



COUNCILMEMBER JESS RIVAS

D I S T R I C T 5 N E W S L E T T E R

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you're doing well. In case I haven't seen you lately, you may not know that I am expecting a baby any day now. That means I will be a little slower to respond to your e-mails, calls, and texts over the next month or so, but I will still be around. Margo will of course continue to be available full time, so please reach out directly to her or CC her for anything time sensitive. You can e-mail her at mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net or call her in the office at (626) 744-7147.

The Council has been busy through the first few months of the year, so I also wanted to take a moment to summarize the biggest items that have come before us:

- **Adopted [Resolution](#) Declaring Climate Emergency and Setting Goal for 100% Carbon Free Energy by 2030** – I am very excited to share that we unanimously adopted a resolution to source 100% of Pasadena Water & Power's energy from carbon-free sources by the end of 2030. We asked the City Manager to work with Pasadena Water and Power through the ongoing [Power Integrated Resource Plan](#) process to explore multiple approaches for achieving that goal so that we can optimize affordability, rate equity, stability, and reliability. I will continue to keep you posted on our progress toward this goal.
- **Rental Board Application Process Continues (Measure H/Charter Article XVIII)** – Measure H, now Article XVIII of our Charter, assigns the powers and duties necessary to “administer and enforce” its provisions to the Pasadena Rental Housing Board. City staff continues to work on organizing and establishing the board. The application period closes on March 23rd and the Council will appoint board members no later than April 21st. You can read more details [here](#) and [here](#).
- **Formed 710 Stub Working Group** – The State relinquished the land that makes up the 710 Stub to the City in August of 2022. The planning and re-knitting of this part of our community will take sustained effort, collaboration, and time. One of the first steps the Council has taken is to establish a community advisory working group, which will provide input to the Council on the vision, land use, massing, circulation, and other urban design aspects of the plan, as well as other key policy issues, including potential restorative justice efforts relating to the displacement caused by the proposed freeway expansion. Thank you to all who expressed interest in serving and to the District 5 nominees who were selected – Rémy De La Peza Jose Luis Correa, and Blair Miller.
- **Initiated Charter Reform Process** – The Council has directed staff to begin the first multi-topic review of the Charter since the late 1990's and early 2000's. This could result in proposed changes to our Charter being put to voters on the November 2024 ballot. We are at the very earliest stages, but this is an exciting moment for our City to improve the structure and operation of our government. I will of course keep you posted throughout the process and look forward to your input.
- **More Funding for Motel Vouchers** – The Council has continued to fund weather-activated motel vouchers for our unhoused neighbors. Unfortunately, this is the third year that we don't have a bad weather shelter operating in the City (the first two years were due to COVID and this year we were unable to find a site). In addition to re-establishing our bad weather shelter, I continue to support tiny homes, motel conversions, and interim/permanent supportive housing to help folks get off the streets and the help they need to find permanent housing. This is of course in addition to addressing [one](#) of the main causes of homelessness – the lack of affordable housing.

I was very proud to host a **Housing Rights Workshop** at Villa Parke Community Center back on March 9th. If you weren't able to make it, here is a helpful [handout](#) that HRC provided on Pasadena tenant protections, focusing on Measure H/Article XVIII of the Charter. Also, just as a reminder: HRC has an office here in District 5 at 1015 N Lake that offers walk-in hours Monday-Friday, 8:30 to 5:00p.m. You can also reach them at 626 831-9732 or via their [website](#).

Please follow me on social media if you haven't already. It's an easy way to stay up to date on what's going on in our neighborhoods and throughout the City. [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) handles are all @PasadenaD5.

Finally, as always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at jerivas@cityofpasadena.net I truly value your opinion and look forward to hearing from you.

-Jess

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