MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Howard W. Brown, Jr., City Manager
CC: City Department Directors
Date: October 24, 2016
Re: Bi-Monthly Update and Report (Week Ending Saturday, October 15, 2016)

Upcoming Meetings:

- Wednesday, October 26, 2016 – City Council Meeting: The closed session will start at 5:00 p.m. and regular session at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 2, 2016 - Special Meeting: Joint meeting with Planning Commission and City Council to go over the General Plan. Meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Services Building.

Administration

- Angela Bustamante attended the Nuts & Bolts Workshop on Thursday, 10/20, and Friday, 10/21.
- Laserfiche software has been successfully installed only for the City Clerk’s Office.
- Event for Council:
  - National Chamber of Commerce Day Event on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 from 6pm – 8pm
- Tract 349 Mutual Water correspondence regarding Dioxane detection (letter attached)

Human Resources:

- Sandy Luis Lopez, the new Management Analyst in the City Manager’s Office, started on Monday October 17, 2016.
- Finance Director Recruitment: The tentative start date for the new Finance Director is Monday, November 7, 2016.
- Public Works Manager Recruitment: First and Second round of Interviews for Public Works Manager was conducted on Wednesday October 19, 2016.
- Community Services Department: Second Interviews for Office Assistant were conducted on Tuesday October 18, 2016.
• Police Cadet-PT Recruitment: closes on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

• Police Sergeant Promotional Recruitment closes Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

Community Development:

• The Florence and Walker site fencing has been updated with a new commercial grade tarp. To help prevent future delay in repairing tears and other damage, the City is currently maintaining a stock of 10 additional panels for on the spot repair services to be done by part-time maintenance workers.

• Tree grid trimming services are currently on schedule. With the current tree trimming services and hope for a mild winter, we hope to minimize use of the emergency funds that were allocated in the recent agreement.

• The City has formed a committee of City employees to serve on the holiday committee and provide recommendations for holiday decorations for Bell during the 2016 holiday season. The committee consists of the following staff members: Angela Bustamante, City Manager’s Office; Abel Hernandez, Community Development Department; Ana Larios, Finance Department; and Connie Hurtado, Community Services Department. Staff will prepare an agenda item for the Oct. 26, 2016, Council meeting date.

• The Housing Authority hosted a free Fair Housing Workshop for all Bell residents on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Residents were provided information on their rights protected under the Fair Housing Act and the CA Dept. of Fair Employment and Housing. The workshop was taped and Spanish translation services were provided for the meeting.

• The first draft of the Bell General Plan is ready for circulation to the public. Tentatively, the City’s consultant, Blodgett and Baynosis Associates, held a workshop on Oct. 19, 2016 to go over the content of the General Plan and to specifically discuss the policy recommendations. A draft copy of the General Plan will be posted to the City’s website.

• The next Residential Code Compliance Task Force meeting took place on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. The members are currently meeting in Subcommittee Groups to discuss issues related to Garage Conversion, Unpermitted Structures and Driveway Expansion. City staff created a Taskforce email account and webpage on the City’s website and left a Taskforce Drop Off Box at City Hall for the general public.
Community Services Department

- The Halloween Carnival is taking place on Monday, October 31 from 6:00pm – 9pm for a small fee of $5 and the Haunted House will be open October 29 – 31 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Veterans Memorial Park.

- The Seniors Halloween Party is on October 26th at the Bell Community Center from 11:30a.m. – 12:30p.m.

- Pee Wee Soccer season is starting earlier this year as part of the Departments goal to streamline the sports division. Practices begin on Monday, October 24, with current enrollment at 171 youth between the ages 4-7 years old.

- Youth Soccer Awards Ceremony is on Saturday, November 5 from 9:00a.m. -1:30p.m. All youth and coaches will receive a free In & Out Burger. Youth can enjoy an obstacle course, rock wall and other games. Parents can purchase In & Out burgers at Ernest Debs Park during pre-sale till Wednesday, October 26th.

- Bell Family Night, a partnership between the City of Bell and the Bell Chamber of Commerce, took place on Friday, October 14 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm at the City Hall parking lot.

- Filming took place on Wednesday, October 12 and Thursday, October 13 throughout the city for the State of the City video.

- Submission of Letter of Interest (LOI) to the Vernon Community Fund Grant for the Ernest Debs Park Field Renovation Project in the amount of $338,288.40. We will be notified on Monday, Nov 14 if we submitted a successful bid and we will receive a Request for Proposal that will be due on Monday, January 30, 2018.

Police Department

- On October 6, 2016 at approximately 1:00 am, Bell PD investigated a shooting involving an ex and current boyfriend of a female that lives on Flora Ave. The ex-boyfriend shot at the current boyfriend as he was driving away from the female’s home. He hit the vehicle, but missed the driver. Our investigation led to the arrest of the ex with the assistance of the US Marshal’s Office. The suspect is currently in our custody.

- Bell PD along with Hometown Buffet got together with the community for a meet and greet event. Hometown Buffet hosted the event on Thursday, September 27, 2016. The event was a huge success and will be a monthly event from now on.

- Bell PD is participating in the Pink Patch Program. Some officers are wearing pink patches in support of October’s breast cancer awareness month.
On Monday, October 17, 2016 Officers took an indecent exposure report from a juvenile that had been victimized several times on Gage and Atlantic. She had not reported the incidents until Monday when she was able to take a picture of the suspect vehicle. On Tuesday, October 18, 2016, detectives conducted surveillance and located the suspect vehicle. The driver was identified as the suspect and taken into custody.

**Finance Department**

- Business License- The Salvation Army has been at City Hall to get their business license requirement in order. The business license Department has gone thru the package with them. They will be bringing it back towards the end of the month in order for them to obtain an operating business license.

- Year End Audit- Still going on as we speak. There are a number of follow up questions being answered.

- The FY16-17 PSAF- Maintenance of Effort (MOE) due 10/28/2016 has been filed with the County of LA- Department of Auditor-Controller.

END OF MEMORANDUM
October 20, 2016

The Honorable John Fasana
Chairman,
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles CA 90012

Re: Eco-Rapid Transit Position on Measure M

Dear Chairman Fasana,

Last week, after much deliberation, Eco-Rapid Transit’s Board of Directors voted to take a neutral position on Measure M, the Transportation Ballot Measure. We weighed many factors as we made our decision, most notably, recent efforts by Metro staff to change the original timeline and create the possibility of developing a Public Private Partnership together to accelerate the West Santa Ana Branch Project with a target completion date of 2029.

We are impressed with the commitment of key Metro staff and are taking a position of trusting Metro and being involved in a collaborative process to deliver the West Santa Ana Branch project in a more timely manner than proposed in the Ballot Measure.

We also spent time discussing recent successful joint efforts involving moving into the environmental process, initial funding for creating a sustainable transportation corridor, and most recently, expanding the effort to include a rail transit study connecting Downtown Los Angeles, Glendale and the Hollywood Burbank Bob Hope Airport. These all were important factors in our decision.

The Eco-Rapid Transit Board of Directors did not take this position lightly and still have many concerns. We are not happy with the Metro Expenditure Plan itself which has many inaccuracies related to our project and how Metro evaluated the West Santa Ana Branch project. While the evaluation recognized high ridership in our corridor, it undervalued job access, environmental justice, transit dependency, density, system connectivity and the impact to our quality of life. We believe that if we worked together last spring, we could have reached an agreement to accelerate this project and support the Transportation Ballot Measure.

Another important issue for our Board of Directors are the timelines for improvements related to the 710 and I-5 freeway projects. These projects
provide access to our ports and are not only regional but projects of national significance.

Finally, we believe that the grievances expressed by other governmental agencies in our project area still need to be addressed. We urge you to continue working with Gateway Cities Council of Governments, South Bay Council of Governments, and the I-5 Joint Powers Authority to address their issues.

Sincerely,

Maria Davila
Chair, Eco-Rapid Transit

C: The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard, United States Congressmember
   The Honorable Janice Hahn, United States Congressmember
   The Honorable Linda Sanchez, United States Congressmember
   The Honorable Kevin DeLeon, Pro Tem, California State Senate
   The Honorable Tony Mendoza, California State Senator
   The Honorable Ricardo Lara, California State Senator
   The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker, California State Assembly
   The Honorable Cristina Garcia, California State Assemblymember
   The Honorable Miguel Santiago, California State Assemblymember
   The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer, California State Assemblymember
   Eco-Rapid Transit Board of Directors
October 6, 2016

City of Bell
Attn: City Council
6330 Pine Avenue
Bell, CA 90201

SUBJECT: 1,4- DIOXANE DETECTION

This is to notify you that Tract 349 Mutual Water Company detected low levels of 1,4-Dioxane in samples taken from its Water Well #2 located at 3724 Florence Ave., Huntington Park, CA 90255 that are above the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB-DDW) notification level of 1 ug/L, (parts/billion).

Pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 116455, Tract 349 Mutual Water Company is required to inform its governing body and the governing body of any local agency whose jurisdiction includes areas supplied with drinking water by Tract 349 Mutual Water Company, of contaminant concentrations exceeding the notification level.

The 1,4-Dioxane concentrations were detected in water samples collected from Water Well #2 on September 16, 2016 at 1.1 ug/L (parts/billion).

Tract 349 Mutual Water Company serves water in the area bounded by the following streets: Atlantic Avenue on the East, Florence Avenue on the North, Salt Lake Avenue on the West and Patata on the South.

1,4-Dioxane is used as a stabilizer in chlorinated solvents. It has been shown to cause cancer in laboratory animals that have been exposed to high levels of the substance over their lifetimes. Chemicals that cause cancer in laboratory animals may also increase the risk of cancer in people who are exposed over long periods of time. 1,4-Dioxane is considered a probable human carcinogen by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), and it is identified as a chemical known to the State to cause cancer for purposes of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65).

The 1ug/L drinking water notification level for 1,4-Dioxane is derived from the cancer potency in the US EPA’S Integrated Risk Information System. It corresponds to a risk level of up to one excess case of cancer per million people drinking two liters of water everyday over 70-year lifetime, a level that is considered by regulatory agencies to pose an insignificant health risk.
Tract 349 Mutual Water Co.

If you have any questions about this, please telephone Ryan Rosche Water & Maintenance Superintendent, at (323) 560-1601.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Martin Susnir
General Manager

cc: 1. Paul William, P.E, District Engineer, Hollywood District
    State Water Resources Control Board
    Division of Drinking Water
2. File