

City of Grand Terrace

From the City Manager

9/21/2015

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September City Council Roundup

New Parks Facility Plan!

City Council voted to use Quimby Fees to enhance quality of life for residents of Grand Terrace! The City Council approved a comprehensive parks facility plan to bring existing parks into compliance with State and Federal Laws, examine

architectural design firm to design and estimate costs for a Dog Park, Skate Park and the Blue Mountain Nature Trials Park. MIG will start working with community groups and conduct analysis of the various options for the parks as early



our existing Parks ability to meet the growing recreational needs of the community and their ability to support future recreation activities. In addition, the Council approved the concept of adding three new parks to the existing City park system. The Council approved a contract with MIG Inc. a landscape and

as October 2015. Total cost for the project is estimated to be \$150,000 in non general fund dollars. Quimby Fees are collected from developers on new projects to maintain City's targeted average of 4.1 acres of park or open space land per 1,000 residents.

Jacob the Fireslayer

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On July 28th, a young man named Jacob Brunk had just finished swimming with his friends and was walking home. Jacob heard fire crackers going off in a field, then he saw smoke. He rushed over to the area and armed with just his wet towel, started to put out the fire. When the fire department arrived about 15 minutes later, they could not believe that Jacob had managed to extinguish almost a quarter acre of fire with just his towel.



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Street Sweeping Contract

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City Council approved a purchase order of \$25,000 with its existing street sweeping contractor for the period ending February, 2016. Staff indicated that the contract extension was necessary to allow them time to go out for a new bid. It is the staff's goal to incorporate items into the new contract to make sweeping easier and more effective for the Citizens of Grand Terrace. Staff will be examining the following items in the new bid:

More than one sweeper – to reduce non street parking hours. Perform a re-evaluation of the sweeper schedule to reduce conflicts with trash collection days. Potentially allowing residents to park on one side of the street on street sweeping days.



Street sweeping reduces waste and helps protect ground water.

Fireslayer 14-year-old local hero



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Jacob's heroic efforts were recognized by San Bernardino County Fire, Assembly Member Cheryl Brown and the City Council of Grand Terrace.

Week of October 6th Declared Red Ribbon Week in Grand Terrace

Grand Terrace Elementary school Parent Teachers Organization (PTO) requested the City Council proclaim the week of October 5, 2015 "Red Ribbon Week".

The Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities. In 1988, National Family Part-

nership (NFP) sponsored the first National Red Ribbon Celebration. Since that time, the campaign has reached millions of U.S. children and families. The City Council also awarded the PTO a Community Benefits Grant of \$1,000 to assist in the promotion of public awareness for children and parents in the Grand Terrace Community.



Grand Terrace City Council Members stand with Grand Terrace Elementary students and PTO in support of Red Ribbon Week.

La Cadena and Litton Traffic Signal

The City Council approved an agreement with the City of Colton for annual maintenance of a traffic signal on La Cadena and Litton. Litton Street is used by residents of Colton and Grand Terrace to access La Cadena. The City of Colton will be installing the signal in 3 months for an approximate cost of \$150,000. The agreement calls for the City of Grand Terrace to pay \$1,400 a year in annual maintenance costs (after the first year of operation).

City Awards First Two Community Benefit Grants

The City Council awarded a combined total of \$1,350 from the Community Benefits Fund (CBF) to Terrace Hills PTO (\$1,000) and \$350 to the Grand Terrace Foundation.

The CBF was established by the City Council on August 11th, this year, in an effort to promote activities for youth and community awareness. The CBF has \$25,000 to distribute to organizations (maximum grant is \$2,000).

Grant applicants are required to submit applications before the 1st Council meeting of the month for a Council decision at the second council meeting. Applications can be found online on the City's webpage at: www.grandterrace-ca.gov

Treasurer's report

The City Council received a Treasurer's report from Finance Director Cynthia Fortune. The report outlines the City's cash and investments. The Treasurer's report indicates that the City's total funds of cash and investments are \$8,669,667 and the remaining balance of \$21,223,118 belongs to the City's Successor Agency.

Fireworks Ordinance

The Council approved several significant changes to the City's Firework's Ordinance. The changes affect Safe and Sane fireworks and increase penalties for setting off illegal fireworks within the City.

Safe and Sane fireworks can only be ignited on July 4th. Safe and Sane sellers must also provide a community

notice in the local paper as to the specified legal locations to set off fireworks. The penalties for setting off Safe and Sane fireworks on undesignated days is \$100 for the first infraction, \$500 for the second and \$500 for any additional infractions plus criminal charges.

Illegal fireworks ignited anytime in the City of Grand Terrace will result in a fine of \$2,500.00. The Council will have extra enforcement on July 4th to make sure that Grand Terrace maintains a safe place where residents can enjoy a safe Independence Day.

Sign Code Ordinance

Over the past year, the City Council and Planning Commission reviewed the City's sign code ordinance with an emphasis on temporary signs. The Council would like to implement a sign code ordinance that allows businesses to attract customers but not create a significant aesthetic decline of the City's business corridor. Council had a number of questions about the placement of signs, duration and types of signs allowed. Staff will incorporate the

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Council's concerns and return to the Council with a revised Sign Code Ordinance within 60 days.

Approved Fiscal Policies

Council conducted its annual approval of the City's fiscal policies. The fiscal policies include purchasing guidelines, reimbursement policy, travel policy. Staff had some minor changes in this year's fiscal policies.

Consultant Contract for Pavement Management System (PMS) & I-215 Interchange Project Oversight Approved

Council approved contract for ap-

proximately \$68,000 for Interwest Inc. to conduct a Pavement Management Index Study and manage the City's interest in the I-215 Barton Road Interchange Project.

Interwest will be surveying all streets in Grand Terrace on a scale from 1-100. The report will be presented the Council to help determine a long-term capital improvement plan. "It's a great tool which will allow the City to strategically repair streets and ensure the maximum output from limited resources," said City Manager Duffey.

In addition, Interwest will also attend San Bernardino Association of Government (SANBAG) meeting as SANBAG Board discusses the

\$100,000,000 interchange project. Interwest will assist staff and alert the City on potential issues that might impact the project or businesses in Grand Terrace.

Approval of Successor Agency Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS)

The City Council approved its semi-annual ROPS in the amount of \$1.3 million. The ROPS is a post redevelopment requirement to allow former Redevelopment Agencies to pay their outstanding obligation. The ROPS must be submitted to the Department of Finance (DOF) twice a year. It allows cities to use tax increment proceeds from property taxes to pay for existing bonds and to finish certain redevelopment projects.

**From the City Manager
G. Harold Duffey**

22795 Barton Road
Grand Terrace, CA 92313-5295



[Recipient Name]

[Recipient Address]