




February 27, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager 

SUBJECT: CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT: February 24 – 27, 2020

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

- Crime on Metro Bus and Rail systems has decreased by more than 17 percent over the last five years, according to new crime figures released by the [Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#).

Between 2015 and 2019, total Part 1 and Part 2 crimes, known respectively as “serious” and “less serious” crimes, have both fallen on the Metro system. Part 1 crimes have decreased nearly 23 percent and Part 2 crimes have decreased nearly 11 percent. Crime reductions have been observed in all major crime categories, including crimes against persons, crimes against properties and crimes against society. Statistics are reported to Metro regularly by multiple law enforcement partners, including the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, the Los Angeles Police Department and other law enforcement offices in communities served by Metro. The Metrolink San Bernardino Line is in the Metro Rail system.

Overall, there are approximately 3.9 crimes per million transit rides, a relatively low number that is consistent with that of other major transit agencies across the United States.

The multi-year trend identified in the crime data reveals a steady but significant drop in total crimes attributed, by the study, to Metro’s focus on improving safety and security for its customers and employees.

Metro has implemented several important [safety and security initiatives](#) in recent years to improve the customer experience, retain current transit riders and attract new riders to the system, including the following:

- Metro instituted a multi-agency policing plan in mid-2017. The plan employs a combination of law enforcement agencies, Metro transit security, private security and in-house fare compliance officers to better protect the Metro

system. Since the plan's implementation, Metro has substantially increased the “felt presence” of law enforcement on the system, which serves as a proven method of deterrence.

- Metro shortened law enforcement response times to reported incidents to about five minutes. The agency has also deployed “surge” operations as needed, targeting specific crime trends and suspicious activity inside Metro stations.
- Metro is building a collaborative and intelligence-led training and exercise program to prevent, mitigate and prepare for hazards in the transit environment. This advance training methodology allows Metro to increase its ability to deter, detect, delay and deny significant threats.
- Metro regularly deploys its new [Thruvision explosive-detection system](#) randomly throughout the system to augment its counter-terrorism measures.
- Riders can also anonymously report safety and security concerns with their smart phones by downloading the **LA Metro Transit Watch** app on their smartphone.
- Last week, Senator Anthony Portantino introduced Senate Bill 1390, which would create a new construction authority to extend the Gold Line from Montclair to Ontario International Airport. The legislation is modeled very closely after the legislation that created the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority in 1998 and is similar, in some regards, to Assembly Bill 2011, authored by Assemblymember Chris Holden and introduced in January 2020.

Unlike AB 2011, however, SB 1390 requires the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) to complete the following transfers to a new construction authority (the "Montclair to Ontario Airport Construction Authority", or MOACA):

1. The unencumbered balance of all local funds programmed for completion of the Gold Line Project in San Bernardino County (approximately \$80 million developed locally for construction of the Montclair Segment);
2. The unencumbered balance of all funds identified by a local transaction and use tax measure (Measure I); and
3. An unspecified source of funding to MOACA for completion of the project — presumably, this language relates to any future funding developed for construction to Ontario International Airport (ONT). It is likely that funding to ONT would derive from federal, state and local sources, with the latter probably coming from the Ontario International Airport Authority (OIAA) and a future extension of Measure I.

SBCTA would also be required to enter into an agreement that would transfer to a trust held by MOACA all real property interests held by SBCTA that are necessary for the planning, design, and construction of the project, at no cost to MOACA.

SB 1390 would require MOACA to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) authorizing Metro to review any significant changes to the scope of the design or construction, or both. Metro would be responsible for operating all completed phases of the Gold Line Extension, and SBCTA would be required to reimburse Metro for costs related to operating the Gold Line in San Bernardino County.

SB 1390 appears to correct many of the weaknesses of AB 2011, including the following:

1. Creates a construction authority for the purpose of extending the Gold Line from Montclair to ONT. AB 2011 only created an agency to provide **rail access** to ONT, potentially creating jurisdictional ambiguity that leaves the mandate to extend the Gold Line to ONT vague.
2. Requiring SBCTA to provide right of way (ROW) to MOACA consolidates jurisdictional authority and potentially eliminates disagreements over extension of the Gold Line to Montclair and ONT.
3. Requiring SBCTA to turn over to Metro locally developed funding for the Montclair Segment would give the Foothill Gold Line Extension Construction Authority financial control over construction of the Montclair Segment; however, there remains no commitment of funds to extend the Project to ONT.
4. Requiring MOACA to design the San Bernardino County portion of the Gold Line extension in accordance with Metro design criteria would guarantee effective integration with the greater Metro light rail system and provide for a coordinated meet up of the Gold Line extension at the Montclair Transcenter.
5. Placing operational control of the San Bernardino County Segment of the Gold Line under Metro and requiring reimbursement by SBCTA of operating costs eliminates potential future conflicts over frequency of station stops, maintenance and safety issues, and other potential sources of disagreement.

Similar to AB 2011, SB1390 would require MOACA to be governed by a board consisting of seven voting members and one non-voting member. The city councils of the cities of Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, and Upland would each appoint one voting member and alternate member to the governing board; and SBCTA, Metro, and the Ontario International Airport Authority (OIAA) would each appoint one voting member and alternate member. The non-voting member would be appointed by the Governor.

Assemblymember Holden has tentatively agreed to pull AB 2011, provided SBCTA makes concessions to commit to building the Gold Line to Montclair and, ultimately, beyond to Ontario International Airport (ONT). There is no indication that Senator Portantino would take the same stance.

The legislative drive to create a separate construction authority from Montclair to ONT was triggered by a September 2019 comment by the SBCTA Executive Director to "Throw in the Towel" on the Montclair Segment of the Gold Line, and redirect developed funding to other purposes. Since January 2020, the Executive Director has walked back his comments and the SBCTA Board has committed to securing the funds to complete the Gold Line extension to Montclair.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- Last Thursday, Mayor Javier John Dutrey; Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development Christine Caldwell; Economic Development Coordinator/Housing Associate Thailin Martin; Administrative Analyst Alyssa Colunga; Police Lieutenants Jim Michel, Brandon Kumanski, and Brian Ventura; and Administrative Aide Marci Butler attended an Appropriations Request Workshop hosted by Congresswoman Norma J. Torres. Nearly fifty individuals attended the workshop. The event took place at the Ontario Police Department.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, Congresswoman Torres invited attendees to learn more about the Appropriations Process. During the workshop, Congresswoman Torres emphasized her commitment to advocating for all the people she represents.

The Appropriations Process is the annual mechanism through which Congress allocates funds to a wide range of programs. The workshop served as an educational platform to engage non-profit organizations, government agencies, and businesses from across the Inland Empire to discuss how to make a formal appropriations request to bring more federal dollars to our district.

Congresswoman Torres' staff gave a presentation and answered questions from attendees on the Appropriations process and how their respective organization can request federal funding.



- This past Friday, Councilmember Bill Ruh and Economic Development Coordinator/Housing Associate Thailin Martin participated in a Housing Roundtable hosted by Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez. The event took place in Assembly Member Rodriguez's District Office in Chino.

The purpose of the roundtable was for Assembly Member Rodriguez to gain perspective from those involved with housing. Ten individuals from various organizations—National CORE, Inland Empire Health Plan, Neighborhood Housing Services of the Inland Empire, Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles, West End Real Estate Professionals, the City of Montclair, and the City of Ontario—were given an opportunity to share their housing thoughts, challenges, and requests to Assembly Member Rodriguez.

Assembly Member Rodriguez expressed gratitude to the attendees for their work and insight.



- On Tuesday morning, Economic Development Coordinator/Housing Associate Thailin Martin along with Montclair Housing Corporation on-site property managers attended a Housing Rights and Responsibilities workshop hosted by Inland Fair Housing and Mediation Board (IFHMB) in Pomona. The workshop discussed rights regarding evictions, repairs, security deposits, and federal and state housing discrimination laws. More than 20 attendees ranging from homeowners, property managers, non-profit housing agencies, and local government housing staff participated in the workshop.

IFHMB is a non-profit, public benefit corporation that has served San Bernardino County and parts of Riverside and Imperial Counties in Southern California since 1980. Their main office is located in Ontario. IFHMB's satellite offices are located in San Bernardino, Victorville, Barstow, Indio, and El Centro. All offices combined assist thousands of individuals each year through its numerous programs at no, or very minimal, charge to the consumer.

The non-profit organization is able to offer many free resources and services to renters, homeowners, property management companies, and cities through the various grants and monetary awards they receive. IFHMB serves as an intermediary to assist individuals in resolving issues related to housing discrimination, homeownership sustainability, rental complaints, and disputes in court through the provision of resource recommendations, education, and mediation.

For more information on IFHMB services, workshops, and resources visit <http://www.ifhmb.com>



- In a collaboration with CIM Group, Regional Census 2020, and Economic and Community Development staff, a *Census 2020* public service announcement is now circulating on the freeway-adjacent electronic sign at Montclair Place. The City is proud of each organization's contribution in achieving another milestone in our community outreach efforts. Make sure to keep an eye out for the "Be Counted" Census 2020 public service announcement.

The next *Census 2020 Complete Count Committee* meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 6:00 pm inside the Theater Room (entrance located at the west wing of the Montclair Library, right off of Fremont Avenue.) For more information, please contact Thailin Martin at tmartin@cityofmontclair.org.



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- The City of Montclair After-School (MAP) will host its 2nd Annual Masters of Montclair Art Show and 2nd Trimester Awards this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Center. The show's theme, "A Taste of Art," will include an unveiling of each student's masterpiece. For the past month, students from each of MAP's 12 school sites have been exploring artistic methods from world-renowned artists, along with their masterpieces and techniques. Students participated in hands on activities examining these artists and in the process created their own work of art! All are invited to come and have "A Taste of Art" with the MAP Masters of Art.

A flyer for the show is shared on Page 9.

- Yesterday over 140 senior citizens attended a party at the Senior Center to celebrate February birthdays. For "the month of love" birthday party, guests enjoyed lunch and dessert, entertainment by the Jammers Senior Singing Group and the Sparkle Line Dancers, and a variety of games. Dignitaries attending included Council Member Tenice Johnson who assisted in serving the meal and Council Member Corysa Martinez, son Roman, and Planning Commissioner Manny Martinez.

A photo collage is featured on Page 10.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- The Police Department held its Annual Battle of the Badges Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 18th, at the Montclair Senior Center. The event was hosted by the American Red Cross. The Battle of the Badges is an opportunity for all badge-carrying personnel, along with their friends and family, to positively impact our community by participating in a friendly competition to see who can donate the most blood and ultimately help save the most lives. Montclair City employees, friends, family members, as well as community members, participated in the event.



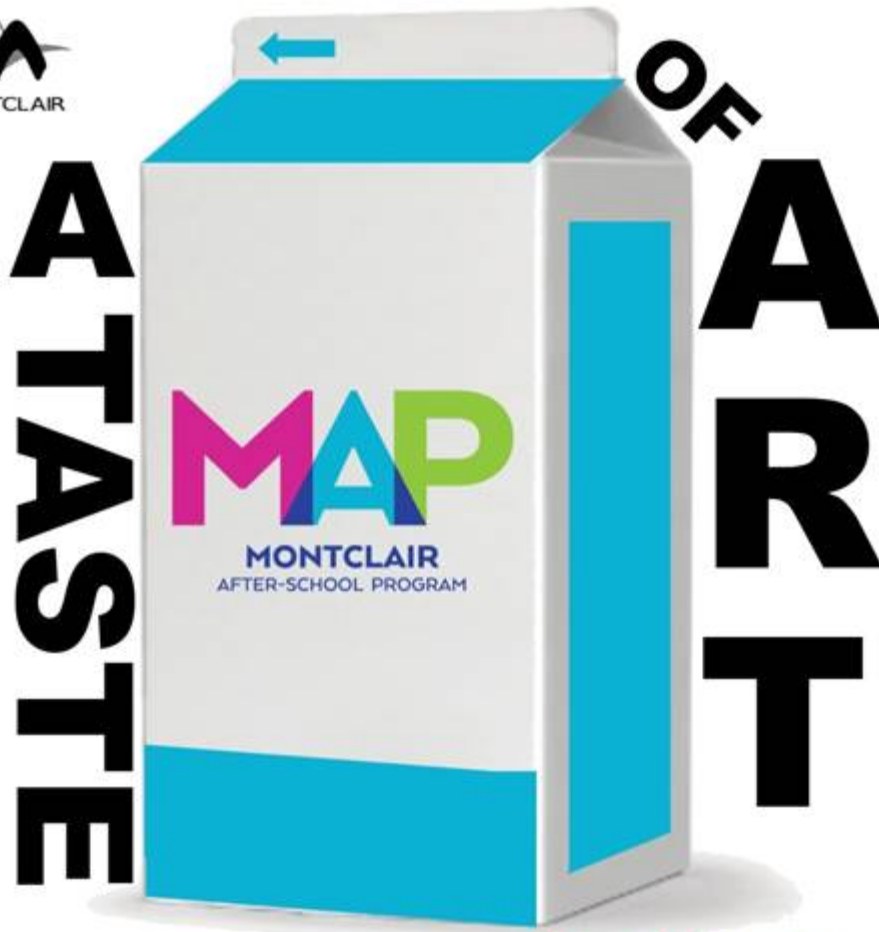
Cadets Lauren Del Campo and Luis Gomez

The Blood Drive resulted in the collection of 26 pints of blood collected from participating members, just four pints short of our goal. Attending American Red Cross representative Alan Hernandez said that although we didn't reach our goal, the drive was a big success in comparison to other drives they have recently hosted. Thanks goes to all those who participated!

ECS:tnk



<u>Day</u>	<u>Event & Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Mon. 2	Council Workshop — IEUA Presentation Council Chambers	5:45 p.m.
Mon. 2	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Weds. 4	Community Activities Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Mon. 9	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Mon. 16	Real Estate Committee Meeting City Manager's Conference Room	5:30 p.m.
Mon. 16	Code Enforcement Committee Meeting City Manager's Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
Mon. 16	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Thurs. 19	Public Works Committee Meeting City Manager's Conference Room	4:00 p.m.
Mon. 25	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.



**AN ART SHOW
PRESENTED**

BY:



Thursday, February 27, 2020

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Montclair Senior Center

5111 Benito St. Montclair, CA 91763

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (909) 625-9458

MONTCLAIR SENIOR CENTER FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY PARTY

