



Council Briefing

March 2006

Administrative Services

- Fiscal Services:
 - New alarm permits in February totaled 47. New alarm permits issued thus far this fiscal year total 442. As of Feb, 28, there were 4,394 active permits.
 - Invoices and delinquent notices in February totaled 566, with a valuation of \$421,000. Total number of invoices and delinquent notices thus far this fiscal year is 4,722, with a valuation of \$5,747,255.
 - Total number of general checks and direct deposits issued in February was 805 and 149, respectively, with a valuation of \$4,888,877. General checks and direct deposits thus far this fiscal year total 6,804 and 1,208, respectively, with a valuation of \$37,464,630.
- Information Technology:
 - Staff continues to get input on development of the City's new Internet website. The new site will be more user-friendly and have easier navigational tools for the public.
 - Information Technology is taking inventory of older PCs that need to be replaced and are no longer under warranty.
 - Staff is scheduling PC training classes for spring. Classes that will be offered are Microsoft Windows XP, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access.
- Purchasing: In January, the Division processed approximately 190 requisitions, and saved \$3,690 through early payment discounts. In addition, the Division brought in \$28,400 in revenues through the sale of surplus vehicles. Central Services made 143,878 copies and processed 12,036 pieces of mail.

- **Revenue:**
 - In February, 192 new business registration certificates were issued. Of that total, 125 were located in Fullerton and 61 were located out-of-city, but will be doing business here. Business tax collected for new registrants totaled \$12,335.
 - A total of 169 businesses closed in February: 69 in the city and 100 out of the city.
 - The number of business certificates renewed was 842, which totaled \$135,612 in business tax collected.
- **Utility Services:** In February, customer service staff answered 1,774 calls. The number of cash register transactions processed in the month was 3,447 and totaled \$8,827,486.91. The total transactions processed by payment method were: credit cards, 913; checks, 997; cash, 579; and direct deposits, 105.

Development Services

- **Code Enforcement:**
 - In February, staff responded to 169 complaints and resolved 204; arranged for the pick-up of 50 large trash items such as couches and appliances; conducted 563 inspections; issued 28 citations and 110 first notices of violation; abated 19 vehicles; made 28 requests for graffiti removal; handled 76 hotline calls; and billed \$3,400 in revenue.

Proactive Areas

Area	Properties	Violations	Prop Closed	Status
1	113	215	107	Re-inspection
2	92	421	87	Active
3	69	316	68	Active
4	110	529	105	Active
5	96	206	89	Active
6	69	161	62	Active
7	84	221	70	Active
8	192	516	170	Active
9	106	218	105	Active
10	182	311	181	Active
11	66	119	66	Active
12	124	180	121	Active
Total	1302	3413	1231	96% Closed

Engineering

- Project Development and Design:

- Plans and specifications were submitted to Caltrans at the end of February for review and for approval to advertise for bids for the Lemon Street project. The work, which will stretch from Chapman to Berkeley, will include street reconstruction, median islands, street lighting, and landscape improvements.
- Bids for demolition at 412 W. Valencia and 431 W. West have been received. Work should begin shortly after the residents are relocated.

- Construction Management:

- Interior Demolition began work in February on demolition of three buildings on S. Richman and W. Valencia. Lead and asbestos have been removed from all three locations. Demolition is complete on W. Valencia. The contractor is scheduled to finish the project in March.
- Los Angeles Engineering Inc. is expected to complete work on the SOCO District Improvements (Phase II) in May. The work includes constructing hardscape in alleyways and adjacent parking areas, block walls, parking lot striping and signage, and electrical, and landscape improvements.
- Contractor Steiny and Co. is expected to complete the Traffic Signal Coordination Project on Magnolia, Gilbert and Brookhurst in April. Work began in January.
- Contractor CJ Construction, Inc. has completed 80 percent of the Curb/Gutter and Sidewalk Reconstruction Project for fiscal 2004-05. The work began at the end of January.
- Contractor Y&M Construction completed the Police Fencing Project in February.
- Work is continuing on the Independence Park restroom, locker and shower improvements. The work, which is expected to be completed this spring, includes demolition, underground plumbing, a new concrete slab, and framing for the interior remodel portion of the project.

- Water System Management:

- Contractor Atlas Allied Inc. is expected to complete the Water Main System Replacement for fiscal 2004-05 in April. The contractor, who began work in November, has installed 2,080 of the estimated 4,050 linear feet of water mains. Work has been completed on Las Palmas Drive from east of La Travesia Drive to Rideout Way. Atlas Allied has also begun pipe installation on Harbor at Bastanchury.

- Contractor SEMA Construction Inc. expects to complete work on the Hillcrest Park Reservoir Project in April. The work, which began in July, includes construction of a 5-million-gallon circular pre-stressed concrete tank, new water lines, and new landscaping. Construction is slightly ahead of schedule, and surrounding area support piping is 95 percent complete. Staff has received very few complaints from area residents.
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Fire

- **Statistics:** The Department responded to 783 service requests in February. Of that number, 634 were medical aids, 35 were fires, six were hazardous materials incidents, and 53 were service calls. In addition, 119 automatic aids were given and 81 were received.
- **Suppression:**
 - In the first week of February, 10 members of the Department responded with two engines and one Battalion Chief as leader to the Sierra Fire in the Anaheim Hills area of the Cleveland National Forest. The Firefighters remained on the line for three consecutive days, and one engine remained through the fourth day. The group was assigned to a Metro Cities strike team. All personnel and resources returned safely.
 - SWAT-trained Firefighter/Paramedics were called out with the North Orange County SWAT team Feb. 2 to the 2000 block of Camino Escondido on a call involving shots fired. Engine Two had responded initially.
 - Paramedics responded to an industrial accident in the 1500 block of E. Walnut in which a worker lost three fingers Feb. 13. The patient was transported to UCI.
 - A structure fire in the 300 block of E. Rosslyn the third week of February caused approximately \$30,000 damage to a home valued at \$550,000. A plumber's tool accidentally started a fire under the house and the flames quickly spread to the attic. No injuries were reported.
 - On Feb. 15 a driver lost control of his vehicle and crashed through a chain link fence at Euclid and Malvern, landing 16 feet below street level at the bottom of the flood control channel. Although the driver was not injured, Firefighters on Truck One had to extricate him from the vehicle. A tow truck later removed the vehicle from the channel.
 - An empty 20-passenger OCTA bus traveling at a high rate of speed went out of control near Harbor/Valencia Mesa Feb. 16 and crashed through center divider foliage into four southbound vehicles waiting to turn left into St. Jude Medical Center. The impact trapped a female in one of the cars. Firefighters from Engine 4 and 6 and

Truck 1 extricated an elderly woman from the car. She was treated by Engine 2 Paramedics at the scene and escorted to UCI Trauma Center. Two additional patients from the other cars involved were taken to St. Jude. The bus driver was not injured. Photos of the rescue have been included in a separate attachment to this month's Council Briefing.

Library

- **Library Centennial Launched:** On Feb. 21-22 the Library launched the celebration of its centennial year with a series of special events. At the Feb. 21 City Council meeting, Mayor Wilson presented Ray Kawase, President of the Library Board of Trustees, and Al Milo, Library Director, with a City proclamation. At that same meeting, Librarians Joanne Hardy and Ed Maurer unveiled the Library's new website, www.fullertonlibrary.org. The following day the public was invited to a reception at the Main Library. More than 400 people participated in the reception, including Mayor Pro Tem Bankhead, Supervisor Chris Norby, and Congressman Ed Royce. The attendees comprised a real cross section of Fullerton in that all ages and ethnic groups were represented. Entertainment included a pianist, a caricaturist, a balloon artist, and a live ostrich. By far the most popular segment of the reception was the ostrich, named Albert. Albert was in a fenced-in area in front of the Main Library for most of the day and was available for photographs. His keeper sold ostrich feathers and eggs. A table was set up nearby for children's author Dora May Sim to autograph copies of her book, "Ostrich Eggs for Breakfast," which includes the fact there used to be an ostrich farm in Fullerton on the land that is now Acacia School. The Centennial Reception was made possible by donations from the Friends of the Library and the Fullerton Public Library Foundation.
- **Coming Centennial Events:** The Library will celebrate its centennial throughout 2006. Some events planned include:
 - April 28 "Night in Fullerton" - The Main Library will display the entries in a centennial photography contest and award prizes to the winners. Theme of the contest is "Caught in the Act of Reading." Copies of the contest rules and application forms may be obtained at the Main Library or the Hunt Branch. An added feature will be an exhibit of work by the late Florence Arnold, a local artist.
 - July 30 "Author Luncheon" - The Library Foundation has invited Pulitzer Prize winner A. Scott Berg to speak at a fund-raising luncheon at the Fullerton Wyndham Hotel. Mr. Berg has written several biographies, including ones on Charles Lindbergh and Katherine Hepburn.
 - September or October "One City/One Book" - The Library Trustees have selected the bestseller "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini for its fall program. All members of the community will be encouraged to read the same book and

will be invited to a fall program to discuss the work. The exact date of the discussion is to be announced.

- Nov. 5 “Friends Annual Meeting” - The Friends of the Library will host public television personality Huell Howser at its annual meeting. Because of heavy interest and demand for tickets, the event may be moved to a larger venue than the Main Library. Tickets are not yet available and members of the Friends will be given priority. Membership applications to join the Friends may be obtained at the Main Library.

Maintenance Services

- Administration:

- In February, the Department received 929 service requests, completing 578 (62 percent) in the month. Of the 18 emergency requests, 15 (73 percent) were completed within one day. Building and Facilities received the most requests - 370, or 39 percent of the total, reflecting a continuing upsurge in graffiti calls.
- The analysis team recently completed a performance audit of the Water Division. The draft report has been sent to division managers for review before being forwarded to the Maintenance Services Director and City Manager. Once the final version of the study is released, the team will begin an audit of the Street Division’s road maintenance operations. The team will also begin developing the framework for the state-required audit of the City’s sewer programs, which is due to the Regional Water Board in September.
- The Department has issued a purchase requisition for 257 U.S. flags to be installed by a contractor the week before Memorial Day. Like last year, the flags will have de-tangling devices to prevent them from wrapping around their poles in the wind.
- Maintenance Services’ support staff received 1,302 calls in February, an average of 77 per workday, or 38 for each of our two primary customer service personnel.

- Facilities:

- The Graffiti Crew removed 33,775 square feet of graffiti from 311 sites in February. The year-to-date totals are 260,474 square feet of graffiti removed from 1,801 sites. Two full-time employees are assigned to removal, as directed by the City Manager.
- Staff completed 15 custodial inspections of City facilities in February.
- The Senior Center tile flooring replacement project is in process.

- Replacement of the front automated doors at the Maple Community Center has been completed, as has the replacement of the center's roof.
- **Landscape:**
 - West Coast Arborists, the City's contract tree-trimming company, has performed the following services since July 1: trimmed 8,601 trees; removed 379 trees and stumps; removed 93 stumps; and planted 309 trees. The goals for fiscal 2005-06 are to prune 13,000 trees, remove 500 trees, and plant 700 24-inch box trees.
 - One service request was received in February for red imported fire ant issues.
 - The Division received one call concerning beehives and swarms and eradicated one beehive in a City street tree in February.
 - Division crews, in conjunction with Yamamoto Inc. (the median island maintenance contractor), have completed replacement of plant material on Bastanchury Road east of Payne Stewart Drive. The existing plant material was removed to minimize a visual obstruction concern of homeowners in the area.
 - Division personnel have hand picked 13 24-inch California Pepper and 11 24-inch Coast Live Oak trees in preparation for Arbor Day, which will be held at 9 a.m. March 11 at Emery Park. Informational fliers are available at City Hall and Basque Yard.
 - Division crews, under the leadership of Clifford Jennings, completed several last-minute beautification projects throughout February in preparation for the Laguna Lake dedication ceremony.
 - Orange County Juvenile Work Program crews performed weed abatement and general clean-up on the Sally Pekarek Trail in February.
- **Water:** In February, the Division produced 699,365,280 gallons of water. Of that amount 48.2 percent - 337,064,000 gallons - were pumped from wells and 51.80 percent - 362,301,280 gallons - were purchased from the Metropolitan Water District.
- **Sewer:** In February the Division: handled two private property sewer overflows; hydrojetted 15.17 miles of sewer mains; handled 3,181 linear feet of root cut/mechanical treatment in mains; performed 114 mechanical treatments of sewer lateral; conducted 29 food service establishment inspections; conducted 23 CCTV inspections of laterals; inspected 24,994 feet of sewer main by CCTV; received 31 sewer fee "Lifeline" applications and approved 28; received 28 sewer fee "Large Lot" applications and approved 26; received 174 sewer fee calls; and handled 33 sewer service requests.
- **Equipment:** The Division performed 89 PM inspections, 10 smog certificates and six diesel smoke tests in February.

- **Street:** In February Division crews: cleaned 2,491 miles of streets, 109,049 linear feet of sidewalk, 238 drains and 11 roadway spills; Used 5 tons of asphalt for digouts, 128 tons for paving, 59 tons for patching, and 197 tons for Water Division paving; performed 1,650 square feet of asphalt planning; milled 733 linear feet of gutter; installed, fabricated and cleaned 662 signs; applied 385 gallons of paint; ground 585 sidewalks; and performed 24 sidewalk asphalt repairs.
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Parks and Recreation

- **Capital Improvements:**
 - Staff has reviewed the first submission of progress plans and specifications for renovation of Adlena, Byerrum and Valencia parks and returned it to Purkiss Rose RSI for inclusion of comments into the next submittal, which should be this month.
 - The Laguna Lake Rededication Ceremony was held Feb. 25. Dignitaries attending included State Senator Dick Ackerman, the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission. Pathways to Adventure provided fishing clinics and fishing equipment for day use at no cost to the public. An estimated 5,000 residents participated in the day's activities. Future improvements at Laguna Lake will include restoration of the multi-purpose trail on the south side of the lake, landscaping, restrooms, picnic facilities, and parking lot improvements.
 - Minor touch-up of painted metal surfaces remains to be done prior to final completion of the Bastanchury Park project.
 - A Request for Proposals for the actual preparation of bidding and construction documents for the Richman Park concept plan has been sent to 10 landscape architectural firms. The due date for proposals is March 15, 2006. At that time staff will review the submittals and select a consultant for recommendation to the City Council for award of the design contract.
 - A design for the Lemon Park restroom was submitted by Cedars Engineering and staff has returned it with many comments. An updated set of plans will be submitted early this month.
 - The Crane Associates contract for redesign of the Tennis Center has been approved. Crane Associates has agreed to reduce the actual design period to six months.
 - The spring session of the Adopt-A-Park program begins this month and the groups approved by Council will provide volunteer service over a 14-week period. The program has been expanded to 30 groups, and the groups will be able to do park improvement projects including painting of park structures, plantings and minor construction projects.

- Senior Multi-Service Center:
 - The Center's annual volunteer income tax preparation assistance program got under way Feb. 2. Eleven senior volunteer tax counselors have served approximately 30 people each week thus far. The program will run weekly through April 13.
 - The TLC program's Valentine's Day lunch and dance Feb. 10 drew 170 persons.
 - On Feb. 16, the Center hosted an informational visit from the California Telephone Access Program, a state-sponsored service providing, at no cost, special equipment for qualified persons needing assistance due to physical or cognitive limitations.
 - The OCTA conducted a workshop Feb. 23 to familiarize seniors with public transportation options and processes.
- Maple Community Center: English as Second Language classes started Feb. 21.
- Valencia Community Center:
 - The following services were offered to domestic violence victims in February: 17 legal referrals for divorce, child custody, visitation, legal separation, child support and legal clinic and immigration clinic participants. In addition, four referrals were made for community resources including food, utilities and counseling services.
 - Thirty clients attended Spanish "Personal Empowerment Program" classes and nine clients attended English PEP classes.
- Garnet Neighborhood Center:
 - Staff and volunteers took 25 participants in the after-school and tutoring program to the Richard Nixon Library on Presidents' Day.
 - Youth from the Center were brought to the dedication of Laguna Lake, where they enjoyed the fishing clinic, fish painting, and fishing.
- Tiny Tots: The Tiny Tots "Friday Afternoon Out!" program is growing steadily with an average of 50 children attending each month.
- After-school Programs:
 - The "Sports Club" Soccer Team started an intramural sports program with Fullerton School District after-school programs. The team played soccer against Richman School Feb. 17 and 24.

- Approximately 30 After-school children attended the Laguna Lake Dedication Feb. 25, and participated in a variety of activities, including crafts and fishing.
- **Teen Programs:** More than 600 sixth- through eighth-grade students attended the “Sweet Valentine Dance” at Independence Park Feb. 11.
- **Tennis Center:** February was an active month at the Center. The Fullerton Juniors’ Tournament was very successful. This tournament has some of the best junior tennis players in the country competing, with 1,200 players from all over the nation coming to the Center. Only a few days have been lost to rain so demand has been manageable for make-up dates for the junior and adult leagues. The end of February brought back the Servite Boys’ tennis team for the second year.
- **Youth Sports:** Permits for spring league were issued in February. Starting the first weekend in March, leagues will begin their seasons with their opening ceremonies.
- **Bastanchury Sports Complex:** Spring training for baseball and softball is over and the regular season has begun for four baseball and two softball leagues playing at Bastanchury Park and the Sports Complex. This will be the first full season of softball and soccer at the park.
- **Classes/Excursions:** Registration for spring classes has remained busy, with approximately 25 percent of the registrations coming from eConnect. Our new fitness classes have been very popular, as have cooking, dance and dog obedience classes.
- **Cultural and Events:**
 - February was very busy for tours of “Lewis and Clark Revisited.” Approximately 350 children participated in docent tours with hands-on activities. The exhibit closed Feb. 26. Total number of paid admissions for the show was 825.
 - Everyone is invited to two upcoming openings: “Rhinestones and Twangin’ Tones” on March 17 and the opening of the permanent Fender Gallery on April 22.
 - Aimee Aul, the Museum Educator, has been nominated for Orange County Arts Educator of the Year, an award given annually by Arts Orange County.
 - Step Up, the Museum’s collaboration with the Fullerton Joint Union High School District and the Boys and Girls Club of Fullerton, has ended, and staff is preparing for another grant-funded collaboration with the district in the form of an after-school tobacco cessation art project. For this program, the Museum will host 5-20 students recommended by their individual schools for tobacco use infractions. Students will examine tobacco and alcohol ads, especially those targeting underage users, and create an original “badvertisement” that shows the truth of tobacco and alcohol use - e.g., respiratory illness, addiction, dental problems, drunk driving, etc. In addition, a

“Tobacco in America” timeline will be posted in the Museum classroom and will be illustrated with posters and art.

- Staff is busy getting ready for spring and summer events, including opening of the Downtown Farmers Market April 6.

Personnel/Risk Management

- Liability Program:
 - Sixteen new claims were filed in January and one lawsuit was served.
 - The trials on Sultani v. City of Fullerton and Parker v. City of Fullerton, scheduled to begin in February and March, respectively, are both off calendar as the cases have been resolved. There are no other trials scheduled through March.
- Workers’ Compensation: Ten new claims were filed in January.
- Meet and Confer: Planning has begun for this year’s negotiations with the various bargaining units. Five of the six recognized units are up for renewal, and the sixth (general management) has a limited reopener. Additionally, all three unrecognized units (non-regular, confidential and executive) are up for renewal.
- Recruitment: Recruitments completed or nearing completion are Environmental Compliance Specialist, Stormwater/Wastewater Compliance Specialist, and Housing and Community Development Inspector. Management/professional positions open or soon to be opened are Fiscal Services Manager, Senior Planner, Library Division Manager – Technical Services, Redevelopment Project Manager, Equipment Supervisor, Street Superintendent, Assistant/Associate Engineer, and Fire Captain.
- Employee Processing: In February, staff processed three regular and two non-regular promotions, nine regular and six non-regular appointments, and three regular and eight non-regular separations.

Police

- Patrol:
 - The P.M. Watch recently put a full court press on drunken drivers. Senior Officer Glenn Stotz and Officer Jay Cicinelli, working as a two-man unit, arrested four DUIs in one evening.

- Responding to complaints from residents about loiterers at Lemon Park, Officers Ray Flores and Dan Castillo recently arrested two people in the park: one was a parolee-at-large and the other was arrested for possession of narcotics for sales.
- Burglars recently targeted the abandoned Morehouse building at 1600 W. Commonwealth. Fortunately, Officer Ben Lira captured the three burglars as they were carting away copper wire they had stripped from the building.
- Officer Eric Franke recently stopped a car for a vehicle code violation. The routine traffic stop developed into an arrest of the driver for carrying a concealed pistol. The driver, who wore soft body armor, had prior arrests for carrying a concealed weapon.
- Officer Chris Le Fave, responding to a report of an audible burglary alarm, arrived at the location to find a smashed window and a suspect wearing a ski mask and carrying a sledge hammer, who was walking away from the location. Officer Le Fave stopped the suspect and took him into custody. Officer David MacShane located a second suspect hiding in a car behind the store. Both admitted to the burglary.