

Council Briefing

March 2009

Administrative Services

Fiscal Services:

- ➤ Police alarm permits issued in February totaled 26, bringing the fiscal year-to-date total to 330. Total number of active permits as of Jan. 31 was 4,879.
- Invoices billed in February totaled 772, with a valuation of \$515,526. Invoices for the fiscal year-to-date total 6,086, with a valuation of \$18,667,533.
- ➤ General checks and direct deposits in February totaled 578 and 265, respectively, with a valuation of \$4,984,535. The number of general checks and direct deposits for the fiscal year-to-date total 5,776 and 2,206, respectively, with a valuation of \$50,283,213.

Information Technology:

- ➤ Staff is helping with the implementation of security cameras at the Library. This will give the Library more security in all of the areas of the building. In addition, their T-1 lines have been upgraded to AT&T platform.
- ➤ The Time Warner Cable Internet link is almost complete. When the link is finished, the speed will be five times faster than the current speed when going out to the Internet. In addition, staff updated the City's GIS (Geographical Information System) server to a new, more powerful server. We are getting more requests for GIS applications in the City.
- Purchasing: In February, the Division processed approximately 145 requisitions, and created 48 purchase orders; saved \$1,735 through early payment discounts; and saved \$3,200 through competitive quotes, cooperative purchases and state/government resources. Central Services made 118,638 copies and processed 10,366 pieces of mail.

Revenue:

- ➤ In February, 156 new business registration certificates were issued. Of that total, 86 were for businesses in Fullerton and 70 were for businesses located out of the city, but conducting business here. Business tax collected totaled \$11,203.
- ➤ A total of 208 businesses closed in February: 93 located in the city and 115 located out of the city.
- Business certificates renewed in January numbered 702, which totaled \$110,633 in business tax collected.
- Utility Services: In February, the Division answered 1,881 calls and processed 2,311 cash register transactions totaling \$5,918,082. Of those transactions, 503 were credit cards, 855 checks, 457 by cash, and 131 direct deposits.

Community Development

Community Preservation: In February, the Division: received 176 complaints (1,977 year-to-date); resolved 189 complaints (1611); handled 540 active cases; conducted 610 inspections (4,609); issued 129 First Notices of Violation (1,063) and 16 citations (390); arranged for the pick-up of 12 large items, such as sofas and appliances (129); made 46 requests for graffiti removal (165); received 51 Hotline calls (536); and billed \$4,650 in revenue (\$42,450).

Planning Division:

- ➤ In January, 12 project applications were submitted, including two minor site plans, two minor development projects, one major development project, two conditional use permits, one variance, two modifications to a previously approved project, and two subdivisions.
- Also in January, five applications were acted upon by the final hearing body, including one minor development project, two conditional use permits, one appeal, and one variance.
- ➤ In February, eight project applications were submitted, including one minor site plan, three minor development projects, one major development project, one conditional use permit, and two modifications to a previously approved project.
- Also in February, four applications were acted upon by the final hearing body, including two minor development projects, one conditional use permit, and one modification to a previously approved project

Engineering

 Construction Management: The RJ Noble Co. began work in late February on the Chapman Avenue Reconstruction from Victoria to Acacia avenues, and is scheduled to complete the project at the end of April. The scope of work includes reconstruction of pavement, access ramps, sidewalks, cross gutters, curbs and gutters. Additional related work will include traffic striping, traffic signal interconnect and loops, as well as water valve and manhole adjustments to grade.

Fire

Statistics: In February, the Department responded to 792 requests for service, which was down from the 881 recorded in February 2008. Of the 792 calls, 29 were for fires, 641 were for medical aid, three were hazardous materials incidents, and 57 were service calls. The Department also responded on 79 automatic aids and received 60 in return. (The automatic aids received are not included in the preceding stats). Out of the 641 EMS calls, 441 were Advanced Life Support cases and 200 were Basic Life Support.

Human Resources

- Citywide Training:
 - ➤ On Feb. 26, the Department completed citywide customer service training. Approximately 475 employees attended the workshops. Staff received very positive feedback from the majority of the attendees. The trainer, Joan Tremblay, praised our employees for their attentiveness and professionalism.
 - ➤ In conjunction with the City Manager's Office, the Department is developing a cultural diversity training program in recognition of the diversity of our citizens. We anticipate scheduling training sessions beginning in April/May.
- Employee Processing: In February, Human Resources processed two regular and two nonregular new employees, one regular and one nonregular promotions, and one regular and six nonregular separations.
- New Information System: The Department is working closely with Administrative Services and the IT staff, as well as with Sungard programmers, to prepare for the transition to the new Finance/HR system. The target date to "go live" is July 1.

- Liability Program: The Department received 12 new claims, closed 16 claims and was served with two lawsuits in February.
- Workers' Compensation Program: In February three new claims were filed, 13 were closed, and one new lawsuit was received.

Library

- Book Club Ready-to-Go: The Library is announcing its new "Book Club Ready-to-Go" program in which patrons can organize "instant" book clubs, with the Library providing all the necessary material to get the conversation flowing. Under the program, the Library provides "Book Club Ready-to-Go" kits for loan. Each kit comes complete with 10 copies of the selected book, plus suggested discussion questions, a biography of the author, and copies of book reviews. Several kits are ready to go, and more are on the way. The kits feature both popular and classic titles.
- Foundation Fund-raiser: The Fullerton Public Library Foundation sponsored a fund-raising luncheon Feb. 8, featuring author Lisa See. More than 125 attendees enjoyed a lovely lunch and lively talk by the author at Los Coyotes Country Club. More than \$10,000 was raised for the Fullerton Public Library Expansion Fund in this single-day event.
- Career Day @ Fullerton High School: Librarian Shirley Ku participated in the first Annual Career Expo at Fullerton High School Feb. 25. Students asked about libraries as a career, as well as how the Library could help them with their studies.
- Leadership Graduate: Senior Librarian Chaunacey Dunklee attended the Leadership Development for Public Agencies program, which started in September. She received her certificate signaling successful completion of the program at the graduation on Feb. 19.
- Mick at Night: On Feb. 26, more than 100 attendees enjoyed "Orange County Register" columnist Frank Mickadeit as he returned to the Main Library for the second year in a row. He talked about many of the subjects that appear in his daily columns and sang his "popular" songs.
- Bedtime Bears Return: Bedtime Bears, the popular evening family storytime, returned to the Main Library Feb. 17. Previous meetings had been held at Hunt Branch, with the last session ending Nov. 4. The program features stories, poetry, puppets, songs and crafts. Children 3-6 years of age and their families are invited to attend and may wear their pajamas. Bedtime Bears will continue through March 24 at the Main Library.

- Read Across America: Thirty-five students from a Fullerton High School reading class visited the Main Library Feb. 20 for a tour and pointers on how to read aloud to groups of children. Students were given a brief tour of the young adult area. Joining the Children's Library staff in the meeting room, they participated in a hands-on demonstration of how to read aloud, followed by book talks on some suggested titles, and a tour of where to find good books to read to young children. Students then had time to check out the books to use March 2 with students at Raymond School. Each teen left the Library with a tip sheet on how to read aloud and a list of suggested books.
- Patios Receives Eagle's Touch at Hunt Branch: Hidden behind Hunt Branch Library's distinctive exterior designed by world-famous architect William L. Pereira sit three patios where visitors can enjoy books or relax in peaceful surroundings. The patios have been the object of three Boy Scout Eagle projects. The final patio refurbishment was recently completed. The patrons and staff of Hunt Branch are quite pleased with the improvements in anticipation of the upcoming 50th anniversary celebration of the Branch's dedication on Sept. 12, 2012.
- Small Business @ the Library: In February the Library hosted three workshops for small businesses. The first occurred Feb 4 and had 30 attendees. workshop on debt elimination was the first in a series of gatherings sponsored by S.C.O.R.E. (a group of retired executives) and designed to assist with workforce development issues. The workforce development workshops will continue the first Wednesday of each month through June. The second S.C.O.R.E.-sponsored workshop, which dealt with Internet marketing, took place Feb. 11 and had 90 participants. The SCORE workshops continue to grow in popularity with much positive feedback from those attending. The third workshop was the first of a series titled "Community Business Seminars." These gatherings are given by local business people who wish to share their expertise with the wider community. On Feb. 18, a small but enthusiastic group was provided with information on business formation. The business workshops and seminars have been a great opportunity for the Library to promote its services to an important segment of the community. The gatherings usually take place on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. All the workshops are free and open to the public.

Maintenance Services

Administration:

➤ The Department received 1,207 service requests in February, completing 803 (66.5 percent) in the month. Of the eight emergency requests received, three were completed within one day. The Building and Facilities Division received the most requests, - 700, or 57.9 percent of the total.

➤ In February, the Department's support staff received 1,543 calls, an average of 91 per workday, or 45 for each of our two primary customer service personnel.

Facilities Division:

- ➤ In February, Graffiti Crews removed 53,150 square feet of graffiti from 421 sites, bringing the year-to-date totals to 429,980 square feet removed from 3,352 sites.
- ➤ In February, staff completed 20 custodial inspections of City facilities.
- ➤ The project to replace four air conditioning units in IT is in progress. The new units will be energy-efficient models.
- ➤ The Division has also undertaken a project with the Engineering Department to conserve water by using efficient low-flush equipment on all City toilets. Staff will be replacing 18 toilets, as well as replacing 12 sinks with low-flow equipment.
- > The City Hall elevator renovation is under way, with completion estimated for six months.
- Sewer Division: In February, the Division: responded on one City sewer overflow; hydrojetted 15.67 miles of sewer mains; root cut/mechanically treated 45,616 linear feet of sewer main; mechanically treated 111 sewer laterals; conducted CCTV inspections of 26 sewer laterals and 34,956 linear feet of sewer main; conducted 27 source control inspections; approved five Lifeline applications and three Large Lot applications; and received 17 sewer fee calls and 38 sewer service requests.
- Equipment Division: In February, the Division performed two motorcycle inspections, eight general PM inspections, one safety inspection, six bit inspections, 64 PMs, 10 smog inspections, and one smoke test.

• Landscape Division:

- ➤ Since July 1, 2008, West Coast Arborists (WCA), the City's contract treetrimming company, has pruned 10,543 trees; removed 439 trees; and planted 464 trees.
- ➤ WCA crews concentrated pruning in Zone 9 which encompasses Bastanchury Road north to the city limits, from Euclid Street to Harbor Boulevard.
- ➤ In February, the Division received 46 tree-related service requests.
- ➤ Red Imported Fire Ants were reported at Independence Park in February. In addition, the Division responded to six reports of bee activity in February.

➤ In February, crews:

- Delivered and floated 75 tons of new brick dust at various ball parks throughout the city.
- Rototilled and graded bull pens and batting cages for the season openers at the Fullerton Sports Complex and Bastanchury Park.
- Completed field renovation at Beechwood, Valencia and Adlena parks.
- Re-established the Gilbert Park western entrance, with the addition of two poles to preclude vehicular access. Crews also installed two new bollards in the sidewalk at the park main entrance (Orangethorpe) in order to channel vehicles into the existing parking lot. Additionally, parking stops and painted turn indicators are to be installed.
- Repaired the entrance gate to Parks Junior High School, the Panorama Park sign on Skyline Drive, the Dog Park gate and post, and replaced the broken Plexiglas sign covers at the Panorama overlook.
- Cleared and re-landscaped the entrance to the Tennis Center.
- Repaired mudslide area damage at Juanita Cooke, Hiltscher Park, Coyote Hills and Castlewood.
- Back-filled and compacted the trail north of the Bastanchury tunnels
- Cleared the north slope swale of mud and debris at Gilman Park.
- ➤ "Arbor Day 2009" is tentatively set for March 14 at Coyote Hills Park. The location was chosen based on overall tree loss in recent years due to insect infestation (Lerp Psyllid).
- Street Division: In February, the Division: used 55 tons of asphalt for patching and 189 tons for Water Division digout; applied 2,660 pounds of crack sealer; made 38 asphalt sidewalk repairs; milled 71 linear feet of gutter; ground 776 sidewalks; maintained, cleaned and fabricated 842 signs; cleaned 452 drains, 331,725 linear feet of sidewalk and one roadway spill; and swept 2,525 curb miles.

Water Division:

- ➤ In February, the Division produced 509,763,480 gallons of water. Of that amount, 72.89 percent 371,563,000 gallons were pumped from wells and 27.11 percent 138,200,480 gallons were purchased from the MWD.
- Following is a list of water main line breaks that occurred in February:

| SIZE | LOCATION | PIPE TYPE | POSSIBLE | YEAR |
|------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| | | | CAUSE | INSTALLED |
| 12" | 1800 Blk. W | Cast Iron | Age | ? |
| | Commonwealth | | | |
| 8" | 1300 Blk. Frances | PVC | Improper Bedding | ? |
| 8" | 100 Blk. W Valencia | Cast Iron | Crane Incident | ? |
| | Mesa | | 9/2008 | |
| 6" | 2500 Blk. Cypress Point | Cast Iron | Age | ? |
| 6" | 200 Blk. Wanda | Cast Iron | Age | ? |

Parks and Recreation

Capital Improvements:

- ➤ On Feb. 17, Council approved the guaranteed maximum price by construction manager-at-risk, WEC, for the Lions Field project. Staff continues to coordinate completion of construction documents, which are 95 percent complete.
- ➤ City staff and CSUF, the funding partner on the Richman Park Community Center project, are working to resolve transfer of title to the City for the Richman Park Community Center modular unit.
- ➤ The Division of the State Architect has approved field lighting and electrical plans for Richman Park Field. Bids will be awarded early next month. Site improvement plans for turf, irrigation, backstops, walks and other site amenities are in progress.
- ➤ The Laguna Lake aeration system installation is in operation.
- > Staff is getting bids for various portions of the improvements planned at Independence Park using Supervisor Norby's 4th District discretionary funds.

Senior Multi-Service Center:

- ➤ The Center's annual volunteer income tax assistance program began Feb. 5 and will run through April 13. The 11 volunteer tax counselors and two volunteer receptionists are serving an average of 32 individuals each week.
- > Forty adults attended an educational program on cholesterol health Feb. 9. This program was sponsored by the County Preventive Health Care Agency.
- ➤ The SeniorServ nutrition program hosted its Valentine's Day party and dance Feb. 13. Approximately 170 were on hand to enjoy the festivities.

February's cultural event, "Journey to Japan," included food, music, a video and an educational display. Approximately 70 guests enjoyed the reception.

Garnet Community Center:

- Unfortunately, the issue of domestic violence continues in the Garnet community. Garnet Center staff works closely with the Police and families to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence
- ➤ The Teen Center continues to offer daily programs. Along with homework assistance, teens enjoy movies, video diaries, and other team-building activities.

• Gilbert Community Center:

- ➤ Gilbert Community Center conducted two outreach events. One was held at Parkin Garden Apartments Feb. 11 and the other was to the parents of Valencia Elementary School. Families received information on services and programs available to them.
- ➤ Plans are under way to implement a gang prevention/youth development pilot program. This collaboration with the Police Department will focus on youth issues, conflict resolution, drug/alcohol use, esteem and leadership building.

• Richman Community Center:

- ➤ Youth in Action and Youth Empowerment Force kids volunteered to help paint props for the annual "Snow Day" event.
- Four CSUF volunteers are tutoring kids in math and creative writing.
- ➤ In February, seven legal referrals were made for one or all of the following services: divorce, child custody, visitation, legal separation, child support and legal clinic immigration clinic participants. Four referrals were made for food, utilities, rental payment assistance and clothing assistance.
- Approximately 70 persons sat under the stars and watched "Kung Fu Panda" at the Center's Family Movie Night.
- Four new families have enrolled in the PACE (Parent and Child Education) program which provides English language development classes for adults as well as infant/toddler child care and preschool for their children during classes. The program is sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department along with the Fullerton School District and North Orange County Community College District.

• Tiny Tots:

- Preschool enrollment increased to 52 in February.
- The month ended with professional photos being made available to each student, along with a complimentary photo tote bag. Purchase of individual photos was optional, but a large school composite photo will be given free to each family.

• Independence Park:

- ➤ The four racquetball courts have been consistently reserved during the recent rainy weather. Staff has been working to ensure the safety of patrons while using the courts.
- The senior volleyball team still plays every Tuesday and Thursday.

After-school Programs:

- ➤ The After-school Program hosted its first Valentine's Day celebration Feb. 16. The event was a success, with money raised for needed school supplies.
- ➤ The continued support of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Orange County every Monday and Friday is going well, with many kids being mentored by area high school students.

Tennis Center:

- ➤ February was a very wet month at the Center, causing many planned activities to be cancelled or rescheduled. The Center hosted the 64th Annual Fullerton Junior Designated Tournament, which is the largest activity of the year, with nearly 1,200 participants. Three of the four days of the event were rained out and staff is still rescheduling!
- ➤ Servite High School began matches the first week this month. This year the school retained 24 players and is looking forward to a successful season. They use the Center from 3-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, occupying a minimum of six courts.
- Adult league tennis was in full swing. In February, the Center hosted 26 USTA matches. There were 11 different home teams playing at the facility, with 26 different matches completed.
- Youth Sports: Permits for the spring league were issued in February.

Get Outdoors:

- ➤ The 3rd Annual Fullerton Kids Fishing Derby is just around the corner, with event planning meetings being conducted over the last few months. Representatives from different community groups have been involved with the planning, including the Police and Fire departments, the Izaak Walton League, the Department of Fish and Game, and Sunny Hills Key Club. The derby will be held from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. April 18, and there will be a maximum number of 800 spots available this year. The first 400 kids to register will receive a t-shirt at the event. Once again, donations of cash and products are being sought to help support this free annual event.
- New hiking classes started the week of March 9, with twilight hikes for those who work during the day.

Cultural and Events:

- School tours for the exhibit "Line Drives and Lipstick" began in February.
- ➤ The education staff, along with the Museum curator, continued the Museum's new "Sound Heard Round the World" outreach program. Docent tours served more than 90 students in February while guitar presentations reached 210 students. Feedback from teachers has been very positive as they are always looking for additional arts presentations and this one, with local Fender history and a science component, is especially valuable.
- ➤ Collaborations are key to the success of the Museum's education programs. One of the Museum's most important partners in the community is Fullerton Union High School's Academy of the Arts. On Feb. 19, the Museum hosted an Academy art exhibit and reception in the Museum auditorium. The event drew almost 100 people and spotlighted outstanding work from Fullerton High School and Fullerton School District's junior high schools. Students and parents enjoyed the "Line Drives and Lipstick" exhibit and the students were thrilled to have their work displayed in a Museum setting. The participating instructors would like to make it an annual event.

Police

Patrol:

➤ A bank robbery occurred at the Wells Fargo Bank on W. Malvern Avenue. A suspect entered the bank wearing a hat, sunglasses and a mask, and was armed with an unknown type of handgun. There was a get-away car waiting for the robber, and the vehicle fled into the Amerige Heights residential area. Officer Luis Garcia located the abandoned vehicle. The vehicle and suspect matched another bank robbery that occurred 15 minutes earlier in La Habra. The suspect also may be good for a robbery of a liquor store in our City.

- Officer Richard Gibson contacted a transient who was panhandling on the onramp to the 91 freeway. When Richard approached, the transient became upset and started yelling profanities. Gibson detained the transient and in searching him, located a fixed-blade knife inside the transient's jacket. The transient was an ex-parolee and was arrested without incident.
- ➤ Gang Detectives Radus and Garcia, while on patrol, observed three suspects spray-painting a wall in an alley. The Detectives arrested the suspects for felony vandalism. All three subjects were members of the Wicked Minds gang.
- Corporal Michael Bova, acting on information from Detectives, maintained patrol checks at a location to watch for a confirmed stolen vehicle. As he was driving by the location in the early morning hours, he spotted the vehicle being driven back to the location. The vehicle was occupied by a man and a woman, both of whom were taken into custody without incident. During the inventory search of the vehicle, numerous items of stolen property were located, including credit cards, checks and miscellaneous items. The items were confirmed stolen from previous burglaries.
- ➤ Narcotics Detectives were monitoring activity at a residence. The Detectives learned that a person in the residence was wanted for burglary. With the consent of another resident and a key, Officers entered the structure looking for the suspect. The suspect, along with a male friend and his 16-year-old sister, barricaded themselves in the sister's bedroom. Officers forced open the bedroom door and used a Taser in an attempt to subdue the suspect. One Taser prong struck the suspect in the back; however, the second prong missed, striking the sister in the upper arm. The suspect was subdued, but while being escorted down the steps, pulled away from Officers and threw himself down the steps. The suspect was arrested. The sister was treated at St. Jude Medical Center.
- Officer Robert Barnes contacted the occupants of a vehicle at the parking lot at Harbor and Bastanchury. During his investigation, Officer Barnes discovered one of the suspects was on parole and the other had just gone off parole with many violent priors. Officer Barnes searched the vehicle and found two loaded handguns and one unloaded sawed-off shotgun. The ammunition for the shotgun was in a backpack easily accessible to the driver. Also, a stun gun was located. Both suspects were arrested. A small amount of methamphetamine and \$2,900 in cash was also found and booked by Officer Barnes.