



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

December 23, 2021

To the Honorable City Council
of the City of Pasadena

Mayor and Councilmembers:

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1. **December 31, 2021 Faith Leader Prayer Vigil:**

The Clergy Community Coalition has the permission of the Tournament of Roses to hold a prayer vigil on December 31, 2021, asking for blessings for a peaceful 2022. The faith leaders will meet in front of the Tournament of Roses House at noon for prayers and then walk to the corner of Orange Grove and Colorado for another moment of prayer. The Pasadena Police Department will support the event to make sure the group can safely move from the Tournament House to TV corner.

In order to prevent issues with cars parking in the neighborhood, the city has secured permission from the Rose Bowl to use Lot I for parking and will shuttle faith leaders to the Tournament House and back to Lot I after the final prayers.

2. **Pasadena in the News:**

Below are this week's top five clips of Pasadena in the News as submitted by Lisa Derderian, Public Information Officer.

1. [Rose Parade Still a Go – NBC4 TV Clip](#)
2. [Rose Parade Pushes Ahead – CBSLA TV Clip](#)
3. [Pasadena's COVID-19 Comeback Likely Fueled By Increase in Holiday Gatherings, Social Events](#)
4. [Pasadena Crash Leaks 1,300 Gallons Of Fuel Into Alhambra Wash](#)
5. [Police Investigating Anti-Semitic Fliers Distributed Sunday in Several Pasadena Neighborhoods](#)

3. **Skilled Nursing Facilities:**

The following is in response to a question posed by Councilmember Hampton to Interim City Manager, Cynthia Kurtz. The councilmember asked about the plan to get all residents of skilled nursing facilities and senior care facilities booster shots with the continued rise in Covid-19 Omicron cases.

Dr. Ying-Ying Goh, Director of Public Health, reports that the state contracted select commercial pharmacy partners (such as CVS and Rite Aid) to deliver booster doses in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) that need assistance. Since SNFs are medical facilities with medical doctors and nurses on staff, they are responsible for and capable of administering flu and booster shots themselves, and may not need support from pharmacies. The Pasadena Public Health Department (“PPHD”) has confirmed that every SNF in Pasadena has been offered this resource. SNFs are required by CDPH, the state licensing agency for SNFs, to provide booster doses to their residents and staff. PPHD has the ability to offer a vaccination clinic on-site when absolutely necessary if other avenues for boosters are not available to a SNF.

Since COVID-19 vaccines were first made available, PPHD has required long-term care facilities (LTCFs) such as SNFs to provide weekly updates on vaccination and booster rates among their staff and residents and the PPHD nursing team audits these reports. In anticipation of Omicron, PPHD staff worked after hours and over the weekend to audit vaccinations and boosters reported by facilities to compare facility self-reported information against the California immunization records system to estimate the actual, fully vaccinated and boosted rates in these facilities. These numbers will help us identify issues in self-reporting and will inform our approach to increase the rates of boosted residents in our SNFs.

Of the 13 SNFs in Pasadena, each has over 70% of their residents fully-vaccinated. In the most recent audit of the SNF vaccination rates, PPHD found the percent of residents who are fully-vaccinated AND have received a booster ranges widely across facilities. Only one facility reported over 80% of their residents with booster doses, most facilities have around 50-60% of their residents with a booster dose. The remaining five facilities with a booster rate under 40% are being contacted to discuss their progress.

Some things to note:

- This is a labor-intensive process requiring analysts to manually cross-reference against state immunization records.
- To our knowledge, Pasadena is the only jurisdiction in the state taking this detailed approach that audits the facility’s self-report, which we believe will help us focus resources where they are needed most and ensure facilities are reporting as required.
- While PPHD would like to see high boosted rates and will continue to facilitate booster doses, there may be any number of valid medical or other reasons why residents have not received a booster yet, so PPHD will continue to collect information to help evaluate which can include ineligible for medical reasons, fully-vaccinated residents who are not yet eligible for their booster dose, or people who recently initiated their first dose and are not yet eligible for their booster.

PPHD will continue to monitor and encourage facilities to comply with state requirements. For any additional public health information required, please contact Manuel Carmona, Deputy Director of Public Health at 626-744-6122.

4. General Liability Fund:

Matthew Hawkesworth, Director of Finance, indicates that the General Liability Fund is intended to support costs associated with liability claims, staff who administer the City's liability program, and a reserve target. The current methodology that provides revenue to the fund is based on three components:

1. **Estimated Claim Costs:** Every year the City receives an estimated projection of claim costs that is determined by an external insurance services firm. The estimated costs are distributed to departments based on a three-year rolling average of historical claim payments associated with respective departments. Based on this distribution of estimated claim costs, each department is responsible for making proportional contributions to the General Liability Fund. In the past, the City has made lump sum contributions from the General Fund to the General Liability Fund to offset shortfalls in collection based upon estimated claims verses actual claim payouts. Staff is currently reviewing alternative methodologies that will include both an estimated claim component and an actual claim true-up amount.
2. **Reserve Target:** In the event of emergencies the City establishes a reserve target based on a percentage of claim costs. As claim costs fluctuate, the percentage basis allows for increased reserve collections should there be an increase in claim payments, and vice versa. Each department's contribution towards the reserve target is also based on its three-year rolling average of historical claim payments.
3. **Administrative Staff Costs:** There are City staff dedicated to operating the City's liability program. The costs associated with staff are distributed to departments according to their number of Full-Time Equivalent positions. Based on this distribution of staff costs, each department is responsible for making proportional contributions to the General Liability Fund.

The City's liability program also includes excess liability coverage to protect against third party claims for property damage and/or bodily injury. The excess liability coverage has a self-insured retention ("SIR") of \$5 million, which the City is responsible for paying before the policy addresses a loss. Currently, there is not a specific source of revenue to offset the SIR in the event it is expended from the General Liability Fund as these funds have been historically considered in the estimated claim cost component.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Assistant City Manager