# Council Briefing

April 2010

# Administrative Services

#### Fiscal Services:

- New police alarm permits issued in March totaled 28, bringing the fiscal year total to 286. The total number of active permits as of March 31 was 4,987.
- ➤ Invoices billed in March totaled 890, with a valuation of \$347,224. Invoices billed for fiscal 2009-10 to-date total 5,437, with a valuation of \$3,772,816.
- ➤ General checks and direct deposits in March totaled 569 and 267, respectively, with a valuation of \$4,722,695. General checks and direct deposits for the fiscal year-to-date totaled 5,599 and 2,220, respectively, with a valuation of \$57,710,089.

# • Information Technology:

- Staff is supporting implementation of a new version of the timecard system (VTI). An interface with the City's new Enterprise Resource Planning system is part of this implementation. New hardware was purchased for this project.
- > Staff is reviewing training material in anticipation of the roll-out of Windows 7. Each employee will get basic training on Windows prior to implementation of the software.
- Purchasing: In March, the Division processed approximately 155 purchase requests; created approximately 121 purchase orders and change orders; saved \$1,540 through early payment discounts; and earned \$12,485 in revenues through competitive quotes, cooperative purchases and state/government resources. Central Services made 111,780 copies during the month and processed 8,775 pieces of mail.

#### Revenue:

- ➤ In March, 184 new business registration certificates were issued. Of that sum, 114 were businesses in Fullerton and 70 were located out of the city, but doing business here. Business tax collected for new registrants totaled \$13,288.
- A total of 180 businesses closed in March: 81 in the city and 99 out of the city.

- ➤ Business certificates renewed in March numbered 904, which totaled \$120,890 in business tax collected.
- Utility Services: In March, the Division answered 2,585 calls and processed 4,525 cash register transactions totaling \$9,844,874. Of the transactions, 1,255 were credit cards, 1,363 checks, 1,058 cash, and 168 direct deposits.

# Community Development

- Customer Service:
  - Building Division staff received the following comments:
    - "Your staff was professional and kind over the phone, as well as in person, and our paperwork was expedited."
    - "As daunting as the permit process can be, your staff helped me negotiate through all the departments. Your assistance and direction enabled us to receive our building permit in a timely manner and maintain our client's construction schedule. Your outstanding customer service and pleasant manner is very commendable."
    - Housing Division staff collected toiletries, shoes and warm clothing from coworkers and donated them to Mercy House's Cold Weather Armory Program.
    - Community Preservation staff assisted a developer interested in purchasing a foreclosed property in Fullerton. He wrote "Fullerton was much nicer than the City of Orange, who would have told him they couldn't help him and sent him away. The City of Fullerton was very helpful."
    - A Community Preservation employee came across a 73-year-old widow living alone on only \$345/month from Social Security. The employee printed out information from the Internet regarding Edison and Gas Co. low-income programs and mailed them to her, along with information on food bank/grocery distribution centers.
    - Planning staff facilitated a meeting with Planning, Parks and Recreation, Redevelopment, and Maintenance Services to give Yokohama Tires the opportunity to present an innovative planting theory the company is using internationally at all of its locations. The meeting allowed Yokohama Tires to have all interested departments on hand (similar to an EDAT meeting) to obtain input and concerns in advance of submitting plans.
    - A Planning Division employee received a letter of appreciation for the "time and effort...which helped us receive our building permit in a timely manner and maintain our client's construction schedule" from the architect for the conversion of the former Circuit City store at Orangefair to a Best Buy.

## Community Engagement:

- ➤ Building Official Hadi Tabatabaee and Permit Technician Andrea Thompson manned a City booth at the North Orange County Business Expo March 26, 2010 at Cal State Fullerton. They received several positive comments from attendees.
- ➤ Housing staff spoke to the parents' group at Richman Elementary School. The multipurpose room was full and the families had several questions about what was going on in their neighborhood. Discussion covered the proposed Heritage Walk units, the NSP homes, the Habitat homes, and proposed future housing units.
- Economic Development: At the March 24 Planning Commission, staff presented a proposed 170-student preschool development at 101 E. Hermosa Drive and 3320 N. Harbor Blvd. The Commission unanimously approved the development, and a building plan check submittal is pending.

# Public Health and Safety:

- A follow-up housing inspection for a tenant-based rental assistance participant revealed a non-functioning heater. The tenant tried unsuccessfully to light the pilot. A Notice of Correction was issued to the management and the heater was repaired the same day.
- ➤ The Building Division received an emergency call from both the Fire and Police departments for life and safety assessment of a building damaged when a car which ran into a carport at 2010 Derek Drive. The building was assessed and posted for non-occupancy until the structural repairs were completed.
- ➤ A Community Preservation staff member observed two large sheets of glass propped up in the east alley of 600 S. Pacific Drive. One of the sheets had been broken into several large shards and posed a public danger, so a call was made to the Maintenance Services Department for pickup.

# • Quality of Life:

- Twenty-seven no-fee "green" building permits" were issued in March. By promoting these permits, more citizens are interested in getting tankless water heaters, energyefficient windows and photo voltaic systems, all of which help sustainability.
- ➤ The Housing Loan Committee approved two mobile home repair loans for bid. Both households have elderly and disabled occupants. The repairs include code, health/safety issues, handicap modification, and some cosmetic items.
- Community Preservation staff mediated for two neighbors regarding a barking dog rather than referring it to Animal Control. The dog's owner said he was going to get rid of the animal due to constant complaints from neighbors. Staff suggested training the dog and, on following up, discovered the dog now barks when persons approach the house, but stops on the owner's command. The complainant even contacted the officer

involved to see if the animal was being treated humanely. Both parties are satisfied and the situation was resolved peacefully.

- ➤ Community Preservation staff inspected Iris Court, Roberta Avenue and Peckham Street to ensure graffiti is removed, large items picked up and properties maintained.
- ➤ Along with Redevelopment and Economic Development staff, the Planning Division continued work to obtain grants and technical assistance through three opportunities: a) state Department of Housing and Community Development's Catalyst Projects for California Sustainable Strategies Pilot Program; b) Governor's Strategic Growth Council's Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program; and c) the EPA's Smart Growth Implementation Assistance.

# Volume of Work and Professional Development:

- ➤ Community Preservation Division: In March, the Division: had 613 active cases; received 232 complaints (2,080 fiscal year-to-date); resolved 251 complaints (1,898); conducted 825 inspections (6,434); issued 98 courtesy notices (714), 113 first notices of violations (961), and 25 citations (291); granted 26 extensions (247); received 39 graffiti complaints (209); sent 24 compliance letters (309); arranged pick up of 27 large items, such as sofas (276); and billed \$2,950 in revenue (\$57,000).
- ➤ Building Division: In March, the Division: handled 99 new plan submissions; 211 overthe-counter plan checks; received 755 inspection calls; conducted 1,358 inspections; responded to 17 complaints; conducted 15 NPDES inspections; and handled 52 mechanical, electrical and plumbing plan checks.
- Housing staff is providing neighborhood stabilization inspection services for the City of Costa Mesa. The increased workload remains constant, with numerous inspections conducted in both cities.
- ➤ Housing Division has 18 TBRA clients from local shelters and 31 TBRA clients (seniors) paying mobile home space rent. On Feb. 26, checks were sent to Rehab Financial to cover rent payments through June.
- ➤ Four Planning Commission public hearings were held in March (two regular and two special for the West Coyote Hills project). The Commission recommended approval of WCH, and the item is slated to be heard by Council in May.
- ➤ The Planning Division conducted a staff meeting to begin to align vision, how to track and disseminate information about the work done, and how staff is evaluated with the desired outcomes identified in ADVANCE (Division retreat).
- > Performance reviews continued in March for the Planning Division, which included discussions on each staff member's 2010 professional development plans.
- ➤ Planning Manager Al Zelinka attended the California Planning Roundtable meeting March 4-5 in Los Angeles, which focused on transit-oriented development and

California High-Speed Rail. Additionally, on March 24, Manager Zelinka served as an awards jury member for the SCAG Compass Blueprint awards program.

# Engineering

- Project Development and Design:
  - ➤ A contract in the amount of \$1,064,038 has been awarded to Nikola Corp. for Sewer Reconstruction at Riverside Drive/Raymond Avenue. The project, which includes sewer main replacement and pavement rehabilitation, is expected to begin in August.
  - ➤ Bids are being accepted on the Lemon Street Reconstruction Project from Berkeley Avenue to Brea Boulevard. The work, which is expected to begin in August, will include street reconstruction and rehabilitation, replacement of curb and gutter, and construction of cross gutters.
  - ➤ Bids are being accepted on the Bastanchury Channel Rehabilitation Project, which will include rehabilitating approximately 300 linear feet of severely eroded storm drain channel slope at Bastanchury and Parks roads. Construction is to begin in August.
- Construction Management:
  - All-American Asphalt completed the Commonwealth Avenue Reconstruction Project from Magnolia to Vermont avenues at the end of March.
  - Work continues on the Sewer Replacement Project at the Carol Drive/Magnolia Avenue area. The project includes installing 8-inch extra-strength vitrified clay pipe and cured-in-place pipe, establishing new sewer connections, reconstructing existing surface improvements damaged/removed during construction. The contractor, Mike Prlich & Sons, has completed approximately 25 percent of the work and is on schedule.

# Fire

- Statistics: The Department responded to 890 requests for service in March, which was
  down from the 972 requests received in March 2009. Of the 890 requests, 665 were
  medical aid calls, 29 were fires, five were hazardous materials incidents, and 45 were
  service calls. In addition, the Department responded on 88 automatic aid calls and
  received 76. Of the 665 medical aid calls, 428 were Advanced Life Support and 237 were
  Basic Life Support.
- Suppression/Notable Activity and Responses:
  - At 12:09 a.m. March 2, Truck 1 and Battalion 1 were dispatched on a rope rescue to assist Engine 1 Paramedics. On arrival, the crew found a man at the bottom of a flood control channel in the 100 block of N. Stanford Avenue. The man had been involved in

- a traffic accident at Wilshire and Raymond avenues and fled the scene. He jumped over a fence without realizing there was a flood control channel on the other side. Paramedics used a ladder to reach the man, who was lifted out of the channel in a Stokes basket. He was taken to UCI Medical Center.
- ➤ At 1:36 p.m. March 3, Truck 1, Engines 2 and 4, Battalion 1 and neighboring units responded to a residential structure fire in the 500 block of E. Imperial Highway. The first unit on scene found a vehicle fire in a carport and immediately proceeded with an attack. Three vehicles and the apartment/living space above received extensive damage from heat, smoke and overhaul operations. Fire Marshal Kunze, with Orange City Fire Investigator Keith Marshal, determined the probable cause to have been a malfunctioning electrical component. Damage was estimated at \$80,000 to the structure and contents on a property valued at more than \$800,000.
- At 9:22 p.m. March 6, Engines 1, 2 and 3, Truck 1 and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a structure fire in the 500 block of E. Commonwealth Avenue. Arriving units found smoke coming from a second-floor residential unit. Crews found a wall heater on fire, with flames extending into the wall and attic. The fire was quickly extinguished and preliminary investigation deemed the fire to have been caused by a leaking gas valve. The loss was estimated at \$20,000 to a property worth approximately \$615,000.
- At 2:24 p.m. March 9, fire crews responded to the 800 block of W. Baker Avenue where a trash fire had spread to a fence, a pickup truck, and the window in the adjoining residence, causing damage to some furniture and electronic equipment. Cause of the fire was undetermined. The loss was estimated at \$2,000 to a residence valued at approximately \$185,000.
- At 10:04 a.m. March 12, Engine 1 was dispatched to the 1200 block of W. Orangethorpe Avenue on a boat fire. On arrival, the crew found the fire had been extinguished by the reporting party. The cause of the fire was determined to be suspicious, and a suspect has been arrested.
- At 2:04 p.m. March 19, Engine 5, Truck 1 and Battalion 1 responded to the SB 57 Freeway at Yorba Linda Boulevard on a non-injury accident in which a vehicle had rolled down the freeway embankment into an apartment carport. After closer review, it was determined the carport needed structural stabilization and Urban Search and Rescue Unit 1 was requested to reinforce it until structural repairs could be made.
- ➤ At 9:41 a.m. March 22, Engine 4 was dispatched on a medical aid in the 100 block of W. Miramonte Drive. Firefighters found a bedridden, unkempt and malnourished woman in extremely unsanitary conditions. She was taken to St. Jude Medical Center. Also in the home was the woman's husband, who appeared in no condition to care for his invalid wife or himself. Adult Protective Services and Orange County Health were asked to respond and evaluate.
- At 11:20 a.m. March 22, Engine 3 responded on a muriatic acid spill at the corner of Commonwealth and Acacia avenues. It appeared the acid container fell off a vehicle. A Hazmat unit responded to clean up the acid, followed by the City's street sweeper.

- At 12:36 p.m. March 23, Engine 4 responded on a call of a transformer fire and power lines down. The crew found a live wire down and arcing near the property's chain link fence. Firefighters notified nearby neighbors of the potential of their fence being charged by the downed live wire. Edison responded and cut down the line.
- At 12:11 p.m. March 27, Engines 1, 4 and 6, Truck 1 and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a residential fire in the 1100 block of N. Glenhaven Avenue. The fire, which involved patio furniture, an entertainment center and the fascia board on the house and patio cover, had been extinguished when the units arrived. It appears the fire was started by a cigarette and exacerbated by Santa Ana wind conditions. Loss is estimated at \$8,000 to a property valued at approximately \$600,000.
- At 2:15 p.m. March 29, Engine 4 was dispatched to the 2900 block of N. Madonna Drive, where a downed power line had caused a small grass and fence fire to the rear of a home. The fire was quickly extinguished and Edison responded to shut off the power.
- At 12:33 a.m. March 30, Engine 3 was sent out on vehicle fire in the 1100 block of E. Elm Drive. The vehicle, which appeared to have been abandoned, was well involved in fire when the crew arrived. The Police were notified and it was confirmed the vehicle had been reported stolen. The vehicle was impounded for further investigation.
- Downtown Activities: At 2:03 p.m. March 5, Truck 1 responded on a medical aid in the 200 block of N. Harbor Boulevard. The crew treated one patient for head lacerations and transported him to a local hospital for further evaluation.

#### Other Activities:

- ➤ Captain/Paramedic Ben Garrett has obtained an additional \$1,000 grant from Home Depot to complete restoration of the 1962 Crown fire engine with assistance from numerous volunteers. The '62 Crown was used at the March 27 Muscular Dystrophy Fill-the-Boot fund-raiser, and will appear at the Muckenthaler Motor Car Festival in May and the Fire Coach Enthusiasts Crown Pump in Perris June 6. It is said Crown fire coaches never die they just go on to new careers.
- ➤ The Muscular Dystrophy Fill-the-Boot fund-raiser, staffed with off-duty personnel and volunteers March 27 at Orangethorpe Avenue and Harbor Boulevard, netted \$7,618. The funds will go to a 7-year-old Fullerton boy diagnosed with neuromuscular disease.
- ➤ Engine 4 visited Hermosa Drive Elementary School in March, Engine 3 visited Ivycrest School March 19, and Engine 1 assisted with the Crittenton Services fund-raising Mystery Night at Angelo's & Vinci's March 21.

# **Human Resources**

#### Personnel Services:

- Recruitment for Administrative Assistant I is under way. Staff anticipates the eligible list to be done early this month. Staff is preparing to initiate a recruitment for Fire Engineer.
- ➤ Work continues in preparation for the implementation of the new Human Resources Information System. The roll-over of information from our current HR system to IFAS is scheduled to be completed by May 1. Staff is working very closely with Sungard and Administrative Services to have the Human Resources module ready for testing by May 1, with an anticipated go-live date of July 1.
- In March, staff processed one new regular and one new nonregular employee, one nonregular promotion, and one regular and six nonregular separations.

## Risk Management:

- > Twelve new liability claims were filed in March, 11 were closed, and one lawsuit was served.
- ➤ Also in March, 12 new Workers' Compensation claims were filed, eight were closed, and no lawsuits were filed.

# Library

- Read across America: Every March schools throughout the country celebrate "Read across America." This event is sponsored by the National Education Association and is designed to provide reading motivation and awareness to every child in the community. The event occurs on or around March 2, the birthday of Dr. Seuss. As usual, Children's Services received invitations from many local schools. Thanks to volunteers from other Library departments and Hunt Branch, readers went to all locations. A total of nine staff members read to 41 classes in seven different schools, for a total of about 960 students and teachers listening to readers provided by the Library. In conjunction with "Read across America," Children's Services hosted "Dr. Seuss Day" March 2 at the Main Library and March 4 at Hunt Branch during the weekly After School Club sessions.
- School Night: On March 2 the Osborne Auditorium was transformed into a hub of creative energy as more than 160 children and their families attended "Artsational!" This final "School Night @ the Library" of the school year celebrated the arts.
- Busy Place: Circulation of materials continued to increase over last fiscal year, with 89,233 items circulated in March. Our fiscal year-to-date total is 768,897 items, which is 7 percent higher than this time last fiscal year.
- Happy Traveling: Passports continue to be a much sought-after item. In March, Circulation Desk staff processed 283 applications and took 118 passport photos.
- Tech Talk: In mid-March, the Library installed new print management software in conjunction with installation of new copiers for use by patrons. In the past, it was necessary to purchase a print card to print both from the Internet and to make photocopies.

Now, patrons can use coins and/or \$1 and \$5 bills. In addition, this software increases patron privacy and convenience when printing to public printers.

- Family Night: The Hunt Branch Library welcomed spring with "Spring Family Night"
  March 16. The preschoolers and their families sang, danced and clapped along to the
  music. Afterward, the families enjoyed making spring crafts and sampling the delicious
  cookies provided by the National Charity League of Fullerton.
- Author Night: Three local authors were featured in a program March 26. Sarah Rafael Garcia, Sandra Lopez and Jamie Martinez Wood spoke about what inspired them to write. The majority of their work focuses on the interests of young adults.
- Expo: The Fullerton Public Library participated in the "North Orange County Expo and Job Fair" March 26 at CSUF. Attendees stopped by the Library table to get Library cards, learn about on-line services, and ask about what the Library has to offer the business community

# Maintenance Services

#### Administration:

- ➤ The Department received 1,685 service requests in March, completing 1,400 (83.1 percent) in the month. Seven emergency requests were received and have been completed. The Building and Facilities Division received the most requests 868, or 51.5 percent of the total.
- ➤ In March, the Department's support staff received 1,876 calls, an average of 89 per workday, or 45 for each of our two primary customer service personnel.

#### Facilities Division:

- ➤ The Graffiti Crews removed 54,290 square feet of graffiti from 35 sites in March, bringing the year-to-date totals to 488,625 square feet removed from 4,119 sites.
- > Staff completed 53 custodial inspections of City facilities in March.
- > The capital project to replace the Jail elevator and upgrade the Highland Police building elevator will go out for bid in the next few months.
- ➤ The capital project to re-coat and upgrade the small pool at Independence Park is on hold. Staff has have already upgraded the drain to meet the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act.
- Sewer Division: In March, the Division: hydrojetted 21.98 miles of sewer main; root cut/mechanically treated 4,100 linear feet of sewer main; mechanically treated 65 sewer laterals; conducted 39 CCTV inspections of laterals and 44 Source Control inspections; conducted CCTV inspections of 31,036 linear feet of sewer main; approved 34 Lifeline

applications; received 15 Large Lot applications and approved 13; received 29 sewer fee calls; and received 52 sewer service requests.

- Street Division: In March, the Division: used 80 tons of asphalt for patching and 121 tons for Water Division digouts; made 40 asphalt sidewalk repairs; milled 129 linear feet of gutter; ground 381 sidewalks; cleaned 318 drains and 347,353 linear feet of sidewalk; maintained, fabricated and cleaned 898 signs; steam-cleaned 49,842 square feet of sidewalk; scrubbed 6,750 square feet of sidewalk; used 460.7 tons of asphalt skin patch; and swept 3,166 curb miles.
- Equipment Division: In March, the Division performed four general preventive maintenance inspections, three BIT inspections, 96 PMs, eight smog inspections, four smoke tests, and two motorcycle PMs.

#### Water Division:

- ➤ In March, the Division produced 626,765,520 gallons of water. Of that amount 66.38 percent 416,024,000 gallons was pumped from wells and 33.62 percent 210,741,520 gallons was purchased from the MWD.
- Following are the water main line breaks that occurred in March:

SIZE	LOCATION	PIPE TYPE	POSSIBLE CAUSE	YEAR INSTALLED
4"	1104 Richman Knoll	Cast Iron	Age	?
6"	1332 Calle Grande	Cast Iron	?	1973
8"	2020 Domingo Rd	Cast Iron	Age	1959

## Landscape Division:

- ➤ West Coast Arborists, the City's contract tree-trimming company, performed the following services from July 1, 2009, through March 31: pruned 14,225 trees; removed 333 trees; and planted 445 trees.
- ➤ WCA has completed pruning in all projected zones fiscal 2009-10, which equates to more than one-third of Fullerton's urban forest.
- > Fullerton has been designated a "Tree City USA" for the 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- Arbor Day at Laguna Lake was a great success, with more than 80 tree planters participating March 13.
- ➤ The Tree Division received 55 tree-related service requests in March.
- ➤ Red Imported Fire Ants were reported at two locations in March, and the Division responded on nine reports of bee activity.
- Projects completed in March by Division crews included:

- Planted 250 one-gallon shrubs at Las Palmas Reservoir.
- Graded 100 cubic yards of soil on the Juanita Cooke Trail to eliminate collection of stagnant water just north of Richman Avenue. Also graded 50 cubic yards of soil into the Bob Ward Trail.
- Repaired the par course at Laguna Road Elementary School.
- Repaired irrigation main lines at Terrazza Reservoir, Amtrak Station and Lemon Underpass.
- Installed reflective location markers at Hiltscher Park to indicate manhole locations.
- Moved historic rock work at Hillcrest Park to storage area for safe keeping.
- Completed the Independence Park landscape project.
- Performed weed abatement and soil grading on Juanita Cooke Trail, north of Las Palmas Avenue, in preparation for proposed volunteer painting project.
- ➤ The Division received 31 landscape-related service requests in March.

# Parks and Recreation

- Capital Improvements:
  - As part of the recently completed entry hardscape and related improvements to Independence Park, landscape and site furnishing improvements are in progress and will be completed by May. Drought-tolerant landscaping, benches, waste receptacles, and bike racks will be added to complement the improvements.
  - ➤ Staff, the Hillcrest Park Master Plan Committee and consultant Mia Lehrer and Associates continue to make progress on the plan. The design team (comprised of the groups above) is completing the initial phase while moving into the design phase. A series of public meetings are being scheduled to gain community feedback to aid in the development of several design alternatives.
  - ➤ The Union Pacific Trail Phase II project is in the design phase. As part of a continuation of the first section (Transportation Center to Highland Avenue), this phase extends the trail west to Richman Avenue and on to Independence Park. As a vital link to the Fullerton trail system, it will provide improved recreational and transportation access to parks, the Transportation Center, Downtown, and other destinations.
  - ➤ The Lions Field project continues to make progress, with an anticipated completion date of August. Weather permitting, construction crews will continue to move forward to meet the deadline.
  - Laguna Lake Park trail improvements continue to move forward along the Bud Turner Trail, adjacent to the lake. As part of an additional Rivers and Mountains Conservancy grant, native landscaping and low-flow irrigation improvements alongside the trail will be completed in May.

➤ Construction plans for the Fullerton Tennis Pavilion improvements have been approved by the required governing agencies and departments. The project is anticipated to go out to bid in May, with construction starting as early as July.

#### Senior Multi-Service Center:

- ➤ Approximately 220 citizens had taken advantage of the volunteer income tax preparation assistance program by the end of March. Sixteen senior volunteers are assisting with the program this season.
- ➤ Kaiser Permanente sponsored the "Enjoying Life . . . With a Smile!" lecture series in March. Attendance was 26 for the first three meetings of the six-part class.
- ➤ The Senior Club hosted a "Spring Fling" happy hour social and dance March 25. The party was a social success, with approximately 125 guests.
- ➤ The Center began offering a free conversational Spanish class in March, which is being taught by a volunteer instructor. Attendance in March averaged 23 students.

## • Gilbert and Garnet Community Centers:

- Census 2010 concluded testing at both centers of nearly 200 people for census taker positions.
- ➤ The GEMS Apartment Owners Association met at the Garnet Center in March and was given program updates by Center staff, including information on the Community Health Fair May 29 and summer recreation program
- ➤ Teens from both centers continue their 10-week Rock Climbing training at Rock City in Anaheim. The training concludes with a weekend trip to Joshua Tree National Park.

# Orangethorpe and Maple After-School Programs:

- The Maple After-School Program's collaboration with Maple Elementary School's "Mind, Math and Music" Program has been a continued success. Approximately 21 second-and sixth-graders are participating in the lessons.
- ➤ Tutors from the ARC Program at Cal State Fullerton are supporting the centers educational enrichment programs. Currently, two ARC tutors, one intern and four service learning volunteers are assisting.
- ➤ Basketball season has arrived! Orangethorpe and Maple After-School Programs are participating in the first second- and third-grade basketball season. The two teams will play each other five times, ending in late April. Orangethorpe and Maple are also participating in the Fullerton School District's Inter-After-School Program Basketball season. Orangethorpe's coach is the father of two girls in the After-School Program.
- Community Involvement and Rentals:

- Ballet Folkloric and Aztec dance groups continue their use of the Maple Community Center Thursday and Friday evenings. Both groups bring approximately 40 neighborhood members on a regular basis to dance lessons.
- Interest in renting the Maple Community Center and "Playgrounds on the Go" is consistent, with parties being booked for the near future. The Center is also planning for several year-end events with local elementary schools for their annual sixth-grade picnics.
- The Center will participate in the CSUF "Walk/Run for Life" Organ Donor event in May, by helping entertain children in the Kids Zone.

## Richman Community Center:

#### After-School Programs:

- Twelve Center teens visited the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art in March for a free teen night. More than 500 teens from surrounding cities and counties enjoyed music, dancing, art, food and fun!
- Twenty-four teens went snow boarding at Mt. High and enjoyed fun in the sun.
- Teen Scene visited the "Take the Lead" event at Cal State Fullerton. Ten teens participated in a service project and in a variety of workshops.

#### Community Involvement and Rentals:

- The Census Bureau has tested 252 people at the center for jobs as census takers.
- Veronica Dominguez of Second Harvest Food Bank spoke to the Parent Committee regarding applying for food stamps. She cleared up the misconception people have about how applying for food stamps may affect someone's immigration status.

# • Tiny Tots:

- ➤ Shamrocks, sparkling green traps and rainbows added extra fun during the annual Leprechaun Hunts for the 52 preschool students at Independence Park.
- March was busy with free health screenings and family surveys offered through the Fullerton School Readiness Center. Forty-nine students were able to take advantage of these helpful child development services.
- Independence Park: In March, 37 coaches used the facility for basketball practice.

#### Tennis Center:

➤ March was an active month, with 6,500 people using the Center.

- ➤ The Juniors program had a boost in enrollment, especially from elementary school children. Each week, there were 150 different children participating in our classes; which is up from previous months.
- ➤ The Spring USTA season has already started. Twelve teams are using the facility for their home matches among them is Servite High School.
- > St. Jude Medical Center ran its annual March Madness event March 30. This fun event brings out the novice player in everyone, with St. Jude employees shooting free throws throughout the day into portable basketball hoops provided by the hospital.
- ➤ The Tennis Center hosted its 4th Annual Spring Satellite Tournament for beginning junior tournament players ages 8-18 April 10-11.

## Youth Sports:

- ➤ Opening ceremonies for Little League and Softball were held the last weekend in February and the first two weekends in March.
- > Rangers spring soccer is well under way, with approximately 500 children participating.
- ➤ Fullerton Youth Rugby hosted more than 600 high school-aged participants in the International Rugby Tournament March 20-21, which was highly successful. Teams traveled from as far as British Columbia, Alberta, Washington, Ontario, Wisconsin, Oregon, and Northern California. There was also an observer from New Zealand. Sixteen boy and eight girl teams participated. The International Rugby Tournament is regarded as one of the best youth rugby tournaments in the U.S. Fullerton Youth Rugy has hosted this tournament since 2004.

#### 'Get Outdoors!':

- ➤ Hiking classes continue to be popular as West Coyote Hills shows off spring's finest of wild radish and mustard flowers. The Annual Hiking Pass program has continued to grow in its second year as more residents commit to hiking at least once a week.
- ➤ The Fishing Derby slated for April 17 continues to be one of the most popular "Get Outdoors!" events of the year, with 900 participants pre-registered. The event is free to everyone, with the first 400 children pre-registered receiving a t-shirt. Everyone in attendance will receive a free lunch. The Department of Fish and Game is stocking 1,500 pounds of trout for this annual event.
- ➤ The Take Me Fishing grant has funded "G.O.Fishing Saturdays" for the last three months. The maximum amount of participants are registered each Saturday at Laguna Lake. The "Take Me Fishing" Program has also provided opportunities for many of the children at the City after-school day care programs, with three fishing clinics per group.

#### Cultural and Events:

- In March, docent led school tours for "Cine-Saurus: Dinosaurs in the Movies" ran at capacity every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning. Fullerton elementary schools have made up the bulk of our audience, but the exhibit has also attracted private schools, high school, scouts and continuing education groups.
- Wednesday Studio and Guitar Gateways, the after-school music and art classes, are under way and enjoying good attendance.
- ➤ "Cine-Saurus Saturdays" March 6 and 20 were very successful. On March 6 dinosaur artist William Stout, whose art is featured in the exhibit, gave an illustrated lecture about his work. A special screening of the 1978 cult classic "Planet of the Dinosaurs" brought cast, crew and special effects artists together with fans of obscure old movies March 20.
- "Project Safe" art classes just finished a four-week session with La Habra High School and has started a new course at Sonora High School. This program leads at-risk youth through a self portrait project designed to foster creative thinking and self expression. "Project Safe" is a collaboration between the Museum, the Fullerton Joint Union High School District, Orange County Bar Foundation, the Fullerton Police Department, Boys and Girls Club, and other community organizations dedicated to providing alternate activities to drug and gang involvement for Fullerton youth.
- Youth Art Month Concerts in the Plaza attracted large audiences for Junior High School Band performances March 11 and 18.

# **Police**

#### Patrol:

- ➤ On March 4, simultaneous demonstrations took place at Cal State Fullerton and Fullerton College in support of the "Statewide Day of Action" sponsored by the California State Employees Association and the California Teachers Association. The demonstrations were supported by the United Faculty of the North Orange County Community College District and several student groups. It was estimated approximately 300 staff members and students participated in the demonstration at Fullerton College and that approximately 100 staff members and students participated in the CSUF demonstration. Both demonstrations were orderly and no arrests, injuries or property damage were reported.
- On March 7, Officer Ryan Acosta was dispatched to La Palma regarding a hit-and-run suspect being detained by La Palma Police. The suspect originally did a hit-and-run in Fullerton at Euclid Street and the 91 Freeway and then continued into La Palma, followed by the victim that he hit. Once in La Palma, the suspect hit two more vehicles before taking out a block wall. Officer Acosta cited the suspect for our traffic collision and La Palma took custody of the suspect for its two traffic collisions.
- ➤ The Traffic Bureau conducted a DUI checkpoint March 19 and issued 12 citations and made four DUI arrests.

- Apparently inspired by the MADD awards earlier in the evening at the March 16 City Council meeting, graveyard shift Officers arrested seven persons for drunken driving.
- "St. Patrick's Day" night was very busy, with 35 arrests made mostly for DUI, drunk in public and fighting in public. The Downtown Echo Unit was responsible for 22 of those arrests. Outstanding team effort by Records, CSI, Dispatch, Jailers and Officers.
- Meeting: Chief Sellers met Consulate Alejandra Garcia-Williams of the Consulado de Mexico March 17. She is the new Consul of Mexico in Santa Ana and hopes to strengthen the working relationship with Fullerton Police Department and other police agencies. It was a very productive meeting. Ms. Garcia-Williams will be invited to a Supervisors' Meeting to introduce her to the Supervisors and help with communication between both agencies.
- Always on Duty: On March 19, off-duty Officer Jonathan Miller was involved in a hit-andrun collision in Placentia. Officer Miller followed the suspect vehicle onto the 57 Freeway until he pulled over on the 55 Freeway shoulder near the Lincoln Avenue exit. The CHP responded and detained the subject until Placentia Police took him into custody.

# Redevelopment and Economic Development

- West Avenue Olson Company: Construction began March 1 on the 34-unit affordable housing development being built along the south side of the 400 block of West Avenue. The project includes three- and four-bedroom detached single-family units featuring a traditional Mediterranean design. The homes will be sold to moderate- income buyers. The project will be completed in three phases (10-12 units in each phase) over the next year or so. A "sneak peak" event was held March 27 and several applications for homes were submitted. The first phase of homes will be available for pre-sale again April 24. Interested parties should contact the sales counselor, Rubin Hernandez, at (714) 330-5157 or by e-mail <a href="mailto:rhernandez@theolsonco.com">rhernandez@theolsonco.com</a>.
- Transportation Center Community Meeting: The community is invited to an information meeting on the Draft Transportation Center Specific Plan at 6 p.m. April 19 at the Senior Multi-Service Center. City staff and consultants will present the plan and answer questions. Citizens will be invited to review and comment on the draft plan.
- High-Speed Rail: At the April 20 City Council study session a presentation will be made on the California High-Speed Rail Authority's High-Speed Train Project. The student session will begin at 5 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. A community open house is also planned for April 29 at the Senior Multi-Service Center, with the presentation at 6 p.m.

A bond issue to partially finance the project was approved by the voters in November 2008. The project proposes high-speed train service between the state's major metropolitan communities. One of the first links of the system would connect Anaheim and San Francisco - a trip that is expected to take less than three hours. Future system expansions include stations in Sacramento and San Diego. Initial plans call for the Anaheim to Los Angeles high-speed rail corridor to travel along the existing LOSSAN (Los Angeles-San

Luis Obispo-San Diego) corridor. Trains will move between the future Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center (ARTIC) and Los Angeles' Union Station. An additional station is being considered for either Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs or Fullerton. High-speed rail trains will reach top speeds of 110 mph along this section, taking passengers from Anaheim to Los Angeles in a little more than 20 minutes.

- Unemployment Rates: Current unemployment rates on the national and local levels are as follows: U.S. – 9.7 percent; California – 12.5 percent; Orange County – 9.7 percent; and Fullerton – 10.9 percent. This data was provided by the Orange County Workforce Investment Board.
- Department Website Statistics: The Department's section on the City website had 1,487 hits in March.
- Business Expo and Job Fair: The Department, together with the Fullerton, Brea, La Habra, Placentia and Yorba Linda Chambers of Commerce, the Orange County Workforce Investment Board and the Orange County Business Service Center, hosted the 2010 North Orange County Business Expo and Job Fair March 26 at Cal State Fullerton. Between 300-400 people attended.
- Economic Development Action Team: Meetings take place on a continual basis with those looking to do business in Fullerton or to expand their existing business. The following meetings took place recently:
  - ➤ 1536 Valencia Avenue Building and parking analysis.
  - ➤ 180 E. Imperial Highway To discuss a potential McDonald's in the former Sofa and Mattress Discounters by Visions in Furniture location.