

**City of Garden Grove**  
**WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO**  
**December 14, 2023**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council      FROM: Lisa Kim, City Manager  
Members

**I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS**

A. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

A memo to provide an update on the amended and restated exclusive franchise agreement with Republic Services for the period of July through September 2023.

B. CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

List of Records Requests for November 2023.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Copies of the week's social media posts and local newspaper articles are attached for your information.

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



Lisa Kim  
City Manager



### Community Events - 2024

Staff and Republic have begun planning the 2024 Community Clean Up events, which will occur every odd month in a different location, as shown below. All of the clean-up events will also have electronic (e-waste) collection.

January 27, 2024	Pacifica High School	6851 Lampson Ave
March 16, 2024	Skylark Elementary School	11250 Mac Murray
May 11, 2024	Garden Grove Park	9301 Westminster
July 20, 2024	Ralston Intermediate	10851 Lampson Ave
September 24, 2024	H. Louis Lake Sr. Center	11300 Stanford Ave
November 9, 2024	Public Works Yard	13802 Newhope St

The May 11 event will also include the yearly paper shredding event.

Additionally, the annual Compost Give Away Event has been scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2024.

### CalRecycle Corrective Action Plan (CAP)

District staff and consultants continue to meet with CalRecycle staff every two months to discuss the District's CAP, which outlines the District's progress in implementing SB 1383. So far, the District has been meeting or exceeding all of the timelines to be in compliance in alignment with the schedule presented in the approved CAP.

### Contract Monitoring

At the end of September, Republic completed the planning process to implement a re-route of commercial trash collection in the District's boundaries. This re-route added routes, and reduced the number of stops per route from upwards of 200 to around 140. The re-route went into effect in the end of October. As part of the process, additional trucks were added to the routes for organics and traditional recycling collection. The full effects of the re-route will be known by the end of December 2024 and will be covered in the next quarterly update. Staff is monitoring the success of the re-route.

### Complaints and Missed Pickups

District staff have been actively monitoring the calls and inquiries made from GGSD residents and businesses regarding service failures and delays. At this time, there is no updated data to report on due to the necessary time to implement the rerouting and changes noted above. However, District staff has recently noticed a decline in Republic related inquiries that can be correlated with the rerouting. Republic is also trying to fill a vacant reporting position to ensure reports are submitted and the data is pulled from consistent locations. District staff plans to bring forth a full data analysis of missed pickup and complaint trends post rerouting as the data is still being gathered by Republic with the 6 month contract update. District staff intends to provide the data based on the

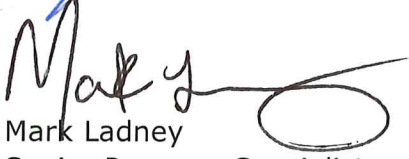
feedback received at the GGSD meeting on September 26, 2023, however the updates to the reporting systems to track and monitor the requested resolutions has caused some delays. District staff anticipates all reporting delays to be reconciled in the new year.

SUMMARY

Public Works staff continues to work with Republic and the Sanitary District's consultant, HF&H, to implement SB 1383 programs, provide education and outreach to the community, and address service quality issues. All three parties meet monthly to ensure all new elements of the Agreement are being tracked, implemented, and monitored, in addition to daily conversations as issues arise. District staff will continue to ensure constant communication with all parties as the City and Sanitary District work towards full compliance with state legislation and ensure quality service is provided to all.

Further, a six month update, covering the effects of the commercial re-route and SB 1383 overall compliance, will be prepared in the first quarter of 2024 based on data analytics that are currently being gathered.

  
WILLIAM E. MURRAY, P.E.  
Public Works Director

By:   
Mark Ladney  
Senior Program Specialist





# Montly Requests Log

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
8901	11/01/23	Please provide the following for the 457 deferred compensation plans; at the plan level only. -total assets -any fee reports -assets broken down by funds at plan level only -fixed account crediting rate -Total number of participants withi...	Human Resources	11/13/23	11/10/23
8902	11/01/23	May I please have a copy of the current Solid Waste/Recycling franchised rate sheet for the City of Garden Grove, CA with confirmation of the effective date? Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.	Public Works	11/13/23	11/10/23
8903	11/02/23	I would like to request a listing of new businesses that filed in your jurisdiction for the time period of 10/01/2023 – 10/31/2023. The information should include at a minimum the BUSINESS NAME and BUSINESS ADDRESS, but other details such as the d...	Finance	11/13/23	11/10/23
8904	11/03/23	Conditional Use Permit for Grace Baptist Church of Garden Grove	Community Development	11/16/23	11/16/23
8905	11/05/23	Hi, I would like to have a copy of the original layout (interior and exterior) of the house and any modification made over the past 20 years.		11/16/23	11/06/23
8906	11/06/23	I am requesting the contracts the city has with the current online payment vendor and cashiering (Point-of-Sale) vendor, including contract start/end dates and pricing information. Please send information electronically if possible.	Finance	11/16/23	11/14/23
8907	11/06/23	We are doing an environmental site assessment on the property and would like to know if there are any records in regards to underground/aboveground storage tanks, hazardous materials, hazardous waste, septic tanks, and/or any clarifiers on the pro...	City Manager Public Works	11/20/23	11/20/23

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
8913	11/10/23	On behalf of our customers who are contractors & suppliers, we request updated plan-holder, bid tabulation and contract award information AS IT IS AVAILABLE on the following solicitation. Please correct any errors/deficiencies and return by Email ...	Finance	11/20/23	11/20/23
8914	11/10/23	can i please get the new business listing for the previous month of October		11/20/23	11/10/23
8915	11/10/23	Sewer System Rehabilitation Plan Phase I Sewer Main Lining and Spot Repair Projects 5 & 6 - ARCSC_CP1330000  I'm with ConstructConnect. I am writing to request a copy of the bid tabulation for the above project, and if available, the awarded co...	Public Works	11/20/23	11/13/23
8916	11/11/23	Copy of the city's current contract with "Scott Fazekas & Associates, Inc."		11/27/23	11/20/23
8917	11/13/23	Bid Tabulations/Results - Project No. CP1330000 "Sewer System Rehabilitation Plan Phase I Sewer Main Lining and Spot Repair Projects 5 & 6"  I would like to request the bid tabulations/results for the above-mentioned Sewer System Rehabilitation ...		11/23/23	11/13/23
8918	11/13/23	I was wondering if you had information on what the top three employers are in Garden Grove. I'm doing some research regarding the city and couldn't find that information anywhere on the website.	Finance	11/27/23	11/13/23
8919	11/13/23	Hello,  Is there an updated PDF version of the zoning map with the types of zonings listed in a legend for the City of Garden Grove? During my search, I could only find one dated from 2018 (see attached).	Information Technology	11/27/23	11/22/23
8920	11/14/23	Copies of any and all existing permits on 11951 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, 92841		11/24/23	11/14/23
8921	11/15/23	Request #8747 13072 Casa Linda Lane #5 Garden Grove Ca 92844 Closed report	Community Development	11/27/23	11/27/23

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
8923	11/15/23	I hereby request copies of all building permits and certificates of occupancy for the following addresses: Site: 12711 - 12733 and 12751 Western Avenue (odd addresses), Garden Grove, CA 92841		11/27/23	11/16/23
8924	11/15/23	I hereby request copies of all building permits and certificates of occupancy for the following addresses: Site: 12701, 12712, 12714, 12716 and 12722 Western Avenue (even addresses), Garden Grove, CA 92841		11/26/23	11/16/23
8925	11/17/23	Can you please provide record drawings for all utilities surrounding the property at 5802 Santa Catalina Ave, Garden Grove, CA.  This would include utilities on Santa Catalina Ave to the north, Santa Barbara Ave to the southeast, and the alley t...		11/30/23	11/20/23
8927	11/18/23	Building permit history for 8101 Larson Avenue		11/30/23	11/20/23
8928	11/19/23	The KPMG National Unclaimed Property Practice is requesting the outstanding check report(over \$500) for the City of Garden Grove to assist our clients with asset recovery. We will use the information to identify property that belongs to our client...	Finance	11/30/23	11/30/23
8929	11/20/23	Sewer System Rehabilitation Plan Phase I Sewer Main Lining and Spot Repair Projects 5 & 6 - ARCS_CCP1330000 I'm with ConstructConnect. I am writing to ask for the awarded contractor and awarded amount for the above project. I would also like to...		11/30/23	11/20/23
8932	11/21/23	I would like to see the current contract ( 2023) between Stray Cat Alliance and the City of Garden Grove/Garden Grove Animal Services. If there is no current contract with Stray Cat Alliance I would like to see any contract the City of Garden Gro...		12/04/23	11/22/23
8933	11/21/23	All available records pertaining to the use of force by an officer resulting in great bodily injury within the last 3 years as defined in California Penal Code § 12022.7(f) ("As used in this section, "great bodily injury" means a significant or su...		12/04/23	11/22/23

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
8935	11/22/23	Official Report from Code Enforcement of inspection and findings that was performed on 7/27/23 of Spc 82 Home being determined/ tagged as Substandard Building - Do Not Occupy on the mobile home.  13096 Blackbird St Spc 82 Garden Grove Ca 92843	Community Development	12/04/23	12/04/23
8936	11/27/23	Please provide production records of construction remodeling, addition drawings, and permits for the property at 13831 Lombardy, Garden Grove, CA.		12/07/23	11/27/23
8937	11/27/23	My company has been engaged to perform a Phase I environmental site assessment of the commercial property located at 11702 Anabel Ave in Garden Grove. As part of our due diligence and in accordance with ASTM production standards, we're requesting ...	City Manager Public Works	12/07/23	12/05/23
8938	11/27/23	My company has been engaged to perform a Phase I environmental site assessment of the commercial property located at 11700 Anabel Ave in Garden Grove. As part of our due diligence and in accordance with ASTM production standards, we're requesting ...	City Manager	12/07/23	12/04/23
8942	11/27/23	Im the new home owner of property 9892 Oma Place, Garden Grove CA 92841. I would like to obtain any records that the city has about my new house if possible including public fact, building permit, structure record, electric and plumbing record, et...		12/07/23	11/27/23
8944	11/27/23	Edge Point requests the following electronic accounting records:  A reconciled accounting ledger of all outstanding checks written by the City of Garden Grove that remain stale and or outstanding from 01-01-2020 to 07-31-2023 of \$100.00 or mo...	Finance	12/08/23	12/08/23
8945	11/28/23	Hello,  Trileaf is conducting a Phase I Environmental assessment at 9572 Chapman Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92841. We would like to submit a records request for the following information:  • Installation, inspection, and removal of underground a...	City Manager Police Public Works	12/08/23	12/07/23
8946	11/28/23	I want to get a copy of the 2018 approved construction blueprint for the following address: 13831 Lombardy, Garden Grove, Ca Permit # 18-1465		12/08/23	12/04/23

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
8947	11/28/23	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Trileaf is conducting a Phase I Environmental assessment at 9562 Chapman Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92841. We would like to submit a records request for the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation, inspection, and removal of underground a...</li> </ul>	<p>City Manager Police Public Works</p>	12/08/23	12/05/23
8948	11/28/23	<p>Hello, I am looking for the City of Garden Grove's contract agreement services OR staff report OR memo for any of the following: Lobbyist service, legislative consulting, grant writing or any other legislative contract. Below is the attached examp...</p>		12/08/23	12/08/23
8949	11/28/23	<p>Hello, I am looking for the City of Garden Grove's contract agreement services OR staff report OR memo for any of the following: Lobbyist service, legislative consulting, grant writing or any other legislative contract. Below is the attached examp...</p>		12/10/23	12/04/23
8950	11/28/23	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is David Gonzalez and I am a licensed private investigator working an auto accident case (civilly) that occurred in the city of Garden Grove. The accident occurred at the intersection of Brookhurst St and Orangewood Ave, on Nove...</p>	Police	12/08/23	12/04/23
8952	11/29/23	<p>Hello,</p> <p>RSB Environmental is currently conducting Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the below mentioned property:</p> <p>Located at: 12511 Brookhurst St, Garden Grove, CA 92840</p> <p>As a part of these assessment, we wish to determine whether...</p>	<p>Public Works Community Development City Manager</p>	12/11/23	12/05/23
8953	11/29/23	Fire Incident		12/10/23	12/04/23
8954	11/29/23	<p>Any electrical permits that were issued prior to January 1989 for the home I own at 12901 Woodland Lane, Garden Grove, 92840</p>		12/10/23	12/04/23
8955	11/29/23	<p>Plumbing, Electrical and Roof renovations for property at 5471 Belgrave Ave, Garden Grove, CA 92845. Insurance company requested.</p>		12/10/23	12/04/23

**WEEKLY MEMO 12-14-2023**

# **SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**



# Post Performance

December 7, 2023 - December 13, 2023

Review the lifetime performance of the posts you published during the publishing period.



**Included in this Report**

 @CityGardenGrove

 Garden Grove City Hall

 gardengrovecityhall



@CityGardenGrove

Wed 12/13/2023 4:13 pm PST

All is calm and all is bright at your local #GardenGrove library! From 🕒 gingerbread house decorating to a 🍪...



**CREATE YOUR OWN POLYMER CLAY DESIGN!**  
Friday & Sunday: Closed  
Thursday, December 14  
4:00-5:30 pm

Join us for crafting and chatting at the Tibor Rubin library!  
No registration required. All materials provided. Thank you to the Friends of Garden Grove Libraries for their generous support!

**Crafting CUTE**  
Polymer Clay like never! Weig  
in honor of  
for Parents

Monday, December 18th  
Wednesday, December 20th  
Thursday, December 21st  
at 4 pm

Looking for a quiet place to study? Then stop by the library's program room for a place to study. Snacks will be provided. Limited seating.

Impressions	130
Potential Reach	4,686
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.3%



@CityGardenGrove

Wed 12/13/2023 4:13 pm PST

For a full list of events, visit [ocpl.org/events](https://ocpl.org/events). #GG1956 #communityevent #artsandcrafts...

**THERAPY LUFFIES**

THE PROGRAM ROOM  
Monday, December 19th  
10am - 12pm

Take a study break with friendly, trained therapy dogs! Supported by Orange County Animal Services.

This program is for students only.  
Interested in learning more?  
Visit [www.ocpl.org/libraries/garden-grove-main](https://www.ocpl.org/libraries/garden-grove-main)

GARDEN GROVE MAIN LIBRARY  
11200 Stanford Ave  
Garden Grove, CA 92840  
714-530-0711  
Monday - Thursday: 10a-5p  
Friday - Sunday: 9am-5pm

**NOON YEAR'S EVE**

ALL AGES  
Sunday, December 31st  
11:30 am - 12:15 pm  
Balloon Drop at 12:00 pm

Join us in celebrating the New Year's Eve. Activities include Balloon Drop, black light bubble dance party, photo booth and craft.

Supplies are available while they last.  
Interested in learning more?  
Visit [www.ocpl.org/libraries/garden-grove-main](https://www.ocpl.org/libraries/garden-grove-main)

GARDEN GROVE MAIN LIBRARY  
11200 Stanford Ave  
Garden Grove, CA 92840  
714-530-0711  
Monday - Thursday: 10a-5p  
Friday - Sunday: 9am-5pm

Impressions	74
Potential Reach	4,686
Engagements	0
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 12/13/2023 4:13 pm PST

All is calm and all is bright at your local #GardenGrove library! From 🕒 gingerbread house decorating to a 🍪...



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Friday & Sunday: Closed  
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**Crafting CUTE**  
Polymer Clay like never! Weig  
in honor of  
for Parents

Monday, December 18th  
Wednesday, December 20th  
Thursday, December 21st  
at 4 pm

Looking for a quiet place to study? Then stop by the library's program room for a place to study. Snacks will be provided. Limited seating.

Impressions	266
Reach	236
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.1%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 12/13/2023 4:13 pm PST

All is calm and all is bright at your local #GardenGrove library! From 🔍 gingerbread house decorating to a 🍪...



Impressions	472
Reach	470
Engagements	30
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6.4%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 12/13/2023 1:16 pm PST

!! T-minus 24 hours from the Black Friday Goes BiGG deadline! Bring your receipts, dated November 24 through December 1...



Impressions	367
Reach	367
Engagements	5
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.4%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 12/13/2023 1:13 pm PST

!! T-minus 24 hours from the Black Friday Goes BiGG deadline! Bring your receipts, dated November 24 through December 1...



Impressions	687
Reach	687
Engagements	7
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1%



@CityGardenGrove

Tue 12/12/2023 5:23 pm PST

Make sure to keep your receipt to participate in 🛍️ Black Friday Goes BiGG by 1 PM this Thursday, December 14. For...



Impressions	137
Potential Reach	4,686
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.7%



@CityGardenGrove

Tue 12/12/2023 5:23 pm PST

#DYK poinsettias are the most popular plant grown during the holiday season !? Celebrate #NationalPoinsettiaDay by...



Impressions	187
Potential Reach	4,686
Engagements	6
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.2%



gardengrovecityhall

Tue 12/12/2023 5:23 pm PST

#DYK poinsettias are the most popular plant grown during the holiday season !? Celebrate #NationalPoinsettiaDay by...



Impressions	623
Reach	599
Engagements	14
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.2%





**Garden Grove City Hall**  
Tue 12/12/2023 5:23 pm PST

#DYK poinsettias are the most popular plant grown during the holiday season !? Celebrate #NationalPoinsettiaDay by...



Impressions **634**

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Reach **634**

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Engagements **8**

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Engagement Rate (per Impression) **1.3%**



**@CityGardenGrove**  
Tue 12/12/2023 2:22 pm PST

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 !! We encourage low-income #GardenGrove residents to app...



Impressions **202**

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Potential Reach **4,686**

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Engagements **8**

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Engagement Rate (per Impression) **4%**



**@CityGardenGrove**  
Tue 12/12/2023 2:22 pm PST

Celebrate the new year with home repairs like interior and exterior painting, pest control, plumbing repairs, and more! ➡...



Impressions **90**

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Potential Reach **4,686**

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Engagements **4**

---

Engagement Rate (per Impression) **4.4%**



**gardengrovecityhall**

Tue 12/12/2023 2:22 pm PST

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 !! We encourage low-income #GardenGrove residents to appl...



Impressions	1,018
Reach	801
Engagements	19
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.9%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Tue 12/12/2023 2:22 pm PST

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 !! We encourage low-income #GardenGrove residents to appl...

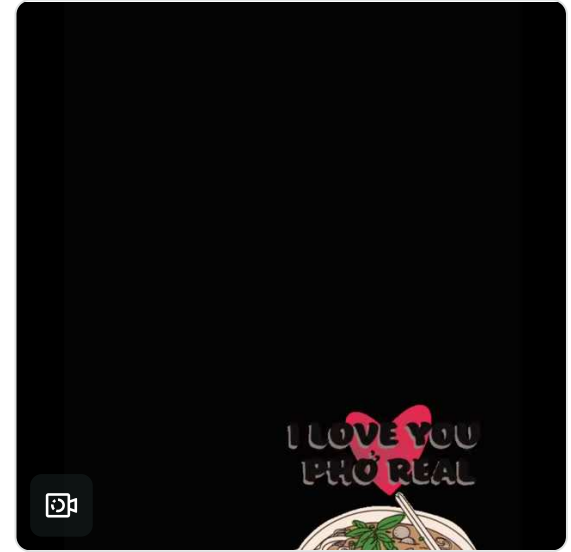


Impressions	982
Reach	974
Engagements	92
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	9.4%



**gardengrovecityhall**

Tue 12/12/2023 9:22 am PST



Impressions	604
Reach	604
Comments	1
Story Taps Back	6



**gardengrovecityhall**

Tue 12/12/2023 9:16 am PST

Join Garden Grove City Manager Lisa Kim as she gets UnReel on **National Pho Day** 🍜! Find your favorite pho spot by visitin...



Impressions	<b>3,146</b>
Reach	<b>2,612</b>
Engagements	<b>281</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>8.9%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Tue 12/12/2023 9:12 am PST

Join Garden Grove City Manager Lisa Kim as she gets UnReel on **National Pho Day** 🍜! Find your favorite pho spot by visitin...



Video Views	<b>196</b>
Impressions	<b>372</b>
Reach	<b>371</b>
Engagements	<b>33</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>8.9%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Mon 12/11/2023 4:43 pm PST

🎁 It's not too late to donate new and unwrapped toys, board games, sports equipment, gift cards, and other essentia...



Impressions	<b>488</b>
Reach	<b>465</b>
Engagements	<b>17</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>3.5%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/11/2023 4:40 pm PST

🎁 It's not too late to donate new and unwrapped toys, board games, sports equipment, gift cards, and other essentia...



Impressions	<b>789</b>
Reach	<b>781</b>
Engagements	<b>19</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.4%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 12/11/2023 1:43 pm PST

Tomorrow, the City Council will discuss the consideration of proposed water rate increases. [gg.city/water-rate](https://gg.city/water-rate) [#gg195](https://twitter.com/gg195)...



Impressions	<b>178</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,685</b>
Engagements	<b>7</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>3.9%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Mon 12/11/2023 1:40 pm PST

Tomorrow, the Garden Grove City Council will hold a public hearing to discuss the consideration of proposed 💧 water rate...




Impressions	<b>1,100</b>
Reach	<b>1,014</b>
Engagements	<b>26</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.4%</b>





**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/11/2023 1:37 pm PST

Tomorrow, the Garden Grove City Council will hold a public hearing to discuss the consideration of proposed  water rate...



Impressions	<b>446</b>
Reach	<b>436</b>
Engagements	<b>22</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>4.9%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 12/11/2023 11:25 am PST

The streets surrounding the perimeter of King Shocks, located at 12742 Edison Way, will be closed. Streets include Edison Wa...




Impressions	<b>118</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,683</b>
Engagements	<b>8</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>6.8%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 12/11/2023 11:25 am PST

 Upcoming Street Closures This Saturday, December 16, from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., various streets in...



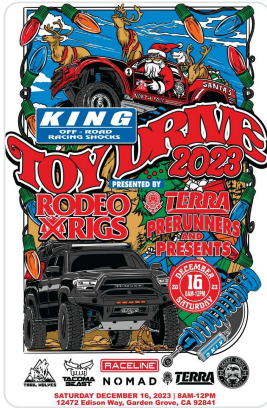
Impressions	<b>180</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,683</b>
Engagements	<b>9</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>5%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Mon 12/11/2023 11:25 am PST

⚠ Upcoming Street Closures This Saturday, December 16, from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., various streets in...



Impressions	1,806
Reach	1,483
Engagements	61
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.4%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/11/2023 11:25 am PST

⚠ Upcoming Street Closures This Saturday, December 16, from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., various streets in...



Impressions	3,392
Reach	3,299
Engagements	287
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	8.5%



**gardengrovecityhall**

Fri 12/8/2023 4:06 pm PST

🏆 We're honored to receive the **2023 Social Media Best Use Overall Award of Distinction**, from California Public...



Impressions	547
Reach	521
Engagements	11
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Fri 12/8/2023 4:03 pm PST

🏆 We're honored to receive the **2023 Social Media Best Use Overall Award of Distinction**, from California Public...



Impressions	<b>696</b>
Reach	<b>674</b>
Engagements	<b>11</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.6%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Fri 12/8/2023 1:52 pm PST

👉 This could be YOU! These individuals were last year's winners who took home cash and...



Impressions	<b>1,533</b>
Reach	<b>1,234</b>
Engagements	<b>39</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.5%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Fri 12/8/2023 1:52 pm PST

👉 This could be YOU! These individuals were last year's winners who took home cash and...



Impressions	<b>35,408</b>
Reach	<b>24,163</b>
Engagements	<b>4,869</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>13.8%</b>

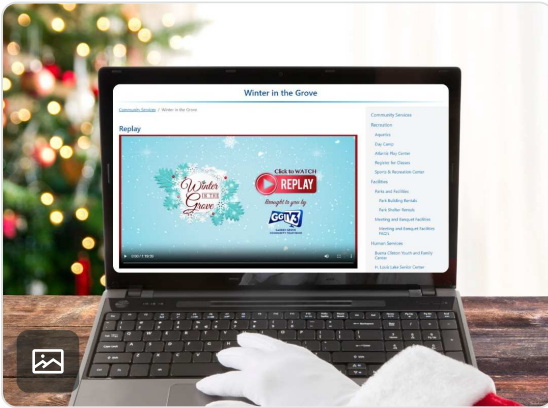




**gardengrovecityhall**

Fri 12/8/2023 11:45 am PST

We're already counting down the days until the next ❄️ Winter in the Grove, and we want YOU to join us in reliving the...



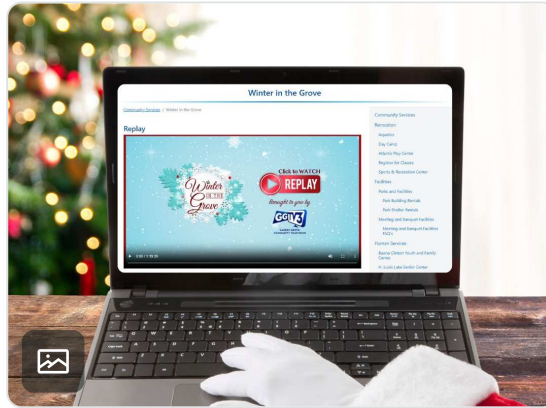
Impressions	<b>463</b>
Reach	<b>443</b>
Engagements	<b>6</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.3%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Fri 12/8/2023 11:45 am PST

We're already counting down the days until the next ❄️ Winter in the Grove, and we want YOU to join us in reliving the...



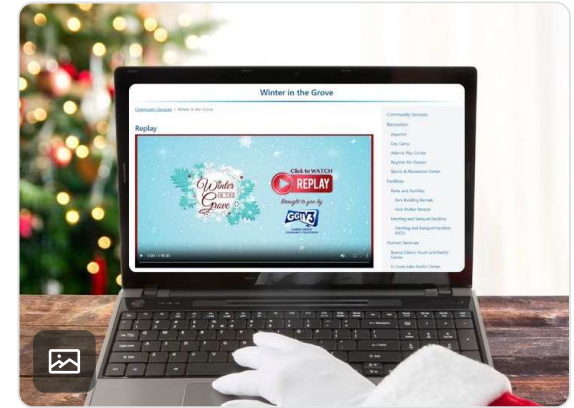
Impressions	<b>158</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,684</b>
Engagements	<b>6</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>3.8%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Fri 12/8/2023 11:45 am PST

We're already counting down the days until the next ❄️ Winter in the Grove, and we want YOU to join us in reliving the...



Impressions	<b>734</b>
Reach	<b>707</b>
Engagements	<b>11</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.5%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 12/7/2023 1:26 pm PST

🎁 Don't miss your opportunity to help needy children and seniors this holiday. Tomorrow, December 8, is the last day to...



Impressions	950
Reach	788
Engagements	35
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.7%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 12/7/2023 1:20 pm PST

🎁 Don't miss your opportunity to help needy children and seniors this holiday. Tomorrow, December 8, is the last day to...



Impressions	1,276
Reach	1,203
Engagements	118
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	9.2%



**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 12/7/2023 9:04 am PST

⚠️ Street Closure Ahead Tomorrow, Friday, December 8, from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Santa Rita Avenue, between Winton Stre...



Impressions	2,727
Reach	2,161
Engagements	121
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.4%



**@CityGardenGrove**

Thu 12/7/2023 9:00 am PST

Tomorrow, 12/8, 2PM-10PM, Santa Rita Ave, between Winton St & St Mark St, will be closed for [REDACTED]. There will be n...



Impressions	<b>164</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,685</b>
Engagements	<b>8</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>4.9%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 12/7/2023 8:57 am PST

⚠️ Street Closure Ahead Tomorrow, Friday, December 8, from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Santa Rita Avenue, between Winton Stre...



Impressions	<b>6,253</b>
Reach	<b>6,106</b>
Engagements	<b>816</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>13%</b>



# Post Performance


December 7, 2023 - December 13, 2023

Review the lifetime performance of the posts you published during the publishing period.

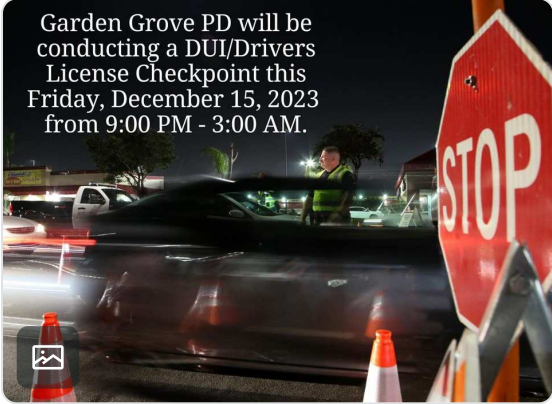
**Included in this Report**

 Garden Grove Police Department





 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**  
 Wed 12/13/2023 6:00 pm PST

\*\*\*DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint Notification\*\*\* #GardenGrovePD will be conducting a #DUICheckpoint this Friday...




Impressions	—
Reach	—
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—


 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**  
 Tue 12/12/2023 6:31 pm PST




Impressions	—
Reach	—
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**  
 Tue 12/12/2023 6:31 pm PST


Over the weekend, #GardenGrovePD's specialty units conducted a Direct Enforcement sweep of the city, due to...




Impressions	<b>1,822</b>
Reach	<b>1,784</b>
Engagements	<b>407</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>22.3%</b>

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**  
 Tue 12/12/2023 12:31 pm PST


Going out of town this #holiday season? #GardenGrovePD offers FREE Vacation Home Check services for #GardenGrove...




Impressions	<b>2,067</b>
Reach	<b>2,066</b>
Engagements	<b>103</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>5%</b>

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**  
 Sat 12/9/2023 6:00 pm PST


Outreach & Cleanup Recap: this week, #GardenGrovePD's Special Resource Team (SRT) collaborated with Be Well OC and...



Impressions	<b>4,224</b>
Reach	<b>4,112</b>
Engagements	<b>392</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>9.3%</b>

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**  
 Fri 12/8/2023 12:00 pm PST

#DidYouKnow, #GardenGrovePD impounds over a hundred bicycles a year, but we were only able to return 10% of those to...



Impressions	<b>3,252</b>
Reach	<b>2,884</b>
Engagements	<b>147</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>4.5%</b>

**WEEKLY MEMO 12-14-2023**

# **NEWS ARTICLES**



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:  
Ana Pulido, Public Information Officer  
(714) 741-5280/[anap@ggcity.org](mailto:anap@ggcity.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media



Friday, December 8, 2023

### **FINAL WEEK TO SUBMIT RECEIPTS FOR "BiGG" WINNINGS**

Thursday, December 14 is the last day to turn in receipts for the City of Garden Grove's end-of-year Buy in Garden Grove (BiGG) campaign, Black Friday Goes BiGG, offering Garden Grove shoppers the opportunity to win \$500, \$250, a 1-night stay at the Great Wolf Lodge Southern California, and more. The deadline to turn in receipts to the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce, at 12866 Main Street, is 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 14.

For every \$50 in total register receipts from any Garden Grove business, including restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores, and retail establishments, shoppers will receive one raffle ticket toward the cash and prize drawings. If purchases were made from a participating BiGG business, Foods of Garden Grove restaurant, or Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce member, shoppers will receive an additional raffle ticket.

Raffle tickets will not be available at business establishments. Receipts must be dated November 24 through December 14, 2023.

Five winners will be announced on Monday, December 18, on the City's and Chamber's websites and social platforms.

For more information, visit [ggcity.org/bigga](http://ggcity.org/bigga), or contact the Office of Community Relations at (714) 741-5280 or the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce at (714) 638-7950.





Contact:  
Dana Yang, Program Specialist  
Economic Development and Housing  
(714) 741-5131

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media



Tuesday, December 12, 2023

## **LAST WEEK TO APPLY FOR HOME REPAIR GRANTS**

Friday, December 15, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., is the last day for qualified low-income Garden Grove residents to apply for the City of Garden Grove's Home Repair Program, which offers grant funding of up to \$5,000 for minor home improvements. The grant does not need to be repaid. To apply, visit [apply.ggcity.org](http://apply.ggcity.org).

The homeowner will be required to contribute a minimum of \$500 of their own funds towards the repairs. Major repairs to the home that are above \$5,000 will not be considered for the Home Repair Program.

Acceptable exterior and interior home repairs include, but are not limited to, window replacement, electrical repairs, pest control, interior and exterior painting, plumbing repairs, heater replacement (HVAC), handicap accessibility modifications, and repairs to address building or safety code violations in the home.

Eligible residents must meet all program income and application requirements. Funding will be distributed to approximately 10 eligible applicants, selected through a blind raffle.

For more information, visit [ggcity.org/neighborhood-improvement/home-repair-program](http://ggcity.org/neighborhood-improvement/home-repair-program) or contact Dana Yang at (714) 741-5131 or [danay@ggcity.org](mailto:danay@ggcity.org).

###



CONTACT: Sgt. Lino Santana  
Garden Grove Police Department  
(714) 741-5704; [linos@ggcity.org](mailto:linos@ggcity.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, December 11, 2023



### **TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES DURING KING SHOCKS TOY DRIVE EVENT**

On Saturday, December 16, 2023, from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., various streets in Garden Grove will be temporarily closed for the King Shocks Toy Drive community event. The streets surrounding the perimeter of King Shocks, located at 12472 Edison Way, will be closed. Streets include Edison Way, Belgrave Avenue, and Industry Street.

The King Shocks Toy Drive community event will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Commuters should expect heavier traffic in the area. Businesses in the surrounding area have been notified in advance.

The Garden Grove Police Department's Traffic Unit will be on-site during closure times to direct traffic and suggest alternate routes.

For more information on the street closure, contact the Garden Grove Police Department at (714) 741-5704.

For event information, visit [www.RodeoXRigs.com](http://www.RodeoXRigs.com) or [@rodeoxrigs](https://www.instagram.com/rodeoxrigs) on Instagram.

###



CONTACT:  
Karissa Yniguez  
Public Works Department  
(714) 741-5382/[karissay@ggcity.org](mailto:karissay@ggcity.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Wednesday, December 13, 2023



## **CITY HALL CLOSED, EMERGENCY SERVICES AVAILABLE DURING HOLIDAY CLOSURE**

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays, Garden Grove City Hall and the H. Louis Lake Senior Center will be closed from Monday, December 25, 2023 through Monday, January 1, 2024.

Street sweeping services will be temporarily suspended from Monday, December 25, 2023 through Monday, January 1, 2024. Street sweeping services will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Trash pickup will not be provided on Monday, December 25, 2023 and Monday, January 1, 2024. Trash pickup will be delayed by one day for the remainder of those weeks.

Republic Services will provide free pick up of holiday trees for three weeks, beginning Tuesday, December 26, 2023 through Friday, January 12, 2024. Trees must be out by 7:00 a.m. on regular trash collection days. Artificial and flocked trees are not recyclable and are not eligible for the free collection, but may be disposed of in the regular trash container or by scheduling a bulky item pick up.

Garden Grove Animal Care Services will continue to operate on a normal daily basis except for December 25, 2023 and January 1, 2024, when only emergency services will be available by calling the Garden Grove Police Department Dispatch at (714) 741-5704.

-more-

CITY HALL CLOSED, EMERGENCY SERVICES AVAILABLE DURING HOLIDAY CLOSURE  
2-2-2

For police or fire emergencies, call or text 9-1-1. Non-emergencies can be reported by calling the Garden Grove Police Department Dispatch at (714) 741-5704.

For safety emergencies, such as water main breaks or downed signals, call the Garden Grove Police Department Dispatch at (714) 741-5704.

During the holiday closure, water bills will not be due, and services will not be cut off. Water bill payments can be made online at [ggcity.org/water](http://ggcity.org/water), by phone at [\(888\) 867-2992](tel:8888672992), or dropped off in the payment box outside Garden Grove City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway (cash will not be accepted).

Parking citations due during the holiday closure may be paid online by visiting [pticket.com/gardengrove](http://pticket.com/gardengrove) or by mailing a check or money order to P.O. Box 409 Tustin, CA 92781. For more information, call the Public Works Department at (714) 741-5382.

The regular Garden Grove City Council, Successor Agency, Housing Authority, and Sanitary District meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 26, 2023, are canceled. The next scheduled Garden Grove City Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue. For more information, call the City Clerk's Office at (714) 741-5040.

For more information on street sweeping, call the Public Works Department at (714) 741-5382. For questions about holiday tree pick-ups or bulky item pickup, call Republic Services at (714) 238-3300 or visit [republicservices.com](http://republicservices.com)

###



## **The haunted (coffee) house**

December 13



One of the original regulars, Grayson-Alexander von Hauck (at left) and daughter of owners, Nyah Bhone. (Photo by Jamilyn Moreau).

By **Jamilyn Moreau**/Orange County Tribune

With an Instagram following of over 18,000, the Burnt Umber Coffee ft. Petals and Poison Tea Room gothic Victorian-themed coffee shop has become a hotspot for coffee lovers in Orange County.

The family-owned shop, located at 12752 Valley View St. in Garden Grove, has become a safe space for the spooky community, according to daughter Nyah Bhone. The mysterious atmosphere is painted with dark black and green walls and has pieces from the Bhone family's home throughout, including antique dressers, family portraits, couches, curtains, and dining room chairs. Every piece of decor inside the shop, from the furniture to the art on the walls, has a story behind it.

What was meant to be a quiet opening in July turned into a well-known, fan-favorite shop, with some regulars even driving from San Diego just to get coffee.

"We were, like, we should just do a trial weekend and see what happens, and then we just ended up having to stay open," said Nyah Bhone, daughter of operators Scott and Rachelle Bhone.

Owner Scott Bhone replied, "We still have so much we want to do."

The popular Instagram account, operated by the Bhone sisters Nyah and Jená attracted a like-minded spooky community. One customer drove all the way from Arizona just to get a coffee and snap a photo before turning back around.

"During Halloween season, the longest line I saw here was 1 hour and 45 minutes to get to the register," said Nyah Bhone. When designing the store, the haunted mansion at Disneyland was

a big source of inspiration. Every single detail was intentional, from the coffee mugs designed by daughter Jená Bhone to the antique table bases.

The Bhones' connection with each customer has contributed to the home-like atmosphere. Just by walking through the door, regular customers are greeted on a first-name basis.

While the aesthetic of the coffee shop plays a huge role in attracting visitors, Scott Bhone emphasized the quality of their drinks.

"None of it works if the coffee is not good," said Scott Bhone.

Though the soft opening exceeded their expectations, the Bhone family still has a lot more in store for the future of Burnt Umber.

"This is just the start of everything," said Nyah Bhone.

## **Townhomes, pool tables OKd**

DECEMBER 8



**GARDEN GROVE** Planning Commission met on Thursday and approved a 30-unit townhome project and two pool tables for a Main Street restaurant (Shutterstock).

A proposed 30-unit residential townhouse project to be built at the southeast corner of Brookhurst Street and Central Avenue won approval from the Garden Grove Planning Commission on Thursday night. The vote was unanimous.

Planners voted in favor of the project for the use of the 1.22-acre site, including zone changes from neighborhood commercial and low-medium residential to medium density residential for the three-story condominiums. Included are three affordable units for "moderate income" households.

Also approved was a conditional use permit modification allowing The Wharf restaurant – located at 12941 Main St. – to add two new pool tables in the dining area and modify the hours of operation to be from 11 a.m. to midnight Sunday through Wednesday, and from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday through Saturday.

### **Kỹ Sư Phát Bùi tuyên bố tranh cử thị trưởng Garden Grove**

December 12, 2023

**ANAHEIM, California (NV)** – Kỹ Sư Phát Bùi vừa tuyên bố tranh cử thị trưởng Garden Grove vào chiều Thứ Bảy, 9 Tháng Mười Hai, tại nhà hàng Golden Sea, Anaheim, với đông đảo cư dân, dân cử, đồng hương, cùng giới truyền thông tham dự.

Nhân dịp này, ông Bùi Phát cho biết: “Trong thời gian qua, tôi có chức vụ là nghị viên của Garden Grove trong thời gian tám năm. Khi hết nhiệm kỳ thì tôi không thể tiếp tục với chức vụ của mình. Sau hai năm gián đoạn, tôi nhận thấy tại thành phố Garden Grove càng ngày càng xảy ra những tệ nạn như trộm cắp cũng như có rất nhiều người vô gia cư. Vì thế, với sự ủng hộ của nhiều đồng hương và cư dân của thành phố, tôi đã quyết định ra tranh cử chức vụ thị trưởng Garden Grove trong nhiệm kỳ tới, để có thể mang sự phát triển về kinh tế cũng như sự ổn định về an ninh cho các cư dân của thành phố Garden Grove.”

Ông Phát Bùi là nghị viên thành phố Garden Grove từ năm 2014 cho đến hết năm 2022; chủ tịch Cộng Đồng Người Việt Quốc Gia Nam California từ 2015 cho đến nay; và là người sáng lập Net Result, công ty tư vấn về nhu liệu cho nhiều cơ sở thương mại lớn tại Hoa Kỳ. Trong hình, Kỹ Sư Phát Bùi cùng vợ trong ngày tuyên bố tranh cử thị trưởng Garden Grove. *(Hình: Lâm Hoài Thạch/Người Việt)*



### **Nghị viên Cindy Trần, anh Khoa Nguyễn, Hiệp Hội Bất Động Sản người Việt tại Hoa Kỳ gọi tắt là VNARP tổ chức gói 30,000 Gói Thực Phẩm Cho Người Nghèo Nhân Mùa Giáng Sinh**

14/12/2023



Westminster (Bình Sa) – Tại hội trường QD Venue vào lúc 9 giờ sáng Thứ Bảy ngày 9 tháng 12, 2023 Nghị viên Thành Phố Garden Grove Cô Cindy Ngọc Trần, phối hợp cùng anh Khoa Nguyễn, Hiệp Hội Bất Động Sản người Việt tại Hoa Kỳ gọi tắt là VNARP đã tổ chức gói 30,000 Gói Thực Phẩm để phát cho Người Nghèo Nhân Mùa Giáng Sinh và năm mới.

Mở đầu chương trình với nghi thức chào cờ do Liên Đoàn Hướng Đạo Chi Lăng phụ trách dưới sự điều hợp của Hải Quân Đinh Quang Truật.

Sau đó Nghị viên Cindy Trần, Trưởng Ban Tổ Chức lên ngỏ lời chào mừng và cảm ơn tất cả các thiện nguyện viên, các hội đoàn đã đến thật đông đủ để thực hiện gói 30 ngàn phần ăn cho người nghèo. Cô tin rằng với những phần ăn tuy khiêm nhường nhưng cũng sưởi ấm tấm lòng của những người đang phải đối khổ đặc biệt trong Mùa Lễ Giáng Sinh năm nay.

Sau lời phát biểu của Nghị viên Cindy Trần, trong nhiều dãy bàn dài, các thiện nguyện viên đã hăng hái làm việc trong bầu không khí vui nhộn của những người trẻ thuộc các tổ chức đến tham gia gói quà.

Từ lúc 8 giờ sáng tại QD Studio của nghệ sĩ Quốc Dương đã có khoảng 200 thiện nguyện viên, đặc biệt rất nhiều giới trẻ thuộc các tôn giáo như Thiếu Nhi Thánh Thể (Công Giáo), các em Thiếu nhi Gia Đình Phật tử (Phật Giáo), Thánh Thất và Điện Thờ Phật Mẫu Orange (Cao Đài); Community Multicultural Center, Liên Đoàn Hướng Đạo Chi Lăng, Trường Việt Ngữ giáo xứ Đức Mẹ La Vang, Trường Việt Ngữ Minh Đức, Trung Tâm Văn Hóa Hồng Bàng, Hội Cao Niên Á Mỹ, và đông đảo các anh chị em thuộc Tập Thể Chiến Sĩ Tây Nam Hoa Kỳ, Câu Lạc Bộ Tình Nghệ Sĩ... Trong lúc mọi



người hăng say làm việc, thì các em Thiếu Nhi Câu Lạc Bộ Tình Nghệ Sĩ, một số anh chị em nghệ sĩ cũng đã trình diễn một số tiết mục văn nghệ, làm cho hội trường trở nên vui nhộn như một ngày hội Giáng Sinh

Tiếp xúc với Nghị viên Cindy Ngọc Trần, được Cô cho biết: "Hôm nay cháu rất vui khi nhận được sự hỗ trợ nhiệt tình của nhiều mạnh thường quân cũng như các thiện nguyện viên từ nhiều hội đoàn, chúng cháu tập trung gói 30 ngàn phần ăn với hai món chính là "Rice and Bean và Cinnamon Oatmeal" tặng cho những người không có đồ ăn trong mùa Giáng Sinh và năm mới sắp tới. Để có được 30 ngàn phần ăn này, chúng cháu tự bỏ ra khoảng 12 ngàn đồng để mua và hôm nay gói lại, bỏ vào túi ny lông rồi cho vào thùng và sau đó chuyển giao cho OC Food Bank để họ phân phát cho các người nghèo đói".

Trong dịp này anh Khoa Nguyễn, cố vấn của Hiệp Hội Bất Động Sản của người Việt tại Hoa Kỳ gọi tắt là VNARP cũng cho biết: "Chúng tôi tổ chức hàng năm. Đây là lần đầu tiên tổ chức tại miền Nam California, Hội VNARP thực hiện hàng ngàn phần ăn để gửi đến các người bất hạnh. Đây cũng là cơ hội để Cộng Đồng Việt Nam mình đoàn kết lại để cùng nhau giúp đỡ những người nghèo không có thức ăn trong mùa Noel lạnh lẽo." Anh Huy Nguyễn, Chủ Tịch Hiệp Hội Địa Ốc Người Việt Nam tại Hoa Kỳ, cho biết: "Năm tới anh sẽ là người phụ trách chương trình của Hiệp Hội Địa Ốc người Việt tại đây, còn năm nay do cô Cindy Ngọc Trần làm Trưởng Ban Tổ Chức; mỗi năm chúng tôi đều làm một lần để giúp những người thiếu ăn nhất là trong mùa Giáng Sinh và năm mới. Chúng tôi cũng cộng tác với Outreach Program, một Hội Thiện Nguyện chuyên đi quyên góp tài chánh để giúp người nghèo khắp nơi trên thế giới".

Cô Kristy Thái, Nhân Viên Giao Tế của Hội Đồng Thành Phố Garden Grove là một trong các thiện nguyện viên chia sẻ cảm nghĩ của cô rằng: "Chúng ta được may mắn có cuộc sống tương đối đầy đủ, được ngủ trong phòng ấm áp trong khi rất nhiều người đang phải ngủ ở ngoài trời lạnh lẽo và không đủ đồ ăn hằng ngày, nên cô Cindy Trần và ban tổ chức làm việc từ thiện này thật đáng khâm phục và khen ngợi những tấm lòng bác ái của họ và của các thiện nguyện viên có mặt trong buổi gói đồ ăn cho người nghèo hôm nay". Cô Lam Châu, CEO của Hội Cao Niên Á Mỹ, cô Huỳnh Thị Ngọc (Trung Tâm Văn Hóa Hồng Bàng), chiến hữu Bùi Đẹp (Trung tâm Trường Tập Thể Chiến Sĩ), ông Phạm Ngọc Lân (Hội Trưởng Tây Ninh Đồng Hương Hội), Nhạc sĩ Cao Minh Hưng (Hội Trưởng CLB Tình Nghệ Sĩ), Chánh Trị Sự Ngô Thiện Đức (Cao Đài) cũng tích cực làm việc chung với các bạn trẻ.

Sau khi gói đủ các phần ăn. Buổi sinh hoạt kết thúc trong tiếng vỗ tay vang dội và lời cảm ơn của ban tổ chức. Mọi người chụp chung tấm ảnh lưu niệm và giải tán. Ngay sau đó 30 ngàn phần ăn được đưa lên xe chuyển đến OC Food Bank Orange County.

**WEEKLY MEMO 12-07-2023**

# **SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**



# Post Performance

November 30, 2023 - December 6, 2023

Review the lifetime performance of the posts you published during the publishing period.

**Included in this Report**

 Garden Grove City Hall





**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 12/6/2023 12:47 pm PST

Congratulations to our 📱 mobile app gift card winners! In October 2023, we held an opportunity drawing to win 💰 \$100 Costc...



Reach **1,704**



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 12/6/2023 4:30 pm PST

Is your home sparkling with holiday spirit ✨? Share your holiday magic in one snapshot 📸. Submit a photo of your...



Reach **1,489**



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/4/2023 1:32 pm PST

💛 Help us provide permanent housing solutions to low-income individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless. 🏠...

**PERMANENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

- Develop affordable housing and permanent supportive housing units within the city
- A minimum of five (5) years of experience in the development and operation of affordable housing projects similar to the proposed project

**TIMELINE**

RELEASE: DECEMBER 2023 → RFP DEADLINE: JANUARY 2024 → RFP INTERVIEWS: MARCH 2024 → RFP AWARD: APRIL 2024

Reach **1,451**



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Tue 12/5/2023 10:25 am PST

✨ Last Tuesday, hundreds gathered as the #GardenGrove City Council and the Garden Grove Police Department honore...



Reach

**1,247**



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Sat 12/2/2023 3:49 pm PST

Can't attend today's 🎄 Winter in the Grove community event? 📺 Garden Grove TV 3 is bringing the holiday magic to you...



Reach

**1,083**



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/4/2023 10:45 am PST

OCTA is studying the development of a 4-mile biking and walking trail between #GardenGrove and Santa Ana! Get...



Reach

**769**



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 11/30/2023 11:05 am PST

The **Civic Center Revitalization Project** will have a pop-up booth at Saturday's **Winter in the Grove** event, at Village...



Reach

711



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Tue 12/5/2023 4:20 pm PST

🍰 A slice of kindness goes a long way! The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association is accepting applications fro...



Reach

550



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 12/6/2023 9:42 am PST

It's not too late to sign up for 🍂 fall classes! Get your sweat on before the holidays by attending a recreational...



Reach

522



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Tue 12/5/2023 1:31 pm PST

👁️ Looking for plans tomorrow, December 6? We want YOU to join us at the Civic Center Revitalization Project Open House...



Reach

522



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/4/2023 7:34 am PST

🛒 'Tis the season to shop local and win \$500! 💰 From Black Friday, November 24 through Thursday, December 14, shoppe...



Reach

253



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 12/4/2023 7:34 am PST

🛒 'Tis the season to shop local and win \$500! 💰 From Black Friday, November 24 through Thursday, December 14, shoppe...



Reach

—



# Post Performance

November 30, 2023 - December 6, 2023

Review the lifetime performance of the posts you published during the publishing period.



**Included in this Report**

 Garden Grove Police Department





**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Tue 12/5/2023 12:00 pm PST

Over the weekend, #GardenGrovePD's Neighborhood Traffic Unit (NTU) conducted DUI operations resulting in 91 citations a...



Impressions	<b>2,766</b>
Reach	<b>2,696</b>
Engagements	<b>247</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>8.9%</b>



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Sat 12/2/2023 10:00 am PST



Impressions	<b>2,320</b>
Reach	<b>2,240</b>
Engagements	<b>38</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.6%</b>



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Sat 12/2/2023 10:00 am PST



Impressions	—
Reach	—
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Fri 12/1/2023 3:00 pm PST

Over the Thanksgiving holiday, #GardenGrovePD's Neighborhood Traffic Unit (NTU) conducted DUI operations...



Impressions	<b>3,981</b>
Reach	<b>3,391</b>
Engagements	<b>263</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>6.6%</b>



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Thu 11/30/2023 6:00 pm PST

It's the time of the year to reflect and count our blessings... ....we are #thankful for the voices behind our badges. The m...



Impressions	<b>4,432</b>
Reach	<b>3,954</b>
Engagements	<b>316</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>7.1%</b>

**WEEKLY MEMO 12-07-2023**

# **NEWS ARTICLES**



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT: Gabi O'Cadiz-Hernandez  
Community Services Department  
(714) 741-5769/[gabrielao@ggcity.org](mailto:gabrielao@ggcity.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Friday, December 1, 2023



### **DEADLINE APPROACHING TO PARTICIPATE IN HOLIDAY DRIVE FOR NEEDY CHILDREN AND SENIORS**

Friday, December 8, 2023, is the last day to participate in the City of Garden Grove's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Drive, which aims to bring holiday cheer to local disadvantaged youth and seniors. New and unwrapped toys, board games, sports equipment, gift cards, and other essential supplies can be dropped off at:

- Garden Grove City Hall, at 11222 Acacia Parkway
- H. Louis Lake Senior Center, at 11300 Stanford Avenue
- Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center, at 12661 Sunswept Avenue
- Magnolia Park Family Resource Center, at 11402 Magnolia Street

Gifts can also be purchased online through the Amazon holiday registry, and shipped directly to Garden Grove City Hall, at <https://amzn.to/3Seipar>.

The community is also encouraged to participate in the Holiday Drive Raffle to win a \$200 Disney gift card. Tickets can be purchased at Garden Grove City Hall, Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center, and Magnolia Park Family Resource Center by Friday, December 8, 2023. Tickets are \$3 each; 2 for \$5; or 25 for \$20.

One winner will be selected and announced online, at [ggcity.org/holiday-drive](http://ggcity.org/holiday-drive), on Tuesday, December 12, 2023. All proceeds benefit the Holiday Drive.

For more information, visit [ggcity.org/holiday-drive](http://ggcity.org/holiday-drive), call (714) 741-5776, or email [ggholidaydrive@ggcity.org](mailto:ggholidaydrive@ggcity.org).

###



CONTACT:  
Timothy Throne  
Economic Development and Housing Dept.  
(714) 741-5144/[timothyt@ggcity.org](mailto:timothyt@ggcity.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media



Monday, December 4, 2023

**CITY SEEKING DEVELOPER FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING,  
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROJECTS**

The City of Garden Grove is seeking qualified developers to oversee the construction of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing units in Garden Grove. Through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, organizations experienced with developing multi-family rental units for low-income or at-risk residents are invited to submit a proposal for consideration at

<https://gg.city/afford-rfp> by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2024.

As part of the City's efforts to provide permanent housing solutions to low-income individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless, the developer will create a new or rehabilitate an existing multi-family rental property in Garden Grove, offering tenants wrap-around services, including rental assistance, referrals to legal services and behavioral and health care providers, job training, and employment opportunities.

To qualify for an interview, developers must have a minimum of five years of experience in the development and operation of affordable housing projects similar to the proposed project and provide a list of three recently-developed affordable housing projects.

For more information and to apply for the RFP, visit <https://gg.city/afford-rfp> or contact Senior Program Specialist Timothy Throne at [timothyt@ggcity.org](mailto:timothyt@ggcity.org).





# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:  
Ana Pulido  
Public Information Officer  
(714) 741-5283/anap@ggcity.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media



Wednesday, December 6, 2023

### **DEADLINE EXTENDED TO SUBMIT PHOTOS FOR DECORATED HOLIDAY HOMES GALLERY**

The submission deadline for residents to submit photos of their home's exterior holiday decorations to be posted in an online gallery called Garden Grove Holiday Lights 2023 has been extended to Thursday, December 14, at 4:00 p.m. Photos may be submitted at [ggcity.org/holiday-lights](http://ggcity.org/holiday-lights).

Garden Grove residents can complete an online application and submit a recent, unaltered photo of their home's decorated exterior through the Garden Grove Holiday Lights 2023 webpage at [ggcity.org/holiday-lights](http://ggcity.org/holiday-lights).

On Friday, December 15, photos will be posted to the Garden Grove Holiday Lights 2023 webpage.

For more information and guidelines, visit [ggcity.org/holiday-lights](http://ggcity.org/holiday-lights).

###



## **Townhouse project to planner**

*December 1*



A Three story townhouse complex goes before the Garden Grove Planning Commission on Dec. 7

A proposal to build a 30-unit three-story townhome project goes before the Garden Grove Planning Commission when it meets on Thursday, Dec. 7. The development would be built at the southeast corner of Brookhurst Street and Central Avenue.

Melia Homes proposes to include three affordable residential units for “moderate income” households on the 1.22-acre site.

In addition to the site plan and tentative tract map, the applicant is asking for a rezone from neighborhood commercial (C-1) and limited multiple residential (R-2) to multiple family residential (R-3) at the public hearing.

Also on the agenda are public hearings for:

- a site plan for addition of 2,510 square feet of building area and 580 square feet for an equipment yard enclosure to an existing industrial building (GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems) at 12242 Western Ave.,
- a request to demolish an existing church site at 11236 Dale Street (between Katella and Orangewood avenues) and build a two-story religious facility for the True Jesus Church on the 7,430 square foot site;
- a conditional use permit for The Wharf restaurant at 12941 Main Street to permit two new pool tables and modify operating hours to be from 11 a.m. to midnight on Sunday to Wednesday and from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Thursday to Saturday.

The planners will meet at 7 p.m. in the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave.

**Snow and cheer in Garden Grove**

*December 4, 2023*



*Aaliyah Salcedo, 2, rides down the snow run with her brother Saturday. The city of Garden grove celebrates the holidays with "Winter in the Grove" celebration Saturday December 2, 2023 at Village Green Park in Garden Grove (Photo by Greg Andersen, Contributing Photographer)*

By Heather Mcrea

Families enjoyed Winter in the Grove on Saturday at Village Green Park.

Along with arranging a visit from Santa Claus, the city of Garden Grove also made snow appear, and kids spent the day sledding. There were also holiday performances and other activities for families during the popular event.

### **Chương trình trợ cấp \$5,000 giúp sửa nhà ở TP Garden Grove**

Vào Thứ Sáu, ngày 1 tháng 12, 2023, vào lúc 9:00 giờ sáng, Thành Phố Garden Grove mở chương trình hỗ trợ sửa nhà lên tới \$5,000 cho cư dân sống tại Garden Grove có thu nhập hội đủ điều kiện. Khoản tiền hỗ trợ này sẽ không cần phải hoàn trả lại. Hạn chót để nộp đơn là Thứ Sáu, 15 tháng 12, 2023 lúc 4:00 giờ chiều.

Người chủ nhà yêu cầu đóng góp \$500 cho việc sửa chữa. Việc sửa chữa bên trong và bên ngoài ngôi nhà được chấp nhận bao gồm (nhưng không giới hạn), thay cửa sổ, sửa chữa điện, kiểm soát sinh vật gây hại, sơn bên trong và bên ngoài, sửa chữa hệ thống ống nước, thay thế máy sưởi (HVAC), và lối đi dành cho người khuyết tật và sửa các vi phạm về xây dựng hoặc cho an toàn trong nhà.

Cư dân hội đủ điều kiện cho chương trình cần đáp ứng tất cả các yêu cầu về thu nhập và điền đơn đăng ký. Chương trình sẽ được trao cho 10 đơn hội đủ điều kiện, và được chọn thông qua một cuộc bốc thăm xổ số (blind raffle).

Để biết thêm về chương trình trợ giúp này của Thành Phố, xem tại trang website [ggcity.org/neighborhood-improvement/home-repair-program](https://ggcity.org/neighborhood-improvement/home-repair-program) hoặc liên lạc cô Dana Yang tại (714) 741-5131 hay gửi email [danay@ggcity.org](mailto:danay@ggcity.org)

## **VIEN-DONG NEWS ONLINE**

### **Garden Grove trợ cấp \$5,000 cho dân sửa nhà; hạn chót nộp đơn 15/12**

Theo thông báo từ chính quyền của Thành Phố Garden Grove, bắt đầu từ ngày 1 tháng 12, vừa qua, Thành Phố đã mở chương trình hỗ trợ sửa nhà lên tới \$5,000 cho cư dân sống tại Garden Grove có lợi tức hội đủ điều kiện. Khoản tiền hỗ trợ này sẽ không cần phải hoàn trả lại. Hạn chót để nộp đơn là thứ Sáu, 15 tháng 12, 2023 lúc 4:00 giờ chiều.

Chủ nhà cần đóng góp \$500 cho việc sửa chữa. Sự sửa chữa bên trong và bên ngoài ngôi nhà được chấp nhận bao gồm (nhưng không giới hạn): thay cửa sổ, sửa chữa điện, kiểm soát sinh vật gây hại, sơn bên trong và bên ngoài, sửa chữa hệ thống ống nước, thay thế máy sưởi (HVAC), và lối đi dành cho người khuyết tật và sửa các vi phạm về xây dựng hoặc cho an toàn trong nhà.

Cư dân hội đủ điều kiện cho chương trình cần đáp ứng tất cả các yêu cầu về lợi tức và điền đơn ghi danh. Chương trình sẽ được trao cho 10 đơn hội đủ điều kiện, và được chọn thông qua một cuộc bốc thăm xổ số (blind raffle).

Để biết thêm về chương trình trợ giúp này của Thành Phố, vào trang website <https://ggcity.org/neighborhood-improvement/home-repair-program> hoặc liên lạc cô Dana Yang tại (714) 741-5131 hay gửi email [danay@ggcity.org](mailto:danay@ggcity.org).

## THÀNH PHỐ TÌM KIẾM NHÀ ĐIỀU PHỐI CHO CHƯƠNG TRÌNH HỖ TRỢ THUÊ NHÀ

Thành phố Garden Grove đang tìm kiếm một nhà điều hành chương trình đủ năng lực để giám sát 'Chương trình Hỗ trợ Thuê nhà' (City's Rental Assistance Program) của Thành phố, cung cấp các dịch vụ hỗ trợ nhà ở cho những cá nhân vô gia cư hoặc có nguy cơ trở thành vô gia cư. Thông qua Yêu cầu Đề xuất (Request for Proposal), các tổ chức phi lợi nhuận có kinh nghiệm hỗ trợ nhà ở cho người vô gia cư được mời gửi đề xuất (proposal) để Thành phố xem xét tại <https://gg.city/ni-rfp> trước 5:00 giờ chiều vào Thứ Tư, ngày 20 tháng 12 năm 2023.

Nhà điều hành sẽ đóng vai trò trung gian chuyển tiếp cá nhân từ Trung tâm Điều hướng của các Thành phố hỗ trợ chỗ ở lâu dài. Chương trình hỗ trợ thuê nhà sẽ giúp các cá nhân vô gia cư từ từ làm quen khả năng tự lập thông qua các dịch vụ quản lý hồ sơ toàn diện, bao gồm tìm các lựa chọn nhà ở, các khoản thanh toán hỗ trợ tiền thuê nhà, cung cấp giấy giới thiệu đến các cơ quan pháp lý, giới thiệu cơ quan dịch vụ và chăm sóc kiểm soát hành vi sức khỏe, cũng như các cơ hội đào tạo nghề nghiệp và việc làm.

Trung tâm Điều hướng dự kiến sẽ đưa vào phục vụ năm 2024, là nơi chuyển tiếp dựa trên sự giới thiệu, cung cấp nhà ở và dịch vụ khẩn cấp cho những cá nhân gặp tình trạng vô gia cư ở Garden Grove, Fountain Valley và Westminster. Nguồn tài trợ cho Chương trình hỗ trợ thuê nhà được cung cấp bởi 'HOME- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021', một kế hoạch kích thích nhằm giải quyết khủng hoảng kinh tế và sức khỏe cộng đồng, đồng thời cung cấp nguồn tài trợ khẩn cấp cần thiết cho người vô gia cư.

Để biết thêm thông tin về Chương trình Hỗ trợ Thuê nhà, liên lạc ông Timothy Throne theo địa chỉ [timothyt@ggcity.org](mailto:timothyt@ggcity.org)

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**  
**December 14, 2023**

1. Calendar of Events
2. Meeting minutes for the November 16, 2023 and agenda for the December 21, 2023 Garden Grove Planning Commission meeting.
3. Agenda and Minutes for the December 14, 2023 Garden Grove Zoning Administrator meeting.
4. Garden Grove Historical Society Newsletter, December 2023.
5. Orange County LAFCO The Pulse Newsletter, December 2023.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 14, 2023 – January 23, 2023

Thursday	December 14	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Friday	December 15		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Thursday	December 21	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC  \$2 Casual Dress Day
Tuesday	December 26	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC <b>ALL CANCELLED</b>
Monday	December 25- January 1		City Hall Closed – Holiday Closure
Tuesday	January 2	6:00 p.m.	Traffic Commission Meeting, CMC
Thursday	January 4	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Tuesday	January 9	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	January 11	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC  Downtown Commission Meeting, CMC
		6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission, CMC
Friday	January 12		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Monday	January 15		City Hall Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Thursday	January 18	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Tuesday	January 23	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC



GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION  
Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Arbgast  
Commissioner Cueva  
Commissioner Cunningham  
Commissioner Laricchia  
Commissioner Lindsay  
Commissioner Paredes  
Commissioner Ramirez

Absent: Commissioner Ramirez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Vice Chair Cunningham

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC – Mary Lewis and Hector Melara expressed concerns for the deteriorated condition of Gilbert Street, and Christopher Koranza commented on the traffic blockage at the freeway off-ramp near the Magnolia Street and Trask Avenue intersection. Staff recommended the traffic concerns be directed to the Traffic Commission.

October 19, 2023 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed.

Motion: Arbgast Second: Cueva

Ayes: (6) Arbgast, Cueva, Cunningham, Laricchia Lindsay, Paredes

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ramirez

PUBLIC HEARING – SITE PLAN NO. SP-129-2023 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF BIXBY AVENUE, BETWEEN CARTHAY CIRCLE AND PEACOCK COURT, AT 9691 BIXBY AVENUE

Applicant: THE JAGER CO., LTD  
Date: November 16, 2023

Request: A request for Site Plan approval to construct a three-story, 27-unit residential apartment complex and associated site improvements on a 0.83-acre lot. The proposal includes three (3) affordable housing units for "very-low income" households. Inclusion of the three (3) very low-income units qualifies the project for a density bonus, concessions, waivers, and reduced parking pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law, and the project has been designed to incorporate certain concessions and waivers of development standards pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law. All existing on-site improvements will be demolished to accommodate the proposed development. The site is in the R-2 (Limited Multiple Residential) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15332 – In-Fill Development Projects – of the state CEQA guidelines.

Commissioner comments included concerns for lack of parking spaces, electric vehicle parking, handicap parking, lack of guest parking, size of balcony decks, overall child-safety in regard to vertical hand-rail spacing and school routes, traffic patterns in the area, and a traffic study is needed. Public comments included concerns for a large project’s sewer capacity, overburdened parking on Bixby Avenue, lack of space for trash receptacles in the street due to overcrowded parking, lack of sidewalks and curb and gutter, especially for safety of students in nearby school, increased traffic, density of project for the area, and a safety issue with rental units next to a school. The applicant’s representative responded acknowledging parking is an issue in the area, however, the project parking is maximized and would accommodate fire and trash truck access, the side yard is gated, and the project would have sidewalks. Staff then noted the sewer capacity was adequate for the project.

One petition of opposition with 21 names and assorted street photographs was submitted by Michael Torres; letters of opposition were submitted by Hector Melara, Annie Trinh, Elizabeth Raganold, and Howard Doering.

Staff provided revisions to the staff report, conditions of approval, and resolution on the following pages:

Staff report: Page 3, Item 4; Page 7, Waiver 1; Page 8, Parking Conditions of Approval: Page 17, Condition No. 87; Page 11, Condition No. 59a

Resolution: Page 3, Item 4; Page 6, Item 1

Action: The motion to approve Resolution No. 6073-23 failed and no action was taken.

Motion: Cunningham Second: Lindsay

Ayes: (2) Cunningham, Lindsay  
Noes: (4) Arbgast, Cueva, Laricchia, Paredes  
Absent: (1) Ramirez

Staff stated that to disapprove a proposed housing project, one of the following findings must be made per the Garden Grove Municipal Code Section 9.60.020 – (1) that the proposed project is inconsistent, or not in compliance, or not in conformity with, one or more of the applicable objective standards, provisions, conditions, or requirements with the General Plan Title 9 or other applicable ordinances or policies of the City; (2) that the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) have not been complied with; and (3), that based on the preponderance of evidence in the record, the proposed development project would have a specific adverse impact as defined in the Government Code Section 65589.5 J1a, on public health and safety, unless the project is disapproved and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact, other than disapproval of the proposed project.

Action: The motion to re-open the public hearing, and continue the public hearing to the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, in order for staff to provide further information to the Commission for the Commission to make a decision that aligns with Municipal Code requirements, was approved.

Motion: Lindsay Second: Arbgast

Ayes: (6) Arbgast, Cueva, Cunningham, Laricchia, Lindsay, Paredes  
Noes: (0) None  
Absent: (1) Ramirez

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS: Staff provided a brief update on the following projects: Brookhurst Triangle is currently in plan check for the 120 units of Phase 2; Pepe’s is in planning review for a patio added without permits; the Wharf project will come back to Planning Commission for the two pool tables, along with an additional amendment to allow pool halls in conjunction with restaurants on Main Street; Smoke Queen tenant improvement is underway at Cottage Industries; staff is working with the developer on Site C; and, Nickelodeon is pending litigation.

MATTERS FROM STAFF: Staff gave a brief description of future agenda items for the December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 21<sup>st</sup> meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:29 p.m.

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Judith Moore, Recording Secretary



## AGENDA

### GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION

December 21, 2023 - 7:00 PM

COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER  
11300 STANFORD AVENUE

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**Meeting Assistance:** Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability, to address the Planning Commission, should contact the Department of Community & Economic Development at (714) 741-5312 or email [planning@ggcity.org](mailto:planning@ggcity.org) 72 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

**Agenda Item Descriptions:** Are intended to give a brief, general description of the item. The Planning Commission may take legislative action deemed appropriate with respect to the item and is not limited to the recommended action indicated in staff reports or the agenda.

**Documents/Writings:** Any revised or additional documents/writings related to an item on the agenda distributed to all or a majority of the Planning Commission within 72 hours of a meeting, are made available for public inspection at the same time (1) in the Planning Services Division Office at 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840, during normal business hours; and (1) at the Community Meeting Center at the time of the meeting.

**Public Comments:** Members of the public who attend the meeting in-person and would like to address the Planning Commission are requested to complete a yellow speaker card indicating their name and address, and identifying the subject matter they wish to address. This card should be given to the Recording Secretary before the meeting begins. General comments are made during "Oral Communications" and are limited to three (3) minutes and to matters the Planning Commission has jurisdiction over. Persons wishing to address the Planning Commission regarding a Public Hearing matter will be called to the podium at the time the matter is being considered. Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Commission, in lieu of doing so in person, may submit comments by emailing [public-comment@ggcity.org](mailto:public-comment@ggcity.org) no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. The comments will be provided to the Commission as part of the meeting record.

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING.**

#### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

ROLL CALL: CHAIR LINDSAY, VICE CHAIR CUNNINGHAM  
COMMISSIONERS ARBGAST, CUEVA, LARICCHIA, PAREDES,  
RAMIREZ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – [December 7, 2023](#)
- C. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING(S) (Authorization for the Chair to execute Resolution shall be included in the motion.)

C.1. [SITE PLAN NO. SP-129-2023](#)

APPLICANT: THE JAGER CO., LTD

LOCATION: NORTH OF BIXBY AVENUE, BETWEEN CARTHAY CIRCLE AND PEACOCK COURT AT 9691 BIXBY AVENUE

REQUEST: A request for Site Plan approval to construct a three-story, 27-unit residential apartment complex and associated site improvements on a 0.83-acre lot. The proposal includes three (3) affordable housing units for "very-low income" households. Inclusion of the three (3) very low-income units qualifies the project for a density bonus, concessions, waivers, and reduced parking pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law, and the project has been designed to incorporate certain concessions and waivers of development standards pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law. All existing on-site improvements will be demolished to accommodate the proposed development. The site is in the R-2 (Limited Multiple Residential) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15332 – In-Fill Development Projects – of the state CEQA guidelines.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Site Plan No. SP-129-2023, pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

D. PUBLIC HEARING(S) (Authorization for the Chair to execute Resolution shall be included in the motion.)

D.1. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-250-2023](#)  
[MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION](#)  
[MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM](#)

APPLICANT: CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

LOCATION: NORTHEAST CORNER OF ACACIA PARKWAY AND EUCLID STREET AT 11261-11301 ACACIA PARKWAY

REQUEST: The City of Garden Grove is requesting Conditional Use Permit approval authorizing the construction and operation of a new police headquarters, which includes demolition of the existing police headquarters, construction of a new police headquarters building of up to 104,400 square feet to accommodate up to 221 police officers, construction of a new parking structure with up to 448 spaces, and construction of a new approximately 2.8-acre park within the City's Civic Center Area. The site is in the CC-3 (Civic Center Core) & CC-OS (Civic Center Open Space) zones. The Planning Commission will also consider the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration and an associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approval of Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-250-2023, pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

- E. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- F. MATTERS FROM STAFF
- G. ADJOURNMENT





## AGENDA

### GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION

December 21, 2023 - 7:00 PM

COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER  
11300 STANFORD AVENUE

**Meeting Assistance:** Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability, to address the Planning Commission, should contact the Department of Community & Economic Development at (714) 741-5312 or email [planning@ggcity.org](mailto:planning@ggcity.org) 72 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

**Agenda Item Descriptions:** Are intended to give a brief, general description of the item. The Planning Commission may take legislative action deemed appropriate with respect to the item and is not limited to the recommended action indicated in staff reports or the agenda.

**Documents/Writings:** Any revised or additional documents/writings related to an item on the agenda distributed to all or a majority of the Planning Commission within 72 hours of a meeting, are made available for public inspection at the same time (1) in the Planning Services Division Office at 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840, during normal business hours; and (1) at the Community Meeting Center at the time of the meeting.

**Public Comments:** Members of the public who attend the meeting in-person and would like to address the Planning Commission are requested to complete a yellow speaker card indicating their name and address, and identifying the subject matter they wish to address. This card should be given to the Recording Secretary before the meeting begins. General comments are made during "Oral Communications" and are limited to three (3) minutes and to matters the Planning Commission has jurisdiction over. Persons wishing to address the Planning Commission regarding a Public Hearing matter will be called to the podium at the time the matter is being considered. Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Commission, in lieu of doing so in person, may submit comments by emailing [public-comment@ggcity.org](mailto:public-comment@ggcity.org) no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. The comments will be provided to the Commission as part of the meeting record.

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING.**

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

ROLL CALL: CHAIR LINDSAY, VICE CHAIR CUNNINGHAM  
COMMISSIONERS ARBGAST, CUEVA, LARICCHIA, PAREDES,  
RAMIREZ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – [December 7, 2023](#)
- C. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING(S) (Authorization for the Chair to execute Resolution shall be included in the motion.)

C.1. [SITE PLAN NO. SP-129-2023](#)

APPLICANT: THE JAGER CO., LTD

LOCATION: NORTH OF BIXBY AVENUE, BETWEEN CARTHAY CIRCLE AND PEACOCK COURT AT 9691 BIXBY AVENUE

REQUEST: A request for Site Plan approval to construct a three-story, 27-unit residential apartment complex and associated site improvements on a 0.83-acre lot. The proposal includes three (3) affordable housing units for "very-low income" households. Inclusion of the three (3) very low-income units qualifies the project for a density bonus, concessions, waivers, and reduced parking pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law, and the project has been designed to incorporate certain concessions and waivers of development standards pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law. All existing on-site improvements will be demolished to accommodate the proposed development. The site is in the R-2 (Limited Multiple Residential) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15332 – In-Fill Development Projects – of the state CEQA guidelines.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Site Plan No. SP-129-2023, pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

D. PUBLIC HEARING(S) (Authorization for the Chair to execute Resolution shall be included in the motion.)

D.1. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-250-2023](#)  
[MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION](#)  
[MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM](#)

APPLICANT: CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

LOCATION: NORTHEAST CORNER OF ACACIA PARKWAY AND EUCLID STREET AT 11261-11301 ACACIA PARKWAY

REQUEST: The City of Garden Grove is requesting Conditional Use Permit approval authorizing the construction and operation of a new police headquarters, which includes demolition of the existing police headquarters, construction of a new police headquarters building of up to 104,400 square feet to accommodate up to 221 police officers, construction of a new parking structure with up to 448 spaces, and construction of a new approximately 2.8-acre park within the City's Civic Center Area. The site is in the CC-3 (Civic Center Core) & CC-OS (Civic Center Open Space) zones. The Planning Commission will also consider the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration and an associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approval of Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-250-2023, pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

- E. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- F. MATTERS FROM STAFF
- G. ADJOURNMENT



## AGENDA

### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING

Garden Grove Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford Avenue

Thursday, December 14, 2023

9:00 a.m.

**Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Zoning Administrator, in lieu of doing so in person, may submit comments by emailing [public-comment@ggcity.org](mailto:public-comment@ggcity.org) no later than 3:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting. The comments will be provided to the Zoning Administrator as part of the meeting record.**

Members of the public desiring to speak on any item of public interest, including any item on the agenda except public hearings, must do so during Comments by the Public. Each speaker shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Members of the public wishing to address public hearing items shall do so at the time of the public hearing.

Meeting Assistance: Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability, should contact the Department of Community & Economic Development at (714) 741-5312 or email [planning@ggcity.org](mailto:planning@ggcity.org) 72 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

All revised or additional documents and writings related to any items on the agenda, which are distributed to the Zoning Administrator within 72 hours of a meeting, shall be available for public inspection (1) at the Planning Services Division during normal business hours; and (2) at the Community Meeting Center at the time of the meeting.

Agenda item descriptions are intended to give a brief, general description of the item to advise the public of the item's general nature. The Zoning Administrator may take legislative action deemed appropriate with respect to the item and is not limited to the recommended action indicated in staff reports or the agenda.

1. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM(S):

a. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-254-2023](#)

APPLICANT: Madidon Enterprises, LLC  
LOCATION: 13062 Chapman Avenue

REQUEST: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to operate an existing 2,100 square foot restaurant, Doheny's Tavern Gill and Sports Bar, with a new State Alcoholic

Beverage Control Type "47" (On-Sale, General, Public Eating Place) License. Upon approval and exercising of the subject request, the Conditional Use Permit previously governing the tenant space, CUP-587-02, shall be revoked and become null and void. The site is in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15301- Existing Facilities- of the State CEQA Guidelines.

b. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-252-2023](#)

APPLICANT: Devon Thai

LOCATION: 12500 Valley View Street #A

REQUEST: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to allow a new liquor store, Liquor Logic, to operate with an original State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "21" (Off-Sale, General) License. The site is in the PUD-102-76 (Planned Unit Development) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15301- Existing Facilities- of the State CEQA Guidelines.

2. [COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC](#)

3. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

GARDEN GROVE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING  
Garden Grove Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 14, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: 9:05 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-254-2023

Applicant: Madidon Enterprises, LLC  
Location: 13062 Chapman Avenue  
Date: December 14, 2023

Request: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to operate an existing 2,100 square foot restaurant, Doheny's Tavern Grill and Sports Bar, with a new State Alcoholic Beverage Control Type "47" (On-Sale, General, Public Eating Place) License. Upon approval and exercising of the subject request, the Conditional Use Permit previously governing the tenant space, CUP-587-02, shall be revoked and become null and void. The site is in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15301- Existing Facilities- of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Don Longeuy

Action: The Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1847-23.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-252-2023

Applicant: Devon Thai  
Location: 12500 Valley View Street #A  
Date: December 14, 2023

Request: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to allow a new liquor store, Liquor Logic, to operate with an original State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "21" (Off-Sale, General) License. The site is in the PUD-102-76 (Planned Unit Development) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15301- Existing Facilities- of the State CEQA Guidelines.

## Zoning Administrator Minutes

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Ian Brown

Action: The Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1848-23.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The Zoning Administrator adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

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Judith Moore  
Recording Secretary





# Cal Cities Board votes to support two ballot measures

*Dec 6, 2023*

Last week, the League of California Cities Board of Directors voted overwhelmingly in favor of the [ACA 13 \(Ward, 2023\)](#) ballot measure and [Proposition 1 \(2024\)](#).

ACA 13 — which does not yet have a ballot number — would require ballot measures that increase voter-approval thresholds to pass by the same threshold. The measure will appear on the November 2024 ballot.

Proposition 1, which the proponents call "[Treatment Not Tents](#)," would modernize California's behavioral health system to expand access to services and housing. The ballot measure will appear on the March 2024 ballot and is Gov. Gavin Newsom's top priority at the ballot box this spring.

[What's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)

ACA 13 is one of several efforts to stop the deceptively named "[Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act](#)" initiative. The initiative — sponsored by some of the state's wealthiest corporations — would expand the definition of a tax and raise the voter approval threshold for some local taxes. The initiative would also limit certain fees to the least amount necessary to provide the service.

A broad group of organizations oppose the initiative, including labor unions, local government associations, lawmakers, and the Governor. In September, the Legislature and the Governor [filed an emergency petition](#) with the California Supreme Court to remove the initiative from the November 2024 ballot.

"This ballot measure is an anti-democratic power grab by greedy corporations and puts a radical minority in charge of the democratic process," said San Diego Council President Sean Elo-Rivera [at a press conference last month](#). "It also jeopardizes a range of critical city services and infrastructure that our residents have come to rely on and expect. We need more accountability for wealthy corporations, not less."

ACA 13 would also preserve the right of local governments to place advisory questions on the ballot asking voters their opinions on issues.

[Funding and reform for behavioral health care](#)

Proposition 1 would modernize the Mental Health Services Act for the first time in nearly two decades. The ballot measure also includes a \$6.38 billion bond for over 11,000 new treatment beds and housing units for people with the most acute behavioral health needs who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

This year, Cal Cities actively engaged with the legislative vehicles comprising Proposition 1: [AB 531 \(Irwin\)](#) and [SB 326 \(Eggman\)](#). These efforts helped secure amendments to provide \$1.5 billion for cities and counties to fund thousands more behavioral health beds.

Cal Cities maintained a support position on both measures for most of the year. However, last-minute changes to AB 531 taken just one week before the end of the legislative session generated concerns among cities. As a result, Cal Cities withdrew its support.

These amendments allow for by-right approvals of unlocked and locked behavioral health facilities, sober living homes, and recovery housing. While existing law generally requires by-right approval of these facilities in residential areas, Proposition 1 would also apply this approval process to office, retail, and parking zones.

The Cal Cities Board directed staff to engage in the regulatory process and pursue legislation to address these concerns while also supporting Proposition 1. Cal Cities will focus on correcting the overconcentration of these facilities in residential areas and implementing reasonable oversight of unlicensed recovery housing and sober living homes to ensure the safety and success of those receiving services and support.



# Learn concrete skills and pave the way to success! Register for the 2024 Public Works Officers Institute

*Dec 6, 2023*

*The Public Works Officers Institute is open for registration through March 6*

Registration is now open for the [2024 Public Works Officers Institute!](#) This year's institute features sessions on groundwater, emergency preparedness, innovative public works projects, and other topical issues, as well as opportunities to build connections with public works officers from across the state.

Registration for the full institute starts at \$675 for public works officers from any Cal Cities member city. Registration includes admission to all educational sessions, the Wednesday reception, the Thursday breakfast and lunch, the Friday breakfast, and access to all program materials. The deadline to register is Wednesday, March 6. After the cut-off date, attendees must register on-site.

The 2024 Public Works Officers Institute will be at the Portola Hotel at Monterey Bay. A limited number of hotel rooms are available at a discounted rate for attendees until Thursday, Feb. 15. These rooms often sell out early, so advanced registration is encouraged.

Cal Cities' health and safety protocols — which are subject to change — are available [online](#). For more information, including details to register, visit the [Public Works Officers Institute](#) webpage.

For registration questions, please contact [Megan Dunn](#). If you are interested in sponsoring the conference, please email [Amy Wade](#). For all other questions, please contact [Erin Wylder](#).



## El Cerrito proves that carrots, not sticks, create lasting housing solutions

Dec 6, 2023

**#LocalWorks** El Cerrito has been a bastion of housing development for decades. The mayor of this bedroom community of 25,000 still remembers when she first encountered the city's then-unusual stance on housing. Lisa Motoyama approached the city council in 2005 about a possible housing project while working for a nonprofit developer.



"I went to city council to present, assuming it would be a tough sell," she said. "I immediately got yelled at by a city council member who said, 'Don't walk in here thinking that we don't care about affordable housing! We do affordable housing. We do housing for people experiencing homelessness. We do all kinds of housing here.'

"You could have knocked me over with a feather. I learned then, that's how we roll in El Cerrito."

### Capitalizing on favorable geography

El Cerrito residents have historically supported new housing in part because of the city's geography. Most single-family housing lies east of San Pablo Avenue, the city's main commercial corridor. Recent multifamily housing developments have been along San Pablo, thus reducing the potential impact on single-family communities.

As a result, the San Francisco Bay Area city is on track to meet its housing targets. In February 2023, it earned the state's [prohousing designation](#) for its work facilitating a range of housing. El Cerrito received a \$620,000 grant from the program, which it has funneled back into its affordable housing development efforts.

"Earning that designation wasn't a big lift for us," Motoyama said. "We didn't have to change ordinances, as we already had them in place."

The numbers are impressive. Over the 2015-2023 planning period, El Cerrito needed to permit 398 units under the state's housing law. The city easily exceeded that. It approved 651 units, 81 of which were affordable.

El Cerrito had to be creative and proactive to achieve its ambitious housing agenda. With most developers setting their sights on nearby cities like Berkeley, El Cerrito had to find ways to make itself attractive to developers. In 2014, the city created the [San Pablo Specific Plan](#), which will transform the car-oriented commercial corridor into a mixed-use community with safe pathways for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders.



The plan called for 1,700 housing units and 200,000 square feet of commercial space. Since 2014, developers completed six projects that include 335 new affordable and market-rate housing units. From 2017-2020, the city approved 1,170 units. Due to the plan's success, city leaders amended it in 2022 to add [2,500 residential units](#). This provides the city with the capacity to meet its state-mandated housing goal of 1,398 new units.

Ensuring that everyone has access to affordable housing is one of the city's guiding principles. El Cerrito is a majority non-white, mixed-income city. Forty-one percent of the residents are renters.

"El Cerrito does not see affordable housing as this bad thing that needs to be put off in the corner somewhere," said City Manager Karen Pinkos. "We really want to embrace the diversity of our community, including the diversity brought by all income levels."

In 2017, the city council adopted an [affordable housing strategy](#) to proactively protect, produce and preserve affordable housing.

City leaders could not have adopted the plan without community buy-in. Early on, the city prioritized community engagement. The city carefully laid out the plan's community benefits, which emphasized predictable results, livability, and aesthetics.

"We were concerned about what buildings would look like and how they would interact with the public realm," said Sean Moss, the city's planning manager. "We focused on creating vibrant public rights of way in front of buildings and minimizing shadows cast by new buildings so that one side of the street was always in the sun. We added new benches, bike racks, and streetlights. Basically, we spruced up the corridor to make it a more pleasant place for pedestrians and bicyclists."

The community — already predisposed to mixed-income housing — appreciated the effort and the plan passed through the city council without resistance.

"At the end of the day, people realized this plan will bring us what we want," Motoyama said. "We want a beautiful avenue. We want shops. We want services. We want more people living here. And, we want to have that in a development that proceeds in an orderly way."





### Leveraging state partnerships

It helps that El Cerrito is home to two Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) stations, a rarity for a city that covers less than four square miles. The city is working closely with stakeholders to build a transit-oriented development at the [El Cerrito Plaza BART station](#). The proposed project will include 743 housing units, with nearly half designated as below-market rate. In March, the city approved the project's first phase, a 70-unit, completely affordable housing project.

This project alone will help the city reach 53% of its newest housing element goals.

El Cerrito is partnering with BART and the development team for the project, which includes several public amenities. The most significant opportunity is the potential for a new city-owned library — a decades-old goal. Locating the new El Cerrito library within the project would save approximately \$10 million. The city council is currently considering how best to [fund the \\$20 million project](#).

Developers also completed [Phase I](#) of another transit-oriented development at another BART station that delivered 156 market-rate units last year. [Developers are](#) scheduled to break ground on 69 affordable units next year. The project also includes public open space and new commercial spaces.

Thanks to these projects, along with others in the pipeline, El Cerrito is on track to meet its 2023-31 housing goals. The city needs to permit 1,391 new housing units. Thirty-eight percent of those must be affordable.

El Cerrito is proud of its status as a leader in reducing the statewide housing shortage. Mayor Motoyama hopes that its progress can demonstrate to the state that the carrot, not the stick, can prompt cities to find creative ways to increase their housing supply.

“It would be great if the focus was on rewarding cities like ours that have demonstrated that with little funding you can do a lot,” she said. “We deserve more carrots. We are proving that this is possible, and by doing so, the state will support you even more. El Cerrito is the poster child for showing that by trying extra hard with very little, it can pay off.”

*The Cal Cities #LocalWorks initiative shines the spotlight on examples of local actions that are making a difference to their communities. Show how #LocalWorks in your community by contacting [communications@calcities.org](mailto:communications@calcities.org)*



# Cal Cities seeking proposals for the City Leaders Summit

*Dec 6, 2023*

The League of California Cities is seeking proposals for the [City Leaders Summit](#). Taking place April 17-19 in Sacramento, the City Leaders Summit allows city officials to influence state policy decisions and gain top-notch leadership skills. During the event, city leaders will spend a full day meeting with legislators to discuss the most pertinent issues affecting their cities. The summit also includes two days of in-depth educational sessions on local solutions to statewide problems.

Cal Cities is looking for thorough, thoughtful, and complete proposals that tell how your session can help elected city officials improve their communities, leadership abilities, and policy knowledge. Submissions from any individual, group, business, or organization on any topic are welcome.

The summit offers panel discussions, speed sessions, facilitated discussions, and opportunities for keynote speakers. Sessions may not include sales, commercialism, or product promotion of any kind. Proposals must be submitted online through the [session proposal form](#) by Monday, Jan. 8.

Members have indicated an interest in a range of topics, including:

- Ways to prevent and reduce homelessness.
- Public safety, including reducing gun violence and illicit fentanyl.
- Emergency preparedness; natural and environmental disasters.
- Climate action.
- Mental health resources.
- Water issues.
- Cannabis dispensaries.
- Receiving funding or grants for infrastructure projects.
- CEQA and local control.
- Community engagement.
- City finances.
- Other emerging issues and cutting-edge solutions for the top challenges facing cities.

Member-driven and member-led programming is a cornerstone of Cal Cities' educational activities. More than 95% of all programming comes directly from Cal Cities' open calls for proposals. For more information contact Associate Manager, Event Program, [Kayla Boutros](#).





# Cal Cities-sponsored bond agency issues over \$100 million in affordable housing bonds

*Dec 6, 2023*

The California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA) issued over \$100 million in affordable housing bonds for the cities of Wildomar and Palm Desert.

In Wildomar, the joint powers authority issued \$25,351,486 in tax-exempt, affordable housing bonds for Tres Lagos Apartments for the construction of 88 affordable housing units. The one-, two, and three-bedroom apartments will be rent-restricted for low- and very low-income residents and reserved for families earning less than 30%, 50%, and 60% of the area median income.

For Palm Desert, CSCDA issued \$74,000,000 in tax-exempt and taxable multifamily affordable housing bonds for Crossings at Palm Desert Apartments — 176 new units of affordable housing. Eighty percent of the units will be rent-restricted for extremely low- and very low-income tenants. The project includes one, two- and three-bedroom units, as well as two managers units.

CSCDA worked with the cities and others to provide the housing bonds. The financing for the apartments requires the affordability of the units to be maintained for 55 years.

## About CSCDA

CSCDA is a joint powers authority created in 1988 and is sponsored by the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties. More than 530 cities, counties, and special districts are program participants in CSCDA, which serves as their conduit issuer and provides access to efficiently financed, locally approved projects.

Visit the organization's [website](#) to learn how CSCDA can help your city.



# Guide to Local Recovery Update: Dec. 13

*Dec 13, 2023*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is accepting applications for a greenhouse reduction grant program and launching a rural public health competition. The federal government is also accepting applications for a program that advances transportation projects with significant local or regional impact.

## Climate Pollution Reduction Grants applications due April 1

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting applications for the second half of its [Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program](#). The \$4.3 billion program helps cities and other stakeholders implement greenhouse gas reduction programs, policies, and measures. Eligible cities can apply with others or by themselves. Cities can use the funding to advance decarbonization in a range of sectors, including industry, electric power, transportation, commercial and residential buildings, agricultural, and waste management. As with similar grants, 40% of the overall benefits should flow to disadvantaged communities. An optional notice of intent to apply is due Feb. 1. Completed applications must be submitted by April 1.

## EPA launches rural public health and community engagement competition

The EPA and others have launched a competition to gain a better understanding of [public health challenges in rural communities](#), with a focus on community engagement. Cities that demonstrate their innovative strategies can receive \$25,000, as well as a one-year National Environmental Health Association membership. Submissions are due Jan. 31.

## Key transportation grant window closes early in 2024

Applications for the [2024 RAISE grant program](#) are due Feb. 28. The program helps communities carry out [surface transportation projects](#) with significant local or regional impact that may have difficulty obtaining funding. Cities are strongly encouraged to [apply weeks in advance](#) and consider how their projects can address climate change, ensure racial equity, and remove socioeconomic barriers. Cities can use the funding for a range of capital projects, including highways, bridges, public transportation, rail, port infrastructure, and stormwater runoff. Half of the funding

will go to rural areas and half will go to urban areas. At least \$15 million is guaranteed for disadvantaged communities, which will be eligible for a 100% federal cost share.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is holding a [webinar on Dec. 19](#) to help cities craft their application.

#### [Local Infrastructure Hub resources](#)

The Local Infrastructure Hub is holding two key transportation webinars. On [Dec. 14](#), speakers will discuss how cities can partner with others to develop Priority Climate Action Plans, a required part of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program. On [Dec. 20](#), experts will discuss how cities can use federal funding for congestion pricing systems, mobility-on-demand solutions, and transportation service payment systems. The webinar includes a deep dive into a program that offers seamless payment for highway and transit services for Los Angeles County residents. *City officials looking for additional information about the American Rescue Plan Act, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Inflation Reduction Act, or additional recovery tools can visit the [Cal Cities Guide to Local Recovery portal](#).*



# First Assembly retail theft informational hearing slated for Dec. 19

*Dec 13, 2023*

*Members are encouraged to provide in-person public comment*

The Assembly Select Committee on Retail Theft is holding its first hearing on [Dec. 19](#) in Sacramento at 1:00 p.m. Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas [formed the committee](#) in October, telling members to “act with focus and urgency.”

Improving public safety — specifically reducing retail theft — is one of the League of California Cities’ [top priorities](#) for 2024. Among other things, Cal Cities will work with stakeholders to reform Proposition 47, while avoiding a return to the days of mass incarceration.

Retail theft is difficult to track because it often falls under broader crime categories. However, felony retail theft, commercial burglary, and commercial shoplifting have [increased statewide](#). Commercial burglary — nonviolent thefts greater than \$950 — has reached its highest level since 2008, according to the Public Policy Institute of California.

The December hearing will be divided into three parts: expert testimony to provide an overview of the issue, a law enforcement testimony, and a panel with labor and business, including the California Retailers Association.

This hearing will be in Sacramento at 1021 O Street, Suite 1100. Lawmakers are only accepting in-person public comment. Members are encouraged to attend, but public comment may be limited.

The next two hearings are in January, most likely in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area. Cal Cities expects to testify at of one these hearings as an invited speaker.

For questions, contact Cal Cities Legislative Representative [Jolena Voorhis](#).



## Tough decisions loom, as lawmakers grapple with a \$68B budget deficit

Dec 13, 2023

The Golden State's budget looks decidedly less golden. Last week, the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) said that the state's budget deficit will likely [grow to \\$68 billion](#) in fiscal year 2024-25. Lawmakers anticipated a budget deficit of \$14 billion for 2024-25 when crafting last year's budget deal.

California's revenue system relies heavily on income taxes. One reason why previous estimates differed so greatly is because of [federal tax filing extensions](#). Legislators and the LAO did not have a complete picture of the tax collections until after the 2023-24 fiscal year ended. Budget watchers expected some high-wage earners and large corporations to file their income taxes at the November filing deadline. However, that failed to materialize.

"While the state grapples with its budget deficit, we cannot let that slow us down from delivering the critical services our residents need and rely on every day," [said Carolyn Coleman](#), executive director and CEO of the League of California Cities. "... we *will* push back on any efforts to raid funding for local programs to make up for the deficit."

The LAO projects that 2022-23 revenues will be \$26 billion below prior estimates. Collections data shows a 25% reduction in total income tax collections.

Assembly Budget Chair Jesse Gabriel told [The Sacramento Bee](#) that "everything is on the table" and "anything that costs money is going to have a huge uphill path" when balancing the budget. He also promised "to avoid cuts to safety net services for our most vulnerable."

Sen. Roger Niello, vice-chair of the Senate Budget Committee, outlined several possible spending adjustments, including "much wiser spending" around homelessness. Key lawmakers also said they would protect classroom spending.

Still, the state is in a much better position to respond to the deficit than in years past, said LAO legislative analyst Gabriel Petek. The state has closed similar funding gaps before and has nearly \$91 billion in unused borrowable funds. This is significant, as the state did not have this luxury when faced with budget deficits in previous years. Petek told *CalMatters* he would “stop short of calling it a crisis.”

Legislators could also borrow from special funds, pull back allocations, or recalculate the state’s obligation to schools and community colleges. The LAO warned that although tax revenues will likely begin growing next year, recovery will be slow.

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# *Garden Grove Historical Society*

## *Calendar of Activities*

### *December*

December 1 & 2, 8 AM to 4 PM: The Holiday Sale will be in Emerson Hall. Weather permitting, there may be some clothing available in the parking lot.

December 3 – Public tour, 1:30 PM. The Ware-Stanley House will be decorated for the season by our talented volunteers!

December 5 – General meeting, 7 PM. The Bolsa Grande Concert Choir will be featured, performing holiday songs. The Board of Directors will also be introduced and voted upon at the meeting.

December 17 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

December 19 – Board meeting, 9:30 AM

December 25 – Merry Christmas to all!

### *January 2024*

January 7 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

January 21 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

January 23 – Board meeting, 9:30 AM.

## **Southland Maritime Museums**

From an article by Daniel A. Owen, published in the  
*Fedco Reporter*, May 1991

Surrounded by freeways, high-rises, and suburban sprawl, it's easy for Southern Californians to forget Los Angeles and San Diego are coastal cities. But California's nautical heritage dates to the 1500s, when Juan Cabrillo, Sir Francis Drake, and Sebastian Vizcaino sailed fragile wooden galleons along these shores.

Today, Southern California boasts five museums that celebrate maritime history. From tiny Catalina Island Museum with prehistoric Indian artifacts, to the pop culture Huntington Beach Surfing Museum, there's something for everyone. Two of the larger museums present different views of the state's relationship with the Pacific.

Aboard six historic vessels – the *Star of India*, the *HMS Surprise*, the *San Salvador*, the *Californian*, and the steam-powered *Berkeley* and the yacht *Medea* – the San Diego Maritime Museum focuses on ships and the men who crew them. Throughout the 1800s and early 1900s, sailing ships, steamers, and gun boats docked at San Diego's Embarcadero. Gradually, modern freighters, aircraft carriers, cruise ships, tuna boats, and yachts took their place.

In these days of mandatory seat belts, it's hard to believe that in storm-tossed seas, men and boys climbed rope rigging to handle the massive canvas sails of the *Star of India*. It's impossible to spend a few hours aboard these ships and not get something of the feel of what it was like during those years of sail and steam.



The museums feature constantly changing displays. Google the museum for more information, or reach them by phone.

Cabrillo Marine Museum, 3720 Stephen White Drive, San Pedro. (310) 548-7562

Los Angeles Maritime Museum, 6<sup>th</sup> St and Harbor Blvd., Berth 84, San Pedro. (310) 548-7618

Catalina Island Museum, 217 Metropole Avenue, Avalon. (310) 510-2414

Huntington Beach Surfing Museum, 411 Olive St., Huntington Beach. (714) 960-3483

Maritime Museum of San Diego, 1492 N Harbor Dr., San Diego. No phone number listed, but you can contact the museum over the internet.



A couple of views of the *Star of India* at the Maritime Museum of San Diego



Surf's Up at the Huntington Beach Surfing Museum!



The Los Angeles Maritime Museum in San Pedro. The building dates from the Art Deco era (mid-1920s)

## The Friends' Friendship Quilt

Some four or five years ago, Society member Nancy Phillips donated a quilt which celebrated the founding and history of the Garden Grove Friends Church (GGFC). It is comprised of many squares, each the same size, and each patched together by church



members. The work of sewing the patches together and then quilting the whole thing must have taken immense effort: The quilt is very large, perhaps ten by twelve feet, and was hanging in the fellowship hall at the GGFC until the church was sold in 2021. It is currently stored in the Society's archive, rolled up to protect it as much as possible from dirt and damage due to sunlight.

We have yet to find an appropriate (not to mention large enough) location to display it.

## Loss of North Hangar at Tustin Marine Corps Facility

In the early hours of Tuesday, November 7, one of the two historic hangars at the Marine Corps Air Station – Helicopter (MCAS-H) caught fire. The firefighters could not contain the blaze, so the historic structure was completely destroyed.

The “north hangar” and its companion to the southeast were both built in 1942 to house and repair blimps. The US Navy had commissioned them that year, although the Navy had been using blimps for reconnaissance as early as the 1920s. Each hangar was 1,088 feet long, 297 feet wide, and 178 feet high, covering a ground area of 298,188 square feet. They are the largest clear-span wooden buildings in the world, and were constructed entirely of wood as steel was being used for the war effort. (This also explains why the fire was deemed impossible to contain.) Each hangar could hold six blimps simultaneously, and was regularly used by the Goodyear blimp for repairs and maintenance.

Due to its proximity to Hollywood, the air station was used for location shoots for movies and television shows, including *X-Files* and *The Hindenburg*, a movie from 1975.

Preservation efforts have been focused on the south hangar because the north end of the north hangar collapsed in October, 2013. Efforts began in 2022 to repair the roof and restore the north hangar entirely. Dismantling the hangars has proven infeasible, as the work would have to be done by hand, piece by piece. Furthermore, the site is contaminated with lead and motor oil, making the cost of demolition prohibitive.

In the autumn of 2017, I presented slides and the history of the two hangars at a conference in Cincinnati. I'll miss the north hangar, and can only

hope that preservation efforts are redoubled for the remaining south hangar.



South end of the north hangar in 2015. This is the closest I could get!



Outside the north hangar, on the east side



What's left, as of late November 2023. That's the same air traffic tower on the left side as in the photo above



THE GARDEN GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
12174 Euclid Street  
P.O. Box 4297  
GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA 92843-4297

## **DATED MATERIAL**

### **STANLEY RANCH MUSEUM TOURS**

Tours begin at 1:30 PM on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Suggested donations are \$5, and \$1 for students under the age of 12.

Group tours for 8 or more can be scheduled Monday through Saturday by calling the office at (714) 530-8871.

### **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

STUDENT	\$ 15
INDIVIDUAL	\$ 20
FAMILY	\$ 30
BUSINESS / ORG.	\$ 40
SUSTAINING	\$ 50
PATRON	\$ 100
LIFE	\$ 500
CENTENNIAL	\$1874



The Garden Grove Historical Society is a 501C(3) Non-profit organization founded in April 1966, and is not funded by any city, county, state, or federal agency. Our funding is from membership dues, fundraisers, and gifts of property or dollars. A charitable tax deduction is available for gifts.

Board meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month.



Placentia, CA  
at sunset

## Where Does the Time Go?

As we near the close of Year 2023, the Commission has experienced plentiful progress throughout the year with many goals achieved and future objectives off to a really good start. To learn more, check out this edition of *The Pulse*, featuring highlights of the activities of the latter half of fiscal year 22/23 and a push-off into a new fiscal cycle. Another way to catch up on OC LAFCO's latest news is by visiting us at [www.oclafco.org](http://www.oclafco.org). We hope you enjoy the read!



## Commissioner Activity

### Board Appointment

In June 2023, **Commissioner Bruce Whitaker** was seated as the OC LAFCO Regular City Member. Appointed by the City Selection Committee, which is comprised of the 34 city mayors, Commissioner Whitaker brings many years of experience to the Commission. He has served with the City of Fullerton as a council member since 2010 and a board director with the Orange County Water District in his most recent appointment since



**Commissioner Whitaker**

2021. Commissioner Whitaker's public participation also includes other regional boards, including the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority.



FALL EDITION



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## Commissioner Carol Moore Shares Thoughts on Attending Her First CALAFCO Conference

“The conference opened very early the first morning with a mobile workshop held at the host county’s modest-sized airport. The Monterey Airport is within an airport district that is under the jurisdiction of Monterey LAFCO. The District staff provided small group tours of airport operations as well as presentations regarding issues involved with needed airport expansion and the corresponding challenges. The airport is a product of less planning and more happenstance.

Returning later that morning and over the following days, we had the opportunity to interact with conference attendees from other regions and learn about the different interests and challenges of other LAFCOs. During one of the conference sessions, two very different Counties were featured. Resolving the same issue in a rural milieu can be quite different from puzzling out a resolution in an urban setting. Their issues were as dissimilar as their answers, confirming one-size does not fit all.



Commissioner Moore

As a newbie to LAFCO, my takeaways from the conference were positive on several levels; with the representatives from the various LAFCOs, with the respective discussions, and with the absence of any apparent ideology. I’d also note that our county is well-represented by [Commissioner Derek McGregor](#) who serves on the CALAFCO Board, and OC LAFCO is not sitting on the sidelines.”



## In Memoriam of Dr. Allan Bernstein

OC LAFCO acknowledges the dedicated service of

[Dr. Allan Bernstein](#),

fondly known as “Doc,” who sadly passed away this past Spring. In addition

to serving on the Tustin City Council and other Orange County regional boards,

Dr. Bernstein’s commitment to public service included serving on OC LAFCO as the City Member from 2014 to 2020. During his tenure as a Commissioner,



Allan was a key contributor to the Commission’s approval of several key jurisdictional changes and MSRs. He is remembered most for the experience and civic

engagement he brought to his role as a Commissioner, and OC LAFCO expresses our appreciation and honors his service to the Commission.

# Agency Report Card


The accomplishments of the Commission during the past fiscal cycle included the completion of key milestones of the agency's Three-Year Strategic Plan, processing of applications for annexations and reorganizations, conducting of multiple MSRs, and enhancements to varying components of the Commission's ongoing communication plan. The report card below provides an overview of the agency's performance during the previous fiscal year and a glimpse of OC LAFCO's activities during the beginning of fiscal year 23/24. To summarize the Commission's work, an agency report card has been developed. Here is how the agency is doing...

## OC LAFCO FY 2022-2023 REPORT CARD

PROJECT OR ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	HOW DID WE DO?
Legislative Mandates	<p>The Commission is required to process applications for changes of organization and a reorganization and to conduct MSRs at least once every five years in accordance with State law and local policy. Over the past year, the following mandates were completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Processed three city and district annexations and a reorganization.</li> <li>● Conducted MSRs and sphere reviews for the Southwest and West MSR regions.</li> <li>● Began MSRs focused on vector control services and wide array of municipal services provided in the Central Region of the County.</li> </ul>	<p>Commission action facilitated more logical boundaries and the efficient delivery, financing, and review of municipal services.</p>
Optimizing External Communication	<p>Continued enhancement of communication tools and vehicles for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● OC LAFCO Website</li> <li>● Agency and Community Resources</li> <li>● Commission Policy and Procedures</li> <li>● Information and Educational Resources</li> </ul>	<p>Completed the following resource enhancements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Improvements to website to support more user-friendly and educational experience involving OC LAFCO digital resources.</li> <li>● Utilized improved fiscal indicators for MSRs and informing agencies of fiscal health.</li> <li>● Adoption of Limited English Proficiency Services Policy and Guidelines to enhance agency's communication with LEP individuals on key projects and activities.</li> </ul>
Legislative Engagement	<p>Proactive monitoring and statewide participation in legislative efforts that affect or may potentially affect LAFCOs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adopted positions of support, oppose and watch on legislation of LAFCO interest.</li> <li>● Enhanced legislative policy to facilitate engagement of OC LAFCO stakeholders and groups on legislative efforts and proposed legislation of LAFCO interest.</li> </ul>
Internal Efficiencies	<p>Implementation of administrative policies and procedures that promote cost-effective and efficient Commission operations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maintained projects, activities and resources within approved budget levels.</li> <li>● Maintained investment portfolio that exceeded projected investment earnings that may be used for the Commission's retirement costs.</li> <li>● Received an Unqualified Opinion from independent auditor for fiscal year audited financial statements.</li> <li>● Established a Health Care Reimbursement benefit to facilitate future staff retention and competitive recruitment opportunities.</li> </ul>

CONTINUED 





Huntington  
Beach, CA



AGENCY REPORT CARD

## Legislative Affairs

On October 14, the legislative session came to an end with **Governor Newsom** signing eight bills monitored by OC LAFCO. During the session, the Commission adopted positions of support and oppose on four of the bills, while maintaining a watch position on the others. The 2024 legislative session is set to begin next month, and OC LAFCO staff will be participating in a legislative meeting on January 12, 2024 to discuss expectations for the new session.

In concert with the Strategic Plan, during the latter part of fiscal year 22/23, the Commission formed a legislative ad hoc committee charged with developing guidelines on how and when to engage external organizations on key legislative efforts and bills of potential impact to LAFCOs.

## Engaging and Informing through MSRs

OC LAFCO municipal service reviews (MSRs) are not intended to be bound piles of pages that sit on a bookshelf. Often a multi-year process, MSRs are prepared by the Commission to engage our local agencies and inform Orange County communities on how municipal services are delivered and sustained throughout the County. OC LAFCO, in concert with a five-year MSR schedule adopted by the Commission, prepares, on average, two to three studies each year. For the current cycle that began in 2020, the Commission has completed MSRs for 31 cities and special districts. Completion of these MSRs represents a significant accomplishment, and the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District and Central Region MSRs are underway. While the District's MSR will focus on the provision of vector control services countywide, the Central Region MSR will review multiple cities (Anaheim, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, Tustin, and Villa Park) and special districts (East Orange County Water District, Irvine Ranch Water District, Serrano Water District, and Silverado-Modjeska Parks and Recreation District). An RFP to assist in the preparation of the MSR has been published with an expectation that the MSR will be completed by end of Summer.



Tustin, CA



# The Coming of 2024

With the arrival of the new year, there are several anticipated projects and activities on the horizon for OC LAFCO. Read on to learn more about a few of the key ones.

## Website Under Construction

Over the past several months, OC LAFCO consultant Chase Design has collaborated with Commission staff and worked diligently to improve existing features and add new ones to the agency's website. Once completed, expect to see improved navigation and translation additions and the launching of the highly-anticipated and enhanced Fiscal Indicators Program and a linked source specifically dedicated to our Municipal Services Dashboard. Be sure to keep on the lookout as our new website additions may arrive just in time for Christmas!

## And the Story Goes...

Want to learn more about OC LAFCO's planning and regulatory authority, mandates, and resources? An opportunity to learn about the Commission's key responsibilities is coming soon to an in-person session or computer monitor near you. To make this happen, OC LAFCO staff has begun exploring content and platforms to better engage interested parties in learning all about the Commission's role in Orange County. More details on the session with the current placeholder title of "OC LAFCO 101" will be provided by early Spring. Don't miss out by staying in touch on this opportunity through our website at [www.oclafco.org](http://www.oclafco.org) or contacting the OC LAFCO office at (714) 640-5100.

## Unincorporated Area Profiles Get a New Look

A key resource for cities interested in exploring potential annexation of an unincorporated area within their sphere of influence is the area profile. Unincorporated area profiles were developed by OC LAFCO to assist in collaborative discussions involving cities, the County, and OC LAFCO on annexation. The profiles include

demographic and financial information for each of the County's 23 remaining unincorporated areas. Through the Commission's contractual arrangement with the Center for Demographic Research (CDR) at Cal State Fullerton, the demographics include the area population, land use, and current municipal service providers. The profile's financial data is provided by the County of Orange. Additionally, profiles for the County's disadvantaged unincorporated areas and South Orange County are currently under development. The agency website will become home to all profiles in part to completion of the new website improvements. Cities or residents interested in exploring annexation or learning more about unincorporated areas may visit us at [oclafco.org/how/county-unincorporated-areas](http://oclafco.org/how/county-unincorporated-areas) or call the OC LAFCO office.



Mission in  
San Juan  
Capistrano

# Agency Spotlight

Long and busy days seem to be the norm for IRWD's General Manager Paul Cook as he promptly arrived on screen for a late afternoon web chat with Executive Officer Carolyn Emery. With the expected eagerness of a 30-year water professional to dialogue about water, Paul jumped right in with his perspectives on the state of water affairs, experiences with OC LAFCO, and added excitement in speaking about the District. Read on to learn more about the exchange.

## As General Manager of the largest retail water purveyor in Orange County and the eighth largest in the State, how would you generally characterize the state of water affairs today in California?

**Cook:** California water agencies have done a good job at providing and ensuring the delivery of reliable, safe, and affordable water to residents throughout the State. However, events such as climate change and communicating to the public the importance of being more efficient and the costs and efforts that go into providing water service have had some impacts on that. I believe water agencies need to proactively respond to these events. We also need to design systems to account for California's drier and wetter years and act on diversifying supply opportunities, such as recycled water. Acting with urgency now is key.

## With that, how important is the role of cities and special districts, as not-for-profit public agencies, in providing a critical resource such as water to the public?

**Cook:** As public agencies that provide water service, cities and special districts play an important role. We are public stewards whose mission is to serve the people. This means not treating water as a commodity but rather facilitating the provision of a very important and limited resource to the public.

## Over the past several years, IRWD has been involved in numerous annexations, reorganizations and five district consolidations. Can you share as General Manager, generally, what were the goals of the District when these efforts were undertaken, in particular consolidation, as that's a complex and can be a contentious process as well?

**Cook:** With each consolidation that IRWD undertook, it is important to note that the District was approached by other districts seeking potential consolidation with IRWD to enhance current areas for their customers. IRWD's standard response when approached



Michelson  
Water  
Recycling Plant

about consolidation or other complex boundary changes is to encourage agencies to engage interest from others through a request for proposals process, through which their expectations can be communicated in a transparent manner. Specifically, our goals of engagement include not taking on opportunities that would put our existing customers at a disadvantage, evaluating potential consolidation from the lens of what would be mutually beneficial to the customers of IRWD and current customers of the other agency, fiscal prudence, and addressing and responding to the unknowns of all affected parties and customers. In short, IRWD's goals in working through past and future consolidations or annexations to the District are to facilitate an increase in services, lower rates, improved operations, better efficiencies and robust community outreach.

## Given you have been through multiple LAFCO processes that have included working with staff and interaction with the Commission, can you share general but candid perspectives regarding LAFCO's role, both locally and statewide?

**Cook:** LAFCO's role is very important. From IRWD's experience, OC LAFCO creates a forum for the conducting of an impartial analysis by the Commission to ensure the most efficient provision of municipal services by a local agency. As an objective party, OC LAFCO conducts this data-driven responsibility in a transparent manner that provides a platform for agency and public input and collaboration.

## Your agency has also experienced multiple MSR processes, and another one for the District is on the horizon. What has been your experience with this process, and do you believe MSRs bring value to our agencies and the public? How can OC LAFCO improve the process?

**Cook:** MSRs are valuable and provide an opportunity for OC LAFCO to check in with agencies on how they are delivering services to residents and customers. MSRs allow OC LAFCO to conduct this process in an objective and transparent manner driven by data collected from the agencies. Other outlets for a process like this are just not out there. So, if not LAFCO, then who could facilitate this process and service to the public?

As for improving the process, one area is for OC LAFCO to set and communicate clearer timelines for the MSR process, establish expectations and address the unknowns of the process with agencies and other interested parties, and identify methods to promote understanding and purpose of MSRs.

## In your leadership role as General Manager of IRWD, what are you most proud of?

**Cook:** IRWD has a legacy of strong systems, innovation, and collaboration, and I am most proud of our 95 percent water resiliency, diversified water supply, environmental stewardship, and the efficiency of our customers. The District has the lowest water rates in Orange County and ranks high in customer satisfaction and all of this was accomplished by the great team of people at IRWD.

General  
Manager  
Paul Cook



**Paul Cook** has been with IRWD since 2004, first serving as Assistant General Manager then as General Manager starting in 2011. A registered civil engineer, Paul has over 30 years with water and wastewater systems, and as the District's General Manager is responsible for the implementation of board policies and decision-making and supervision of the day-to-day operations and staff. With its headquarters located in the City of Irvine, IRWD provides retail water and sewer service to nearly 600,000 customers across multiple cities in Central Orange County.



## REFLECTIONS FROM

# Chair Doug Davert



I began my tenure as the Commission Chair in 2021 after serving in the Vice Chair role during two prior years.

At that time, being in its second year of existence, COVID-19 was a frequently used reference, and like other

local governments, OC LAFCO was required to respond and adapt to its circumstances. This included conducting our regular meetings by teleconference, closure of our offices at times with staff working remotely, and some project applications were placed on a temporary pause. However, as the second year of my tenure began, things began to transition to a new normal, and as an organization, we charged forward. In 2022, we reevaluated our core objectives by refreshing the agency's mission statement and adopted a Three-Year Strategic Plan. The Plan, which is through 2025, includes a robust work

plan that contains key goals focused on making OC LAFCO more effective and efficient. This includes succession planning, proactive legislative engagement, enhancing communication with our stakeholders, and improving our process for conducting municipal service reviews. Each area is intended to support the maintaining of sufficient staffing and resources to meet the Commission's responsibilities and requirements.

As I near the end of my Chairmanship with OC LAFCO, I am proud of the many accomplishments of this Commission and staff, including establishing an interactive website that is the gateway to OC LAFCO information and resources for our local agencies and Orange County communities and completing MSR's and approving boundary changes that support logical boundaries and enhance service delivery in our County. I'd like to personally thank the Commission for its confidence in my leadership over the past two years and look forward to continuing to work with the board and staff on the projects and activities in OC LAFCO's future.

For questions on this publication, you may contact the OC LAFCO office at **714.640.5100**.  
We invite you to also visit our website at **[oclafco.org](http://oclafco.org)**.