

# 2007 SIERRA MADRE SENIOR MASTER PLAN SCORE CARD 2010

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## **Recommendation 1. RENOVATE HART PARK HOUSE / SENIOR CENTER**

**DESIRED OUTCOME: Design building improvement plan utilizing existing Proposition Maintenance and Service Funds. Also to meet the Senior Master Plan Goals #1, #3 & #5.**

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- June 30, 2009, interest allocation from the \$227,000 came to \$31,664.45.
- Additional monies collected in 2009 from the County Recycling program and monies in the Community Foundation equaled \$29,423.44.
- Onyx Architects were hired to be the design firm for the project and met several times with the Committee to create a design plan.
- In July 2009, the Senior Community Commission reviewed the “shovel ready” design plans and agreed that once plans went to bid, it would be done in sections due to funding resources. The plans were forward to the City Council for final approval.
- The plan check process completed in 2010 and remain on shelf pending the completion of the Sierra Madre Room Renovation and funding.
- A Hart Park House Renovation state grant application was submitted by staff in March 2010 for a possible award of \$222,611. However, in November 2010, staff learned that Sierra Madre was not selected in this round of grant funding.
- In January 2011, the Community Redevelopment Agency appropriated the remainder of the funding for the Renovation project.
- The Hart Park House renovation project is estimated to go to bid in February/March 2011. Ground breaking is estimated for late spring of 2011.
- Summer 2010 – thanks to volunteers the current Senior Center sign received a face lift.

### **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Relocation of all Hart Park House programs & meetings to a new location during renovation.  
Begin work on Kitchen and main room of the Hart Park House
- Purchase of new furniture & equipment for the Hart Park House
- Grand Re-opening Dedication of the Hart Park House/Senior Center.

## **Recommendation 2. PROVIDE FULL-TIME CITY STAFF FOR SENIOR CENTER**

**DESIRED OUTCOME: Full-Time City personnel assigned to senior services and to establish a work area for staff at the Hart Park House - Senior Services Desk. Also to meet Senior Master Plan Goals #3, #5 & #6.**

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- This was met in October 2007 with a Full-Time Recreation Coordinator hired and assigned to the Hart Park House - Senior Center.

# 2007 SIERRA MADRE SENIOR MASTER PLAN SCORE CARD 2010

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## **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- This item has been completed. No future action necessary.

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## **Recommendation 3. IMPROVE & MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCY OF TRANSIT PROGRAMS**

**DESIRED OUTCOME: Safe, reliable transportation to local services and programs and to meet the Senior Master Plan Goal #4.**

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- In October 2009, staff presented a Transportation Report to the Community Services Commission resulting in the formation of a new Ad-Hoc Transportation Committee.
  - Ad-Hoc Transportation Committee first met to review the current transportation system and make recommendations to the Community Services Commission. Recommendations from the committee were presented by the Chair to the commission on June 21, 2010.
  - December 20, 2010, the Community Services Commission approved staff's recommendations to implement some of the Committee's recommendations, but requested to wait to see the outcome of Prop. A & C funding cuts for 2011 before making any changes to the transportation route. The Community Services Commission will revisit this topic in the next year.
- September 2010, maps & schedules were laminated and posted in the Gateway shuttles.
- Two senior excursions were offered using the Gold Line as transportation to the Red Line where a special docent lead art tour was provided for free by Metro to the seniors.
- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) offered three 55 Alive Safe Driver classes each year.
- More senior excursions were planned (Bowers Museum, County Fair & Central Library) in 2010 to use the Gateway shuttle for smaller trips vs. using the larger charter bus.
- Dial-a-Ride system continues to be strong and is the system of choice in 2010 as individual riders need transportation.

## **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Order Gateway Sign for posting at the Gold Line Station in Pasadena.
- Explore alternatives for regular fixed trips using the new City vans to Trader Joe's, Target and Wal-Mart.
- Schedule more "ride-a-longs" and do more promotion of the current system.
- Without additional cost, see how the stop at the Senior Apartment complex can be adjusted to pick up stop to be in front of the facility.

# 2007 SIERRA MADRE SENIOR MASTER PLAN SCORE CARD 2010

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## Recommendation 4. IMPROVE SENIOR AND HANDICAP SAFETY

**DESIRED OUTCOME:** Senior & handicap access to local city services and programs and to meet the Senior Master Plan Goals #1 - #5.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Hart Park House design plans include a new automatic door for the main entrance to the building. As well as the plans include removing the carpet & replace it with flooring that would be safer for those who use walkers.
- In 2010, the Ad-Hoc Transit Committee addressed safety of wheelchairs & scooters on the Gateway Coaches by working with First Transit to make sure there were enough “tie downs” for securing riders in wheelchairs and scooters.
- In November 2010, Public Works staff issued an RFP for automatic doors at City Hall. Final approval of the project is pending County funding guidelines.

### **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Installation of automatic front doors at City Hall in 2011.
- Look into the possibility of increased handicapped parking on Hermosa or areas close to the Center.
- ADA accessibility of City Hall lobby public restrooms

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## Recommendation 5. EXTEND SENIOR CENTER HOURS OPERATIONS

**DESIRED OUTCOME:** Increase use of the center and additional program offerings to meet the Senior Master Plan Goals of #3 & #5.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Hart Park House hours of operation has been maintained from 9 am to 2 pm and some days longer depending on the activity (Bingo, cards, ping pong, etc.).
- The Senior Services Desk program has been difficult to re-vitalize but some new volunteers & Senior Community Commissioners volunteer when needed for special projects.
- Current Senior Information and Referrals include services such as legal matters, transportation, housing, the senior meal program and tax assistance.

### **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Continue to build list of interested senior volunteers for special projects that will help support programs and assist with manning the phones during the regular hours of operation of the Senior Services Desk.
- Coordinate new programs to further meet the needs of seniors and work to develop programs in the evening and on the weekend to give options to working seniors.

# 2007 SIERRA MADRE SENIOR MASTER PLAN SCORE CARD 2010

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## Recommendation 6. IMPROVE COMMUNICATION FOR SENIORS

**DESIRED OUTCOME:** To provide seniors with reliable communication resources and publications to help meet the overall Senior Master Plan Goals.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Ear-to-Ear Program & Postal Alert programs in place & advertised.
- In 2009 format of the Senior Moments was changed to include larger print.
- Senior information continues to be published in the Mt. Views News.
- Senior Moments is now posted on the City's website and offered as a PDF file that could be e-mailed to seniors homes.
- September 2010 the Senior Commission re-introduced the File of Life program so seniors can communicate their health issues to local paramedics.

### **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Senior Community Commission to see how a social network via computers could work.
- Increase use of the Ear-to-Ear Program & promote the Postal Alert program.
- Begin emailing the Senior Moments to interested seniors.

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## Recommendation 7. IMPROVE EDUCATION AND RESOURCE AWARENESS FOR SENIORS

**DESIRED OUTCOME:** To increase educational opportunities and resources to promote to the seniors which will meet the Senior Master Plan Goals #5 & #6.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- In 2010, Sierra Madre Library received a grant to start a new program using baby boomer volunteers. The Library engaged senior services staff to work on a project that would have volunteer drivers delivering books to shut-ins.
- Recruited a Lead Volunteer for the Meals-on-Wheels program.
- September 2010, the Hart Park House played host to a four week eye health seminar provided by the Braille Institute of Los Angeles.
- Arcadia Gardens started in 2010 to provide weekly desserts for the senior meal program as well as be available for questions about assisted living.
- In 2010, senior services staff started work with the new St. Rita Senior Ministry program started by Marilyn McKernan.
- In 2010, developed relationship with Pasadena Highlands & Accredited Nursing who come monthly to share information with the seniors as well as give Bingo prizes away.
- Relationship established with Southern California Presbyterian Homes and working on a speaker's series for 2011.
- 2006 Resource Guide was updated by Bill Robinson in 2009 with the project completed January 2010 by Julie Tran Picker who also created Resource Guide CDs that can be checked out at the library.
- Senior Community Commissioner Amy Putnam will be updating the revised Resource

# 2007 SIERRA MADRE SENIOR MASTER PLAN SCORE CARD 2010

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Guide starting late January 2011 & will keep it current each year during her term.

## **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Late January 2011 kick-off of “Titles on Go” program that delivers books to the homebound.
- Engage more outside resources to provide additional resources to seniors (i.e. Medicare, Estate Planning, etc.).
- Collaborate with the new St. Rita Senior Ministry to provide additional speakers and activities to the seniors of Sierra Madre.
- Co-host fall health fair with the Sierra Madre Individual Preparedness Plan Committee, Sierra Madre Kiwanis and Southern California Presbyterian Homes.

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## **Recommendation 8. DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT NEW PROGRAMS**

**DESIRED OUTCOMES: To re-design or create new programs in the area of health, education, recreation, safety and arts which will meet the Senior Master Plan goals #1 – 6.**

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Health
  - Arcadia Methodist Hospital nurses started to conduct monthly blood pressure checks & answer medical concerns in 2009.
  - Hosted County H1N1 shots clinic in 2010.
  - Collaborated with Royal Oaks to bring flu shots to the center in October 2010.
  - Tai Chi/balance class offered at the Hart Park House/Senior Center.
- Education component was met through the new Lunch & Learn speakers.
- Recreation Programs
  - A new Tai Chi/Balance class was started & offered to seniors for free in March 2009.
  - New silk scarf painting workshops were both in the Summer & Fall of 2010
- Safety component was met with the preparation of 200 File of Life medical information packets which were distributed to Sierra Madre residents for free.

## **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Increase collaboration opportunities between local organizations like Sierra Fitness to provide senior discounted fitness classes, Creative Arts Group for special art classes, the Arthritis Foundation for senior water exercises and more.
- Continue fundraising activities to introduce more free/low cost programs.
- **Continue to schedule presenters for Lunch & Learn Series.**

# 2007 SIERRA MADRE SENIOR MASTER PLAN SCORE CARD 2010

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## **Recommendation 9. BROADEN APPEAL OF SENIOR CENTER AND SENIOR PROGRAMS**

**DESIRED OUTCOME:** To seek ways to introduce the senior services programs to the larger community and meet the Senior Master Plan Goal #6.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- In 2010, Senior Community Commission established a liaison with the Senior Apartment complex in Sierra Madre.

**FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- Work with Senior Community Commission to get a feel for what seniors in Sierra Madre want.
- Create a Senior Center Publicity Campaign.

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## **Recommendation 10. IMPROVE SENIOR PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY**

**DESIRED OUTCOME:** Senior Services and the Senior Center are self-supporting by meeting the sustainability goals (both short & long term) listed in the 2007 Senior Master Plan.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- The acceptance into the LA County Surplus Program which has raised over \$50,000 for senior programs & renovation.
- Finalized renovation designs in the hopes that as soon as the renovation is completed the facility would be more appealing for weekend rentals.

**FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- After renovation, re-explore possibility of renting facility for wedding receptions, etc.
- Establish an annual fundraiser hosted by the Senior Community Commission.