

CITY OF EMERYVILLE MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Patrick D. O’Keeffe, City Manager
SUBJECT: Progress Report –November 2010

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

CITY MANAGER

- Measure J, the School Construction Bond Measure passed, with 73.22% of the voters voting yes and 26.78% voting no (55%+1 was needed to pass). Measure J will provide funds to support Emeryville’s public schools, such as building seismically safe schools; bringing classroom technology up to date: providing facilities for after school recreation and learning programs; updating school science labs; establishing a job-training center for students and the community; and improving energy efficiency and lowering utility costs thereby putting more money into the classrooms. Measure J includes stringent fiscal accountability guarantees, such as an Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee to ensure all funds are spent properly. Congratulations to all that contributed their time to the measure. It is gratifying to see such a positive response from the community to support the improvement of our school district. The victory however, only marks the commencement of the next intensive phase of design, additional citizen input, establishing a governance structure and completion of the financing. We have a lot of gratifying work ahead of us.
- Staff attended its final meeting as a member of the Board of Directors of the California Redevelopment Association (CRA). It was one of the most positive meetings in years as a result of the passage of Proposition 22 (Local Government Revenues Protection Act). As a result of Prop 22 we no longer need to fear the decimation of our redevelopment revenues by the State for its theft of local revenues to balance the State budget (for which we lost \$13.3 million in the past two years). Although Prop 22 does not reverse the most recent grab of funds, CRA continues to press its lawsuit against the State on

appeal to reclaim these monies. The CRA Board also discussed the latest fall out of the City of Bell financial scandal which included the misuse of redevelopment housing set aside funds. It is likely that we will see 2011 State legislation regarding the use of housing monies and the CRA Board voted to draft reform legislation to provide leadership in this area.

- Staff (and the Mayor) was invited to speak to the Leadership East Bay group again this year about local government leadership. This is a group that is sponsored in part by the Chamber and seeks to provide leadership training for local business and governmental managers.
- Staff plans to submit proposed new solid waste management collection and disposal franchise agreements with Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) to the City Council for consideration in late December. The proposed new solid waste franchise agreement would be scheduled to start in early 2011. The proposed new agreements are expected to expand both residential and commercial recycling and organics collection services while maintaining rates that are less than Berkeley and Oakland.
- The cities of Emeryville, Berkeley and Oakland in conjunction with QuEST (the company that provides many of the PG&E-funded energy efficiency services to the region) have been awarded a \$400,000 PG&E Innovator Pilot Program grant (staff will be submitting a request for the City Council to approve the City's participation in the project at the December 6 City Council meeting). The goal of the proposed program, called the Multifamily Energy Efficiency Project, is to eliminate barriers to energy efficiency in multifamily housing. Emeryville's Climate Action Plan (as well as Berkeley and Oakland's Plans) place high priority on capturing additional energy savings in the multifamily sector. Indeed, eliminating barriers to energy efficiency in this sector is critical to achieving local greenhouse gas reduction goals as multifamily units make up about 50 percent of the total residential units in each of the three cities.
- The "2nd/4th Tuesday ENEWS, the City's electronic newsletter was distributed on November 9 and 23. The November 9 edition featured articles on the City's new weatherization program; new neighborhood crime alert database; the new "paperless" AC Transit fares; reported the passage of Measure J: the school construction bond measure; and announced that Cie Goulet had received a regional arts award. The November 23 edition featured articles on the appointment of the new Mayor (Councilmember Nora Davis) and Vice Mayor (Councilmember Jennifer West); business environmental efficiency awards won by the Emeryville Marketplace and Novartis; information on proper disposal of fats, oils, and grease; and announced the upcoming City holiday tree lighting ceremony. Both newsletters announced that the Emeryville Child Development Center was now accepting applications for enrollment and provided information on the Thursdays Emeryville Farmer's

Market adjacent to City Hall. Interested community members can read the electronic newsletter on-line from the City's website: www.emeryville.org or can subscribe and have the newsletter sent directly to their email address. Information on how to subscribe/unsubscribe is listed at the bottom of each e-newsletter.