# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE QUARTERLY REPORT

JANUARY -MARCH

2024



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### **Report Overview**

This quarterly report provides an overview of the City's achievements during the months of January, February, and March in 2024. Our City continues to make great progress in key priority areas established by the City Council. These priorities encompass a focus on infrastructure, economic development, public safety, homelessness, code enforcement, and celebration of our community's cultural diversity. Our dedicated staff and community partners have worked hard to ensure that Garden Grove remains a great place to live, work, and play. We take pride in the notable progress achieved in the previous quarter and remain steadfast in our commitment to serving the needs of our community with excellence and integrity. Thank you for your support and trust in the City of Garden Grove!

### **Matters Before The Council**

Below are highlights from the City Council meetings during the months of October, November, and December.

January 9, 2024 – The City Council recognized the Garden Grove Unified School District in a community spotlight highlighting its notable achievements and accomplishments in 2023.

January 23, 2024 – The City Council recognized the Goodwill ambassadors representing Anyang, Republic of Korea, as a part of the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Garden Grove Sister City Exchange Program.

February, 13, 2024 – The City Council authorized the execution of an agreement between the City and AAA Oil Company dba California Fuels and Lubricants to provide fuel and fuel management for city vehicles.

February 27, 2024 – The City Council approved a cooperative agreement with the City of La Habra, Fullerton, Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Fountain Valley for the Euclid Street Corridor Traffic Signal Synchronization Project (CP1325000).

February 27, 2024 – The City Council received an update from the City Manager on the design development phase of the Civic Center Revitalization Project.

March 12, 2024 – The City Council awarded a contract to bkm Office Environments to procure and install furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the Central Cities Navigation Center Project (CP135000-1).

March 26, 2024 – The City Council approved a project agreement with Edgemoor Garden Grove Civic Partners LLC for the design and construction of the Civic Center Revitalization Project including a new public safety facility, parking garage, and civic center park.

# **City Manager's Office Highlights**

Throughout the first quarter of 2024, the City Manager's Office continued to provide administrative support for City Council initiatives and inquiries from the public in the following ways:

#### **City Council**

Agenda Reports Reviewed and	62
Processed	
Agendas and Minutes Prepared	41
Agenda Packets Compiled	24
Public Hearing Notices Published	19
Resolutions Processed	14
Ordinances Processed	5
Proclamations Processed	7

#### **Council Liaison**

Council Meetings and Site Visits	135
Scheduled	
Certificates Ordered / Delivered	66
Communications	12,690
Legislative Response Letters Drafted	10
Finance Enterprise Reconciliations	48

#### **Office of Community Relations**

<b>,</b>	
Total Translated Materials	34
<ul> <li>Vietnamese Translations</li> </ul>	27
<ul> <li>Spanish Translations</li> </ul>	5
<ul> <li>Korean Translations</li> </ul>	2
CityWorks Publications Completed	2
Vietnamese Newsletters Published	2
Community Spotlight Scripts	6
Press Releases Issued	34
Social Media Posts	290
	34 290

#### **City Clerk's Office / Administration**

Public Records Act Requests	222
Received	
Average PRAs per Month	73
Average PRA Turnaround Time	6.8 days
Bid Openings Conducted	1
Agreements Processed	15
Agreements Archived	34
Claims Received	24
Summons Received	2
PAFs Processed	0

### **Investment Toward Infrastructure**

In line with the City Council's priority of improving the City's aging infrastructure, the City developed and adopted a Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, committing nearly \$173 million in funding over the next five years to improve citywide capital infrastructure. The Capital Improvement Plan focuses on allocating resources towards the enhancement of city streets, parks, facilities and other essential infrastructure.

The following major capital improvement projects are underway during Q1 2024:

#### Haster Street Rehabilitation Project – Lampson to Chapman

Status: 25% Complete Completed: May 2024





Springdale Avenue Rehabilitation Project – Lampson to Chapman

#### Status: 25% Complete Completed: May 2024





#### Lampson Street Rehabilitation Project – Euclid to 9th

Status: 25% Complete Completed: May 2024



#### Nutwood Slurry Seal Project – Garden Grove to Chapman

Status: 90% Complete Completed: May 2024

BEFORE

AFTER



#### Harbor and Garden Grove Intersection Improvement Project

Public Works Engineering Division will be adding a second north-bound left-turn lane and an east-bound right-turn lane to the intersection of Harbor Blvd. and Garden Grove Blvd., including the installation of a new traffic signal. The proposed improvement will cost approximately \$6.1 million and construction is anticipated to begin in July 2025. Staff had previously received \$200,000 in grant funding from OCTA for design work, and is now applying for \$4 million in construction grant funding. Design engineering for subject project is 65% complete

#### Woodbury Road Water Improvement Project - \$2.1M

This water main replacement project is one of the high priority fire flow capacity deficient areas identified in the 2020 Water Master Plan. This project consists of approximately 820 feet of 12-inch diameter pipe, 2,915 feet of 8-inch diameter pipe including hydrants, fittings and appurtenances, trenching, backfilling, compaction, and pipe disinfection and testing. The contractor is constructing the last few system tie-ins and will abandon the existing water main. The next step will be final pavement of the trench.

Status: 90% Complete Anticipated Completion: April 2024



#### Sewer Main Lining and Spot Repairs 5 & 6 - \$1.8M

This project consists of rehabilitating approximately 20,000 linear feet of 8-inch & 10-inch sewer using UV-Cured Glass Reinforced Plastic cured-in-place liner. The project will be at various locations throughout the City. The project will also include spot repairs, sewer lateral reinstatements and top hat sewer lateral seals. The project includes both design and optional construction management/inspection services. The subcontractor is working on spot repairs and the contractor is cleaning and performing CCTV video inspections of the sewer lines.

#### Status: 5% Complete Anticipated Completion: August 2024



#### Magnolia Park Capital Improvements - \$557,940

Status: 95% Complete
Anticipated Completion: April 2024



#### Clean California Local Grant Program (CCLGP)

Assembly Bill 149 made available \$296 million in funding for local agencies statewide under the Clean California Local Grant Program (CCLGP) to support eligible projects aimed to reduce litter, promote public health, and benefit the underserved communities. The City identified the Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail as the project site that meets the program criteria and applied for Cycle 2 of CCLGP in February 2023.

In November 2023, staff received notification that the City was awarded \$441,000 for the Clean California initiative. The proposed amenities and enhancements reflect the public requests for the Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail and include trash receptacles, litter abatement signage, trail furniture, bike racks, landscaping/mulch, and outdoor fitness equipment. This project will be administered by the Economic Development and Housing Department with support from the Community Services Department and the Public Works Department. The kickoff meeting is anticipated in May 2024.



#### P3 Civic Center Revitalization Project

The Civic Center Revitalization Project consists of the design and construction of an approximately 100,000 square feet public safety facility, a four-level parking structure that will provide approximately 350 parking spaces, and a reconfigured 2.8-acre Civic Center Park, as well as the demolition of the existing police building located at 11301 Acacia Parkway.



In the first quarter of 2024, the project saw significant

progress. Initial work focused on reviewing site conditions and preparing different massing studies that lead to two conceptual plans, then ultimately the final base design. After the base design was reached, the team worked to optimize the program and workgroup adjacencies. Concurrently, the team explored building facade options and is confident in meeting the intended design principle.



The environmental review was completed in December 2023. In addition to meeting CEQA requirements, the City hired a biologist, Dudek, to assist with the process of preparing a Wildlife Management Plan which details the approvals for removal and relocation of the different species that exist in the pond. This work is expected to begin in April 2024 in collaboration with the Public Works Department when they begin draining the pond. The City participated in two additional

community outreach touch points for the project. In March 2024, the City hosted a Small Business Coordination Event and attended the Clementine Trolley in the Buena Clinton neighborhood.

The City and Edgemoor have agreed on terms and finalized the Project Agreement that was approved by City Council on March 26, 2024. The Project Agreement is the primary document that details responsibilities for the design, construction, and financing of the Civic Center Revitalization Project. The Project Agreement terms will run for two years after the final completion of the Park, which is anticipated to be completed in May 2027. The project financing team evaluated five potential options but given the City's strong credit rating, sufficient cash on hand, aggressive project schedule, and the current market condition, it was most cost effective to finance the project in the form of lease revenue bonds. The project financing component of the project is anticipated for City Council approval on April 9, 2024.

Next Steps	
March 26	Project Approval
April 8	Pre-Construction Activity
April 8-15	Site Fencing Phase 1
April 9	Financial Approval
May 14	Ground Breaking
June 7	Notice to Proceed
June 10	Site Fencing Phase 2

### **Encourage Economic Development**

#### **Cottage Industries**

Smoke Queen BBQ, nestled at 12941 9th Street in the Cottage Industries Project - Farm Block, unveiled its culinary delights in the first quarter of 2024. Smoke Queen BBQ has a rich history as a pop-up vendor at LA's Smorgasburg. Their journey began by blending American barbecue techniques with vibrant Asian flavors, creating a unique culinary experience. Winnie Yee-Lakhani, the visionary behind Smoke Queen BBQ, has poured her heart, soul, and a substantial investment into her first brick-and-mortar venture. The onceempty craftsman-style home has undergone a remarkable transformation. Now, it stands as a full-fledged smokehouse, complete with state-of-the-art kitchen equipment, a welcoming bar, and not one, but three smokers gracing the patio.



On Friday, March 8, 2024, Smoke Queen BBQ held their Soft Opening, inviting guests to savor their delectable offerings. Their hours of operation will be on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, serving mouthwatering creations. Grand opening is tentatively scheduled for May 2024. It promises to be a celebration of taste, culture, and community.

#### Euclid Building – 12966 Euclid Street

The City-owned five (5) story office building with 64,402 rental square feet and 160 parking stalls is currently 62% occupied. In the first quarter, Strive Health, a current tenant, renewed their lease for another year. Additionally, the City administered a RFP to solicit real estate management expertise of a firm offering comprehensive services tailored to the City's specific criteria and unique service model. The professional services agreement will be presented to the City Council in April 2024.



# Public Safety – Police



#### GGPD Calls for Service – Q1

Calls for Service – Phone Calls	January	February	March	Q1 Total
9-1-1 phone calls	4,635	4,341	5,041	14,017
Non-emergency phone calls	10,332	9,974	10,179	30,485
Total phone calls	14,967	14,315	15,220	44,502
Calls for Service – Dispatched	January	February	March	Q1 Total
Citizen Generated	4,295	4,040	4,531	12,866
Officer Generated	1,762	1,371	1,460	4,593
Total Incidents Dispatched	6,057	5,411	5,991	17,459
Top 5 Citizen-Generated Call Types	January	February	March	Q1 Total
Disturbing the Peace - Transients	594	570	548	1,712
Audible Burglary Alarms	217	212	222	651
Suspicious Person	228	165	191	456
Welfare Check	188	167	215	608
Illegel Derking	123	129	153	405
Illegal Parking	125	125		
Response Times	January	February	March	Q1 Avg

## **Public Safety – OCFA**



#### OCFA Calls for Service – Q1

Calls for Service – Medical Aid	January	February	March	Q1 Total
Automatic Paramedic Alarm	25	16	17	58
Back to Bed / Lift Assist	24	20	20	64
Cardiac	107	85	130	322
Stroke	182	157	170	509
Diabetic Emergency	20	14	12	46
Respiratory	165	152	157	474
Fall / Injury / Trauma	176	145	154	475
Illness	164	159	145	468
Abdominal Pain	79	70	67	216
Seizure	25	34	44	103
Traffic Collision	83	98	97	278
Miscellaneous	183	132	158	473

Calls for Service – Fire	January	February	March	Q1 Total
Structure	15	19	19	53
Vehicle / Dumpster	10	7	10	27
Vegetation / Brush / Tree / Bush	28	25	17	70
Miscellaneous – Hazardous Condition	103	106	84	293

Response Times	January	February	March	Q1 Avg
Priority Calls (Average)	6m 57s	6m 55s	6m 37s	6m 50s

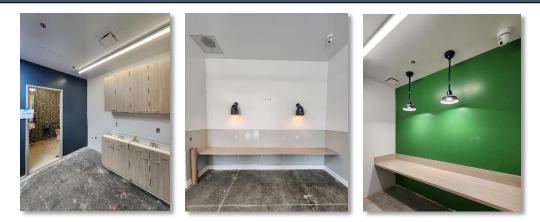
# **Address Homelessness/Housing**

#### Central Cities Navigation Center (CCNC)

The Central Cities Navigation Center Project (CCNC) is a partnership between the cities of Fountain Valley, Westminster, and Garden Grove to provide emergency shelter and wrap-around services to unhoused individuals. The project is 80% complete and remains on schedule, and within budget, for an anticipated opening in June 2024. Notable construction milestones in the first quarter of 2024 include the installation of kitchen equipment, bathroom tiling and partitions, HVACs, and asphalt pavements. The City has also awarded a contract to bkm office environments to procure, coordinate, store and install furniture, fixtures, and equipment/security systems (FF&E).

The final draft of the CCNC policies and procedures has been presented to the Orange County Board of Supervisors, and additional modifications are in progress to ensure continued alignment with the County of Orange Standards of Care.

#### Status: 80% Complete Anticipated Completion: June 2024



#### Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA)

On March 14, 2023, City Council approved the final HOME-ARP Allocation Plan appropriating \$1,290,815 for the development of a tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) program. The program will assist individuals exiting the Central Cities Navigation Center (CCNC) by providing rental assistance and wrap-around supportive services for up to two years to help them maintain permanent rental housing.

On November 16, 2023, City Staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from qualified non-profit service providers to operate the TBRA Program. City Staff reviewed and scored seven (7) proposal submissions and interviewed the services providers that scored the highest during the proposal review. Illumination Foundation was awarded this contract after the review process was finalized and the program is anticipated to be operational in June 2024, which will coincide with the CCNC Grand Opening. Illumination Foundation anticipates assisting 20 households annually with a \$300,000 budget.

#### Affordable Housing – Orchard Grove

The Orchard Grove Project reached a significant milestone by closing escrow on February 8, 2024. Currently, the Developer is actively collaborating with planning and engineering staff to secure approval for a lot line adjustment for the project. Concurrently, staff is in the final stages of crafting a Revocable License Agreement with the Developer, facilitating the temporary use of Site B2 for general contractor staging, material storage, and resident parking. Mobilization for rehabilitation work is slated to commence during the first week of May.

The Developer enlisted Overland, Pacific & Cutler (OPC) to provide comprehensive relocation assistance services. The Relocation Plans public review and comment period started on March 18, 2024 and approval of the Plan is scheduled for the April 23, 2024 City Council meeting.



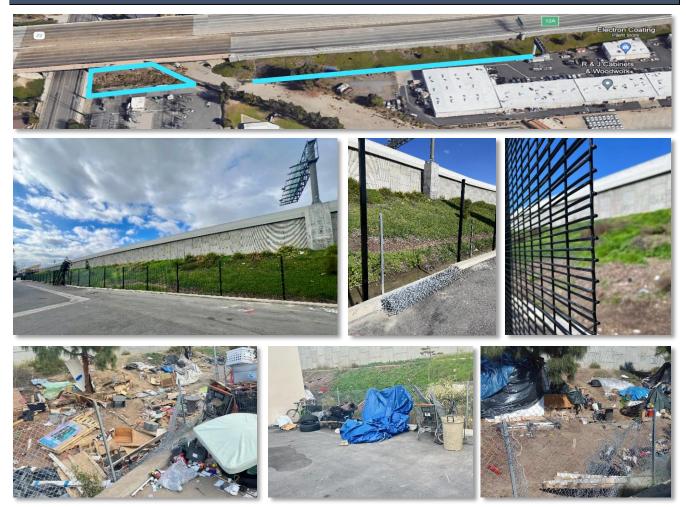
#### Caltrans Fencing Improvement Project (CFIP)

In response to the increased number of homeless encampments after numerous "clean-up" efforts, the City partnered with Caltrans under a Cooperative Agreement and Delegated Maintenance Agreement (DMA) to actively address the encampment issues within city boundaries.

The CFIP commenced on February 5; however due to weather conditions, the construction was postponed to February 22. The first quarter of 2024 consisted of Phase 1 of the fencing construction, encompassing the South side of the 22 Freeway, along Trask Avenue, and toward Newhope Street and Harbor Blvd.

Cardinal Circle, a business area located within this scope of work, in where businesses have been experiencing on-going theft and other crime activities as a result of the encampment along Freeway 22 behind their businesses. The property manager expressed an urgent concern related to this matter as his tenants shared their desire to relocate. A collaboration between Caltrans and the City's fencing efforts resulted in an immediate site enhancement and expressed appreciation to the City from the property manager and tenants at Cardinal Circle. Before and after photos are below for reference.

Status: 30% Complete Anticipated Completion: June 2024



#### **CalOptima Hotel Conversion**

In partnership with CalOptima and Healthcare in Action, the City's **Street Medicine Program** delivers medical care to homeless individuals in our community using a medical van. During the first quarter of 2024, Healthcare in Action had 58 new enrollments.

CalOptima has launched Phase 2 of its program to include a Street Medicine Support Center with the acquisition of the Hospitality Inn Motel located at 7902 Garden Grove Blvd. The first-of-its-kind support



center will feature 52 private rooms with a kitchenette and bathroom, shared laundry facilities, staff administrative offices, and outdoor open space. Older adults, families and veterans already participating in CalOptima Health's Street Medicine Program will receive priority placement in the new facility. The project is in the architectural drawing phase and has a target date for opening in spring 2025.

#### BeWell Mobile Response Team

Garden Grove's Be-Well Mobile Response Team provides in-community assessment and stabilization for individuals experiencing substance abuse, psychological crises and homelessness. On July 25, 2023, the City Council approved the extension of the Be-Well Mobile Response Team contract for the next 5 years. The mobile response team has assisted **9,954** individuals with mobile medical and mental health services since October 2021, which includes approximately **7,764** unsheltered individuals.

#### Individuals served in Q1 2024:

January – <b>416</b> individuals
February – <b>367</b> individuals
March – 433 individuals



#### First-Time Home Buyer Program

The City's First Time Home Buyer Program has experienced challenges keeping pace with the housing market and the rising costs for single-family homes in Garden Grove. The FTHB Program requires applicants meet income requirements set by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for Orange County. Additionally, they must qualify for a mortgage loan that is sufficient to purchase a home in Garden Grove, which has been a major challenge with rising housing costs.



In recent months, City Staff has collaborated with HCD to implement a FTHB Program that will better serve Garden Grove residents and utilize the City's remaining funds. As part of these discussions with HCD, the City agreed to leverage CalHome funding with the remaining PLHA funds to increase the maximum loan amount to \$110,000, which will increase the buying power for eligible applicants. Additionally, applicants are now required to contribute a minimum of 3% of their own funds as a down payment on the home being purchased. Lastly, the interest rate will be reduced from 3% to 0%, which will ease the debt burden of loan recipients.

#### California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)

March 2024 marks the partnership between CalOptima and Orange County's four Public Housing Authorities, the first of its kind in the state of California. Through the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), a five-year initiative by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the partnered agencies aim to provide better access to health care services—physical, behavioral, developmental, dental, and long-term care needs—that improve the quality of life for current program participants administered by GGHA.



#### Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program Success Story

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is a voluntary program that helps Housing Choice Voucher participants become financially self-sufficient through employment. Through the FSS program, participants can develop their skills, obtain better employment, and start building a tax-free escrow savings account.

Zahra Almahayni is a single mother with two dependent children; her only source of income was from child support. In June 2022, Zahra was diagnosed with Stage 2A breast cancer; she had to go through six months of aggressive chemotherapy treatment followed by double mastectomy with reconstruction. After another month of radiation treatment, Zahra had successfully entered remission in May 2023.

After her treatment, Zahra demonstrated resilience and determination by taking on multiple employment opportunities, including Real Estate and Uber, to support herself and her family. On January 31, 2024, Zahra successfully graduated from the FSS program with a check in the amount of \$19,787.93 and obtained full-time employment. Her success story is not only about the successful escrow withdrawal at the end of the five-year contract, but also how she overcame difficulties to reach her goals.

"I'm grateful for how the FSS Program assisted me in paying off the debt that built up during my treatment last year." said Zahra in her Exit Survey.

# **Community Code Compliance**

#### Code Enforcement Staffing Expansion

The City has completed the onboarding process of a Code Enforcement Supervisor and Code Enforcement Officer. The City's new Code Enforcement Supervisor started on January 3, 2024, while the new Code Enforcement Officer started on March 4, 2024. These positions are key to augmenting Code Enforcement staffing and enhancing the City's ability to provide timely and professional case management.



#### **Code Enforcement Volunteer Program and Community Outreach**

Upon the arrival of the new Code Enforcement Supervisor, the Code Enforcement team began reimplementation of the City's Code Enforcement **volunteer program**. The goal of the volunteer program is to assist with neighborhood outreach and case follow-up. In addition, Code Enforcement plans to present quarterly updates to the City Council and increase presence at appropriate community events.

#### Code Enforcement Statistics for Q1 2024

Code Enforcement Activity	Statistical Data
Open Cases	349
Closed Cases	161
Cases Pending Customer Requests	306
Top Commercial Cases	Graffiti
Top Residential Cases	Debris
Reported Short Term Rentals	23
Red Tagged Properties	21
Cases Referred to City Attorney	0
Receiverships	1

Before



After

Photos: Property located on corner of Westminster Ave and Newhope Street

Additional information on the City's Code Enforcement efforts is available on the City's website at <u>www.ggcity.org/code-enforcement</u>.

## **Maintain Fiscal Health**

During the first quarter of 2024, the Finance Department worked diligently to secure financing for the Civic Center Revitalization Project. Staff is in the process of preparing a preliminary official statement and related documents for presentation to the City Council in late April, with the anticipated bond issuance in early June.

The Civic Center Revitalization Project consists of two phases. The initial phase focuses on constructing a 90,000 square foot public safety facility and a new parking structure and the second phase focuses on reconfiguring the 2.8-acre Civic Center Park site of the old police headquarters facility. On April 9, 2024, the City Council approved bond issuance to finance the project. The par amount of the bonds will be \$140,000,000, repaid over the next 30 years.

#### Quarterly Comprehensive Financial Report

The Quarterly Comprehensive Financial Report is comprised of three sections:

- Section I Budget performance of the City's major operating funds, including the General Fund, Water enterprise fund, and Sewer enterprise fund, as well as the status of capital improvement projects.
- Section II Economic indicators that have a direct impact on the City's revenue streams including sales and use tax, property tax and hotel visitor's tax, as well as operating data on key department operations covering business license administration, procurement, warehouse, and risk management.
- Section III Investment report on portfolio balance, earnings, cash flow and transactions. The City outsources its portfolio management to a third-party investment management firm.



The Finance Department strives to follow best practices in financial management. In February 2024, two years after the completion of the City's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system conversion, the Department published its first <u>Quarterly Comprehensive Financial Report</u>. Data reported is as of December 31, 2023. This report can be found on the City's official website.

The quarterly comprehensive financial report provides transparency into the fiscal operations of the City, fostering trust between the government and its constituents. The reports serve as a communication tool for stakeholders, including but not limited to citizens, taxpayers, bondholders, and regulatory agencies.

# **Community Outreach**

During the first quarter of 2024, the Office of Community Relations (OCR) and GGTV3 publicized the first of several community clean-ups, Art in the Park event, multi-language fair housing workshops, Eggscavation (canceled due to rain), Garden Grove Gems, Magnolia Park playground dedication, and the announcement of the new Assistant City Manager. For the ongoing Organics Recycling campaign, new street banners were designed in-house and placed throughout the city. OCR and GGTV3 also continued their collaboration on the Civic Center Revitalization Project to coordinate and promote the upcoming groundbreaking event. The division continued to focus efforts on the April 11<sup>th</sup> State of the City speech, videos, PowerPoint, and program for Mayor Jones' final annual address.

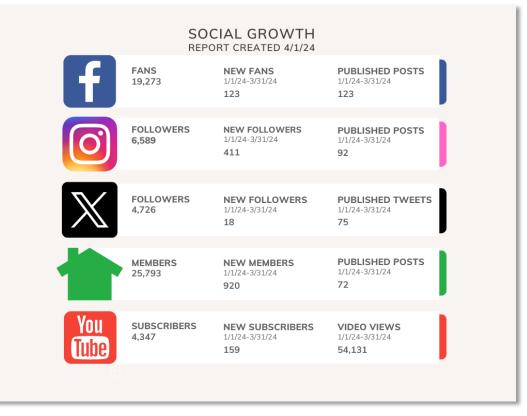
#### Social Media

City services, community programs, and recreation were the most popular posts during Q1 2024. A total of \$2,250 was placed into nine boosted posts. The boosted posts included campaigns for Garden Grove Gems and the Winter/Spring Parks & Recreation Guide.

The top five posts were:

- 1) Garden Grove Gems 37,261 Reach (Paid)
- 2) UnReel with Lisa Kim 28,150 Reach (Paid
- 3) Art in the Park 17,769 Reach (Paid)
- 4) Winter/Spring Parks & Recreation Guide 16,734 Reach (Paid)
- 5) Winter/Spring Parks & Recreation Guide 14,987 Reach (Paid)

While all social media platforms gained followers, NextDoor continued to be the social medium with the largest quarterly growth, followed by Instagram. GGTV3 received over 54,000 video views on YouTube.



#### **GGTV3 Productions**

#### 2 News Stories:

- The City of Garden Grove Welcomes Ursula Luna-Reynosa
- Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce's 116th Annual Gala Dinner & Awards

#### 4 Live Events

- 4 City Council Meetings Livestreamed, Cablecast & Archived

#### 2 Facebook Live Promotions

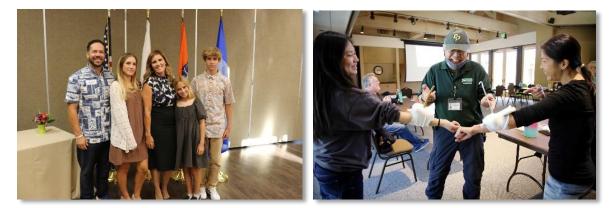
- Free Community Cleanup Day Promotion
- Garden Grove CERT Academy Promotion

#### 11 Additional Videos and/or Reels Posted

- Garden Grove Gems...A Home Beautification Program
- Nominate Your Home for Garden Grove Gems!
- Vote Now for Garden Grove Gems 2024!
- Unreel with Lisa Kim, Highlighting the Public Works Dept.
- 2024 Art in the Park Promo

#### Anyang Reels

- City Hall
- Pacifica High School Visit
- Great Wolf/Christ Cathedral/Disneyland
- Chaperone
- National Entrepreneurship Week Interviews
- KCAL/Shameless Weekend Weather Plug/Art in the Park





### **Community Events and Programs**

#### Art in the Park

The City, in collaboration with the Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD), transformed Village Green Park into an outdoor, interactive art festival for the 6th Annual Art in the Park. The event was offered on Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Village Green Park and was free to the community. Activities included flowerpot painting, giant outdoor games, a LEGO® Creation Station, Paint and Sip an outdoor painting experience, ukulele lessons, ceramic demos, oversized temporary art installations



that included a 50-foot "RE:IMAGINE" banner and 20 outdoor, oversized easels displaying GGUSD student artwork, and live performances by multiple GGUSD student choirs, bands, and dancing groups

#### Garden Grove Community Collaborative

The Collaborative is comprised of over 30 community based organizations that make up the General Membership. The Advisory committee is made of up key stakeholders who help guide the work of the Collaborative. The Advisory has been working on a strategic plan and rolled out their 3 year strategic plan in January of 2024. The group developed a new mission and vision statement. Vision: Garden Grove is a connected Community where everyone is healthy, safe and thrives. Mission: The mission of the GGCC is to enhance and elevate partnerships that engage and strengthen the community. The group developed value statements and created a subcommittees that will focus on goals the next three years around the following areas: Agency Management, strategic growth, Marketing and Promotion and Resource Delivery.

#### **Fair Housing Workshops**

Fair Housing Foundation in partnership with the office of Economic Development and Housing offered three workshops to help educate the community on their rights and responsibilities. Workshops were offered at the following Centers:

- Buena Clinton February 22, 2024 from 5:30pm 6:30pm (Spanish)
- Magnolia Park March 8, 2024 from 9:30am 11:30am (Spanish)
- CMC March 12, 2024 from 9:30am 11:30am (English with translation in multiple languages)

#### **Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center**

The Center continues its partnership with Santa Ana College offering digital literacy courses as well as a health and wellness series for parents in the community called "Elevate your wellbeing".

Buena Clinton hosted its first family night for 2024 on Thursday, February 29, 2024. The night featured Loteria (Spanish bingo), dinner in partnership with Bracken's Kitchen, as well as a Vaccine Clinic offered by Mercy Clinic.

A spring family night was offered on March 28, 2024, featuring a visit from the Easter bunny and egg hunt.

#### Magnolia Park Family Resource Center



The Center offered a variety of classes this quarter including parenting, grief and loss, father's support group and diaper assistance program. The Center also actively promoted services to clients who are now eligible for MediCal as a result of the eligibility expansion. An Eligibility Technician from OC SSA was also on site once a month, 1st Tuesday of the month, to help families apply for government programs such as CalFresh, Medical and Calworks.

In an effort to promote social connection and support, the Center has partnered with a community volunteer to offer a jewelry class twice a month for their parent group.



#### College Tour

The Center coordinated a college tour for their teen leadership program SOL (Strengthening Our Leadership) and the Buena Clinton's True Neighborhood Teen (TNT) leadership participants. Teens and their parents visited Cal State University of Fullerton on March 22, 2024. The day included a tour of the campus to provide an opportunity to learn about student services, student life and campus resources.

#### First 5 Grant

The Center has been working to offer programs and services for children 0-5 since 2020 as part of the Children's and Family Commission First 5 grant. Grant accomplishments include developing a taskforce of community partners, development of a marketing plan, vision, mission and logo/branding as well as a needs assessment by analyzing EDI (Early Developmental index) data. This data is obtained from Garden Grove School District Kindergarten students assessing areas of physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, communication skills and general knowledge. The program now referred to as, Growing Up in Garden Grove, offers support for families in providing resources based on their needs and engagement opportunities for families. This year the Center will be subcontracting with Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove to support this grant. The City will continue to serve as the lead agency for this grant with fiscal and administrative oversight by Magnolia Park FRC.

#### H. Louis Lake Senior Center

The Center hosted its second annual International week on January, 23-26, 2024. Participants were able to explore diversity of global traditions through crafts, show and tell, performances, and food tastings. Programming featured engaging activities, which offer insights into the histories and customs of various cultures. fostering cross-cultural understanding amongst our older adult community. This inclusive celebration invites participants to join us on a journey of cultural discovery, building connections, and fostering appreciation for other cultures from around the world. The event culminated with live cultural performances including Ballet Folklorico and Polynesian dance. Additionally, in February the Center had a TET celebration featuring Lion dancers.



The Center hosted Valentine's Day events that included an Evening Dance on February 9th featuring DJ, photo booth,

pasta dinner and roses for registered guests. The Center also hosted a free day party for participants on February 14, 2024. The party included fun activities, carnations for seniors, as well as Valentine's Day cards made by youth from the Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center.

The Center began a new class in February Coffee and Crochet and is supported by the Center's new Master's in Social Work intern. This program provides an opportunity for seniors to engage socially, decreasing social isolation. Studies have shown that Crochet has been able to help with pain management, grief, depression have some studies have reported improved cognition.

The Center offered a St. Patrick's Day Celebration on March 13, 2024 as well as a Spring Celebration on March 27, 2024.

The Center offered an excursion in March to the Lyon Air Museum. The Center is able to provide free transportation services to excursions through funds from OCTA's Senior Mobility program.



