

Iraheta, Alba

Subject: FW: Please Increase Support for Arlington Garden

From: Vince.Farhat@hkllaw.com [<mailto:Vince.Farhat@hkllaw.com>]

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 1:08 PM

To: disstrict1@cityofpasadena.net; Bogaard, Bill; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; McAustin, Margaret; Kennedy, John; Jomsky, Mark; Beck, Michael

Cc: kickermckenney@mac.com; betty@caltech.edu; Vince.Farhat@hkllaw.com

Subject: Please Increase Support for Arlington Garden

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Members of the City Council:

I am writing to support an increase in the City's FY 2015 Operating Budget allocation for Arlington Garden. My understanding is that Betty and Kicker McKenney will be making a short presentation tonight. I regret that I cannot attend the City Council meeting, but will be "there in spirit" to support Arlington Garden.

In 2003, Betty and Kicker created Arlington Garden in Pasadena to develop and care for Arlington Garden, in collaboration with the City to carry out the City's obligations to create a waterwise garden and park under its lease with Caltrans. After 11 years, the garden has grown from four mature trees and seven palms into a waterwise garden of 325 trees and thousands of plants that do well in our Mediterranean climate, and is now a renowned City landmark.

I am very grateful for the City's past financial support and hope you will vote tonight to increase that support.

One of our goals has been for the Garden to present well each and every day of the year, and it does. As the Garden has grown and matured, however, it takes more time and money to keep it healthy and horticulturally significant. Increased costs, the uncertainty of continued volunteer help, and the need to hire regular horticultural and gardening help to maintain this landmark require increased funding.

To show City Hall's commitment to Arlington Garden and as an investment in its future, please consider increasing the City's current annual allocation from \$18,000, where it has stood for 10 years, to \$40,000 annually.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Vince Farhat
Member, Board of Advisors
Arlington Garden of Pasadena
Phone: (626) 375-6619

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Subject: FW: Arlington Garden of Pasadena

From: Susan Goodyear <foggy.meadows.vt@gmail.com>

Date: May 19, 2014 at 9:15:16 AM PDT

To: <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Arlington Garden of Pasadena

Dear Mr. Mayor:

As a volunteer gardener at Arlington Garden, I encourage you to increase the city's allocation to the Garden. It is amazing to see children, senior citizens, and everyone in between, enjoying this healthy, beautiful, quiet, calm space within the City. The increase in funding requested is minimal when compared to the benefits it provides.

Thank you.

Susan Goodyear

Iraheta, Alba

Subject: FW: Arlington Gardens

From: Robert Miller <60millertime@gmail.com>

Date: May 19, 2014 at 8:20:18 AM PDT

To: <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Arlington Gardens

Dear Bill,

As Mayor and a 50+ year resident of Pasadena and supporter, we have been ask to solicit your support. Arlington Gardens, represented by Betty & Charles McKenney have a spot at today's council meeting, and are asking for an increase in support from the city. As a supporter and user of the garden the progress is simply awesome and the increased financial support is needed to keep the garden as a City showpiece Arlington Gardens needs to raise more donations under its 5012c-3 designation and the City needs to increase its support and together we can sustain this garden in perpetuity.

Thanks for your assistance, warm regards, Rob

PS: I love the garden and can be seen eating lunch and reading a book every week.

Rob Miller
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60millerTime@gmail.com
Skype: rwmiller777

This is to inform you that Betty and Charles McKenney will appear at Monday's Council meeting to comment on the City Manager's FY 2015 Operating Budget as it affects Arlington Garden. The City's allocation to Arlington Garden has been flat for 10 years, an average of \$18,000 a year. The City Manager's proposed budget contains an increase of \$2,000 to \$20,000 per year. We will suggest that as a commitment to the Garden and as an investment in its future, the City Council increase the City's current annual \$18,000 allocation to \$40,000.

- In 2003 we created a nonprofit corporation, Arlington Garden in Pasadena, to develop and care for Arlington Garden, in collaboration with the City to carry out the City's obligations to create a waterwise garden and park under its lease with Caltrans. After 11 years, the 3 acre Arlington Garden has grown from 4 mature trees and 7 palms into a waterwise garden of 325 trees and thousands of plants that do well in our Mediterranean climate, and is now a renowned City landmark.
- The City and our corporation contribute funds to carry out their part of the partnership. The following are rounded numbers.
- In calendar year 2012, Arlington Garden in Pasadena raised \$32,300 from donations. We sold note cards and orange marmalade made from the Garden's 47 tree orange grove for \$10,700 net. Total income from our efforts was \$43,000.
- The City's part comes from an annual PWP grant of \$5,000, an annual \$18,000 fund which does not come to us but against which contractors open PO's, and from providing water and trash pickup.
- In 2012 the total available for the Garden and the nonprofit was \$66,000. \$47,000 was spent maintaining the Garden, and \$13,900 was used to operate the nonprofit—accounting, fundraising, insurance, *etc.*
- The Garden received 4,000 hours of volunteer support. We have no paid staff.

One of our goals has been for the Garden to present well each and every day of the year, and it does. However, as the Garden has grown and matured, it simply takes more to keep it healthy and horticulturally significant. Though we will continue with our best efforts, we cannot assure, and the City should not assume, that this model will continue for long. Increased costs, the uncertainty of continued volunteer help, and the need to hire regular horticultural and gardening help to maintain this landmark require increased funding.

Suggestion: Arlington Garden is a feather in the City's cap. To show commitment to Arlington Garden and as an investment in its future, the City Council should increase the City's current annual allocation from \$18,000, where it has stood for 10 years, to \$40,000 annually.

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Submitted by Charles McKenney

Memorandum

To: Mayor Bill Bogaard ✓
CC: Pasadena City Manager
From: Environmental Advisory Commission
Date: 3/27/2014
Re: The need for a Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Pasadena

Thank you for making time in your busy schedule to meet with us last Saturday at our retreat. We appreciate your time and wisdom, and also that your vision for Pasadena is so forward-thinking. We like to think that we share that vision, and we agree with your assessment that “the world is changing in dramatic ways.” One of the ways it is changing most dramatically is how municipalities are responding to climate change and emphasizing the sustainability of their practices. We are proud of the early strides we have made as a “Green City,” such as our adoption of the UN Accords, but we are concerned that the world is moving on these issues more quickly than we are.

Since the loss of our city’s “Green Team,” we have no single point of contact tasked specifically with implementing the city’s environmental sustainability programs to ensure that the city moves forward on environmental issues. To restore the city’s position at the forefront of environmental citizenship and to help the city realize its vision of a sustainable quality of life for all residents, the Environmental Advisory Commission recommends that the city hire an Environmental Sustainability Coordinator. This person would speak for the City Manager when working with departments and commissions, ensuring focused and effective leadership on sustainability, the environment, and improved quality of life.

Environmental Sustainability Coordinator—Job Description

We believe that the job description for the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator should include the following:

- To look for gaps in programs
- Coordinate between departments
- Research cutting edge trends in sustainability

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We see gaps in several ways. Sometimes we see a gap between what the city says it has accomplished and what could or should be accomplished. We also see that some types of environmental sustainability programs are simply missing from the city. We see places where the technology has improved since the city set its earlier goals, and this means our city is no longer at the forefront on a variety of environmental issues. We have outlined a few of these at the end of this memo. We believe that one person who directly represents the City Manager is more effective than a team comprised of people from different departments.

General Responsibilities

The following are some general areas in which the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator could provide much needed help:

- Implement the Open Space/ Conservation Element.
- Keep abreast of technical, financial, economic, and regulatory trends.
- Coordinate between departments.
- Coordinate between commissions.
- Implement existing plans.
- Provide progress reports on the UN Urban Accords.
- Acquire Natural Open Space.
- Expand open space in Central Pasadena.
- Look for gaps in existing plans.
- Promote functions previously addressed by the Green Team.
- Work closely with the EAC.
- Research intelligent cost-effective solutions to sustainability problems and ways to improve our practices.

Areas Where We Perceive Gaps

After some brainstorming at our retreat, these are a few of the areas where we see gaps in our current practices:

Energy:

- Update report cards on sustainability (not done since 2010.)
- Evaluate performance of Cal Green building requirements.
- Investigate cool roofs/vegetative roofs.
- Investigate urban heat island reduction.
- Review street tree policy in terms of reducing urban heat island effect.
- Review use of asphalt for pavement.
- Place solar atop appropriate city buildings.
- Partner with solar garden developers or have PWP develop solar gardens.

Waste Reduction:

- Review plan to reduce waste 75% by 2015.
- Coordinate with L. A. County on waste- to- energy measures.
- Investigate solid waste programs from other countries.
- Provide more information to builders about new sustainable measures that are available.
- Offer recycling at major events- Rose Bowl concerts, PCC Flea Market.
- Investigate methods of attracting green businesses.
- Promote Green R & D, high tech.

Water:

- Reevaluate the project to move ground water from Devil's Gate to Eaton Canyon, and involve the EAC and the Hahamongna Watershed Park Advisory Committee.
- Be much more creative about rainwater harvesting.
- Be more creative about incentives for residents and businesses to conserve water and harvest rainwater.
- Expand gray water usage, looking to the Glendale project as a model.
- Investigate recycling water, not just for landscaping, but also for potable water

Open Space/Urban Forest:

- Review the City's policies on planting and care of street trees.
- Revisit City's approved street trees list.
- Actively seek out new open space acquisition and partner with other agencies and organizations like the Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy.
- Complete the zone changes for open space.

Transportation:

- Work to create a traffic calming environment, including speed reduction, and rigorous enforcement of cars and motorcycles with modified mufflers that cause noise pollution.
- Coordinate with TAC on projects such as the 710 tunnel.
- Be more creative about ways to improve the walkability of the City, such as increasing shade, public drinking fountains, and public restrooms
- Be more creative about ways to improve the City for bicyclists.

Conclusion

The above list merely outlines the more obvious areas that the city's Sustainability Coordinator would need to address, and its breadth and length suggests our significant need for an individual who could focus, coordinate, and provide

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leadership to the city's efforts. Pasadena has always prided itself on being a leader amongst municipalities in dealing with the difficult consequences of urbanization and the precarious balance between development and growth and sustainability and quality of life. Sustainability is arguably the most significant issue of our time, and to maintain leadership the city needs to authorize the hiring of an Environmental Sustainability Coordinator.