

CITY COUNCIL CONNECT



Welcome to this week's update! As we continue to navigate through our ongoing projects and initiatives, let's take a moment to highlight some key developments this week.

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Upcoming Events

September 6 - 12, 2026

Event/Location

Date/Time

Community Services Commission Special Meeting

Council Chambers,
1424 Mission St.

September 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting

Council Chambers,
1424 Mission St.

September 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Public Works Infrastructure Commission

Council Chambers,
1424 Mission St.

September 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

September 6 - 12, 2026

Event/Location

Date/Time

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Library,
1100 Oxley St.

September 10 at 7:00 p.m.

September 11th Remembrance Ceremony

City Hall,
1414 Mission St.

September 11 at 6:45 a.m.

Offices Closed on Labor Day

City offices and programs will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2026, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Police and Fire will remain fully operational.

Fire Department Responds to Residential Structure Fire at 2000 Block of Meridian Avenue

At approximately 3:30 p.m. on Monday, August 31, 2026, the City of South Pasadena Fire Department, with assistance from San Marino, Pasadena, Alhambra, and Los Angeles Fire Departments, responded to a reported residential structure fire at the 2000 block of Meridian Avenue in the City of South Pasadena.

Units on scene encountered an exterior fire that began spreading to the interior of the structure. Crews quickly knock down the fire quickly, preventing it from spreading to surrounding properties.

All occupants were safely evacuated and no injuries were reported.



Senior Center to Host “Ways to Help Mom and Dad: Planning for Their Future Workshop”

The South Pasadena Senior Center will host “Ways to Help Mom and Dad: Planning for Their Future” on Wednesday, September 23, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, located at 1102 Oxley Street. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with presentations beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Designed for adults who are navigating or preparing for the challenges of caring for aging parents and loved ones, this free educational workshop will provide valuable guidance, resources, and practical tools to help families make informed decisions about the future.

Attendees will hear from a panel of professionals who will share their expertise on important topics related to aging, caregiving, and planning ahead, including:

- Advance Directives and Healthcare Planning
- Financing the Care & Protecting the Estate of Our Aging Loved Ones
- Elder Law
- Just a Senior Moment? How to Approach Worsening Memory Loss in an Older Adult Family Member

Following the presentations, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session with the speakers and connect with community organizations and service providers offering additional resources and support. Dial-A-Ride transportation is available with advanced reservations. To schedule a ride, please contact the Transit Division at (626) 403-7368.

For additional information, please contact the South Pasadena Senior Center at (626) 403-7360 or seniorcenter@southpasadenaca.gov.



City of SOUTH PASADENA

WAYS TO HELP MOM & DAD PLANNING FOR THEIR FUTURE

Join us for a community workshop designed to provide information and resources for adults to assist their aging loved ones throughout each stage of their life.

DATE:
September 23, 2026

TIME:
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Location:
South Pasadena Senior Center
1102 Oxley St.
South Pasadena, CA 91030

TOPICS:

- ✓ Advance Directives & Health Care Planning
- ✓ Financing the Care & Protecting the Estate of Our Aging Loved Ones
- ✓ Elder Law
- ✓ Just a Senior Moment? Understanding & Addressing Worsening Memory Loss in Older Adults Family Members

Dial-A-Ride is available with advanced reservations. Reservations can be made by contacting the Transit Division at (626) 403-7368.

Special thanks to our event sponsor the Senior Citizens' Foundation of South Pasadena and the Harold & Alice Mgrublian Endowment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

(626) 403-7360 | seniorcenter@southpasadenaca.gov

 **SOUTH PASADENA**
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Senior Center Activities

Senior Center Outing to the Pantages Theatre

Senior Center patrons recently enjoyed a wonderful outing to the Pantages Theatre to see Beauty and the Beast. Everyone had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed the performance. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Senior Citizens Foundation for sponsoring this special outing and helping make it possible for our patrons



Movie Friday

Our Movie Friday featuring The Remarkable Bright Creatures was well attended. Seniors enjoyed an afternoon together watching the movie and spending time with friends. It was another great turnout for our movie program.



Senior Center Birthday Celebration

Last Friday of the month, the Senior Center celebrated our patrons with birthdays in August. We had a full house, and everyone enjoyed coming together to celebrate, enjoy some treats, and spend time with friends. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with smiles and good company.



Ice Cream Social

With temperatures reaching 100 degrees outside, our Senior Center members cooled off and enjoyed some fun at our Ice Cream Social. We had a great turnout, with everyone enjoying ice cream, good company, and a chance to escape the heat. It was a fun and refreshing afternoon for our seniors!



End of Summer Luau

The Senior Center hosted our annual End of Summer Luau. Despite the heat, our patrons celebrated and enjoyed an afternoon of food, music, and entertainment. The lunch was generously sponsored by Senior Center patron Janet Sanderson, from Ono Hawaiian BBQ. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and the lively entertainment provided by the Mahana Group. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of summer and bring our Senior Center community together.



Social Media 101 with the Library

The Senior Center hosted our annual End of Summer Luau. Despite the heat, our patrons celebrated and enjoyed an afternoon of food, music, and entertainment. The lunch was generously sponsored by Senior Center patron Janet Sanderson, from Ono Hawaiian BBQ. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and the lively entertainment provided by the Mahana Group. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of summer and bring our Senior Center community together.



Finance Commission Meeting Summary

The Finance Commission convened on Thursday, August 27, 2026, for a wide-ranging discussion on grant management improvements and the City's long-term financial planning, including updates on the City's OPEB liability and the City's OPEB trust with CalPERS.

Grant Policies, Procedures, and Program Update

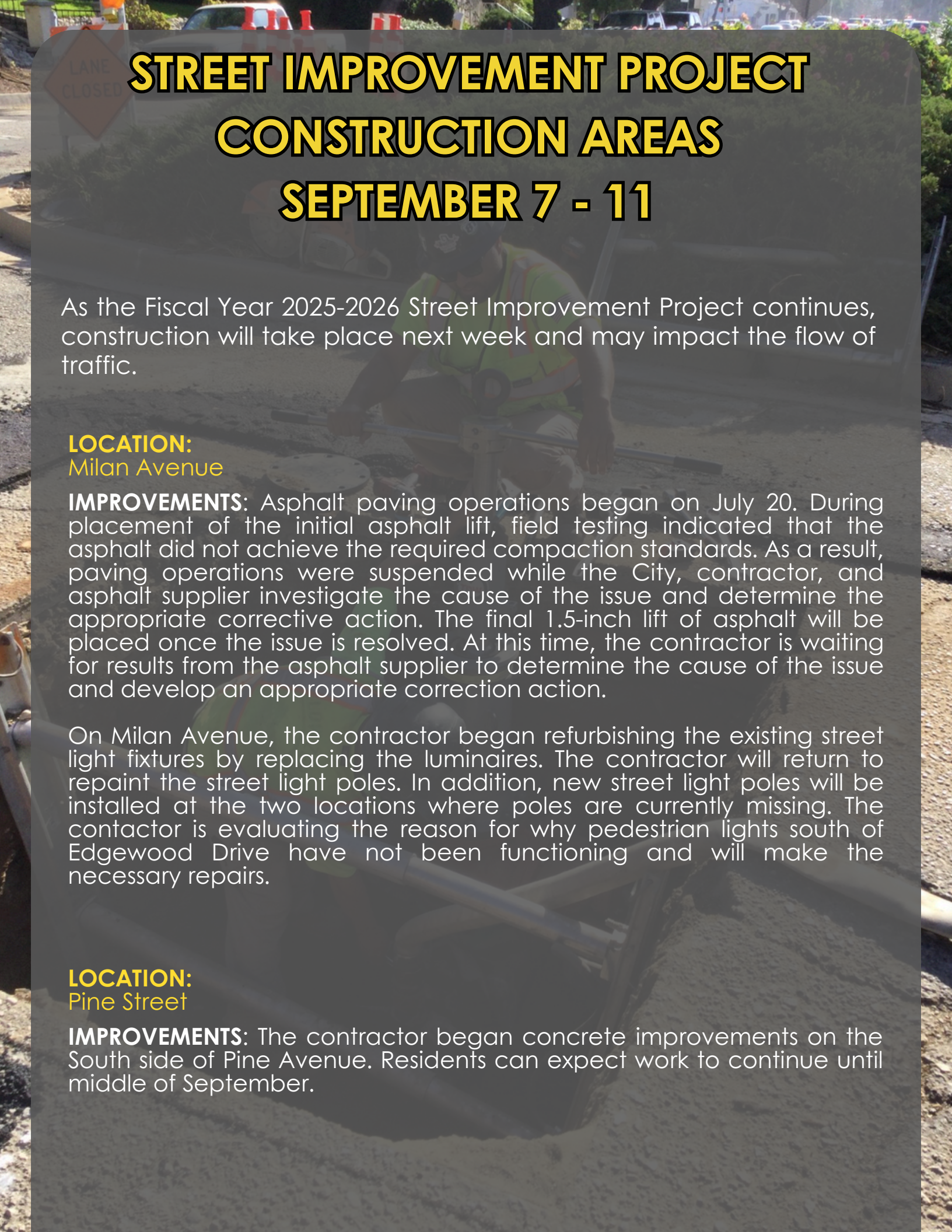
The Assistant to the City Manager presented the City's updated grant management policies, designed to strengthen transparency, streamline processes, and establish clearer guidelines for departments. Staff provided an overview of the City's substantial progress in recovering outstanding reimbursements. In FY 2024-25, the City identified \$1.1 million in eligible reimbursements and recovered 33%. FY 2025-26 is showing a significant improvement, with a 92% recovery rate on approximately \$2 million of eligible reimbursements. This success reflects stronger coordination between the Grants Manager (consultant), departments, and monthly budget reviews.

Under the updated policy, departments must obtain City Council authorization for grant applications over \$30,000, creating a consistent and accountable approval process for projects supported by grant funds.

Long-Term Financial Planning: OPEB Liability

The Accounting Manager/Controller delivered a presentation on the City's long-term financial health, focusing on strategies for managing retiree medical benefits obligations. The City's OPEB trust, held with the California Employers Retirement Benefit Trust (CERBT), continues to perform well, contributing positively to the City's long-range funding strategy.

The Commission discussed the advantages and trade-offs of remaining with CalPERS versus exploring independent investment advisory options. Commissioners emphasized evaluating risk tolerance, investment performance, and maintaining consistent annual funding. Ultimately, the Commission recommended obtaining additional information from the City's current investment advisor, prioritizing recurring annual contributions to reduce the City's unfunded liability, and asked the Finance Department to discuss a potential funding strategy once the ACFR is completed.



STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

CONSTRUCTION AREAS

SEPTEMBER 7 - 11

As the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Street Improvement Project continues, construction will take place next week and may impact the flow of traffic.

LOCATION:
Milan Avenue

IMPROVEMENTS: Asphalt paving operations began on July 20. During placement of the initial asphalt lift, field testing indicated that the asphalt did not achieve the required compaction standards. As a result, paving operations were suspended while the City, contractor, and asphalt supplier investigate the cause of the issue and determine the appropriate corrective action. The final 1.5-inch lift of asphalt will be placed once the issue is resolved. At this time, the contractor is waiting for results from the asphalt supplier to determine the cause of the issue and develop an appropriate correction action.

On Milan Avenue, the contractor began refurbishing the existing street light fixtures by replacing the luminaires. The contractor will return to repaint the street light poles. In addition, new street light poles will be installed at the two locations where poles are currently missing. The contractor is evaluating the reason for why pedestrian lights south of Edgewood Drive have not been functioning and will make the necessary repairs.

LOCATION:
Pine Street

IMPROVEMENTS: The contractor began concrete improvements on the South side of Pine Avenue. Residents can expect work to continue until middle of September.

LOCATION:

Maple Street (Meridian Avenue to Huntington Drive)

IMPROVEMENTS: Asphalt paving operations began on July 20. During placement of the initial asphalt lift, field testing indicated that the asphalt did not achieve the required compaction standards. As a result, paving operations were suspended while the City, contractor, and asphalt supplier investigate the cause of the issue and determine the appropriate corrective action. The final 1.5-inch lift of asphalt will be placed once the issue is resolved. At this time, the contractor is waiting for results from the asphalt supplier to determine the cause of the issue and develop an appropriate correction action.

LOCATION:

Arroyo Verde

IMPROVEMENTS: Improvements include continued installation of water main infrastructure at the intersection of Arroyo Verde Road and Sycamore Road. This work will require barriers to be installed because of the proximity to the METRO tracks. Residents can expect barriers to be placed from Tuesday morning until Friday end of day.

Visit the project webpage at
www.southpasadenaca.gov/street-improvement-project
to read progress updates, construction schedule, project background, and more.