

city connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the
CITY of EAST PALO ALTO, CA

VOLUME 11 • NUMBER 3

AUGUST 1985

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mayor:

Barbara A. Mouton

Vice-Mayor:

James E. Blakey, Jr.

Councilmembers:

Ruben Abrica

Omowale Satterwhite

Gertrude Wilks

City Manager:

Frederic A. Howell

RAVENSWOOD LEASE SIGNED

The East Palo Alto City Council and Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees signed an historic agreement in July that makes the Ravenswood High School site available for programs and activities conducted by the City. This agreement represents an important part of the overall, complex set of agreements related to the ultimate acquisition by the City of the Ravenswood site. According to City Manager Howell, "This is a significant breakthrough in our negotiations with the District. It means that we will have additional recreation facilities for local residents, we will eventually have ownership of the site for the new Civic Center and our litigation expenses will be reduced. It is most important because it is something this community has wanted for a long time." The lease provides City access to the playing fields, tennis courts, gymnasium, and swimming pool. Watch for future editions of *Cityconnection* for a complete schedule of events at the Ravenswood High School site.

LETTER FROM MAYOR MOUTON . . .

Bringing you news of the City, my first act is to give honor and glory to God and to state, "Oh God how great thou art that thou would grant us, confused and frustrated beings, another precious day of life, and then make that life worth living!" We certainly give thanks for reaching another milestone. Yes, it's East Palo Alto's second anniversary of its birth. It is very fitting that East Palo Alto celebrates its founding at almost the same time that our nation celebrates its founding. East Palo Alto epitomizes the very best of Americana. Over five long years ago, as the outgrowth of frustrations, anxieties, and desires among residents of the community, a small group of people began a struggle for redress of many grievances: taxation without representation; little or no concern or regard for citizens' need for safety and security from the entity charged with the enforcement of law in the community; impaction from the machinations of the East Palo Alto Municipal Council, the line of demarcation between the haves and the have-nots, which had neither the legal standing or the willingness to protect the rights and properties of community people. They brought the concept of incorporation from just a mere symbol on a sheet of paper to full fruition at the ballot box on June 7, 1983. Oh, yes, God has been good to us.

On June 26, 1985, four members of the City Council adopted a budget for fiscal 1985 - 1986 which provides for adequate staffing of City departments; it is aimed at increasing the quality of services delivered to citizens and the maximizing of the potentials for safety and security in our neighborhoods. We have begun a campaign to reclaim our community from the small group of thugs and vermin who have held us captive and have made the lives of community residents a living hell over the past several years. This group, of which we estimate to be less than 200 in number, has been allowed to negatively impact our community because of ineffective law enforcement by those who have responsibility to protect our community. Yes WE HAVE STARTED TO TAKE BACK OUR NEIGHBORHOODS! The East Palo Alto Police Department took responsibility for enforcing the law in our City at 12:01 a.m., July 1st. During the first week we observed the impact a consistent, persistent, visible law enforcement presence had on aberrant activity on the streets; some of our neighborhoods continue to be negatively impacted. We realize that the City will not be able to change, in a relatively short period of time, the festering in our environment that the San Mateo Sheriff's department, either by commission or omission, allowed to take root and spread. Citizens must also do their part to help make the community safe and secure again. We must not be part of the drug scene either as a buyer, seller, or user. Furthermore, we must not keep burglars in business by buying stolen merchandise. These may seem to be bargains but the reality is that the cost is really prohibitive; by purchasing these "hot" articles, we are selling out ourselves and our community as well. Join the fight; help take back our neighborhoods!

A long awaited development has been the implementation of the City's Department of Public Works. The new director, Jesse Smith, has the skills and experience essential to accomplish the myriad of tasks needed to clean up, repair, and maintain our streets and facilities. Yes, we really are on our way. The City signed a lease with the Sequoia Union High School Board for the Ravenswood High School

(Continued on Page 0)

CITY COUNCIL RECAP

April 1, 1985

- Proclaimed April 1985 as month of the Young Child.
- Proclaimed April 15, 20, 1985 as Earthquake Preparedness Week.
- Proclaimed April 21 - 27, 1985 as professional Secretaries Week.
- Adopted ordinance No. 054, providing for the regulation and operation of Social and Entertainment Establishments.
- Adopted ordinance No. 055, amending the City of East Palo Alto subdivision ordinance to allow for the inclusion of a final map amendment provision in accordance with the State Map Act, Section 66469 and 66472.1.
- Adopted ordinance 056 approving the Conflict of Interest Code for Designated Officials and employees of the City of East Palo Alto.
- Adopted ordinance 057 authorizing the payment of premiums and City contributions towards the benefits package for elected city officials.
- Directed staff to meet with subcommittees of the East Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce to negotiate a joint proposal on a Business License Tax Ordinance.
- Approved revisions to Council Policy 4, City newsletter.
- Directed City Attorney to draft changes to the Public Safety Commission Ordinance based upon the recommendations in the staff report and either quorum or membership change.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00169 approving a fee schedule for the rental of city-owned facilities.
- Approved and forwarded the vehicle abatement report to the City Attorney for action. The staff-prepared revisions to Chapter 5, Article 1 or the City's Ordinance Code and the request for development of a Tow Policy.

April 15, 1985

- Proclaimed May 5 to May 10 as "Semana Latina."
- Proclaimed April 20 as Peace, Jobs and Justice Day.
- Adopted ordinance No. 054 providing for the regulation and operation of social and entertainment establishment.
- Adopted the "E" District policy guidelines.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00172 approving the Joint Powers Agreement with Ravenswood City School District.
- Approved Hearing Schedule for FY 85-86 Program Budget.
- Accepted the report on the training agreement for the Police Department.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00173 authorizing the City Manager to apply for Roberti-Z'berg Funds allocated to the City of East Palo Alto for FY 84-85 for the improvement of Ravenswood Park.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00174 naming a 5.43 acre parcel in the City of East Palo Alto the Martin Luther King, Jr., Park.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00175 renaming the East Palo Alto Little League Field the Evans-Roberts Field.

May 6, 1985

- Proclamation commending William Henderson for 10 years of service to East Palo Alto.
- Proclaimed May 19 through May 25, 1985 as California Traffic Safety week.
- Proclamation commending the San Mateo County historical association for 50 years of service.
- Proclaimed May 1985 as "Older Americans" Month.
- Authorized attendance of and the payment of registration and travel expenses for Mayor Mouton and Councilwoman Wilks at the National Political Congress of Black Women's National Assembly on June 7-9 in Atlanta and that Mayor Mouton be the delegate from the City.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00176 authorizing the Chief of Police to enter into a Police Department Radio Maintenance Contract with the Communications Division of the County of San Mateo.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00177 authorizing the Mayor to execute contract agreement with San Mateo County re CDBG funds for street beautification program.
- Accepted report on Hearing on Funding Toxic Clean-up.
- Accepted the program budget quarterly report.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00178 authorizing transfer of unencumbered appropriation balance between certain departments for the remainder of FY 1984-85.

May 20

- Proclamation commending Vincent Brown on his retirement from the Ravenswood City School District.
- Proclamation commending Fr. Gene Wilson on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee and for service to the citizens of East Palo Alto.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00181 approving the application for grant funds under the Roberti-Z-Berg Urban Open Space and Recreation Program.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00182 authorizing City Manager and City Attorney to work with staff of the Sequoia Union High School District and San Mateo County to prepare documents relating to the acquisition of the Ravenswood High School Site.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00183 approving and authorizing Mayor to execute lease agreement for facilities at the Ravenswood High School Site.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00180 approving and authorizing Mayor to execute agreement with the City of Menlo Park for communication services with an amendment.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00184 approving agreement with San Mateo County for use of CDBG funds for Redevelopment Program activities.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00185 approving amendment to the Agreement between the County of San Mateo and the City of East Palo Alto re municipal services for FY 84-85.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00186 authorizing submittal of UDAG application for Shopping Center project.

May 28 – Special Meeting

- Budget Hearings May 28, June 3, June 10, June 17, June 25.
- Budget Adoption June 26.

May 29 – Special Meeting

- Held a Public Hearing on Urban Development Action Grant.

May 30 – Special Meeting

- Postponed submittal of the UDAG application for the Shopping Center Project.

June 3

- Proclaimed June 15, 1985 as Amateur Athletic Union of the United States Junior Olympics Day in East Palo Alto.
- Adopted Resolution No. 001287 approving the application for 1980 State Grant moneys for the Ravenswood Park Project.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00188 approving the application for grant funds under the Roberti-Z'berg Urban Open Space and Recreation program for swimming pool improvements, Ravenswood Center Park.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00180 approving the application for 1976 State Grant moneys for Ravenswood Center/Jack Farrell Park.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00190 approving participation of the City of East Palo Alto in the San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force Joint Powers Agreement.

June 10 – Special Meeting

- Held Public Hearing on Iwasaki Williamson act contract cancellation.
- Introduced Ordinance No. 058, an ordinance approving the removal of abandoned, wrecked, dismantled or inoperable vehicles.

June 17

- Adopted Resolution No. 190 authorizing Mayor to execute agreement with the San Mateo County for Crime Prevention Program.
- Adopted Resolution No. 191 supporting the passage of AB 1717.
- Adopted Ordinance No. 058 providing for the removal of abandoned, wrecked, dismantled or inoperable vehicles.
- Accepted the status report on Dumbarton/Menlo Business Park litigation.
- Accepted report on Economic Development.
- Authorized the expenditure of \$6,160 for Mark Briggs & Associates, Inc. for service provided in connection with an Urban Development Action Grant application.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00192 approving the City of East Palo Alto Affirmative Action program.
- Held Public Hearing on Public Safety Commission Ordinance revisions.

June 25

- Interviewed applicants for Public Safety Commission.
- Interviewed applicants for Parks & Recreation Commission.
- Adopted Ordinance No. 060 an urgency ordinance amending Ordinance No. 29-83 providing for an alternate member to the Parks & Recreation Commission.
- Adopted Resolution No. 0194 appointing members to the Public Safety Commission and Parks & Recreation Commission as follows:

Public Safety Commission

Gerald R. Bollier, full member; Nimat Shakoor, alternate member.

Parks & Recreation Commission

Teresita Navarro, alternate member.

- Adopted Resolution No. 00195 approving amended Final Map for West Park Gardens Condominium Project.
- Directed staff to work with the Senior Center Task Force and Senior Center Board in the preparation of an application requesting funding.

June 26

- Proclamation expressing appreciation and farewell to the Sheriff of San Mateo County.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00196 approving agreement between City of East Palo Alto and the County of San Mateo for the reconstruction of various streets in the City of East Palo Alto.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00197 adopting plans and specifications, determining wage scales and calling for sealed proposals for the reconstruction of various streets in the City of East Palo Alto.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00198 approving agreement between the City of East Palo Alto and the East Palo Alto Sanitary District for adjustment for sanitary sewer facilities on Beech Street, Garden Street, Oakwood Drive and Runnymede.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00199 approving agreement between the City of East Palo Alto and West Bay Sanitary District for adjustment of sanitary sewer facilities on Mello Street.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00202, approving positions and salary schedule for City of East Palo Alto Employees in Fiscal Year 1985-86.
- Held Public Hearing on the proposed use of general revenue sharing funds for Fiscal Year 1985-86.
- Approved Resolution No. 00200 adopting an appropriation limit for Fiscal year 1985-86 pursuant to Article XIII B of the Constitution of the State of California.
- Adopted Resolution No. 00201 adopting the proposed program budget for the City of East Palo Alto for Fiscal Year 1985-86.

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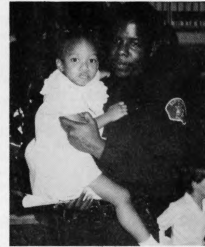
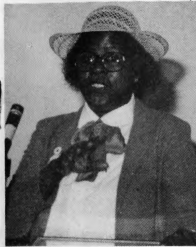
THE CITY CELEBRATES



Cinco de Mayo



Juneteenth Ride for Freedom



Second Anniversary Celebration



Farewell & Welcoming Celebration



SECOND BIRTHDAY COLLOQUIUM HELD

On July 2, the City Manager conducted the Second Birthday Colloquium, a discussion among staff and invited panelists on the City's development - past, present, and future. Joining Mr. Howell were Community Development Director Provost, Consulting Economic Development Specialist Brooks, Chamber of Commerce Operations Vice-President Ed Becks, Investment Banker Jimm Hayes, and Redevelopment Manager Virgis Streets. Using the Second Birthday Theme, "Moving to the Next Phase," Mr. Howell explained that the City of East Palo Alto is alive and well,

and he described the differences between economic growth and economic development. The panelists addressed a broad range of the City's locational, financial, political, and regulatory characteristics and generally agreed that the City is now strategically poised to take advantage of timing and other variables that are favorable to the City to ensure maximum opportunity for the types of development desired. A full transcript of the Colloquium will be available this fall.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE CITY

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The City of East Palo Alto is currently seeking applicants for the following full-time positions:

ACCOUNTANT

REQUIREMENTS: Graduation from a four-year college with a B.S. Degree in Accounting or related field and five years of recent responsible professional full-time experience in governmental or municipal accounting or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Filing Deadline: August 17, 1985

BUILDING INSPECTOR

REQUIREMENTS: Minimum 5 years full-time experience in the building construction and inspection field; or 3 years responsible full-time experience as a building inspector for a state or local government agency. ICBO Certification preferred.

Filing Deadline: Open

MAINTENANCE DIVISION MANAGER

REQUIREMENTS: High school graduate with minimum 5 years full-time experience - 2 years in supervisory capacity and 3 years experience in the following areas: sanitary sewer and storm drainage system maintenance; public works maintenance including roadway construction and repairs; and parks and grounds maintenance. Valid California Class II and III Driver's License, and experience operating light and heavy construction machinery are a plus.

Filing Deadline: Open

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/OPERATOR

REQUIREMENTS: High school graduate with a minimum of 3 years of progressively responsible experience in the construction and maintenance of streets, parks, utilities and other public facilities, and operation of construction and maintenance equipment. Valid California Class II and III Driver's License, and experience operating light and heavy construction machinery are a plus.

Filing Deadline: Open

MAINTENANCE WORKER(S) (II AND III)

REQUIREMENTS (Minimum): Graduation from high school or valid G.E.D. certificate and 3 years full-time experience in the grounds and building maintenance fields, with at least one year in a leadperson or equivalent capacity.

Filing Deadline: Open

JUNIOR CIVIL ENGINEER

REQUIREMENTS: Substantial completion or graduation from a four-year college with major courses in civil engineering. Full-time students with demonstrable skills in drafting, construction, and construction management may receive consideration.

Filing Deadline: Open

POLICE OFFICER

REQUIREMENTS: Graduation from high school or valid G.E.D. Certificate. Prior police experience or possession of a Basic P.O.S.T. Certificate. Possession of a valid California Class III Driver's License.

Filing Deadline: Open

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR BEGINS

Mr. Jesse Smith III., P.E., began employment with the City of East Palo Alto on July 1, 1985 as the first Public Works Director and City Engineer. Mr. Smith was previously Vice President of Northern California Operations for the Construction Control Services Corporation and served prior to that in the Advance Planning Section of the Michigan Department of highways. He is a registered civil engineer in two states and holds degrees in Engineering from San Francisco State and Sociology and Urban Planning from Michigan State Universities. Included among Mr. Smith's areas of specialization are construction management; hydrology and hydraulics; water planning and design; project management, engineering, and

POLICE SERVICES TECHNICIAN

REQUIREMENTS: Graduation from high school or possession of a G.E.D. Certificate. Good physical condition; possession of a valid California's Class III Driver's License.

Filing Deadline: Open

POLICE CLERK

REQUIREMENTS: Graduation from high school or possession of G.E.D. Certificate; one year of general clerical experience.

Filing Deadline: Open

RENT STABILIZATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

REQUIREMENTS: Graduation from a four-year college with a Bachelor's Degree in Business, Urban Studies, Planning, Public Administration or related field, and 5 years experience of progressively responsible administrative experience with a minimum 2 years in a supervisory capacity.

Filing Deadline: Open

The above-listed position requirements do not include all of the requirements for each position. Detailed position descriptions can be obtained at the City offices.

planning; and industrial and residential land development.

Also joining the City's Public Works Department is Mr. Kenneth C. Jones, Jr. Civil Engineer/Administrative Assistant. Mr. Jones, a local resident and engineer, has nearly eight years of extensive engineering experience in both the public and private sectors. According to City Manager Fred Howell, "the City of East Palo Alto is extremely fortunate to have acquired such high caliber personnel to organize and direct this important department. It is clear that the priority schedule for full operation of the City's own Public Works unit now will easily be met and the community can soon expect to see more visible change."

Welcome aboard Messrs. Smith and Jones!



THE CHIEF'S CORNER

At 12:01 Midnight, July 1, 1985, I observed the first East Palo Alto designated Beat cars leave the city parking lot and move onto University Avenue to patrol this city. At that time I felt a great sense of pride and accomplishment for myself and the City of East Palo Alto. All in one instance there was a great challenge, joy, and a place in history for this City and its Police Department. Through the many months of preparation that went into this effort I observed a spirit of dedication by the men and women who worked on this project that is seldom noted in today's "me first world".

Now, this department is dedicated toward bringing the most professional form of law enforcement available to this community. As we proceed toward our mission, that of competent, fair, and impartial enforcement of laws and the protection of life and property we are acutely aware of Community expectations. While the police person embodies and personifies "The Law" it is important that we have citizen involvement and support to rid this community of the blight that crime imposes. Support and involvement can take many forms, for example you can:

- Participate in the Department's forthcoming **Ride-Along Program** (See for yourself how law enforcement works rather than by rumor).
- Be a Reserve Officer. Those people who are qualified can make a significant contribution to the Community by participating in this effort.
- Be a **Block Captain**. The neighborhood crime prevention program needs people for active involvement.
- Be a **Citizen Volunteer**. If you have typing skills and can donate time, your skills can be utilized.
- **Abandoned Vehicles**. We are currently towing these vehicles from the streets. Help us by removing these problems first.
- **Trash & Garbage Dumping**. Many sites in this city are used for unlawful and unhealthy dumping. Please help us by refraining from this activity or aid us by identifying those citizens who continue this practice.

POLICE DEPARTMENT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- For all emergency calls — Dial 911
- For all non-emergency calls — Dial 858-3312
- For all routine business calls — Dial 853-3160 (Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Lastly, when incidents occur involving police service, citizens must be clear, descriptive and accurate when relating details to me or my staff about occurrences. This is necessary for me to react to or correct any deficiencies in service that may exist.

Chief Dan Nelson

ANNUAL GENERAL ADJUSTMENT ANNOUNCED BY RENT BOARD

The City of East Palo Alto Rent Stabilization Board recently announced the Annual General Adjustment for this Fiscal year of eight (8) percent. Notices were mailed to Landlords and unit managers of this allowable increase, and similar notices will be mailed to tenants during the month of August. The deadline for registration of residential rental properties was July 1 and the City Staff are completing the registration and penalty billing process. Tenants in units subject to the Rent Stabilization Ordinance are encouraged to consult the staff for any needed assistance in ensuring compliance by landlords. For further information, contact the Rent Board staff at 853-3100.

(Continued from Page 1)

site. We now have access to that space. In the next few weeks we are hoping that members of the community will volunteer their many talents and expertise to help restore the site; it has been badly neglected by the Sequoia District. If you have skills such as just plain muscle power, carpentry, electrical engineering, plumbing, roofing, landscaping, grounds-keeping, painting, et cetera, please contact the Community Services Department Director, Robert Hoover, at 853-3100. There are several community work days scheduled in the next few weeks and your help is desperately needed. Help restore our community. Negotiations for the acquisition of the Ravenswood property are progressing nicely.

On the senior front, the City has agreed to assist the Board of the East Palo Alto Senior Center in trying to secure AB 30 funds for a permanent senior center; it has allocated funds for a consultant to write the proposal.

The City's celebrations during the last week starting with a birthday program on July 1st and culminating with a picnic in the park on Saturday, July 6th were very joyous occasions. Many citizens spoke of beginning to feel more secure in their homes and safer on the streets. Yes, we're beginning to take back our neighborhoods.

The City is most appreciative of the support and commitment it has received over a long period of time from many ministers and religious leaders in the community. The City would not be celebrating another year of life if it had not been for some of these beautiful humans; we have certainly been blessed to count them as part of this community. We need the involvement of all the ministers and religious leaders in the community if we are going to take back our neighborhoods. The taking back of our neighborhoods means, of course, the expulsion of the criminal elements but it also means an increase in the awareness among community residents of what the obligations and responsibilities of citizenship are including respect for yourself and for your neighbor; observing and respecting the City's laws the same way you respect the laws of other cities – no parking or blocking driveways or streets; making sure that the empty bottle, paper sack or can is deposited in a garbage can or trash receptacle rather than just discarded wherever you may find yourself; and significant decreases in the noise emanating from those ghetto-blasters (large portable radios carried by many young people) car radios, home stereos, and mopeds.

Finally, at the beginning of the third year of life, the message emanating from the City is crystal clear. To all who would agitate against the life or well-being of this community either by design or deed be aware that you are looking down the long, long barrel of history; get out of the City's way or get destroyed.

SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

Over 200 existing and aspiring entrepreneurs attended the City's first Small Business Conference on July 10, 1985, held at the Municipal Services Building. The Conference was co-sponsored by the City's Community Development Department, East Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Task Force and Technical Advisory Committee, and Small Business Division of the California Department of Commerce. In addition to panel presentations in the morning and workshops in the afternoon, Arthur Mapps highlighted the luncheon with an inspiring talk on the importance of having a good team for a business to be successful. Planned follow-up to this conference is already underway and according to Joseph Brooks, Consulting Economic Development Specialist, "we now have a base to build upon and will do so; this is another important step toward retaining and developing small businesses in East Palo Alto." From the conference feedback, it appears that Mr. Brooks is right. Anyone interested in receiving small business assistance from the City should contact Mr. Brooks at 853-3100.

RECREATION CENTER OPEN

The Recreation Center at 550 Bell Street is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Center is equipped with games and sports equipment for children ages six through eighteen.

Recreation leaders at the Center supervise and organize activities throughout the day.

For more information, call the Recreation Department at 853-3121.

BUILDING DIVISION OFFICE HOURS

The Building Division of the Community Development Department has now established regular office hours to serve contractors and do-it-yourself homeowners. The inspector will be available to review plans, issue permits, and discuss your projects daily from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. For those who are unable to come in during these hours, services will be available from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

FIRST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AND BARBEQUE SET FOR SEPTEMBER 29

The First Annual City of East Palo Alto and Chamber of Commerce Celebrity Golf Tournament and Barbeque has been scheduled for Sunday, September 29 at the Sunol Golf Course in Fremont, California. Television personality Isaac Stevenson will serve as the celebrity host and prizes will be awarded in several flights for men, women and juniors. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Bob Hoover at 853-3100.

BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

Applications are being accepted through September 6 for appointments to the City's Parks and Recreation Commission and to the Rent Stabilization Board in the categories of Landlord, Tenant, and Homeowner alternates.

Applications can be obtained from the City Offices during regular business hours and more information on the role of commissions can be obtained from the City Clerk.

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