

# P-TOWN INFORMER

A Bimonthly Report to the Community



**PLACENTIA**  
California

*"The People Are The City"*

January 11, 2012

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## STATE SUPREME COURT RULES TO ELIMINATE REDEVELOPMENT

You may have heard recently in the media about redevelopment agencies being eliminated in the State of California. Basically, Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation eliminating redevelopment agencies as part of his attempt to balance the State budget. Many Legislators went along with the plan because another piece of legislation allowed redevelopment agencies to continue if they voluntarily paid hundreds of millions of dollars on an annual basis to the State.

It should come to no surprise, but the Governor and State Legislature have failed miserably to produce an honest, balanced budget for years. The State has continued to "kick the can" down the road instead of facing up to its responsibility to address the real problem: spending more than what is raised in revenues. For years, the State has raided local governments and cut education and other services in an attempt to fix the State's budget. Painted into a corner by voter approved Proposition 22, which constitutionally protects local government revenues, the Governor and Legislature decided to blame redevelopment agencies this year for their own fiscal mess.

Redevelopment agencies were created to rejuvenate older, blighted communities. They are a creation of the State and follow the laws written

by the State Legislature. Redevelopment uses tax increment – the incremental difference in property tax within a given area based on increased property valuations – to pay off bond debt incurred through making improvements. While there have been a few abuses, the clear majority, of the more than 400 redevelopment agencies in the State, have contributed to improving the quality of life within their community by constructing roads, parks, fire stations and other public improvements that have attracted jobs, homes and residents to areas which previously were neglected. Redevelopment agencies are also one of the biggest funding mechanisms for the creation of affordable housing.

On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court ruled on the constitutionality of the legislation (ABx1 26) which effectively ends 60 years of redevelopment in the State. While the Court invalidated ABx1 27 (the voluntary payment bill) as violating Proposition 22, it upheld the constitutionality of ABx 26 (the dissolution bill) as not violating Proposition 22. In effect, the Supreme Court's ruling eliminates redevelopment agencies entirely.

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## UPCOMING COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Jan. 16	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-City Hall Closed
Jan. 17	Tuesday	City Council Meeting at 7 p.m. City Hall
Jan. 24	Tuesday	Discussion on Street Trees and Sidewalk Maint. at 6 p.m. City Hall
Feb. 7	Tuesday	Grand Re-Opening of Kraemer Memorial Park at 4 p.m.
Feb. 7	Tuesday	City Council Meeting at 7 p.m. City Hall
Feb. 8	Wednesday	Heritage Festival Committee Meeting at 7 p.m.
Feb. 13	Monday	Recreation & Parks Commission at 7 p.m.



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## LETTER FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR CONT.

As expressed by many State Legislators, their intent was to not eliminate redevelopment altogether, but they voted for ABx1 26 because ABx1 27 allowed some form of continuation of redevelopment. Now, since that is not the case, it is expected that the Legislature will seek to pass some form of compromise solution to allow redevelopment to continue. Additionally, there are other lawsuits pending, one in particular that the City of Placentia is party to, regarding ABx1 26. You can read a summary of this legal action at [www.placentia.org/redevelopment](http://www.placentia.org/redevelopment). On January 4, 2012 the City and its lawsuit partners submitted documents to the Sacramento Superior Court to seek a stay of ABx1 26 which would delay the dissolving of the agencies. The basis of this lawsuit is that ABx1 26 violates contract law and other provisions of the State Constitution, whereas the Supreme Court only ruled on the constitutionality of each piece of legislation in regards to Proposition 22.

Until a stay is granted, the Agency is acting as though it will be shut down. If a stay is not granted, the Agency will be dissolved as of February 1, 2012, and the City will become the Successor Agency in order to properly terminate all activities and handle remaining debt and projects.

It is important to note that redevelopment area tax increment can still be used to pay off debt until that debt is retired. If the Agency is shut down, much like Humpty Dumpty not being able to be put back together again, the Agency will not be recreated and the City will suffer great harm.

The Agency has been instrumental in revitalizing downtown Placentia, including purchasing property to construct parking for a planned Metro-link Station, street improvements and other enhancements to improve and make the area a viable economic and commercial destination. The elimination of the Agency will irreparably harm the City's ability to continue with plans for a new parking structure, retail development, and enhancing the downtown area. Downtown Placentia can be the one "destination" area the City has to feature, and because of the redevelopment sins of a few agencies, the Governor and State Legislator now want to punish all agencies. Please stay tuned for more information by visiting [www.placentia.org/redevelopment](http://www.placentia.org/redevelopment).

*This article was written by Ruth Smith, who is serving as the Assistant City Administrator and Assistant Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency.*



## NEWS BITS

### Kraemer Memorial Park Improvements

Over the last several months the City has worked on a project to make improvements and upgrades to Kraemer Memorial Park located at 201 N. Bradford Ave. at the corner of Bradford and Chapman Avenues. The project has greatly improved the park adding a brand new restroom facility, basketball court, volleyball court and additional lighting both in the renovated park area and around the Backs Community Building at the east end of the park. The goal of the project was to enhance safety, accessibility and create additional recreational opportunities for the public to enjoy. The project was funded entirely through State and Federal Grants and developers fees received specifically for park development throughout the City. A grand re-opening Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 4 p.m. For more information, please call the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know the City of Placentia offers a free after school program for children in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>? This new recreation program is located at Tynes Gym behind Tuffree Middle School and offers activities such as sports, video game days, and arts and crafts. The program hours are Monday- Thursday from 3:30-6 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2:30-5 p.m. For more information, please call the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

### Senior Mobility

Beginning on Tuesday, January 3rd, a new mobility program will begin providing trips to and from the Senior Center. Western Transit Systems Inc. will provide transportation services and will contact all the participants to let them know that a new driver and vehicle will arrive at their home to take them to the Senior Center. Any participants for the program can contact the Placentia Senior Transportation Phone Line at (714) 940-4496.

### State of the City Address

The Placentia Chamber of Commerce will host Mayor Jeremy Yamaguchi's State of the City Address on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. at the Alta Vista Country Club 777 E. Alta Vista St. For more information or to purchase tickets for this event, please contact the Placentia Chamber of Commerce at (714) 528-1873.



## CRIME VIEW

### Placentia Police Monthly Traffic Report – November 2011

	This Month	This Year	This Month Last Year	Last Year to Date	Percent Change
<b>Total Accidents</b>	35	322	34	335	-4%
<b>Fatal</b>	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Personal Injury</b>	12	123	11	108	14%
<b>Property Damage</b>	23	199	23	227	-12%
<b>Total Citations</b>	919	12269	1145	13753	-11%
<b>Parking Cites</b>	552	8163	672	8138	0%
<b>D.U.I. Accidents</b>	2	33	5	34	-3%
<b>D.U.I. Arrests</b>	17	165	12	175	-6%



## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### Code Compliance Activity

Dec. 21st -Jan. 3rd

Year to Date 2011:

Courtesy Notices	11	Courtesy Notices	847
Administrative Citations	0	Administrative Citations	302
Cumulative Fines	\$0	Building Permit Violations	103

### New Business License Issued

Business Name	Address
Law Offices of Alma Reyes	895 Yorba Linda Blvd. #205
Mother Dance	930 Via Rodeo
P.H. Oriental Medical Clinic	200 Bradford Ave. #1
Placentia Senior Placement	601 Yorba Linda Blvd. #2-E

### Police Reports

#### December 15th

A bank robbery occurred at Wells Fargo on Yorba Linda Blvd. around 6 p.m. The suspect had used a note and fled without taking any money due to the bank's "Bandit Barriers." An area check was conducted as well as an interior bank search, with no results. Detectives responded and assisted with the investigation. FBI was notified and responded. The FBI believes the suspect is responsible for other banks robberies in north Orange County.

#### December 18th

A call was received from CHP Santa Ana regarding a possible drunk driver who was going southbound on the 57 freeway at Orangethorpe Ave. An officer located the unoccupied vehicle parked in the 7-11 parking lot at Kraemer and Orangethorpe. The suspect vehicle left the 7-11 and drove across the double-double yellow lines onto Orangethorpe where a traffic enforcement stop was made. Another officer assisted with the DUI investigation and arrested the driver for DUI. During an inventory check officers noticed items that belonged to a female acquaintance of the driver. It was later learned that the driver had stolen the victim's property in the City of Long Beach. Long Beach PD responded to the victim's residence and took a grand theft report. The driver was also charged with possession of stolen property.

#### January 3rd

Officers checked a transient male on Alta Vista and Dunnivant after receiving a call that he may be having a medical emergency. Upon arrival, the transient immediately began verbally assaulting officers and then threatened to kill them. The subject took a fighting stance and advanced on one of the Officers which resulted in him being taken into custody. He was subsequently placed on psychiatric hold.

### Garage Sale Regulations

The City of Placentia has garage sale regulations to minimize the effects of traffic, noise and signs in residential areas while permitting residents to sell unwanted personal items to the general public. Garage sales may only be conducted on the first full weekend (Saturday and Sunday) of March, June, September and December between the hours of 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Two additional sales may be authorized in a calendar year by obtaining a permit from the Development Services Department three days prior to the garage sale. For a list of rules and regulations or for more information, please call the Code and Compliance Division at (714) 993-8245.



## 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](http://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 20th, and took action on the following items:

- ◆ Approved professional services agreement with Onward Engineering for engineering services related to the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Citywide Street Improvement Project
- ◆ Approved resolution of support for the Placentia Ave. Traffic Light Synchronization Program Project
- ◆ Approved request to install a Bus Loading Zone on Bradford Ave. for Valencia High School
- ◆ Approved extension of Lease for Police Impound/Evidence Storage Facility
- ◆ Approved extension of Time Period for Exclusive Negotiation Agreement with EDGE for Downtown Parking Structure
- ◆ Approved Redevelopment Agency Annual Report for 2010-2011
- ◆ Approved contract with Western Transit Systems Inc. for the Senior Mobility Program
- ◆ Approved rescission of Property Acquisition Reimbursement Agreement related to 207-209 West Crowther Ave.

### Planning Commission

The Planning Commission met on Tuesday, January 10th, and approved the following items:

- ◆ Use Permit 2011-117: To permit the installation of two 1000 gallon above-ground, horizontally mounted propane fuel tanks with two associated fuel dispenser units, located along the west property line, in an area measuring  $\pm$  328 square feet at 313 W. Orangethorpe Ave. (Chevron Station) in the Community Commercial (C-2) District.
- ◆ Use Permit 2012-01: To permit the construction of a +/- 1,791 square foot clubhouse/gym facility to be located on the first and second floor of a five car garage structure between buildings 8 and 9 of Tract 16839, located at 1500 Cherry St. in the Specific Plan 7 (SP-7) District.

### Recreation and Parks Commission

On Monday, January 9th, the Recreation and Parks Commission held their regular monthly meeting. Items discussed included a review and approval for their 2012 goals and objectives, provided staff recommendation of the new signage of the implementation of the new Dog Ordinance that prohibits dogs in athletic fields and playgrounds, and discussion to update and make changes to the Field Use and Allocation Policy.

### Cultural Arts Commission

On Tuesday, January 10th, the Cultural Arts Commission held their regular monthly meeting. The following are some of the highlights from the meeting:

- ◆ The C.A.P.E.S. awards are being processed and the formal acknowledgement will take place at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012.
- ◆ A commissioner volunteered to continue working with the Santa Fe Merchants to incorporate both sides' ideas for the 2012 Winter Holiday Celebration/Tamale Festival
- ◆ Concerts in the Park subcommittee meetings will begin next week
- ◆ Three commissioners and a City of Placentia staff member will be attending the Diamond Bar Concert Share Event on January 26, 2012.