



Monrovia Area Partnership's *Award Winning*

Neighborhood News



April 2017

Neighborhood News

Building Better... Together

"Community organizing is all about building grassroots support. It's about identifying the people around you with whom you can create a common, passionate cause." – Tom Peters

April 22, 2017



Partnering People for a Stronger Monrovia

We will be hosting the 8th Annual MAP Neighborhood Conference on April 22, and are so excited for the workshops, our fantastic key-note speaker, and the surprises in store for our MAP Family!

As you start to see more advertisement for our conference, you will notice that our theme of **Building Better...** is carried throughout the whole Conference. So, where did we get this theme? This theme started as a conversation on building better neighborhoods. Our thought was, that's what we want, more people to join us in MAP and join us in continuing to build better neighborhoods. So how can we do this? How can Monrovia residents do this? Each workshop has been carefully thought out as a building block of building better. Building better homes, building a better response to homelessness, building better mental health awareness, building on our history, etc. All of these workshops build on the idea that we are better together and each of our experiences helps us to build better together. So keep that in mind when we see you on April 22, **how can you help in building better?**



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City of Monrovia
Neighborhood Services
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Monrovia, CA 91016

Contact us!



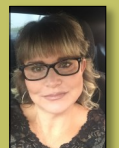
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Connect with Monrovia
Volunteers & Leaders -
"Like" MAP on
Facebook.



Watch our blog for
news on events and
opportunities through
MAP.

TheNeighborhoodFix.blogspot.com

Young Community Leaders

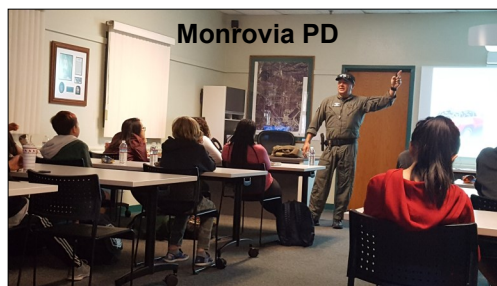
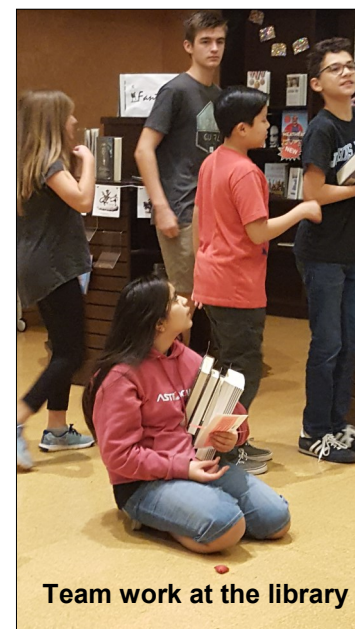
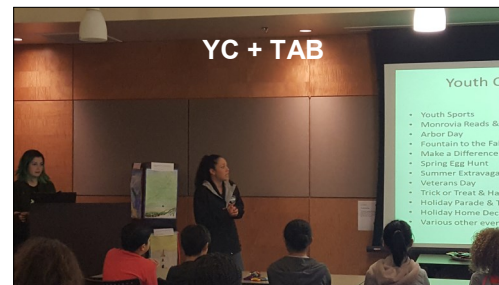
Youth Leadership Academy

Our young leaders have been busy! During our sessions over the last three months, we have focused on making a difference *locally*. We have met with the Teen Advisory Board, Youth Commission and the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley to learn about their various efforts for making a difference in Monrovia.

After learning about all of the various efforts local organizations make to assist others, our leaders met with Community Services Commissioner Joannie Yuille and started working on their very own special projects that will showcase their ideas on how they can make a difference. While working on these projects, our teens are perfecting their leadership skills, such as:

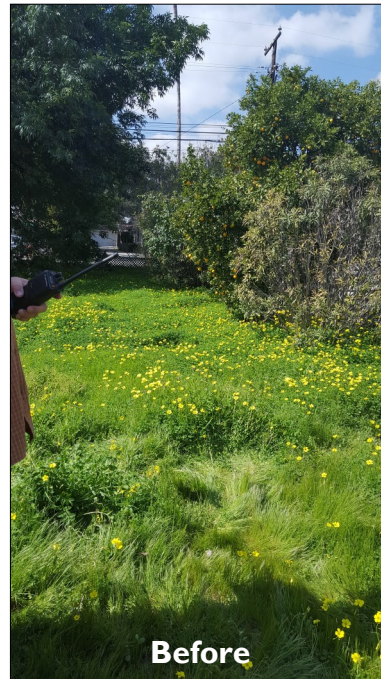
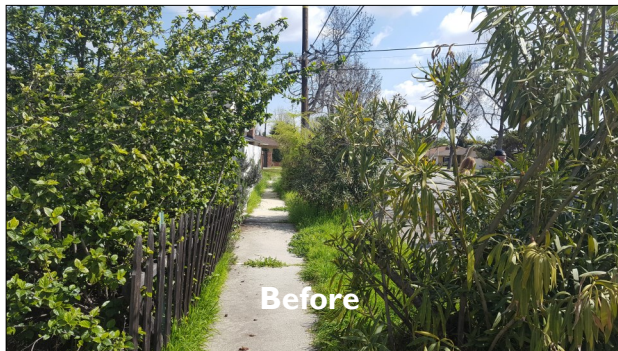
- ◇ Working in groups
- ◇ Using local resources
- ◇ Public speaking
- ◇ Seeing a project through, start to finish.

Our awesome young leaders have been working hard on their ideas and they will be presenting them to Neighborhood Services staff later this month!



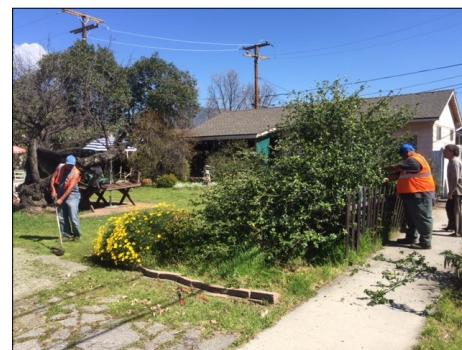
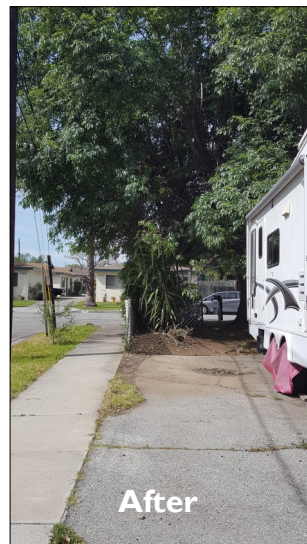
MAP Care for Your Neighbor Program

The Care for Your Neighbor Program pairs caring MAP Neighborhood Leaders and volunteers with homeowners to build the community and beautify neighborhoods throughout the city. The program was developed to help low-income, elderly or disabled homeowners. MAP Neighborhood Leaders help identify program participants, coordinate the proper assistance, and work directly with volunteer groups and neighbors to address code concerns and beautify properties.



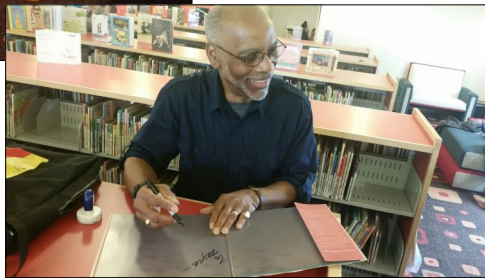
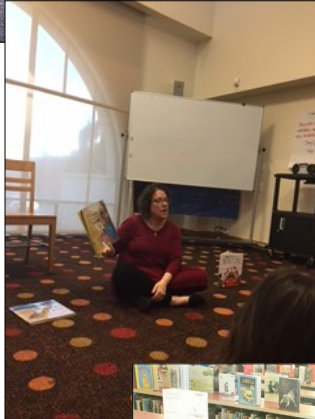
Recently, this property was brought to our attention from our Code Enforcement Officers as a property that could use a little T.L.C. Due to the homeowner's inability to maintain the property, and all the rain we had in February, much of the foliage on the property was overgrown (see before photos). This big task is one that we were unable to do on our own so we reached out to the amazing people at the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley to help us out!

This was a true collaboration where we were able to come together and identify the best way to assist a resident in need. We would also like to take the time to thank MAP Leader Christine Voyvodich for her assistance that day and for exemplifying what MAP is about by being a great and helpful neighbor! Check out the after's to see the hard work from our volunteers from the Volunteer Center!



Do you know of a neighbor in need?
Want to get involved on our next project?
Email us at map@ci.monrovia.ca.us to sign up!

MDBAA + City of Monrovia + MUSD Celebrate Black History Month!



The Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association (MDBAA) was established 25 years ago and has had the honor of serving the adults and youth of the communities of Monrovia and Duarte.

Nine of our MAP Neighborhood Leaders (who are also members of MDBAA) led by their Black History Month Committee Chair, Joannie Yuille, truly embodied the spirit of partnership with the various Black History Month activities they facilitated throughout the month.

The MDBAA partnered with the Monrovia Unified School District, MAP, the Monrovia Public Library, the Monrovia Community Services Division, Second Baptist Church, New Beginnings Baptist Church, the Interfaith Council, KGem and more to offer outstanding opportunities to enrich the lives of our youth and adults alike with sharing of the history and experiences of African Americans. "Story tellers" read to students at each of our elementary schools; a Jazz Brunch ("New Orleans" style) was held at the Community Center; workshops, story times, and a movie were offered at the Public Library; Middle School assemblies and movie nights were held at both Clifton and Santa Fe Middle Schools; an Arts Festival featuring submissions from students from all of our elementary schools was hosted by Bradoaks Elementary; and assemblies were held at Monrovia High School.

The month's activities culminated with the Black History Month Scholarship Soul Food Luncheon at the Community Center that included the traditional soul food offerings, fellowship, presenters, gospel music, raffles and an overall feeling of deep appreciation of the rich diverseness of this community and this country.

CERT-ified

It's official! There are over 100 members of the Monrovia CERT (Community Emergency Response) Team! Those that participate in the CERT program learn skills such as disaster preparedness, search & rescue techniques, and first aid practices. CERT leaders are individuals the entire community will look to after a disaster to help with our unified response efforts. The overall program would not be possible, however, without the volunteer trainers and training assistants, one of which includes MAP Leaders Bruce Eckstrom and Roger Foster!

Thank you to all of our MAP Leaders who take the time out to volunteer to help their community in times of disasters, and congratulations to Councilman Larry Spicer for graduating from the course, as well!



A Woman of Distinction



Our very own MAP Leader and Facebook Moderator Extraordinaire, Gayle Montgomery was named as one of Assembly Member Holden's Woman of Distinction for her service in making a positive impact here in the community!

Congratulations Gayle!



MAP-Ed Quarterly Meeting January 21

Have you been on Facebook lately? Or seen a recent City Council meeting? If so, then you are aware that a current topic of conversation in the community is...**Homelessness**. However, while it's definitely something that impacts Monrovia, this is an issue that is affecting many communities across the country. There are many opinions and many ideas; sometimes with conflicting points of view. It's a complex problem that does not have a simple solution...or even a complete solution. Over the past year, we have heard from many members of the community regarding this issue as well as concerns voiced that the City is not addressing the problem.

To keep this conversation going and provide an update on the issue, at the last MAP-Ed meeting we invited speakers to talk about what the issue and strategies that are taking place from a regional effort as well as what Monrovia is doing.

We brought in a representative from the **Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority (LAHSA)** to educate our group on the Homeless Count, why it is important and what that information can mean for cities and counties. In addition to hitting the streets, there is a shelter count and a demographic survey, to see how to best assist homeless residents. In short, it all came down to the following points:

- ◇ This information is vital to helping those experiencing homelessness
- ◇ The data collected directly effects policy and funding
- ◇ It gives a picture of the progress accomplished with eradicating homelessness over the past year.

In addition to having a representative from LAHSA, we had **Police Captain Sanvictores** join us to give us some insight on Monrovia's response to homelessness. Something important to note is that the majority of the homeless who can be seen around town are *resistive* homeless, meaning they have actively chosen to not accept any available social services.

Taking the concerns of Monrovia citizens to heart, the City initially tried the following strategies:

- ◇ Community Outreach / Educational Programming
- ◇ Directed Giving Campaign
- ◇ Populate the Park w/ Programs
- ◇ Park Watch Programs
- ◇ Video Surveillance Security Cameras

Currently, the City has a Homeless Response Working group comprised of staff to work on addressing current concerns, including drug use and loitering. This group has come up with a four (4) pronged approach to further address homeless issues:

- ◇ Help (Resources)
- ◇ Infrastructure Upgrades
- ◇ Enforcement of Laws
- ◇ Outreach / Education



To hear more about this approach, be sure to go to our workshop on homelessness at the [8th Annual MAP Neighborhood Conference!](#)



WHEN: Thursday, April 6th

TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: Claim Jumper | 820 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia CA 91016

The Law Enforcement Torch Run will take protect and serve to a whole new level at a Tip-A-Cop fundraiser. Officers will serve as hosts and waiters, and ALL tips they receive will be donated to Special Olympics.

For more information or questions, contact Sgt. Verna at (626) 256-8020 or Officer Juarez at (626) 256-8036

Upcoming Events

MAP-Ed Quarterly Meeting

Save the date for our quarterly education meeting where staff, officials, and City partners discuss a variety of community topics.

April 1 : Let's Go to Canyon Park!

Location: Monrovia Library Community Room 321 S. Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016

Time: 11am to 1pm



Yard Sales

With such great weather, there are a few things to keep in mind for a happy, and hopefully, a profitable experience for you!

- ◇ A permit is required to hold a yard sale. Yard sale permits are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the Community Development counter in City Hall
- ◇ If you hold a yard sale without first obtaining a permit, you may be subject to a \$30.00 fine
- ◇ Permits are good for two consecutive days.
- ◇ Each day, sales may be conducted between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- ◇ A yard sale may be held at one address every six months.
- ◇ Two signs advertising your sale may be posted in your yard.
- ◇ Please do not place signs on city property. It is illegal to place signs on utility poles (power or telephone), light standards, street trees, sidewalks, or the like. Or on private property without the owners permission.
- ◇ If you cannot hold your yard sale on the dates shown on your permit, call (626) 932-5525

Join us for the 8th Annual



Building Better... | April 22, 2017 | 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

MAP Summer Movie Series

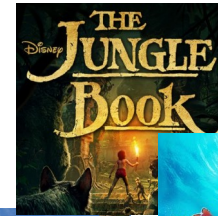
Join us this summer as we spend some time under the stars watching fun family movies while eating fun movie snacks from our amazing sponsors!

JUNE 17 Jungle Book (2016)
Monrovia Historical Museum
742 E Lemon Ave

JULY 15 Finding Dory
Rotary Park
401 California Street

JULY 29 Zootopia
Station Square Park
1629 S Myrtle Ave

AUGUST 12 Moana
Grand Ave Park
340 N Grand Ave @
Prospect Ave



To report code violations, please contact Code Enforcement!

Residents West of Myrtle Ave, Contact Ken True:

626-932-5535 | KTrue@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Residents East of Myrtle Ave, Contact Rick Macias:

626-932-5545 | RMacias@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Commercial Businesses, Contact Krystina Contreras:

626-932-5533 | KContreras@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Over the Counter News

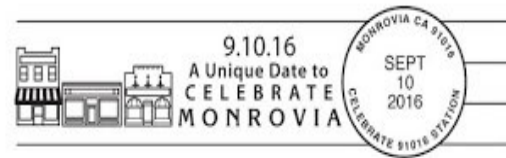
Part of what makes this City great is how well it is designed and how the City can keep up with the needs of its' citizens. Our Planning Division works hard to do what is best for Monroviains! Part of that is continually working with the public, Hollywood, and the Historic Preservation and the Planning Commissions. Read below about what is happening....*over the counter!*

2016 Year in Review

In December, we took stock and looked at what we've accomplished, what we can do better, and what we are pursuing for the next 12 months. After our extensive year-end assessment of 2016, we can reach only one conclusion - it has been quite a year! So, in that spirit, we'd like to proudly present to you Community Development's top ten list of 2016 achievements:

10. 5th & Huntington and MODA Break Ground - Have you noticed something a little different at the western gateway of the City and at Station Square? Large residential projects broke ground this year - a 154 unit building at 5th Avenue and Huntington Drive and a 261 unit building at Station Square. These big projects have been in the works for a few years now, and we are excited to finally see the results.

9. Monrovia Celebrates a Once-in-a-Century Event - We fondly reflect upon Monrovia ZIP day (9/10/16), which was an event 100 years in the making. Monroviains celebrated this special day, as we do many big moments in town, with a big ol' party in Library Park. See you all at the next one on September 10, 2116! One question, will the Post Office still be around?



8. The Stars Come Out - You know how your out-of-state friends and family always ask if you've met anyone famous? Well, now you can add your very own hometown to the fame list! Monrovia hosted quite a few filming productions in 2016. Car commercials, student films, and even a music video captured our beautiful downtown, historic homes, and gorgeous open space. Look out, Hollywood, Monrovia's giving you a run for your money - we already have our own hillside sign!



7. Shopping Center Gets a New Lease on Life... and Several New Leases - Picture this... a Home Goods, a TJ Maxx, and an ALDI right here in Monrovia. That's right, those big names will soon appear at the shopping center at 725 East Huntington Drive!

6. The Depot Embarks on a New Journey - 2016 was huge for one of our very special historic buildings! Not only did the Santa Fe Depot at Station Square receive local historic landmark status, but it was also approved to be the site of a new restaurant and will undergo an extensive rehabilitation to restore its former splendor.

5. The New Building Code is Approved - The adoption of the tri-annual California Building Code update is a massive achievement for our Building Division. That's no joke! In fact, the new code is so unfunny that our Building Division Manager decided to retire! We thank him for his years of dedicated service - he will be missed!

4. Neighborhood Services Wins National Recognition - 2016 was the year that the rest of the nation noticed how our little city inspires community, revitalizes neighborhoods, and encourages civic participation. In fact, our very own MAP program won three awards at the 2016 Neighborhoods USA annual conference.

3. Public Art Abounds - The Art in Public Places program was just like butter this year - it was really on a roll! Get it? Mechanical boxes were given a fresh coat, a new kinetic art piece was placed in front of City Hall, and a three piece bronze sculpture found a home in front of the Krikorian Theater. And did you see the awesome new book mural in the Library? But it doesn't stop there - 2017 promises to be another big year for [#artinmonrovia](https://twitter.com/artinmonrovia)



2. Monrovia Enters a "Golden" Era - Ok, Ok, we can't take full credit for this one. In March, the METRO Goldline extension opened, along with Monrovia Station Square! People around here were VERY excited to ride the rails and take advantage of free trips that day.

1. New Demolition Review and Neighborhood Compatibility Ordinances Take Effect - We talked about compatibility so much this year, you'd think we ran an online dating service! But, all of that chatter resulted in two new ordinances that will serve to preserve historic architecture and ensure that new development fits with the existing character of our Monrovia neighborhoods.

Well, what can we say? It's all in a year's work. We are looking forward to continuing to serve this amazing city in 2017 and beyond.

Want more information on anything you've read here? Read more on the Planning Division's blog: <http://cdoverthecounter.blogspot.com/>

City of Monrovia Neighborhood Services
415 S Ivy Ave
Monrovia, CA 91016

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Neighborhood News

April 2017

Join us for the 8th Annual



Building Better... | April 22, 2017 | 9:30 am to 3:00 pm
Monrovia Community Center

Free Workshops | Breakfast & Lunch | Vendors