

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
September 23, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council FROM: Maria Stipe, Assistant City Manager
Members

I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. LETTER OF SUPPORT – 360 PACE APPLICATION

A copy of the letter of support from Mayor Jones for 360 PACE to establish a Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly Center in Orange County is included.

B. PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Capital Improvement Project updates for the Public Works Engineering and Water Services divisions are included for your information.

• 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.



Maria Stipe
Assistant City Manager



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

September 22, 2021

Joseph Billingsley
California Department of Health Care Services
P.O. Box 997437, MS 0018
Sacramento, CA 95899-7437

Steve Jones
Mayor

Kim Bernice Nguyen
Mayor Pro Tem - District 6

George S. Brietigam
Council Member - District 1

John R. O'Neill
Council Member - District 2

Diedre Thu-Ha Nguyen
Council Member - District 3

Patrick Phat Bui
Council Member - District 4

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Council Member - District 5

Re: Letter of Support for 360 PACE- Application for Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) in Central Orange County

Dear Mr. Billingsley:

On behalf of the City of Garden Grove, I am writing this letter in support of 360 PACE and its application to the State of California and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to establish a Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Center in Orange County. Aided by the cultural competency of its bilingual interdisciplinary team, the organization aims to focus on the underserved Vietnamese population to significantly improve their lives.

PACE programs have long demonstrated the ability to significantly improve the lives of the very frail and elderly, and as such PACE services should be made more available to residents of Orange County and of surrounding communities.

The City of Garden Grove in Orange County has the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam. This PACE program would support 400 underserved seniors who would otherwise require skilled nursing care to live independently in the community. 360 PACE's program would coordinate essential medical and social services while also providing in-home care services, rehabilitative therapies, and transportation to the PACE Center for medical appointments.

360 has a history of serving uninsured and underserved communities. During the pandemic, 360 partnered with the Orange County Health Care Agency to run two super sites offering drive-thru COVID testing, as well as established 37 walk-up kiosks across the county. It has served over 400,000 Orange County residents, more than 50% of whom are uninsured patients.

We respectfully ask that the California Department of Health Care Services give due consideration to 360 PACE to establish a PACE center in Orange County. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Jones
Mayor

PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Project Status Report

September 16, 2021

ENGINEERING DIVISION - CAPITAL PROJECTS

The following are capital construction and design projects under the administration of the Engineering Division and their present status. This covers approximately through the next year.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

CP-1254000 – Orangewood Ave Rehabilitation – Brookhurst to Euclid L= 1 mi. (NAVIN)

Contract Price = \$1,805,258

- Rehab Type: Mill & Overlay w/ARAM
- Construction Status: Striping will be done this week.

CP-1254000 – Lampson Ave Rehab – Dale to Magnolia L= 2600' (NAVIN)

Contract Price = \$557,852

- Rehab Type: 2" Mill & Fill with digouts
- Construction Status: Complete striping by end of this week.

CP-1254000 – Garden Grove Blvd Rehab – Dale to Magnolia L= 2600' (NICK)

Contract Price = \$318,115 street rehab + \$394,076 for sewer work = \$713,191

- Rehab Type: Microsurfacing with digouts and minor sewer improvements
- Construction Status: Complete striping by end of this week.

CP-1254000 – Lampson Avenue Sidewalk – Haster to Jetty (NICK)

Contract Price = \$109,980

- New 5' wide concrete sidewalk complete.
- Construction Status: Complete!

Low Bidder: All-American Asphalt for \$3,185,281 **Working Days:** 100

Schedule: Award: April 27, 2021; **Construction Start:** June 1, 2021

CP-1250000 – Ward Street Rehabilitation – S'yly City Limits to Hazard L= 1.25 mi. (NICK)

City boundary follows centerline of street

City of Westminster is Lead Agency

- **Low Bid:** \$1.36M All-American Asphalt **Const. Start:** 5/24/21 **Working Days:** 80
- Rehab Type: 3/4 FDR, 1/4 Mill & Fill
- Status: Raised pavement markers and catch basin filters

Capital Projects - Project Status Report

September 16, 2021

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- CP-1293000 – Katella Ave Rehab** – 500' W/o Magnolia to 150' E/o Barclay, L= 4600' (NAVIN)
Budgetary Estimate = \$286,733 (construction only) Psuedo-cooperative project w/ County.
City will contract directly with County contractor – RJ Noble, Steve Mendoza
- Rehab Type: Mill & Fill w/ 750' of R & R at east end.
 - Status: Contract with RJN approved by Council June 22, 2021.
 - Schedule: Construction started. Concrete work mostly complete. Asphalt work begins 9/20/21.

- CP-1007000 – Acacia Storm Drain** Const: **2021** (MIKE S)
Acacia Ave floods regularly and water ponds in several front yards in the area.
- Alignment: Acacia Ave from Dale to Josephine, Josephine from Acacia to Woolley
 - Proposed Master Plan of Drainage, Line B-3 **Estimated Const Cost: \$3 M**
 - Environmental Clearance complete **Working Days: 100**
 - HUD funding approved
 - AT&T, Gas Co. and Charter Communications in process of relocating utilities.
 - Re-advertisement date for Bids: TBD **Bid Opening: TBD**

- CP-1090000 – Euclid/Westminster Intersection Improvement** (MIKE S.)
Proposed improvement: Add a southbound right turn lane & EB right turn lane
- OCTA awarded \$1M Regional Capacity Program grant to City May 3, 2021.
 - Estimated Construction Cost: **\$1.5 M**
 - SCE and Communication company relocations to new poles complete.
 - Waiting for SCE to power up relocated street light
 - Advertise for Bids: August 20, 2021 **Bid Opening: Sept 22, 2021**

DESIGN PROJECTS

- CP-1259000 – Acacia Neighborhood Street Improvements** Const: **2022** (MIKE S)
Scope: Residential streets bounded by Dale, Stanford, Josephine and Garden Grove Blvd
Fund 602 Water Capital = \$700,000
- Residential streets are severely cracked
 - Street Imprvmnts: Street reconstruction & widening with new curb, gutter and sidewalk
 - Street Design Status: 60% complete
 - Utility poles need to be relocated to complete street work – coord underway

Capital Projects - Project Status Report

September 16, 2021

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CP1297022 – Chapman Ave Rehab – Springdale to Western L= 5300' (NICK)

Budgetary Estimate = \$3.5 M (design, construction, contingency & const engineering)

Rehab Type: 2" Mill & Fill with digouts and ARAM

- Schedule: Construction summer 2022
- Will include one grooved cross gutter replacement @ Chapman & Jasper
- Status: Started

CP1297022 – Garden Grove Blvd Rehab – Harbor to Fairview L= 5100' (NAVIN)

Budgetary Estimate = \$2.2 M (design, construction, contingency & const engineering)

Rehab Type: 2" Mill & Fill with digouts and ARAM

- Schedule: Construction summer 2022
- Status: Started

CP1297022 – Lampson Ave Rehab – Springdale to Knott L= 2600' (NICK)

Budgetary Estimate = \$350 k (design, construction, contingency & const engineering)

Rehab Type: Digouts, Crack Fill & Slurry Seal

- Schedule: Construction summer 2022
- Status: Base plan completed.

CP1297022 – Lampson Ave Rehab – Harbor to Haster L= 2600' (NAVIN)

Budgetary Estimate = \$300 k (design, construction, contingency & const engineering)

Rehab Type: Crack Fill & Slurry Seal

- Schedule: Construction summer 2022
- Status: Plans 60% complete

CP-1253000 – Hazard Ave Rehab – Bushard to Ward L= ~5000' (NICK)

Budgetary Estimate = \$670k for City of GG, \$500k for Westminster

City of Garden Grove is Lead Agency

- Rehab Type: 2" Mill & Fill with digouts (1/2 FR-ARHM, 1/2 ARHM)
- Schedule: Construction summer/fall 2022
- Status: Design 40% complete – Need to start segment from Bushard to Brookhurst
- Geocon will prepare geotechnical report

CP-1196263 – Westminster Ave Rehab – Magnolia to Bushard L= 2600' (NICK)

Budgetary Estimate = \$300k for City of GG

City of Westminster is Lead Agency

- Rehab Type: Reconstruction, City of GG owns only #3 WB lane
- Schedule: Construction summer/fall 2022
- Status: Design submitted by City of Westminster – GG is currently reviewing

Capital Projects - Project Status Report

September 16, 2021

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CP-1303000 – Harbor/Garden Grove Intersection Improvement

(NAVIN)

Proposed improvement: Add 2nd NB left turn lane, EB right turn lane & new traffic signal

- Estimated Project Cost: **\$3.135 M**
- Traffic Engineering evaluating other intersection analysis method for OCTA grant funding consideration
- Possible funding through future federal infrastructure bill
- Status: Finalized lane configurations approved by City Engineer 09/13/2021

CP-1045000 – Chapman at Lamplighter Traffic Signal

- Design status: Complete
- Waiting on confirmation of federal grant award from congressional representative

VAR – Traffic Signal Modifications

(KEN & JUAN)

These projects will upgrade the traffic signals at all the intersections listed below:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Status</u>
• Garden Grove Blvd & Gilbert	Design 100%
• Garden Grove Blvd & Galway	Design 95%
• Garden Grove Blvd & Casa Linda	Design 100%
• Euclid & Stanford	Design 100%
• Brookhurst & Stanford	Design 50%

- Advertise for Bids: September 2021

VAR – Traffic Signal Synchronization Projects (Multijurisdictional)

(DAI, KEN, JUAN)

These projects will synchronize the traffic signals and will upgrade the equipment at all the intersections listed below:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Status</u>
• CP-1109000 Katella Avenue	Consultant awarded project Construction 10%
• CP-1180000 Valley View	Postponed until 2022* Design 0%
○ *Funding issues related to Covid-19 for H.B & Westminster	

CP-1097000 – Garden Grove Blvd Traffic Signal Synchronization

(KEN & JUAN)

Multi-jurisdictional signal timing project from Valley View to Bristol. Includes upgrades to all signal controllers, cabinets, video detection, preemption and Traffic Mgmt Center

- Consultant selected – Advantec Design: Complete
- Construction Status: 90% complete
- TMC Monitors are operational
- Concurrently replacing signal cabinets, pull boxes & conduit
- Signal timing implemented

Capital Projects - Project Status Report

September 16, 2021

Page 5 of 5

Magnolia Street – Utility Undergrounding – GG Blvd to Mac Alpine (NICK & MARK)

- Cost for undergrounding has increased to \$550/lf: total = \$5.8M in 2020 dollars
- Edison has reduced the scope of work to accommodate the available budget
- Status: Design complete. SCE revising 70 sheets of traffic control plans in response to City comments for permitting purposes.
- SCE's intent is to keep the project as designed and move toward construction beginning early 2022.
- Re-starting project w/ meeting on 09/23/21

CP-1047000 – Civic Center Drive – Median & Parking Modifications (MIKE B.)

Modify CCD median island and install angled parking in NB lanes

- Survey info received.
- Status: Concept plans started. Further design dependent on issuance of grading permit for proposed Cottage Industry development

Grooved Cross Gutter Replacement (NICK)

There are currently one known grooved cross gutters on Chapman Avenue at Jasper Street. It will be replaced with a regular cross gutter and modifications to the existing street to adjust surrounding grades.

- DESIGN COMPLETE. Construction will proceed as funding becomes available.
- Will be included with the Chapman Ave Rehab – from Knott to Western

cc: B. Murray, T.J McGovern, R. Meeks, L. Ruitenschild, M. Gray, L.Tapia, A. Pulido, J. Goddard, Noelle Kim, Ana Neal, R Leyva, B Eurs, Carolyn M., Emily T, Karen F., R. Jacot, K. Dibaj, R. Manson, Buster E., Patti W., Susan Morgan, David Ortega, Alicia Hofer, Lorena Soules

PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS - STATUS REPORT
September 20, 2021
WATER SERVICES DIVISION

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SANITARY SEWER

- **CP1141000 Partridge Lift Station Improvements Project** –The District has been experiencing frequent pump clogging caused by wet wipes from the tributary area. The District is considering to install a new grinder at the upstream of the lift station. Staff has hired AKM to provide a preliminary design of the grinder installation for the Partridge Lift Station.

Project Limit: Partridge Lift Station
Contractor: Pacific Hydrotech Corp
Bid Amount: \$614,900

Status:

- Property owner signed the preliminary drawing for the easement agreement. SCE is finalizing the drawing. PHC will proceed as soon as the final drawing is received.
- **CP1244000 Sewer Main Replacement Project 2&3**–The Sewer Rehabilitation Plan Phase 1, Sewer Main Replacement Project 2 (at Galway Street, Gilbert Street, Kerry Street, Kellogg Way, Alley near Belfast Drive, Crosby Ave, Central Avenue, and Acacia Avenue) and Project 3 (Trask Avenue, Edgebrook Drive, Garden Grove Boulevard, and Sycamore Street) are two of many projects designed to address defective sewer pipe throughout the City. The sewer improvements will consist of approximately 4,400 feet of sewer pipes, includes both design and optional construction management/inspection services.

Project Limit: See Location Map
Consultant: JIG
Contractor: Kordich
Bid Amount: \$1,961,050

Status:

- Contractor is replacing sewer main in Central Ave. and Gilbert St.
- **CP1245000 Sewer Main Lining and Spot Repairs Projects 3&4**–This project consists of rehabilitating approximately 22,813 linear-feet of 8-inch & 10-inch sewer using UV-Cured Glass Reinforced Plastic cured-in-place liner. The project will be at various locations throughout the City. The project will also include spot repairs, sewer lateral reinstatements and top hat sewer lateral seals. The project includes both design and optional construction management/inspection services.

Project Limit: See Location Map
Consultant: Gannett Fleming, Inc
Contractor: Tunnelworks Services, Inc.
Bid Amount: \$1,221,976

Status:

- District Board has approved the contract award. Staff is finalizing the contract. Tentative construction will begin mid-October.

WATER

- **CP1205000 Magnolia Reservoir and Booster Pump Station Rehabilitation Project** (GG Project #7402) – The reservoir repairs consist of crack and joint repair, construction of seismic curb, roof waterproofing, rust spot repair, and the addition of a fall protection system. The repair work for the pump station consists of replacement of the existing engine and booster pump, replacement of the existing exhaust system, replacement of the existing catalytic converter, replacement of two 10-inch butterfly valves, replacement of the 10-inch check valve, refurbishment of the existing flow control valve, and replacement of the roof and existing removable dormer.

Project Limit: Magnolia Park (No traffic impact).
Contractor: Pacific Hydrotech Corp.
Bid Amount: \$3.2 M

Status: PHC has drained the reservoir, took out the old seismic curb. Testing confirmed that existing floor joints inside the reservoir contain asbestos. Abatement will be done to take out existing joints and reseal it with new joint material.

- **OCWD PFAS Final Treatment Design** – CDM Smith is one of the 6 consultants that OCWD has retained to perform final design for well head treatment of the City's 7 affected wells. Ion Exchange has been selected as the preferred treatment approach for all the well sites due to space constraint.

Project Limit: Well 19, Well 29, Well 30, Lampson Reservoir and Booster Station, West Haven Reservoir and Booster Station
Consultant: OCWD – CDM Smith
Contractor: Pacific Hydrotech Corp
Bid Amount: \$12.8M

Status:

- All IX vessels for the Well 21 Site have been delivered. Startup for Well 21 is tentatively planned for mid-October. Site work will continue through the month of November. Construction work at Well 29 continues.

UNDER DESIGN

SANITARY SEWER

- **CP1282000 Sewer System Rehabilitation Plan – Phase II** – This project includes CCTV inspection and system analysis of close to 500,000 linear feet of District’s sewer system. Similar to the Phase I study, projects will be identified to rehabilitate sewer mains that have major to severe structure defects.

Project Limit: South of Katella Ave, West of Lewis Street, North of Westminster Ave, and East of Euclid St.

Consultant: AKM

Status:

- Approximately 25% of the sewer mains have been CCTV. Consultant has started reviewing the videos for the evaluation of those sections of sewer mains.
- **CP131000 Sewer Improvement Project – Lampson Ave and Lamplighter** – This project is to redirect sewer flow away from Lenore Ave. Currently, the sewer main in this street is capacity deficient. This project will install approximately 1,100 ft of a new 10-inch sewer from Lampson Ave and Lamplighter to Lampson Ave and Springdale St.

Project Limit: From Lampson Ave. and Lamplighter St to Lampson Ave. and Sprindale St.

Consultant: AKM

Status:

- Consultant is preparing 90% submittal.
- **CIP Project 92 (Donegal Drive Sewer - GGSD Project JL1299000)** – Staff is exploring the feasibility of constructing a 12-in sewer replacement inside a commercial property at 9625 Bolsa Ave. This will alleviate the sewer deficiency in the area.

Project Limit: Donegal Drive (Washington Ave. to Bolsa Ave.)

Consultant: JIG

Status:

- Plaza owner not willing to work with the City.

WATER

- **SCADA Implementation Project** – The SCADA Master Plan has recommended 22 projects to be implemented over a 5-year period. The City is seeking for Program Management Services to facilitate the detailed design and implementation of these recommendations.

Project Limit: At the various water distribution facilities

Consultant: West Yost Associates

Status:

- The delivery of the PLC for the Global controller is delayed till October. Consultant has to delay the installation of that work. The City and the consultant continue to work on the global overview screens and the HMI screens. Consultant and the City have agreed to add an extra pressure monitoring station for the West side of the City. The bid documents cannot be finalized until the design of the extra station is completed.
- **Alwood Ave and Anthony Ave Water Improvement Project** – This water main replacement project includes two of the high priority fire flow capacity deficient areas identified in the 2020 Water Master Plan. Project consists of approximately 1,300 ft of 12-in diameter pipe, 2,850 ft of 8-in diameter pipe including hydrants, fittings and appurtenances, trenching, backfilling, compaction, and pipe disinfection and testing.

Project Limit: Alwood Ave and Cole St; Anthony Ave and Acacia Ave between Josephine St and Magnolia St.

In-House Design: Staff is finalizing the design.

- **County Orangewood and Dale Water Improvement Project** – This water main replacement project includes replacing over 7,500 ft of 6-in diameter main replacement with 8-inch main. In addition, this project will replace 12 of the dry-barrel hydrants with wet barrel hydrants. This will help improve the fire flow in this area.

Project Limit: Between Orangewood and Yorkshire and Dale and Nearing (See Project Map)
Consultant: Stantec

Status:

- PDR Submittal is planned for mid-October.
- **Engineering and Condition Assessment of Well Nos. 16, 19, and 25** – The 2020 Water Master Plan has identified three potable water wells that are closed to the end of their useful life. This project is to evaluate the well casing of each well to determine if they can be rehabilitated. This project also include optional engineering design service for Well 19 if the assessment determines that it can be rehabilitated. Well 19 is one of the wells that has PFAS concentrations that are above the response levels.

Project Limit: at each well site
Consultant: Civiltec

Status:

- Consultant is finalizing the evaluation of Well 19. Consultant has pulled the Well 16 pump and column out. Brushing and light cleaning using hydrogen peroxide will be done this week.
- **Public Works Yard Block Wall** – Civiltec Engineering has completed the design. Building Department reviewed and approved the plans.

Project Limit: Within the existing facility (No traffic impact).

Status:

- This project will be packaged with one of the water facility projects in the future.

SANITARY SEWER SHARED

City of Anaheim

- Anaheim continues to resist updating 1986 Shared Sewer Agreement. The main stumbling block is that they do not want to lower the current d/D ratio of 0.75.

City of Santa Ana

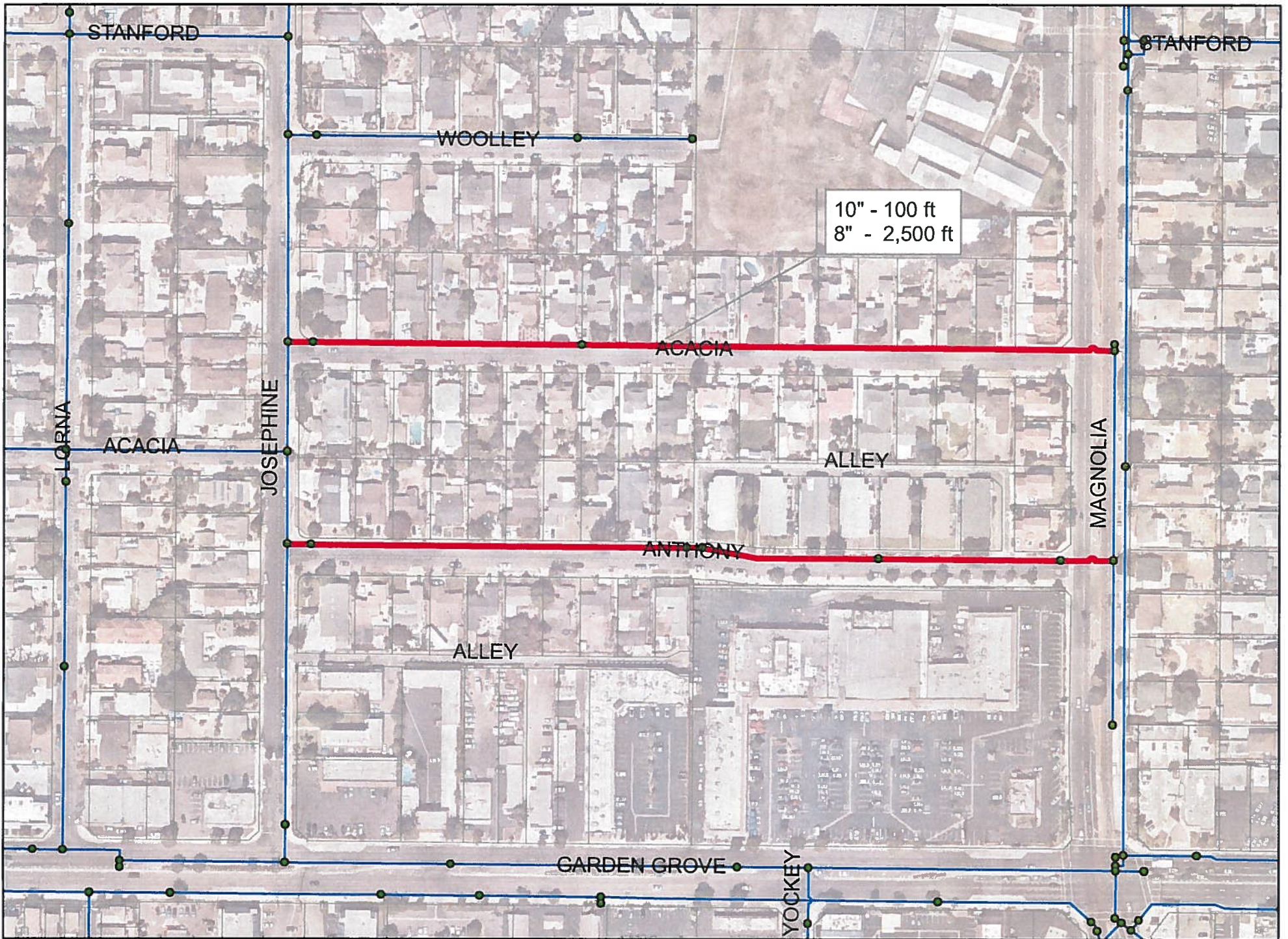
- Santa Ana has agreed to include GGSD's portion of Westminster Sewer upgrade in their design and construction. Santa Ana City Council and GGSD Board have approved the reimbursement agreement between the City of Santa Ana and GGSD for this project.
- Santa Ana and GGSD staff agreed on the areas and contents of the shared sewer agreement. The final draft has been reviewed by attorneys. Santa Ana City Council approved the shared sewer agreement in August 2017. GGSD Board approved the agreement in October 2017.

City of Orange

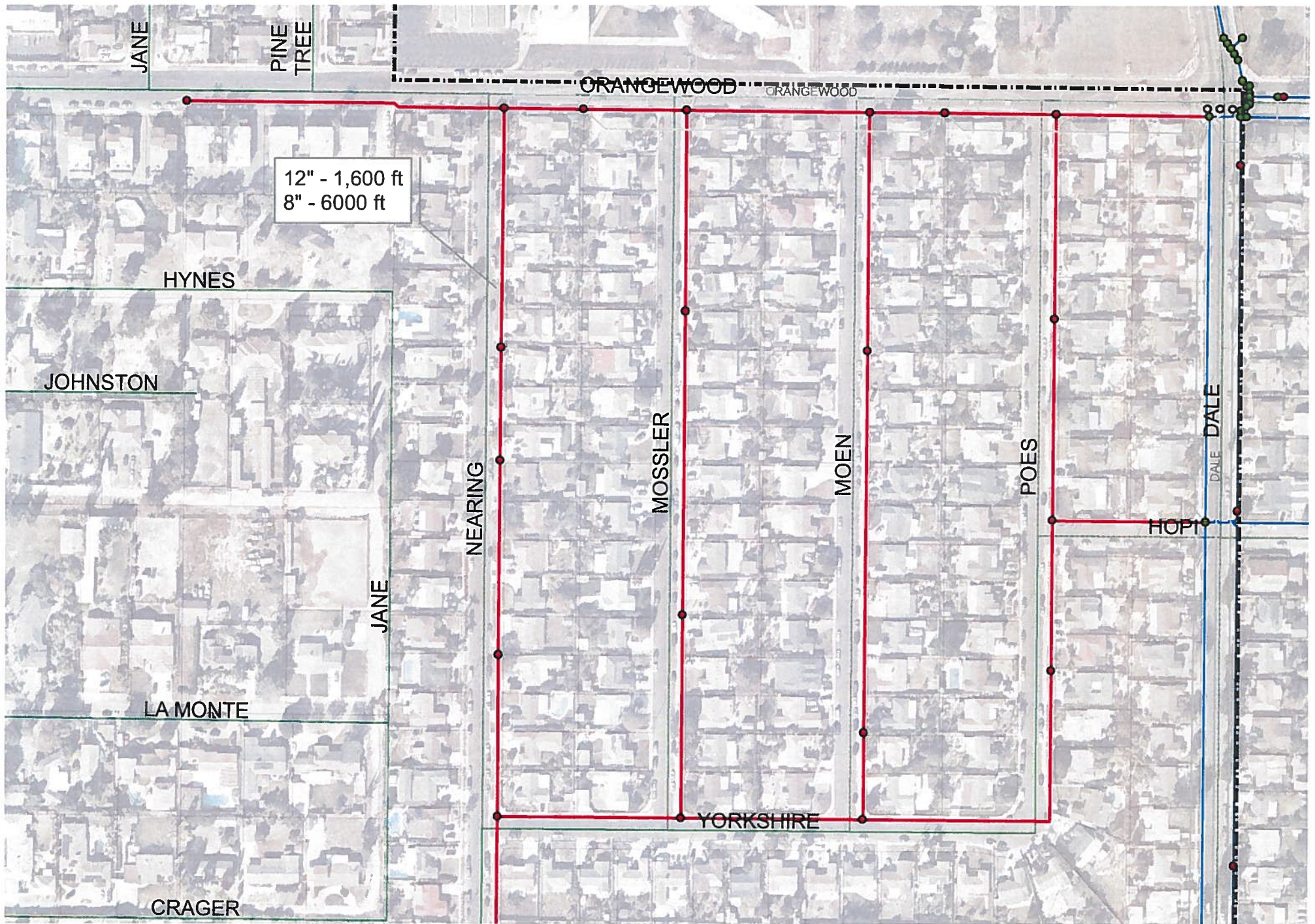
- Water Services has initiated the conversation with City of Orange to draft a share sewer agreement. We have researched with the City Clerk to see if there is any existing share sewer agreement. The City Clerk did not find any.



In-House Design - FF02_Alwood and Cole



In-House Design - FF10_ Magnolia_Anthony_Acacia



Small Diameter Upsize: Oranewood Dr and Dale St Water Replacement Project

WEEKLY MEMO 9-23-2021

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Post Performance

September 16, 2021 - September 22, 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 9/16/2021 9:13 am PDT

The Garden Grove CERT has a message for you 🐰 It's #NationalPreparednessMonth. With #school back in session, help your...



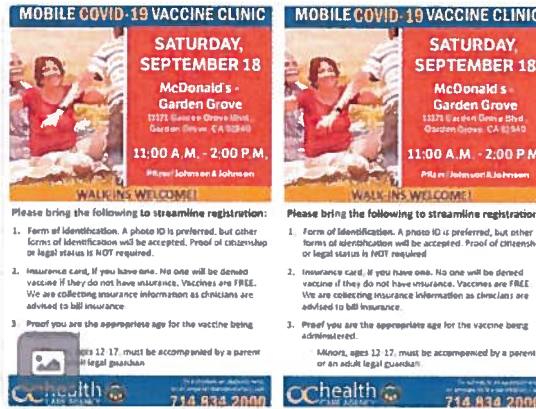
Impressions	868
Reach	844
Engagements	9
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1%



Garden Grove City Hall

Thu 9/16/2021 12:08 pm PDT

Still need to get vaccinated? The mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic is back! 🐰 The County of Orange will open a mobile...



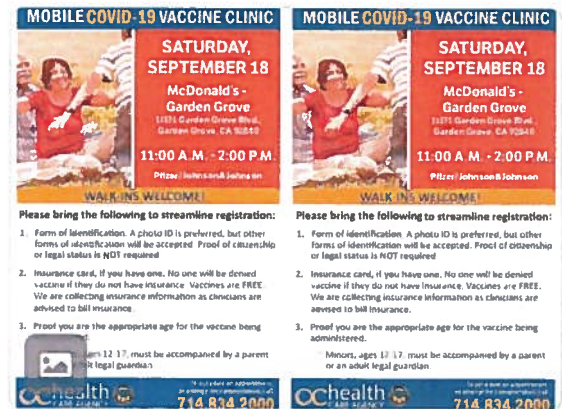
Impressions	830
Reach	826
Engagements	21
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.5%



@CityGardenGrove

Thu 9/16/2021 12:10 pm PDT

Still need to get vaccinated? The mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic is back! 🐰 The County of Orange will open a mobile...



Impressions	344
Potential Reach	4,394
Engagements	7
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2%

  @CityGardenGrove
Thu 9/16/2021 3:30 pm PDT

September is National Hispanic Heritage Month ✨ Come join the celebration of Hispanic/Latinx culture at SteelCraft GG ...



CELEBRATION OF HISPANIC/LATINX CULTURE
September 18th, 2021 • NOON–9 p.m.
NOON–6 p.m. | MAKER'S MARKET

Fuera Beauty
Plant based beauty and personal care products

Mi Época De Oro
Versatile jewelry pieces that make a statement

Grede Modern Clay
Handcrafted modern clay goods

Lavish Bliss
Clothing and accessories made in redwoodland

Guendolina
Original handmade artwork, prints, and stickers

Shop Celestial
Celestial empowerment through jewelry and clothing

Hai Fashion Boutique
The latest fashion trends and styles

Sweet Tooth Desserts
Tasty chocolate and sugary sweet treats

Hermosa Fashion House
Fashion made for your body and life style

Made by LA Inc.
Ethically made clothing by LA artists

AND MORE...

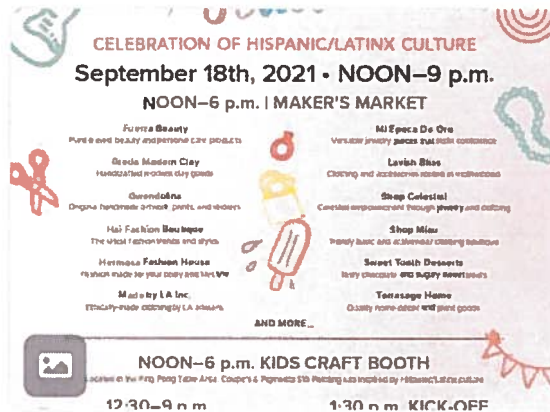
NOON–6 p.m. KIDS CRAFT BOOTH
located in the Pop! Ping Table Area. Cooper's & Pigments 500 Printing also inspired by Hispanic/Latinx Culture

12:30–9 pm 1:30 p.m. KICK-OFF

Impressions	299
Potential Reach	4,393
Engagements	7
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	2.3%

  Garden Grove City Hall
Thu 9/16/2021 3:30 pm PDT

September is National Hispanic Heritage Month ✨ Come join the Summer Culture Series' celebration of Hispanic/Latinx...



CELEBRATION OF HISPANIC/LATINX CULTURE
September 18th, 2021 • NOON–9 p.m.
NOON–6 p.m. | MAKER'S MARKET

Fuera Beauty
Plant based beauty and personal care products

Mi Época De Oro
Versatile jewelry pieces that make a statement

Grede Modern Clay
Handcrafted modern clay goods

Lavish Bliss
Clothing and accessories made in redwoodland

Guendolina
Original handmade artwork, prints, and stickers

Shop Celestial
Celestial empowerment through jewelry and clothing

Hai Fashion Boutique
The latest fashion trends and styles

Sweet Tooth Desserts
Tasty chocolate and sugary sweet treats

Hermosa Fashion House
Fashion made for your body and life style

Made by LA Inc.
Ethically made clothing by LA artists


AND MORE...

NOON–6 p.m. KIDS CRAFT BOOTH
located in the Pop! Ping Table Area. Cooper's & Pigments 500 Printing also inspired by Hispanic/Latinx Culture

12:30–9 pm 1:30 p.m. KICK-OFF

Impressions	1,796
Reach	1,760
Engagements	66
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	3.7%

  Garden Grove City Hall
Fri 9/17/2021 9:10 am PDT

 The celebration continues! Earlier this week, the City congratulated Garden Grove High School on their 100th...



ALL ARGOS WELCOME!!

100 YEARS

GARDEN GROVE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

When: Saturday, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021
Where: Garden Grove High School Campus
11271 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove CA

Time: 11:00AM - 3:00PM

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Impressions	1,204
Reach	1,175
Engagements	30
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	2.5%



@CityGardenGrove

Fri 9/17/2021 9:14 am PDT

The celebration continues! Earlier this week, the City congratulated GGHS on their 100th anniversary. The celebration...



Impressions	280
Potential Reach	4,394
Engagements	13
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	4.6%



Garden Grove City Hall

Fri 9/17/2021 12:00 pm PDT

⚠️ UPCOMING FREEWAY CLOSURES ⚠️ • Friday (9/17), 10:00 p.m. to 4 a.m. -- Southbound I-5 Disneyland off-ramp •...



Impressions	93
Reach	92
Engagements	4
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.3%



@CityGardenGrove

Fri 9/17/2021 12:00 pm PDT

⚠️ UPCOMING FREEWAY CLOSURES ⚠️ • Friday (9/17), 10:00 p.m. to 4 a.m. -- Southbound I-5 Disneyland off-ramp •...



Impressions	331
Potential Reach	4,394
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	0.9%



Garden Grove City Hall

Fri 9/17/2021 4:32 pm PDT

⚠️ UPCOMING FREEWAY CLOSURES ⚠️

Please see the attached commuter alert impacting the 22 Fwy and I-5 offramp to...

Contact: Shelley.Franklin@dot.ca.gov
(949) 988-5055

Upcoming Caltrans Maintenance Closures

SANTA ANA – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is scheduled to have the following closures for maintenance repairs:

Friday, September 17

- Southbound Interstate (I-5) Danavend off-ramp from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.
- Southbound I-5 from Lincoln Avenue to Danavend Road auxiliary lane #3 from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Saturday, September 18

- Northbound I-5 connector to westbound State Route (SR-22) lane #1 from 4:30 a.m. to 5 a.m.
- Northbound I-5 connector to eastbound SR-22 lane #1 from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.
- Southbound I-5 connector to westbound SR-22 lane #2 from 3:30 a.m. to 4 a.m.
- Southbound I-5 southbound Brakes/Laveta off-ramp lane #2 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- Eastbound SR-22 connector to northbound I-5 lane #2 from 4 a.m. to 4:30 a.m.
- Eastbound SR-22 connector to southbound I-5 lane #1 from 5 a.m. to 5:30 a.m.
- Eastbound SR-22 connector to routes I-5 & SR-57 lanes #1 and 3 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
- Southbound SR-53 Edinger off-ramp lane #2 from 6 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Eastbound SR-81 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) connector to northbound SR-57 from 4 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Sunday, September 19

- Northbound SR-1 from Golden Lantern to State School Park center median and left turn lane from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m.
- Southbound SR-1 from State School Park to Golden Lantern center median and left turn lane from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m.
- Southbound SR-241 southbound Portola Parkway on-ramp from 4 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Caltrans supports the public's mobility when we perform this work. Electronic Changeable Message Signs will notify drivers of



Impressions	2,869
Reach	2,843
Engagements	59
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	2.1%



@CityGardenGrove

Sat 9/18/2021 7:30 am PDT

This weekend, the mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic waits for you! 📣 REMINDER 📣 : The OC's mobile COVID-19 vaccine...



Impressions	323
Potential Reach	4,395
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	0.9%



Garden Grove City Hall

Sat 9/18/2021 7:30 am PDT

📣 This weekend, the mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic waits for you! 📣 This is a friendly reminder that the County of...



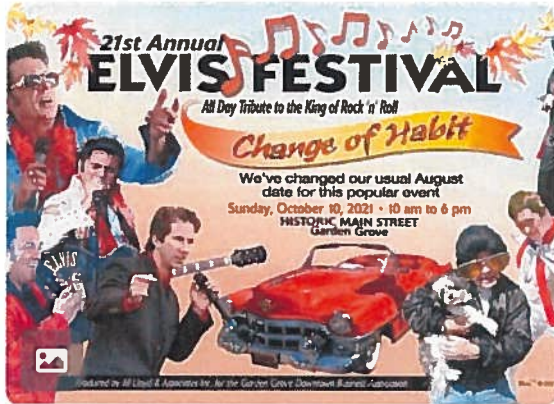
Impressions	392
Reach	383
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.3%



Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 9/20/2021 8:29 am PDT

The Elvis Festival is right around the corner... Save the date! 🎸 Come join the 21st annual Elvis Festival on Sunday,...



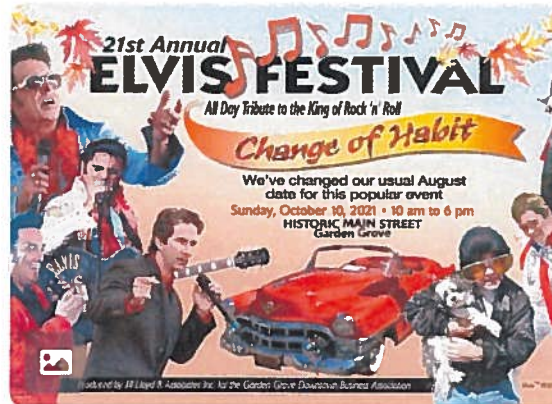
Impressions	1,620
Reach	1,620
Engagements	33
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	2%



@CityGardenGrove

Mon 9/20/2021 8:31 am PDT

The Elvis Festival is right around the corner. Save the date! 🎸 Come join the 21st annual Elvis Festival on Sunday,...



Impressions	251
Potential Reach	4,398
Engagements	18
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	7.2%



Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 9/20/2021 12:00 pm PDT

A hero's return. United States U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl Kareem Mae'Lee Grant Nikoui was only 20-years old when he w...



Video Views	643
Impressions	1,406
Reach	1,320
Engagements	130
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	9.2%



gardengrovecityhall

Mon 9/20/2021 1:48 pm PDT



Impressions	383
Reach	380
Comments	2
Story Taps Back	7



Garden Grove City Hall

Tue 9/21/2021 9:19 am PDT

We need YOU! 🙋‍♀️ The Meals on Wheels Program is looking for volunteers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays...



Impressions	913
Reach	909
Engagements	11
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.2%



@CityGardenGrove

Tue 9/21/2021 9:21 am PDT

We need YOU! 🙋‍♀️ The Meals on Wheels Program is looking for volunteers on Mon, Wed and Thurs between 8:30AM-12:30P...



Impressions	239
Potential Reach	4,404
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.4%

  @CityGardenGrove
Tue 9/21/2021 12:30 pm PDT

Time for some football. 🏈 The community is invited to a networking mixer with the OC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce & GG...



Impressions	257
Potential Reach	4,772
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	3.1%

  Garden Grove City Hall
Tue 9/21/2021 12:30 pm PDT

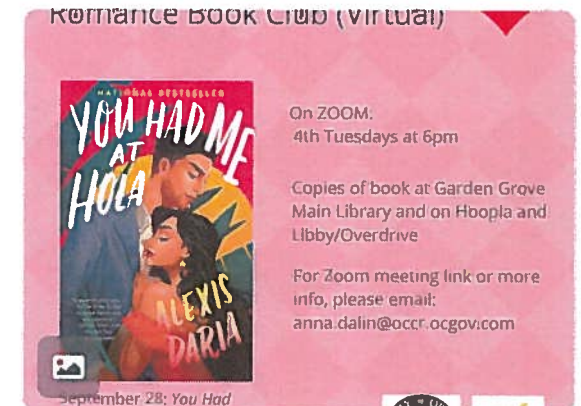
Time for some football. 🏈 The community is invited to attend a networking mixer with the City of Garden Grove, the Oran...



Impressions	422
Reach	422
Engagements	7
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.7%

  @CityGardenGrove
Wed 9/22/2021 8:30 am PDT

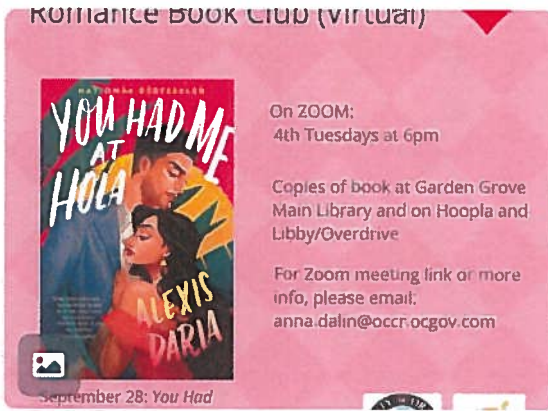
Readers unite! 📖 This is a friendly reminder that the GG Main Library's Virtual Book Club will be in session on Tuesday,...



Impressions	152
Potential Reach	4,399
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	5.3%

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
Wed 9/22/2021 8:30 am PDT

Readers unite! 📖 This is a friendly reminder that the Garden Grove Main Library's Virtual Book Club will be in...



Impressions	407
Reach	406
Engagements	0
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
Wed 9/22/2021 1:06 pm PDT

♥ There is something for everyone at the H. Louis Lake Senior Center... 🥰 Since 1976, the center has been a welcoming...



Video Views	159
Impressions	392
Reach	391
Engagements	28
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.1%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/22/2021 1:06 pm PDT

The H. Louis Lake Senior Center in Gard...
♥ There is something for everyone at the H. Louis Lake Senior Center... 🥰 Since...



Video Views	93
Impressions	308
Reach	273
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.6%




Post Performance

September 16, 2021 - September 22, 2021

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

Included in this Report

 Garden Grove Police Department  ggpdk9unit

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
Wed 9/22/2021 3:00 pm PDT

Please #SaveTheDate and join us for our upcoming #CoffeeWithACop Event on October 6th from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, at ...



Impressions	2,224
Reach	1,882
Engagements	117
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	5.3%

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
Tue 9/21/2021 6:00 pm PDT

Please join us next Tuesday, September 28, 2021 from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM for the monthly Safety Event, at the corner of...



Impressions	2,244
Reach	2,244
Engagements	63
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	2.8%

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
Sun 9/19/2021 6:01 pm PDT

A hero's return. United States U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl Kareem Mae'Lee Grant Nikoui was only 20-years old when he w...



Video Views	2,383
Impressions	5,186
Reach	5,154
Engagements	753
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	14.5%



 **ggpdk9unit**

Fri 9/17/2021 12:08 pm PDT

The agitator is trying to hide but Vader does a good job working his way to the back. Always working on control with th...

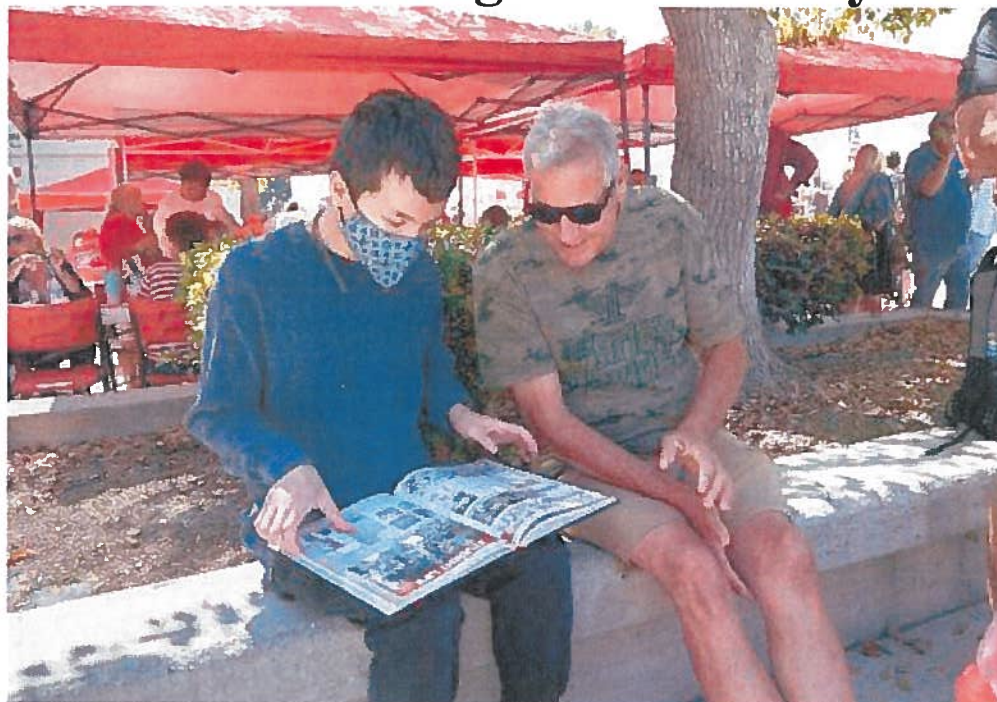


Video Views	1,229
Impressions	1,803
Reach	1,673
Engagements	318
Engagement Rate (per Impressi...	17.6%

WEEKLY MEMO 9-23-2021

NEWS ARTICLES

Garden Grove High marks 100 years



Dang Nguyen, a senior and Ron Wyatt, class of 1975, go through the Garden Grove High School yearbook 2021 during the Garden Grove High School Alumni Association's centennial celebration on Saturday, September 18, 2021. (Photo by Frank D'Amato, Contributing Photographer)

By **HEATHER MCREA** | hmcrea@scng.com | Orange County Register

PUBLISHED: September 21, 2021 at 8:36 a.m. | UPDATED: September 21, 2021 at 5:47 p.m.

The Garden Grove High community – alumni, staff past and present, current Argonauts – celebrated the school's 100th anniversary this weekend.

A festival was held on campus featuring memorabilia, dance contests and lots of catching up.

The school opened Sept. 15, 1921 with 63 students, moving to its current location the following year. Today, some 2,300 students call themselves Argonauts.

Pastor charged with sexually assaulting girls in Orange County and Riverside

By [CITY NEWS SERVICE](#) | news@socalnews.com |

PUBLISHED: September 21, 2021 at 5:58 p.m. | UPDATED: September 22, 2021 at 8:42 a.m.

SANTA ANA — A Santa Ana pastor was charged Tuesday with sexually assaulting three girls he met through churches in Riverside, Garden Grove and Santa Ana.

Carlos Ramirez Valdez, 57, of Riverside, was charged with five counts of lewd or lascivious acts with a minor younger than 14 and three counts of oral copulation or sexual penetration of a child 10 or younger, all felonies. He also faces a sentencing enhancement for multiple victims.

Valdez was arrested Friday at a Los Alamitos construction site where he works, according to Santa Ana Police Cpl. Sonia Rojo.

Valdez was being held on \$1 million bail, according to jail records.

Valdez is pastor of International Mission Church USA at 505 S. Main St., Rojo said. From 2014-2017, he was a member of Iglesia De Dios Ebenezer Church at 2020 W. Chestnut Ave. in Santa Ana, Rojo said.

At that church he allegedly lured an 8-year-old girl into a van during a service and sexually assaulted her, Rojo said. Valdez is accused of repeatedly assaulting the girl in the van over a period of three years.

Another victim told Riverside police in January 2020 she was molested by Valdez in 2017 when she was eight, Rojo said. Also in January 2020, another alleged victim went to Garden Grove police saying Valdez molested her in 2015, according to the corporal.

Orange County prosecutors will handle the case against Valdez for the alleged crimes in Riverside County.

Detectives believe there could be more victims. Anyone with information should contact Detective J. Gaeta at (714) 245-8350, jgaeta@santa-ana.org or Orange County Crime Stoppers at 1-855-TIP-OCCS.

Norco Marine Kareem Nikoui died ‘doing what he loved,’ pastor says at funeral

A crowd memorialized the 20-year-old Norco High School graduate at a Saturday, Sept. 18, celebration of life in Riverside



Shana Chappell, the mother of slain Marine Lance Cpl. Kareem Nikoui, is hugged Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, during a celebration-of-life service at Harvest Christian Fellowship in Riverside. He was killed Aug. 26, 2021, in a bombing at the Afghanistan airport. (Photo by Cindy Yamanaka, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

By **DAVID DOWNEY** | ddowney@scng.com | The Press-Enterprise

PUBLISHED: September 18, 2021 at 11:10 a.m. | UPDATED: September 18, 2021 at 4:19 p.m.

They came to say farewell to a local hero.



U.S. Marine Cpl. Kareem M. Nikoui, 20, of Norco, was killed in the Kabul airport bombing Aug. 26, 2021. (Courtesy photo)

Family, friends and members of the public packed a Riverside church Saturday, Sept. 18, for an approximately two-hour final salute to Marine Lance Cpl. Kareem Mae'Lee Grant Nikoui.

Before the service, a solemn and quiet gathering of hundreds looked on as the Norco resident's casket was carried into Harvest Christian Fellowship. A massive flag dangled from the raised ladder of Riverside Fire Department truck outside the church.

Later, the celebration-of-life service began.

The ceremony, which drew an estimated crowd of 2,000 plus, included speeches, songs and a video of Nikoui's life, set to music. The video included photos of him as a young boy, transitioning to a confident young man skiing, hiking, playing with a dog, hanging out with siblings, celebrating victories at jiu-jitsu tournaments and proudly wearing his Marine uniform.

The 20-year-old former Jr. ROTC student — who graduated from Norco High School in 2019 — was killed in [an attack on Afghanistan's Kabul airport](#) Aug. 26, days before the planned withdrawal of U.S. troops.

The fallen Marine, one of 13 service members who died in that bombing, has been honored at [a handful of public remembrances](#) the past few weeks.

The service began with the song, "Lord, I Need You" and featured such tunes as "Days of Elijah," a favorite of Nikoui's from his time at Camp Pendleton. The audience sang along when singer-guitarist Coffey Anderson performed "Amazing Grace." Shyler Chappell, Nikoui's sister shared that "Kareem had been talking about becoming a Marine for as long as I can remember."

He even used to camp in a tent in their backyard, she recalled.

Chappell said she heard how her brother — who would have turned 21 on Jan. 4 — went back inside the Kabul airport to pull children to safety.

"It didn't surprise me that those were his last moments," she said.

Still, she said, "I would give everything to hear him laugh again."

Phil Wozniak, pastor of Grace Fellowship Church in Norco, which Nikoui attended, also addressed the young man's last act.

He pulled three families to safety at the Kabul airport — "and then he went back for a small child when the bomb went off," Wozniak said.

"He died doing what he loved."

The Marine's aunt, Yvette Nikoui-Smith, called him "one tough kid" who was "always happy-go-lucky."

Steve Nikoui, the Marine's father, choked up as he spoke. His son had a great sense of humor and became a jiu-jitsu champion, Steve Nikoui said.

It's no wonder, Wozniak said, because Kareem Nikoui was known for challenging the biggest person in his jiu-jitsu class.

Steve Nikoui said he was most proud, however, of his son's Christian faith.

Harvest Pastor Greg Laurie called Kareem Nikoui "a genuine American hero, Mr. Red, White and Blue."

He posed the question: "Why did God allow this to happen?" And answered by saying: "There is no answer to the why question."

This is a time to mourn, Laurie told the crowd.

"You need to cry. You need to cry a lot. The Bible says there is a time to laugh and a time to mourn ... We grieve hopefully because we we will see Kareem again."

As the service concluded, the audience stood while "Taps" was played.

"All gave some, some gave all," a recorded song declared as photos of a uniformed Nikoui filled the giant screen.

Nikoui was brought home Friday, Sept. 17, a day after U.S. Central Command [announced](#) the service members who died last month would be posthumously awarded Purple Hearts for their sacrifice. The medals will go to their next of kin.

A [Friday afternoon procession](#) from Ontario International Airport saw flag-waving residents turn out along the route through Norco and to Pierce Brothers Crestlawn Mortuary in Riverside.

Two other Marines from the Inland area died in the bombing: Lance Cpl. [Dylan R. Merola](#), 20, of Rancho Cucamonga and Cpl. [Hunter Lopez](#), 22, of Indio.

A [memorial service was staged Saturday morning](#) in Palm Springs for Lopez.

A procession to salute Merola is set for Tuesday, Sept. 21; his funeral will be Sunday, Sept. 26, in Covina.

At Harvest, the large crowd Saturday included Kris Hager, of Parrish, Florida, who came to stand with Nikoui's family.

"I lost my son in '07," he said. "I know what it's like."

Also among the guests was Norco resident Jessica Rodriguez and her 7-year-old son, Easton Berns.

"It hit our town hard. Very hard," Rodriguez said.

Easton, who knows the Nikoui family, said, "I'm sad."

Rodriguez added that, despite the loss, it has "been great to see the community come together for this."

Faataitai Atuatasi came from Garden Grove to Riverside.

People line up outside Harvest Christian Fellowship in Riverside on Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, after a memorial service for fallen Marine Cpl. Kareem Nikoui. (Photo by David Downey, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

He didn't know the Marine but said his heart went out to the family.

"He was part of the family of America," Atuatasi said.

Staff writer Brian Whitehead contributed to this report.

Hate jumped in Orange County last year; so did push back

The new 2020 Hate Crimes Report finds huge rise in actions directed at Asians and others. In response, neighbors, prosecutors and police are speaking out.



A gathering earlier this year in Fountain Valley highlighted the rise in anti-Asian hate crimes since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. The 2020 Orange County Hate Crimes Report released on Sept. 17, 2021, documents the county's largest increase in hate crimes and hate incidents over the past decade. (Photo by Leonard Ortiz, Orange County Register/SCNG)

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

PUBLISHED: September 17, 2021 at 4:51 p.m. | UPDATED: September 17, 2021 at 7:21 p.m.

Orange County witnessed an astronomical rise last year in anti-Asian discrimination, with big jumps in both hate incidents and hate crimes, largely fueled by misplaced anger over the coronavirus pandemic.

The finding is part of the 2020 Orange County Hate Crimes Report released Friday, Sept. 17. This year's report, titled [Tolerating Racism is Racism](#), found 76 of the 263 hate incidents reported in the county last year targeted people of Asian descent. In previous years, the county had about 5 anti-Asian hate incidents annually. And continuing a [disturbing trend](#) that began in 2015, the number of hate crimes overall last year rose again in Orange County, jumping 35%, the biggest single-year increase in the past decade. Nearly half of the 112 hate crimes in 2020 were anti-Black, anti-Semitic or anti-Hispanic. The report also found seven anti-Asian hate crimes.

State law defines hate crimes as criminal acts motivated by gender, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability. A hate incident — such as public distribution of non-threatening racist fliers — is biased behavior targeted at someone because of the same actual or perceived characteristics that does not rise to the level of a crime. Hate incidents often are protected as free speech under the First Amendment.

Community representatives discussed the findings — and some local responses to violent bigotry — during a Zoom webinar hosted Friday by the OC Human Relations Commission with the report's release. The Commission compiles hate-related data annually based on reports made by law enforcement, schools, and the community at large.

The virtual talk included Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer and others who are pressing for a stronger response to hate.

"I'm very upset about it," said Spitzer, who earlier this year [created a special Hate Crimes unit](#) — including three prosecutors and two investigators — to prosecute hate crimes.

"Hate crime is up; it's been up now several years in a row," Spitzer said. "And it's completely unacceptable."

Perennial targets

Last year, the Orange County District Attorney's Office reviewed 30 possible hate crimes submitted by local police agencies. The agency prosecuted 18 of those cases, with eight of the filings involving specific hate crime charges, the report said.

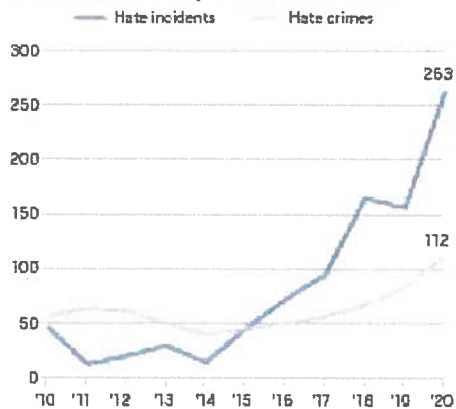
Overall, hate incidents in Orange County last year rose nearly 70% from the previous year. That included 94 anti-Semitic hate incidents, the most documented in the annual report. The report also referenced 38 hate incidents targeting Black people and 15 targeting Hispanic people.

Black people, who make up slightly more than 2% of Orange County's population, were the victims of more than one-quarter of the hate crimes (30) reported last year, making them the most likely to be targeted for such incidents.

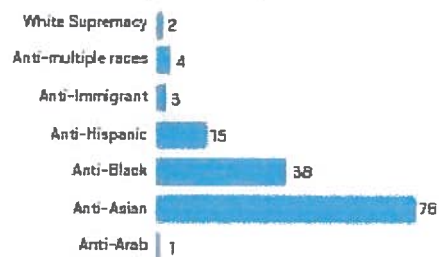
Spitzer observed how Black people have been "systematically targeted in Orange County, just like people from the Middle East." And, he added, members of the LGBTQ community "are always targeted, and always singled out."

Racial hate reports in OC

Hate incidents in Orange County jumped 68% from 2019 to 2020. In this past year alone, the Orange County Human Relations Commission has seen an increase in racial violence and injustice among communities of color, in particular towards the Asian and Black community, a trend that is nationwide.



Hate incidents by race/ethnicity



Source: 2020 Orange County Hate Crimes Report. JEFF BERDERTZEN, SENECA

The 2020 report calls the rise in hate incidents “alarming.” In addition to the skyrocketing anti-Asian sentiments, anti-Semitic incidents rose 114% and anti-Black incidents 23%. The most hate incidents were reported last year in the months of March (46) and April (32), when COVID-19 stay-home orders went into full effect.

The report describes such verbal attacks as:

- A stranger yelling “f—ing Chinese. Coronavirus” at an Asian family near a gas station
- A Black woman called the n-word by a neighbor
- Expletives and the n-word hurled at people protesting the police murder of George Floyd
- An anti-immigrant video posted on Twitter
- A transvestite woman being told “people like you shouldn’t live”

Community action

But even as hate incidents and hate crimes were on the rise, the county also witnessed broad push back against bigotry, from grassroots responses to formal anti-hate efforts by prosecutors and some police.

In her introduction to the report, Jo-Anne Matsuba, chair of OC Human Relations Commission, characterized the push back as “tremendous resilience and eagerness to address these different areas of injustice.”

Orange County is home to the third largest population of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the country. From grassroots organizations to elected officials, Asian Americans and the larger community in Orange County [rallied to denounce](#) the COVID-19 anti-Asian hate.

One example: The city councils in Garden Grove and Irvine, and the Orange County Board of Supervisors, all passed resolutions condemning anti-Asian behavior on the same day, responding to a letter urging such action from the Center for Asian Americans in Action. In all, 15 O.C. cities eventually would adopt such resolutions or proclamations.

During the Zoom meeting Friday, Priscilla Huang, executive director of the Center for Asian Americans in Action, described the [harassment](#) and physical intimidation faced by a Chinese family in Ladera Ranch. A group of teens in the area pounded on the

family's front door, threw rocks at their windows and left obscene materials. The family installed a fence and cameras, but the harassment continued. At night, the two young children couldn't sleep; the parents took turns patrolling the yard, Huang said. Finally, a neighbor rallied others who helped keep watch. The community reaction grew, Huang said, and by late February it blossomed into a huge gathering to mark the Lunar New Year.

That family's experience — if not the community's response — reminded Huang of discrimination she faced growing up.

"I wish someone had done that for us when we were kids and my parents were just starting in this country," Huang said of the support eventually offered to the family in Ladera Ranch.

Growing empathy

Last summer, 128 people, including some from around the country, participated in [a Zoom "virtual vigil"](#) held by the Black congregation New Hope Presbyterian Church in Orange to talk about the death of George Floyd. Weeks earlier, on May 25, 2020, Floyd died when a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck during an arrest — a murder that sparked protests around the world, including in Orange County. On the law enforcement side, Spitzer announced in May the formation of the Hate Crimes Unit dedicated to investigating and prosecuting incidents connected to bigotry. That came two months after the Irvine Police Department created a new online portal for citizens to report hate crimes and hate incidents.

The [OC Human Relations Commission](#) launched its own anti-hate initiative called "To Know Better" that promoted understanding and cultural acceptance among high school and middle school students. The commission also has sponsored "OC Together" community dialogues on race relations. (The next OC Together event is planned for October.)

Douglas Haynes, vice chancellor for equity, diversity and inclusion at UC Irvine, called for a much broader plan and strategy, saying in the Zoom talk that this point in Orange County's history represents "a novel moment in time."

"It's baffling that we're so diverse and yet still contending with increases in hate incidents and hate crimes," Haynes said. "I'm convinced we have the capacity as a community to really improve."

To speak up

Hate crimes and hate incidents can be reported to OC Human Relations through a confidential hotline, at 714-480-6570, or by emailing reporthate@ochumanrelations.org. To view the 2020 Hate Crimes Report, go to ochumanrelations.org/hatecrime/report.

Best thing I ate: a Vietnamese pho that stands out from the crowd

Critic Brad A. Johnson says that when it comes to the Vietnamese noodle soup known as pho, the broth is everything. And the broth at Pho Akaushi in Garden Grove is in a league of its own.



Wagyu beef pho at Pho Akaushi in Garden Grove (Photo by Brad A. Johnson, Orange County Register/SCNG)

By [BRAD A. JOHNSON](#) | bajohnson@scng.com | Orange County Register

PUBLISHED: September 16, 2021 at 11:03 a.m. | UPDATED: September 16, 2021 at 12:10 p.m.

I've lost track of how many bowls of Vietnamese pho I've consumed over the years in Orange County. It's a big number. Eighty? Ninety? Something in that ballpark, many of which have been very, very good.

As I was thinking about this, I began to ponder the number of bowls of very good pho whose broth I would happily slurp on its own without any accompaniments whatsoever (never mind whether anyone would actually do that). Imagine the pho consisting only of broth: no meat, no sprouts, no noodles, no herbs... just a big bowl of liquid. Because when it comes to pho, the broth is everything ([except, of course, when the oxtail is everything](#)).

I can come up with only two.



Wagyu beef pho at Pho Akaushi in Garden Grove (Photo by Brad A. Johnson, Orange County Register/SCNG)

The first such broth was at a wonderful but short-lived restaurant in Garden Grove called [Rice Paper](#), which opened in 2013 and closed a year later. The second such soup is the one I ate last week at Pho Akaushi, also in Garden Grove.

Pho Akaushi makes its broth from the bones of American wagyu beef. More specifically, the beef is Akaushi, the line of Japanese wagyu from which the restaurant borrows its name. In this case, the Akaushi beef comes from a ranch in Texas. Like a textbook French consommé, the broth is beautifully colored yet perfectly clear. It tastes beefy and rich. It is highly fragrant and viscous without the slightest bit of grease floating on top that one might expect from a soup made from such fatty beef. The color begins to change and turn slightly opaque as raw beef and well-done brisket (also wagyu) are added at the last minute before it's served. It comes with the usual bean sprouts and an herb bundle of basil, pigweed and purslane, the latter adding a uniquely peppery punch. You can choose between thin or flat noodles. Either way, this is a great bowl of soup.

Pho Akaushi originally opened a few years ago in the food court on the second floor of the Saigon Supermarket in Garden Grove. The owners soon branched out and opened a pop-up (which became a permanent fixture) inside OC 7\$, a Vietnamese seafood restaurant in Westminster that specializes in snails. A few months ago, they opened their first stand-alone location on Garden Grove Boulevard, just behind Stanton's wildly popular [Rodeo 39 Public Market](#). There's a good pho restaurant there, but this place is ever better.

Pho Akaushi

Where: 7725 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove

When: Lunch and dinner, Thursday-Tuesday. (Closed Wednesday.)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

September 23, 2021

1. Calendar of Events
2. League of California Cities, "CalCities," from September 16, 2021 to September 23, 2021.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 23, 2021 – November 11, 2021

Thursday	September 23		\$2 Casual Dress Day
Friday	September 24		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	September 28	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 7	6:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
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
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



League of California Cities Deeply Disappointed in Governor's Signing of Senate Bill 9

Sep 16, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kayla Woods

Cell: (530) 844-1744, kwoods@calcities.org (<mailto:kwoods@calcities.org>)

Sacramento – Following the Governor's signing of Senate Bill 9 (Atkins), League of California Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman released the below statement:

"We are disappointed in the signing of this flawed legislation. SB 9 undermines the ability of local governments to responsibly plan for the types of housing that communities need, circumvents the local government review process, and silences community voices. Even worse, there are no provisions in SB 9 that require new housing to be affordable, continuing the cycle of the construction of new units that are out of reach for many working-class families.

"Cities are committed to planning and zoning for more housing in a manner that acknowledges state housing goals, but also respects community input and involvement. Significant work is already underway in cities throughout the state to bring down the high cost of housing in our communities. By the end of 2022, all of the state's major regional governments, including cities, will have identified and planned for more than two million units of additional housing statewide.

“Despite this top-down mandate that disregards local voices and decision-making, 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.”

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League of California Cities Honors Three Legislators with Distinguished Legislative Leadership Award

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sacramento — The League of California Cities honored Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters), Sen. Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach), and Sen. John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) today for their unwavering support and dedication to local communities with its Distinguished Legislative Leadership Award during Cal Cities' Annual Conference and Expo.

“From their experience as city leaders, these legislators recognize the value of local government and introduced legislation to ensure cities have the tools they need to tackle today’s most pressing issues,” said Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. “Cal Cities is grateful for the collaborative relationship with these members of the legislature that will strengthen cities as vibrant places to live, work, and play.”

Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry and Sen. Gonzalez were authors of AB 14 and SB 4, two measures that will be instrumental in helping California cities close the digital divide. These bills create a sustainable funding source that local governments can use to continue to deploy broadband infrastructure in our communities. In addition, these two bills expand the eligibility for funding and

improve speed standards, which will prove particularly helpful in underserved communities. These bills are currently on the Governor's desk awaiting action.

Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry brings years of local government service to her position in the Legislature. Prior to her election to the State Assembly in 2016, Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry served on the Winters City Council. During her tenure on the city council, she also represented the Sacramento Valley Division on the Cal Cities board of directors.

"It is a great thrill to be recognized by Cal Cities for our efforts of the past several years in pursuit of Internet for All," said Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters). "In partnership with Senator Gonzalez, and two dozen of our colleague coauthors of AB 14 and SB 4, we have highlighted the critical need to modernize our state's broadband policy and programs.

"In combination with the Budget Trailer Bill, SB 156, our State has made a generational commitment of \$7.5 billion to guarantee internet connectivity for all Californians and their local governments, rural and urban. Now the hard work of deployment begins, and as a former Mayor and current Chair of the Assembly Local Government Committee, I look forward to working with my colleagues in local government to dismantle barriers to ensure our mutual constituents are digitally connected."

Sen. Gonzalez is also no stranger to local government and served as a Long Beach City Council Member for five years prior to being elected to the Senate in 2019. Sen. Gonzalez served the city for a decade, both as an elected official and former staff member.

Sen. Laird has a long and distinguished track record as an advocate for the environment and began his career at the local level as a Santa Cruz mayor and council member. As a city official, Sen. Laird was a member of the Cal Cities Board of Directors.

This past year, Sen. Laird authored SB 619, a key piece of legislation for cities to help manage the implications of the state's most recent organic waste recycling regulations. The bill would provide a one-year enforcement break for cities working to implement the regulations and is currently on the Governor's desk awaiting action.

"I am honored to be recognized by Cal Cities – as it was a pleasure to collaborate with local leaders on the challenge of organic waste diversion," said Sen. Laird. "Together, we kept on track with the program, got a one-year relief for fines and penalties, and secured a large amount of state funds to assist local governments in this effort. In the face of our climate crisis – we were able to work together by investing in green infrastructure, adding additional green jobs, and conserving our state's precious natural resources."

Sen. Laird was also instrumental in securing \$60 million in the budget for grants for cities to help implement SB 1383, and \$70 million for organics infrastructure.

Founded in 1898, the League of California Cities is an association of California city officials who work together to enhance their knowledge and skills, exchange information, and combine resources so that they may influence policy decisions that affect cities. 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.