

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
May 9, 2024

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

I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. LETTER OF SUPPORT

A copy of the Mayor's letter of support for SB 955 (Seyarto) Office of Planning and Research: Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program is attached for your review.

B. LETTER OF OPPOSITION

A copy of the Mayor's letter of opposition to SB 1037 (Wiener) Planning and Zoning: housing element: enforcement is attached for your review.

C. LETTER OF OPPOSITION

A copy of the Mayor's letter of opposition to SB 1164 (Newman) Property taxation new construction exclusion: dwelling units is attached for your review.

D. LETTER OF OPPOSITION

A copy of the Mayor's letter of opposition to Harm Reduction Institute's needle distribution program is attached for your review.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

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

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.


Lisa Kim
City Manager

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Anna Caballero
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

Steve Jones
Mayor

Cindy Ngoc Tran
Mayor Pro Tem - District 3

George S. Brietigam
Council Member - District 1

John R. O'Neill
Council Member - District 2

Joe DoVinh
Council Member - District 4

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Council Member - District 5

Kim B. Nguyen-Penalosa
Council Member - District 6

RE: SB 955 (Sevarto) Office of Planning and Research: Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program.
Notice of SUPPORT

Dear Chair Caballero,

The City of Garden Grove is pleased to support SB 955, which would, upon appropriation, establish the Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program at the Office of Planning and Research to provide grants of up to 20% of a project's total costs to assist cities and counties with specific infrastructure projects.

California is facing numerous infrastructure challenges. Due to decades of changes to tax laws, local governments have seen a steady erosion of the tax base, causing many local governments to rely on a scarcity of revenue sources to complete local projects. Compounding the issue, the Governor's 2024-25 proposed budget includes solutions to balance the budget shortfall by reverting nearly \$2.7 billion in previously committed funds to state and local transportation projects. Subsequent delays to transportation funding for certain local projects would inadvertently disrupt local governments' ability to finance, plan, and implement major transportation improvements.

SB 955 would support cities and counties to plan and deliver on infrastructure projects that promote the health and safety of local communities by creating a framework for financing those projects through an appropriation by the Legislature. For these reasons, the City of Garden Grove supports SB 955.

Sincerely,



Steve Jones
Mayor
City of Garden Grove

Cc: Senator Tom Umberg, 34th District, (Ysa.Lu@sen.ca.gov)
Senator Janet Nguyen, 36th District, (Tina.Tran@sen.ca.gov)
Assembly Member Tri Ta, 70th District, (Hauwie.Tieu@asm.ca.gov)
Connor Medina, League of California Cities, (cmedina@calcities.org)
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, (cityletters@calcities.org)
Lauren Kline, ACCOC, (lkline@accoc.org)

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Scott Wiener
Member, California State Senate
1021 O St, Room 8620
Sacramento, CA 95814

Steve Jones
Mayor

Cindy Ngoc Tran
Mayor Pro Tem - District 3

George S. Brietigam
Council Member - District 1

John R. O'Neill
Council Member - District 2

Joe DoVinh
Council Member - District 4

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Council Member - District 5

Kim B. Nguyen-Penalzoa
Council Member - District 6

**RE: SB 1037 (Wiener) Planning and zoning: housing element: enforcement
Notice of OPPOSE**

Dear Senator Wiener,

The City of Garden Grove regrettably must oppose your measure SB 1037, which would allow the Attorney General to take legal action against a city and seek fines up to \$50K a month for failure to adopt a compliant housing element or if the city does not follow state laws that require ministerial approval of certain housing projects.

Under existing law cities can be subject to significant fines and penalties for violating certain housing laws. However, before fines are imposed, a city has the ability to correct the action. Additionally, enhanced fines are not imposed unless the city fails to follow a court's order or acts in bad faith.

Unfortunately, as currently drafted, SB 1037 does not provide an opportunity for cities to correct an honest mistake or address a genuine difference in interpreting the law. Even those jurisdictions acting in good faith could be subject to significant fines and be required to pay the Attorney General for all costs investigating and prosecuting the action, including expert witness fees and attorney's fees.

Instead of creating new fines and penalties, lawmakers and the Department of Housing and Community Development should provide cities with clear guidance and technical assistance to help them finalize their housing elements and put those plans to work so much-needed housing construction can occur.

SB 1037 (Wiener) Planning and zoning: housing element: enforcement
Notice of OPPOSE

May 7, 2024

Page 2

For the reasons listed above, the City of Garden Grove respectfully opposes SB 1037.

Sincerely,



Steve Jones
Mayor

Cc: Senator Tom Umberg, 34th District, (Ysa.Lu@sen.ca.gov)
Senator Janet Nguyen, 36th District, (Tina.Tran@sen.ca.gov)
Assembly Member Tri Ta, 70th District, (Hauwie.Tieu@asm.ca.gov)
Connor Medina, League of California Cities, (cmedina@calcities.org)
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, (cityletters@calcities.org)
Lauren Kline, ACCOC, (lkline@accoc.org)

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Steven Glazer
Chair, Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee
1021 O Street, Ste. 7520
Sacramento, CA 95814

Steve Jones
Mayor

Cindy Ngoc Tran
Mayor Pro Tem - District 3

George S. Brietigam
Council Member - District 1

John R. O'Neill
Council Member - District 2

Joe DoVinh
Council Member - District 4

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Council Member - District 5

Kim B. Nguyen-Penalzoa
Council Member - District 6

RE: SB 1164 (Newman) Property taxation new construction exclusion: dwelling units
Notice of OPPOSE

Dear Chair Glazer,

The City of Garden Grove must respectfully oppose SB 1164 (Newman), which would negatively impact local government property tax revenue by exempting newly constructed accessory dwelling units (ADUs) from property tax assessment, if certain conditions are met, for fifteen years from the date of completion or until the property changes owners, whichever comes first.

Since 2018, there have been year over year increases in the number of newly permitted and constructed ADUs throughout the state. According to data from the UC Berkeley Center for Innovation, from 2018 to 2022, roughly 10,276 ADUs were built, while 28,547 units were permitted during that same period. It is clear there is a demand for ADUs that California cannot keep pace with.

This bill assumes property taxes are an impediment that disincentivize homeowners from building ADUs. However, the data show significant increases in the number of permits and constructed units in previous years, signaling that property tax adjustments have not exclusively halted or discouraged construction on new ADUs. Separate from property tax, the disproportionate share of accessory dwelling units that have been permitted, but not yet built, represents a supply and demand concern that is wholly divorced from property tax considerations.

Recent legislative efforts aimed at increasing the statewide housing stock, like SB 9 (Atkins, 2021), helped spur the construction of ADUs by allowing for by-right approval of an ADU in a single-family residential zone. However, increasing the housing stock triggers demand for service delivery that local governments are responsible for providing. By creating a property tax assessment exemption on newly constructed ADUs, SB 1164 will deprive local governments of the revenues needed to provide and expand services that are of communitywide benefit. Property taxes generate a critical revenue source local governments depend on to provide services, including public safety, education, parks, libraries, public health, and fire protection.

SB 1164 (Newman) Property taxation new construction exclusion: dwelling units

Notice of OPPOSE

May 7, 2024

Page 2

While City of Garden Grove supports the intent to increase the production of housing across the state, local governments can ill-afford any additional erosion of local tax revenues in the short- or long-term. The negative fiscal impacts of this measure would be exclusively borne by local governments. We applaud the intent of the measure but have ongoing concerns with proposals that erode the local government tax base. For these reasons, the City of Garden Grove respectfully opposes SB 1164.

Sincerely,



Steve Jones
Mayor

Cc: Senator Tom Umberg, 34th District, (Ysa.Lu@sen.ca.gov)
Senator Janet Nguyen, 36th District, (Tina.Tran@sen.ca.gov)
Assembly Member Tri Ta, 70th District, (Hauwie.Tieu@asm.ca.gov)
Connor Medina, League of California Cities, (cmedina@calcities.org)
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Lauren Kline, ACCOC, (lkline@accoc.org)

May 7, 2024

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Harm Reduction Institute's Needle Distribution Program – Letter of Opposition

Dear Governor Newsom,

I write to express my opposition to the application submitted by the Harm Reduction Institute (HRI) to operate a needle distribution program in Santa Ana, California. This opposition stems from serious concerns regarding public health, safety, and the well-being of our community. I believe that approving HRI's application would only exacerbate these issues and pose significant risks to the health, safety, and quality of life Santa Ana residents.

Needle distribution programs have historically been associated with increased public health risks. A needle distribution program that operated in Santa Ana from 2016 to 2018, resulted in 250,000 used syringes being discarded in public areas frequented by children, including the Civic Center, library, senior center, neighborhoods, and businesses. Presently, HRI plans to operate a needle distribution program in Santa Ana that would, on an annual basis, provide 300,000 syringes—while only collecting 180,000. This means that 120,000 needles annually could be discarded in public areas.

Additionally, injected drug user-related human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) statistics for the entire County of Orange accounts for 17 cases; it is inappropriate to imply all those cases are from Santa Ana. The 17 cases cited in those statistics only represent a very small fraction of the entire county population—less than one percent, or 0.005%. These statistics do not justify the need for a needle distribution program in Santa Ana. The operation of a needle distribution program by HRI would seriously jeopardize the health, safety, and well-being of our youth, neighborhoods, and businesses. We cannot afford to ignore the negative impacts that a needle exchange program will have. For these reasons, I oppose the needle distribution program in Santa Ana. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Jones
Mayor

Cc: Senator Tom Umberg, 34th District, (Ysa.Lu@sen.ca.gov)
Senator Janet Nguyen, 36th District, (Tina.Tran@sen.ca.gov)
Assembly Member Tri Ta, 70th District, (Hauwie.Tieu@asm.ca.gov)
Connor Medina, League of California Cities, (cmedina@calcities.org)
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, (cityletters@calcities.org)
Lauren Kline, ACCOC, (lkline@accoc.org)

WEEKLY MEMO 05-09-2024

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Post Performance

May 2, 2024 - May 8, 2024

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

Included in this Report

X @CityGardenGrove

 Garden Grove City Hall

 gardengrovecityhall



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 5/8/2024 12:53 pm PDT

Garden Grove's Summer Parks and Recreation Guide is now available! Find summer programs, classes, activities, an...



Impressions	327
Reach	320
Engagements	10
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.1%



Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 5/8/2024 12:50 pm PDT

Garden Grove's Summer Parks and Recreation Guide is now available! Find summer programs, classes, activities, an...



Impressions	820
Reach	801
Engagements	19
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.3%



@CityGardenGrove

Wed 5/8/2024 8:01 am PDT

#DYK building an ADU or converting your home to include a JADU is an effective and affordable option for adding needed...



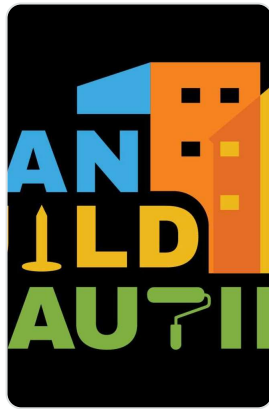
Impressions	96
Potential Reach	4,735
Engagements	10
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	10.4%



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 5/8/2024 7:57 am PDT

#DYK building an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) or converting your home to include a junior accessory dwelling unit (JADU) is...



Impressions	1,318
Reach	1,131
Engagements	53
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4%



Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 5/8/2024 7:55 am PDT

#DYK building an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) or converting your home to include a junior accessory dwelling unit (JADU) is...



Impressions	3,293
Reach	3,284
Engagements	449
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	13.6%



@CityGardenGrove

Tue 5/7/2024 4:01 pm PDT

Enjoy dinner, live music, dancing, and more! Tickets are still available for purchase, \$20 per senior, through next...



Impressions	75
Potential Reach	4,733
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.3%



X @CityGardenGrove

Tue 5/7/2024 4:01 pm PDT

🍓 Join us at the 47th Annual Strawberry Ball on Thur., 5/23, from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Community Meeting Center,...



Impressions	125
Potential Reach	4,733
Engagements	4
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.2%



Instagram gardengrovecityhall

Tue 5/7/2024 4:01 pm PDT

What's sweet, shiny, and red all over? The 47th Annual Strawberry Ball! 🍓 Join us on Thursday, May 23, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Community Meeting Center,...



Impressions	462
Reach	379
Engagements	13
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.8%



Facebook Garden Grove City Hall

Tue 5/7/2024 4:01 pm PDT

What's sweet, shiny, and red all over? The 47th Annual Strawberry Ball! 🍓 Join us on Thursday, May 23, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Community Meeting Center,...



Impressions	950
Reach	918
Engagements	47
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.9%



Garden Grove City Hall

Tue 5/7/2024 1:58 pm PDT

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HOMES, #GARDENGROVE! 💎🏡 Over 50 homes were nominated as Garden Grove's best...



Video Views	55
Impressions	226
Reach	221
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.4%



@CityGardenGrove

Tue 5/7/2024 1:58 pm PDT

💎 VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HOMES, #GARDENGROVE! 🏡 Over 50 homes were nominated as Garden Grove's best looking! Now, we need your help determining the winners! Through 5/19, vote for your favorite home in each district at ggcity.org/gems 🔗: youtu.be/lw_OelWTLXw



Post Link Clicks	0
Impressions	107
Potential Reach	4,733
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.8%



gardengrovecityhall

Tue 5/7/2024 1:57 pm PDT

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HOMES, #GARDENGROVE! 💎🏡 Over 50 homes were nominated as Garden Grove's best...



Impressions	304
Reach	269
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.6%



gardengrovecityhall

Mon 5/6/2024 2:27 pm PDT

📌 **LOCAL COLLEGE GRADUATES - WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU** The deadline is fast approaching for local...



Impressions	954
Reach	800
Engagements	43
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.5%



Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 5/6/2024 2:16 pm PDT

📌 **LOCAL COLLEGE GRADUATES - WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU** The deadline is fast approaching for local...

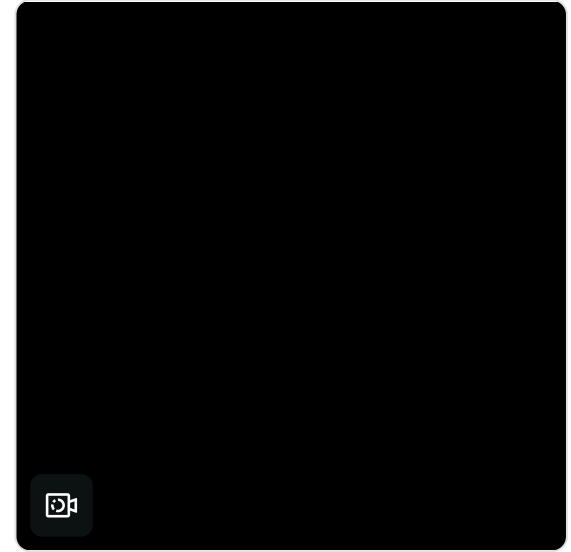


Impressions	5,683
Reach	4,714
Engagements	956
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	16.8%



gardengrovecityhall

Mon 5/6/2024 10:33 am PDT



Impressions	531
Reach	527
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	3



gardengrovecityhall

Mon 5/6/2024 10:32 am PDT

▶ Watch as Community Development Director Niki Wetzel introduces the "Plan-Build-Beautify" awareness campaign...



Impressions	1,262
Reach	982
Engagements	23
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.8%



Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 5/6/2024 10:28 am PDT

▶ Watch as Community Development Director Niki Wetzel introduces the "Plan-Build-Beautify" awareness campaign...



Video Views	88
Impressions	244
Reach	237
Engagements	12
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.9%



gardengrovecityhall

Sun 5/5/2024 10:00 am PDT

Happy #CincoDeMayo! Remember to #PlanAhead and have a designated sober driver before you celebrate. We want...



Impressions	351
Reach	335
Engagements	11
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.1%

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Sun 5/5/2024 10:00 am PDT

Happy #CincoDeMayo! Remember to #PlanAhead and have a designated sober driver before you celebrate. We want...



Impressions	582
Reach	559
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.4%

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Sun 5/5/2024 10:00 am PDT

Happy #CincoDeMayo! Remember to #PlanAhead and have a designated sober driver before you celebrate. We wa...



Impressions	123
Potential Reach	4,732
Engagements	2
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.6%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Sun 5/5/2024 8:00 am PDT

🌸 May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! ✨ Join us in celebrating the diverse cultures and...



Impressions	460
Reach	441
Engagements	20
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.3%

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Sun 5/5/2024 8:00 am PDT

🌸 May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! ✨ Join us in celebrating the diverse cultures and...




Impressions	208
Reach	203
Engagements	4
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.9%

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Sun 5/5/2024 8:00 am PDT


🌸 May is [#AAPIHeritageMonth](#)! ✨ Join us in celebrating the diverse cultures and traditions of the [#AAPI](#) community. As w...




Impressions	146
Potential Reach	4,732
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.1%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 5/3/2024 8:00 am PDT


REMINDER: You are doing the best you can. Be kind to your mind and give yourself grace on the tough days. ❤️ This...




Impressions	462
Reach	448
Engagements	22
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.8%

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Fri 5/3/2024 8:00 am PDT


REMINDER: You are doing the best you can. Be kind to your mind and give yourself grace on the tough days. ❤️ This...




Impressions	575
Reach	535
Engagements	11
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.9%

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Fri 5/3/2024 8:00 am PDT


REMINDER: You are doing the best you can. Be kind to your mind and give yourself grace on the tough days. ❤️ This...



Impressions	122
Potential Reach	4,734
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.8%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Thu 5/2/2024 5:59 pm PDT

@aliciadanielle0917



Impressions	775
Reach	744
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	9



@gardengrovecityhall

Thu 5/2/2024 5:55 pm PDT

Congratulations to our "Plan-Build-Beautiful" social media giveaway winner, @aliciadanielle0917! 🎉 She received a 4...



Impressions	1,219
Reach	1,157
Engagements	68
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.6%



@CityGardenGrove

Thu 5/2/2024 5:17 pm PDT

☀️ Summer is on the horizon with the May/June 2024 CityWorks! Plan some fun in the sun at upcoming events and take ...



Impressions	132
Potential Reach	4,734
Engagements	4
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3%



Garden Grove City Hall

Thu 5/2/2024 5:17 pm PDT

☀️ Summer is on the horizon with the May/June 2024 CityWorks! Plan some fun in the sun at upcoming events like the ...



Impressions	1,762
Reach	1,691
Engagements	165
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	9.4%



X @CityGardenGrove

Thu 5/2/2024 9:41 am PDT

Gather your old documents and unwanted bulky items, because the free paper shredding and community cleanup day...



Impressions	149
Potential Reach	4,734
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.4%



Instagram gardengrovecityhall

Thu 5/2/2024 9:37 am PDT

Gather your old documents and unwanted bulky items, because the free paper shredding and community cleanup day...



Impressions	2,465
Reach	1,882
Engagements	91
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.7%



Facebook Garden Grove City Hall

Thu 5/2/2024 9:34 am PDT

Gather your old documents and unwanted bulky items, because the free paper shredding and community cleanup day...



Impressions	7,668
Reach	7,254
Engagements	478
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6.2%



Post Performance

May 2, 2024 - May 8, 2024

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

Included in this Report

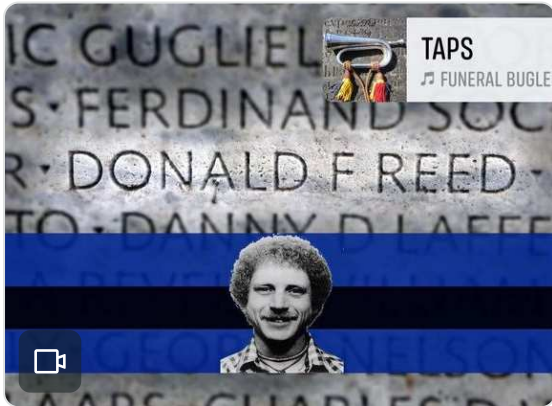
 Garden Grove Police Department



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Wed 5/8/2024 12:00 pm PDT

Officer Donald F. Reed began his law enforcement career as a #GardenGrove police officer in 1977. He quickly earned ...



Video Views	121
Impressions	328
Reach	322
Engagements	30
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	9.1%



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Tue 5/7/2024 6:50 pm PDT

It's #NationalCorrectionalOfficersAppreciation Week and we're highlighting another...



Impressions	2,322
Reach	2,276
Engagements	475
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	20.5%




Garden Grove Police Depa...

Tue 5/7/2024 12:02 pm PDT


Reserve Officer Andy Reese was one of the first reserve officers to work for the City of Garden Grove. He retired from the milita...



Video Views	171
Impressions	561
Reach	557
Engagements	27
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.8%

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
 Mon 5/6/2024 6:00 pm PDT

On October 6, 1959, Sergeant Myron L. Trapp and other officers responded to a call of an assault with a deadly weapon. ...




Video Views	236
Impressions	665
Reach	639
Engagements	49
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.4%

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
 Mon 5/6/2024 1:38 pm PDT


Weekend recap. #GGPD32



Video Views	572
Impressions	572
Reach	567
Engagements	30
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.2%

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
 Sun 5/5/2024 9:00 am PDT

Happy #CincoDeMayo! Remember to #PlanAhead and have a designated sober driver, before you celebrate. We want...



Impressions	1,362
Reach	1,299
Engagements	46
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.4%



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Sat 5/4/2024 6:00 pm PDT

Outreach & Cleanup Recap #GGPD32
 #SRTsaturday #WheresTheSRT
 #TeamWork Be Well OC Garden Grove...



Video Views	1,707
Impressions	1,707
Reach	1,711
Engagements	57
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.3%



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Sat 5/4/2024 9:00 am PDT

Episode XXIV #GGPD32
 #MayThe4thBeWithYou #PoliceWork
 #StarWarsDay #NotInOurCity



Video Views	609
Impressions	1,427
Reach	1,404
Engagements	199
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	13.9%



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Fri 5/3/2024 8:00 am PDT

Are you a #GardenGrove teen who's curious about how a police department works? Our Teen Citizen Academy will give...



Impressions	3,119
Reach	2,867
Engagements	117
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.8%



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Thu 5/2/2024 6:00 pm PDT

Earlier today, the Orange County Auto Theft Advisory Committee (#ATAC) held its Annual Award Ceremony at the Marconi...



Impressions	4,672
Reach	4,505
Engagements	302
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6.5%

WEEKLY MEMO 05-09-2024

NEWS ARTICLES



CONTACT: Ashleigh Anderson Camba
Human Resources Department
714-741-5027/ashleighc@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, May 6, 2024



CITY NOW ACCEPTING ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR GARDEN GROVE POLICE POSITIONS

The City of Garden Grove is now accepting online applications for sworn positions with the Garden Grove Police Department. The deadline to apply is Monday, May 13, 2024. To apply online, visit ggpd.org/join.

Job openings for full-time and part-time positions include:

- Police Officer – Academy Trained
- Lateral Police Officer
- Reserve Police Officer – Level I

Centrally located in Orange County, Garden Grove is a diverse city that values and relies on a community policing philosophy. The City of Garden Grove offers competitive benefits including contributions toward medical, dental, and vision coverage; Garden Grove Police Association paid percentage of lifetime medical; tuition reimbursement; bilingual pay; military leave with pay; military service buyback through the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS); and flexible job opportunities across the department.

-more-

CITY NOW ACCEPTING ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR GGPD POSITIONS
2-2-2

For sworn police officers, the Garden Grove Police Department offers in-service training programs and specializations in the areas of canine handling, gang suppression, investigations, juvenile services, motorcycle traffic enforcement, patrol, special weapons and tactics, vice-narcotic enforcement, and more after sufficient experience in the police department.

Visit ggpd.org/join to apply online or for more information, including job details and qualifications, or contact Corporal Jason Johnson from the Garden Grove Police Department at (714) 741-5922 or jasonj@ggcity.org.

###



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

Contact: Dana Saucedo (714) 741-5242
Community Services Department
danam@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Tuesday, May 7, 2024



VOTE FOR GARDEN GROVE'S BEST-LOOKING FRONT YARDS

Now through Sunday, May 19, the public is encouraged to vote for their favorite Garden Grove front yards nominated during the home beautification program, Garden Grove Gems. To vote, visit www.ggcity.org/gems.

The home's front yards will be categorized by their respective Garden Grove voting districts, for a total of six districts. The public will vote for their favorite front yard for each district.

The home that receives the highest number of votes, along with a runner up, will be determined for each district. All winners will be announced during the week of May 27 through the City's website, social media platforms, and local media. Winning homes will receive citywide recognition with homeowners invited to an awards reception hosted by the Garden Grove City Council.

For more information, visit ggcity.org/gems or call (714) 741-5200.

###



CONTACT: Rene Camarena
Community Services Department
(714) 741-5173/renec@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Tuesday, May 7, 2024



TICKET DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR STRAWBERRY BALL HONORING NEW KING AND QUEEN

Local seniors are invited to the 47th Annual Strawberry Ball, a celebration honoring the 2024 Strawberry Ball King and Queen, on Thursday, May 23, 2024, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, at 11300 Stanford Avenue. Tickets are \$20 and include event entry, dinner, dessert, non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages, a photo booth, live music, and dancing. The deadline to purchase tickets is Thursday, May 16, 2024.

Recognizing the spirit of volunteerism, the event will shine a light on the 2024 Strawberry Ball King Joe Chandler and Strawberry Ball Queen Joan Grosse. Chandler and Grosse will receive Senior Volunteer of the Year awards for their dedicated service with the Garden Grove Police Department and the City's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Together, Chandler and Grosse have committed over 6,200 hours of volunteer service with the Garden Grove Police Department.

Advance reservations are required, visit the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at 11300 Stanford Avenue, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

For more information, call (714) 741-5253 or visit ggcity.org/seniorcenter.

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CONTACT: Dana Saucedo
Community Services Department
(714) 741-5200/danam@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Wednesday, May 8, 2024



GARDEN GROVE'S PARKS AND RECREATION GUIDE OFFERS SUMMER PROGRAMS, CLASSES, AND EVENTS

The Summer 2024 Garden Grove Parks and Recreation Guide is now available for viewing at ggparksandrec.com. The summer guide provides a number of programs, classes, activities, and special events through Saturday, August 31, 2024. Residents and visitors are encouraged to register for classes in advance to avoid class cancellations. To view the guide and to register, visit ggparksandrec.com.

Serving as the City's main source for recreational classes, the Parks and Recreation Guide features a listing of youth sports and creative arts, adult activities and fitness, special events, and more.

Follow the City's social platforms on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Nextdoor](#), and [X](#), formerly known as Twitter, to see announcements on programs, services, events, and job opportunities.

For more information, visit ggparksandrec.com or call (714) 741-5200.

###

Scott Carpenter had 'the right stuff' to orbit the Earth

MAY 7, 2024



SCOTT CARPENTER, America's second man to orbit the Earth, was a Garde Grove resident (NASA). Garden Grove was founded in 1874, so this year is the community's 150th anniversary. Latest in a series about Garden Grove history.

Of all Garden Grove's residents, this one definitely had "The Right Stuff." Scott Carpenter lived in the city with his family during the time he was one of the original Mercury Seven U.S. astronauts launched into space in the Sixties.

He was born in Boulder, Colorado in 1925. After a career as a naval aviator in the Korean War, he became a test pilot in 1954. In 1959, he was selected as one of the Seven. He was the second American in orbit, following John Glenn, and the fourth American in space.

Carpenter's Aurora 7 capsule rocketed into space on May 24, 1962. The craft made three orbits, but the splashdown was a bit off-target, missing by about 250 miles. After some anxiety about his fate, he was picked up by the U.S.S. John R. Pierce, a destroyer.

In 1965, Carpenter took a leave of absence from NASA, joining the SEALAB team seeking to explore the ocean floor. His underwater activities inflicted injuries which made him ineligible for space flight and he left NASA in 1969.

After his space and sea adventures, Carpenter dabbled in a wide variety of pursuits, including serving as a consultant, writing novels and appearing in TV commercials.

His personal life was not smooth. He was married four times, divorced three times and had eight children. He died on Oct. 10, 2013 at the age of 88 after suffering a stroke.

Ed Arnold: Strawberry Festival parade theme grand marshal

MAY 7, 2024



THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL parade be held on Saturday, May 24 (Tribune photo).

Ed Arnold, a veteran broadcaster and local icon, will be the theme grand marshal for the 2024 Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Parade on Saturday, May 25. The theme is "Celebrating Our Hometown."

Serving as celebrity grand marshals are the brothers of Wahoo's Fish Taco: Win, Ed and Mingo.\



ED ARNOLD / Parade theme grand marshal.

Other celebrities will be Frank Kramer, Wendy Burch, Chris Tzorin, Courtney Conlogue, Danielle Lawson, Sean Lee, Pat O'Connell, Pyper Braun, Nikki SooHoo, Kayden Koshelev, Leigh Steinberg, CeCe Valencia, Nour Milla, Compa Gomez, Johnny Ice, Michael David, Jordan Fitzpatrick, Sarita Tello, Jim "Poorman" Trenton and Victor Mendez.

The festival parade steps off at Chapman Avenue and 9th Street and heads west on Chapman, turning south at Euclid Street and traveling all the way to the festival grounds in the Village Green park at Stanford Avenue.

It's one of the highlights of the festival, begun in 1958 and which continues to be one **of** the largest community events in the western United States.

"The 64th Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival is set up to be our best one yet," said Mark Mahoney, festival association president. "We are honored to have so many well-known faces joining our celebrations and representing what makes this annual event so special."

The festival runs from Friday, May 24 to Monday, May 27 over Memorial Day weekend.

Note: The Orange County Tribune is one of many sponsors of the festival.

K-9 training facility is on the GGUSD board agenda

MAY 6, 2024



NELLIE (left) and Heart make friends on the floor. They're emotional support dogs with the GGPD (Tribune photo).

This park could be going to the dogs. Sort of.

At Tuesday night's meeting of the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education, one item on the agenda is a memorandum of understanding with the City of Garden Grove for the development and use of Warren Elementary School in Garden Grove as a temporary K-9 (police dog) training facility.

GGUSD leases a portion of the campus for Pioneer Park, which is located at 12722 Chapman Ave., east of Harbor Boulevard.

The agreement, if approved, would run from May 8, 2024 through June 30, 2028 and can be terminated by any of parties with a notice of 90 days to the other party.

The facility – the first of its kind in Orange County – would be to train both traditional police dogs that are used in enforcement activities but also “emotional support” dogs who can comfort victims of trauma.

Also on the agenda will be the recognition of high school valedictorians, employees of the month and public hearings and presentations on initial contract proposals from employee groups.

The board meets at 7 p.m. at 10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove. The GGUSD serves most of Garden Grove as well as parts of Anaheim, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Santa Ana, Stanton and Westminster.

[VIEN-DONG NEWS ONLINE](#)

Đại Lễ Phật Đản PL 2568 Tại Garden Grove Park, Nam California

May 7, 2024



Bài và hình: THANH PHONG

GARDEN GROVE. Sau bốn năm tạm ngưng, vào những ngày đầu tháng 5 năm 2024 Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Thống Nhất Hoa Kỳ (GHPGVNTN HK) đã long trọng tổ chức đại lễ mừng Phật Đản Sinh tại Garden Grove Park, ngay Trung Tâm Little Saigon vào hai ngày Thứ Bảy và Chủ Nhật ngày 4 và 05.5.2024.

Đọc theo hai bên đường dẫn vào công viên Garden Grove, hàng trăm lá cờ Hoa Kỳ, cờ VNCH và cờ Phật Giáo tung bay phất phới. Một cổng chào màu cam khá lớn, hai bên có hai câu đối: “Bảy đóa sen vàng nâng gót ngọc – Ba ngàn thế giới đón Như Lai”. Trước cổng chào trưng bày 30 bức tranh

khổ lớn diễn tả cuộc đời của Đức Phật. Vừa qua cổng chào có Vườn Lâm Tỳ Ni do đạo tràng chùa Khánh Hỷ thiết lập rất công phu khiến nhiều Phật tử thích thú đến chụp hình lưu niệm. Sau đó đến lễ đài được thiết kế rộng lớn, mỹ thuật và trang trọng. Trước lễ đài có hai căn lều lớn, mỗi lều có thể chứa hàng ngàn người. Phía sau lễ đài có Kỳ Viên Tịnh xá là nơi chư tôn đức Tăng Ni thọ trai. Cũng như những năm đã qua, năm nay Chùa Phổ Linh do Ni sư Thiền Tuệ làm Viện Chủ đã phát tâm cúng dường 5 ngàn phần ăn cho các Phật tử tham dự. Đại lễ Phật Đản năm 2024 do Thượng Tọa Thích Thánh Minh làm Trưởng Ban Tổ Chức diễn ra vào Thứ Bảy và Chủ Nhật ngày 4 và 5.5.2024.

Ngày đầu vào lúc 4 giờ chiều có nghi thức cầu nguyện, cắt băng khai mạc lễ đài và trai đàn cầu siêu. Sau đó là chương trình văn nghệ kết thúc vào lúc 6 giờ 30.

Nghi thức Khánh Đản

Ngày Chủ Nhật là ngày chính của đại lễ bắt đầu lúc 9 giờ 30 sáng, Thượng Tọa Thích Thánh Minh, Trưởng Ban Tổ Chức tác bạch và cung thỉnh chư tôn đức chứng minh cho đại lễ lên lễ đài thắp hương cầu nguyện gồm Đại lão Hòa Thượng Thích Chơn Thành, Thượng Thủ Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Trên Thế Giới, Trưởng lão Hòa Thượng Thích Tín Nghĩa (Chủ Tịch) và chư tôn đức thuộc Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTN HK có HT Thích Nguyên Siêu (Tổng Thư Ký), quý HT Thích Minh Hối, Thích Thiện Long, Thích Minh Mẫn, Thích Thông Hải và Hòa Thượng Thích Giác Pháp (Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Tăng Già Khất Sĩ). Các chư Tăng, Ni khác đứng phía dưới lễ đài cùng chấp tay tụng kinh cầu nguyện. Trong lúc đó, đoàn xe mô tô của Luật Sư Đỗ Phủ rầm rộ diễn hành trên nhiều đường phố khu Little Saigon để nhắc nhở các Phật tử, Lễ Phật Đản đang cử hành tại Garden Grove Park. Buổi tụng kinh chấm dứt, chư tôn đức Tăng Ni rời lễ đài sắp thành hàng một đi Cổ Phật Khất Thực. Suốt lộ trình từ lễ đài đến Kỳ Viên Tịnh xá, các Phật tử đứng cúng dường tịnh tài cho chư tôn đức Tăng, Ni (năm nay Phật tử tham dự không đông như các năm trước). Trong lúc chư tôn đức thọ trai, ngoài lễ đài có chương trình văn nghệ cúng dường. Vào lúc 11 giờ 50, Thượng Tọa Trưởng Ban Tổ Chức tác bạch và cung thỉnh chư tôn đức quang lâm lễ đài để chính thức cử hành nghi thức Đản Sanh. Tiếp đến, Hòa Thượng Thích Thiện Long, Tổng Vụ Trưởng Tổng Vụ KT&TC tuyên đọc Thông Bạch Phật Đản của Hòa Thượng Thích Tín Nghĩa, Chủ Tịch Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTN HK. Trong Thông Bạch, sau khi đề cập đến những lời Đức Phật dạy, Hòa Thượng nhắc nhở: "...Cộng đồng Phật Giáo Việt Nam hôm nay, đang hoằng pháp nơi hải ngoại, đang sống trong một quốc gia văn minh, tiến bộ trên thế giới. Luật pháp hiện hành là một sự biểu tỏ bảo vệ đối với đời sống con người một cách có trật tự và hữu hiệu qua hai phạm trù vật chất và tinh thần – Tôn giáo. Từ sự thuận lợi ấy, kính mong chư tôn đức Tăng Già, hãy tập chú vào sự tu tập, khuyến tấn quý Phật tử tu tập; tổ chức những đạo tràng tu tập hằng quý qua bốn mùa Xuân, Hạ, Thu, Đông; mở lớp Việt ngữ để các con em, thế hệ thứ hai, thứ ba nói tiếng Việt. Đây là gìn giữ nền văn hóa mẹ đẻ, văn hóa ông bà Tổ Tiên từ ngàn xưa..." (Toàn văn Thông Bạch đã đăng trên nguyệt san Chánh Pháp số 150. Tháng 5/2024).

Thượng Tọa Thích Thánh Minh, Trưởng Ban Tổ Chức Đại lễ

Sau Thông bạch, Hòa Thượng Thích Nguyên Siêu, Tổng Thư Ký Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTN HK trình bày hiện tình Giáo Hội qua 7 Phật Sự: Tổ chức kỷ niệm ngày Phật Đản hàng năm – Tổ chức thời gian An Cư Kiết Hạ – Tổ chức Khóa Tu Học Phật Pháp Bắc Mỹ – Đại lễ Vu Lan – Nguyệt san Chánh Pháp – Tổ chức Đoàn Quán cho các Gia Đình Phật tử có nơi sinh hoạt – Tổ chức các Khóa Tu. Mỗi Phật sự đều được Hòa Thượng Tổng Thư Ký trình bày chi tiết cụ thể.



Cổ Phật Khất Thực

Vào lúc 01 giờ 30 ban tổ chức mới cử hành nghi thức khai mạc với lễ chào Quốc kỳ Hoa Kỳ, VNCH và Phật Giáo Kỳ cùng phút Nhập Từ Bi Quán. Sau đó, Hòa Thượng Chủ Tịch Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTNKH ban đạo từ. Trong đạo từ có đoạn Trưởng lão Hòa Thượng Thích Tín Nghĩa nhấn mạnh: " Nói đến Phật giáo là nói đến con đường giáo dục cho chúng sanh: sống thế nào để thoát khổ được vui; muốn được như thế thì tự thân phải nỗ lực khai mở tâm trí để thấu rõ thế nào là khổ, đâu là nguyên nhân của khổ; thế nào là an lạc niết bàn và đâu là con đường dẫn đến giải thoát an vui...".

Chư tôn đức Tăng Ni và các em Thiếu Nhi Gia Đình Phật tử

Chương trình còn lại là phần phát biểu của Hội Đồng Liên Tôn, một số dân cử và chính quyền cùng lời cảm tạ của Ban Tổ Chức. Sau đó, chương trình văn nghệ do các nghệ sĩ Quốc Thái, Triệu Mỹ Ngân, Minh Hùng phụ trách.



Phật tử Tắm Phật

Đại lễ Phật Đản Phật lịch 2568 do Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Thống Nhất Hoa Kỳ tổ chức hoàn mãn vào lúc 8 giờ tối Chủ Nhật ngày 5.5.2024./.

Hàng ngàn Phật tử tham dự Đại Lễ Phật Đản Phật Lịch 2568 tại Nam California

5/5/24

Hòa vào niềm vui chung của Phật tử trên toàn thế giới, hàng ngàn Phật tử ở miền Nam California vừa tham dự Đại Lễ Phật Đản Phật Lịch 2568-Dương Lịch 2024, do Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Thống Nhất Hoa Kỳ tổ chức trong hai ngày Thứ Bảy và Chủ Nhật, 4 và 5 Tháng Năm, tại Garden Grove Park, thành phố Garden Grove.

Đây là đại lễ Phật Đản đầu tiên do Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Thống Nhất Hoa Kỳ (GHPGVNTNHK) tổ chức tại Nam California, sau 4 năm tạm ngưng vì đại dịch COVID-19.

Trong ngày đầu tiên, Thứ Bảy 4 lúc 4 giờ chiều, các chư tăng đã có thời kinh trang nghiêm đạo tràng, đồng hương và Phật tử vân tập địa điểm hành lễ. Sau đó là chương trình văn nghệ đón mừng Đại Lễ Phật Đản, chư tôn đức cắt băng khai mạc lễ đài và khai mạc trai đàn cầu siêu.

Sang ngày Chủ Nhật 5 Tháng Năm, đại lễ Phật Đản chính thức diễn ra tại lễ đài dưới sự chứng minh của Đại Lão Hòa Thượng Thích Chơn Thành, Thượng Thủ Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Trên Thế Giới, viện chủ chùa Liên Hoa; Đại Lão HT Thích Tín Nghĩa, chủ tịch Hội Đồng Điều Hành Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Việt Nam Thống Nhất Hoa Kỳ; HT Thích Nguyên Siêu, tổng thư ký Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTNHK; HT Thích Minh Hồi, tổng vụ trưởng Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTNHK; HT Thích Thiện Long, tổng vụ trưởng Hội Đồng Điều Hành GHPGVNTNKH; HT Thích Giác Pháp, Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Tăng Già Khất Sĩ; HT Thích Minh Mẫn, thành viên Hội Đồng Giáo Phẩm GHPGVNTNHK; HT Thích Thông Hải, phó chủ tịch ngoại vụ GHPGVNTNHK; Thượng Tọa Thích Thánh Minh, Trưởng ban tổ chức Đại Lễ Phật Đản GHPGVNTNHK năm 2024; cùng chư tôn đức tăng ni trong GHPGVNTNHK, trú trì các tự viện từ khắp nơi vùng Nam California và vùng phụ cận về tham dự.



Chư tôn đức trong nghi thức cổ Phật Khất Thực. (Hình: Văn Lan/Người Việt)

Từ sáng sớm, chư tôn đức tăng, ni vân tập về Kỳ Viên Tịnh Xá trong công viên Garden Grove để Phật tử được có cơ hội cúng dường.

Sau đó là nghi thức cổ Phật Khất Thực, chư tôn đức tăng, ni đi một vòng quang công viên với bình bát trên tay, một nghi thức từ hơn hai ngàn năm trước, đức Phật vì muốn cho tất cả mọi người đều có được cơ duyên cúng dường các bậc tu hành, gieo trồng phước đức, nên dạy hàng đệ tử xuất gia hằng ngày phải đi vào thôn xóm nhận thức ăn cúng dường của bá tánh. Đồng thời cũng là để tạo cơ hội cho mọi người được nghe giảng giải Phật pháp mà tiến tu phước huệ.

Sau đó là lời tác bạch của ban tổ chức tại Kỳ Viên Tịnh Xá, cung thỉnh chư tôn đức tăng ni quang lâm lễ đài, chính thức cử hành Nghi Thức Đản Sanh PL. 2568, với thời kinh Nam và Bắc Tông.

Thượng Tọa Thích Thánh Minh, trưởng ban tổ chức Đại Lễ Phật Đản, nhận bằng tưởng lục từ phó thị trưởng Cindy Trần và Nghị Viên Stephanie Klopfenstein (Garden Grove). (Hình: Văn Lan/Người Việt)

Kế tiếp là Lễ Tắm Phật, nghi thức trong Đại Lễ Phật Đản, dạy rằng trên bản thể, chúng ta và Phật đồng nhau, không khác. Nhưng vì chúng ta mê muội để cho bụi bặm trần lao nhiễm ô bám vào dày đặc, nên không thể tu tạo được công đức hoặc làm cho công đức tiêu tan, ta mới thành phàm phu khổ đau. Ý thức được như vậy, bước theo dấu chân Phật, chúng ta phải tẩy rửa bụi bặm trần lao, trong sạch hóa thân tâm, từ đó phát triển công đức đầy đủ để chứng được thân chân thật giống như Đức Như Lai, gọi là Pháp thân.

Hòa Thượng Thích Thiện Long đọc thông điệp Phật Đản của HT Thích Tín Nghĩa, trong đó dạy rằng mỗi người con Phật dù đang sống nơi quốc gia nào, trú xứ nào, phải tự thắp lên đuốc Tuệ tự tâm, thể hiện lòng Từ tự tâm, hướng về tất cả chúng sinh, sao cho thế giới hòa bình, chấm dứt chiến tranh; nhân loại thực hành chánh thiện, yêu thương và nhìn nhau như anh em, trái đất xinh tươi sống trong tình huynh đệ an hòa. Đó là cách cúng dường tối thượng hướng về ngày Đản Sanh của Đức Từ Phụ Thích Ca Mâu Ni.



TNS Janet Nguyễn trao bằng tưởng lục đến Thượng Tọa Thích Thánh Minh, trưởng ban tổ chức Đại Lễ Phật Đản. (Hình: Văn Lan/Người Việt)

Tiếp đến là phần trình bày của HT Thích Nguyên Siêu, nói về hiện tình Phật sự của Giáo Hội, đó là sự phụng hành hiến dâng từ sự hy sinh công sức, thời gian và tâm nguyện của Chư Tôn Đức Tăng Ni và quý Phật tử hộ pháp, gồm các Phật sự.

Phật Sự Thứ 1: Hàng năm Giáo Hội đều luôn tổ chức chương trình kỷ niệm mừng ngày Phật Đản tại nơi đây, hay trên những trú xứ khác, các tự viện khác, các tiểu bang Hoa Kỳ, một cách trang nghiêm trọng thể với đông đảo Chư Tôn Đức Tăng Ni và cộng đồng Phật tử tham dự.

Phật Sự Thứ 2: Nhiều thập niên qua Giáo Hội luôn thông báo đến Chư Tôn Đức Tăng Ni về một tinh thần tu tập mà thời Đức Phật và hàng thánh chúng còn tại thế, đó là thời gian An Cư Kiết Hạ. Năm nay được sự bảo trợ của Tu Viện Đại Bi, Sư Bà Viện Chủ và Ni Sư Trụ Trì đã mở rộng vòng tay tổ chức An Cư Kiết Hạ cho Giáo Hội, trên 220 Chư Tăng Ni đã ghi danh, thể hiện giáo pháp lạc hòa trong ý vị bản thể trong sáng của Tăng Già.



Hòa Thượng Thích Thiện Long, thay mặt ban tổ chức tuyên đọc Thông Điệp Phật Đản của Hòa Thượng Thích Tín Nghĩa. (Hình: Văn Lan/Người Việt)

Phật Sự Thứ 3: Khóa Tu Học Phật Pháp Bắc Mỹ lần thứ 11 được sự bảo trợ của Đại Đức Thích Quảng Văn làm trưởng Ban Tổ Chức, viện chủ Tu Viện Vô Biên Hạnh tại Georgia thành phố Atlanta, năm nay sẽ là một năm tổ chức Khóa Tu Học được diễn ra mang một sắc thái đa dạng, mang nhiều ý nghĩa và giá trị đặc thù trên tinh thần tu học và thể hiện qua nếp sống hằng ngày của người con Phật.

Phật Sự Thứ 4: Đại Lễ Vu Lan, Pháp Hội Địa Tạng mà hơn một thập niên qua Thượng Toạ Thích Thánh Minh, Phật tử Linda Trần, Peek Family đã đảm trách, tổ chức đàn tràng cầu siêu bạt độ nguyện cho âm siêu dương thái.

Phật Sự Thứ 5: Nguyệt San Chánh Pháp, tiếng nói của Giáo Hội, do nhà văn Vĩnh Hào làm chủ bút, xuất bản mỗi tháng một lần, nhiều năm qua đã được gửi đi và đến tận tay quý vị đọc giả các tự viện, Phật tử hằng lưu tâm và bảo trợ.

Phật Sự Thứ 6: Giáo Hội tạo mọi điều kiện thuận lợi cho các đơn vị Gia Đình Phật Tử tại địa phương có đoàn quán, nơi sinh hoạt một cách tương đối có thể. Các đoàn sinh Gia Đình Phật Tử quây quần dưới các mái chùa để cùng tu, cùng học, cùng sinh hoạt của tổ chức hằng tuần, hằng tháng, hằng năm.

Phật Sự Thứ 7: Tổ chức cho những Khóa Tu thiếu nhi dưới các mái tự viện qua các tiểu bang, để con em của quý Phật tử có điều kiện học Phật Pháp bằng tiếng Việt và học Việt Ngữ.

Một phái đoàn dân cử đến dự Đại Lễ Phật Đản gồm TNS Janet Nguyễn; các thành viên Hội Đồng Thành Phố Garden Grove, gồm phó thị trưởng Cindy Ngọc Trần, Nghị Viên Stephanie

Klopfenstein; cựu phó thị trưởng Thu Hà Nguyễn, cũng là phó ban tổ chức Đại Lễ Phật Đản; cùng Nghị Viên Amy Phan West, Westminster; đại diện Chánh Lục Sự Hugh Nguyễn.

Như hàng năm, chùa Phổ Linh Garden Grove do Ni Sư Thiên Tuệ viện chủ, luôn ủng hộ khi ban tổ chức kêu gọi trong các kỳ Đại Lễ Phật Đản.

Trong khi tất bật phát những món vật thực cúng dường, Ni Sư Thiên Tuệ, viện chủ chùa Phổ Linh, Garden Grove, cho hay: "Năm nay là năm thứ tư, chùa Phổ Linh đã phát tâm cúng dường năm ngàn phần thực phẩm. Thật sự chúng tôi cùng những Phật tử thân tín của chùa cùng nhau góp công sức để cúng dường trong Đại Lễ Phật Đản, chỉ mong Phật tử đến dự Lễ Phật Đản luôn có được tâm hoan hỷ là vui rồi."

Trong Đại Lễ Phật Đản, vườn Lâm Tì Ni (Lumbini,) một trong bốn thánh tích Phật Giáo nổi tiếng, nơi Đức Phật đản sanh, được Phật tử ghé thăm nhiều, trong đó có gia đình cô Từ Ngọc từ Los Angeles về dự Đại Lễ Phật Đản.

Cô Từ Ngọc cho hay: "Em từ Việt Nam mới qua đoàn tụ với gia đình con gái, hôm nay cả gia đình con gái, con rể, và hai cháu ngoại, dự Lễ Phật Đản để các cháu biết về đạo Phật... Đây là lần đầu tiên em đi dự Lễ Phật Đản thật quy mô thế này ở Mỹ, có cả các sư Nam và Bắc truyền, và Phật tử ai cũng tràn đầy niềm vui hân hoan trên nét mặt, nhất là mọi người cùng cung kính trong lễ khất thực."

Đại Lễ Phật Đản năm nay trong ánh nắng ấm áp chan hòa, mọi người cùng hân hoan đón chào ngày Đức Phật ra đời với thông điệp hòa bình cho thế giới, mọi người tự lắng lòng suy nghiệm giáo lý của đức Phật để chuyển hóa thân tâm.

VIET-BAO ONLINE NEWS

06/05/2024

Trưa Chủ Nhật 5-5-2024, tại công viên Garden Grove Park, thành phố Garden Grove, Quận Cam, Nam Cali; chư Tăng Ni và Phật tử cùng dâng lời cầu nguyện cho quốc thái dân an, tưởng niệm công đức Phật Thích Ca trong buổi đại lễ Phật Đản kỷ niệm ngày Đức Phật ra đời, Phật Lịch 2568. Đại hội Phật giáo quốc tế năm 1961 chọn ngày Rằm Tháng Tư Âm Lịch mỗi năm là ngày Phật Đản. Những năm trước, nhiều chùa ở Nam Cali kết hợp để thực hiện Đại lễ Phật Đản với sự tham dự của nhiều Tăng Ni và Phật Tử. Sau vài năm gián đoạn vì đại dịch Covid, năm nay ban tổ chức chọn 2 ngày Thứ Bảy và Chủ Nhật 4 và 5 tháng 5, 2024, nhằm ngày 27 tháng 3 Âm lịch. Sau đại lễ Phật Đản chung, thì các chùa sẽ có buổi lễ Phật đản riêng cho chùa mình, đây là lý do Đại lễ Phật Đản thực hiện sớm. Năm nay, ngày Rằm Tháng Tư- Ngày Phật Đản nhằm Thứ Tư 22-5-2024.

Lễ đài Đại lễ Phật Đản 2024 nằm dưới tàng cây xanh, những chậu hoa tươi đẹp, nhiều lá cờ Hoa Kỳ, lá cờ vàng ba sọc đỏ và cờ Phật Giáo cắm chung quanh công viên Garden Grove cho cảm giác tương bừng về ngày hội lớn của Phật tử vùng Nam Cali.

Trong chương trình buổi lễ, các chư tăng ni ôm bình bát đi khất thực trong công viên gợi hình ảnh ngàn năm trước Đức Phật và tăng chúng từng làm như vậy. Tăng Ni đi khất thực là nét đặc trưng của Phật giáo.

Trong số mấy trăm chư tăng ni tham dự có Hòa thượng Thích Chơn Thành, HT Thích Tín Nghĩa, HT Thích Minh Mẫn, HT Thích Nguyên Siêu, HT Thích Minh Hồi, HT Thích Thiện Long, HT Thích Thông Hải, Thượng tọa Thích Thánh Minh, Trưởng ban tổ chức đại lễ và nhiều vị thuộc Giáo Hội Việt Nam Thống Nhất Hoa Kỳ và các vị tăng ni từ các chùa trong vùng Nam California.

Phần thức ăn thì do Phật tử và ni sư Thiền Tuệ chùa Phổ Linh cúng dường 5 ngàn phần với cơm chay, cháo nắm đậu xanh, bánh mì chay, chè đậu xanh và trái cây.

Hòa thượng Thích Thiện Long đọc Thông Bạch Phật Đản 2568. Trước khi Hòa thượng Thích Nguyên Siêu trình bày những công tác Phật sự thì ca khúc Phật Giáo Việt Nam Lên Đường của Trần Chí Phúc phổ thơ Phan Tấn Hải với tiếng hát Phong Dinh và tiếng đàn ghi ta của tác giả. Bài hát có mấy câu như " Con lên đường tới Trường Sơn, tới Biển Đông, giữ quê hương một tấc đất không thể lui", lấy ý tưởng từ câu nói của Vua Trần Nhân Tông, tổ dòng Thiền Trúc Lâm Yên Tử.

Nghị sĩ California Janet Nguyễn và Phó Thị trưởng Ngọc Trần lên lễ đài trao bằng tưởng lục cho Thượng tọa Thích Thánh Minh- trưởng ban tổ chức đại lễ Phật Đản 2024.

Phần ca nhạc gồm nhiều tiết mục vũ, đồng ca của các Gia đình Phật tử các chùa và các tiếng hát quen thuộc trong Quận Cam qua các chủ đề Phật giáo và quê hương.

Nhìn các màn trình diễn ca nhạc vũ của các Ban Gia đình Phật tử thuộc các chùa, khách tham dự lòng hân hoan trải cùng không khí chan hòa từ bi, an lạc của buổi đại lễ Phật Đản. Thấy các thiếu nữ, các em bé vui vẻ múa hát trên sân khấu cho cảm giác hi vọng về thế hệ tiếp nối tương lai trong cộng đồng Phật giáo Việt Nam hải ngoại.

Cư sĩ Huỳnh Tấn Lê – Tổng Hội Cư Sĩ Phật Giáo Việt Nam tại Hoa Kỳ – là Tổng thư Ký Ban tổ chức Đại Lễ Phật Đản nhận xét rằng năm nay số người tham dự không đông đảo bằng những năm xưa, nhưng Ban tổ chức hài lòng vì đã thực hiện một buổi Đại lễ Phật Đản chung năm 2024 gợi nhớ kỷ niệm Phật Đản quê nhà và sưởi ấm tấm lòng Phật tử Nam California, Mỹ Quốc.

– Huỳnh Phú Thứ





Sở Cảnh Sát Garden Grove hiện đang nhận đơn tuyển nhân viên

5/9/24

Thành phố Garden Grove hiện đang nhận đơn trực tuyến cho các vị trí cảnh sát tuyên thệ (sworn) và không tuyên thệ (non-sworn.) Hạn chót nộp đơn là Thứ Hai, 13 tháng Năm, 2024. Để ghi danh, xin vào trang ggpd.org/join.

Cơ hội việc làm cho các vị trí toàn thời gian (Full-time) và bán thời gian (Part-time) bao gồm cảnh sát viên (police officer-academy trained), sĩ quan cảnh sát (lateral police officer/Police officer), và học viên cảnh sát.

Garden Grove là một thành phố đa văn hóa với một cộng đồng ngày càng phát triển. Đối với các sĩ quan cảnh sát tuyên thệ, sở cảnh sát Garden Grove cung cấp các chương trình đào tạo chuyên môn xuất sắc trong các lĩnh vực điều tra tai nạn, huấn luyện chó, trấn áp băng đảng, điều tra, dịch vụ vị thành niên, tuần tra đường phố, vũ khí và chiến thuật đặc biệt, thực thi pháp luật, sau khi có đủ kinh nghiệm trong sở cảnh sát.

Garden Grove điều chỉnh những chính sách thích hợp cho cộng đồng. Thành phố cung cấp các phúc lợi bao gồm các khoản đóng góp cho bảo hiểm y tế, nha khoa và bảo hiểm mắt; Hiệp hội Cảnh sát Garden Grove trả một phần chi phí y tế suốt đời; chương trình hoàn trả học phí; trả thêm nếu nói được song ngữ; ngày nghỉ có trả lương; phúc lợi về hưu thông qua CalPERS; và các cơ hội làm việc uyển chuyển trong toàn bộ phận.

Để đăng ký trực tuyến hoặc để biết thêm thông tin chi tiết và yêu cầu trong công việc, hãy truy cập ggpd.org/join, hoặc liên lạc ông Jason Johnson ở sở cảnh sát Garden Grove tại (714) 741-5922 hoặc jasonj@ggcity.org.



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

May 9, 2024

1. Calendar of Events
2. Notice of Cancellation of the May 16, 2024 Garden Grove Planning Commission Meeting.
3. League of California Cities articles from May 3, 2024 to May 9, 2024.
4. Garden Grove Historical Society Newsletter, May 2024.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 9, 2024 – June 6, 2024

Thursday	May 9	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC CANCELLED
Tuesday	May 14	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	May 16	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC \$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
		5:00 p.m.	37th Annual "Call to Duty" Memorial, Garden Grove PD, 11301 Acacia Parkway
Friday	May 17		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Thursday	May 23	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
		4:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.	47 th Annual H. Louis Lake Senior Center Strawberry Ball, CMC – AB Room
Friday	May 24-27		64 th Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival, Village Green Park
Saturday	May 25	8:00 a.m.	Sister City Strawberry Stomp 5K, Historic Main Street
Monday	May 27		City Hall Closed – Memorial Day
Tuesday	May 28	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	May 30	6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Special Meeting, CMC
Friday	May 31		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Thursday	June 6	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC



GARDEN GROVE

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
OF THE
GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION
MAY 16, 2024
REGULAR MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Planning Commission scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled.

DATED: May 9, 2024

JOSH LINDSAY
CHAIR



All eyes on state Supreme Court, as justices weigh 2024 ballot measure

May 8, 2024

By Kayla Sherwood, *senior communications and media manager*, and Sheri Chapman, *general counsel*

The California Supreme Court heard highly anticipated oral arguments today on a legal challenge that could remove the “Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act” from the November 2024 ballot.

The ballot measure — or what opponents are calling the Taxpayer Deception Act — would limit the ability of voters and governments to fund services by making it harder to raise revenue and pass future ballot measures. It would be retroactive to Jan. 1, 2022, which could invalidate more than 100 voter-approved ballot measures and new laws, if not readopted as required by the measure.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Legislature [filed the legal challenge](#) with the Supreme Court last fall. Cal Cities filed an [amicus brief](#) in support of the legal challenge, arguing the measure should be removed because it unlawfully revises the state constitution and would impair essential public services.

“The fact the Supreme Court granted full briefing and argument of the writ petition is very unusual — plainly the Court views this as an unusually important case,” said Michael Colantuono, co-author of the local government association amicus brief.

During the hour-long hearing, the California Supreme Court asked questions and listened to arguments made by the proponents and opponents of the legal challenge. Justice Goodwin H. Liu noted the scope of the measure was “vast” and could make fundamental structural changes to government finance. Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero acknowledged the extensive amicus briefing on the case.

“The core question in the case is whether the measure is a revision of the California constitution, which is not allowed by initiative, rather than an amendment, which is allowed, either because it strips the Legislature of the power to tax or because its myriad interlocking provisions disable government financial planning and implementation,” Colantuono said.

The court's consideration of this legal challenge has garnered [national attention](#), with Cal Cities' message about the measure's detrimental impact on cities' ability to deliver services front and center.

"We're raising the resources to fill potholes, so that we can support affordable housing in our community, so we can work to address homelessness, so that when you dial 911 there's somebody there to answer the phone — not in two minutes — but in 30 seconds," Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman said to the [Associated Press](#). "So, this really goes against the essential nature of how local government raises the revenues to provide services that everyone wants in their communities."

Coleman told the [Los Angeles Times](#) that the "new requirements for local ballot measures would effectively erase more than 100 measures that voters already approved." Coleman talked about Walnut Creek, which in 2022 passed a critical public safety measure that funds five police officers.

"If this Taxpayer Deception Act passes, it may rescind our measure and we [could] lose funding for our five police officers that are so instrumental to making a safe community," Walnut Creek Council Member Cindy Silva [previously said](#) of the measure.

Cal Cities Legislative Affairs Lobbyist Ben Triffo recently spoke about the impacts of this measure with [The Sacramento Bee](#). If the Taxpayer Deception Act passes, it would decimate critical services, from trash collection and road repair to 911 emergency service staffing.

"At the end of the day, if you don't have necessary tax revenue or fee revenue, you're going to have to backfill from other sources or you're going to have to make cuts," Triffo said.

For the Bay Area NPR-affiliate KQED, veteran reporters Scott Shafer and Marisa Lagos spoke with [Bloomberg](#) reporter Laura Mahoney about the measure on the Political Breakdown podcast, titled "[Why Cities Call This Ballot Measure an "Existential" Threat](#)."

The court is expected to issue a decision by the end of June, when the Secretary of State must formally qualify measures for the November 2024 ballot.

Paid for by Protecting Local Democracy and Vital Services, a Committee Opposed to Initiative 1935 Sponsored by the League of California Cities. Committee's Top Funder: League of California Cities



Burbank reduces conservation worries and reliance on imported water

May 8, 2024

Guest article by Jackie Krentzman, freelance writer and editor

#LocalWorks

In 1970, a drive through a typical Burbank neighborhood would reveal homes with lush green lawns, sprinklers spritzing away. Like most places in California, water seemed to be in endless supply.

But in 2000 the drought years came. Since then, California has been in a drought 76% of the time — with increasing strength and frequency. City officials realized if they wanted to ensure a reliable, affordable water supply for residents and businesses, they needed to implement new conservation measures and a sustainable water management plan.



That same drive today would look very different. Many lawns were replaced by drought-resistant landscapes or artificial turf. Automated water sprinkling is restricted to certain days, as is the length of watering. A series of messaging and ordinances focused on horticulture management, recycling water, native plants, low-flow irrigation, and a community receptive to water management reduced water usage to nearly half of its 1970 level.

“The community has bought in, and they are environmentally conscious,” Mayor Nick Shultz said. “We have made tremendous progress on reducing our water use. While the city government took the lead, our community members have embraced conservation.”

The non-rainy day fund

Burbank’s sustainable water supply required a great deal of foresight and management. Unlike many California cities, Burbank is 100% dependent on water imported from hundreds of miles, through canals and aqueducts. Burbank buys its water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which gets its water from the Colorado River aqueduct and the State Water Supply Project. The latter flows down largely from snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada.



Richard Wilson is the assistant general manager of Water Systems with Burbank Water and Power, the community-owned utility that provides water and electricity for more than 100,000 residents and businesses. He likens Burbank’s sustainable water use practices to someone who works on commission.

“We need to save for the non-rainy day fund,” Wilson said. “It’s like the difference between being on commission and on a salary — If I have a great month, I can’t spend it all, as next month my commission may be less.”

Burbank can preserve its water supply and keep costs for consumers low because it can store several years’ worth of water. It buys untreated water when prices are low and keeps it underground until it’s time to pump it, treat it, and deliver it to customers.

A little over 80% of water usage in Burbank is residential. Due to ongoing drought conditions and state water usage targets, conservation is an ongoing priority for local leaders. The city reduced its water usage by 17.6% between 2020 and 2023.

This is in large part the result of the city's enforcement of its Sustainable Water Use Ordinance. Consumers who do not follow the city's ordinance receive two warning notices, followed by escalating fines. Wilson says fined residents often want to do the right thing. They were simply either unaware of the ordinance or forgot to reset their sprinkler system. Most make the needed adjustments after receiving the first warning letter.



People who don't make the needed adjustment and receive a fine can attend a "water school." The city waives the fine showing that education is the true goal of enforcement.

"It turns out that many enjoy water school," said Wilson. "They are interested in learning where Burbank's water comes from, and how difficult it is to get water here."

In August 2022, 22% of residences and businesses were out of compliance. By this past February, this number had dropped to just 1%.

Making conservation a way of life

Burbank is tweaking its conservation messaging in response to growing aridification, drier periods, unpredictable weather, and higher temperatures. Last year, the city began updating its [2008 Sustainable Water Use Ordinance](#) to be even more effective.

Wilson expects the proposed new ordinance to be in place by the end of 2024. It builds on the ordinance's previous provisions, such as encouraging or requiring horticulture management best practices and the adoption of new technologies, like moisture sensors connected to smart irrigation controllers. New housing developments will include high-efficiency water fixtures and a limited amount of landscaping with drought-tolerant plants.

Burbank's early track record, coupled with its continuing commitment to water sustainability, can serve as a model for other cities in California. Mayor Schultz emphasized that water sustainability demands a collective approach.



“Having a commitment to conservation requires everyone,” he said. “Cities need to educate and communicate the issues to their residents. It requires council leadership, department execution, and community awareness.”

Wilson outlined his recommendations for ways cities can incentivize water use reduction among consumers. It begins with frequent messaging on the importance — and ease — of reducing water consumption, followed by enforcement to get people’s attention.

“Some customers get their bill, but don’t read the inserts on responsible water use,” he said. “But if they see a fine, that will get their attention. Cities don’t need to be heavy-handed; instead, it is one more way to bring attention and change behavior.”

He is optimistic based on Burbank’s success that any city can do the same. Many cities don’t have a choice: Burbank is one of 200 cities that needs to cut its water usage by 2040 under a [new law](#). Wilson compares water conservation to the way consumers have been more conscious of their food sources in recent decades.

“It’s like when you go to a nice restaurant, and you want to know what farm your meal came from and if the meat was raised sustainably,” Wilson said. “It can be [the] same for water — if we can tell [the] story of how water got into their glass, consumers are more likely to turn the water off when brushing their teeth.”



State Bills in Brief: May 8-15

May 8, 2024

A weekly primer on the bills and committee hearings that have a direct impact on cities

By Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor. Additional contributions by the Cal Cities Advocacy Team

The biggest legislative topic this week might not be what's happening in the Legislature. Instead, all eyes are focused on what's happening [inside the court](#). The California Supreme Court today heard oral arguments — [read our recap here](#) — in a case that could remove a proposition from the November ballot for the first time [since 1948](#).

Also new and notable: Gov. Gavin Newsom announced on Tuesday that he is sponsoring AB 3093 (Ward). The long-rumored bill would require cities to consider and plan for the needs of homeless residents when developing their housing elements.

The move comes nearly a month after Sen. Steven Glazer [requested an audit](#) of the Department of Housing and Community Development's housing element review process, noting widespread concerns about its "timeliness, consistency, and fair application."

Cal Cities has not yet issued a formal position on AB 3093 and is closely engaged in Sen. Glazer's audit request.

Looking for ways to get engaged? Cal Cities lobbyists regularly upload sample letters for major bills — just click the link for a particular bill. Instructions for sample letters are at the top of each letter, but committee hearings move fast. If you're not sure when the best time to send a letter is, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#).

For information about bills scheduled for a committee hearing through May 15, keep reading. To learn what each section means — or to access a previous State Bills in Brief — visit the [archive page](#).

Hot bills

Lawmakers are trying to recreate last year's [hot labor summer](#). Also, up for debate this week — housing, funding, climate change, and natural disasters.

A \$50,000 monthly fine for cities

- **What now?!** [SB 1037 \(Wiener\)](#) would allow the state attorney general to ask a court to fine a city that fails to adopt a compliant housing element or violates state laws that require ministerial approval of certain housing projects. Cal Cities opposes the measure.
- **Can't the attorney general take legal action already?** Unlike existing laws, SB 1037 does not give cities time to correct their actions before penalizing cities. Even cities acting

in good faith would need to pay the attorney general for all investigating and prosecuting costs.

- **When is the hearing?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

No more self-certification for housing elements

- **Changing housing element law.** [AB 1886 \(Alvarez\)](#) would remove the ability of cities to self-certify housing plans that are “in substantial compliance with housing element law.” This would encourage more developers to bypass local zoning laws in favor of the so-called builder’s remedy. Cal Cities opposes the measure.
- **Not helpful.** Housing elements take years to develop. Cities often receive unclear or conflicting guidance about their plans. Instead of punishing good faith efforts, the state should help cities finalize their housing elements and put those plans to work.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Strike bill jeopardizes city services

- **Undermining MOUs and services.** [AB 2404 \(Lee\)](#) would make sympathy striking and honoring the picket line a human right. It would also allow nearly any employee to strike regardless of their job duties and employer agreements. Cal Cities opposes the measure.
- **This sounds familiar.** As it should. Gov. Gavin Newsom rejected a [similar measure](#) last year, citing that its potential to seriously disrupt or even halt the delivery of critical public services, particularly in places where public services are co-located.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Inflexible contract requirements

- **A de facto prohibition.** [AB 2557 \(Ortega\)](#) would dramatically curb local agency service contracts due to its onerous obligations and costs. Cal Cities opposes the measure.
- **Nearly 5,000 impacted agencies.** AB 2557 would require cities and contractors to adopt sweeping new notification, reporting, and auditing measures. If passed, it would directly undercut statewide policy goals and partnerships, including the Homeless Housing and Prevention program.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Unlocking federal funding

- **Focused funding.** [AB 2776 \(Rodriguez\)](#) would prioritize infrastructure and housing projects for communities impacted by major federal disasters. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **Why it matters.** State and federal disaster funding criteria are specific. Local governments can bear the brunt of recovery costs if disaster criteria aren’t met. California has had nearly 30 major federal disasters since 2018.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Better recovery housing oversight

- **Greater accountability.** [SB 913 \(Umberg\)](#) would allow cities to collaborate with the state to investigate and enforce existing recovery home licensing laws. Cal Cities is sponsoring the measure.
- **More transparency.** [AB 2081 \(Davies\)](#) would require the operator of a licensed recovery home to disclose to those seeking care that they can check the Department of Health Care Services website to confirm a facility’s compliance with state licensing laws. Cal Cities is co-sponsoring the measure.
- **When are the hearings?** Lawmakers will hear SB 913 on May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee. AB 2081 was heard on May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

A voluntary, streamlined path for wildfire preparedness

- **A Cal Cities-sponsored measure.** [AB 2330 \(Holden\)](#) would streamline the process for vegetation removal and fuel management in Fire Hazard Severity Zones near urban communities while upholding environmental laws in a reasonable timeline.

- **Catastrophic wildfires.** The size and severity of wildfires in California have increased, with seven of the 20 largest wildfires and the top two most destructive wildfires occurring over the past seven years. However, long timelines are delaying local efforts in areas most at risk of catastrophic wildfires.

- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Cal Cities-sponsored measure would help reduce methane emissions

- **No wasted efforts.** [SB 972 \(Min\)](#) would require CalRecycle to strengthen its assistance efforts to help cities actively working to reduce organic waste in landfills and methane emissions. The agency would also need to report back to the Legislature on the organic waste diversion progress and how to better align the law with the state's other climate goals.
- **Room for improvement.** A [2023 report](#) found that the amount of organic waste in landfills increased by a million tons between 2014 and 2020, a trend at odds with the goal of reducing methane emissions. Greater local assistance and accountability are key to progress – which SB 972 would provide.
- **When is the hearing?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Expanding the definition of an emergency

- **What does the bill do?** [SB 1461 \(Allen\)](#) would add landslide to the state definition of state of emergency or local emergency. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **Why is this important?** Declaring an emergency can unlock greater resources and funding. With climate extremes sweeping the state, this is a proactive way to ensure those resources are readily available.
- **What is the next hearing?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Priority bills

Major public safety and housing bills must clear an appropriations deadline this week.

Costly conservation connectivity

- **Another planning mandate.** [AB 1889 \(Friedman\)](#) would require cities to include a wildlife connectivity element in their conservation element. Cal Cities opposes the measure unless it is amended.
- **It could be better.** As drafted, the bill would create an unworkable timeline for cities. A pending measure in the Assembly would require the state to conduct wildlife mapping. It would make sense to gather this information before requiring cities to amend their conservation element.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Cal Cities-supported retail theft measures

- **Shoplifting distractions.** [SB 1242 \(Min\)](#) would create higher penalties for people who commit arson to attempt retail theft, an increasingly [common tactic](#).
- **Resale.** [SB 1416 \(Newman\)](#) would create bigger penalties for professional organized retail theft, particularly [large-scale resale](#).
- **When are the hearings?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Updating insurance underwriting models

- **A fair solution.** [SB 1060 \(Becker\)](#) would require insurers to consider wildfire risk mitigation efforts when setting insurance costs for homeowners. Cal Cities supports the measures.
- **An insurance crisis.** Public agencies and private individuals have ramped up wildfire mitigation efforts. Not accounting for these activities has caused [some home insurers](#) to pull out of the state or curtail their operations.
- **When is the hearing?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Changes to newly minted housing laws

- **Nibbling away at local control.** [AB 2243 \(Wicks\)](#) would expand a [recent law](#) that requires cities to automatically approve some housing projects in areas zoned for office, retail, or parking. Cal Cities opposes the measure.
- **Implementation time would be nice.** Cities are still working to update their housing plans based on the dozens of new laws recently passed. Lawmakers should ensure cities have the tools and resources needed to follow this new law first before forcing them back to the drawing board.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

State-led and -owned development

- **A good idea on paper.** [AB 2881 \(Lee\)](#) would create a new state agency tasked with producing and acquiring social housing. Cal Cities opposes the measure unless it is amended.
- **With some caveats.** Cal Cities supports the intent of the measure. However, it undermines — and calls into question — the costly and lengthy housing plans cities must produce. The agency would not have to follow local zoning rules.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

A slowing economy doesn't have to mean slowing construction

- **A new financing program.** [AB 2665 \(Lee\)](#) would create a zero-interest loan program for some affordable housing projects. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **Why?** There simply isn't enough money for affordable housing. Grant programs like the Multifamily Housing Program are [extremely oversubscribed](#). Many projects are permitted and shovel-ready. They just need funding.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Flexible office conversions

- **The carrot, not the stick.** [AB 2910 \(Santiago\)](#) would make it easier for cities to repurpose underused commercial and industrial spaces into residential housing. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **It's a cliché, but true.** COVID-19 fundamentally changed how we work, leading to increased demand for remote and hybrid work in many cities. This measure would reduce housing shortages, commercial real estate woes, and urban sprawl.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Hire your own inspector

- **Not the way to cut red tape.** [AB 2433 \(Quirk-Silva\)](#) would allow applicants to pay for a third-party inspection during a construction project. Directly paying a “regulator” (a private individual in this case) creates biased results. Cal Cities opposes the measure unless it is amended.
- **An alternative approach.** Cities must ensure projects comply with regularly changing laws and ordinances. A far better approach would be to focus on expediting the permitting process, like those already in place for broadband microtrenches.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Operate it or ticket

- **A safe, sensible solution.** [AB 2286 \(Aguilar-Curry\)](#) would require a human safety operator for the use of medium- and heavy-duty autonomous vehicles on public roads for testing purposes. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **We still have the edge on robots.** Self-driving cars cannot predict and recognize risk quickly. They are simply not as quick as a human brain. There are safety concerns about heavy autonomous vehicles, especially those weighing many times that of the average passenger car.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Zoning for more compost

- **Permitting and citing.** [SB 1045 \(Blakespear\)](#) would require the Office of Planning and Research and CalRecycle to detail the best practices for siting composting facilities on its website. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **50-100.** That's the estimated number of new organic waste recycling facilities needed to meet the state's methane emission reduction goals. Cities need technical assistance to meet this ambitious goal.
- **When is the hearing?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Drought planning

- **What would the bill do?** [SB 1330 \(Archuleta\)](#) would clarify several key provisions in the long-term water use standards under a [new water conservation law](#). This includes simplifying the processes to submit information, clarifying reporting dates, and extending deadlines since the regulations are two years behind the statutory deadline.
- **Why is this important?** Water use will be regulated through new long-term water use standards. Water usage will need to go down over time for residential indoor and outdoor uses and commercial outdoor uses where there are meters in urban areas. The goal is to prevent mandatory water cuts during the next drought.
- **When is the hearing?** May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

With age comes unique insights

- **Older adults.** [AB 2207 \(Reyes\)](#) would require six different California state boards, commissions, and advisory committees to include an older adult representative. Cal Cities supports the measure.
- **Silver tsunami.** By 2030, one in four Californians will be 60 or older. Older Californians should have an avenue to share their unique insights on the issues impacting them the most, like [homelessness](#).
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Other bills to watch

Cal Cities has not yet issued formal position letters for these bills.

Office conversions

- **Vacant buildings.** [AB 3068 \(Haney\)](#) would create a streamlined approval process for office conversion projects that meet certain affordability criteria.
- **What is Cal Cities' position?** Cal Cities opposes the measure unless it is amended. A formal letter is pending.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Community clinics

- **Approvals.** [2085 \(Bauer-Kahan\)](#) seeks to increase access to healthcare by requiring cities to allow the construction of community clinics in areas zoned for office, retail, health care, or parking.
- **What is Cal Cities' position?** Cal Cities will support the measure if it is amended to include distancing requirements, increased approval time, and the definition of community clinics. A formal letter is pending.
- **When was the hearing?** May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

[View all tracked bill hearings.](#)

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Garden Grove Historical Society

Calendar of Activities

May 2024

May 5 – Public tour, 1:30 PM. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the Ware-Stanley Ranch!

May 19 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

May 28 – Board meeting, 9:30 AM.

June-July-August 2024

June 2 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

June 16 – Public tour, 1:30 PM. Treat Dad to a guided tour of the Ware-Stanley Ranch!

June 25 – Board meeting, 9:30 AM.

July 7 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

July 21 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

July 23 – Board meeting, 1:30 PM.

August 4 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

August 18 – Public tour, 1:30 PM.

August 27 – Board meeting, 1:30 PM.

The Fabulous Fox Theater

One of Orange County's landmarks and a prominent structure on the National Register of Historic Places is the Fox Theater in downtown Fullerton, just a quick trip north on Harbor Boulevard (with possible traffic congestion around Disneyland, however!).

The theater opened on May 28, 1925, under the name "the Alician Court Theater." C. Stanley Chapman, for whom Chapman Avenue in Fullerton (not in Orange) was named, commissioned the design with the Meyer & Holler architectural firm, the same outfit that designed Grauman's Chinese and Egyptian Theatres in Hollywood. Inspired by the Renaissance style and with a capacity of 1,095, the theater cost \$300,000 (over \$4 million in today's money). The capacity was reduced to 908 with the installation of more comfortable seats in 1955. The theater could accommodate both cinema

and live vaudeville shows; movies were silent until the advent of talkies in 1929.

Chapman at Harbor from an upstairs room at The Fox



Today's Fox went through a series of name changes over the years, becoming Universal Mission Court Theatre, Fox Mission Theatre, and finally the Fox Fullerton Theatre. It was not unusual for celebrities to appear in person to promote their films; luminaries include Douglas Fairbanks, Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd, Janet Gaynor, Judy Garland, Mickey Rooney, and Jayne Mansfield.

Along with the better seating, 1955 was the year that Cinemascope was installed. Some of the decorative work around the proscenium had to be removed to accommodate the wider screen. Seven years later, the National General Corporation took over the theater, and, for reasons unknown and unfathomable, painted over the plasterwork surrounding the stage.



Frescoes in the lobby were also plastered over; here's a view of what can still be seen. Not all the ceiling can be recovered

The theater closed in 1987 and remained dark for nearly 20 years. It was scheduled for demolition in 2004 to allow construction of a five-story apartment building. Concerned citizens had formed the Fullerton Historic Theatre Foundation (FHTF) in 2001 with the goal of restoring the building, but were facing serious challenges as the City Council was confident they would be unsuccessful and the apartment building would happen. Thanks to an anonymous donation of \$1 million, the Foundation were able to acquire it in 2005, and restoration work began in earnest. The generous donor became known as "Clarence" (after the character in *It's a Wonderful Life*), and

the snack bar, still under construction, will be called Clarence's in his honor.

In 2005, films were shown in the back parking lot of the theater in an effort to raise funds. By 2015, the FHTF was able to hire an interior design firm to work on restoration with the idea of replicating the original theater as nearly as possible. That work is underway now; the hope is that the auditorium and lobby will be open for movie-going audiences as early as 2025. Some of the complex is already open and functioning: Retail shops, which had been part of the original theater, are open now, and more space is available. Rental charges go toward the restoration fund.

The theater was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. In 2013, the sign prominently displayed on the front was restored, and in 2015, the FHTF held a 90th birthday party for the theater.



Scaffolding is visible along the roofline

The closure of the historic Angelo & Vinci's Restaurant just north of the theater has resulted in much of the interior of the restaurant moving to the upstairs storage area of the theater. As restoration progresses, the plan is for many of these items to be incorporated into the refurbished theater. Here are some scenes from a visit I made in March of this year:



The refurbished ceiling of the auditorium



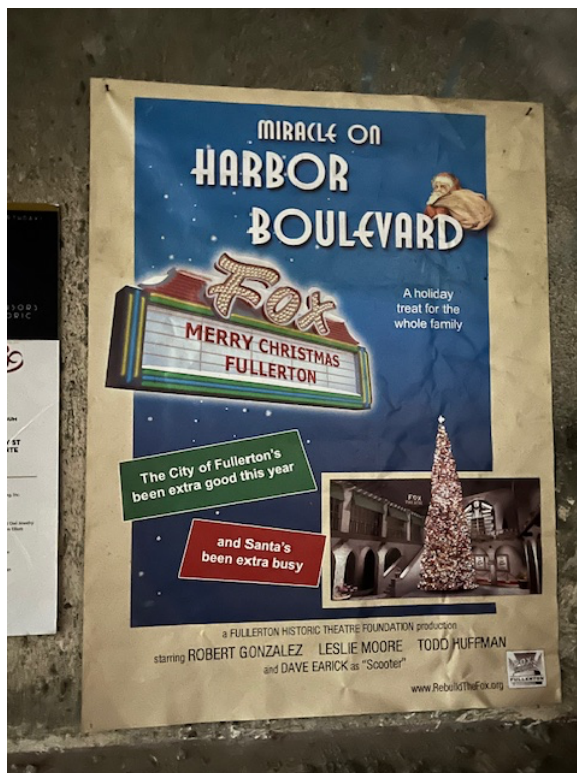
Auditorium interior. The somewhat misty look in the photo is due to construction dust



More storage above the lobby and entrance area



Artist's conception of the restored theater



It really will be a miracle on Harbor Boulevard once it's open again!



THE GARDEN GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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PATRON	\$ 100
LIFE	\$ 500
CENTENNIAL	\$1874



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Board meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month.