



**Greetings,**

Growth, density and protecting neighborhoods have been on the council's agenda lately. The council recently held a workshop discussion about how to curb all the increased density the State allows on multifamily projects in our city. See how the city plans to address it below. In that same vein, the eight Specific Plans within our General Plan are set to be updated. A specific plan goes beyond zoning that assigns uses to an area. For example, the zoning on N. Lake is commercial. The North Lake Specific Plan builds on the commercial designation and expands it with details to create a vision for how the area will look and function in the future. In District 2, we have two specific plans and I hope you take the time to get involved in this process and help shape

*May 2018 - In This Issue:*

**Our Pasadena - Getting Specific**

**Mental Health**

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**Welcome New Business**



**Reminders Creative Reuse**  
 1713 Foothill Blvd.  
 Creative Art Supplies--Open to All, Free to Teachers  
 Classes, Workshops. Materials & Supplies  
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**What's New**

**Discussion Held on Feasibility of Residential Broadband**

Our Pasadena. See the article below.

Mosquito season is on us and we need to nip any potential breeding ground in the bud. Zeke and West Nile Viruses are still a concern. Please make sure to empty all areas of standing water and to protect yourself from bites



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Pasadena Mental Health Day  
Saturday, May 19, 2018  
10a.m. to 2p.m.

[Learn More](#)

Happy Birthday Pasadena  
Help Celebrate Our 132nd  
Sunday, June 3  
1-4 p.m.

[Learn More](#)

On May 8th, the City's Municipal Services Committee explored the idea of expanding the City's broadband system to include residential internet service. Although there is a desire to help residents engage in the digital economy by making internet access faster, cheaper and more reliable, several private companies already provide (or are able to provide) service to all Pasadena residents. That reason, combined with an estimated cost of \$130 million, make moving forward infeasible.

To see the staff report and power point presentation, [click here](#). Make sure to scroll down.

## Our Pasadena - Getting Specific Roads to Empowerment

The specific plan update process, Our Pasadena- Putting the Plan in Motion, has been launched and meetings have been set for each of the eight different specific plan areas. In District 2, we have two specific plans that affect our area.

The North Lake Specific Plan (NLSP) covers Lake Avenue north of the 210 Fwy to Elizabeth Street and also includes the commercial areas on Washington on either side of Lake. It affects neighbors in Bungalow Heaven and Historic Highlands. The other is the East Colorado Specific Plan (ECSP) which runs along Colorado Boulevard from Catalina Avenue east to Sycamore Avenue and affects neighbors who live north of Colorado

The individual community meeting dates are:

NLSP, June 21, 2018, 6-8 p.m., Lake Avenue Church, 393 N. Lake Avenue.

ECSP, July 17, 2018, 6-8 p.m., Pasadena Community College, Creveling Lounge

[Click here](#) to see the current North Lake Specific Plan. To see the current East Colorado Specific Plan, [click here](#).

I hope you can join in this process to create the type of commercial areas that will benefit our neighborhoods.

## **Pasadena Mental Health Day 2018 Roads to Empowerment**

Pasadena is hosting "Roads to Empowerment," a free public event in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month dedicated to raising awareness about mental illness, decreasing the stigma, and increasing knowledge and access to quality mental health services and resources in the community. Keynote speakers, presentations and workshops for youth and adults will offer information on current mental health issues. Practical resources and tools will be available to empower individuals in coping with and overcoming challenges. Separate tracks for youth and adults. Presented by Pasadena Public Library, Pasadena Public Health Department, Pasadena Mental Health Advisory Committee, and with grants from the California State Library Mental Health Initiative and Dare to Dream. Saturday, May 19

[Learn More](#)

## **Housing Density Discussion**

On April 9, 2018, Planning and Community Development Department staff presented a study session discussion regarding growth and development in Pasadena. The presentation covered growth management efforts in the City, including the General Plan that was updated in 2015. Staff also provided an overview of state legislation relating to housing such as density bonus, including trends in density bonus projects and affordable housing concession permits issued by the City pursuant to state law requirements.

The City Council expressed some concerns regarding recent higher-density development projects and those currently in the pipeline, including some that received affordable housing concession permits for additional height and/or density in exchange for providing affordable housing units. A major concern was that the projects did not provide enough affordable housing to warrant the benefits of the concessions they received, and that the City should require additional public benefits in exchange for higher densities and additional height. The overall sentiment was that the recent higher-density developments are not consistent with the character of the City.

Rather than waiting for the completion of the Specific Plan updates, which are underway and scheduled for completion by 2021, the City Council directed staff to address these issues immediately. The Council provided the following direction to staff:

- Develop a legislative strategy to present to state lawmakers that would address Pasadena's specific concerns
- Prepare a short-term/interim ordinance that would reduce allowed density City-wide and stop overly dense developments
- Craft a long-term regulatory framework that would require developers to provide various community benefits, including more affordable housing, in order to reach the maximum densities allowed in the General Plan
- Explore ways to obtain more affordable units for density bonus projects, including possibly increasing the City's inclusionary housing requirements

To view a copy of the staff presentation, click [April 2018 Growth and Development in Pasadena](#).

The good news is that SB827, a recent housing bill proposed by State Senator Scott Weiner, got defeated. This bill would have allowed developers building within a 1/2 mile radius of major transit stops to be exempt from local zoning requirements, including maximum controls on residential density, minimum parking requirements and maximum height limitations. The bill would completely overstep any zoning requirements that municipalities have in place around transit.

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