

**City of Garden Grove**  
**WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO**  
**June 15, 2023**

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

**I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS**

- A. Planning Commission Public Hearing Notice  
An affidavit of publication is attached for items to be heard at the July 6, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting.

**II. ITEMS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, OUTSIDE AGENCIES, BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS**

- A. Southern California Edison  
Application of Southern California Edison Company (U 338-E) For Approval of its 2024 ERRRA Forecast Proceeding Revenue Requirement

**III. 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

AFFP  
131950 LGL 7-6-23

# Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }  
COUNTY OF ORANGE } SS

I am a citizen of the United States; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principle clerk of the printer of ORANGE COUNTY NEWS, a newspaper of general circulation, published ONCE WEEKLY in the city of GARDEN GROVE, County of ORANGE, which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of ORANGE, State of California under the date of March 20, 1964, Case Number A-31502; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

June 14, 2023

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Orange County News

Subscribed to and sworn by me this 14th day of June 2023.

00007270 00131950

75 LEGAL  
OCN-CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
P.O. BOX 3070  
GARDEN GROVE, CA 92842

## LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING IN THE COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER, 11300 STANFORD AVENUE, GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA, ON THE DATE \* INDICATED BELOW TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ALL EVIDENCE AND REPORTS RELATIVE TO THE APPLICATION(S) DESCRIBED BELOW:

• THURSDAY, 7:00 P.M., JULY 6, 2023

Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Commission, in lieu of doing so in person, may submit comments by emailing public-comment@ggcity.org no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. The comments will be provided to the Commission as part of the meeting record.

SITE PLAN NO. SP-081-2020(TE2)  
TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. TT-18181(TE2)

A request to approve a one-year time extension for the approved entitlements under Site Plan No. SP-081-2020 and Tentative Tract Map No. TT-18181 to subdivide an existing 47,284 square foot lot, improved with a single-family home, into four (4) residential lots that will be served by a private street designed as a cul-de-sac (Lot 5). Each lot will have a lot size of 10,031 square feet (Lot 1), 8,312 square feet (Lot 2), 10,520 square feet (Lot 3), and 7,783 square feet (Lot 4). The existing single-family home will be reconfigured to fit within the developable lot area of Lot 1, and will include the construction of a new second-story addition. Lots 2, 3, and 4, will each be improved with a new two-story, single-family home. Also, a minor land deviation to allow the front yard fence for Lot 1, located along Lampson Avenue, to be constructed at a height of six feet (6'-0"). The site is at 11712 Lampson Avenue in the Low Density Residential zone. A CEQA determination is not required as the project was previously exempted.

SITE PLAN NO. SP-125-2023  
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-241-2023

A request to operate a new restaurant, Sabrosol Mexican Grill, in an existing 2,780 square foot tenant space within a pad building located at 13091 Harbor Boulevard. The requested site plan approval includes exterior tenant improvements and the addition of a 527 square foot patio dining area. Also, a request for Conditional Use Permit approval for a new original State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "47" (On-Sale, General) License. The site is at 13091 Harbor Boulevard in the HCSP-DC (Harbor Corridor Specific Plan-District Commercial) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15303 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures - of the State CEQA Guidelines.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES are invited to attend said Hearing and express opinions or submit evidence for, or against, the proposal as outlined above, on July 6, 2023. If you challenge the application in Court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. Further information on the above may be obtained at the Planning Services Division, City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, or by telephone at (714) 741 5312.

DATE: June 12, 2023  
PUBLISH: June 14, 2023  
Orange County News 6/14/2023-1313950

RECEIVED  
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2023 JUN -8 AM 11:58

June 5, 2023

Re: Application of Southern California Edison Company  
(U 338-E) For Approval of its 2024 ERRA Forecast  
Proceeding Revenue Requirement

To Whom It May Concern:

On June 1, 2023, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) filed its *Application for Approval of its 2024 Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) Forecast Proceeding Revenue Requirement* with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The CPUC has assigned the application Docket Number A.23-06-001.

The enclosed notice is being published in a newspaper of general circulation in every county within SCE's service area and included as a bill notice to SCE's retail customers. To obtain more detailed information, you may view or download a copy of SCE's application and supporting testimony on our website, at [www.sce.com/applications](http://www.sce.com/applications). You may also request a print copy of these documents from SCE at the address listed in the enclosed notice.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Janet Combs*

Janet S. Combs

JSC/kdl  
Enclosure



Para obtener información sobre como este cambio afectará su factura y/o una copia de esta notificación en español visite <http://www.sce.com/avisos>

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY  
TO DECREASE ELECTRIC RATES APPLICATION A.23-06-001**

**Why am I receiving this notice?**

On June 1, 2023, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) filed its application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requesting review and approval of its 2024 Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) Forecast Application (ERRA Forecast Application or Application). SCE’s proposed ERRA Forecast-related revenue requirement for 2024 is \$4.932 billion. This is a decrease of \$627.392 million for 2024 as compared to SCE’s 2023 ERRA Forecast-related required revenue.

**Why is SCE requesting this rate decrease?**

- The Application seeks a review and approval of SCE’s estimate of the costs for fuel and power that will be needed to provide electricity for SCE’s customers in 2024.
- The Application also requests approval of other expenses recoverable in ERRA Forecast proceedings, such as expenses related to spent nuclear fuel (stored nuclear fuel that has already been used); and SCE’s return of \$664.126 million in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) allowance revenues to eligible customers in 2024.

The Application is subject to change when SCE submits an updated forecast to the CPUC in October 2023, which may reduce the amount of the decrease or result in an overall rate increase.

**How could this affect my monthly electric rates?**

If SCE’s rate request is approved, the average residential monthly bill using 500 kWh per month would *decrease* by approximately \$10.05 or 5.8% per month in 2024.

**CUSTOMER BILL IMPACT TABLE**

<b>Bundled Average Rates (¢/kWh)</b>				
<b>Customer Group</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Proposed Rates</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Residential	31.4	(1.8)	29.6	-5.6%
Lighting - Small and Medium Power	27.7	(1.8)	25.9	-6.5%
Large Power	19.4	(1.4)	18.0	-7.1%
Agricultural and Pumping	23.3	(2.0)	21.3	-8.4%
Street and Area Lighting	31.6	(0.0)	31.6	-0.1%
Standby	16.9	(1.4)	15.5	-8.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>(1.3)</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>-5.1%</b>

<b>Residential Bill Impact (\$/Month)</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Non-CARE residential bill	\$ 174.63	\$ (10.05)	\$ 164.58	-5.8%
CARE residential bill	\$ 114.44	\$ (9.23)	\$ 105.20	-8.1%

**This Application and the projected rate decrease described in this notice is a forecast and is likely to change prior to including these costs in SCE’s 2024 rates. SCE will update this Application in October 2023, so that the latest forecast assumptions can be incorporated into SCE’s 2023 rates.**

### **How does the rest of this process work?**

The Application will be assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt SCE's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding may review SCE's application, including the Public Advocates Office. The Public Advocates Office is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information about the Public Advocates Office, please call 1-415-703-1584, email [PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov), or visit [PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov](http://PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov).

### **Where can I get more information? Contact SCE:**

Phone: (800) 655-4555

Email:

[case.admin@sce.com](mailto:case.admin@sce.com)

Mail: Eric Lee

Southern California Edison Company

A.23-06-001 – SCE's 2024 ERRR Forecast

P.O. Box 800 Rosemead, CA 91770

A copy of the Application and any related documents may also be reviewed at [www.sce.com/applications](http://www.sce.com/applications) by searching for the Application name or A.23-06-XXX.

### **Contact CPUC:**

Please visit [\*\*apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2306001\*\*](http://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2306001) to submit a comment about this proceeding on the CPUC Docket Card. Here you can also view documents and other public comments related to this proceeding.

Your participation by providing your thoughts on SCE's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

If you have questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at: Phone: **1-866-849-8390** (toll-free) or **1-415-703-2074**

Email: [Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov)

Mail:

CPUC Public Advisor's Office

505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Please reference **SCE's ERRR Application A.23-06-001** in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.

**WEEKLY MEMO 6-15-2023**

# **SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**



# Post Performance

June 8, 2023 - June 14, 2023

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



**Included in this Report**

 @CityGardenGrove

 Garden Grove City Hall

 gardengrovecityhall



@CityGardenGrove

Wed 6/14/2023 5:43 pm PDT

🔊 It's official! Yesterday, the City of Garden Grove, in partnership with the Cities of Fountain Valley and Westminste...



Impressions	—
Potential Reach	<b>4,953</b>
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—



gardengrovecityhall

Wed 6/14/2023 5:42 pm PDT

🔊 It's official! Yesterday, the City of Garden Grove, in partnership with the Cities of Fountain Valley and Westminste...



Impressions	<b>1,092</b>
Reach	<b>809</b>
Engagements	<b>59</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>5.4%</b>



Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 6/14/2023 5:42 pm PDT

🔊 It's official! Yesterday, the City of Garden Grove, in partnership with the Cities of Fountain Valley and Westminste...



Impressions	<b>834</b>
Reach	<b>817</b>
Engagements	<b>203</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>24.3%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**  
Wed 6/14/2023 10:55 am PDT

💧 The 2023 Water Quality Report is now out and available in multiple languages! Learn how we vigilantly safeguard...



Impressions	<b>15</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,646</b>
Engagements	<b>2</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>13.3%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**  
Wed 6/14/2023 10:55 am PDT

💧 The 2023 Water Quality Report is now out and available in multiple languages! Each year, the City produces an annual...

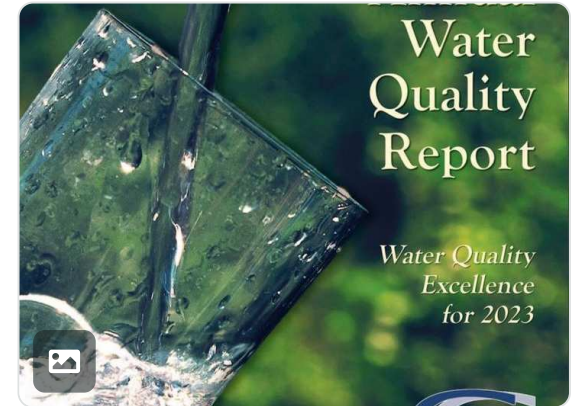


Impressions	<b>387</b>
Reach	<b>378</b>
Engagements	<b>10</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.6%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**  
Wed 6/14/2023 10:55 am PDT

💧 The 2023 Water Quality Report is now out and available in multiple languages! Each year, the City produces an annual...



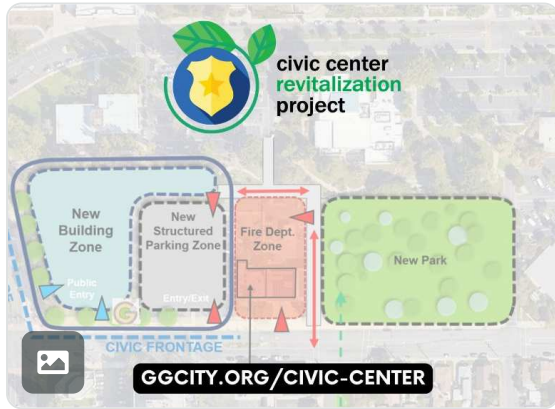
Impressions	<b>180</b>
Reach	<b>180</b>
Engagements	<b>20</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>11.1%</b>



@CityGardenGrove

Tue 6/13/2023 2:24 pm PDT

Do you want to know the latest updates about the Civic Center Revitalization Project? If you'd like to learn more, the...



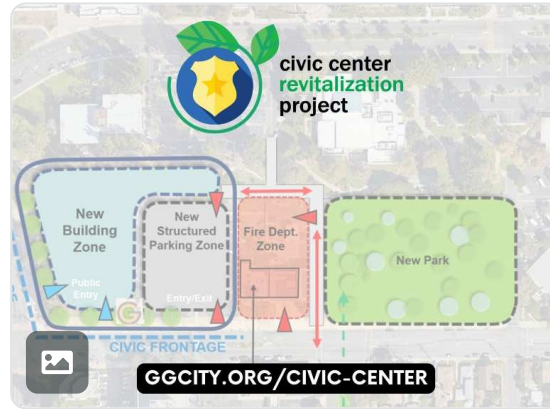
Impressions	170
Potential Reach	4,646
Engagements	16
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	9.4%



gardengrovecityhall

Tue 6/13/2023 2:23 pm PDT

Do you want to know the latest updates about the Civic Center Revitalization Project? We are moving into the next...



Impressions	1,367
Reach	1,284
Engagements	29
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.1%



Garden Grove City Hall

Tue 6/13/2023 2:23 pm PDT

Do you want to know the latest updates about the Civic Center Revitalization Project? We are moving into the next...



Impressions	327
Reach	326
Engagements	53
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	16.2%



**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 6/12/2023 1:00 pm PDT

City Manager Names Niki Wetzel as New Community Development Director Niki will begin her new position with the City of...



Impressions	<b>191</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,646</b>
Engagements	<b>5</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.6%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Mon 6/12/2023 12:59 pm PDT

City Manager Names Niki Wetzel as New Community Development Director “Niki is a top-notch professional with the proven...



Impressions	<b>1,136</b>
Reach	<b>1,041</b>
Engagements	<b>27</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>2.4%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Mon 6/12/2023 12:59 pm PDT

City Manager Names Niki Wetzel as New Community Development Director “Niki is a top-notch professional with the proven...



Impressions	<b>554</b>
Reach	<b>534</b>
Engagements	<b>70</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>12.6%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Fri 6/9/2023 4:32 pm PDT

Recently, the community gathered at SteelCraft Garden Grove for Old School Meets New School, a networking event in...



Video Views	—
Impressions	—
Reach	—
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—



**gardengrovecityhall**

Fri 6/9/2023 4:25 pm PDT

Recently, the community gathered at @steelcraftgg for Old School Meets New School, a networking event in celebratio...



Impressions	<b>1,499</b>
Reach	<b>1,326</b>
Engagements	<b>51</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>3.4%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Fri 6/9/2023 11:21 am PDT

Are you a #GardenGrove resident that wants to enjoy a FREE concert? The Garden Grove Community Foundation's...



Impressions	<b>1,269</b>
Reach	<b>1,225</b>
Engagements	<b>46</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>3.6%</b>



@CityGardenGrove

Fri 6/9/2023 11:20 am PDT

🎵 Are you a #GardenGrove resident that wants to enjoy a FREE concert? The GGCF's 25th Anniversary concert is...



Impressions	207
Potential Reach	4,644
Engagements	6
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.9%



@CityGardenGrove

Thu 6/8/2023 5:32 pm PDT

Located in OC Koreatown, Phase II will offer up to 462 apartments, 58 condominiums, up to 200,000 square-feet of commercial...



Impressions	232
Potential Reach	4,645
Engagements	17
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.3%



@CityGardenGrove

Thu 6/8/2023 5:32 pm PDT

🎉 We're excited to announce that we officially broke ground on Phase II of Brookhurst Place—the City's largest...



Impressions	302
Potential Reach	4,645
Engagements	34
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	11.3%



**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 6/8/2023 5:31 pm PDT

🎉 We're excited to announce that we officially broke ground on Phase II of Brookhurst Place—the City's largest...



Impressions	<b>3,650</b>
Reach	<b>2,507</b>
Engagements	<b>157</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>4.3%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 6/8/2023 5:31 pm PDT

🎉 We're excited to announce that we officially broke ground on Phase II of Brookhurst Place—the City's largest...



Impressions	<b>2,101</b>
Reach	<b>2,014</b>
Engagements	<b>454</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>21.6%</b>



**@CityGardenGrove**

Thu 6/8/2023 2:15 pm PDT

There's still time to register for the free WARP workshop! 📄 All attendees will be entered into an opportunity drawing 🎟 f...



Impressions	<b>205</b>
Potential Reach	<b>4,645</b>
Engagements	<b>10</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>4.9%</b>





**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 6/8/2023 2:15 pm PDT

There's still time to register for the free Workforce Activation & Readiness Program (WARP) workshop! [Learn how to gain...](#)



Impressions	<b>719</b>
Reach	<b>502</b>
Engagements	<b>13</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.8%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 6/8/2023 2:15 pm PDT

There's still time to register for the free Workforce Activation & Readiness Program (WARP) workshop! [Learn how to gain...](#)



Impressions	<b>711</b>
Reach	<b>646</b>
Engagements	<b>29</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>4.1%</b>



**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 6/8/2023 10:00 am PDT

Summer is in full swing, and it's the perfect opportunity to check out the Summer 2023 Garden Grove Parks and...



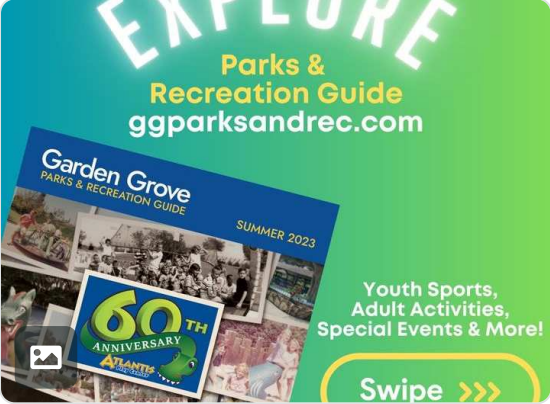
Impressions	<b>541</b>
Reach	<b>402</b>
Engagements	<b>10</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>1.8%</b>



**Garden Grove City Hall**

Thu 6/8/2023 10:00 am PDT

Summer is in full swing, and it's the perfect opportunity to check out the Summer 2023 Garden Grove Parks and...



Impressions	<b>5,234</b>
Reach	<b>2,929</b>
Engagements	<b>370</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>7.1%</b>



# Post Performance

June 8, 2023 - June 14, 2023

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 6/14/2023 12:00 pm PDT

Join our upcoming #CitizenAcademy and get a behind-the-scenes & inside look at #GardenGrovePD. Meet officers and...



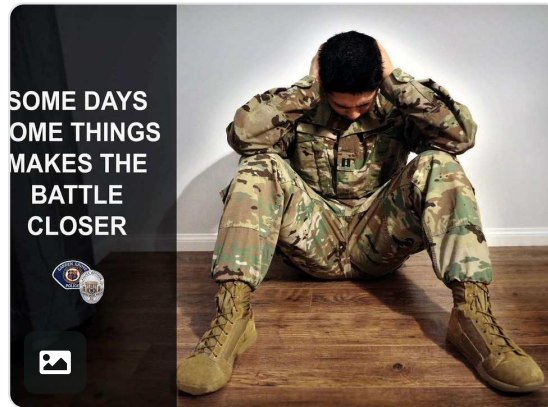
Impressions	532
Reach	525
Engagements	13
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.4%



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Tue 6/13/2023 12:00 pm PDT

Just because someone doesn't have scars, doesn't mean they're not injured. Many of us forget that #fireworks can trigger...



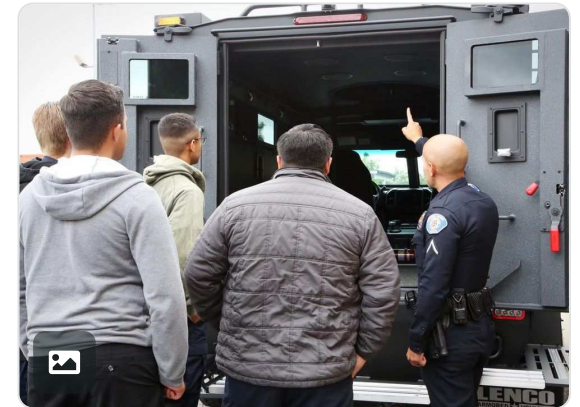
Impressions	1,195
Reach	1,152
Engagements	67
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.6%



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Mon 6/12/2023 6:00 pm PDT

Now that school is out, do you have plans for the summer? If you're a #GardenGrove teen and curious about how a police...



Impressions	686
Reach	657
Engagements	22
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.2%



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Sat 6/10/2023 12:00 pm PDT

Outreach & Cleanup Recap: this week, #GardenGrovePD's Special Resource Team (SRT) collaborated with Be Well OC,...



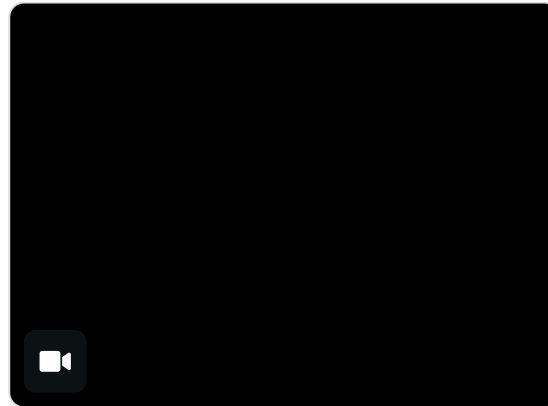
Impressions	<b>2,861</b>
Reach	<b>2,630</b>
Engagements	<b>421</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>14.7%</b>



**Garden Grove Police Depa...**

Fri 6/9/2023 8:00 pm PDT

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." ~ Special Olympics Athlete Oath Over the last two weeks,...



Video Views	<b>399</b>
Impressions	<b>907</b>
Reach	<b>832</b>
Engagements	<b>145</b>
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	<b>16%</b>

**WEEKLY MEMO 6-15-2023**

# **NEWS ARTICLES**

# Korean Festival gets approval



**GARDEN GROVE'S** Korean business area is along Garden Grove Boulevard between Magnolia Street and Brookhurst. It used to be the location of the annual Korean Festival, which is planned this year for the Garden Grove Park (File photo). The Arirang Korean Festival will have a new home this October.

On Tuesday night – with Mayor Steve Jones absent – the Garden Grove City Council voted 6-0 to grant a request from the Korean Festival Committee of Orange County to stage the festival at Garden Grove Park on Oct. 12-15.

All the costs of the event will be borne by the committee, including security. The festival, which originated in Garden Grove, has had several locations and will have its first time at the city's largest park this fall.

Also approved by the council was a request for temporary closures of some city streets in West Garden Grove from the Honoring Our Fallen organization to hold an Independence Day-Freedom Parade on Saturday, July 1.

All costs will be borne by the organization. The meeting also recognized two groups from Pacifica High School. The PHS softball team won the CIF-SS Division 1 title, and the PHS Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps' for its accomplishment at the NJROTC Nationals.

Additionally, the council approved the biennial budget for the fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 years.

The next council meeting will be on Tuesday, June 27.



The Tribune  
June 12, 2023

## Development director is named



**GARDEN GROVE** City Hall (Orange County Tribune photo).

Garden Grove City Manager Lisa Kim has named Niki Wetzel, a 26-year community development professional, as Garden Grove’s new community development director. Currently serving as the deputy director of planning and building for the City of Anaheim, Wetzel begins her position with the City of Garden Grove on Monday, July 10.

“Niki is a top-notch professional with the proven knowledge, experience, and drive needed to oversee a very active department that provides several key services to our city and community. She will be a welcome addition to our talented city management team,” said Kim.



“I am honored and thrilled to have been selected as the next community development director for the City of Garden Grove. I look forward to serving Garden Grove’s residents, businesses, and community,” said Wetzel.

As Anaheim’s deputy director of planning and building since 2020, Wetzel has overseen historic and multi-billion-dollar projects for the city, such as the future OC Vibe mixed-use project surrounding the Honda Center, and the Disneyland Forward project that directs the future development of the Disneyland Resort. Wetzel also managed and mentored a staff of 25.

Wetzel began her professional career with the City of Laguna Niguel in 1995, followed by the City of Anaheim where she worked as a planner. In 2004, she moved to the City of Rolling Hills Estates managing large development projects as a principal planner, until joining the city of Lake Forest in 2015. In 2018, she was promoted to assistant director of community development for Lake Forest, overseeing the planning and code enforcement divisions, before re-joining the City of Anaheim in 2020.

Wetzel holds a master’s degree in urban and regional planning from Cal Poly Pomona where she was recognized as the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Most Outstanding Graduate Student. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in communication and psychology from UC Santa Barbara, graduating with high honors. She is a member of the American Planning Association and maintains membership and certification from the AICP.

She and her husband have three adult children. She loves dogs and recently adopted two from local animal shelters. She is a registered yoga instructor and is passionate about promoting a healthy mind and body.

## In Garden Grove, Brookhurst Place plans are finally taking shape

Plans for the Brookhurst Place mixed-use development began in the early 2000s — and the next phase of new apartments, parks and more is finally underway



Garden Grove City Council members and officials from Kam Sang Company turn the first shovels of dirt for the groundbreaking ceremony of Phase II of Brookhurst Place, Garden Grove's largest residential and commercial mixed-use development on Tuesday, June 6, 2023. From left are: City Manager Lisa L. Kim, City Council member District 5 Stephanie Klopfenstein, Mayor Pro-tem George Brietigam, City Council member District 3 Cindy Tran, Ronnie Lam President and CEO of Kam Sang Company, Frank Wang and City Councilman Joe DoVinh District 4. (Sam Gangwer, Contributing Photographer)

By [YUSRA FARZAN](#) | [yfarzan@scng.com](mailto:yfarzan@scng.com) |

PUBLISHED: June 9, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. | UPDATED: June 9, 2023 at 9:04 a.m.

In [Garden Grove](#), the city's largest mixed residential and commercial mixed-use development is finally taking shape.

Plans to turn the Brookhurst Triangle — a prime plot of land bound by Garden Grove Boulevard, Brookhurst Street and Brookhurst Way that has sat empty for more than three decades — into a city landmark [began in the early 2000s](#).

Following the completion of the first phase of the Brookhurst Place project in 2018, the city and the developer Kam Sang Company came together to break ground on the next phase on Tuesday, June 6.

Brookhurst Place, a 14-acre project, is [situated in the heart of Orange County Koreatown](#). And when completed, it will include 700 residential units, a 1-acre public park, a 1-acre urban trail, up to 200,000 square feet of commercial and retail space and a 100-key hotel.

[Phase I of the development](#) added 180 rental apartment units in what is called Building 1. And Phase II construction will begin with a 112-unit, six-level apartment building — aptly named Building 2 — with two levels for parking and four levels for residential units, said Monica Covarrubias, Garden Grove’s senior project manager.

“We don’t have an exact timeline,” said Covarrubias. “There’s still a lot of supply and demand delays due to COVID even though we technically are already out of the pandemic.”

Construction projects like this, she said, typically take 24 months, but it will be dependent on the availability of supply materials.

The proposed budget for this second phase is \$42 million, Covarrubias said, with developer Kam Sang Company footing the bill.

This next phase of development will also include Buildings 3 and 4 which will add 350 apartment homes, of which 60 will be affordable housing units, and 58 for-sale condominiums.

Given that the development is situated in [Orange County Koreatown](#), where Orange County’s Korean Americans have found community since the 1970s, the developers of the Brookhurst Place community are “aware and they are very much in tune to the fact that it is in the Koreatown district,” said Covarrubias.

Kam Sang Company is considering paying homage to the Korean American community in the development, Covarrubias said.

The \$42 million project will support Garden Grove in many ways, she said. Construction plus the opening of retail businesses as well as the hotel will create jobs for local residents.

“It also increases the opportunity for tourism to our city,” Covarrubias said.

“We are delighted to have the unwavering backing of the city of Garden Grove as we enter Phase II of this development,” said Ronnie Lam, president and chief executive officer of Kam Sang Company. “Their continued support not only reinforces our vision but also strengthens the project’s potential to create significant impact in terms of housing availability and economic development.”

Plans for the Brookhurst Place mixed-use development began in the early 2000s when it was deemed redevelopment property, according to the city’s website.

Kam Sang Company [entered the picture in 2010](#), following its development of the Sheraton Garden Grove. And along the way, residents have protested the plans, saying [it was not in their best interest](#).

In 2014, the City’s Planning Commission [finally approved Kam Sang Company’s development plans](#), and in 2015, the state gave its approval to begin construction.

# Little Saigon celebrates 35 years

County and city officials announce plans to erect a gateway arch on Bolsa Avenue



Vice Chairman Supervisor Andrew Do, discusses development plans for Little Saigon during a press conference in Westminster on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. He stands next to a freeway sign prototype. Caltrans plans on installing 10 new signs along the 22 Freeway in Garden Grove. (Photo by Mindy Schauer, Orange County Register/SCNG)

By [YUSRA FARZAN](mailto:yfarzan@scng.com) | [yfarzan@scng.com](mailto:yfarzan@scng.com) |

PUBLISHED: June 8, 2023 at 7:43 a.m. | UPDATED: June 8, 2023 at 7:50 a.m.

Following the [Fall of Saigon](#), refugees fleeing the Communist regime in Vietnam were first taken to temporary refugee camps in [Camp Pendleton](#); Fort Chaffee, Arkansas; Eglin Air Force Base, Florida; and Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. OC Supervisor Andrew Do and his family went to the camp in Arkansas.

Spaghetti replaced pho noodles, and they learned to adapt to the intense heat of Arkansas' summers.

Then, the family learned of [Westminster](#), and its abundant job prospects, yearlong nice weather and the UC education system. So the family moved, settling down off of Westminster Avenue and Bushard Street.

Here, Do and his family also found community with [other Vietnamese refugees who had settled in the area](#).

“To be able to come here and get that flavor of home, it was transformational in the way that you think about what life means to you, what’s important in your life,” Do said.

He was speaking at a press conference to mark the 35th anniversary since then—Gov. George Deukmejian designated the area as Little Saigon in 1988. The freeway signs placed on the busy 405 Freeway “acknowledged the existence of an ethnic community,” Do said, noting it was at a time when “there was a lot of hostility” against the Vietnamese American population.

And now, words like pho and banh mi have become part of the “American psyche” because of that designation, Do said.

To commemorate the occasion, Do said, his team is “working with our county staff and with our lobbyists at all levels, state and federal, to work to get an official U.S. Department of Interior, historic designation of Little Saigon.”

The county will work with the cities of Westminster, Garden Grove and Fountain Valley to get this recognition because it will help the Little Saigon community to “be an entity and go out there and market itself and to be able to raise funds,” Do said.

With the [Olympics happening in Los Angeles in 2028](#), the historical designation, Do said, will “become known on all of the Olympic brochures and promotionals.”

Westminster Mayor Chi Charlie Nguyen was also present at the press conference, and Do said he would be working with the city to erect an archway over Bolsa Avenue at the south entrance to Little Saigon.

“I have committed \$1 million of my own offices’ budget for the construction of the archway,” Do said. “I will also allocate another \$500,000 for the artwork that will go on the archway.”

The gateway arch to Little Saigon, Nguyen said, is “a crucial and needed project to beautify the area.”

And Do also said his team will “prepare plans in the near future to build the Vietnamese Cultural Center” in Miles Square Regional Park.

“I believe that to have a cultural center for our community in a regional, county park is the greatest acknowledgment of our presence, of our contributions,” Do said.

Westminster city staffers [previously discussed plans to convert Bolsa Avenue](#) from a six-lane roadway to a four-lane roadway, but those plans are still “very preliminary,” Nguyen said.

Eric Corona, a representative from Caltrans, District 12, said the state’s transportation authority will mark the 35 years since Little Saigon was officially designated by installing 10 new signs along the 22 Freeway in Garden Grove. The signs will be brown in color, indicating the cultural interest area.

While Assemblymember Tri Ta, who represents Little Saigon, was not present, his chief of staff Emanuel Patrascu said Ta introduced legislation to designate a portion of the 405 Freeway from Bolsa Chica Road to Magnolia Street as Little Saigon Freeway.

The 35th anniversary celebrations will continue on Saturday, June 10 with a commemorative event at Asian Garden Mall from 4-7:30 p.m. More information is available on the [event website](#).



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media



Thursday, June 8, 2023

## **PHASE II OF CITY'S LARGEST MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT, BROOKHURST PLACE, BREAKS GROUND**

On Tuesday, June 6, 2023, the City of Garden Grove and project developer Kam Sang Company, Inc. broke ground for Phase II of Brookhurst Place, commemorating the start of construction for the final phase of Garden Grove's largest residential and commercial mixed-use development.

Located in OC Koreatown, near the intersection of Garden Grove Boulevard and Brookhurst Street, Phase II will offer up to 462 apartment homes, 58 condominiums, up to 200,000 square-feet of commercial and retail space, a 100-key hotel, urban trail, and a public park.

"As Brookhurst Place moves forward, along with other new developments in Garden Grove's Koreatown, this area will become an even more valued place for living, working, and visiting. It will also provide new sources of economic investment for our city," said Garden Grove Mayor Pro Tem George Brietigam speaking at the event, in lieu of Garden Grove Mayor Steve Jones.

-more-

## Phase II of City's Largest Mixed-Use Development Breaks Ground 2-2-2

Phase I of the 14-acre project, completed in July 2018, provided 180 apartment homes, a pool and clubhouse. Sixty of Phase II's 462 apartment homes will be offered as affordable housing units. The total cost of the development is estimated at \$42 million.

For project information visit [ggcity.org/brookhurst-place](http://ggcity.org/brookhurst-place). To view photos of the Phase II groundbreaking, visit the City of Garden Grove's Facebook and Instagram @GardenGroveCityHall.









# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Wednesday, June 14, 2023



## **GARDEN GROVE, FOUNTAIN VALLEY, WESTMINSTER BREAK GROUND FOR CENTRAL CITIES NAVIGATION CENTER**

Yesterday, the City of Garden Grove, in partnership with the Cities of Fountain Valley and Westminster broke ground for the Central Cities Navigation Center, a referral-based, transitional facility offering emergency housing and wrap-around services to individuals experiencing homelessness from any of the three cities. Located in an existing building at 13871 West Street in Garden Grove, the Central Cities Navigation Center is anticipated to open in Spring 2024.

“The start of the Central Cities Navigation Center brings us closer to helping those who are seeking more than just shelter, but also the stability of permanent housing, employment, and personal health and wellness. In collaboration with our Be Well OC in Garden Grove Mobile Response Unit, our street medicine program with CalOptima Health, the Garden Grove Police Department Special Resources Team, and other efforts, we're creating solutions to homelessness on several fronts. My thanks to the cities of Westminster and Fountain Valley for their valuable support and partnership in this wonderful endeavor,” said Garden Grove Mayor Steve Jones.

The facility will operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week, serve approximately 170 adults, and provide up to 100 beds. Among the residential services, clients will receive three daily meals, access to laundry facilities, pet accommodation, and transportation to and from the facility.

Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, Westminster Break Ground for Navigation Center  
2-2-2

Support services will include 1-on-1 case management, mental health and stabilization resources, substance use counseling, education services and life-skills development, employment assistance, and job training.

"Today marks a defining moment in our collective commitment to compassionate and effective solutions to assist the unhoused. I am deeply humbled and honored to break ground on the Central Cities Navigation Center, a symbol of unity and cooperation between Fountain Valley, Westminster, and Garden Grove. This project is a testament to our shared belief that every individual deserves dignity, respect, and the opportunity for a brighter future. Together, we are building more than a center, we are building hope for a better tomorrow for all of our residents," said Fountain Valley Mayor Kim Constantine.

The County of Orange will contribute a total of \$11.5 million for the project, with \$5.3 million going to construction/renovation, and \$6.2 million for operations. The three cities will contribute to the annual cost of operations over the next 10 years. The operating cost for the 2023/24 Fiscal Year is approximately \$2.6 million.

"This navigation center is a very big, proactive step to taking accountability and action in the fight to end homelessness in our community. Westminster is committed to helping our most vulnerable residents and addressing their needs by providing the tools and resources necessary. We thank our neighboring cities of Garden Grove and Fountain Valley for supporting this collaborative effort, and also the County of Orange for their contributions toward this navigation center," said Westminster Mayor Chi Charlie Nguyen.

For more information visit [www.ggcity.org/navigation-center](http://www.ggcity.org/navigation-center).





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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, June 12, 2023



## **CITY MANAGER NAMES NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

Garden Grove City Manager Lisa Kim has named Niki Wetzel, a 26-year community development professional, as Garden Grove's new Community Development Director. Currently serving as the Deputy Director of Planning and Building for the City of Anaheim, Wetzel begins her position with the City of Garden Grove on Monday, July 10, 2023.

"Niki is a top-notch professional with the proven knowledge, experience, and drive needed to oversee a very active department that provides several key services to our city and community. She will be a welcome addition to our talented city management team," said Kim.

"I am honored and thrilled to have been selected as the next Community Development Director for the City of Garden Grove. I look forward to serving Garden Grove's residents, businesses, and community," said Wetzel.

As Anaheim's Deputy Director of Planning and Building since 2020, Wetzel has overseen historic and multi-billion-dollar projects for the city, such as the future OC Vibe mixed-use project surrounding the Honda Center, and the Disneyland Forward project that directs the future development of the Disneyland Resort. Wetzel also managed and mentored a staff of 25.

-more-

## City Manager Names New Community Development Director 2-2-2

Wetzel began her professional career with the City of Laguna Niguel in 1995, followed by the City of Anaheim where she worked as a planner. In 2004, she moved to the City of Rolling Hills Estates managing large development projects as a principal planner, until joining the City of Lake Forest in 2015. In 2018, she was promoted to Assistant Director of Community Development for Lake Forest, overseeing the Planning and Code Enforcement divisions, before re-joining the City of Anaheim in 2020.

Wetzel holds a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Cal Poly Pomona where she was recognized as the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Most Outstanding Graduate Student. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication and Psychology from UC Santa Barbara, graduating with high honors. She is a member of the American Planning Association and maintains membership and certification from the AICP.

She and her husband have three adult children. She loves dogs and recently adopted two from local animal shelters. She is a registered yoga instructor and is passionate about promoting a healthy mind and body.

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## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

**Jun 15, 2023**

1. Calendar of Events
2. Notice of Cancellation of the June 22, 2023 Garden Grove Zoning Administrator meeting.
3. League of California Cities articles from June 9, 2023 to June 15, 2023.
4. Orange County Business Council Newsletter, June 12, 2023.





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 15, 2023 – July 14, 2023

Thursday	June 15	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC <b>CANCELLED</b>
Friday	June 16		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Thursday	June 22	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
		6:30 p.m.	Summer Concert in the park – L.A.vation Garden Grove Park, 9301 Westminster Blvd.
Tuesday	June 27	5:30 p.m.	Public Works Study Session, CMC Closed Session, CMC
		6:30 p.m.	Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	June 29	6:30 p.m.	Summer Concert in the Park – Yachty By Nature Main Street, 12900 Main St.
Friday	June 30		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	July 4		City Hall Closed – Independence Day
Thursday	July 6	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Tuesday	July 11	5:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC
		6:30 p.m.	Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CM
Thursday	July 13	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
			\$2 Casual Dress Day
		6:30 p.m.	Summer Concert in the Park – Tijuana Dogs Eastgate Park, 12001 St. Mark St.
Friday	July 14		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure



**GARDEN GROVE**

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**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION  
OF THE  
GARDEN GROVE  
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 22, 2023**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled.

DATED: June 15, 2023

DAVID DENT  
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR



# A statewide short-term rental tax won't solve California's long-term housing crisis

Jun 14, 2023

*Cal Cities will issue an action alert on SB 584 (Limón) in the coming days*

The League of California Cities has adopted an oppose unless amended position for a bill that would impose a 15% tax on the occupancy of short-term rentals. While Cal Cities supports the intent of the bill — providing ongoing funding for affordable housing — the bill takes a flawed approach that would harm local revenue streams.

Under [SB 584 \(Limón\)](#), proceeds from the state tax would go back to local governments as grants for “laborforce housing.” The bill describes laborforce housing as public housing projects built with a skilled and trained workforce or prevailing wage rates. Cities need [ongoing funding for affordable housing](#). However, a state tax on short-term rentals is not the way to address a decades-long crisis. SB 584 would cripple cities that rely on local transient occupancy taxes.

For cities that rely on tourism and hospitality as economic drivers, a transient occupancy tax is often their primary source of revenue. In some cases, the tax on short-term rentals can represent over two-thirds of General Fund revenues, which funds fire, police, and other essential services.

Imposing a 15% statewide tax on top of existing local rates averaging 10% would both harm critical local revenues and create a prohibitive fiscal burden for tourism and hospitality providers.

Cal Cities is negotiating with Sen. Limón’s office and the bill’s sponsors on an alternative funding and collection mechanism. Cal Cities has proposed levying a tax or fee on short-term rental owners, instead of the lodger. This would provide much-needed funding for affordable housing, protect equally essential services, and ensure the revenue is returned to the community.



## State Bills in Brief: June 15-22

Jun 14, 2023

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

The Legislature published a state budget bill late on Sunday. The deal would restore some of the public transit, climate change, and child care funding that Gov. Gavin Newsom axed in his [May budget revise](#). There's even extra money for one of the state's biggest [homelessness programs](#) and local rail infrastructure.

One thing that is noticeably missing from the legislative budget proposal? New funding for the state's affordable housing programs, which the Governor proposed cutting to the tune of nearly a billion dollars. Lawmakers also failed to include ongoing funding to address homelessness and boost affordable housing.

So, what does the Governor think? That's anyone's guess. The Newsom Administration is keeping its cards close on the budget.

Regardless, legislators must pass a placeholder budget by June 15 if they want to get paid. This means negotiations will continue through June 30, after which the Governor must sign a budget. The exact contours of the budget will likely get hammered out through trailer bills — budget-specific measures that bypass much of the normal legislative process.

Cal Cities will issue a [media statement](#) once the budget bill is passed tomorrow and provide updates as budget negotiations move forward. To learn more about bills scheduled for a suspense file hearing, keep reading. To learn what each section means — or to access a previous State Bills in Brief — visit the [archive page](#).

### Bills to act on

A bill prohibiting the use of facial recognition technology in police cameras has been elevated to the top of Cal Cities' priority bill list.

#### Legislators could renew ban on facial recognition technology

- **What is the bill?** [AB 1034 \(Wilson\)](#) would prohibit the use of facial recognition in police cameras until January 2034. *Cal Cities opposes the measure.*
- **Why it matters.** Cal Cities supports accountability when it comes to police technology. However, banning facial recognition technology only makes it harder for law enforcement to protect their communities by removing a source of possible investigative leads.

- **When is the next advocacy opportunity?** The Senate Public Safety Committee will take up the measure on June 20.

### Other bills with major impacts

Lawmakers are considering a broad range of measures related to supportive services, affordable housing, the fentanyl crisis, transportation, and children's camps.

### Bonta bill would boost families out of poverty

**An integrated system of solutions.** [AB 1321 \(Bonta\)](#) would create a competitive grant program that funds academic, occupational, and other "cradle-to-career" services in [Promise Neighborhoods](#). *Cal Cities supports the bill.*

- **A simmering crisis.** Despite strong economic growth, California has high rates of child poverty: 16.2% of children under 18 are living at, or below, the federal poverty threshold. AB 1321 would expand California's capacity to mitigate disparities and provide support for children and families.
- **When is the next hearing?** The Senate Human Services Committee will hear the bill on June 19.

### More money for homelessness and affordable housing?

- **Where is this money coming from?** [AB 531 \(Irwin\)](#) is one of the three bills that would collectively provide over \$25 billion in bonds for affordable housing and supportive services. *Cal Cities supports the measure.*
- **Why it matters.** Long-term problems require long-term solutions. If voters approved all three bonds, the measures would provide twice the funding included in the 2022 State Budget for similar programs.
- **When is the next hearing?** Lawmakers will discuss the bill on June 20 in the Senate Housing Committee.

### Well-intended adaptive reuse bill would still create traffic problems

- **What does the bill do?** [AB 1490 \(Lee\)](#) would require cities to give certain concessions to 100% affordable adaptive reuse projects. *Cal Cities has an oppose unless amended position for the bill.*
- **What's the issue?** The author changed AB 1490 to give cities greater discretion over certain projects. However, it still limits their ability to enforce maximum density and parking rules, which could create considerable problems for developments that are not well served by public transit.
- **When is the next hearing?** The measure will be heard in the Senate Housing Committee on June 20.

### Proposed state housing construction agency could bypass state housing laws and local standards

- **What is the bill number?** [AB 309 \(Lee\)](#) would create a state agency that could construct and lease affordable housing. Although the intent is laudable, *Cal Cities opposes the measure unless it is amended.*
- **What changes is Cal Cities seeking?** Like many recent housing laws, the bill disregards the state's own mandated housing planning process and laws. Cal Cities is seeking amendments that would require the agency to follow all local zoning and objective development standards.
- **When is the next hearing?** The next hearing is on June 20 in the Senate Housing Committee.

### Bill seeks to reduce drug-related recidivism

- **A voluntary program.** [AB 1360 \(McCarty\)](#) would create a pilot program that would help people suffering from substance use disorders from cycling in and out of the criminal justice system with no clear path to treatment. *Cal Cities supports AB 1360.*
- **Why it matters.** According to the National Institute of Health and the National Institute for Drug Abuse, an estimated 65% of people in U.S. prisons and jails have an active substance use disorder (SUD). Another 20% did not meet the official criteria for a SUD but were under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the crime.
- **When is the next hearing?** Legislators will discuss AB 1360 on June 20 in the Senate Public Safety Committee.

#### **Naloxone Distribution Project expansion heads to the Assembly**

- **What is the bill number?** [SB 641 \(Roth\)](#) would expand the state's naloxone distribution program. *Cal Cities supports the bill.*
- **How would this help the state's fentanyl crisis?** Fentanyl is 100 times stronger than morphine, making it the deadliest drug in the U.S. according to the U.S. Center for Disease Control. When [administered quickly](#), naloxone can reverse an otherwise fatal overdose.
- **When is the next hearing?** Legislators will debate the bill on June 20 in the Assembly Health Committee.

#### **Proposed fentanyl task force focuses on strengthening state and local partnerships**

- **Multipronged strategies are the key to stopping the fentanyl crisis.** [SB 19 \(Seyarto\)](#) would ensure cities are part of a multisector fentanyl task force. *Cal Cities supports the measure.*
- **What would the task force do?** The task force would focus on collecting data, increasing access to overdose-reversing drugs, improving substance use disorder treatments, and crafting strategies that reduce the availability of illicit fentanyl.
- **When is the next hearing?** The bill's next hearing is on June 20 in the Assembly Health Committee.

#### **Did you know the design-build procurement process has a sunset date?**

- **This sounds very wonky. It is!** The very short version is the design-build procurement process provides more flexibility for contractors, encourages greater collaboration among stakeholders, and keeps costs low.
- **This sounds great.** It is — especially given the billions of dollars in infrastructure funding flowing to cities. [AB 400 \(Rubio, Blanca\)](#) would eliminate the existing 2025 sunset date governing the use of the process. *Cal Cities is sponsoring the measure.*
- **When is the next hearing?** The Senate Governance and Finance Committee will hear the bill on June 21.

#### **AB 1526 clarifies how cities would be reimbursed under last year's single-use plastics law**

- **What does SB 54 (Allen, 2022) do?** The landmark law established a program for collecting, managing, and recycling single-use packaging and single-use plastic food service ware.
- **Why do we need a second bill?** Timing and scheduling constraints prevented agreed-upon language from making it into the final bill. [AB 1526 \(Committee on Natural Resources\)](#) both clarifies the funding process and provides some flexibility around curbside collection. *Cal Cities supports AB 1526.*

- **When is the next hearing?** Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee will discuss the bill on June 22.

### **Cal Cities to work with stakeholders on new children's camps regulations**

- **What is the bill number?** [AB 262 \(Holden\)](#) would convene a stakeholder group focused on improving safety at children's camps. *Cal Cities supports the bill.*
- **This sounds familiar.** Asm. Holden introduced a [similar measure](#) in the last session, which was ultimately held. Cal Cities has worked closely with the author's office to ensure that any new requirements do not adversely impact cities' ability to provide educational opportunities at little or no cost to residents.
- **When is the next hearing?** Lawmakers will discuss AB 262 on June 19 in the Senate Human Services Committee.

### [Bills to follow](#)

Cal Cities is reconsidering its position on a homelessness accountability bill and adopted a new position for a sea level rise measure.

### **New accountability measure for state homeless funding could be coming**

- **What are lawmakers proposing?** [AB 799 \(Rivas, Luz\)](#) would create new accountability requirements for cities that access state funding through the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program. *Cal Cities' position for AB 799 is pending.*
- **How does Cal Cities feel about the measure in concept?** Cal Cities is not opposed to new accountability requirements. However, they must be paired with increased funding — which this bill does not provide — so that cities are not set up to fail.
- **When was the bill heard?** Legislators will debate on measure in the Senate Human Services Committee on June 19.

### **Bill mandates regionwide sea level rise planning for coastal cities**

- **What does it do?** [SB 272 \(Laird\)](#) would require all coastal cities to implement sea level rise planning and adaptation plans by 2034. The bill would also require state agencies to establish guidelines for the preparation of that planning and adaptation by 2024. *Cal Cities has concerns position about SB 272.*
- **This sounds like a lot.** It would also be very expensive and time-consuming. Currently, it takes at least five years for cities to obtain final approval for their local coastal programs.
- **When is the next hearing?** The Assembly Natural Resources Committee will debate the bill on June 19.

[View all bills to act on](#)

[View all tracked bill hearings](#)



# Allocate your city finance insights at the 2023 Municipal Finance Institute

*Jun 14, 2023*

Are you a municipal finance expert or thought leader? The League of California Cities is accepting session proposals for the [2023 Municipal Finance Institute](#). Scheduled for Dec. 14-15 in San Diego, the institute will provide city leaders with the latest best practices, stories of successful collaborations, lessons learned, and solutions to city finance issues.

Whether it's a case study, a thought-provoking panel discussion, or an interactive session, Cal Cities is looking for dynamic and engaging sessions that will inspire and educate. Noncommercial submissions from any individual, group, business, or organization on any topic are welcome.

Proposals must be [submitted](#) online by **July 21**. Topics to consider include:

- Municipal finance law and policy
- Sales tax
- Labor negotiations
- GASB 87
- Leadership
- Financial transparency
- Workplace culture
- Pensions
- Risk management
- Financial software

Proposals are evaluated for their broad appeal, timeliness, originality, interactivity, creativity, supporting evidence, the ability to provoke discussion, and the absence of product or vendor commercialization. When preparing a proposal, try to answer the following key questions:

- Is the topic new or critical for municipal finance officers and staff?
- Does the session apply to both seasoned and new finance officers?
- Will it draw a wide audience?
- Does the description clearly state the session's key takeaways?
- Will this issue stimulate action and further important discussion?
- Does the panel reflect the diversity of Cal Cities members and California cities — north and south, large and small, urban and rural?



Session proposal tips, along with last year's schedule and session materials, are available on the [Municipal Finance Institute webpage](#). For more information contact Education and Events Manager [Christina George](#).



## ADVOCACY

### OCBC Advocates Support for Gov. Newsom's Streamlining Bills

Governor Newsom recently unveiled an ambitious permit streamlining and CEQA reform package that will help build California's clean energy future while creating jobs. As the [proposals](#) are gaining support across the state, OCBC and its coalition partners have been among the [leaders pushing for solutions](#) to cut red tape to enable faster delivery of sustainable projects critical to our economic growth. "Orange County Business Council has long advocated for reasonable fixes to California's well-intentioned environmental laws that are unabashedly abused to halt projects critical to our state's economic resiliency. We commend Governor Newsom's proposal to invest in real solutions for streamlining delivery of infrastructure projects, which matches the intensity of California's need for innovation when it comes to future-proofing our economy and achieving our climate goals," said OCBC President and CEO Jeffrey Ball. OCTA CEO and OCBC board member Darrell Johnson was another Orange County leader recognized in supporting the proposed revisions. State leaders who are engaged in the plan's development will be attending OCBC's Infrastructure Committee meeting tomorrow June 13 at 8 a.m. For information, email [Emily Jackson](#).

### Legislative Update: Bills Affecting Business Clear First House

The State Legislature's deadline to pass bills from their house of origin was June 2. Below are a handful of the 60+ bills that OCBC's Government Affairs team worked to push forward. See all the bills that OCBC is currently [tracking](#). Bills that survived include:

- **AB 52** (Grayson) will bolster Orange County's manufacturing sector by providing state tax credits for the purchase of **manufacturing and R&D** equipment. Many of Orange County's top industries are in the manufacturing sector; these tax credits will incentivize manufacturers to stay in or move to Orange County. [Read OCBC's letter](#).
- **AB 1054** (Berman) will require **high schools** to offer at least one computer science course. Students need access to quality computer science education to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. This bill improves the digital literacy of the future workforce. [Read OCBC's letter](#).

- **SB 393** (Glazer) will disclose contributors to **CEQA litigation**, creating transparency regarding who is suing to delay sorely needed housing projects in Orange County and the state. [Read OCBC's letter.](#)

Additionally, while OCBC and our partners have helped stifle a significant number of bills harmful to business, we continue to advocate on concerning legislation that is still alive, including:

- **AB 6 and AB 7** (Friedman) would exacerbate Orange County's congested **transportation** systems. AB 6 requires transportation leaders to get approval from the California Air Resources Board for their technical methodology, leading to delays and challenges in delivering mobility solutions. AB 7 would add state-mandated layers to local planning and narrow which projects receive funding. [Read OCBC's letter.](#)
- **AB 421** (Bryan) erodes the state's direct democracy system by making it even more difficult for a **referendum** to qualify for the ballot. The referendum process is an important tool for people to hold the Legislature accountable on issues affecting jobs and the state economy. [Read the business coalition letter.](#)
- **SB 365** (Wiener) would essentially eliminate **employers'** use of arbitration agreements and put California out of step with federal arbitration laws, increasing the cost of doing business in the state. [Read the business coalition letter.](#)

## INVESTOR NEWS

### Chevron Invests in Future College Students

[Chevron](#) recently donated \$25,000 to the [Leading Educational Attainment for Families](#) (LEA) program. A consortium of K-12 schools and education stakeholders, LEA is administered by OCBC staff with the mission of supporting families to navigate the road to greater academic achievement. By applying the 10 Education Essentials Workbook produced by LEA, Orange County families can learn about and track high school graduation requirements, classes needed to be

eligible for higher education, how to pay for college and more. The program is free to all Orange County schools, community-based organizations and families. Presenting Chevron's contribution above is Jill Dunn, Lead Corporate Affairs Advisor for Chevron Products Company and OCBC board member together with OCBC President and CEO Jeffrey Ball on left, and Vice President of Business Initiatives Jesse Ben-Ron. Donations for the LEA program help to offset the cost of printing the 10 Education Essentials Workbook. Currently, the workbook is available in English and Spanish and will soon be available in Arabic, Korean and Vietnamese.



*Photo courtesy of OCBC*

## Nonprofits Can Apply for Spectrum Digital Education Grants

Nonprofit organizations that serve communities located in [Spectrum's](#) market can apply for the [Charter Communications Spectrum Digital Education Grant](#), potentially receiving up to \$50,000. Application deadline is June 23. Charter Communications, a broadband connectivity company and cable operator, serves 30.5 million customers. Eligible applications should address how a program is compelling, captivating or unique, and addresses community needs with a focus on the digital divide.



*Image courtesy of Charter Communications*

## Visual Arts: Connecting Diverse Communities: June 29

Join OC Forum, UCI and UCI Health on Thursday, June 29 for a panel discussion at the Bowers Museum. Featured panelists include Tiffany Ana López, Ph.D. of the UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts, Natalie J. Graham, Ph.D. from CSUF's African American Studies Department, Heidi Zuckerman with the Orange County Museum of Art, Genevieve Barrios Southgate with the Bowers Museum and guest moderator Sara Guerrero, Founding Artistic Director of Breath of Fire Latina Theater Ensemble. Use coupon codes "ARTSoCBC" for a ticket or "ocbcTABLE" when purchasing a table to receive an exclusive [discount](#).



*Image courtesy of OC Forum*

## Chapman Economic Forecast Conference: June 22

Chapman University President Emeritus Jim Doti, along with professors Raymond Sfeir and Fadel N. Lawandy, will give the [45th Economic Forecast Update](#) at Musco Center for the Arts on June 22. They will look back at their December forecasts and look toward the second half of 2023. Last December, Doti projected a recession by the middle of this year. In February he, Sfeir and Lawandy made their [case for a 2023 recession](#) in the *Orange County Business Journal*.



*Image courtesy of Chapman University*

## Four OC Schools Among Recipients of Cox Enterprises and Captain Planet Foundation Project Learning Gardens



Cox Enterprises recently partnered with [Captain Planet Foundation](#) to donate 22 Project Learning Gardens (PLG) to elementary schools located in markets served by Cox Enterprises and its subsidiary [Cox Communications](#) in Arizona, California and Georgia. The four Orange County schools awarded supplies and tools to take learning into the garden are Fletcher Elementary in Orange, La Madera Elementary in Lake Forest, Laurel Elementary in Brea and Lomarena Elementary in Laguna Hills. Educators are given thematic activities centered in standards and learning outcomes. A library of garden guides and tips for growing, harvesting, composting, cooking with kids and more is also part of the project. Schools implementing learning gardens into their curriculum report that students learn about nutrition and science, social studies, math and language arts.

*Image courtesy of Cox Communications*

### UCI Receives \$50M Gift

A \$50 million gift from Susan and Henry Samueli to the [University of California, Irvine](#)'s engineering school



will launch three institutes focused on research and education in health, society and the environment. Branded under the banner "[Engineering+](#)," the Engineering+Health Institute, Engineering+Society Institute and Engineering+Environment Institute will allow researchers to address critical issues. A portion of the gift will also be used to create the Office of Inreach, dedicated to the well-being, academic success, sense of belonging and career opportunities for undergraduate students in The Henry Samueli School of Engineering.

*Image courtesy of UCI*

## WORKFORCE CORNER

Preparing future nurses for the workforce is a high priority considering today's nursing shortage. Helping these future healthcare workers graduate with less debt is just as critical. Saddleback College's [Associate Degree Nursing Program](#), which has earned a reputation in the local healthcare community since 1971, boasts an [NCLEX pass rate](#) of over 95%. The program offers hands-on instruction designed by working nurses so that students can learn the in-demand skills to succeed in the real world. The department is a recipient of a simulation grant to provide faculty with a standardized method to deliver, evaluate, and debrief students to make simulation training as comfortable as possible.



*Image courtesy of Saddleback College*

*"Workforce Corner" is an occasional feature that highlights local college and high school programs preparing Orange County's future workforce—an initiative at the core of OCBC's mission.*

## COMMITTEE UPDATE

## Workforce Committee Recap

OCBC's Workforce Committee meeting recently focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). Featured speakers included Kristine Rohls, Chief Inclusion & Diversity Officer at Slalom and Dr. Reg Chhen Stewart, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Chapman University. Their commentary focused on equity and inclusion. Notably, they emphasized how to effectively engage, communicate, and demonstrate DE&I goals at the workplace. To learn more about the meaning behind DEI, watch the Zoom [recording](#) of the meeting. If you are interested in attending the next Workforce Committee meeting on July 12 8-9 a.m., contact Emily Jackson at [ejackson@ocbc.org](mailto:ejackson@ocbc.org).

## UPCOMING ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL EVENTS

### 2023 Health Care Forum

August 16, 2023 | 8 - 10 a.m.

**REGISTRATION**

Join us for OCBC's [2023 Health Care Forum](#) on August 16, 2023. This year's theme—Orange County: Innovating Health Care—will offer attendees the opportunity to hear from health care providers as they discuss continuing investments in Orange County, innovations in care and research, and critical issues impacting the industry. Thank you to title sponsor City of Hope Orange County, platinum sponsor Hoag, gold sponsors Kaiser Permanente, MemorialCare, Providence and UCI Health, and silver sponsors American Career College/West Coast University and Chapman University. For sponsor opportunities, contact [Lauren Martin](#), OCBC director of events.

### 2023 First Responders Dinner

September 12, 2023 | 5 - 8 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Save the date for OCBC's inaugural [2023 First Responders Dinner](#) on September 12, 2023 in Anaheim. Event and registration details coming soon. Thank you to title sponsor UCI Health, gold sponsor Chevron and silver sponsors Automobile Club of Southern California, MemorialCare and SoCalGas. For sponsor opportunities, contact [Lauren Martin](#), OCBC director of events.

### OCBC/CSUF's 29th Annual Economic Forecast Conference

October 19, 2023 | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Save the date for [OCBC/CSUF's 29th Annual Economic Forecast Conference](#) on October 19, 2023 in Anaheim. Event and registration details coming soon. Thank you to title sponsor Farmers & Merchants Bank and platinum sponsor Slalom. For sponsor opportunities, contact [Lauren Martin](#), OCBC director of events.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

*Committee meetings are an exclusive benefit offered only to Business Council investors.*  
Click the committee meeting link to learn about upcoming topics, issues and guest speakers.



### Infrastructure

**June 13**

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Email [Emily Jackson](#) for registration details.



### Advocacy and Government Affairs

**July 7**

9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Email [Connor Medina](#) for registration details.



### Workforce

**July 12**

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Email [Emily Jackson](#) for registration details.



### Economic Development

**July 19**

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Email [Emily Jackson](#) for registration details.



### Housing

**August 17**

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Email [Emily Jackson](#) for registration details.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- Hear from experts in tourism, travel and other industries--including OCBC President and CEO Jeffrey Ball--about economic forecasts for Huntington Beach and updates on regional infrastructure enhancements at the [Huntington Beach Tourism Summit](#) with [Visit Huntington Beach](#) on June 15.
- Organizations in Southern California Edison's service area can conserve energy and save money through [Southern California Edison rebates and incentives](#) like Golden State Rebates, Comfortably CA and more.
- The [Orange County Transportation Authority](#) (OCTA) is accepting applications for its Teen Council, a group that allows high school students to learn about transportation-related topics while providing OCTA with valuable feedback. [Applications](#) are due July 14.

### WELCOME NEW INVESTORS

[Chipotle](#) | [Horowitz Management, Inc.](#)  
[Infinity Bank](#) | [Lee & Associates Commercial Real Estate Services](#)  
[Lucas Public Affairs](#) | [Majestic Realty Company](#) | [Slalom](#)

### NOT AN INVESTOR? JOIN TODAY!

Join [Orange County Business Council](#) and connect with the most influential companies and top executives actively engaged in creating a pro-business environment and prosperous economy. Hundreds of Orange County's leading businesses, cities and non-profit organizations represent an elite group from every industry. But we need YOUR VOICE! For more info, contact [Jeffrey Ball](#), President and CEO of OCBC.



### SEND US YOUR NEWS

If your company, business, or nonprofit is a member of OCBC, send your news for consideration to [news@ocbc.org](mailto:news@ocbc.org).

