

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 13, 2016

To: Mayor and City Council
Boards and Commissions
City Employees

From: Nelson Fialho, City Manager

Subject: City Manager's Newsletter

The sky was blue and sun was shining... perfect weather for a bike ride this week! It was great to see so many City staff participate in Bike to Work Day on Thursday. A big thank you to the Economic Development Department for putting together a great campaign!



VETERANS MEMORIAL AT PLEASANTON PIONEER CEMETRY

The Veterans community of Pleasanton has joined together with the City of Pleasanton to construct a Veterans Memorial at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery. A key feature of the Memorial is a bronze sculpture that was commissioned by the City on behalf of the Veterans group. The artist, Ron Petitt, was selected by the Veterans who have given input to the design of the piece. A Dedication Ceremony is planned for November 12, 2016. The Veterans community has been actively fundraising for this project. For more information visit their website at

<http://pleasantonveteransmemorial.com>

LIBRARY MIGRATING TO NEW WORKFLOW TECHNOLOGY

On July 11 the Library will be going "live" with a new workflow technology called Sierra. Sierra improves upon both staff and patron experiences when using new technology at the Library. Staff will benefit from an enhanced interface with sorting options, cover art, an intuitively placed browse button, and quick-view descriptions. After the launch of Sierra, the Library will be able to offer the MyLibrary! iOS app to patrons. The app provides account management, resource discovery, and social media integration.

STUDENT POETRY PROJECT COMES TO LIFE

The Poet Laureate program is presented by the Community Services Department Pleasanton Civic Arts Program. Recently, Teen Poet Laureate Frances Tang developed a contest for all Pleasanton middle school students to submit a poem to be included in an anthology titled epiphany. Frances and Teen Poet Laureate from Amador High School Kyler Juarez selected the top 25 for the printed anthology, and the top 50 for the on-line version. The contest culminated with an evening of poetry at the Firehouse Arts Center on April 26. The top 25 award winners were invited to read their winning poems aloud to an audience of families, fans and teachers, and were presented with their own copy of the printed anthology. Copies were also distributed to the City library, each school principal, English department, and school library. [Click here to view the online version of epiphany](#)

SISTER CITY TULANCINGO SENDS “THANK YOU” TO PLEASANTON



Our Sister City friends from Tulancingo, Mexico were recently here for a visit and enjoyed the Pleasanton hospitality, friendship and culture. City representatives of Tulancingo and a nearby municipality of Singuilucan were part of the delegation and expressed their thanks and gratitude for the Fire Pumper and Brush Truck that they received from Pleasanton.

Here are recent pictures of these vehicles completely refurbished, detailed and serving Tulancingo and surrounding communities. Fire Chief Jesus Garcia personally sends his greetings and sincere thanks in helping the Tulancingo Fire Department and community.



POLICE AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

The Knights of Columbus, a fraternal order, recognized Pleasanton's Police and Firefighter of the year at its annual Red-Blue-Gold dinner on April 22 at the Blackhawk Museum. Sergeant Joe Leonardo was awarded Officer of the Year and Captain Fernando Carranza Firefighter of the year.

Sergeant Leonardo serves the organization as a supervisor in the Special Operations Unit and is committed to organizational goals and has provided a sustained commitment to the Force Options Group. He has excelled in training and leading and motivating the Officers of the Pleasanton Police Department throughout his career. In 2015, Sergeant Leonardo planned and prepared for major events, agency wide active threat training, and was instrumental in developing contemporary, relevant and responsible range training. The passion Sergeant Leonardo has for training department personnel is commendable.



Captain Carranza is a long standing member of the Hazardous Materials Team and has been instrumental in creating training standards for the team. He worked with the team to gain certification as a Level 2 HazMat team with the state and most recently to equip the new HazMat Tractor Trailer. He is a specialist in Hazardous Materials monitoring equipment.

Captain Carranza's leadership, dedication, and work ethic have made multiple improvements to the HazMat program. He is an expert in building construction, maintains a high level of physical fitness standards for himself and his crew while also being sure to assist in career aspirations of his crew members. He lives in the Tri-Valley and is active in Firefighter Foundation events.

Please join me in extending congratulations to Sergeant Leonardo and Captain Carranza!

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Captain Finn made the announcement last week to the Police Department that he intends to retire on October 21. He chose to make the announcement at this time in an effort to allow the department to prepare for the various changes and promotions that may occur due to the vacancy and help create clarity for the organization. Please join me in congratulating Captain Finn on his 26 years of service with the City and best wishes for his upcoming retirement!

ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

On March 31 Supervisor Nate Miley hosted a forum on Transportation in Pleasanton. A variety of projects were discussed, but of particular interest was the I-580 HOV and Express Lanes that opened in February. This project represents a capital investment of \$345 million and the good news is the project was delivered two years ahead of previous plans and with a reduction in overall project costs due to elimination of overlap and other realized synergies. The Express lanes are toll-free for carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, buses and eligible clean-air vehicles. Solo drivers may choose to pay. The tolls use a FasTrak or a FasTrack Flex toll tag to access the lanes. Here are some fun stats about the I-580 Express Lanes

- 126,000 people used the express lanes in the first 7 days
- 20% of users are carpools
- Express lane speeds are up to 30 mph faster than the general purpose lanes during peak commute hours
- Maximum toll rates to travel the entire corridor in either direction has remained below \$6.00

It has been great to partner with Alameda County and Supervisor Nate Miley to see transportation projects like this come to fruition.

STATE ROUTE 84

The State Route 84 Project Development Team has been meeting monthly to review the status of the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PAED) phase of the project. The Project Development Team is an interagency group that includes staff from the City of Pleasanton, City of Livermore, and Alameda County, Caltrans and the Environmental and Design consultant. The PAED phase of the project includes the full environmental process as well as the preliminary design process for the southern section of State Route 84 which runs from Pigeon Pass to 1-680 (including the SR 84 at 1-680 interchange). Completion and approval date for this phase is anticipated in August 2017.

Upcoming public workshops to provide project overview will be held on:

- May 16, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Sunol Glen Elementary School, 11601 Main Street, Sunol
- May 17, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Granada High School, 400 Wall Street, Livermore
- May 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton

Presentations to local City Councils are expected in August 2016 to provide a formal status update and receive comments.

AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS

The City of Pleasanton and Pleasanton Unified School District have been working cooperatively to prepare a plan to improve traffic circulation and safety at Amador Valley High School. The improvement plan includes a new sidewalk along the north edge of the school property, modification of the north and middle driveways with the installation of traffic signals at both driveways.

The project was advertised for bid, and on March 15 and the City Council awarded the construction contract to Tim Paxin's Pacific Excavation. Construction is expected to start mid-May and will be completed prior to the start of the 2016/17 school year.

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY (LAVTA) MAKES WHEELS BUS LINE MODIFICATIONS

LAVTA has just completed their long range planning and operational blueprint known as Wheels Forward. The goal of the Wheels Forward Plan is to create a multi-phase blueprint of improvements for the Wheels bus system that will provide a more user friendly transit system that is efficient and carries an increasing number of riders.

The LAVTA Board, which consists of 2 council members from the Cities of Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton and an Alameda County Supervisor, met on May 2 and approved significant changes to the Wheels bus system that will be implemented on August 15. All bus routes will be modified and streamlined to improve efficiency. Several routes have been eliminated or combined with other routes. To check the changes to your route visit <http://www.wheelsforward.com/>

ESTATE GIFTED TO CITY TO BECOME AN ENDOWMENT FOR MUSEUM ON MAIN

Long time Pleasanton resident Ms. Jean P. Jones named the City as the beneficiary of her estate which totals \$1.3 million. The Council provided direction regarding the sale of her 309 Neal Street home to install a plaque commemorating Ms. Jones at the Home, and a display for honoring her at the Museum on Main earlier this year. On May 3 the City Council determined to transfer the proceeds of the estate to the Museum on Main Street to create and management their own endowment.



CIVIC CENTER/LIBRARY MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Task Force has been in general agreement that the best site is the Bernal Property. They have also generally agreed on the curvilinear layout demonstrated in Option 3. Issues that have generated the most discussion include how much additional parking should be required (in addition to that needed to serve the civic center and library) to serve the adjacent sports fields, and where to locate it. Some believe that the meadow and open space connection to the park should not be interrupted by driveways

and parking while most others believe that the parking and circulation presented by Option 3 is necessary to serve the sports fields, and is only minimally invasive. Other issues that have generated discussion include safety concerns related to the students potentially crossing over the railroad tracks to the site, and safety issues for pedestrians crossing the extension of Pleasanton Avenue from the parking deck. Staff believes these two safety issues are solvable problems.

Future steps include outreach meetings which are scheduled with both the Chamber of Commerce Economic Development & Government Relations Committee (EDGR) and the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) Economic Vitality Committee (EVC) for Thursday, June 16, and public outreach workshops are scheduled for Tuesday evening, May 31, and Saturday morning, June 18 at the Library.

BERNAL PROPERTY UPDATE

Work continues on the park and now that the rains seem to have let up things are starting to move along. The Oak Woodland area has dried to the point that it will support the equipment necessary to construct the “pier” that extends over the drainage channel at the south end of park near Valley Avenue. The ground will also support equipment necessary to “mow” the native grasses (and weeds). Those passing by should start to see this area look more like the “park” it is designed to be. Also this week the parking lot and access road was paved. Work continues on the plaza, playground equipment, stadium, and synthetic turf areas. With respect to the fields, the base material has been placed, compacted, and surveyed – a critical step in the construction of the synthetic turf fields. Field drainage infrastructure is now being installed, as well as the concrete edge curbs and field fence posts. Over the next few weeks the fields should start to take shape, although there is still a lot to accomplish before the turf is installed. If all goes well, turf installation should start late July/early August and require about a month to complete.

BERNAL AVENUE BEAUTIFICATION

The Bernal Avenue landscape improvement project will be complete by the end of May – before the start of the fair. The landscape project includes a granite monument sign “announcing” one’s arrival to Pleasanton as they exit I-680. The monument will tie nicely to the area as it is the same type of granite as was used in the Koll Center entrance features – although the monument sign itself will be a polished version of the granite. This past week bids were opened to repave Bernal Avenue from Foothill Road to Valley Avenue. A recommendation to award the project will be before City Council in June, with the paving anticipated to occur in July – after the fair has ended.

OLD STANLEY BOULEVARD UPDATE AND TIMELINE

At the May 17 City Council meeting, the Council will consider the award of the construction contract to underground the overhead utilities and reconstruct Stanley Boulevard between Main and First Streets. The street reconstruction will include the installation of new curb and gutter, sidewalks, paving, bike lanes, and decorative street lights. This project has been a long time in the coming as it was originally identified in the 2002 Downtown Specific Plan. This section of Stanley Boulevard is a very old road way by Pleasanton standards. Under the existing asphalt paving is a very thick concrete section which was the original roadway. Demolition of the roadway will be a significant effort. If awarded on May 17, the intention will be to start demolition immediately at the end of the school year, and get as much done as possible while traffic is lighter over the summer months. The project will require approximately one-year to complete. Two way traffic will maintained at all times during the construction, but traffic delays are possible.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DOWNTOWN UPDATE

Summer is almost here and downtown will continue to offer a variety of options to quench your thirst on those warm days and nights.

You may have seen leased signs in the windows of the former Tully’s Coffee at 349 Main Street; they’ve now been replaced with signs indicating the future tenant: Peet’s Coffee & Tea. We anticipate Peet’s will open its doors in the next few months after completing improvements to the space.

Just across the street at 310 Main Street, locally-owned Pairings Cellars Wine Bar has announced that it will be open by July 1. And even though it’s not yet open, Pairings already has a robust online presence and is developing its local clientele.

You’ve also seen the fence at 530 Main Street as construction has started on the improvements that will transition the former Round Table Pizza restaurant to a new coffee shop experience: Inklings, which is envisioned as a community gathering space that brings people together over coffee. We’re looking forward to a late summer opening.

Although Redcoats at 336 St. Mary Street is now closed, the Beer Baron is already at work getting the space ready for a July 1 opening. Beer Baron patrons who are Pleasanton residents are ready to have this popular spot open in our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS



CarMax, the nation's largest retailer of used cars, will be celebrating the opening of their new store in Pleasanton located at 2750 Stoneridge Drive on May 18.

CarMax, a member of the FORTUNE 500 and a FORTUNE "100 Best Companies to Work For" for 12 consecutive years, is the nation's largest retailer of used vehicles. The new store will employ approximately 50 associates.

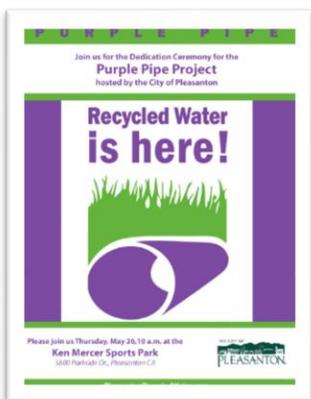
The annual **Pleasanton Community Character Collaborative Luncheon** will be held on May 18, 11:30 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street. Honorees this year include Marie Stapleton, Don Lewis and Becky Dennis. The organization award recipient is the "Friends of the Pleasanton Library". For more information visit the collaborative's website at

<http://www.communityofcharacter.org/>



The **Kottinger Gardens Ground Breaking** will be held on May 20 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 240 Kottinger Drive. At its completion, this project will provide 185 units of affordable senior housing. If you plan to attend please RSVP by emailing rsvp@midpen-housing.org

Axis Community Health is celebrating the opening of its new clinic on May 21 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Located at 5925 W. Las Positas Boulevard, the facility features 27 exam rooms and 7 counseling rooms to provide affordable health care to those in need. For more details, visit www.axishealth.org



A dedication ceremony for the **Purple Pipe Project** will be held on May 26 at 10:00 a.m. at Ken Mercer Sports Park. At its completion this project will bring approximately 450 gallons of recycled water to the Hacienda Business Park, the Ken Mercer Sports Park and the Tennis and Community Park realizing a 10% savings in potable water.

I hope you enjoyed reading this update. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at nfialho@cityofpleasantonca.gov or (925) 931-5002.

Nelson Fialho
City Manager