
 - The audit team began an audit of the Housing and Community Rehabilitation Division of the Community Development Department in February. The team expects to conclude the audit in the summer.
- **Facilities:**

- Graffiti Crews removed 53,360 square feet of graffiti from 468 sites in April, bringing the year-to-date totals to 563,290 square feet of graffiti removed from 4,260 sites.
- Staff completed 20 custodial inspections of City facilities.
- The project to replace four air-conditioning units in Information Technology is nearing completion. The new units are energy-efficient models.
- Staff has installed six more waterless urinals in Basque Yard. The funds are coming from the MWD Rebate Program.
- The City Hall Elevator Renovation is under way, with an estimated completion date of six months. The first elevator renovation is finished and the second one is under construction. Once the elevators are completed, new flooring will be installed.
- **Sewer:** In April, the Division: hydrojetted 22.83 miles of sewer mains; root cut/mechanically treated 6,073 linear feet of sewer mains; mechanically treated 261 sewer laterals; conducted 19 CCTV inspections of laterals; conducted 78 sewer control inspections; performed CCTV inspections of 27,977 linear feet of sewer mains; approved eight Lifeline applications; received two Large Lot applications and approved one; and received 23 sewer fee calls and 43 sewer service requests.
- **Equipment:** In April, the staff performed three motorcycle inspections, 21 General PM inspections, three safety inspections, 70 PMs, and seven smog inspections.
- **Landscape:**
 - In April, West Coast Arborists, the City's contract tree-trimming company, pruned 12,430 trees, removed 511 trees, and planted 505 trees.
 - The Division received 60 tree-related service requests in April.
 - The Division responded on one report of Red Imported Fire Ants in April, and 18 reports of bee activity.
 - Projects completed by Landscape crews in April included:
 - Preparation of Truslow Park for installation of the KaBOOM! playground equipment.
 - Spring seasonal sport turf renovation, including aeration and fertilization completed
 - Annual turf replacement at Fullerton Pooch Park.

- Drainage and tree grates repaired at the Transportation Center and the Downtown Plaza
- Two pitching mounds rebuilt at Fullerton Sports Complex
- The Division received 45 landscape-related service requests in April.
- Water:
 - In April, the Division produced 827,223,520 gallons of water. Of that amount, 42.79 percent - 353,934,000 gallons - were pumped from wells and 57.21 percent - 473,289,520 gallons - were purchased from the MWD.
 - Following are the water main line breaks that occurred in April:

SIZE	LOCATION	PIPE TYPE	POSSIBLE CAUSE	YEAR INSTALLED
6"	1345 Skyline	Ductile Iron	Sewer Replacement	1981
12"	1350 E. Chapman	Ductile Iron	Road Reconstruction	1993
6"	2147 W. Houston	Cast Iron	Age	1950s

- Streets: In April, the Division: used 98 tons of asphalt for patching, 53 tons for digouts, and 86 tons for Water Division digouts; applied 750 pounds of crack sealer; made 159 asphalt sidewalk repairs; ground 939 sidewalks; planed 250 square feet of asphalt; maintained, cleaned and fabricated 780 signs; cleaned 405 drains, 479,198 linear feet of sidewalk, and three roadway spills; swept 3,148 curb miles; and used 610 gallons of street paint.

Parks and Recreation

- Capital Improvements:
 - The Lions Field renovation project was awarded to Valley Crest in April. A ground breaking ceremony was held May 5. Construction is to begin on May 11, with completion anticipated by fall 2010.
 - Trail improvement plans that will address access, safety, staging areas, drainage and landscape for Hiltcher Trail are in progress. The neighbors directly to the north have filed a lawsuit against the City for inverse condemnation. The City Attorney is researching the claim for possible dismissal of the lawsuit. The

Department is still working on the conceptual design phase with the design consultant and meeting with the neighbors.

- Staff and the Hillcrest Park Master Plan Design Committee continue to walk different sections of the park at each meeting to discuss different observations and provide feedback. Staff is currently coordinating the procurement process for attaining the services of a landscape architecture/planning firm to develop the proposed park master plan.
- Truslow Park underwent a complete transformation through the KaBOOM! park renovation partnership with the City and other organizations. On April 25, the community joined together to complete the construction and improvements for the park, which included a new tot lot, rubber surfacing, landscaping, vegetable garden, lighting, picnic areas, and a mural commemorating Cesar Chavez. The park will re-open to the public May 9.
- **Senior Multi-Service Center:**
 - Approximately 135 guests attended the “Champions for Health” health fair April 3. A total of 23 different health providers and agencies participated and 22 various types of health screenings and services were offered.
 - The Center’s annual volunteer income tax assistance program completed its final service day April 13. Thirteen volunteers served 423 individuals during the 11-week program.
 - Two free classes began this month: The “It’s Your Estate” program and the “Staying Mentally Sharp” memory improvement program. The eight-week estate planning class had an average of 60 persons attending, and the memory class has averaged 20.
 - Vietnam was the featured country during the monthly cultural reception April 23. More than 60 guests enjoyed sampling foods and an exploration of music and educational display. A video examined the story of the Vietnam War Memorial.
- **Garnet Community Center:**
 - The GEMS Community Planning Committee – composed of Center staff, Police Community Services staff, churches and residents - are wrapping up details for the Community Health Fair scheduled for 10 a.m.-2 p.m. May 30. The event will feature various health screenings, health and wellness information, nutritious snacks and youth soccer demonstration and entertainment.
 - Center staff, working closely with school administration and the Police Liaison Officer, provided a successful intervention with a family which resulted in the

mother receiving parenting support and, most importantly, the teenage daughter returning to school.

- **Gilbert Community Center:**
 - The Center hosts a monthly support group for caregivers such as aunts, uncles and grandparents who are raising family members' children. The support group is offered by Olive Crest and meets every third Monday.
 - Center staff chaperoned eight neighborhood teens to the Angels' baseball game April 21. The teens won the tickets in a raffle at school.

- **Richman Community Center:**
 - Teens from Youth Empowerment Force and Teen Scene enjoyed spring break by taking field trips to the beach, bowling, and going to movies.
 - Eleven teens participated in the Department's "Kids' Fishing Derby" at Laguna Lake. They assisted with arts and crafts, and also had the opportunity to do some fishing of their own.
 - Services offered April 1-21 included legal referrals for three domestic violence victims for one or all of the following services: divorce, child custody, visitation, legal separation, child support and legal clinic participants. There were also two referrals made for food, utilities, rental payment assistance and clothing.

- **Tiny Tots:**
 - April was full to the brim with spring parties, decorating eggs, funny bunny business, park hikes, "Earth Day" awareness, crafts and summer classroom pre-registrations.
 - New families are being called from waiting lists to fill openings for the 12 summer sessions.

- **Independence Park:**
 - All four racquetball courts are consistently full from 5-9 p.m.
 - A small group of Raytheon employees has been keeping up with their weekly basketball workouts on Mondays and Wednesdays.
 - Senior volleyball continues to be popular every Tuesday and Thursday

- **Youth Programs:**

- The spring session of “Camp Hillcrest” was a success! The camp entertained and supervised 27 students. The children fished at Laguna Lake, explored the LA Zoo, went swimming at the North Orange County Family YMCA, and visited the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.
 - Kids from the Maple After School Program participated in the “Kaboom!” Truslow Park Build Day April 25. They also participated in a service learning project about Caesar Chavez and migrant workers.
 - The Maple After School Program hosted an open house in conjunction with the school’s open house April 4. Students brought their families to view their various projects relating to literacy and Caesar Chavez.
 - The collaboration between the Department’s After School Program and CSU Fullerton is continuing. Interns from CSUF are implementing fun and educational activities and sports programs for the students in both the Orangethorpe and Maple After School program sites.
 - After School Program staff will participate in a staff development presentation relating to special needs youth and autism presented by the Orange County Department of Education Child Care Inclusion Project.
- Tennis Center:
 - April was a good month, with more than 5,500 people attending.
 - The Center hosted the League tournament for Servite High School April 30 and May 1.
 - A new women’s group plays from 7-9 p.m. weekly. The group has approximately 30 members ranging from 3.0-4.5 level, which is intermediate.
 - On May 14, the Center will host the 5th Annual NAMI tournament to support a charity for the mentally ill.
 - Get Outdoors:
 - The 3rd Annual “Kids’ Fishing Derby” was a huge success, with more than 800 residents enjoying a beautiful day of fishing at Laguna Lake. Some of the younger children experienced catching their first fish at the creek ponds with assistance from Fullerton Firemen and Explorers. All participants enjoyed hot dogs donated by Costco. The day ended with a raffle and prizes for the children. The Big Ticket Raffle raised \$400 for the next derby. More than 100 volunteers made the event such a success.

Tri-tip lunch was served to all the volunteers and sponsored by the Fullerton Fire Department. Donating organizations and volunteers included: California Department of Fish and Game, Fisherman's Access, numerous Fullerton Parks and Recreation employees, Fullerton Police Officers Association, Fullerton Police Athletic League, Fullerton Firefighters Association, Fullerton Rotary Club, Aqua Bio, Costco, Home Depot, Farmer Boys Hamburgers, Fullerton Community Bank, Izaak Walton League of Fullerton/Orange/Whittier, Sunny Hills Key Club, Teen Alliance-Independence Park, Boy Scout Troop 292, Fullerton Police and Fire Explorers, and a handful of residents.

- Get Outdoors staff also conducted its first overnight camping event for the Montessori schools of Fullerton at Brea Dam Park. Owner and Parks and Recreation Commissioner Sueling Chen introduced students and parents to the fun of camping as they sat around the campfire. Participants also enjoyed a hike, and dinner and breakfast prepared by staff.

- Cultural and Events:

- In April, the Museum has been active with new and continuing programs. A new Family Thursday craft booth is featured at the Thursday night Market and docents are conducting drop-in tours for the public every Thursday night during Market season.
- Staff has conducted four tours of the new exhibit "Forever Fullerton: Julius Shulman" this month. A total of 180 visitors from Golden Hill School, PEO Women's Club, and the Wilshire Continuing Education Center participated in docent-guided tours of the exhibit.
- New in April was "Spring Into Music," a spring break guitar education program for students grades 4–9. The students learned beginning guitar and the basics of music theory, along with music-themed art and a tour of the Leo Fender Gallery. The first run of this program was successful and an end-of-the-week concert was enjoyed by both parents and youths.
- The Market started its 18th season April 2 and community interest in it continues to grow. The season started a little slowly due to cold weather, but vendor participation has been at capacity since the beginning, with several new craft and food vendors. There is a waiting list of more than 20 vendors. The Market also offers a good entertainment lineup.

Police

- Patrol:

- At approximately 4 a.m. one day in April, a woman parked her vehicle in the garage and walked down the driveway to pick up her morning paper. A suspect jumped from the bushes and grabbed her purse and ran to a waiting car. The victim, who had been visiting friends in Los Angeles, was not injured. The case is under investigation.
- Corporal Robert Kirk responded to Laguna Road School regarding found property. The principal told Cpl. Kirk that a large diamond ring had been found on campus. School personnel had the ring appraised, and the appraiser said the diamond was almost flawless and estimated the ring's value at more than \$30,000. The ring was booked into Property, and the Department is attempting to locate the owner.
- Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol members were an enormous help following the fatal traffic collision that claimed the lives of Angels pitcher Nick Adenhardt and two others. Twelve RSVP members took up positions at various intersections and controlled traffic. Lt. Craig Brower said he was unsure how Officers would have gotten through this event without the assistance of the RSVP. The RSVP efforts are greatly appreciated.
- Judge Nick Thompson requested the Department's assistance in locating a defendant for which the Judge had issued a bench warrant. Officer Kenny Edgar located the suspect in an apartment. Three other adults in the apartment were arrested for narcotics possession.
- A 36-year-old male committed suicide at the Transportation Center in April. As a freight train approached eastbound, traveling approximately 50 mph, the victim jumped onto the tracks when the train was approximately 100 yards away. The victim had left his cell phone and wallet on the platform prior to jumping in front of the train.
- Officer Jeremy Viscusi, acting on a patrol check request from City Hall, located a local transient camping in the bushes on the south side of City Hall. Officer Viscusi cited the transient for illegal camping and asked him to move along. As of this writing, the transient has not returned.