

DISTRICT UPDATE



CITY OF PASADENA | AUGUST 1, 2022



Welcome to

District 7

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Dear Friends,

Progress can only be made when we commit to collaborating with partners who bring different perspectives and expand our worldview. I found such a partner with my colleague and friend John Kennedy. Though we had vastly different lived experiences, we shared a common commitment to making our City better and creating “One Pasadena.” This honest and constructive alliance made us both better policymakers.

So with the recent and unexpected passing of Councilmember John Kennedy, I lost not just a friend and colleague but a key partner who made me a better public servant. I know both our community, and I personally, will sorely miss him. I am so grateful for his passion and energy all directed to making our community better. His passing will indeed leave a critical void. I send my prayers to John and his family, but also thank him for his important contributions to our City and his invaluable partnership.

Click [here](#) to read the City's Statement on Councilmember Kennedy's passing.

Last week, after a recent surge in cases, Pasadena's Public Health Department determined that jurisdictional COVID-19 confirmed case rates had declined for about 10 days, and local hospitalization metrics had not



[South Lake Business Association](#)



[Green Street Village](#)



[Playhouse Village](#)

[COVID-19 Information](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)

[National Night Out is Tuesday, August 2nd](#)

[Fire Station 31 Temporarily Relocates for Seismic](#)

continued to increase during that time. With input from healthcare provider partners, the City of Pasadena health officer decided not to issue a general indoor mask mandate.

For August we will pause our regular monthly first Thursday Constituent Coffee, and resume in September.

PASADENA PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR DR. YING-YING GOH SELECTED FOR PRESTIGIOUS FELLOWS PROGRAM AT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE



Public Health Director and Health Officer Dr. Ying-Ying Goh is one of six people selected for the 2022-23 class of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy fellows at the National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Goh will be taking a personal leave of absence from the City beginning Aug. 22 until the completion of the one-year fellowship.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows Program is the nation’s most prestigious learning experience at the nexus of health, science and policy in Washington, D.C. Since 1973, this nonpartisan fellowship has offered exclusive, hands-on policy experience with the most influential congressional and executive offices. Over the years, more than 300 fellows from across the nation have worked hand in hand with the best and brightest in federal health policy to gain an insider’s perspective of the political process, develop unmatched leadership skills, and build a professional network that lasts a lifetime.

In 2019, Dr. Goh was named director of Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD). She is a board-certified pediatrician and has been serving as the City’s health officer since 2015. Prior to her appointment as PPHD’s director of public health, Dr. Goh served as medical director for programs and research for the department, securing grant funding and managing programs related to diabetes care management and childhood obesity prevention, among others. Her professional experience includes clinical pediatric practice; management of a California endowment task force to improve healthcare access and quality in Los Angeles County; design and implementation of a case management program for seniors with chronic conditions; and research to improve nutrition and physical activity for youth as well as many other professional accomplishments.

Dr. Goh earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University, a medical degree from the Stanford University School of Medicine, and a master's degree in health services from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. She completed pediatric residency programs at Boston Children's Hospital and Boston Medical Center.



MANUEL CARMONA NAMED INTERIM PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

With the recent announcement of Pasadena Public Health Department Director and Health Officer Dr. Ying-Ying Goh taking a one-year leave of absence for a prestigious fellowship in Washington, D.C., Interim City Manager Cynthia Kurtz has appointed Public Health Deputy Director Manuel Carmona to serve as interim public health director.

Carmona has served as deputy public health director since January 2020 and has directed non-clinical department operations and provided administrative and fiscal management guidance in support of the health department's COVID-19 pandemic response. He developed and maintained critical community programs in the areas of violence prevention; health equity; and maternal, adolescent and child health. Carmona has also led special initiatives, including strategic planning and reaccreditation, and served as co-chair for the Pasadena Elderly and Dependent Adult Liaisons (PEDAL) Committee.

Carmona joined Pasadena Public Health Department in 2014 as a management analyst, where he managed the Administration and Finance Division. He previously worked for bigger- and smaller-sized cities in a range of municipal operations, including human resources, economic development, code enforcement, and parks and recreation. He expects to complete a Master of Public Health from the University of Washington this fall. He already has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Science in community & regional development from the University of California, Davis.

LIBRARY CONTINUATION MEASURE GOES TO NOVEMBER BALLOT

On Monday, July 18, the City Council unanimously voted to place the Pasadena Public Library Services Continuation Measure on the Nov. 8, 2022 ballot. Voters will decide whether to continue a dedicated, special revenue source for Pasadena Public Library programs and services. If voters approve this measure, it will continue to generate approximately \$2.8 million annually for the next 15 years in dedicated, locally-controlled dollars for Pasadena's libraries.



Since its inception over 135 years ago, Pasadena Public Library has attained a unique position as a highly-regarded educational and cultural institution. With more than 3,000 on-site programs, free Wi-Fi services, and an extensive collection of printed books, periodicals, media and cloud-based eBooks, Pasadena Public Library serves as a life-long learning center and cultural beacon for the greater Pasadena community.

In June of 1993, voters chose to save Pasadena Public Library's existing services and operations when they approved a special library tax with 79.9% of the vote, which has since been renewed twice with more than the required two-thirds support of all voters. In 1997, it was supported with 84% of the vote, and in 2007, it was supported with 80.4% of the vote. The current parcel tax has a sunset date of February 2023.

These revenues are used to keep Pasadena libraries open and well maintained. They are also used to purchase up-to-date books and materials, support library programs and services, provide access to computers, Wi-Fi and technology, and retain well-qualified librarians. It has enabled Pasadena Public Library to enhance its services by implementing an advanced search engine, a computerized magazine and newspaper index, a new online library catalog, and public access to the internet with terminals at all library locations.

If the existing funding through the Pasadena Public Library Services Continuation Measure is not maintained, the City will lose approximately 20% of the library budget, or \$2.8 million annually, which may lead to the closure of neighborhood library branches, a reduction of books and collections, a reduction in library hours, the loss of qualified librarians, and cuts in other significant programs and services offered to the community.

The Pasadena Public Library Services Continuation Measure is not a new tax. The measure is meant to maintain a revenue source that has been in existence over the last 29 years. Extending the current source of revenue will protect current funding levels.

With voter approval, these funds will only be used for operating the library system serving the Pasadena community. The funds will be subject to annual independent audits and public disclosure.

For more information on the Pasadena Public Library Services Continuation Measure, visit www.CityofPasadena.net/Measure-PPL.

COUNCIL APPROVES ZONING AMENDMENT FOR HOUSING ON CHURCH PROPERTY

After multiple study sessions beginning in 2020, and a public hearing at the Planning Commission last spring, the City Council approved a zoning code amendment for religious facilities located in commercially zoned areas. The amendment allows church properties to develop affordable housing on site. Components of the amendment will include:

- Allow religious facilities to build affordable housing in commercially zoned areas of the City only;
- Allowable units may be zoned up to 36 per acre;

- All housing must be affordable with 20% available as workforce housing
- A covenant for affordable housing will apply even if the religious use vacates the site
- Any proposed project will include a Predevelopment Plan Review (PPR) as part of the Design Review process
- Secretary of Interior standards shall be applied to all sites that are historically designated or eligible for designation - no exceptions for small projects.
- Staff will return to City Council with a progress report in one year, or after 6 projects have been through the entitlement process, whichever occurs first.

While proponents will undoubtedly feel that this amendment doesn't go far enough to allow affordable housing on church property, it's a good first step that will enable us to creatively add some affordable housing where it is desired - with congregations who want to answer the need.

For more details about the staff reports and public correspondence, please click [here](#) and see agenda item 6.

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

We currently have commissioner vacancies for the Historic Preservation Commission, the Human Relations Commission, the Human Services Commission, and the South Lake Parking Place Commission.

The Historic Preservation Commission advises the City Council on the promotion, protection and use of Pasadena cultural resources. It recommends the designation of landmarks and landmark districts, and prepares brochures and other material designed to promote public awareness of Pasadena's unique heritage. The commission meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of the Human Relations Commission is to aid the city in achieving better human relations in city government, and to provide assistance to private persons and groups in promoting good will and better relations among all people. The Commission meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

The Human Services Commission advises and makes recommendations to the council regarding the human service needs of people of all ages in this community. This commission will aid the city in facilitating collaborative efforts and a coordinated approach to improve and expand the delivery of quality human services in Pasadena. This commission is established to respond to significant unmet human service needs and gaps as identified in such documents that include, but are not limited to, the Early Child Development Policy; Needs Assessment; and related materials. The commission meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

The South Lake Parking Place Commission operates, manages and controls the parking places within the district, and makes and enforces all necessary regulations for the maintenance and operation of the district. They meet every 4th Thursday bi-monthly at 9 a.m.

We encourage you to apply! Click [here](#) for an application.

STAY CONNECTED



Stay connected to the City of Pasadena! Visit us online at www.cityofpasadena.net; follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#); or call the Citizen Service Center, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at (626) 744-7311.