

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

# PASADENA

Guiding Our Community's Future

# MOVEABOUT OPEN SPACE TOUR



Please print your name here \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(So we can enter you into the raffle for great prizes!)

## WELCOME TO MOVEABOUTS!

**You just picked up a guide to six informative tours around Pasadena!** Get ready to see new sights, explore history, experience local flavors, and expand your imagination.

**But this won't involve expensive luggage and security checkpoints – it's all right here in your own backyard.**

As part of the City's 2009 General Plan Update, hundreds of Pasadenans are taking to the streets through September 2009 to examine and offer input on some of the City's most challenging issues. You're holding this guide because you're interested – take the next step! Your ideas can be a big part of tomorrow's Pasadena.

**Each of the six MoveAbout tours described inside is designed to highlight specific issues**, from residential density to the need for well-marked bike lanes, the walkability of the city, reuse of historic buildings, and architectural design, for example. The easy-to-follow directions and maps will guide you to specific, thought-provoking sites where you can write down your impressions and your ideas for a better Pasadena. What is your experience at each location? Can you comfortably walk or bike? Do you like what you see? How can we fine-tune Pasadena to become even a better city in the future?

**It's easy to participate:** simply choose any or all of the tours listed inside. You can walk, bike, drive, or ride an ARTS bus or the Gold Line to enjoy very different experiences. (Receive a free all-day Metro Gold Line pass Saturday, August 29 from 9A.M. to 11A.M. at the Del Mar Station.) Take a quick look, or amble through on a leisurely afternoon.

**As you complete the tours, please visit local businesses listed to have the "passport box" within your guide stamped.** The more stamps you receive, the more chances you have to win fabulous raffle prizes at the November 14 Community-Wide Open House. You can also check out local landmarks, learn little-known historic facts, and sample neighborhood eateries.

Submit your completed MoveAbouts Guidebook any time on or before **Monday, September 28, 2009, 5P.M.** to the information booth at Pasadena City Hall, the Pasadena Permit Center, or any Pasadena public library.

**JOIN THE TEAM AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
LET'S GET OUT AND MOVE ABOUT, PASADENA!**

## MOVEABOUTS?

### What is this all about?

The **MoveAbouts Tours** are part of a community-wide effort to update the Land Use, Mobility, and Open Space and Conservation Elements of Pasadena's General Plan. A vital blueprint for our city's future, these elements will guide how Pasadena grows and changes, how we prioritize parks and open space, and how we move around the city well into the next decades. Last amended in 2004, the General Plan is updated regularly to reflect our community's evolving values, needs, and preferences.

With the goal of involving thousands of Pasadenans in the update, the General Plan Update Advisory Committee and City Staff have launched a major outreach campaign that will extend into next year. In addition to these fun, self-guided MoveAbouts, you and your family can get involved through upcoming community workshops, a fall speaker series, a youth task force, an interactive website, and much more.

For the latest details, including an events calendar, a community blog, planning documents, colorful videos, and a downloadable copy of this MoveAbout guide for friends and family, visit:

**[www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan)**

Feel free to tear off the back page of this guide that includes a list of upcoming outreach events.



## Here are a few important considerations for the tours:

- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing - some of the tours include a fair amount of walking around. Bring a water bottle and a couple of pens.
- Encourage a friend to join you on any or all of the tours, especially on either or both of the Driving Tours.
- Follow the DIRECTIONS carefully (look for the compass symbol, ) and always stop your vehicle/bicycle before responding to questions.
- Please try to do your tours during regular business hours (9A.M. - 5P.M.) so that you can get your “passport” stamped at our participating businesses by store employees. Keep in mind that some of the businesses may not be open on Sundays.
- See the map on pages 34 and 35 for each tour route.

## TOUR OVERVIEWS



### ARTS BUS AND WALKING TOUR (pages 4-8)

This tour combines a ride on the city ARTS bus through Pasadena’s biotechnology and healthcare district and a walking tour through one of the city’s oldest neighborhoods. Expect to spend about 20 minutes on the bus each way and 45 to 60 minutes on the nearly two-mile walking tour.



### BICYCLE TOUR (pages 9-13)

Take this tour to experience a variety of streets either currently designated or soon to be designated for bicycle travel. Visit several Pasadena parks and see a recent solar power installation. Be prepared to bike between 7 to 9.2 miles.



### DRIVING TOUR - EAST (pages 14-18)

Tour takers will experience a neighborhood that is transitioning from residential to industrial uses, a suburban-oriented group of residential and commercial developments, and some of Pasadena’s rich, ethnic commercial business districts. The length of this tour depends on the amount of time you spend at each stop. Count on at least 1 to 1.5 hours.



### DRIVING TOUR – WEST (pages 19-22)

On this tour, you’ll experience the diversity of the Pasadena built landscape as you drive from the heart of the city’s healthcare and biotechnology district to a thriving, transit-oriented urban center, and finally through some historic northwest neighborhoods that are in transition. Count on spending at least 1 to 1.5 hours on this tour.



### GOLD LINE TOUR (pages 23-27)

If you haven’t ever ridden the Metro Gold Line, or if you ride it but never pay attention to the neighborhoods you are passing through, then this tour could be for you. Tour takers will visit four of Pasadena’s six stations and experience some of the mixed housing and commercial developments immediately adjacent to the rail stations. Plan on spending 1.5 to 2 hours, depending on how long you wait for the train and how much exploring you do at each stop.



### OPEN SPACE TOUR (pages 28-33)

The Open Space tour provides an opportunity for you to see the full range of Pasadena’s diverse open space environments, from natural open space to community gardens to dog parks. This tour will last 2 to 2.5 hours, depending on the time you spend visiting each park area. We encourage you to get out and hike a little at each stop.



# OPEN SPACE TOUR

**STARTING POINT:** Eaton Canyon Nature Center – 1750 North Altadena Drive

**TIME:** Approximately 2 to 2.5 hours, depending on how much time you spend exploring the various parks.

**INTRODUCTION:** On this tour you will see the range of the City’s open space, from natural open space to community gardens to dog parks.

**NOTE:** The Open Space tour does not ask for passport stamps as the other tours do. Instead, participants are asked to answer questions specific to the various sites visited.

## STOP #1 - EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER-1750 NORTH ALTADENA DRIVE



Please take some time to explore the wonderful natural and educational resources this park offers. Several trails of varying lengths begin right near the parking lot. Pick up a trail map at the Nature Center and take one of the short hikes (or if you are up for it, one of the longer ones). In any case, be sure to check out the Nature Center itself, which was reopened in 1998 after the old one burned down in the 1993 Altadena fire. The Center, which is open from 9-5 everyday except Mondays, has information about hiking trails, animals, plants, geology, history of the canyon, ecology, and docent-guided tours.

### QUESTION A: How often do you visit Eaton Canyon Park?

- |       |        |         |                      |                                   |
|-------|--------|---------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Once or twice a year | Today was the first time in years |
| 1     | 2      | 3       | 4                    | 5                                 |

As you look around this area, please note what types of birds, trees, and animals you see. Think about what this area might have looked like 50 years ago. Is there anything that existed then that is not here today? Fast forward 50 years. What do you think might be here (or not here)?

Please use the space below to share your impressions of what you have seen (i.e. what you like, and what you dislike, please print).

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 **Directions:** Exit the park and turn left onto Altadena Drive. Continue south to Paloma Street which runs along the south edge of Victory Park. Turn left and continue east to Sunnyslope Avenue. Turn right and drive one block south to Orange Grove Boulevard. Jog left and then right to the entrance of Viña Vieja Park. Park in the lot.

On your way to Viña Vieja Park, you will drive by Victory Park. Victory Park is an example of a community park. These parks provide a broad variety of recreational opportunities and typically provide facilities for sports activities for a larger region of the city. At 26.6 acres, Victory Park is the largest of Pasadena's five community parks.

## **STOP #2 - VIÑA VIEJA PARK AND ALICE FROST KENNEDY OFF-LEASH DOG AREA – 3026 EAST ORANGE GROVE BOULEVARD**

As you can see, this park, Pasadena's newest, is directly adjacent to the transmission power lines that run north and south through this section of Pasadena. While residences or offices would not be permitted within the right-of-way for these lines, uses such as parks or other active open spaces or nurseries can be appropriate, and these uses can be seen along this corridor.

**QUESTION B:** Please circle below your level of support for the following statement: "Lands within transmission line rights-of-way should be considered for parks or other open space uses."

Strongly Support

1

Somewhat Support

2

Neutral

3

Do Not Support

4

Strongly Oppose

5

Please use the space below to explain your answer (please print).

As you walk around this site, you may notice that a flood control channel runs along the western edge of the park. This wash is directly downstream from the first stop on the tour, Eaton Canyon.

 **Directions:** Exit the parking lot and turn left onto Orange Grove Boulevard. Continue west for approximately 1.5 miles to Allen Avenue. Turn right and drive north to Mountain Street. Turn left and drive west to Mar Vista Avenue. Turn right, drive one block to Bell Street and turn left. Drive one block to Wilson Avenue and turn left again.

You have just driven past McDonald Park, which is an example of a neighborhood park. Pasadena has 15 neighborhood parks and has a goal of having a neighborhood park within one-half mile of every home in Pasadena. Neighborhood parks usually have a playground, restrooms, picnic tables, and shade structures, and may have sports fields or sports courts. McDonald Park has a sand volleyball court, handball courts, and a basketball court.

Adjacent to the playground at the north end of the park is a small picnic shelter. In front of the structure is a display detailing its history.

**What was the name of the company the shelter was originally built for?**

 **Directions:** Drive south on Wilson Avenue to Maple Street (freeway frontage road). Turn right and continue west on Maple Street to Oakland Avenue (one block before Los Robles Avenue).



Restored Library Arch

At the northwest corner of Maple Street and Oakland Avenue, you will pass an example of a community vegetable garden on a small “leftover” lot. Neighborhood residents raise vegetables here and maintain the site.

 **Directions:** Drive one block west on Maple Street to Los Robles Avenue. Turn left and cross the freeway. At Walnut Street, turn left and drive one block to Oakland Avenue. Turn right and drive one block to Ford Place. Turn right and return to Los Robles Avenue.

The block you have just driven is part of the campus of Fuller Theological Seminary. It is an example of land that is privately owned but has significant area dedicated to open space and used as public parkland.

 **Directions:** Turn right and drive one block north on Los Robles Avenue back to Walnut Street. Turn left and head west on Walnut Street to Raymond Avenue. Turn left and head south.

You are now driving past Memorial Park, which is the smallest of Pasadena’s five community parks, but plays an important civic role in the community. One of the City’s oldest parks, it was the original site of the Pasadena Public Library, built in 1890. The restored arch entrance of the first library still stands at the corner of Walnut Street and Raymond Avenue. Formerly known as Library Park, this was a place where Pasadenans have enjoyed outdoor concerts in the Gold Shell amphitheater since 1930. Summer concerts continue to be a popular activity at the park with the Levitt Pavilion concert series, initiated in 2003.

 **Directions:** Continue south on Raymond Avenue to California Boulevard.

As you continue south on Raymond Avenue, you will encounter the other community park in downtown Pasadena, Central Park. The colorful building you see at the south end of the park was designed in the 1920s by architect Wallace Neff as a clubhouse for the Lawn Bowling Club and has served as headquarters for El Centro de Acción Social since the 1970s.

Both Central Park and Memorial Park were included on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983 as part of the Old Pasadena historic district.

 **Directions:** Turn right on California Boulevard and drive west to St. John Avenue. Turn left and head south to Arlington Drive. Turn right and park. Be sure to answer the passport question on the next page before you leave.

### **STOP #3 – ARLINGTON GARDEN – 295 ARLINGTON DRIVE**

Arlington Garden is a community Mediterranean garden. About three acres in size on land owned by Caltrans, it shows visitors how beautiful, water-conserving, practical, and satisfying a well-planned climate-appropriate garden can be. Please get out and explore. For more information on the garden, please visit

**<http://arlingtongardeninpasadena.org>**

**QUESTION C:** Given what you have seen here and at the garden on Maple Street, please circle below your level of support for the following statement: “The City of Pasadena should continue to encourage and support community gardens wherever they may be appropriate and a suitable site is available.”

Strongly Support

1

Somewhat Support

2

Neutral

3

Do Not Support

4

Strongly Oppose

5

**STOP #3 – ARLINGTON GARDEN – 295 ARLINGTON DRIVE** *continued*

**QUESTION D:** Are there sites in your neighborhood that could become a community garden? Please use the space below to list any (please print).

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 **Directions:** Drive west on Arlington Drive to Orange Grove Boulevard. Turn right and continue north to California Boulevard. Turn left and drive to Arroyo Boulevard. Turn right and drive north to the entrance to Lower Arroyo Park, just before Norwood Drive. Turn left and head down the hill. Park your car in the lot on your left.

**STOP #4 – LOWER ARROYO SECO**

At the west end of Arlington Garden is a plaque that gives some of the history of the site.

**What was the name of the owner who purchased this property in 1902?**



The Arroyo Seco, Spanish for “dry gulch”, is the name for both the stream and the canyon that extend eight miles through western Pasadena. The Arroyo Seco stream begins high in the San Gabriel Mountains and meets up with the Los Angeles River to flow to the Pacific Ocean. The Arroyo now is protected parkland and open space, with 22 miles of trails and many other recreational opportunities. The Arroyo Seco Parks and Recreation Historic District was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places in November 2008.

The Arroyo has three distinctive areas – Lower Arroyo, Central Arroyo, and Hahamongna. This tour includes stops in the Lower Arroyo and Hahamongna and a drive through the Central Arroyo.

While you are here, please consider the ways that this area and Eaton Canyon, both preserved natural areas formed by stream erosion, are similar to and different from one another.

From the parking lot, there are a number of options for exploring the Lower Arroyo. Please choose one or more of the following:

- Walk toward the wash and turn north (to the right) before reaching the bridge. Follow the trail for approximately 400 yards. On the left, you will see the Arroyo Seco flood control channel, which is an important part of flood management in an area that is historically prone to flooding. On the right, you will see a riparian habitat created by diverting some of the Arroyo Seco water from the storm channel. Follow the trail until you reach a short, steep hill. At the top of the hill is a natural aquatic habitat before the Arroyo becomes a concrete-lined channel. This trail continues on to the Rose Bowl, where other trails can be accessed to take you to the Upper Arroyo/Hahamongna watershed area.
- Walk across the bridge and head south (to the left). The area abutting the hill is used as an *active* archery range by the Pasadena Roving Archers. **Please be careful not to walk into the range.**
- From the parking lot, turn back toward the entrance and head south at the first turn-off. This shallow pond is used for fishing enthusiasts to practice their casting.

## STOP #4 – LOWER ARROYO SECO *continued*

**QUESTION E:** How often do you visit the Lower Arroyo Seco?

- |       |        |         |                         |                                      |
|-------|--------|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Once or<br>twice a year | Today was the first<br>time in years |
| 1     | 2      | 3       | 4                       | 5                                    |

Please use the space below to tell us what attracts you to this area, particularly if you visit often (please print).

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 **Directions:** Exit the park and turn left on Arroyo Boulevard. Follow this road north under the bridges to Seco Street (just past the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center and Jackie Robinson Baseball Stadium). Turn right and head east on Seco Street to Rosemont Avenue. Turn left and drive north past the Rose Bowl and Brookside Golf Course. Rosemont will eventually climb out of the Arroyo and meet Arroyo Boulevard. Turn left and head north.

You have just been driving through the Central Arroyo, which extends between the Colorado Street Bridge and Devil’s Gate dam. It is the most active and diverse portion of the Arroyo Seco. At the southernmost and northernmost ends of the Central Arroyo, you can find natural areas of the Arroyo Seco stream. Brookside Park and Brookside Golf Course provide many opportunities for golfing, swimming, running, walking, biking, and picnicking.

### did you know?

The **Arroyo Seco Trails Guide**, published by the City, shows – and tells – you the best places to walk, hike, jog, ride a horse, bike, fish, or picnic throughout the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena. See <http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/publicworks/PNR/ArroyoSeco/> for downloadable maps. For a free full-scale hard copy of the guide, visit any Pasadena library or community center, the City Hall kiosk, Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau, or the Park Information Desk at the Hale building. For more information, call (626) 744-4321.

 **Directions:** Arroyo Boulevard becomes Windsor Avenue as it crosses the freeway. Turn left on Woodbury Road, which becomes Oak Grove Drive, and follow it around Hahamongna Park to Foothill Boulevard (just past La Canada High School). Turn right into the entrance of Hahamongna Watershed Park and follow the road as it bends back parallel to Oak Grove Drive. Drive toward the end of the parking area and park your car near the restrooms.

## STOP #5 – HAHAMONGNA WATERSHED PARK

Hahamongna Watershed Park consists of approximately 1,300 acres of open space that extend from Devil’s Gate Dam at the south end into the Arroyo Seco Canyon, on the northwestern edge of the city. In 2005, the City purchased an additional 30 acres of land adjacent to the watershed, currently referred to as Hahamongna Annex, which includes an equestrian facility, with plans for a future environmental education center. The entire park area blends passive recreation uses, water conservation, and flood management activities with a diverse plant and animal habitat. Please take some time to walk around and explore. Continue down the same road you came in on for a flat and easy half-mile walk to see Devil’s Gate Dam, which offers impressive views of the entire watershed.

## did you know?

Hahamongna Park is home to what many people claim is the world's first disc golf course.

**QUESTION F:** Hahamongna Watershed Park largely serves a water conservation function, but also provides areas for recreation uses such as hiking, disc golf, and horseback riding. The park has one multi-purpose sports field. A master plan for Hahamongna Watershed Park has been developed that will retain the low-intensity recreational nature of the park.

How often do you come to Hahamongna Watershed Park?

- Daily  
**1**
- Weekly  
**2**
- Monthly  
**3**
- Once or twice a year  
**4**
- Today was the first time in years  
**5**

Please use the space below to tell us why you visit the park (please print).

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## did you know?

Plans are currently underway to establish a vision for the future for the Hahamongna Annex. You can view the draft plans and find out about future meetings at this web site:

<http://www.cityofpasadena.net/publicworks/PNR/ArroyoSeco/annex.asp>

----- **THIS COMPLETES THE OPEN SPACE TOUR** -----

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/NOTES:**



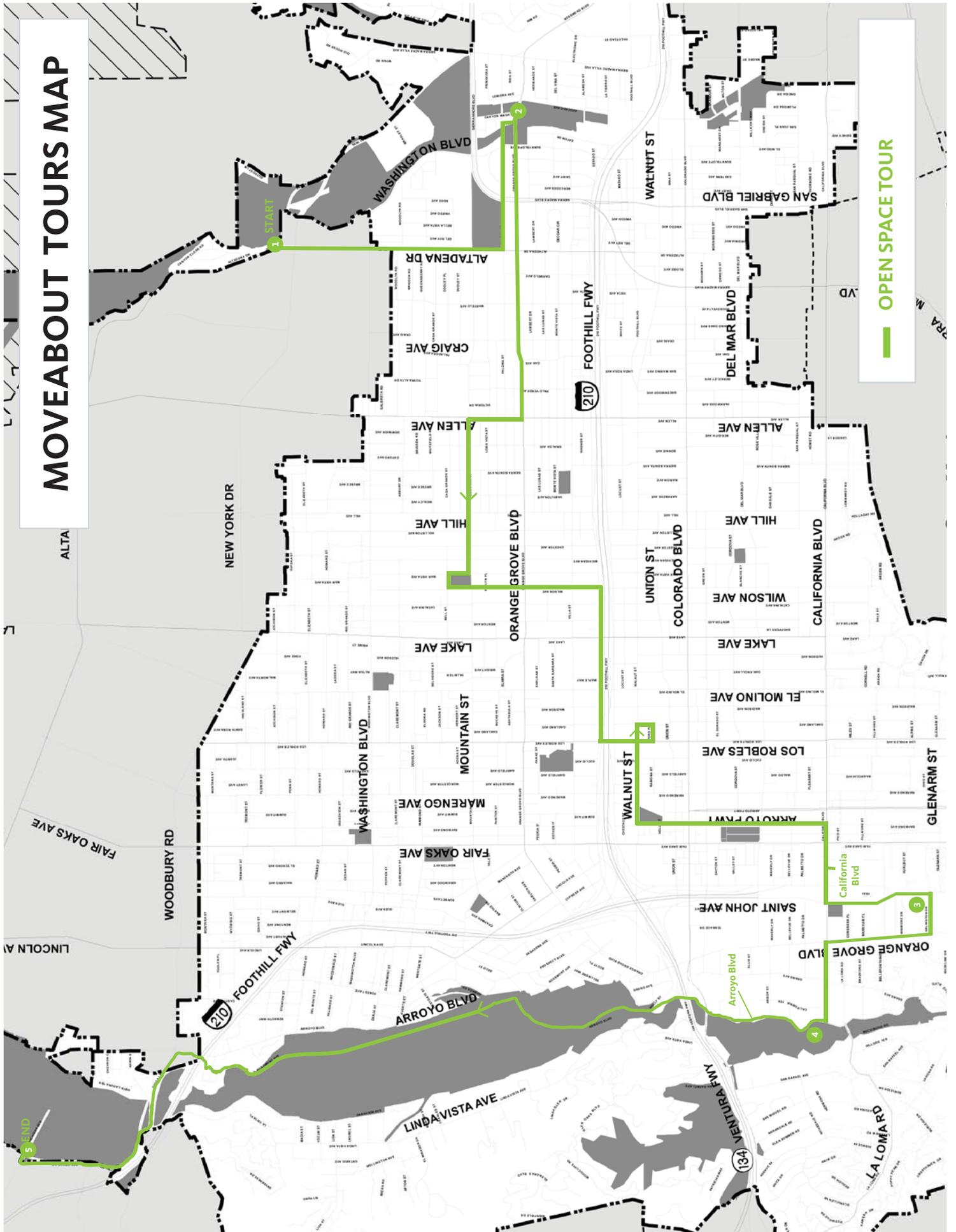
Before you get to Devil's Gate Dam, you will cross the Flint Wash Bridge. A plaque on the bridge commemorates its dedication. **What is the date on the plaque?**

**PASSPORT**

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# MOVEABOUT TOURS MAP

## OPEN SPACE TOUR



# Upcoming General Plan Update Community Outreach Opportunities

Mark your calendar for the following events:

## MOVEABOUT TOURS

August 22 - September 28, 2009

## SPEAKERS SERIES

September 16 and 30

October 14 and 28

November 4

6:30 P.M. Locations to be announced

## COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, September 15, 6:30 P.M.

Jackie Robinson Center

1020 N. Fair Oaks Avenue

Tuesday, September 22, 6:30 P.M.

La Casita Del Arroyo

177 South Arroyo Boulevard

Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 P.M.

First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena

3700 East Sierra Madre Boulevard

Saturday, September 26, 3 P.M.

Pasadena Conference Center

300 East Green Street

Tuesday, September 29, 6:30 P.M.

Pasadena Boys & Girls Club

3230 East Del Mar Boulevard

## COUNCIL DISTRICT WORKSHOPS

### Council District 1

Councilwoman Jacque Robinson

Tuesday, October 6

### Council District 2

Councilwoman Margaret McAustin

Wednesday, October 21

### Council District 3

Councilman Chris Holden

Thursday, October 15

### Council District 4

Councilman Steve Haderlein

Wednesday, October 7

### Council District 5

Vice Mayor Victor Gordo

Tuesday, October 20

### Council District 6

Councilman Steve Madison

Tuesday, October 13

### Council District 7

Councilman Terry Tornek

Thursday, October 1

## COMMUNITY-WIDE OPEN HOUSE

November 14, 2009

1 - 5 P.M.

Location to be announced

For all updates and information, check out [www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan)