



DATE: August 4, 2006
TO: Andrew T. Souza
FROM: Rhonda Jorn, Public Affairs Officer
FOR: Mayor and Members of the City Council
SUBJECT: CITYWIDE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The *Citywide Weekly Report* highlights various activities throughout the City for the week. Consistent with our mission to ensure equal access to opportunity, education, and quality of life for every man, woman and child regardless of their race, religion, age or socio-economic status, this report will work to organize our weekly achievements so that we can measure and maximize our management and performance toward reaching our goals. It is our intent that this report will help to improve communications about the programs and services provided to both the City Council and the community.

Please feel free to contact the Public Affairs Department with any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

City Steps Up to Provide Relief from the Sweltering Heat

In July, temperatures reached well above the hundred degree mark for a record number of days, prompting Mayor Autry to call on City departments to create and provide a means for citizens to escape the heat. The following is a list of services that were provided:

SERVICES

Heat Related Hotline Calls (621-HEAT)
Cooling Center usage at 10 community centers
Swimming at City Pools
Mini Cooling Centers/Transit Buses
Bottled Water Distribution
Free transportation to cooling centers

NUMBER OF USES

222 calls made
1,891 people
8 pools open at no cost
322 people
600+ bottles
120 free taxi trips

Should temperatures rise to these levels again during the summer, the City is prepared to resume its Operation Cool Down efforts.

Sewer Division is Rewarded for Safety

After celebrating 600 days without a loss of time injury in November of 2005, staff from the Sewer Division were met with a challenge from Mayor Autry, "make it 1000 days without a lost time injury and I'll reward each of you with a City of Fresno polo-shirt". Sewer Maintenance Manager, Jim Wilson, proudly reported last Thursday, August 3rd that staff from the Division had met their challenge of 1000 days of work without a lost time injury. Needless to say, the Mayor is proud to honor his commitment for the polo-shirts and a barbecue for staff is in the works, congratulations!

Reaching this milestone represents a significant challenge and sizeable cost savings in Worker's Compensations expense and liability.

UPCOMING EVENTS and PROJECTS

Public Utilities

- **DPU Divisions Provide Public Outreach During Concerts in the Park**
City staff from Sewer Maintenance and Water Division's will be available to answer questions and provide literature about their utilities to guests who attend Concerts in the Park on August 7.

WEEKLY NEWS

KEY RESULT AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

- From July 28 until August 3, fire crews responded to 589 incidents.
- Grant funding of \$1,013,942 has been received from the Department of Homeland Security Grant Program. The funding is used for equipment and training.

Public Works

- City Urban Forest Crews responded to 225 emergency customer calls for fallen limbs due to the extreme heat.

Transportation/FAX

Buses as Cooling Stations

- The Department provided Operation Cool Down efforts during the week of Monday, July 24 through Sunday, July 30, 2006. The latest alternative fuel buses were utilized to function as mini cooling centers in small unincorporated communities (Biola, Caruthers, Easton, Five Points, and Laton) within Fresno County, and offered free transportation to various community centers that operated as cooling centers within the greater Fresno area.

Thirteen Transit Supervisors, 16 bus operators, and 12 Maintenance personnel went beyond their usual and customary duties and provided mini cooling centers/transit buses that allowed 344 rural residents to take advantage of relief from the record breaking heat. Should temperatures rise to these levels again during the summer, the Department is prepared to resume its Operation Cool Down efforts.

KEY RESULT AREA: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Record Temperatures Result in Record Water Use

- Due to current hot weather conditions, consumers are using more water than usual. High demand forces City pumps to increase energy use as they try to meet the community's water supply and water pressure requirements. On July 25 at 9:12 PM, the water system produced a record peak flow of 254,610 Gallons Per Minute (gpm) and on July 26, the total daily production reached a record 256.53 Million Gallons. To help save water and energy, the City is requesting that consumers make a special effort to conserve water.

State-Wide CWEA Hosted by Sewer Maintenance

- Sewer Maintenance Division hosted members from the Clean Water Environmental Association's Collection System Committee. This state-wide Summer meeting was held July 28, 29 and included a number of professionals speaking about topics that ranged from emergency response plans to the new Wastewater Discharge Requirement regulations and compliance.

KEY RESULT AREA: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Logistics & Distribution Cluster

- The Economic Development Department is working with a site selector representing a company considering locating a warehouse distribution center in Los Angeles, Stockton, or Fresno. This 150,000 to 300,000 square foot facility will employ as many as 175 people.

Great Potential

- Representatives from the Economic Development Department met in Long Beach with the owner and founder of the largest grossing (and therefore the largest sales-tax generating) non-alcohol serving restaurant in California. Because of Fresno's rapid population growth and demographics, he is considering opening one or two locations in Fresno. Opportunities of this sort have come to the Department from its attendance of International Council of Shopping Center events over the last few years. Businesses such as these create new gateway jobs that employ people who find it especially difficult to enter the workforce, and generate significant amounts of sales tax to pay for vital City services.

KEY RESULT AREA: ONE FRESNO

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - Public Works

Concrete Section - Poured 228 yards of concrete last week

Crews are working in District 6 to repair the tree damage area. Poured concrete for curb, gutter and sidewalks and installed 12 ADA wheelchair ramps. They also poured concrete in No Neighborhood Left Behind (NNLB) 6 and installed 4 ADA ramps in NNLB 6. Repaired asphalt due to tree damage on Shaw Avenue between 2nd & 4th Streets that was featured in the Fresno Bee "In-a-Fix".

KEY RESULT AREA: EDUCATION

Parks and Recreation

- PRCS staff is being introduced this week to the Tiger Woods/Target Foundation program called "Start Something". It is a youth development program in which youth set goals, plan for their future careers and give back to their community by doing projects. It will be a complementary program to "Pride in Your Park"

KEY RESULT AREA: CUSTOMER SERVICE

Airports

Another record setting month at FYI!

- The total passenger count at Fresno Yosemite International Airport in June 2006 was 124,967, setting another historical record for the second month in a row. May 2006 marked 113,835 passengers at FYI. Since January, FYI passengers have increased by a total of 8.15%. Three factors contribute to the higher passenger numbers: the new international service on Mexicana, additional flight frequencies by United Express and Allegiant to Las Vegas, and US Airways upgrade to the larger A319 jet on the afternoon Las Vegas route.

General Services

Congratulations to an Award Winning Team

- This week the Purchasing Division team received notification that they have been awarded the 11th Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award. This recognition, sponsored by the National Purchasing Institute, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing and 9 other professional purchasing organizations across the U.S., certifies the General Services Department Purchasing Division as a service provider of procurement excellence compared to purchasing professionals across the country!

Talent and Great Teamwork

- John DeLucia of the Central Printing team designed and produced the banners that for the Public Works Department 16th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act held in front of City Hall on Tuesday July 25, 2006. John also teamed the with the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department staff to design and produce the posters being used for the Grand Opening of the Unity Circle Amphitheater in Eaton Plaza.

Clean Streets, Cleaner Air

- The Fleet Management Division in collaboration with the Community Sanitation Division demonstrated a new regenerative air type street sweeper as a possible replacement for the broom type sweepers currently in use. The regenerative air sweeper has fewer moving parts with potentially lower operating costs and offers the opportunity to remove built up dirt from cracks in road surfaces better than the existing broom sweepers. It is available with natural gas power plants and is also compliant with the South Coast Air District Rule 1186 for dust control.

Personnel

Lunch and Learn

- The Personnel Services Department hosted its fifth *Lunch and Learn* workshop entitled "After All, You're The Supervisor." Twenty-five City employees discussed the initial challenges and eventual rewards of becoming a new supervisor.

Parks and Recreation

Super Hero Plunge

- The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Aquatics department had a "Super Heroes" themed party at the Airways pool on Saturday with more than 500 in attendance including staff dressed up as Superman, the Hulk, Supergirl and Batman. The party featured a bounce house, waterslide, DJ, dunk tank, snacks and refreshments. It was free to the public in accordance with emergency cool down efforts.

Sand and Seniors

- The PRCS senior program took 220 seniors to Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo last week. The seniors enjoyed the SLO Farmer's Market, great shopping beautiful weather and entertainment such as belly dancers, a puppet show and a rock band.

Planning and Development - Housing and Community Development Division

Downtown Revitalization

- A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on July 31 for the Vagabond Lofts, a residential mixed use, mixed income, development in the Arts and Cultural District. The Planning and Development Department spearheaded this public private partnership with Granville and Pyramid Homes. The project features 38 loft units and 10,000 square feet of ground floor commercial space. Nine of the residential units will be affordable.

Information Services

Mapping Points of Interest

- GIS completed specialized maps showing the location of libraries, post offices, and other points of interest in the city. These maps will be added into the public access kiosks that will be located throughout the City.

PeopleSoft Upgrade

- In preparation for the upgrade of the PeopleSoft HR application, a demo database of the new version (HR 8.9) has been installed for upgrade team to preview.

Increased Customer Service

- With the help of Communication Services, the One Call Center added four additional ACD workstations to provide Fresno resident's access to the One Call Center, 7 days a week and extend operating hours to 10:00 p.m.

Public Works

Landscaping and Median Island Maintenance Section

- Completed median island maintenance on Friant Road between Nees Avenue and Copper Avenue; Cedar Avenue between Shepherd Avenue and Shields Avenue.

Traffic Signal/ Streetlights Section

- Staff removed the red light cameras from the following intersections; Blackstone Avenue & Herndon Avenue, Fresno Street & Herndon Avenue and First Avenue & McKinley Avenue. They also responded to 415 Underground Service Alert (USA) calls.

Street Repair Section

- 60 street repairs were performed that repair low spots, sinks, and bumps.

Street Striping and Sign Maintenance Section

- Crews performed maintenance /graffiti on 486 signs. Completed 58 crosswalks and legends. Completed striping of 97 lane miles of white paint and 49 lane miles of yellow.

Traffic Engineering

- Met with residents from Council District 2 to discuss the removal of unwarranted all-way stop signs at Sierra Avenue/Briarwood Avenue.