

City Manager's Weekly Report No. 148

February 2, 2024

1. Recap of City Council Meetings

The following took place at the City Council and Housing Authority meetings of January 30:

- Authorized the execution of a Letter of Loan Agreement and Lease Option with EAH Housing for a 68-unit affordable rental housing project for seniors at 426 Piedmont Avenue and 507 Naranja Drive.
- Accepted the status report on the preparation of the Lans Use Element Circulation Element updates and provided comments and approved a contract amendment with De Novo Planning Group to include the Environmental Justice Element of the General Plan.
- The Pasadena Humane Society presented their Wildlife/Coyote Management Plan in response to the Council's request.
- Glendale Association Of Realtors (GAOR) presented a \$1,000 check to the Police Foundation to help with the Students Training As Role Models (STAR) program.



- Awarded a Professional Services Agreement to Center for Transportation for the update of the Glendale Fleet Electrification Study.
- Introduced Ordinances amending the Glendale Municipal Code relating to the Rental Rights Program, the Citywide Fee Resolution and adding Administration Citation Fine amounts.
- Sustained the Design Review Board's decision to approve the design review application for a commercial stable and kennel located at 1900 Riverside Drive.

2. Two New Assistant Department Heads Join the City

Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Assistant Director

Before re-joining the City of Glendale, Lessa worked in a wide variety of roles including as a page, clerk, and children's, teen and adult services librarian within various library systems across Southern California. She worked as a Children's Librarian at our Central Library Children's Space from 2012 to 2014. Her most recent role was as the Adult Services Assistant Manager at the Palos Verdes Library. Lessa attained her BA in Sociology and MLIS from UCLA. Lessa has received a number prestigious recognitions including the [ALA Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award](#) and was named a [Library Journal Mover & Shaker](#) in 2022. She has served as executive director of the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association and is [immediate past 2022-2023](#) president of the American Library Association.

Chisom Obegolu, the Chief Assistant General Manager of the GWP Water Services Division

Mr. Obegolu previously worked for Glendora Water where he served as the Assistant Director of Water Services. During his tenure at Glendora, he led a city-wide Comprehensive Water Infrastructure Assessment including an Integrated Water Resources Master plan and Cost of Service Study. He also worked for The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, where he served as the Lead Engineer on several critical Capital Improvement Projects, and several infrastructure reliability initiatives.

Chisom is a registered Civil Engineer in the State of California and earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from The University of Texas at San Antonio and a master's degree in public administration from California State University, Northridge.



Please join me in welcoming Lessa and Chisom to the Glendale family!

3. Staff Serves Lunch to Ascencia Clients

Yesterday, February 1st, staff from my office and I volunteered and served lunch to the clients of Ascencia. Volunteering here has always been something staff & I enjoy doing. Not only did we serve lunch, but we were able to have meaningful conversations with the clients of Ascencia. We learned that they're currently at full capacity, with all 45 beds being used, and house six families - single mothers with and eleven children. It was a rewarding experience being able to give back to our community and volunteer our time to create a positive experience for both us and the clients of Ascencia. We look forward to volunteering again in the near future!

I encourage you and your teams to participate in this rewarding guest chef experience, to learn more about the Ascencia guest chef experience, [click here](#).



4. **Black History Month Programs at Glendale Libraries**

Library, Arts & Culture Department celebrates Black History Month with two performances presented in collaboration with The Music Center. On Tuesday, February 13th at 4:00pm, Grandview library will host Diana Ferlatte's "We Were There: Not Black History, But Blacks in American History", a family program of humorous stories that shine a light on the essential part that African Americans played in the making of this country. Then, on Saturday, February 24th at 3:00pm, Pacific Park Library will host a celebration of color, sound, movement and spirit with Futa Toro West African Dance Ensemble. Join LAC for these two moving performances and see more family programming and resources at www.eglendalelac.org/black-history-month



5. **Weekend Rainstorm Preparations**

In anticipation of the upcoming rains over the weekend, crews have cleared storm drains city-wide, replenished sandbag bundles available to the public at the Public Works Corporation Yard and have restocked public sand piles at Deukmejian Wilderness Park, Brand Park, Chevy Chase Library, and the Sports Complex locations. The Public Works yard attendant will be onsite and to respond to storm-related issues Friday night through 11 pm and Saturday and Sunday 7am through 11pm, and stand by crews have been established for Forestry, Streets, Parks, GWP and Wastewater. Staff have conducted field assessments of our mud slide/debris flow trouble spots in the hillsides and our City Arborists are monitoring tree related activity should issues surface with trees due to ground saturation.

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

February 6:

- MHSP, LISRAP and LIFERAP Housing Program Updates (afternoon)
- DGA Annual Workplan and Budget (afternoon)
- Entitlement Process Review Improvement Check-in (afternoon)
- Adopt Plans & Specs for the La Crescenta Ave Rehabilitation Project
- LISRAP and LIFERAP Program Updates (afternoon)
- Greater Downtown Glendale Association Annual Report and Budget (afternoon)
- Rental Rights Program Ordinance Amendments - Adoption
- Public and Private Tree Protection Ordinance - Introduction
- Resolution Condemning the Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide of Artsakh Armenians
- Consideration of Forming a Charter Review Committee
- Adopt Plan & Specs for La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project

February 13:

- Permit Process Improvement Check-in
- Public and Private Tree Protection Ordinance – Adoption
- Proposed Revisions to the Boards and Commissions Appointments
- Award of Contract for Beeline and Dial-a-Ride Contracts
- Adoption of the MOU with Glendale Fire Fighters Association

February 20:

- Council in your Neighborhood at Brand Library & Art Center

February 27:

- Consideration of Pre-approved ADU Design Concepts (afternoon)
- Update on the Status of Rockhaven Property
- Mixed Use Development Zoning Amendments
- Proposed Shared Mobility Pilot Program
- Proposed Density Bonus Housing Project at 4013-4017 Irving Drive
- Second Quarter Financial Status Update
- City-Wide Fees Study Adoption – Hearing

March 5:

- Memorandum of Understanding with Glendale Management Association (GMA)
- Voting Delegate & Alternate for SCAG's General Assembly

March 12:

- Amendments to Ordinance Adopting 2023 Electric Rates

March 19:

- No meetings

March 26:

- Voting Delegate & Alternate for the 2024 SCAG General Assembly