

September 28, 2007  
Palo Alto, CA

## FRANK'S WEEKLY MEMO

### City of Palo Alto Annual Moonlight Run September 28

The 23rd Annual Palo Alto Moonlight Run, presented by City of Palo Alto Recreation will take place on Friday, September 28, under the light of the full harvest moon at the Baylands Athletic Center. The 5K walk begins at 7:15 p.m., the 10K Run begins at 8:15 p.m., and the 5K Run begins at 8:45 p.m. Race night registration begins at 6:30 p.m., and the cost is \$25 per entry. All proceeds benefit the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund, which gives approximately \$260K each year to Palo Alto area non-profit and charitable organizations. For more information, call (650) 463-4920 or go to [www.paloaltoonline.com](http://www.paloaltoonline.com)

### **4** Children's Library Celebrates September 29 Re-opening

Join in the celebration of the re-opening of the renovated Children's Library on Saturday, September 29. The building has undergone a comprehensive structural upgrade and has two new wings.

A full day of special events is planned for Saturday, featuring kids' programs and fun activities. The events are sponsored by the Friends of the Palo Alto Library. Refreshments will be provided.

- **10 a.m.** – Meet at the Main Library, 1213 Newell Road, to join the wagon parade carrying books through Rinconada Park to the Children's Library at 1276 Harriet Street.
- **10:30 a.m.** – Mayor Yoriko Kishimoto will conduct the official ribbon cutting to open the doors. The Palo Alto Arts Commission will unveil a colorful mural in the new program area called the Tree Top Room.
- **11 a.m.** – Author and Illustrator Dave Keane will talk about his popular series, *Joe Sherlock, Kid Detective*.
- **1p.m.** – Music performance by *The Wing String Thing*
- **3 p.m.** - Music performance by *Hey Mom*

For more information, visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/library](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/library)



Designates an item related to one of the City Council's "Top 4" Priorities.

## **Town Hall Meeting September 29**

Join State Senator Joe Simitian for a Town Hall meeting. Come visit and discuss issues that concern your community. The Senator will speak briefly about the outcome of this year's Legislative session and will answer questions from constituents. Light refreshments will be served after the event.

**Date:** Saturday, September 29, 2007

**Time:** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Place:** Palo Alto City Hall, Council Chambers, First Floor  
250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

For more information, call (650) 688-6384 or visit [www.senatorsimitian.com](http://www.senatorsimitian.com)

## **October 1 Study Session on Solid Waste and Recycling**

A City Council study session will be held on October 1 to review and discuss the City of Palo Alto's current contract for solid waste and recycling collection and processing services, which will end in June 2009. The procurement process for a new agreement is expected to be in place January 2008. The study session will include review and discussion of the procurement process and timeline, related facility and operational issues and several key recommendations related to the procurement. The public is encouraged to attend and participate.

**Date:** October 1, 2007

**Time:** 6 – 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** Palo Alto City Hall, Council Chambers, First Floor  
250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301



## **Join in the Fun: Palo Alto Walks and Rolls Week**

Spearheaded by Mayor Kishimoto and Supervisor Kniss, Palo Alto Walks and Rolls Week, October 1-6, is a campaign to show people how using alternative modes of transportation can change how our local environment feels. The kick-off event is on Friday, September 28 at 6:45 p.m. at the Palo Alto Baylands Athletic Center. Join in any or all of the following fun activities over the next week:

- **Palo Alto Walks and Rolls to School** - Get healthy and reduce traffic congestion by walking and rolling to school this week. Students will be rewarded for choosing a range of alternatives to solo driving to school: walking, biking, skating, riding the bus, and carpooling.



Elementary schools will make this community event fun with raffles and a "Walk & Roll Wall of Fame" created by students.

- **Walk and Roll to Lunch on California Avenue and Win Prizes** - Walk, bike, or take public transportation to get to lunch on California Avenue October 1-5. Enter the California Avenue Area Development Association (CAADA) drawing at participating restaurants to win a free lunch and other prizes. Look for Walk and Roll posters in the windows of participating restaurants.
- **Meet and Greet at Walter Hays Elementary** – Meet and Greet Vice Mayor Larry Klein and other Palo Alto Walks and Rolls dignitaries at Walter Hays Elementary, Wednesday October 3 at 8 a.m., while walking and rolling to school.
- **Bike Boulevard Community Walk and Roll** - Join the foot-powered parade along Bryant Street on Saturday October 6th! Walk, bike, skate or help pedal the Buscycle along the Ellen Fletcher Bike Boulevard. Gather at Palo Alto's City Hall Plaza at 10 a.m.
- **Neighborhood Walkability Workshops** - See your neighborhood streets from a fresh perspective. Participate in a workshop to identify how to make our neighborhood streets safer and friendlier to bicyclists and pedestrians. Watch for the kick-off workshop at the Palo Alto Family YMCA on Ross Road, and other Neighborhood Walkability Workshops to follow. Dates coming soon.

If you have questions or want to volunteer, please contact Kathy Durham at the City of Palo Alto (650) 329-2568, Paul Garcia at the County of Santa Clara (650) 965-8737 or email [pawalksandrolls@gmail.com](mailto:pawalksandrolls@gmail.com)

#### **A BIG Thank You to these Sponsors:**

- Supervisor Liz Kniss
- Mayor Yoriko Kishimoto
- Palo Alto Unified School District
- Palo Alto Council of PTAs
- California Avenue Area Development Association (CAADA)
- Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF)
- Google
- Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)
- Palo Alto Weekly
- Various other local businesses and organizations

#### **Request for Adjustment on Housing Needs Allocation**

The City of Palo Alto recently requested the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to adjust the housing allocation assigned to the City to meet its regional share of housing for the next seven years (2007-2014).



The City is objecting to the population assumed for Palo Alto by 2014, as well as the methodology for developing the allocation.

The State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) determined that the Bay Area needs to plan for 214,500 housing units during the 2007 – 2014 planning period. HCD also determined the need across four income categories: very low; low; moderate; and, above moderate. With this assignment, ABAG is responsible for allocating the total regional need to all jurisdictions in the Bay Area as mandated by state law.

On July 19, 2007, the ABAG Executive Board adopted the draft Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocations for jurisdictions in the San Francisco Bay Area, by income category, for the 2007 – 2014 periods. Palo Alto's current total draft allocation is 3,505 units with 846 very low, 666 low, 786 moderate, and 1,207 above moderate income units. The City sent a letter to ABAG commenting on the draft RHNA and requested an adjustment to the City of Palo Alto's RHNA on September 13, 2007. ABAG staff will have 60 days to respond to the City's request for revisions. The City will have an additional 60 days to appeal the RHNA numbers after ABAG responds to our request. In early 2008, ABAG will hold a public hearing on appeals of the assigned allocations. The final RHNA will be adopted by the ABAG Executive Board prior to June 2008 in order to meet state requirements.

#### **4** Palo Alto Submits Comments on Water System Projects

Palo Alto's water supplier, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), has prepared a plan to improve the reliability of the regional water system on which Palo Alto and many other cities rely. The regional water system is at risk of water supply outages for up to two months in the event of a large earthquake. SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) aims to repair and upgrade the regional water system so that basic water supply levels could be returned within 24 hours after a large earthquake.

On June 29, 2007, the City of San Francisco released a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) on SFPUC's WSIP for public comment. The Draft PEIR evaluates the environmental effects of implementing the WSIP as well as the proposed changes in water supply. The regional water system currently takes the majority of its water supplies from the upper Tuolumne River. The proposed WSIP would require an additional 25 million gallons per day (MGD) of water to be diverted from the Tuolumne to meet projected future demands. The Draft PEIR also analyzed alternatives to the proposed WSIP and identified the "Modified WSIP" as the environmentally superior alternative. The Modified WSIP alternative requires an additional 5-10 MGD of conservation and water recycling in the wholesale customer

service area and requires that additional water be transferred from the agricultural irrigation districts that also use Tuolumne River water. These transfers must be water that is conserved in those agricultural districts.

At its September 24 meeting, the Palo Alto City Council approved comments on the Draft PEIR and strongly supported the completion of the WSIP projects to improve the seismic reliability of the regional water system. One of the Council's top priorities is the City's own plans to construct the Emergency Water Supply and Storage project, including new emergency wells and a new emergency water storage tank. The Council also voted to support the Modified WSIP and expressed a strong interest in limiting or avoiding any additional diversions of water from the Tuolumne River. The Council also supports maximizing the potential for conservation in both the urban and agricultural areas with the desire to improve flows in the Tuolumne River, particularly in the lower river, where the most significant environmental impact was identified.

Public comments are due to the SFPUC by 5 p.m., on October 1, 2007. San Francisco will then prepare responses to all comments and submit the Final PEIR for certification, after which the seismic improvement projects can proceed to implementation. For more information, visit [www.sfwater.org/](http://www.sfwater.org/)

## **Palo Alto Police Receive Top Honors**



On Friday, September 14, 2007, at the annual California Law Enforcement Challenge banquet in San Diego, the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and the California Highway Patrol awarded the Palo Alto Police Department with first place for overall traffic safety.

Earlier in the year, Officer Brad Kilpatrick had prepared a report to OTS outlining the Department's educational and enforcement efforts in the area of school safety, child safety and restraints, traffic safety and DUI enforcement.

The first place award is a great honor and testament to the outstanding work of the members of the Palo Alto Police Department and their commitment to traffic safety.

## **4** Palo Alto Seeks Public Input on Recycled Water Project

On September 18, a public scoping meeting solicited comments on a proposal to extend the recycled water distribution in Palo Alto to commercial customers. Currently, recycled water is used to replace potable water supplies in City-owned facilities including at the Regional Water Quality Control Plant, Greer Park, and the Municipal Golf Course. Recycled water is also used in the duck pond and in the Emily Renzel Marsh. A study completed in July 2006 determined that extending the recycled water distribution system to serve customers in the Stanford Research Park area was feasible. A detailed evaluation is being performed, including a study of the environmental impact of such a proposal.

At the scoping meeting, concerns were raised including the safety and quality of the recycled water, the effect on turf and other plantings, the impact on groundwater quality, appropriate signage, and the need for a fact sheet containing a detailed listing of all constituents of the recycled water. Attendees brought up the impact of chloramine in the water supply on the recycled water and whether there was a way for stored recycled water to be contaminated. These issues will be addressed in the environmental review. Additional questions or concerns can be addressed to Jane Ratchye at [jane.ratchye@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:jane.ratchye@cityofpaloalto.org) or (650) 329-2119. A description of the project can be found on the City's web site at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/knowzone/city\\_projects/utility/pipeline\\_project.asp](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/knowzone/city_projects/utility/pipeline_project.asp)