OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

February 26, 2015

To the Honorable City Council
of the City of Pasadena

Mayor and Councilmembers:

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1. State Route 710 North Study Release:

On Monday, February 23rd, City Manager Michael Beck and I along with other San Gabriel Valley City Managers were invited to meet with Metro CEO, Arthur Leahy regarding the release of the State Route 710 North Study, Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement. I wanted to share with you the information we received during that meeting:

- **SR-710 Extension:** The Draft EIR/EIS is expected to be released tomorrow, February 27th. It evaluates the alternatives, but does not recommend a preferred alternative. Public comment period has been extended from 45 days to 90 days. All comments will go back to the Project Development Team at Metro and Caltrans. They will review and respond to all comments and this could take one to two years to respond to all comments they anticipate receiving. Ultimately Metro staff will recommend a preferred alternative to the Metro Board and then to Caltrans for approval along with the certification of the Final EIR. Federal Highway Administration will also need to review and provide concurrence on the proposed project. The authority to certify the EIR Caltrans resides with Caltrans.
- **Measure R-2:** Over the next couple of months Metro will put together a list of possible projects that would be funded with the proposed County sales tax measure, which is currently scheduled for the 2016 election. They will need to decide before June of 2016 so there will be a lot of dialogue in the fourth quarter of 2015 and into the first quarter of 2016.
- **Gold Line:** Metro is preparing to staff up for the Gold Line extension operations in second quarter of 2016. The rail cars are being delivered. They will likely have a rail car shortage for maybe the first 3 months of operation, but Metro believes they can still effectively operate the extended route for that brief period.
- **SCAG:** Is working on an evaluation of the best alternative for East/West light rail service.

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2. Mayor Bogaard Appreciation Day:

Please save the date for Saturday, April 25th from 3:00pm – 5:00pm, Pasadena City Hall – Centennial Square and join Mayor Bill Bogaard and his wife, Claire, for a casual afternoon of music, art, children's activities, food trucks and more, in celebration of his 16 years of service as our first citywide elected Mayor.

Share your personal reflections of "Moments with the Mayor" in letters or notes and drop them off at any public library in Pasadena prior to the celebration, write in a special memory book during the celebration or send your reflections electronically by visiting http://cityofpasadena.net/momentswithbill. For more information contact Rhonda Stone at rstone@cityofpasadena.net or 626.744.7147

3. Free Drought Tolerant Landscaping Workshops Held Citywide:

Last month, Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) introduced a new landscape webpage that provides customers with an easy to use five-step plan to create a drought tolerant landscape. To further these efforts, starting next month, PWP will be kicking off the first in a series of water-related workshops. According to Phyllis Currie, General Manager, PWP will be hosting seven free drought tolerant landscaping workshops citywide throughout the year.

PWP landscaping consultant and certified arborist, Tim Wheeler will teach participants the steps to convert a traditional lawn into a low water-use landscape including: how to remove grass; designing the landscape; choosing plants and landscape materials; proper plant installation; irrigation principles and options; and maintaining the landscape. Attendees will receive water-savings devices and other conservation-themed materials. Attendees of the March 14 drought-tolerant landscaping workshop will get a chance to win tickets to the 12th Annual Theodore Payne Foundation Native Plant Garden Tour, a self-guided journey through 47 of the Los Angeles region's most inspiring landscapes. Future workshop series will include a focus on: organic edible landscapes, water efficient irrigation, graywater systems, and Spanish-language drought tolerant landscaping. See attached flyer for the March 14 drought-tolerant landscaping event. To learn more visit, http://cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/Workshops/.

4. PWP Introduces Online LED Light Bulbs Shopping Tool Priced at Nearly Half the Cost:

Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) have launched its new "LED Webshop," an online shopping portal for PWP customers to purchase LED light bulbs at nearly half the retail cost. With nearly a dozen LED light bulbs to choose from, customers can easily find the LED light bulbs that meet their household needs. When ready to purchase, customers must enter their PWP account number (displayed on their PWP bill). At "check out" the reduced cost will be reflected. PWP discounts up to $5.00 per LED light bulb and up to $50 for each household, per year. There is no rebate form required. Simply visit http://cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/LEDwebshop/.

In addition to the LED light bulb selection, the new LED webpage provides customers with additional information including where to dispose of old light bulbs and frequently asked questions about the benefits of LEDs compared to CFLs.

Respectfully Submitted,

JULIE A. GUTIERREZ
Assistant City Manager

/attachments

Free Drought-Tolerant Landscape Workshop

Transform your grass into a beautiful California-friendly garden.

Learn about plant types, landscape design, irrigation and PWP's popular Turf Removal Incentive Program.

Saturday March 14, 2015

9 am to 12 pm

Arrive by 8:30am for check-in

Westridge School
(in the Braun Center)
324 Madeline Drive
Pasadena, CA 91105
Parking is in the State Street Lot

All attendees will receive water saving devices and a chance to win a two-day tour of inspiring home landscapes hosted by the Theodore Payne Foundation.

PASADENA Water&Power
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Must be a PWP customer.
Space is limited so please RSVP today:
626.744.6970 or PWPweb.com/Workshops

PWPweb.com /PasadenaWaterAndPower @PWPNews