

Newark News

Newark City Council places Measure GG on the November ballot

The City Council has put forward a vision to address safety and efficiency issues with the City's antiquated Civic Center which includes the police operations facility, the library, and administrative offices. On July 14, 2016, the City Council voted unanimously to place Measure GG on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot. Measure GG would add a local one-half cent sales tax increase that would fund the replacement of these antiquated and seismically deficient facilities with a modern police operations center, world class library, vibrant public spaces, and efficient accessible City offices. The City Council also adopted a "Resolution of Intent" that established a policy that the revenues generated by Measure GG would be directed towards the replacement of those facilities with any additional funds to be used to improve other City facilities and services. An independent citizen's oversight committee would be established to insure that the funds are spent appropriately and annual audits would be conducted.

Over the past year, an expert consultant firm, Group 4 Architecture, conducted a detailed study of the existing police operations, library, and administrative facilities and analyzed their potential replacement. Community and stakeholder input was a key part of this process. There were two community meetings held and numerous stakeholder interviews. The effort also included three City Council work

sessions which included robust public comment. The study concluded that:

- The existing police facility does not meet existing earthquake safety standards and may not be usable in the event of even a moderate earthquake.
- The library is small and antiquated and does not allow for technological innovation and meeting spaces that are the hallmark of modern libraries.
- There are serious deficiencies in the space and configuration of the existing police and administrative office spaces. New facilities would reduce operating costs and improve service to the public.
- There is an opportunity to co-locate the school district offices for greater efficiency and improved service.
- High quality public buildings and a plaza would help build a sense of community.
- New energy efficient facilities would save substantial funds.

The consultant also studied renovation and enlargement of the existing facilities and it was concluded that the cost would be higher and the efficiency of buildings would be lower than new facilities.

The study also included evaluating various alternate locations for the Civic

Center. It was concluded that the new Civic Center should be constructed on the existing Civic Center site. The construction would be phased to allow City operations to continue during construction. The consultant's final report can be found on the City's website at www.newark.org.

If Measure GG is approved by the voters, the City would proceed with detailed planning for a new Civic Center. The detail design process would include public input and involvement. The outcome would be safe, energy efficient, accessible, and cost-effective facilities for providing the citizens of Newark with the public safety, administrative, cultural and educational services they need. Construction could begin in 2018.

Inside this issue...

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Storm preparation..... | 2 |
| Free document shredding..... | 2 |
| Paratransit services..... | 2 |
| AC Transit Flex..... | 3 |
| Parks Master Plan Update..... | 3 |
| Bulletin Board..... | 4 |

Storm preparation

Be prepared for the winter season ahead as normal and heavy rains may lead to localized flooding. City crews prepare for winter storms by circulating throughout the City, cleaning storm drain inlets and removing any debris that could cause flooding conditions. The goal is to keep the streets as safe as possible for the public during the inclement weather.

Any observed flooding conditions in the public right-of-way should be reported to the Newark Maintenance Yard at (510) 578-4806, during normal business hours (Monday-Thursday, and every other Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm). **After hours** – please call the non-emergency dispatch number at (510) 578-4237.

Help Keep Our Storm Drains Clean

Please take extra care during the winter months to rake or sweep, and appropriately dispose of, leaves and other debris (sticks, branches, paper and other garbage) to help prevent them from entering the storm drain system. This is especially important during our first few winter storms, because it allows us time to prevent any buildup of unwanted materials from entering and clogging the storm drain system.

Important reminders for property owners during the winter months

When raking or blowing leaves, be sure to remove them immediately to eliminate piles of leaves left in or around the streets. The street sweeper cannot pick up large piles of leaves as the equipment is not made for this type of clean up.

Keep trees and large shrubs pruned properly to prevent breakage which may, if left unattended, end up entering the drainage system. Be on the lookout after windy/stormy weather for downed leaves, tree

branches, pine cones and needles, so you can clean them up as soon as possible.

Remind all contractors and workers on or near your property that it is their responsibility to eliminate the introduction of leaves, debris, papers, garbage, and construction related materials from entering the storm drain system.

Insist that private contractors and workers properly collect leaves (by not blowing or raking into adjacent properties or the streets). Use the green waste containers provided by Republic Services to dispose of leaves and other materials appropriately. Contact Republic Services at (510) 657-3500 for any green waste or other disposal needs.

By using these simple but effective methods, we can all help keep our storm drain systems flowing freely and cleaner!

Free document shredding

All Newark citizens and business owners are invited to bring their confidential personal and business documents to be professionally shredded on-site and free of charge by **PROSHRED®** on Saturday, October 29, 2016, 10:00am to 2:00pm, in the Newark City Hall parking lot at 37101 Newark Boulevard.

PROSHRED®'s mobile shredding truck will be on-site to securely shred your confidential documents. **A maximum of four boxes, 10-12 inches high x 12-14 inches wide x 18-20 inches long (or an approximate equivalent) per Newark resident or Newark business will be accepted.** Cell phones and hard drives can be destroyed at a cost of \$5.00 each. Proof of residency is required for citizens (drivers license or a utility bill) and a copy of a business license is required for Newark businesses. If you wish, **you will be able to witness**

your materials being destroyed. Workers will be on hand to unload your car for you.

PROSHRED® is both ISO9001 and NAID AAA certified.

The City of Newark does not assume any liability in connection with the destruction of the records and it is the duty of the citizen to comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations regarding the handling and destruction of the records, including without limitation laws governing the confidentiality and retention of the information contained in the records.

Paratransit services

The Fremont Paratransit Program provides low-cost, door-to-door, shared ride transportation services for eligible Newark residents through a partnership between the City of Newark and the City of Fremont's Human Services Department.

Who is Eligible? Newark residents unable to use public transportation (AC Transit buses or BART trains) independently due to a disability or disabling health condition OR Newark residents 70 years of age or older.

Service Area & Hours: Rides are available to and from destinations in Fremont, Newark and Union City, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm. Limited rides are available Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Fares: A pre-paid voucher (\$2.50) is used per one-way trip. Vouchers are sold in books of 8 vouchers and cost \$20 per book. Voucher books can be purchased by mail or in person through the City of Fremont Human Services Department.

How to apply? For more information or to apply for services, call the Tri-City Transportation and Mobility Management Program at (510) 574-2053.

AC Transit Flex

The Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) announces the launch of a year-long pilot program known as **AC Transit Flex**. An innovative advancement in public transit for the East Bay, **Flex** is an on-demand bus service that gives AC Transit passengers direct control of their daily commute. Using a desktop computer, smart phone device or traditional telephone riders within two designated zones may now bypass waiting-in-the-elements at an existing bus stop. With **AC Transit Flex**, riders can schedule their pick-up and desired drop-off locations: reducing their wait time, arriving at their destination faster, and increasing the overall rider experience.

Flex's pilot zones include Castro Valley, Newark, Union City and Fremont. Two existing AC Transit bus lines and corresponding stops have been designated for this inaugural launch:

Line 275 serving Union City BART to Lido Faire Shopping Center

Line 48 including new service along Redwood Road between Summerset Avenue and Castro Valley BART and Redwood Road between Seven Hills and the Aitken Community and Senior Center upon request

The existing bus stops, along Lines 48 and 275, now serve as the reserved pick-up and drop-off sites. With a single telephone call to **(510) 891-5470** or click of actransit.org/flex. **Flex** riders decide the day, time, and bus stop to begin travel. **Flex's** website or live customer service assistant will then provide riders with several departure times and estimated arrival times.

AC Transit Flex operates using navigation software called MobilityDR developed by DemandTrans Solutions. MobilityDR eliminates the traditional fixed bus route and instead provides **Flex** Operators turn-by-turn directions to reach a reserved rider. Similar on-demand systems in Salem, Oregon, Chicago and Denver have

experienced diminished travel times for riders and equally enjoy a high degree of rider support. In fact, in cities where software similar to AC Transit **Flex** operates, riders eliminated an average of 2.5 miles per trip and experienced trip durations as few as four to 11 minutes.

Despite rigorous closed-course testing, the possibility of software technical interruptions may arise. So a **beta-testing period** will accompany **AC Transit Flex's** first 30 days of operation.

"Simply put, beta-testing allows AC Transit to place our new service into the 'real world' with our 'real' riders," said Michael Hursh, AC Transit's General Manager. "Once a trip is completed, each rider is encouraged to offer feedback on service quality, rider experience, pick-up and drop-off options, website functionality, software ease of use, and reservations to name a few. Customer survey cards are available onboard or feedback can be provided online."

AC Transit Flex operates Monday thru Friday 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and excludes holidays. To ensure timely frequency, **Flex** service is designed with a reservation requirement of at least 30 minutes prior to an intended departure. However, **Flex** is truly flexible; offering riders the added advantage of reserving an itinerary every weekday – for up to three months – as well as the option to reserve trips for family or traveling companions with a single transaction.

AC Transit Flex riders are asked to create an online account that links to either an email or mobile phone number. **Flex** riders reserving via the website will receive notice ten minutes prior to the buses arrival via email or text. Riders may opt out of email or mobile phone registration by telephoning a customer service representative to book **Flex** travel.

AC Transit Flex also offers two exceptions to the reservation requirement. Riders commencing travel at Castro Valley BART may board without reservations every 60 minutes. Similarly, reservations are

not required when commencing travel at Union City BART which operates every 30 minutes. Riders should look for **Flex's** 16-passenger buses each adorned with the **AC Transit Flex** logo on the passenger windows.

AC Transit Flex brings state-of-the-art transit service without an increase in fare. AC Transit's existing one-way fare of \$2.10 for adults applies on **Flex**. Fares are \$1.05 for youth ages 5 – 18, passengers with disabilities, and seniors at least 65 years in age. For added convenience, each **Flex** bus is outfitted with both a fare box and Clipper Card one-touch readers. Discounted fares are available for Clipper and 31-day pass holders.

For more information please visit: actransit.org/flex.

Information provided by AC Transit.

Parks Master Plan Update

The City of Newark is developing a Citywide Parks Master Plan. It would form the framework for the future provision of parks in Newark. The Master Plan will identify the recreation needs of all segments of the Newark community and include priority projects as identified by the City Council.

Two community meetings have been held and great input has been received. There was strong support for dog parks, a skate park, all weather play fields and a bike skills track.

The City's consultants and staff are now working to develop a draft plan for the parks in Newark. The draft will include maps of the major parks in Newark that show the draft vision. The draft should be completed in October and a community meeting will be held to gather community input. To follow the process and learn the date and time of the next meeting you can visit our web site at www.newark.org or follow us on Facebook at "Planning Newark California".



POSTAL CUSTOMER



Bulletin Board

City Offices closed

- Veterans' Day - Friday, November 11, 2016
- Thanksgiving - Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25, 2016
- Christmas/New Year - City offices will be closed Friday, December 23, 2016, through Monday, January 2, 2017. Police and Fire services, along with the Silliman Activity and Aquatic Center, are not affected by this action.

Operating hours

City offices are closed on alternating Fridays. The Fridays affected through December 2016 are September 23; October 7 and 21; November 4 and 18; and December 2, 16, and 30. Police and Fire services, along with the Silliman Activity Center and Aquatic Center, are not affected by this action.

17th Annual Health Faire for Seniors

Join us on Tuesday, October 4, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, at the Silliman Activity and Family Aquatic Center, 6800 Mowry Avenue. Many healthcare and senior wellness information providers will be on hand to offer resources. Flu vaccinations will be FREE for those on Medicare. Please bring your Medicare Health Insurance Card for the flu vaccination. Call Kelly Hess at 510-578-4845 for more information. Sponsored by the Clark W. Redeker Newark Senior Center.

Tree lighting and Trees of Angels

Join the Newark City Council and representatives from the Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation for this special holiday season kick-off event Monday, December 5, 2016, 6:15 p.m. at the Newark Civic Center, 37101 Newark Boulevard. This traditional holiday program combines the City's tree lighting ceremony with the Trees of Angels and includes caroling, refreshments, and a special performance from the Newark Memorial High School Advanced Choir. Trees of Angels is Washington Hospital's annual campaign to raise funds for and increase awareness of local hospice care.

Permanent Vote by Mail Box

This is a reminder that a permanent Vote By Mail Ballot Box has been installed outside of the entrance to City Hall, near the flag pole at 37101 Newark Boulevard. The Vote By Mail Drop Box is available 24 hours a day beginning 29 days before the election. You may return your voted ballot until **8 p.m. on Election Day**. Vote by mail allows voters to cast a ballot without going to a polling place. If a registered voter has applied to vote by mail, the Registrar's office mails a ballot to the registered address of the voter beginning 29 days before an election. The voter marks the ballot and returns it to the election office by mail. The voter can also return it in person to the office or to any polling place on Election Day to be counted. For more information about voting by mail, contact the Registrar of Voters Office at (510) 272-6973 or their visit their website www.acgov.org/rov/votebymail.htm.

Full Time Licensed Child Care Center for Preschoolers

Located at the Newark Community Center, 35501 Cedar Blvd.

Providing 3-5 year olds a safe, happy learning environment for 20+ years

Mon.-Fri.,
 7:00am-6:00pm
 Child Care with the
 added classroom
 learning experience
 of Preschool!



Newark Recreation and Community Services Department



Check us out
 on facebook,
 yelp, or at
www.newark.org
 (search: *child
 care center*)
 (510) 578-4438