

The maintenance component was executed under a Delegated Maintenance Agreement, which authorizes the Garden Grove Police Department to enter Caltrans jurisdiction for street outreach and encampment cleanup activities. The agreement also provides funding for ongoing fencing maintenance and litter removal.

Through coordinated interagency efforts, the project supports the City's broader strategy to address encampments, enhance public safety, reduce recurring cleanup costs, and maintain the integrity of critical transportation infrastructure.

The success of the project is reflected in the reduction of complaints, decreased encampment presence and associated cost savings for the City and Caltrans District 12. In recognition of these outcomes, Caltrans project counterparts invited the City of Garden Grove to present the CFIP to the Caltrans District 12 Board to highlight the project's execution process, challenges, and measurable outcomes, and to encourage continued and future support for similar initiatives.

On January 27, 2026, the presentation was delivered at Caltrans Headquarters by Administrative Analyst Christy Le of the Garden Grove Economic Development and Housing Department, alongside representatives from the Garden Grove Police Department's Special Resource Team and Caltrans.

The presentation materials are attached for reference.

CONCLUSION

The Caltrans Fencing Improvement Project demonstrates the effectiveness of coordinated interagency partnerships in addressing encampments within State right-of-way areas. The City's participation in the California Department of Transportation presentation further positions Garden Grove as a regional model for collaborative infrastructure and public safety solutions and may support future funding opportunities to expand similar efforts.

Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Assistant City Manager
Economic Development and Housing Department Director

By: Christy Le, Administrative Analyst

Attachments:

1. Caltrans Fencing Improvement Project Presentation – January 27, 2026

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Lisa L. Kim
From: Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Dept: City Manager
Dept: Economic Development
and Housing
Subject: Little Saigon Project:
Milestone Update on Urban
Design and Business
Outreach
Date: March 5, 2026

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a milestone update on the Little Saigon project, including recent internal meetings taking place with Gensler, an urban design and architecture firm, and New City America (NCA), a consulting firm assisting with business outreach and district formation strategy.

DISCUSSION

Since February, staff has continued progressing the Little Saigon Project through ongoing coordination with Gensler and NCA. Staff maintains biweekly meetings with Gensler to monitor the project's progress, refine design direction, and align next steps.

On February 18, staff met with NCA and their subcontractor, Arrow GTP, to review the status of outreach efforts and discuss upcoming action items to support business and property owner engagement within Little Saigon. The business survey was distributed on February 18, to business owners in both English and Vietnamese. Upon completion, survey responses will serve as formal data to inform next steps and long-term planning efforts. While a Business Improvement District (BID) is not being pursued at this time, NCA outlined a potential pathway that would begin with approximately one year of nonprofit operations to establish organizational operation capacity and encourage stakeholder participation. Following this initial operational period, Phase I would focus on pursuing a Cultural District Designation with an emphasis on an economic development strategy. Phase II would consist of formally applying for Cultural District Designation. Establishing a Cultural District could provide long-term strategic value by strengthening economic vitality, enhancing place identity, and positioning Little Saigon for future funding and partnership opportunities.

On February 19, staff held a biweekly meeting with Gensler to discuss the next major milestone within the project scope. The discussion included key observations from the February 13, site walk. Staff and Gensler aligned on a guiding principle centered on connectivity across the multi-cities, emphasizing thoughtful growth and reinforced

community identity. The multi-cities discussed cohesive design elements intended to create visual consistency throughout Little Saigon and across the multi-cities areas, including coordinated street banners, benches, lighting and patterned pavement. The ultimate deliverable will be a comprehensive report illustrating the proposed vision and design direction for Little Saigon. Additionally, staff is preparing for an upcoming stakeholder engagement initiative to gather community feedback. At the next meeting, Gensler will present draft survey and focus group questions for the staff to review prior to conducting a Zoom-based focus group session in March.

CONCLUSION

The City remains committed to advancing the Little Saigon Project in a manner that reflects community priorities and supports long-term economic vitality. Continued engagement with stakeholders, including business owners and community members, will guide future design direction, cultural district efforts, and implementation strategies to ensure meaningful and sustainable outcomes.



Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Assistant City Manager
Economic Development and Housing Director

By: Sara Shapiro, Administrative Analyst

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To:	Lisa L. Kim	From:	Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Dept:	City Manager	Dept:	Economic Development and Housing
Subject:	Orange County Restaurant Week: March 8, 2026 - March 14, 2026	Date:	March 5, 2026

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information about the upcoming Orange County Restaurant Week (OCRW), which will take place from March 8, 2026 to March 14, 2026.

BACKGROUND

Orange County Restaurant Week (OCRW) is a week-long dining event featuring the culinary talents of restaurants across the region. First established in 2007, the event invites diners to explore Orange County’s diverse dining scene while highlighting its finest eateries through curated prix fixe menus. Over the years, OCRW has become one of the most anticipated events for both locals and visitors and has remained a popular event for nearly two (2) decades.

DISCUSSION

The City of Garden Grove is partnering with Visit Anaheim to showcase 11 Foods of Garden Grove (FOGG) restaurants, offering diners an unmatched opportunity to experience authentic global cuisines:



- Barrio
- BOBAN Boba & Bánh Mì Café
- Claws & Cream
- Firefly Burger
- Henry’s Bar & Grill
- Jerusalem Roastery
- NOVA Kitchen and Bar
- Sabroso! Mexican Kitchen
- Smoke Queen BBQ
- Urban Punjab: The Royal Kitchen
- West Grove Pizza Company

Participating restaurants are categorized under the “Celebrate Your Way” tab on the OCRW webpage, making it easy to explore a new favorite spot or revisit a local gem. Categories include Date Night Week, Small Bites and Snacks, and Foods of Garden Grove, to name a few.

The City worked closely with its marketing consultant to strategically execute public outreach efforts for the OCRW. Public communication, including coordinated social media campaigns, editorial content, and collaborations with local restaurants and regional media partners, was conducted through multiple channels to maximize engagement and increase visibility. Below are some of the coordinated efforts leading up to the weeklong celebration:

Instagram Features

- [Barrio](#)
- [Jerusalem Roastery](#)
- [Smoke Queen BBQ](#)

Blog Posts

- [Visit Anaheim](#)
- [LA Times](#)
- [OC Register](#)

News Segments

- [FOX - The LOCAList SD](#)
- [FOX - Studio 40 Live](#)
- [CBS - Central Valley Today](#)
- [KTLA - Morning News](#)
- CBS - KCAL (Scheduled for 3/9)



CONCLUSION

Garden Grove’s celebration of food and culture continues beyond OCRW with the upcoming launch of a new web application, Foodie Quest, and the return of Foods of Garden Grove Live (FOGGL) in Fall 2026. The City remains committed to supporting local businesses while highlighting Garden Grove’s rich culinary diversity—from Little Saigon and OC Koreatown to local favorites serving Latin, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and American cuisines. As OCRW approaches, Garden Grove invites diners to experience unique flavors shaped by generations of culture, history, and tradition.

For more information, please visit:
ocreastaurantweek.com/foods-of-garden-grove
www.ggcity.org/foodsofgardengrove

Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Assistant City Manager
Economic Development and Housing Director

By: Eric Hong, Administrative Analyst

Instagram Features

- Barrio:
<https://www.instagram.com/reels/DURMqckkuxJ>
- Jerusalem Roastery:
https://www.instagram.com/reel/DVeHrdHAsbM/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA
- Smoke Queen BBQ:
https://www.instagram.com/reel/DT_AtY_kqVw/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA%3D%3D

Blog Posts

- Visit Anaheim:
https://www.visitanaheim.org/includes/plugins/nav/preview_civs/?type=blog_version&typeArgs%5bversion_id%5d=69964785c743792fdf153ca4&typeArgs%5bpost_id%5d=699607c8c743792fdf1533de&typeArgs%5blog_name%5d=leisure_blog&typeArgs%5bisDraftPreview%5d=true
- LA Times:
<https://www.latimes.com/eta/travel-experiences/dining/list/best-garden-grove-oc-restaurant-week-spots>
- OC Register:
<https://www.ocregister.com/2026/03/03/10-of-the-absolute-best-15-deals-during-oc-restaurant-week/>

News Segments

- FOX – The LOCAList SD
https://h104216-dcdn.mp.lura.live/1/938869/2101/26/02/24/11551033/11551033_688BC1A4E62EA7CBDFE0F715FBD3C157_2400.mp4?aktaexp=2082787200&aktasgn=27bcf4ae946fb86188c59644133da26a
- FOX – Studio 40 Live
<https://fox40.com/studio-40/visit-anaheim-smoke-queen-bbq/>
- KSEE – Central Valley Today
<https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/cvt/visit-henrys-bar-grill-for-oc-restaurant-week/>
- KTLA – Morning News
<https://ktla.com/video/orange-county-restaurant-week-returns/11576649/>

City of Garden Grove
INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Lisa L. Kim
Dept.: City Manager
Subject: Human Services Spring Events

From: John Montanchez
Dept.: Community Services
Date: March 5, 2026

OBJECTIVE

To provide the City Council information on our community centers who are celebrating the season with three exciting spring events for families and seniors at the Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center (BCYFC), the H. Louis Lake Senior Center (HLLSC), and the Magnolia Park Family Resource Center (MPFRC).

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The BCYFC will host its annual Spring Family Night on Thursday, March 26, 2026. The event will feature dinner provided by Bracken's Kitchen, egg hunts for children ages 0-12, a family scavenger hunt, and a community resource fair. Families can also enjoy face painting and photos with the Easter Bunny, led by the Center's teen leadership group, True Neighborhood Teens.

The HLLSC will host a cheerful Spring Celebration in the senior center dining room on Wednesday, April 1, 2026. The event will feature an egg hunt, and a fun spring-themed activity. Seniors are encourage to dress in their best festive spring attire as they gather to celebrate connection and the new beginnings of the season.

The MPFRC will host its annual Spring into Fun event on Thursday, April 2, 2026 in recognition of Blue Ribbon Month, raising awareness for child abuse prevention. The Center's services strengthen families by providing them with resources, education, and support. The event will include an egg hunt, community resources, interactive games, face painting, door prizes, and dinner provided by Bracken's Kitchen.

SUMMARY

BCYFC Spring Family Night is on Thursday, March 26, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00p.m. HLLSC will host its Spring Celebration on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. MPFRC will host its annual Spring into Fun event on Thursday, April 2, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



JOHN MONTANCHEZ
Community Services Director



By: Gabi O'Cadiz-Hernandez
Human Services Supervisor

Attachment: Event Flyers



Spring Celebration

Join us for a delightful Spring celebration!
Guests can partake in an exciting egg hunt.
Come dressed in your brightest spring attire
and enjoy a day of fun with friends!



WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM
APRIL 1 11:00 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CALL THE
CENTER AT 714-741-5253.

BUENA CLINTON YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER

SPRING



FAMILY NIGHT

Thursday, March 26, 2026

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

DINNER PROVIDED TO THE FIRST 200 PARTICIPANTS

DINNER SERVICE BEGINS : 5:00 PM | EGG HUNT: 6:00 PM

FACE PAINTING

PHOTO BOOTH

PRIZES

RESOURCES

GAMES

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER

PLEASE CALL: (714) 741-5768



NOCHE FAMILIAR DE PRIMAVERA



JUEVES 26 DE MARZO DEL 2026
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

CENA SERA PROPORCIONADA A LOS PRIMEROS 200 PARTICIPANTES

CENA SERVIDA: 5:00 PM | BÚSQUEDA DE HUEVOS: 6:00 PM

JUEGOS

RECURSOS

OPORTUNIDAD DE FOTOS

PREMIOS

FACE PAINTING



**FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER
PLEASE CALL: (714) 741-5768**



MÙA XUÂN ĐÊM GIA ĐÌNH

Thứ Năm, Ngày 26 Tháng 3 Năm 2026
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

BỮA ĂN ĐƯỢC PHỤC VỤ CHO 200 NGƯỜI THAM GIA ĐẦU TIÊN

BỮA ĂN TỐI ĐƯỢC PHỤC VỤ LÚC 5PM | SĂN TRỨNG PHỤC SINH: 6PM

GIẢI THƯỞNG

TRÒ CHƠI

MÁY CHỤP HÌNH

TÀI NGUYÊN

VẼ MẶT



Spring into Fun Family Event

Thursday, April 2, 2026
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Egg Hunt



Crafts



Face Painting



Games



Door Prizes



Resources

**Magnolia Park FRC
11402 Magnolia Street
Garden Grove, CA 92841**

****Dinner provided to the first 200 participants****

Egg Hunt at 6:00 p.m. for children ages 10 yrs and under

For additional information, please call (714) 741-5222





Evento Familiar de la Primavera

jueves, 2 de abril del 2026
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Recursos



Comida gratis



Premios



**Actividades para
niños**



Búsqueda de huevos

**Magnolia Park FRC
11402 Magnolia Street
Garden Grove, CA 92841**



****Cena será proporcionada a los primeros 200 participantes****

Búsqueda de huevos a las 6:00 p.m. para niños menores de 10 años

Para más información, llame al (714) 741-5222



WEEKLY MEMO 03-05-2026

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Post Performance

February 26, 2026 – March 4, 2026

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

Included in this Report

X @CityGardenGrove

f Garden Grove City Hall

g gardengrovecityhall

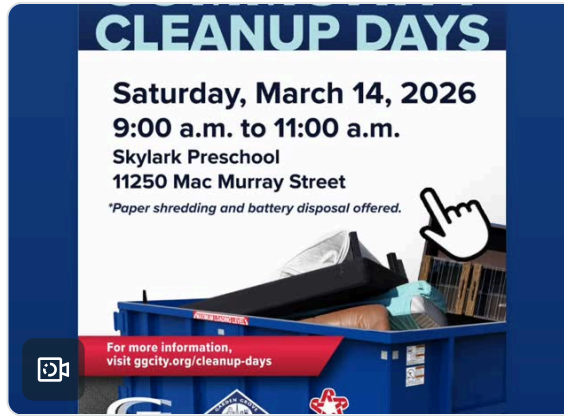
 **gardengrovecityhall**
Tue 3/3/2026 2:37 pm PST



Views	547
Average Reach per Post	481
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	3

 **gardengrovecityhall**
Mon 3/2/2026 1:01 pm PST

Did somebody say spring cleaning? 🌸🧹 Join us at the next Community Cleanup Day!



Views	797
Average Reach per Post	636
Comments	1
Story Taps Back	7

 **gardengrovecityhall**
Mon 3/2/2026 9:31 am PST

🏡 Let us help you get a head start on your *spring cleaning* at the next *Community Cleanup Day* on Saturday, March 14! [i](#) ...



Views	18,095
Average Reach per Post	1,756
Engagements	104
Engagement Rate (per View)	0.6%

@CityGardenGrove

Mon 3/2/2026 9:31 am PST

Let us help you get a head start on your spring cleaning at the next Community Cleanup Day on Saturday, March 14! [i](#)...

Saturday, March 14, 2026

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Skylark Preschool

11250 Mac Murray Street

**Paper shredding and battery disposal offered.*

For more information, visit gocity.org/cleanup-days

Impressions	105
Average Potential Reach per Post	4,741
Engagements	11
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	10.5%

@CityGardenGrove

Mon 3/2/2026 9:31 am PST

The event is open to Garden Grove residents only. Proof of residency is required. Please view the list of banned items at <https://t.co/stLo0kejBK>. #GG1956 #communityevent

Post Link Clicks	1
Impressions	53
Average Potential Reach per Post	4,741
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.9%

Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 3/2/2026 9:31 am PST

Let us help you get a head start on your spring cleaning at the next *Community Cleanup Day* on Saturday, March 14! [i](#)...

Saturday, March 14, 2026

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.


Skylark Preschool


11250 Mac Murray Street

**Paper shredding and battery disposal offered.*

For more information, visit gocity.org/cleanup-days


Views	14,743
Average Reach per Post	11,171
Engagements	308
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.1%

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Mon 3/2/2026 8:33 am PST




COMMUNITY UP DAYS
 March 14, 2026
 to 11:00 a.m.
 k Preschool
 c Murray Street
 attery disposal offered.

Views	747
Average Reach per Post	488
Engagements	20
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.7%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 2/27/2026 3:13 pm PST

#FeelGoodFriday CHIEF TJ MCGOVERN HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED AS THE ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY'S...




Views	869
Average Reach per Post	723
Comments	1
Story Taps Back	30

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 2/27/2026 11:57 am PST

TOMORROW IS THE FREE COMPOST GIVEAWAY! GARDEN GROVE RESIDENTS MAY RECEIVE UP TO SIX BAGS OF COMPOST!



Views	835
Average Reach per Post	679
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	8

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Fri 2/27/2026 9:07 am PST

⚠️ EMERGENCY WATER SHUTDOWN

Water Services has an emergency water shutdown affecting Marylee Drive near Chapman Avenue and Dale Street. Service is expected to be restored by 11:30 AM.


We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience. **#GG1956**

Impressions 210

Average Potential Reach per Post 4,740

Engagements 57

Engagement Rate (per Impression) 27.1%

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Fri 2/27/2026 9:04 am PST

⚠️ EMERGENCY WATER SHUTDOWN

Water Services has an emergency water shutdown affecting Marylee Drive near Chapman Avenue and Dale Street. Service is expected to be restored by 11:30 PM.

We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience. **#GG1956**


Impressions —

Average Potential Reach per Post 4,920


Engagements —

Engagement Rate (per Impression) —

Removed

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Thu 2/26/2026 2:28 pm PST

Don't miss your LAST CHANCE to apply! 🚧



Views 1,299

Average Reach per Post 963

Comments 1

Story Taps Back 8




Post Performance

February 26, 2026 – March 4, 2026

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

Included in this Report


 Garden Grove Police Department

 **Garden Grove Police Depart...**
 Wed 3/4/2026 3:24 pm PST

SUBJECT: Homicide Investigation
 LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE: 12500 block of Sandalwood Ln, Garden Grove...



Views	0
Average Reach per Post	0
Engagements	0
Engagement Rate (per View)	—


 **Garden Grove Police Depart...**
 Tue 3/3/2026 3:13 pm PST

Weekend recap 02/26/2026 - 03/1/2026

#GardenGrovePD #GGPD32 #GGPD...



Video Views	884
Views	2,730
Average Reach per Post	2,113
Engagements	51
Engagement Rate (per View)	1.9%

 **Garden Grove Police Depart...**
 Tue 3/3/2026 9:11 am PST

BIKE SAFETY & RODEO 🚲 🚔

Join the Garden Grove Police Department for ...



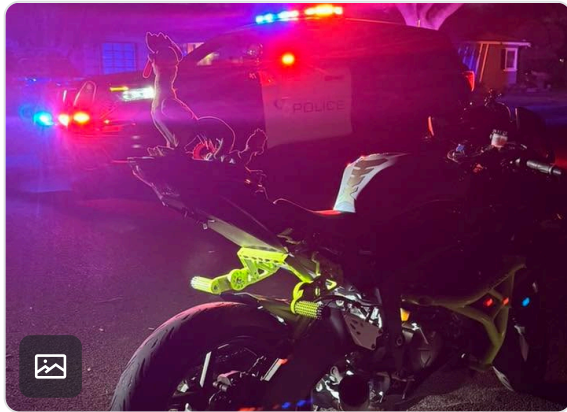
Views	4,899
Average Reach per Post	3,434
Engagements	112
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.3%



f Garden Grove Police Depart...

Fri 2/27/2026 4:13 pm PST

Late last night, **#GGPD** officers conducted a traffic stop on a motorcycle. Instead of facing the consequences of his own actions, the ride...



<u>Views</u>	22,062
<u>Average Reach per Post</u>	13,001
<u>Engagements</u>	1,878
<u>Engagement Rate (per View)</u>	8.5%

WEEKLY MEMO 03-05-2026

NEWS ARTICLES

The Tribune
March 2, 2026

GGUSD students go for gold

BYOC TRIBUNE STAFF ON MARCH 2, 2026 • (LEAVE A COMMENT)



GGUSD grads have reached some heights (GGUSD photo).

Students in the Garden Grove Unified School District are continuing to rack up more honors.

The Class of 2026 earned 1,286 Golden State Seal Merit Diplomas, a recognition awarded to California high school graduates who demonstrate a high level of mastery in a minimum of six subject areas.

That compares to the Class of 2025, which had 1,164 students earning the distinction.

“The Golden State Seal Merit Diploma is more than a recognition – it represents true academic mastery across multiple subject areas,” according to Bob Harden, president of the GGUSD Board of Education. “It signals that our students are graduating with the knowledge, discipline and confidence needed to achieve lifelong success.”

The GGUSD serves most of Garden Grove and parts of Anaheim, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Santa Ana, Stanton and Westminster.

Voice of OC
March 2, 2026

Garden Grove Moves to Ban Whippets

BY MICHELLE KING Mar 2, 2026 Why you can trust Voice of OC



The Garden Grove City Council meeting on July 8, 2025. Credit: JULIE LEOPO, Voice of OC

Another Orange County is looking to introduce restrictions on whippets, with Garden Grove officials eying [a ban of the inhalant](#).

Recreational nitrous oxide, known as “whippets” or “galaxy gas,” can be inhaled to create a high and can lead to “neurological, hematologic [related to blood], and psychiatric complications, including nerve damage and psychosis” if abused, according to the [Yale School of Medicine](#).

This week, city council members voted unanimously on the first reading of the ban, which would prevent nitrous oxide from being sold in the city for recreational purposes – the gas can still be purchased for culinary, medical and vehicular purposes.

At the meeting, Councilmember George Brietigam suggested that he would support expanding the ban to include vehicle use, though it wasn’t added to the final wording.

“When I look at nitrous oxide in the automotive industry, I would prefer to ban that too because it’s basically used to make cars go fast,” Brietigam said at the meeting. “I would even go beyond this (ordinance) if I could, but this is a good start.”

A major point behind the ban was its marketing toward children with its flavoring.

“We have attachments of photos of some of the nitrous oxide that we have found in smoke shops and other liquor stores in the city, you will notice, for whatever reason, they have different flavors like grape and strawberry,” said City Attorney Omar Sandoval at the meeting.

“It’s just an example of the type of products that we’re finding out there that appear to be geared towards children.”

The council also [pushed back discussion on kratom](#) again, putting the item back on the agenda in a few weeks.

At their Feb. 10 meeting, [an ordinance was proposed](#) which would ban both whippets and kratom, but its discussion was delayed and the ban was split in two, with separate wording to be developed for the drugs.

The city also paused discussion on banning smoking in public spaces, citing lack of clarity and concerns about enforcement.

Whippet Crackdowns in OC

Orange County has seen a rise in regulations on recreational nitrous oxide, specifically targeting the inhalant being used to get high.

Regulations surrounding the product can also be challenging because of its wide use in various products, like culinary products, like whipped cream, as a medical and dental anesthetic, and for vehicle performance.

Fullerton banned the gas in November following a 328% increase in arrests associated with the gas, jumping from 32 in 2020 to 137 in November of 2025, then the ordinance was passed.

The city had also seen a 700% increase in traffic collisions involving nitrous oxide in the city, [according to a city presentation](#).

Officials in [Santa Ana](#) and [Costa Mesa](#) have also brought in their own restrictions, while Irvine sidestepped a ban, citing state laws providing enough cover.

Kratom Uses and Regulations

Restriction of kratom has been widely varied because of its multiple forms and their varying effects.

At the Feb. 10, Garden Grove meeting, most concerns circled around the restriction of kratom, since its two forms are varying dangerous to the public.

Dried leaf kratom taken in low doses is used similarly to caffeine for energy.

But when an alkaloid making up only 2% of the leaf's natural alkaloid content – 7-hydroxymitragynine – is taken in concentrated doses, the plant has an opioid-like effect and is known as synthetic kratom.

Because there is no regulation surrounding kratom, both natural and synthetically created products are simply labeled as “kratom” making it hard for buyers to know what they're getting.

“You’ve stripped everything about the kratom leaf from it, no fiber, none of the other 50 alkaloids, none of the antioxidants. You focus on the trace amounts of 7-OH, you amplified it by 200, 300 times,” said Matthew Lowe, executive director of the Global Kratom Coalition, in an interview.

“Then you put it into a pill, and you’ve put it onto the market, calling it natural, which it’s not, calling it a dietary supplement, which it’s not, and in many cases, calling it natural kratom, which it’s not.”

The Federal Drug Administration [currently recommends scheduling action](#) of the synthetic 7-OH products. The county has introduced bans of the synthetic version of the drug, following state officials recommendations – similar restrictions are what advocates support for the natural leaf.

“One is naturals being consumed for centuries. One is a novel drug creation,” Lowe said. “The DEA is now working through that scheduling process, and we hope that there’s going to be emergency action taken soon. But really, our message is: the FDA have got this right.”

[Dana Point](#), [Tustin](#) and [Newport Beach](#) have all joined the growing list of cities fully banning all kratom products, while cities like [Huntington Beach](#), [Laguna Niguel](#) and [Buena Park](#) moved forward with bans on synthetic kratom, containing 2% of 7-OH.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

March 5, 2026

1. Calendar of Events
2. Agenda for the March 2, 2026 Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission meeting.
3. Agenda for the March 12, 2026 Zoning Administrator meeting.
4. League of California Cities articles from February 27, 2026 to March 5, 2026



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 5, 2026 – April 4, 2026

Thursday	March 5	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	March 6		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	March 10	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	March 12	9:00 a.m.	Downtown Commission Meeting, CMC
Thursday	March 12	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Saturday	March 14	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Community Cleanup Day Skylark Pre-School, 11250 Mac Murray St.
Thursday	March 19		\$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
Thursday	March 19	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	March 20		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	March 24	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority Meeting, CMC Sanitary District Meeting, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	March 26	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Thursday	April 2	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	April 3		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Saturday	April 4	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Eggscavation Atlantis Play Center, 13630 Atlantis Way



AGENDA

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 2, 2026

Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

REGULAR SESSION - 6:30 P.M. – Council Chamber

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 timothyt@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.

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

Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability, should contact the Neighborhood Improvement Office at (714) 741-5140 72 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2)

All revised or additional documents and writings related to any items on the agenda, which are distributed to all or a majority of the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commissioners within 72 hours of a meeting, are made available for public inspection (1) at the Neighborhood Improvement Office during normal business hours; and (2) at the Community Meeting Center at the time of the meeting.

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



AGENDA

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER
11300 STANFORD AVENUE
GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

REGULAR SESSION - 6:30 P.M. – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS de la O, JUNG, KESTER, PAREDES, PAYNE,
RUBIN, TACKNEY

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

- A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 8, 2025
- C. REVIEW OF CODE OF ETHICS/ BROWN ACT BY ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY
- D. MATTERS FROM STAFF
 - 1. PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2026-27 ACTION PLAN BY PROGRAM SPECIALIST,
DANA YANG
- E. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- F. ADJOURNMENT

The next Meeting of the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission will be a Regular Meeting on **Monday, June 1, 2026**, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA.



AGENDA

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING

Garden Grove Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue

Thursday, March 12, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Zoning Administrator, 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 prior to the meeting. The comments will be provided to the Zoning Administrator as part of the meeting record.

Members of the public desiring to speak on any item of public interest, including any item on the agenda except public hearings, must do so during Comments by the Public. Each speaker shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Members of the public wishing to address public hearing items shall do so at the time of the public hearing.

Meeting Assistance: Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability, should contact the Community Development Department at (714) 741-5312 or email planning@ggcity.org 72 hours prior to the meeting to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

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

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

1. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC
2. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM(S):
 - a. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-262-2024 \(REV. 2026\)](#)

APPLICANT: BWTC, LLC
LOCATION: 5939 Chapman Avenue

REQUEST: A request to modify the conditions of approval for Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-262-2024 to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages within the outdoor waiting area of an existing restaurant. In conjunction with this request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a Decision approving Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-262-2024 (REV. 2026) pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

b. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-288-2026](#)

APPLICANT: Rai Samra, Inc. Rupinder Samra

LOCATION: 12502 Harbor Boulevard

REQUEST: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to operate an existing 7-Eleven Convenience Store with a new original state Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "21" (Off-Sale General) License and a recommendation that the Zoning Administrator revoke the previous Conditional Use Permit governing the tenant space, CUP-540-2001. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a Decision approving Conditional Use Permit No. Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-288-2026 pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

3. [NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEM:](#)

a. [ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION NO. IFC-003-2026](#)

APPLICANT: Frank Young

LOCATION: 11072 Magnolia Street

REQUEST: A request for a determination of Public Convenience or Necessity for an original Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "21" (Off-Sale General) License in connection with Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-276-09 Rev. 2014. In conjunction with the request, the Zoning Administrator will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a Decision approving Item for Consideration No. IFC-003-2026 making the Public Convenience or Necessity (PCN) determination.

4. ADJOURNMENT



High-speed rail financing proposal could derail local housing and infrastructure funding

Mar 4, 2026

By Damon Conklin, legislative advocate (transportation), and Ben Triffo, legislative advocate (revenue and taxation)

Cal Cities and other local government groups are pushing back on an [unprecedented proposal from the California High-Speed Rail Authority](#) that would threaten local revenues and local control. The plan would allow the agency to collect property and sales tax revenues within a half-mile radius of station areas to fund rail construction and commercialization through state-run Tax Increment Financing districts.

The coalition, which includes the California State Association of Counties, [sent a letter to state leaders](#) and the High-Speed Rail Authority board on Monday, urging them to withdraw the proposal and work with local governments to identify funding strategies that work for everyone. “California’s local agencies support the vision of a modern, statewide, high-speed rail system,” the group wrote. “However, funding that system must not come at the expense of constitutionally protected local revenues, local land-use authority, or the fiscal stability of our communities. We cannot lift up communities with a project that is built upon their backs.”

Can the High-Speed Rail Authority actually do this?

The High-Speed Rail Authority has yet to flesh out all the details. However, diverting local tax increment to a state entity would almost certainly invite legal challenges. The state constitution specifically prohibits reallocating local tax proceeds imposed for local purposes. Proposition 1A (2004) safeguards local property tax shares. Proposition 13 (1978) allocates property tax among constitutionally recognized districts, and the High-Speed Rail Authority is NOT one of them.

California already provides lawful, locally driven tax increment tools, including Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts and Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities. These mechanisms require local initiation, consent from affected taxing entities, and transparent public processes. *Participation in both is voluntary.* The proposal put forth by the High-Speed Rail Authority departs from this model.

There are more constitutionally sound funding proposals that the state could pursue, such as voter-approved bonds or dedicated state revenues, if it needs additional revenue. In fact, the Legislature did just that last year when it allocated \$20 billion dollars from the state’s Cap-and-Invest program to the project.

How would this impact cities?

City officials and [even some transit advocates](#) have raised concerns about the proposal’s impact. A new, state-controlled district could conflict with existing financing districts that have already pledged revenues to housing, infrastructure, and economic development.

A decades-long diversion of revenue growth in station areas would significantly constrain local governments' ability to fund public safety, roads, parks, and essential services. In Fresno, for example, the proposal would capture much of the tax revenue generated in the downtown area. Residents and city officials in Merced have also raised concerns, in part because the exact location of the Merced station has not yet been confirmed.

Equally concerning is the suggestion of state regulatory authority over station areas. Local planning power is constitutionally guaranteed: While the state may establish policy frameworks, it cannot assume total control over local zoning and development decisions.

What's next?

While there is no official language in print, this item will likely be discussed at [future High-Speed Rail Authority Board meetings](#) and potentially state budget negotiations. If you are a city with a planned high-speed rail station, or are concerned about potential state overreach, please reach out to Cal Cities lobbyists [Damon Conklin and Ben Triffo](#). All cities should contact their legislators to express their opposition due to the precedent it seeks to establish.



Cal Cities-sponsored bill would improve the fire hazard mapping process

Mar 4, 2026

By Melissa Sparks-Kranz, legislative advocate (environmental quality)

Asm. Lisa Calderon introduced [AB 2517](#), a bill sponsored by Cal Cities that would address major concerns raised by cities about the state's fire hazard mapping process. Fire hazard maps identify environmental conditions — including slope, vegetation, wind patterns, and others — that can spread wildfires.

The measure would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to provide consistent and timely updates when developing the local responsibility area fire hazard severity zone (FHSZ) maps. Specifically, the bill would require the state to make the data and methodology for the fire hazard model publicly available.

“AB 2517 ensures science-based, regularly scheduled updates that reflect current wildfire threats, providing fire agencies, local governments, and residents with the best available data for effective mitigation and preparedness efforts,” [said Calderon](#). “By establishing a clear and consistent review timeline, this bill strengthens California’s wildfire prevention strategy and enhances the state’s ability to protect lives, property, and infrastructure.”

How would it work?

Under current law, FHSZ designations in local areas must be “periodically” reviewed by the State Fire Marshal. This vague timeline often leaves local governments without the scientific data they need to fully understand which areas are at greatest risk for fires. These designations correlate with defensible space and home hardening requirements and are critical for ensuring communities can mitigate wildfires.

AB 2517 would clarify that this process happens on a five-year frequency and would require the State Fire Marshal to provide a preliminary release of the maps with a public comment period and regional workshops. This would allow local governments and stakeholders the opportunity to better understand the designations and plan for wildfires.

It would also allow cities to offer relevant land use information to make sure the state is aware of any changes in land use or zoning that may not be reflected in the maps. In some cases, the state has designated parking lots and bodies of water as high-fire severity zones. Additionally, some parcels have been split with two designations. The bill would clarify that local governments can increase the fire hazard designation when a parcel is assigned two zones.

"Cal Cities is proud to sponsor AB 2517, which will increase transparency, timeliness, and public engagement around the state's high fire area designation process," said Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. "AB 2517 will increase public awareness and help inform how local governments can keep our residents and businesses safe against the growing threat of wildfires in and around our communities."

Strengthening climate change resilience and disaster preparedness, including wildfire prevention and mitigation, [is a top priority](#) for Cal Cities. To show your support, please submit a letter using [Cal Cities' sample support letter](#). The bill must remain in print for 30 days before lawmakers can hear it.