

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
September 25, 2015

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

I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES

None.

II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. HOMELESSNESS OC TASK FORCE

Information from the 1st Homelessness OC Task Force that Council Member Phat Bui and City Manager Scott Stiles attended is attached.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

- NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information.
- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
Items of interest are included.



SCOTT C. STILES
City Manager



HOMELESSNESS OC Task Force

Thursday, September 24, 2015

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM | Care Ambulance, 1517 W. Braden Ct., Orange, CA 92868

Chair: The Hon. Gail Eastman

*- Former Mayor Pro Tem
of Anaheim*

AGENDA

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Gail Eastman)

II. MISSION AND GOALS OF THE TASK FORCE (Gail Eastman)

Mission: The ACC-OC Homelessness OC Task Force's mission is to work in collaboration with the region's Commission to End Homelessness and other key partners to provide support and assistance toward ending homelessness in Orange County. The Task Force's primary goals are:

1. Facilitate broad support of the Commission to End Homelessness 2015 Action Plan (see attached)
2. Provide a regional hub for broad information sharing and collaboration
3. Provide a vehicle to proactively engage and educate the public
4. Provide a platform for discussion of current best practices and development of new best practices

III. BACKGROUND/STATUS (Karen Roper, Lacy Schoen)

The region's Commission to End Homelessness and 2015 Action Plan

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY BOARD CHAIR (Supervisor Todd Spitzer)

V. DISCUSSION (Gail Eastman)

How to reach out to each city to determine support needed

Commission to End Homelessness 2015 Action Plan

The Mission: "Effectively End Homelessness in Orange County Over the Next Decade."
(by 2020)

2015

The Commission to End Homelessness (Commission) was established pursuant to the Orange County Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness (Plan) to develop the systems and organizational structures to provide oversight and accountability for successful Plan implementation.

Purpose of Commission

The purpose of the Commission is to work in collaboration with County government, city governments, private foundations, advocacy groups, community organizations, and other key stakeholders to provide strategic leadership, promote best practices, monitor outcomes, and report results to facilitate successful implementation of The Plan. The Commission is advisory to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

2015 Action Plan

In accordance with best practice and in an effort to end homelessness in Orange County, the Commission has identified and adopted four priority action items for 2015.

At the January 30, 2015 Commission to End Homelessness meeting, the Commission made two recommendations to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) that, if approved, set in motion 2 of the 4 the priorities. All four proposed action items are in alignment with the Ten-Year Plan, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations and guidance, best practices and Orange County homeless needs.

Therefore; in 2015, the Commission will focus its efforts, advocate for and pursue policies, resources and support that will ensure that the following priorities are accomplished:

1. **Establishment of a minimum of one Year-Round Emergency Shelter/Multi—Service Center by December 31, 2015.** Shelter development options were included in Commission's recommendation to BOS at January 30, 2015 Commission meeting.
2. **Secure gap funding to ensure successful implementation of HUD mandated Coordinated Assessment/Centralized Intake (CA/CI) by July 30, 2015.** Recommended funding for CA/CI included in Commission's recommendation to BOS at January 30, 2015 Commission meeting.
3. **Development of 200 Permanent Supportive Housing units for chronically homeless in 2015** given 668 unsheltered chronically homeless were identified in the 2013 point in time count of the homeless.
4. **End veteran homelessness by the end of 2015.** This goal is consistent with the Federal initiative and requirement for Continuums of Care to have a successfully executed plan by the end of 2015. 446 homeless veterans were identified in the 2013 point in time count of the homeless. Of those, 177 were sheltered and 269 were unsheltered. Goals #1 - #3 will support successful achievement of this population specific goal.

Orange County's Commission to End Homelessness



1

Commission to End Homelessness

- 2007 - Discussions about the need for a ten year plan took place at community forums and other regional meetings.
- 2008 - Community elected the Working Group to write Orange County's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. ACCOC a founding member of the group.
- 2010 - Board of Supervisors approved the draft ten year plan and established the Commission to End Homelessness to develop the systems and organizational structures to provide oversight and accountability for successful Plan implementation.
- 2012 - Board of Supervisors approved the final Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness.
- The purpose of the Commission is to work in collaboration with County government, city governments, private foundations, advocacy groups, community organizations, and other key stakeholders to provide strategic leadership, promote best practices, monitor outcomes, and report results to facilitate successful implementation of The Plan.
- The Commission is advisory to the Board of Supervisors. ²

Commission to End Homelessness

2015 Action Plan

Establishment of a minimum of one Year-Round Emergency Shelter/Multi—Service Center by December 31, 2015

Secure gap funding to ensure successful implementation of HUD mandated Coordinated Assessment/Centralized Intake (CA/CI) by July 30, 2015

Development of 200 Permanent Supportive Housing units for chronically homeless in 2015

End veteran homelessness by the end of 2015

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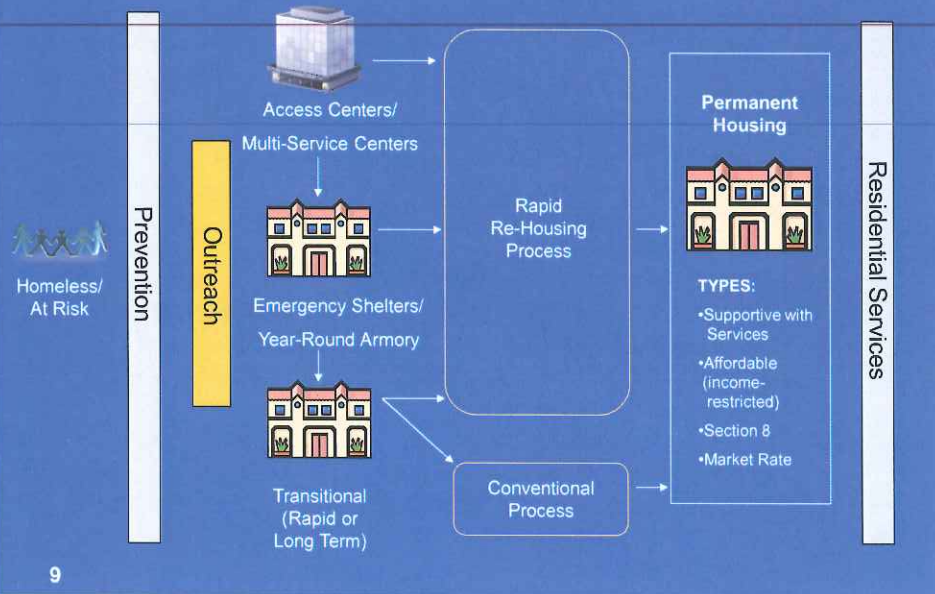
Goals to End Homelessness

- Goal 1: Prevent homelessness to ensure that no one in our community becomes homeless.
- Goal 2: Outreach to those who are homeless and at risk of homelessness.
- Goal 3: Improve the efficacy of the emergency shelter and access system.



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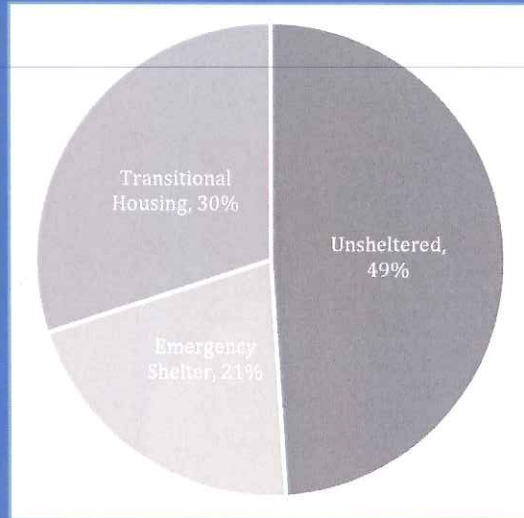
10 Year Plan to End Homelessness



Right Sizing the Continuum of Care

- Commission to End Homelessness efforts to strategically allocate \$19 million annually in HUD Continuum of Care funding
- Continue to align funding with priorities to end homelessness, per HUD direction and best practices
- Improve data gathering and usage
 - System wide performance measures
 - HMIS
 - Point in Time Count
- “Right sizing” of homeless system to meet needs of homeless through best practices
- Emphasis on performance in terms of cost and outcomes as well as ending homelessness in housing
- Reallocation of HUD funds to best practice rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing programs

2015 Point in Time Count Current Living Situation

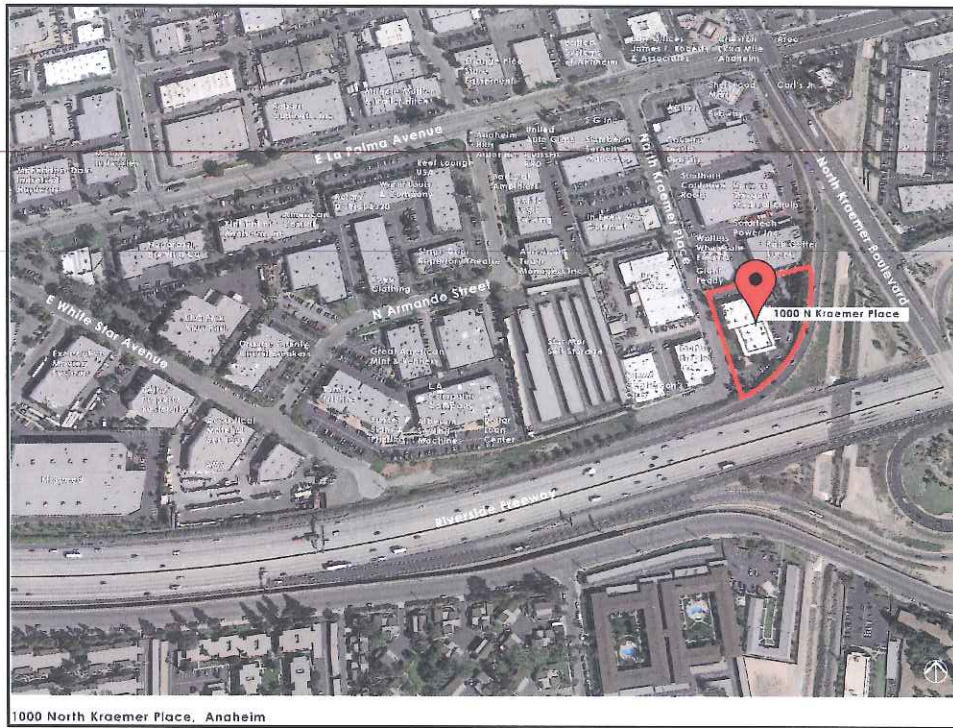


13

How do we compare to SoCal Region?

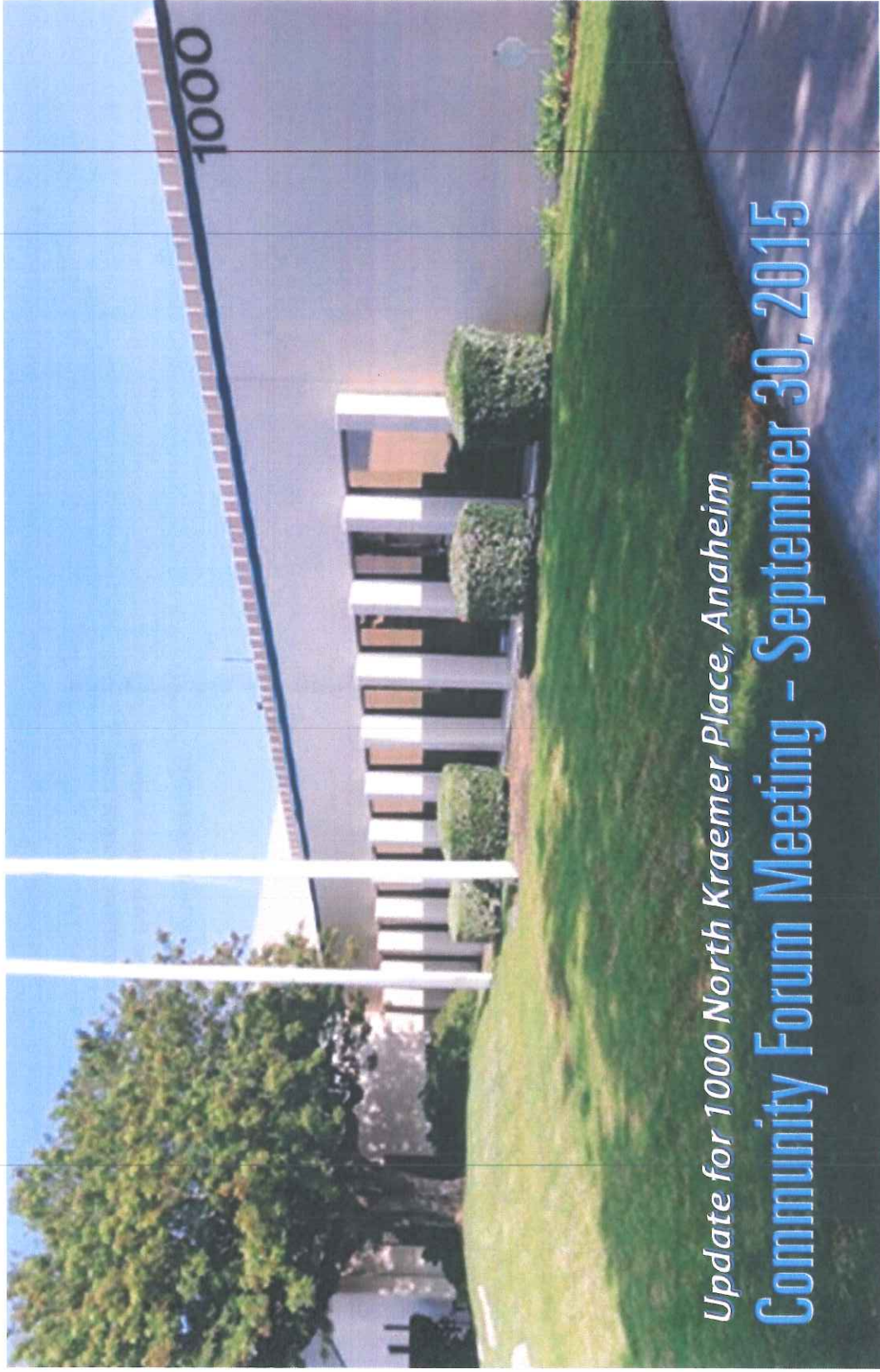
County	2013 PIT	2015 PIT	Difference	Percent Change 2013-2015
Los Angeles	35,524	41,174	+ 5,650	+16%
Orange	4,251	4,452	+ 201	+5%
Riverside	2,978	2,378	- 600	-20%
San Bernardino	2,321	2,149	-172	-7%
San Diego	8,879	8,742	-158	-2%
Ventura	1,674	1,417	-257	-15%

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City Resolutions of Support & Funding Support

<u>City</u>	<u>Date of Agenda/ Resolution Approval</u>	<u>Agenda Item #</u>	<u>Comments/Notes:</u>
Anaheim	4/7/2015	27	Funding Support \$500,000- Approved 5/5/15 Item #11
Fullerton	4/7/2015	10	Funding Support \$500,000- Approved 5/5/15 Item #5
Orange	6/9/2015	7.1	
Placentia	5/19/2015	1.e	
Brea	7/7/2015	17	Funding Support \$100,000- Approved 7/7/15 Item #17
Buena Park	7/14/2015	9	



Update for 1000 North Kraemer Place, Anaheim

Community Forum Meeting - September 30, 2015

Weekly Memo 9/24/15

**NEWSPAPER
ARTICLES**

THE → THINGS TO KNOW

Garden Grove Journal /
Register
Sept. 24, 2015

BY CHRIS HAIRE | STAFF WRITER



QUARTERMASTER 3RD CLASS DAVID FOLINO, UNITED STATES NAVY

Gas Turbine Systems Technician 2nd Class Nester Contrerasmendoza, from Garden Grove, explains engineering operational sequencing system procedures to Ensign Matthew Heimer, from Chesapeake, Va., on Sept. 5 aboard USS Porter.

Garden Grove native on USS Porter

Engineering operational sequencing system procedures: That's what one Garden Grove petty officer tried to explain to a Navy superior earlier this month aboard the USS Porter.

In this photo taken Sept.

5, Gas Turbine Systems Technician 2nd Class Nester Contrerasmendoza explains the complex procedures to Ensign Matthew Heimer, who is from Chesapeake, Va.

The Porter, deployed to

Rota, Spain, is a guided-missile destroyer sent on a routine patrol mission to support U.S. national security interests in Europe. It is part of the U.S. 6th Fleet.

Food for Thought: Live better lives

Make your life one in a million.

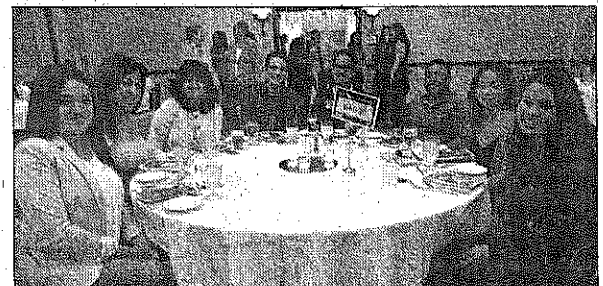
That's the message that inspirational speaker Kyle Scheele will try to impress upon teenagers when he addresses the 17th annual Food for Thought luncheon, hosted by the Garden Grove Community Foundation from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 13 at Wyndham Resort, 12021 Harbor Blvd.

The luncheon brings more than 200 juniors and seniors from around

the Garden Grove Unified School District to learn from motivational speakers and discuss career goals with business and community members.

Scheele is a motivational speaker who challenges teenagers across the U.S. to "live better stories," as he puts it.

Tickets are \$24 per person. Information: 714-741-5168.



COURTESY OF THE GARDEN GROVE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Teens gather at last year's Food for Thought, a luncheon for more than 200 juniors and seniors from the Garden Grove Unified School District.

Activists calling for California to honor South Vietnam

BY CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

There is an effort in the Little Saigon community to get officials in Sacramento to follow the lead of Garden Grove, Westminster and Santa Ana and proclaim Oct. 26 to be Republic of Vietnam Day.

The constitution of the Republic of Vietnam, also known as South Vietnam, went into effect on Oct. 26, 1955, and Garden Grove resident Lac Tan Nguyen is leading the coalition of Orange County activists to get that day memorialized by the California Legislature.

Though these types of resolutions are largely symbolic, Vietnamese American activists say that having such a day would show that

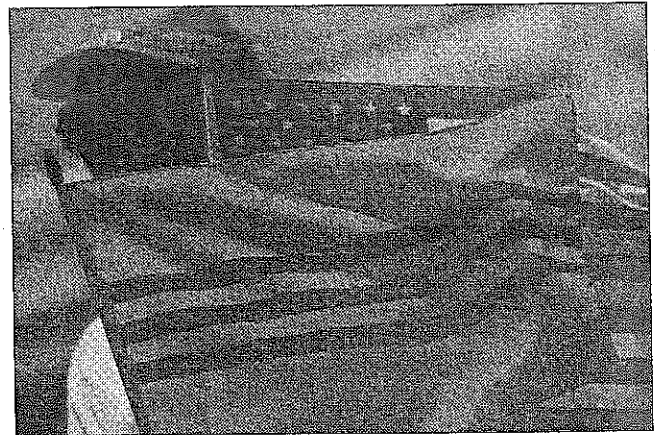
officials are empathetic to the pain still felt by one of the most prominent ethnic communities in California. After the 20-year Vietnam War ended in 1975, many South Vietnamese fled and settled in California, with the two largest concentrations of Vietnamese residing in Little Saigon and in San Jose.

"We are asking the state to recognize the just cause of the Republic of Vietnam," Nguyen said. "After 40 years, it's time to ask local and state officials to recognize and memorialize the sacrifices of the (Vietnamese) people."

Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen, whose city passed a similar resolution in 2014 about a month before he won his election, said it would be "wonderful" if California made Oct. 26 Republic of Vietnam Day, but he added he would like to see more action to meet the needs of the community.

"I think people would be happy, but it's just another resolution," he said. "If they really wanted to recognize the community, the Legislature would do something real. What about the youth or the discrepancy in health care?"

Leaders of the Steering Committee for Republic of Vietnam Day Resolution also are asking San Jose and several Orange County cities near Little Saigon, in-



BRUCE CHAMBERS, FILE PHOTO

State officials are being asked to declare Oct. 26 as Republic of Vietnam Day. The South Vietnam flag is often flown at community events in Little Saigon.

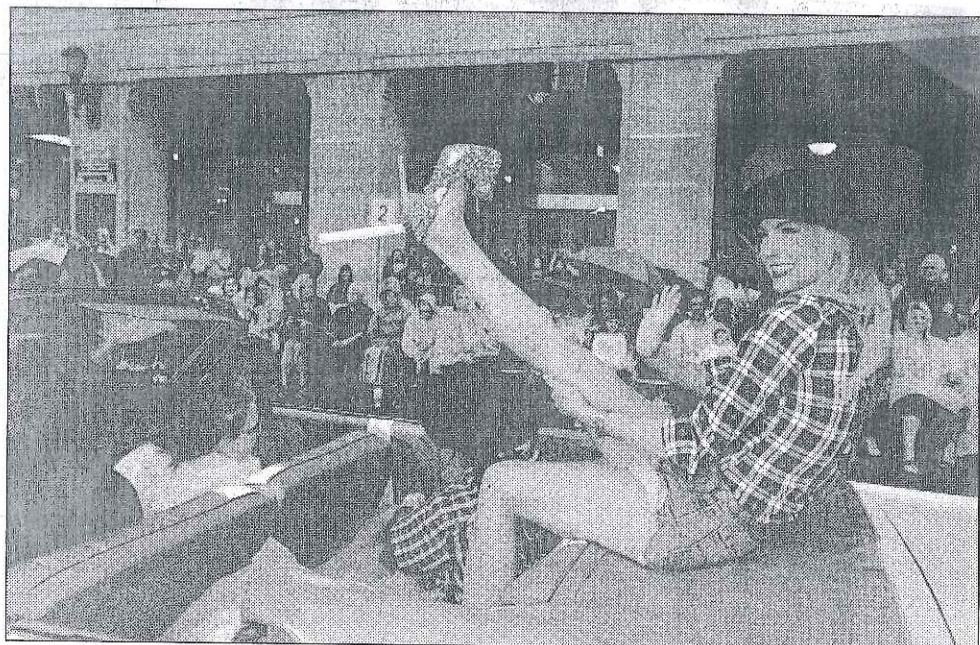
cluding Anaheim, Stanton, Irvine and Fountain Valley, for similar proclamations.

"As a Vietnamese refugee who fled Vietnam on a wooden boat across the South Asia Sea, I personally understand the struggle

that the Vietnamese people have endured since the fall of Saigon," Sen. Janet Nguyen, R-Garden Grove, said in a statement. "Consequently, I will review the proposal once we get an official request."

Garden Grove Journal /
Register
Sept. 24, 2015

A NOD TO MISS CALIFORNIA;



MICHAEL EIN, THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miss California Bree Morse of Garden Grove waves during the 2016 Miss America pageant "Show Us Your Shoes" parade on Sept. 12 in Atlantic City, N.J.

Brainiac's mind wanders here and there sometimes, and so this week we've got a little of this, a little of that.

For starters, Miss California **Bree Morse!** She's from Garden Grove, as you'll know from a fine profile by our colleague **Chris Haire** just before she headed to Atlantic City earlier this month to compete in the Miss America pageant.

Brainiac's been remiss in not following her journey just a tad more closely, but we'll catch up today. Morse spent her time in Atlantic City having a blast.

"It's a strange feeling to wake up like it's any ordinary morning, then to look at your preset alarm that

says, "IT'S MISS AMERICA DAY!" Morse wrote online the morning of the finale of the pageant, "And realize that in all actuality it is one of the most incredible days of your life."

Morse, 23, was trying to become the first Miss California to win Miss America in 33 years, which seems a ridiculously long dry spell for a state of our size.

Alas, she and others lost out to Miss Georgia, though The Pageant Planet website did pick her Mia Bella Couture/Jovani gown as one of the Top 10 of the event.

Garden Grove Journal /
Register
Sept. 24, 2015

Garden Grove business owners warned about fire inspection scam

Imposters are trying to charge for services the real department does for free, authorities say.

BY LOUIS CASIANO JR.
and IDA MOJADAD
STAFF WRITERS

GARDEN GROVE • Business owners are being advised to report companies or individuals representing themselves as being with the city's fire department and charging for fire inspection services that the department conducts for free.

Representatives from companies that may or may not be licensed to perform the inspections wore clothing similar to firefighter uniforms, and sometimes intimidated business owners or employees to gain entry, said Capt. Thanh Nguyen of the Garden Grove Fire Department.

The fraudulent inspectors were described as aggressive, often insisting that they must complete an inspection or maintenance, and that the business could not open until they did so.

"There's billing that's taking place out there and ... it's representing the Fire Department for work that may not need to be done or for something that the Fire Department is going to do free," Garden Grove Fire Chief Tom Schultz said at a

news conference.

Investigators are aware of at least three cases where the individuals either said they were sent by the "fire marshal" or "fire department," and work was done at the business without authorization.

Once the work was performed, business owners were billed \$225 to \$1,000 on suspicious-looking invoices that have no contact information for the company other than a P.O. Box. The inspection services were useless, since only the Fire Department can sign off on the business's compliance with the fire code.

"It may be similar to what we do, but it still doesn't count, because the Fire Department is the only one that has jurisdiction to perform that inspection," Nguyen said.

During a legal inspection, if work is needed to get in compliance with the fire code, the business is free to hire whomever they want to make repairs.

The Fire Department became aware of the scam during a routine fire inspection inside a business at Garden Grove Boulevard and Magnolia Street. The owner showed firefighters an invoice for the same type of inspection, Nguyen said.

They did not pay the bill. Nguyen said businesses reported receiving multiple bills for the same work. Targeted establishments include a restaurant, a hair salon and a veterinary clinic.

ic.

Investigators suspect immigrant-owned businesses may have been targeted because of possible language barriers.

"They're going after people who don't have a mastery of the language," Nguyen said. "Once you let them in to perform work, you're on the hook for the bill."

In August, a business in Irvine was charged \$750 for fire inspection services by an unknown company. Torrance police detectives recently arrested at least two people in connection with a similar scheme.

The fake inspectors have worn tennis shoes and T-shirts that have 'fire' printed on them.

Police don't have any suspects but hope that community outreach will bring leads, said Joseph Kolano of the Garden Grove Police Department.

In addition, the Fire Department posted a fraud-prevention video on its website to reach out to the business owners to educate them on what to look for when confronted by someone claiming to be an inspector.

Fire Department inspectors never ask for payment on site and will be in uniform and have their badge and ID on them.

To report anyone offering fire inspection services, call the Garden Grove Fire Department at 714-741-5629.

School district plans parent nights

Goal is to educate them on CA State Standards and student assessments

Garden Grove Unified School District parents are invited to attend free information nights to learn more about the CA State Standards and student assessments.

The first of three sessions planned this school year will take place Wednesday, Oct. 7 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Lawrence Elementary School, 12521 Monroe Ave. in Garden Grove.

At the information sessions, parents will be provided interactive opportunities through breakout sessions to see how the CA State Standards are being implemented and assessed. As a result, parents will have a deeper understanding of the state standards to support their child at home.

Staff representatives will be on hand to assist parents in interpret-

ing the first results of the new state assessment in mathematics and English-language arts, the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP).

Subsequent meetings are scheduled for Nov. 12 at Peters 4-6 Elementary School and Feb. 9, 2016, at Allen Elementary School. All Parent Information Nights are from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Interpreters will be available in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Korean. For more information, contact Parent and Community Outreach at 714-663-6084.

The Garden Grove Unified School District serves most of Garden Grove and portions of Santa Ana, Anaheim, Westminster, Cypress, Stanton, and Fountain Valley.

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

Project No. S-1179

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent for the City of Garden Grove, Room 220, Second Floor, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840 to: Furnish all Labor, Material, and Equipment for On-Call Street Striping and Sign Installation for the City of Garden Grove. A copy of the bid document may be obtained from the City of Garden Grove's website. Contractors interested in submitting a bid for this project are required to attend a MANDATORY pre-bid meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, 2015, at the Public Works Municipal Service Center, Training Room, located at 13802 Newhope Street, Garden Grove, CA 92843. Direct any questions regarding this bid process to Sandra Segawa via email at sandras@garden-grove.org. Bids are due and will be opened in the office of the Purchasing Agent at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2015. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

Dated: September 16, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB
Purchasing Agent
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840
Orange County News
15-50604
Publish Sept. 16, 23, 2015

Community Foundation plans 'Food for Thought' event

The 17th annual Garden Grove Community Foundation "Food for Thought" Luncheon takes place on Oct. 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Wyndham Resort, 12021 Harbor Blvd.

This year's guest speaker, Kyle Scheele, will show students each of them has the power to make his or her story one in a million... or one of a million.

The annual luncheon brings together more than 200 juniors and seniors from the Garden Grove Unified School District, to gain insight from motivational speakers and discuss career goals with business and community members in attendance.

Scheele is an inspiring speaker, writer and youth expert who has challenged tens of thousands of teens across the nation to live better stories. He lives in Springfield, Missouri with his wife and children.

The foundation encourages participation from the local business community as well as sponsoring students to attend the program. Admission to the event, or student sponsorships, is \$25 per person.

The event is sponsored by the City of Garden Grove, Republic Services, GKN Aerospace and Southern CA Gas Company.

For information and reservations, call 714-741-5168.

Police: Turn in those outdated pills!

Handing over pharmaceuticals prevents drug abuse and theft

On Saturday Sept. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Garden Grove Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its 10th opportunity in five years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

Bring your pills for disposal to the Garden Grove Police Department, at 11301 Acacia Parkway (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked).

Last September, Americans turned in 309 tons (more than 617,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 5,500 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its nine previous Take Back events, the DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.8 million pounds—more than 2,400 tons—of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly



Courtesy photo

An unidentified woman and her son turn in outdated pills at last year's event, in which police collect such medicines to prevent drug abuse and theft.

high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home

medicine cabinet.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or the Sept. 26 event, go to www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback.

Orange County News
Sept. 23, 2015

Teen in critical condition after near drowning

The Garden Grove Fire Department was dispatched to the 12200 block of Stanford Avenue over the weekend for a drowning incident.

Crews found a 15 year old male in cardiac arrest at a backyard pool party.

CPR was not performed by bystanders. CPR and advanced life support was initiated by fire-

fighter/paramedics. The victim was transported to UCI Medical Center, and paramedics were able to get a pulse back. The male is in critical condition.

This incident marks the sixth drowning or near-drowning incident in Garden Grove this year.

All residents are encouraged to learn the A-B-C's of water safety, including CPR. Additionally,

a responsible person must be designated to watch the water anytime people are in or around it. Water watcher tags are used to obligate the designated person to not be distracted while watching the water and areas around it. Free water watcher tags and water safety information can be obtained at any Garden Grove fire station.

Community Calendar

Ongoing

Overachievers, check this out
The Garden Grove Chamber holds Friday meetings. The Garden Grove Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee meets the second Friday of the month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call the chamber at 714-638-7950.

Grief support
The Grief Share Support Group is for mothers who have lost children of every age. The group meets Thursday evenings at 12831 Olive St., Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-892-1520 or 714-343-7516.

Learn about Alzheimer's
The Alzheimer's Association of Orange County hosts a support group to provide an opportunity to meet other caregivers and families, share experiences and exchange ideas. These meetings are free and open to all caregivers and family members of individuals with dementia. All groups listed are in compliance with chapter and national standards. This is a faith-based meeting and may include prayer or pastoral speaker, and will take place at 1 p.m. Saturdays at Christ Cathedral, 12141 Lewis St. in Garden Grove. For more information, call Peggy Woelke at 714-634-2161.

Dance Center hosts social
Join the staff of the Cedarbrook Dance Center for nights of square dancing, line dancing, round dancing (pre-choreographed social dancing) and salsa. The Dance Center is at 12812 Garden Grove Blvd. For more information on classes, call Eileen Silvia at 949-637-4169.

Eco-friendly storytime
Family storytime all through the summer will highlight books about our environment and the animals that live in rivers, oceans and icy places. All ages are encouraged to attend at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Garden Grove Regional Library, 11200 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-530-0711.

Rotary Club to meet
The Rotary Club of Garden Grove meets at 12:10 p.m. Wednesdays at The Marriott Hotel, at Chapman Avenue and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

GG Kiwanis to meet
The Kiwanis Club of Garden Grove hosts dinner meetings at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Kiwanisland 9840 Larson Ave. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. For more information, call 714-892-7267.

School Board to meet
The Garden Grove Unified School District holds its regular

meetings at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month at the district offices, 10331 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove.

Ready, young Rembrandts?
Elementary and preschool students are eager to learn and a joy to teach. Your young artist will learn to draw using our step-by-step process in this class, held on Tuesdays at the Westminster Civic Center craft room, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster. Give your child a head start in being hand-writing-ready by developing his/her fine motor skills. There will be new lessons each week

at the preschool and elementary level. Students ages 3-5 meet at 3:15 p.m. and ages 6-12 meet at 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.westminster-ca.gov.

Cartoonist lessons offered
Artists ages 6-12 will have fun drawing and coloring a myriad of expressive characters while learning how to stay on task, follow directions, and be visually, spatially organized. There will be new lessons each week, even for previous students. The next class will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Westminster Civic Center craft room, 8200

Westminster Blvd. in Westminster.

Commission set to meet
The City of Westminster Planning Commission holds its regular meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster.

Chamber set to meet
The Westminster Chamber of Commerce holds legislation meetings at 8 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month in its offices, at 14491 Beach Blvd. in Westminster.

Garden Grove firefighters remember the fallen



Courtesy photo

Garden Grove Firefighters and other fire agencies from throughout Orange County participated in the Sept. 11 Flag Ceremony at Angel Stadium last Friday. The firefighters were joined by members of all branches of the military. Sept. 11, of course, marks the 14th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on America that killed thousands. The event gave everyone in attendance a moment to reflect on the victims, including 343 firefighters who lost their lives.

Orange County News
Sept. 18, 2015

Apartment fire

Firefighters last week responded to the 12100 block of Magnolia Street for a residential structure fire where an adult female had to jump from her second floor apartment window to escape the fire prior to Fire Department arrival.

By the time the woman realized there was a fire, she was trapped. A neighbor in the driveway had placed a mattress at the base of the window for her to jump. She was able to escape without injury. The initial engine company encountered heavy fire that involved the victim's entire apartment, but was able to knock down the fire within 15 minutes and contain it to the unit of origin.

The woman was assessed by firefighter/paramedics at the scene, but she declined further care. Four families involving 12 people were displaced from the apartment complex. The Red Cross was requested to assist. Damage to the structure is estimated at \$150,000 and \$20,000 to the contents. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

GG school district gets thumbs up

In survey, schools and teachers express satisfaction on many fronts

And the survey says...

Schools and teachers in the Garden Grove Unified School District are getting high marks by students and parents.

This is among the key findings from comprehensive surveys taken last spring by nearly 20,000 district families and 33,631 students in grades 3-12. Student and parent surveys collected opinions in four key areas: school climate, socio-emotional well-being, motivation and scholarly habits.

The survey results from students and parents show a high level of satisfaction with their district school and teachers. Nearly 95 percent of parents were proud of their child's school and 95 percent confirm the school is a welcoming environment for students to learn.

Survey responses by students also suggest highly favorable opinions of their schools and teachers. More than 91 percent indicate their teachers believe they can be successful in their class and do well in school. Almost 90 percent of students say their school is a supportive place to learn.

"The survey findings will help determine our district-wide and school-level strengths and opportunities for growth," said Supt. Gabriela Mafi. "The district and our schools will reflect on the survey results and work collaboratively as we acknowledge successful practices, reflect on areas to improve, and continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to meet our district goals of developing students' academic and personal skills to prepare them for lifelong success."

Other significant survey highlights include:

- Nearly 95 percent of parents indicate their child feels safe at school;
- 87 percent of students believe their school focuses on academic success for all students;
- More than 96 percent of parents say their child's background and culture are respected at school;

Survey items were based on the see **DISTRICT**, page 3

DISTRICT:

Continued from page 1

district's strategic plan goals and requested one of four responses: strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree.

A survey was also given to all district full and part-time employ-

ees. Among the responses, 97.5 percent of employees agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "I am proud to be an employee of the GGUSD."

The Garden Grove Unified School District, which oversees K-12 schools, is the third largest school district in Orange County.

Pet owners: It's licensing time

City of GG reminds those with dogs and cats to register them at OC Animal Care

As the saying goes, it's better to be safe than sorry.

Especially when it comes to that beloved dog, or cat.

The City of Garden Grove reminds all responsible pet owners to license their pets through OC Animal Care.

Obtaining a pet license not only establishes ownership of an animal, it increases the chances that lost pets will be reunited with their owners, as well as protect pets, families and neighbors from coming in contact with rabies.

OC Animal Care, under contract with the City of Garden Grove, provides licensing and other animal services for all residents. All dogs in Orange County over 4 months of age are required by law to be licensed and vaccinated against rabies. Residents owning or having custody of any dog must

license the dog within 15 days of acquisition or within 15 days after the license becomes due.

Residents must provide proof of a California-approved rabies vaccination to obtain a license (OCCO 4-1-70). Cat licensing is optional and available through OC Animal Care.

Licensed pets that are lost and taken to the OC Animal Care shelter can be retrieved by their owners for free on the first day of impound. The shelter will call and send the owner a letter, and give licensed pet owners a longer period of time to claim their pet.

Prices for pet licensing vary, based on sterilized vs. non-sterilized animals. Senior citizen owner discounts are also available. Licenses may be obtained online at www.ocpetinfo.com. For more information, call 714-935-6848.

Community Calendar

CALENDAR:

Continued from previous page

also be viewed live online at www.anaheim.net.

School Board to meet

The Garden Grove Unified School District holds its regular meetings at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month at the district offices, 10331 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove.

A crafty day at library

Kids are invited for a special craft program at 3:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Westminster Public Library, 8180 13th St. in Westminster. Come after school for a fun creative afternoon. For more information, call Anna at 714-893-5057.

Join preschool storytime hour

Join the Westminster Public Library for stories, songs, and crafts at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday with your preschool-aged child. The Westminster Library is at 8180 13th St. in Westminster. Contact the children's librarian, Anna, with questions at 714-893-5057.

Ready, young Rembrandts?

Elementary and preschool students are eager to learn and a joy to teach. Your young artist will learn to draw using our step-by-step process in this class, held on Tuesdays at the Westminster Civic Center craft room, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster. Give your child a head start in being handwriting-ready by developing his/her fine motor skills. There will be new lessons each week at the preschool and elementary level. Students ages 3-5 meet at 3:15 p.m. and ages 6-12 meet at 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.westminster-ca.gov.

Cartoonist lessons offered

Artists ages 6-12 will have fun

drawing and coloring a myriad of expressive characters while learning how to stay on task, follow directions, and be visually, spatially organized. There will be new lessons each week, even for previous students. The next class will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Westminster Civic Center craft room, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster.

Commission set to meet

The City of Westminster Planning Commission holds its regular meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster.

BBookworms: get ready

Join the Westminster Public Library for a book discussion group at 10:30 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month. The Westminster

Library is at 8180 13th St. in Westminster. For more information,

call 714-893-5057.

Board meetings on Fridays

The Chamber of Commerce holds a regular board of directors meeting at 8 a.m. the fourth Friday of every month at the chamber's location, 14491 Beach Blvd. in Westminster. For more information, call the chamber at 714-898-9648.

Chamber set to meet

The Westminster Chamber of Commerce holds legislation meetings at 8 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month in its offices, at 14491 Beach Blvd. in Westminster.

City Hall to be shuttered

The Westminster City Hall, at 8200 Westminster Blvd., will be closed on alternating Fridays.

Ongoing

Overachievers, check this out
Achievers Club 9331 is hosting communication and leadership meetings featuring professional speakers at the Crystal Cathedral Tower of Hope, 12141 Lewis St. Meetings will be held every Thursday except during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holiday weeks. For more information, call Barbara Barrientas at 714-971-4123, e-mail bbarrientas@crystal-cathedral.org or visit www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331.

Chamber holds Friday meetings

The Garden Grove Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee meets the second Friday of the month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call the chamber at 714-638-7950.

Grief support

The Grief Share Support Group is for mothers who have lost children of every age.

The group meets Thursday evenings at 12831 Olive St., Garden Grove.

For more information, call 714-892-1520 or 714-343-7516.

Learn about Alzheimer's

The Alzheimer's Association of Orange County hosts a support

group to provide an opportunity to meet other caregivers and families, share experiences and exchange ideas. These meetings are free and open to all caregivers and family members of individuals with dementia. All groups listed are in compliance with chapter and national standards. This is a faith-based meeting and may include prayer or pastoral speaker, and will take place at 1 p.m. Saturdays at the Crystal Cathedral Arboretum, 12141 Lewis St. in Garden Grove. For more information, call Peggy Woelke at 714-634-2161.

Dance Center hosts social

Join the staff of the Cedarbrook Dance Center for nights of square dancing, line dancing, round dancing (pre-choreographed social dancing) and salsa. The Dance Center is at 12812 Garden Grove Blvd. For more information on classes, call Eileen Silvia at (949) 637-4169.

Eco-friendly storytime

Family storytime all through the summer will highlight books about our environment and the animals that live in rivers, oceans and icy places. All ages are encouraged to attend at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Garden Grove Regional Library, 11200 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-530-0711.

Rotary Club to meet

The Rotary Club of Garden Grove meets at 12:10 p.m. Wednesdays at The Marriott Hotel, at Chapman Avenue and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

GG Kiwanis to meet

The Kiwanis Club of Garden

Grove hosts dinner meetings at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Kiwanisland, 9840 Larson Ave. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. Call 714-892-7267.

City Council to meet

Anaheim City Council meetings

are held in City Hall Council Chambers, 200 S. Anaheim Blvd., first floor. Public session commences at 5 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

The meetings are broadcasted on local cable Channel 3 and can

see **CALENDAR**, next page

Orange County News
Sept. 18, 2015

Famous reverend's grandson follows in his footsteps

Bobby Schuller preaches at Shepherd's Grove, down the street from the former Crystal Cathedral



Tony on the Town

By Tony Cheong

This week — Sept. 16 to be specific — the Rev. Robert Schuller, famous for his Crystal Cathedral church in Garden Grove and “Hour of Power” television show, would have celebrated his 89th birthday.

If there's a heaven, he must be looking down with mixed feelings.

On the one hand, his lavish church — an Orange County landmark — is now in the hands of Catholics, who, after the Catholic Diocese of Orange County bought the building and sprawling property, renamed it “Christ Cathedral.”

On the other, his beloved grandson, Bobby, 33, has taken up where his grandfather left off, running a church and continuing the “Hour

of Power,” though he reaches a fraction of the viewers his grandfather did.

Shepherd's Grove in Garden Grove is smaller than the old church, and it's not going to become a must-see for tourists and students of architecture, but Bobby is preaching the same message of hope and redemption that the elder Schuller preached for decades.

And like his grandfather, he's trying to bring folks together.

Toward that end, he's combined two ministries that couldn't be more different, and that nobody figured would wind up under the same roof.

Many who worshipped at his grandfather's megachurch now worship at Shepherd's Grove. And most are elderly, they dress formally and they're used to traditional services, including traditional music. Bobby has also brought in Tree of Life, a ministry that caters to mostly young people. They dress informally and prefer laid-back services.

Can you cue up some swinging music, reverend?

At Shepherd's Grove, there are two Sunday morning services. The first one at 9:30 features the traditional service with Don Neuen as choir director and Marc Riley as musical director. Both men were part of the Crystal Cathedral

team.

The second service at 11:15 features contemporary folk and country-style music under the leadership of Tree of Life worship pastor Tully Wilkenson.

Bobby said that Shepherd's Grove was in dire straits two years ago.

Making the move had the obvious benefit of increasing the number of congregants. The church is close to hitting the 1,000 mark.

Rev. Robert Schuller built the towering glass-and-steel Crystal Cathedral in 1980, and from then on preached to a congregation of about 3,000 while 20 million viewers watched him on TV.

But the good reverend, who eventually saw his empire crumble and went bankrupt before his death, started his ministry in the most modest fashion: he preached on top of a concession stand at a drive-in movie theater. His motto: “Come as you are in the family car.”

Bobby isn't standing on any shacks, but he is rolling up his sleeves, sweating it out and, yeah, being inventive.

Come to think of it, maybe his grandfather doesn't have mixed feelings.

Maybe he's smiling.

Do you have a question, comment or news tip for Tony? Email her at tonyontown@yahoo.com.

West Nile virus cases more than double

Surge not result of spraying cancellation, official says; numbers still down from 2014.

BY JENNA CHANDLER
STAFF WRITER

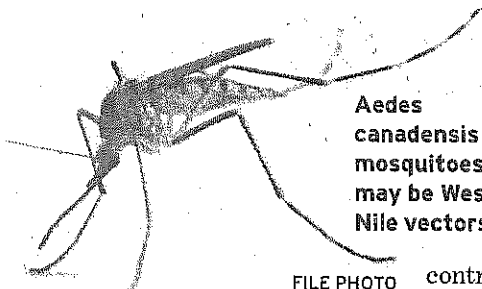
Thirteen new cases of West Nile virus were reported in Orange County in the week after plans to aerially spray pesticides to battle the disease were canceled.

The new cases bring the total locally to 24, mostly in central and

north Orange County. Sixteen people who have contracted the virus have been hospitalized.

By this time last year, amid a severe and unprecedented outbreak, 136 people in Orange County had fallen ill. The outbreak eventually infected 280 residents and killed nine.

"We don't expect a break in infection rates until October," said



Aedes canadensis mosquitoes may be West Nile vectors.

FILE PHOTO

Bob Cummings, director of scientific technical services with the Orange County Vector Control District.

Mosquitoes usually pick up the

virus from birds, then pass it to humans with a bite.

There were just five reported cases in Orange County two weeks ago when health and vector

control officials started talking about spraying pesticides from a plane into neighborhoods with high rates of infected mosquitoes. Those controversial plans were halted Sept. 10 due to permit issues, by which point the number

of patients had grown to 11.

For the first time, Orange County Vector Control had planned to equip a twin-engine plane with Duet, an Environmental Protection Agency-approved pesticide, which would be sprayed over Orange, Tustin and Villa Park and portions of Anaheim, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and Stanton.

The agency said its previous efforts to kill adult mosquitoes were

Register
Sept. 19, 2015

VIRUS

FROM PAGE 1

ineffective. A spokesman likened it to battling a wildfire with a squirt gun.

But the company hired to do the spraying failed to get a permit to fly over the Disneyland Resort.

Now mosquitoes are testing positive for West Nile virus in other Orange County cities, including Irvine and Mission Viejo, that were previously spared. And areas where infected mosquitoes had already turned up are "intensifying," Cummings said.

That includes Tustin, which accounts for about one-third of the 327 infected mosquito samples collected countywide.

"We try to rely on infected mosquitoes and dead birds. When we get 50 percent or more coming back

with the virus, we know the risk is going to be high," Cummings said. "Right now, we're getting around 50 percent of containing the virus."

The lack of aerial spraying is not to blame for the recent surge in human cases, he said.

Cummings said the 13 new patients were probably infected in the beginning of September, before spraying would have occurred. It can take up to two weeks for symptoms - which include headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting and, in severe cases, muscle weakness, numbness and convulsions - to develop after a bite from an infected insect.

It's not unusual to see a surge in infections this late in the summer as temperatures soar. Bursts of rain don't help either, creating pools of water where mosquitoes like to breed.

GARDEN GROVE

Backpack donations: The Thomas House Family Shelter, a Garden Grove nonprofit that provides services for families that are homeless, stuffed more than 200 backpacks with school supplies and new clothes earlier this month - giving them to Garden Grove Unified School

District students as they headed to back to school.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

Register
Sept. 18, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Record keeping: The City Council will consider tonight updating its policy on how long it keeps certain records, including those open to the public, for the first time since 1994. A proposed policy, which lays out varying lengths for keeping documents, is meant to account for the way files are stored because of the Internet and email.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

Register
Sept. 22, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Roeder thanked: Allan Roeder, who was the interim city manager from Jan. 1 to Aug. 3, will be honored by the City Council Tuesday evening for running City Hall. Roeder took over for Matt Fertal, who retired at the end of December, and has since stepped aside for permanent City Manager Scott Stiles.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Sept. 19, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Fire inspections: There have been recent reports of businesses or individuals claiming to be licensed by or members of the Fire Department and conducting fraudulent fire inspections, according to department officials. Fire Chief Tom Schultz will lead a press conference at 2 p.m. today to provide more information and spur public outreach.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Sept. 23, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Santa event: Garden Grove may once again waive fees and provide insurance for Orange County Autism so the nonprofit can hold its sixth annual Breakfast with Santa event on Dec. 13; the City Council will consider approving the idea on Tuesday. The organization brings children with disabilities and their families to the Atlantis Play Center to celebrate Christmas.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

Register
Sept. 21, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Job fair: Registration is continuing for those who want to attend the annual Orange County Job, Resource and College Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday at Living Spring Church, 9351 Bixby Ave. The fair, hosted by the church, will connect more than 40 organizations with those seeking employment. Info: 714-539-1232 or livingspring.com.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Sept. 24, 2015



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

Liên lạc: Kristy Thai, (714) 741-5280
Ban Quan hệ Cộng Đồng

Thứ Tư, 23/9/2015

GARDEN GROVE VÀ GOOGLE HỢP TÁC GIÚP QUẢNG BÁ CÁC CƠ SỞ THƯƠNG MẠI

"Let's put our City on the Map" là một sự hợp tác giữa hãng Google và Thành phố Garden Grove để thúc đẩy các doanh nghiệp địa phương tham gia chương trình tìm kiếm trực tuyến trên mạng Google Search và Google Maps để quảng bá rộng rãi trên trang mạng xã hội. Thành phố sẽ tổ chức một hội thảo miễn phí để giải thích các chương trình và giúp đỡ thành lập một danh sách doanh nghiệp (listing online) của Google miễn phí trên trang web. Hội thảo sẽ diễn ra vào Thứ Ba, ngày 20 tháng Mười, 2015, lúc 6:00 giờ chiều, trong Courtyard Center, khu Village Green, địa chỉ là 12732 Main Street.

"Google Search là một trong những nơi đầu tiên mọi người tìm kiếm khi họ cần thông tin trực tuyến trên web. Thành phố muốn giúp các doanh nghiệp địa phương, đặc biệt là các doanh nghiệp nhỏ, có được danh sách trực tuyến (listing online) của họ, tạo ra lợi thế quan trọng cho cả doanh nghiệp và khách hàng," Thị trường Bảo Nguyễn chia sẻ.

Những ai muốn tham gia hội thảo nên mang theo máy tính xách tay (laptop) của mình để các nhân viên có thể dễ dàng hướng dẫn thành lập trang mạng cho công ty trên Google Search. Những người tham gia phải có giấy phép kinh doanh (business license) trong Garden Grove hoặc có tài liệu thông tin của công ty. Sẽ có nước giải khát nhẹ và những tặng phẩm từ hãng Google.

Buổi hội thảo hoàn toàn miễn phí. Những người tham dự chương trình sẽ được thành lập một trang web kinh doanh miễn phí với Google trong một năm.

Chỗ ngồi có giới hạn, để có thể tham dự, xin ghi danh bằng cách gửi email, tên, điện thoại, và tên doanh nghiệp của bạn đến địa chỉ **communityrelations@ci.garden-grove.ca.us** hoặc gọi (714) 741-5280. Để biết thêm thông tin, hãy truy cập tại www.gybo.com/ca/garden-grove, cũng như vào trang web của Thành phố tại www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us, Facebook và Twitter.

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THÔNG TIN

Từ Thành Phố Garden Grove

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

Liên lạc: Lt. Bob Bogue (714) 741-5786
Thuộc Sở Cảnh Sát

Thứ Năm, 24/9/2015

SỞ CẢNH SÁT GARDEN GROVE THÔNG BÁO TUYỂN NHÂN VIÊN

Sở cảnh sát Thành phố Garden Grove cần tuyển thêm người để đào tạo, gia nhập vào đội ngũ cảnh sát cho các chức vụ thuộc bộ phận văn phòng (Police office Aide) và Sĩ quan cảnh sát (Reserve Police Officer). Các thông tin chi tiết có sẵn tại website www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/hr. Hạn chót nộp đơn là ngày Thứ Tư, 21 Tháng Mười, 2015 lúc 5:00 giờ chiều.

Trong thời gian sắp tới, Sở cảnh sát cần tuyển dụng nhân viên cảnh vụ để gia nhập vào hàng ngũ cảnh sát Thành phố. Sĩ quan cảnh sát và cảnh viên văn phòng sẽ làm việc chặt chẽ cùng những nhân viên cảnh vụ, tham gia vào những dự án, chương trình huấn luyện pháp lý tại Sở cảnh sát. Các sĩ quan cảnh sát là những người đứng tuyển đầu trong cộng đồng, đảm đương một vai trò dân sự quan trọng là làm cho Thành phố an toàn hơn. Trong các nấc thang công tác, cảnh sát viên có nhiều cơ hội thăng tiến, được thăng cấp, được lựa chọn nhiều công tác khác nhau. Các ứng cử viên phải thể hiện tính đạo đức, và phải vượt qua buổi kiểm tra background check theo thông lệ nếu muốn trở thành cảnh sát.

Theo Trung úy Bob Bogue, quản lý của bộ phận Professional Standards Division, đây là một cơ hội tuyệt vời cho những người quan tâm trong việc thực thi pháp luật và bắt đầu một sự nghiệp với Sở Cảnh sát Garden Grove. Sở cảnh sát cần tuyển dụng thêm nhiều nhân viên nói được song ngữ và các ứng cử viên phải là công dân Mỹ hay thường trú nhân hợp pháp.

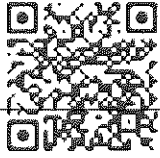
Để biết thêm thông tin về các chức vụ được tuyển dụng, hoặc những yêu cầu của công việc, xin vui lòng liên lạc với Bộ phận Nhân sự (Human Resources) của Garden Grove tại ggjobs@ci.garden-grove.ca.us.

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VIETBAO

G.G., Google Hợp Tác Giúp Quảng Bá Cơ Sở Thương Mại

24/09/2015 00:00:00



"Let's put our City on the Map" là một sự hợp tác giữa hãng Google và Thành phố Garden Grove để thúc đẩy các doanh nghiệp địa phương tham gia chương trình tìm kiếm trực tuyến trên mạng Google Search và Google Maps để quảng bá rộng rãi trên trang mạng xã hội. Thành phố sẽ tổ chức một hội thảo miễn phí để giải thích các chương trình và giúp đỡ thành lập một danh sách doanh nghiệp (listing online) của Google miễn phí trên trang web. Hội thảo sẽ diễn ra vào Thứ Ba, ngày 20 tháng Mười, 2015, lúc 6:00 giờ chiều, trong Courtyard Center, khu Village Green, địa chỉ là 12732 Main Street.

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Khẩu hiệu hợp tác

Những ai muốn tham gia hội thảo nên mang theo máy tính xách tay (laptop) của mình để các nhân viên có thể dễ dàng hướng dẫn thành lập trang mạng cho công ty trên Google Search. Những người tham gia phải có giấy phép kinh doanh (business license) trong Garden Grove hoặc có tài liệu thông tin của công ty. Sẽ có nước giải khát nhẹ và những tặng phẩm từ hãng Google.

Buổi hội thảo hoàn toàn miễn phí. Những người tham dự chương trình sẽ được thành lập một trang web kinh doanh miễn phí với Google trong một năm.

Chỗ ngồi có giới hạn, để có thể tham dự, xin ghi danh bằng cách gửi email, tên, điện thoại, và tên doanh nghiệp của bạn đến địa chỉ

communityrelations@ci.garden-grove.ca.us hoặc gọi (714) 741-5280. Để biết thêm thông tin, hãy truy cập tại www.gyro.com/vca/garden-grove, cũng như vào trang web của Thành phố tại www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us, Facebook và Twitter.

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CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

Contact:
Lt. Bob Bogue (714) 741-5786
Garden Grove Police Department

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

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

POLICE RECRUITMENT OPENS FOR ONE MONTH ONLY

The Garden Grove Police Department, a nationally-accredited law enforcement agency, is currently accepting online applications for Police Recruit, Lateral Police Officer, and several other positions. Applications are available at www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/hr. The closing date for applications is Wednesday, October 21, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.

According to Lieutenant Bob Bogue, who manages the department's Professional Standards Division, this is an excellent opportunity for those interested in law enforcement and starting a career with the Garden Grove Police Department.

"Our department is strongly committed to increasing the number of community-based police officers. We are expecting an excellent turnout for our recruitment process based on an increased awareness among the public about the importance of Community Policing and expressed interest from citizens who aspire to become police officers," he says.

All applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens who are eligible for, and have applied for citizenship. Bilingual language skills are highly desirable.

For more information on positions, application process, filing deadlines, and requirements, please contact the City of Garden Grove's Human Resources Department at ggjobs@ci.garden-grove.ca.us.

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11222 Acacia Parkway * P.O.Box 3070 * Garden Grove, CA 92842
www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

Contact:
Ana Pulido (714) 741-5283
Supervisor, Office of Community Relations

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

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

CITY, GOOGLE, PARTNER TO PUT LOCAL BUSINESSES "ON THE MAP"

"Let's Put our Cities on the Map," is a new initiative from the minds of Google, to give businesses an edge by getting their listings online through Google Search and Google Maps. The City of Garden Grove has partnered with Google to encourage local businesses to participate in the program to create or improve their online presence. The City will host a free Google workshop to explain the program and help participants develop a free Google business listing on site. The workshop takes place on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., in the Garden Grove Courtyard Center, located in Village Green park, at 12732 Main Street.

"More than ever, people are looking for what they need online, and one of the first places they go to is Google Search. Helping our local businesses, especially small businesses, get their listing online, creates important advantages for both businesses and customers," says Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen.

Workshop participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops to go through the steps of creating their own Google business listing, or improve an existing one. Participants must have a valid Garden Grove business license on file with the City. Refreshments and Google giveaways will be available.

The Google listing is free. Participants who choose to create a Google business website receive free website hosting for one year.

-more-

CITY, GOOGLE, PARTNER TO PUT LOCAL BUSINESSES "ON THE MAP"
2-2-2

Reservations are limited, and can be made by emailing your name, phone, and business name to communityrelations@ci.garden-grove.ca.us or by calling (714) 741-5280. For more information, visit www.gybo.com/ca/garden-grove, as well as the City's website at www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us, Facebook and Twitter.

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CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
NEWS

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

Contact:

John Montanez (714) 741-5214
Community Services Department

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

JACK O'LANTERN JAMBOREE CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES

The Garden Grove Community Services Department presents the 14th annual Jack O'Lantern Jamboree event on Friday, October 23, 2015, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Atlantis Play Center. Atlantis Play Center is located at 13630 Atlantis Way in Garden Grove Park.

Activities at the event include a spooky train, carnival games, crafts, bounce houses, goodies, and for the first time ever The Trail of Terror! The Trail is a haunted walk recommended for children 10-years-old and over. There will also be pumpkins available for sale at the Pumpkin Patch.

Ticket prices are \$8 per person. The tickets are limited to the first 300 children, and children 2-years-old and under are free. Only cash or credit cards are accepted. There will be no ticket sales at the door.

Ticket sales for Jack O'Lantern Jamboree begin Monday, October 5 through Thursday, October 22, until quantities run out. Tickets may be purchased at the Recreation Counter, located on the 1st floor of Garden Grove City Hall, at 11222 Acacia Parkway. To order by phone, or for more information, call (714) 741-5200.

###



Jack O'Lantern Jamboree

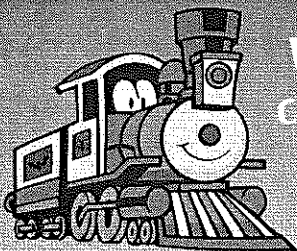
ATLANTIS
Play Center

13630 Atlantis Way
Garden Grove, 92844

Friday,
October 23, 2015
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

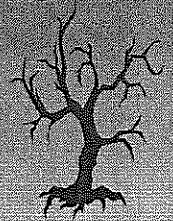
\$8.00 per person
(Children 2 and under are free)
Limited to the first 300 children

No ticket
sales at
the door



Enjoy a spooky train,
carnival games, crafts,
bounce houses,
goodies, and more!

Pumpkins available
for sale at the
Pumpkin Patch!



**TRAIL
OF TERROR**
(Recommended for
10 yrs and older)

Tickets are available by phone or in person,
Monday, October 5 through Thursday, October 22 at:

Garden Grove City Hall

11222 Acacia Parkway • 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Payment by cash or credit card only. No refunds except for cancellation of event. To order by phone or for more information, call the Garden Grove Community Services Department at (714) 741-5200.



September 21, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

**"Re:Imagine Garden Grove By Day and By Night" Festival
Unveils Entertainment and Programming**

*Second Year Open Streets Event Puts Garden Grove and Orange County in the
Center of the Tactical Urbanism Movement Changing Cities Worldwide*

[Garden Grove, Cali.] - The City of Garden Grove is pleased to unveil its plans for the entertainment and programming components of the car-free streets event, "Re:Imagine Garden Grove By Day and By Night " on Saturday, October 10, 2015, from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The second year festival invites residents and visitors to explore a car-free, re-envisioned downtown environment and experience, first-hand, the tactical urbanism movement that focuses on urban change through low-cost, temporary transformations to improve neighborhoods and community gathering places.

"The Garden Grove lifestyle is all about the culture, character, and communities that thrive in our city," commented Mayor Bao Nguyen. "The open streets event amplifies those elements to achieve a downtown 'urban cool' using creative alternatives, such as biking and walking, to feel better, live better, and enjoy what we love about Garden Grove," he continued.

The 2015 festival will replace one-mile of car traffic in Downtown with food, art, music, dance, workshops, action sports, games and more in a block party atmosphere that will showcase the diversity and excitement of the Garden Grove community and promote active transportation during the day and into the night.

"From New York City's Times Square to CicLAvia in Los Angeles and ciclovía in Bogotá, these temporary repurposings of public streets have led to concrete changes in how new public spaces are being created," commented Aaron Paley, President and Co-Founder of Community Arts Resources (CARS), curator and producer of the Re:Imagine Garden Grove festival for the second year in a row.

"Garden Grove's first open streets festival in 2014 garnered significant local attention which led directly to new funding from the Southern California Association
11222 Acacia Parkway • P.O. Box 3070 • Garden Grove, CA 92842
www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us

of Governments as well as a fresh look at the long-dormant Pacific Electric (PE) Right of Way Bike/Pedestrian Path from the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA)," he added.

The Pacific Electric Right-of-Way Bike/Pedestrian Path will serve as one of the activity centers of "Re:Imagine Garden Grove By Day," from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The path will be open for walking and biking and will be lined with ping-pong tables, food trucks, picnic tables, and umbrellas. Plant donations from Garden Grove's Home Depot will decorate the Right-of-Way. Los Angeles' Solar DJs will perform and Steve's Machines will host interactive spin art for kids and adults.

Also on the Right-of-Way, Alta Planning + Design will host an interactive workshop about the Garden Grove Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan – Garden Grove Active Streets. On Nelson Street, between the Right-of-Way and Acacia, and at the intersection of Main Street and Acacia Parkway, Alta will construct temporary pedestrian crossing improvement installations that festivalgoers can test out in a safe and car-free environment.

Moving west on Acacia Parkway from the PE Right of Way, OCTA will host an information booth and bus display with tours and demonstrations. McCarty BMX will offer BMX freestyle stunt shows throughout the day. Garden Grove's Old Grove Auto will present a collaborative paint workshop and Richard's Cyclery will offer complimentary bicycle repairs.

Historic Main Street, between Acacia Parkway and Garden Grove Boulevard, will bring the restaurants and businesses out onto the street with picnic tables, umbrellas, and outdoor service. Strolling performers will include the traditional Vietnamese Vanguards Lion Dance group. The main stage will host the percussion group P.O.P Unplugged; Los Angeles-based blue grass band, The Dust Bowl Cavaliers; and local favorite, "Elvis," who performs regularly at Azteca Restaurant and Lounge on Historic Main Street.

Historic Main Street will offer a temporary tattoo workshop, courtesy of Black Umbrella Tattoo and Gallery, a mosaic workshop with Garden Grove artist Robin Marcario, and a complimentary hair chalk and braiding station with Mint Salon. Alta

Planning + Design will host an interactive workshop station offering walking audits through the surrounding Garden Grove neighborhoods, and public surveys. Local artist, James Dinh, will host a workshop on how to make rain sticks, a sacred musical instrument found in many cultures. The workshop will highlight the importance of rain and water in the community and daily life.

The Gem Theatre parking lot will feature Cirque Du Soleil's "Kurios" themed photo booth. Acacia Parkway, between Main and Euclid Streets, will present the Re:Imagine Play Zone with a rock wall, chalk zone, jump ropes, and hula-hoops. A Chill Zone will house tents with AstroTurf, lounge seating, and games and food carts, where festival-goers can relax in a shaded and comfortable area.

Civic Center Park will welcome interactive programs and workshops with the Garden Grove Public Library, DIY workshops with Home Depot, and an unstructured free-play area with a repurposed parts playground, courtesy of Recess Revolution. Acacia Parkway, between Euclid Street and 7th Street, will host the Garden Grove Public Works, Fire, and Police Departments Open House, featuring display vehicles, information booths and a Safe City Bike and Pedestrian course. Garden Grove local DJ Josh McIntosh will perform.

As the sun begins to set, P.O.P Unplugged will lead a New Orleans second line- inspired parade which will transition Historic Main Street into "Re:Imagine Garden Grove By Night," from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tropical Afro-Latin rhythmic ensemble, QUITAPENAS, will perform live, followed by a special DJ set by Raul Campos, host of Nocturna on Los Angeles' public radio station, KCRW. Amidst the entertainment, event-goers can take part in light-inspired workshops, interactive games, photo booths, and a pop-up arcade. The restaurants, bars, and businesses will spill out onto the streets and offer outdoor picnic tables and a beer garden, courtesy of the Garden Grove Downtown Business Association.

Prior to Re:Imagine Garden Grove on 10/10/15, Alta Planning + Design will call upon local volunteers to conduct bicycle and pedestrian counts throughout Garden Grove, as part of the Garden Grove Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan. The counts will take place on September 17 at 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and September 19 at 11:00 a.m. The public can volunteer to participate by contacting

Midori Mizuhara at Community Arts Resources: midori@carsla.net or 213-355-8504.
All volunteers will receive a free 2014 Re:Imagine Garden Grove t-shirt.

For more information, and to get involved, please visit
<http://www.ggopenstreets.com>.

Media Contact:

The ACE Agency, Ashley Eckenweiler, ashley@theaceagency.com, (949) 285-9239

ABOUT GARDEN GROVE

The City of Garden Grove, CA, located just one mile from the Disneyland Resort, home to the Grove Resort District, complements Southern California's most popular tourist zone. Several brand-name hotels, restaurants, and the arrival of the Great Wolf Lodge Southern California in early 2016, highlight the resort area. As the fifth largest city in Orange County, Garden Grove boasts many of the most recognized cultural and spiritual centers, including Little Saigon, the Korean Business District, and the Christ Cathedral (formerly the Crystal Cathedral). Some of the most affordable new housing developments in Southern California, the third largest school district in the county with one of the highest college graduation rates in the state, and a strong, business-friendly atmosphere make Garden Grove an ideal place for new and current residents, businesses, and visitors.

ABOUT COMMUNITY ARTS RESOURCES (CARS)

Community Arts Resources (CARS) is a diverse collective of creatively minded planners and producers engaged in the changing dynamics of the urban environment. Based in Los Angeles, CARS partners with neighborhoods, nonprofits, foundations, cities, cultural institutions, developers and designers to create public programs and events that highlight the unique character and untapped potential of a particular place. With more than a quarter of a century of experience in activating the urban realm, CARS creates unique experiences where arts, culture, community and civic life collide. CARS founders Katie Bergin and Aaron Paley and their dedicated staff have created, produced and promoted some of Los Angeles' most innovative cultural programs and events in public space, including: CicLAvia, Chinatown Summer Nights, the Santa Monica Festival, Pop-Up Broadway, GLOW and the Getty Museum Family Festivals. For more info:www.carsla.net.

ABOUT ALTA PLANNING + DESIGN

Alta Planning + Design is North America's leading multi-modal transportation firm that specializes in the planning, design, and implementation of bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, park, and trail corridors and systems. Alta's mission is to create active communities where bicycling and walking are safe, healthy, fun, and normal daily activities. Alta's team of planners, designers, and engineers work to help communities identify needs, build support, prioritize improvements, and implement a wide range of projects. Alta is committed to transforming communities with one trip, one step, one street, park, trail, and intersection at a time.

###



FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Tom Schultz
Fire Chief

CONTACT:
Capt. Thanh Nguyen, PIO
(714) 741-5628
thanhng@garden-grove.org
[@gardengrovefire](#)

Monday, September 21, 2015

MEDIA ALERT

REPORTED FIRE INSPECTIONS BY FRAUDULENT BUSINESSES PROMPTS PUBLIC WARNING FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members of the media are urged to attend a press conference to discuss reported fraudulent fire inspection practices conducted by businesses or individuals claiming to be licensed and/or members of the Garden Grove Fire Department. The press conference will be held on Wednesday, September 23 at 2:00 p.m., in front of the Fire Department headquarters, located in the Garden Grove Civic Center, at 11301 Acacia Parkway.

The conference will be conducted by Fire Chief Tom Schultz and members of the Garden Grove Fire and Police Department.

Detailed information, and public outreach efforts and warnings by the Garden Grove Fire and Police Department will be discussed and presented at the conference.

###



FRAUD PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Garden Grove Fire Department is proactively reaching out to the business community to educate them on potential fraud inspections and unlicensed work.

- Inspectors will always be in uniform and have a GGFD badge and identification card.
- Inspectors will never ask for payment on site.

Garden Grove Fire Department Inspectors



To learn more go to:
www.gardengrovefire.org

For questions, call the Fire Department at (714) 741-5600. If you feel threatened, call 911.

PROGRAMA DE PREVENCIÓN DE FRAUDE

El Departamento de Bomberos de Garden Grove esta proactivamente tratando de informar a dueños de negocios sobre inspecciones de fuego hechos por representantes fraudulentos o por personas sin licencia.

- Los inspectores de Garden Grove serán siempre uniformados, con una insignia GGFD y tarjeta de identificación.
- Los inspectores nunca pedirán pagos por los servicios en persona.

Para aprender más, visite:
www.gardengrovefire.org

Para preguntas, llame al Departamento de Bomberos al (714) 741-5600. Si se siente amenazado, llame al 911.

사기 예방 프로그램

가든 그로브 소방국은 사전에 잠재적인 인스펙션 사기 및 허가되지 않은 작업에 대해 비즈니스 커뮤니티를 교육하는 일에 적극적으로 참여하고 있습니다.

- 검사관 (Inspector)은 항상 소방국 유니폼을 입고 가든 그로브 소방국(GGFD) 배지와 신분증을 지참합니다.
- 검사관 (Inspector)은 주민들에게 현장에서 비용을 지불하도록 요구하지 않습니다.

더 자세한 내용은 www.gardengrovefire.org에서 확인하실 수 있습니다. 궁금한 사항이 있으시면 소방국 전화 번호 (714) 741-5600 로 연락해 주세요. 만약에 신변의 위협을 감지하시면 911로 전화하세요.

CHƯƠNG TRÌNH PHÒNG CHỐNG GIAN LẬN

Sở Cứu Hỏa đang có một cuộc vận động nhằm phổ biến thông tin tới các doanh nghiệp địa phương những phương thức đề phòng chống kiểm tra gian lận (fraud inspections).

- Thanh tra viên sẽ luôn mặc đồng phục và đeo thẻ nhân viên của Sở Cứu Hỏa Garden Grove.
- Thanh tra từ Sở Cứu Hỏa sẽ không bao giờ hỏi hoặc nhận bất kỳ lệ phí nào.

Để biết thêm thông tin, vui lòng xem tại trang mạng www.gardengrovefire.org

Hoặc có thắc mắc, xin hỏi về Sở Cứu Hỏa tại (714) 741-5600. Nếu cảm thấy bị đe dọa hoặc gặp nguy hiểm, xin gọi 911.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

September 25, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
2. Agenda for the October 1st Planning Commission meeting.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 24, 2015 – October 10, 2015

Thursday	September 24	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 rd Floor Training Room CANCELLED
Thursday-Saturday	September 24-26	7:30 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Pirates of Penzance", Festival Amphitheater
Friday	September 25	5:00 p.m.	City Council Closed Session, Courtyard Center
Saturday	September 26	10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	National Drug Take Back Initiative Pill Disposal at the Garden Grove Police Department, 11301 Acacia Pkwy
Tuesday	September 29	8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	San Manuel Casino Trip coordinated by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center
Thursday	October 1	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
Friday	October 2		City Hall Closed
Wednesday	October 7	2:30 p.m.	Employee Flu Shots, For Reservations call x5004 Human Resources
Thursday	October 8	7:30 a.m.- 1:45 p.m.	American Red Cross Blood Drive, Courtyard Center
		9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 rd Floor Training Room
		6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Meeting Courtyard Center
Thursday-Sunday	October 8-11		One More Productions presents "Little Shop of Horrors", Gem Theater
Friday	October 9		Shakespeare Orange County presents Cinema Under the Stars, "Shakespeare in Love" Festival Amphitheater
Saturday	October 10	3:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.	Re:Imagine Garden Grove Open Streets Event Civic Center and Main Street



A G E N D A

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2015

COURTYARD CENTER
12732 MAIN STREET

REGULAR SESSION - 6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: CHAIR O'NEILL, VICE CHAIR KANZLER
COMMISSIONERS MAI, MARGOLIN, PAK, PAREDES, ZAMORA

Members of the public desiring to speak on any item of public interest, including any item on the agenda except public hearings, must do so during Oral Communications at the beginning of the meeting. Each speaker shall fill out a card stating name and address, to be presented to the Recording Secretary, and shall be limited to five (5) minutes. Members of the public wishing to address public hearing items shall do so at the time of the public hearing.

Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services due to a disability should contact the City Clerk's office at (714) 741-5035 to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

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

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

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

- A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 17, 2015
- C. STUDY SESSION
 - C.1. REVIEW OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA).
- D. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- E. MATTERS FROM STAFF
- F. ADJOURNMENT

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION
Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 17, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Chair O'Neill
Vice Chair Kanzler
Commissioner Mai
Commissioner Margolin
Commissioner Pak
Commissioner Paredes
Commissioner Zamora

Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Paredes.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed.

Motion: Margolin Second: Mai

Ayes: (6) Kanzler, Mai, Margolin, O'Neill, Pak, Paredes

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Abstain: (1) Zamora

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-047-2015. FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 8762 GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD #102, SOUTH SIDE OF GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD, EAST OF NEWLAND STREET.

Applicant: Bodhi Youth of America, Inc.

Date: September 17, 2015

Request: Conditional Use Permit approval to operate a new, approximately 3,748 square foot, educational institution, Bodhi Youth of America, at 8762 Garden Grove Boulevard #102. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 – Existing Facilities.

Action: Public Hearing held. Speaker(s): Angela Vu, Austin Park

Action: Resolution of Approval No. 5850-15 approved with a revision to the Conditions of Approval for the hours of operation to be permitted from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., seven (7) days a week. The City of Garden Grove reserves the right to reduce the hours of operation, by order of the Chief of the Police Department, in the event problems arise concerning the operation of this business.

Motion: Pak Second: Mai

Ayes: (7) Kanzler, Mai, Margolin, O'Neill, Pak, Paredes, Zamora

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Zamora noted that the trees on Main Street and on Garden Grove Boulevard from Euclid Street to Main Street are dying. Staff responded that Public Works would be contacted.

Commissioner Margolin asked about the zoning for, and future of, the property on Westminster and Newhope that has been fenced off from view. Staff responded that the property is in a receivership and is zoned M-1; however, there has been interest to have it developed for residential use.

Chair O'Neill commented that the sidewalk on the west side of Brookhurst Street, traveling south passing through Anaheim into Garden Grove past Dewey Drive up to Joyzelle Drive, looks bad and that the trees have caused a mess. Staff responded that Public Works would be contacted.

Commissioner Paredes asked if there was any follow up to the discussions on potential tax incentives for vacant land owners to develop urban farming. Staff responded that at the request of Commissioner Kanzler, research was done to explore the possibility; however, there has been no direction from the City Council.

MATTERS FROM STAFF:

Staff announced:

That the next Planning Commission meeting on October 1, 2015, will begin with a Study Session at 6:30 p.m., to discuss the California Environmental Quality Act, and the meeting scheduled for October 15, 2015, may be cancelled.

There will be a Planning Officials Forum on October 22, 2015, at the Nixon Library, and those Commissioners interested in attending to contact Lee Marino, Acting Planning Manager.

The Open Streets event will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2015, from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and information is available on the City's website.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:34 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Planning Commission on Thursday, October 1, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove.

Motion:	O'Neill	Second:	Pak
Ayes:	(7)	Kanzler, Mai, Margolin, O'Neill, Pak, Paredes, Zamora	
Noes:	(0)	None	
Absent:	(0)	None	

Teresa Pomeroy, CMC
Deputy City Clerk



IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 6: California City Solutions: Ventura Educates Children on Fire Safety and Prevention through Two-Day Educational Curriculum

Bills Impacting Cities Reach Governor's Desk

Scores of bills — including many of interest to cities — reached the desk of Gov. Jerry Brown before the Legislature's Sept. 11 deadline. The Governor now has until Oct. 11 to sign or veto bills. *For more, see Page 2.*



League Joins News Conference Urging Governor to Sign Medical Marijuana Regulatory Package

League Executive Director Chris McKenzie on Thursday, Sept. 17, joined three of the authors of AB 266 (Bonta), the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act, to urge the Governor to sign it, as well as AB 243, (Wood) and SB 643 (McQuire), the other two parts of the medical marijuana regulation trio of bills enacted in the session that adjourned last Friday. *For more, see Page 5.*



League First Vice President and Rancho Cucamonga Mayor L. Dennis Michael Speaks at White House as First Lady Michelle Obama Celebrates Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties

League First Vice President and Rancho Cucamonga Mayor L. Dennis Michael joined First Lady Michelle Obama and representatives from the National League of Cities (NLC) as well as several federal agencies at the White House on Wednesday to honor achievements made by local elected officials participating in the Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties (LMCTC) initiative. *For more, see Page 6.*

The following is a list of bills on which the League is urging the governor to sign or veto. Cities should submit letters regarding bills in which they have an interest. For more information on legislative language, the League's position letters and sample position letters for cities, please enter bill number in the League's [bill search](#). Sign or veto letters may also be submitted through the League's online [action center](#).

Request for Signature

HOT AB 2 (Alejo): Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities

This bill would authorize the creation of a new entity at the local level called a Community Revitalization Investment Authority that would provide a redevelopment option for the most disadvantaged and poorest areas of our state.

HOT AB 35 (Chiu, Atkins): Housing Tax Credit

AB 35 would increase the state's Low-Income Housing Tax Credit from \$70 to \$170 million annually for five years, providing an additional \$500 million to a program that is always heavily oversubscribed.

AB 90 (Chau): Federal Housing Trust Fund

This bill would prepare for the future allocations by designating the state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) as the entity responsible for administering funds received through the Federal Housing Trust Fund. It would require HCD to collaborate with the California Housing Finance Agency in developing an allocation process meeting geographic distribution and other criteria and establishes a stakeholder process to inform these discussions.

AB 169 (Maienschein): Local Government: Public Records: Internet

This bill would require that agencies that maintain an Internet Resource which is titled or described as "open-data" meet specified formatting requirements.

AB 216 (Garcia): Vapor Products

This bill would prohibit the sale of any device intended to deliver a non-nicotine product in a vapor state, to be directly inhaled by the user, to a person under 18 years of age.

HOT AB 243 (Wood): Medical Marijuana

AB 243 would require: licensing and regulation of marijuana cultivation under the Department of Food and Agriculture (DFA); the Department of Pesticide Regulation to develop related standards for pesticides and other foreign object residue, including maximum tolerances; and the Department of Public Health to develop standards for production and labelling of marijuana edibles. This bill would also assign joint responsibility to DFA, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to prevent illegal water diversion associated with marijuana cultivation from adversely affecting California fish population. The bill would also direct a multi-agency task force (DFW-SWRCB) to expand existing enforcement efforts to a statewide level to reduce adverse environmental impacts such as illegal discharge into waterways and poisoning of marine life and habitats.

HOT AB 266 (Bonta, Cooley, Jones-Sawyer, Lackey, Wood): Medical Marijuana

AB 266 would protect local control as it establishes statewide regulatory scheme. Under the bill, state regulation would be headed by the Bureau of Marijuana Regulation within Department of Consumer Affairs. The bill would provide for dual licensing: the state would issue licenses, while local governments would issue permits or licenses to operate marijuana businesses, according to local ordinances. This legislation would also require establishment of uniform health and safety standards, testing standards, and security requirements at dispensaries and during transport of the product.

AB 313 (Atkins): Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District: Cleanup

This bill would make various improvements to the Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District tool to facilitate implementation.

AB 388 (Chang): Homeless Veteran's Housing Funding Reports

AB 388 would require the HCD to report specified performance data to the Legislature as part of an annual evaluation performed by the department, in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs, on the expenditure of \$600 million in bonds, authorized by Prop. 41, for a variety of housing options including assisting homeless veterans.

AB 428 (Nazarian): Seismic Rehabilitation Tax Credits

This bill would offer a 30 percent tax credit for seismic rehabilitation of endangered properties, capped at a total of \$12 million per-year over a four-year program.

AB 851 (Mayes): LAFCO: Disincorporation

AB 851 would update existing disincorporation laws, including requiring plan for providing services to the area following disincorporation.

AB 1157 (Nazarian): Aircraft Property Tax Assessment

This bill would continue the existing aircraft property tax assessment program based on local county assessors for one year.

AB 1222 (Bloom): Tow Trucks

This bill would address the problem of tow truck scams by requiring better documentation and providing tools for better enforcement.

HOT AB 1223 (O'Donnell): Emergency Medical Services: Ambulance Transportation

AB 1223 would alleviate wait time for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel delivering patients by requiring the California Emergency Medical Services Authority to develop a methodology for determining an acceptable amount of time for EMS crews to offload their patients at emergency rooms. The bill would require local EMS authorities to adopt this methodology and begin tracking wait times, and it would give EMS crews the ability to deliver their patients to alternative treatment locations when emergency departments cannot receive them.

AB 1228 (Gibson): Housing for Homeless and Foster Youth

This bill would encourage additional flexibility in student housing facilities at state community college and university campuses for the challenges faced by students who are formerly homeless and foster youth.

HOT SB 25 (Roth): Incorporations

This bill would assist, through a property tax adjustment, four recently incorporated cities harmed by prior vehicle license fee takeaway.

SB 168 (Gaines, Jackson): Unmanned Aircraft Systems

This bill would provide first-responder immunity for damage to drones interfering with firefighting, airborne or ground ambulances and search-and-rescue operations. It increases fines for violation of existing laws prohibiting operations in flight-restricted airspace during emergencies.

HOT SB 485 (Hernandez): County of L.A.: Sanitation Districts

SB 485 would authorize sanitation districts in Los Angeles County to acquire, construct, operate, maintain and furnish facilities for the diversion, management, and treatment of stormwater and dry weather runoff.

HOT SB 493 (Cannella): Elections in Cities: By or From Districts

SB 493 would authorize a city council of a city with a population less than 100,000 to adopt an ordinance to switch the election system from at-large to by-district.

SB 533 (Pan): Sales Tax Rebate Agreements

This bill would amend existing law to remove several exceptions which enable sales tax rebate agreements that result in shifts of local Bradley-Burns sales taxes. SB 533 would require notification of affected agencies prior to enacting future agreements that would result in reduced sales tax allocations to the affected agencies.

HOT SB 643 (McGuire): Medical Marijuana

This bill would impose fines of up to \$5,000 against physicians for violating the prohibition against having a financial interest in a marijuana business. Recommendations for cannabis without a prior examination would constitute unprofessional conduct. This bill would also: impose restrictions on advertising for physician recommendations; place Department of Food and Agriculture in charge of cultivation regulations and licensing, and require a track-and-trace program; itemize disqualifying felonies for state licensure; place the Department of Pesticide Regulation in charge of pesticide regulation and Department of Public Health in charge of production and labelling of edibles; uphold local power to levy fees and taxes.

Request for Veto

HOT AB 36 (Campos): Local Government: Federal Surplus Property

This bill would prohibit local agencies from receiving surplus military equipment under the federal 1033 program unless the legislative body of the local agency has first voted to approve the acquisition at a public meeting that is compliant with the Brown Act. Amendments allowing for closed-session votes and limited disclosure about approved equipment under specified circumstances were deleted from bill.

HOT AB 57 (Quirk): Wireless Telecom Facilities

This bill would deem approved any application for colocation or siting of a new wireless telecommunications facility if a city or county fails to approve or disapprove the application within time periods that the Federal Communications Commission established.

AB 88 (Gomez): Sales Tax Exemption: Utility Appliance Purchases

This bill seeks to expand the scope of utility programs that provide free appliances to low income individuals, by exempting the utility from sales tax (both state and local shares) associated with the equipment purchases. While the policy objective may have merit, the bill gives away local shares of sales tax which are needed to fund basic services. The state should be free decide when to offer its own shares of sales tax as an incentive, but not local shares which should remain a local decision.

HOT AB 305 (Gonzalez): Workers' Compensation: Permanent Disability Apportionment

AB 305 would prohibit apportionment of a permanent disability claim in the case of a physical injury from being based on: pregnancy (or menopause if the condition is contemporaneous with the claimed physical injury) or psychiatric injury occurring on or from being based on psychiatric disability or impairment caused by sexual harassment.

HOT AB 744 (Chau): Density Bonus-Parking

AB 744 would undermine local control by establishing unrealistically low parking standards for various affordable housing projects.

AB 1236 (Chiu): EV Charging Stations

This bill would require cities and counties to streamline and expedite the permitting and inspection process for electric vehicle charging stations.

AB 1301 (Jones-Sawyer): Voting Rights: Preclearance

AB 1301 would establish a statewide preclearance system, requiring that voting-related laws, regulations and policies be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

HOT SB 239 (Hertzberg): Fire Service Contracting/LAFCO: Request for Veto

This bill would impose significant barriers to new or extensions of contracts for firefighting services outside of jurisdictional boundaries, without the approval of affected labor groups.

HOT SB 331 (Mendoza): Public Contracts: Local Agencies: Negotiations

SB 331 would require that cities, counties or special districts that have a COIN ordinance for labor negotiations to apply the same standards to other contracts valued at \$250,000 or more for goods or services.

SB 379 (Jackson): Land Use: Safety Element

This bill would require the safety element to be reviewed and updated as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to that city or county.

SB 406 (Jackson): Employment: Leave

This bill would change what family members are covered under existing law. It would also permit parents who work for the same employer to each take 12 weeks of leave.

No Position**SB 107 (Budget): RDA Dissolution**

This legislation would make numerous changes to redevelopment dissolution laws; this 104 page bill came into print and was approved on Sept. 11th, the last day of the session. Since the bill is sponsored by the Administration, there is little doubt the Governor will not sign it. The League raised concerns with provisions related to the repayment of city loans. While the loan-related language has improved from previous versions contained in AB 113, and a letter to the Journal was submitted to clarify aspects, the impacts on cities affected by this issue will depend on future Department of Finance interpretation and implementation. There are also other provisions in the measure of direct benefit to cities and other agencies. In anticipation of a signature, the League is working on a detailed explanation for its members to be distributed in the coming days.

'Medical Marijuana' Continued from Page 1...

Held in Oakland at the Elihu Harris State Building, the news conference featured presentations by Assembly Members Rob Bonta (D-Alameda), Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova) and Mike Lackey (R-Palmdale). In addition to McKenzie, other speakers included: Nate Bradley, executive director, California Cannabis Industry Association; Rome Aloise, vice-president-at large, Teamsters Union; Don Duncan, California director, Americans for Safe Access; and San Leandro Council Member Lee Thomas.

Speaking following the three legislative authors, McKenzie noted that "... the League and the California Police Chiefs Association have worked tirelessly for the last four years to ensure the development of a state medical marijuana regulatory framework that contains strong provisions that protect the public, local control and patient safety and access." He also stated, "AB 266 and its companion bills achieve these goals completely, and we strongly urge the Governor to sign the trio of bills."

McKenzie explained that the legislative package is significant to cities because it:

- Protects local control by ensuring that local jurisdictions have control of regulating local medical marijuana facilities in partnership with the state;
- Protects public safety by providing uniformed security requirements;
- Protects public health with uniform health and safety standards; and
- Ensures patient safety with quality assurance protocols requiring random sample testing by certified laboratories for all medical marijuana sold in California.

McKenzie closed by congratulating the three legislators present as well as those unable to attend the news conference on their outstanding collaborative effort to enact enduring medical marijuana regulatory legislation for the benefit of the people of California.

"We are proud to have been a part of this historic accomplishment, and also proud of the partnership it represents among these legislators who showed exemplary leadership and collaboration over many months of work and negotiations. It also represents a significant accomplishment for the state-local partnership that is essential to the successful implementation of so many important public policies in our state," said McKenzie.

A [summary](#) of the medical marijuana package is available on the League's website.

Rancho Cucamonga is part of a growing national movement to build healthier communities and ensure that the health and well-being of young people today and that of future generations is a priority. Mayor Michael was invited to speak at the White House event, highlighting how the city has used LMCTC to engage the community in its health improvement efforts. Healthy RC, the Rancho Cucamonga's award-winning health initiative, has been recognized nationally for its strategies and commitment to improving access to healthy, affordable food and increasing opportunities for physical activity.

The First Lady and NLC honored the city in July as the "Most Innovative City" for its work on improving the health of the community. Rancho Cucamonga has earned gold medals in all five goal areas. At Wednesday's event, the First Lady recognized the 52 communities, including Rancho Cucamonga, that have achieved gold medals in each of the five goal areas.

"The city of Rancho Cucamonga is encouraging healthy lifestyles and a healthy community by addressing the environmental influences that contribute to childhood obesity," said Mayor Michael. "Meaningful engagement is the heart and soul of Healthy RC, and without the thousands of hours of hard work, creative ideas, valuable expertise, and thoughtful guidance contributed by our partners, Healthy RC would not have the impact that it has today. Rancho Cucamonga is grateful for the support of the National League of Cities and I am honored to serve as a resource to improve health conditions locally and nationally. We are pleased to join the First Lady Michelle Obama today to share about Rancho Cucamonga and Healthy RC and to celebrate the accomplishments of the *Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties* initiative."

NLC works in partnership with *Let's Move!* and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, with support from U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Association of Counties and other nonprofit organizations, to provide assistance to local elected officials as they implement policy and program changes to improve access to healthy, affordable food and provide opportunities for physical activity for all children. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation provides generous support to NLC to provide technical assistance to local elected officials working to create healthier communities and prevent childhood obesity, including those participating in LMCTC.

Healthy RC has been a successful city-community partnership since 2008, receiving national recognition for their work to improve community health. The program is known for its leadership, innovation, and best practices. Healthy RC has taken a comprehensive approach to creating healthy minds, bodies, and a clean sustainable earth. From policies that make the healthy choice the easy choice, to programs that provide knowledge and skills for a healthy lifestyle, Healthy RC is empowering our community to be the healthiest it can be.

For more information about the city of Rancho Cucamonga visit www.CityofRC.us, Healthy RC www.HealthyRC.com, and to see the achievements by LMCTC communities visit www.healthycommunitieshealthyfuture.org/spotlights.

California City Solutions: Ventura Educates Children on Fire Safety and Prevention through Two-Day Educational Curriculum

This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2014 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called California City Solutions. Ventura's Fourth Grade Safety Days was submitted in 2014 for the Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government award category.

Fire season is a year-round reality in the city of Ventura, a community that is set along the Los Padres National Forest with many hillside neighborhoods backing up to the Wildland Urban Interface. With extended drought conditions, it is increasingly critical for the city to keep residents educated about fire prevention, creating a defensible space and keeping families prepared with a wildfire action plan.

For the past three years the Ventura City Fire Department has partnered with the Ventura Unified School District to educate, inform and engage students through a dynamic and interactive program called Fourth Grade Fire Safety Days. Following the two-day event, which is held in October to coincide with National Fire Prevention Month, an essay-writing contest encourages students to share what they have learned. The winning student essay receives the coveted Fire Hydrant Award for their school. The fall timing allows teachers to introduce the topic of fire prevention, and prepare students for the event.

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, fires set by children are responsible for more than 100 fire deaths nationwide, nearly 1,000 painful burn injuries, and hundreds of millions of dollars in property loss. Children are often the victims in these fires. While curiosity about fire is natural, fires set by children are dangerous and deadly. The National Fire Protection Association reports that children playing with fire accounted for an average of 56,300 fires per year between 2005 and 2009. Younger children are more likely to set fires in homes, while older children and teenagers are more likely to set fires outside.

Ventura's Fourth Grade Fire Safety Days program brings together firefighters and teachers in educating children (and their families) not just about fire prevention but also about fire and emergency preparedness, and how their local fire department operates. Students learn about fire behavior, home escape plans and get to know people who work in their community.

Every opportunity to encourage city residents — including youth — to stay involved and informed allows the Ventura City Fire Department to fulfill its mission of serving the community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention, education and emergency response services.

The fire department's services extend far beyond firefighting and prevention. Each fire unit has a minimum of one licensed paramedic on board including an advanced medical supply cache — as well as water and technical rescue responsibilities and hazardous materials or hazmat emergency response.

The partnership between the Ventura City Fire Department and Ventura Unified School District is important to the success of this program. City management, the school district superintendent, and administrators from each participating elementary school collaborate to make the Fourth Grade Fire Safety Days a well-orchestrated program that connects education with community involvement.

An age-appropriate curriculum was created to correlate with national health education standards, geared towards demonstrating the ability to practice healthy behaviors including avoiding/reducing risks and the ability to advocate for personal, family and community health. Children experience the excitement of getting to know local firefighters and interacting with their trucks and equipment, while learning valuable safety information.

The school district facilitates bus schedules and makes arrangements allowing 17 elementary schools to participate, transporting 1,400 students and teachers to the Fire Training Grounds over a two-day period. By including as many school children as possible, the program is able to reach across the community's diverse population and share the learning experience citywide.

During the event, students, parents and school staff witness live demonstrations of Ventura firefighters performing multiple tasks associated with a career in firefighting and paramedicine. Students travel in groups around the training site and learn about engine company operations, fire safety education, ladder and power tool demonstrations, and a grand finale involving the fire department's hook and ladder truck.

Additionally, the program requires staffing coordination because city firefighters serve as instructors in each of the event's learning stations. Students, parent chaperones, and school faculty get to meet their local firefighters and gain knowledge about public safety workers in the community.

Firefighters demonstrate the tasks they are responsible for performing during emergencies, while emphasizing the importance of education and its relevance to their job. Students learn how

firefighters operate fire engines, pumps, and hoses that require on-the-spot mathematical calculations using equations they have learned in school. Fire instructors explain how an education in chemistry is an essential element of becoming a member of the Hazardous Materials Team. Children learn about the severities of the Urban Search & Rescue Team, requiring knowledge in construction, geometry and physics. One of the most essential lessons they learn during the event is the importance of exit drills in the home as well as how to properly use a fire extinguisher.

Following the event, schools participate in an essay-writing contest among the attendees, with the winning school receiving the Fire Hydrant Award. Teachers submit the top essays from each of their fourth grade classes, a fire department review committee narrows submissions down to 20 and the fire chief selects the winner. The winning school's name is inscribed on a perpetual plaque on the front of the trophy, which then lives at the winning school until the following year's winner is chosen.

The winning school hosts an assembly, where the Ventura fire chief announces the student essay and presents the trophy, which is then read by the student to the entire assembly of classmates, parents, teachers, administrators, firefighters and media.



Governor Signs League-Supported AB 2, Restores Redevelopment Option for State's Most Disadvantaged Communities

Cleanup to EIFD Law Also Signed

Three years of legislative effort finally bore fruit on Tuesday when Gov. Jerry Brown signed AB 2 (Alejo and Garcia), which will restore a redevelopment tool that can be used in the state's disadvantaged areas. Additional improvements were also made to Enhanced Infrastructure Finance Districts (EIFD) when the Governor signed AB 313 (Atkins). *For more, see Page 2.*



Legislature Names Members for Transportation Conference Committee

Committee Expected to Meet This Fall to Craft Deal

The Assembly and Senate today announced the members of the conference committee for the special session on Transportation (X1). The plan to hold a conference committee was announced the last week of the legislative session when it became apparent that an agreement on how to address the transportation funding shortfall was not imminent. The conference committee is expected to begin a series of hearings by mid-October. *For more, see Page 3.*



SB 107 Redevelopment Dissolution Bill Signed

League Releases Summary of New Law

Gov. Jerry Brown on Tuesday signed SB 107, which contains significant changes to redevelopment dissolution laws and several unrelated items. *For more, see Page 4.*

AB 2

For the last three legislative sessions, the League worked closely with Assembly Member Luis Alejo (D-Watsonville) in an effort to restore redevelopment authority to California's most disadvantaged communities with AB 1080 in 2013, AB 2280 in 2014 and AB 2 this year. The finish line appeared closer last year when the Governor's veto message on AB 2280 conveyed that he would support the policy if it was redrafted outside of the former redevelopment law. AB 2 was drafted this year to comply with that request and the Governor responded.

"Today, we celebrate a major victory for our state's most disadvantaged communities with the Governor's signature of Assembly Bill 2," said Assembly Member Alejo. "For three years I have worked diligently with the Governor's office and Assembly leadership to create policy that will serve as a new effective tool to help and uplift disadvantaged communities throughout the state. I want to thank the Governor for his leadership and thoughtful consideration on redevelopment. This is the right thing for jobs, economic development and affordable housing in California."

AB 2 authorizes the creation of a Community Revitalization Investment Authority (CRIA) at the local level. This agency would be empowered to invest the property tax increment of consenting local agencies (other than schools) and use other available funding to improve conditions leading to increased employment opportunities, including reducing high crime rates, repairing deteriorated and inadequate infrastructure, and developing affordable housing.

Its powers and responsibilities would mirror those of former redevelopment agencies, but have been tightened in several ways including adding rigorous accountability criteria and increasing the traditional affordable housing set-aside to 25 percent.

Many California communities continue to rebound after the effects of the last recession. However, not all are doing well; especially the state's most economically challenged areas. It is these communities and neighborhoods that need more options that provide investments to address aging infrastructure, lack of affordable housing and remediate environmental conditions. AB 2 embodies the core of what led to redevelopment — a tool to assist poor areas and dilapidated urban cores that will not be improved without such a policy, and gives cities another tool they can work with.

AB 2 was also supported by key business, affordable housing organizations, League diversity caucuses, labor and local government groups.

The League would like thank the following groups:

Business Organizations: California Chamber of Commerce, California Building Industry Association, California Business Properties Association, Building Owners and Managers Association of California, International Council of Shopping Centers, and NAIOP of California, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association.

Affordable Housing Organizations: Housing California, California Coalition for Rural Housing, Western Center on Law and Poverty, and the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

League Diversity Caucuses: Latino Caucus of the League of California Cities, African American Caucus of the League of California Cities, and the Asian & Pacific Islander Caucus of the League of California Cities.

Labor Groups: Glendale City Employees Association, Organization of SMUD Employees, San Luis Obispo County Employees Association, and the San Bernardino Public Employees Association.

Local Government Organizations: California Association for Local Economic Development, American Planning Association, California Chapter, and the California Special Districts Association.

Next Steps

AB 2 will take effect Jan. 1, 2016. The League will be providing a more detailed explanation of the details of this new tool for cities in the coming days.

AB 313

AB 313, by Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins' (D-San Diego), provides important cleanup to last year's EIFD legislation (SB 628) by Sen. Jim Beall (D-San José). The changes reflect technical suggestions made by city attorneys to help facilitate EIFD implementation and also clarifications requested by housing advocates.

These include:

- Clarification that the public financing authority, rather than the legislative body is the entity required to prepare the plan;
- Clarification of interpretations associated with constitutional debt limit;
- Clarification that only those dwelling units proposed to be removed or destroyed within a district that receives district financing or subject to a written agreement with the district shall be subject to the law's housing requirements; and
- Detailing housing replacement requirements for any demolished or destroyed units.

Under SB 628, one or more EIFDs can be created within a city or a county and used to finance the construction or rehabilitation of a wide variety of public infrastructure and private facilities. An EIFD may fund this with the property tax increment of those taxing agencies (cities, counties, special districts but not schools) that consent. EIFDs are also authorized to combine tax increment funding with other permitted funding sources. The League drafted a full analysis of the bill last year, which is available on the League website.

The League thanks Assembly Speaker Atkins for carrying this important cleanup legislation.

'Committee' Continued from Page 1...

Conference Committee Members

Assembly Members

- Jimmy Gomez, co-chair (D-Los Angeles);
- Autumn Burke (D-Inglewood);
- Kevin Mullin (D-South San Francisco);
- Jay Obernolte (R-Big Bear Lake); and
- Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore).

Senators

- Jim Beall, co-chair (D-San José);
- Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica);
- Connie Leyva (D-Chino);
- Anthony Cannella (R-Ceres); and
- Ted Gaines (R-El Dorado Hills).

Those familiar with the legislative process will recognize that this conference committee has more than the typical six members. While no specific reason was given for the deviation, the League applauds the Legislature for including as many members as possible in this important discussion. Transportation funding is complex and has many different facets. With more members on the committee, it is more likely that all sides of the issue will be considered in the negotiations.

The League remains committed to advocating for additional funding and streamlining measures to address the 10-year, \$78 billion funding shortfall for the local streets and roads system. The League is a member of Fix Our Roads, a broad coalition of local government, labor, and business stakeholders working toward an agreement.

While the 104-page bill surfaced in print on Friday, Sept. 11, the last day of session, aspects of this proposal had been discussed and debated since January when the Administration first unveiled a proposal that conveyed benefits and resolved issues for some agencies, while harming others.

From January until mid-May the proposal only dealt with redevelopment dissolution; however, the politics became more complicated when the Administration added in four unrelated and strongly-supported provisions containing solutions to outstanding tax-allocation issues for several Central Valley counties, San Benito County, four cities in Santa Clara County, and four recently incorporated cities.

Juxtaposed against the proposal's beneficial features and their supporters were more than 100 cities opposed to provisions that sought to reverse and revise key provisions of dissolution laws and court decisions affecting loan repayment and interest rates offered to local agencies obtaining a Department of Finance (DOF) finding of completion. The League strived from the outset to limit the enormous financial harm such changes would cause to the affected agencies.

For most of the year, this proposal had no bill number, just various versions of legislative counsel drafts. Finally, on June 18 a bill was put into print as AB 113. While proposed as a "budget trailer bill," it was not adopted with the budget due to concerns from Senate Budget Committee members. Assembly members had also voiced concerns, and a subgroup of Assembly Democrats met privately for several months to consider options.

SB 107 emerged on the last day of session and was quickly routed without a hearing to the Assembly Floor where it passed after some debate. Given the speed in which the bill proceeded, the League and its attorneys had little time to fully analyze the proposal including changes to the loan repayment provisions that had concerned many cities.

Later that afternoon, the Senate Budget Committee heard the bill where the supporters of the various beneficial provisions dominated the discussions. During the hearing, the League's representative and several others raised issues with the loan repayment provisions. The League specifically pointed out that the language in the bill appearing to cap total loan repayments at \$5 million was in conflict with statements made by DOF staff that it was intended to be "per loan." This contributed to a discussion that led to the item being addressed in a Letter to the Journal.

Cities can view the committee's discussion on SB 107 and witness testimony online.

The legislative debates are now over and SB 107 is law. The beneficial provisions will be helpful to individual agencies, and other clarifications and process changes can improve aspects of the dissolution process. Yet other communities will likely still be harmed. How DOF will interpret many of these new changes is unknown. SB 107 does represent an improvement over earlier versions and some legislators were able to secure commitments from DOF to address specific unresolved issues for their cities.

In short, SB 107 represents the latest chapter in the difficult process of redevelopment dissolution.

The League's attorneys have drafted a summary of SB 107.

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ILG Launches Updated Website

In celebration of its 60th Anniversary, this week the Institute of Local Government (ILG) unveiled a new website. In an effort to better serve California's local officials and staff, the new site is organized by subject and has an advanced search function. ILG welcomes you to visit the site to see the new design and discover the resources available. Check it out at www.ca-ilg.org.



Stakeholder Meetings to Provide Information on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation

The State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Water Resources will hold informational meetings to discuss the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and answer questions from the public. Technical sessions and public forums will be held in several areas throughout the state. *For more, see Page 2.*



Report Events, Safety Concerns to Union Pacific's Response Management Communications Center

Around the clock, Union Pacific's Response Management Communications Center (RMCC) critical call dispatchers answer phone calls from people reporting emergencies, community event notifications, and other incidents occurring on Union Pacific property. Union Pacific's highest priority is the safety of its employees and the communities it serves. *For more, see Page 2.*

Technical sessions are designed to inform staff, governing boards, and leaders of local public agencies and organizations and will focus on:

- Local agency requirements regarding Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation, groundwater sustainability, and public involvement;
- Discussing the status of SGMA implementation within the region; and
- Identifying technical and financial assistance available from the state, including Proposition 1 and other funding sources; and
- Understanding the implications of state intervention in the absence of local action.

Public forums are intended for residential well owners, groundwater users, and other interested members of the public and will focus on:

- The public stakeholder role in SGMA implementation;
- Local agency requirements regarding GSA formation and public involvement;
- Drought management and groundwater sustainability;
- SGMA and water rights; and
- State involvement under SGMA (including technical and financial assistance and state intervention).

Informational Meetings

Oct. 21: Los Angeles Area

1-4 p.m. Technical session
6-8 p.m. Public forum
Los Angeles Valley College
Campus Center Building, Monarch Hall
5800 Fulton Ave, Valley Glen, CA 91401

Oct. 22: Visalia

1-4 p.m. Technical session
6-8 p.m. Public forum
210Life, Assembly Room
210 W. Center Ave, Visalia, CA 93291
A Spanish translator will be present

Oct. 27: Sacramento and Webcast

1-4 p.m. Technical session
6-8 p.m. Public forum
Joe Serna, Jr. CalEPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room, 2nd Floor
1001 I St, Sacramento, CA 95814
Webcast of meeting will be available

Nov. 5: Redding

1-4 p.m. Combined technical session and public forum
Redding City Hall, Council Chambers
777 Cypress Ave, Redding, CA 96001

Please RSVP for meetings online. For updated information, including facility parking and accessibility please see the revised meeting notice.

For information about the meetings, please contact Katheryn Landau at (916) 341-5588.

Local agencies and community members are encouraged to immediately notify the railroad by contacting Union Pacific's RMCC at 1 (888) 877-7267 for any of the following:

- **Community Event Notifications:** If an event or activity — such as a parade, sporting event, or other large gathering — is scheduled to take place across or near Union Pacific's tracks, event planners should immediately notify the railroad by contacting RMCC. Only in rare circumstances will train traffic be stopped or rerouted for an event. For more information, please visit the Union Pacific [website](#).
- **Reporting an Emergency:** Any emergency or incident at or around the railroad crossing, including a vehicle stuck/stalled on the tracks, track obstruction or unusual or suspicious occurrences should be immediately reported. Notifying the railroad will help Union Pacific provide a timely response.
- **Reporting Rough or Damaged Grade Crossings or Vegetation Concerns:** Safety is the number one priority. In the event of a rough or damaged grade crossing, including signal malfunctions, or a crossing blocked or obscured by vegetation, Union Pacific wants to know about it immediately so that they can dispatch a maintenance crew to address the issue.

For questions, contact Andy Perez at (562) 490-7051.

Homeowners Can Qualify to Receive up to \$100,000 In Mortgage Assistance through Keep Your Home California

Despite the much-better economic outlook and job growth, many of the state's homeowners continue to struggle with their mortgage payments. That is where [Keep Your Home California](#) comes in, a free mortgage-assistance program, which is helping low and moderate income homeowners avoid foreclosure and remain in their homes.

Keep Your Home California was established under the U.S. Treasury Department's Hardest Hit Fund. As part of this federally funded program, California was allocated nearly \$2 billion to help eligible low and moderate income homeowners avoid preventable foreclosures. Since the program's inception in February 2011, Keep Your Home California has provided over \$1.1 billion in assistance to more than 56,000 California households, each facing a serious financial hardship.

There are nearly 8,000 additional homeowners currently in process with Keep Your Home California, representing another \$600 million in reserved financial assistance. Though not all of the 8,000 homeowners in process will ultimately qualify for assistance, the program is fast approaching the \$2 billion mark. There is a limited amount of time to get the remaining funds to hard hit homeowners in your city.

Keep Your Home California has five programs, each designed to address different financial hardships that may affect an individual's ability to pay their mortgage, to assist homeowners who are struggling with their mortgage payments. Qualifying homeowners can receive up to \$100,000 to help them keep their homes. Here are some brief details on the other five programs:

- **Principal Reduction Program:** Homeowners who owe more on their mortgage than the current value of their home and/or have an unaffordable monthly payment may be eligible for as much as \$100,000 in principal reduction. A homeowner could save hundreds of dollars every month on their mortgage payments. Participants in this program have seen their loan balance reduced by an average of \$75,000, reducing their monthly payments by an average of almost 14 percent. Unaffordable and underwater mortgages are critical issues for homeowners and the local economy.
- **Unemployment Mortgage Assistance Program:** Out-of-work homeowners who have received jobless benefits from the state Employment Development Department within the prior 30 days can receive as much as \$3,000 per month for up to 18 months, or a total of \$54,000. The program allows homeowners to focus on finding a job and not worry about their mortgage payment.

- Mortgage Reinstatement Assistance Program: Homeowners who are behind two months or more on their payments could receive as much as \$54,000 to help them “catch up” on their past-due mortgage payments. Homeowners must have recovered from their financial hardship and be able to make their mortgage payments going forward in order to qualify for the program.
- Transition Assistance Program: Homeowners who have reached an agreement with their mortgage servicer for a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure or short sale can receive up to \$5,000 in relocation assistance. The program gives families a chance for a fresh start in a new residence with money for rent, utilities, moving costs or other expenses.
- Reverse Mortgage Assistance Pilot Program: Homeowners 62 years or older with a reverse mortgage may qualify for as much as \$25,000 to reinstate their past-due property expenses (ie. property taxes and insurance) associated with their reverse mortgage. The reverse mortgage must be a Federal Housing Administration insured Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM).

Regardless of the program, homeowners must have suffered a financial hardship and meet the County Income Limits in order to qualify. The homeowner’s mortgage servicer, the company that collects the monthly payment, must also participate in the program. More than 240 mortgage servicers, including Bank of America and Wells Fargo, are enrolled in Keep Your Home California.

While the economy and even the housing market have improved in recent years, there is still a tremendous need for the program. Foreclosure and unemployment rates have come down, but they remain historically high across the state. And although property values are increasing in many areas, the recovery has not been even across the state, and several other areas are still suffering from significant negative equity. There are still many California homeowners who are struggling with their mortgage payments.

Homeowners seeking more information about any of the Keep Your Home California programs should call (888) 954-KEEP (5337) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Representatives can answer questions and take applications in virtually any language through a translation service and there is never a fee for any Keep Your Home California services.

Information is also available at www.KeepYourHomeCalifornia.org, including a twelve question Eligibility Calculator, which will help homeowners determine which programs best fit their situation. A Spanish-language version of the website is also available at www.ConservaTuCasaCalifornia.org.

Presidential Trade Mission Participants Announce Creation of U.S. Smart Cities Alliance

Group of U.S. Companies to Focus Collaborating on Clean Energy and Smart City Projects in China and Meeting U.S./China Low-Carbon Emission Goals Set by President Xi and President Obama

Several participating members of the Presidential China Clean Technology Business Development Mission (held in April of this year) announced the U.S. Smart Cities Alliance (USSCA).

This alliance will help identify potential partners, projects and strategies for U.S. companies in targeted clean energy sectors in China. Born out of the Presidential trade mission that had a focus on smart cities/smart growth in China, the USSCA continues the purpose of the mission by converting diplomacy into actionable business results.

At the invite of the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of State and city of Los Angeles, the USSCA team displayed a super booth showcasing U.S. technologies in smart/clean energy solutions during the summit. The event was attended by numerous China and U.S. world

leaders including: U.S. Vice President, Joe Biden; California Governor Jerry Brown, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and dozens of Chinese diplomatic leaders representing several provinces and cities all over China. The summit also signaled the tone for smart energy discussions to be held later this week by President Obama and President Xi when they are to meet in Washington D.C.

The goal of the USSCA is to confirm U.S. government support for existing government-to-government and government-to-business collaborations on low-carbon urbanization work. Two major smart city mega-development projects in China have already begun the process of committing to be sustainable Smart Cities, based on the goals of both President Xi and President Obama to reduce carbon emissions by working with the USSCA:

The large-scale Green Dragon Lake project, encompassing over 122 kilometers on the outskirts of Beijing, has been led by McWong Environmental Technology (a Trade Mission delegate and co-founder of the USSCA) working with USSCA members to create a working model of China-American cooperation for rural urbanism development, using U.S. based companies with innovative smart city products and solutions.

The Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City has already signed a "Letter of Intent" with The Digit Group, also a founding member of the USSCA, to provide Smart Cities advisory to the development also using U.S. based companies with innovative smart city products and solutions.

USSCA has been instrumental in forging relationships with China's government leaders and creating new business opportunities for U.S. companies. Another example is from China's Sichuan Province (China's most populace province) where the group is set to explore similar clean energy solutions for a major smart city project in the city of Chengdu. An MOU concerning the efforts was signed on Tuesday by the visiting China Party Secretary Wang Dongming and California's Governor Jerry Brown during key meetings in Seattle — cementing yet another success of the newly formed USSCA group's efforts.

For more information on the U.S. Smart Cities Alliance, visit: www.us-smartcitiesalliance.com.

Water Agencies Regulatory Summit Oct. 14 to Focus on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Register by Oct. 2

The Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) 2015 Regulatory Summit will take place on Oct. 14 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in Ontario, CA. This year's Regulatory Summit will focus on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA): One Year Later, and will include programs on topics such as:

- GSA Formation - Mandated Coordination or Unintended Confusion?
- SGMA Emergency Regulations
- Groundwater Management: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going
- Creating and Sharing Data for Groundwater Management
- Coordinating Land Use Planning & Well Permitting Programs with SGMA Implementation
- Legislative Roundup
- Funding - Proposition 1
- Identifying Key Challenges

For more information on ACWA's 2015 Regulatory Summit please see the [agenda](#) and [handout](#), or visit ACWA's [website](#).

Please contact ACWA's Member Services & Events at events@acwa.com or (916) 441-4545.
