CITY OF GARDEN GROVE QUARTERLY REPORT



WOODBURY PARK GROUND BREAKING









Table of Contents

Report Overview	3
City Manager's Office Highlights	4
Legislative Advocacy	5
Investment Toward Infrastructure	6
Encourage Economic Development	10
Public Safety	13
Address Homelessness	15
Community Code Compliance	22
Maintain Fiscal Health	24
Community Outreach	27
Community Events and Programs	30

Report Overview

This quarterly report provides an overview of the City's achievements during the months of July, August, and September in 2025. Our City continues to make great progress in key priority areas established by the City Council. These priorities encompass a focus on infrastructure, economic development, public safety, homelessness, code enforcement, and celebration of our community's cultural diversity. Our dedicated staff and community partners have worked hard to ensure that Garden Grove remains a great place to live, work, and play. We take pride in the notable progress achieved in the previous quarter and remain steadfast in our commitment to serving the needs of our community with excellence and integrity. Thank you for your support and trust in the City of Garden Grove!

Matters Before The Council

Below are highlights from the City Council meetings during the months of July, August, and September.

July 8, 2025 – The City Council adopted a Resolution approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the Orange County Employee's Association, Garden Grove Chapter and the City of Garden Grove.

July 8, 2025 – The City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Homelessness Strategy Action Plan.

August 12, 2025 – The City Council recognized Joe Hammer and Sue Catlin for being named the 2025 Strawberry Ball King and Queen/Senior Volunteer Man and Woman of the Year.

August 12, 2025 – The City Council authorized issuance of a purchase order to Greenfields Outdoor Fitness, Inc. for new outdoor fitness equipment for the Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail.

August 26, 2025 – The City Council awarded a contract to Works of Art by Jennifer for the design and fabrication of a bronze sculpture for Woodbury Park.

August 26, 2025 – The City Council awarded a contract to General Pump Company for on-call services for water well and pump station repairs, maintenance and rehabilitation.

September 9, 2025 – The City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the Cities of Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, and Santa Ana for planning and development of a Little Saigon Business Improvement District Program.

September 9, 2025 – The City Council approved an agreement with Silverstone Property Management Company to provide comprehensive property management services for the Central Cities Navigation Center.

September 23, 2025 – The City Council awarded a contract to Bucknam Infrastructure Group, Inc. to provide a City-wide Pavement Management Program for Fiscal Year 2025/26 – 2029/30

City Manager's Office Highlights

Throughout the third quarter of 2025, the City Manager's Office continued to provide administrative support for City Council initiatives and inquiries from the public in the following ways:

City Council

Agenda Reports Reviewed and	108
Processed	
Agendas and Minutes Prepared	10
Agenda Packets Compiled	20
Public Hearing Notices Published	13
Resolutions Processed	9
Ordinances Processed	4
Proclamations Processed	4

Council Liaison

Council Meetings and Site Visits	364
Scheduled	
Certificates Ordered / Delivered	36
Communications	15,886
Legislative Response Letters Drafted	2
Finance Enterprise Reconciliations	87
Trips Scheduled	2

Office of Community Relations

Total Translated Materials	34
Vietnamese Translations	39
Spanish Translations	16
Korean Translations	3
CityWorks Publications Completed	2
Vietnamese Newsletters Published	2
Community Spotlight Scripts	6
Press Releases Issued	24
Social Media Posts	426

City Clerk's Office / Administration

Public Records Act Requests	243
Received	
Average PRAs per Month	72
Average PRA Turnaround Time	6.7
Bid Openings Conducted	1
Agreements Processed	8
Agreements Archived	0
Claims Received	36
Summons Received	0
PAFs Processed	0

Legislative Advocacy

The City Manager's Office coordinates an active legislative advocacy program focused on protecting the interests of our community and identifying resources available to enhance City services and programs. Our legislative efforts include researching and monitoring federal and state legislation, preparing letters and related communications in response to proposed legislation, and working with our legislative representatives and their staff to promote the interests of our community in alignment with the City's Legislative Advocacy Program. The City's Legislative Advocacy Program can be found on the City's website at

https://ggcity.org/sites/default/files/legislative-advocacy-program-2023-24 0.pdf.

SUPPORT POSITIONS

SB 35 (Umberg) Alcohol and Drug Programs

SB 35 seeks to enhance the oversight and enforcement of existing state licensing laws for alcohol and drug treatment facilities by requiring DHCS to meet specific timelines for investigating allegations of unlicensed treatment services. If the department fails to meet these deadlines, cities and counties could seek approval to conduct site visits and enforce licensure laws themselves. SB 35 also requires DHCS to conduct follow-up site visits to ensure unlawful activity has stopped.

SB 346 (Durazo) Local Agencies: Transient Occupancy Taxes: Short-Term Rental Facilitator

SB 346 would better equip cities to enforce local ordinances related to the collection and remittance of transient occupancy taxes (TOT) for short-term rentals. SB 346 would provide cities with the physical address of each short-term rental listed on the facilitator's website and full audit authority of TOT dollars. These changes would ensure the correct amount of TOT is being collected and remitted to allow for more efficient enforcement against unlicensed units.

OPPOSE POSITIONS

AB 98 Warehouse Design and Build Standards

AB 98 limits new or expanded logistics use developments and warehouses on existing and rezoned industrial sites within 900 feet of sensitive receptors (including homes, hospitals, schools, and public recreational areas) unless specific standards are met. The bill would also require all local governments to update their circulation elements logistic use development information, including truck routes, signage, parking, and idling, and would authorize the Attorney General to fine local jurisdictions \$50,000 every six months if they are not in compliance.

Investment Toward Infrastructure

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

The following major capital improvement projects are underway during Q3 2025:

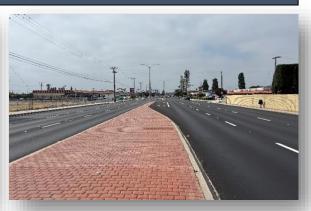
2024 Micro-Surfacing Projects

The 2024 Micro-Surfacing Projects applied preventative maintenance measures to maintain streets and prolong the life of roadways on several street segments in the City including Knott from Lampson to Chapman, Lampson from Springdale to Knott, Valley View from the 22 Freeway to City Limits, Brookhurst from Hazard to Westminster, and Ward from hazard to Morningside.

Status: 100% Complete
Anticipated Completion: July 2025









Harbor / Garden Grove Intersection Capacity Enhancement Project

The City of Garden Grove received OCTA's Comprehensive Transportation Funding Program (CTFP) funding in Fiscal Year 2022-23 for project design to widen through-lanes, add an additional northbound left-turn lane along Harbor Boulevard and a dedicated eastbound right-turn lane along Garden Grove Boulevard at the intersection of Harbor Boulevard and Garden Grove Boulevard. Plans were completed in 2024 and the City was awarded and additional \$3.5 million through CTFP for the construction component of the project. Construction began in August 2025 and will be completed in April 2026.

Status: 5% Complete
Anticipated Completion: April 2026





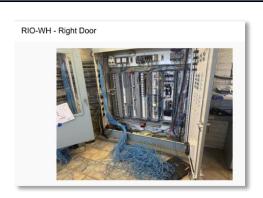
<u>SCADA Implementation Project – Trask and Westhaven Reservoir/BPS SCADA Improvements Project - \$1.455.100</u>

This project is one of the SCADA projects identified which will upgrade the SCADA software and hardware equipment to operate the Trask & Westhaven Reservoirs and Booster Pump Stations. This project consists of demolishing and retrofitting Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) Control Panels, installation of new control panels, installation of new chemical dosing skids, replacement of select field instrumentation and valve controls, and replacement of engine control panels. New conduit, conductors, and junction boxes will also be installed. During Q2, contractor completed installation of the PLC panels, field instrumentation and valve controls at the Westhaven Reservoir and BPS site and is currently finalizing the chemical skid integration.

Status: 99% Complete
Anticipated Completion: July 2025

RP-WH and RIO-WH





County Chapman and Dale Water Improvement Project - \$4,129,980

The project consists of replacing existing 6-inch AC water main along Chapman Avenue west of Dale Street with 8-inch PVC pipeline and replacing 4 or 6-inch AC water mains at Nearing Drive, Somers Drive, Fillmore Drive, Arthur Drive, Sandy Drive, Rockview Drive, Moen Street, Poest Street, Buchanan Drive and Augusta Drive with new 8-inch PVC water mains. The overall length of this project is approximately 9,700 LF. During Q2, contractor has installed all water mains for the project. Remaining work includes connection to the existing main at various locations and abandonment of the existing mains.

Status: 100% Complete
Anticipated Completion: October 2025





Eagle Scout Service Project – U.S. Flagpole Installation

In February 2025, a local Boy Scout contacted the City's Economic Development and Housing Department with several proposals to enhance the Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail. After thoughtful review and feedback from City staff, the Scout chose to move forward with a project to install a 25-foot U.S. flagpole along the trail. The installation was intended to honor the nation's veterans, with



special recognition of the three Garden Grove Medal of Honor recipients memorialized at the project site. City staff worked closely with the Scout to review and approve the proposal, ensuring compliance with all permitting, regulatory, and installation requirements. With logistical support from the



Public Works Streets Division, the flagpole was installed in August 2025 near the existing commemorative plaque near Nutwood Street. In addition, the Scout enhanced the surrounding area with decorative brickwork and succulent plantings, further improving the area for visitors and trail users.

Civic Center Revitalization Project

The Civic Center Revitalization Project continues to make significant progress, with several key milestones achieved during the third Quarter of 2025. On August 29, 2025, the City Council toured the construction site and observed the following updates: installation of new staircases, progression of the curtain wall system as it wraps around the building, bollards being placed in the parking garage, and presentation of landscape paving samples for the new Safety Facility Building.

Quarter 3 Highlights:

- Topped out the parking garage
- Completed post tension high-roof deck
- Completed remediation of the low roof/connector deck
- Installed stairs
- Received the main switch boards for the project







Encourage Economic Development

Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Visitation

Garden Grove's Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) program is designed to support local businesses, strengthen the economy, and promote job growth. Through business visits, the City aims to build relationships with business leadership, identify business needs, and provide targeted support to help Garden Grove businesses grow and stay rooted in the community.



This quarter staff met with the following businesses:

Business	Address	Meeting Date	Industry	No. of Employees
1. Garden Grove Hyundai	9898 Trask Ave	7/8/25	Automotive	80
2. Enhance Hospitality	12032 Harbor Blvd	7/29/25	Restaurant	30
3. Advance Car Creations	13231 W Garden Grove Blvd	7/30/25	Automotive Parts	10
4. 10870 Katella Ave Property Ownership	10870 Katella Ave	7/31/25	Retail	5
5. Brother's Juicery	12135 Brookhurst St	8/6/25	Juicery	5
6. Garden Grove Nissan	9222 Trask Ave	8/13/25	Automotive	80
7. Estrada's Grill	12582 Valley View St	8/15/25	Restaurant	15
8. Junbi	12932 8 th St	8/21/25	Tea Shop	8
9. Tomy's Fresh-N- Fast Burger	9692 Chapman Ave	8/27/25	Restaurant	20

Vehicle Rebate Program

The City of Garden Grove's Vehicle Rebate Program (VRP), which includes six franchised dealerships, was approved for a five-year extension by the City Council on July 9, 2024. The participating dealerships—Garden Grove Kia, Garden Grove Nissan, Garden Grove Hyundai, Simpson Chevrolet of Garden Grove, Toyota Place, and Volkswagen of Garden Grove—offer a \$500 rebate to residents and businesses purchasing new vehicles. Participating new car dealerships must document Garden Grove resident and business owner purchases using specific forms and submit them for reimbursement, which the City provides within 30 days.



The VRP continues to support local economic activity and has successfully incentivized thousands of purchases, with the highest participation continuing to come from the 92840 zip code.

Please see the table below for VRPs by dealership for the 2025 Calendar Year (July-September)*:

Dealership	# of VRPs
Garden Grove Hyundai	21
Garden Grove Kia	13
Garden Grove Nissan	35
Simpson Chevrolet of Garden Grove	-
Toyota Place	54
Volkswagen of Garden Grove	3



Foods of Garden Grove



During the third guarter of 2025, the Foods of Garden Instagram account (@foodsofgardengrove) achieved strong growth and engagement, reaching 75,753 views and 15,838 accounts, while adding new followers for a total of 11,000. The account recorded 1,970 interactions and an average engagement rate of 5.95%. A major highlight was the launch of "Foodiecation" campaign, which encouraged influencers to visit multiple Garden Grove eateries in a single day, positioning the City as a full-fledged foodie destination. This initiative, combined with daily content and influencer collaborations, helped top-performing posts reach nearly 1,000 views each, successfully building momentum for Foods of Garden Grove LIVE. Overall, the account

continues to serve as a dynamic platform for promoting local businesses and fostering community awareness through social media.

Microbiz Program

The City launched the MicroBiz Program on November 18, 2024, an initiative designed to help small businesses start or expand their operations in Garden Grove. This program focuses exclusively microenterprise on businesses and includes a mandatory one-on-one technical assistance component for all participating Technical assistance businesses. following topics covers the (if necessary): self-esteem building; skill





development; business planning and counseling; financial management and budgeting; workforce development; sales and marketing; and technology, among others.

Additionally, the MicroBiz Program will allow business owners to apply for a loan of up to \$50,000 once they have completed the required technical assistance component of the program. The loan amount will be based on the need of each business and will be capped at \$25,000 per full-time employee the business plans to hire or retain.

2025 Program Highlights	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	Q4 (Oct-Dec)
Program Participation in Program	31	36	17	-
Full Loan Application	10	11	6	-
Loans Approved	2	2	4	-
Loans Funds Issued	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	-

Public Safety – Police



GGPD Calls for Service - Q3

Calls for Service - Phone Calls

9-1-1 phone calls
Non-emergency phone calls
Total phone calls

July	August	September	Q3 Total
4,426	4,787	4,483	13,696
9,538	9,684	9,327	28,549
13,964	14,471	13,810	42,245

Calls for Service - Dispatched

•	
Citizen Generated	
Officer Generated	
Total Incidents Dispatched	

July	August	September	Q3 Total
4,441	4,409	4,233	13,083
1,160	1,453	4,110	4,110
5,601	5,862	5,730	17,193

Top 5 Citizen-Generated Call Types

Disturbing the Peace - Transients
Audible Burglary Alarms
Welfare Check
Suspicious Person
Illegal Parked Vehicle
Abandoned Vehicle
Disturbing the Peace – Generic
Domestic Violence

July	August	September	Q3 Total
509	561	488	1,558
187	195	205	587
173	231	172	576
155	178	170	503
154	169	139	462
140	139	140	419
116	117	110	343
128	148	129	405

Response Times

Priority Calls (Average)

July	uly August Sep		Q3 Average
5m 29s	5m 19s	5m 35s	5m 27s

Public Safety – OCFA



OCFA Calls for Service - Q3

Calls	for	Servi	ce – N	Лed	ical	Aid
-------	-----	-------	--------	-----	------	-----

Cans for Service inteateur, na
Automatic Paramedic Alarm
Back to Bed / Lift Assist
Cardiac
Stroke
Diabetic Emergency
Respiratory
Fall / Injury / Trauma
Illness
Abdominal Pain
Seizure
Traffic Collision
Miscellaneous

July	August	September	Q3 Total
22	19	24	65
20	13	18	51
81	96	88	265
155	163	187	505
12	11	13	36
121	150	107	378
177	162	154	493
199	163	152	514
71	75	82	228
43	37	36	116
78	113	83	274
157	155	145	457

Calls for Service - Fire

Structure
Vehicle / Dumpster
Vegetation / Brush / Tree / Bush
Miscellaneous – Hazardous Condition

July	August	September	Q3 Total
19	16	13	48
10	8	6	24
25	16	24	65
109	98	85	292

Response Times

Priority Calls (Average)

July August		September	Q3 Average	
7m 39s	7m 34s	7m 15s	7m 31s	

Address Homelessness/Housing

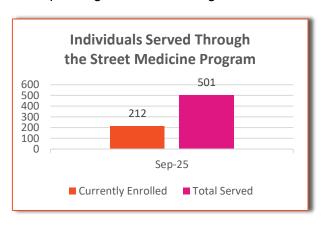
Central Cities Navigation Center (CCNC)

The CCNC is working continuously with the OC Workforce Solutions team and other partners in the community attempting to connect residents of the CCNC to housing, employment and obtaining additional income like General Relief, SSI, SDDI benefits. Additionally, VOALA was able to connect clients that had a California Department of Corrections rehabilitation numbers to hotel vouchers while they are working toward permanent housing placements.

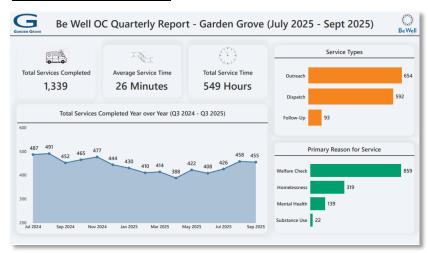
During the third quarter, there were 18 residents with positive CCNC exits and another 5 residents that gained employment: 16 clients transitioned into permanent housing, 2 clients reunited with family, 3 clients secured employment, and 2 clients completed guard card training.

CalOptima Street Medicine:

In partnership with CalOptima and Healthcare in Action, the City's Street Medicine Program delivers medical care to homeless individuals in our community using a medical van. Since its inception in April 2023, the target for the program was to serve a total of 200 individuals. As of September 2025, Healthcare in Action conducted outreach to 713 individuals, of which 501 individuals were served and 212 are still enrolled in the program.



BeWell Orange County



medical and mental health services since October 2021.

- July 426 individuals
- August 458 individuals
- September 455 individuals
- Q3 2025 Total 1,339 individuals

Garden Grove's Be-Well Mobile Response Team provides in-community assessment and stabilization for individuals experiencing substance abuse, psychological crises and homelessness. On July 25, 2023. the City Council approved the extension of the Be-Well Mobile Response Team contract for the next 5 years. The mobile response team has assisted 18.010 individuals mobile with

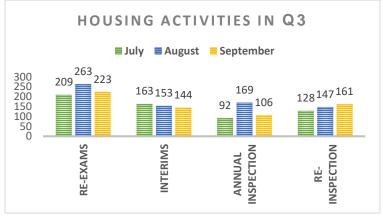
First Time Home Buver Program

The City of Garden Grove's First-Time Home Buyer (FTHB) Program continues to support aspiring homeowners through expanded income eligibility and increased loan assistance amounts. These enhancements help reduce upfront costs and make homeownership more accessible for low- and moderate-income households across the city. As of now, 28 applicants have been pre-approved for the First-Time Home Buyer Program based on their income eligibility. Each was issued a pre-approval letter to assist in the process of securing a home within the City of Garden Grove. Due to this influx of pre-approvals and the program's limited funding, the application portal was temporarily closed to new applicants. During quarter three, the program successfully closed on one home, adding a new Garden Grove homeowner through the assistance of FTHB funds. To provide educational resources for prospective homebuyers, City staff partnered with NeighborWorks Orange County to host monthly virtual Homebuyer 101 workshops. These interactive sessions offered guidance on the home buying process and introduced interested residents to the benefits and requirements of the FTHB Program.

Housing Authority Quarterly Status Report

The Housing Choice Voucher Program supports low-income families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities by subsidizing their monthly rent. Qualified participants contribute a portion of their adjusted household income, while the City's Housing Authority covers the remaining rent using funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Units rented through the program are inspected biennially to ensure they meet standards for safety, sanitation, and building codes. Approximately 2,362 vouchers are allocated for the Garden Grove Housing Authority (GGHA).

Below is the status report for the third quarter of 2025:





- IQ: initial qualifying interviews in which eligibility is verified
- Briefings: program briefings to issue a housing voucher
- **New Admission:** participants admitted to the program
- New Lease Inspection: initial inspections completed prior to tenant moving in the unit
- **Re-examinations**: re-examination interviews with current participants to determine continued eligibility
- **Interims**: interim changes in income or contract rent which necessitates an adjustment to the participant's portion of the rent
- Annuals: annual inspections conducted on units to qualify for rental assistance payments
- Re-inspections: inspections conducted on units that previously failed

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program Coordinating Committee (PCC) Meeting



In compliance with HUD's requirement, GGHA established a Program Coordinating Committee (PCC) to assist in developing the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Action Plan, securing commitments of public and private resources for the operation of the program, and playing an overall advisory role to the program.

On July 7, 2025, the FSS PCC meeting was hosted by the Orange County Social Services Agency (OC SSA) at its newly opened Community Services Center in Brea. Guest speakers Sandra Velazquez, OC SSA Community Engagement Supervisor for Community and Government Relations, and Bryant Chorn, OC SSA Community Engagement Supervisor, provided an overview of the agency's key public assistance programs and highlighted how these services are delivered across multiple regional locations.

The presentation also introduced the Brea Community Services Center, which opened in June 2024 as a "one-stop shop" for Orange County residents seeking help with healthcare, housing, and other public services. Located at 675 Placentia Avenue, the center provides direct assistance with SSA programs, guidance on Social Security and Medicare, Department of Motor and Vehicle inquiries, property tax and utility assistance, citizenship and immigration services, and referrals for In-Home Supportive Services. Staff are available in multiple languages, including Vietnamese, Spanish, and Arabic, and the site partners with agencies such as the OC Health Care Agency, the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, and CalOptima Health.

The meeting concluded around 11 a.m. with a guided tour of the new facility, which showcased its colocated partner offices and demonstrated OC SSA's commitment to making services more accessible and convenient for the community.

National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) 2025 National Conference & Exhibition, and GGHA Award of Merit Recognition

The GGHA FSS Program has been recognized as a winner in the 2025 Community Innovation Awards Program, presented by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). With more than 200 applications submitted from across the country, the program's selection places it

among a distinguished group of agencies recognized for innovation, measurable outcomes, and replicable practices in addressing housing and community development needs. This recognition affirms the agency's efforts in developing effective solutions that both strengthen local services and serve as models for other communities nationwide.

As part of this honor, GGHA staff attended the 2025 NAHRO National Conference & Exhibition in Phoenix, Arizona, to formally accept the Award of Merit. The national conference convenes housing and community development professionals from across the country and provides a platform for agencies to highlight their initiatives, share and review emerging trends and policy updates affecting the field.

In addition to the award acceptance, staff participation in the conference supports professional development and engagement with peers nationwide. Attendance provides opportunities to learn best practices, build networks, and reflect the agency's ongoing commitment to high standards of collaboration, and innovation.



14th Year Anniversary of the Annual Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS)/FSS Workshop

The 14th Year Anniversary of the Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS)/FSS Workshop was held on September 24, 2025, in Los Angeles, with participation from housing authorities across the region and remarks from the HUD Regional Administrator. GGHA was invited to present on the progress of our FSS Program.

During the presentation, GGHA reported that program participation had more than doubled over the past year, demonstrating strong progress toward expansion goals. We also noted the agency's recent national recognition through the 2025 NAHRO Award of Merit which highlighted the program's impact despite our small size. The presentation concluded with the message that F.S.S. extends beyond its name, representing any goal or aspiration for both participants and staff members.



2025 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Agency Audit



Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a locally administered, electronic data collection system that stores information about clients who access the homeless service system. 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) administers HMIS for the Orange County Continuum of Care. In this effort, 211OC runs the database that supports our community's efforts to address homelessness. This information is reported to HUD to shape federal funding priorities.

All HMIS participating agencies are required to complete an annual audit to ensure compliance with OC HMIS Policies and Procedures. The GGHA 2025 HMIS Agency Audit was conducted and passed on August 19, 2025. Confirmation was received on August 26, 2025.

California Association of Housing Authorities (CAHA) Third Quarterly Meeting

On July 24, 2025, the California Association of Housing Authorities (CAHA) held its Third Quarterly Meeting, hosted at the Anaheim Public Library Sunkist Branch. The agenda covered committee elections, committee reports, legislative updates, and landlord outreach initiatives, along with discussions on pressing issues such as funding shortfalls, immigration status and subsidy eligibility, HUD's Housing Opportunities Through Modernization Act and National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate initiatives, and feedback from the recent HUD discussion about assistance term limits and work requirements.

GGHA staff attended this meeting to stay informed on the latest state and federal housing updates and to ensure our agency's concerns were represented, particularly in relation to ongoing budget cuts. Participation in CAHA continues to provide GGHA with a platform to join with other housing authorities in making the collective voice of our community heard by top leaders at both the state and federal level. The next CAHA quarterly meeting will take place on October 23, 2025, with location to be announced.

Community Events and Programs



Transforming Marketing Strategies into Revenue Growth with Al

On July 31, 2025, the Economic Development and Housing Department partnered with the OCIE SBDC to co-host the Transforming Marketing Strategies into Revenue Growth with Artificial Intelligence workshop at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center. The purpose of the workshop was to support local businesses in adopting Al-powered tools to enhance customer engagement, strengthen

digital outreach efforts, and increase online visibility. Attendees participated in hands-on demonstrations and reviewed real-world examples showcasing how these tools can improve operational efficiency and generate measurable revenue growth. The workshop drew approximately 100 registered participants, including local business owners, entrepreneurs, and marketing professionals. Participants left with practical strategies and were encouraged to explore additional consulting opportunities available through the Small Business Development Center network.



Foreign Trade Zone Workshop



On July 23, 2025, the Economic Development and Housing Department partnered with the Port of Long Beach to host the Foreign Trade Zone -50 Workshop at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center. The purpose of this workshop was to provide local businesses with an in-depth understanding of the Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) program and its potential benefits for international trade, manufacturing, and logistics operations. Notable speakers included City of Garden Grove Mayor Stephanie Klopfenstein, and representatives from the Port of Long Beach. The workshop drew in approximately 50 registered participants, including local business owners, economic stakeholders, and supply chain professionals. Attendees

received actionable insights on trade facilitation, export financing and Foreign Trade Zone application procedures.

Community Code Compliance

Minor Decoy Operation

On July 26, 2025, Code Enforcement partnered with the Garden Grove Police Department to conduct a Minor Decoy Operation aimed at ensuring compliance with State and local tobacco regulations. Using Police Explorers under the age of 21 as decoys, 17 smoke shops and tobacco retailers were inspected to verify that employees were properly checking customer IDs before selling tobacco products. Of the 17 locations inspected, 5 retailers were found in violation for failing to verify the decoy's age, resulting in administrative citations issued to employees and citations issued to business owners. Additionally, some locations were



cited for selling flavored tobacco products, which are prohibited. Moving forward, Code Enforcement plans to conduct one minor decoy operation each quarter to maintain ongoing compliance and support community health and safety.

National Night Out

Code Enforcement proudly participated in this year's National Night Out, engaging many community members at the event. The team distributed informational bulletins, Code Enforcement themed coloring pages, magnets, stickers, and sweet treats to help raise awareness about the role and services of the division. Representing the City were Code Enforcement Supervisory Rafael Avila, Code Enforcement Officer Amanda Plascencia, and Volunteer Joe Laricchia, who all contributed to a successful evening of public outreach and community connection.



Community Development Statistics for Q3 2025

Code Enforcement Activity	Statistical Data
Open Cases	639
Closed Cases	620
Cases Pending Customer Requests	1,578
Active Cases	1,572
Top Commercial Cases	Graffiti
Top Residential Cases	Unpermitted Construction/Building Code
	Violation
Reported Short Term Rentals	20
Red Tagged Properties	22
Cases Referred to City Attorney	15
Receiverships	1
Building Permits	Statistical Data
Applications Submitted	2,346
Plans Submitted	671
Permits Issued	475
ADU Permits Issued	116
Finaled Projects	1,872
Inspections	Statistical Data
Inspections Performed	7,213

Maintain Fiscal Health

As the fiscal year concludes, preliminary year-end financial information is being prepared. General Fund revenues exceeded expenditures by \$5.4 million, primarily due to higher-than-anticipated investment earnings.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE VS. EXPENDITURE									
Revised <i>Preliminary</i> Actuals Variance									
		Budget ¹	As of June 30, 2024 ³			\$	%		
Revenues	\$	181,673,400 ²	\$	185,774,140	\$	4,100,740	2%		
Expenditures		194,033,100		180,414,610		13,618,490	7%		
Operating Surplus ⁴	\$	(12,359,700)	\$	5,359,530	\$	17,719,230			

¹ Revised budget includes capital carryovers from previous fiscal years, such as Pavement Management Acceleration Program and Civic Center Revitalization Project.

General Fund Revenues

The City's General Fund serves as the primary funding source for essential municipal services, including public safety, public works, community planning, economic development, and community and park services. As a discretionary fund, it is primarily supported by tax revenues, which fluctuate in response to local and broader economic conditions.

On average, property tax contributes approximately 40% of total General Fund revenues, followed by sales and use tax (30%), and transient occupancy tax (15%). The remaining 15% is derived from business license taxes, franchise fees, permits, service charges, and fines and penalties. The City's revenue structure highlights a strong reliance on economically sensitive revenue sources, particularly sales tax and transient occupancy tax, which are directly tied to consumer spending and tourism activity.

Sales and use tax revenues, distributed quarterly by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, reflect the most immediate impact of changing economic conditions. While the City awaits the final distribution for Fiscal Year 2024–25, HdL's August 5, 2025 projection indicates that sales tax revenue will fall short of the budget by \$3.1 million. This shortfall is attributable to a cooling economy, where reduced consumer demand and slower retail activity have directly impacted the City's second-largest revenue stream.

Property tax revenues, allocated by the Orange County Auditor-Controller's Office, are comparatively more stable and provide a critical foundation for the General Fund. Current year secured property taxes, which make up about 45% of the City's overall property tax collections, are distributed in eight

² Amount reflects operating revenue only. An additional one-time allocation of \$2,625,700 from FY2022-23 surplus and \$1,089,100 from fund balance was included in the Amended FY2024-25 General Fund budget to balance the budget for the year.

³ Preliminary amounts subject to additional year-end accruals and audit.

⁴ Operating surplus includes \$3.1M in unspent capital budget and \$2.3M in encumbrances, totaling \$5.4M, which will be carried over to FY2026.

installments each fiscal year. While property values have remained resilient, long-term economic trends such as interest rate fluctuations and real estate market dynamics can affect future growth rates.

Transient occupancy tax (TOT), the City's third-largest tax source, is highly sensitive to tourism and regional economic conditions. In Fiscal Year 2024–25, TOT revenue totaled just over \$27 million, representing a 5.0% decline compared to the prior year and falling short of budget by 3.2%. This contraction signals a softening in the hospitality and tourism sector, which has a ripple effect on local businesses and City services dependent on visitor spending.

In contrast, investment earnings significantly outperformed expectations. Due to elevated interest rates throughout the year, investment income exceeded budgeted targets by nearly \$5 million. While this revenue boost helped offset economic softness in other categories, it underscores the City's exposure to external financial market conditions.

Overall, preliminary General Fund revenue closed Fiscal Year 2024–25 at \$4.1 million over budget. However, the underlying revenue performance paints a more nuanced picture: gains from investment income masked weaker results in economically driven revenues such as sales tax and TOT. The trend highlights both the City's fiscal resilience and its vulnerability to broader economic cycles, emphasizing the importance of long-term financial planning, diversified revenue strategies, and prudent reserve policies.

	Revised	Preli	minary Actuals	Variance		e
Source	Budget	As of	f June 30, 2025		\$	%
Property Tax	\$ 67,134,400	\$	67,776,897	\$	642,497	101%
Sales Tax ¹	61,823,500		58,700,994		(3,122,506)	95%
Hotel Visitor's Tax	28,000,000		27,090,813		(909,187)	97%
Other Taxes	5,960,000		5,878,283		(81,717)	99%
Licenses & Permits	3,045,100		3,479,362		434,262	114%
Charges for Services	7,254,200		8,701,741		1,447,541	120%
Investment Earnings	1,854,700		6,672,968		4,818,268	360%
Other General Fund Revenue	6,601,500		7,473,082		871,582	113%
Total	\$ 181,673,400	\$	185,774,140	\$	4,100,740	102%

¹ Preliminary sales tax amount is based on HdL's updated projections as of August 5, 2025.

General Fund Expenditures

As of June 30, 2025, all General Fund cost centers were operating at or below their current budgeted amounts. Overall expenditures represent approximately 93% of total General Fund appropriations. Budgetary savings attributable to staffing vacancies accounted for \$8.8 million of the total \$13.6 million favorable variance. In addition, \$3.1 million in unspent Capital Improvement Program funding will be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

Debt service and general utility expenditures are reported under "Non-Departmental" category. The slight overage was attributable to higher-than-anticipated utility costs.

	Revised	Preliminary Actuals		Variance		
Department	Budget ¹	As o	of June 30, 2024		\$	%
Fire	\$ 33,667,500	\$	33,381,354	\$	286,146	99%
Police	85,737,800		84,241,070		1,496,730	98%
City Administration ²	5,116,400		4,076,565		1,039,835	80%
Human Resources	2,263,600		1,699,606		563,994	75%
Finance	4,484,950		3,427,143		1,057,807	76%
Information Technology	854,200		614,909		239,291	72%
Community Development	7,298,500		6,957,014		341,486	95%
Community Services	7,415,800		6,028,684		1,387,116	81%
Economic Development	13,496,300		9,337,714		4,158,586	69%
Public Works	25,668,950		22,524,025		3,144,925	88%
Non-Departmental	8,029,100		8,126,526		(97,426)	101%
Total	\$ 194,033,100	\$	180,414,610	\$	13,618,490	93%

¹ Revised budget includes capital carryovers from previous fiscal years, such as Pavement Management Acceleration Program and Civic Center Revitalization Project.

Includes City Attorney.

Community Outreach

Office of Community Relations / Garden Grove TV3

During the third quarter of 2025, the Office of Community Relations (OCR) and Garden Grove TV3 (GGTV3) focused publicity efforts on summer programs, community events, and safety campaigns, such as National Night Out, Outdoor Movie Series, Summer and Fall Parks and Recreation Guide, West Nile virus, and flea-borne typhus. The period was highlighted by the launch and promotion of the City's rebranded email newsletter, GG Connect, and the 2nd Annual Foods of Garden Grove Live event.





GG Connect

OCR worked with the Graphic Design team to develop a new look and feel for the City's email newsletter to provide subscribers with timely, engaging updates that spotlight local events, stories, and city happenings. In September 2025, GG Connect was unveiled with a new

look and feel to strengthen brand identity, enhance readability, and showcase all things Garden Grove.

Foods of Garden Grove Live

OCR and GGTV3 carried out an extensive promotional campaign for the

2nd Annual Foods of Garden Grove Live event through a dynamic mix of digital, video, and social media outreach. The campaign highlighted new event offerings, including Art in the Dark and The Glow Zone. The division also helped manage the Foods of Garden Grove Instagram account, ensuring consistent and collaborative promotion across all accounts.



Ceremonies

On July 1, OCR supported the Community Services Department during the groundbreaking ceremony for the Woodbury Park Revitalization and Expansion Project, commemorating the start of construction on one of Garden Grove's existing recreational spaces in District 6. The final design features two playground areas, a recreational swimming pool, a pool house building, a skate plaza, basketball courts, a walking trail, outdoor fitness equipment, picnic shelters, restrooms, a parking lot, and park lighting.

On August 12, OCR supported the Economic Development and Housing Department during the unveiling ceremony of a 25-foot U.S. flagpole at the Garden Grove Medal of Honor Bike & Pedestrian Trail, honoring the courage of Garden Grove's own Medal of Honor recipients.

On August 26, OCR supported the Economic Development and Housing Department during the groundbreaking ceremony for Brandywine Homes' newest community, The Gables. Once complete,

The Gables will consist of 26 Craftsman-style townhomes with 2–4-bedroom, 2-3.5 bath floor plans, and feature energy-efficient designs and smart home technology.

Other programs and community events publicized included:

City Council Walk & Talk
Community Cleanup Days
Free Summer Concert Series
Garden Grove Boost Program
Garden Grove Mobile App
Garden Grove Teen Action Collaborative
Magnolia Park Family Resource Center 25th
Anniversary

National Night Out
National Prescription Drug Take Back Day
No Illegal Fireworks
Temporary Closure of Garden Grove H. Louis
Lake Senior Center
Temporary Closure of Gary Hall Pool at
Eastgate Park
Waste Collection Service Delays

Social Media

Community events, job openings, and recreation were the most popular posts during Q3 2025. A total of \$735.31 was placed into seven boosted posts. The boosted posts included campaigns for Foods of Garden Grove Live, the Garden Grove Teen Action Collaborative (GGTAC), and Winter in the Grove Holiday Craft Boutique.

The top five posts were:

- 1. Foods of Garden Grove Live 72,523 Reach (Organic)
- 2. City Hall Job Openings 66,266 Reach (Organic)
- 3. Senior Recreation Specialist Job Opening 17,870 Reach (Organic)
- 4. Outdoor Movie Series 10,259 Reach (Organic)
- 5. OC Clerk Recorder on Wheels 9,682 Reach (Organic)

While all social media platforms gained followers, NextDoor continued to be the social media platform with the largest quarterly growth, followed by Instagram. GGTV3 received over 66,000 video views on YouTube.



GGTV3 Completed Productions

1 News Story

 Garden Grove Breaks Ground on Woodbury Park Revitalization and Expansion Project

5 Live Events

 5 City Council Meetings Livestreamed, Cablecast & Archived

21 Additional Videos and/or Reels Posted

- 38th Annual "Call to Duty" Memorial Reel
- 50 Years of Little Saigon's Resilience Event Reel
- 118th Annual Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce Gala Dinner & Awards Reel
- 2025 City Tours with Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento
- 2025 Free Summer Concert Series Promo Reel
- 2025 Garden Grove State of the City Presentation
- 2025 GGPD Support K9 Back to School Event at 7/11 Reel
- 2025 Foods of Garden Grove Live Promo Reel (Spot 1)
- 2025 Foods of Garden Grove Live Promo Reel (Spot 2)
- 2025 Foods of Garden Grove Live Promo (Spot 3)
- 2025 Foods of Garden Grove Vendor Training Video
- Burnt Umber Coffee Shop Reel
- Denim Day Reel
- Garden Grove Promotional Video for KBIZ
- Garden Grove's Boost Program Video
- Garden Grove Center of Everything Video (Updated Version)
- Holiday Boutique Crafters Wanted for 2025 Winter in the Grove Promo
- Mayor Stephanie Klopfenstein Welcome Message for KBIZ
- Ric V. Lerma Memorial Golf Classic Reel
- UnReel with City Manager Lisa Kim (Giuliano Peppers Edition)
- Walk & Talk Reel for District 6 Promo







Community Events and Programs

Parks Make Life Better Month

On July 17, 2025 the Community Services Department celebrated Parks Make Life Better with free drop-in at the Sports and Recreation Center, free admission to Atlantis Play Center, free rec swim and free family activities at the summer concert that included inflatables, body art, face painting, water play station, and carnival games.

Summer Youth Basketball

The Recreation Division wrapped up its summer youth basketball season, which started in June and ran through late July. Youth participants enjoyed an opportunity to learn the fundamentals of basketball and teamwork in a competitive yet friendly league environment. This past summer the program continued to operate at league capacity numbers, attracting 250 participants for the season and 24 volunteer coaches. The season wrapped up with an awards ceremony and team potluck picnic at Garden Grove Park. This program's long-lasting success is due to City staff and the volunteers who help coach each year.

Summer Aquatics

One of the most popular recreational activities offered by the Community Services Department is the staff-led swim lessons through the American Red Cross Learn to Swim Program. Lessons were taught

at two City pools, Gary Hall Pool at Eastgate Park and Magnolia Park Pool.

During the 16-week swim lessons program, which ran from April through August, 2,157 individuals, ranging in ages from 6 months to 66 years, participated in the program, which generated over \$150,000 in revenue. These lessons provide individuals and



families with critical water safety skills, build confidence in and around the water, and help foster a culture of lifelong aquatic awareness within the community.

The recreational swim program continues to be a popular activity for Garden Grove residents, with 4,029 participants enjoying 147 recreational swim sessions between two City pools and generating close to \$8,000 in revenue. In celebration of Parks & Recreation Day on July 17, 2025, 125 participants attended three complimentary swim sessions, promoting community connection and access to safe, fun aquatic experiences.

Camp Grove (Summer Day Camp)

Camp Grove, the City's 9-week summer day camp for children ages 5-12, along with Counselors in Training (CITs) ages 13-17, began on June 9 and ran through August 8. The program included weekly excursions to major attractions such as Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, and an L.A. Sparks basketball game at the Crypto.com Arena in Downtown Los Angeles. In addition, collaborations with our Public Works Department and a contract sports instructor allowed us to add different activities this year, like a sports camp week and a Public Works touch-a-truck day. Day camp generated over \$70,000 and served over 400 campers during the 2025 summer season.



Movie on Main & Car Show

On Friday, August 8, 2025, City staff in collaboration with Garden Grove Main Street Car Show organizers, hosted its second annual Movie & Car Show on Main St. Participants enjoyed the late afternoon walking up and down the downtown Main St area, taking in the beauty of classical cars and



socializing with other community members at the Garden Grove Main St. Car Show, which took place from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. During this time, participants were also treated to music, local vendors, and a raffle, which capped off this portion of the event.

About 200 participants made their way over to the Acacia Parkway end of Main St., where they were able to set up their lawn chairs and blankets right on Main St. and enjoyed a screening of the 2024 Wicked Sing-Along edition movie. Participants were also able to visit the Garden Grove Community Services booth

to pick up a LED light up foam stick and a bag of popcorn, free of charge. The collaboration between the Garden Grove Main St. Car Show organizers, downtown business owners, and the City of Garden Grove continues to be a fruitful partnership that allows us to provide quality events that enhance the quality of life for all participants.

Summer Concerts

As part of the 2025 Free Summer Concert Series, four concerts were held at Eastgate Park this quarter. Approximately 2,500 people enjoyed music from classic rock to the 80s and 90s to country and pop. Bands included The Answer, 80s vs 90s Show, Kelly Boyz Band, and Take on Taylor, a Taylor

Swift tribute band. Each week, patrons had a variety of food trucks to choose from, including Mediterranean, Mexican, American, and fusion cuisine. Local non-profit organizations were available to share information with the community.

Within the concert series, The Voice of Garden Grove was held. This competition features local talented high school students vying for cash prizes. Each week, one semifinalist advances to the finals, held at the last concert. This year's finals highlighted five female contestants representing five different GGUSD high schools. The 2025 winner was Alex Case from Pacifica High School, who won \$500, and the runner-up was Daniela Nieto from Garden Grove High School, who won \$250. They each won cash prizes for their respective school choirs, as well. Alex Case will be part of the entertainment at this year's Winter in the Grove event on December 6 at Village Green Park.

Community Meeting Center

The Community Meeting Center underwent an audio/visual renovation in the Butterfield A & B rooms. The control system and network equipment have been upgraded. All ceiling speakers were replaced, and five were added for more coverage of the room. A new projector with higher lumens and 4K resolution, along with a new compatible wide screen, has been installed. In the B room, an 85" TV screen has been installed to give participants a visual of presentations on the main screen in the A room. All enhancements are to provide patrons with a better audio & visual experience.

The Founders Room has been equipped with the Meeting OWL 3, a conference room webcam for future hybrid meetings. A 360-degree camera positioned in the center of the room zooms in on the speaker for face-to-face interactions.

Magnolia Park Family Resource Center (MPFRC)

Summer Program: This year's theme was "Camp's Got Talent" and focused on performing arts and theatre. There were 22 kids that participated in the two week program for 1-5 grades, and at the end of the two weeks the kids had a performance for the parents, The Rainbow Fish. Teens from the leadership group SOL (Serving Our Leadership) volunteered leading interactive games and activities.



Coping with Stress Workshops: These workshops were offered virtually as a response to the stress/anxiety/worry the community were experiencing as a result of the immigration climate.

Diaper Program: This is a partnership with Community Action Partnership OC that has allowed MPFRC to provide free diapers to families that reside in Garden Grove and Westminster and have children ages 0-5. Parents that meet eligibility criteria are able to receive 50 diapers per month. Enrollment ends August 29th.

Splash into Reading Event: On Thursday, August 7th from 10am-12pm, MPFRC collaborated with the local library to provide free story time and free water games for children ages 0-5 and their parents. Parents had an opportunity to engage with parents and learn more about Magnolia Park FRC services as well as free resources & activities provided by their local library.

United Fathers Group: Two monthly groups will be offered on August 22nd and September 19th 6pm-7:30pm. The focus of these two groups will be on learning about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), how it impacts fatherhood, and how to apply positive parenting when ACEs factors are involved in the family dynamic.

Teen Support Group "Elevate": This is a six week group for teens, 9th to 12th grade, that provided a safe space for teens to grow, connect/boost their mindset. The goal is to equip the teens with tools to navigate challenges while fostering self-love, confidence, and a sense of belonging. Dates are September 4th to October 16th 5pm-6:30pm.

Back to School Supplies/Back Packs: MPFRC was able to provide free backpacks and school supplies to 73 families/146 children (K-12th grade).

Early Childhood Cafecitos: Biweekly group for parents with young children (0-5). The goal of this group is to bring together parents with young children to learn more about developmental stages and activities they can do at home with their children that promote learning and child development. Group begins September 4th 10am-11am.

25th Anniversary Event: Magnolia Park FRC celebrated its 25th year anniversary on Friday, September 12th. The event included a resource fair, an outdoor concert, children's activities, and free food.

Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center

<u>Summer Program</u>: (1st-6th grades M-Th) 44 children participated. Program took place for seven weeks from June 9 to July 24, 2025. Weekly themes included Disney week, Music/Art Festival, Mad Science, Water Week, Superhero/Cartoon week, Wild Wild West and Olympics. Staff prepared daily interactive activities as well as guest speakers for STEM projects in partnership with Creative Labs, as well as art, physical activitie, music and play. The children went on a field trip to Knott's Berry Farm.

<u>Teen Camp</u>: Program took place for seven weeks from June 9 to July 24, 2025, Monday-Thursday. 10 Teens participated in team building and group exercises, life skills i.e., cooking, mental health education, as well as, exploring a variety of art mediums. The Center also partnered with Creative Labs to support engaging STEM Activities. Teens also planned and coordinated throughout the summer the end of for the summer program children, theme was Olympics. The program concluded with teens participating in an end of summer field trip along with VolunTeens to Knott's Berry Farm.

<u>VolunTEEN Program</u>: 19 High School volunteers developed leadership, job readiness skills and work experience in the field of Recreation. Skills included how to apply for a job, interviewing techniques, employment skills, problem solving while building personal growth and leadership skills. Teens volunteered for 7



weeks as well as participated in a teen field trip to Knott's Berry Farm. VolunTEENs completed a total of 1,336 volunteer hours this summer.

<u>Kids Cafe Summer Food Program</u> in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank provided children (0-18yrs. old) with free summer lunch and snack. Parent volunteers assisted with meal service.

A Total 1,838 meals were served. Summer Lunch meals served = 904 Summer Snack meals served = 934

<u>Toy Story Movie and Bingo night</u>: The event hosted a hybrid in person and virtual movie watching Toy Story on July 31st. Event included interactive toy story themed bingo game online and in person. Dinner was provided by Bracken's Kitchen and families received family fun buckets featuring link to view movie at home, popcorn, toys, toy story themed coloring pages and candy. This program served 161 individuals/50 families.

<u>Back to School Drive</u>: 120 children/ 68 families kinder through 12th grades who reside in the Buena Clinton area, received free back packs and school supplies during the month of August.

Santa Ana College offered classes free of charge to residents during summer. A Fitness core and defense course with 6 attendees. A conversational English class with 17 attendees. Digital Literacy levels 3 (17) and 4 with (13) attendees. Fall Classes include; Digital literacy 4 and Employability Skills, Conversational English, Low Impact Fitness classes that start the week of August 19th.

<u>True Neighborhood Teens (TNT)</u>: Teen leadership program resumed in mid-August. The program is focused on career exploration, wellness workshops, internet safety, leadership, and team building and socialization skills, including community service.

<u>After-school Program (ASP)</u>: The ASP program resumed August 18, 2025. Currently with 27 children registered/enrolled. This program is for children 1-6th grades who live in the Buena Clinton neighborhood and surrounding area. Children receive homework assistance, engaging recreational and engaging activities, as well as Social Emotional Learning with the support of MSW interns that focus on how to make good decisions, making friends, coping skills for stress.

Orange County Public Library on the Go: The Mobile Library will be in the community the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 2:30-4pm. Services include ability to register for a library card, check out books for all ages, and digital resources.

H. Louis Lake Senior Center

<u>Bingo Madness</u>: On July 3rd, the Center held a free Bingo event for participants. A total of 64 individuals joined the fun, with enhanced raffle prizes offered at the conclusion.

<u>Duffy Boat Field Trip</u>: On July 15th, 27 participants enjoyed a scenic two-hour Duffy boat excursion around Newport Bay. Guests snacked on cheese, crackers, and apple cider while taking in the beautiful weather and spending time together on the water.





<u>Movie Day</u>: The Center hosted a movie day on July 22nd, screening the popular musical Grease. Forty-three participants attended, enjoying both the film and the opportunity to socialize with friends, including a photo booth, and movie snacks.



<u>Summer Cookie Decorating</u>: On August 8th, 19 participants took part in a creative cookie decorating workshop lead by MSW intern and staff. The workshop encouraged dialogue, creativity and hands-on fun.

<u>Symphony on the Go:</u> On August 25th, Symphony on the Go brought live music to the Center. A string quartet performed an hour-long program of classical music selections for participants, offering an enriching cultural experience for participants.

<u>Aloha Celebration</u>: On August 28th, the Center hosted the Aloha Celebration, an evening dance to mark the end of summer. The event featured a performance by a Polynesian dance group, followed by Hawaiian food favorites.

<u>Workshops and Presentations</u>: The Center continued to offer educational and supportive workshops throughout the quarter. Alzheimer's Orange County presented on topics including dementia, driving and memory concerns, and emergency preparedness, as well as offering memory screenings. HICAP

presented on August 13th, covering Medicaid Essentials to help attendees understand their program benefits.

Santa Ana College Partnership: The Center continues to partner with Santa Ana College for a variety of classes. This summer and Fall including, Aerobic Training, Self Defense for Everyone, and this Fall Practical Computer Skills Course.

<u>Senior Social Support Program</u>: The Center's Social Support Program continues to grow. The



program offers case management, assessment and care coordination and community resources for our Garden Grove senior community. This fall we are excited to expand our Caring Connections workshops twice a week, continue mat yoga facilitated by our Yoga certified MSW intern, as well as continue to offer support to our Spanish speaking participants, Mejor Juntos. The Center will have 5 interns this academic year. Services will be offered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

2025 Foods of Garden Grove Live



On Friday, September 26, 2025, the City hosted the second annual Foods of Garden Grove Live event at Village Green Park in downtown Garden Grove. The tasting event highlighted an international lineup of the city's most acclaimed and customer-favorite food and drink eateries, paired with free live music at the Garden Amp and many other family friendly activities.

New this year was the Public Works Touch-a-Truck area and an immersive, interactive black-light art experience called Art in the Dark. This zone featured UV-reactive graffiti street art, a paintable classic car, a splatter art mural, a 40-foot UV art installation by a local artist, a guided black-light Paint & Sip session, and more.

Except for the Paint & Sip activity and tasting tickets, admission to the event, concert, and all the other attractions were free to attendees. The evening was again a resounding success, selling out completely with 22,000 tasting tickets purchased and more than 24,000 food samples enjoyed by approximately 5,000 participants.