The Pasadena Industrial Services Network is a group whose mission grew out of the immediate need to assist our community’s less fortunate after Hurricane Ike, broadening its vision to become our present day partnership of industry and community leaders bettering Pasadena together. A coalition of industry, community leaders, Chamber of Commerce member/officers and City staff, we’re working toward the goal of making Pasadena “the best it can be”.

After Hurricane Ike in September 2008, Mayor Isbell saw the need to help senior citizens with fences broken by the storm, damage that left them feeling vulnerable. These senior citizens, many living on fixed income with no insurance and no family members for support, had no other place to turn for help. Mayor Isbell, recognizing this need, organized the “Mayor’s Good Neighbors Make Good Fences Program” to fill that gap.

The first step was to get the message out to the community, and our Pasadena Channel television station, Inside City Hall newsletter, City website and local media were all enlisted in the effort. More requests from seniors in our community came in, and a process was put in place to thoroughly vet all applicants to the program, assuring that only the truly needy were served. Each property was visited to determine the level of need, and the applicant’s financial status was also examined to see if assistance was appropriate. After the applicant was interviewed by city staff, a decision then was made to repair or replace the damaged fence.

After need was established, contact with industry partners Chevron Phillips, Zachary Construction and Dow Fence Company gave us the opportunity to determine the amount of materials and labor required for each project. From these beginnings, our new Industrial Services Network grew to encompass more varied resident needs, but always with an eye to helping those who truly deserve assistance, and with the goal of brightening our entire community as we brighten the life of each individual recipient.

The success of this program is the direct result of the community leadership our industry partners have shown. Their willingness to step in and work side by side with the City has made the program a real success, and we are very grateful to have the level of industry support and community-minded service that these companies exemplify.

The Industrial Service Network meets monthly at noon in the community room of our Police Department, 1201 Davis, with lunch provided by local restaurants. We welcome industry and community members, as well as city staff, to attend and learn more about this very worthwhile initiative.

Richard Scott
Director, Community Relations
City of Pasadena