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Preserving Wide Open Spaces

PASADENA RESIDENTS AND VISITORS HAVE ENJOYED the great outdoors for more than a century.

Join the effort beginning this fall to make sure future generations enjoy all the nature Pasadena has to offer. The Planning and Development Department is updating the Open Space and Conservation Element of the General Plan, a document that sets goals and priorities for preserving and enhancing Pasadena's open space and for conserving energy, water, our urban forest and other natural resources.



To guide the effort, the city council has created a nine-member committee with representatives from the community, city commissions, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. The group, which meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Pasadena City Hall, is drawing up a participation plan to make sure our community's voices are heard. A workshop is being planned for this fall; watch for details soon.

In the meantime, you can visit www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan and click on Open Space and Conservation to find the committee's agendas, minutes and backup materials as well as draft maps, work plan and other important documents. You'll also find links to other cities and organizations that are doing inspiring work in this field.

The new element will complement the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element, which sets goals for the city's park and recreation facilities and programs.

For more information or to be added to the mailing list, email ldahl@cityofpasadena.net or call 744-6767.

Draft Housing Element to be Reviewed

Accommodating growth in a responsible manner, maintaining social and economic diversity, supplying a broad range of housing types and prices, providing quality housing and neighborhoods, assisting residents with special housing needs: These are among the challenges facing Pasadena as we work on achieving a long-term vision for housing and the community for the next six years.

These and other issues are addressed in the Draft Housing Element, a state-mandated chapter of Pasadena's General Plan. It describes our community's housing needs, analyzes the resources for providing it, recommends policies and programs for making the best use of these resources, and provides direction for addressing the needs of homeless families.

It is the culmination of nearly five years of ongoing community discussions about housing initiatives, including several public workshops.

Learn more when the Pasadena Planning Commission continues its review of the Draft Housing Element on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 6:15 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Room S249 at Pasadena City Hall. It will go to the city council later this fall for review, followed by legal review and comments by state officials in Sacramento.

Join the conversation! For more information call 744-6774 or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan and click on Housing.

Etcetera . . . Etcetera

✦ **Best-selling author Brian Greene will discuss black holes** and the importance of storytelling in science during a free event Tuesday, Sept. 9, 8 p.m. at Caltech. 395-4652 or www.events.caltech.edu.

✦ **Enjoy a free film every Wednesday at 1 p.m.** in the Donald R. Wright Auditorium at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St.: "Amazing Grace" Sept. 10, "The Final Season" Sept. 17, "The World's Fastest Indian" Sept. 24, "Titanic" Oct. 1. 744-4066.

✦ **Donate new clothes, personal hygiene items and school supplies** for homeless children in Pasadena Unified School District through the Kids Kiosket Project, a partnership of the city of Pasadena and PUSD, through Sept. 22. Drop-off locations are room N255 at Pasadena City Hall and room 127 at PUSD headquarters, 351 S. Hudson Ave. 795-6981, ext. 348.

✦ **Pasadena Museum of California Art annual benefit Saturday**, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m. includes an auction of ostrich eggs painted by talented artists. 568-3665, ext. 12 or www.pmaconline.org.

✦ **Tour one of Pasadena's best kept secrets Sunday**, Oct. 5 from noon to 5 p.m. Tickets to the historic

Garfield Heights tour are \$12 in advance or \$15 that day at 1245 N. Garfield Ave. 388-2174 or www.garfieldheights.org.

✦ **Learn how to choose the best school for your child** at a free workshop titled "Test Scores and Beyond: Evaluating Schools" Monday, Oct. 6, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. www.penfamilies.org or (866) 216-7334.

✦ **Join Pasadena's mayor and our state senator** for a 3-mile walk around the Rose Bowl Stadium Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 7:45 a.m. Meet at Gate A. Walks are the first Wednesday of every month. www.upandmoving.org or 831-2980.

✦ **Shopping carts belong to stores** and should never be taken from the premises. Call 744-8227 to give a detailed location of an abandoned cart in your neighborhood and it will be picked up in a day or so.

✦ **Pasadena has zero tolerance for graffiti** and the city is committed to removing it within 48 hours after it's reported. Help fight blight by calling 744-7622 with a detailed address and description of the graffiti.

✦ **Skip the fast food and do some good** on your lunch break! Enlist a friend and deliver meals to area residents through Pasadena Meals on Wheels. Call 449-6815 to volunteer.

✦ **Learn how major development projects** make their way from ideas to city approval to construction by watching new videos at www.cityofpasadena.net (look under What's New).

✦ **Are you expecting overnight guests?** If they're going to park on the street, get a temporary overnight parking permit online at www.cityofpasadena.net (click on E-Government and scroll down to Resident Services) or look for the yellow and blue outdoor kiosks at the following locations: 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.; and Fire Station #36, 1140 N. Fair Oaks Ave. For more information email parking@cityofpasadena.net or call (800) 317-7177.

✦ **Note:** All dates and times listed in *Pasadena In Focus* are as of the publication date. Call the numbers listed to confirm information. All phone numbers are in the (626) area code unless otherwise noted.

Noticias En Breve

Preservando las Zonas Naturales de Pasadena

Únase al esfuerzo empezando este otoño para asegurarse que las futuras generaciones disfruten de toda la naturaleza que ofrece Pasadena. El Departamento de Urbanismo y Desarrollo está actualizando el Elemento de Áreas Verdes y Conservación del Plan General, un documento que establece las metas y prioridades para preservar y mejorar las áreas verdes de Pasadena y para conservar energía, agua, nuestro bosque urbano y otros recursos naturales.

Se está organizado un taller para este otoño; espere más detalles pronto. Para mayor información o para ser incluido en la lista de personas que reciben información, envíe un correo electrónico llame 744-6767 o ldahl@cityofpasadena.net.

El Ruidoso Terremoto Llamó Nuestra Atención

¡El terremoto de 5.4 del 29 de julio nos recordó una vez más que debemos estar preparados! ¿Sabe que hacer si ocurre un fuerte terremoto? Siga estos consejos del Departamento de Bomberos de Pasadena:

- ¡Déjese caer al piso, cúbrase y sujétese! Si es preciso, muévase solo unos pasos a un lugar seguro. La

Se continua adentro . . .

Design Guidelines Improve Architectural Quality

THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT: PASADENA'S TREE-LINED NEIGHBORHOODS, fine architecture, lush gardens and mountain vistas are beyond compare. With help from the community, the city is working to ensure Pasadena enhances its distinctive character.

Detailed design guidelines are being created for commercial areas, not including downtown, plus multifamily residential projects with three or more units.

You can get involved during Design Commission meetings Monday, Sept. 8 (neighborhood commercial), and Monday, Sept. 22 (multifamily residential), at 6 p.m. at Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St.

The commission will hear public comments; and city staff and consultants will report on their review of existing guidelines and recently built projects, and the results of interviews with neighborhood representatives, architects and developers.

You can also leave comments at www.cityofpasadena.net/guidelines, where you'll also find detailed project information including a map of affected areas and documents for review.

For more information email kevinjohnson@cityofpasadena.net or call 744-7806. Watch for announcements about additional public workshops in October and November that will focus on drafts of the new guidelines. Final drafts are expected to be presented to the city council in December.



Keep Your Kids Safe on Campus

SCHOOL BELLS ARE RINGING THIS MONTH, welcoming students back to school. But don't forget you could also hear sirens.

A major earthquake could leave your children stranded at school for hours until you can reach them. Follow your school's advice and send a personal "comfort kit" to keep your kids safe and occupied during an emergency situation.

Pasadena Fire Department recommends that you stock the kit with extra clothes, a space blanket from a sporting goods store and a small flashlight with batteries. Send a few non-perishable snacks, bottled water, travel toothbrush and toothpaste, and comfort items such as a loving note, favorite family photo or activity books. Also include a list of medications your child may need plus an index card with emergency information and an out-of-state contact in case local phone lines are jammed.

Talk to your children about your family's emergency plan, and explain how and where you'll reunite after a disaster. Call your child's school office to ask about the school's disaster plan and how often it is updated.

For more tips visit www.cityofpasadena.net/disaster or call 744-7276.

Free to Roam at ArtNight

CALLING ALL ART ENTHUSIASTS, NIGHT OWLS and those looking for something to jazz up their Friday night-- don't miss fall's ArtNight Pasadena!



Art Center College of Design

Bring your family and friends and join us Friday, Oct. 10, from 6 to 10 p.m.

An extremely popular biannual event, ArtNight is an ongoing partnership among numerous cultural institutions and the Cultural Affairs Division of the City Manager's Office. Twice a year Pasadena's museums and cultural institutions open their doors for free so the public can discover and enjoy the variety of art, cultural artifacts and music offered in our artistically rich city.

Audiences have come to expect quality and originality, and this ArtNight promises both. For example, Pasadena Museum of History will have landmark exhibits celebrating Pasadena's Arts and Crafts legacy, and Pasadena City College's Art Gallery will present idiosyncratic Texas-based artists performing live music.

City-sponsored shuttles will provide free transportation between all venues to ensure easy accessibility, as outlined in the city's Cultural Nexus goals. Also available will be newly redesigned brochures showing bus routes to make it easier to explore all that ArtNight has to offer.

ArtNight kicks off three days of cultural events. For more information on Pasadena ArtWeekend go to www.pasadenaartweekend.com. For more information on ArtNight call 744-7062.

Keep Your Address Visible

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU TO STEP OUTSIDE. Is your address painted on your curb? If so, is a vehicle parked in front of it and blocking it from view?

In an emergency, police officers, firefighters and paramedics will have trouble finding your location if they can't see the address. It's fine to have it painted on the curb, but also make sure it's visible on your house, fence or mailbox and easily readable from the street.

Canning Hunger, a non-profit food relief organization, is the only company with a permit to repaint curb addresses in Pasadena. For a \$10 donation or \$10 worth of canned goods, the non-profit food relief organization paints black numbers on white backgrounds in neighborhoods that are due for a fresh coat. No murals, emblems, photos or illustrations are allowed. A donation is not required for the service.

For more information call 744-4720.



Ready for Your Closeup?

DOES YOUR PASADENA HOME OR OTHER LOCAL PROPERTY BELONG IN THE MOVIES? Does it have a great look, good bones? Is it lovingly restored in all its glory?

If so, the Film Office of the Planning and Development Department may want to include your hidden gem on our online location library. Location scouts and city staff search this popular site every day to connect Pasadena properties with film projects.

Film hosts earn an average of \$1,500 a day in tax-free income for a small bungalow and up to \$10,000 per day for a large mansion (the first 14 days are exempt from federal and state taxes).

To upload photos of your Pasadena property or for more information, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/film and click on Register Your Property. For more information call 744-3964.

mayoría de los daños ocurren cuando la gente se mueve y el suelo está temblando. Es especialmente peligroso si trata de salir del edificio. Muchas muertes ocurren cuando la gente corre afuera, solo para ser matado por escombros que caen de las paredes que se derrumban. En Los edificios de Los Estados Unidos usted está más seguro manteniéndose donde está.

- Manténgase alejado de ventanas, que puedan quebrarse con tal fuerza que podrían hacerle daño aún a varios pies de distancia.
- Si está en su cama, sujétense manténgase ahí, proteja su cabeza con una almohada. Muchas personas han sufrido daños por vidrios rotos cuando se dejan caer al piso o tratan de llegar a los umbrales de las puertas.
- Quédese dentro de la casa hasta que deje de temblar y esté seguro que no hay peligro de salir. Si sale, rápidamente aléjese del edificio para evitar que le caigan los escombros.
- En un edificio de varios pisos, espere que los sistemas de riego y alarmas contra incendios se activen durante un terremoto, aunque no haya incendio. Busque y apague los pequeños incendios. Si tiene que salir, utilice las escaleras- no los elevadores!
- Si esta afuera de la casa durante un terremoto, busque un lugar fuera de peligro alejado de edificios, árboles, luces de la calle y cableado eléctrico- los cuales podrían caer y hacerle daño. Déjese caer al piso y manténgase ahí hasta que deje de temblar.
- Si está manejando deténgase, en un lugar libre de peligro, estacione y mantenga su cinturón de seguridad puesto hasta que pare el terremoto. Árboles, cables de electricidad, postes, letreros de las calles y otras cosas podrían caer durante el terremoto, los vehículos con cubiertas duras lo protegerán de objetos que vuelan o caen. Cuando deje de temblar, continúe con precaución. Evite los puentes o las subidas a las autopistas porque podrían haber sufrido daños por el terremoto. Para más consejos para prepararse contra desastres, llame 744-7276 o visite www.cityofpasadena.net/disaster.

Mantenga el Número de su Domicilio Visible

Si usted tiene una emergencia, la policía, los bomberos y personal auxiliar tendrán problemas encontrando su casa si no pueden ver la numeración. Está bien el tener pitada la numeración en la acera, pero también asegúrese que este visible en su casa, las cercas o buzones del correo son fácil de divisar desde la calle.

Canning Hunger es la única compañía con permiso para repintar los números de los domicilios en la acera de Pasadena. Por una donación de 10 dólares, la organización, sin fines de lucro de ayuda con alimentos que pinta los números negros con un fondo blanco en los vecindarios que les hace falta una mano fresca de pintura. No se permite murales, emblemas, fotos o dibujos. No se requiere una donación por el servicio.

Para mayor información llame al 744-4720.

Your Vote Is Your Voice



THE CONSOLIDATED CITY OF PASADENA AND PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT primary nominating election will be on March 10, 2009, and the general (runoff) election will be on April 21.

Voters will be electing representatives for the Pasadena City Council in Districts 3, 5 and 7, and Pasadena Board of Education Seats 1, 3, 5 and 7.

For detailed election information call 744-4124 or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/election. Candidates may file nomination papers with the City Clerk's Office from Nov. 17 to Dec. 12; the website will be updated whenever new filings are submitted and if local measures are placed on the ballot.

Poll workers and accessible polling sites are needed for both dates, and there is a special need for Armenian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog or Vietnamese speakers.

Volunteers are critical to the election process! If you'd like to help, call 744-4124.



Earthquake Rattles Us to Attention

THE 5.4 EARTHQUAKE ON JULY 29 REMINDED US ONCE AGAIN TO BE PREPARED! Do you know what to do during a major quake? Follow these tips from the Pasadena Fire Department:

- Drop, cover and hold on! If you need to, move just a few steps to a nearby safe place. Most injuries happen when people move while the ground is shaking, and it's especially dangerous to try to leave a building. Many deaths occur when people run outside, only to be killed by falling debris from collapsing walls. In U.S. buildings, you're safer to stay put.
- Stay away from windows, which may shatter with such force that you can be injured from several feet away.
- If you're in bed, hold on and stay there, protecting your head with a pillow. Many people have been injured by broken glass when they've rolled to the floor or tried to get to doorways.
- Stay indoors until the shaking stops and you're sure it's safe to exit. If you do go outside, move quickly away from the building to avoid falling debris.
- In a multistory building, expect fire alarms and sprinklers to go off during a quake, even if there is no fire. Check for and extinguish small fires. If you exit, use the stairs – not the elevator!
- If you're outdoors during the quake, find a clear spot away from buildings, trees, street lights and power lines, which could fall and injure you. Drop to the ground and stay there until the shaking stops.
- If you're in a vehicle, pull over to a clear location, stop and stay there with your seatbelt fastened until the shaking has stopped. Trees, power lines, poles, street signs and other overhead items may fall during earthquakes, and a hard-topped vehicle will help protect you from flying or falling objects. Once the shaking has stopped, proceed with caution. Avoid bridges or freeway onramps and offramps that might have been damaged by the quake.

For more disaster preparedness tips, call 744-7276 or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/disaster.



Protecting Pets from Harm



Pasadena firefighters Basulto and Pasimio resuscitate a cat after a house fire on Howard Street in August.

WHEN BUILDINGS CATCH FIRE, HUMANS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES AFFECTED. Cats, dogs and other animals are often hurt or even killed by smoke inhalation during house fires. In Pasadena, where 60 percent of households have one pet and 80 percent have two or more, the risk is significant.

To protect our furry loved ones, the Pasadena Fire Department has teamed up with the Pasadena Humane Society/SPCA to provide emergency care to pets. Each Pasadena engine company now carries innovative, reusable rescue masks to provide oxygen to injured cats, dogs, birds, hamsters and other animals that are victims of house fires.

The Humane Society has donated all training, equipment and maintenance to make sure the masks are carried and used properly by our firefighters and paramedics.

As always, the Pasadena Fire Department is at your service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For complete details on Pasadena fire services, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/fire or call 744-4655.

Take Action Now!

WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS DIRECTED BY THE PASADENA CITY COUNCIL last December for all residents and businesses have been voluntary but that may change in the near future.



Everyone was asked to adhere to nine water conservation measures. Pasadena Water and Power has consistently promoted the program, Water Shortage Plan I, and has encouraged customers to go beyond those nine measures by taking extra steps to curb water waste, all with the goal of a 10 percent cutback in our community's water use. However, the overall savings hasn't come close to meeting that objective.

Therefore, on Aug. 11, the council took actions to prepare for potential implementation of Water Shortage Plan II, a mandatory program, as early as October.

The council will conduct a public hearing Monday, Sept. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, room S249 at Pasadena City Hall, to consider establishing financial penalties for those who violate the provisions of Water Shortage Plan II if it is implemented in the future. You may come in person, watch the proceedings live on KPAS or watch on your computer at www.cityofpasadena.net (click on City News and then the KPAS logo).

The proposed penalties are:

- written warning for the first violation
- \$50 for the second
- \$100 for the third
- \$200 for the fourth, plus installation of a water flow restrictor for 30 days
- \$500 plus installation of a flow restrictor for the remainder of the water shortage period
- \$500 for any subsequent violation.

With the possibility of mandatory restrictions and fines looming, PWP strongly advises everyone in Pasadena to take immediate action to correct sources of water waste, including broken sprinklers, watering lawns more than three times per week, hosing down pavement, etc.

On Aug. 11 the council also directed the city attorney to return in 60 days with amendments to three of the conservation measures in Pasadena's Water Shortage Plan, which is part of the Pasadena Municipal Code (chapter 13.10.040). Amendments under review are allowing industrial use of high-efficiency "water brooms" to hose down pavement, expanding restricted hours for landscape watering to 8 a.m. through 7 p.m. and deleting the section that prohibits the filling and refilling of swimming pools.

To see all of the provisions of the Water Shortage Plan including proposed amendments plus additional conservation tips, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/SaveWater.



Free Workshops Help You Save Water

WATERING LAWNS, GARDENS AND OTHER LANDSCAPING is the single largest cause of water waste. Most people over-water by 50 to 70 percent – a huge waste of our depleted water supply. Let the experts show you or your gardener how to properly irrigate your lawn and garden at PWP's new Efficient Irrigation workshops Sept. 10, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Oct. 29 and Nov. 12. Workshops are in English, and free Spanish interpretation is available upon request. For times, locations or to reserve your seat, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/SaveWater.



Native and California-friendly plants are low-maintenance, use little water, can be planted in natural soil with no fertilization, and even attract butterflies! Learn more at the "Native Nights" workshop Wednesday, Oct. 1, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Donald R. Wright Auditorium at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. The guest speaker, Lily Singer, will show examples of beautiful, drought-tolerant plants and share tips for making them thrive in your garden. Singer is a recognized garden writer with a regular byline in the Los Angeles Times, a Southern California plant expert, horticulture consultant and educator. Reservations are required, so visit www.cityofpasadena.net/SaveWater or call 744-3715.



Earn Generous Rebates for Water-efficient Appliances

PWP OFFERS REBATES TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS to choose water-efficient appliances and products! Earn the following rebates:

- \$225 rebate when you buy a high-efficiency clothes washer
- \$200 for a weather-based irrigation controller
- \$60 to \$265 for a high-efficiency, dual-flush toilet
- \$5 for a rotating sprinkler head.

Find full program details, rebate applications, and a listing of PWP's commercial and multifamily rebate programs at www.cityofpasadena.net/rebates.



Calculate Your Solar Potential



WHAT'S YOUR SOLAR POWER POTENTIAL? Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/solar and click on Clean Power Estimator. With a few simple keystrokes, this nifty tool will instantly calculate how much solar power your home could be generating plus the associated cost and carbon emission savings. Need extra help finishing the solar equation? Come to a free workshop Thursday, Sept. 25, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Salvation Army Pasadena Tabernacle, 960 E. Walnut St. Reservations are required, so reserve your seat at www.cityofpasadena.net/solar.