

Council Update

Projects:

- ■Commonwealth Sewer Improvement Highland to Richman (*Engineering*): On Aug. 16, Council awarded this \$319,745 project to Building Consulting Engineers, Inc. Improvements include excavation; new 15-inch sewer main; manholes; sheeting; shoring and bracing; and traffic control. The contract completion is expected by December.
- ■Signal Improvements Rosecrans and Harbor *(Engineering)*: Dynalectric, Inc., began work on the project in September. The project includes traffic signal modification and communication installation, with most of the hardware supplied by the City. Work is expected to be completed next month.
- ■Library Photovoltaic System (*Engineering*): The contractor, AAA Solar Electric, Inc., has begun placing solar panels on the structure. The next steps will be wiring, installation of the power inverter, and testing. The project is scheduled to be completed in November.
- ■Verona Slopes (*Engineering*): Closing arguments for Phase I of the Verona Slopes lawsuit were scheduled to be heard Oct. 6. Jury selection for Phase II is expected to begin Oct. 12.
- ■Richman Athletic Field Improvements (*Engineering*): The maintenance period is completed and the park is open to the public.
- ■Euclid Street Reconstruction Orangethorpe to 91 Freeway (*Engineering*): Council awarded this \$646,000 contract to All American Asphalt. The work began in August and, to date, the contractor has removed and paved the outside lanes. The next phase includes traffic control change enabling reconstruction of the inside lanes. Final paving and striping will follow. Absent any unforeseen delays, the project will be completed this month.
- ■Ford Park Playground Renovation (*Parks and Recreation*): On Sept. 17 more than 300 volunteers from the City of Fullerton, KaBOOM!, Foresters, the Boys and Girls Club of Fullerton, Eastside Christian Church and neighborhood residents helped construct a new playground in six hours at Ford Park. During that time, volunteers also planted new landscaping, built picnic tables, a new park monument sign, and a kids storage 'cubby' for the Boys and Girls Club. Soon after the build, new park benches, trash receptacles and a BBQ were also installed.

Programs:

■Fullerton Museum Center (*Parks and Recreation*): In September, the Museum Center transitioned from summer to school year programming. The Wednesday Studio and Guitar Gateways started with full classes. The new exhibit "Frida Kahlo through the Lens of Nickolas Muray" opened as well, with a number of school and community groups scheduled for guided

tours. Lastly, the Museum's popular "Haunted Fullerton Walking Tours" began in September and several of the October tours are already sold out. The Museum will be adding additional dates in the near future.

- ■Summer Reading Club *(Library)*: The Summer Reading Club began with the Main Library still under construction. The children's area was shared by the Circulation Division, and part of the auditorium was unavailable for programs. Still, the children of Fullerton came and joined the club in record numbers. A total of 2,558 children joined this summer at the Main Library, which was the highest number of signups ever. Hunt Branch had a total of 689 sign-ups, for a combined total of 3,247 children. The total number of children who attended story hours was 5,441, which topped last year's number of 5,097, and included toddler, pre-school and school-age programming.
- ■Sunrise Rotary Grant (*Library*): Families gathered for the Sept. 27 meeting of Bedtime Bears Storytime were in for a treat as Howard Dutra of Fullerton Sunrise Rotary read "Happy Birthday, Hamster!" and readily answered any question posed by the young listeners. Howard is certainly a grandfather who knows his way around reading picture books to little ones. "Happy Birthday, Hamster!" is one of the many books which have been and will be purchased in the coming year for the Library through a generous grant from Sunrise Rotary. Each week one of these new books will be read at our weekly Bedtime Bears storytime by a Sunrise Rotary member.
- ■Distinguished Speaker Series (*Library*): More than 300 people attended the first program in the Library's new Distinguished Speaker Series on Sept. 18, which featured author Victor Villaseñor. A standing-room-only crowd listened as he talked about his book "Rain of Gold" and his journey to writing it.
- ■Training (*Police*): The Department has had 188 employees attend the "Recognizing Mental Illness: A Proactive Approach" training and 178 have attended "Law Enforcement to Homelessness Update" training. Classes on "Use of Force" and "Taser Use" have been arranged for all Officers to attend.

Month in Review:

- **Community Development:** In September, the Department: issued 164 plan checks; issued 288 building permits; conducted 1,522 building inspections; visited 729 building sites; received 203 code enforcement complaints; handled 642 active code enforcement cases; closed 156 code enforcement complaints; conducted 877 code enforcement inspections; and handled 66 Code Enforcement self-generated requests for service. In addition, staff handled 14 acts of graffiti vandalism, 32 large item pickups (couches, etc., abandoned in alleys), two Maintenance Service requests, seven public assistance contacts in the field, and nine signs were abated from the right-of-way.
- **■Police:** In September, the Department was dispatched to 3,896 calls for service and initiated 2,434 additional contacts. There were 1,182 criminal reports taken and 419 persons arrested for various criminal offenses.
- **Fire:** In September, the Department had 991 requests for service, up from the 950 requests in September 2010. Of the 991 requests, 727 were for emergency medical aid, 36 were for fires, five were hazardous materials incidents, and 64 were service calls. Of the medical aid requests, 468 required advanced life support response and 259 required basic life support response. In addition, the Department responded on 95 automatic aid calls, and received 103 automatic aid responses in return.

- ■Website statistics (*Redevelopment and Economic Development*): In September, the Department's section on the City website had 1,459 hits.
- ■Unemployment Rates (*Redevelopment and Economic Development*): Current unemployment rates on the national, state, county and local levels are as follows: U.S. 9.1 percent; California 11.9 percent; Orange County 9 percent; and Fullerton 10.1 percent. This data was provided by the Orange County Workforce Investment Board.