

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
April 30, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City
Council Members

FROM: Lisa Kim
City Manager

I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

A memo is attached to provide the Orange County Restaurant Week highlights.

B. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

A memo is attached to provide an update on recent coordination efforts and key milestones for the Little Saigon Project, with a focus on the April community design workshop.

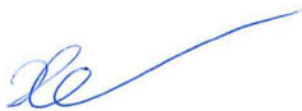
• **OTHER ITEMS**

– 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:	Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Dept:	City Manager	Dept:	Economic Development and Housing
Subject:	Orange County Restaurant Week Highlights	Date:	April 30, 2026

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an overview of the City’s efforts to promote Garden Grove’s culinary scene, in partnership with Visit Anaheim and the Culinary CMO, enabling Foods of Garden Grove restaurants to participate in Orange County Restaurant Week (OCRW).

BACKGROUND

OCRW was established in 2008, launched by the OC Restaurant Association, to highlight Orange County’s diverse dining options. It is an annual event showcasing local dining with prix fixe menus across the County. For 2026, OCRW was held from March 8th through March 14th.


In late 3rd quarter of 2025, Visit Anaheim approached City staff with an opportunity to partner and promote Foods of Garden Grove (FoGG). The partnership entailed Visit Anaheim underwriting the cost of any participating FoGG restaurants participating in OCRW and paying for a dedicated FoGG area on the OCRW home page. Garden Grove staff was responsible for recruiting the participating restuarants.

ORANGE COUNTY RESTAURANT WEEK

Home Restaurants Celebrate Your Way Explore by Price


Orange County

Explore Santa Ana



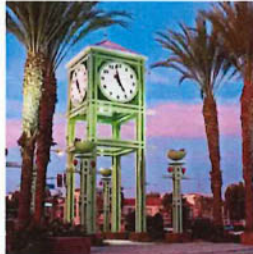
Santa Ana Restaurants
Discover a community rich in culture and diversity.

It's a Passport to a World of Flavor



Family Dining Experience
Celebrate the diverse cultures through the universal language of food.

Foods of Garden Grove



Garden Grove is home to award-winning restaurants, showcasing cuisines from around the world.

10 Garden Grove restaurants participated in the week-long dining event, providing local businesses with access to a regional marketing platform and increased customer exposure. Participating FOGG restaurants included:

- Barrio Garden Grove
- Claws and Cream
- Firefly Burger Inc.
- Henry’s Bar & Grill
- Jerusalem Roastery
- NOVA Kitchen and Bar
- Sabroso! Mexican Kitchen
- Smoke Queen Barbecue
- Urban Punjab The Royal Kitchen
- West Grove Pizza Company

DISCUSSION

The Culinary CMO’s digital and social media strategy expanded market reach by focusing on targeted audiences, increasing visibility and engagement among key consumer segments. The performance during OCRW included approximately 3.5 million website views, with an average engagement time of 26 minutes, indicating a high level of consumer interest and interaction with the participating FOGG restaurants. In addition to digital outreach, participating businesses benefited from multi-channel media exposure across television, radio, and publications. These combined efforts generated substantial engagement and increased exposure for FOGG restaurants across the regional market:

Chanel	Description	Impressions
KTLA	TV-PR	1,000,000
Fox Good Day LA	TV-PR	1,000,000
Meta-Digital Ads Feb-Mar 2026	Online	63,000,000
OC Foodies	Ocfoodies.com	700,000
95.5 KLOS	On Air Promo	400,000
KFI The Fork Report	On Air Interview	250,000
Angels Radio	On Air Interview	100,000
Open Table	Online and Newsletter	300,000
Orange Coast	Full Page	150,000
Yelp, Earned Media, Influencer Partner Reach	Online	9,700,000
Total Impressions		76,600,000

CONCLUSION

This initiative supports the City’s economic development goals by expanding market access, increasing business visibility, and strengthening strategic partnerships that drive local economic activity. It also served to bring more awareness to Garden Grove’s Culinary scene helping to promote Garden Grove as a foodie destination for Southern California. From an economic development standpoint, participation in the OCRW enhanced customer activity and revenue potential for the participating restaurants. By leveraging funding, coordinated outreach, and staff support, businesses gained access to a regional marketing platform that may not have been

otherwise feasible. This approach reflects the City's role in expanding market access and driving local economic activity through strategic partnerships.



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
Dept: City Manager
Subject: Update on Little Saigon
Project: Community Design
Workshop

From: Ursula Luna-Reynosa
Dept: Economic Development
and Housing
Date: April 30, 2026

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on recent coordination efforts and key milestones for the Little Saigon Project, with a focus on the April community design workshop.

BACKGROUND

The Cities of Garden Grove, Fountain Valley and Santa Ana partnered with Gensler and Marathon Communications to conduct a design charrette workshop for the Little Saigon Design Guidelines Project. Engagement efforts included a press release and a joint social media campaign across participating cities. This collaborative effort aimed to encourage community participation and to collect feedback for incorporation in the design guidelines.

DISCUSSION

On April 25, Garden Grove, in coordination with the cities of Santa Ana and Fountain Valley, Gensler and Marathon Communications, successfully executed the Little Saigon Community Design Workshop, marking a key milestone in the project's engagement phase. The workshop, held from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, was well attended, with approximately 30 participants representing a diverse cross-section of the community. The event demonstrated strong community interest and successfully engaged participants across a broad range of age groups.

The charrette featured interactive design boards and curated presentation materials, organized into four art stations designed to facilitate meaningful community input:

- Station 1: "What Little Saigon Means to You"- capturing participants' personal connections and experiences.
- Station 2: "What Have You Heard About Little Saigon?"- gathering community perceptions and external perspectives.
- Station 3: "Let's Talk about Design"- exploring ideas and preferences for future improvements.
- Station 4: "Look and Feel of the future"- envisioning the desired aesthetic and atmosphere of Little Saigon.

All stations incorporated a voting component utilizing materials such as sticky notes, dot stickers, and markers to capture participant feedback. Staff were present throughout to facilitate discussions, answer questions, and ensure participants were supported in providing input. Participants actively contributed input, providing valuable insight into community priorities, lived experiences, and design preferences. Feedback collected during the workshop will directly influence design recommendations aimed at enhancing the visitor experience, supporting local businesses, and strengthening the overall identity of Little Saigon.

Alongside these efforts, staff launched a new Little Saigon Project website, available at <https://ggcity.org/jobs-first-saigon-grant>. The website provides a centralized platform for community members to access project information, stay informed on upcoming milestones, and remain engaged throughout the planning process. This website will be continuously updated as the project progresses.

CONCLUSION

The April community design workshop was a successful and well-executed milestone event that generated strong community participation and meaningful input. The project remains on track, with key deliverables advancing as planned. Staff will continue to provide updates as the project progresses toward completion.



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

By: Sara Shapiro, Administrative Analyst

WEEKLY MEMO 04-30-2026

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Post Performance

April 23, 2026 - April 29, 2026

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

Included in this Report


X @CityGardenGrove

Facebook Garden Grove City Hall

Instagram gardengrovecityhall

gardengrovecityhall
Wed 4/29/2026 4:07 pm PDT


It's **#DenimDay**, and we're wearing denim to stand in solidarity with survivors and raise awareness about sexual violenc...



Engagements	66
Views	2,140
Reach	869
Engagement Rate (per View)	3.1%


Garden Grove City Hall
Wed 4/29/2026 4:06 pm PDT

It's **#DenimDay**, and we're wearing denim to stand in solidarity with survivors and raise awareness about sexual violenc...



Engagements	86
Views	2,170
Reach	1,604
Engagement Rate (per View)	4%

gardengrovecityhall
Wed 4/29/2026 4:03 pm PDT



Views	1,662
Reach	1,333
Comments	1
Story Taps Back	14

  **gardengrovecityhall**
 Wed 4/29/2026 12:51 pm PDT

Last night, the City Council recognized Santiago High School Cheer and the Garden Grove Department of Public Works during...



Engagements	123
Views	5,502
Reach	2,132
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.2%

  **@CityGardenGrove**
 Wed 4/29/2026 12:51 pm PDT

Last night, the City Council recognized Santiago High School Cheer and the Garden Grove Department of Public Works during...




Engagements	5
Impressions	57
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	8.8%
Potential Reach	4,739

  **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Wed 4/29/2026 12:51 pm PDT

Last night, the City Council recognized Santiago High School Cheer and the Garden Grove Department of Public Works during...




Engagements	142
Views	4,749
Reach	3,543
Engagement Rate (per View)	3%


 **gardengrovecityhall**
Tue 4/28/2026 5:46 pm PDT

SELF-NOMINATE YOUR HOME TO BE THE NEXT GARDEN GROVE GEM 🏡💎

...

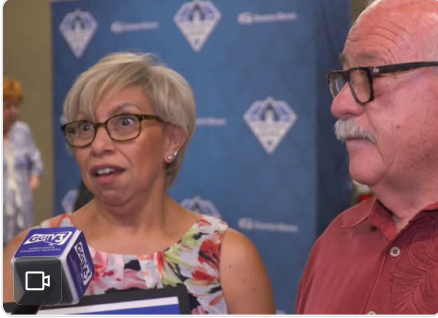


Engagements	116
Views	2,831
Reach	1,985
Engagement Rate (per View)	4.1%


 **Garden Grove City Hall**
Tue 4/28/2026 5:37 pm PDT

SELF-NOMINATE YOUR HOME TO BE THE NEXT GARDEN GROVE GEM 🏡💎

...



Engagements	64
Views	892
Reach	766
Engagement Rate (per View)	7.2%
Video Views	361


 **@CityGardenGrove**
Tue 4/28/2026 5:36 pm PDT

▶ Watch [@GardenGroveTV3](#) Reporter Breanna Greenup break down everything you need to know, plus hear from past winners and runner-ups.

The online submission deadline is next Mon, 5/4 !!


▶ Please watch, share, and subscribe to #GGTV3's YouTube channel at youtube.com/GardenGroveTV3.


Engagements	2
Post Link Clicks	2
Impressions	96
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.1%
Potential Reach	4,738

 **@CityGardenGrove**
Tue 4/28/2026 5:36 pm PDT


SELF-NOMINATE YOUR HOME TO BE THE NEXT GARDEN GROVE GEM 🏡💎

If you're a proud Garden Grove homeowner who maintains a beautiful front yard, submit an online application today at ggcity.org/gems.

: youtu.be/EfOpMmAjnu4




Engagements	2
Post Link Clicks	1
Impressions	88
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.3%
Potential Reach	4,738


 **@CityGardenGrove**
Tue 4/28/2026 1:08 pm PDT

Save the date for a berry sweet celebration, **#GardenGrove!** 🍷


...




Engagements	3
Impressions	59
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.1%
Potential Reach	4,738

 **@CityGardenGrove**
Tue 4/28/2026 1:08 pm PDT

Tickets are \$20 per senior and are now available for purchase through Thurs, 5/14. Tickets must be purchased in person at th...




Engagements	2
Impressions	46
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.3%
Potential Reach	4,738


 **gardengrovecityhall**
Tue 4/28/2026 1:07 pm PDT

Save the date for a *berry* sweet celebration, #GardenGrove! 📅

...




Engagements	70
Views	2,835
Reach	1,280
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.5%


 **Garden Grove City Hall**
Tue 4/28/2026 1:07 pm PDT

Save the date for a *berry* sweet celebration, #GardenGrove! 📅

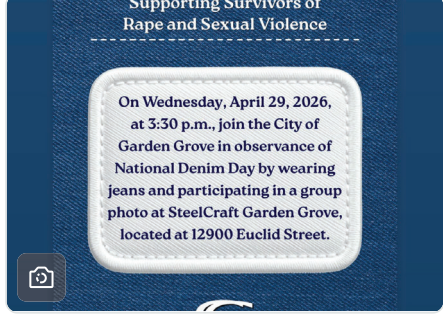
...




Engagements	176
Views	2,907
Reach	1,855
Engagement Rate (per View)	6.1%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
Tue 4/28/2026 9:16 am PDT

JOIN US TOMORROW AFTERNOON!! 📍 AT 3:30 P.M.



Views	913
Reach	734
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	18

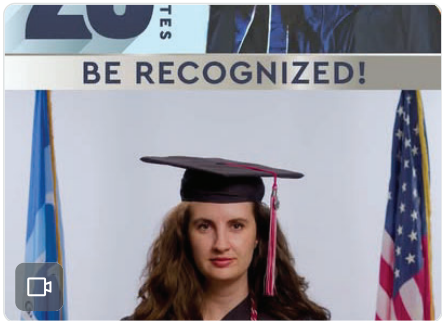


Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 4/27/2026 3:58 pm PDT


🎓 LOCAL COLLEGE GRADUATES - WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU

...



Engagements	9
Views	490
Reach	1,628
Engagement Rate (per View)	1.8%
Video Views	2,240

Boosted




gardengrovecityhall


Mon 4/27/2026 3:57 pm PDT

🎓 LOCAL COLLEGE GRADUATES - WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU

...



Engagements	46
Views	1,245
Reach	951
Engagement Rate (per View)	3.7%




@CityGardenGrove


Mon 4/27/2026 3:56 pm PDT

👏 We'd like to thank the Embassy Suites by Hilton Anaheim South, Thirsty Cow Korean BBQ, and Win Nguyen Law for their generous donation at the Valedictorian Sponsor level.

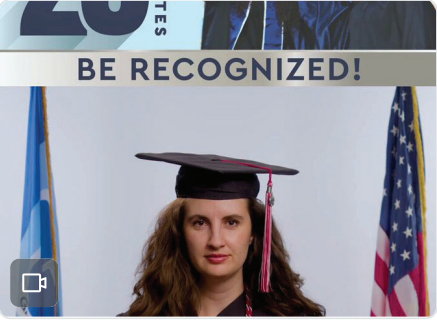
#GG1956 #GardenGrove #GardenGroveGrads #GGgrads #collegegraduate #highereducation #collegedegree




Engagements	0
Impressions	70
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%
Potential Reach	4,739

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Mon 4/27/2026 3:56 pm PDT


📍 LOCAL COLLEGE GRADS - WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU
 ...




Engagements	12
Impressions	168
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.1%
Video Views	57
Potential Reach	5,557

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Mon 4/27/2026 2:43 pm PDT


There's still time to submit your entry,
#GardenGrove! 📄



Views	752
Reach	600
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	6

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Mon 4/27/2026 12:06 pm PDT

On Friday, we celebrated a special Arbor Day with a planting of a Live Coast Oak that commemorates the 250th anniversary of...



Engagements	3
Impressions	51
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.9%
Potential Reach	4,739

gardengrovecityhall

Mon 4/27/2026 11:44 am PDT

On Friday, we celebrated a special Arbor Day with a planting of a Live Coast Oak that commemorates the 250th anniversary of...

Engagements	23
Views	1,344
Reach	522
Engagement Rate (per View)	1.7%

Garden Grove City Hall

Mon 4/27/2026 11:03 am PDT

On Friday, we celebrated a special Arbor Day with a planting of a Live Coast Oak that commemorates the 250th anniversary of...

Engagements	118
Views	2,227
Reach	1,426
Engagement Rate (per View)	5.3%

gardengrovecityhall

Fri 4/24/2026 5:41 pm PDT

Today we're celebrating Arbor Day in Garden Grove!

Views	627
Reach	575
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	27

gardenrovecityhall
Fri 4/24/2026 5:02 pm PDT

Deadline Extended to Enter Garden Grove Gems

Engagements	49
Views	1,406
Reach	605
Engagement Rate (per View)	3.5%

@CityGardenGrove
Fri 4/24/2026 5:01 pm PDT

When you nominate your home, you have a chance to win a \$100 Home Depot gift card! Four nominees will be randomly selected t...

Engagements	1
Impressions	58
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.7%
Potential Reach	4,739

@CityGardenGrove
Fri 4/24/2026 5:01 pm PDT

Deadline Extended to Enter Garden Grove Gems

Engagements	3
Impressions	72
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.2%
Potential Reach	4,739

G **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 5:01 pm PDT

Deadline Extended to Enter Garden Grove Gems
 ! ❤️

...


Engagements	6
Views	614
Reach	384
Engagement Rate (per View)	1%


G **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 3:46 pm PDT

Views	555
Reach	446
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	42

G **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 3:46 pm PDT


Views	575
Reach	474
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	27

G  **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 3:44 pm PDT




HỘI THẢO CỘNG ĐỒNG VỀ THIẾT KẾ CHO LITTLE SAIGON
 25 Tháng Tư 2026 | 11AM - 1PM
 Garden Grove Courtyard Center
 12732 Main St. Garden Grove, CA | RSVP tại link bên dưới

Views	588
Reach	492
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	38

G  **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 3:44 pm PDT

Happening Tomorrow!



COMMUNITY DESIGN WORKSHOP
 April 25, 2026 | 11AM - 1PM
 Garden Grove Courtyard Center
 12732 Main St. Garden Grove, CA | RSVP Link Below

Views	653
Reach	542
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	6

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 1:46 pm PDT

April is Arab American Heritage Month! ❤️

Join us in celebrating our Arab American...



Arab American Heritage Month
 APRIL 2026
 GARDEN GROVE

Engagements	66
Views	1,163
Reach	749
Engagement Rate (per View)	5.7%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Fri 4/24/2026 1:30 pm PDT

April is Arab American Heritage Month! ❤️

Join us in celebrating our Arab American...



Engagements	22
Views	1,429
Reach	811
Engagement Rate (per View)	1.5%


 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Fri 4/24/2026 11:05 am PDT

April is Arab American Heritage Month! ❤️


Join us in celebrating our Arab American...




Engagements	0
Impressions	42
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%
Potential Reach	4,736

 **Garden Grove City Hall**
 Thu 4/23/2026 1:07 pm PDT


Interested in a career in the public sector? We currently have two openings across our Public Works Department. 📄...



Engagements	559
Views	30,323
Reach	21,873
Engagement Rate (per View)	1.8%

 **@CityGardenGrove**
 Thu 4/23/2026 1:06 pm PDT

Interested in a career in the public sector? We currently have 2 openings in our Public Works Department. 📄...




Engagements	3
Impressions	44
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6.8%
Potential Reach	4,736

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Thu 4/23/2026 11:03 am PDT


🌳 Celebrate Arbor Day with the City of Garden Grove 🌳
 ...



Engagements	39
Views	1,803
Reach	750
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.2%

 **gardengrovecityhall**
 Thu 4/23/2026 8:04 am PDT

Interested in a career in the public sector? We currently have two openings across our Public Works Department. 📄...



Engagements	87
Views	4,383
Reach	2,704
Engagement Rate (per View)	2%



Post Performance

April 23, 2026 - April 29, 2026

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



Post Performance

Included in this Report

 Garden Grove Police Department



Garden Grove Police Depar...

Wed 4/29/2026 5:06 pm PDT

April is
#SexualAssaultAwarenessMonth, and
#GardenGrovePD is proud to close out t...



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

WEEKLY MEMO 04-30-2026

NEWS ARTICLES

Pot-bellied pigs get an OK

BY OC TRIBUNE STAFF ON APRIL 28, 2026 • ([LEAVE A COMMENT](#))



POT-BELLIED PIGS (Wikipedia).

By Jim Tortolano

Orange County Tribune

The pigs are OK.

The Garden Grove City Council voted 7-0 on Tuesday night to approve the first reading of an ordinance approving and regulating the keeping of no more than two pot-bellied pigs on residential properties in the city.

Upon the second and final reading and approval of the ordinance, it will go into effect in 30 days.

Members of a Garden Grove family – and their neighbor – who have kept the the pigs as pets expressed concern that their animals might be outlawed.

But Omar Sandoval, city attorney, pointed out that the current city codes do not permit the keeping of pigs, so the new legislation will create an exception for the pot-bellied pig.

Councilmember George Brietigam paid a visit to the home that hosted such animals and found what other people had said: "They're just like dogs."

Also on Tuesday night, the council recognized the successes of the Santiago High School cheer team in winning a CIF Southern Section Division 4 title and granted a request from the Garden Grove Unified School District to waive the cost of the use of the city's Showmobile for its 60th Anniversary Celebration on May 15.

The Tribune

April 27, 2026

'Fallen Six' to be honored at the 'Call to Duty' event May 14

BYOC TRIBUNE STAFF ON APRIL 27, 2026 • ([LEAVE A COMMENT](#))



GARDEN GROVE'S police headquarters is the site of the annual "Fallen Six " memorial ceremony honored GGPD officers killed in the line of duty (File photo).

The 39th annual "Call to Duty" Memorial to honor the men of the Garden Grove Police Department who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the community will be held on May 14 at 11301 Acacia Parkway from 5-6 p.m.

Since its establishment in the mid-50s, the GGPD has seen six officers lose their lives in the course of duty. They are Sgt. Myron Trapp, Officer Andy Reese, Officer Donald Reed, Officer Michael Rainford, Master Officer Howard Dallies Jr., and Lt. John Reynolds.

According to the GGPD, this year's event holds a special meaning because it will be the final ceremony in front of the current police facility as a new, much larger facility is under construction and will be ready for occupancy later in 2026.

The new police building is three stories high with an adjacent parking structure at Euclid Street and Acacia Parkway.

The Tribune

April 27, 2026

‘Black April’ event on April 30

BY OC TRIBUNE STAFF ON APRIL 27, 2026 • ([LEAVE A COMMENT](#))



VIETNAMESE flag was honored at “Black April” observance in 2024 in Westminster (Orange County Tribune photos).

The annual Black April Remembrance Ceremony marking the fall of Saigon at the conclusion of the Vietnam war in 1975 will be held on Thursday, April 30 at 10 a.m. in the Sid Goldstein Freedom Park in the Westminster Civic Center.

The event will include remarks from the mayor, city council and other elected officials as well as a solemn wreath-laying ceremony at the Vietnam War Memorial honoring Vietnamese and American troops who have their lives in the conflict.

The park and ceremony are at 14180 All American Way, south of Westminster Boulevard.



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

Thursday, April 23, 2026



DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOMINATE YOUR FRONT YARD FOR RECOGNITION AND CHANCE TO WIN GIFT CARD

The deadline for residents to nominate their front yard for Garden Grove Gems, the City of Garden Grove's home beautification program, has been extended to Monday, May 4. 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 Monday, May 4. 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, 2026, and cannot be digitally enhanced or altered.

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

###



Save the Date

Garden Grove Gems is a virtual home beautification program recognizing Garden Grove residents for their amazing homes.

Nominations

7:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1
through
~~5:30 PM FRIDAY, APRIL~~

Participating residents will nomin

*Date
Extended!*

MONDAY
MAY
4

Voting

7:30 AM MONDAY, MAY 11
through
5:30 PM MONDAY, JUNE 1

Community will vote online for
one home per District



*Nominate your home
online to participate!*

visit ggcity.org/gems for more details.





CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

Contact: Amanda Cross
Community Services Department
(714) 741-5168 / amandac@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, April 27, 2026



GARDEN GROVE SENIOR KING AND QUEEN TO BE RECOGNIZED AT 49TH ANNUAL STRAWBERRY BALL

The City of Garden Grove's H. Louis Lake Senior Center will host the 49th Annual Strawberry Ball on Thursday, May 21, 2026, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, at 11300 Stanford Avenue. This annual event will honor the Senior Volunteer King and Queen, JJ Jauregui and Dawn Miller.

Local seniors are invited to attend the celebration, which will include dinner, dessert, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, live music, and dancing.

Advance reservations are required. Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased in person at the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, now through May 14. Ticket sales are available Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Only cash or check will be accepted.

For more information about the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, visit www.ggcity.org/seniorcenter.

###



The City of Garden Grove
presents the 49th Annual

Strawberry Ball

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Community Meeting Center

Butterfield AB Room

11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove

4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Check-in begins at 4:00 p.m.

*Introduction of the
2026 Strawberry Ball King & Queen*

\$20.00 per person

(Includes dinner, desserts & entertainment)

Advance reservations required

RSVP by May 14, 2026

Tickets available starting April 1st at

H. Louis Lake Senior Center

11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove

(714) 741-5253



GARDEN GROVE

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
April 30, 2026

1. Calendar of Events
2. Meeting minutes for the April 29, 2026 Garden Grove Zoning Administrator Special meeting.
3. League of California Cities articles from April 24, 2026 to April 30, 2026



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 30, 2026 – May 26, 2026

Thursday	April 30	6:00 p.m.	Special Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	May 1		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Monday	May 4- May 18		Garden Grove Gems Nominations and Voting
Tuesday	May 5	6:00 p.m.	Traffic Commission Meeting, CMC
Thursday	May 7	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Tuesday	May 12	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	May 14		\$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
Thursday	May 14	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Thursday	May 14	9:00 a.m.	Downtown Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	May 15		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Friday	May 15	4:00 p.m. 6:38 p.m.	Pre-Game Tailgate Party Battle of SoCal – Angels vs. Dodgers Game Angels Stadium, Anaheim
Thursday	May 21	4:30 p.m.	49 th Annual Strawberry Ball
Thursday	May 21	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	May 22- May 25		66 th Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival
Tuesday	May 26	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

GARDEN GROVE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR SPECIAL MEETING
Garden Grove Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 29, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 a.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-011-2014 (REV. 2026)

Applicant: Evergreen World Inc.
Location: 9856 Westminster Ave., Ste. 128
Date: April 29, 2026

Request: A request to modify Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-011-2014 which currently governs an adult daycare facility, Evergreen World, to increase the occupancy to 260 participants and 40 employees along with a 1,000 square-foot expansion into an adjacent tenant space for additional lobby area. 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).

Action: Public Hearing Held.

Action: The Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1869-26

ADJOURNMENT: The Zoning Administrator adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Carol Sebbo
Recording Secretary



Cal Cities Board votes on ballot measures and bills, approves new member group

Apr 29, 2026

By Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor

The Cal Cities Board of Directors met last week in Sacramento to act on two ballot measures and several policy committee recommendations. The Board also approved a new member group for young elected officials.

Ballot measure positions

The Board opposed a proposed constitutional amendment put forth by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and funded by the California Business Roundtable. The initiative would change how local governments can adopt certain taxes and prohibit existing and future property transfer taxes that local governments may impose. The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office estimates it would create an annual loss to local governments totaling up to a couple of billion dollars.

The Board decided to take no position on [SB 42 \(Umberg\)](#), a statewide ballot measure that would remove the prohibition on public campaign financing and allow general law cities to enact public campaign financing. It would also set up a public funding system for state and local election campaigns.

The Board heard from proponents and opponents of the two ballot measures prior to voting. Both votes required a two-thirds majority.

New bill positions and policies approved

The Board moved to support five bills: [AB 1605 \(Ransom\)](#), [SB 1156 \(Caballero\)](#), [AB 1942 \(Bauer-Kahan\)](#), [SB 1167 \(Blakespear\)](#), and [AB 1642 \(Harabedian\)](#).

Both AB 1605 and SB 1156 would ban alcohol sales for repeat DUI offenders through changes to state-issued IDs. AB 1605 would create a prohibition for at least one year; SB 1156 would create a prohibition for three to 10 years.

The measure by Asm. Rebecca Bauer-Kahan would create a mandatory, statewide registration and license plate system for certain e-bikes. Individuals who operate a Class 2 or Class 3 e-bicycle without proper registration would be subject to fines starting at \$100 for a first offense. Local governments would be responsible for enforcing the new system.

Similarly, SB 1167 proposes several changes to California law governing the classification, marketing, and regulation of e-bikes and similar motorized devices. The bill primarily seeks to clarify distinctions between electric bicycles, mopeds, motor-driven cycles, and electric motorcycles. It would also expand consumer protection and enforcement provisions related to e-bike sales and advertisements.

AB 1642 would require the Department of Toxic Substances Control to adopt emergency regulations for investigating, testing, and removing contaminants following a wildfire, as well as adopt health-based standards for hazardous chemicals. The bill would take effect immediately.

The Board adopted a support if amended position for [AB 1557 \(Papan\)](#), a bill that would lower entry-level speed limits for Class 1 and 2 e-bikes as well as establish new requirements and civil penalties for manufacturers and retailers. Cal Cities is urging the author to adopt changes related to manufacturing requirements, including visual demarcation.

After a robust discussion, the Board voted to oppose [AB 1914 \(Shiavo\)](#). The measure would require cities to develop a childcare plan or integrate that plan into their general plan on or after Jan. 1, 2028. The Board also voted to oppose [AB 1738 \(Carrillo\)](#), which would require cities to offer homeowners and contractors remote building inspections for certain residential permits by July 1, 2027.

The Board adopted a watch position for [AB 1674 \(Ahrens\)](#), which would establish a grant program for developers and grocery store operators in designated food deserts. Cities in a food desert or an area at risk of becoming a food desert would need to ensure applicants for new housing developments do not reduce the site's capacity for a large grocery store or provide equivalent mitigation.

The Board also approved minor changes to its standing public safety policy related to Proposition 36.

[Young Elected City Officials member group formed](#)

The Board voted to create a new member group for young elected officials at the request of a group of members spanning the state. The group plans to focus on information sharing and collaboration — online and in-person — in its first year. Member groups serve an important purpose of bringing together people or cities with similar characteristics or interests.

The next Board meeting is July 16-17 at Redondo Beach.



Show how public works teams keep your community safe by declaring May 17-23 Public Works Week

Apr 29, 2026

By Damon Conklin, legislative advocate

Cal Cities is co-sponsoring [HR 95 \(Caloza\)](#), an Assembly resolution declaring May 17–23 as National Public Works Week in California. At Cal Cities' urging, Asm. Jessica Caloza amended the annual resolution to recognize how public works teams shape the critical first few hours and days of emergency responses.

Cal Cities is encouraging cities to adopt their own resolutions recognizing National Public Works Week, [using its sample resolution](#). Doing so not only honors the men and women who keep our communities functioning — including during crises — but also builds awareness among elected officials, partner agencies, and the public about the essential role public works plays in safeguarding our communities.

How public works keep communities safe

HR 95 is part of a [broader effort](#) to make it easier for local public works staff to restore critical infrastructure during or after a disaster. When disasters strike, public works crews are often the first on the ground. Before ambulances, fire trucks, and utility crews arrive, they are clearing debris, stabilizing roadways, and reopening critical access routes. Their work determines how quickly a community can respond and how safely it can recover.

But their responsibilities extend far beyond road clearance. Public works teams also manage traffic, secure perimeters, support evacuations and rescue efforts, and deploy critical supplies and equipment, in addition to assessing and rebuilding critical infrastructure. These are mission-critical functions that directly affect life and safety.

This reality has long been recognized at the federal level. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 identified public works as essential to emergency planning and response. Yet, too often, public works are not afforded equal recognition alongside police, fire, and public health in emergency management discussions.

Equally important, cities are expected to manage the first 72 hours of any incident, often without state or federal assistance. That responsibility falls heavily on local public works teams, whose preparation, training, and coordination determine whether a response is effective.

HR 95 provides an opportunity to elevate this critical role and ensure public works professionals receive the recognition they deserve. This is a simple but important step toward ensuring their work is recognized, valued, and fully integrated into the emergency management framework communities rely on every day.



New survey underscores the need for consistent access to state homelessness funding

Apr 29, 2026

By Caroline Grinder, legislative advocate (community services)

Last week, Cal Cities released [new data](#) highlighting how the lack of strong state funding threatens cities' efforts to address homelessness. Eight in 10 cities have not received money from the largest source of state homelessness funding for local governments: the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grant program.

"Oceanside does not directly receive HHAP funding," said Oceanside Mayor Esther Sanchez [last week](#) in advance of lobbying lawmakers. "We leaned in with General Fund dollars, a new sales tax, new programs, local partnerships, and a determination not reflected in a state budget spreadsheet."

Cities are investing significant local dollars and leveraging one-time state and federal funding to connect unhoused residents with services, shelter, and housing. But state funding is often difficult to access and unreliable, creating uncertainty about sustaining and expanding these efforts.

The survey results demonstrate why access to state funding is critical. Seven in 10 cities reported concerns about providing existing services long-term. According to the survey, most of those cities would use flexible state funding to sustain and expand existing programs.

If cities lose access to existing state and federal funding, eight in 10 said they would have to reduce, eliminate, or delay projects — increasing reliance on already-strained county services.

Cities are also already collaborating to address regional homelessness challenges. According to the survey, seven in 10 cities reported partnering with nonprofits to address homelessness in their communities; nearly two-thirds are collaborating with neighboring cities.

Cal Cities is using this data to [urge lawmakers and Gov. Gavin Newsom](#) to not only make HHAP funding ongoing, but also to improve the program. The Cal Cities-sponsored [AB 1708 \(Solache\)](#) would increase access to HHAP funding for small and mid-size cities. The bill passed out of the Assembly Human Services Committee last week and is headed to appropriations.

The Governor will release an updated budget proposal by May 14, before lawmakers pass the final budget in the summer. To learn how your city can make its voice heard, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#).



Cal Cities opposes proposed funding cuts to mobile crisis services

Apr 29, 2026

By Caroline Grinder, legislative advocate (community services)

Cal Cities and a coalition of local governments and behavioral health advocates are [signaling their opposition](#) to a proposed cut in state funding that could force local governments to scale back or eliminate mobile crisis teams in advance of the Governor's May budget revision.

Mobile crisis teams provide community-based support for behavioral health. In January, the Governor proposed shifting this benefit from a statewide mandatory benefit to an optional, county-funded benefit. With mounting fiscal pressures, counties may have no choice but to reduce the scope of mobile crisis services or eliminate this benefit entirely.

Why it matters

The Medi-Cal Community-Based Mobile Crisis Intervention Service benefit provides coordinated and clinically appropriate behavioral health crisis support. In many communities, mobile crisis teams are essential local responses to homelessness, substance use conditions, and mental health crises. These teams focus on diverting individuals in crises from emergency departments, reducing law enforcement involvement, and connecting people to local resources and care.



The city of Eureka's [mobile crisis team](#) is one example of what is at risk under the Governor's proposal. Eureka is a small rural community of about 26,000 in Humboldt County. Crisis Alternative Response of Eureka (CARE) provides community-based, low-barrier access to mental health services, seven days a week. The team includes four mental health case managers, a mental health clinician, and an administrative technician.

The team responds to residents in crisis, collaborating with and independently of law enforcement, as the Eureka Police Department's dispatch receives calls for service.

Since 2023, CARE has responded to 844 crises and diverted nearly 80% of them from the emergency department or involuntary detention. Thanks to a recent partnership with the county, the city expects to respond to over 700 crisis calls in the next year alone. A reduction in funding could reduce response capacity and effectively eliminate access to critical services in Eureka, even as demand for those services grows.

"Crises are going to happen whether or not mobile crisis teams are around to respond to them," said Jacob Rosen, the CARE managing mental health clinician. "Cutting the mandate is the equivalent of cutting services, meaning the responsibility for responding to those crises will shift back to law enforcement. This is the wrong direction for the field of mobile crisis response."

What can my city do?

Cal Cities and the coalition are urging the Legislature to reject this proposal and instead extend the mobile crisis benefit as a statewide, mandatory Medi-Cal benefit. The Governor will release an updated budget proposal by May 14, before the final budget is passed in the summer. To learn how your city can make its voice heard, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#).



What you need for a complete Phase 2 PFAS Settlements claim

Apr 29, 2026

Guest article by *Kenneth Sansone*, senior partner, and *Kyla Tengdin*, education & outreach, at SL Environmental Law Group. They can be reached at ktengdin@slenvironment.com.

Throughout the country, local governments and public water systems are testing water supplies and collecting data to meet Phase 2 deadlines for the 3M and DuPont PFAS drinking water settlements. These settlements could provide nearly \$14 billion to eligible agencies that have detected PFAS, often called forever chemicals, in their drinking water sources.

But the distribution of funds from these settlements is far from automatic. Although eligible public water systems were settlement participants by default unless they formally opted out in 2023, they must submit extensive documentation and testing data by **July 31, 2026**, to receive any payment. Systems that miss deadlines or submit incorrect or incomplete claims will be excluded. With billions of dollars on the line, now is the time to prepare a clear action plan to ensure your claims are submitted correctly, completely, and on time.

What you'll need to start the claims process

All water systems must confirm their eligibility for the settlements and register before the claims process can begin. Entities that own multiple water systems, such as large utility companies that provide water service in more than one area, must register each individual water system separately.

Determining eligibility is not always straightforward. Generally, water agencies that detected PFAS in drinking water before the end of June 2023 were assigned to Phase 1 of the settlements, for which the claims deadlines have already passed. Those that did not detect PFAS until after that date — and, for the 3M settlement, also serve more than 3,300 people — are eligible for Phase 2.

However, some Phase 1 systems may still qualify to submit claims as part of the Phase 2 process, and certain systems serving fewer than 3,300 people could be eligible.

The settlements require PFAS testing data that is far more comprehensive than federal — and many state — programs have required. Claims must be supported by PFAS concentration data at each water source, making it unlikely that data from past testing initiatives will suffice. As defined by the settlement agreements, a water source is one that is or was used for drinking water and is either:

- A groundwater well with sampling done at the wellhead.

- A surface water treatment plant, with sampling done at the entry point into the treatment plant.

You will need to test the PFAS concentrations at each of your system's water sources, as defined above, using a lab-approved method and report them in your claims documentation. The settlements use a complex allocation methodology that scores each impacted water source; that score serves as the basis for a pro rata distribution of the settlement fund. Your system's base score will be calculated using two factors:

- **Level of PFAS contamination:** The highest level of PFOA, PFOS, and, if present, the highest other PFAS compound, detected in that source at any time.
- **Size of the water source:** The annual production of the three highest producing years from 2013-2022, and the maximum flow rate or capacity. Inactive wells could also be eligible, so long as they can be tested and the maximum flow rate can be documented.

There is no specific dollar figure that corresponds to the size of a well or the level of contamination. Rather, the final payout will depend on the amount that all other eligible water systems receive.

Completing your system's claims

Once you have confirmed your system's eligibility in the settlements, registered it, and tested for all PFAS compounds at each water source, you will be ready to work on your claims. Claims Forms must be completed for each water source owned and/or operated by your water system — including those owned or operated jointly with another agency. For each source, systems will need to provide the following:

1. PFAS detection levels

- For *impacted water sources* (those with any measurable PFAS detections in any concentration, regardless of state or federal regulatory levels), you will need to provide PFAS testing results with extensive documentation. Your legal counsel can help determine what information will best support your claims.
- For *sources without PFAS detections*, you will also need to submit documentation. Thorough reporting, even in the absence of detections, can protect your system's ability to seek additional funding if contamination levels increase to exceed a state or federal Maximum Contaminant Level before the end of 2030.

2. Size of each water source

- **Annual flow rates:** Your claims will also need to include annualized records of production from each water source from 2013-2022. Incorrect calculation could result in errors that could interfere with your system's receipt of funds.
- **Maximum flow rate:** You will need to report the maximum flow rate, or maximum capacity, for each water source. As there are several options for documentation of these rates, your legal counsel can help determine which documents best support your claims.

Because the settlement rules and scoring methodology are highly technical, many utilities route claims through experienced internal or external counsel to confirm assumptions, documentation, and calculations—so they don't inadvertently understate impacts and leave funds unclaimed.

The information above does not constitute legal advice. To learn more about the settlements and the claims process, visit www.pfaswatersettlement.com. For information about how this settlement could impact your city, please consult your city attorney.



Opinion: City officials have a duty to stop the erosion of public trust

Apr 29, 2026

Guest article by Frank V. Zerunyan, mayor of Rolling Hills Estates and professor of the practice of governance at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy

I have always reflected on and described my 27 years of service to my community and state — 23 in elected office — as the greatest joy and honor of my life. Over the last 17 years, I have had the pleasure of teaching what I learned and know to the next generation of leaders at the University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy.

I always explain to my students that those of us elected to positions of power carry a profound responsibility to remain disciplined and resist corruption. Sadly, corruption in our public lives takes different shapes but always scales with power. Even the limited authority of a small city council member can begin to influence behavior. I have often said that a little power corrupts a little, and a lot of power corrupts a lot. Lord Acton said more eloquently and famously, “Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.”

With greater authority often comes a sense of entitlement, arrogance, and reduced transparency and accountability: the antithesis of good governance. With partisanship, political discourse, and a media solely interested in controversy, our political leaders and executives have found fewer people willing to challenge them. Or at least challenge them only on the basis of politically motivated alignment rather than the underlying corruption. Over time, this lack of proper resistance leads these individuals to even justify unethical actions. Unchecked power makes corruption feel normal and even necessary to retain power and control.

Those of us who ask and earn the votes of the people to exercise “reasonable power to govern” carry a profound responsibility to remain disciplined and resist all shapes of corruption. Unlike elected authority — which is earned in our democracy — power is taken. I often remind my colleagues in public office of the preamble of the Brown Act in California, “Public commissions, boards, councils, and other legislative bodies of local government agencies exist to aid in the conduct of the people’s business. The people do not yield their sovereignty to the bodies that serve them. The people insist on remaining informed to retain control over the legislative bodies they have created.”

Without discipline, even well-intentioned officials can begin to prioritize personal gain, political advantage, or loyalty to allies over the public’s needs and interests. The temptation to misuse power grows as influence and power increase, which is why strong moral character and clear boundaries are essential to serve in public office.

I warn my colleagues in public office that broader trends suggest we are sadly witnessing a degradation of the public service many of us value and cherish. Scandals involving the misuse of campaign funds, sexism, racism, and misogyny illustrate how public trust can be weakened. This trend supports the thesis that corruption does not appear suddenly but develops over time, growing alongside power when discipline and accountability purposefully weaken. I have called this accumulated power effect "it will not happen to me" syndrome. If public service continues to degrade in this way, it risks undermining the very foundation of democratic systems, where trust and integrity are essential.

I conclude, as I wrote in my previous article about "[The Value of Public Service](#)" for *Western City* magazine: Public service is not about power or collecting a paycheck from the government. Helping or serving our communities and the people who elect us is an activity beyond self-interest. Recognizing this solemn responsibility is essential to preserving public trust, protecting our institutions, and ensuring that power serves only to advance service rather than corruption. *The opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the League of California Cities or its members. Are you interested in submitting an op-ed on an issue important to city leaders? Send a short pitch to bhendershot@calcities.org.*



State Conservation Corps seeking partners for museum exhibit

Apr 29, 2026

Guest article by Brandon Chapin, CCC deputy director for legislative and external affairs

The California Conservation Corps (CCC) and CCC Foundation are looking for a partner to showcase historical items related to the Conservation Corps' legacy of service dating back to the Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps. But it needs your help — or the help of a library, museum, historical society, or other public institution in your community — to turn this concept into reality!

The collection includes items from the CCC and certified local corps in California. Spanning over nearly five decades, this rich collection of photographs, uniforms, tools, equipment, documents, and other memorabilia tells the story of corps members and their contributions to local communities statewide.

The CCC Foundation is seeking a suitable partner that may have an interest and the capacity to house and potentially showcase these items. Ideal partners would offer a dedicated display and provide public access to these items, honoring young adult service and environmental stewardship. If your city or an organization in your community may be a fit, please email brandon.chapin@ccc.ca.gov, who can connect you with the CCC Foundation.

Celebrating 50 years since its founding in 1976 as the nation's first state conservation corps, the CCC has developed and trained thousands of young adults in natural resource restoration, conservation, wildfire response, disaster relief, the culinary arts, community service, and more across California. To learn more about the Conservation Corps, visit ccc.ca.gov.



City Clerks New Law and Elections Seminar session proposals due June 8

Apr 29, 2026

By Cal Cities Education Staff

Do you have unique insights into public records requests, elections, and other city clerk challenges? Cal Cities is seeking unique, forward-looking [session proposals](#) for the 2026 City Clerks New Law Elections Seminar — a three-day educational and peer-learning event in Redondo Beach. This year's seminar will take place Nov. 18-20, bringing together over 300 California city clerks to discuss the biggest issues affecting cities and the city clerk profession.

Individuals and organizations can submit proposals for panel discussions, facilitated discussions, and keynote presentations. Participants can also earn continuing education credits through select sessions. Proposals must be submitted online through the [session proposal form](#) by **June 8**. Sessions may not include sales, commercialism, or product promotion of any kind.

Member-driven and member-led programming is a cornerstone of Cal Cities' educational activities, with more than 95% of all programming coming directly from open calls for proposals. When preparing a proposal, try to answer the following key questions:

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

Cal Cities is seeking thorough, thoughtful, and complete proposals from an individual, group, business, or organization on any topic. Session proposal tips, along with last year's schedule and session materials, are available on the [City Clerks New Law and Elections Seminar webpage](#).

For more information, please contact Event Program Manager [Kayla Boutros](#).



Bill Talk: The calm before the appropriations slash

Apr 29, 2026

A weekly update from Cal Cities, sorting through the state bill buzz

By Cal Cities Staff

Welcome to the (relatively) sleepy week before the torrent of new details about the state budget. Earlier this year, Gov. Gavin Newsom's office released a [\\$348.9 billion budget proposal](#). Although the state has exceeded revenue projections, state leaders must contend with a [multiyear budget deficit](#) that so far has been creatively papered over. In fact, the Governor has already told some lawmakers to [prepare for budget cuts](#).

In early May, Newsom will unveil a revised budget proposal based on new tax returns. That's also about the same time as the dreaded [suspense file](#), the Legislature's twice-yearly bill culling. Unsurprisingly, this week is relatively quiet, as lawmakers prepare for what could be (but rarely is) a decisive reduction in [hundreds of pending bills](#).

Lawmakers have until May 1 to get any remaining non-fiscal bills through committee and until May 15 to get their bills through the powerful appropriations committees.

-Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor

Support letters needed for Cal Cities' fire hazards bill

The Assembly Appropriations Committee will hear Cal Cities' fire mapping bill, [AB 2517 \(Calderon\)](#) soon — and city support letters are needed. The bill would improve the Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) designation process conducted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal by ensuring the office provides consistent and timely updates to local FHSZ maps.

- Melissa Sparks-Kranz, legislative advocate

Cal Cities changes position on SB 79 clean-up bill

Senate Local Government will hear the chair's bill, [SB 1361 \(Durazo\)](#), on April 29. The measure seeks to address issues with [SB 79 \(Wiener, 2025\)](#). Due to changes from the Senate Housing Committee, SB 1361 would now prohibit cities from reducing the frequency of transit service at an existing or planned transit stop, conditioning the approval of a transit project due to SB 79 density and height requirements, or withholding support from a federal grant application.

Given the new amendments, Cal Cities verbally informed the Senate Housing Committee that it will move from a support if amended position to a neutral position. Cal Cities is encouraging the Legislature to consider a [wide-scale cleanup](#) of SB 79 to assist cities with implementation and does not believe this measure will help in these efforts.

- Brady Guertin, legislative advocate

City leaders mobilize in Sacramento in support of Cal Cities' HHAP funding bill

On April 23, over 20 city officials came in person to support [AB 1708 \(Solache\)](#) during an Assembly Human Services Committee hearing. This bill would require regions to work directly with cities under 300,000 residents to identify programs and interventions that serve unhoused residents and identify funding to help the financial needs of those programs.

With the help of cities, AB 1708 passed out with unanimous support and will be up in the Assembly Appropriations Committee in the coming weeks.

- Serena Scott, legislative affairs analyst

Local officials demand full ERAF backfill

On April 28, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 5 debated whether to backfill an insufficient Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) allocation to the counties and cities therein, of Alpine, Mono, and San Mateo. The Governor's proposed state budget would not restore funds, the over \$100 million in funding, which would significantly impact local programs and services — including homelessness services, housing, and public safety. Several city officials from Cal Cities' [Peninsula Division](#) will testify in support of the funding.

- Ben Triffo, legislative advocate

Zoning overlay bill advances with a caveat

On April 29, Assembly Local Government will hear [AB 2741 \(Muratsuchi\)](#), a bill that could give cities more time to respond to court rulings that invalidate state-certified housing elements with zoning overlays before fines or other accountability measures are imposed. Last week, Asm. Matt Haney, chair of Assembly Housing, expressed concerns about the grace period but allowed the measure to pass out of his committee. He noted that if the author did not address those concerns, he would pull the bill back into committee.

AB 2741 would allow [the over 100 cities](#) that likely used zoning overlays with state approval during the 6th Regional Housing Needs Allocation Cycle to use them for the rest of the cycle, as long as they provide specific affordability and housing incentives in tandem with the targeted, optional zoning tool. However, it is unlikely that cities will be able to use them in the long term, given the court ruling in *New Commune DTLA LLC v City of Redondo Beach*.

Zoning overlays provide flexibility for developers and balance economic development with smart residential growth. Both Cal Cities and affordable housing advocates agree that a longer conversation about the future use of overlays is needed. Cal Cities and a coalition of local government organizations recently submitted a support if amended letter, citing the need for dialogue with the Legislature about these important affordable housing tools.

- Brady Guertin, legislative advocate

Contracting measure could speed up smaller, standardized public works projects

On April 29, the Assembly Local Government Committee will review [AB 2033 \(Papan\)](#). The bill would allow general law cities to use job order contracting — a competitive, unit-price procurement method — for routine repairs, remodeling, and repetitive public works projects. This change would address delays and cost escalation caused by the rigid design-bid-build process, a significantly longer process that discourages contractors from working on ADA upgrades, basic facility rehabilitation, and other small-scale projects.

The bill aligns general law cities with authorities already granted to charter cities, counties, and schools, while maintaining safeguards: Contracts would need to go to the lowest responsible bidder, projects would be capped at \$500,000, and existing labor and transparency requirements would remain in place. Cal Cities supports the measure.

- *Damon Conklin, legislative advocate*

Two homeowner protection bills advance to Assembly Appropriations

On April 29, the Assembly Appropriations Committee will hear [AB 1934 \(Bennett\)](#) and [AB 2038 \(Harabedian\)](#). Both measures are focused on protecting homeowners and residential insurance access for those impacted by wildfires. A January report from *CalMatters* found that most survivors of last year's deadly Los Angeles County wildfires have yet to return home, in part because of the statewide [residential insurance crisis](#).

- *Serena Scott, legislative affairs analyst*

A quick reminder

Bill Talk is a weekly breakdown of the biggest bills, policy committee hearings, and legislative deadlines that city leaders need to know about. To get this list on Monday morning, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#). To access old Bill Talks, visit the [archive page](#). To see all tracked bills by issue area or priority, visit the [Bill Search page](#).



Help pick the 2026 Helen Putnam Award for Excellence winners

Apr 29, 2026

By Cal Cities Staff

Cal Cities is recruiting approximately 70 volunteers to serve on selection juries for the 2026 [Helen Putnam Award for Excellence program](#). The annual program honors the outstanding efforts and innovative solutions made by cities to improve their services and residents' quality of life.

Volunteer judges are vital to the success of the program, which recognizes excellence and helps spread innovative ideas across all California cities. No experience is required, and you can still participate if your city applied for an award — just volunteer to review a category your city did not enter.

To serve as a judge — and to get an early look at some great innovations you can use in your city — [email Melissa Tualla](#) the jury you'd like to serve on by May 8.

Award categories and meeting times (via Zoom) include:

- Community Services and Economic Development: June 9, 10-10:15 a.m.
- Economic Development through the Arts: June 9, 11-11:15 a.m.
- Enhancing Public Trust, Ethics, & Community Involvement: June 9, 1-1:15 p.m.
- Health and Wellness Programs: June 9, 2-2:15 p.m.
- Housing Programs and Innovations: June 9, 3-3:15 p.m.
- Intergovernmental Collaboration: June 10, 9-9:15 a.m.
- Internal Administration: June 10, 10-10:15 a.m.
- Planning and Environmental Quality: June 10, 11-11:15 a.m.
- Public Safety: June 10, 1-1:15 p.m.
- Public Works, Infrastructure and Transportation: June 10, 2-2:15 p.m.
- Ruth Vreeland Award, Engaging Youth in City Government: June 10, 3-3:15 p.m.

For questions, email [Melissa Tualla](#).