

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Michelle Dawson, City Manager

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#### **CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**

#### Administration

## Ride Along with Code Compliance

On Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> I did a ride along to get a closer look at the City's code compliance operations. The morning was spent performing follow up checks on residential property compliance cases, investigating tenant complaints related to the condition of apartment complexes, removing commercial signs placed illegally within the right-of-way, and following up on yard sale complaints. Special thanks to Code Compliance Officer Glenn Vargas for his time and patience and for educating me about the work that he and the rest of our dedicated Code Compliance staff perform every day.

## New Reception Area on 2nd Floor at City Hall

We have a new designated reception area located on the 2nd floor of City Hall to greet visitors. The 2nd floor had a receptionist previously but this function was eliminated in budget cuts and visitors have been checking in at the development assistance desk on the first floor. This has not been ideal in that visitors have oftentimes bypassed the assistance desk downstairs and accessed the 2nd floor without any acknowledgement or direction from City staff. In order to provide customer service to all 2<sup>nd</sup> floor visitors and make these areas more secure, we have added a cubicle in the center of the second level that is staffed by Executive Assistant Cathy Parada from the City Manager's Office. Cathy will be providing this reception function in addition to performing support services to our Office.

## **Employee Giving Campaign**

The annual Employee Giving Campaign to benefit the United Way and Community Health Charities is well underway. Among the October fund raising events which have taken place are the Breakfast Burritos, Denim Days, Snacks, and Earrings craft session. Upcoming events include Department Feud, Chili Cook-off, Silent Auction, and Executive Lunch. Special thanks to all of the committee members dedicating their time and creativity to this effort: Kathy Savala, Joy Uribe, Gina Henderson, Parks & Community Services; Liz Plazola, Land Development; Tina Gallegos, Animal Services; Cathy Parada, City Manager's Office; Margaret Williams, Ariana Ayala, Public Works; Jeremy Hamilton, Financial and Administrative Services; and Kandace Baptiste, MVPD.

## <u>City of Moreno Valley Exhibits at Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce's Event</u>

The Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Business Expo event last week showcasing more than 50 businesses and community

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organizations including the City of Moreno Valley. The public event was Thursday, October 10 in the Moreno Valley Mall.

Department representatives from the City Manager's Office, Animal Services, Parks and Community Services, and Police distributed information about upcoming events and programs. Members of the public that visited the City of Moreno Valley table to sign-up for *CityLink*, the city's e-newsletter, received one free admission to the Youth Fall Festival coordinated by the Parks and Community Services Department.

#### Media and Communication

## **Veterans Day Planning**

Plans to celebrate Veterans Day are well underway. The City's celebration event will be held at the Veterans Memorial on Monday, November 11 at 3:30 p.m. The keynote speaker is Retired Brigadere General James Melin. Gen. Melin led the 452<sup>nd</sup> Air Mobility Wing at MARB from July 2006 to April 2010. He remains close to the community as the President of Airforce Village West- a retirement community for U.S. Veterans.

The program includes a powerful U.S. flag folding performance, laying of wreath ceremony and a proclamation naming Moreno Valley as a Purple Heart City, among other patriotic activities. U.S. Vets residents have been invited and are excited about the opportunity to bring their residents to the event. The Valley View High School Band and Moreno Valley Master Chorale will perform. Immediately following the ceremony is a small reception to encourage attendees to meet and share their stories.

## **Event Coverage**

MVTV-3 provided audio, video and/or photographic coverage for three significant events:

- Affordable Care Act Town Hall Meeting hosted by Congressman Takano, Senator Roth, and Assemblymember Medina at the Conference and Recreation Center.
- Moreno Beach/ Eucalyptus Punch-Through Ribbon Cutting
- BevMo! Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

## MVTV-3 Control Room Equipment Upgrade Project

- The Control Room Equipment Upgrade Project is nearly complete.
- City Council and Planning Commission meetings now feature a new set of on screen graphics during live meetings. MVTV-3 created new graphics to accommodate the resolution requirements of the new control room system.

## New MVTV-3/YouTube Programming

- "Moreno Beach/ Eucalyptus Punch-Through Ribbon Cutting" <a href="http://youtu.be/bQDB-zD\_hGk">http://youtu.be/bQDB-zD\_hGk</a>
- "Affordable Care Act Town Hall Meeting http://youtu.be/ZOdKFrQPcO4
- "Spotlight on Moreno Valley Business: Sonora Grill" http://youtu.be/4N71YPxk3C0
- MVTV-3 provides video and audio coverage City Council Meetings and Study Sessions. The
  meetings are available on the City's Website at the following address: <a href="http://www.moreno-valley.ca.us/city\_council/agendas-sire.shtml">http://www.moreno-valley.ca.us/city\_council/agendas-sire.shtml</a>

#### Graphics and Marketing Support for Events and Programs

Graphics has moved and is now centrally located on the first floor near Fire Prevention.

Some of the projects completed by Graphics this month include:

- Administrative Services- Several Animal Shelter event flyers and signage material
- Financial & Management Services CSD brochure, Business license form and decals
- Parks & Community Services- Halloween Haunt and Youth Fall Festival, Artober Fest, Ride Moval, MoVal MoVies, Mural brochure and dedication materials, winter Soaring
- City Manager's Office- Veterans Day ceremony invitations and program draft, SR-60/Moreno Beach Drive and Eucalyptus Avenue Punch-thru ribbon cutting invitation, Shop MoVal Ad
- City Clerk's Office- Boards & Commissions openings flyer
- City Council Office- 6 Proclamations
- Community & Economic Development: Economic Development Summary map cover; Retail Guide; Development Insert, Areas of Opportunity map, NAIOP ad
- Public Works-Recycle programs flyers and/or posters for Oil, Household Hazardous Waste and the Shred event; and "logo" for Keep MoVal Beautiful

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

#### Library Services

## **Story Time**

In response to popular demand, the Library has resumed Children's Story Time. This popular program takes place at 11:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday. A special Halloween Story Time will take place on Thursday, October 31 at 6:00 p.m. during the regularly scheduled Family Story Time. Children are encouraged to come in costume and be entertained by Halloween-themed stories.



With the recent approval of ten new public computers, we have ordered furniture to accommodate the devices. The majority of these will be placed in the children's room to help meet the demand there.

#### California Reads

We are also submitting an application for the 2014 California Reads Program through California (Cal) Humanities. The title of this year's book is *What It Is Like to Go to War* by author, veteran and activist Karl Marlantes. In concert with the Cal Humanities theme of *War Comes Home*, this year's read seeks to "raise awareness of the veteran experience and increase public understanding and empathy for those who have served, as well as to promote a public conversation on how best to support the process of reincorporating our veterans into the fabric of civilian life." If successful, the library will receive forty copies of the book and funding to provide programs in alignment with the theme. We are planning a kick-off event to distribute the books, and then an author visit and panel discussion. Teens will have an opportunity to participate in a creative writing activity tied to the theme. We are very excited about this.

#### New Teen Area

We urge everyone to come and see the changes we have made to the Moreno Valley Library. Of special note is our teen section near the reference desk where we have installed comfortable seating, two new study tables and a "new books" shelf.

#### **Human Resources**



<u>Talent Management</u>: This is a busy time on the recruiting front. Human Resources personnel are currently conducting searches for several positions in the City workforce. Recruitment and/or selection processes are underway for the following openings:

- Code Compliance Officer I (FT/Temp-42 applicants to date). Closes 10/20/13.
- Recreation Aide- 4 positions (PT/Temp-17 applicants to date). Closes 10/20/13.
- Planning Division Manager (DMG-59 applicants to date). Closed 10/13/13.
- Senior Electrical Engineer (FTC-11 applicants to date) Closed 10/13/13. External recruitment simultaneously.
- Child Care Assistant (FTC-61 applicants to date). Closed 10/10/13.
- Recycling Specialist (FTC-113 applicants to date). Closed 10/10/13
- Storekeeper (FTC-280 applicants to date). Applications under review.
- Traffic Signal Technician (FTC-96 applicants). Applications under review.
- Maintenance Worker I 3 positions (PTC-269 applicants). Interviews scheduled.
- Code Compliance Field Supervisor (FTC-114 applicants). Applications under review.
- Community Services Supervisor (PAM-302 applicants). Final interviews held.
- Animal Control Officer (FTC-311 applicants). Candidates selected, recruitment closed.
- Office Assistant-Fire (FTC, eligibility list). Candidates selected, recruitment closed.
- Maintenance Worker I-Litter/Weed Abatement (PTC-253 applicants). Candidates selected, recruitment closed.
- Fire Inspector I (FTC-115 applicants). 2nd round interviews scheduled. Candidates selected, recruitment closed.

Total: 15 recruitments
New recruitments: 8
Closed recruitments: 4
Ongoing recruitments: 3

## Workers Compensation for September:

New claims: 1 Closed claims: 3

Ongoing open claims: 26

#### Facilities Division



#### Walkway Rehab Project

The Purchasing & Facilities Division is working with the Building and Safety Division to remove a deteriorating exterior covered walkway structure at the entrance to the Library. Over the years beams supporting the structure have deteriorated to the point where they are now unstable and pose a potential safety hazard. The plan is to rehab the front

entrance cover and completely remove the remainder of the structure. This work will be done in sections and we will maintain safe access for the public into the library.

#### Animal Services

Moreno Valley Animal Shelter Participates at Parks & Community Services Annual "Youth Fest" Event

On Saturday, September 14, the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter participated in the annual "Youth Fest" event at Community Park hosted by the Parks and Community Services Department and sponsored by the Moreno Valley Optimist Club. A number of pets were showcased at the Animal Shelter's booth promoting adoptable pets at deeply discounted adoption fees. These special adoption fees were also offered all day at the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter. At the end of the day 33 pets were placed in new homes.



In addition to the pet adoption promotion, during the event, Animal Control Officer Stephanie Loraas, demonstrated her obedience training with "Abel", an 11 month old Labrador Retriever. Officer Loraas is working to train Abel as a service dog. Ultimately he will be placed with a person who suffers from diabetes and will assist his new owner with daily living activities.

#### National Geographic to Feature Moreno Valley Animal Shelter in Upcoming TV Series

The Moreno Valley Animal Shelter will be included in a segment of an upcoming TV series scheduled for premiere in January 2014 on the National Geographic Wild cable channel (Nat-Geo Wild). A full film crew worked at the Animal Shelter on Saturday, September 28 documenting the adoption of a kitten. Limited information on the series is available at this time, but as we get closer to the series premier in January 2014 we will announce the date that the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter segment will air. And yes, the kitten was actually adopted and is doing well in its new home.

## **COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

#### Administration

## Private Gym Facilities in TownGate

Three new private gym facilities will be opening in the TownGate area. Crunch Gym and Planet Fitness plan to open before the end of the year.

- Crunch Gyms has submitted tenant improvement plans for their new location on the east end of the Moreno Valley Mall near Sears. The Planning applications for the change of use and signs have been approved.
- Planet Fitness has submitted tenant improvement plans for their new location in a vacant big box store between Ross and BevMo! in the TownGate Shopping Center. Planning applications for the change of use and exterior upgrades are also under review.
- 24 Hour Fitness has received approval for a new facility on Day Street just north of Costco in the TownGate Promenade Shopping Center 24 Hour Fitness has purchased the site, with construction slated to start next year.

#### Miguel's Jr.

Construction of the Miguel's Jr. drive-through restaurant is nearing completion on Day Street, south of Portillo's, in the TownGate Square Shopping Center. The company's corporate office has begun

recruitment for staff at the new location. The 2,868 square foot restaurant is anticipated to open in late October or early November.

#### Aldi Foods

At the June 11, 2013, City Council meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was approved for Aldi Foods to formalize the incentives to be provided for the project. Aldi will occupy the approved Westridge Business Park, located west of the intersection of Eucalyptus Avenue and Redlands Boulevard, and construct an 800,000 square foot warehouse facility that will include 200,000 square feet of refrigerated space and a 50,000 square foot regional office facility. Plans for the modifications to the approved building have been submitted to Planning and are under review by the development services team. Aldi will directly hire 200 employees and contractors providing service to the facility and will employ several hundred more workers. The project grading is in plan check.

Aldi Foods is a national retailer with over 1,200 stores in the United States. The Moreno Valley facility will be built in conjunction with Aldi's move into California and the construction of several dozen stores in the State.

## **Harbor Freight Tools**

The Harbor Freight expansion of the existing facility on Cactus Avenue in the Centerpointe Business Park is in plan check. The 507,720 square foot expansion, when combined with the existing 779,016 square foot facility, will result in a 1,286,736 square foot distribution facility for the company. The owner of the existing facility is in escrow to purchase the vacant land to the west of the area approved for the expansion. The project is in plan check with grading anticipated to begin once the escrow closes later this month. Modifications to the approved site plan to accommodate current Harbor Freight operations were recently submitted to Planning for review by the development services team.

#### Panattoni Development

Permits for the 1,476,016 square foot logistics building, located at the southwest corner of Iris Avenue and Indian Street in the Moreno Valley Industrial Area, were issued on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The developer also began street and utility improvements on Indian Street early in October. The facility has been leased to a Fortune 500 corporation that anticipates initially employing as many as 800 people at the site. Occupancy is anticipated in mid-2014.

#### **USAA/Overton Moore Properties**

The approved 522,772 square foot logistics building, located at the northwest corner of Cactus Avenue and Frederick Street, is nearly complete. While not leased, the owners of the building are in serious negotiations with a number of potential tenants.

#### **Trammell Crow Properties**

Construction of the approved 1,252,276 square foot logistics building, located at the northwest corner of San Michele Road and Indian Street, is well underway. Trammell Crow is in final lease negotiations with a major national retailer. The revised plans to accommodate the tenant were approved by Planning in early September. Trammell Crow submitted plan checks to Building and Safety, and Fire Prevention in late September and early October to accommodate the tenant. The final lease decision is anticipated later this month.

Additionally, Trammell Crow continues to review three additional sites in the Moreno Valley Industrial Area for potential future logistics projects.

## First 36 Logistics

First Industrial Corporation has started construction of the First 36 Logistics building on the east side of Perris Boulevard in the South Moreno Valley Industrial Area. The company has begun construction of the 555,670 square foot building and is looking to fast track their development schedule due to active interest from several prospective tenants.

## <u>Stater Bros. – Pigeon Pass Shopping Center</u>

Stater Bros. is well into the interior demolition work for their new store in Pigeon Pass Plaza. The tenant improvement plans are under review, as are new signs for the store. Company management has established an accelerated construction schedule to allow for the store to open on November 13<sup>th</sup>, in advance of the upcoming holiday season.

#### The California Economic and Redevelopment Initiative

Staff attended a briefing with the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development regarding the State's \$750 million economic development initiative. The initiative redirects the funding previously provided to enterprise zones in the State, and provides State sales tax exemptions, hiring credits and competitive tax credits for targeted to specific industries (generally high tech, biotech and manufacturing) and areas with both high unemployment and poverty levels. Moreno Valley has the opportunity to benefit from these new State incentives, contrary to the prior enterprise zones, which were much more limited in scope – the closest former enterprise zones were in Jurupa Valley and Indio.

## iHub California Innovation Hubs

Staff attended the announcement of new innovation hubs around the State, including the Inland SoCal link iHub which covers western Riverside County and San Bernardino County. The new center is a collaboration of the County of Riverside and the Port of Los Angeles to cooperatively promote economic development, enhanced international investment, job creation and retention, by maximizing opportunities within the transportation corridor linking the Los Angeles port with the Inland southern California region. Staff will work closely with the new center to identify opportunities for the City.

#### Homes Listed for Sale

Information available from Realtor.com indicates an increase in the number of homes for sale in the City, along with an increased strength in median asking prices. As of October 1, 2013, 530 homes were listed for sale, compared with 446 at the start of the prior month, and 470 in the same month last year.

January 2010 marked the prior low point for inventory in recent years when 806 homes were listed for sale. Inventory fell sharply in 2009 from a high of 2,068 in January 2009, and increased throughout 2010 and early 2011 to a peak of 1,230 in March 2011. Following that period there was a steady decline to under 300 in May 2013. Homes for sale have been increasing since that time.

The current inventory of homes for sale is less than a three month supply. Anything less than a six month supply of homes for sale is considered a limited supply. The current situation indicates a significant shortage of homes for sale.

The median asking price was \$269,500, compared with \$242,000 in the prior month and \$165,000 in the same month last year. The difference between median asking and sales prices have widened significantly in recent months, which may be tempered by higher interest rates and an increasing supply of homes for sale.

The trends are shown in the chart below.

	October 2013	September 2013	Change	October 2012	Change
Homes for Sale	530	446	19%	470	13%
Median Asking Price	\$269,500	\$242,000	11%	\$165,000	63%

#### Foreclosures

Information available from the RealtyTrac website for August 2013 shows a decrease in foreclosure activity in the City and in the County. The website reported one in 538 housing units in Moreno Valley were in some stage of foreclosure, or 0.18% of homes with mortgages in the City. A higher number (538) indicates a lower foreclosure rate (0.18%). This compares to a rate of one in 415 units in the prior month and one in 158 in the prior year month in 2012. Foreclosure activity is 23% lower than the prior month and 71% lower than in August 2012.

The Moreno Valley foreclosure rate is somewhat higher than most local communities, and the County's average. Mecca had the lowest rate in the County (1 in 2973) and Lake Elsinore had the highest rate (1 in 128).

By zip code, 92551 had the highest rate in the City (1 in 404) and, 92557 had the lowest rate (1 in 638). The foreclosure rate decreased in all areas: 92551, 92553, 92555, and 92557.

The trends are shown in the chart below.

_	August 2013	July 2013	Change	August 2012	Change
Foreclosure Rate/City	538	415	(23%)	158	(71%)
Foreclosure Rate/County	595	547	(8%)	208	(65%)

## **Home Resale Market**

Information available from DQNews.com indicates the average home resale values in Moreno Valley continue to increase in 2013. In August 2013 the average home resale value was \$212,323, a 1.5% increase from the value of \$209,246 reported for the month of July 2013 and a 23% increase from the value of \$173,243 reported for the month of August 2012. The City of Corona also saw their property values increase by approximately 6%. Other nearby communities such as Riverside, Perris, Murrieta, Temecula and Hemet/San Jacinto saw property values decrease in August by approximately 4.4%.

The number of housing resale activities in the City during this reporting period increased by 10% - going from 203 transactions in July to 223 in August 2013. There have been a total of 1,466 transactions for the year thus far.

The trends are shown in the chart below.

	August 2013	July 2013	Change	August 2012	Change
Resale Transactions	223	203	+10%	235	(5%)
Home Resale Value	\$212,323	\$209,246	+1.5%	\$173,243	+23%

## <u>Unemployment – August 2013</u>

Moreno Valley's unemployment rate decreased slightly in August from 12.9% to 12.6%. The rate is a modest decrease from July but much better than the 14.70% reported one year ago in August 2012. Unemployment similarly decreased across the Inland Empire. The trend remains positive with unemployment rates decreasing as business activity increases in the City and companies slowly increase their workforce.

	July 2013	<u>August 2013</u>
California	9.3%	8.8%
Riverside County	11.1%	10.8%
Banning	12.8%	12.4%
Beaumont	12.7%	12.4%
Corona	8.2%	8.0%
Hemet	14.1%	13.7%
Moreno Valley	12.9%	12.6%
Perris	17.3%	16.9%
Riverside	11.2%	10.9%
San Jacinto	16.8%	16.4%
Temecula	7.6%	7.4%

## **Building & Safety Division**

## **Quick Statistics**

The following statistics are for the Building & Safety Division for the months of August 2012 and August 2013.

	September 2012	September 2013
Customer Counter Visits- Total/Daily Average	503	542
Building Permits Issued	135	148
Construction Valuation	1,351,646	75,582,904
Construction Inspections Performed	569	830
Issued Certificates of Occupancy	13	18
Plan Check Activity	131	247
Monthly Revenue	59,092	175,137

## Code & Neighborhood Services Division

## **Quick Statistics**

The following statistics are for the Code & Neighborhood Services Division for the months of September 2012 and September 2013.

	September 2012	September 2013
Cases Initiated	377	240
Closed Case Investigations	261	292
Parking Citations Issued	2,013	2,001
Administrative Citations Issued	88*	42
Counter Customers	299	221

<sup>\*</sup>Daily Enforcement of Marijuana Dispensaries

## Planning Division

#### **Quick Statistics**

The following statistics provided are for the Planning Division for the months of September 2012 and September 2013.

	September 2012	September 2013
Counter Customers	292	309
Major Case Submittals	2	8
Minor Case Submittals	55	76
Plan Check Submittals	24	23
Application Fees	\$ 50,499	\$ 128,088

#### **Planning Commission**

September 26, 2013, the Planning Commission reviewed the following projects and took the following actions:

- An Amended Conditional Use Permit was approved for the addition of a 7,725 square foot multi-purpose building to be constructed adjacent to an existing building. The project is located at 25873 Alessandro Boulevard.
- Tentative Tract Map 36522 and a Master Site Plan for future improvements at a church were reviewed. The project was continued at the request of the applicant. The project is located at the southeast corner of Cottonwood Avenue and Perris Boulevard.
- A forum was held to obtain public input on the draft proposed Housing Element. The comments will be incorporated into the draft document that will be submitted for the review of the State Housing and Community Development Department (HCD). Once State HCD completes their review, the finalized document will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and presented to the City Council for final action.

## Projects Pending Before the Planning Commission

Planning Commission meetings are scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### October 24th

- Tentative Tract Map 36522 and Master Site Plan (continued from the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting) will be reviewed. The proposal is to merge existing parcels on a church site into one parcel, and the approval of a Master Site Plan for the existing and future church site. The project was continued from the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The project is located at the southeast corner of Cottonwood Avenue and Perris Boulevard.
- A proposed Specific Plan Amendment to the Towngate Specific Plan would allow certain uses such as Senior Housing and Assisted Living facilities within the Office Commercial zones.

#### November 14th

The review of the State Route Highway 60 Corridor Study is anticipated. In addition, an eight lot tentative tract map located on the south side of Myers between Indian Street and Heacock Street is tentatively scheduled.

## Administrative Approvals

- An Administrative Plot Plan was approved for a new church in an existing building at 24210 Postal Ave. The applicant is the House of the Lord Christian Church.
- An Amended Plot Plan application was approved for the modification of approved warehouse buildings. The applicant is Trammell Crow.
- An Administrative Plot Plan was approved for a 1,938 square foot exercise and dance studio

- at 24641 Alessandro Boulevard. The applicant is Sonia Castillo.
- An Administrative Plot Plan was approved for the re-location of the Vickyno Tint and Sound to a new location. The address is 23920 Alessandro Boulevard. The applicant is Juan Campos.
- A Tentative Tract Map was approved to combine three parcels into a single parcel of approximately 30 acres. The applicant is Ridge Moreno Valley Property, LLC.

#### Recent Case Submittals

- An Administrative Plot Plan application and parking analysis was submitted for a change of use in the Towngate Center. The new use is Planet Fitness. The applicant is D.K Mullin Architects.
- An Amended Plot Plan application was submitted for a remodel of an office building. (P13-102). The applicant is Luis Valenzuela.
- A sign application was submitted to modify signage at the Chevron Station at 12431 Heacock Street. The applicant is Kevin Cottam.
- A pre-application review was submitted for 12 single-family homes on the south side of Eucalyptus Avenue between Perris Boulevard and Indian Street. The applicant is Hao Ta.
- A Plot Plan was submitted for a new O'Reilly Auto Parts Store. The site is located at the northwest corner of Sunnymead Boulevard and Graham Street. The applicant is O'Reilly Auto Stores, Inc.
- A pre-application was submitted for an age restricted PUD including 59 lots located on the north side of Cottonwood Avenue between Perris Boulevard and Kitching Street. The applicant is Cottonwood 939, LLC.
- An Administrative Plot Plan was submitted for infant care (P13-108). The applicant is Crystal Edwards.
- A model home complex was received for a Change of Product for TR27251. The site is located in the vicinity of Morrison and Fir. The developer is RSI Development.
- A Conditional Use Permit for a fueling station was submitted. The fueling station is located in the parking lot of the Food for Less on Perris Boulevard. The applicant is the Kroger Co.
- A phasing map was submitted for an approved industrial warehouse project located at Perris Boulevard and Grove View. The applicant is Moreno Knox, LLC.
- A re-activation of several related project applications was submitted. The applications include a Master Site Plan, a Tentative Parcel Map, three Conditional Use Permits, and a Plot Plan for uses including a nursing facility, memory care facility, and a medical office building. The project is located on Nason Street between Alessandro Boulevard and Cactus Avenue. The applicant is Classic Opportunity Group/Optiflex.

#### SCAG Sustainability Planning Grant Award

The City has been awarded approximately \$150,000 in planning services for the Nason Street Corridor Plan. The project will help further implement the approved 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The City's proposal was regarded as meeting the Sustainability Program's goals of improving livability, mobility, prosperity and sustainability. The proposed Nason Street Corridor Plan will create a transportation corridor that will embrace pedestrians, bicyclists and public transit to maintain traffic flows and reduce traffic conflicts along one of Moreno Valley's major arterials.

#### FINANCIAL & MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

#### FMS Administration/Budget

#### Zone A Review

Following the FY 2013/14 budget adoption in June and the implementation of the employee MOU, it was projected that Community Services District Zone A (Parks & Community Services) was to be underfunded by \$629,000 or approximately 6.7%. At the time of the budget adoption it was expressed to the City Council that the Financial & Management Services Department along with the Parks & Community Services Department would work together to find solutions to this shortfall and to provide a review of the financial stability and operations long term.

A first phase review will be presented at a study session in November 2013 and will focus on staffing levels and costs, balancing the ongoing revenues and expenses immediately, and a look at fund balances. In addition, staff will address the handling of one time expenditures for projects and equipment.

A second phase review will immediately follow. This review will look at the long term revenue and expense structure and ability to maintain a balanced budget. The review will include an assessment of operational efficiency to gauge capacity for cost savings in the future.

## Financial Operations Division

#### Annual Financial Audit

The City's audit firm, Lance Soll and Lunghard (LSL), had their audit team onsite for the week ending October 4. Staff anticipates wrap-up of audit field work by late October. The draft Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) will be presented to the Finance Subcommittee of the City Council in mid-November, with presentation to City Council scheduled for December 10, 2013.

## Special Districts Division

## Tree Trimming within Landscape Districts Begins

On September 23rd, West Coast Arborists began the annual tree trimming/removal cycle within the City's special landscape districts beginning in the Hidden Springs (Zone E-2) neighborhood. The contractor is tasked with trimming over 1,700 trees prior to January 15th. As advised by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, tree trimming/removal should occur outside the migratory bird nesting season which generally runs from January 15 to August 31 in Southern California.

## **Technology Services Division**

## Continuous Improvement - Logos.NET Upgraded to Version 8.2

After weeks of onsite testing, the Logos upgrade to Version 8.2 was completed on September 27th. With assistance from the financial divisions of the Financial & Management Services department, the Enterprise Systems group completed the final steps of the upgrade in just over 9 hours. This major enhancement of the Logos system provides the following improvements and new functionality:

- Purchase Order Approval List Page Improvements
- Purchase Order Information in myTasks
- Revenue Collection Batch List
- FLMA Leave Request Tracking
- Monthly Accrual Calculation
- Benefit Confirmation Statements

- Employee Benefit Plans Report
- Phase 1 of Integrated Credit Card Processing

The release schedule is quite busy for the remainder of the calendar year with another enhancement release and the year-end regulatory release planned prior to the end of December. The product roadmap is filled with planned enhancements – many of which are the result of suggestions and requests made by City staff.

## First, Electronic Timesheet Entry... Now, Online Open Enrollment!

Technology Services and the Human Resources divisions rolled out the eSuite 2014 Open Enrollment site on September 16th. This newest online offering allows staff to complete the majority of the annual benefit election from home, or anywhere with Internet access. The website offers a library of plan documents and details presented in an easy-to-use and easy-to-understand format. The goal is to provide staff with easier access to HR services and to automate processes



where appropriate, so that HR staff can provide you with the best service possible. Reviews are overwhelmingly positive and staff input is, as always, greatly appreciated.

## **Treasury Operations Division**

#### 2013 Utility Users Tax Audit

The City's Utility Users Tax Ordinance calls for the periodic audit of all utility providers that provide services within the City. As of October 1, 2013, data request letters were sent to all utility providers requesting the submittal of specific data elements which will allow the City to audit the tax rate that is being applied and the services or bundles of services that the tax rate is being applied to. An audit of this type was last conducted in 2011 with the finding that out of approximately 150 providers, less than 5% needed some form of corrective action. Because this audit function has become a more routine process and the City has not modified the ordinance since the 2011 audit, we do not anticipate finding many compliance issues.

#### Business License: Rental Property

In the past, the City of Moreno Valley's Business License program required the owners of multiple single-family residences held as rental properties to apply for a separate business license for each property or address. After discussions with members of the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce, the process has been reconsidered and the City has modified that practice. The City is pleased to announce the consolidation of business licenses for single family rental properties, undertaken as part of continuing efforts to demonstrate Moreno Valley's commitment to supporting the business community. Going forward, property owners of single-family rental properties will only be required to maintain a single business license for their total portfolio of rental properties. They will continue to be responsible for the Business License Gross Receipt Tax applicable to the total portfolio activity. This change in approach became effective for new applications in July 2013 and will apply to all applicants during the 2014 renewal process, which begins in December 2013.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### 911 Remembrance

On September 11, a group of Army and Marine Corp recruiters, recruits from the Moreno Valley Recruiters Station, and a Moreno Valley Police Officer ran twelve miles from Sunnymead Ranch Fire

Station 48 to College Park Fire Station 91 in honor of tragic events that unfolded on September 11, 2001. The twelve miles represents the 12th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that resulted in the loss of over 3,000 lives when airplanes struck the two World Trade Center towers, the Pentagon, and a field in Pennsylvania. Two United States Marine Corps recruits carried name scrolls from Ground

Zero; one for Durrell "Bronko" Pearsall, and one for Kevin Dowdell, both members of the FDNY (New York City Fire Department) Rescue 4 who perished that day. Durrell Pearsall was known to many CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire/Moreno Valley Fire Department employees. Kevin Dowdell's son, James, is also a close friend to numerous Fire Department staff. James Dowdell participated in the opening ceremony for Morrison Park Fire Station 99 as he played the drums that accompanied the bag pipers that day. We will never forget....



#### Fill the Boot

The Moreno Valley Fire Department participated in the 2013 "Fill the Boot" Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) nationwide fundraiser on October 4 and 5. This campaign raises funds for the MDA which includes: cost-free neuromuscular clinics at Loma Linda University and UCI; sponsoring children with Muscular Dystrophy and other related diseases to attend an unforgettable week at the MDA summer camp; and helps support research projects to find the causes and cures for more than 40 neuromuscular diseases. This year's "Fill the Boot" efforts in Moreno Valley raised at total \$15,370.64 which will send 19 children to summer camp next year. The Moreno Valley Fire Department is very grateful for the community's participation and generosity.

## Fire Explorers

Every September, Chili's restaurants across the nation partners with St. Jude's hospitals to raise money to support St. Jude's Burn Research. This year, Moreno Valley Fire Department personnel, Reserve Firefighters, and Fire Explorer Posts #906 and #958 participated in the "Tip a Firefighter" event hosted by Chili's. Both the Fire Explorers and Reserve Firefighters assisted in taking orders from customers and serving the meals. The Fire Department also had a fire engine at each Chili's location in Moreno Valley. Thanks to the generous donations of the community, over \$5,000 was raised to support this worthwhile cause.

The Moreno Valley Fire Explorers participated in Parks and Community Serivces YouthFest event held on September 14. This event showcases youth-oriented businesses and services in the community. Fire Explorers were able to speak with other high school students who attended the event about the advantages of being a Fire Explorer and were able to provide them with an overview of the program and the requirements to be in the program.

#### New Hires

On September 3, CAL Fire/Riverside County Fire Battalion Chief Vincent O'Neal transferred to the Moreno Valley Battalion to replace Battalion Chief Silvio Lanzas who was

reassigned to the Emergency Command Center.



Chief O'Neal is very familiar with the City of Moreno Valley having previously worked in the battalion for twelve years. He was a Fire Apparatus Engineer at Sunnymead Station 2 from June 1987 to December 1994 before promoting to Fire Captain with the San Diego Unit of CAL Fire. He returned to the Moreno Valley Fire Department in 2003 as a Fire Captain assigned to Kennedy Park Fire Station 65 before promoting to Battalion Chief at CAL Fire Southern Operations

Center (South Ops) in August of 2007. While at South OPS, Chief O'Neal performed the duties of Southern Region Hazard Fuel Reduction Grant Program Manager. He has been responsible for managing and implementing several Federal Fuel Reduction grants totaling approximately \$23.4 million. Additionally, his experience includes performing as the Southern Region Intel Duty Officer during Major Emergency Incidents and periods of high wild-land fire activities. Chief O'Neal has more than 27 years in the fire service. He brings a diverse background in municipal and wild-land fire department operations, CAL Fire Resource Management and Conservation Camp Programs.



On October 4, Socorro Sandoval began as an Office Assistant in Fire Operations. Before beginning her career in Moreno Valley, Socorro worked for the City of Avondale in Arizona for four years where she was part of the Engineering/Development Services Department. Prior to working for the City of Avondale, Socorro worked for Riverside County Department of Child Support Services. She is currently attending college to obtain an Associates degree in Business Administration and intends on obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration.



The Fire Prevention Bureau is pleased to announce the appointment of Edgar Gonzalez to the position of Fire Inspector I. Inspector Gonzalez has served as a Fire Prevention Technician with the Moreno Valley Fire Department since 2012, working in the City's Hazard Reduction and Multi-Family Residential Housing Inspection Programs. He also serves as a Volunteer Reserve Firefighter in Moreno Valley's Battalion 9. Inspector Gonzalez will be assigned full time to the Multi-Family Residential Housing Inspection Program where he and one other Fire Inspector I will be responsible for inspecting over 11,000 apartment units to ensure a safe living environment for Moreno Valley's apartment dwelling community.



The Fire Prevention Bureau is pleased to announce the appointment of Sonya Bu to the position of Fire Inspector II. Inspector Bu previously worked as a Fire Prevention Officer with the Hemet Fire Department, where since 2007, she was responsible for all fire prevention responsibilities in the city. In Moreno Valley, she will be assigned to the Fire Department's Annual Business Inspection Program and our state mandated school inspection program. We are happy to have Sonya join the Moreno Valley Fire family.

#### Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention staff have met with representatives from Panattoni, Aldi Foods, and CIM Refer regarding their construction projects. Fire Prevention will continue to work closely with representatives from each of these companies during the planning and inspection process for their respective projects.

Fire Marshal Randy Metz will be working closely with the City's new Building Official, Allen Brock, to adopt new International Building Codes and California Fire Codes prior to January 1, 2014. The first reading of the Ordinance to adopt these new codes is scheduled for the November 12 City Council meeting with the second reading scheduled for November 26.

On September 24, the City Council presented Fire Prevention staff with a proclamation recognizing National Fire Prevention Week, which is October 6-12. This year's theme focused on preventing kitchen fires. If you would like additional information, please visit <a href="www.fpw.org">www.fpw.org</a> and get "Cooking' With Fire Safety".

## Office of Emergency Management

The Office of Emergency Management and Volunteer Services currently has four individuals that are in their final stages of becoming an Emergency Response Force (ERF) volunteer. ERF is an emergency management volunteer program supervised by Moreno Valley Office of Emergency Management that consists of trained individuals who typically have a background in CPR, first aid and community emergency response. All ERF members are trained to provide emergency first aid and are utilized in a support capacity for a variety of emergencies and non-emergencies including structure and vegetation fires; hazardous materials incidents; multi-casualty incidents; mass care and shelter; evacuations; and other emergencies. ERF members are trained to provide emergency support for public safety personnel, which includes: assisting with monitoring vital signs; evacuation assistance; shelter emergency set-up & management; search and rescue assistance; and first aid for emergency & special events.

#### Significant Events

On September 12, units from College Park Fire Station 91 as well as the Moreno Valley Police Department responded to a report of a vehicle versus pedestrian. Engine 91 arrived on scene of a solo bicyclist that had been struck by a vehicle. Fire Department paramedics initiated advance trauma life support intervention on an unconscious, unresponsive adult male. The patient was quickly packaged with spinal precautions and airway management. He was then rapidly transported to the local area trauma receiving center. Fire Department personnel continued to provide advance life support during transport. Upon arrival at the hospital, patient care was transferred to Emergency Room staff. Unfortunately, the patient succumbed to their injuries several days later.

On September 12, units from College Park Fire Station 91 as well as the Moreno Valley Police Department responded to a second vehicle accident involving a bicyclist at Perris Boulevard and Krameria Avenue. Fire Department paramedics initiated an advance life support assessment of the patient. Unfortunately, the patient suffered from major trauma that was not compatible with life.

On September 16, Kennedy Park Fire Engine 65 responded with AMR to a report of a person having difficulty breathing. Upon arrival, an adult male patient was found in an imminent life threatening condition with severe respiratory distress. The firefighter paramedic from Engine 65 began advance life support care. Once AMR arrived on scene, the patient was placed on a gurney and was rapidly transported to the local area hospital center. Fire Department personnel continued to provide advance life support during transport which included use of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) with nebulized albuterol and other medication therapy. The patient was transferred into the care of Emergency Room staff upon arrival at the hospital. The final outcome of this patient is unknown.

On September 18, units from the Moreno Valley Fire Department and CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire responded to a report of a multifamily residential structure fire in the Towngate Fire Station 6 primary response area. Upon arrival, Towngate Fire Engine 6 located smoke issuing from one of the apartments. Due to an aggressive interior attack by multiple fire department units, the fire was immediately confined to the kitchen. One civilian suffered minor injuries and was treated on scene. The cause of the fire was determined to be from



unattended cooking. Overall, a total of five fire engines, one truck company, two chief officers, one safety officer, and one ground ambulance were assigned to this incident for a total of 25 personnel.

On September 29, units from the Moreno Valley Fire Department and CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire responded to a report of a natural gas explosion at a commercial business in Sunnymead Fire Station 2 primary response area. The first engine to arrive at scene discovered broken glass and the

front door had been blown out of the business. All four occupants of the bakery, whom were inside the business at the time of the explosion, were found to have safely evacuated prior to the arrival of the Fire Department. Fire Department personnel assessed the scene and secured the utilities. An adjacent suite was found to have suffered minor damage from the explosion. The Moreno Valley Building and Safety Division was contacted and requested to respond to evaluate the structural integrity of the building. A representative from the Moreno Valley Building and Safety division arrived and assumed responsibility to secure the building. A total of three fire engines, one truck company, one chief officer, and one ground ambulance responded to the incident for a total of 16 personnel.

On September 29, units from the Moreno Valley Fire Department and CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire responded to a residential structure fire in the Kennedy Park Fire Station 65 primary response area. The first arriving units reported light smoke coming from the front of a single story residence. Firefighters were advised upon arrival that civilians had attempted to extinguish the fire with a garden hose, but were unsuccessful. Firefighters quickly initiated an interior attack with a simultaneous roof-top ventilation operation, containing the fire to the front living room area of the house. A total of three engine companies, one truck company, and one chief officer responded to the incident for a total of 14 personnel.

#### PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

#### Administration

## Community Services Supervisor

The Community Services Supervisor position closed August 29. Second interviews were held on October 10.

## **SOARING-** Recreation Guide

The new SOARING Recreation Guide was released several weeks ago with numerous new classes for residents including: Sumba for Kids, BMX Fundamentals (bike safety, repair and BMX skills), Movie Workz Television (an interactive media arts program), Baby Sign Language, Spy Workz (kids' crime scene investigation), Hip-Hop Jazz, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga, Teen and Adult Folkloric, and Pee-wee Soccer Skills Camp.

#### Special Events

YouthFest 2013 was held on September 14 at Community Park. Despite the warm temperatures, the event was full of residents who attended the event along with community youth-based businesses and

organizations for fun activities as they gathered information regarding youth programs in the community. The annual event also featured music; free drawings; emergency vehicles available for public tours; and showcased dance, martial arts, and music performances. The mobile stage unit was used for this event. This community event was sponsored by the Morning Optimist Club of Moreno Valley. Staff

would like to thank the Optimist Club, as well as all of the community organizations that attended and filled more than 70 booth spaces; and the many helpful student volunteers from Canyon Springs, Moreno Valley, and Vista Del Lago High Schools. It was an exciting day for residents.

- The City's first ever community bike ride event will take place on Sunday, October 20 with rides of 5, 15, 32 miles and Metric Century distances. The event will be complete with a concert and vendors at the conclusion of the ride outside the Conference and Recreation Center. Proceeds benefit Moreno Valley Unified School District sports programs.
- Artober Fest is scheduled for October 26 at the Conference and Recreation Center. Participation in this year's event far exceeds the response in previous years as there will be more than 400 performers and numerous vendors and exhibitors. Also included this year will be food trucks, a Pet in the Park adoption area, petting zoo, and Project Rudolph. Project Rudolph is an organization dedicated to providing deployed servicemen and women with a connection to the community during the holidays with cards and other items. It also provides a vehicle for the community to reach out to deployed servicemen and women.
- The Arts Commission will be hosting its first annual Craft Faire on November 16 at the Senior Community Center.
- A special clown-themed haunted house will be held at the Cottonwood Golf Center on October 25, October 26, and October 31 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for those who dare to be scared. City employees are invited to attend a private viewing of the event on October 22 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. City employees are needed this evening to wander the spooky maze to assist staff in preparation of the public opening. Attend if you dare...
- In conjunction with the haunted house, staff is preparing the Youth Fall Festival to be held on October 25 and October 31 at the Cottonwood Golf Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Children ages 12 years and under can enjoy fall-themed fun games and activities with optional entrance into the haunted house.
- MoVal Movies has returned! The free fall and winter movies in the gym program will be held one Saturday each month at 6:00 p.m., October through December, at the Conference and Recreation Center. This month, residents are invited to enjoy "Hotel Transylvania" on October 26, as well as themed decorations and activities.

#### Park Projects

Lasselle Sports Park is about 90% complete. The remaining items are trees and shrubs and other "punch list" items. Once these items are completed, the park will undergo a 90-day maintenance period. The park is anticipated to open early 2014.

The Hound Town Dog Park improvements are underway. The improvements include providing water and grass to the dog areas as well in incorporating benches and dog fitness equipment. The project commences on October 1, with the anticipated completion date of December 1. Cost of the project is between \$29,000 and \$33,000.

#### Parks Maintenance Division

• Projects completed include: Finished weeding and spraying all trails; repaired entrance of El Potrero West Park; aerated tee at golf course; sprayed weeds at all parks; repaired all park lights (south); verticut Cottonwood Golf Center greens and fairways, edged greens, fertilized and aerated greens; and trimmed hedges at parks.

- Projects in progress inlude: Removal of old and installation of new ET irrigation controllers at 19 park sites (75% complete); R&R concrete at Morrison Park (75% complete); strip and paint shelters at Weston Park (ongoing); weed abatement at Moreno Valley Equestrian Center (MVEC,) March Field, Poormans Reservoir, and Festival Site (most ongoing, MVEC complete); spray weeds at parks (50% complete); irrigate and turf dog park; add DG to trails (50% complete); aerate and overseed greens at golf course; add sandbags to trails; trim palms at Bethune Park; repair shade shelter at Victoriano Park; remove old barbecue, repair and install new barbecue at Vista Lomas;; and spread out the sand and put in the corrals at the MVEC.
- Vandalism and graffiti have been reported at the following areas: Community (\$369), El Potrero (\$41), Fairway (\$25), Gateway (\$92), John F. Kennedy (\$57), Parque Amistad (\$63), Rock Ridge (\$162), Sunnymead (\$99), Victoriano (\$59), and Westbluff (\$81) for a total of \$1,048. Total labor hours for vandalism/graffiti were 18 hours, approximately 2.25 full-time work days.
- Court referral workers performed a total of 144 hours in September. The total hours for court referral workers in 2013 are 3,297, equating to approximately 412 full-time work days.
- In September the Park Rangers patroled 2,293 areas, had 6,616 public contacts, and reported 118 violations such as curfew, vandalism, parking, and alcohol violations in the parks.

#### Recreation Division

As the fall session of Time for Tots continues, many new 3 to 5 year olds have joined the program. Several of the classes for each session are filled to capacity, with future classes filling months in advance. In addition to the educational curriculum, special activity days held in September included Crazy Hat Day, Family Day, Share Day, and Apple Day.

Staff is now planning for the annual Fall Festival to be held at the end of October at the Conference and Recreation Center, which will include trunk-or-treating, games, a pumpkin patch, and a special performance by the participants. City employees are also welcome to include their vehicles in the trunk-or-

treating for the program's participants.

Valley Kids Camp (Camp) will be open November 25 through November 27. Local children in grades kindergarten through eighth from both Moreno Valley and Val Verde School Districts may enjoy their break from school

spending those Thanksgiving break days at camp playing exciting themed recreational games, watching movies, playing video games, nurturing their creativity with arts and crafts, and experiencing fun-filled on-site activities.

Pee Wee and Junior Basketball League is under way at the Conference and Recreation Center. There are 120 players, ages 3 to 7, improving their basketball skills and learning sportsmanship and teamwork. The league is held Mondays through Thursdays for the five weeks.

The Youth and Teen Basketball Clinic is underway for the next three weeks. Youth ages 8-13 will work on their skills and drills for the upcoming basketball league that starts in December. The clinic will run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Conference and Recreation Center.

Adult softball has started. There are four leagues playing Sundays and Thursdays with more than 20 teams.

## Senior Community Center

Walgreens gave flu shots to seniors on September 11 and 26. The flu shots were free to those seniors with medical insurance.

On September 25, Easy Choice Health Plan sponsored bingo for the seniors. Easy Choice provided all the prizes and snacks.

The September Senior Birthday Party was celebrated on September 26. This event was sponsored by the Friends of Moreno Valley Senior Center, which provided a free meal and a box of candy. Miller Jones Mortuary donated the cake and ice cream.

The Center's annual Fall Festival, sponsored by Health Net was held September 26. There were more than 85 seniors attending. Prizes were awarded for games like Pie Walk and Pumpkin Pass. There was also a baked goods and chili cook off contest. The seniors were all served corn on the cob with all the fixings.

Upcoming events include: October 17 - Spaghetti Dinner, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; October 24 and 25 - Mature Driving Class, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; and October 31 - Halloween Costume and Dance, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

#### Grant

The THINK Together Middle School Intramural Sports are being held through October. The sports are flag football and volleyball in the ASES After School Programs.

On October 17 all of the after school programs will be celebrating "Lights on After School."

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## Citywide Camera System Update

The Moreno Valley Police Department (MVPD) is excited about the progress made this past month in the City Wide Camera System Project. We have been actively recruiting and training Police Department volunteers. We currently have nine volunteers and thirty Police Department personnel trained to operate the Citywide Camera System. The Police volunteers are manning the system at various times throughout the day and night accompanied by light duty Moreno Valley Police Officers.

## Community Services Recruiting Volunteers

MVPD Community Services Unit continues to actively recruit citizen volunteers. MVPD volunteers enjoy a range of volunteer police service opportunities including:

- Citizens Patrol Uniformed high visibility patrol in marked patrol units.
- Anti-Graffiti Patrol Non uniform patrol in unmarked vehicles to assist in surveillance and reporting of graffiti vandalism.
- Mounted Posse

- Neighborhood Watch
- Front Office Assistant Assist front office personnel with day to day activities.
- Critical Incident Call Outs Response to major incidents within the city to assist with perimeter security, road closures, and searching for lost hikers/missing persons.
- Citywide Camera System monitoring.

The MVPD is determined to grow our community partnerships. Public Safety is everyone's responsibility, and the Community Services Unit is dedicated to offering ways for Moreno Valley Citizens to partner with their Police Department.

The Community Services and Problem Oriented Policing Units are gearing up for the busy holiday season. The Community Services Unit is working in cooperation with our community partners to collect donations in support of community projects like Operation SafeHouse "Stuff the Bus", "Christmas Cheer" and "Shop with a Cop".

## Problem Oriented Policing Unit

Over the past few months the MVPD Problem Oriented Policing Unit has conducted proactive patrols on Sunnymead Blvd., in response to crime concerns expressed by our business owners and citizens. Over the last month, our officers arrested eight people for outstanding felony warrants, and four people for a variety of in-progress crimes that included possession of illegal substances and possession of a stolen firearm. Our officers have also arrested several people for being intoxicated in public, loitering and trespassing. The Moreno Valley Police Department and the Problem Oriented Policing Unit will continue to conduct proactive patrol to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Moreno Valley.

#### Case of the Month

In September to early October our officers responded to three armed robberies at the "Dollar Tree Store" located in the 12000 block of Perris Blvd. The Robbery Suppression Team took over the investigation and uncovered information pointing to three suspects and a newer white Chevrolet Tahoe with red rims. The RST investigators received a break in the case when one of our patrol officers stopped a Chevrolet El Camino and located an illegally possessed handgun. A further search of the El Camino revealed evidence linking one of the people detained to a white Chevrolet Tahoe with red rims. Our patrol officer contacted RST investigators who conducted further investigation and determined one of the suspects had traded the White Chevrolet Tahoe for the Chevrolet El Camino. Our investigators later located the Chevrolet Tahoe in San Bernardino and impounded it for evidence. The investigators then authored and served several search warrants for the suspect's residences and vehicles, and ultimately located evidence that linked two of the three suspects to the three robberies. The two suspects were ultimately arrested and booked at the Robert Presley Detention Center. Through further investigation our investigators were able to identify the third suspect and they are actively searching for him, as well as working to determine if the three suspects were involved in additional robberies.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

#### Capital Projects

#### Fire Station No. 6 Multipurpose Annex

This project is the construction of a new annex building, 17'x32' in size, in the back parking lot of Fire Station No. 6 to replace an old shed. The new annex provides space for hoses, equipment and oxygen recharge station necessary for fire personnel to adequately perform their functions. The project construction includes relocation of the existing gas and water line, new electrical line

installation for inside lighting, and installation of a rolling door. The project construction started in July 2013 and is scheduled to finish by the end of November 2013 (weather permitting).





## <u>Civic Center Site Improvement (Exterior)</u>

Phase 1 of this project constructed a new sidewalk along the west side of City Hall to accommodate pedestrians from Calle San Juan De Los Lagos to City Hall's main entrance. Phase 2 of the project will modify City Hall entrance hardscape, landscape, and area lighting systems. The project's Phase 2 also includes demolition of the existing trash enclosure and construction of a new relocated trash enclosure to improve traffic circulation at the Civic Center area. The City's Maintenance and Operation crew completed Phase 1 construction in August 2013. Phase 2 construction work will start in early 2014.





## The Wayfinding Signs Project

The contractor, Fusion Sign & Design Incorporated, has completed the shop drawings, and constructed and installed two sample Wayfinding and "Welcome to Moreno Valley" signs for the City's field review. At the right are the final graphics of the proposed signs. Staff has reviewed and approved the sample signs and the Contractor is fabricating the remaining signs. A total of thirty-three signs will be installed by mid November 2013. Six of the signs will be "Welcome to Moreno Valley" signs at key entrance points,





primarily located at or near major freeway off-ramp locations. A total of twenty-seven Wayfinding Signs will also be fabricated and installed at various locations along major roadways to direct the community and visitors to various public buildings and sites, including: the Civic Center, Animal Shelter, Library, Corporate Yard, Social Security, March ARB, and the Post Office.

Moreno Master Drainage Plan Line "F", Stage 2 Channel Project

The limits for the proposed Moreno Master Drainage Plan (MMDP) Line "F", Stage 2 Channel Improvements project are approximately 4,500 feet long, starting at 800 feet west of Oliver Street to join the existing improved channel in the proximity of the Grande Vista Drive and Iris Avenue intersection. The work involved will fully improve the existing earthen trapezoidal flood control channel with a concrete lining. The construction will also provide access roads, maintenance ramps, and storm drain lateral stubs.

Construction on three sewer lateral crossings was completed by early October. Concrete was poured along the channel bottom, starting at the easterly end for approximately 1,000 linear feet just westerly of the first sewer lateral, the week of August 26<sup>th</sup>. All future lateral storm drain connections have been constructed. The first 900 linear feet of complete channel construction has been finished as of September 20, 2013. The contractor is in the process of framing the channel bottom for the next 300 linear feet of concrete installation. The contractor is now completing the finish grading at the west end of the project.





City staff continues to coordinate with the contractor, Bedon Construction, Inc., Eastern Municipal Water District, and Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District on the construction. Upon completion, the District will take ownership and maintenance of the improvements. The environmental firm for the project continues to monitor the Burrowing Owl and Bird Nesting activities as part of the mitigation measures.

This project will complete a majority of the public infrastructure in the City Center area, help reduce the flood insurance rates for adjacent property owners, help the City promote and attract new medical related developments, and continue to build upon the expansions underway by surrounding medical facilities.

#### State Route 60/Moreno Beach Drive Interchange - Phase 1

The City, with Caltrans cooperation, has nearly completed construction on Phase 1 of this interchange project. The Ribbon-Cutting ceremony was held on September 30, 2013 at the corner of Moreno Beach and Eucalyptus Avenue to celebrate the punch through (gap closure) of Eucalyptus Avenue to Moreno Beach Drive. At





the ceremony, the Director of Public Works served as the emcee and highlighted features of the project. The Mayor, two Council members, the Caltrans District Director, and the Western Riverside Council of Governments Deputy Executive Director were among the speakers at the event. The goal

of Phase 1 was to realign the eastbound ramps to and from Moreno Beach Drive and extend Eucalyptus Avenue to Moreno Beach Drive. The project has eliminated the need to cut through the Wal-Mart shopping center. Retailers in the area are reporting very positive feedback from customers. Final acceptance of the project by the City and Caltrans is expected to be in late October. The City has applied for a competitive grant through Riverside County Transportation Commission to seek construction funds for Phase 2, which would replace the bridge as well as reconstruct the ramps on the north side of the 60 freeway.

## State Route 60/Nason Street Overcrossing Bridge

The contractor continues to progress with building the east side of the new bridge. They poured and cured the concrete deck in September and started post-tensioning the structure. They are expected to complete the tensioning in mid-October. Once completed, they





anticipate closing the 60 freeway during nighttime weekend hours on October 18 and 19to remove the wooden forms. The contractor has also completed concrete pavement for the east-bound and west-bound off-ramps.

The contractor also anticipates erecting concrete panels for the sound wall along Elder Avenue this month. When the project is complete, there will be new lanes, sidewalks, street lights, and a median on Nason Street. The bridge construction is expected to be completed in winter 2014. Last month, Caltrans approved the landscaping/hardscape plan, and the work will be added to the project with an anticipated completion by April 2014.

## Citywide Pedestrian Enhancements

Per City Council direction at its May 23, 2013 meeting, the City Manager executed a construction contract with PTM General Engineering Services for the Citywide Pedestrian Enhancements project.

The project will install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant access ramps, sidewalks, pedestrian push buttons, and appurtenances. As a cost saving measure, the project was designed inhouse by the Capital Projects Division staff. The selected project locations are identified in the City's Public Right of Way Access ADA Transition Plan, and as requested by disabled residents. Locations of the improvements are as follows:

- Patricia Street between Margaret Avenue and Gentian Avenue: Construct eleven (11) ADA ramps at five intersections.
- Cottonwood Avenue at Dilbeck Drive: Construct two (2) ADA ramps.
- Alessandro Boulevard at Chagall Court: Reconstruct two (2) ADA compliant ramps.
- Alessandro Boulevard at Ramsdell Drive: Reconstruct two (2) ADA compliant ramps.
- John F. Kennedy Drive at Ely Drive: Reconstruct two (2) ADA compliant ramps.
- Centerpoint Drive at Center Plaza: Reconstruct four (4) ADA compliant ramps.
- Manzanita Ave/Indian St. Intersection Improvements: ADA compliant ramp access, sidewalks, and curb and gutter.

The project is made possible by a matching grant from the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) SB 821 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program (SB 821 grant) with local match from Measure A and Gas Tax funds. Additional updates will be forthcoming as crews break ground on this important project. The completion date is slated for late November 2013.

## Transportation Division

## Elsworth Street Road Diet

Staff recently implemented a "Road Diet" for Elsworth Street from Cottonwood Avenue to Eucalyptus Avenue. This striping modification involved the removal of one through lane of traffic and reallocation of the space for the use of bike lanes and onstreet parking. Road diets are typically applied to streets that carry an Average



Daily Traffic (ADT) of 15,000 or less and are an effective means of improving overall safety, operations, and livability. Specific benefits that will be realized with the new roadway configuration include reduced vehicle speeds, additional parking for events at Towngate Park, increased pick up and drop off area for students attending Towngate Elementary School, an improved crossing location for users of the Aqueduct Trail, and improved bikeway connectivity. In conjunction with this work, bike lanes were also installed on Eucalyptus Avenue between Elsworth Street to Towngate Boulevard. The road diet before and after conditions are shown above.

#### Satellite Transportation Management Center

Staff recently completed work on a secondary Transportation Management Center (TMC) located in the City Yard Traffic Maintenance building. This center, which will supplement the soon-to-be-constructed primary Transportation Management Center in City Hall, will allow maintenance staff to view both Traffic Engineering and Police Department cameras, receive alerts if traffic signals are not functioning properly, and manage traffic as needed. The Satellite TMC takes advantage of the City's new high-bandwidth fiber optic network between City Hall and the corporate yard to provide all functionality available at the future primary TMC. To date,



staff has added six intersections and four cameras to the new system, with plans to add more as funding allows.

## **New Coordination Plans**

Staff recently implemented new traffic signal synchronization plans on Perris Boulevard and Cactus Avenue, two heavily-traveled corridors. The limits of the Perris Boulevard synchronization, from Cactus Avenue to the southern city limits, coincide with the recently-completed project to widen this facility. Cactus Avenue is synchronized from Perris Boulevard to the western city limits. Both corridors are synchronized all day, to establish travel-time reliability. As users grow used to the new timing plans, staff expects motivation to speed and run red lights will be reduced. Although stops are not eliminated due to the close signal spacing on these corridors, preliminary analysis of travel-time studies indicate delay and stops are significantly reduced. Please try driving these corridors at the speed limit and share your experience with the City Traffic Engineer's office.

## Maintenance & Operations, Solid Waste & Recycling Program

## Recycling Program Visits Parks & Community Services Summer Camp

In a collaborative effort, Public Works staff coordinated with Parks & Community Services staff conduct an outreach event during Summer Camp with over 100 youth. Staff set-up three stations and the youth rotated every 20 minutes. The stations included a presentation, demonstration, and a recycling sorting game. All stations were designed for the appropriate age level and the aim was to help reinforce education lessons on the topics of trash, recycling, green waste, and household hazardous waste.

## Waste Management of the Inland Empire – Illegal Roadside Bulky Item Removal Program

Waste Management initiated the Illegal Roadside Bulky Item Removal Program service in FY 2008-09, as a provision of the amended and restated Franchise Agreement approved by City Council on June 10, 2008. Waste Management collects abandoned bulky waste items located on public property within 20 feet of the paved City right-of-way within 48 hours of notification by the City. In fiscal year 2012-2013 there were 259 cases reported. The items collected included electronics, furniture, and tires.

Items were retrieved by Waste Management's Bulky Item Collection Truck and verification of picked up items were provided via email notification and photo documentation. Items classified as bulky waste include discarded furniture, appliances, waste tires, and oversized yard waste (tree trunks and large branches) that can be safely lifted and collected by one person. All potential hazardous waste and roadway debris in travel lanes continue to be responded to by City staff to comply with Waste Management hauling restrictions and to ensure a timely response to roadway hazards.

## <u>Litter Abatement Partnership – FY 2012-2013</u>

Waste Management of the Inland Empire completed its last monthly litter clean-up for fiscal year 2012-2013 on June 22, 2013. This service is a no-cost program enhancement included as a provision of the Waste Management Franchise Agreement approved by City Council in June 2008. In accordance with this provision, Waste Management dedicates a 4-person crew and one collection vehicle for eight hours per month to provide litter abatement services. In fiscal year 2012-2013, approximately 13,500 pounds of litter were collected and approximately 180 miles were covered. The areas serviced span throughout all five council districts.

This monthly Waste Management litter clean-up complements the Maintenance and Operations Division's existing Weekend Litter and Weed Abatement Program that utilizes community service workers associated with the Riverside County Work Release Program.

# <u>auto Moti Ve</u>

The vehicle maintenance staff of the <u>autoMotiVe Preventative Maintenance Program</u> have completed the inspection, maintenance, and repair of the City's entire fleet of approximately 200 vehicles. We would like to extend our thanks to each of those who utilize City vehicles for making it possible for Maintenance and Operations to reach this goal in the 6 month time frame allotted.

With the second 6-month cycle of the automotive Preventative Maintenance program, commercial vehicles and specialty vehicles will have an increased frequency of preventative maintenance performed either every 90 or 30 days.

As always, the autoMotiVe Preventative Maintenance staff welcomes vehicles for service when the 5,000 mile interval has elapsed prior to the scheduled service interval of 6 months. Also, you are

encouraged to bring in any vehicle immediately if it shows signs of possible mechanical/electrical problems or safety issues.

To assist in identifying potential issues, the following Basic Safety Walk-Around Inspection checklist is provided:

- 1. Is the vehicle exterior free of visible damage?
- 2. Do all four tires look to be properly inflated?
- 3. Are there any signs of fluid leakage underneath vehicle?
- 4. Is the vehicle clean in appearance?
- 5. Is the parking brake working?
- 6. Do the turn signals work?
- 7. Is the sun visor operable?
- 8. Does the heating/cooling system work properly?
- 9. Did any warning lights display?
- 10. Is the fuel tank at least 1/2 full?

All drivers of City vehicles are strongly encouraged to perform a daily vehicle check consisting of the items above prior to taking a vehicle on the road. The safety of all City staff and the public is the paramount concern of the autoMotiVe Preventative Maintenance Program. The combination of the 6 month/90 day/30 day maintenance schedule and daily driver walk-around inspections well help in ensuring the goal of safety for everyone.

## Land Development Division

## **Quick Statistics**

The following statistics are for the Land Development Division for the months of September 2012 and September 2013.

	<u>Sept. 2012</u>	Sept. 2013
Plan Checks Processed	22	39
<b>Grading Permits Issued</b>	1	2
Number of Inspections	230	230
Counter Customer Visit	80	140

P-WQMP: 1 F-WQMP: 2

NPDES Business Inspections: 10

## Proposed Street Construction on Heacock Street

The contractor working on the Trammell Crow warehouse project located between Indian Street and Heacock Street, north of San Michele Road has advised the City that roadway construction will impact the normal flow of traffic along Heacock Street. The work only requires lane closures and will take place between San Michele and Cardinal to facilitate the construction of street improvements as part of the project requirements. The work started in late- September and should be on-going for approximately 40 days. Street improvements include removal of existing asphalt pavement, installation of asphalt paving, curb, gutter, sidewalk, driveway approaches, street lights, landscaping, 24-inch storm drain, dry utilities and associated signing and striping. The contractor is required to place message boards along the roadway advising the public of the construction and will maintain access to minimize the impacts to the existing industrial businesses in the area throughout the duration of the work.

Traffic control is being placed in accordance with the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and plans approved by the Transportation Engineering Division and City Traffic Engineer.

## Proposed Street Closure of Indian Avenue (Update)

The contractor working on the Panattoni warehouse project located between Iris Avenue and Krameria Avenue, along the west side of Indian Street has received approval from the City Council for a full road closure of Indian Street. The closure will take place between Iris Avenue and Krameria Avenue to facilitate the construction of street improvements. The closure will begin in early October and should be in place for approximately 90 days, reopening around the first of the year. Street improvements include removal of existing asphalt pavement, installation of asphalt paving, curb, gutter, sidewalk, driveway approaches, street lights, landscaping, storm drain, dry utilities, traffic signal modification and associated signing and striping. The contractor will be required to place message boards along the roadway advising the public of the closure and detours and will establish access for the existing residential properties located on the east side of Indian Street throughout the duration of the closure. Also, the contractor has notified the nearby elementary and middle schools and will continue to coordinate the closure and detour with the School District staff.

In addition to the closure, the contractor is performing a significant amount of utility installation and roadway improvements within Iris Avenue and Krameria Avenue. The construction within these roadways only requires lane closures, but will impact the normal flow of traffic. All traffic control is being placed in accordance with the plans approved by the Transportation Engineering Division and City Traffic Engineer.

## Electric Utility

## **Energy Efficiency Program**

As part of the ongoing effort to promote energy efficiency and to provide opportunities for our customers to reduce their electric bills, Moreno Valley Utility implemented an Energy Audit and Direct Installation Program for our small to medium sized business customers. This program consists of an energy audit and the installation of items such as energy efficient lighting, programmable thermostats, and weatherization seals. Moreno Valley Utility will contribute \$1,000 towards the cost of the installation of energy efficiency measures for each customer that participates in the program. So far, China One Restaurant and Alberto's Mexican Food have taken advantage of the program, with installations scheduled for the House of Beauty, Quizno's, Jack In The Box, and Angels Nails & Spa. Thank you to our customers who have partnered with us on this valuable program.