

November 9, 2007  
Palo Alto, CA

## FRANK'S WEEKLY MEMO

### **4** City of Palo Alto Utilities Wins Two National Awards

The City of Palo Alto Utilities has won an Award of Merit for its annual report from the American Public Power Association (APPA) and has been named a finalist for the Department of Energy's (DOE) 2007 Wind Pioneer Award. Both awards were presented on Monday, October 29, at the APPA Customer Connections Conference in Seattle, Washington.

Along with Palo Alto, eight public power electric utilities earned awards from the American Public Power Association for their most recent annual reports. "All About Your Utilities," the Palo Alto annual report booklet, was a collaborative effort between the Administrative Services, Public Works and Utilities Departments. APPA conducts the annual report contest to encourage and recognize excellence in communications. Awards were judged on annual report copy, design, financial data, creativity, graphics, organization and communicating the Utility's story.



*Photo courtesy of Seattle Photography, Inc.*

The Wind Pioneer Award is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Wind Powering America Program and the APPA Demonstration of Energy Efficient Developments (DEED) Program. Palo Alto's commitment to wind energy is exemplified by its two wind contracts, which produce the combined annual production for 130,000 MWh of clean renewable energy. This provides 13% of the city's electrical supply and prevents approximately 50,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year in California.

### **AMGEN Tour of California Update November 13**

City of Palo Alto Mayor Yoriko Kishimoto and organizers from the City, Stanford University and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) will hold a media briefing to announce the specific route and details of the ***Palo Alto-Stanford University Prologue*** for the 2008 Amgen Tour of California.

**4** Designates an item related to one of the City Council's "Top 4" Priorities.

America's most successful cycling race, the Amgen Tour of California, is an eight-day "rolling festival" through California that has already become one of the nation's largest sporting events. This international, world-class road race features the globe's best cyclists. This first stage of the race, known as the *Prologue*, is a time trial and will begin in Downtown Palo Alto and end on the campus of Stanford University.

Join the Mayor and tour organizers on November 13, at 10 a.m., King Plaza at Palo Alto City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue. Contact Joe Manning at (650) 723-4658, [jmanning@stanford.edu](mailto:jmanning@stanford.edu); or Patt Baenen-Tapscott at (650) 851-7621, (650) 280-7467, [patt@scaledup.com](mailto:patt@scaledup.com) to RSVP.

### **City Co-Sponsors Transportation Workshop November 13**

The City of Palo Alto and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) have scheduled a second community workshop on Tuesday, November 13, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Jordan Middle School regarding potential changes and improvements to local bus routes and shuttle services in the city.

The first community workshop was held on October 23, during which participants commented on preliminary bus and shuttle routing concepts. Using input received at that meeting, VTA transit planning consultants will present refined concepts at this second workshop. All those interested are encouraged to participate and provide comments to help shape the recommendations to be forwarded to the City Council in December, and VTA Board of Directors in January.

The third workshop will be a public hearing before the Planning and Transportation Commission scheduled for December 4. Visit [http://www.vta.org/projects/palo\\_alto\\_bus\\_study/palo\\_alto\\_local\\_bus\\_study.html](http://www.vta.org/projects/palo_alto_bus_study/palo_alto_local_bus_study.html) for more information.

## **4 Emergency Preparedness and Communication System**

On November 4, 2007, after months of preparation, the City of Palo Alto launched the new **Community Alert and Notification System (Palo Alto CANS)**. The City encourages residents to sign up for the new system, which is provided by **Connect-CTY®** from the NTI Group, Inc., and has the ability to share information with residents regarding time-sensitive matters such as unforeseen events and emergencies. City Staff collaborated with Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN), local industry and Palo Alto Neighborhood Disaster Assistance (PANDA) volunteers to determine the needs and how best to use the new system.



Primary residential and business phones in Palo Alto will be automatically included in the system. Residents can visit the City of Palo Alto web site [www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org) at **Emergency Information**, and link to **Sign Up Now Palo Alto CANS – Services by Connect-CTY®** to enter up to three phone numbers and two e-mail addresses into the secure database. For those without residential access, the system can be accessed on computers at local libraries. For residents with call blocking services, time-sensitive alerts may be received by adding (650) 329-2498 to their approved phone number list.

City of Palo Alto strongly urges residents to register their contact information into the secure **Connect-CTY®** database. The information will be accessed by City of Palo Alto only for purposes of community alert and notification.

#### **City Sells Clean Renewable Energy Bonds**

The City has sold its Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs) to Bank of America. CREB is a special type of tax credit bond, offered by the IRS, which provides the equivalent of an interest-free loan for financing qualified energy projects to rural electric cooperatives and municipal electric utilities.

Palo Alto was awarded a CREB allocation of \$1.5 million to fund City photovoltaic (PV) projects. Since the bonds are a fairly new program, Palo Alto was among the first municipalities to offer them in the market. It took the City's underwriter, Stone and Youngberg, approximately five months from the day bond documents were completed to secure a suitable buyer, Bank of America.

Of the \$1.5 million allocation, \$1.31 million was deposited into the Utilities fund on November 1. The balance went to a discount on the bond price and issuance costs.

