

City of Whittier Important Phone Numbers

- City Hall: (562) 945-8200
- Business License: (562) 464-3315
- Code Enforcement: (562) 464-3415
- Community Development: (562) 464-3380
- Community Services: (562) 464-3430
- Graffiti Hotlines - within Whittier: (562) 464-3540
Unincorporated: (800) 675-4357 or (562) 946-6468
- Library: (562) 464-3450
- Police: (562) 945-8250
- Public Works: (562) 464-3510

For additional information on Economic Development in the City of Whittier, please contact Angelica Frausto, Business Development Manager at (562) 464-3380.

www.cityofwhittier.org • www.insidewhittier.com



City of Whittier
13230 Penn Street
Whittier, CA 90602

City Council
Owen Newcomer, Mayor
Joe Vinatieri, Mayor Pro Tem
Bob Henderson, Council Member
Greg Nordbak, Council Member
Cathy Warner, Council Member

Spotlight on City Projects

Home Improvement Loan Program

Have you thought about making improvements to your home, but don't have money for it? The City of Whittier has a 0% interest loan for qualifying families and individuals. Up to \$35,000 may be borrowed for improvements such as roofing, plumbing, electrical, windows, stucco, painting, flooring, and other repairs. The property must be owner-occupied and be located in the City of Whittier. To find out if you qualify, call the Community Development Department at (562) 464-3380.

Did You Know?

- Three First Ladies all called Whittier home at some point in their lives: Lou Henry Hoover, Pat Nixon, and Barbara Bush.
- The weekly Uptown Family Fair offers food, entertainment and shopping and is rated in the top four certified farmer's markets in Los Angeles County. Wednesday evenings through October from 5 to 9 p.m. on Greenleaf Avenue between Philadelphia and Hadley, visit www.whittieruptown.org or call (562) 696-2662 for more information.

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Growing Whittier

Planning the Future, Preserving the Past

An Economic Development Newsletter Published by the City of Whittier

Hospital Expansion Promises Quality Jobs and Much More

Hospitals fulfill a variety of community needs, ranging from providing quality health care, education and outreach, and the promotion of wellness to the community. Hospitals also contribute to the health of the economy by providing a wide spectrum of jobs for those who live in the area. Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital (PIH), already one of Whittier's top employers, continues to expand and is poised to become one of the largest employers in the region.



Proposed Plaza Tower

In 2005, PIH opened the Ed L. Shannon Tower and will shortly begin construction on a five-story, 106,500 square-foot, medical office building. Additionally, PIH is currently preparing plans for a new 200,449 square-foot hospital building expansion that will include a state-of-the-art surgical unit. When completed, PIH

will have 556 beds, making it one of the largest hospitals in Los Angeles County. This is great news for the community and while it is too soon to determine the exact number of new jobs created, there is no doubt there will be positive growth and new employment opportunities.



Ed L. Shannon Tower Opened March 2005

The timing of the expansions at PIH is perfect for the redevelopment of the Whittier Boulevard Specific Plan's Workplace District, the area between

the former Fred C. Nelles Youth Correctional Facility site and the "Five-Points" intersection at Whittier Blvd. and Washington Blvd. The Hospital is creating a synergy for increased economic development in this area. The opportunities for medical and biotechnical uses as well as

office space will generate additional employment for residents. Lastly, PIH was recently named among the top 5% of hospitals in the nation, another reason we are proud of having PIH in our community.

Proposed Medical Office Building

In This Issue

**Whittwood Town Center:
One Year Later**

**New 45,000 Square-Foot
Police Facility**

**Demolition of the Old
Alpha Beta Site**

Home Improvement Loans



Moving Right Along



Whittwood Town Center: One Year Later

It has been over a year since the grand opening of the renovated Whittwood Town Center, a shopping tradition in the Whittier community for the past 50 years. Over 38 new stores have joined the 760,000 square-foot shopping center with Wingstop, Dippin' Dots, Johnny Carino's Italian Restaurant, Joy Sushi and Wholey Moley Café all on board to join the Center this year. Dream Dinners, GNC Nutrition Center and Verizon Wireless are also slated to add to the growing list of retailers who are calling Whittwood home.

Since the opening of the new Whittwood Town Center, sales at long-time Whittwood favorites such as JCPenney, Sears and Mervyns have increased. These stores have been joined by in-line apparel tenants, a first for the Center. Beach Bums, Denim & Stuff, It's U and Sugar N Spice are now open, each offering shoppers fashionable clothing at affordable prices.



The transformation of the Whittwood Town Center, from an enclosed mall to an open-air life style center, has been exciting for the entire community. We look forward to another successful 50 years.



Planning Building & Corner

New 45,000 Square-Foot Police Facility

The countdown has begun for a new 45,000 square-foot Police Facility, which is expected to be completed in four years, November 2011. The new station will be built at Penn Street and Washington Avenue, just west of City Hall at an estimated project cost of \$35 million.



The Police Department enthusiastically welcomes the new facility as the current station was originally built in 1955 for only 20 police officers and a few support staff. In contrast, currently there are approximately 175 police and civilian personnel in the 20,000 square-foot building. Due to the tight space at the current facility, the PD has leased office space across the street from City Hall for over ten years to accommodate administrative and code enforcement personnel. Once the new station is built, all police personnel will be housed in the new facility and save the department about \$600,000 per year in lease payments.

The new, larger police facility will have the capacity for state-of-the-art technology that will increase efficiency and help recruit new officers—as modern police facilities and associated technology are a major deciding factor with police officer applicants.

The City was successful in establishing a budget for the new facility utilizing existing revenues and no tax increases.

*Happy Anniversary WPD!
This year marks the 90th Anniversary of the Whittier Police Department.*

The Future of the Old Alpha Beta Site Begins with Demolition

The old Alpha Beta site located one block west of Greenleaf Avenue and bounded by Hadley on the north, Comstock Avenue on the east, Bailey Street on the south and Milton Avenue on the west, will soon be demolished. This site is slated to be one of the first catalytic projects in the area after the completion of the Uptown Specific Plan, which is expected to be finalized this Fall. The City is laying the groundwork for a future project consistent with the vision of the new Plan.

In preparation, the City Council approved the demolition of the vacant buildings. Moreover, the City is currently reviewing bids that were solicited through a request for qualifications (RFQ), which was released at the end of February. With the quick one month turn-around, the City received submittals from eight development teams. This is great news for the City as it demonstrates that Whittier is on the map with the development community. All the buildings, except for the retail at the northeast corner, which is under different ownership, are expected to be demolished by the end of the Summer.

News In-Brief

Ravello Home Sales

The 114 town home project is already a huge success! The sales began with a list of over 200 pre-qualified potential buyers, with 95% of them either having grown up in Whittier or currently living here. The prices for the 1,644 to 1,838 square-foot, three and four bedroom town homes, range from the mid-\$500,000s to the low-\$600,000s. According to the sales manager at Ravello, the response has been excellent; the enthusiasm and interest from the community are greater in Whittier than in any other housing development by the same builder in the recent past.



Update on the Nelles Site

Last year, Whittier residents and the business community, with the leadership of our local and state elected officials, were successful in stopping a State Legislative effort to reactivate the Fred C. Nelles Correctional Facility. However, until this property is sold for private development and is out of the hands of the State of California, Whittier residents and businesses are under the continued threat of a prison in the heart of our community. Recently, California State Senator Ron Calderon and Assemblyman Tony Mendoza introduced bills, SB 575 and AB 1292, urging the sale of the Fred C. Nelles property. The bills are an important tool to forever preserve the safety of our City, while paving the way for the property to be transformed into new businesses and homes that will energize our local economy. The community's continued support is needed to close the book on Nelles. For more information and to find out where to send letters of support, contact Whittier City Hall at (562) 464-3301 or visit www.cityofwhittier.org.

