Hi All,

I hope you and your family are having a restful holiday season! Here are some quick updates on what has been going on at the City Council in the last months of 2025:

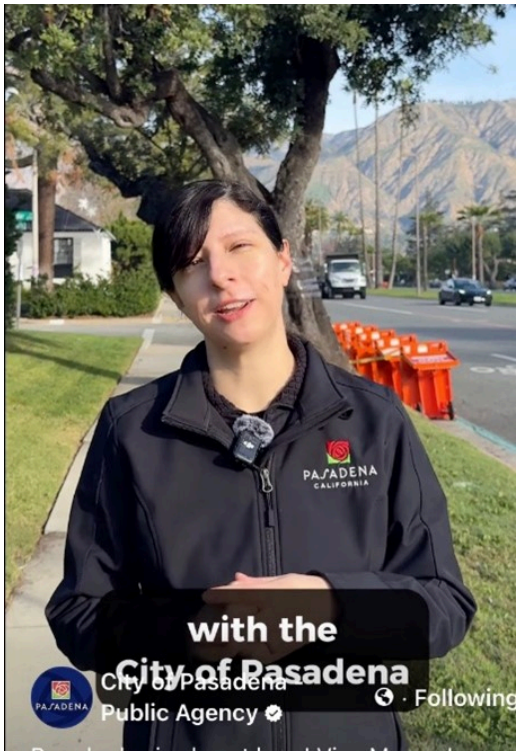
· **Early Budget Workshop** – The Council adopts the budget every year in June after hearing from the all the departments. However, there isn't much ability to make significant changes at this stage. Since joining the Council, I have been advocating for an opportunity for the Council to give its input at the outset of the budget process, so that staff can incorporate it while putting the budget together. I'm excited to share that we did exactly that earlier this month. Our top priorities heading into the new year are:

1. Safer Roads – roadway/pavement condition improvements, traffic enforcement, pedestrian/cyclist/motorist safety
2. Housing & Homelessness Prevention – year-round homeless shelter and homeless transition/temporary housing
3. Fire Department Facilities Upgrades & Training Center
4. Economic Development – implementation of the Economic Development Strategic Plan and neighborhood specific plans
5. Carbon-Free Electricity Transition

· **Objective Design Standards for New Developments** – I am happy to report that the Council recently adopted what are known as objective design standards for high density residential and mixed-use projects with densities greater than 48 units per acre. This means developers will have clear standards to meet from the outset, rather than trying to meet the different design preferences from the various levels of approval they must secure (staff, Design Commission, Planning Commission, City Council). You can read more about this commonsense reform here.

· **Optimized Strategic Plan for Our Carbon Free by 2030 Goal –** In 2023, we set a goal of sourcing 100% of our electricity from carbon-free resources by the end of 2030 while optimizing for affordability, rate equity, stability and reliability while achieving this goal. Since then, we have already taken many steps to get us closer to 100% carbon free energy and you can track our progress here. Additionally, PWP staff has been hard at work studying how get all the way to 100% and just this month presented a framework to best position us for doing exactly that, which the Council unanimously approved. You can read more about it here.

If you're attending the Rose Parade or Rose Bowl Game this Thursday, please check out the City's Instagram and Facebook pages for rules and helpful tips, including this video I was happy to help out with:



Link: https://www.instagram.com/p/DS3tjW6CYbs/

Please follow me on social media (Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube) 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. 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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