

# CITY OF EMERYVILLE MEMORANDUM



**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Patrick D. O'Keeffe, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Progress Report –July 2012

The following provides the City Council and staff with a summary of the activities of each department for the prior month.

## **CITY MANAGER**

- Staff participated in two meetings last month with EUSD regarding the design and financing of the Center of Community Life (ECCL). Needless to say the twists and turns of the City's \$22 million of redevelopment funding for the project, due to the State elimination of redevelopment and appropriation of local redevelopment funds, has caused the District to pause and affirm that adequate financing will be available. In addition to the City's redevelopment funding concerns, there continues to be a need for a EUSD Series D bond issue to complete the financing for the District's portion of the project. Fortunately July brought good financial news for ECCL. First, the new State legislation, AB1484, brought some greater certainty to the ability of the City to be able to use the \$22 million of 2004 bond proceeds that have been set aside for its share. Second, the new numbers for assessed value for the past year were received at the end of the month which shows a 2.2% gain in assessed value for the City. This reverses the decline that we experienced in the prior year, and shows we are headed back towards regular annual increases that have been the norm for the past 15 years. This is important to the District as it shows a Series D financing can be supported.
- The Mayor and City Manager met again with AC Transit to discuss the report they have completed that summarizes the investigation into the valve failure that caused the hydrogen leak at the Emeryville bus yard. It appears that the valve was manufactured with the wrong type of steel that becomes brittle with contact with hydrogen, and that the solution to the problem is to check all valves in the system and replace those that were incorrectly made. AC is in the process of doing so and has asked for time in August to report to Council on their repairs and schedule for re-opening the fueling facility.

- A special meeting was held with the Emeryville Oversight Board to review the new redevelopment dissolution legislation. AB 1484 and its impacts on our redevelopment financial resources, land and projects. A similar briefing is scheduled with the City Council and City School Committee for August.
- During July, City staff in cooperation with staff from other departments continued compiling documents regarding the City's redevelopment initiatives, including documents from the 1970's in order to respond to the State Department of Finance and Alameda County audit of the City's proposed ROPS. This effort continues to make the case for transitioning to an electronic-based records management system!
- City Clerk staff continues to work on several other organizational improvement projects, including the following: analyzing the feasibility and costs of installing electronic bulletin boards/kiosks for city notices and other public information; developing an "Emeryville 101" interactive workshop for City staff; developing an electronic work management system for the City Clerk's Office; expanding and improving the City's community outreach initiatives and procedures; and converting the City's paper-based records management system to an electronic-based system.
- Staff released a special edition of the ENEWS on July 3 in order to promote the start of the new Dinner and a Show summer concert/movie series in Emeryville parks. The July 10 ENEWS, the City's electronic newsletter featured an article on the transfer of command from the Emeryville Fire Department to the Alameda County Fire Department. The July 24 ENEWS featured articles on free immunization clinics infants/youth/teenagers aged less than 18 years old; announced the appointment of Sean Moss and Kairee Tann to the Planning Commission for the three year term, starting on July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2015; and announced the annual Night Out event, which will be celebrated on August 8 at City Hall. Both newsletters had articles regarding a new countywide mandatory recycling ordinance for businesses and multi-family complexes; reminded the community about the Dinner and a Show series and announced that the Emeryville Child Development Center was accepting applications for enrollment. Interested community members can read the electronic newsletter on-line from the City's website: [www.emeryville.org](http://www.emeryville.org) or subscribe and have the newsletter sent directly to their email address. Information on how to subscribe/unsubscribe is listed at the bottom of each ENEWS. The ENEWS currently has more than 1,000 individual subscribers and is also sent to the Park Avenue Neighborhood Association (PANA), Oliver Lofts, Key Route Lofts e-trees, all City employees, and is posted on the City's website homepage.