

Volume 8 • Issue 4
October, 2008

GALT. Connections

A City Working For You!

Important Election Information

MEASURE R

Galt Anti-Gang and Anti-Drug Public Safety Measure

There are 150 known active gang members and associates in Galt. Gang members are also coming into Galt from surrounding communities to commit crimes. Aggravated assaults in Galt, which are largely attributed to gang activity, have risen by 27% since 2006. Drug arrests in Galt have also risen by 18% over the same time period.

After months of planning and public input, the Galt City Council unanimously voted to place the Galt Anti-Gang and Anti-Drug Public Safety Measure on the November ballot.



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Special Dates

October 7 th	City Council Meeting
October 8 th	Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
October 9 th	Planning Commission Meeting
October 20 th	Water Meter Meeting
October 21 st	City Council Meeting
November 4 th	City Council Meeting
November 11 th	Holiday Veterans Day
November 18 th	City Council Meeting
November 27 th & 28 th	Holiday Thanksgiving
December 2 nd	City Council Meeting

Measure R includes fiscal accountability measures, including:

- All funds must be spent pursuant to an expenditure plan
- Funds are deposited into a separate Public Safety Trust Fund
- Independent, annual audits for public review
- An Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee will monitor spending
- All funds are in addition to current public safety funding
- All funds will stay in Galt



To find out more information about Measure R please visit our website at <http://www.ci.galt.ca.us/>.

Vote on November 4th

If passed by voters, Measure R will provide funds to:

- Hire and train five police officers to patrol our streets and arrest criminals and parole violators
- Hire a School Resource Officer to provide youth gang and drug prevention programs
- Provide graffiti removal for both private and public property
- Allow the City to participate in the County's Narcotics Taskforce
- Hire two 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatchers to improve response times





City Council Meetings Live Streaming and Video-On-Demand

The City Council recently added a new feature to its website to help you stay better connected to your local government. All City Council Meetings are now broadcast live on the internet on the City's website www.ci.galt.ca.us.

In addition to broadcasting live Council Meetings, the City has also added a video-on-demand feature which provides video of all previous Council Meetings. This video-on-demand service not only allows you to view all prior Council Meetings, it also provides a link to each item on the agenda. This feature provides a tremendous benefit by allowing you to skip right to that portion of the meeting that interests you most.

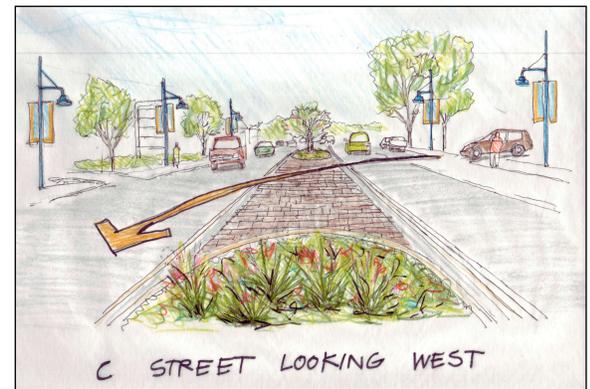
The City of Galt encourages you to stay informed about what is happening in your community by either attending meetings in person or viewing the meetings on-line. Council Meetings are scheduled on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 380 Civic Drive.

City Adopts C Street Corridor Plan

In June, the City contracted with Bramare Landscape Architecture to work with the City to develop ideas and concepts to improve the image and sense of place for the Central Business District and Historic Old Town. To accomplish this, the firm developed a master plan and design concepts for C Street, Lincoln Way and portions of Old Town with input from residents and the business community.

The proposed projects include:

1. Extending the park along the Union Pacific Railroad property west of Fourth Street southward from C Street to F Street.
2. Beautification of C Street from Highway 99 to Lincoln Way. Improvements include adding median landscaping and decorative paving, street lights with banners and new street trees and other landscaping.
3. Removing the median and parallel parking along Lincoln Way between A and C Streets and creating diagonal parking. A mid block crossing would be added along with new street trees and landscaping.
4. Adding a public plaza at the corner of C Street and Civic Drive with a fountain, seating and landscaping.
5. Extending the Old Town improvements along C Street to Lincoln Way
6. Creating a landmark or gateway at the intersection of C Street and Lincoln Way.



These projects are eligible for redevelopment funding. However timing is contingent on resolution of the lawsuit filed by the Cosumnes Community Services District against the City's Redevelopment Agency.

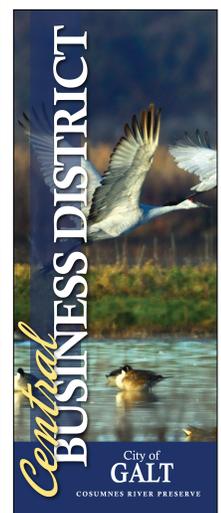
New Street Banners and Wayfinding Signs

The City recently contracted with MC2 Design Group, Inc. to develop graphic designs for new street banners on Lincoln Way and Old Town as well as wayfinding signs to be placed in various locations throughout Central Galt. The banners are intended to better identify and beautify the Central Business District and Old Town with colorful banners containing photography that reflects important elements of the community.

Images for the banners were provided by Misty Bell of Bella Studios with the exception of the sandhill crane image which was provided by Lon Yarbrough of ShareTheRoad Productions. Photos used on the banners include the Rae House Museum, Spaans Cookies, Galt Water Tower, Galt Market, the American Flag, and the Cosumnes River Preserve among others.

The new wayfinding signs are intended to provide better signage throughout Central Galt directing people towards key areas such as Old Town, Gora Aquatic Center, City Hall and the Galt Market.

The new banners and wayfinding signs should be installed in October.



Coming Soon!

For Your Shopping Convenience



Carillion Corners Shopping Center

Construction is underway at the Carillion Corners Shopping Center at Twin Cities Road and Carillion Boulevard. The retail center will feature a Rite Aid and a Tractor Supply Company (both currently under construction). Rite Aid is hoping to be open for business in April, 2009 and the Tractor Supply Company is planning on a grand opening in March, 2009. The shopping center will also be home to a Fresh and Easy and Quiznos. Permits have been pulled for the building that will be home to the Quiznos. The Fresh and Easy building permit is expected in the near future.



Galt Village Center (Kidz Come First Preschool)

The Kidz Come First Preschool is well under construction and anticipates opening in November, 2008. The preschool, which will accept children from six weeks old to twelve years old, is located at 10374 Twin Cities Road in the Galt Village Shopping Center (Raley's Center).

Call (209) 744-2600 for enrollment information.



Galt Industrial Center (Squeeze Inn Restaurant)

The Galt Industrial Center at 545 Industrial Drive is filling up fast with businesses. If you want a real treat, stop in and enjoy a famous "Squeeze with Cheese" burger at the Squeeze Inn Restaurant!

The Sacramento location of this restaurant has been featured on the Food Network (Guy's Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives) and in Sacramento Magazine for some of the best burgers in the region, but they also serve a delicious breakfast. Don't be the last one in town to discover this gem!



The new Galt Industrial Center is also home to Curves Gym and Parker Realty, the property manager for the site. A building permit for Brian's Automotive Repair is pending, and the City is working with other potential tenants getting ready to move into this nice addition to the industrial park.

Galt Draft General Plan 2030 and Draft EIR Move Forward

The Draft General Plan 2030 and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) were advertised for public review on July 23, 2008 in the Galt Herald and on the City's website. Individual notices were also mailed or e-mailed to everyone who had previously requested notice.

The Draft EIR was available for a 45 day public review period which began on July 23, 2008 and ended September 5, 2008 at 5:00pm. On August 14, 2008, the Galt Planning Commission held a public meeting to provide an additional opportunity for public comment on the Draft EIR. The Planning Commission also held a public hearing on that date to review and consider the Draft EIR and the Draft General Plan 2030. After reviewing all evidence in the record and accepting public testimony, the Planning Commission made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the Draft General Plan 2030 in accordance with staff's recommendation.

City staff and the consultant team are currently preparing the Final EIR which will include written responses to all comments received on the Draft EIR during the review period as well as any necessary clarifications/revisions to the document. Once that is done, the Draft General Plan and Final EIR will be scheduled for City Council consideration. No date has yet been determined for the City Council public hearing, but public notice of the selected hearing date will be published in the Galt Herald and sent to everyone who has requested notice. It will also be posted on the website at least 10 days prior to the hearing date.

For information on the Draft Galt General Plan 2030 and Draft EIR, visit the Galt General Plan 2030 website at <http://www.jlmintier.com/galt/> (a link is also available on the City's website). Questions can also be directed to Sandra Kiriu, Principal Planner, at (209) 366-7230 or via e-mail to skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us.

Capital Improvement Project Updates

Pavement Rehabilitation Project

The City Public Works Department prepared bids and awarded a contract to Tom Mayo Construction for the Pavement Rehabilitation Project in June 2008. Construction started the end of July 2008 and finished the end of August 2008. The work locations was on West Stockton Boulevard, from Live Oak to the north City limit (before the 99 on-ramp), Civic Drive from Caroline Street to C Street, and 7th Street from A Street to D Street. This project added 3 1/2 inches of asphalt concrete to the existing pavement to extend the structural life of the roads and is part of the City's Capital Improvement Program. This project was completed within budget, and \$330,000 is reimbursable from Federal grant monies of the project total \$727,570.



Sidewalk Improvements

SpnCon Construction recently completed sidewalk improvements totaling approximately \$340,000 along Myrtle Avenue, Palin Avenue, Elm Avenue, and E Street as well as at various locations on A Street and C Street and at City Hall. The majority of the work involved removal and replacement of damaged sidewalks and installation of new wheelchair ramps to improve accessibility to persons with disabilities as part of the city-wide Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Action Plan. Approximately \$30,000 is budgeted for similar sidewalk improvements for the upcoming year.



Central Galt Interchange

Design work is continuing with review of the 60% construction drawings completed in August. Public Works staff is currently reviewing recommendations from the recently concluded Value Analysis and Quality Assurance/Quality Control Workshop which reviewed proposed construction phasing and ways to save time and reduce costs. Appraisals for needed property acquisitions are also underway. Construction is still on track to begin Spring 2010. For detailed information about the project, please visit www.centralgaltic.com.

Twin Cities Road/Carillion Boulevard Traffic Signal Improvements

Public Works staff is currently reviewing 35% design plans for the proposed traffic signal improvements and is working with Caltrans for the required encroachment permit. Bidding for construction is anticipated to be in December of this year.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Following the recent Council approval of Option B for year-round discharge, Public Works staff is moving forward with the environmental documentation and final design for the tertiary filtration and ultra violet light disinfection improvements required to meet the requirements of our permit issued by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board. Staff is also coordinating with the State for a possible low-interest loan and/or bond financing as part of the overall project financing plan. As previously reported, staff still anticipates that the current WWTP Upgrade fee of \$25.00 per month will be adequate to fund the ultimate upgrade improvements and no further increase in this fee is anticipated. Construction of the improvements is anticipated to begin in late Spring 2009 with completion by the required May 2010 deadline.



Water Meter Implementation Plan Workshop

The previously announced Water Meter Implementation Plan workshop has been scheduled for 6:00pm, Monday, October 20, 2008, at the Anthony Pescetti Community Room at the Galt Police Station, 455 Industrial Drive. Please join Public Works and our consultant HDR Engineering for a preview of the proposed plan to install water meters, as mandated by state law, as well as a discussion of the utility rate structure and to provide feedback prior to finalizing the plan and study for presentation to the City Council. For more information please contact Public Works at 209/366-7260.

Wire Theft Alert!!!

We need your help! The City is experiencing an increasing problem with thieves cutting and stealing the copper wires powering City street lights. The thieves then sell the wire to recycle centers for the scrap price, which is currently in the \$2.00 per pound range.

There are two problems associated with the theft of wire. The first problem is that the street lights are out until someone notices and subsequently makes a report to Public Works, which initiates the repair work order. The result is dark streets, which could negatively affect public safety.

The second significant issue is the cost to replace the wire and re-connect the street lights. Wires were recently stolen from street lights on Twin Cities Road, between Carillion Boulevard and Marengo Road. The replacement wire cost alone was \$6,000. Wires were also recently stolen from lights on East Stockton Boulevard, from Adare Way to the north city limits. This is the fifth incident in the last two months and the losses are increasing with each theft.

Public Works staff is working on securing the pull box access lids to discourage theft, although this is only a deterrent. That is why we need your help. We are asking the citizens of Galt to help us by reporting any suspicious activity to the Police Department at (209) 366-7000.

Lastly, we ask that street light outages be reported to the Public Works Department at (209) 366-7260 to enable us to repair the street lights in a timely manner.

“Will Work for Food”

What do you do if you have a completely overgrown drainage channel that is 2,000 feet long and is inaccessible to vehicles? Well, if you live in an area with a rich history of involvement in 4-H and FFA, you rent some goats. That's right, goats! The City was faced with the task of clearing the drainage channel that runs from Boessow Road to Crystal Way to provide access for Sacramento/Yolo Mosquito Vector Control staff. In addition to accessibility difficulties, the possible need for environmental permits was also a concern.

The City contracted with a local rancher to place approximately 200 goats in the drainage channel. The goats were placed in the channel in late June 2008 and feasted for almost four weeks on a menu that included succulent grasses, leaves de cotton wood, and for dessert, Himalayan blackberries. The results were tremendous and the costs reasonable. The use of goats eliminated the need for the use of mechanical means, and also turned out to be more environmentally friendly. Before the goats feasted, the ditch was so overgrown that a person could not walk in the channel. After the goats were full, we were able to drive a truck in the channel. All in all, the goats were a great success and the City will use them in the future.

Building Department News

Important Notice Regarding the 2007 California Building Code!

If you are an architect, engineer, designer, or contractor that performs work within the State of California, please be advised that a new building code took effect on January 1, 2008. The new California Building Code is based on the 2006 International Building Code (IBC) and it is significantly different than the Uniform Building Code (UBC).

All plan review applications submitted after December 31, 2007 will be required to comply with the new code. The 2007 CBC is currently available for purchase directly from the International Code Council, at www.iccsafe.org

Plan Review Fees

A Plan Review fee deposit is now required at the time of the permit application submittal.

The fee will be 90% of the estimated total plan review fee and will be calculated at the time the permit application and plans are submitted to the Building Department for review.

This fee will not apply to permits that are issued “over the counter” and do not require a plan review.

We're here to help!

The Building Department processes and issues building permits, reviews and checks plans and conducts field inspections for all construction in the City of Galt. The department also responds to a variety of general inquiries about land use regulations and provides permit and ordinance interpretation. All of the Building Department staff is here to be of service to you. Please feel free to ask us any questions you have regarding a project you are working on or a project that is in the planning stages.

We have a new employee.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce John James as the newest member of the Building Department Staff. John will be working in both the building inspection and the code enforcement sections of the Building Department. John's diverse background in construction and customer service will be a great asset to the Building Department and its customers in the future.

Parks & Recreation Department

STAR – Special Teens and Recreation Activities

The STAR Program has activities planned for every month. Adults and teens with special needs are invited to these events at the Chabolla Community Center from 7:00pm until 9:00pm. The following dates have been reserved for STAR: October 10th and 24th, November 7th and 21st and December 5th. For more information regarding the dates and the program, call 366-7180.

7th and 8th Grade Dance

Enjoy music and dancing with your friends from 7:00pm until 9:00pm at the Chabolla Community Center on Saturday, October 25th (600 Chabolla Avenue, Galt). This event is for 7th and 8th grade students only! The cost is \$3.00 per person. Bring your student ID for admission to the dance (you will not be admitted without it). Each participant must also have a waiver signed by a parent/guardian in order to gain admittance to this dance. The dance ends promptly at 9:00pm. A parent/guardian must be present in order you to leave the community center, no exceptions.

For information, please call the Galt Parks and Recreation Department at (209) 366-7180.



Youth Basketball Registration

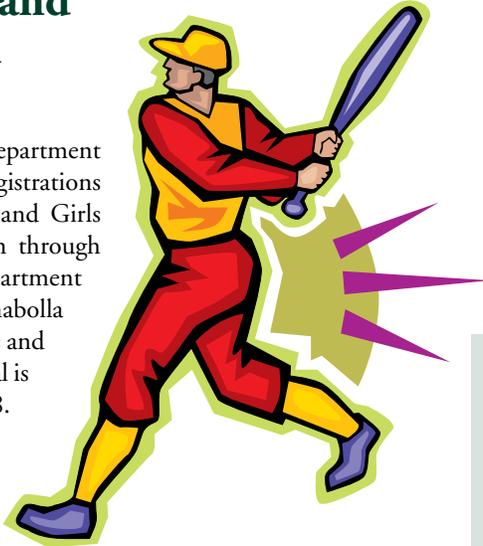
Sign up now for the Youth Basketball program. Registration is September through October 10th (1st grade registration ends on November 21st). The program begins in December and will last approximately 10 weeks.

We are currently recruiting for volunteer coaches for all grade levels. Each coach must be fingerprinted through the Parks and Recreation Department (cost charged to the City) prior to working with the youth. Please sign up at the Parks and Recreation office. Fingerprinting forms can also be picked up at the office.

For more information, please see our website at www.ci.galt.ca.us or call the Parks and Recreation Department office at (209) 366-7180.

Youth T-Ball, Instructional and Girls' Softball Registration

The Parks & Recreation Department office will be taking registrations for T-Ball, Instructional, and Girls Softball from January 5th through February 15th at the Department office located at 610 Chabolla Avenue. T-Ball is for boys and girls ages 5-6. Instructional is for boys and girls ages 7-8. Girls Softball is for young ladies ages 9-15. For more information, call (209) 366-7180.



Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

The City's Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 5th. Festivities will begin at 6:30pm at the Littleton Community Center with Holiday songs performed by the City Tots Preschool Program.

After the Tree Lighting, there will be an appearance by a "Special Guest"!



Animal Control Service

The City of Galt contracts its Animal Control service through the Sacramento County Department of Animal Control. Residents needing services such as inquiries on lost pets, programs on spaying and neutering, barking, stray or vicious dogs, loose livestock or horses should call Animal Control at (916) 368-7387 during business hours.

Animal Control also maintains a recorded "barking dog and nuisance" line. That number is (916) 875-9663. If an animal poses a threat to the public or appears to be vicious, then residents should call 9-1-1. The Police Department will respond to ensure public safety and will also notify Animal Control.



Adult Basketball League

Registration is September through October 31, 2008. Games will be played November 9, 2008 through March 2009.

For more information, please call (209) 366-7180

City Tots Preschool

We currently still have a few openings for various classes. If you are interested in enrolling your 3 year old or 4 year old, please contact the Parks and Recreation office at (209) 366-7180.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

The next Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off event will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Galt Market, 890 Caroline Avenue.

Items to be collected include used oil, automotive fluids, batteries, pesticides, pool chemicals, solvents, used sharps, fluorescent tubes, medications, paint and old household cleaners. Tires will also be accepted at the event. Proof of Galt residency is required.



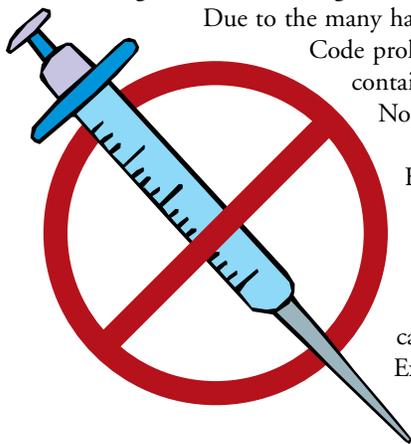
Bulky Waste Collection

As a reminder, each residence can receive Bulky Waste Collection Service up to two (2) times in 2008 by telephoning California Waste Recovery Systems office at (209) 369-6887 to request service. Cal Waste will come to your house and pick up your bulky waste on your next regularly scheduled service day.

Visit their website for more details at <http://cal-waste.com/newsletter/SummerNewsletter.pdf>

New Syringe Disposal Regulations

Each year, 8 million people in the United States use more than 3 billion needles, syringes and lancets – also called sharps – to manage medical conditions at home. Improper disposal methods may lead to haphazard disposal habits and an increased community exposure to sharps. People at the greatest risk of being stuck by used sharps include garbage and sewage treatment workers, janitors and housekeepers and children.



Due to the many hazards that unsafe disposal practices present, effective September 1, 2008, the California Health and Safety Code prohibits anyone from knowingly placing home generated sharps waste in garbage, recycling and green waste containers for disposal. Sharps are accepted in an approved sharps disposal container at either the Sacramento North Area Recovery Station Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

www.sacgreenteam.com/hazardous/residents.htm or the Sacramento Recycling and Transfer Station Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/solid-waste-recycling/residential.

The Galt Household Hazardous Waste events each spring and fall will also accept used sharps. *Galt residents will be provided up to 3 approved Biohazardous containers for needle disposal at the event.* Please refer to the Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off article (above) for details.

If you do not have an approved sharps container, you may also use strong plastic containers (so needles can't poke through) with a small opening on top with a cap or lid that screws on tightly to prevent spills. Examples include a plastic bleach jug, plastic liquid detergent bottle or plastic milk jug. **DO NOT** use glass containers (they break!) or lightweight plastic bottles.

New Interactive Voice Response System

24/7 Access To Your Utility Account Information! Utility Bill Pay By Phone!

Now you may call the Finance Department at (209) 366-7150 at your convenience, 24 hours a day, seven days per week! Using the City's new Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system the following is available, at your fingertips!

- Account balance, including current charges and unpaid balances
- Date and amount of last payment
- Scheduled date for the next bill
- Date and amount of the last bill
- Ability to request a fax copy of account information.
- Easily transfer to customer service personnel during office hours



You may also choose to pay your bill over the phone using your MasterCard or Visa*. Another function of the IVR system is a call out feature which facilitates delinquency notification by telephone; replacing the 48 hour door hanger. * Convenience fee applies

Unclaimed Property

Each year various checks become stale dated if they remain uncashed after six (6) months from the date of issuance. A list of these items can be found on the City of Galt's web site at www.ci.galt.ca.us, link to the Finance Department, Unclaimed Property. Download and complete the "Request For Replacement of Lost, Stolen or Stale Dated Check" form and bring to the Finance Department, 380 Civic Drive. Identification will be required when submitting this form. A copy of the Unclaimed Property List and form are available at the City Clerk's office as well.

Form W-9

The City of Galt is required by the Internal Revenue Service to obtain a correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) from various vendors to whom the City has made payment to for items such as services rendered and/or real estate transactions. Failure to furnish your correct TIN to the City of Galt subjects you to a 29% backup withholding, in addition to a \$50 penalty. These penalties can be deducted from subsequent payments if an accurate W-9 Form is not provided to the City in a reasonable time period.

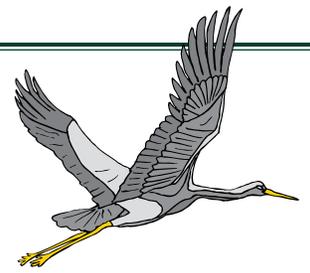
If you have received a W-9 form from the City of Galt requesting this information, please ensure its immediate return to the City. Thank you in advance for your timely response.

Current Business Licenses Expire December 31, 2008

Individual renewal notices will be mailed in November. The business license fee for January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 is as follows:

- **First owner or employee** \$40.00
- **Each additional employee** \$10.00

If you do not receive your renewal notice by December 1, 2008 please contact the City of Galt Finance Department at (209) 366-7158 or procha@ci.galt.ca.us. Be sure to include your name and license number when contacting the Finance Department.



City Hall Information

City Hall
(209) 366-7130

City Website
www.ci.galt.ca.us

City Email Address
clerk@ci.galt.ca.us

City Office Hours
9:00am to 5:00pm

City Council Meetings
1st & 3rd Tuesday
Council Chambers
7:00pm



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For You!**

A City of Galt Publication
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