

City Manager's Weekly Report No. 145

January 12, 2024

1. City Council Meetings Action Items Recap

At their January 9th Council meetings, the City Council took the following actions: Issued a commendation to Sophia Doh, a 4th-grade student at Monte Vista Elementary School, whose artwork was featured on the cover of Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) 2024 art calendar. Hayoon Lee, a 6th-grade student at Fremont Elementary School whose artwork was featured inside the calendar, also received a commendation. Each year, GWP in partnership with MWD hosts a water conservation art contest for K-12 grade students. The contest requires participants to create artwork that portrays the theme "Being Water Wise Is..." including a short message. A total of thirteen entries were selected and submitted to MWD for a final round of regional competition. Visit GWP's winners' art gallery at GlendaleCA.gov/ArtContest to view some impressive artwork from the finalist students.



- Accepted Homeless Initiative - Measure H Funds for FY 2023-24 from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) in the amount of \$342,640 for eligible homeless strategies three non-profit agencies: HomeAgain LA, Armenian Relief Society and Door of Hope. Hopefully, these funds will help to mitigate the spike we have seen in unhoused individuals in Glendale. Interestingly, since FY 2019-19, we have received a total of \$1,620, 254 in Measure H funds, whereas we have contributed \$10M to \$11M in sales tax to the County for the same period.
- Adopted an Ordinance for the issuance of \$230M in Electric Revenue Bonds 2024 Series, and \$70M in 2024 Refunding Series, to support the Grayson Repowering Project, as well as provide funding for the Scholl Biogas Renewable Generation Project, City-Owned Solar Projects, and certain distribution system improvements.
- Approved and adopted a four-year MOU between the City and IBEW/Local 18 commencing August 1, 2023, and terminating after July 31, 2027, that includes cost-of-living adjustments for all unit employees as well as minor adjustments for Water Section stand-by roles, the Station Electrician/Operator, and Power System Operators positions. Electrical Line Mechanic Series employees will receive additional increases, to address challenges in recruiting and retaining.
- Introduced an Ordinance to amend Glendale Municipal Code related to refuse, yard trimmings and recyclable material collection and disposal and solid waste disposal.

- Provided feedback on the city's new Bicycle Transportation Plan.
- Directed staff to bring forward a report on the options for a Persons with Disabilities Advisory ad-hoc Committee.

2. Interim Director of Public Works Appointed

I have appointed Daniel Hernandez as Interim Director of Public Works effective January 10th. Daniel has eighteen years of experience in both public and private sectors including seven years as public works director at three California cities. Daniel will lead our Public Works Department on an interim basis while we conduct the recruitment for a permanent director. Please join me in welcoming Daniel to the team.



3. Kristen Asp Leaves the City after 23 Years of Service

Last Wednesday a group of friends and colleagues gathered to say goodbye to Kristen Asp. Kristen has worked for City of Glendale for the past 23 years, most recently as Principal Planner. She began her planning career in the City of Calabasas. She is a certified planner and earned a master's degree from Woodbury University and a bachelor's degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Kristen has been a member of the American Planning Association (APA) since pursuing her undergraduate degree and serving as a student representative for the APA California Chapter. She has also served as the Los Angeles Section director and vice president for administration for the APA California Chapter. Kristen will be leaving the City of Glendale to pursue a new chapter in her career as the Planning Director for the City of Westlake Village. Congratulation to Kristen and I know she will be missed.



4. Verdugo Job Center Featured in Burbank Leader

The Verdugo Jobs Center was recently featured in the Burbank Leader. The article describes the amazing work performed by our staff and highlights a success story where Armineh Hacobian, Case Manager played a pivotal role in helping a customer return to the workforce. The article can be access by clicking on the following link. Congratulations workforce development staff!

<https://burbankleader.outlooknewspapers.com/2024/01/10/verdugo-jobs-center-offers-employment-assistance/>

5. “Peace is Radical” by Shepard Fairey at ReflectSpace Gallery

Central Library and ReflectSpace Gallery are proud to present “Peace is Radical” a solo exhibition by renowned street artist and activist, Shepard Fairey. "Peace is Radical" features screen printed works addressing a range of topics, including creative empowerment, the importance of democracy, race and gender equality, environmental justice, and, of course, peace and harmony.

As a contemporary street artist, graphic designer, activist, and founder of OBEY Clothing and creative agency, Fairey gained notoriety with the creation of the “Andre the Giant has a Posse” sticker that later evolved into the OBEY GIANT art campaign. In 2008, his portrait of then-Democratic candidate Barack Obama became an internationally recognized emblem of hope. He is known for the “We the People” campaign debuted during the 2017 Women’s Marches worldwide. Fairey has painted more than 135 public murals, become one of the most sought-after and provocative artists globally, changing the way people converse about art and view the urban landscape.

Shepard Fairey has designed a limited-edition library card for Glendale Library, Arts & Culture that will be available at all Glendale Library branches through the run of the exhibit, while supplies last.

Peace is Radical will be on view from January 20, 2024, through April 14, 2024, at the ReflectSpace Gallery, inside the Central Library located. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, January 20, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM. Free parking with validation is available at the Marketplace parking structure located directly across from the Harvard entrance of Central Library.



6. Kudos for a Public Works/Engineering Employee

Hello Roubik,

We are one of the oldest citizens here at upper Chevy Chase corridor.

Over the years, we have witnessed many works and projects at our area including the recent one at the CC library.

On couple of occasions I met with various city personnel and in all, Arabo Azelbar stood out to us as a professional and well informed individual about the project at hand.

He provided much details to us and other neighbours on occasions which was informative and helpful.

Infact, Peter, my other neighbour who works at the Pasadena public works illuded that he may entertain him joining PPW!

In all whether that happens or not, you should know that in this day and age, few still offer helpful and usable information to us which is welcomed and the reason for my feedback to you.

Perhaps we meet at some point in the near future.

Until then,

Best

Ken Marefat

7. Council Districts Stakeholder Outreach Meetings Scheduled

Last November, Council directed staff to plan and conduct additional stakeholder meetings with key local organizations around focus maps and the overall proposed districting process. Our Communications Team created a form that was sent to over 60 organizations in Glendale, and over 20 organizations responded with an interest in learning more. To date, eight in-person and virtual meetings have been scheduled to take place this month and next month.

The stakeholder meetings are an additional avenue for the Communications Team and the City's demographer to provide an overview of district formation, its history in Glendale, review maps, and address questions that arise by the leadership or membership of these organizations.

As the first meeting of 2024 with the Glendale Latino Association is complete, staff looks forward to engaging conversations with the remaining interested groups including the Adams Hill Neighborhood Association, Glendale Community College, Northwest Glendale HOA, Crescenta Highlands Neighborhood Association, Bridging the Borders, Glendale Teacher's Association, and Verdugo Woodlands West Neighborhood Association.

Once the stakeholder meetings conclude, two public forums will be scheduled for April 2024.

8. Glendale's Two Senior Housing Projects Featured in Urbanize LA

Two senior housing complexes take shape at 900 and 912 E. Broadway in Glendale. East of Downtown Glendale, two affordable housing developments are taking shape at the former Harrower Laboratory and Clinic site.



At 912 E. Broadway, non-profit developer Abode Communities is converting the former Harrower building into 40 homes for older adults, accompanied by on-site resident services and amenities such as a central courtyard. The two-story structure, completed in 1921, has previously housed offices, production space, and a school for special needs children. The City of Glendale acquired the property in 2019 and began soliciting developers for affordable housing on the property. It is expected that the building will qualify for the National Register of Historic Places following the completion of the adaptive reuse and restoration.

Next door at 900 E. Broadway, Los Angeles-based Meta Housing Corp. is midway through construction of the Citrus Crossing apartments, a new-build project which will feature 127 senior apartments, reserved for households earning between 30 and 70 percent of the area median income level.

AC Martin is designing the six-story development, which will also include an 8,000-square-foot plaza, a rooftop deck, two community rooms, a senior services room, and a two-level subterranean parking garage.



Both projects are slated for completion in 2024.

While the two projects from Meta and Abode account for a combined 167 homes, they are far from the largest affordable housing development under construction in Glendale. That distinction goes to the 340-unit complex from Linc Housing and National CORE which is now rising at 515 Pioneer Drive.

9. Kudos for Staff at the Brand Library and Art Center

To the Good folks at The Brand! Thank you for being there for so many of us!

Dear Good folks at the Brand.

Thank you for a most informative Newsletter.

It is something to look forward to!.

Thank you also for your years of service to all of us with such courtesy and good cheer.

To each one of you:

BE WELL & PROSPER!

With appreciation and gratitude,

Dr. Muazzam Gill.

10. Future City Council and Housing Authority Agendas (subject to change)

January 16:

- No meetings.

January 23:

- GPD Real Time Intelligence Center (RTIC) Construction
- City-wide furniture Procurement Agreement Extension
- GWP Public Financial Management Agreement

January 30:

- Loan Commitment & Lease Option for 426 Piedmont Ave (afternoon)
- Land Use & Circulation Element Project Update (afternoon)
- Public and Private Tree Protection Ordinance - Introduction
- Appeal of Proposed Development at 1900 Riverside Drive
- Proposed Amendments to Rental Rights Program
- Pasadena Humane Society's Presentation on Coyote Management Plan
- Selection of Delegates for SCAG

February 6:

- Proposed Shared Mobility Pilot Program (afternoon)
- DGA Annual Workplan and Budget (afternoon)
- Entitlement Process Review Improvement Check-in (afternoon)
- La Crescenta Ave Rehabilitation Project Award of Contract
- Public and Private Tree Protection Ordinance – Adoption
- Adoption of the MOU with GFFA

