

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
February 15, 2024

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

I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

A memo to inform the City Council about the new youth football and cheer program in Garden Grove is attached.

B. CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

List of Records Requests for January 2024.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

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

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



Lisa Kim
City Manager

City of Garden Grove
INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Lisa L. Kim
From: John Montanchez
Dept.: City Manager
Dept.: Community Services
Subject: New Football and Cheer Program
Date: February 15, 2024

OBJECTIVE

To inform the City Council about the new youth football and cheer program in Garden Grove.

BACKGROUND

The Garden Grove Pop Warner Bulldogs offered youth football and cheer programming at Garden Grove Park for nearly twenty years. Boys and girls, ages 5 to 15 participated in tackle football and cheer programs led by volunteer coaches and board members. Garden Grove last played for a National Championship in 2018. That same year, the Varsity Cheer won Nationals and was recognized by the Garden Grove City Council. The Garden Grove Pop Warner Bulldogs ended programming in 2022.

DISCUSSION

In December 2023, Community Services received a request from a Garden Grove resident interested in reestablishing a youth football and cheer program and was referred to the Orange Empire Conference (OEC) for further consideration. The OEC is a California non-profit organization that oversees the various pop warner programs in Southern California, including Garden Grove. The OEC vetted two volunteers, including a Garden Grove resident, whom expressed their interests in reviving the youth football and cheer program in Garden Grove. To date, they've developed a Board of Directors, set goals for the program, sought sponsorships, and applied with the State of California as a new non-profit named the Garden Grove Panthers. The OEC has committed to providing guidance and resources for the new Garden Grove program.

SUMMARY

The Garden Grove Panthers is the new youth football and cheer program that will be offered at Garden Grove Park, with the inaugural season scheduled for fall 2024.



JOHN MONTANCHEZ
Community Services Director

Elaine Ma'ae

By: Elaine Ma'ae
Facilities Supervisor

Attachment: Garden Grove Panthers Information

GARDEN GROVE PANTHERS (est. 2024)

Pop Warner Youth Tackle Football and Cheerleading Programs

Bios of the President and Vice President who expressed interest in revising Pop Warner in Garden Grove. Both have children who will be part of the program. VP, Daniel Ordway, is a Garden Grove resident. His son played for another city last season because Garden Grove did not have a program. He reached out to Orange Empire Conference who paired him and Joshua Taylor together as he expressed the same interest.

President, Joshua Taylor, started off playing for Anaheim Pop Warner when he was six years old. He attended Western high school and played varsity football. He excelled at football and helped the team get to the CIF playoffs as a senior. He graduated from Western high school and then attended Santa Ana College and Fullerton College. Joshua played football for both schools but finished at Fullerton where he earned his Associates Degree. He then went to play overseas football for a year. After coming back to the US played semi pro football for the Tri-City Titans in Pasadena, the Compton Panthers, Riverside Redskins. Joshua is now helping to lead the Garden Grove Panthers with the goal of working with the kids to share all of his knowledge and experience. He wants to help make them better kids, better students, better son/daughters and better athletes.

Vice President, Daniel Ordway, has held positions in technology and entertainment throughout his 19 year career. A graduate from the University of Southern California with a Masters in Business Administration from Loyola Marymount University where he worked hard to learn the art of business, marketing and entrepreneurship. Mr. Ordway has held impactful marketing management positions at Universal Music Group, Kingston Technology/HyperX, Beats Music, Apple, NextVR and ASUS. Working closely with top handpicked talent from technology and entertainment Mr. Ordway was an integral part of the team that contributed to the success of Beats Music which was acquired by Apple in 2014. Mr. Ordway is currently a vertical marketing manager at ViewSonic and is responsible for overseeing esports in education, marketing strategy, partnerships, and activities for all gaming products.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Joshua Taylor – President
- Danny Ordway – Vice President
- Ryan Whittaker – Secretary
- Ester Ortega – Treasurer
- Izzy Renteria – Cheer Coordinator

- Nicole Whittaker – Compliance Officer
- Lavonne Johnson – Fundraising/Snack Coordinator

GARDEN GROVE PANTHER GOALS

- Help build the Garden Grove pop Warner football program to be a part of the community.
- Work with kids to develop them to play football and cheer competitively, safely and with good sportsmanship.
- Make sure the kids focus on academics as this is their priority over football or cheer.
- Build the kids confidence and help them become strong young men and women.
- Give the kids opportunities to give back to the community.
- Help the kids grow relationships with each other.
- Make sure the kids are having fun.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/10/24 - 12pm to 3pm - Early sign up day event
- 2/11/24 - 9:30am to 11:30am - Early sign up day
- 2/16/24 - 6pm to 8pm - Early sign up day
- 2/17/24 - 9:30am to 11:30am - Early sign up day

Please check www.ggpanthers.com for updates.

SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

- www.ggpanthers.com
- https://www.instagram.com/garden_grove_panthers/
- <https://www.instagram.com/gardengrovepantherscheer/>

Montly Requests Log

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9004	01/02/24	Request Code: 13041626 Date: 12/20/23 On behalf of our customers who are contractors & suppliers, we request updated plan-holder, bid tabulation and contract award information AS IT IS AVAILABLE on the following solicitation. Please correct an...	Public Works	01/15/24	01/11/24
9005	01/02/24	Please provide all permits and code enforcement violations for 12541 Walnut Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840 APN: 090-101-20		01/15/24	01/03/24
9008	01/03/24	Racking Permit for company, SERVICE WEST 11552 Monarch St, Garden Grove, CA 92841		01/15/24	01/05/24
9009	01/04/24	I would like to request a listing of new businesses that filed in your jurisdiction for the time period of 12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023. The information should include at a minimum the BUSINESS NAME and BUSINESS ADDRESS, but other details such as the d...		01/15/24	01/04/24
9011	01/05/24	can I get the listing for new Businesses for the previous month of December in Excel, thankyou	Finance	01/18/24	01/18/24
9012	01/06/24	I am a student working on a project regarding city council boundaries. Specifically, I am looking for Garden Grove's city council maps in 2016 and the present day. I would appreciate it if you could send these maps over in a shapefile format, alth...	Information Technology	02/01/24	01/31/24
9013	01/07/24	Records regarding 11092 Wasco Rd. Garden Grove, CA 92841 from July 2018 to March 2021. Please include all code enforcement records, permit applications, permits issued, citations issued by City, proof that violations were cured, evidence that pro...	Community Development	02/15/24	02/15/24
9014	01/07/24	I want to have the blueprints and permits for this Project a New Room Addition in the year of 2015 , at this address : 13322 Partridge st , Garden Grove Ca 92843, thank you.		01/18/24	01/08/24

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9015	01/08/24	1. Most updated building plans for master bedroom and bathroom addition plus half bathroom plans. 2. Updated inspection approval report		01/18/24	01/08/24
9016	01/08/24	Looking for dedication plaque. This building dedicated to public service 1967. Lyndon B Johnson - President of The United States Lawrence F O'Brien - Postmaster General I hope we can find this and return it back to the original location.	Community Services	01/18/24	01/18/24
9019	01/10/24	Requesting floor plans and any associated records for the following two buildings: 10527 Garden Grove Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92843 10547 Garden Grove Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92843 Any permits or plans you can provide would be helpful, includin...		01/22/24	01/10/24
9020	01/11/24	Interested in obtaining Building Department permits and inspection reports for the property located at 8221 Garden Grove for between 1976-1986.		01/21/24	01/11/24
9021	01/11/24	Hi! I am respectfully requesting all Planning documentation, including ordinances and staff reports, associated with the approval of Planned Unit Development PUD-104-70. Thank you!	Community Development	01/29/24	01/29/24
9022	01/11/24	I am with Dodge Construction Network we would like an update on the current status of this project. At your convenience, please answer the following questions or confirm the following project details: Re: Harbor/Garden Grove Intersection Improv...	Public Works	02/12/24	01/30/24
9023	01/15/24	Property plan		01/29/24	01/16/24
9024	01/16/24	I am requesting the light timing sheets and any data from traffic signal data loggers for the intersection of Southbound Magnolia Street and the on-ramp to Garden Grove Freeway/SR22/ I am requesting this information for both 12/04/2020 and as th...	Public Works	01/29/24	01/29/24
9025	01/16/24	Looking for all records, especially permitting for my home at 11441 Olson Drive.		01/26/24	01/16/24

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9026	01/16/24	I am making a request for any and all discretionary entitlement (including but not limited to Conditional Use Permits issued for the sale of alcoholic beverages) issued to the following addresses 1. 12001 Euclid St., Garden Grove, CA 92840 2. 1...	Community Development	01/29/24	01/29/24
9027	01/17/24	Record request for for case No. 181403		02/12/24	02/12/24
9029	01/17/24	RE: 13063 Casa Linda Ln Garden Grove CA 92844 To whom it may concern, Please forward any and all of the following documents to our office: Any and all inspection reports along with any and all documents involved in an administrative h...	Community Development Economic Development	01/29/24	01/29/24
9030	01/18/24	I would like to request final permits for the following items: Reroofs, electrical panel upgrades, building additions, shade/patio structures. Pertaining to the following address: 13352 Wilson St,Garden Grove,CA,92844		01/28/24	01/19/24
9031	01/18/24	attached is a records request for 7571 Santa Rita Circle, Garden Grove, CA 92680	Public Works City Manager	02/12/24	02/02/24
9033	01/20/24	Requesting a copy of the blueprints, building plans, and or residential floor plans for: 12131 Casper St Garden Grove, CA 92845 Parcel Number: 13030120		02/01/24	01/22/24
9034	01/22/24	Please provide a copy of the contract between the City of Garden Grove and Viva Soft. Please also provide the contracts between the City of Garden Grove and CSG and City of Garden Grove and VCA for building & safety services (contracted permit tec...		02/01/24	01/23/24
9035	01/22/24	12121 Candy Lane built 1955 - permit history need original building permit, certificate of occupancy, additions, alterations, reroof, solar, retaining wall, electric, mechanical plumbing		02/01/24	01/22/24

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9036	01/22/24	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Could you please provide the permit records for the property located at 12762 bartlett st., Garden Grove, CA, 92845? I am the new owner of this property and I need these records for insurance purposes.</p> <p>Thank you Prince Jain</p>		02/01/24	01/22/24
9037	01/22/24	<p>Complete copy, including all exhibits/attachments, of the executed Exclusive Negotiation Agreement between the City of Garden Grove and Edgemoor Garden Grove Civic Partners, LLC entered into as of October 2, 2023</p>		02/01/24	01/23/24
9038	01/22/24	<p>Requesting a copy of the blueprints & or building plans/plumbing plans to locate and identify all (if any) storm drains on the property. Property address is: 13902 - 13940 Taft Street, Garden Grove, CA 92843</p>		02/01/24	01/22/24
9039	01/22/24	<p>Pls send me the address permits for 11441 Homeway Dr, 11443 Homeway Dr and 11445 Homeway Dr. Thank you Best regards Ba Hoang Luu</p>		02/01/24	01/22/24
9040	01/22/24	<p>Please provide all permits and code enforcement violations for 13321 Blackbird Street, Garden Grove CA 92843</p>	Community Development	02/01/24	01/31/24
9041	01/23/24	<p>Please provide the record plans (site /grading /utilities) for the parking lot area to the west of 11999 Harbor Blvd.</p>		02/02/24	01/23/24
9042	01/23/24	<p>Hi There</p> <p>I am looking for the "As-Built" house plans for the property located at</p> <p>11462 Robert Lane Garden Grove, CA 92840</p> <p>We have been hired as the Engineer of Record for a 600 sqft addition and would like to see if there are any archi...</p>		02/02/24	01/23/24

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9043	01/23/24	Please include all records including but not limited to inspections reports, inspector notes, citations, complaints, notice to comply, and any other document related to the following address: (10792 Garden Grove Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92843).	Community Development	02/05/24	02/05/24
9044	01/23/24	Owner of record for property at 10161 Edgewood Ln. I would like contact information for the purpose of obtaining permission for the construction of a common property line wall		02/02/24	01/24/24
9045	01/23/24	I am writing to request information regarding all business licenses filed within the last 12 months in San Bernadino. To assist in creating a comprehensive list, I kindly request the following information for each new license. 1. Busine...		02/02/24	01/23/24
9046	01/23/24	I am writing to request information regarding all business licenses filed within the last 12 months in Garden Grove. To assist in creating a comprehensive list, I kindly request the following information for each new license. 1. Business Nam...	Finance	02/02/24	01/31/24
9047	01/24/24	January 24, 2024 When replying, please refer to case #20-2300013756 City of Garden Grove City Clerk 11222 Acacia Pkwy Fl2 City Clerks Confer Garden Grove, CA 92840-5208 ...	Economic Development	02/20/24	
9048	01/24/24	Hello We are working on tenant improvement project Converting KFC to PEPE'S Restaurant at 12042 Valley View St., Garden Grove, CA 92845 It would be of a great help if you can provide us with original plans for KFC and/or building plans, el...		02/05/24	01/24/24
9049	01/24/24	This request is a TEST		02/05/24	01/24/24

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9050	01/24/24	<p>We would like to request the incident report for the following accident.</p> <p>Date: 10/07/2023 Time: Approx 11:30 AM Location: 10762 Dorothy Ave Transported by Ambulance</p> <p>Details; Client fell off a makeshift scaffold about 15-20 feet off the ...</p>		02/05/24	01/24/24
9051	01/25/24	<p>I would like to request any floor plans of Grace Baptist Church and the Ancillary space. We are working with the church on getting a CUP addendum and the parking plan needs to be updated which requires we know the floor plan for both buildings.</p> <p>...</p>		02/08/24	01/29/24
9052	01/25/24	<p>NEED PHOTOS TRAN#2424480462 NAME: SARAH NGUYEN DATE: 7/17/2023 LOCATION: 9112 INGRAM AVE REPORT#23041242 *Per Loretta at Lexis Nexis, this report is for an Animal Control Dog Bite Report</p>		02/08/24	02/08/24
9055	01/25/24	<p>I would like to get a list of licensed general contractors for ADU who are Vietnamese speaking, work around Garden Grove city, and know the law well. Thank you</p>		02/08/24	01/29/24
9056	01/25/24	<p>i need any sewer plan, and plans showing the grease interceptor please</p>		02/08/24	01/29/24
9057	01/26/24	<p>new solar project for the following address: 11581 Reva Dr, Garden Grove, California 92840</p> <p>looking to see if the following amenities on the property are permitted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADU with possible electrical and plumbing 2. water heater 		02/08/24	01/29/24
9058	01/28/24	<p>Please email as PDF: New Business License Listings January 2024</p> <p>Bus name, phone number, owner's name, & any home based, where possible</p>	Finance	02/08/24	02/05/24

#	Submitted	Request	Department	Due	Closed
9059	01/29/24	Looking for any plans and structural documentation for: Chapman Commons Home Owners (12680 Chapman Ave, Garden Grove, CA 92840). This would be from the original construction and any field work changes or special inspection / structural engine...		02/08/24	01/30/24
9060	01/29/24	Request Code: 13177470 Date: 01/26/24 On behalf of our customers who are contractors & suppliers, we request updated plan-holder, bid tabulation and contract award information AS IT IS AVAILABLE on the following solicitation. Please correct an...	Economic Development	02/08/24	02/07/24
9061	01/29/24	i'm looking for any and all existing building permits for 8871 dudman dr. garden grove		02/09/24	01/30/24
9062	01/30/24	Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the City's unclaimed property or open records laws, I would like to request a list of all the uncashed (stale-dated) checks or warrants for all outstanding dollar amounts that are older than 6 ...	Finance	02/26/24	
9063	01/30/24	Request Code: 13141044 Date: 01/30/24 On behalf of our customers who are contractors & suppliers, we request updated plan-holder, bid tabulation and contract award information AS IT IS AVAILABLE on the following solicitation. Please correct an...	Finance	02/12/24	02/07/24
9064	01/30/24	Hello there, I d like to request permits and approved permits for electrical wires for the EV charger outlets installed at our resident. Add: 6762 Vanguard Ave, GG 92845 Thank you		02/10/24	01/31/24
9065	01/31/24	new solar project for the following address: 12412 Stimson St, Garden Grove, California 92840 looking to see if the following amenities are permitted: 1. patio/ enlosed patio 2. carport 3. MSP (main serivce panel) 4. electrical work		02/10/24	01/31/24

WEEKLY MEMO 02-15-2024

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Post Performance

February 8, 2024 - February 14, 2024

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

Included in this Report

 @CityGardenGrove

 Garden Grove City Hall

 gardengrovecityhall



gardengrovecityhall

Sat 2/10/2024 8:00 am PST

Happy Lunar New Year, #GardenGrove! 🍀
 May the Year of the Dragon bring you good
 luck and good health! 🐉 #GG1956...



Reach

1,218



Garden Grove City Hall

Sat 2/10/2024 8:00 am PST

Happy Lunar New Year, #GardenGrove! 🍀
 May the Year of the Dragon bring you good
 luck and good health! 🐉 #GG1956...



Reach

1,216



gardengrovecityhall

Thu 2/8/2024 4:10 pm PST

Help us recognize the value of an
 educated workforce. 🎓 Become a sponsor
 of the **2024 Garden Grove College...**



Reach

918



Garden Grove City Hall

Thu 2/8/2024 4:08 pm PST

Help us recognize the value of an educated workforce. 🎓 Become a sponsor of the **2024 Garden Grove College...**



Reach

910



gardengrovecityhall

Sun 2/11/2024 12:00 pm PST

If you're celebrating #SuperBowlSunday, stick to a "safety" plan. Remember to #PlanAhead and have a designated sobe...



Reach

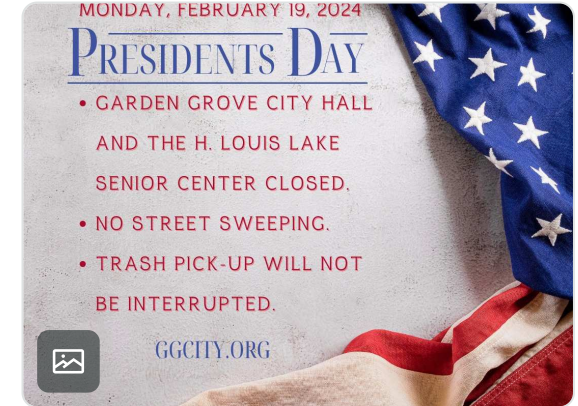
520



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 2/14/2024 5:44 pm PST

In observance of Presidents Day, Garden Grove City Hall and the H. Louis Lake Senior Center will be closed on Monday,...



Reach

493



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 2/14/2024 1:02 pm PST

Happy Valentine's Day, #GardenGrove!
May your day be filled with #love,
laughter, and beautiful moments with...



Reach

488



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 2/14/2024 9:23 am PST

It's time to start sprucing up your home's
front yard! 🏡💎 **GARDEN GROVE GEMS** is
coming !! Watch and listen as Gnorman...



Reach

295



Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 2/14/2024 12:57 pm PST

Happy Valentine's Day, #GardenGrove!
May your day be filled with #love,
laughter, and beautiful moments with...



Reach

279



Garden Grove City Hall

Sun 2/11/2024 12:00 pm PST

If you're celebrating #SuperBowlSunday, stick to a "safety" plan. Remember to #PlanAhead and have a designated sobe...



Reach

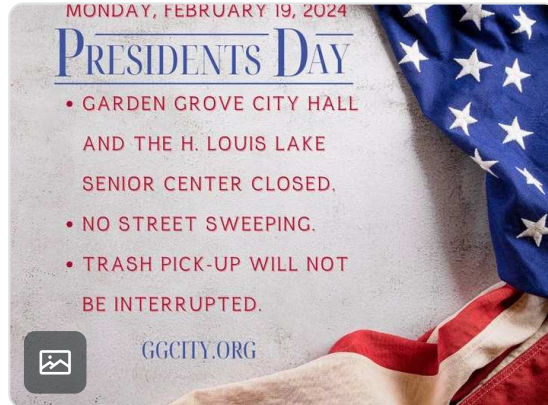
256



Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 2/14/2024 5:44 pm PST

In observance of Presidents Day, Garden Grove City Hall and the H. Louis Lake Senior Center will be closed on Monday,...



Reach

207



Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 2/14/2024 9:07 am PST

It's time to start sprucing up your home's front yard! 🏡💎 **GARDEN GROVE GEMS** is coming !! Watch and listen as Gnorman...



Reach

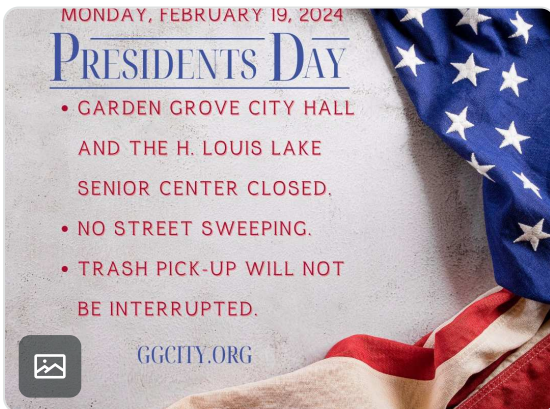
137



@CityGardenGrove

Wed 2/14/2024 5:44 pm PST

In observance of Presidents Day, Garden Grove City Hall and the H. Louis Lake Senior Center will be closed on 2/19/24....



Reach

N/A



@CityGardenGrove

Wed 2/14/2024 9:13 am PST

[▶youtube.com/watch?v=BXNQHO...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXNQHO...) It's time to start sprucing up your home's front yard! 🏡💎 **GARDEN GROVE GEMS** is coming !! The home beautification program recognizes residents for their home's outstanding curb appeal! [i](https://www.ggcity.org/news/gems-2024) Learn more at [ggcity.org/news/gems-2024](https://www.ggcity.org/news/gems-2024) [gg1956](https://www.gg1956)

Reach

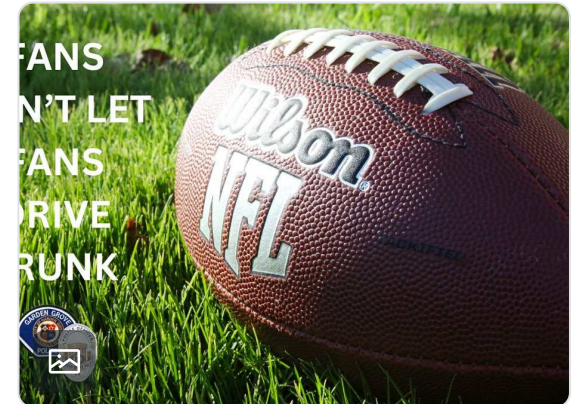
N/A



@CityGardenGrove

Sun 2/11/2024 12:00 pm PST

Celebrating **#SuperBowlSunday?** **#PlanAhead** and have a designated sober driver or ride. The...



Reach

N/A



@CityGardenGrove

Sat 2/10/2024 8:00 am PST

Happy Lunar New Year, #GardenGrove!
May the Year of the Dragon bring you
good luck and good health! 🐉 #GG195...



Reach

N/A



Post Performance

February 8, 2024 - February 14, 2024

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

Included in this Report

 Garden Grove Police Department



f Garden Grove Police Depa...

Mon 2/12/2024 6:00 pm PST

Over the past few weeks,
#GardenGrovePD Resort Unit and
Detectives were investigating vehicle...



Impressions	6,578
Reach	6,526
Engagements	1,717
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	26.1%



f Garden Grove Police Depa...

Sun 2/11/2024 12:00 pm PST

#GardenGrovePD will be deploying
additional officers tonight, to specifically
look for drivers suspected of driving und...



Video Views	478
Impressions	1,115
Reach	1,074
Engagements	97
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	8.7%

WEEKLY MEMO 02-15-2024

NEWS ARTICLES

Moving experiences move on

February 14



Two measures involving moving around Garden Grove were approved at Tuesday's meeting of the city council.

One was adoption of a resolution approving participation in a state program worth \$441,000 for improving the Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail that runs diagonally across the city from Brookhurst Street in the northeast to Nelson Street near the downtown area.

The improvements would include bike racks, benches, exercise equipment, trash cans, "litter abatement signage," landscaping/mulch and more.

Also adopted was a resolution authorizing an application to apply for a grant from the Orange County Transit Authority for traffic circulators in Garden Grove. If the grant was approved it would create an on-demand service using electric vehicles intended to supplement existing public transit.

The grant, if approved, would be for \$2.27 million over a seven-year period. Both were approved on a 6-0 vote with Mayor Steve Jones absent.

Townhome project approved



By **Jim Tortolano**/Orange County Tribune

A 30-unit townhouse development to be built on the site of a former restaurant won initial approval from the Garden Grove City Council on Tuesday night.

With Mayor Steve Jones absent, the council voted 6-0 to approve the first reading of an ordinance for the 30-unit project to be built at the corner of Brookhurst Street and Central Avenue.

In addition to a site plan and tentative tract map, the applicant asked for a rezone from neighborhood commercial (C-1) and limited multiple residential (R-3).

The project would include three affordable residential units for “moderate income” households on the 1.22-acre site where the Marie Callender’s restaurant once stood.

Of the 30 units, 22 would be two-bedroom units and eight would be four-bedroom units. Each unit would have a two-car garage (standard or tandem) and a balcony on the second floor and an open patio in the front.

Proposed is about 3,290 square feet of common recreation area with a barbecue area, wood structure shades and tables, seating, outdoor furniture, community gardens and a community dog bag station.

Phố Hoa Garden Grove 'bị' tràn ngập áo dài đủ sắc màu, đủ kiểu

February 13, 2024



Đông đảo khách du Xuân tham dự lễ khai mạc Phố Hoa Garden Grove. (Hình: Đỗ Dzũng/Người Việt)

GARDEN GROVE, California (NV) – Phố Hoa trên đường Historic Main Street, Garden Grove, ngày Mừng Một Tết "bị" tràn ngập rất nhiều áo dài của thanh niên, thiếu nữ, và ngay cả người cao niên, tạo nên một hình ảnh nhộn nhịp giữa người và hoa, chưa từng thấy ở vùng Little Saigon từ trước tới nay.

Phố Hoa năm nay là năm thứ nhì, nên đông người hơn năm trước.

Nhiều người không có chỗ đậu xe xung quanh Phố Hoa, đành phải đậu ở chợ Costco và Home Depot gần đó, rồi băng qua đường.

Hai xe cảnh sát chặn hai đầu Phố Hoa, một chiếc bên đường Garden Grove, một chiếc bên đường Acacia.

Ngay lối vào chính bên đường Garden Grove là con số "2024" rất lớn, để trước một mô hình một cánh hoa khổng lồ, được làm bằng hàng chục bó nhang đủ màu, xung quanh có các chậu hoa cúc đại đóa bao bọc. Bên phải là một con rồng lớn, bên trái là một đàn ngỗng đang bay.

Hai bên đường của Phố Hoa là những gian làm bằng lá, bằng tre, bằng gỗ...có đủ các loại hoa, mô hình bánh chưng, bánh tét, dưa hấu, thỏi vàng, nón lá, mẹt, quang gánh... xe Honda, xe Vespa, xe Lambreta, xe xích lô... những đồ vật mang đậm nét văn hóa Việt Nam.



Nhìn vào con đường lịch sử của Garden Grove chỉ thấy toàn là hoa và người, đa số mặc áo dài đủ màu, đủ kiểu.

Mọi người, đa số mang theo cả gia đình, thay nhau ngồi hoặc đứng trong các gian để chụp hình. Các thiếu nữ trẻ đứng làm dáng, xoay qua xoay lại, để chụp hình và "selfie."

Cha mẹ bế con cái, có những em còn rất nhỏ, trong các bộ áo dài rất dễ thương, đến Phố Hoa để chụp hình.

"Rất tuyệt vời, đây là một sự kiện đoàn kết cộng đồng, cùng nhau chào mừng năm con rồng, và tôi rất vui khi thấy nhiều người mặc áo dài đủ màu đi ngắm phố hoa," bà Lisa Kim, tổng quản trị Garden Grove, nói với phóng viên nhật báo Người Việt. "Tôi hy vọng năm tới Phố Hoa sẽ lớn hơn, cộng đồng chúng ta sẽ mạnh mẽ hơn."

Ông Phú Nguyễn, ủy viên Học Khu Fountain Valley, cùng vợ và ba người con, tất cả đều mặc áo dài, đi từng gian để chụp hình, cho biết ông ngạc nhiên khi lần đầu tiên đến Phố Hoa Garden Grove.

“Rất tuyệt! Tôi thấy làm Phố Hoa bên ngoài như vậy đẹp hơn, vì các cơ sở thương mại có thể bảo trợ và quảng cáo hữu hiệu. Phải nói là các cơ sở thương mại làm một công việc rất tốt. Nhờ đi Phố Hoa mà tôi biết thêm một số vật dụng của người Việt mình ngày xưa.”

Trong khi nhiều người mặc áo dài có hình con rồng, ông Charles Johnson, cư dân Garden Grove, mặc một áo dài có hình con cá.

Ông giải thích: “Tôi có vợ người Việt và ba đứa con. Vợ tôi mua cho tôi áo này năm ngoái. Con cá không nằm trong 12 con giáp, nên tôi có thể mặc năm nào cũng được.”

“Tôi rất vui khi thấy nhiều người mặc áo dài đi Phố Hoa, nhất là những chàng trai và cô gái rất trẻ, xếp hàng chờ chụp hình, rồi có người ‘selfie,’ trông rất hạnh phúc,” ông nói tiếp.

Cô Lisabet Bành, cư dân Calgary, Canada, cho biết cô cũng rất thích không khí vui nhộn ngày Xuân của Phố Hoa.

“Tôi thấy có nhiều hoa đẹp, trang trí đẹp mắt, mọi người nói chuyện qua lay, ríu rít, ồn ào, nhưng vui nhộn. Tôi cũng thích nhiều gian trưng hoa quả, đồ vật ngày xưa, mang tính văn hóa và truyền thống,” cô Lisabet nói tiếp.

Ngồi chờ người nhà xếp hàng dài mua nước trong tiệm Phúc Long, cô Stacy Trần, cư dân San Jose, khen cảnh Phố Hoa rất đẹp và đầy tính văn hóa.

Cô nói: “Trước hết là tôi thấy vui. Kế đến là trang trí rất đẹp. Đây là lần đầu tiên tôi đến đây, rất ngạc nhiên với Phố Hoa. Tuy không lớn bằng đại lộ Nguyễn Huệ của ngày xưa, nhưng lại có nét văn hóa rất cao. Điều đặc biệt nữa là chỉ có Little Saigon có Phố Hoa, chứ ở San Jose tôi chưa có. Có điều, ban tổ chức nên có thêm nơi bán thức ăn và nước uống, vừa để doanh nghiệp phát triển vừa để phục vụ khách du Xuân.”

Được biết ý tưởng thực hiện Phố Hoa là do ông Linh Nguyễn, chủ tịch Vietnamese Soccer Association of So Cal, đưa ra, theo bà Lisa Kim.

“Lý do tôi muốn thực hiện Phố Hoa vì thấy những hội chợ trong cộng đồng Việt Nam không có nhiều hoa. Tôi muốn thấy hình ảnh gia đình đi chơi ngày Tết có hoa để chụp hình kỷ niệm, chưa thấy ở Mỹ,” ông Linh bày tỏ. “Trong khi đó, tôi thấy đường Main rất đẹp, rất phù hợp với Phố Hoa. Thế là tôi đề nghị với thành phố.”

Ông Linh cũng cho biết, lần đầu tổ chức vào năm 2023 bị lỗi nhiều, năm nay đạt được 70%, và “tôi hy vọng năm tới sẽ đạt 100% vốn.”

Ông nói thêm: “Nhân đây, tôi cũng xin cảm ơn các doanh nghiệp bảo trợ, những tình nguyện viên, các mạnh thường quân, giúp chúng tôi thực hiện Phố Hoa Garden Grove, qua công việc chuẩn bị từ ba tháng trước, nhất là trời lạnh trong mấy ngày qua.”

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
February 15, 2024

1. Calendar of Events
2. Notice of cancellation of the February 22, 2024 Garden Grove Zoning Administration Meeting.
3. League of California Cities articles from February 9, 2024 to February 15, 2024.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 15, 2024 – March 22, 2024

Thursday	February 15	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	February 16	9:00 a.m.	SPECIAL MEETING - City Council Retreat Great Wolf Lodge, 12681 Harbor Bl. White Pine Conference Room
Monday	February 19		City Hall Closed – President’s Day
Thursday	February 22	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC CANCELLED \$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
Friday	February 23		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	February 27	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	March 7	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	March 8		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Saturday	March 9	11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	Art in the Park, Village Green Park 12732 Main St.
Tuesday	March 12	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	March 14	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Thursday	March 21	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC \$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
Friday	March 22		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure



GARDEN GROVE

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
OF THE
GARDEN GROVE
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2024**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled.

DATED: February 15, 2024

DAVID DENT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR



California city managers receive statewide honors for contributions to the field

Feb 14, 2024

By Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor

The [City Managers Department](#) last week handed top honors to members from Monrovia, Watsonville, and Aliso Viejo for their contributions to the city management profession.



Lauren Vasquez, Monrovia assistant city manager, received the Award for the Advancement of Diverse Communities. She helped enact over 40 programs and policies aimed at boosting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the city.

Fellow City Manager Dylan Feik drew attention to her work removing implicit bias from the city's hiring processes. Using voluntary demographic information, the city now actively looks for and reduces "bottlenecks" that stop qualified candidates from advancing. Feik's work already moved the needle in one department: The number of women in the police force doubled in two years.



Tamara Vides, an assistant city manager for Watsonville, received the John H. Hail Memorial Work for her contributions to the field. She mobilized the city's emergency operations last year when an underpredicted winter storm sent water gushing out of Corralitos Creek. At the time, most city staff were away for the holidays.

Vides also secured transportation, shelter, and food for affected residents. She later oversaw cleanup efforts, coordinated additional emergency responses, and even drove several hours to buy thousands of sandbags. Rene Mendez — who nominated Vides — said her “tireless” and “hands-on approach” demonstrated a genuine commitment to the city and public service as a whole.



Dennis Wilberg, Aliso Viejo city manager, received the Wes McClure Award for his decades-long dedication to mentoring others. Wilberg has served as an advisor for city managers throughout the state and is the longest-tenured city manager in Orange County. He has mentored future city managers through a university fellowship program, as well as regional and international organizations.

Wilberg also worked with other city officials to create the second-largest animal shelter in Orange County, build an advanced water treatment facility, and increase public safety. He has had leadership roles with Cal Cities and the Orange County Council of Governments.

For more information about department awards, contact Meghan McKelvey, [department and member services senior manager](#).



Here's how Cal Cities is opposing the CBRT-sponsored ballot initiative

Feb 14, 2024

For questions about 2024 ballot measures, contact your regional public affairs manager

By Kristine Guerrero, regional public affairs manager, Los Angeles County

Cal Cities has been gearing up for an [existential ballot measure fight](#) that could impact every city in California. As part of those efforts, the [Regional Public Affairs team](#) is launching a one-stop-shop series about the biggest ballot measures for cities heading into the 2024 elections. It's an easy way to learn what Cal Cities has done, what other cities are doing, and how your city can join our efforts.

Just what is the ballot measure about?

By far the most consequential ballot measure for cities is the deceptively named "[Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act.](#)"

According to the California Attorney General, the initiative would limit the ability of local voters and state and local governments to raise revenue measures for government services. It could make it harder to raise revenues for a range of services — from emergency services to road maintenance. A group of the state's wealthiest corporations, the California Business Roundtable, is bankrolling the measure.

Cal Cities estimates the measure could reduce state and local government funding for core public services by billions annually. The measure's unclear language would need to be clarified in the courts, putting an additional financial burden on cities and taxpayers.

Cal Cities is taking a three-pronged approach by opposing the measure in the [Legislature](#), in the [courts](#), and in the field through campaign outreach plans and meetings with city officials.

Together with our coalition partners, Cal Cities this past Sunday also took out a [full-page ad](#) in the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* calling out the companies behind this measure. (You can read more about that effort in the Monday edition of *Politico California Playbook* and the *Los Angeles Times*.)

Cal Cities opposes the measure as a dangerous, irresponsible overreach that will have a catastrophic impact on California's future.

A 100% success rate

Cal Cities formed the Regional Public Affairs team over 20 years ago specifically to protect local funding and oppose measures like this. Made up of 16 professional campaign organizers around the state, the team has over 300 years of experience. Members have worked for governors, legislators, and campaign consultants.

But more important is our win rate. Our team has helped defeat or pass nearly all of the ballot measures Cal Cities has engaged in.

For more information, sample resolutions, fact sheets, presentations, or other ways to engage, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#)



‘DART is like a second family,’ says member of award-winning youth program

Feb 14, 2024

Guest article by Aida Torres, crime prevention specialist for the city of Duarte, and Larry Breceda, director of public safety services for the city of Duarte.

#LocalWorks

When it comes to making an impact, it’s often not what you spend but how you spend it. A [recent study](#) found that the Duarte Area Resource Team (DART) reduced juvenile arrests by over 60% over a three-year period. They did this by spending just \$25,000 per year in city funds, supplemented by state funding.



This success is even more evident when comparing Duarte to another city in the study, which experienced a 41% increase in juvenile arrests.

“DART is really 'one of a kind,’” said Cesar Garcia, the mayor pro-tem of Duarte and a former DART participant. “And it wouldn’t be what it is without the staff that has dedicated years to making it what it is and who have made genuine connections with the students.”

DART has its roots in a 1999 youth engagement program, which was limited in scope and did not fully address issues of youth violence and gang recruitment. In 2010, the Duarte Public Safety Department secured state funding to expand the program to

address youth gang recruitment and focus on lowering juvenile arrests. Now known as DART, the program is a beacon of hope for youth ages 13 to 19.

Thanks to the funding, the program has expanded its team by hiring support staff and prioritizing training future generations of community role models. “I have been fortunate enough to continue working as a mentor to watch new generations of students grow in confidence, leadership, and love,” states Alex Tapia, a DART graduate and current intern. Tapia will graduate college this year to pursue a teaching career.

A holistic approach to youth development

Like many nearby cities, Duarte is a bedroom community hemmed in by the San Gabriel Mountains to the north. In the last fifty years, street gangs have become a problem. Duarte is also a minority-majority city, with many families living at or below the poverty line. Some of the city’s youth feel marginalized and seek a sense of social identity, which gangs capitalize on in recruitment.



DART operates within the Public Safety Department/Sheriff’s Substation and includes a crime prevention specialist, a school resource sheriff’s deputy, and college interns. The key to DART’s continued success is its robust relationships with internal and external stakeholders, including the school district, the city’s Parks and Recreation Department, The Boys and Girls Club, and other youth organizations.

A significant number of DART participants are first-generation Americans and face challenges accessing resources due to discrimination and economic inequality.

“I would not be where I am now had it not been for the DART program,” said Laura Cortez. “As a first-generation student, I didn’t have guidance about career options or college. In fact, growing up, I used to think attending a university would never be feasible due to the lack of affordability and qualifications.”

DART focuses on reducing delinquency and fostering pro-social behaviors by mentoring students and getting them involved in their community. Beyond traditional prevention, intervention, and reintegration programs, DART mentors and city staff go the extra mile by attending parent-teacher conferences, helping with work and college applications, and advocating for the youth. This comprehensive approach helps ensure that students receive the support they need.

During her time in DART, Cortez volunteered for the city of Hope and attended several college tours, including one at the University of California, Los Angeles. She graduated from UCLA in 2017 and is now a registered nurse at City of Hope. “I am forever grateful for the roots that made this all possible,” Cortez said.

Expanding impact and success

A [2022 independent study](#) revealed that DART participants felt a heightened sense of security, belonging, and significance as they became integral parts of their own community. Youth adopted more pro-social behaviors — acts of kindness, collaboration, empathy, and selflessness — leading to decreased recidivism rates. These behaviors are nurtured through community services, further increasing community well-being. This significantly reduces the likelihood of negative and criminal activities, such as property defacement and theft. Self-reported surveys also found positive shifts in attitudes toward delinquency, commitment to school, collective efficacy, and parental supervision.

However, DART's success lies in its ability to evolve and address current issues facing youth. Although it was initially designed for gang and juvenile crime prevention, the program has adapted to address emerging challenges, such as increased vaping, cyberbullying, and the mental and physical health effects of COVID-19.

“Since I joined DART, my screen time has decreased by a third,” said Viridiana Garcia, a current member. “I also do things I only saw on social media, like volunteering and other fun group hangouts.”



A local program gains global recognition

Initially serving around 20 youths annually with a \$10,000 budget, DART now reaches approximately 50 youths annually.

The exceptional work of the program has not gone unnoticed. Recently, the International City/County Management Association honored DART with a Local Government Excellence Award for its innovative and successful approach to community safety, health, and wellness. DART has not only reduced juvenile arrests but has positively transformed the lives of countless young individuals — and, by extension, their communities.

“DART has changed me in many ways — like being outgoing and making others laugh,” said Athziri Villa, another current member. “... If you ask me what DART means to me, I will say that DART is like a second family, and the support that I have gotten from being in DART I would not change for the world. DART has given me a lot of fun memories and a lot of cool friends.”