

**City of Garden Grove**  
**WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO**  
**September 30, 2021**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council      FROM: Scott C. Stiles, City Manager  
Members

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

- A.** Joint Forces Training Base Community Update: Enhanced Airfield Operations on Tap in Support of Local Air Show (September 27, 2021)
- B.** OC Streetcar construction alert for the week of September 27, 2021.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

- SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES  
Copies of the week's social media posts and local newspaper articles are attached for your information.
- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS  
Items of interest are included.



Scott C. Stiles  
City Manager



## JOINT FORCES TRAINING BASE

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Col. (CA) Richard Lalor: (562) 795-2096 or (626) 733-1170  
Staff Sgt. Crystal Housman: (805) 458-3825

September 27, 2021  
Update 21-08

### ENHANCED AIRFIELD OPERATIONS ON TAP IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL AIR SHOW

LOS ALAMITOS, Calif. – Los Alamitos Army Airfield (LAAAF) will serve as the staging point for a variety of military aircraft – including the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and Royal Canadian Air Force Snowbirds Flight Demonstration Teams -- scheduled to perform at this weekend's Pacific Airshow in Huntington Beach.

Arrival of aircraft and support personnel will begin Tuesday, Sept. 28, with flight operations taking place daily through the upcoming weekend. All flight operations will be conducted during normal airfield hours.

There are no public events at Joint Forces Training Base in conjunction with the airshow.

For additional information, please contact Col. (CA) Richard Lalor at (562) 795-2096 or via email at [richard.w.lalor2.nfg@mail.mil](mailto:richard.w.lalor2.nfg@mail.mil), or Staff Sgt. Crystal Housman at (805) 458-3825 or via email at [crystal.c.housman.mil@mail.mil](mailto:crystal.c.housman.mil@mail.mil),

**Fwd: OC Streetcar Construction Alert**

**From :** Scott Stiles <sstiles@ggcity.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: OC Streetcar Construction Alert  
**To :** Meena Yoo <meenay@ggcity.org>

Mon, Sep 27, 2021 05:49 PM

Meena: for Mgr's memo. Scott

**Scott C. Stiles, ICMA-CM**

City Manager / City of Garden Grove  
11222 Acacia Parkway  
Garden Grove, CA 92840  
714-741-5100 (o) / 714-719-1810 (c)  
www.ggcity.org

**From:** "OC Streetcar" <ocstreetcar@octa.net>  
**To:** sstiles@ci.garden-grove.ca.us  
**Sent:** Monday, September 27, 2021 3:52:13 PM  
**Subject:** OC Streetcar Construction Alert

[Anuncio en Español](#)

## Construction Alert

### Week of September 27, 2021

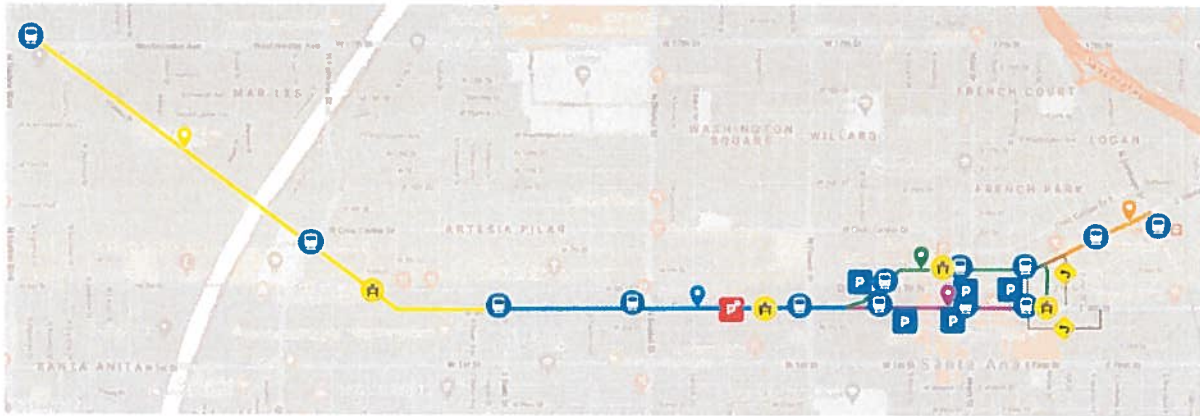
**Construction Highlights:**

- 5th Street Crossing construction at 5th Street and the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way. Work requires westbound and eastbound traffic to be shifted to the north side of the street.
- Track installation in Segment 2. Work requires eastbound and westbound traffic to be shifted to the south side Santa Ana Boulevard between Bristol Street and Parton Street. Learn more [here](#).
- Track installation in Segment 3. Work requires full lane closures on Santa Ana Boulevard from Parton Street to Mortimer Street. A single lane is open for traffic. Learn more [here](#).
- Track installation on Mortimer Street. Work requires full intersection closure at Mortimer Street and 4th Street. Please follow detour signs.

Access will be maintained for all residents and businesses. Construction activities are dependent on weather and resource availability.

[Click here](#) form more information on track installation activities.

**For specific work activities in your area, click on the map below.**

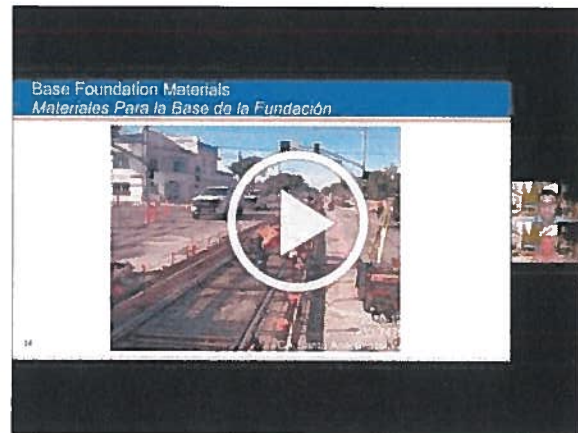


## Virtual Community Open House

The OC Streetcar team hosted an online community open house on September 8 to provide information on track construction, lane closures, parking restrictions and property access along Santa Ana Boulevard, from Bristol Street to Parton Street.


**A recording of the community open house is available.**

[Click to View the Recording](#)






## OC Streetcar Track Installation Has Started!

Click to watch the video premiere  
of this exciting milestone



Join the OCTA Board of Directors, the City of Santa Ana and the project's community partners in celebrating this major OC Streetcar project milestone.



### EAT SHOP PLAY

DOWNTOWN SANTA ANA









OCTA's Eat Shop Play program supports businesses located along the future OC streetcar route. Benefits to customers include special deals, invitations to community events and free parking for the first hour in nearby structures. Learn more at [octa.net/eatshopplay](http://octa.net/eatshopplay).

## About the Project

OC Streetcar is the first modern streetcar project to be built in Orange County and will serve Santa Ana's historic and thriving downtown, which includes federal, state and local courthouses, government offices, colleges, an artists' village

and a thriving restaurant scene. It will operate along a 4.15-mile route that connects the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center (SARTC) and a new transit hub at Harbor Boulevard and Westminster Avenue in Garden Grove.

To share this e-blast, forward this [link](#)

 <a href="http://OCstreetcar.com">OCstreetcar.com</a>	 <a href="mailto:OCstreetcar@octa.net">OCstreetcar@octa.net</a>	 1(844) 7GO-OCSC or 1(844) 746-6272
 <a href="https://facebook.com/OCstreetcar">facebook.com/OCstreetcar</a>	 <a href="https://twitter.com/OCstreetcar">@OCstreetcar</a>	 <a href="https://instagram.com/OCstreetcar">@OCstreetcar</a>



OC Streetcar | 550 S. Main Street , Orange, CA 92868

[Unsubscribe sstiles@ci.garden-grove.ca.us](mailto:sstiles@ci.garden-grove.ca.us)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [ocstreetcar@octa.net](mailto:ocstreetcar@octa.net) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

**WEEKLY MEMO 9-30-2021**

**SOCIAL MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**



## Post Performance

September 23, 2021 - September 29, 2021

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

**Included in this Report**

 @CityGardenGrove

 Garden Grove City Hall

 gardengrovecityhall





**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 9/23/2021 9:38 am PDT

⚠️ ATTENTION COMMUTERS ⚠️ The I-405 Improvement Project Construction has scheduled a long-term closure. The...



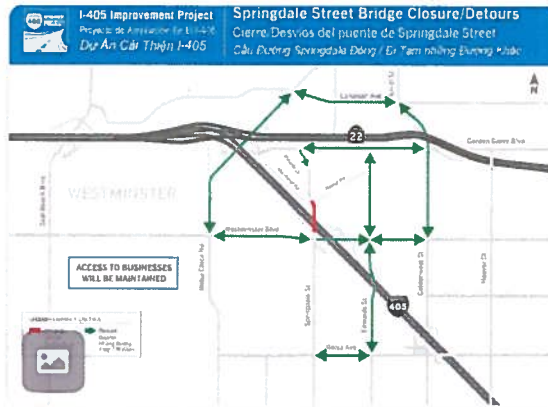
Impressions	<b>3,928</b>
Reach	<b>3,684</b>
Engagements	<b>118</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>3%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Thu 9/23/2021 9:41 am PDT

⚠️ ATTENTION COMMUTERS ⚠️ The Springdale Street bridge is scheduled to close over I-405 at 10PM on 9/26, in...



Impressions	<b>268</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,421</b>
Engagements	<b>22</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>8.2%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 9/23/2021 12:36 pm PDT

Seniors, it's time to get tech-savvy! 🖥️ ✨  
The County of Orange announces a new program to provide iPads to eligible...



Impressions	<b>953</b>
Reach	<b>917</b>
Engagements	<b>13</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.4%</b>



@CityGardenGrove

Thu 9/23/2021 12:38 pm PDT

Seniors, it's time to get tech-savvy! 🖥️🌟  
OC announces a new program to provide iPads to seniors, training to setup device...



Impressions	299
Potential Reach	4,402
Engagements	7
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	2.3%



Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 9/27/2021 9:14 am PDT

Business owners: Looking for tips and tricks to maintain success in your business? 🔍💡 Generate leads and...



Impressions	486
Reach	480
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.2%



@CityGardenGrove

Mon 9/27/2021 9:17 am PDT

Business owners: Looking for tips to maintain success? 🔍💡 Generate leads & enhance your digital presence at the...



Impressions	254
Potential Reach	4,406
Engagements	2
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	0.8%



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 9/27/2021 12:30 pm PDT

The Garden Grove Public Works Department's Water Division has implemented an emergency water...



Impressions	<b>754</b>
Reach	<b>749</b>
Engagements	<b>16</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.1%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 9/27/2021 12:30 pm PDT

The GG Public Works Department Water Division has implemented an emergency water shutdown in the immediate area...



Impressions	<b>536</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,406</b>
Engagements	<b>60</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>11.2%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 9/27/2021 3:01 pm PDT

❄️Boutique crafters wanted! ❄️ 🎁The City of GG is still looking for boutique crafters/vendors for the annual Winter in...



Impressions	<b>210</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,405</b>
Engagements	<b>3</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.4%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 9/27/2021 3:02 pm PDT

❄️Boutique crafters wanted!❄️ 🇺🇸The City of Garden Grove is still looking for boutique crafters/vendors for the annual...



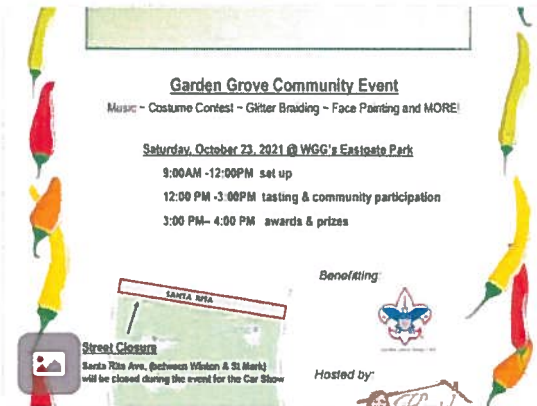
Impressions	<b>6,233</b>
Reach	<b>4,891</b>
Engagements	<b>290</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>4.7%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Tue 9/28/2021 8:48 am PDT

Join us for some cooking, cars, and family-friendly fun! 🌮 🚗 🌶️The community is invited to attend the 3rd Annual Chili Co...



Impressions	<b>2,111</b>
Reach	<b>2,066</b>
Engagements	<b>81</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>3.8%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Tue 9/28/2021 8:50 am PDT

Join us for some cooking, cars, and family-friendly fun! 🌮 🚗 🌶️The community is invited to attend the 3rd Annual Chili Co...



Impressions	<b>225</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,404</b>
Engagements	<b>19</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>8.4%</b>





**@CityGardenGrove**  
Wed 9/29/2021 8:30 am PDT

☺️❤️ Happy National Coffee Day! Here are some businesses that are providing promotions to satisfy your coffee cravin...



Impressions	<b>162</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,404</b>
Engagements	<b>4</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>2.5%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**  
Wed 9/29/2021 8:30 am PDT

☺️❤️ Happy National Coffee Day! Here are some businesses that are providing some fun deals and promotions to satisfy your...



Impressions	<b>672</b>
Reach	<b>662</b>
Engagements	<b>11</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.6%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**  
Wed 9/29/2021 11:55 am PDT

Deadline to enter giveaway is tomorrow!



Impressions	<b>297</b>
Reach	<b>293</b>
Comments	<b>0</b>
Story Taps Back	<b>2</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Wed 9/29/2021 12:02 pm PDT

☕❤️ Happy National Coffee Day! Here are some businesses that are providing promotions to satisfy your coffee cravin...



Impressions	<b>395</b>
Reach	<b>363</b>
Engagements	<b>11</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.8%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Wed 9/29/2021 12:30 pm PDT

Haven't nominated your hero yet? There's still time!🕒 The City of GG is still scouting local heroes for a special recognition for...



Impressions	—
Potential Reach	<b>4,404</b>
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 9/29/2021 12:30 pm PDT

Haven't nominated your hero yet? There's still time!🕒🇺🇸 The City of Garden Grove is still scouting local heroes for a special...



Impressions	<b>447</b>
Reach	<b>447</b>
Engagements	<b>1</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>0.2%</b>



 **gardengrovecityhall**

Wed 9/29/2021 3:30 pm PDT

Haven't nominated your hero yet? There's still time! 🕒 🇺🇸 The City of Garden Grove is still scouting local heroes for a special...



Impressions **553**

Reach **511**

Engagements **14**

Engagement Rate (per Impression) **2.5%**



## Post Performance

September 23, 2021 - September 29, 2021

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



**Included in this Report**

 Garden Grove Police Department     ggpdk9unit



**f Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Wed 9/29/2021 12:00 pm PDT

Please join us for a #CoffeeWithACop Event on October 6th from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, at 7 Leaves Cafe (13481 Euclid St)...



Impressions	<b>2,187</b>
Reach	<b>2,044</b>
Engagements	<b>75</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>3.4%</b>



**f Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Tue 9/28/2021 6:00 pm PDT

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a flying #furmissile? Continuous training is a huge part of preparedness for our officers. Th...



Video Views	<b>2,793</b>
Impressions	<b>5,612</b>
Reach	<b>5,530</b>
Engagements	<b>577</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>10.3%</b>



**f Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Mon 9/27/2021 6:00 pm PDT

Event Reminder: Please join us tomorrow, Tuesday, September 28, 2021 from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM for the monthly Safety Eve...



Impressions	<b>5,133</b>
Reach	<b>4,980</b>
Engagements	<b>151</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	<b>2.9%</b>

**WEEKLY MEMO 9-30-2021**

# **NEWS ARTICLES**

## FBI urges victims to report hate crimes after incidents surge in some areas



FBI Assistant Director in Charge Kristi Johnson, shown speaking earlier in 2021, announced in September that the FBI's Los Angeles field office is participating in a nationwide campaign to urge victims to report hate crimes. (Photo by Will Lester, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG)

By **BRIAN ROKOS** | [brokos@scng.com](mailto:brokos@scng.com) | The Press-Enterprise

PUBLISHED: September 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. | UPDATED: September 24, 2021 at 6:35 p.m.

The FBI has launched [a nationwide campaign](#) to encourage victims of hate crimes to report the incidents to federal authorities.

The Los Angeles field office, which covers Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and three other counties, is participating in the multi-language outreach at a time when Orange County authorities are reporting an increase in anti-Asian hate crimes and discriminatory incidents.

The FBI is the lead investigative agency for criminal violations of federal civil rights statutes. The FBI defines a hate crime as a "criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender or gender identity."

Kristi Johnson, the assistant director in charge of the Los Angeles office, said that offenses against a person because of political ideology are not considered hate crimes.

The motivation for the campaign, Johnson said, is not because victims are afraid to report crimes or other barriers.

“They don’t know to actually call,” she said in an interview.

The FBI is reaching out via social media, billboards, signs on transit buses, gas station video monitors and other avenues.

Hate crimes can be reported to 800-225-5324 or [tips.fbi.gov](https://tips.fbi.gov).

There were 7,554 hate crimes nationwide in 2020 involving 10,528 victims, the FBI said.

There were 112 hate crimes reported in Orange County in 2020, according to the OC Human Relations Commission, and 263 hate “incidents” — confrontations often marked by hateful, but not illegal, speech.

Of those, there were seven hate crimes against Asians in 2020, an increase from five the year before, according to a commission report released this month. The number of hate incidents against Asians increased to 76 from four — an increase of 1,800%.

OC District Attorney Todd Spitzer attributed the increase to a nationwide backlash against Asians after the coronavirus originated in China.

“I will not tolerate and will punish all criminal haters. At every turn, I have encouraged more people to come forward to report hate crimes,” Spitzer said in a news release Friday in which he announced [charges against a man in two separate hate crime cases](#).

The Orange County Sheriff’s Department reported seven hate crimes in 2020, including four against Jewish people, after nine total in 2019; Garden Grove police reported nine hate crimes, including four against Buddhists, after three in 2019; and Irvine police reported seven hate crimes, including four against Blacks, the same total as in 2019. Anaheim police said no activity took place in 2020 that met the specific FBI guidelines for categorizing an incident as a hate crime. Anaheim also reported no hate crimes took place in 2019.

The Los Angeles Police Department reported 368 hate crimes in 2020, including 82 against Blacks, up from 285 total in 2019. The LA County Sheriff’s Department reported 26 in its patrol area in 2020, including 12 against Blacks, after reporting 15 in 2019. The San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department reported six hate crimes in 2020, including four against Blacks, after two in 2019.

The Riverside County Sheriff’s Department reported no hate crimes took place in 2020 after reporting five in 2019. That agency could not be reached for comment Friday on its hate crime total.

Riverside police reported 12 hate crimes, the most coming against Blacks, seven. The city police reported 15 hate crimes in 2019.

# Hot Orange County housing: \$100,000-plus price gains in 56 of 83 ZIPs

Overall, prices rose in 77 of 83 ZIPs.

By [JONATHAN LANSNER](#) | [jlansner@scng.com](mailto:jlansner@scng.com) | Orange County Register

PUBLISHED: September 24, 2021 at 7:07 a.m. | UPDATED: September 24, 2021 at 11:26 a.m.

The pandemic era's homebuying binge has created six-figure price gains in 56 of Orange County's 83 ZIP codes.

My trusty spreadsheet, filled with Orange County homebuying stats at the neighborhood level from DQNews/CoreLogic, found in the 12 months ended in August prices rose in 77 of 83 ZIPs — 56 with gains of \$100,000 or more.

The countywide median for the month of \$900,000 was up 12.5% in a year. That's a \$100,000 price gain 12 months. The buying binge resulted in 3,708 closed sales of all residences — existing and new, single-family houses and condos — countywide. That's up 5% in a year and the busiest August in four years.

The feeding frenzy added up to the number of million-dollar Orange County neighborhoods growing by 11 to 29 in the year ending in August. Yes, 35% of ZIPs countywide have seven-figure medians. There were 10 seven-figure ZIPs in August 2019.

In those seven-figure communities, 1,489 purchases were completed last month, equaling 40% of all homes sold countywide. In August of last year, 686 residences were sold in ZIPs with \$1 million-plus medians, or 19% of all transactions.

At the other end of the pricing spectrum, there are only eight neighborhoods remaining with pricing below what I defined as benchmark for "reasonable" value: a median under \$666,667. Yes, that's a lot of money. But at the start of 2017, \$666,667 bought you a median-priced home in Orange County.

Orange County's "bargain" communities are down from 26 in August 2020 and 30 in August 2019.

August's sales in these "affordable" ZIPs totaled 205 — making "bargains" 5.5% of all purchases. In August of 2020 there were 821 purchases in "bargain" ZIPs — or 23.1% of all sales.

Note: Monthly sales data for individual ZIPs can be volatile, so price data may reflect a different mix of homes that sold — not changing values. Data for all Orange County ZIPs can be found online at [bit.ly/augustmedians](https://bit.ly/augustmedians)

Here are the new members of the million-dollar club ....



**San Clemente 92673:** \$1.36 million — up 40% in 12 months.  
**Huntington Beach 92649:** \$1.25 million — up 36%.  
**Irvine 92620:** \$1.21 million — up 34%.  
**Huntington Beach 92648:** \$1.16 million — up 16%.  
**Irvine 92618:** \$1.12 million — up 25%.  
**Yorba Linda 92886:** \$1.09 million — up 29%.  
**Costa Mesa 92626:** \$1.08 million — up 22%.  
**Laguna Hills 92653:** \$1.08 million — up 40%.  
**Ladera Ranch 92694:** \$1.05 million — up 28%.  
**Santa Ana 92706:** \$1.03 million — up 32%.  
**Laguna Niguel 92677:** \$1.01 million — up 22%.  
**Costa Mesa 92627:** \$1 million — up 18%.  
And established members on the seven-figure list ...

**Newport Beach 92662:** \$3.58 million — up 111%.  
**Newport Beach 92661:** \$3.3 million — up 38%.  
**Newport Coast 92657:** \$3.15 million — up 4%.  
**Corona del Mar 92625:** \$2.9 million — up 6%.  
**Laguna Beach 92651:** \$2.65 million — up 10%.  
**Newport Beach 92660:** \$2.21 million — up 6%.  
**Dana Point 92624:** \$1.94 million — up 68%.  
**Villa Park 92861:** \$1.68 million — up 22%.  
**Irvine 92603:** \$1.6 million — up 31%.  
**Newport Beach 92663:** \$1.48 million — off 11%.  
**Dana Point 92629:** \$1.4 million — up 21%.  
**Irvine 92602:** \$1.39 million — up 10%.  
**Los Alamitos 90720:** \$1.39 million — up 26%.  
**Seal Beach 90740:** \$1.31 million — up 20%.  
**Trabuco/Coto 92679:** \$1.29 million — up 29%.  
**San Clemente 92672:** \$1.21 million — off 1%.  
**Santa Ana 92705:** \$1.2 million — up 14%.  
And Orange County's sub-\$666,667 ZIPs in August ...

**Anaheim 92801:** \$655,000 — up 9%.  
**Santa Ana 92703:** \$645,000 — up 23%.  
**Santa Ana 92707:** \$620,000 — up 16%.  
**Orange 92868:** \$600,000 — up 29%.  
**Garden Grove 92844:** \$570,000 — up 5%.  
**Stanton 90680:** \$531,250 — flat.  
**Santa Ana 92701:** \$469,750 — up 6%.  
**Laguna Woods 92637:** \$382,500 — up 1%.

*Jonathan Lansner is business columnist for the Southern California News Group. He can be reached at [jlansner@scng.com](mailto:jlansner@scng.com)*

## Westminster grapples with homelessness, considers opening a shelter

City officials look for answers; police, faith-based group work on a community solution.



People hang out along Beach Boulevard under The 22 Freeway in Westminster, CA, on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. (Photo by Jeff Gritchen, Orange County Register/SCNG)

By [THERESA WALKER](#) | [thwalker@scng.com](mailto:thwalker@scng.com) | Orange County Register

PUBLISHED: September 24, 2021 at 7:00 a.m. | UPDATED: September 24, 2021 at 7:01 a.m.

Westminster, where the main drag includes the slogan “All-America City,” is the heart of Orange County’s Little Saigon district, which was founded by refugees from Vietnam.

Now, four decades after the Vietnamese arrived, Westminster is working on how to help a different kind of refugee — homegrown homeless people.

An estimated 142 unsheltered people stay in Westminster, according to a city report presented at the Wednesday, Sept. 22 meeting of the city council. The report was part of an ongoing discussion the council has had for at least a year about how to help people get off Westminster streets. The big question Wednesday was whether the city should build an emergency shelter somewhere in town.

But that’s just one of several options up for discussion. Others include partnering with a neighboring city, such as Garden Grove, to open a shared facility. Another is to contract with a city that already has a shelter and pay to use some of those beds.



Beyond questions of political will and community support for a homeless shelter, Westminster is challenged by the twin issues of density and operating costs — hurdles anywhere but particularly in a compact community of mostly single family homes.

Not ready to make a decision on Wednesday, the five-member council asked Community Development Director Alexa Smittle to return with recommendations on the most feasible next steps.

Council member Carlos Manzo also asked for a timeline that best allows city staff to gather information, but underscored that he feels a sense of urgency.

“It sounds very dire and depressing as far as our options,” Manzo said at one point.

“If building a shelter is not in the cards for us, then what is?”

### **Signs**

If Westminster decides to pursue its own shelter, the up-front costs could be covered by federal and state funds. But the cost to operate a 75- to 100-bed shelter was estimated a year ago at about \$2 million a year. That money would come from the city’s coffers, although the city also could tap into \$400,000 a year for up to five years through a state housing program.

The city already contracts with homeless aid agency City Net to help homeless people connect to services. And the Westminster Police Department already employs two homeless liaison officers.

While the City Net workers do come across people of Vietnamese descent who are homeless, a survey in March described the typical homeless person in Westminster as “a white male in his 50s.”

A brief drive around the city on a recent hot afternoon provided visible evidence of homelessness in pockets of the city. One sunburned couple sprawled on the grass beneath a tree at the Civic Center, a pair of neatly packed shopping carts parked beside them. One of the carts included a hand printed cardboard sign that read “Had some bad luck.”

They slept next to a picnic table in a below-grade rectangle of green space officially named “Sunken Gardens.”

### **Too few beds**

With a population of about 91,000 residents occupying slightly over 10 square miles, the city is a bedroom community without enough beds for those who need them.

“Finding even 1 acre in Westminster will be challenging, given land use patterns, limiting the city’s ability to be selective in the location,” stated the city report that was presented to the council.

Though the report offered 11 bullet-point items showing ways in which Westminster is helping homeless people, staff concluded it’s not enough.

“Despite these efforts, the crisis persists,” the report noted.

Westminster Police Commander Kevin MacCormick told the council that his officers who are tasked with helping the homeless population are constrained by too few beds — in shelters, in detox centers or mental health facilities. Though the officers might be in contact with a homeless person who is ready to get off the streets, all too often there are no options to make that happen.

MacCormick described a frustrating daily routine for homeless liaison officers — of earning someone’s trust, calling around to find a place for them to go and, finding none, trying again early the next day. There’s the risk, on that second day, of not finding that homeless individual again or they’re no longer willing to get off the street.

The shortage of homeless beds in Westminster is exacerbated because cities that do fund their own shelters require that the occupants have some kind of native ties, such as childhood homes, education or work connections.

“Our hands are kind of tied when it comes to getting people housed if those shelters are not accepting people because of the restrictions they put down,” MacCormick said.

Recently, Westminster Police outreach officers resumed work with a faith-based group of community members whose earlier efforts to help the homeless was disrupted by the pandemic. Short of providing shelter, the group works to offer some dignity to the downtrodden, such as washing clothes for free at a participating laundromat or providing a mobile shower service.

The goal, said MacCormick, is to bring the community together to address homelessness.

“Policing is a tool, but we want to get the community involved in coming up with a solution.”

### **Outreach work**

City Net has been working in Westminster since April 2017.

The group’s contract calls for two outreach workers to engage with homeless people two half-days out of the week. Matt Bates, City Net’s vice president, said in a telephone interview that since 2017 his organization has helped 344 homeless people in Westminster leave the streets.

Bates was part of the city's homelessness task force. He sees no clear path for Westminster to open a homeless shelter because of its dense development and the potential for community opposition.

"They've got a long road."

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

**September 30, 2021**

1. Calendar of Events
2. Minutes from the September 23, 2021 Zoning Administrator meeting.
3. Notice of cancellation of the October 7, 2021 Planning Commission meeting.
4. League of California Cities, "CalCities," from September 23, 2021 to September 30, 2021.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 7, 2021 – November 19, 2021

Thursday	October 7	6:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC <b>CANCELLED</b>
Friday	October 8		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	October 12	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CM
Thursday	October 14	6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation & Arts Commission Meeting, CMC  \$2 Casual Dress Day
Friday	October 22		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	October 26	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CM
Thursday	October 28	11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.	Halloween Luncheon, CMC, AB Room
Tuesday	November 2	6:00 p.m.	Traffic Commission Meeting, CMC
Thursday	November 4	6:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	November 5		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	November 9	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CM
Thursday	November 11		City Hall Closed – Veteran’s Day
Friday	November 12		\$2 Casual Dress Day
Thursday	November 18	6:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	November 19		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure

GARDEN GROVE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING  
Garden Grove City Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Training Room  
11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – VARIANCE NO. V-034-2021

Applicant: Holly Hang Nguyen  
Location: 13862 Anita Place  
Date: September 23, 2021

Request: To deviate from the minimum street setback requirements for the first and second floors of a new 2,084 square foot two-story single-family dwelling unit on a 4,050 square foot lot. The site is in the R-3 (Multiple-Family Residential) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures – of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Holly Hang Nguyen, Duc Huy Nguyen

Action: The Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1806-21.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The Zoning Administrator adjourned the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

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Judith Moore  
Recording Secretary



**GARDEN GROVE**

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**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION**  
**OF THE**  
**GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**OCTOBER 7, 2021**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Planning Commission scheduled for Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled.

DATED: September 30, 2021

DAISY PEREZ  
CHAIR



# League of California Cities announces new board officers and directors

*Sep 24, 2021*

Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva elected League of California Cities president

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jill Oviatt

Cell: (916) 882-8656, [joviatt@calcities.org](mailto:joviatt@calcities.org) (<mailto:joviatt@calcities.org>)

**SACRAMENTO** — The League of California Cities announced its 2021-22 leadership and Board of Directors on Friday, Sept. 24, as part of the Cal Cities Annual Conference and Expo.

The Cal Cities Board of Directors elected Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva to serve as president, Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj to serve as first vice president, and Fowler Council Member Daniel Parra to serve as second vice president. El Centro Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker, who served as the 2020-21 president, became immediate past president.

“Having such dedicated city leaders as partners leading Cal Cities at a time of unprecedented challenges and opportunities is an honor,” said League of California Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. “All of our officers and board members make our organization an even stronger voice for the cities we represent, and I’m excited about all we will accomplish together on behalf of California cities.”



Silva was first elected to the Walnut Creek City Council in 2006, subsequently re-elected in 2010, re-appointed in 2014, and re-elected in 2018. She has served as mayor three times in 2010-11, 2012-13, and 2018-19.

Silva has been a Cal Cities board member since 2015 and served as the East Bay Division president in 2013. She has been an active member of Cal Cities since she was elected to city council and has served on several Cal Cities Policy Committees including: Housing, Community and Economic Development (2010-present, 2016 chair); Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations; and Community Services. Silva also served on a statewide Homelessness Task Force in 2016 and on a housing working group in 2017.

As mayor, Silva founded and co-chairs Walnut Creek Community Service Day, spearheaded a Community Blue Ribbon Task Force on Fiscal Health, and organized the city's Second Saturday Spotlight in 2013 and 2019. In her council member role, Silva has served on numerous council committees: Finance; Public Education; Housing and Community Development; Public Safety; Youth and Family Services; and several ad hoc committees.

Regionally, Silva represents Walnut Creek on the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority (Recycle Smart) and is a Finance Committee member of the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority. From 2008-10, Silva was Walnut Creek's representative to the regional transportation planning committee of Central Contra Costa.

Under the Cal Cities' bylaws, officers are elected to serve a one-year term with the outgoing president becoming immediate past president. Along with Cal Cities Executive Director Coleman, the four officers comprise the organization's executive committee. Individual releases for each of the board officers can be found at the end of this release.

The board also elected six at-large directors who will serve a two-year term. These directors are:

- Britt Huff, Council Member, Rolling Hills Estates
- Lynne Kennedy, Mayor Pro Tem, Rancho Cucamonga
- Porsche Middleton, Vice Mayor, Citrus Heights
- Richard Montgomery, Council Member, Manhattan Beach
- Gabe Quinto, Mayor Pro Tem, El Cerrito
- Nancy Young, Mayor, Tracy

The 2021-22 Cal Cities Board of Directors are:

**Officers:**

- President Cindy Silva, Council Member, Walnut Creek
- First Vice President Ali Sajjad Taj, Council Member, Artesia
- Second Vice President Dan Parra, Council Member, Fowler
- Immediate Past President Cheryl Viegas Walker, Mayor, El Centro

**Directors:**

- Jan Arbuckle, Vice Mayor, Grass Valley – At-large
- Denise Athas, Council Member, Novato – At-large
- Al Austin, Council Member, Long Beach – Large City Alternate for Mayor Garcia
- Emily Beach, Council Member, Burlingame – Peninsula Division
- LaTanya Bellow, Human Resources Director, Berkeley – Personnel and Employee Relations Department
- John Binaski, Fire Chief, Clovis – Fire Chiefs Department
- London Breed, Mayor, San Francisco – Large City
- Joe Buscaino, Council Member and President Pro Tem, Los Angeles – Large City Alternate for Mayor Garcetti
- Ken Carlson, Council Member, Pleasant Hill – East Bay Division
- Chris Catren, Police Chief, Redlands – Police Chiefs Department
- Ross Chun, Mayor Pro Tem, Aliso Viejo – Orange County Division

- David Cohen, Council Member, San Jose – Large City Alternate for Mayor Liccardo
- Michael Colantuono, City Attorney, Grass Valley – City Attorneys Department
- Pippin Dew, Council Member, Vallejo – North Bay Division
- Jerry Dyer, Mayor, Fresno – Large City
- Edgard Garcia, Council Member, El Centro – Imperial County Division
- Todd Gloria, Mayor, San Diego – Large City
- Karen Goh, Mayor, Bakersfield – Large City
- Eric Guerra, Council Member, Sacramento – Large City Alternate for Mayor Steinberg
- Steve Hofbauer, Mayor, Palmdale – Desert Mountain Division
- Dawn Holm, Director of Finance, Sacramento – Fiscal Officers Department
- Lindsey Horvath, Mayor, West Hollywood – NLC Board of Directors
- Britt Huff, Council Member, Rolling Hills Estates – At-large
- Randi Johl, Director of Legislative Affairs/City Clerk, Temecula – City Clerks Department
- Dan Kalb, Council Member, Oakland – Large City Alternate for Mayor Schaaf
- Lynne Kennedy, Mayor Pro Tem, Rancho Cucamonga – At-large
- Jim Lewis, City Manager, Pismo Beach – City Managers Department
- Corina Lopez, Council Member, San Leandro – NLC Board of Directors
- Tony Madrigal, Council Member, Modesto – Central Valley Division
- Ray Marquez, Vice Mayor, Chino Hills – At-large
- Annie Mezzacappa, Mayor's Chief of Staff, Anaheim – Large City Alternate for Mayor Sidhu
- Lisa Middleton, Mayor Pro Tem, Palm Springs – At-large
- Porsche Middleton, Vice Mayor, Citrus Heights – At-large
- John Minto, Mayor, Santee – San Diego County Division
- Richard Montgomery, Council Member, Manhattan Beach – At-large
- Eric Nelson, Planning Commissioner, Dana Point – Planning and Community Development Department

- Robert Newman, Director of Public Works, Santa Clarita – Public Works Department
- Lori Ogorchock, Council Member, Antioch – Mayors and Council Members Department
- Blanca Pacheco, Mayor Pro Tem, Downey – At-large
- David Pollock, Council Member, Moorpark – Channel Counties Division
- Dave Potter, Mayor, Carmel – Monterey Bay Division
- Ana Maria Quintana, Vice Mayor, Bel – Los Angeles County Division
- Gabe Quinto, Mayor Pro Tem, El Cerrito – At-large
- Dana Reed, Mayor Pro Tem, Indian Wells – Riverside County Division
- David Sander, Council Member, Rancho Cordova – At-large
- Joan Smith Freeman, Council Member, Yreka – Sacramento Valley Division
- Mireya Turner, Council Member, Lakeport – Redwood Empire Division
- Nancy Young, Mayor, Tracy – At-large
- Vacancy, Inland Empire Division
- Vacancy, South San Joaquin Valley Division

## **Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva elected League of California Cities president**

**Sacramento** — The League of California Cities Board of Directors elected Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva to serve as its 2021-22 president. Council Member Silva was installed on Sept. 24 as part of the Cal Cities Annual Conference and Expo.

“Cities are at the forefront of our state’s pandemic recovery and I could not be prouder to serve as president of Cal Cities this year,” said President Silva. “I’m honored to work alongside such skilled, thoughtful, and insightful local leaders as we collectively work to ensure that all of our cities have the tools and resources that they need to effectively serve their communities.”

Silva has served on the Walnut Creek City Council since 2006 and has served three terms as mayor (2010-11, 2012-13, 2018-19). Prior to her election to the city council, Silva spent three years on the Walnut Creek Planning Commission, two of which the city was updating and adopting General Plan 2025.

Silva has been an active member of the League of California Cities for more than a decade. She has been a member of the Cal Cities Board of Directors since 2015 and served as president of the East Bay Division in 2013. Silva also served on a number of Cal Cities Policy Committees over the years, including Housing, Community and Economic Development; Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations; and Community Services. Silva has served on specialized Cal Cities task forces and working groups as well, including Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (2020); Governance (2020); Housing (2017, 2019); Homelessness (2016); and Strategic Initiatives (2012-13).

“Cindy’s long tenure in providing valuable insight, knowledge, and expertise to Cal Cities has been invaluable over the years,” said League of California Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. “As president, her passion and dedication for strengthening California’s communities will be integral as we continue our work to find solutions to pressing challenges facing our cities.”

As mayor, Silva founded the now-annual Walnut Creek Community Service Day in 2011, which she still co-chairs. Over the years, Community Service Day has amassed an average 1,200 volunteers annually, has cumulatively generated nearly 50,000 hours of volunteer service for public facilities and local nonprofits, and collected nearly 80,000 pounds of food and \$50,000 for the local food bank.

Also as mayor, Silva spearheaded a Community Blue Ribbon Task Force on Fiscal Health and organized the city’s monthly Second Saturday Spotlight in 2013 and 2019. In her council member role, Silva has served on numerous council committees: Finance; Public Education; Housing and Community Development; Public Safety; Youth and Family Services; and several ad hoc

committees, including the city's 2020-21 Economic Rebound Program and the North Downtown Specific Plan advisory committee (2016-2019).

Regionally, Silva represents Walnut Creek on the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority and represents Contra Costa county on the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority. At the state level, Silva serves as a governor-appointed member of the California Seismic Safety Commission.

During its meeting this week, the Cal Cities Board of Directors also elected Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj to serve as first vice president and Fowler Council Member Dan Parra to serve as second vice president. El Centro Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker, who served as the 2020-21 president, became immediate past president.

### **Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj elected League of California Cities first vice president**

**Sacramento** — The League of California Cities Board of Directors elected Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj to serve as the organization's 2021-22 first vice president. Taj was installed on Sept. 24 as part of the Cal Cities Annual Conference and Expo.

"Being on the Cal Cities Board of Directors has given me the privilege of working with an incredible network of city leaders who are dedicated to public service," said Council Member Taj. "I look forward to continuing this partnership and supporting Cal Cities as we advocate for policies that enhance our communities and the lives of our residents."

Taj was first elected to the Artesia City Council in December 2013 and served as mayor in 2016-17 and 2019-20. Throughout his tenure on the city council, Taj has focused his time and energy on solving day-to-day quality of life issues for

Artesia residents by supporting projects that improve the city's lighting, street quality, and traffic safety, while being an advocate for bringing new businesses that generate revenue for city services and provide new amenities for residents.

Taj has been actively involved with Cal Cities for many years and was first elected to the Cal Cities Board of Directors in 2017. He has served on the Public Safety Policy Committee and Finance Committee, and currently serves as Audit Committee Chair and as a board member of the Asian Pacific Islander Caucus.

"Ali has been a dedicated local leader and valuable member of Cal Cities for many years," said League of California Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. "Ali's expertise, insight, and commitment to strengthening communities through effective policymaking will help Cal Cities advocate for city priorities in the coming year."

Taj worked in the financial services industry for two decades and held several key leadership positions, including district manager, regional manager, managing principal, and vice president of multinational firms like American Express, Ameriprise Financial, Weddell & Reed, and T.D. Ameritrade.

Taj represents Artesia on numerous regional boards and committees, including as board member and membership committee chair for California Contract Cities Association and as vice chair for the Eco-Rapid Transit Orange Line Development Authority of Los Angeles County.

During its meeting this week, the Cal Cities Board of Directors also elected Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva to serve as president and Fowler Council Member Dan Parra to serve as second vice president. El Centro Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker, who served as the 2020-21 president, became immediate past president.

## **Fowler Council Member Daniel Parra elected League of California Cities second vice president**

**Sacramento** — The League of California Cities Board of Directors elected Fowler Council Member Daniel Parra to serve as the organization's 2021-22 second vice president. Parra was installed on Sept. 24 as part of the Cal Cities Annual Conference and Expo.

“Throughout my tenure, I have seen firsthand Cal Cities’ strong advocacy efforts on behalf of California residents, and benefited from the educational resources and professional development opportunities this organization has to offer,” said Council Member Parra. “I am humbled to stand beside such esteemed local leaders as we collectively work to find solutions to the challenges facing our communities.”

Parra has served on the Fowler City Council since 2008 and has been a strong voice for his community since being elected to local office. During his tenure on the city council, Parra was instrumental in the revitalization of Fowler’s downtown through the use of redevelopment funds. The effort not only helped bring new jobs to Fowler, but also brought the community together and encouraged residents to buy and stay local.

Parra has been actively involved with the League of California Cities for many years, having served twice as chair of the Transportation, Communications, and Public Works Policy Committee. Parra currently serves as state director for Cal Cities’ South San Joaquin Valley Division and is past president of the Cal Cities Latino Caucus.

“Daniel is a passionate city leader who has remained steadfast in his commitment to both Cal Cities and improving California’s communities,” said League of California Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. “His experience, knowledge, and leadership skills will be a huge asset to the Cal Cities Board of Directors, and I am looking forward to working with him.”



A native of the central valley, Parra is active in several community organizations including the Fowler Lion's Club, the local chapter of the Knights of Columbus, and the Fowler NFL Flag Football League. Parra previously served in the United States Air Force.

During its meeting this week, the Cal Cities Board of Directors also elected Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva to serve as president and Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj to serve as first vice president. El Centro Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker, who served as the 2020-21 president, became immediate past president.

*Established in 1898, the League of California Cities is a nonprofit statewide association that advocates for cities with the state and federal governments and provides education and training services to elected and appointed city officials. Cal Cities' mission is to expand and protect local control for cities through education and advocacy to enhance the quality of life for all Californians.*

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# Cal Cities General Assembly approves bylaw amendments and acts on two resolutions during Annual Business Meeting

*Sep 29, 2021*

Online sales tax resolution sent back to policy committee; railroad property maintenance resolution approved

Voting delegates at the Annual Business Meeting acted on two general resolutions, as well as proposed bylaws amendments during the last day of the League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo, Sept. 24.

The first vote of the meeting was on the proposed bylaws amendments to enhance Cal Cities' governance and make technical changes that:

- Recognize the Cal Cities Diversity Caucuses in the Cal Cities bylaws to reflect the full contribution the caucuses make to Cal Cities' mission and vision.
- Adjust the composition of the Board to achieve a higher impact and be more representative by adding Director seats to the Board for each of the five Diversity Caucuses, and transitioning members of the National League of Cities Board from Cal Cities Directors to one non-voting advisor to the Cal Cities Board.
- Update the League of California Cities' moniker to "Cal Cities" to promote consistency.
- Make various minor technical corrections.

The bylaws amendments were recommended to the General Assembly by the Cal Cities Board of Directors, following a vote at a special board meeting on August 17. During that meeting, the board voted to recommend the proposed bylaws amendments for approval by the membership at the meeting of the General Assembly.

Following the bylaws amendment vote, the General Assembly considered two resolutions that establish Cal Cities policy. Resolution No. 1 addressed online sales tax equity and was submitted by the city of Rancho Cucamonga. The resolution was referred to the Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee, which approved the resolution with amendments. It was then considered Sept. 23 by the General Resolutions Committee (GRC), which recommended that the resolution be referred back to the Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee with the strong recommendation that it be referred to a City Manager working group. The General Assembly approved the GRC recommendation, and the resolution will now go back to the Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee.

Resolution No. 2 addressed securing railroad property maintenance and was submitted by the city of South Gate. The resolution was referred to two policy committees: Housing, Community, and Economic Development; and Transportation, Communications, and Public Works. Each of the committees approved the resolution with amendments. It was then considered Sept. 23 by the General Resolutions Committee (GRC), which recommended that the resolution be approved as amended by the Housing, Community, and Economic Development Policy Committee. The General Assembly voted to approve the resolution as amended by the Housing, Community, and Economic Development Policy Committee as recommended by the GRC.

Cal Cities staff are working on the next steps for each of these resolutions.

Cal Cities appreciates the time and effort of all those who took part in the 2021 General Assembly and Annual Business Meeting to consider important Cal Cities policies and resolutions. More information on the bylaws amendments and the

resolutions is available online in the [\(/docs/default-source/advocacy/2021-general-assembly-resolutions-packet.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=a0c81bb3\\_10\)](/docs/default-source/advocacy/2021-general-assembly-resolutions-packet.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=a0c81bb3_10) **General Assembly Packet.** [\(/docs/default-source/advocacy/2021-general-assembly-resolutions-packet.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=a0c81bb3\\_10\)](/docs/default-source/advocacy/2021-general-assembly-resolutions-packet.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=a0c81bb3_10) .

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# Message from the Executive Director

Sep 29, 2021

Dear California City Leaders,

It was great to see so many of you at last week's League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo. I hope you left Sacramento energized and inspired with new ideas from workshops, general sessions, keynote speakers, and networking events that will help you lead your communities forward.

The conference was a wonderful opportunity to recognize the remarkable achievements of our award-winning cities and legislative champions, which you can read all about in our [annual conference recap article \(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/29/annual-conference-and-expo-featured-diverse-speakers-and-solutions-to-major-challenges-cities-and-state-lawmakers-honored-with-top-awards\)](#) . I also had the pleasure of sharing highlights of all we have accomplished together this year as an organization advancing city priorities and fighting for local control. Some of these accomplishments were featured in the Cal Cities Delivers videos that debuted at the conference and can be found on [\(https://www.youtube.com/user/leagueofcacities/videos\)](https://www.youtube.com/user/leagueofcacities/videos) **Cal Cities' YouTube channel** [\(https://www.youtube.com/user/leagueofcacities/videos\)](https://www.youtube.com/user/leagueofcacities/videos) .

During its meeting at the conference, the Cal Cities Board of Directors elected new leadership for the 2021-2022 term. Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva will serve as president, Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj as first vice president, and Fowler Council Member Daniel Parra as second vice president. El Centro Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker, who served as the 2020-21 president, became immediate past president.

Congratulations to the new Cal Cities Officers, as well as the six at-large directors who were elected to serve a two-year term. Those directors are:

- Britt Huff, Council Member, Rolling Hills Estates
- Lynne Kennedy, Mayor Pro Tem, Rancho Cucamonga
- Porsche Middleton, Vice Mayor, Citrus Heights
- Richard Montgomery, Council Member, Manhattan Beach
- Gabe Quinto, Mayor Pro Tem, El Cerrito
- Nancy Young, Mayor, Tracy

The 2021-2022 Cal Cities Officers and Board of Directors were sworn in during the conference's closing general session. The full list of directors can be found on our [\(/home/about-us/board-of-directors\) website \(/home/about-us/board-of-directors\)](#) .

I also want to say thank you to our departing officers and board members who served the organization well during their tenure on the board. Having such dedicated city leaders as partners leading Cal Cities at a time of unprecedented challenges and opportunities is an honor. All of our officers and board members make our organization an even stronger voice for the cities we represent, and I'm excited about all we will accomplish together on behalf of California cities moving forward.

As President Silva said in her closing session remarks, "While the year ahead is not entirely clear, I am confident that we'll do what we do best at Cal Cities: We'll work together to tackle our challenges and we'll work together to capitalize on new opportunities."

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Coleman  
Executive Director and CEO  
League of California Cities



# Annual Conference and Expo featured diverse speakers and solutions to major challenges; cities and state lawmakers honored with top awards

Sep 29, 2021

Breakout sessions focused on priority city issues such as housing, climate change, equity, broadband, and the post-pandemic recovery.

City officials from throughout the state gathered in Sacramento last week for the League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo. The three-day event attracted nearly 1,900 local leaders, with opportunities to learn, collaborate, celebrate, and share solutions about challenging, city-specific issues. During the conference, Cal Cities leadership also announced the winners of several prestigious awards, as well as the new Cal Cities board officers and members.

## Current and past lawmakers receive top Cal Cities awards

Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Senator Lena Gonzalez, and Senator John Laird were awarded the [\(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/23/league-of-california-cities-honors-three-legislators-with-distinguished-legislative-leadership-award\)](#)

### [Distinguished Legislative Leadership Award \(/detail-](#)

[pages/news/2021/09/23/league-of-california-cities-honors-three-legislators-with-](#)

[distinguished-legislative-leadership-award\)](#) for their dedication to local communities.

Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry and Sen. Gonzalez authored AB 14 and SB 4 respectively, two measures instrumental to providing fast, reliable internet services to unserved and underserved communities and closing the digital divide.



Sen. Laird was honored for his work on SB 619, a key piece of legislation that will help cities implement SB 1383 organic waste recycling regulations.

The Honorable Willie L. Brown, Jr. received this year's [\(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/22/the-honorable-willie-brown-jr-receives-prestigious-league-of-california-cities-lifetime-achievement-award\)](#) **Past Presidents' Lifetime Achievement Award** [\(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/22/the-honorable-willie-brown-jr-receives-prestigious-league-of-california-cities-lifetime-achievement-award\)](#) . Widely regarded as one of the most influential African American politicians of the late century, Mayor Brown has been at the center of California politics, government, and civic life for four decades. The famed politician reminisced on his time as mayor of San Francisco, noting that he would still be there if there were no term limits. "Many times, people are honored when they have passed on. I'm excited about this...Next time someone introduces me, they're going to close it by saying he was given a Lifetime Achievement Award by all the cities of California."

Cal Cities also revealed the [winners of the 2021 Helen Putnam Award for Excellence](#) [\(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/23/eleven-cities-receive-prestigious-helen-putnam-award-for-excellence-for-outstanding-local-programs\)](#) . Each city was chosen for its outstanding efforts to improve the quality of life and services to its residents. The award is given annually in 12 categories, with the city of Irvine winning in two categories this year. The winning cities are listed below with a link to a video featuring their initiatives:

- [\(https://youtu.be/L-4qMjYKLPu\)](https://youtu.be/L-4qMjYKLPu) [\(https://youtu.be/L-4qMjYKLPu\)](https://youtu.be/L-4qMjYKLPu) **Buena Park, Housing Programs, and Innovations, Housing Programs, and Innovations** [\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-4qMjYKLPu&list=PLSZxQFcmIVGuOoMtz-9\\_IQnSM8XPgoaQW&index=8\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-4qMjYKLPu&list=PLSZxQFcmIVGuOoMtz-9_IQnSM8XPgoaQW&index=8)
- [\(https://youtu.be/Tk3bgIQ17jo\)](https://youtu.be/Tk3bgIQ17jo) **Burbank, Health and Wellness Programs** [\(https://youtu.be/Tk3bgIQ17jo\)](https://youtu.be/Tk3bgIQ17jo)
- [\(https://youtu.be/kg5cSQc-YDo\)](https://youtu.be/kg5cSQc-YDo) [\(https://youtu.be/kg5cSQc-YDo\)](https://youtu.be/kg5cSQc-YDo) **Cupertino, Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government**

(<https://youtu.be/kg5cSQc-YDo>)

- (<https://youtu.be/F9eb2dbq3YQ>) Escondido, Economic Development through the Arts (<https://youtu.be/F9eb2dbq3YQ>)
- Irvine, (<https://youtu.be/YWzK7PQE0mQ>) Internal Administration (<https://youtu.be/YWzK7PQE0mQ>) and (<https://youtu.be/9H8i0xgz3QA>) Public Safety (<https://youtu.be/9H8i0xgz3QA>)
- (<https://youtu.be/G8ZQA4BONhA>) Modesto, Community Services and Economic Development (<https://youtu.be/G8ZQA4BONhA>)
- (<https://youtu.be/nupAbI7w2HM>) Pismo Beach, CCS Partnership Intergovernmental Collaboration (<https://youtu.be/nupAbI7w2HM>)
- (<https://youtu.be/kblSabsf5yk>) Rolling Hills, Enhancing Public Trust, Ethics, and Community Involvement (<https://youtu.be/kblSabsf5yk>)
- ([https://youtu.be/udN7B\\_EnYF8](https://youtu.be/udN7B_EnYF8)) South San Francisco, Planning and Environmental Quality ([https://youtu.be/udN7B\\_EnYF8](https://youtu.be/udN7B_EnYF8))
- (<https://youtu.be/OBK0ZfBnycg>) Whittier, League Partners Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations (<https://youtu.be/OBK0ZfBnycg>)
- (<https://youtu.be/UFVN4-p0mWA>) Windsor, Public Works, Infrastructure, Transportation (<https://youtu.be/UFVN4-p0mWA>)

In collaboration with the League Partners, Kaiser Permanente, and Keenan and Associates, Cal Cities also awarded \$5,000 grants to Chula Vista, Daly City, Napa, Madera, and Whittier to improve their workforce health programs. These cities already have a foundational workforce health program in place and have demonstrated a readiness to further develop the program.

#### **40 breakout sessions and 60 speakers focus on major challenges for cities**

This year's breakout sessions focused on the most pressing issues facing cities — fiscal uncertainty, climate change, lack of affordable housing, increasing cybersecurity threats, and the need to create more equitable communities.

In a session on climate change adaptation and wildfire mitigation, Orange County Fire Authority Fire Chief Brian Fennessy stated, “Climate change is real. I experienced very defined fire seasons in the 70s and 80s. You could set your clock to fire season...since the early 90s, we’ve had this phenomenon of fires getting larger... It’s not the new normal: It’s the normal.” Fennessy and others noted that a year-round fire season requires new levels of collaboration, a sentiment shared in another session, where officials spoke about their efforts to [\(/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/changing-the-wildfire-prevention-paradigm.pdf?sfvrsn=b47229d6\\_3\)](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/changing-the-wildfire-prevention-paradigm.pdf?sfvrsn=b47229d6_3) **form the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority** [\(/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/changing-the-wildfire-prevention-paradigm.pdf?sfvrsn=b47229d6\\_3\)](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/changing-the-wildfire-prevention-paradigm.pdf?sfvrsn=b47229d6_3) .

Other speakers focused on another longstanding challenge for cities: a statewide affordable housing shortage. Los Angeles officials and development partners highlighted how they used CARES Act funding to create [\(/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/unprecedented-action-dignified-housing-delivered-in-six-months---ballard.pdf?sfvrsn=824d0ad1\\_3\)](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/unprecedented-action-dignified-housing-delivered-in-six-months---ballard.pdf?sfvrsn=824d0ad1_3) **interim housing (232 beds)** [\(/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/unprecedented-action-dignified-housing-delivered-in-six-months---ballard.pdf?sfvrsn=824d0ad1\\_3\)](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/unprecedented-action-dignified-housing-delivered-in-six-months---ballard.pdf?sfvrsn=824d0ad1_3) in just six months. “Anyone in the industry will know we pretty much had every obstacle in front of us,” noted one speaker. Speakers in “Workforce Housing Solutions: Multifamily Financing, Construction, and Design Innovation Trends” shared similar success stories, noting that cities can accelerate production by being flexible, creative, and aligning housing goals with state funding programs.

The post-pandemic recovery was top of mind for many speakers. State Controller Betty Yee said that California is expected to recover faster than any other state and that the long-term economic outlook is positive. However, she predicts several bumps along the road, mostly due to climate change, reduced state and federal spending, and reduced international travel, as well as the potential for inflation and new COVID-19 variants. A lack of affordable housing, reduced access to childcare, and stagnating wages may also drag the economy down.

“Workers are becoming more discerning about where they work at,” said Yee. “There’s been a major divergence between productivity — which shot through the roof — and wages, which stayed flat.”

The transition to digital city services was accelerated by COVID-19. However, the change brought new challenges. Attorney Leeann Habte ([/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/cybersecurity-risks-and-cities-strategies-to-address-escalating-threats.pdf?sfvrsn=bf4391c\\_3](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/cybersecurity-risks-and-cities-strategies-to-address-escalating-threats.pdf?sfvrsn=bf4391c_3)) **outlined strategies for addressing cyberattacks** ([/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/cybersecurity-risks-and-cities-strategies-to-address-escalating-threats.pdf?sfvrsn=bf4391c\\_3](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/cybersecurity-risks-and-cities-strategies-to-address-escalating-threats.pdf?sfvrsn=bf4391c_3)), which have risen sharply in recent years. Cities must invest in IT solutions and strategies before issues become more complex. Losing information or vital systems can be catastrophic; for some departments, a downtime of only a few minutes can create serious problems.

Creating more equitable communities was front and center in almost every conversation. Speakers from San Luis Obispo, a predominately wealthy, white city with a population of 47,000, outlined their experience ([/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/roadmap-to-advancing-dei-in-a-predominately-white-affluent-community.pdf?sfvrsn=a0a6f125\\_6](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/roadmap-to-advancing-dei-in-a-predominately-white-affluent-community.pdf?sfvrsn=a0a6f125_6)) **creating a diversity, equity, inclusion task force** ([/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/roadmap-to-advancing-dei-in-a-predominately-white-affluent-community.pdf?sfvrsn=a0a6f125\\_6](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/roadmap-to-advancing-dei-in-a-predominately-white-affluent-community.pdf?sfvrsn=a0a6f125_6)). “You have to be ok with a narrow scope, even when it feels like there are a thousand needs,” they noted. “It’s not about doing it all but doing specific things in a specific way.”

In “Building API Solidarity and Safe Communities,” Asian American officials spoke about the continued challenges facing their communities, particularly the ([/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/building-api-solidarity-safe-communities.pdf?sfvrsn=322f705b\\_3](/docs/default-source/annual-conference---session-materials/building-api-solidarity-safe-communities.pdf?sfvrsn=322f705b_3)) **sharp increase in hate crimes against Asian American women and elders** (</docs/default-source/annual-conference--->

[session-materials/building-api-solidarity-safe-communities.pdf?sfvrsn=322f705b\\_3](#)).

“We know what to do. We’ve done this before,” said speakers from Asian Americans Advancing Justice. “Solidarity in communities in California is nothing new. We know how to take care of each other.” Although the solutions were unique to each city, speakers agreed on one thing: Passing a resolution is just the first step. It’s meaningless and perhaps counter-productive if officials are not prepared to take action and include equity in all decision-making.

Additional information about breakout sessions can be found under the “Session Materials” tab on the [\(/detail-pages/event/2021/09/22/default-calendar/annual-conference-and-expo\)](#) [\(/detail-pages/event/2021/09/22/default-calendar/annual-conference-and-expo\)](#) **Annual Conference and Expo webpage** [\(/detail-pages/event/2021/09/22/default-calendar/annual-conference-and-expo\)](#) or in the September issue of *Western City* (<https://www.westerncity.com/issue/september-2021>).

### **Keynote speakers reflect on the importance of resiliency and new opportunities for cities**

This year’s conference featured host city mayor Darrell Steinberg and several high-profile speakers, including, Bonnie St. John, National League of Cities CEO and Executive Director Clarence Anthony, and Richard Montañez. In his welcoming address, Mayor Steinberg stated that the past few years have been difficult for city officials and that the role of local government in California is changing. “This creates new challenges,” he stated, “but also new opportunities.”

Similarly, after reflecting on the collective achievements of Cal Cities and NLC, Executive Director Clarence Anthony stated: “This is our moment to stand strong and say if we work together, we can make a difference in our communities. This is our moment to say we don't care if you are Democrat or Republican. We stand for cities. And we stand for the people who live in cities.”

Bonnie St. John — a former Paralympic skier, author, consultant, and White House official — drew comparisons between the past year and her athletic career. Noting the need to create a mindset of sustainable resilience, she imparted practical tools for managing stress and encouraging collaboration. “So many of us have pushed ourselves so hard during our lives, especially in the pandemic, and it’s just so hard. This challenge is so universal. And these are not Wall Street salaries. You push yourself hard for the communities you serve.”

Richard Montañez, a former Vice President at PepsiCo North America, spoke about the value of inclusive leadership, serving others, learning from one’s past, and cultivating relationships with others. Montañez, who started his PepsiCo career as a janitor in the 70s, imparted this sage wisdom to city officials: “Don’t become such an expert so that you can’t see anymore.”

### **New leadership and board members announced**

Cal Cities also announced its 2021-22 Board Officers and Directors during the conference. The Board of Directors elected Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva to serve as president, Artesia Council Member Ali Sajjad Taj to serve as first vice president, and Fowler Council Member Daniel Parra to serve as second vice president. El Centro Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker, who served as the 2020-21 president, became immediate past president.

In her first speech as president, Council Member Cindy Silva spoke about the past and future of Cal Cities. She also reminded attendees of their shared commitment: “We come from all parts of our State and we are very different. North and South — coast and mountains — rural, suburban, and urban. Yet, despite our differences, we recognize that our job...is to apply our local knowledge and experience to the work we do together on behalf of all California cities.”

Mayor Cheryl Viegas Walker shared her sentiment stating, “Today’s proceedings signify our continued forward momentum as an organization working to ensure a

strong future for all Californians.”

In response, Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman stated, “All of our officers and board members make our organization an even stronger voice for the cities we represent, and I’m excited about all we will accomplish together on behalf of California cities.” Coleman welcomes the new board in a message in the Sept. 29 issue of ***Cal Cities Advocate*** ([/detail-pages/news/2021/09/30/message-from-the-executive-director](#)) .

## Thanks to our exhibitors

Cal Cities Annual Conference and Expo would not be complete without its many exhibitors, who provide valuable resources and services to California's diverse cities. This year’s Expo Hall featured 150 exhibitors, including:

- [\(http://www.4leafinc.com/\)](#) **4LEAF, Inc.** ([http://www.4leafinc.com/](#))
- [\(https://www.accela.com/\)](#) **Accela** ([https://www.accela.com/](#))
- [\(http://www.acec-ca.org/\)](#) **ACEC California** ([http://www.acec-ca.org/](#))
- **ADA Consultant Services** ([https://adaconsultantservices.com/](#))
- **Adobe Software** ([http://www.adobe.com/](#))
- **Anaergia** ([https://www.anaergia.com/](#))
- **Arborjet/Ecologel** ([http://www.arborjet.com/](#))
- **Asphalt Zipper, Inc.** ([http://www.asphaltzipper.com/how-it-works](#))
- **Avenu Insights Analytics** ([http://www.avenuinsights.com/](#))
- **Bay Area Receivership Group** ([http://www.bayarearg.com/](#))
- **Best Best & Krieger LLP** ([http://www.bbklaw.com/](#))
- **Bird Rides, Inc.** ([https://www.bird.co/](#))
- **Blais & Associates** ([http://www.blaisassoc.com/](#))
- **Bob Murray & Associates** ([http://www.bobmurrayassoc.com/](#))
- **Bobcat Company** ([http://www.bobcat.com/](#))
- **Bureau Veritas North America, Inc.** ([http://www.bvna.com/](#))

- **Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP** (<http://www.bwslaw.com/>)
- **Burwood Group** (<http://www.burwood.com/>)
- **California Association of Code Enforcement Officers**  
(<http://www.caceo.us/>)
- **California Consulting, Inc.** (<http://www.californiaconsulting.org/>)
- **California Department of General Services** (<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/>)
- **California Joint Powers Insurance Authority** (<http://www.cjpia.org/>)
- **California Prison Industry Authority** (<https://www.calpia.ca.gov/>)
- **California State Association of Counties** (<https://csacfc.org/project/caltrecs/>)
- **California State San Bernardino Office of Graduate Studies**  
(<https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies>)
- **California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA)**  
(<https://cscda.org/>)
- **California Water Service** (<http://www.calwater.com/>)
- **CalTRUST** (<http://www.caltrust.org/>)
- **CentralSquare Technologies** (<http://www.centalsquare.com/>)
- **Centrica Business Solutions** (<https://www.centricabusinesssolutions.com/us/>)
- **CIMCON Lighting, Inc.** (<http://www.cimconlighting.com/>)
- **Charles Abbott Associates, Inc.** (<https://www.caa.inc/>)
- **Citrus Pest & Disease Prevention Program**  
(<https://californiacitrusthreat.org/>)
- **City Ventures** (<http://www.cityventures.com/>)
- **CityBase** (<https://thecitybase.com/>)
- **Cityside Networks** (<http://www.citysidenetworks.com/>)
- **CivicPlus (CivicEngage)** (<http://www.civicplus.com/>)
- **Climatec LLC** (<http://www.climatec.com/>)
- **Contractor Compliance & Monitoring, Inc.** (<http://www.ccmilcp.com/>)
- **County Data Solutions**
- **CourseCo** (<http://www.courseco.com/>)
- **CPS HR Consulting** (<http://www.cpshr.us/>)



- **Crown Castle USA** (<https://www.crowncastle.com/>)
- **CSG Consultants, Inc.** (<http://www.csgegr.com/>)
- **CSTI** (<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/california-specialized-training-institute>)
- **Culture Cannabis Club** (<http://www.culturecannabisclub.com/>)
- **Dapeer, Rosenblit & Litvak, LLP** (<http://www.drllaw.com/>)
- **Dave Bang** (<http://www.davebang.com/>)
- **Davey Resource Group, Inc.** (<http://www.davey.com/>)
- **Deckard Technologies – Rentalscape** (<http://www.deckard.com/>)
- **DRC Pacific** (<http://www.drcusa.com/>)
- **Earth Systems** (<http://www.earthsystems.com/>)
- **Edgesoft Inc.** (<http://www.edgesoftinc.com/>)
- **ENGIE** (<https://www.engie-na.com/>)
- **Enterprise Fleet Management** (<http://www.enterprise.com/>)
- **e-PlanSoft** (<http://www.eplansoft.com/>)
- **eSCRIBE** (<http://www.escribemeetings.com/>)
- **Executech** (<http://www.executech.com/>)
- **Extra Duty Solutions** (<https://extradutysolutions.com/>)
- **Fieldman, Rolapp & Associates, Inc.** (<http://www.fieldman.com/>)
- **FlashVote** (<http://www.flashvote.com/government>)
- **Flock Safety** (<http://www.flocksafety.com/>)
- **Forefront Power, LLC** (<https://www.forefrontpower.com/>)
- **George Hills** (<http://www.georgehills.com/>)
- **GovQA** (<https://www.govqa.com/>)
- **Granicus** (<https://granicus.com/>)
- **Graphic Solutions** (<http://www.graphicsolutions.com/>)
- **Griffin Structures, Inc.** (<http://www.griffinstructures.com/>)
- **Griswold Law APC** (<http://www.griswoldlawca.com/>)
- **HdL Companies** (<https://www.hdlcompanies.com/>)
- **Hi-Vac Corporation** (<http://www.hi-vac.com/>)

- **Holman Capital Corporation** (<https://www.holmancapital.com/>)
- **HR Green, Inc.** (<https://www.hrgreen.com/>)
- **In God We Trust America, Inc.** (<https://ingodwetrustamerica.org/>)
- **Jones Mayer** (<http://www.jones-mayer.com/>)
- **Johnson Controls** (<https://www.johnsoncontrols.com/>)
- **Kamstrup Water Metering** (<http://www.kamstrup.com/>)
- **Keenan** (<http://www.keenan.com/>)
- **Keyser Marston Associates, Inc.** (<http://www.keysermarston.com/>)
- **Kosmont Companies** (<http://www.kosmont.com/>)
- **Kronick Moskowitz Tiedemann & Girard** (<http://www.kmtg.com/>)
- **Kwikbit** (<http://www.kwikbitinternet.com/>)
- **LaneLight Traffic Technologies, Inc.** (<http://www.lanelight.com/>)
- **Learn4Life** (<http://www.learn4life.org/>)
- **LECET Southwest** (<http://www.lecetsouthwest.org/>)
- **Library Systems & Services** (<http://www.lssllibraries.com/>)
- **Liebert Cassidy Whitmore** (<http://www.lcwlegal.com/>)
- **Magellan Advisors** (<http://www.magellan-advisors.com/>)
- **Maze & Associates** (<http://www.mazeassociates.com/>)
- **Michael Baker International** (<https://mbakerintl.com/>)
- **Multiforce Systems** (<http://www.fuelforce.com/>)
- **Murdock MFG** (<http://www.murdockmfg.com/>)
- **NASPO ValuePoint** (<http://www.naspovaluepoint.org/>)
- **NLC Service Line Warranty Program by HomeServe**  
(<https://servicelinepartner.com/>)
- **NORESCO** (<https://www.noresco.com/>)
- **Northern California Carpenters Regional Council** (<http://www.nccrc.org/>)
- **NV5** (<http://www.nv5.com/>)
- **Ooma** (<http://www.ooma.com/petreed>)
- **OpenCounter** (<http://www.opencounter.com/>)
- **OpenGov** (<http://www.opengov.com/>)

- **Optimum Seismic, Inc.** (<http://www.optimumseismic.com/>)
- **PARS** (<http://www.pars.org/>)
- **Peckham & McKenney Executive Search**  
(<http://www.peckhamandmckennney.com/>)
- **PERC Water Corporation** (<http://www.percwater.com/>)
- **PetData** (<https://www.petdata.com/>)
- **PF Distribution Center, Inc.** (<http://www.powerflare.com/>)
- **Precision Concrete Cutting** (<http://www.safesidewalks.com/>)
- **Procure America** (<https://procureamerica.org/>)
- **ProcureNow** (<https://www.procurenow.com/>)
- **Qless** (<https://www.qless.com/>)
- **Radarsign, LLC** (<https://www.radarsign.com/>)
- **Ralph Andersen & Associates** (<http://www.ralphandersen.com/>)
- **Renne Public Law Group** (<https://rennepubliclawgroup.com/>)
- **Republic Services** (<http://www.republicservices.com/>)
- **Retail Strategies** (<http://www.retailstrategies.com/>)
- **Revize Government Websites** (<http://www.revise.com/>)
- **Richards Watson & Gershon** (<http://www.rwglaw.com/>)
- **Rubicon** (<http://www.rubicon.com/>)
- **SBEMP LLP** (<http://www.sbemp.com/>)
- **Schaefer Systems International, Inc.** (<http://www.schaeferwaste.com/>)
- **Schneider Electric** (<http://www.e-enable.com/>)
- **SDI Presence LLC** (<https://www.sdipresence.com/>)
- **Security Lines US** (<http://www.securitylines.us/>)
- **Shaw Law Group, PC** (<http://www.shawlawgroup.com/>)
- **Siemens** (<http://www.siemens.com/>)
- **SiFi Networks** (<https://sifinetworks.com/>)
- **SitelogIQ Inc.** (<http://www.sitelogiq.com/>)
- **Sloan Sakai Yeung & Wong LLP** (<https://sloansakai.com/>)
- **Smart Cities Prevail** (<http://www.smartcitiesprevail.org/>)

- **Smart Rain** (<https://smartrain.net/>)
- **Southern California Edison (SCE)** (<http://www.edison.com/>)
- **SPURR** (<http://www.spurr.org/>)
- **Stalker Radar** (<https://www.stalkerradar.com/>)
- **Streetlight Restoration Specialists** (<http://www.streetlightrestoration.com/>)
- **Superior Property Services, Inc.** (<http://www.4superior.com/>)
- **Superior Tank Solutions, Inc.** (<http://www.superiortanksolutions.com/>)
- **Superpedestrian** (<https://www.superpedestrian.com/>)
- **SyTech Solutions** (<https://www.sytechsolutions.com/>)
- **TAPCO** (<http://www.tapconet.com/>)
- **TBWBH Props & Measures** (<http://www.propsandmeasures.com/>)
- **Techline Sports Lighting** (<https://www.sportlighting.com/>)
- **TNT Fireworks** (<http://www.tntfireworks.com/>)
- **Toter** (<http://www.toter.com/>)
- **Townsend Public Affairs** (<http://www.townsendpa.com/>)
- **Trane** (<http://www.tranetechnologies.com/>)
- **Transtech Engineers Inc.** (<http://www.transtech.org/>)
- **Twining, Inc.** (<http://www.twininginc.com/>)
- **UC ANR Integrated Pest Management** (<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/>)
- **UC Davis Continuing Professional Education Land Use/Natural Resources** (<https://cpe.ucdavis.edu/areas-study/planning-and-sustainability>)
- **UrbanLeap** (<https://www.urbanleap.io/>)
- **Vanir** (<http://www.vanir.com/>)
- **Veritone, Inc.** (<https://www.veritone.com/solutions/public-safety/>)
- **Vortex Aquatic Structures Intl.** (<http://www.vortex-intl.com/>)
- **VSS International** (<http://www.slurry.com/>)
- **West Coast Arborists, Inc.** (<http://www.wcainc.com/>)
- **Willdan** (<http://www.willdan.com/>)
- **Zen City** (<http://www.zencity.io/>)
- **ZOLL Medical Corporation – Chelmsford, MA** (<http://www.zoll.com/>)



# Cities score critical wins on environmental issues, Brown Act relief, and short-term rentals as bill signing deadline looms

Sep 29, 2021

Gov. Gavin Newsom also took action on bills related to housing, disallowed compensation, water and sewer rate laws, and shelter-in-place tax relief.

Gov. Gavin Newsom is working his way through the 800 bills on his desk with positive results for cities in the areas of climate change resiliency, Brown Act relief, and short-term rentals. Unfortunately, he also signed several housing bills that could alter existing housing plans. The Governor has yet to sign or veto any of Cal Cities' public safety, infrastructure, or community services priority bills on his desk.

## **SB 9, AB 215, and other housing bills signed**

The Governor has signed several housing bills into law, including

<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%209&t=bill>) **SB 9 (Atkins)**

<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%209&t=bill>) and **AB 215 (Chiu)**

<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=AB%20215&t=bill>) , despite significant opposition from

the League of California Cities and coalition partners.

SB 9 requires local governments to ministerially approve a housing development containing two residential units in single-family zones and urban lot splits. This 'by right' or mandatory approval scheme circumvents an important local government review process that includes extensive public engagement. Moreover, it does not guarantee the construction of affordable housing; it is simply a sweetheart deal for developers that silences local communities.

AB 215 adds a new step in the housing element certification process that requires 40 additional days and creates a new three-year statute of limitations for any action brought pursuant to the AB 72 enforcement process. It also allows the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to appoint or contract with other counsel to represent the department when the Attorney General declines to represent HCD in an AB 72 enforcement action.

The Governor also signed **AB 602 (Grayson)**

**(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=AB%20602&t=bill>)** and **AB 838 (Friedman)**

**(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=AB%20838&t=bill>)** into law, both of which Cal Cities opposed. Cal Cities will continue to explore all options to ensure local governments have the necessary tools and resources to plan for the types of housing actually needed in their communities.

## **New laws create additional funding and fiscal certainty for environmental issues**

Multiple environmental quality bills with positive outcomes for cities were signed in the last two weeks. **SB 170 (Skinner)**

**(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20170&t=bill>)** and **SB 155 (Committee on**

**Budget and Fiscal Review)** (**(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20155&t=bill>)** provide

a combined \$14.5 billion for environmental-related issues. SB 170 includes \$60 million in grant funding to help cities implement SB 1383 organic waste regulations and \$100 million in organic waste infrastructure. SB 155 contains \$200 million continuously appropriated to CalFire for healthy forest and fire prevention programs, prescribed burns, and other fuel reduction projects, as well as grant funding to mitigate the effects of extreme heat and sea level rise. Both bills were [summarized in a recent Cal Cities article \(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/08/cal-cities-makes-significant-progress-on-city-priorities-city-voices-are-critical-in-final-two-days-of-legislative-session\) .](#)

[SB 323 \(Caballero\) \(https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20323&t=bill\)](https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20323&t=bill) will provide much-needed fiscal certainty for city officials: It gives public agency water and sewer rates the same protections already afforded to fees and charges that fund other essential government services. The bill also narrows the window of time an interested party can bring a validation action to 120 days after a fee or charge becomes effective. The new legislation strikes a balance between the interests of ratepayers and the need for public agencies to maintain reliable sources of revenue.

The Governor also signed [SB 1 \(Atkins\) \(https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%201&t=bill\)](https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%201&t=bill) , creating the California Sea Level Rise State and Regional Support Collaborative within the Ocean Protection Council. The collaborative will provide support for local agencies for the identification, assessment, and mitigation of sea level rise and can expend up to \$100 million annually in grants to local and regional governments updating land use plans to account for sea level rise. It also increases coordination between coastal city officials and the California Coastal Commission when updating local coastal plans to combat sea level rise.

Other notable new laws include **AB 33 (Ting)**

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=AB%2033&t=bill>) , **AB 332 (Committee on**

**Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials)**

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=AB%20332&t=bill>) , **AB 758 (Nazarian)**

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=AB%20758&t=bill>) , and **SB 109 (Dodd)**

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20109&t=bill>) .

## **Brown Act relief provided, but major pension bill falls short**

Throughout the month of September, the state has provided much-needed Brown Act relief, first in the form of **Executive Order N-15-21** (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/9.20.21-executive-order.pdf>) — which allowed cities to

continue meeting remotely in accordance with procedures established by prior Executive Orders until Sept. 30 — and later, **AB 361 (Rivas)**

([https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB361](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB361)) ,

which was signed by the Governor and is now in effect. AB 361 allows cities to continue meeting remotely during proclaimed states of emergency under modified Brown Act requirements that are similar, but not identical to the rules and procedures established by previous Brown Act executive orders.

The Governor signed **SB 278 (Leyva)**,

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20278&t=bill>) despite intense opposition from Cal

Cities members and coalition partners. The bill requires public agencies and schools to directly pay retirees and/or their beneficiaries disallowed retirement benefits using general fund and Proposition 98 dollars. SB 278 places 100% of the total liability for overpayments on public agencies, abdicating all responsibility previously held by CalPERS. Moreover, it fails to acknowledge that memoranda



of understanding are done with mutual agreement and understanding of the laws that guide pensionable compensation. It is the responsibility of all parties — including CalPERS, which creates the regulations — to ensure that compensation as mutually agreed by both labor and management legal teams is a lawful benefit.

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20270&t=bill>) **SB 270 Durazo**

(<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20270&t=bill>) , a Cal Cities-opposed bill, was also signed into law. It unfairly creates new types of litigation damages against public agencies related to a mostly bureaucratic task that cities already comply with.

### **Short-term rental bill signed; now in effect**

Two revenue and taxation bills with positive impacts were signed by the Governor: **SB 60 (Glazer)** (<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%2060&t=bill>) and **SB 219 (McGuire)** (<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/search.aspx?id=ad485199-37cd-42cd-8217-d19b4d257119&session=21&s=SB%20219&t=bill>) . SB 60, which had an urgency clause and is now in effect, allows cities to impose a fine of up to \$5,000 for public health and safety violations of a short-term rental ordinance. Under previous law, fines were too low to deter violations and were often considered a part of doing business.

SB 219 will provide flexibility to residents unable to pay their property taxes due to economic hardship caused by a shelter-in-place order. Property taxes are only statutorily collected twice a year, with unbending requirements to pay by 5 p.m. on April 10 and Dec. 10. **Executive Order N-61-20** (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/5.6.20-EO-N-61-20.pdf>) authorized county tax collectors to provide relief for a specified time period through May 2021. The new law picks up where the executive order ends by addressing any future payment deadlines that

pass during a shelter-at-home order. This ensures that local governments can function in an uninterrupted fashion during a lengthy emergency but are nimble enough to help individuals experiencing hardship.

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# Guide to Local Recovery Update: September 29

*Sep 29, 2021*

The U.S. Department of the Treasury released guidance on the new \$10 billion American Rescue Plan Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, which states can use on broadband and digital connectivity initiatives. Additionally, the National League of Cities found that infrastructure jobs remain hard to fill.

## **U.S. Department of the Treasury announces new American Rescue Plan Capital Projects Fund guidance**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/capital-projects-fund>) released guidance (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/capital-projects-fund>) on the new American Rescue Plan Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, a \$10 billion fund for states to use on broadband, digital connectivity devices, and multi-purpose community facilities that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring. The state will have the ability to target covered projects to specific communities in need and may opt to subgrant funding to local governments.

## **Treasury Department provides American Rescue Plan relief disbursement update**

The Treasury Department has (<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/American-Rescue-Plan-Six-Month-Report.pdf>) disbursed \$700 billion

<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/American-Rescue-Plan-Six-Month-Report.pdf>) since President Biden signed the \$1 trillion American Rescue Plan in March, including over \$450 billion paid directly to families and households through economic impact payments, child tax credits, and emergency rental assistance.

The Treasury Department also stated that a second round of more than \$100 billion in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds will be available for distribution next year “to meet pressing pandemic needs and to create more equitable economic recovery.”

## **National League of Cities releases Infrastructure Job Report**

The National League of Cities (NLC) released a [https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm\\_campaign=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm\\_term=text-link&\\_zs=IF31X&\\_zl=1jml2](https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm_term=text-link&_zs=IF31X&_zl=1jml2)) report last week [https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm\\_campaign=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm\\_term=text-link&\\_zs=IF31X&\\_zl=1jml2](https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm_term=text-link&_zs=IF31X&_zl=1jml2)) revealing that infrastructure jobs remain harder to fill than in other industries across the country. The report found the median time to fill an infrastructure job in California is 26 days, compared to 19 days for other jobs. NLC collected data from January-April 2021 through job postings on LinkUp, which collects data directly from company websites.

According to the report, multiple factors contributed to the extended time to fill infrastructure job positions, such as the rise of COVID-19 cases across the country, logistical barriers related to remote childcare and education, and increased retirements in the infrastructure industry.

The NLC report states, “To replace retired skilled and semi-skilled infrastructure workers, communities can either upskill their existing talent pool to meet their needs or attract talent from outside the community.”

While the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act include \$550 billion in federal investments in the country’s infrastructure network and could create an [\(https://www.nlc.org/article/2021/08/10/what-the-senate-infrastructure-bill-means-for-local-governments/\)](https://www.nlc.org/article/2021/08/10/what-the-senate-infrastructure-bill-means-for-local-governments/) **additional 2 million jobs** [\(https://www.nlc.org/article/2021/08/10/what-the-senate-infrastructure-bill-means-for-local-governments/\)](https://www.nlc.org/article/2021/08/10/what-the-senate-infrastructure-bill-means-for-local-governments/) per year, it lacks sufficient investment for skills training to ensure workers are well equipped to accomplish building and maintaining critical infrastructure.

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# Guide to Local Recovery Updates

Sep 29, 2021

The League of California Cities is actively involved in gathering, deciphering, and providing cities with the resources they need to access pandemic relief funds, understand eligible uses for those funds, and comply with reporting requirements. Visit the Guide to Local Recovery resource page to explore the resources available to cities.

## Guide to Local Recovery Update: September 29

The U.S. Department of the Treasury (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/capital-projects-fund>) released guidance (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/capital-projects-fund>) on the new American Rescue Plan Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, a \$10 billion fund for states to use on broadband, digital connectivity devices, and multi-purpose community facilities that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring. The Treasury Department also announced (<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/American-Rescue-Plan-Six-Month-Report.pdf>) \$700 billion of \$1 trillion (<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/American-Rescue-Plan-Six-Month-Report.pdf>) in American Rescue Plan relief has been distributed since the bill was signed in March 2021. Additionally, a [National League of Cities report](https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm_term=text-link&_zs=IF31X&_zl=1jml2) ([https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm\\_campaign=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm\\_term=text-link&\\_zs=IF31X&\\_zl=1jml2](https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm_term=text-link&_zs=IF31X&_zl=1jml2)) ([https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm\\_campaign=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm\\_term=text-link&\\_zs=IF31X&\\_zl=1jml2](https://www.nlc.org/resource/how-hard-to-fill-infrastructure-jobs-impact-building-our-future/?utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm_term=text-link&_zs=IF31X&_zl=1jml2))

future/?

[utm\\_campaign=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=fa-newsletter-20210921&utm\\_term=text-link&\\_zs=IF31X&\\_zl=1jml2](#) found infrastructure jobs remain hard to fill. **[Read the full update \(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/29/guide-to-local-recovery-update-september-29\)](#)** .

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: September 15**

Billions of dollars in state and federal housing funding for cities were announced in the past week. Additionally, the U.S. Department of the Treasury issued an important update on the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Guidance and the National League of Cities is hosting two webinars on American Rescue Plan implementation. **[Read the full update \(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/15/guide-to-local-recover-update-september-15\)](#)** .

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: September 8**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury recently announced seven new policies to accelerate the spending of Emergency Rental Assistance funds. Additionally, the National League of Cities is hosting two webinars in the coming week — one on municipal employee vaccine mandates and another on using American Rescue Plan Act funds to address long-standing water infrastructure needs. **[Read the full update \(/detail-pages/news/2021/09/08/guide-to-local-recovery-update-september-8\)](#)**

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: August 25**

The reporting deadline for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds is August 31! The U.S. Department of the Treasury has **[released a video walkthrough of the treasury portal for the interim report and recovery plan](#)**

**[\(/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=umxVcfD4p1U\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=umxVcfD4p1U)** . Here's a list of all the other

**[Treasury Department resources available to cities \(/detail-](#)**

**[pages/news/2021/08/25/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-25?sf-lc-](#)**

**[status=Master&sf-content-action=preview&sf-](#)**

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LFPhI0pXsO4fWwE4lvYA6yxBDzgNGASF/TPIhBbLCgOINuF3TyfjEne095iD1+R6zsXYJ7N  
KAEAAA==) .

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: August 18**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency announced yesterday that it will continue to reimburse local governments for Project Roomkey costs through the rest of the year. Additionally, the United States Department of Agriculture recently made up to \$500 million in grants available to rural communities to help expand access to COVID-19 vaccines and healthcare services. Lastly, the National League of Cities will hold a webinar on how cities can use American Rescue Plan funds to support small businesses and entrepreneurs. **[Read the full update \(/detail-pages/news/2021/08/18/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-18\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/08/18/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-18)** .

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: August 11**

This week in Guide to Local Recovery: The U.S. Senate passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a significant step forward on \$550 billion in new federal infrastructure investments; the League of California Cities submitted a support letter for Senator Alex Padilla's Amendment #2584. New resources are available for cities as well, including new information about the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds recipient reporting portal. **[Read the full update \(/detail-pages/news/2021/08/11/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-11\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/08/11/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-11)** .

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: August 4**

City leaders are encouraged to join the League of California Cities in urging Congress to pass the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a comprehensive infrastructure package; and a number of webinars are available this month on how cities can utilize American Rescue Plan funds to advance equity in their



communities. [Read the full update \(/detail-pages/news/2021/08/04/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-4\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/08/04/guide-to-local-recovery-update-august-4) .

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: July 28**

Cal Cities, along with 400 other city officials and organizations, signed a letter about the need for federal infrastructure funding. Written by the National League of Cities (NLC), the letter urged Congressional leadership to pass a comprehensive infrastructure package and outlined the top priorities of local governments. City officials are encouraged to sign a similar letter to their congressional delegation. Cal Cities also released an updated version of its American Rescue Plan Act revenue loss calculators, which includes minor changes based on member feedback. Additional resources, such as NLC's list of [\(https://www.nlc.org/covid-19-pandemic-response/arp-local-relief-frequently-asked-questions/\)](https://www.nlc.org/covid-19-pandemic-response/arp-local-relief-frequently-asked-questions/) **FAQs from city officials about the** [\(https://www.nlc.org/covid-19-pandemic-response/arp-local-relief-frequently-asked-questions/\)](https://www.nlc.org/covid-19-pandemic-response/arp-local-relief-frequently-asked-questions/) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, are available as well. [Read the full update. \(/detail-pages/news/2021/07/28/guide-to-local-recovery-update-july-28\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/07/28/guide-to-local-recovery-update-july-28)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: July 21**

The League of California's strong support of SB 156 paid off, with Governor Newsom signing the [\(https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/07/20/governor-newsom-signs-historic-broadband-legislation-to-help-bridge-digital-divide/\)](https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/07/20/governor-newsom-signs-historic-broadband-legislation-to-help-bridge-digital-divide/) **historic broadband legislation** [\(https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/07/20/governor-newsom-signs-historic-broadband-legislation-to-help-bridge-digital-divide/\)](https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/07/20/governor-newsom-signs-historic-broadband-legislation-to-help-bridge-digital-divide/) on Tuesday. The \$6 billion investment — \$5.2 billion from federal dollars — is designed to bridge the digital divide and ensure equitable digital access to underserved and unserved communities. A general overview of SB 156 can be found on Cal Cities' [website \(/detail-pages/news/2021/07/15/state-passes-historic-6-billion-broadband-investment-agreement\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/07/15/state-passes-historic-6-billion-broadband-investment-agreement) .

Cal Cities also submitted comments about the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund  [\(https://www.regulations.gov/document/TREAS-DO-2021-0008-](https://www.regulations.gov/document/TREAS-DO-2021-0008-)

[0002/comment](https://www.regulations.gov/document/TREAS-DO-2021-0008-0002/comment)) **Interim Final Rule** (<https://www.regulations.gov/document/TREAS-DO-2021-0008-0002/comment>) to the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Cal Cities requested further clarity, guidance, and flexibility for local governments on issues such as public health, economic impact, and infrastructure. The full letter can be found on the Treasury Department's (<https://www.regulations.gov/comment/TREAS-DO-2021-0008-0653>) **website** (<https://www.regulations.gov/comment/TREAS-DO-2021-0008-0653>) .

Finally, the Treasury Department released an (<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRPFAQ.pdf>) **updated FAQ** (<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRPFAQ.pdf>) for **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule** (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds/recipient-compliance-and-reporting-responsibilities>) on July 14. The update clarifies eligible uses of water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, as well as questions about revenue loss and fund eligibility for nonprofit or private organizations.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: July 15**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury has released several resources on its Compliance and Reporting Guidance for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) recipients. Additionally, several recovery-related webinars are available later this month, including a Government Service Administration Procurement training. Lastly, the deadline to submit comments and recommendations to the Treasury Department on the Interim Final Rule is on July 16. **[Read the full update.](/detail-pages/news/2021/07/15/guide-to-local-recovery-update-july-15)** (</detail-pages/news/2021/07/15/guide-to-local-recovery-update-july-15>)

### **Guide to Local Recovery update: July 7**

The National League of Cities (NLC) will host a two-day conference on July 8-9 in collaboration with NLC's Race, Equity and Leadership (REAL) department. More than just a public health crisis, the coronavirus pandemic has revealed and

exacerbated racial inequities prevalent in our communities. This conference will consist of discussions and workshops centered around building equitable community leadership and will be followed by a panel of conference speakers.

NLC will also host a virtual event about how the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) can be used to support inclusive economic recovery. The event, Utilizing ARPA Funding to Advance Cooperative Business Ownership, will be held on July 27. With community wellness in mind, this event will cover ways in which cities can support the creation and retention of local, high quality jobs to help ensure an equitable rebuilding of local economies and communities.

### **Guide to Local Recovery update: June 30**

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation to extend the state's eviction moratorium through September 30, 2021, and clear rent debt for low-income Californians that have suffered economic, pandemic-related hardship. Additionally, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has opened the application portal for the Emergency Connectivity Fund. The \$7.17 billion program provides funding for schools and libraries to buy laptops, tablets, WiFi hotspots, modems, routers, and connectivity to help students stay connected when they're off school premises. **[Read the full update. \(/detail-pages/news/2021/06/30/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-30\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/06/30/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-30)**

### **Guide to Local Recovery update: June 23**

Non-entitlement cities have until tonight, June 23 at 11:59 p.m., to access the American Rescue Plan Request for Fund Portal. Additionally, the U.S. Department of the Treasury has released clarifications on several eligible use criteria, most notably broadband infrastructure. The new language around broadband is a big win for local governments. Finally, the Treasury Department also released Compliance and Reporting Guidance for metropolitan cities, which builds on the Interim Final Rule issued on May 10. **[Read the full update. \(/detail-pages/news/2021/06/23/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-23\)](/detail-pages/news/2021/06/23/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-23)**

## Guide to Local Recovery update: June 16

Cal Cities, along with a team of city finance professionals and the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO), created a revenue loss calculation tool to help cities determine their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocation spends. The tool incorporates the latest Treasury Department's Guidance and its applicability to local government finance in California as understood by our team of finance professionals. Two versions of the calculator have been prepared to support cities' choice to use fund basis (modified accrual) or government-wide (full accrual) financial records.

- [\(3c6d0f04-c4c9-420f-a16d-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&\) \(3c6d0f04-c4c9-420f-a16d-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&\) \(3c6d0f04-c4c9-420f-a16d-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&\) Revenue Loss Calculator \(Government-wide – Full Accrual\) \(3c6d0f04-c4c9-420f-a16d-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&-4cb7ee43f1256d-4cb7ee43f125&\)](#)
- [\(436bd839-6143-448f-82cb-3f8c06dd5aa4cb-3f8c06dd5aa4&-3f8c06dd5aa4cb-3f8c06dd5aa4&\) Revenue Loss Calculator \(Fund Basis – Modified Accrual\) \(436bd839-6143-448f-82cb-3f8c06dd5aa4cb-3f8c06dd5aa4&-3f8c06dd5aa4cb-3f8c06dd5aa4&\)](#)

The calculator will be updated and improve as Treasury Department guidance evolves. Cities will be able to calculate revenue at multiple points throughout the program. [Read the full update. \(/detail-pages/news/2021/06/16/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-16\)](#)

## Guide to Local Recovery Update: June 11

Gov. Gavin Newsom took **executive action** (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/6.11.21-EO-N-07-21-signed.pdf>) on June 11 to terminate the state's stay-at-home order and tiered Blueprint for Safer Economy. Measures that were included in the blueprint to protect public health, such as physical distancing, capacity limits, and the county tier system, terminate on June 15. The

Governor also **issued an executive order** (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/6.11.21-EO-N-08-21-signed.pdf>) to begin the “winding down” of the 58 executive orders that have been implemented since the beginning of the pandemic. The provisions will sunset in phases, beginning later this month through September.

### **The California Department of Finance (DOF) American Rescue Plan Request for Funds Portal for non-entitlement cities is now live.**

**(<https://esd.dof.ca.gov/recovery-fund/login>)** Cities **categorized as non-entitlement cities** (<https://www.dof.ca.gov/budget/COVID-19/Small%20City%20Allocations%20-%20ARPA/CFRF%20Allocation%20Schedule.pdf>) (NEU) must access this portal to receive their first tranche of funds. All applications are due no later than 11:59 p.m. on June 23, 2021. DOF discussed the funding portal with city officials during a League of California Cities webinar earlier this week. The webinar included a robust Q & A and is **available for review** ([https://youtu.be/ZW0GcVks\\_2I](https://youtu.be/ZW0GcVks_2I)), along with the presentation slides. **Read the full update.** (</detail-pages/news/2021/06/14/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-11>)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: June 9**

The California Department of Finance (DOF) unveiled its **American Rescue Plan Local Fiscal Recovery Fund webpage** ([https://www.dof.ca.gov/budget/COVID-19/Local\\_Fiscal\\_Recovery\\_Fund\\_Allocations/](https://www.dof.ca.gov/budget/COVID-19/Local_Fiscal_Recovery_Fund_Allocations/)) for non-entitlement cities and discussed the upcoming funding portal with city officials during a League of California Cities webinar earlier today. The program covered the state’s responsibilities, eligible usages, the application and distribution process, reporting requirements, and the portal itself. The webinar included a robust Q & A and is **available for review** ([https://youtu.be/ZW0GcVks\\_2I](https://youtu.be/ZW0GcVks_2I)), along with the presentation slides. **Read the full update** (</detail-pages/news/2021/06/09/guide-to-local-recovery-update-june-9>)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: June 2**

The California Department of Finance (DOF) has released the Coronavirus Local

Fiscal Recovery Fund allocations for non-entitlement cities, and is preparing to distribute over \$1.2 billion in American Rescue Plan payments to 291 California non-entitlement cities. **Register now** ([https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Sn0LI8JfRnWdrVYeYRaJ-w](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Sn0LI8JfRnWdrVYeYRaJ-w)) for the next Guide to Local Recovery webinar on June 9 from 9:30-10:30 a.m., where experts from DOF will provide information about how cities can navigate the state's submission portal, when cities can expect funding, as well as answer any general American Rescue Plan questions.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: May 26**

Earlier this week, the U.S. Department of the Treasury released guidance on the distribution of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to non-entitlement cities. These guidelines were issued to assist the California Department of Finance (DOF) in issuing final city-by-city allocations and to help develop the process for distributing non-entitlement city funds. The League of California Cities has been in communication with DOF to determine the timing of the release of the final allocations and the distribution process, and will be hosting a webinar with DOF in the coming weeks. **Read the full update.** (</detail-pages/news/2021/05/26/guide-to-local-recovery-update-may-26>)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: May 19**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury has launched its own American Rescue Plan information hub, which includes a Fiscal Recovery Funds FAQ and the interim final rule. The FAQ will be updated periodically in response to stakeholder questions. The White House and the Treasury Department will also address the interim rule during an NLC-hosted webinar and Q & A on May 20 at 1 p.m. PST. We also hosted a webinar on the American Rescue Plan for more than 400 city officials today. Representatives from the National League of Cities discussed eligible uses for entitlement cities. The webinar **recording** ([https://zoom.us/rec/share/8X\\_MvknJY-6i6vAnjQy2XOHhwkI7x7IaF1Ztybv8-jM3Op8Tu7saXtS0plpi6OHM.4lv\\_VGB8Q8W-Q0LA](https://zoom.us/rec/share/8X_MvknJY-6i6vAnjQy2XOHhwkI7x7IaF1Ztybv8-jM3Op8Tu7saXtS0plpi6OHM.4lv_VGB8Q8W-Q0LA)) and slides are available for those who missed it. **Read the full update** (</detail-pages/news/2021/05/19/guide-to-local->

[recovery-update-may-19\)](#)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: May 12**

The portal for local governments that will receive their money directly from the U.S. Department of the Treasury is now live. This **portal** (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund/request-funding>) is for cities classified as Metropolitan Cities under the American Rescue Plan. Local governments designated as non-entitlement units are also eligible to receive Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, as provided in the American Rescue Plan. However, they will receive this funding from their applicable state government, not through this link. **Read the full update** (</detail-pages/news/2021/05/12/guide-to-local-recovery-update-may-12>)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: May 10**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury released guidance May 10 on the distribution of \$8 billion for California cities in the American Rescue Plan Act. To learn more, sign up for Cal Cities Legislative Action Days May 13, where Cal Cities will provide an overview of the new guidance. Be sure to check the new resources added to the Federal Guidance and Resources tab below to read the new guidelines and access the final city-by-city allocations.

U.S. Department of the Treasury now has a **website** (<http://www.treasury.gov/coronavirus>) where people can learn more about COVID-19 economic relief, programs, and assistance for state, local, and tribal governments.

### **The California COVID-19 Rent Relief program**

[https://housing.ca.gov/covid\\_rr/index.html](https://housing.ca.gov/covid_rr/index.html) has funds to distribute, and is urging California city governments to share this resource with impacted individuals in their communities. Landlords who participate in the program can get reimbursed for 80 percent of an eligible renter's unpaid rent, and eligible renters whose landlords choose not to participate in the program may apply on their own and

receive 25 percent of unpaid rent between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. Paying 25 percent by June 30, 2021 can help keep the tenant in their home under the extended eviction protections in **SB 91**

([https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB91](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB91))

(2021). Visit the **Housing is Key website**

([https://housing.ca.gov/covid\\_rr/index.html](https://housing.ca.gov/covid_rr/index.html)) to learn more.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: May 5**

U.S. Department of the Treasury now has a **website**

(<http://www.treasury.gov/coronavirus>) where people can learn more about COVID-19 economic relief, programs, and assistance for state, local, and tribal governments. The **California COVID-19 Rent Relief program**

([https://housing.ca.gov/covid\\_rr/index.html](https://housing.ca.gov/covid_rr/index.html)) has funds to distribute, and is urging

California city governments to share this resource with impacted individuals in their communities. Landlords who participate in the program can get reimbursed for 80 percent of an eligible renter's unpaid rent, and eligible renters whose landlords choose not to participate in the program may apply on their own and receive 25 percent of unpaid rent between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

Paying 25 percent by June 30, 2021 can help keep the tenant in their home under the extended eviction protections in **SB 91**

([https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB91](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB91))

(2021). Visit the **Housing is Key website**

([https://housing.ca.gov/covid\\_rr/index.html](https://housing.ca.gov/covid_rr/index.html)) to learn more.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: April 28**

Today, the League of California Cities hosted the latest installment of its new Guide to Local Recovery webinar series, focused on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) cost reimbursement for eligible programs and services under FEMA's Public Assistance Program. The webinar featured leaders with representatives from FEMA and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to provide an opportunity to ask questions and get clarity on reimbursable costs. The webinar **recording**



[https://zoom.us/rec/play/Hr64SUkw\\_ADOU5c4eD\\_0W573umzGJEwUplpo5-ZQ\\_LmMthSB6H\\_fERcXF8rSHWWe2RgwGWofjyWYRbVH.3qn24fnZHWgrAsiG](https://zoom.us/rec/play/Hr64SUkw_ADOU5c4eD_0W573umzGJEwUplpo5-ZQ_LmMthSB6H_fERcXF8rSHWWe2RgwGWofjyWYRbVH.3qn24fnZHWgrAsiG)

and slides are available online. Next week, the White House is hosting regional briefings on the [American Jobs Plan](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/) and [American Families Plan](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/28/fact-sheet-the-american-families-plan/) , and the briefing for California is Monday, May 3 at 2 p.m. All cities are invited to attend, and the briefing will be hosted by Daniel Hornung, special assistant to the president for Economic Policy. [Register](https://pitc.zoomgov.com/j/1603766325?pwd=SUtrWVRnajJyWmg5QTg3V01iTTRSUT09) for the briefing.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: April 21**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury has [released new steps](https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund) that all cities need to take to receive their city allocation under the local relief included in the American Rescue Plan. The rescue plan was signed into law in March 2021, and includes \$65 billion in much-needed direct and flexible relief for every city in the country, with an anticipated \$8.3 billion for California cities. While the Treasury Department has not released the final city allocations, you can find city-by-city estimates on the National League of Cities [website](https://www.nlc.org/resource/estimated-local-allocations-in-the-american-rescue-plan/) . [Read the full update.](/detail-pages/news/2021/04/21/guide-to-local-recovery-update-april-21)

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: April 14**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published this week a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2021-04/FY%202021%20RAISE%20grants%20NOFO%20%28Final%29.pdf) to apply for \$1 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 discretionary grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants. Projects

for RAISE funding will be evaluated based on merit criteria that include safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, innovation, and partnership. Within these criteria, the Department will prioritize projects that can demonstrate improvements to racial equity, reduce impacts of climate change, and create good-paying jobs. To provide technical assistance to prospective applicants, DOT is hosting a **series of webinars** (<http://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/outreach>) during the FY 2021 RAISE grant application process. The deadline to submit an application is July 12, 2021 at 5 p.m. EST. On April 12, the White House released state-by-state fact sheets that highlight the urgent need in every state across the country for the investments outlined in the new federal infrastructure proposal. The fact sheet for California can be found on the **White House website** (<https://whitehouse.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f620288bb41dd81f9c715ef4d&id=74d04bf158&e=d97cf1e38b>)

### **Guide to Local recovery update: April 7**

As cities await final guidance from the U.S. Department of the Treasury on the allocation amounts and reporting process for the local relief included in the American Rescue Plan, now is the time for cities to begin identifying their priorities and developing a system to track and report the funds. The sooner priorities for local recovery are identified, the faster people can get back to work, operations can be stabilized, and those most impacted by COVID-19 can receive support. The National League of Cities **frequently asked questions** ([https://www.nlc.org/resource/arp-local-relief-frequently-asked-questions/?utm\\_campaign=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=fanewsletter-20210403&utm\\_term=text-resource&\\_zs=vJKfb&\\_zl=awIV2](https://www.nlc.org/resource/arp-local-relief-frequently-asked-questions/?utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=fanewsletter-20210403&utm_term=text-resource&_zs=vJKfb&_zl=awIV2)) about the American Rescue Plan local relief can help cities prepare while we await official guidance.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: March 31**

The Biden Administration announced **a federal infrastructure plan** (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet->

the-american-jobs-plan/), which outlines more than \$2 trillion in federal investments to rebuild and expand infrastructure in our cities and towns across the nation. Cal Cities is encouraged by the proposal, as repairing and modernizing aging infrastructure is key to economic recovery and more jobs in our cities and nation. We look forward to sharing more details on the plan as they become available.

### **Local recovery update: March 24**

The passage of the historic American Rescue Plan means over \$65 billion will be delivered directly to cities of all size. Now the real work begins. What are your local priorities for this funding? The National League of Cities (NLC) is conducting a short survey to gauge how conditions, from the economy and infrastructure to housing and education, have changed this past year, and how new funding will be used to address these challenges. The results will be part of NLC's research efforts to showcase local leadership during the pandemic. They will also shape the type of strategies and programs NLC is developing to help communities leverage newly available funds. Make your voice count and participate in the survey! Please respond no later than Tuesday, March 30.

### **Guide to Local Recovery Update: March 17**

As city officials begin to put the unprecedented local relief from the American Rescue Plan into action to continue critical services and jumpstart recovery in their communities, Cal Cities is here to answer questions and support your efforts with tools and resources. For more information on the American Rescue Plan and what's in it for cities, read Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman's message to city officials. and review the Cal Cities **special briefing** ([https://zoom.us/rec/play/SEjz\\_yS\\_jtL4PLawym8kaF9JloYBHE0Y3e\\_fJztHZtxKIUz3cZ5JwBRQap51gnVeg7bh\\_xKvrW6cM-6.2P\\_bfCjF1VI5KPRV?autoplay=true](https://zoom.us/rec/play/SEjz_yS_jtL4PLawym8kaF9JloYBHE0Y3e_fJztHZtxKIUz3cZ5JwBRQap51gnVeg7bh_xKvrW6cM-6.2P_bfCjF1VI5KPRV?autoplay=true)) for city officials. The National League of Cities has provided an American Recue Plan **implementation update** ([https://www.nlc.org/article/2021/03/12/everything-you-need-to-know-about-covid-relief/?utm\\_campaign=Federal-Advocacy&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=informz&utm\\_content=federal-advocacy-](https://www.nlc.org/article/2021/03/12/everything-you-need-to-know-about-covid-relief/?utm_campaign=Federal-Advocacy&utm_medium=email&utm_source=informz&utm_content=federal-advocacy-)

[covid-relief-weekly-20210316&utm\\_term=image-featured&\\_zs=Sq77a&\\_zl=9W8U2](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/American-Rescue-Plan-Fact-Sheet.pdf)), which includes the latest on recovery priorities, relief funds, and bill summaries. Also, the White House has created a **fact sheet** (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/American-Rescue-Plan-Fact-Sheet.pdf>) for the American Rescue Plan, as well as a **summary of its impact on California** (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/ARP-State-Fact-Sheet-CA.pdf>) . These are first of many resources in our guide to local recovery that we will be offering in the coming weeks and months.

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