

# DISTRICT UPDATE



CITY OF PASADENA | NOVEMBER 1, 2021



## Welcome to District 7

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Dear Friends,

The Madison Heights Neighborhood Association will be hosting a Zoom Webinar on Wednesday, November 10th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss what is required for neighborhoods to become designated landmark districts. Anyone who is interested in learning more about landmark districts is welcome to attend. Details about the meeting are below.

This week, our monthly first Thursday constituent coffee will take place **in person** on Thursday, November 4th at 8:00 a.m. at Corner Bakery, 345 South Lake Avenue. Although I will be out of town, Pam will host our special guest Michelle Perera, Director of Library and Information Services. Michelle will discuss current programs offered in our libraries as well as the status of Central Library. The coffee is on us!

Andy

## NOVEMBER 10TH ZOOM WEBINAR WILL FOCUS ON ESTABLISHING LANDMARK DISTRICTS

One of the things people love most about Pasadena is the beautiful single family neighborhoods with their historic



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### [Green Street Village](#)



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homes and tree-lined streets. Unfortunately, sometimes when older homes change hands, new owners occasionally demolish the historic home and erect new homes that aren't consistent with the neighborhood design aesthetic. This type of character-changing new construction is likely to only be further accelerated by recent new state legislation SB9 that allows single family home owners to do a lot split and then build two units or duplexes on each - in essence turning what was a single residence into four new units. While we laud efforts to address the housing affordability crisis in the state, we don't believe it has to be at the cost of our single family neighborhoods. Both of these unfortunate scenarios can be preempted by the establishment of a historic landmark district in qualifying neighborhoods (landmark districts are exempt from SB9)..

A landmark district is an area that is recognized for the special quality found in its history and buildings. This neighborhood character is protected by a design review process that ensures publicly-visible structural changes to historic resources will not compromise the qualities that make the district so special. The city currently has 26 designated landmark districts.

On November 10th at 6:00 p.m. the Madison Heights Neighborhood Association will be hosting a Zoom webinar with Senior Planner Kevin Johnson to discuss the process for establishing a historic landmark district. Whether you live within the proposed Madison Heights Landmark District, or are curious about establishing your own landmark district, join the webinar to learn more and submit written questions:

The webinar link is:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84101276411.](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84101276411)

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## **CITY MANAGER STEVE MERMELL SET TO RETIRE IN DECEMBER**

With City Manager Steve Mermell retiring next month, the City Council has appointed Former City Manager Cynthia Kurtz as Interim City Manager. Beginning in November 2021, Kurtz will work with Steve to ensure a smooth transition, prior to assuming the interim city manager role on Dec. 3rd.

Kurtz, a Pasadena resident, returns to city government after serving as the city manager from 1998 to 2008. Since completing her tenure in Pasadena, Kurtz has worked as the interim city manager in both Covina and Santa Ana, as well as the chief operating officer of River

LA. She also served as the president of the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership. Kurtz is currently the vice chair of the Metropolitan Water District.

Several other senior executives have also announced departures or retirements this year, including Assistant City Manager Julie Gutierrez, General Manager of Water and Power Gurcharan Bawa, and Director of Human Resources Jennifer Curtis. Given these vacancies, the City Council is pleased that Cynthia Kurtz will bring the necessary experience to manage the City as we move to fill these important positions.

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## ONCE WEEKLY WINTER WATERING SCHEDULE BEGINS TODAY

As a reminder, Pasadena's new Level 2 Water Supply Shortage Plan is now in effect. PWP reminds you to adjust your watering activity to reflect the Winter Water Schedule which begins on Monday, November 1st.



To balance the water demand on the City's water system and to prevent all properties from watering on the same days, Pasadena has adopted a new "odd/even" alternating day watering schedule as follows:

**On Mondays**, watering is limited to those with **even-numbered** street addresses (for example: 4840, 9996, 24 1/2)

**On Tuesdays**, watering is limited to those with **odd-numbered** street addresses (for example: 8889, 231, 8745 1/2)

Please note that these restrictions do not apply to certain exemptions, which include:

1. Landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use low-flow drip type irrigation
2. Watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a water shut-off device
3. Watering for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system
4. Maintenance of trees as necessary to sustain their health and viability
5. Maintenance of landscape for fire protection

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## CITY PARTNERS WITH HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL FOR BLOOD DRIVE ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH

This Thursday, November 4th, the City will host a blood drive to support Huntington Hospital. The blood drive will be held in the City Hall Basement, Room S018 from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. To sign up for the blood drive, call or text (626) 676-6881. Eat a meal and drink plenty of water before donating. Bring

proof of vaccination. A mask will be provided to those who are unvaccinated.

Huntington Hospital is here for our friends, family and neighbors. Please consider donating so that they can continue to care for our community.

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## **PWP FORMALLY OPENS NEW CHARGING DEPOT**

This week, the city will formally open the newly completed Arroyo Parkway Charging Depot at the southwest corner of Glenarm Street and Arroyo

Parkway. The Depot will have 20 of Tesla's latest generation of powerful chargers, along with six additional fast chargers. Electric commuters should notice an improvement in charging speeds compared to older chargers. The fast chargers are high-powered EV chargers that will minimize charging time and get drivers back on the road in approximately 30 minutes with at least an 80% charge.

The station has already had a soft opening, and folks are charging there. Stop by to check it out!

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## **COMMISSIONER'S CORNER**

District 7 currently has an opening for the Human Relations Commission, and an opening each for a South Lake Business Representative or Owner and a Community Representative for the South Lake Parking Place Commission.

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 is guided by an annual work plan. The commission meets monthly on the first Tuesday at 6:30 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. The commission meets bi-monthly on every fourth Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

For more information or to find an application, you can visit the commissioner webpage [here](#), or call District 7 Liaison Pam Thyret at (626) 441-4802.

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or call the Citizen Service Center, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through  
Friday at (626) 744-7311.