

**City of Garden Grove**  
**WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO**  
**July 16, 2015**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council      FROM: Allan Roeder, City Manager  
Members

**I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES**

None.

**II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS**

**A. COST SUMMARY RELATED TO CELEBRATION OF COMPASSION EVENT WITH HIS HOLINESS THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DALAI LAMA**

Marisa Stipe provides costs for the reception for His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama on July 5, 2015.

**B. DATA RELATING TO JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSES**

The attached memo provides information on the number of calls on the County Wide 800MHz Consolidated Communications System on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Orange County.

**III. ITEMS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, OUTSIDE AGENCIES, BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS**

**A. THANK YOU LETTER FROM MAYOR TRI TA**

A copy of the letter from Mayor Tri Ta from the City of Westminster, in thanks for the invitation to join Garden Grove in honoring His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– **NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information.

– **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Items of interest are included.



ALLAN L. ROEDER  
City Manager

**City of Garden Grove**

**INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

To: Allan L. Roeder  
From: Maria Stipe  
Dept: Interim City Manager  
Dept: City Manager  
Subject: COST SUMMARY RELATED TO CELEBRATION  
OF COMPASSION EVENT WITH HIS HOLINESS  
THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DALAI LAMA  
Date: July 16, 2015

On July 5, the City hosted a very special visit by His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama to Garden Grove. His Holiness spoke before a capacity crowd of more than 1,100 attendees gathered for "A Celebration of Compassion" at the Garden Grove Hyatt Regency Hotel where he shared his message of peace, understanding, responsibility and compassion. At the event, the Garden Grove City Council presented His Holiness with a key to the City, the City's proclamation proclaiming Garden Grove a City of Compassion and a video produced by the City's GGTV3 cable team. The video included the recent planting of a Coast Live Oak tree in Civic Center Park, to commemorate His Holiness' visit and 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

At the request of His Holiness and his event organizers, there was no charge for attendance. As a result, the event reception was sponsored by the Garden Grove Tourism Improvement District, the Garden Grove Community Foundation, Republic Services, the Hyatt Regency Hotel and the Nguyen Family Foundation. A summary of costs related to the reception is attached.

Overall, the event was very well received and provided a unique opportunity for our community to hear and celebrate the Dalai Lama's message of compassion and understanding of all people regardless of differences. The video of the event can be viewed on the home page of the City's website.



MARIA STIPE  
Deputy City Manager

Attachment: Cost Summary

**Costs for Reception for His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama**

Sunday, July 5, 2015

**Hotel Expenses**

Food, Beverage & Room Rental (950 people @ \$18.82)	\$17,879
Room Set-Up	\$1,500
F&B Sales Tax @ 8%	\$1,759
Service Charge @ 23% (taxable)	<u>\$4,112</u>
Total	\$25,250

Audio/Video Rentals from PSAV	<u>\$24,959</u>
Total	<b>\$50,209</b>

**Grants/Private Donations**

Republic Disposal Community Donation Fund	\$20,000
GG Tourist Improvement District	\$12,000
GG Community Foundation	\$10,000
Nguyen Family Foundtion	\$1,000
Water/Environmental Education Fund	<u>\$7,500</u>
Total	<b>\$50,500</b>

**City of Garden Grove**

**INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

To:	Mayor & City Council	From:	Allan Roeder
Dept:		Dept:	City Manager
Subject:	DATA RELATING TO JULY 4 <sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSES	Date:	July 16, 2015

As I mentioned at your regular City Council meeting of July 14, 2015 on the subject of illegal fireworks, Fire and Law Enforcement personnel Countywide were especially busy this past Independence Day. One of the metrics to assess the level of Police and Fire activity is the call-load or demand on the County Wide 800 MHz Consolidated Communications System. This radio system is used by every Police & Fire Department in Orange County as well as by Public Works, Lifeguards and other local agencies.

The attached information was just released this past Tuesday and shows that 7/4/15 was the busiest day on record for radio transmissions in Orange County since the system began operation back in the 1990s. While not a metric of value in terms of the effectiveness of enforcement or calls for service by the public, it does substantiate the demands on Public Safety for that date.

I have asked County Communications to provide a more detailed breakdown of this information for the City of Garden Grove for both Police and Fire which will be added to the information you have requested to be presented to you at an upcoming City Council meeting.

## Record Breaking 4th of July

On July 4th all over Orange County we saw parades, fireworks, picnics and festivals ... and hundreds of thousands of people visiting beaches, amusement parks, and city and county parks. Orange County law enforcement, fire service, lifeguard and public work agencies had plenty to communicate about and once again the 800 MHz Countywide Coordinated Communications System (CCCS) was able to accommodate the radio communications needs of our partnership. The 800 MHz CCCS processed 124,213 transmissions, the most ever for a single 24 hour period since the radio system was implemented back in 1999. There were 204 active talkgroups this July 4th with no system busy events on the primary system, and a total of 66 emergency button activations. The charts on this page show the talkgroups that had the highest number of push-to-talk transmissions on July 4th broken down by law, fire, lifeguard and public works/local government.

So how do we come up with these numbers? OCSD/Communications & Technology Division uses a product known as Genesis GenWatch3 that pulls together system data and archives it for reports and technical system analysis. Every user action taken on the CCCS, such as turning on and off a radio, changing talkgroups, transmitting a message or activating the emergency button, is decoded and stored in a MS SQL database. This captured data is used to create the reports. The large amount of data we capture on a daily basis is stored for many years without any loss of detail and helps us provide a historical record on system use as well as assisting with troubleshooting radio system issues.

Talkgroup	Transmissions
Aqua-1-HTB	2,057
Aqua-1-OC	1,563
Aqua-1-NPB	1,023
Aqua-1-LAB	546
Aqua-1-SCL	411
Aqua-1-SLB	199

Talkgroup	Transmissions
Green-1-HTB	6,101
Green-1-ORG	4,541
Green-1-LAB	4,524
Green-1-FUL	4,503
Green-1-IRV	4,434
Black-3 (NPB)	4,285
Yellow-1	3,794
Green-1-ANA	3,727
Green-1-STA	3,328
Green-1-WST	3,287
Green-1-TST	3,081
Yellow-3	3,062
Yellow-4	3,019
Green-1-LHB	2,967
Green-1-WCM	2,842

Talkgroup	Transmissions
3H HTB	1,448
2F ANA	1,407
3A COS	861
5E OCFA	741
4D OCFA	730
3I NPB	666
4B OCFA	612
5H LAB	575
3D OCFA	559
2G FUL	553
5K HOSP-S	543
5D OCFA	517
4F OCFA	512
2E METRO	493
4E OCFA	485

Talkgroup	Transmissions
Silver-2-LAB	2,056
Silver-1-OCA	1,167
Silver-1-PRK	838
Silver-1-OCTA	611
Silver-4-ANA	599
Silver-1-JWA	438
Silver-3-PRK	406
Silver-2-PRK	391
Silver-11-ANA	316
Silver-1-NPB	141
Silver-1-YBL	135
Silver-1-LHB	87
Silver-S-OCA	53
Silver-1-MVJ	48
Silver-1-LAB	41





# City of Westminster

8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, CA 92683 714.898.3311  
www.westminster-ca.gov

RECEIVED  
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
2015 JUL 13 A 11:08

July 8, 2015

Honorable Mayor Bao Nguyen and City Council Members  
City of Garden Grove  
11222 Acacia Parkway  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

TRI TA  
Mayor

SERGIO CONTRERAS  
Mayor Pro Tem

DIANA LEE CAREY  
Council Member

TYLER DIEP  
Council Member

MARGIE L. RICE  
Council Member

EDDIE MANFRO  
City Manager

Dear Mayor Nguyen and City Council Members:

On behalf of the Westminster City Council, I would like extend our gratitude for the invitation to join Garden Grove in honoring His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama on his Landmark 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and Global Compassion Summit. The Dalai Lama's message of peace and kindness within the community and Garden Grove's "A Celebration of Compassion" has encouraged Westminster to promote kindness as a core value in Westminster schools. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Tri Ta  
Mayor

**Weekly Memo 7/16/15**

**NEWSPAPER  
ARTICLES**

# A DROP IN THE BUCKET

Officials say new water park won't have big impact on city's conservation efforts.

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

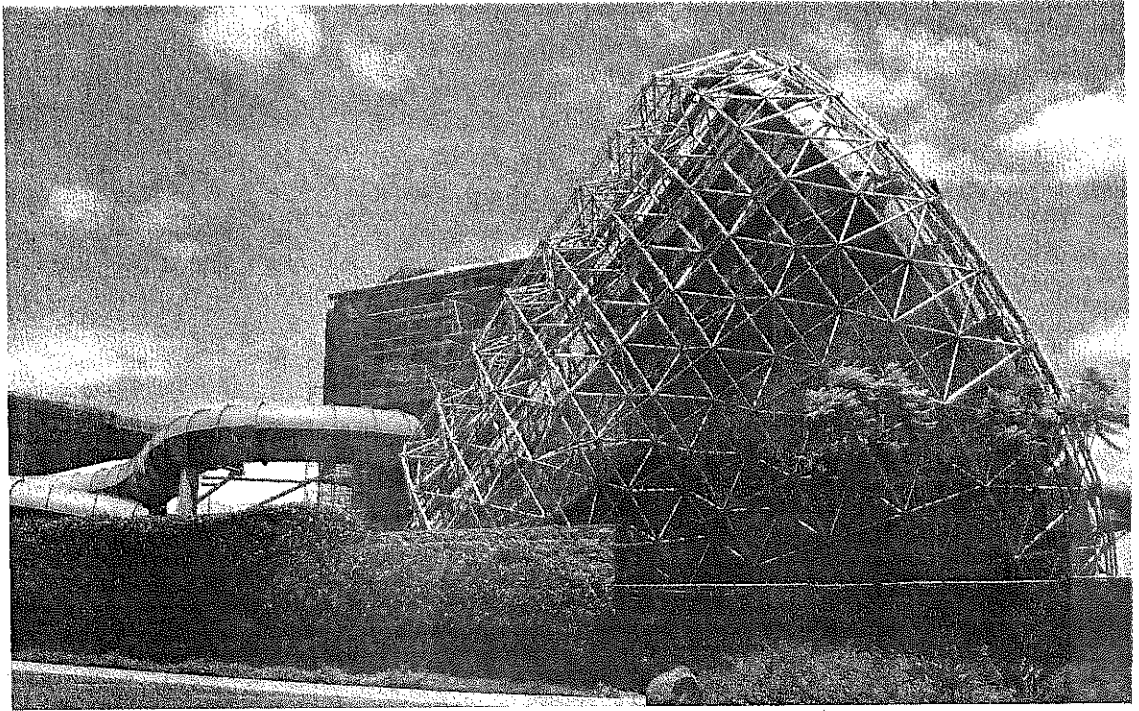
With California in a yearslong drought, Garden Grove has to cut its water usage by 28 percent but, at the same time, is allowing a 121,000-square-foot water park to be built on Harbor Boulevard, which some in the community view as a waste of resources.

But according to Garden Grove officials and representatives from Great Wolf Resorts, the water park and hotel will hardly affect the city's efforts to reduce its consumption. Great Wolf, they say, will obey state laws go-

SEE WATER PAGE 4

**“The water park uses a state-of-the-art recycling system. The state has no restrictions on filling these types of parks as long as they recycle the water. Recycling is huge.”**

**BILL MURRAY**  
GARDEN GROVE'S PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR



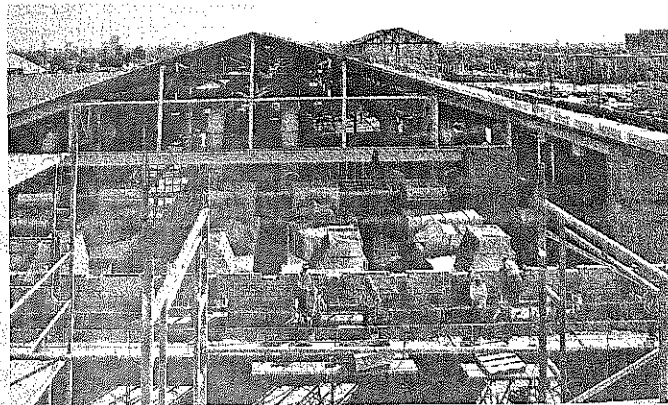
CHRIS HAIRE, STAFF

Construction on the Great Wolf Lodge Southern California is moving steadily toward the water park's opening in early 2016.

## Great Wolf resort project



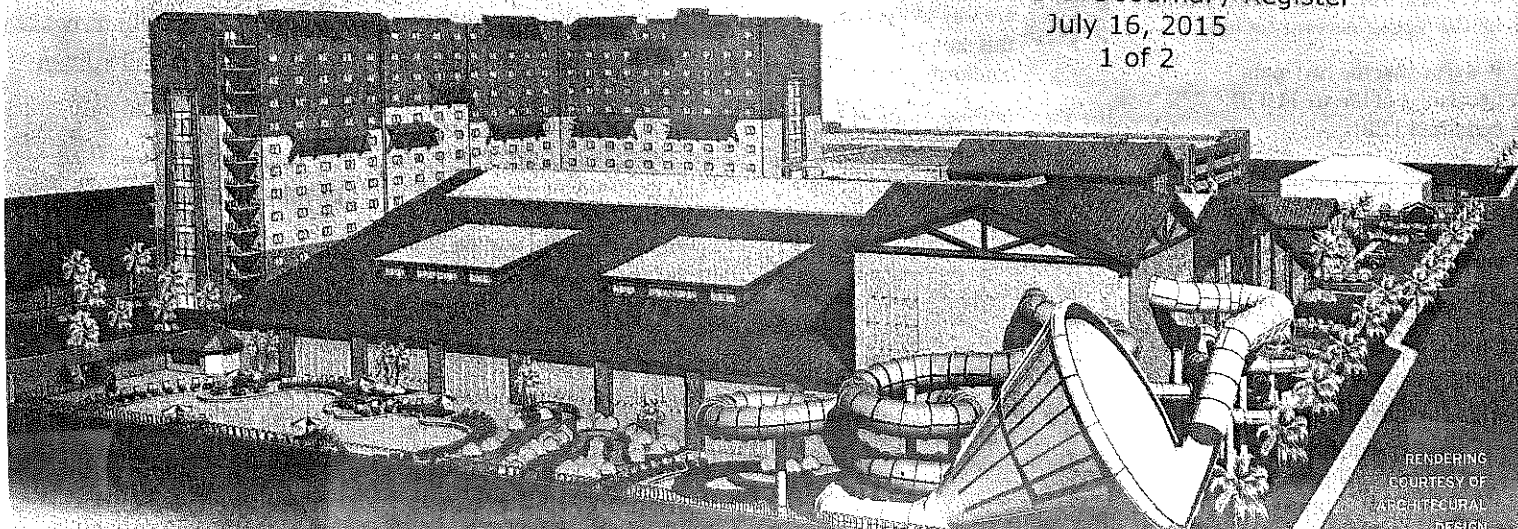
STAFF GRAPHIC



Crews labor in March on Great Wolf Lodge Southern California, a 121,000-square-foot indoor water park and hotel complex being constructed on Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

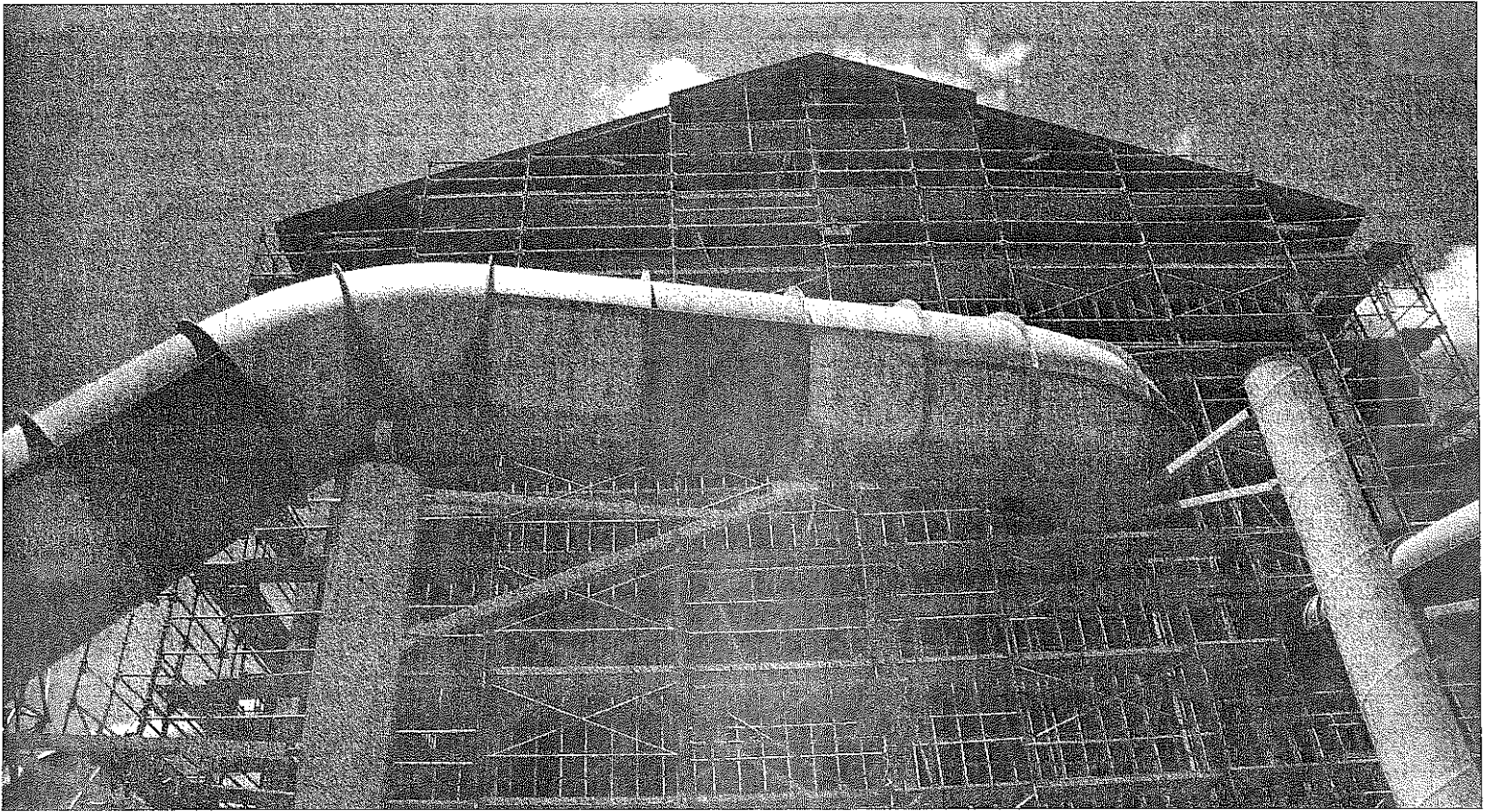
JOSHUA SUDOCK,  
FILE PHOTO

Garden Grove Journal / Register  
July 16, 2015  
1 of 2



RENDERING  
COURTESY OF  
ARCHITECTURAL  
DESIGN





CHRIS HAIRE, STAFF

With 98 percent of water being reused in the park, city and company officials dismiss the impact the Great Wolf Lodge in Garden Grove will have on water-conservation efforts.

## WATER

FROM PAGE 1

verning water use in hotels and will reuse 98 percent of its water.

"The water park uses a state-of-the-art recycling system," Bill Murray, Garden Grove's public works director, said. "The state has no restrictions on filling these types of parks as long as they recycle the water. Recycling is huge."

The recycling system will use a series of mechanized pumps, filters and tanks to purify the water before it is circulated back into the park, said Susie Storey, spokeswoman for the resort company. It is used in the other 12 Great Wolf Lodges.

It is a system that has been refined, Storey said, with each new lodge that opens (with the old parks also getting upgrades).

"We're a water park, so we're very conscious of the drought," Storey said.

It will take about 150,000 gallons of water to fill the park, which is expected to open in early 2016.

And then there is the 605-room hotel.

Typical hotels, Murray



JOSHUA SUDOCK, FILE PHOTO

Measurements are taken for water pumps at Great Wolf Lodge Southern California in this photo taken in March.

said, use about 150 gallons of water per room per day. Great Wolf, though, could use 231 gallons per room, according to conservative estimates.

And even when low-balled, Murray said that the resort would likely use more water than the average hotel. One reason for the higher water usage is that each room in Great Wolf is a suite and meant to hold large families.

"Larger families use

more water," he said. "Other hotels could have one person in a room. The rooms at Great Wolf will have multiple people in them."

But even with that, Murray said the resort won't do much to lessen the city's ability to reach the state-mandated level of conservation.

"Having to reduce usage by 28 percent is the same as 50 water parks," he said. "If it's 50 or 51, it's not going to break us."

For Garden Grove, the major area where water conservation can come from is residential, where 70 percent of usage is watering yards.

Cutting outside watering is "our best way to reduce consumption," Murray said.

But that can create a public perception problem.

Murray admits that allowing the park to move forward while forcing residents to cut their watering down to two days a week and only during certain hours makes it seem like the city is clamping down on residents to benefit a major corporation.

The city will receive an estimated \$8 million in annual tax revenue from

### By the numbers

**231:** gallons of water estimated to be used per day, per room at the 605-room Great Wolf Lodge.

**150:** gallons of water used a day per room for an average hotel.

**98:** percent of the water at the park will be recycled.

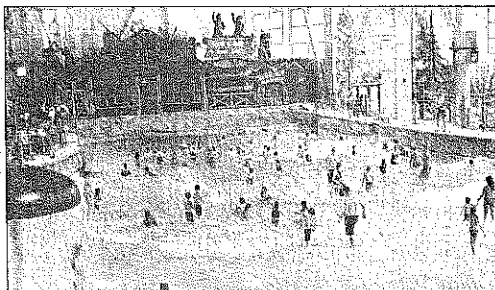
**70:** percent of Garden Grove's water comes from city-owned wells, with the other 30 coming from the Orange County Water District.

**28:** percent by which Garden Grove needs to reduce its water usage.

Source: City of Garden Grove

Great Wolf, according to city documents.

"I get the perception problem," Murray said. "But a lot of it is bad luck. We had 30 percent over normal rainfall when the plan was approved. The funding came through right as the drought began. But this park won't break us."



COURTESY OF GREAT WOLF RESORTS

Visitors to one of Great Wolf Resort's dozen hotels splash around in a wading pool.

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**  
 714-704-3707 or  
 chaire@ocregister.com

# O.C. Fair will honor every city in county

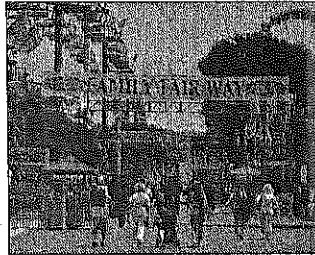
BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

Garden Grove, Stanton and Westminster each will get a special day of its own at the Orange County Fair.

Each Orange County city will celebrate the county's 125th anniversary by showing off its community pride during its fair day.

The Garden Grove ceremony begins at 12:30 p.m. on Aug. 7, when Mayor Bao Nguyen leads fairgoers singing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"Garden Grove has always been a part of the rich cultural and agricultural heritage of Orange County," Nguyen said. "And we're celebrating



MARK RIGHTMIRE, FILE PHOTO

**The O.C. Fair will host special days for each city.**

Orange County's 125 years and we've always been part of the fair. I encourage all Garden Grove residents to join in this special event."

Garden Grove residents who go are encouraged to wear clothes that represent the city: cheer outfits, ball caps, Boy and Girl Scouts uniforms, or shirts with the city logo.

About 100 students and their families are expected to attend, according to a statement by the city. Several clubs and sports teams from the Garden Grove Unified School District are scheduled to perform.

Stanton's day is Aug. 12., and the city will provide

transportation to and from the fair. The Stanton bus will leave City Hall, 7800 Katella Ave., at 11 a.m. and return by 7 p.m. Residents must RSVP by 5 p.m. on Aug. 5 by calling 714-890-4270.

Westminster representatives will lead a flag salute on Wednesday.

The fair opens Friday and runs until Aug. 16. Hours vary based on the day. The Orange County Fair & Event Center is at 88 Fair Drive.

The fair offers \$2 off admission to city residents on their fair days.

# Places share a name,

Garden Grove Journal / Register  
July 16, 2015

# but are worlds apart

Brainiac is set to take a little vacation soon, and hopefully not that many of you are hoping we won't come back.

We're leaving Westminster for the in-laws in Vermont, where some years we've stayed in that state's village of the same Westminster name. All of which got us to thinking about our unofficial sister cities out there the world, places with the same names but all else different, be they Westminster, Garden Grove, Stanton or Midway City.

We know there are plenty of Westminsters, but the others? To the Bat-Google, Brainiac, it's researchin' time!

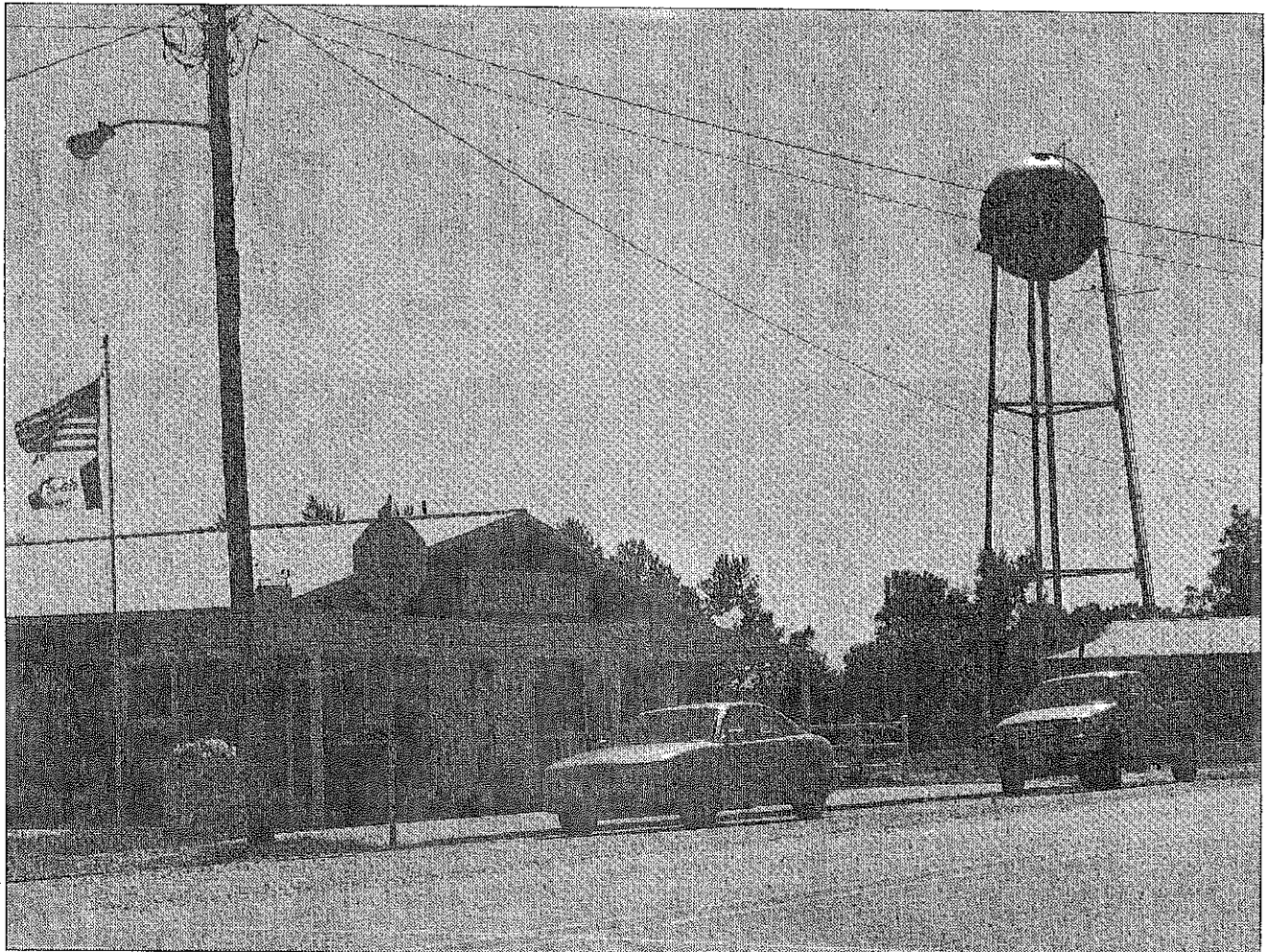
First, the easy ones, the Westminsters of the World, of which there are plenty. The best-known, other than our own, is the borough of London, home to a bit more than 200,000 people and many of the London area's best-known tourist attractions, including Westminster Abbey, home to royal weddings, coronations and burials, Big Ben, the world's most famous clock, and the Royal Albert Hall, of which the Beatles calculated the number of holes required to fill it in their song "A Day in the Life."

Elsewhere you've got Westminster, Vt., a bucolic New England village, all

white clapboard farmhouses, green fields and thick forests. It's that state's oldest chartered town, dating to 1735.

There are a handful of others, including far-flung locales in South Africa and Australia, but our favorite of the dozen or so we found has to be Westminster, S.C., which holds an annual Mayberry Days in which residents and visitors dress up like the residents of that fictional television town, including Sheriff Andy Taylor and his son, Opie, Deputy Barney Fife and Otis the town drunk.

Garden Grove has less competition out there, probably due to the compound nature of its name. We found a Garden Grove, Iowa, though it's of the blink-fast-or-you've-passed-it variety, with only 200 or so residents living there. It's history is interesting though. It was founded as a halfway point on Brigham Young's trail to Utah, followed by the early members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and it was a grove – filled with a garden of wild onions.



COURTESY OF LIZ KAFKA

Garden Grove, Iowa, is a one-water-tower-town, and unofficial sister city to Orange County's Garden Grove.



# THE



## THINGS TO KNOW

Garden Grove Journal / Register  
July 16, 2015

GARDEN GROVE JOURNAL STAFF

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH EN ROUTE

Garden Grove will get to carry the torch next week. The 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games torch will make its way through the city on Monday en route to its final destination in Los Angeles.

The Garden Grove leg of the torch run will start at 10:10 a.m. at the Harbor

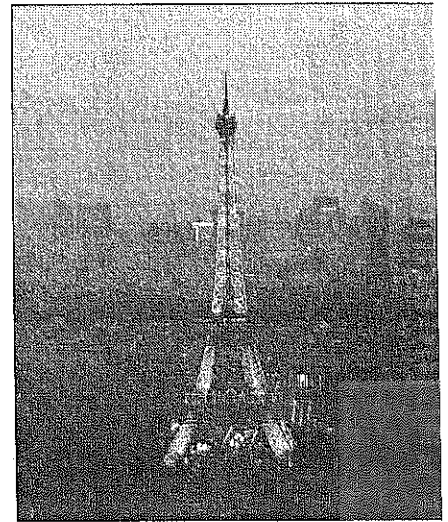
Town and Country Shopping Center, 12871 Harbor Blvd. About 20 to 30 runners will carry the torch 1.2 miles down Harbor, Garden Grove Boulevard and Civic Center Drive.

A community welcome for the torch is planned for 10:25 a.m. at the Garden Grove Police Department

headquarters, 11301 Acacia Parkway.

The torch began its journey in May in Athens, Greece. In the U.S., it's traveling through 120 cities over 13 days, with its final stop at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum set for July 25.

— Rebecca Kheel



MIKE HEWITT, GETTY IMAGES

Students from six countries will meet in Paris to learn about each other.

## Garden Grove student heading to global confab

Au revoir, Mademoiselle Zeineddine – and viva la Garden Grove.

Garden Grove resident Maryam Zeineddine, a 20-year-old UC Berkeley student, is heading to Paris on July 25 for a two-week program called IOU Respect, organized each year by Hostelling International.

The highly competitive program takes one student each from Egypt, France, Germany, Lebanon, Tunisia and the United States to learn about each other and appreciate their cultural differences. The students will share meals, explore hidden parts of Paris and have tough talks about topics such as identity and discrimination.

Zeineddine, a Lebanese American, said she hopes to “hope to assimilate and focus on cross-cultural dialogue that will allow me to bring these skills back to Berkeley in the fall.”

— Chris Haire



JOSHUA SUDOCK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The 2015 Special Olympics Torch has been carried by runners from Athens, Greece, on its way to Los Angeles for the World Games. Here it goes through Laguna Niguel.

## City makes public records requests easier

If you plan on sleuthing around Garden Grove's public documents, you no longer have to get off your chair or deal with pesky emails.

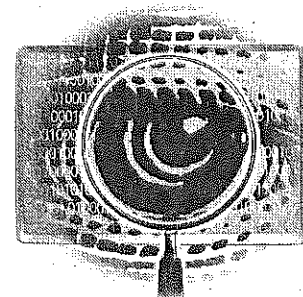
Garden Grove has set up an easy-to-use system for submitting public records request directly through the city's website.

Just go to the “Online Services” tab,

then click on “Public Records Request.”

From there, you type in what documents you are looking for – be as descriptive as possible – and your contact information. The city has 10 days to respond to your request – but that does not mean they have to give you the documents in 10 days.

— Chris Haire



VAL B. MINA, MCT

Garden Grove has set up a portal on its website for requesting public documents.

# Streetcar project rolls forward

OCTA would oversee construction, operation of \$250 million rail line.

The prospect of a light-rail streetcar traversing a segment of the county's urban core took another step forward Monday when the county transportation board approved a framework agreement with the city of Santa Ana.



**NICOLE SHINE**  
STAFF WRITER

Under the agreement, the Orange County Transportation Authority will bear responsibility for the construction, maintenance and operation of the estimated \$250 million Santa Ana-to-Garden Grove rail line.

The 4-mile, hop-on, hop-off service would carry commuters, shoppers and tourists on a dozen stops to the county seat, jobs and entertainment. It's expected to open in 2019.

There are still several steps to go. The agency must submit a final plan to the Federal Transit Administration in September, secure property along the rail line, and hire a contractor to design the route. OCTA and the city of Garden Grove also are expected to arrive at a framework agreement that will specify that city's role in operations.

On Monday, Santa Ana Mayor and OCTA board director Miguel Pulido called the light-rail line a game-changer for car-centric Orange County, providing much-needed public transit for workers. Anaheim Mayor and OCTA board director Tom Tait, who favors buses over light rail, cast the sole vote against it. He questioned ridership estimates.

By 2035, the streetcar is expected to carry more than 6,000 riders a day. The fare would likely be \$2 one-way and \$5 for a day pass. Fares are projected to cover 30 percent of the estimated \$5 million annual operating cost. Under the deal, Santa Ana will pay 10 percent of the balance, while OCTA will cover the rest.

When complete, up to seven streetcars will run from the Santa Ana train station and connect to a new transit hub at Harbor Boulevard and Westminster Avenue in Garden Grove.

In May, the project qualified for federal funding status that may provide half its construction money, with the rest coming from state, local and other federal sources.

The streetcar is the county's second recent attempt at light rail. The \$1 billion CenterLine project, scuttled about a decade ago, was to run from Santa Ana to John Wayne Airport.

Register  
July 14, 2015

## MAN CHARGED WITH USING BLOW TORCH TO FORCE PROSTITUTION

**GARDEN GROVE** • An alleged pimp has been charged with burning an 18-year old woman's leg with a blow torch to force her to work as a prostitute, prosecutors said.

Richard Jordan Sandoval, 24, is charged with felony counts including assault, domestic battery, false imprisonment and human trafficking. If convicted, he faces up to 22 years in prison.

Orange County prosecutors said Sandoval, a pimp, was in a romantic relationship with the woman when on July 8 he physically assaulted her. The woman attempted to run, but Sandoval forced her to get into a vehicle and again assaulted her.

The next day he is accused of driving the woman to a Garden Grove hotel to force her to engage in prostitution. Prosecutors said he burned her leg with a blow torch and threatened to kill her if she didn't comply.

Police were called during the incident and arrested Sandoval at the scene. He is accused of having scales, cocaine and a blow torch inside his vehicle.

He is being held on \$150,000 bail and is scheduled to appear in court for pre-trial Monday.

- Kelly Puente



# From satire to softer, cuddlier side of life

Los Angeles Times  
July 12, 2015  
1 of 2

*Hello Kitty toys inspired ex-'Simpsons' animator to create 'ZodiX' series. VAMN-TV of Garden Grove will premiere it.*

By BRITTANY WOOLSEY

Erick Tran sat in his Burbank home, observing his young daughters playing with their toys.

The 12-year-old cuddled her Hello Kitty plushes while the 9-year-old played with her Littlest Pet Shop figures.

"Why do you like these toys?" Tran, an animator who worked on "The Simpsons" for nearly two decades, asked his daughters.

Because they're so cute, they responded.

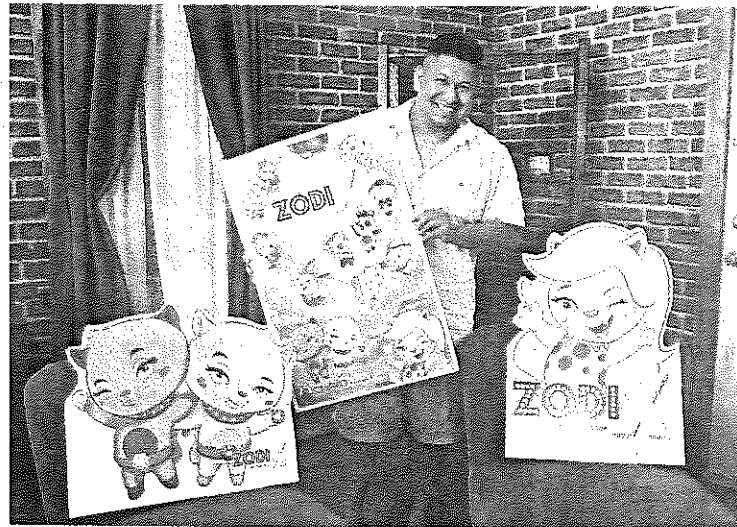
It was as simple as that.

Coupling his talents as an animator with his daughters' interests, Tran, 36, decided to create "ZodiX," a cartoon about the zodiac.

The show, which is slated to premiere on Garden Grove-based Vietnamese American Media Network (VAMN-TV) next year, is a far cry from Tran's previous work on "The Simpsons."

While "ZodiX" is friendly for all ages, it is geared toward young girls.

Tran, who was inspired to become an animator after watching "Jurassic Park," the 1993 dinosaur adventure film directed by Steven Spielberg, started working on "The Simpsons" as an intern in 1996, two days after he



BRITTANY WOOLSEY

**Erick Tran, 36, shows characters from "ZodiX," his new animated series, which is about the zodiac and is geared toward young girls.**

graduated from high school.

While in high school, Tran had met with Film Roman, the animation production studio for "The Simpsons." The company pushed Tran to create a portfolio to send to art schools.

When Tran was denied entry to the schools he applied to, he took up the internship with Film Roman.

"When I was working at the lot, I really got to see how big 'The Simpsons' was," he said. "Being an employee of the show at the production company, you don't really see much. Once I worked on the movie ['The Simpsons Movie'] with longtime producer David

Silverman. I was like, 'Wow, this is so much bigger than I thought.'"

Being part of a show that has garnered widespread critical acclaim, won dozens of awards and generated a feature-length film started Tran thinking: If he could be part of something that big, perhaps he had the potential to do something on his own.

Earlier this year, Tran quit his full-time position with "The Simpsons" to focus on his own endeavors through his company, Chavvo Animation Studios.

Along with "ZodiX," he worked on other cartoons like "Urban Reggie" and "Soccer Papa."

The show, which Tran has been

**“We want to bridge the gap between the Vietnamese community and the Hollywood entertainment world.... We also wanted to throw back to Saturday morning cartoons.”**

**Dominique Thieu**  
CEO and executive producer  
for VAMN-TV

working on for two years, follows animal characters based on the 12 western zodiac signs.

Dominique Thieu, CEO and executive producer for VAMN-TV, said the show was perfect for the network, which began producing it earlier this year.

A schedule of eight shows is being set up to prepare for the launch, but because the network is new, it is still trying to find an outlet, either through television or online.

“We want to bridge the gap between the Vietnamese community and the Hollywood entertainment world,” Thieu said. “We don’t have any content that’s geared toward the younger Vietnamese-American generations. We also wanted to throw back to Saturday morning cartoons.”

Seeing his daughters playing

with toys simply because they were cute helped Tran see the potential for a cartoon and merchandise — not unlike Hello Kitty, which he cited as an inspiration.

Stuffed animals. Video games. Stationery. Car accessories. The possibilities were endless.

He said the crossover between television and the Internet has opened doors for creative people. Now, entertainment falls into four corners, he said: TV/online content, video games, mobile applications and merchandising.

“That’s when I thought, ‘Hey, these characters don’t need any backstory. There’s another reason to purchase these products. They’re cute,’” Tran said. “It’s different from developing stuff for boys, because with them, you need a storyline, and that goes way back to cowboys and Indians. I feel like maybe girls use more of their imaginations. I saw an opportunity to create something new.”

Each “ZodiX” character has personality traits of his or her sign, which Tran says will help people relate.

“It’s interesting because people who don’t believe in the zodiac still know what their zodiac sign is,” Tran said. “So there’s this instant connection with the characters on ‘ZodiX.’ This show is not about teaching kids about astrology. I just wanted kids to be able to connect to the characters while also having something cute to look at.”

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*brittanywoolsey@latimes.com*  
Twitter: @BrittanyWoolsey

## 585 FIREWORKS COMPLAINTS

That was 10 times more than most other cities in the county fielded during weekend.

BY MATT LEMAS  
STAFF WRITER

Huntington Beach's fireworks complaints reached heights as great as the fireworks themselves during the Fourth of July weekend.

The Police Department fielded 585 fireworks-related calls July 3-5, 10 times greater than most other Orange County cities. The area, which is a popular spot for holiday festivities along the coast and boasts the largest Fourth of July parade west of the Mississippi River, had 86 arrests, 20 of those DUI-related and 34 alcohol-related, according to Police Department Public Information Officer Jennifer Marlatt.

The city just legalized so-called "Safe and Sane" fireworks for this year but still issued 39 citations for illegal fireworks. Compared with last year, there were five fewer arrests but 19 more citations.

This year, HBPD requested people call in only when they knew the specific location of the illegal fireworks, rather than just hearing them in the area. That helped them cut the number of police fireworks teams from four to two, Marlatt said.

Other police and fire departments throughout

Orange County were also kept busy July 4 with hundreds of fireworks-related calls and arrests, as well as a handful of fires.

Newport Beach had a better year than last, with a 22 percent reduction in arrests - from 120 in 2014 to 94 this year. The city, which doesn't allow fireworks of any kind, had 100 fireworks-related service calls.

"We want to get to the point where residents and visitors just find it a very busy weekend at the beach rather than something that requires full staffing from our Police Department," said Newport Beach police spokeswoman Jennifer Manzella.

Garden Grove, one of 10 cities in the county where fireworks are legally sold, also had a reduction in illegal firework violations from last year, dropping from 53 to 43, according to Garden Grove police Lt. Bob Bogue. Police reported two July 4 arrests for shooting guns in the air and confiscated 107 pounds of illegal fireworks.

Cypress and La Palma were among the calmest cities in the county, with neither reporting any citations or arrests.

Police in Anaheim and Santa Ana, the county's largest cities, have not compiled their July 4 numbers. Santa Ana has allowed fireworks since 1940, but Anaheim just resumed their sale and use this year; they were banned in 1986.

Police in cities that border those that allow the sale of fireworks noticed resi-

dents accidentally coming into their town, not realizing pyrotechnics weren't welcome there.

"Since (fireworks) are legal in Santa Ana, people come over and don't realize it's Tustin," said Lt. Bob Wright of the Tustin Police Department, which had 23 fireworks-related calls.

In South County, San Clemente and Lake Forest had the largest number of fireworks violation calls with 47 and 50, respectively, from 6 p.m. July 3 to 6 a.m. Sunday. On the other end of the spectrum, Laguna Woods only had one call, according to the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

Laguna Beach, another Orange County hot spot for July 4 festivities, had nearly 300 service calls during the day. Twelve arrests were made citywide, the same number as last year.

Fires throughout the county were limited, with the Orange County Fire Department reporting five "large incidents" believed to be fireworks-related in Laguna Hills, Villa Park, Santa Ana, Stanton and Yorba Linda. The Garden Grove Fire Department reported five fire incidents on the Fourth, though it was unknown whether fireworks were the cause.

Other cities did not report any fires related to July 4 celebrations.

CONTACT THE WRITER:  
mlemas@ocregister.com

CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden Grove city Council will hold a Public Hearing in the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, California on Tuesday, July 28, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as it may be heard as required by Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the proposed issuance by the California Municipal Finance Authority (the "Authority") of its revenue bonds in one or more series issued from time to time, including bonds issued to refund such revenue bonds in one or more series from time to time, in an amount not to exceed \$7,000,000 (the "Bonds"). The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to: (1) finance or refinance the acquisition, rehabilitation, improvement and equipping of Briar Crest and Rosecrest Apartments, a 41-unit multifamily rental housing project located at 11681, 11682, 11701, 11702, 11762 Stuart Drive, Garden Grove, California; and (2) pay certain expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The facilities are to be owned by JHC Acquisitions LLC, a California limited liability company or related entities, and operated by MPMS, Inc. The Bonds and the obligation to pay principal of and interest thereon and any redemption premium with respect thereto do not constitute indebtedness or an obligation of the Authority, the State of California or any political subdivision thereof, within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation, or a charge against the general credit or taxing powers of any of them. The Bonds shall be a limited obligation of the Authority, payable solely from certain revenues duly pledged therefor and generally representing amounts paid by the Borrower. Interested persons wishing to express their views on the issuance of the Bonds or on the nature and location of the facilities proposed to be financed or refinanced may attend the Public Hearing or, prior to the time of the Public Hearing, submit written comments. Additional information concerning the above matter may be obtained from, and written comments should be addressed to, City Clerk, City of Garden Grove, 11222 Acacia Parkway, P.O. Box 3070, Garden Grove, California 92842.

/s/ Kathleen Bailor, CMC  
City Clerk

Dated: June 30, 2015  
Publish: July 10, 2015

**Orange County News**  
15-50470  
Publish July 10, 2015

Orange County News  
July 10, 2015

Register  
July 10, 2015

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

Project No. S-1170

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent for the City of Garden Grove, Room 220, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840 to furnish all Labor, Material, Tools, Equipment and Incidentals for ADA Upgrades/Renovations at the Chapman Branch and West Garden Grove Branch Libraries in Garden Grove, CA. A copy of the bid document may be obtained from the City of Garden Grove's website. Contractors interested in submitting a bid for this project are required to attend a MANDATORY pre-bid meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at Chapman Branch Library located at 9182 Chapman Avenue, Garden Grove, CA. Please direct any questions regarding this bid process to Sandra Segawa via email sandras@ci.garden-grove.ca.us. Bids are due and will be opened in the office of the Purchasing Agent at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2015. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

Dated: July 3, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB  
Purchasing Agent  
City of Garden Grove  
11222 Acacia Parkway  
Garden Grove, CA 92840  
sandras@garden-grove.org  
**Orange County News**  
15-50467  
Publish July 3, 10, 2015

## Female pioneers to be honored

Garden Grove event to tout six women as 'glass-ceiling breakers.'



Quirk-Silva

officially nonpartisan, NWPC tends to favor Democratic candidates. All 13 California congressional candidates it endorsed in 2014 were Democrats.

Three educators, a former Marine, a construction pioneer and an Orange County politician will be honored as "glass-ceiling breakers" at a Saturday gala in Garden Grove put on by the National Women's Political Caucus of California.

The national group was founded in 1971 by women's rights activists Gloria Steinem, Shirley Chisholm and Bella Abzug to promote women in politics. Although

officially nonpartisan, NWPC tends to favor Democratic candidates. All 13 California congressional candidates it endorsed in 2014 were Democrats.

Honorees include Fullerton Democrat Sharon Quirk-Silva, a former member of the Assembly and the Fullerton City Council. She lost her Assembly seat to Republican Young Kim in 2014 and is running in an effort to regain it in 2016.

The event begins at 5 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, 11999 Harbor Blvd. Tickets are sold out.

Register  
July 10, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Public records:** Those seeking public documents may now file records requests on the city's website, rather than in person or via email. Go to the "Online Services" tab and click the link "Public Records Request." When filling out the form, be as descriptive as possible. The city must respond within 10 days.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
July 11, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**City day:** Aug. 7 is Garden Grove Day at the Orange County Fair. The Garden Grove ceremony begins at 12:30 p.m. when Mayor Bao Nguyen will lead fairgoers in singing "The Star-Spangled Banner." Garden Grove residents who attend are encouraged to wear clothes representing the city. Residents can get \$2 discount tickets at City Hall.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
July 13, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Paris trip:** Resident Maryam Zeineddine, a 20-year-old UC Berkeley student, is heading to Paris on July 25 for a two-week program called IOU Respect, organized each year by Hostelling International. The program takes one student from Egypt, France, Germany, Lebanon, Tunisia and the United States to learn how to appreciate cultural differences.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
July 14, 2015



### GARDEN GROVE

**DUI checkpoint:** The Police Department is having a checkpoint to screen for people driving under the influence from 9 p.m. July 25 to 3 a.m. July 26 at an undisclosed intersection. Officers will look for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment with officers also checking drivers for proper licensing.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
July 15, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Summer concert:** The next summer concert, on Thursday, features Brad Johnson & The Killin' Time Band. Each show during the summer concert series is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday at Eastgate Park, 12001 St. Mark St. The concerts are free and hosted by the Garden Grove Community Foundation. Information: 714-741-5280.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
July 16, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Torch run:** The torch for the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games will come through Garden Grove on Monday morning, traveling along a route that includes the Harbor Town & Country Shopping Center, 12871 Harbor Blvd., and stopping at police headquarters on Acacia Parkway shortly before 10:30 a.m.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
July 16, 2015

## COMING UP

The Garden Grove Chamber will host a business breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Thursday July 30 at Marie Callender's Restaurant, 13252 Brookhurst St., Garden Grove. Ann Sebek, project manager at the Career Technical Education Partnership at the Orange County Department of Education, will discuss how businesses can help high school students through online mentoring, job shadowing and real-world student projects. Breakfast is \$15 for chamber members and \$20 for nonmembers. RSVP at





Contact:  
William Murray (714) 741-5395  
Public Works Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Thursday, July 16, 2015

## **CITY'S EARLY CONSERVATION EFFORTS BRING WATERTIGHT RESULTS**

"The new normal" is how Governor Brown described the severe drought conditions California has been living with for the last four years. In Garden Grove, water conservation efforts became a norm even before the start of the drought that have contributed to results considered nothing short of watertight.

Proactive steps on the part of the City prior to the Governor's Emergency Drought Declaration last year have kept Garden Grove closing the tap even further on its need to produce more water.

In Fiscal Year 2009-10, the City's total water production amounted to 25,979 Acre-Foot (AF). A year later, that number declined to 24,686 AF and the year following, to 24,444 AF. During the most recent Fiscal Year, 2014-2015, total water production dipped to 24,035 AF.

Early actions, prior to the 2014 mandates that contributed to the City's steady progress, included:

- Retrofitting City park irrigation systems with Calsense Irrigation Controllers.
- Redesigning City medians with drought tolerant plants and water efficient irrigation controllers.
- Participation in the Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC) Water Conservation Rebate Programs to provide residential and commercial customers with financial incentives for using water-saving devices.

## City's Early Conservation Efforts Bring Watertight Results 2-2-2

- Participation in the Water Smart Home Program for residents to receive a free survey of indoor and outdoor water use.
- Water-saving information inserted into bi-monthly water bills.
- Public outreach through largely-attended City events, such as the annual Public Works Open House and Garden Grove Pride.
- Mailing notification letters to water-wasters violating the City's Water Conservation Ordinance.

Following Governor Brown's April 1 executive order this year that mandated Garden Grove to cut water usage by 28 percent, the City declared a Stage 2 Water Alert that went into effect on May 9, 2015. One month later, upon request, the State Water Resources Control Board re-evaluated Garden Grove's conservation standards, and in recognition of Garden Grove's consistent efforts, reduced the City's mandated percentage to 20 percent.

As a result, the City augmented its existing efforts by:

- Expanding its median redesign and retrofit projects, and applying for additional grants to continue these projects, and discontinuing all watering of any existing median turf areas.
- Expanding participation in MWDOC rebate programs, adding \$18,000 in funding for the Turf Removal Rebate Program, and proposing an additional \$30,000 to continue offering the program to residential and commercial customers; and proposing funding for other new programs, such as drip irrigation system rebates.
- Continuing conservation/drought information inserts in water bills.

City's Early Conservation Efforts Bring Watertight Results  
3-3-3

- Continuing public outreach at events and neighborhood presentations.
- Continuing mailing notification letters for violating the City's Water Conservation Ordinance.
- Limiting outdoor watering for customers to 3-4 days per week.

In August 2015, the City will implement its updated Water Conservation Ordinance by limiting outdoor watering to just two days per week. The City will also proceed with stricter enforcement, and when needed, issue a Final Warning notice for repeated non-compliance that results in a flow-restricting device being installed.

"As much as we've done, the real credit goes to the Garden Grove community that recognized a collaborative need to make these early efforts, and raise them even further to ensure that we meet our 20% goal in 2016. And, I don't see those efforts completely stopping," says Garden Grove Public Works Director William Murray.

# # #



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Contact:  
John Montanez (714) 741-5214  
Community Services Department

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

## **CITY CELEBRATES PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH WITH FREE OPEN HOUSES**

The National Recreation and Park Association, California Park and Recreation Society, and the City of Garden Grove proclaim July as Parks and Recreation Month. Come out and celebrate Parks and Recreation Month on Thursday, July 23, 2015 with free admission to several recreation facilities.

The Sports and Recreation Center, 13641 Deodara Drive, will host an open gym from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Atlantis Play Center, 13630 Atlantis Way, offers free admission from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Swim for free, from 1:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., at Gary Hall Pool (Eastgate Park), 12001 St. Mark Street. Woodbury Park Pool, 13800 Rosita Place. Magnolia Park Pool, 11402 Magnolia Street.

All of the free open houses do not require registration. For more information, please contact the Recreation Department at (714) 741-5200 or visit the City's website at <http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GardenGroveCityHall>.

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CONTACT: Lt. Robert Bogue (714)741-5786  
Garden Grove Police Department

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Monday, July 13, 2015

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH TO TRAVEL THROUGH GG EN ROUTE TO WORLD GAMES IN LA**

The City of Garden Grove proudly welcomes the 2015 Special Olympics Summer World Games torch, as it travels through California, en route to the official Opening Ceremony in Los Angeles on July 25, 2015. The 2015 Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Final Leg, arrives for a community welcome at Garden Grove Police headquarters, 11301 Acacia Parkway, on Monday, July 20, at 10:25 a.m.

Approximately 20 to 30 runners will begin the 1.2 mile Garden Grove run by departing from the Harbor Town & Country Shopping Center, 12871 Harbor Boulevard, at approximately 10:10 a.m., on July 20. The team will head southwest on Harbor Boulevard, turning right on Garden Grove Boulevard, continuing west. The torch runners will turn right at Civic Center Drive, and stop at the front of police headquarters for a brief reception.

Streets will not be closed during the run, but traffic will be reduced to one lane only down southbound Harbor, and westbound Garden Grove Boulevard, to accommodate the runners, who will be escorted by the Garden Grove Police Department.

At the public reception, Garden Grove Police Chief Todd Elgin and Garden Grove City Council member Phat Bui will speak, and exchange gifts with Special Olympics and law enforcement representatives, followed by a photo session.



Special Olympics Torch To Travel Through GG  
2-2-2

The community is invited to cheer on the runners as they carry the Special Olympics torch down Garden Grove's main thoroughfares, and welcome them at police headquarters, before they depart for their next destination.

On May 14, 2015, the Special Olympics Flame of Hope began its 73-day trans-Atlantic journey from Athens, Greece, arriving in Philadelphia, PA, then to Washington D.C., where three simultaneous routes traveled throughout the United States, meeting in Los Angeles on July 10. The torch was then handed over to the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Final Leg team, to travel for 13 days to more than 120 cities and towns throughout California, including Garden Grove, before arriving at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

The 126-member Final Leg Team is comprised of law enforcement runners, Special Olympics athletes, and Logistics Team members from 49 states and 24 countries around the world representing 79 Torch Run programs. Final Leg runners were chosen for their dedication and commitment to the Law Enforcement Torch Run and Special Olympics by their respective Torch Run Programs throughout the world.

For more information about the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, and the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Final Leg team, visit [www.la2015.org](http://www.la2015.org)

# # #



Để phổ biến trên các phương tiện truyền thông  
Văn phòng thông tin liên lạc: (714) 741-5280

Liên lạc: Denise Kehn, (714) 741-5036  
Văn phòng Thư Ký Thành phố

Thứ Năm, 9/7/2015

### **YÊU CẦU PUBLIC RECORDS QUA TRANG MẠNG THÀNH PHỐ**

Hồ sơ văn bản công cộng (public records) có thể được yêu cầu thông qua website của Thành phố tại **[www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us)** dưới mục On-Line Services. Yêu cầu trực tuyến tạo điều kiện xử lý hồ sơ dễ dàng và nhanh chóng hơn. Yêu cầu phải được giải thích đầy đủ và cụ thể để cho phép nhân viên xác định vị trí các hồ sơ yêu cầu.

Văn phòng Thư Ký Thành Phố sẽ quyết định trong vòng 10 ngày kể từ ngày nhận được đơn yêu cầu. Các quan lập pháp bang California đã thông qua Đạo luật Public Records Act vào năm 1975, trong đó yêu cầu các cơ quan chính quyền địa phương đưa những văn bản công cộng có sẵn theo yêu cầu. Công chúng có thể kiểm tra hoặc nhận được một bản sao của bất kỳ hồ sơ, ngoại trừ những tài liệu được miễn tiết lộ bởi ràng buộc của pháp luật hoặc được coi là bí mật hoặc đặc quyền theo pháp luật.

Để biết thêm thông tin, xin gọi Văn phòng Thư Ký Thành phố tại (714) 741-5036.

# # #

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

July 16, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
2. Notice of Cancellation for the July 23 Zoning Administrator meeting and the minutes from the July 9, 2015 meeting.
3. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California Water Fix Draft Environmental Report/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
4. Cities Advocates dated July 10 and 16, 2015.



**GARDEN GROVE**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 16, 2015 – August 1, 2015

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Thursday	July 16	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	Summer Concert Series – Brad Johnson & The Killin' Time Band (Today's Country) Eastgate Park
		7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Thursday- Saturday	July 16-18	8:00 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Romeo & Juliet", Festival Amphitheater
Friday- Sunday	July 17-19		One More Productions presents "Next to Normal" Gem Theater
Saturday	July 18	8:00 a.m.- Noon	Project "GO" Graffiti Off, Municipal Service Center
Wednesday	July 22	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Courtyard Center <b>CANCELLED</b>
Thursday	July 23		Casual Day – Baseball Jersey Day
		9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Training Room <b>CANCELLED</b>
		6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	Summer Concert Series – DSB (Journey Tribute Band), Eastgate Park
Thursday- Saturday	July 23-25	8:00 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Romeo & Juliet", Festival Amphitheater
Friday	July 24		City Hall Closed
Tuesday	July 28	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session/Study Session, Founders Room Housing Authority Meeting, Council Chamber Sanitary District Meeting, Council Chamber Successor Agency Meeting, Council Chamber City Council Meeting, Council Chamber
Thursday	July 30	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	Summer Concert Series – Grilled Cheese Soundwich (90s to Today), Eastgate Park
Thursday- Saturday	July 30- August 1	8:00 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Romeo & Juliet", Festival Amphitheater



**GARDEN GROVE**

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# **NOTICE OF CANCELLATION**

The Regular Meeting of the  
Garden Grove Zoning Administrator  
scheduled for July 23, 2015  
has been cancelled.

JUDITH MOORE  
SECRETARY

GARDEN GROVE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING  
City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840  
Third Floor Training Room

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, July 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT NO. LLA-010-2015

Applicant: Orange Catholic Cathedral Facilities Corporation  
Location: 13280 Chapman Avenue  
Date: July 9, 2015

Request: Lot Line Adjustment approval to reconfigure three (3) lots referenced as Parcels 1, 2, and 3 of Lot Line Adjustment No. LLA-11-13, in order to adjust portions of lot lines for each parcel to accommodate a future expansion of the existing cemetery located on Parcel 1. The site is in the PUD-133-99 (Planned Unit Development) zone. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15305 – Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Craig Lee

Action: Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1715-15.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-038-2015

Applicant: Jose Lopez  
Location: 11001 Chapman Avenue  
Date: July 9, 2015

Request: Conditional Use Permit approval to operate an existing restaurant, Corazon Cocina Mexicana, with an original Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" (On-Sale, Beer and Wine) License. The site is in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 – Existing Facilities.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Jose Lopez, Bao Dinh

Action: Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1716-15.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-039-2015

Applicant: Rick Truong  
Location: 9777 Chapman Avenue  
Date: July 9, 2015

Request: Conditional Use Permit approval to operate a new 2,007 square foot restaurant, iGrilled Shabu Restaurant, with a State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" (On-Sale, Beer and Wine, Public Premises) License. The site is in the NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) zone. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 – Existing Facilities.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Rick Truong

Action: Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1717-15.



Zoning Administrator Minutes

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-040-2015

Applicant: The Boiling Pot  
Location: 12921 Magnolia Street  
Date: July 9, 2015

Request: Conditional Use Permit approval to operate a new 2,225 square foot restaurant, The Boiling Pot, with a State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" (On-Sale, Beer and Wine, Public Premises) License. The site is in the GGMU3 (Garden Grove Mixed Use 3) zone. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 Existing Facilities.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Leon Tran

Action: Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1718-15.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The Zoning Administrator adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator on Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., in the City Hall Third Floor Training Room, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove.

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Judith Moore, Recording Secretary

# BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN / CALIFORNIA WATER FIX

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX  
PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/  
SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

July 10, 2015

Dear Reviewer:

In accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), we announce for your review the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix Partially Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIR/SDEIS). This RDEIR/SDEIS was prepared jointly by lead agencies: the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The RDEIR/SDEIS is being made available for review and comment beginning July 10, 2015 and closing August 31, 2015<sup>1</sup>.

The RDEIR/SDEIS has been prepared to provide the public and interested agencies an opportunity to review the engineering refinements made to the Alternative 4 water conveyance facilities; the environmental impact analysis of new sub-alternatives: Alternatives 4A, 2D and 5A; and the updated environmental analyses that address certain issues raised in the more than 12,000 comments received on the BDCP Draft EIR/EIS issued December 2013. Alternative 4A (or California WaterFix), is the new CEQA Preferred Alternative, replacing Alternative 4 (the proposed BDCP). This new alternative was developed in response to public and agency input, as well as an interest in exploring multiple regulatory approaches that could facilitate expeditious progress on Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) solutions. Alternative 4A is also the NEPA Preferred Alternative, a designation that was not attached to any of the alternatives presented in the BDCP Draft EIR/EIS.

Under the proposed Alternative 4A, compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) would be achieved by Reclamation, and DWR as the applicant, under Section 7 of the ESA through formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS). Compliance with the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) would be achieved by DWR through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) 2081b incidental take permit process. Endangered species compliance is needed because take of some listed species could occur as a result of implementation of Alternative 4A. Alternative 4A, located in the Delta, includes construction, operation and maintenance of existing and new water conveyance facilities as well as monitoring and habitat restoration and protection actions necessary for compliance with NEPA, CEQA, ESA, CESA, and other environmental requirements.

Reclamation's proposed Federal action under NEPA is to change operation of Central Valley Project (CVP) facilities in the Delta consistent with the proposed Alternative 4A; this operations change would support implementation of coordinated operation of the CVP with the State Water Project (SWP). Reclamation may also make decisions regarding wheeling CVP water through new Delta conveyance facilities, and implementing mitigation and monitoring actions that are consistent with Reclamation's regulatory requirements, programs, authorities, and appropriations.

When reviewed together with the BDCP Draft EIR/EIS, this RDEIR/SDEIS sufficiently describes and discloses the effects of implementing Alternative 4A for the purposes of CEQA and NEPA. Where appropriate, the RDEIR/SDEIS references the 2013 Draft BDCP and Draft EIR/EIS documents. Any new information developed for the proposed BDCP since the December 2013 public draft that is needed to adequately disclose environmental effects is included in Appendices A and D of this RDEIR/SDEIS. Accordingly, the entire BDCP has not been further revised, nor will it be re-released to the public at this time. Should the final agency decision makers choose to pursue an action alternative, such as Alternative 4, that includes a Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP), the BDCP documents would be updated accordingly.

The document presents potentially significant environmental effects (and, where appropriate, measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate these effects) in the following areas: Groundwater; Water Quality; Soils; Fish and Aquatic Resources; Terrestrial Biological Resources; Land Use; Agricultural Resources; Recreation; Socioeconomics; Visual and Aesthetic Resources; Cultural Resources; Transportation; Public Services and Utilities; Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases; Noise; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Public Health; Mineral Resources; and Paleontological Resources.

<sup>1</sup> The comment period ends 45-days after the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Federal Register Notice.

# BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN / CALIFORNIA WATER FIX

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX  
PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/  
SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Plan Area includes several hazardous waste sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code. Those sites are: Arcady Oil Company; Spezia Flying Service; Somerhalder, Bruce; Southern Junction; Valley Oaks Food & Fuel; Auxillary Transmission Site; Bens Drug Store; Byron Bethany Irrigation District; CDF Delta Conservation Camp; Chevron – Bruns Property; Chevron Texaco, Bruns, Byron; EB Stone; Five Star Petroleum (Former); Former BC Stocking Terminal; Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, LP; Los Vaqueros Water Conveyance Pipeline Project; Noss Bros Trucking; Primasing Residence; Ravenswood (Delta Lakes); Sarale Farms Inc; Texaco Weldon & Compilli Property; Unocal Bulk Facility-Walnut Grove; UPN 31 Transmission Tower; Vollman Property; Windmaster; J R Simplot Company.

The RDEIR/SDIES is accessible electronically at: [www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com](http://www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com). The website lists the libraries throughout the state serving as document repositories. Electronic copies of the documents referenced in the RDEIR/SDEIS will be available at the DWR office located at 3500 Industrial Blvd., Room 117, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

Written comments should be submitted through mail, email, or at a public meeting (see below).

Written comments may be submitted via:

- Mail to BDCP/WaterFix Comments, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812
- Email to [BDCPComments@icfi.com](mailto:BDCPComments@icfi.com)

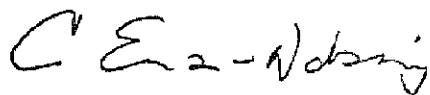
Public Meetings:

- Sacramento - Tuesday, July 28, 2015, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m., Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, Magnolia Room, 1230 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.
- Walnut Grove – Wednesday, July 29, 2015, 3:00-7:00 p.m. Jean Harvie Senior and Community Center, 14273 River Road, Walnut Grove, CA 95690.

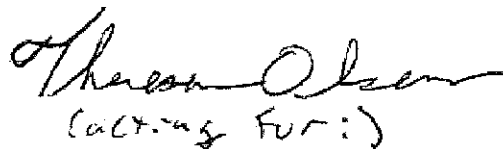
Written comments submitted during the agencies' public comment period must be received or postmarked by 5:00 pm Pacific Time on August 31, 2015. All substantive comments received on the RDEIR/SDEIS (and those received in the comment period for the December 2013 BDCP Draft EIR/EIS) will be responded to in the Final EIR/EIS and considered in the decision-making process. No final decisions have been made regarding going forward with the proposed project or in selecting an alternative; those decisions will only occur after completion of the CEQA and NEPA processes.

For additional information please contact: Cassandra Enos-Nobriga, California Department of Water Resources, 916-651-0178 or Michelle Banonis, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, 916- 930-5676.

Sincerely,



Cassandra Enos-Nobriga  
Program Manager  
Executive Program Office  
California Department of Water Resources



(acting for:)

Michelle Banonis  
BDCP Program Manager  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Bay-Delta Office

Enclosure

# FAST FACTS

## PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

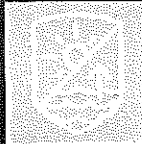
Since 2006, state and federal agencies have pursued an ambitious and comprehensive conservation plan under Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act intended to both secure water supplies and restore Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta habitat in one regulatory package. As part of that effort, public comments were solicited through July 2014 on a draft plan and environmental review document. A thorough review of public comments and a re-evaluation of project assumptions was made after July 2014. The review drew upon eight years of scientific inquiry and extensive modeling. The revised proposal represents a prudent, realistic, science-driven and achievable approach to address water supply reliability and habitat protection.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), as state and federal lead agencies under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), have issued a joint Partially Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIR/SDEIS) for the proposed Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)/ California WaterFix.

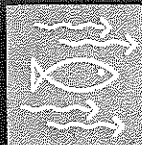
The primary purposes of the RDEIR/SDEIS are to provide the public and interested agencies with updated environmental analysis to address certain revisions to the Draft BDCP, to introduce new sub-alternatives (Alternatives 4A, 2D, and 5A), and to address certain issues raised in comments received on the Draft EIR/EIS.

### PROPOSED PROJECT: ALTERNATIVE 4A (CALIFORNIA WATER FIX)

**Alternative 4A (California WaterFix)** has been developed as the new CEQA and NEPA Preferred Alternative, replacing Alternative 4 (the proposed BDCP). Alternative 4A includes the conveyance facilities proposed under Alternative 4 and those mitigation measures and environmental commitments needed to obtain necessary permits and authorizations for implementation under Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act and through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's 2081(b) process. Alternative 4A (California WaterFix) achieves the co-equal goals by:



Securing state water supplies from climate change and seismic risk



Improving operations and environmental criteria to benefit fish species

More information on Alternative 4A, California WaterFix is available online at: [www.californiawaterfix.com](http://www.californiawaterfix.com).



## WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE THE 2013 BDCP DRAFT EIR/EIS?

- ▶ **Design modifications to Alternative 4 (also applied to new sub-alternatives)** to reduce impacts to Delta communities, minimize disturbances or dislocation to greater sandhill cranes, and improve the long-term reliability and operation of the conveyance facilities.
- ▶ **Introduction of three new sub-alternatives**, including Alternative 4A (California WaterFix) as the new preferred alternative. Alternatives 4A, 2D, and 5A were designed to reduce environmental effects, respond to public and agency input, and explore multiple regulatory approaches.
- ▶ **Updated environmental analysis** includes:
  - Fish and Aquatic Habitat – includes additional rationale for impact conclusions and methods for determining impacts. Revisions serve to better articulate the analysis.
  - Water Quality – describes additional analyses and modeling updates undertaken to more accurately characterize the potential for exceedances of water quality standards. Constituent sections that received the most updates are electrical conductivity, chloride, selenium, bromide, and *Microcystis*. The additional analysis resulted in the reduction of several water quality impacts to less than significant.
  - Effects Downstream of the Delta – includes an assessment of water quality and fish and aquatic resources in the San Francisco Bay.
  - Air Quality, Health Risk Assessment, Traffic and Noise – includes the latest engineering design changes, construction assumptions, performance standards and air quality models for impact analysis.
  - Geotechnical Investigations – provides an explanation about the method for incorporating analyses of geotechnical investigations into the analysis of the water conveyance facilities construction.
  - Inclusion of Additional NEPA Determinations – includes NEPA determinations on conclusions previously deemed “No Determination.”

## RDEIR/SDEIS ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS OBJECTIVES



**DEVELOP REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES**  
to meet the project objectives and avoid or minimize impacts



**ANALYZE**  
environmental impacts



**DEVELOP MITIGATION MEASURES**  
to reduce or avoid impacts



**PREPARE INFORMATION**  
for public and stakeholder review and comment

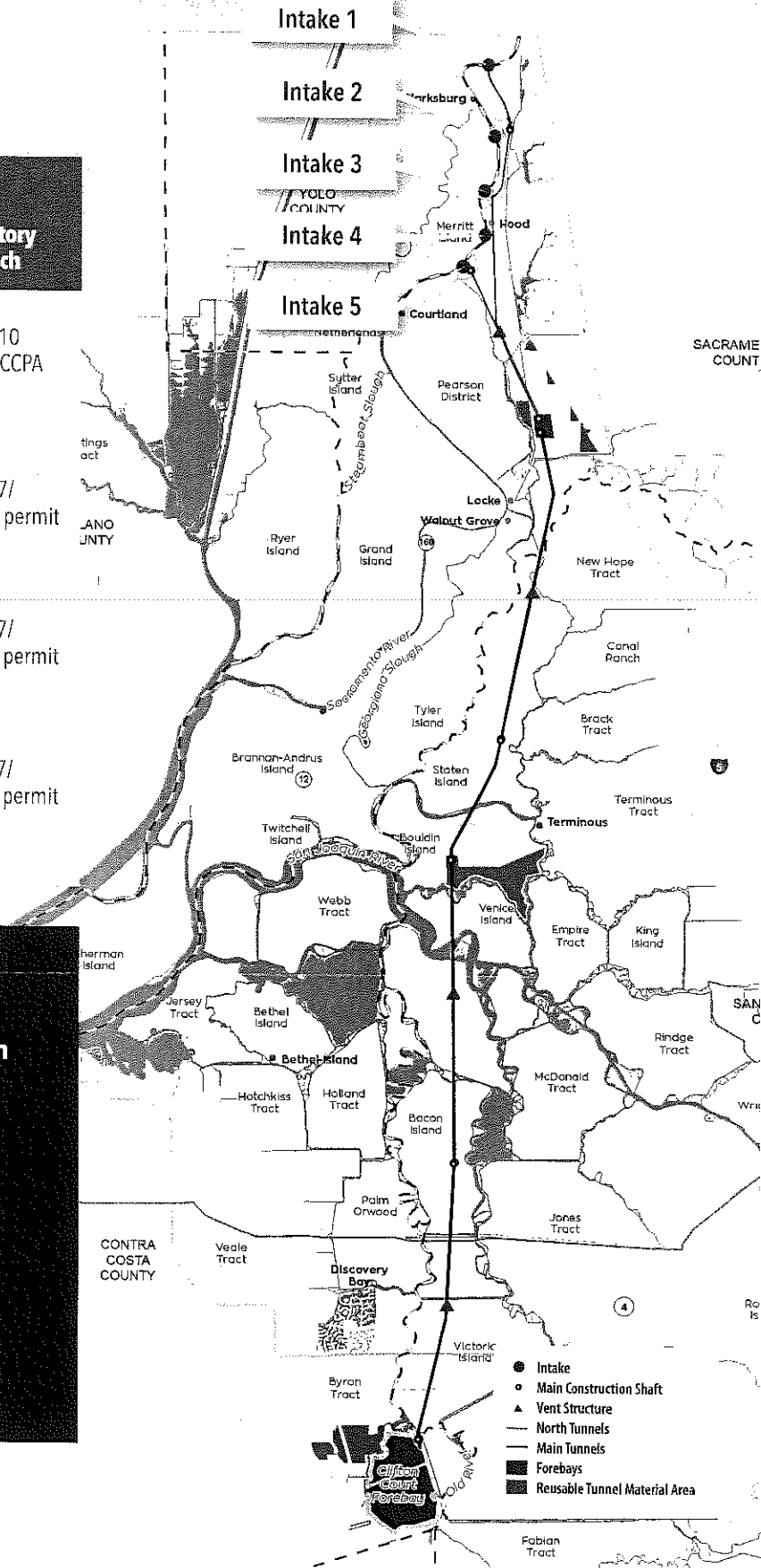


**DISCLOSE**  
project impacts and mitigation

# RDEIR/SDEIS ALTERNATIVES

The RDEIR/SDEIS alternatives are designed to ensure the provision of a reasonable range of alternatives by which to compare and evaluate the proposed project, Alternative 4A (California WaterFix), and fully explore multiple regulatory approaches.

Alternative	Maximum North Delta Diversions	Intakes	Regulatory Approach
<b>4</b> Modified Pipeline/Tunnel	9,000 cfs	2, 3 & 5	Section 10 (HCP)/NCCPA (NCCP)
<b>2D</b> Modified Pipeline/Tunnel	15,000 cfs	1-5	Section 7/ 2081(b) permit
<b>4A</b> Modified Pipeline/Tunnel	9,000 cfs	2, 3 & 5	Section 7/ 2081(b) permit
<b>5A</b> Modified Pipeline/Tunnel	3,000 cfs	2	Section 7/ 2081(b) permit



## More than 30,000 acres of Delta habitat restoration will occur separately through California EcoRestore.

These activities will be streamlined and implemented on an accelerated timeline independent of the proposed water conveyance facilities, with additional habitat restoration measures being planned and funded in the near future. Learn more about California EcoRestore at:

<http://resources.ca.gov/ecorestore/>



# BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN / CALIFORNIA WATER FIX

## COMMENTING ON THE BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (RDEIR/SDEIS)

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix Partially Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIR/SDEIS) is being made available to the public July 10, 2015-August 31, 2015 for review and comment<sup>1</sup>. The RDEIR/SDEIS is available at the Department of Water Resources, 3500 Industrial Blvd., Room 117, West Sacramento, CA 95691 and at the Bureau of Reclamation, MP100, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, on the project website at [www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com](http://www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com) and at libraries throughout the state. Visit [www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com](http://www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com) to find a location near you. Electronic copies of the documents referenced in the RDEIR/SDEIS will be available at the DWR Office at 3500 Industrial Blvd., Room 117, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

### HOW TO MAKE EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

Comments received on the RDEIR/SDEIS will be considered in the Final EIR/EIS<sup>2</sup> and decision-making process. Commenters may want to consider the following guidelines when providing comments:

- The most effective comments focus directly on the analysis in the RDEIR/SDEIS and should not provide comments on any issues not directly included in the RDEIR/SDEIS, including those sections of the Draft EIR/EIS that are not being recirculated for review.
- Comments should identify the specific part of the RDEIR/SDEIS at issue and should include supporting evidence and facts.
- The commenter should provide complete references and/or citations, particularly when referring to websites (that is, provide a specific URL address rather than simply citing "DWR website," for example).

The comment period is from  
July 10, 2015 - August 31, 2015

Comments must be received  
electronically or postmarked on or  
before August 31, 2015

### HOW TO COMMENT



#### Mail to:

BDCP/WaterFix Comments  
P.O. Box 1919  
Sacramento, CA 95812



#### Email to:

[BDCPComments@icfi.com](mailto:BDCPComments@icfi.com)

**In person at a public  
meeting (see below)**

### PUBLIC MEETINGS

You are invited to attend a public open house meeting to learn more about the RDEIR/SDEIS and submit comments.

#### SACRAMENTO

Tuesday, July 28, 2015, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, Magnolia Room  
1230 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

#### WALNUT GROVE

Wednesday, July 29, 2015, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Jean Harvie Senior and Community Center  
14273 River Road, Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Public meetings will be an open house format. There will not be any formal presentations or panel to receive public comments. Informational exhibits and project team members will be available throughout the meeting for one-on-one discussions and a sign-up sheet will be provided for those wishing to give verbal comments to a court reporter. Those wishing to give verbal comments will have a three minute time limit so that others may also provide verbal comments. Written comments of any length may be submitted. In order to encourage full participation, video recording will not be permitted.

For more information, assistance in locating the documents or if you have special needs, contact 1-866-924-9955.

Para más información por favor llame al 1-866-924-9955

Để biết thêm thông tin, xin gọi số 1-866-924-9955

Para sa karagdagang impormasyon, mangyaring tumawag sa 1-866-924-9955

如欲瞭解更多資訊，請致電 1-866-924-9955

Kom tau lus qhia ntxiv, thov hu 1-866-924-9955

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<sup>1</sup>The RDEIR/SDEIS are being made available for public review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The comment period ends 45-days after the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Federal Register notice. No final decisions have been made regarding going forward with the proposed project or in selecting an alternative; those decisions will only occur after completion of the CEQA and NEPA processes.

<sup>2</sup>The Final EIR/EIS will consider substantive comments received during the public review periods for the Draft EIR/EIS (December 13, 2013 through July 29, 2014) and the RDEIR/SDEIS (July 10, 2015 through August 31, 2015).

July 10, 2015  
Issue #67

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Page 5: Effective Financing of Community-Based Public Benefit Projects through CSCDA
- Page 6: California City Solutions: Elk Grove Creates Multicultural Event and Awareness in the Community
- Page 8: Register for July 29 City Attorney Webinar on Workplace Investigations
- Page 9: Get Ready for NLC's 2015 Congress of Cities Conference in Nashville

**Senate Attempts to Move RDA Trailer Bill, AB 113, Monday**  
*League Remains Opposed Due to Provisions Harmful to Cities*

The Senate on Thursday waived rules to enable [AB 113 \(Committee on Budget\)](#) to be heard Monday in the Senate Budget Committee. Despite the fact that Gov. Jerry Brown signed the FY 2015-16 budget several weeks ago, disputes have lingered over a 100-page bill drafted by the Department of Finance (DOF) that contains significant revisions to the redevelopment dissolution process, some of which seek to reverse recent court decisions benefitting affected cities. There may also be an attempt to move it quickly off the Senate Floor on the same day. *For more, see Page 2.*



**Bills in Committee: July 13-17**

The last full week of policy committees will commence next week, with the Legislature adjourning for summer break on July 17. Both houses return on Aug. 17 for the final weeks of the 2015 legislative session that ends on Sept. 11. The League will continue to be engaged on several more bills, with many of them flagged as Hot, during the week of July 13-17. Cities are encouraged to weigh in on these bills. *For more, see Page 3.*



**Unrealistic Housing Parking Measure, AB 744, Passes Senate**  
**Transportation and Housing Committee**  
*League Opposition Compels Amendments as Bill Moves*  
*to Senate Governance and Finance for Hearing on July 15*

"One-size-doesn't fit all" is the often-heard refrain from local officials reflecting the diversity of circumstances throughout 482 cities. However, AB 744, a measure that attempts to apply unrealistically-low housing parking criteria under state Density Bonus (DB) Law that may barely work for the few, let alone the many, is getting closer to Gov. Jerry Brown's desk. The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee passed the measure on July 7 and it will next be heard by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on Wednesday, July 15. *For more, see Page 4.*

Because of the many League member cities that would be harmfully impacted by AB 113 in its current form, the League remains opposed unless the harmful provisions are removed. Since January, cities' main concern with the proposal has been its effort to reverse and revise key provisions of dissolution laws offered to local agencies as incentives for resolving DOF issues and obtaining a "finding of completion."

These were promises that were made to cities in AB 1484 of 2012. Agencies that settled with DOF would be rewarded with the ability to have previous city-RDA loans repaid at interest rates benchmarked against a conservative fund managed by the State Treasurer. Now that many agencies have made the concessions to DOF necessary to obtain these findings, it is frustrating for affected agencies to have to spend the last six months combating an effort to move the goal posts.

AB 113 contains many provisions, but it is important to not be distracted from the major issues. The dissolution statute gave DOF staff wide latitude with no process for oversight or review other than the courts. With the original proposal's introduction in January, one of DOF's key objective focuses on undoing court decisions that have interpreted existing law in three areas — re-entered agreements, definition of "loans," and calculation of interest rates. In these three instances the courts have overruled DOF's interpretations to the benefit of the affected local agencies.

While the effort to reverse appellate court decisions affecting re-entered agreements was thankfully withdrawn by DOF in the May Revise, AB 113 continues to attempt to moot the effect of two other cases: *City of Watsonville v. California Department of Finance* (relating to the definition of loans) and *City of Glendale v. California Department of Finance* (relating to calculation of interest). If local agencies are expected to respect court decisions that have gone against them, then cities believe DOF should as well.

Beyond the efforts to reverse Court decisions, this measure contains several provisions that would tip the balance on matters of interpretation of dissolution laws even further by exempting DOF from the Administrative Procedures Act and eliminating language in the law (*that was previously agreed to by DOF and the Legislature in 2012*) that enabled successor agencies to fund legal representation in the only due process forum where DOF staff decisions could be reviewed: Sacramento County Superior Court.

So while efforts to reverse aspects of AB 1484 and related court decisions can be purported by DOF to be "streamlining," negatively affected cities characterize them as "unfair and harmful." Many individual cities have directly reported to their legislators that such a change in law would collectively cost them hundreds of millions in lost loan repayments.

The heart of the dispute is that AB 113's definition of loan does not reflect the Court's view in *Watsonville* and is an effort to insert into the law a DOF-interpretation the Court said was "improper." The League has proposed a definition of "loans" to reflect the Court's holding, but it has been rejected. While there are other debates about interest rates in the measure, if statutes are allowed to be rewritten in a manner that eliminates valid loans from the possibility of repayment, it does not matter what the interest rate is.

As to the balance of the bill, there are essentially three categories of changes in the measure:

1. Adjustments to various processes that can be represented as true "streamlining."
2. Provisions that address several outstanding dissolution-related issues of benefit to specific agencies, most significantly: San Francisco affordable housing, issuers of 2011 bonds, and clarifications on special levies for pensions.
3. Provisions that have nothing to do with redevelopment dissolution but were added into this proposal at the May Revise. These provisions (negative bailout, San Benito County, Santa Clara city tax equity and a fix to assist recent incorporations) all have individual merit and should proceed separately as did an "excess ERAF" fix that was originally inserted into this proposal then later removed and enacted with the budget.

It is regrettable that the current version of the measure remains so divisive. If the major areas of dispute cannot be appropriately resolved in a manner that accurately reflects the applicable court

decisions, then the cities harmed by this measure are simply asking for existing law to be left as it is and allow the Courts to continue their work of interpreting the law without interference.

### Next Steps

The League encourages cities harmed by this measure to contact their senators. If the Senate passes AB 113, it awaits an uncertain fate in the Assembly where the Assembly Democratic Caucus has formed a working group to look closer at the measure's harmful impacts. The Assembly does not appear inclined to take action on AB 113 prior to the month-long legislative summer recess that begins on Friday, July 17.

A copy of the League's opposition letter and a sample oppose letter can be found on the [League's website](#).

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#### 'Bills in Cmte' Continued from Page 1...

The policy committee deadline next Friday marks the beginning of the end stretch of the legislative year. Once the Legislature returns, cities will need to remain vigilant as we enter the time period of increased gut and amends and final negotiations. In addition, the Legislature will be working on the extraordinary session on transportation. The League will be releasing an updated Hot Bills list and sending out updates as frequently as is necessary over the summer break.

To access any bill on this list, the League's position letter and sample letters, please go to [www.cacities.org/billsearch](http://www.cacities.org/billsearch) and plug in the bill number into the search box.

A full listing of Senate and Assembly hearings is available online. Hearing times are subject to change. Bill language and any available position letters on legislation can be found through the bill search function on the [League's website](#).

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### Monday, July 13

Senate Appropriations, 10 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **HOT AB 36 (Campos) Local government: federal surplus property.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 74 (Calderon) Care facilities: regulatory visits.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 90 (Chau) Federal Housing Trust Fund.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 428 (Nazarian) Income taxes: credit: seismic retrofits.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 870 (Cooley) Homelessness: rapid rehousing.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 1056 (Atkins) Second Chance Program.** *League position: Support.*

Senate Budget and Fiscal Review, 11 a.m., State Capitol, Room 112

- **HOT AB 113 (Committee on Budget) Local government.** *League position: Oppose.*

Assembly Revenue and Taxation, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 126

- **HOT ACA 4 (Frazier) Local government transportation projects: special taxes: voter approval.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT SB 321 (Beall) Motor vehicle fuel taxes: rates: adjustments.** *League position: Support.*
- **SB 533 (Pan) Cities and counties: sales and use tax agreements.** *League position: Support.*

### Tuesday, July 14

Senate Governmental Organization, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **AB 22 (Rodriguez) Office of Emergency Services: oil-by-rail spills: firefighters.** *League position: Support.*

Senate Natural Resources and Water, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 112

- **AB 988 (Stone, Mark) Outdoor Environmental Education and Recreation Grants Program.** *League position: Support.*

Senate Judiciary, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 112

- **AB 552 (O'Donnell) Public works contracts: damages.** *League position: Oppose.*

Assembly Health, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 4202

- **SB 643 (McGuire) Medical Marijuana.** *League position: Support if Amended.*

Senate Transportation and Housing, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **HOT AB 2 (Alejo) Community revitalization authority.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT AB 35 (Chiu) Income taxes: credits: low-income housing: allocation increase.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 313 (Atkins) Enhanced infrastructure financing districts.** *League position: Support.*

### Wednesday, July 15

Senate Governance and Finance, 9:30 a.m., Room 112

- **AB 57 (Quirk) Telecommunications: Wireless telecommunication facilities.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **HOT AB 266 (Bonta) Medical Cannabis.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT AB 744 (Chau) Planning and Zoning: density bonuses.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 1157 (Nazarian) Property Taxation: certificated aircraft assessment.** *League position: Support.*

Assembly Local Government, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 447

- **HOT SB 25 (Roth) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocation: vehicle license fee adjustments.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT SB 239 (Hertzberg) Local services: contracts: fire protection services.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **SB 272 (Hertzberg) The California Public Records Act: local agencies: inventory.** *League position: Oppose Unless Amended.*
- **SB 485 (Hernandez) County of Los Angeles: sanitation districts.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT SB 493 (Canella) Elections in cities: by or from districts.** *League position: Support.*

Senate Health Committee, 1:30 p.m., Room 4203

- **HOT AB 266 (Bonta) Medical Cannabis.** *League position: Support.*

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'AB 744' Continued from Page 1...

Progress was at least made when the author and infill-developer sponsors had to accept amendments to alter the bill's previous language that allowed developers to avoid complying with any minimum local parking criteria if they were building one of three types of affordable projects. Even with pending amendments, the League argued that such criteria remains too low and will result in parking spillover. Cities should judge this proposed statewide parking criteria for themselves:

- 100 percent affordable multi-bedroom housing near transit (0.5 parking spaces per unit);
- Senior housing *not near transit* (0.5 parking spaces per unit, no guest or service parking); and
- Special needs housing *not near transit* (0.3 spaces per unit, no guest or service parking).

Under a separate provision under DB Law, AB 744 would establish a maximum of 0.5 spaces per bedroom for market-rate projects near transit that have as little as 5 percent affordable housing.

There are two tiers of arguments advanced by the author and sponsor for this measure:

- **Parking Requirements Often Exceed Demand:** Cities are requiring too much parking, resulting in developers having to build spaces that are never occupied. Demographics are changing consumer preferences and certain groups either cannot afford cars or opt to go without, and parking costs \$25,000-\$35,000 per space and increase development costs.
- **People Should be Paying the True Cost of Parking:** Even if less parking than needed is provided, residents will adjust by either getting rid of their cars and using different transportation modes, or paying a market price for nearby parking.

The League has been AB 744's leading opponent since its introduction in February, basically making the following arguments:

- **Parking Needs to Match Reality.** Developments should be required to have sufficient parking to match the realistic needs of their occupants; otherwise spillover will occur to neighboring properties and residential neighborhoods.
- **Security, Flexibility and Choice Remain Important:** While nearby transit may reduce some automotive use, most transit systems are inadequate and additional safety, flexibility and employment concerns will cause people to hold onto their cars.
- **Forcing Those With Fewer Options to Get Rid of Cars?** Policies that attempt to compel seniors, those with special needs and affordable housing residents to give up their cars raise broader equity issues because the affluent will always retain their options.
- **Careful What is Wished For.** If the state gets this wrong and inappropriately handcuffs local agencies in their ability to ensure new development is balanced and appropriately planned, then community opposition to such projects will only increase and work against broader state policy objectives which seek to encourage infill and greater densities. Don't forget, local residents can also resort to the ballot box.

One provision of AB 744 would allow local governments to commission an area-wide or jurisdiction-wide parking study, and based upon that study impose a higher parking requirement on these projects. While such language at least provides options, many local agencies may feel compelled to hire consultants immediately to complete these costly studies rather than face development projects with insufficient parking levels.

### Next Steps

AB 744 will next be heard on Wednesday, July 15 in the Senate Governance and Finance Committee. The League encourages cities to review the legislation immediately and weigh in with concerns. To date, only a handful of cities have communicated their opposition. The League's letter and a sample letter that cities can use to tailor to their own communities are available on the League website at [www.cacities.org/billsearch](http://www.cacities.org/billsearch) by typing AB 744 into the search box.

If AB 744 is passed by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee, the measure will then move to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Only a handful of cities have taken opposite positions on this measure. Since it could move to the Governor by late August, if a city has concerns, then it is time to weigh in with legislators.

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## Effective Financing of Community-Based Public Benefit Projects through CSCDA

Some of the most significant benefits of League membership for cities since 1988 have flowed from the League's co-sponsorship of the California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA). With 525 local government members, which include 337 cities, CSCDA is the premiere joint powers authority (JPA) in California providing access to low cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. CSCDA is a resource for cities, their strategic partners and developers that are looking for an efficient financing tool to build infrastructure, provide affordable housing, create jobs, or help residential and commercial property owners finance clean energy.

CSCDA supports cities beyond its mission to provide a low cost vehicle for financing and managing bond issuance activities, especially for cities that find stand-alone financings too costly or lack the necessary resources or experience. This program also strengthens the League's



ability to provide other membership services to cities. As a CSCDA sponsor, the League receives royalty and administrative fees. These fees keep member cities' dues lower and stable. Without these revenues, along with those from U.S. Communities and CalTRUST, League dues in the last three years would have had to be an average of 48 percent higher to finance the same level of member services.

The governing board of CSCDA comprises current and former city and county administrators who understand and respect the needs of local governments. Some of the respected former city managers and finance professionals who serve as commissioners include Kevin O'Rourke (Fairfield), Irwin Bornstein (Mission Viejo), Brian Moura (San Carlos) and Dan Harrison (League).

Throughout its history CSCDA has provided unique and innovative programs and will continue to serve cities, strategic partners and developers under new leadership. Following an extensive year-long RFP and vetting process, Bridge Strategic Partners (Bridge) was selected to work with CSCDA's executive director, commissioners, CSAC and the League to continue the JPA's long tradition of meeting local needs. John Penkower and James Hamill, the principals at Bridge, have extensive experience and expertise in conduit financing and helped launch many of CSCDA's existing programs. This exceptional management team is equally committed to developing new tools and programs to meet future needs of communities throughout California.

The League is confident about CSCDA's management team and the benefits this invaluable program brings to the League and the well over 500 California local agencies that rely on its services. The League encourages cities and their partners to use CSCDA.

Please contact League Director of Administrative Services Norman Coppinger with any questions at (916) 658-8277.

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## **California City Solutions: Elk Grove Creates Multicultural Event and Awareness in the Community**

*This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2014 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called California City Solutions. Elk Grove's Multicultural Awareness Program and Annual Festival was submitted in 2014 for the Economic Development through the Arts award category.*

The city of Elk Grove is increasingly diverse with a mix of cultures and ethnicities. The Elk Grove City Council made it a priority to support and promote the community's social and cultural interests. A recently-formed Multicultural Committee helps accomplish this goal with a diversity awareness program and citywide Diversity Pledge, and an annual Multicultural Festival that attracts more than 7,000 and features ethnic entertainment, food, and exhibits representing the city's diverse community.

Incorporated in July 2000, the city of Elk Grove is Sacramento County's second largest city. Due in large part to the city's rapid growth between 2003 and 2005, the population is now just over 159,000 — more than double its total in 2000. According to the Census Bureau, Elk Grove in 2006 was designated the nation's fastest growing city.

The 2010 U.S. Census reports Elk Grove's racial makeup comprises 46.1 percent White, 18 percent Hispanic or Latino, 26.3 percent Asian, 11.2 percent Black or African American, 1.2 percent Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.6 percent Native American and Alaska Native, and 7.9 percent from two or more races.

The Elk Grove City Council established a 10-member Multicultural Committee in September 2011 to foster Elk Grove's social and cultural interests and promote the city's rich cultural diversity.

The Multicultural Committee's objectives included:

- Developing and promoting a diversity awareness program that would encourage residents to show support for acceptance of all cultures. The committee wanted to reach more than 1,000 residents with the program in 2013.

- Planning an annual Elk Grove multicultural festival that would bring together the Elk Grove community in a unified appreciation of the city's rich cultural diversity. The success of the event was measured by the number of participants and vendors, sponsorship revenue and media coverage. In 2013, the committee aimed at attracting at least 5,000 participants (1,000 more participants than the inaugural Multicultural Festival in 2012), eight food vendors and ten performances, with a goal of raising \$15,000 in sponsorship revenue from the business community.
- Educating the community about Elk Grove's cultural diversity and providing guidance to the city council on issues impacting multicultural communities.

The Multicultural Committee immediately hit the ground running with the core of the program being a Diversity Pledge. This call to action encourages residents to show support for acceptance of all cultures. Community members can take the pledge online at [www.ElkGroveDiversityPledge.org](http://www.ElkGroveDiversityPledge.org).

The website also features a Diversity Face Jumble, allowing visitors to upload a headshot photo that is then mixed with photos of other Elk Grove faces. The awareness program is promoted through multiple channels and platforms to ensure maximum visibility throughout the community. The program's starting budget was \$10,000 to develop and produce all materials, including the awareness program website.

The Multicultural Committee and city communications team planned and implemented all aspects of a multifaceted festival, including logistics, sponsorship outreach to the business community, entertainment recruitment and auditions, food vendor outreach and outreach to community nonprofits.

The festival was widely promoted, including local newspaper advertisements, the city's newsletter and website, a freeway readerboard billboard, 62 city buses and flyers that were sent home with more than 62,000 students in the Elk Grove Unified School District. In addition, the Elk Grove City Council and Multicultural Committee established Aug. 24-30 as Cultural Awareness Week to recognize the many cultures that make up Elk Grove's population.

More than 7,000 participants attended the second annual Multicultural Festival in August 2013, which was double the 2012 inaugural festival. The event featured a wide variety of ethnic foods, music, entertainment, fashion shows and activities for kids. The event also had more than 23 demonstrations from Hmong, Mexican, Indian, Serbian, Sikh, West African and Afro-Caribbean, Azteca, Filipino, Brazilian, Hawaiian, Vietnamese, and Punjabi performers, square dancers, a Chinese orchestra and martial artists.

The interactive activities for children included face painting and art projects that promoted diversity. Additionally, more than a dozen food vendors offered a variety of ethnic cuisines, with local artists showcasing cultural artwork, and at least 60 nonprofits, churches, local artists and community groups had booths to educate the community about their culture or organization. The event was sponsored by several prominent local businesses, resulting in more than \$22,000 sponsorship donations, which was \$5,000 more than the previous year. U.S. Representative Ami Bera and Assembly Member Richard Pan also joined the Elk Grove City Council and Multicultural Committee at the event.

The event benefited from extensive media coverage. Coverage included: multiple articles in the *Sacramento Bee* and *Elk Grove Citizen* and *Elk Grove Patch*, as well as a special section in the *Elk Grove Citizen* and additional articles in the *Glenbrook News*, *Elk Grove News*, and *Laguna Citizen*. The *Sacramento Bee*'s coverage included a prominent, front page article with photos on the front page of the Our Region section in a Sunday edition — the most highly read edition of the week. Television news coverage included *Good Day Sacramento*, *KCRA*, and *Fox 40*. Print advertisements reached more than 900,000 viewers.

At the festival, more than 900 participants signed the city's Diversity Pledge poster. Hundreds had their photos taken in a photo booth, which were then included on the interactive face jumble on the Diversity Pledge website.

The Elk Grove diversity awareness program has achieved the following:

- More than 2,600 posters featuring the pledge were displayed in every classroom in the Elk Grove Unified School District;
- 200 posters were displayed in community centers, fire departments, public buildings, libraries and teen centers;
- Extensive media coverage in local news outlets, including *KCRA, News 10, Fox 40, KFBK*, the *Sacramento Bee's* news and editorial sections, the *Elk Grove Citizen* and a variety online forums and blogs;
- The *Sacramento Bee* published an editorial titled "Elk Grove is smart to honor its rainbow" that applauded the city's commitment to recognizing and celebrating cultural diversity;
- More than 10,000 bracelets promoting the program were distributed at community events and classroom presentations; and
- A readerboard ad on busy Highway 99, reached up to 100,000 motorists daily.

Since 2012, more than 3,400 have signed the diversity pledge. Framed pictures featuring signed names are proudly displayed at City Hall. In addition, the city has received more than 12 calls from communities throughout the nation to learn from our multicultural awareness program.

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## **Register for July 29 City Attorney Webinar on Workplace Investigations**

The League of California Cities® City Attorneys Department will offer a 90-minute webinar on July 29 entitled *Workplace Investigations — A Practical Approach for City Attorneys*. Management and human resources staff, as well as city attorneys, will find the webinar informative.

### **Details**

Allegations of city employee misconduct present serious liability risks for cities. If not handled properly, such allegations may have significant financial and political impacts for the agency and also harm operational morale. A prompt and thorough workplace investigation is critical. This webinar will provide an overview of the best practice approach for the investigation.

The city attorney plays a key role in ensuring workplace investigations are done properly, meet legal requirements, and comply with the unique substantive and procedural issues that arise when investigating public employees or elected officials. Using real-world hypotheticals, the webinar will provide guidance on the attorney's role at each stage of the investigation process, including: the decision to conduct the investigation; selection of the investigator; scope of the investigation and presentation of findings; protection of employee/official freedom of speech and privacy rights; elements of effective oversight for a compliant investigation; review of the resulting report; the response to findings; and requests for disclosure of the report.

A full question and answer session will be included and a practical resource guide will be provided to all webinar attendees.

### **Presenter**

Daphne Anneet, a partner with Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP, will present the webinar. She is the vice chair of the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group, where she represents cities and other public agencies on labor and employee matters and has extensive expertise in conducting workplace investigations for public employees.

### **Registration**

[Register online](#) by Monday, July 27.

Special summer pricing for the webinar is as follows:

- Member city: \$25
- League Partner firm: \$50

- Non-member city/non-League Partner: \$175
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## Get Ready for NLC's 2015 Congress of Cities Conference in Nashville

The National League of Cities (NLC) will be holding its annual Congress of Cities conference in Nashville this November. The conference is Nov. 4-7 and will bring together city officials from throughout the United States.

This year, Nashville has topped these lists:

- *10 Best Places to Live Now (Men's Journal);*
- *Where to Go in 2015 (AFAR, Budget Travel);*
- *Best Options for Travelers in 2015 (Orbitz);*
- *Hottest American Cities for 2015 (Business Insider); and*
- *Most Popular Cities for Millennials (Forbes)*

Why is Nashville attracting so many visitors and young professionals right now? Their secret is the way they've capitalized on their identity as "Music City." Nashville has successfully taken its legacy as a global music center, and used it as a foundation for their culture, economy, and social fabric.

What's special about your city? Like Nashville, your community has a history or identity that you can capitalize on to attract visitors and young professionals. Whether it's breathtaking scenery, distinctive architecture, your favorite annual tradition, or a thriving Main Street, your city has something unique that makes it internationally-known or your region's best kept secret.

Come to Nashville this November for the annual Congress of Cities conference, and see for yourself how they embraced their historic identity as a music center to develop a thriving economy that is now attracting tourists and creative professionals alike. Learn about the ways that you can develop your city's economy by capitalizing on what makes it unique.

Join 2,000 mayors, council members, and city staff members for four days of expert-led workshops, inspiring keynote addresses, and field trips around Nashville. Get to know leaders from across the country in the heart of downtown Music City. [Register now!](#)

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July 16, 2015  
Issue #69

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Page 3: California City Solutions: Alhambra's Police Department Increases Engagement with Chinese Community through Social Media Outreach
- Page 4: Cities for Workforce Health Now Accepting Applications for 2016 Grants

## **Hearing on AB 113, the Redevelopment Dissolution Bill, Canceled at Last Minute**

Just as city officials gathered for a Monday morning briefing at the League's office, they received information that the Senate Budget Committee canceled its planned 11 a.m. hearing on AB 113, the redevelopment dissolution bill sponsored by the Department of Finance (DOF) and opposed by many cities and the League for its harmful elements. This development reflected obvious concern by legislators with issues raised by cities throughout California and the League. *For more, see Page 2.*



## **DOF Releases FY 2015-16 List of Suspended State Mandates**

The Department of Finance (DOF) on July 14 issued its list of 56 state mandates suspended in the FY 2015-16 Budget Act. California law requires the state to reimburse local agencies for costs derived from legislation mandating new government programs or higher levels of service. *For more, see Page 2.*



## **San Francisco Chronicle Article Details Planned Study on Health Effects of Crumb Rubber Artificial Turf**

*The San Francisco Chronicle* on Sunday, July 12, reported that the state will study what is known as crumb rubber artificial turf. The \$2.9 million authorized will help examine the use of recycled tire, crumb rubber, to create artificial turf. The study will be conducted by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment through a contract with CalRecycle. The article, "California to study health effects of 'crumb rubber' in artificial turf," also reports that the state has spent \$2.2 million in 2015 on projects to replace wood bark with crumb rubber primarily on playgrounds. The study comes on the heels of the Legislature sidelining SB 45 (Hill), which would have commissioned a similar study and ended CalRecycle's grant program that provided subsidies to local governments for the use of tire derived products on playfields and playgrounds. The full article can be read online.



The major concern for many cities with AB 113 is its effort to reverse court decisions and existing incentives offered to cities in AB 1484 of 2012 as encouragement to expeditiously resolve issues and obtain a DOF "finding of completion." Now that many agencies have made the concessions necessary to obtain these findings, it is simply wrong to move the goalposts and change the rules.

The League's opposition, which is detailed in a [July 13 letter](#) sent to all senators, focuses on three main issues:

- Definition of loans;
- Carve outs; and
- Definition of interest rates.

Several city officials traveled to Sacramento to attend the hearing and testify, including representatives from the cities of Apple Valley, Dinuba, Folsom, Fresno, Glendale, Hercules, Oroville, San Dimas and Watsonville. Nearly 100 cities have sent in official opposition letters on various versions of the proposal.

Additional details on the League's opposition are contained in a [CA Cities Advocate](#) article published on July 10.

### **Next Steps**

Both houses of the Legislature will be on recess from July 17-Aug. 17. During this period, it is important that city officials continue to communicate with their legislators about AB 113's harmful provisions. Although it is encouraging that the Senate Budget Committee decided to cancel Monday's hearing, cities should remain engaged on this issue because it may re-emerge during the final weeks of the 2015 legislative session. Members of the Senate Budget Committee are listed on the [committee website](#).

The Assembly Democrat Caucus also convened a small working group several weeks ago to examine the redevelopment proposal. Assembly Member Chris Holden (D-Pasadena) chairs this committee and is one of the members of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4 that raised issues on the proposal in June. With the Senate Budget Committee holding off its hearing on AB 113, it is hoped that Senators will also now have an opportunity to analyze all aspects of this proposal more broadly.

Cities that have previously sent their legislators a letter of opposition on the measure are advised to update the communication and submit again. Cities that have not yet opposed AB 113 are also encouraged to do so. The League requests that cities send their AB 113 opposition letters to the Senate Budget Committee as well as their legislators with a copy to the League.

The League has prepared a sample letter that city officials can use to oppose AB 113 that is available through the [League's website](#).

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### **'Mandates' Continued from Page 1...**

When a mandate is suspended, the state no longer reimburses or requires the affected local agencies to implement the mandate.

The League encourages cities to review this list to determine if potential cost savings can be realized given that local governments no longer are required to comply with these suspended mandates.

Read more about state mandates in the March 2014 issue of *Western City*: "[Understanding State Mandates and Suspended Mandates: Local Government Impacts.](#)"

The [State Controller's website](#) includes information on mandates.



## **California City Solutions: Alhambra's Police Department Increases Engagement with Chinese Community through Social Media Outreach**

*This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2014 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called California City Solutions. Alhambra's Enhancing Community Policing through Social Media plan was submitted in 2014 for the Public Safety award category.*

The city of Alhambra, in Los Angeles County, is home to one of the largest group of Chinese immigrants in the nation. Fifty-three percent of Alhambra's 85,000 residents are of Asian descent, including 30,000 of Chinese decent.

One of the challenges of living in a diverse population with a limited English proficiency is implementing public safety services that will reach the entire community. Socio-cultural barriers can create a weakened state of community policing. These barriers can include language and an absence of community engagement, trust and understanding of municipal government and communication of police services.

The Alhambra City Council tasked the Alhambra Police Department with developing a social media outreach plan to engage and communicate with the Chinese community. The department contacted several Chinese community members and discovered that Facebook was the most used, understood and followed English-language social media platform. It still lacked the ability to communicate to those with limited English proficiency, however.

Having gained a better understanding of the community's demographics, the department set up an account on China's largest social media network, Weibo: China's hybrid Facebook and Twitter page that is entirely in Chinese. As China's biggest social media platform, Weibo has more than 500 million followers, about 1 million of them in the United States. Many immigrants, travelers and businesses are known to rely on Weibo to stay connected with clients, friends, and relatives while overseas in the U.S., and many Chinese immigrants living in the U.S. also maintain a Weibo account to stay connected to mainland China.

Prior to launching its Weibo account, the Alhambra Police Department recruited a community volunteer who is well versed in Chinese and social media, in particular with Weibo, to serve as its Community Engagement Coordinator. The coordinator's primary role was to build the police department's Weibo page — a free and readily available open source service — and share updates from the city's main Facebook page. The goal of this initiative was to reach out to Chinese residents, businesses and visitors to Alhambra in an attempt to increase communication, engagement and trust, while simultaneously building partnerships and enhancing community policing.

Within 24 hours of its December 2013 launch, Alhambra Police Department's Weibo page attracted more than 1,500 followers — almost as many as the department's Facebook page had at the time. Over 9,500 people followed the Weibo site by the end of March 2014.

The city expected that a majority of the initial following would be from mainland China. However, what cannot be quantified is the percentage of followers who are immigrants to the Alhambra area and have kept their registered Weibo account in China. Based upon posts, comments, messages and communications maintained with the followers, the city estimates that 30 to 40 percent of the followers live locally, with the balance residing overseas. This is equivalent to the 3,000 followers on the department's Facebook page. In addition to its 9,500 followers on Weibo, analytics show that the daily view count for the Alhambra Police Department Weibo site averages more than 30,000 views per day. A post providing information about driving with a foreign driver's license while in California has drawn more than 290,000 views.

More importantly, the police department has seen increased engagement with the community regarding local issues. Tips regarding crime issues, reports of local victimization, and photos submitted by followers pertaining to various local nuisances, such as graffiti and traffic problems, have been received through the site.

The site has also been a valuable resource for daily posting of public safety information about policies and procedures, city resources, disaster preparedness and inquiries from followers interested in volunteering for the department. In fact, as a direct result of the Weibo system, a team of Chinese speaking volunteers have recently joined the Alhambra Police Department.

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## **Cities for Workforce Health Now Accepting Applications for 2016 Grants** *Applications due Aug. 14*

The League of California Cities<sup>®</sup> Partner program invites cities to apply for the 2016 Cities for Workforce Health program grants. Grant recipients will receive one-on-one consultation from workforce health consultants from Kaiser Permanente and Keenan as well as a \$5,000 credit use towards Kaiser Permanente HealthWorks programs and services. Interested cities should complete all application requirements and submit responses online.

### **Details**

- The application should take about 30 minutes to complete.
- Applications must be submitted electronically.
- Aug. 14 is the deadline to apply.
- The application document below is a reference to help cities complete the electronic application process and follow the sequential order of the questions.
- If an answer you select tells the applicant to skip ahead to a specified question, then the online survey application will skip ahead automatically.
- The application is built with survey logic so that questions appear most tailored to the applicant's city.

### **Resources**

- [Application document](#);
- [November 2015-December 2016 timeline](#).

Further details about the grants, requirements for consideration, and the application process can be found on the [Cities for Workforce Health webpage](#). Also available online are copies of past wellness webinars and streaming versions of webinar presentations in our series.

Please contact [Mike Egan](#) with questions about Cities for Workforce Health.

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