



1384 East Walnut Street
Pasadena, California 91106
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Established July 1987

February 23, 2007

Notes

to Neighborhood Leaders

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

OVERNIGHT PARKING EXEMPTIONS ONLINE

Pasadena residents and visitors who need to park their vehicles temporarily overnight on residential streets can conveniently avoid receiving parking tickets by purchasing a Temporary Overnight Parking Exemption Online (TOPEO) with a Visa or MasterCard and printing out receipts for their vehicles.

For more than 50 years, parking has been prohibited on Pasadena city streets from 2 to 6 a.m., making it easier to clean streets, spot abandoned vehicles and deter crime. The City no longer accepts phone requests for temporary overnight parking exemptions. Residents who need long-term parking permits should visit the City's Business Services Section at 280 Ramona St. or call (626) 744-4166.

TOPEO can dispense temporary exemptions for \$3 per night per vehicle, for up to 10 consecutive nights. A \$1 convenience fee per transaction will be charged. Computerized receipts must be displayed clearly inside vehicles so parking enforcement officers can see them.

The exemptions are valid only from 2 to 6 a.m. on residential streets and are not valid during daytime hours. Complete instructions are listed on the City's website at www.cityofpasadena.net (clicking on Parking Permits).

Residents and visitors who don't have access to computers

may visit a Temporary Overnight Parking Exemption kiosk (TOPEK), which accepts coins, \$1 bills, \$5 bills, \$10 bills, most major credit cards and bank debit cards that display Visa or MasterCard logos. Kiosks are located at five outdoor locations in Pasadena: Pasadena Police Department, 207 N. Garfield Ave., Fire Station #32, 2424 E. Villa St., Fire Station #33, 515 N. Lake Ave. Fire Station #34, 1360 E. Del Mar Blvd., Fire Station #36, 1140 N. Fair Oaks Ave.

For more information regarding the new TOPEO system and other parking programs call (800) 317-7177.

Transportation Department NUSA NOTY AWARDS

Neighborhood leaders who feel their neighborhood project is worthy of one of the prestigious NUSA Neighborhood of the Year (NOTY) awards have only until March 1, 2007 to submit their applications to the NUSA Awards Committee.

Government entities, businesses or corporations, for the first this year, have the same deadline for entering their outstanding programs implemented to improve neighborhoods in the "Best Neighborhood Program of the Year" (BNPA) competition. All entries must be for a neighborhood improvement project completed in 2006 and must be submitted with the appropriate fee and application. Application guidelines and eligibility requirements can be downloaded

from the NUSA website, www.nusa.org.

Awards Committee Chair Robert Gibbons stresses that ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY March 1, 2007 to be considered. The NOTY awards will be given in three categories and the BNPA competition has two categories.

A distinguished panel of judges will select four finalists in each of the award categories. Finalists will be invited to make presentations at the annual conference May 23-26 in Baton Rouge, LA.

NUSA CITY STUDIES WAYS TO REDUCE TRAFFIC

In January, the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) held a special meeting to review and discuss a draft "Traffic Reduction Strategies Study" prepared by Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates. Last year, the City Council directed Department of Transportation (DOT) staff to commission the traffic reduction study after the idea was first discussed at a joint meeting between TAC and the City Council.

Nelson/Nygaard starts with a bold premise: "Traffic congestion is not inevitable. If the citizens of Pasadena wish, it can be reduced: traffic congestion is a choice, not Pasadena's fate." In analyzing our City's traffic, Nelson/Nygaard focuses on Pasadena's parking policies, and how current parking requirements encourage car trips at the expense of pedestrians, bikes and transit. Nelson/Nygaard

argues that Pasadena's minimum parking requirements have had unintended consequences for traffic: "Dozens of studies have now demonstrated that when parking is given away free of charge, people drive more."

The traffic reduction study contains twelve strategies to reduce traffic congestion in Pasadena. These recommendations include:

- *Remove minimum parking requirements for off-street parking.*
- *To reduce vehicle trips and congestion, set maximum parking requirements for Pasadena districts that limit the supply of parking to available road capacity.*
- *Require building owners to "unbundle" the cost of parking from rents so tenants can opt-out of paying for parking.*
- *Require all new and existing employers that provide subsidized employee parking to offer their employees the option to "cash out" their parking subsidy.*
- *Provide employees and residents of large projects with Universal Transit Passes to encourage use of public transit.*
- *To protect neighborhoods from "spillover" parking from nearby commercial areas, establish "Residential Parking Benefit Districts" that collect parking meter revenue and then return the revenue to neighborhoods to fund public improvements.*
- *Create additional Commercial Parking Benefit Districts, modeled after the Old Pasadena Parking Meter Zone.*
- *Expand and improve public transit, including the City's ARTS bus system.*

TAC and DOT are in the process of developing recommendations to the City Council based on the strategies contained in the traffic reduction study.

Pasadena residents are encouraged to read the traffic reduction study and provide comments. The traffic reduction

study can be downloaded in PDF format from the WPRA's website: www.wpra.net.

By Vince Farhat

NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES

REBATES KEEP CUSTOMERS COOL

The bad news: Thanks to greenhouse gas emissions and the return of El Niño, scientists are predicting the hottest world temperature on record this year.

The good news: PWP just unveiled even more generous rebates through its Efficient Cooling Home Incentive Program, giving our customers more options for staying cool.

Rebates are available to all residential electric customers who buy and install any of six approved home-cooling products any time after Jan. 1, 2007. New rebates of up to \$85 are available for Energy Star qualified room air conditioners, and new rebates of 60 cents per square foot (or 85 cents for green power customers) are available for sun shade screens installed on south, west or east-facing windows.

Other rebate amounts have increased. Rebates ranging from \$100 per ton to \$170 per ton (for green power customers) are available for high-efficiency central air conditioners with a (new) required efficiency value of 14 SEER or greater. Rebates of \$2 per square foot are available for Energy Star® – qualified dual-pane windows and doors, or \$2.70 per square foot for green power customers. Participants must submit the dimensions, installation costs and a National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) for each window to qualify.

Continuing home-cooling rebates are also available for solar powered attic or roof fans, Energy Star® skylights or light tubes, and for 37 varieties of shade trees through PWP's Cool Trees program.

Signed applications, along with a copy of the store receipts or proof of purchase, must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Rebates are available on a first come, first-served basis. For more details, customers can visit www.PWPweb.com or call our AnswerLine at (626) 744-6970.

PWP

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 6th- Election Day, polls open 7:00 a.m – 8:00 p.m.

March 9th – Art Night, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

March 16th –One City, One Story @ All Saints Church, 7:30 p.m.

March 24th –Parent and Caregiver Conference @ PCC/CEC, 8:00a.m.

Upcoming Council Meetings

March 5th: To be Cancelled

March 12th:

Pasadena Senior Center

Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.

Public Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

CUP Hearing for 940 Ave. 64

March 19th:

Pasadena Senior Center

Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.

Public Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

March 26th:

Pasadena Senior Center

Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.

Public Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Complete agendas of all City meetings as well as other important documents are available at the Pasadena Central and Branch Libraries. In addition, City Council Agendas can be found on the City's World Wide Web Page <http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us> and on the Community Bulletin Board broadcast on KPAS Channel 55.

Neighborhood Connections

1384 E. Walnut St.

Pasadena, CA 91106

626-744-7290

Estimados Vecinos

Si alguien necesita que esta información esté presentada en español, por favor llame a la oficina de Neighborhood Connections al 626-744-7290 para pedir una interpretación.