

P-TOWN INFORMER

A Bimonthly Report to the Community



PLACENTIA
California

"The People Are The City"

December 15, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 4

FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Each year the California State Legislature considers hundreds of bills pertaining to a wide range of issues. The 2011 Legislative Session was no exception with the Legislature sending nearly 600 bills to the Governor for signature on issues ranging from online privacy to human trafficking and slavery to banning the removal of shark fins. Despite statements that he would be very aggressive in vetoing unnecessary legislation, the Governor signed more than 85 percent of the bills placed on his desk, including many priorities for labor and environmental groups.

What makes the 2011 Legislative Session different than prior legislative sessions is the number of bills that reached the Governor's desk through the "gut and amend" process. Where most bills go through a months-long process of hearings, negotiations, amendments and votes, the gut-and-amend process allows lawmakers to bypass the usual deadlines for bill introductions and amendments, while circumventing a public review process that allows those interested in a particular piece of legislation to testify during committee hearings or write a lawmaker with their concerns. Although the gut and amend process has been around for decades, only recently has it been so aggressively used by lawmakers. Among the highest-priority

bills passed toward the end of the 2011 Legislative Session started as one issue only to become something completely different through the gut and amend process. Consider the following bills:

- ◆ Assembly Bill 853, which began as a bill about college tuition for veterans but became a companion measure to a bill banning removal of shark fins.
- ◆ Senate Bill 292, which changed from a bill concerning community college transfer students to a bill that will speed up the environmental review process for a new stadium in Los Angeles.
- ◆ Senate Bill 791 which started a bill dealing with transportation issues ended up requiring mammogram companies to advise women with dense breast tissue that they may need additional screening.
- ◆ Senate Bill 922 started as a bill about tuberculosis screening and towards the end of the session suddenly became a bill that denies state funding of public works projects by charter cities that have banned the use of project labor agreements.
- ◆ Senate Bill 946, which started out as a bill about sanitation in restaurants and ended up as one requiring insurance companies to provide certain treatment for autistic children.

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UPCOMING COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Dec. 15	Thursday	City Hall Will Close at 2 p.m.
Dec. 20	Tuesday	City Council Meeting at 7 p.m. City Hall
Dec. 22	Thursday	Dec. 22, 2011-Jan. 2, 2012 Winter Holiday-City Facilities Closed
Jan. 1	Sunday	Happy New Year! 
Jan. 3	Tuesday	City Facilities Re-Open
Jan. 3	Tuesday	City Council Meeting Cancelled
Jan. 9	Monday	Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. City Hall



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CITY ADMINISTRATOR LETTER CONT.

In 2011, the Legislature wrote 48 bills in the last three weeks of the regular session, long after the deadlines for most law-making procedures had passed. Lawmakers sent 22 of these gut and amend bills to the Governor, who signed all but three of them. That means 46 percent of these gut and amend bills from the regular session cleared the Legislature, higher than the 35 percent rate for bills that went through the normal process. Governor Brown vetoed gut-and-amends at about the same rate as he vetoed all regular session bills – roughly 14 percent.

The issue with gut and amended bills is not necessarily the merit or quality of the legislation, but the process. Under the rules of the legislature,

bills are supposed to be vetted through numerous committee hearings where individuals, experts and interested individuals can speak up and express their opinion. Sometimes they win and sometimes they lose, but the process is transparent. What makes the gut-and-amend strategy so unfortunate is that with a simple parliamentary ruling of the Senate Rules Committee, the committee process can be tossed aside and with it all transparency. As Californians we deserve a legislative process that is fully transparent and free of the backroom politics that come with the gut and amend process.



NEWS BITS

Community Christmas Basket Event

The Friendly Center worked with Neighborhood Services and many volunteers to host the Community Christmas Basket (CCB) program at the Whitten Community Center.

The program assisted nearly 250 Placentia Families including more than 700 children that were facing hardship by providing food, toys and books for the holiday season. Generous donations were received from the Placentia Women's Roundtable and Placentia Library District who provided more than 900 books, Tarbell Realtors and First Team Real Estate provided 6 truckloads of food, Salvation Army provided \$10 grocery gift certificates for each family, and the Toys for Tots program provided hundreds of toys for all the children.

Volunteers from the Valencia High School Interact Club, El Dorado High School Lacrosse Team, El Camino High School students and many other Placentia residents provided much needed assistance setting up for the event and were onsite during the program.

The collaboration of the City's local non-profit organizations working together with many caring Placentia residents has made this a true community effort to lend a helping hand to those that were facing challenges during the holiday season.

HopeLine

The City of Placentia has teamed up with HopeLine from Verizon to help promote safety, security and freedom for domestic violence victims. This program allows people to donate their used cell phones, batteries and accessories to people who are trying to rebuild his or her life.

Verizon encourages those willing to donate to remove all personal data on their phone. This may include contacts, call logs, messages, photos, videos and other media. If you, or someone you know, would like to donate their unwanted cell phone there are convenient collection boxes that are located inside the Placentia Police Department and the City Clerks office inside City Hall (both located on the corner of Kraemer Blvd. and Chapman Ave.).

For more information about this program, please call (714) 993-8117 or visit verizonwireless.com/hopeline.

Holiday Trash Collection and Christmas Tree Recycling

There will be no trash collection on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. When the holiday falls on a weekday or a Sunday, residential collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. If a holiday falls on a Saturday, there will be NO delays.

Holiday trees may be recycled by cutting them up and placing them inside the yard waste container. Residents may also take advantage of the FREE holiday tree collection program by placing their tree on the ground next to their collection containers during the two-week period following Christmas day, beginning December 27, 2011. All trees taller than six feet must be cut in half to be eligible for this special collection.



CRIME VIEW

Enforcement/Activity Statistics for 11/23-11/30:

Calls	Arrests	Citations	Foot Patrols	Patrol Checks	Field Inspections	Pedestrian Checks	Car Stops
248	33	98	25	165	24	33	224

Being More Proactive

Chief Hicks has recently returned from Washington D.C. to discuss missing and exploited children. The meeting provided a look at the devastating impacts on families and youth alike, and the means by which law enforcement deals with these situations. Chief Hicks returned with a wealth of information and has indicated that the Placentia Police Department will be looking closer at how it is they focus on and investigate missing reports, as well as habitual runaways. They are moving towards being more proactive in this area.

Police Reports

December 3rd

Patrol Officers are assisting students with their student project ride-alongs. Students have been given the opportunity to ride along with different officers in a job shadowing capacity. Both students and officers have enjoyed the opportunity to work together.

December 4th

Patrol Officers assisted Anaheim Police with the termination of a vehicle pursuit, in which the suspect was armed with a handgun. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.

December 6th

An officer stopped a gang member in a consensual field contact and arrested him for possession of a loaded .45 caliber revolver and charged him with special gang enhancement charges.



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Code Compliance Activity

Nov. 30th- Dec. 6th:

Courtesy Notices	19
Administrative Citations	3
Cumulative Fines	\$500

Year to Date 2011:

Courtesy Notices	828
Administrative Citations	297
Building Permit Violations	102

Prepping for the Rain

Don't want until it's too late! Clogged storm drains can cause flood problems in your home or neighborhood. Call the Public Works Department at (714) 993-8245 if you notice storm drains on City right-of-ways that need cleaning or are in need of sand bags.

New Business License Issued

Business Name	Address
Roxie R. Persi Psy D	151 N. Kraemer #222
The UPS Store	650 Rose
Magic Bridal	119 N. Bradford #C

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that not picking up your dog's waste is a violation of the municipal code and subject to citation and fine? As a dog owner, it is your responsibility to pick up after your dog when walking in neighborhoods or public property. Before you start your walk, make sure to have a plastic bag handy.



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know about the City's graffiti hotline? The City of Placentia has the responsibility to abate all graffiti on public property throughout the City. The objective is to maintain an aesthetically pleasing environment and to beautify the City through the prompt removal of graffiti and to deter further graffiti vandalism. To report graffiti on public property, please call the Graffiti Hotline at (714) 630-8693. Please be prepared to provide the specific address or location of the property defaced and the description of the graffiti.





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MEETING NOTES

The following is an annotated summary of key actions taken by the City Council and various City Commissions/Committees. For additional details including the full agenda for the City Council and Commissions, please visit the City's website at www.placentia.org. Live and recorded City Council meetings or individual agenda items can be viewed [here](#).

City Council

The City Council met on Tuesday, December 6th, and took action on the following items:

- ◆ Appointed Jeremy Yamaguchi as Mayor and Chad Wanke as Mayor Pro Tem for 2012.
- ◆ Approved resolution Investment Policy for 2012.
- ◆ Approved M2 Expenditure Report for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.
- ◆ Approved cooperative agreement between the OCTA and the City of Placentia for the Tustin Ave./Rose Drive Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project.
- ◆ Approved adoption of Resolution Requesting Waiver for 960 hour limit for Chief of Police, Rick Hicks.
- ◆ Approved Award of Contract for Banking Services to Bank of America.
- ◆ Approved Award of Contract to Baker Nowicki Design Studio for architectural services related to the downtown parking structure.
- ◆ Approved first reading of City Council Ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Placentia Municipal Code relating to use of the City seal, emblems and logos.
- ◆ Approved adoption of City Council resolution approving and adopting the Revised City of Placentia Policy No. 534 pertaining to employment eligibility verification.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission met on Tuesday, December 13th, and approved the following items:

- ◆ Use Permit 2011-II: Construction of a new AT&T wireless communication facility at the Orange Central Korean Church, located at 102 S. Bradford Ave. was passed by a 6-0-1 vote. The proposed facility will be comprised of 12 panel antennas, 1 parabolic antenna and additional engineering related equipment, mounted completely inside of the Church's existing bell tower. The related equipment cabinets will be installed within a new in ground vault that will be located within a landscaped area on the north side of the church, facing Chapman Ave.

Recreation and Parks Commission

Due to the holidays, the Recreation and Parks Commission did not meet this month. The next Recreation and Parks Commission meeting is on January 9, 2012, at 7 p.m. inside City Hall.

Cultural Arts Commission

Due to the holidays, the Cultural Arts Commission did not meet this month. The next Cultural Arts Commission meeting is on January 11, 2012, at 6 p.m. inside City Hall.

Happy Holidays from the City of Placentia

The city offices will be closed December 22, 2011, through January 2, 2012. City offices will re-open at 7:30 a.m. on January 3, 2012. For non-life threatening emergencies please call (714) 993-8164.