


McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Scott Gutentag
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 5:22 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Recognizing PWP's Amazing Work

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Dear Pasadena City Council Members,

As a Pasadena resident for 17 years, I'll like to recognize the heroism of PWP workers during and following the Eaton fire storms that ravaged, destroyed, and took away the homes of thousands of residents in Altadena and Pasadena and drastically altered the course of their lives. This act of nature was an unprecedented perfect fire storm that could not have been avoided no matter how many firefighters or preventive measures departments may have taken. These sentiments are shared by many other Pasadena residents whom I know.

The different departments of PWP responded to and proactively took on the unknowns related to the devastation never before encountered, which was remarkable and selfless. I applaud the city workers' tireless work in addressing the many aspects of the city's infrastructure that I don't understand including the reservoir systems, water delivery, and water treatment in light of the damage created by the firestorms. I can't imagine the incredibly hard work, both planning and manual labor, involved, nor do I pretend to understand. It's easy and comfortable to coach, opine, and complain from the sidelines without knowing and actually being part of the overt and behind-the-scenes activities related to the actual and real recovery process. PWP employees are humans and not computers. I imagine some, if not many, of them lost homes too, but continued to help others. They ran to the problems and took them head on. Nothing and no one is perfect.

I believe that appreciation for and recognition of a job well done and people doing their best is and should be an integral human response, and simply part of being a nice person.

In the words of my late dad who, with dementia at age 90 years old said, "I just try to do what's right and good." PWP workers lived and worked by these words of wisdom every day during this disaster. It's the wise, caring, grateful, and humble person who realizes this fact.

Sincerely,

Scott Gutentag, Ph.D.

2/3/2025
Item A