

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS - WSGVAR

FROM: LORRAINE MORRISON, CHAIR
LEE LIEBERG, VICE CHAIR

DATE: MARCH 27, 2008

RE: LGR COMMITTEE REPORT

Real Estate related issues and information discussed at the March meeting of the Local Government Relations Committee included the following;

MONTEREY PARK: After months of debate and dissension, City Council has voted 3-2 to approve a three-year contract with June Yotsuya to serve as City Manager. Currently an assistant City Manager in Seal Beach, Yotsuya will start work in the city on April 28. She was a finalist for the position, along with interim City Manager Adolfo Reta who previously had served for 17 years as director of Development Services. The new city manager succeeds Chris Jeffers who left the city in July of 2007 to accept the top administrative position in the City of Glendora.

In other action, the Council has voted against construction of a new fire station on south Garfield Avenue at Elder Park including an adjacent long-standing Alta Dena Dairy store. The dairy site was purchased by the city in 2006 for a replacement fire station. Local residents vigorously opposed building a fire station on proposed site because it would reduce open space by 15 acres and leave the area without convenient access to groceries. Search for a new fire station location is underway.

ALHAMBRA: Ongoing attempts by a local property owner to replace his existing dwelling on south Fifth Street with two 2-story houses on an 8,050 square foot lot have been denied for a second time by the Planning Commission. The Commission found the design was not compatible with the predominately Craftsman style of residences in the surrounding area. The city does not have an ordinance devoted to designation and preservation of historic homes.

SAN GABRIEL: Sol Y Sombra, formerly an art gallery at the southwest corner of Mission Drive and Santa Anita Street, will be converted to a restaurant to serve the Mission District and the area around the Civic Auditorium. A major mixed use development on San Gabriel Boulevard in the city's redevelopment area south of Las Tunas Drive has been placed on hold. No date has been announced for resumption of work on the project, known as Rubio Village.

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