TO: CITY COUNCIL
FROM: TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (TAC)

RECOMMENDATION:
This Annual Report is submitted for information purposes only.

Attached is the following:

- Mission Statement
- Work Plan for July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010
- Roster of Committees for 2008-09

The Commission first discussed the Annual Report at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 4, 2009. On July 10, 2009, at its Annual Meeting, the Commission reviewed its accomplishments during the past year, and formulated its Work Plan items for the coming year. On July 20, 2009, the Commission Chair presented an oral summary of its draft Annual Report to the City Council’s Public Safety Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Julianna Delgado, Chair

Jennifer Higginbotham, Vice-Chair
MISSION:

As set forth in Section 2.135.110 of the Municipal Code, the primary purpose of the Commission is to advise the City Council concerning policies affecting the City’s transportation system. The Commission studies and holds public hearings assessing the economic, environmental, and social adequacy of the City’s transportation system and recommends short and long-range measures for its improvement.

The Commission also advises the City Council on matters aimed at implementing the objectives and policies contained in the 2004 General Plan Mobility Element.

Consistent with Section 2.135.110 and the Commission's Rules and Regulations, the Commission studies and makes policy recommendations to the City Council on issues including, but not limited to, the following:

- Improvements to increase walkability and bicycle use, including provision of pedestrian-only areas and revisions to the Pedestrian Plan and to the Bicycle Master Plan.
- Measures affecting vehicle traffic circulation and transportation in Pasadena.
- Protection of residential neighborhoods from negative transportation system impacts.
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs and measures designed to manage or reduce traffic congestion, including ridesharing, vanpooling, alternative work-hours strategies, application of new technologies, and encouragement of existing and alternative modes of transit.
- Annual capital programs and the five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) of the City affecting streets and transportation.
- Annual and long-range allocation of Proposition A and C funds.
- Federal, state and regional actions affecting the transportation network serving Pasadena, including existing and proposed freeways.
- Inclusion of Pasadena in Southern California’s light rail transit network.
- Assistance for other City Commissions, Committees and Task Forces regarding transportation-related issues, including review of and comment on various Specific Plans, Master Plans, development projects, and associated traffic studies and environmental impact reports.
- Leadership of and participation in local and regional studies and committees or task forces dealing with transportation issues.
• Provision for a public transit system, including streetcar/trolley and shuttle bus systems.
• Provision for service to those persons with limited access to transportation.
• Promotion of energy conservation aspects of transportation and review of and recommendations on the City’s Green Action Plan.
• Such other matters as shall be referred from time to time to the Commission by the City Council.
YEAR-END REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

While the Commission continued to be very active this year, because of the slowdown in the economy and the construction industry that may have accounted for a lack of items to agendize for review, for the first time in many years the Commission cancelled two regular meetings: October 3, 2008, and December 11, 2008. Nonetheless, the following are some highlights of the Commission's activities and accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2009:

- As a follow-up to its April 10, 2008, report requested by the Council, the Commission continued to monitor progress on City staff's proposal to raise speed limits on various residential streets. The Commission supported and commended City staff's commitment to working with State Assembly member Portantino on a bill (Assembly Bill 564) to amend Section 40802 of the Vehicle Code, relating to speed traps and roadway classifications in residential areas within Pasadena.

- The Commission continued to monitor actively the Playhouse District's Walkabout project held in early 2008, to improve the pedestrian experience in the Central District. On September 4, 2008, the Commission reviewed with the project's consultant, the Downtown Pasadena Walkabout Report, detailing the project's outcomes. At its May 1, 2009, meeting, the Commission reviewed and recommended approval of the “Playhouse District Action Plan" and “Downtown Pasadena Agenda for Action," which were based on the outcomes of the Walkabout. The Commission found that the strategies listed in the Playhouse District's “nine point" Action Plan were generally consistent with TAC's four February 2008 recommendations to the Council for improving walkability. TAC recommendations had been based on the outcome of the Pedestrian Mobility Study completed by Urban and Regional planning students at Cal Poly Pomona in 2007. The Commission recommended holding a joint meeting with the City Council to review the findings of all the walkability efforts and studies. The TAC Chair and Vice Chair met with the Mayor on this issue and are working with City staff to set up a meeting to review implementation of the TAC and Playhouse District recommendations for pedestrian improvements.

- Several commissioners participated in public workshops held in September 2008 by students in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Cal Poly Pomona on The Golden Necklace Project, a vision for a multi-use trailway (for pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians) and open space system across Southern California from the San Gabriels to the Pacific Ocean at Long Beach, roughly along the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers. The idea for the Project was first presented to the Commission in late 2007 and the Commission has continued to monitor progress on the Project since then.
The Commission continued to monitor the City's proposed Traffic Reduction Strategies. In November 2008, the Commission reviewed a letter presented by the Chamber of Commerce detailing its concerns about traffic reduction strategies and their potential impact on the business community coupled with the need for more parking for office and commercial uses. At its June 2009 meeting, the Commission reviewed and commented on a lengthy, written report prepared by the Chamber of Commerce, *The Case for Commercial Real Estate: Office, Building a Strong Economic Future for Pasadena.* Review was carried over to the Commission's July 2009 meeting and, as requested, the Commission prepared written comments for the Council's Economic Development and Technology Committee.

In February 2009, as part of the Mobility Element Implementation Plan (MEIP), the Commission reviewed the annual Transportation Report Card, which was implemented in 2006 to support the 2004 General Plan Mobility Element by measuring performance of key elements of the City's road and transit system, as well as the effectiveness of traffic mitigation measures and the Trip Reduction Ordinance.

In March 2009, the Commission reviewed with City staff recommendations for the “Streets,” “Streetscapes,” and “Transportation and Parking Facilities” sections of the FY 2010-2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Upon recommendation of TAC’s Capital Improvement Plan Subcommittee, which monitored the CIP during Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission recommended adoption of staff’s recommendations.

During Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission reviewed and commented on the draft environmental impact reports for amendments to the Las Encinas Hospital Master Plan, and for the proposed developments at 680 E. Colorado Blvd. (IDS Playhouse Plaza Commercial Project) and at 16 E. California (16 East California Project).

In Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission formed an ad hoc Subcommittee to increase citizen input on revisions to the City’s Bicycle Master Plan, participated in a public meeting on February 17, 2009, to receive public input, a second meeting in May 2009 aimed at youth, and prepared recommendations on goals and objectives for the Plan. Commissioners also participated in developing Bike Week Pasadena and Bike to Work Day.

The ad hoc Scooter and Motorcycle Parking Subcommittee reviewed and made recommendations on the Old Pasadena Motorcycle Parking Pilot Program.

Commissioners reviewed and commented on the ARTS Short-Range Transit Plan. On March 7, 2009, the Commission’s Public Transit/Arts Subcommittee
also held a Special Meeting at Fuller Theological Seminary to cover transit and Arts Bus issues and receive public input.

- Throughout Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission continued to monitor progress on the RFQ for a streetcar feasibility study in the Central District, implementation of the City’s Trip Reduction Ordinance, the SR-710 Tunnel Feasibility Assessment Study, the Phase II eastward expansion of the Metro Gold Line, and efforts to reduce traffic delays in Pasadena at the three at-grade Gold Line crossings at Glenarm Street, California Boulevard and Del Mar Boulevard.

- Commissioners participated in the annual Traffic Commissioner’s Workshop held at Cal Poly Pomona.

- During Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission nominated a Commissioner to serve as TAC’s representative on the Design Commission, who subsequently was elected Chair of the Design Commission and regularly reported to TAC on its activities.

- Two TAC Commissioners (Delgado and Harris) were appointed by the Council to serve on the General Plan Update Advisory Committee (GPUAC) and reported regularly on the Committee’s progress. At the end of Fiscal Year 2009, one of the Commissioners (Harris, District 2/At Large) resigned from both TAC and the GPUAC. TAC’s General Plan Subcommittee also prepared and forwarded to GPUAC a list of over twenty-five items for the City to address in revising the Mobility Element in the coming year.

None of the Commission’s accomplishments would have been possible without the support and assistance of Department of Transportation (DOT) staff. The Commission thanks DOT staff for their continued support and cooperation in Fiscal Year 2009.
WORK PLAN: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

As required by Section 2.135.090 of the Municipal Code, the Commission has developed the following Work Plan representing a partial list of the most important issues to be reviewed by the Commission for Fiscal Year 2009.

**Pedestrian Improvement Measures** — During Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission will continue its efforts to increase walkability, especially in the City’s Central District, which may include conducting a joint workshop with the City Council and the business districts to discuss the implementation of pedestrian improvement measures. The Commission will also continue to monitor and support efforts to increase development of multi-use, non-vehicular trailways and pedestrian-only areas of the City.

**General Plan Update and Transit Plan** — The Commission will continue to participate in the City’s General Plan update process. The Commission will review and comment on proposed changes to the General Plan Mobility Element, Land Use Element, Zoning Code, and Design Guidelines. The Commission also will continue to assist staff in the development of the ARTS Short-Range Transit Plan.

**Traffic Reduction Strategies** — As part of the General Plan update process, the Commission will monitor the progress of the traffic reduction strategies, including the Commission’s recommendations that were incorporated by the City Council in February 2007. Where necessary, the Commission will review and comment on the scope, study, timing and implementation of the traffic reduction strategies.

**Gold Line Traffic** — The Commission will actively continue to monitor efforts by DOT and MTA to reduce traffic delays at the three at-grade Gold Line crossings of Glenarm Street, California Boulevard and Del Mar Boulevard.

**Bicycle Master Plan** — The Commission will monitor the implementation of Pasadena’s Bicycle Master Plan. The Commission will also continue to advocate for the development and implementation of the proposed Old Pasadena bicycle station, as well as other bicycle-related activities and events.

**Scooter and Motorcycle Parking** — The Commission will explore the placement and feasibility of new parking facilities for scooters and motorcycles.

**Annual Report Card** — The Commission will assist City staff in the publication of the annual Report Card.

**Project Review** — The Commission will continue to review and comment on environmental impact reports for projects that meet the established criteria for review and/or community-wide significance. The Commission also anticipates participating in EIR scoping for projects that meet the established criteria for review and/or community-wide significance. In addition, the Commission will continue to review developments exceeding 50,000 square feet that require one discretionary action and
developments containing 50 or more housing units, as required under the City’s Predevelopment Application Conference (PAC) Administrative Guidelines.

**Specific Plans and Master Plans** — The Commission will continue to review and comment on transportation, circulation and traffic issues associated with all proposed specific plans and master plans, and/or proposed amendments and updates to existing specific plans and master plans.

**Capital Improvement Projects** — The Commission will continue to review and make recommendations to the City Council regarding annual capital programs and the five-year CIP Program.

**Project Monitoring** — The Commission will continue to monitor ongoing transportation projects, including, but not limited to, the following: SR-710 Tunnel Feasibility Assessment Study; SR-710 Design Advisory Group Projects; NTMP community meetings and projects; and Gold Line extension. In addition, the Commission will periodically review updates on the City’s progress in implementing its Intelligent Transportation System (ITS).

**Roster of Committees** — At the close of Fiscal Year 2009, the Commission lost four of its nine members through resignations or term expirations. As a result, the Commission is expecting a large turnover in its roster for 2009-10. Therefore, a membership roster of standing and ad hoc committees will be addressed at the Commission’s September 2009 meeting or upon seating of the new commissioners, whichever occurs soonest, and forwarded to the Council shortly afterwards. The roster for 2008-09 is attached for information purposes only as Exhibit A. The Commission does not anticipate making changes to the list of standing and ad hoc committees for 2009-10.

**Attendance Record** — An attendance record for commissioners is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
## EXHIBIT A

Transportation Advisory Commission

### 2008-2009 Standing and Ad Hoc Committees
(Revised July 11, 2008)

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CIP: Capital Improvement Program monitoring  
Annual Report Card: Annual Report Card monitoring  
Public Transit: Public Transit/ARTS (Ad Hoc Committee)  
PED: Pedestrian Plan (Ad Hoc Committee)  
Scooter and Motorcycle Parking: (Ad Hoc Committee)  
General Plan: General Plan Mobility Element Update (Ad Hoc Committee)  
Bike Master Plan: Bike Master Plan update (Ad Hoc Committee)
EXHIBIT B
Transportation Advisory Commission

Attendance: July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

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** P = Present
** E = Excused
** A = Absent
** LOA = Leave of Absence
** Shaded = Not Applicable
** XX = Meeting Cancelled
** [R] = Special Meeting retreat
** [S] = Special Meeting
** NQ = No Quorum; so no meeting held
** R-N/A = Recused, so attendance is not applicable

** Chris Burner’s sworn in 7/21/09 - term ends 6/30/2012
** Victor Harris resigned 6/30/2009
** Robert Holmquist resigned 6/30/2009
** Cecilia Jackson resigned 7/13/2009
** Felicia Williams resigned June 9, 2009