

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
April 4, 2024

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

I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

A memo to provide highlights of the Buena Clinton Spring Family Night is attached

B. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

A memo is attached to inform about the Magnolia Park Family Resource Center event "Spring into Fun."

II. OTHER ITEMS

– SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

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

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



Lisa Kim
City Manager

City of Garden Grove
INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Lisa L. Kim
From: John Montanchez
Dept.: City Manager
Dept.: Community Services
Subject: Buena Clinton Spring Family Night
Date: April 4, 2024

OBJECTIVE

To provide the City Council with a highlights of the Buena Clinton Spring Family Night. The event goal was to bring the community together to kick off spring, provide resources, and promote the Center's upcoming summer programs.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center hosted its second annual Spring Family Night on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

The event featured hot meals provided by Bracken's Kitchen; an egg hunt for children ages 0-5; a family scavenger hunt; a resource fair; and games and photos with the Easter Bunny ran by the Center's teen leadership group, True Neighborhood Teens.

Several community agencies participated including: Alta Med, Jamboree Housing, H. Louis Lake Senior Center, Boys and Girls Clubs featuring Growing up Garden Grove, Boat People SOS, Children's Health Initiative of Orange County, and Cal Optima.

SUMMARY

The event was a fun night for all. Approximately 325 residents participated.



JOHN MONTANCHEZ
Community Services Director

Gabriela O'Cadiz Hernandez

By: Gabi O'Cadiz-Hernandez
Human Services Supervisor

Attachments: Spring Family Night Photos





City of Garden Grove
INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Lisa L. Kim
Dept.: City Manager
Subject: Blue Ribbon Month Event

From: John Montanchez
Dept.: Community Services
Date: April 4, 2024

OBJECTIVE

To inform the City Council about the Magnolia Park Family Resource Center event "Spring into Fun" on Friday, April 19, 2024.

BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION

April is child abuse prevention month. On Friday, April 19, 2024 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Magnolia Park Family Resource Center (MPFRC) will host a family event "Spring into Fun" to commemorate Blue Ribbon Month. The Blue Ribbon represents child abuse prevention and awareness. Throughout the month of April, MPFRC provides activities that promote family strengthening and resiliency. This event will bring families together for an afternoon of fun while participating in enjoyable activities and learning more about Magnolia Park FRC services and community resources. Activities will include a resource fair, children's crafts, games/activities, giveaways/door prizes, and free refreshments/snacks.

SUMMARY

Magnolia Park Family Resource Center will host a family event to commemorate Blue Ribbon Month on Friday, April 19, 2024 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.



JOHN MONTANCHEZ
Community Services Director

Gabriela O'Cadiz Hernandez

By: Gabriela O'Cadiz-Hernandez
Human Services Supervisor

Attachment: Spring into Fun Flyer



SPRING INTO FUN

- 🌻 CRAFTS
- 🌻 RESOURCE FAIR
- 🌻 GAMES
- 🌻 DOOR PRIZES
- 🌻 FREE FAMILY DINNER



Friday, April 19, 2024
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Magnolia Park FRC
11402 Magnolia Street
Garden Grove, CA 92841

**For additional information or to
register please call (714) 741-5222.
Registration is required.
Space is limited.**

WEEKLY MEMO 04-04-2024

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS





Post Performance







March 28, 2024 - April 3, 2024

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

Included in this Report

 gardengrovecityhall

Post	Published Date	Impressions	Average Reach per Post	Average Potential Reach per Post	Engagement Rate (per Impression)	Engagements	Reactions	Comments	Shares
 gardengrovecityhall  City Council Approves Project Agreement for New Police Facility, Civic Cent... Post	Fri, Mar 29, 2024 4:46 pm PDT	3,885	3,145	N/A	6.5%	253	222	13	N/A
 gardengrovecityhall  🍊 Orange you glad we're a week away from the Magnolia Park ribbon-cutting ceremon... Post	Tue, Apr 2, 2024 1:48 pm PDT	1,618	1,526	N/A	8.5%	137	98	0	27
 gardengrovecityhall  INTERIM ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER NAMED TO OFFICIAL POSITION City... Post	Fri, Mar 29, 2024 1:46 pm PDT	1,522	1,444	N/A	2.6%	40	37	1	1
 gardengrovecityhall  Don't miss Garden Grove Mayor Steve Jones' last official address at the 2024 State of... Post	Wed, Apr 3, 2024 9:40 am PDT	1,271	1,203	N/A	7.6%	96	69	3	21

Post	Published Date	Impressions	Average Reach per Post	Average Potential Reach per Post	Engagement Rate (per Impression)	Engagements	Reactions	Comments	Shares
 gardengrovecityhall  Are you a Garden Grove resident graduating from a college or university this yea... Post	<u>Mon, Apr 1, 2024</u> 12:38 pm PDT	1,082	887	N/A	4.2%	45	43	1	N/A
 gardengrovecityhall  April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month Join us in commemorating the 23rd... Post	<u>Mon, Apr 1, 2024</u> 3:46 pm PDT	806	779	N/A	11.3%	91	28	0	58
 gardengrovecityhall  Nominate your home 🏠 to be the next Garden Grove gem 💎 and have the chance to win ... Reel	<u>Tue, Apr 2, 2024</u> 4:38 pm PDT	362	348	N/A	2.8%	10	7	0	3



Post Performance

March 28, 2024 - April 3, 2024

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

Included in this Report

 Garden Grove Police Department



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Thu 3/28/2024 5:21 pm PDT

Today, March 28, 2024 at 10:12 AM, #GardenGrovePD Officers responded to the 14200 Block of Corporate Dr referenc...



Impressions	4,025
Reach	3,989
Engagements	345
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	8.6%



Garden Grove Police Depa...

Fri 3/29/2024 12:15 pm PDT

We're closing out #WomensHistoryMonth with the last batch of past and present women of #GardenGrovePD. Civilians,...

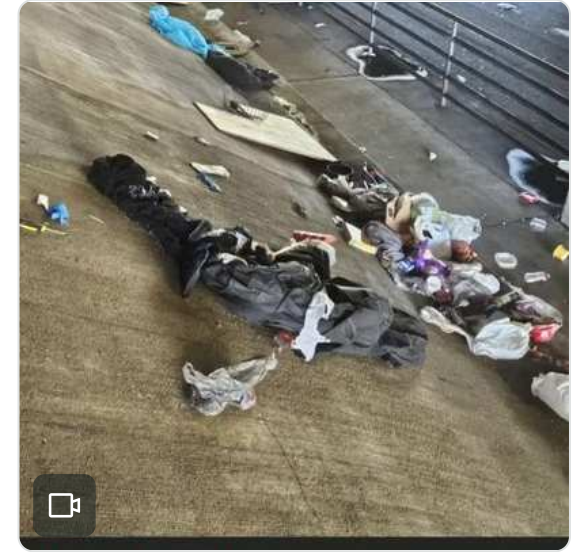


Impressions	3,398
Reach	3,206
Engagements	510
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	15%




Garden Grove Police Depa...

Sat 3/30/2024 3:00 pm PDT



Video Views	3,745
Impressions	3,745
Reach	3,860
Engagements	116
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.1%

 **Garden Grove Police Depa...**
 Wed 4/3/2024 2:10 pm PDT

April is #DistractedDrivingAwareness Month. When you're behind the wheel, please #JustDrive. Throughout this mont...



Video Views	102
Impressions	256
Reach	254
Engagements	19
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.4%

WEEKLY MEMO 04-04-2024

NEWS ARTICLES



CONTACT:
Ana Pulido, Public Information Officer
(714) 741-5280 / anap@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Friday, March 29, 2024



INTERIM ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER NAMED TO OFFICIAL POSITION

Garden Grove City Manager Lisa Kim has named Matt West, a 25-year public service professional, to the position of Assistant City Manager. West, a former city manager for the City of Tustin, had served as Garden Grove's Interim Assistant City Manager since January 2024. West will assume his official role on Monday, April 1, 2024.

"Matt brings amazing talent, insight, and management skills that have already proven to be a perfect fit for Garden Grove. He's made it a point to explore and experience the local culture, become knowledgeable in all aspects of City operations, and directly interact with our city council and City staff across all departments. He's the right person for the job," said Kim.

West has already been involved in several key responsibilities in the City Manager's Office, such as overseeing the City's infrastructure assessment, and the development of a police canine regional training facility at Pioneer Park, as well as providing support on a variety of city council initiatives.

"It didn't take long for me to connect with Garden Grove and realize that this city works hard to be as successful as it is and has a community vibe like no other. I'm thrilled to continue carrying out the role of assistant city manager to support the goals of the city council and fulfill the needs of the community," said West.

-more-

Interim Assistant City Manager Named To Official Position
2-2-2

Prior to his arrival in Garden Grove, West established a 22-year career with the City of Tustin, most recently serving as city manager, during which he served as the Executive Director for development of Tustin Legacy, a premier master-planned community on the former Marine Corps Air Station Tustin.

West holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He currently holds membership with the International City Manager's Association and the California City Management Foundation.

He enjoys traveling and the outdoors, and spending quality time with his wife and daughter.

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Contact: Grace Kim
Economic Development and Housing
(714) 741-5130 / gracel@ggcity.org

Christine Tuomey Lewellyn
Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate
(301) 272-7411 / christine.lewellyn@edgemoor.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City



Friday, March 29, 2024

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR NEW POLICE FACILITY, CIVIC CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

At the Tuesday, March 26, 2024 regular Garden Grove City Council meeting, the city council approved a project agreement with Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate for the design and construction of a new public safety facility for the Garden Grove Police Department, a new parking structure, and a redesigned Civic Center Park.

Known as the Garden Grove Civic Center Revitalization Project, the project is estimated to cost \$152 million that includes funding from a 1% sales tax (Measure O).

"This state-of-the-art public safety facility and redesigned Civic Center Park are long overdue, and they will allow the City to continue to meet the community's public safety and quality-of-life needs well into the future," said Garden Grove Mayor Steve Jones.

"The new public safety facility will replace the current 67-year-old building, which was built when the city had fewer than 45,000 people and 22 officers. Today, Garden Grove is home to 172,000 residents and has 183 officers and 84 civilian staff. A modern police headquarters will consolidate staff to better serve the community more effectively and efficiently," said Garden Grove Police Chief Amir El-Farra.

-more-

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PROJECT AGREEMENT 2-2-2

Encompassing approximately 2.75 acres, the new three-story public safety facility will include a 103,000 square-foot building and a four-level parking structure. The existing police station will remain operational during the construction period with no interruption to services.

The redesigned Civic Center Park will encompass approximately 2.7 acres and include open green space, a memorial grove, a walking trail, and an event lawn.

“Edgemoor has valued our close collaboration with the City of Garden Grove to achieve this milestone on the project,” said Edgemoor Managing Director Brian Dugan. “Our team is excited to continue working with the City to deliver this transformative new facility that creates a safe and welcoming environment for both public safety personnel and the Garden Grove community.”

The agreement with Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate reflects an innovative public-private partnership (P3), which streamlines the development process.

For more information, visit www.ggcity.org/civic-center, or contact Grace Kim at (714) 741-5130 or gracel@ggcity.org, or Christine Tuomey Lewellyn at (301) 272-7411 or Christine.lewellyn@edgemoor.com.

About the City of Garden Grove

Centrally located in beautiful Orange County, California, Garden Grove is The OC’s fifth largest city, known for its vibrant diversity, deep hometown spirit, and dynamic vision for the future. Bordering the Disneyland Resort and its world-renowned attractions, the city’s Grove District – Anaheim Resort tourist center offers brand name hotels, restaurants, and the popular Great Wolf Lodge Southern California water park resort. The city is also home to the bustling Little Saigon and OC Koreatown commercial districts, and the center of the Archdiocese of Orange—the Christ Cathedral. About 20 minutes from Southern California’s most scenic beaches, Garden Grove offers convenient commuter access to Los Angeles and San Diego via the SR-22 Garden Grove Freeway. www.ggcity.org

-more-

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PROJECT AGREEMENT
3-3-3

About Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate

Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate is a leader in the development, financing, leasing, operations, and activation of public buildings, infrastructure, and commercial real estate, with over \$4.6 billion of work completed or under development, including the Long Beach Civic Center and Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse projects in Long Beach, California; the Howard County Circuit Courthouse project in Ellicott City, Maryland; and the University of California, San Francisco Sandler Neuroscience Center in San Francisco, California. Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate was honored as a Profiles in Diversity Journal Top 10 Innovation in Diversity for 2020 Award Winner and as P3 Bulletin's 2019 Developer of the Year. www.edgemoor.com



Contact: Ana Pulido
Public Information Officer
(714) 741-5280 / anap@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, April 1, 2024



CITY SEEKING LOCAL COLLEGE GRADS FOR RECOGNITION
Attending Grads Will Have Chance to Win Cash Prizes

Garden Grove residents graduating from a college or university this year are invited to submit their information for the annual Garden Grove College Graduates' Reception on Tuesday, June 25, 2024. All attending graduates will be entered into opportunity drawings for cash prizes. The deadline to submit information online for the free event is Monday, June 3 at www.ggcity.org/grads.

Hosted by the Garden Grove City Council, the private event recognizes residents for their outstanding achievement in higher education. Graduates will receive local, state, and federal certificates of recognition, City giveaways, and the chance to win cash prizes provided by event sponsors. Graduates will also have the opportunity to network with key businesses and organizations in the community.

The event would not be possible without the generous support of event sponsors, including Astro Orthodontics, Embassy Suites by Hilton Anaheim South, Thirsty Cow Korean Barbeque, and the Garden Grove Unified School District.

To view photos from previous receptions, visit the City's Facebook @GardenGroveCityHall or search for #GardenGroveGrads on Instagram.

For more information, contact the Office of Community Relations at communityrelations@ggcity.org or (714) 741-5280.

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CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, April 1, 2024



NOMINATE YOUR FRONT YARD NOW FOR RECOGNITION AND CHANCE TO WIN HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD

Nominations for the City of Garden Grove's home beautification program, Garden Grove Gems, that recognizes residents for their home's outstanding front yards, take place now through Wednesday, April 24. From all the nominations received, four will be selected at random to receive \$100 Home Depot gift cards. Gift card winners will be announced the week of April 29. To nominate your home, complete an online application and photo submission at www.ggcity.org/gems.

To self-nominate your home, applicants must: reside in or own the nominated home; include their complete address in the online application form for verification purposes; and submit one photo of their home in a JPG, PNG, or PDF format. Photo must be taken after January 1, 2024, and cannot be digitally enhanced or altered.

Nominated homes will be categorized by each of the City's six districts and featured on the Garden Grove Gems webpage at www.ggcity.org/gems during the online voting period of Monday, May 6 through Sunday, May 19.

-more-

NOMINATE YOUR FRONT YARD FOR CITY RECOGNITION
2-2-2

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

For more information, program guidelines, and online application, visit ggcity.org/gems or call (714) 741-5200.

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CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT: Mark Ladney
Public Works Department
(714) 741-5372/markla@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Thursday, April 4, 2024



FREE COMPOST GIVEAWAY TO GARDEN GROVE RESIDENTS

On Saturday, April 13, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., the Garden Grove Sanitary District and Republic Services will host the annual Compost Giveaway, offering residents up to 60 gallons of nutrient-rich compost for free. The event will be held at the Garden Grove Municipal Service Center, located at 13802 Newhope Street. The event is open to Garden Grove residents only. Proof of residency is required.

The distribution will be held in the center's parking lot on a first-come, first-serve basis. Vehicles must enter from A Better Way, accessible from Anabel Street, north of the Garden Grove Municipal Service Center. Due to the popularity of the free event, residents should expect long lines.

Residents must bring their own containers or buckets and are limited to 60 gallons per vehicle. Bags are not permitted.

The annual Compost Giveaway is one way the Garden Grove Sanitary District and Republic Services thank the community for participating in the state-mandated Organics Recycling program, enabling residents and businesses to recycle all food waste, food-soiled paper, and yard waste in their organics cart.

For more information, visit ggcity.org/organics.

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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

April 4, 2024

1. Calendar of Events
2. Agenda for the April 11, 2024 Garden Grove Zoning Administrator Meeting.
3. League of California Cities articles from March 29, 2024 to April 4, 2024.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 4, 2024 – May 3, 2024

Thursday	April 4	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC CANCELLED
Friday	April 5		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	April 9	6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Sanitary District Special Meeting, CMC Public Financing Authority Meeting, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	April 11	11:00 a.m.	State of the City, Hyatt Regency Orange County 11999 Harbor Blvd.
		9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
		6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Meeting, CMC CANCELLED
Saturday	April 13	8:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.	Garden Grove Resident Compost Giveaway Municipal Service Center, 13802 Newhope St.
Thursday	April 18	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC \$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
Friday	April 19		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Tuesday	April 23	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority, CMC Sanitary District Board, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	April 25	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
		6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission SPECIAL Meeting, CMC
Thursday	May 2	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	May 3		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure



AGENDA

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING

Garden Grove Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue

Thursday, April 11, 2024

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. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM(S):

a. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-256-2024](#)

APPLICANT: Young Park

LOCATION: 8100 Garden Grove Boulevard

REQUEST: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to allow an existing adult day health care to expand and operate within two existing commercial buildings with a combined

building area of 13,530 square feet. Also, a request to revoke Conditional Use Permit Nos. CUP-188-2020 (REV. 2021) and CUP-208-2021, which previously governed the use of the property. The site is in the GGMU-1 (Garden Grove Boulevard Mixed Use 1) zone. 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).

b. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-258-2024](#)

APPLICANT: Joseph Maggiore (Copper Belle, Inc.)
LOCATION: 12155 Valley View Street

REQUEST: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to operate a new restaurant with a new original State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" (On-Sale, Beer & Wine, Eating Place) License. The site is in the PUD-104-73 (REV. 2018/REV. 2021) (Planned Unit Development) zone. 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).

2. [COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC](#)

3. [ADJOURNMENT](#)



Which of the retail theft bills do city leaders need to know about?

Apr 3, 2024

By Jolena Voorhis, legislative affairs lobbyist and Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor

Lawmakers have introduced a whopping 30 bills on retail theft this year. Cal Cities is [front and center](#) on this issue, having testified in [committee hearings](#) on most of the measures. Cal Cities is also working with a [broad coalition](#) to ensure their success. So far, the legislation broadly falls into four categories: organized retail theft, cross-jurisdictional issues, repeat offenders, enhanced penalties, and online resellers. But the biggest measure by far is [AB 2943 \(Rivas and Zbur\)](#), the main vehicle for comprehensive reform.

The current version of AB 2943 proposes several changes, including creating a new crime for retail theft, extending the sunset date on the organized retail theft statute, allowing for collaborative courts and diversion programs, and permitting police to arrest shoplifters without witnessing the crime.

Crucially, the bill would not make any changes to Proposition 47, which changed some nonviolent offenses to misdemeanors. Cal Cities has worked closely with the author to address concerns raised by city officials and is expecting amendments in the coming days. Cal Cities will issue a formal position after the Board votes on the issue in mid-April.

AB 2943 is just one of the many measures Cal Cities has provided feedback on. The others — listed below — are all supported by Cal Cities.

Organized retail theft and cross-jurisdictional issues

[Commercial burglary](#) is at its highest rate since 2008, especially in the state's largest counties. But retail theft shot to the forefront of public consciousness last year after [videos of smash-and-grab robberies](#) went viral. One retail theft ring [reportedly stole \\$8 million](#) in cosmetics in 21 different counties.

Yet, current state law makes it difficult to prosecute these crimes across jurisdictions and appropriately punish offenders. Lawmakers have introduced several bills aimed at reducing organized retail theft, including:

- [AB 1802 \(Jones-Sawyer\)](#) Crimes: Organized Theft
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [AB 1972 \(Alanis\)](#) Organized Retail Theft: Cargo

- Cal Cities Position: Support
- [AB 2406 \(Davies\)](#) Crimes: Theft
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [AB 2790 \(Pacheco\)](#) Crimes: Organized Retail Theft
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [SB 928 \(Niello\)](#) Crimes: Organized Retail Theft
Cal Cities Position: Support

Cal Cities is also supporting two measures that would remove some cross-jurisdictional hurdles. [AB 1779 \(Irwin\)](#) would allow prosecutors to file charges for offenses committed in different counties. [AB 1794 \(McCarty\)](#) would allow prosecutors to aggregate multiple thefts with several victims.

Enhanced penalties and enforcement

Identifying and [treating the causes of crime](#) — such as employment or disinvestment — often produces the best outcomes for people and businesses alike. However, accountability is also important, especially when dealing with repeated theft.

As such, lawmakers have introduced several measures that would increase penalties for different retail theft-related actions. [SB 1242 \(Min\)](#) would create higher penalties for people who commit arson to attempt retail theft. [SB 1416 \(Newman\)](#) would enhance sentencing for professional organized retail theft, particularly large-scale resale. [AB 1960 \(Soria\)](#) would impose stiffer penalties for property loss or damage that occurred during a felony. Other key bills include:

- [AB 1990 \(Carrillo\)](#) Criminal Procedure: Arrests: Shoplifting
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [AB 2438 \(Petrie-Norris\)](#) Property Crimes: Enhancements
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [AB 2814 \(Low\)](#) Crimes: Unlawful Entry: Intent to Commit Package Theft
Cal Cities Position: Support

Legislators introduced several sentencing bills targeted specifically at repeat theft. Both [AB 1772 \(Ramos\)](#) and [SB 923 \(Archuleta\)](#) would reinstitute penalties for repeat theft eliminated by Prop. 47. If passed, the bills would go to voters for approval. Cal Cities is also closely following and supporting two other measures focused on misdemeanor retail theft: [AB 1787 \(Villapudua\)](#) and [AB 3109 \(Muratsuchi\)](#).

Online resellers and fencing stolen property

One major hurdle to reducing retail theft is how easy it is to sell stolen items through online marketplaces. There are a few measures that would help to address this problem, including:

- [AB 1845 \(Alanis\)](#) Crimes: Grant Program for Identifying, Apprehending and Prosecuting Resale of Stolen Property
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [SB 1144 \(Skinner\)](#) Marketplaces: Online Marketplaces
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [SB 1381 \(McGuire\)](#) Property Crimes: Regional Property Crimes Task Force
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [SB 1416 \(Newman\)](#) Sentencing Enhancements: Sale, Exchange, or Return of Stolen Property
Cal Cities Position: Support

The bills propose several ways to reduce the resale of stolen property and fencing locations. These range from providing funding and task forces to identify and crack down on fencing operations, to enacting stricter sentences for people convicted of selling stolen property.

What's next

Many bills are now winding their way through policy committees and to appropriations. Legislators in both houses have until April 26 to get any bills with notable fiscal impacts through appropriations. Some bills were recently modified using the [gut-and-amend](#) process, which allows lawmakers to replace the wording of a bill with something entirely new.

Policy committee hearings are great opportunities for city officials to voice their support or opposition to a particular bill. Starting next week, Cal Cities will break down the biggest bills scheduled for hearings each week in its State Bills in Brief series.



Well-intended ‘granny flat’ bill leaves cities holding the bag

Apr 3, 2024

SB 1164 is one of several revenue measures to watch this year

By Ben Triffo, legislative affairs lobbyist

Cal Cities is opposing a measure that would exempt new accessory dwelling units (ADU) from property tax assessment for 15 years if the owner makes a “good faith effort” to ensure the unit will be used as residential housing. With the number of “granny flats” surging, this bill could have a significant negative impact on local government revenues.

According to the bill’s author, Sen. Josh Newman, the goal of [SB 1164](#) is to incentivize ADU production. The author’s office argued in a February fact sheet that an increase in property tax is a “substantial disincentive” to the construction of new ADUs, but this does not seem to be backed up by the numbers.

Over the last few years, permits for ADUs have increased year over year. The same goes for completed units. In fact, demand for ADUs is high, with permitted projects [more than double](#) the number of units built.

Many cities use these taxes to deliver critical public services, such as police, fire protection, and education. Creating a new property tax assessment exemption will deprive cities of the revenues they need to provide and expand communitywide services.

While the measure is well-intended, cities cannot afford any erosion of local tax revenues. SB 1164 is one of a handful of revenue-related measures to watch this year. Other bills include:

- [AB 2564 \(Boerner\)](#) Property Tax Postponement: Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizens Property Tax Postponement Fund
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [AB 2854 \(Irwin\)](#) Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law
Cal Cities Position: Pending Board Action
- [SB 955 \(Seyarto\)](#) Office of Planning and Research: Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program
Cal Cities Position: Support
- [SB 1494 \(Glazer\)](#) Local Agencies: Sales and Use Tax: Retailers
Cal Cities Position: Oppose

Many of these bills are now winding their way through policy committees and to appropriations. Legislators in both houses have until April 26 to get any bills with notable fiscal impacts through appropriations.

Policy hearings are great opportunities for city officials to voice their support or opposition to a particular bill. Starting next week, Cal Cities will break down the biggest bills scheduled for hearings each week in its State Bills in Brief series.



Cal Cities moves recovery housing reform

forward

Mar 27, 2024

By Caroline Grinder, *legislative affairs lobbyist* and Brian Hendershot, *Cal Cities Advocate managing editor*

Cal Cities is leading the charge on four bills this session that would ensure drug and alcohol recovery facilities follow state regulations and provide high-quality treatment. The measures would address longstanding challenges facing many cities by creating more oversight and transparency that protects residents and holds bad actors accountable.

While Cal Cities has sponsored [similar measures](#) in the past, the Legislature and Governor have yet to pass comprehensive legislation that addresses these concerns.

The challenge

Residential [recovery housing](#) can provide a safe place for people to receive support and ultimately integrate back into their communities. Studies show that when done correctly, residential treatment [can improve patient outcomes](#) and increase completion rates. When done wrong, the opposite can happen. Patients can relapse, become homeless, and in extreme cases, die. Too many facilities in one area can also undercut one of the chief appeals of residential treatment programs: rehabilitation and support services in a therapeutic environment that is part of a community.

The Orange County Register documented many of these issues in a 2017 series titled [Rehab Riviera](#) and in the years since. The five biggest counties in Southern California — most notably Orange County — have nearly [eight times as many facilities](#) as the five biggest counties in Northern California.

Many residents have expressed concerns about the ability of the state to respond to such claims. According to *The OC Register*, there are just under 20 inspectors for the nearly 2,000 rehab centers in California. As the number of facilities continues to rise, the state faces a major hurdle in monitoring and regulating these facilities.

Four possible reforms

Recovery housing can play a key role in supporting vulnerable residents and safer communities. However, the state must also address the need for more oversight, accountability, and transparency. Compliance with state licensing laws is essential to safeguarding every person's well-being and care — both inside and outside recovery homes.

Cal Cities' sponsored measures would address these concerns while upholding the purpose and integrity of neighborhood care programs. A measure introduced by Asm. Laurie Davies and co-sponsored by Cal Cities, [AB 2081](#), would require licensed treatment facilities to publicly disclose any violations on their website. [AB 2574 \(Valencia\)](#) would codify a 2019 case law that determined that unlicensed recovery homes operating as part of a licensed treatment facility located elsewhere may be considered unlawful business use within a residential zone. [SB 913 \(Umberg\)](#) would allow cities to collaborate with the state to investigate and enforce existing licensing laws. Under [AB 2121 \(Dixon\)](#), the state would also need to notify cities when it approves a license within their jurisdiction and implement distance requirements consistent with those for other group homes.

[What's next?](#)

Legislators are out of town for spring recess. They return to Sacramento on April 1, marking the start of the legislative cycle in earnest.

Policy committees will also resume in April. These meetings are great opportunities for city officials to voice their support for Cal Cities' recovery housing package. Stay tuned for opportunities to take action and help advance these bills through the legislative cycle. Some sample letters of support for Cal Cities' recovery housing bills are already available online.