

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
September 25, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and City
Council Members

FROM: Lisa Kim
City Manager

I. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

An affidavit of publication is attached for items to be heard at the October 2, 2025 Planning Commission meeting.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

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

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



Lisa Kim
City Manager

AFFP

156623 CUP-162 -Sebbo

Attachment I A
Mgrs Memo 9/25/25

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
COUNTY OF ORANGE } SS

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

September 17, 2025

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

SIGNED:

Orange County News

Subscribed to and sworn by me this 17th day of September 2025.

00007270 00156623

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

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

• THURSDAY, 7:00 P.M., OCTOBER 2, 2025

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

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-162-2025 INTERPRETATION OF USE NO. IOU-007-2025

A request for Interpretation of Use approval to determine the compatibility between indoor playground facilities and the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone, and to allow indoor playground facilities subject to a Conditional Use Permit. Also, a request for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a new 10,132 square-foot indoor playground facility to operate within an existing inline multi-tenant shopping center. The site is at 12491 Valley View in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-283-2025

A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to allow the operation of a new 1,449 square-foot "tattoo, general" business within an existing multi-tenant commercial shopping center. The site is at 9757 Garden Grove Boulevard in the GGMU-3 (Garden Grove Boulevard Mixed Use 3) zone. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES are invited to attend said Hearing and express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposal as outlined above, on October 2, 2025. If you challenge the application in Court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. Further information on the above may be obtained at the Planning Services Division, City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, or by telephone at (714) 741 5312.

DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2025
PUBLISH: SEPTEMBER 17, 2025
Orange County News 9/17/2025-156623

WEEKLY MEMO 09-25-2025

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Post Performance

September 11, 2025 - September 17, 2025


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


Included in this Report

X @CityGardenGrove


f Garden Grove City Hall


ig gardengrovecityhall




**gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/17/2025 6:27 pm PDT

🍴 Twice the prizes, twice the bites! 🍴 Two lucky winners will each score **2 VIP packages** to Foods of Garden Grove Live ...



**WHAT'S INCLUDED:**
16 TASTINGS
EXCLUSIVE APPETIZERS
PRIVATE LOUNGE ACCESS
+
EXCLUSIVE MERCH


**HOW TO ENTER:**
1 FOLLOW @gardengrovecityhall, @foodsogardengrove, and @gardengrovecityhall
2 LIKE this post and TAG 2 foodie friends in the comments = 1 ENTRY "unique tags only"
3 SHARE this post to your story = 2 ENTRIES (per day)


Views3,747

Reach1,661


Engagements202

Engagement Rate (per View)5.4%




**@CityGardenGrove**
Wed 9/17/2025 4:17 pm PDT

📅 Saturday, December 6, 2025 | 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 📍 Village Green Park | 12732 Main Street 📄 Learn more and sign up...



Saturday, December 6, 2025
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Village Green Park, 12732 Main St. Garden Grove

- Handmade Items
- Jewelry
- Floral Decorations
- Wreaths
- Ceramics/Pottery
- Purses/Handbags
- Soaps/Oils/Lotions
- Candles and more!





Impressions56

Potential Reach4,759


Engagements5

Engagement Rate (per Impression)8.9%



**@CityGardenGrove**
Wed 9/17/2025 4:17 pm PDT

'Tis the season to share your craft! ✨ If you or someone you know creates and sells handmade goods like jewelry, candles, an...





Impressions77

Potential Reach4,759


Engagements4

Engagement Rate (per Impression)5.2%





**gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/17/2025 3:42 pm PDT

🌟 'Tis the season to share your your craft! If you or someone you know creates and sells handmade goods like jewelry,...




Views	795
Reach	596
Engagements	16
Engagement Rate (per View)	2%





**Garden Grove City Hall**
Wed 9/17/2025 3:38 pm PDT


'Tis the season to share your your craft! 🌟 If you or someone you know creates and sells handmade goods like jewelry, candle...




Video Views	347
Impressions	347
Reach	282
Engagements	3
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.9%




**gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/17/2025 3:19 pm PDT




Views	489
Reach	393
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	24




**gardengrovecityhall**


Wed 9/17/2025 8:12 am PDT

Heads up, Garden Grove! ¡Atención, Garden Grove! Thông báo đến cư dân Garden Grove!




Views	769
Reach	620
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	10




**gardengrovecityhall**


Tue 9/16/2025 10:52 am PDT

!! HAPPENING - - TOMORROW !!




Views	1,211
Reach	883
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	26




**@CityGardenGrove**

Mon 9/15/2025 5:53 pm PDT

🚨 Heads up, #GardenGrove! The @OCSheriff will be testing the AlertOC mass notification system this Wednesday,...




Impressions	116
Potential Reach	4,802
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6.9%




@CityGardenGrove


Mon 9/15/2025 5:53 pm PDT



Ensure you and your loved ones are prepared for an emergency by signing up for AlertOC and verifying your information at [AlertOC.gov](#) **#GG1956** **#GGPD32** **#GardenGroveCERT** **#EmergencyAlert** **#StaySafeGG** **#AlertGG** [@GardenGrovePD](#) [@ReadyOC](#)




Post Link Clicks	0
Impressions	139
Potential Reach	13,437
Engagements	2
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.4%




gardengrovecityhall


Mon 9/15/2025 5:53 pm PDT



Heads up, **#GardenGrove!** The **@ocsheriff** will be testing the AlertOC mass notification system this Wednesday,...




Views	10,077
Reach	4,924
Engagements	103
Engagement Rate (per View)	1%




Garden Grove City Hall


Mon 9/15/2025 5:53 pm PDT




Heads up, **#GardenGrove!** The Orange County Sheriff's Department, CA will be testing the AlertOC mass notification...




Impressions	2,489
Reach	2,360
Engagements	70
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.8%





**gardengrovecityhall**
Mon 9/15/2025 5:15 pm PDT

tap to see the next round of foodie favorites 🍕




Views	637
Reach	542
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	17



**gardengrovecityhall**
Mon 9/15/2025 12:42 pm PDT

🔍 You won't want to miss what we're cooking up at Foods of Garden Grove Live!



Views	741
Reach	619
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	8





**@CityGardenGrove**
Mon 9/15/2025 11:30 am PDT

🌮 Today marks the start of **#HispanicHeritageMonth**! Join us in celebrating the history, culture, and...




Impressions	96
Potential Reach	4,759
Engagements	7
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.3%





gardengrovecityhall
Mon 9/15/2025 11:30 am PDT

🌮 Today marks the start of **#HispanicHeritageMonth!** Join us in celebrating the history, culture, and...



Views	1,671
Reach	776
Engagements	46
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.8%







Garden Grove City Hall
Mon 9/15/2025 11:30 am PDT

🌮 Today marks the start of **#HispanicHeritageMonth!** Join us in celebrating the history, culture, and...




Impressions	896
Reach	854
Engagements	54
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6%







Garden Grove City Hall
Fri 9/12/2025 6:30 pm PDT

Do you have an appetite for 🍴 good eats, 🌮 family fun, and 🎵 live entertainment? Join us for **Foods of Garden Grove Live ...**




Video Views	192
Impressions	548
Reach	481
Engagements	16
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.9%







gardengrovecityhall
Fri 9/12/2025 6:30 pm PDT

Do you have an appetite for 🍴 good eats, 🎉 family fun, and 🎵 live entertainment? Join us for **Foods of Garden Grove Live ...**




Views	3,068
Reach	1,895
Engagements	60
Engagement Rate (per View)	2%







@CityGardenGrove
Fri 9/12/2025 4:08 pm PDT

Please watch, share, and subscribe to **#GGTV3**'s YouTube channel at youtube.com/GardenGroveTV3.
#GG1956 #GardenGrove #WoodburyPark #communitynews #FBF





Post Link Clicks	0
Impressions	132
Potential Reach	4,759
Engagements	0
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%







@CityGardenGrove
Fri 9/12/2025 4:08 pm PDT

: youtu.be/nEMlxyUyPL8
#FlashbackFriday to when we broke ground on the Woodbury Park Revitalization and Expansion Project, marking the start of construction on one of Garden Grove's existing recreational spaces! Garden Grove TV3 Reporter Breanna Greenup shares the story.




Post Link Clicks	0
Impressions	160
Potential Reach	4,759
Engagements	1
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0.6%





gardengrovecityhall


Fri 9/12/2025 4:04 pm PDT

#FlashbackFriday to when we broke ground on the Woodbury Park Revitalization and Expansion Project, commemorating t...




Views	2,142
Reach	1,396
Engagements	64
Engagement Rate (per View)	3%





Garden Grove City Hall


Fri 9/12/2025 4:04 pm PDT

#FlashbackFriday to when we broke ground on the Woodbury Park Revitalization and Expansion Project, commemorating t...




Video Views	96
Impressions	309
Reach	280
Engagements	5
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.6%





gardengrovecityhall

Fri 9/12/2025 1:22 pm PDT

🇺🇸 Join us TOMORROW, September 13, for FREE bulky item disposal, on-site paper shredding, and household battery...




Views	588
Reach	489
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	22



gardengrovecityhall

Fri 9/12/2025 11:49 am PDT

Help seal the honmoon by joining the Garden Grove Teen Action Collaborative! 🧡



Views680

Reach569

Comments0

Story Taps Back4



@CityGardenGrove

Thu 9/11/2025 12:22 pm PDT

Today, we invite the #GardenGrove community to take a moment to remember the lives lost in the September 11, 2001...



Impressions109

Potential Reach4,759

Engagements9

Engagement Rate (per Impression)8.3%



gardengrovecityhall

Thu 9/11/2025 12:19 pm PDT

Today, we invite the Garden Grove community to take a moment to remember the lives lost in the September 11, 2001...



Views1,888

Reach776

Engagements43

Engagement Rate (per View)2.3%



**Garden Grove City Hall**


Thu 9/11/2025 12:19 pm PDT




Today, we invite the Garden Grove community to take a moment to remember the lives lost in the September 11, 2001...





Impressions	1,299
Reach	1,240
Engagements	48
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.7%




**gardengrovecityhall**


Thu 9/11/2025 11:55 am PDT






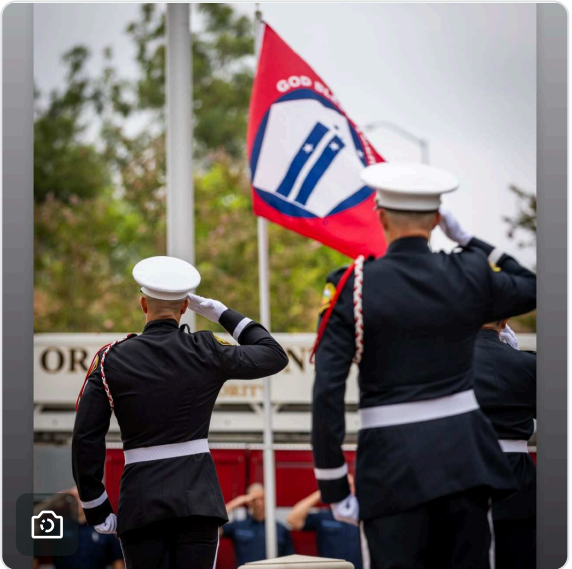
Views	660
Reach	572
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	21



**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 9/11/2025 11:55 am PDT





Views	759
Reach	653
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	8



Post Performance

September 11, 2025 - September 17, 2025

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

Included in this Report

 Garden Grove Police Department



Garden Grove Police De...

Thu 9/11/2025 7:26 am PDT



Today we pause to remember the lives lost, the heroes who ran toward danger, and the resilience of a nation forever changed 🇺🇸...



Video Views	1,403
Impressions	4,247
Reach	4,025
Engagements	221
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	5.2%



Post Performance

September 18, 2025 - September 24, 2025


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


Included in this Report


X @CityGardenGrove

f Garden Grove City Hall


ig gardengrovecityhall




**gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/24/2025 5:01 pm PDT




Views	524
Reach	408
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	44





**gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/24/2025 4:56 pm PDT

➔ FULL ACTIVITES LIST FOR FOODS OF GARDEN GROVE




Views	598
Reach	476
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	8





**gardengrovecityhall**
Wed 9/24/2025 4:46 pm PDT

🍷🎨 Brushes, Beverages, and Blacklight Magic ✨ Join us Friday, September 26 at 7:00 p.m. in Village Green Park for a one-...




Views	2,145
Reach	996
Engagements	20
Engagement Rate (per View)	0.9%






Garden Grove City Hall


Wed 9/24/2025 4:46 pm PDT




🍷🍷 Brushes, Beverages, and Blacklight Magic ✨ Join us Friday, September 26 at 7:00 p.m. in Village Green Park for a one-...




Impressions	183
Reach	181
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.4%






gardengrovecityhall


Wed 9/24/2025 4:16 pm PDT




🌟 The wait is almost over,
#GardenGrove! 🌟 Foods of Garden Grove Live is bringing the flavors, the fun, and t...




Views	2,206
Reach	896
Engagements	43
Engagement Rate (per View)	1.9%






Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 9/24/2025 4:16 pm PDT



🌟 The wait is almost over,
#GardenGrove! 🌟 Foods of Garden Grove Live is bringing the flavors, the fun, and t...



Impressions	407
Reach	407
Engagements	29
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	7.1%

**Garden Grove City Hall**

Wed 9/24/2025 2:00 pm PDT



Have you been needing to clean out your medicine cabinet, #GardenGrove? Now's your chance! The Garden Grove Police...



Impressions	312
Reach	308
Engagements	14
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.5%

**gardengrovecityhall**

Wed 9/24/2025 2:00 pm PDT

Have you been needing to clean out your medicine cabinet, #GardenGrove? Now's your chance! The @gardengrovepd and...



Views	1,445
Reach	849
Engagements	8
Engagement Rate (per View)	0.6%

**@CityGardenGrove**


Wed 9/24/2025 2:00 pm PDT




Have you been needing to clean out your medicine cabinet? The @GardenGrovePD and @DEAHQ will be accepting expired a...




Impressions	66
Potential Reach	4,755
Engagements	4
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6.1%




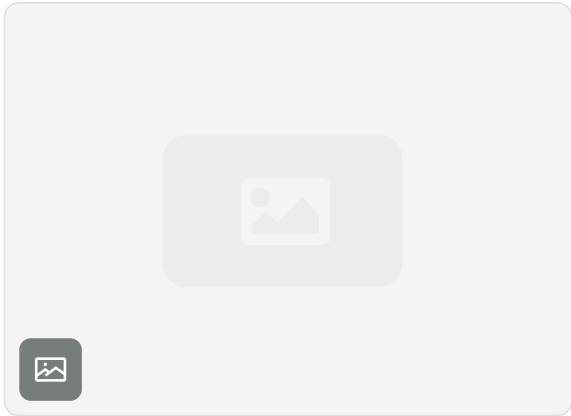


Garden Grove City Hall

Wed 9/24/2025 10:44 am PDT



 Have you been needing to clean out your medicine cabinet, **#GardenGrove**? Now's your chance! The Garden Grove Police...



Impressions

—

Reach


—


Engagements

—

Engagement Rate (per Impression)


—




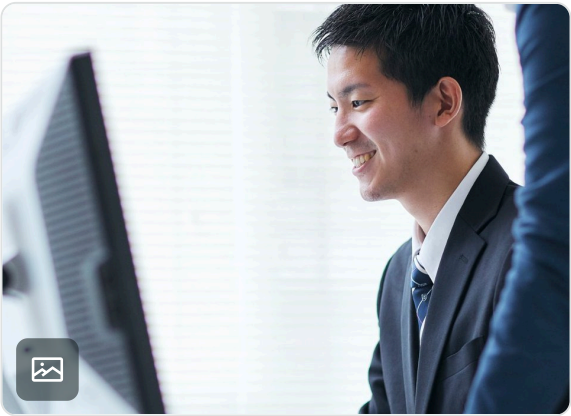


@CityGardenGrove

Wed 9/24/2025 9:21 am PDT



 Are you interested in discovering how AI can help optimize and boost your business? Join us at the FREE AI for Business Growth...



Impressions

61

Potential Reach


4,755


Engagements

1

Engagement Rate (per Impression)


1.6%






@CityGardenGrove

Wed 9/24/2025 9:21 am PDT



From cutting costs and increasing efficiency to developing innovative strategies to gain a competitive edge, you'll walk away with...



Impressions

58

Potential Reach

4,755

Engagements

1

Engagement Rate (per Impression)

1.7%





gardengrovecityhall
Wed 9/24/2025 9:21 am PDT

🤖 Are you interested in discovering how AI can help optimize and boost your business? Join us at the **FREE** AI for Business Growth...





Views688

Reach196

Engagements4


Engagement Rate (per View)0.6%





Garden Grove City Hall
Wed 9/24/2025 9:21 am PDT

🤖 Are you interested in discovering how AI can help optimize and boost your business? Join us at the **FREE** AI for Business Growth...





Impressions293

Reach276

Engagements6


Engagement Rate (per Impression)2%





gardengrovecityhall
Tue 9/23/2025 5:52 pm PDT

Don't speak... just sing along! 🎤 Catch **No Duh** (@noduhband), the ultimate No Doubt tribute band, 🎸 and 🎸 at Foo...





Views5,653

Reach3,407

Engagements91


Engagement Rate (per View)1.6%






Garden Grove City Hall


Tue 9/23/2025 5:43 pm PDT




Don't speak... just sing along! 🎤 Catch **No Duh (noduhband)**, the ultimate No Doubt tribute band, 🎵 and 🎵 at Foods of...




Impressions	899
Reach	892
Engagements	14
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	1.6%






gardengrovecityhall


Tue 9/23/2025 11:14 am PDT




🎉 FINAL LINEUP 🎉 Cravings calling? ➡️
SWIPE TO SEE 😊




Views	543
Reach	445
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	7






Garden Grove City Hall

Tue 9/23/2025 8:02 am PDT





Join the party! 🎉 Burn calories and boost energy with Garden Grove Zumba classes.

Dance Your Way to Fitness




Post Link Clicks	—
Impressions	—
Reach	—
Engagements	—
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	—




**gardengrovecityhall**


Mon 9/22/2025 3:21 pm PDT

\$30 EARLY BIRD SALE LIMITED TIME ONLY!





Views	580
Reach	464
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	28




**gardengrovecityhall**


Mon 9/22/2025 3:00 pm PDT

Mark your calendar 




Views	652
Reach	542
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	12



**gardengrovecityhall**


Sat 9/20/2025 11:00 am PDT

 Foods of Garden Grove Live isn't just about food, it's an experience! 🌟 🍴 Explore the City's big trucks at Touch-A-Truck whe...


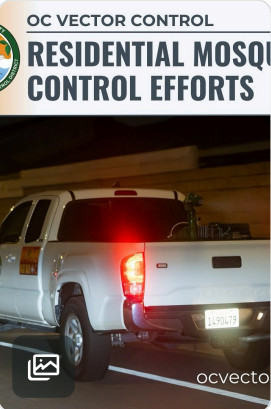


Views	3,855
Reach	2,434
Engagements	149
Engagement Rate (per View)	3.9%





**gardengrovecityhall**
Fri 9/19/2025 1:02 pm PDT


Heads up, **#GardenGrove!** The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District will conduct mosquito control treatments...




Views	2,512
Reach	697
Engagements	17
Engagement Rate (per View)	0.7%





**Garden Grove City Hall**
Fri 9/19/2025 12:56 pm PDT


Heads up, **#GardenGrove!** The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District will conduct mosquito control treatments...




Impressions	2,743
Reach	2,619
Engagements	129
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.7%




**gardengrovecityhall**
Thu 9/18/2025 7:01 pm PDT



Views	496
Reach	415
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	15






Garden Grove City Hall

Thu 9/18/2025 4:50 pm PDT

#**TBT** to the Magnolia Park Family Resource Center’s 25th Anniversary celebration 🎉💙
For 25 years, Magnolia Park FRC has been...



Video Views	886
Impressions	1,697
Reach	1,556
Engagements	81
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	4.8%





gardengrovecityhall

Thu 9/18/2025 4:46 pm PDT

#**TBT** to the Magnolia Park Family Resource Center’s 25th Anniversary celebration 🎉💙
For 25 years, Magnolia Park FRC has been...



Views	3,559
Reach	2,079
Engagements	89
Engagement Rate (per View)	2.5%





@CityGardenGrove

Thu 9/18/2025 1:37 pm PDT

Join us on Sept. 24 from 10 AM – 1 PM at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center for “Rockin’ Resources for the Golden...



Impressions	92
Potential Reach	4,755
Engagements	2
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	2.2%



**gardengrovecityhall**

Thu 9/18/2025 1:33 pm PDT

☀️ Get ready to rock your golden years at the Older Adult Resource Fair! ☀️ Join us on **Wednesday, September 24, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** at the **Garden Grove Community Meeting Center**, 11300 Stanford Avenue.



Views	3,272
Reach	1,260
Engagements	20
Engagement Rate (per View)	0.6%




**Garden Grove City Hall**


Thu 9/18/2025 1:33 pm PDT

☀️ Get ready to rock your golden years at the Older Adult Resource Fair! ☀️ Join us on **Wednesday, September 24, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** at the **Garden Grove Community Meeting Center**, 11300 Stanford Avenue.




Impressions	1,908
Reach	1,789
Engagements	64
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	3.4%




**Garden Grove City Hall**


Thu 9/18/2025 1:26 pm PDT

Join the party! 🎉 Burn calories and boost energy with Garden Grove Zumba classes.




Post Link Clicks	—
Impressions	0
Reach	0
Engagements	0
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%





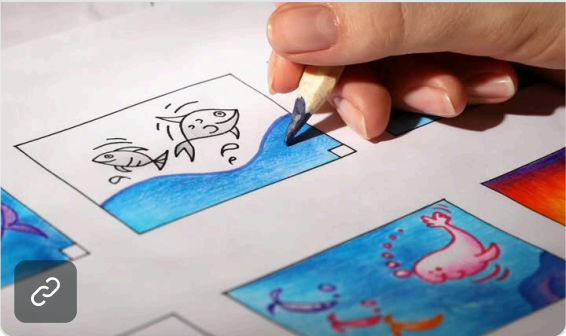
Garden Grove City Hall


Thu 9/18/2025 1:25 pm PDT




Unlock your child’s imagination with Young Rembrandts art classes. 🎨 Enroll today!


Little Artists, Big Creativity






Post Link Clicks	—
Impressions	0
Reach	0
Engagements	0
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	0%






gardengrovecityhall

Thu 9/18/2025 11:42 am PDT



🎉 Surprise giveaway for foodie fanatics like YOU 🍷



Views	558
Reach	436
Comments	0
Story Taps Back	10



Post Performance

September 18, 2025 - September 24, 2025

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

Included in this Report

 Garden Grove Police Department



Garden Grove Police De...

Fri 9/19/2025 9:31 am PDT



☕️Join us Wednesday, Oct 1st, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM at Starbucks (12861 Harbor Blvd.) for **#CoffeeWithACop**. Coffee, chats, an...



Impressions	4,541
Reach	4,173
Engagements	274
Engagement Rate (per Impression)	6%

WEEKLY MEMO 09-25-2025

NEWS ARTICLES

Forecast is for FOGG soon

BY OC TRIBUNE STAFF ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 • ([LEAVE A COMMENT](#))



FOODS of Garden Grove LIVE, also known as “FOGG,” will return to the downtown area of the city at the Village Green Park on Friday evening. (City of Garden Grove photo).

From a staff writer

Have you ever wondered just what might be great to eat around town without actually driving all over town?

An opportunity presents itself this Friday when the second annual “Foods of Garden Grove” event takes over the Village Green park in downtown.

Three dozen local eateries – with a wide array of cuisines, tastes and traditions from the all-American hamburger to exotic flavors from around the world – will offer samples of their best.

It’s fine cuisine, sandwiches, beers, BBQ, desserts, soups, seafood, baked goods, tacos and more reflecting the cultural diversity of Orange County’s fifth-largest city.

The event will run from 5:30 to 9 p.m., with ticket booths opening at 4:30 p.m.

Admission is free and the accompanying music concert is, too. Tasting tickets must be purchased separately. Many have already done their pre-sale, but you can buy tickets at the event.

The fun pack buys you five tastings for \$15; foodie pack is 10 for \$30; the family pack is 20 for \$45 and the VIP lounge pack is 16 tastes and bite-sized appetizers for \$75 (must be 21 and claim wristband).

There’s more, so go to: <https://ggcity.org/foodsofgardengrove/live>.

September 22, 2025

‘Mature’ puppets at the Gem

BY OC TRIBUNE STAFF ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 • ([LEAVE A COMMENT](#))



“AVENUE Q” is back at the Gem in Garden Grove.

By **Thom deMartino**
Orange County Tribune

The dirty puppets have returned to the Gem!

But once more, for the folks in the back: YES, this is a puppet show; but with its adult humor, NO, this show is definitely NOT for kids.

Following its wildly popular run at the Gem Theater back in 2022, “Avenue Q” has returned to entertain and shock the sensibilities. Directed by Damien Lorton, it’s like adult Sesame Street, but with (often hilarious) mature situations and themes.

College graduate Princeton (Matthew Rangel) is traversing the city and wondering what to do with his English B.A., as he’s looking for a place to live – so when he stumbles upon the “for rent” sign on Avenue Q, it seems like Kismet... particularly when he meets the charming neighbor, kindergarten teacher Ms. Kate Monster (Sasha Baker.)

There’s also a motley array of new neighbors for him as well, including aspiring comedian Brian (Charlie Massey); his fiancé, the colorful Christmas Eve (Evie Becerra); and then there’s the Trekkie Monster (Peter Crisafulli), and the pair of bachelors, Rod and Nicky (again, Matthew Rangel and Peter Crisafulli). Rounding out the crew is the apartment superintendent, former child television star Gary Coleman (Trevin Stephenson).

What follows are the trials and tribulations of these puppets and players, living in the city, each with their own lives and challenges: but even here on Avenue Q, there's plenty of life lessons to be learned by all.

With the success of the 2022 production, audience demand brought back this fun, unconventional and edgy musical, and it has been worth the wait. "Avenue Q" takes on a number of contemporary topics, including racism, homelessness, sexual identity, internet porn and more. The language is spicy and often laced with profanity – which, coming from puppets, only adds to the hilarity.

The quality of the performances is outstanding: particularly when you consider that the actors are often playing multiple roles, even voicing two characters at the same time (such as the marvelous work of Baker switching seamlessly between both Kate Monster and Lucy the... um, "cabaret singer"? ...as they interact with each other... or Rangel's remarkable quick-changing between Princeton and Rod.)

The stand-out musical numbers will pleasantly surprise as well, not only for the language but for the comedic handling of the subject matter: whether it's "The Internet Is For Porn", "Schadenfreude", or "Everyone's a Little Bit Racist", themes that could never be broached a typical kids-type show get explored, with hysterical results.

Stellar work by all, especially considering how few cast members there are: there's marvelous performances by both Baker and Becerra, excellent work by Rangel playing his double roles, and some extremely funny bits by the "Bad Idea Bears" played by Allie Kyte and Peter Crisafulli...honestly, there's too many humorous elements to name, it's just something you must see for yourself.

It's a funny, over-the-top experience, reminiscent of the muppets you remember from childhood – only a little more twisted, in just the right way. It's definitely something different for theatergoers – and even if it may not be for everyone, the adventurous viewer won't regret taking a stroll down "Avenue Q."

"Avenue Q", Matthew Rangel, Sasha Baker and Peter Crisafulli star in this delightfully racy adult take on the puppet-based shows of our childhoods. Now playing through October 12 at The Gem Theater 12852 Main St, Garden Grove, CA, 92840. Call 714-741-9550 x221 or email boxoffice@onemoreproductions.com for ticketing information. Mature language and themes, not appropriate for children.

September 22, 2025

No More Butts: Garden Grove Looks to Ban Smoking at Parks

BY SPENCER CUSTODIO Sep 22, 2025



A no smoking sign outside of Ranch Market in Irvine. Credit: JULIE LEOPO, Voice of OC
Smoking and vaping could soon be banned at public parks throughout Garden Grove.

It comes as city officials explore hiring unarmed security guards to patrol a score of parks throughout the city in an effort to prevent vandalism and other lower-level crimes.

Last week, Garden Grove City Council members voted 5-0-1 to have staff draft up an ordinance to be considered down the road. Councilman Joe DoVinh abstained and Councilman George Brietigam was absent.

Councilwoman Yesenia Muneton, who spearheaded the proposal, said the ban applies to all tobacco and marijuana products – including nicotine vape pens – at city parks and the parking lots.

“Who is going to enforce this ordinance? Well first I would hope that with public education ... people would voluntarily comply,” Muneton said at the Sept. 9 meeting.

It comes after some cities, like [Irvine](#), have outright banned smoking and vaping in virtually all public places – parks, streets, parking lots, apartment complexes and on all city owned property. [Buena Park](#), [Dana Point](#) and [Laguna Beach](#) have enacted similar smoking bans.

Councilwoman Ariana Arestegui said Garden Grove currently has an F rating on the American Lung Association’s annual report card.

“That’s tabulated in a manner that looks at our policies regarding smoking in indoor spaces and outdoor spaces ... and our rules regarding tobacco selling establishments,” Arestegui said.

The association’s report card notes that Orange County received an [F grade](#) – meaning that the air for 3.2 million residents could pose a health risk.

The American Lung Association also notes that nearly half of the people throughout the United States live with high levels of air pollution.

Councilman Phillip Nguyen asked if enforcing the proposed smoking ban would mean hiring more people.

City Manager Lisa Kim said it’s too early to tell.

“I will definitely touch base with all our department directors that may have a role – potentially – in enforcement and oversight and administration of the proposed ordinance.”

Spencer Custodio is the civic editor. You can reach him at scustodio@voiceofoc.org. Follow him on Twitter [@SpencerCustodio](#).

September 22, 2025

Neighboring OC Cities Look to Private Security to Patrol Parks

BY SPENCER CUSTODIO Sep 22, 2025



A homeless encampment at a bus stop in Stanton, Calif., on Nov. 26, 2024. Credit: ERIKA TAYLOR, Voice of OC

Unarmed security guards could soon patrol parks in Garden Grove and Stanton in an effort to reduce vandalism, drinking in public, camping and deter low-level crimes in the neighboring cities that share a host of similar quality of life issues.

It comes after California voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 36 last year – a law that increased punishment on common street crimes like drugs and theft.

City officials in Garden Grove are currently finalizing bids for unarmed security guards to patrol a host of parks throughout the city.

“The goal of the program is to reduce vandalism, drug use, unauthorized overnight camping, and other activities that contribute to park and restroom closures. A consistent security presence will help ensure restrooms and other public amenities remain open, clean, and safe for community use,” reads a [summary of the bid for services](#) – also known as a request for proposal.

City spokesman Johnathan Garcia said the six-month pilot program proposes unarmed guards patrol Garden Grove Park, Magnolia Park, Eastgate Park, Pioneer Park, Haster Basin and the Chapman Sports Complex.

“Over the past several years, repeated vandalism has led to prolonged closures of park amenities. With more residents and visitors using our parks, reliable restroom access is a

priority. The added security presence is intended to deter damage, support compliance with park rules, and enable the City to extend restroom availability,” Garcia said in a Sept. 15 email. He noted that city council members have yet to discuss the issue and will publicly consider the proposal once city staff gets the proposed contract finalized with the vendor.

It’s a proposal that drew the interest of some city council members in Stanton, who recently kicked off a bidding process for one unarmed security guard to patrol parks and other public areas from Thursday evening to Sunday evening.

Stanton City Councilman Victor Barrios, who proposed the idea, said the presence of an unarmed security guard could help deter crime in a city that contracts with the OC Sheriff for law enforcement.

While there was no staff report on the proposal for the Sept. 9 council meeting, Barrios noted that sheriff’s deputies have seen a sharp rise in calls in recent months.

“Effective private security contributes to safety through visible patrols,” Barrios said. “Making criminals think twice about targeting a protected area.”

But Councilman Gary Taylor raised concerns over just how effective a security guard could be, raising questions over what they can do that a sheriff deputy can’t already handle.

“You know, as soon as they drive away, some of these issues that you see might just appear right back there again. They’re not law enforcement,” Taylor said.

Councilman Donald Torres said the city recently spent an additional \$1.6 million on its contract with the Orange County Sheriff’s Department to increase patrols and enforce drug laws under Proposition 36.

“Our sheriffs are, you know, struggling to deal with that. I don’t think private security is going to deal with it much better,” Torres said.



The Stanton City Limit on Western Ave. on Nov. 26, 2024. Credit: ERIKA TAYLOR, Voice of OC Echoing Barrios’ remarks, Mayor David Shawver said the private security guard can help sheriff deputies.

“We know that we have quality of life issues in our city and those quality of life issues could be addressed by simply having the recommended private security come out and take care of it on an as needed basis,” Shawver said.

“Every day I get inundated with calls on quality of life issues.”

The bid proposal ended up passing on a 3-1-1 vote, with Taylor voting no and Torres abstaining.

“I think just let the sheriff’s do their job and get better at their job and if we actually need more specific things, I think it would be smarter to talk to our chief of police about how we fix this rather than go outside and bring in people we don’t know too much about,” Taylor said.

OC Sheriff Captain Ryan Prince – Stanton’s chief of police – cautioned council members that the city could be liable for the private security guard if a lawsuit arises, adding that the sheriff’s department is liable for lawsuits against their deputies, not the city.

“Our deputies are trained to handle people – whether it’s criminal activity, quality of life issues – they are highly trained individuals that you will not find in a private security company,” Prince said, adding that deputies arrested over 100 people for various alleged crimes in July.

City Manager Hannah Shin-Heydorn said that from July through August, there’s been over 100 citations issued to people for issues like public nudity, illegal camping, smoking in parks, standing on street medians, drinking in public and trespassing.

Taylor highlighted what many Stanton residents have raised concerns about – Beach Boulevard, once home to scores of motels that hosted drugs and prostitution and has been a top focus of city officials.

“I see problems all the time. But I mean you’re going to have that when you got Beach Boulevard and you’re a low-income city.”

Spencer Custodio is the civic editor. You can reach him at scustodio@voiceofoc.org. Follow him on Twitter [@SpencerCustodio](https://twitter.com/SpencerCustodio).



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT: Deanna Chumacero
Community Services Department
(714) 741-5360/deannac@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Wednesday, September 17, 2025



BOUTIQUE CRAFTERS WANTED FOR WINTER IN THE GROVE HOLIDAY EVENT

The City of Garden Grove is seeking boutique crafters for the Winter in the Grove community event on Saturday, December 6, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., in Village Green Park, located at 12732 Main Street. Interested crafters must apply by Friday, November 7, 2025, at ggcity.org/winterinthegrove.

Examples of preferred boutique craft items for sale include handmade jewelry, floral decorations, wreaths, ceramics/pottery, handbags, soaps, oils, lotions, candles, and more.

Booth fees are:

- Garden Grove residents: \$60
- Non-Garden Grove residents: \$85
- Commercial vendors: \$150

Crafters may register for a maximum of two booths. There is an additional cost for rental chairs, tables, and electrical equipment.

Refund requests for booth spaces and/or rental equipment must be made by Monday, November 24, 2025.

The annual Winter in the Grove event features a variety of activities and entertainment, attracting over 5,000 attendees.

For more information and to apply, visit ggcity.org/winterinthegrove or call (714) 741-5360.

BOUTIQUE CRAFTERS WANTED



Saturday, December 6, 2025
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Village Green Park, 12732 Main St. Garden Grove

- ❄️ **Handmade Items**
- ❄️ **Jewelry**
- ❄️ **Floral Decorations**
- ❄️ **Wreaths**
- ❄️ **Ceramics/Pottery**
- ❄️ **Purses/Handbags**
- ❄️ **Soaps/Oils/Lotions**
- ❄️ **Candles and more!**



Applications will be accepted now until
Friday, November 7, 2025



For more information and to inquire about the application, policy, and waivers, please visit ggcity.org/crafters and/or call **714-741-5360**.



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT: Johnathan Garcia
Public Information Officer
(714) 741-5283 / Johnathang@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Wednesday, September 24, 2025



FREE HOMEBUYER DAY RETURNS OCT. 4 AT GARDEN GROVE COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER

The City of Garden Grove, in partnership with NeighborWorks Orange County, will host a Homebuyer Day on Saturday, October 4, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue. Admission and parking are free.

Prospective homebuyers can meet mortgage lenders, community housing organizations, and real estate professionals to learn about credit readiness, financing options, and the full homebuying process. The Cities of Garden Grove and Anaheim, along with the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA), will provide information about their down payment assistance programs, eligibility, how to apply, and their program's current updates. Food and refreshments will be available, and attendees may enter a free raffle for a chance to win prizes.

NeighborWorks Orange County also offers ongoing Homebuyer 101 Workshops that cover the purchasing process and local assistance programs. For current workshop dates and details on the City of Garden Grove's First-Time Homebuyer program, visit ggcity.org/fthb.

To register, visit bit.ly/HDENWOC. For event information, call (714) 490-1250 or email events@nwoc.org

HOMEBUYER DAY 2025

CREATING WEALTH THROUGH HOMEOWNERSHIP

First-time homebuyers will get help with down payments, connect with local lenders, realtors, and other key resources for their homebuying journey.



Saturday

October 4, 2025



Time

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



11300 Stanford Ave.
Garden Grove, CA
92840

FREE EVENT!



714.490.1250



events@nwoc.org



REGISTER
[BIT.LY/HDENWOC](https://bit.ly/hdenwoc)



PLATINUM SPONSORS:



SILVER SPONSOR:



COPPER SPONSOR:



COMMUNITY PARTNERS:



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



9:45 AM

Registration



10:15 AM

Welcome



10:30 AM

Lending &
Down Payment
Assistance



10:45 AM

Realty



11:00 AM

Insurance



11:15 AM

Maintaining Your
Wealth,
Estate Planning, &
Reverse Mortgage



11:30 AM

Q&A



12:00 PM

Lunch



12:30-2:00 PM

Visit Resource
Tables



Contact: CSO Jasmin Baez
Garden Grove Police Department
(714) 741-5762/jasminb@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Wednesday, September 24, 2025



**GARDEN GROVE TO PARTICIPATE IN
NATIONAL TAKE BACK INITIATIVE**

On Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Garden Grove Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the Garden Grove Police Department, located at 11301 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, ONLY pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

In April 2025, Americans turned in 310 tons (over 620,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at over 4,590 sites operated by the DEA, in partnership with state and local law enforcement agencies.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies have shown that most abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

-more-

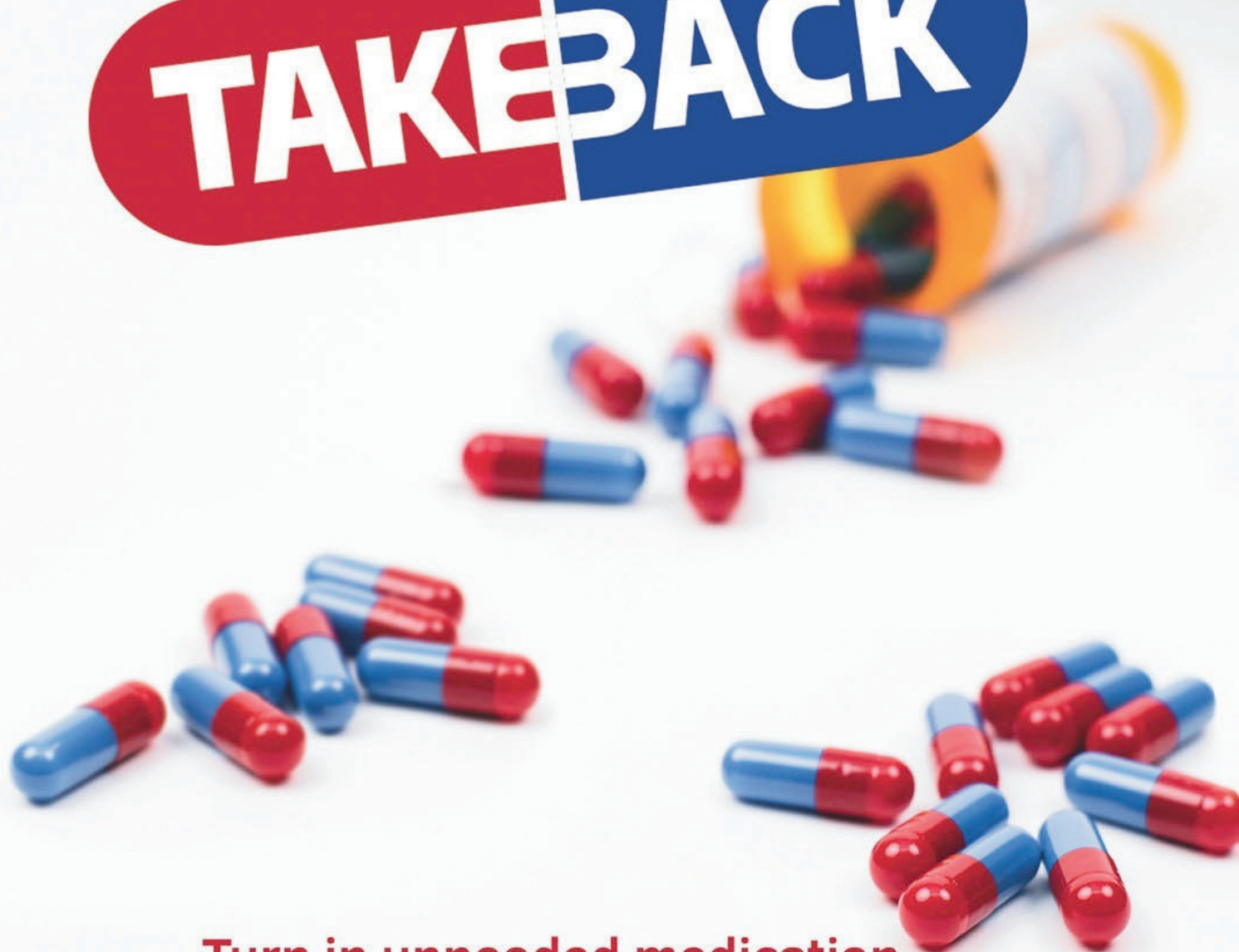
GARDEN GROVE TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL TAKE BACK INITIATIVE
2-2-2

In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 25 Take Back Day event, visit www.DEATakeBack.com.

###

DEA NATIONAL ^{Rx} **TAKEBACK**



**Turn in unneeded medication
for safe disposal.**

**Saturday, October 25
10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Keep them safe. Clean them out. Take them back.

Visit **DEATakeBack.com** for a collection site near you.



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT: Johnathan Garcia
Public Information Officer
(714) 741-5283 / Johnathang@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Tuesday, September 23, 2025



HISTORIC MAIN STREET TO CLOSE FOR CITY'S FOODS OF GARDEN GROVE LIVE EVENT

On Friday, September 26, 2025, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Historic Main Street, between Acacia Parkway and Euclid Avenue, and Stanford Avenue, between Seville Court and Main Street, will be closed to motorists for the City's annual tasting event, Foods of Garden Grove Live. Drivers are encouraged to plan ahead and use alternate routes to avoid delays.

Foods of Garden Grove Live takes place that evening from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Village Green Park, 12732 Main Street in Downtown Garden Grove. The free community event will feature tastings from dozens of local eateries, live music at the Garden Amp headlined by NO DUH, family-friendly activities, and glowing attractions like The Glow Zone and Art in the Dark. Admission to the event and concert is free, while tasting tickets are required and can be purchased online at

www.ggcity.org/fogglive

For full event details, including participating restaurants, ticket information, and vendor opportunities, visit www.ggcity.org/fogglive.





CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT: Johnathan Garcia
Public Information Officer
(714) 741-5283 / Johnathang@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Thursday, September 18, 2025



NEW RESTAURANTS JOIN 2025 FOODS OF GARDEN GROVE LIVE LINEUP

More flavors are being added to the menu for the 2025 Foods of Garden Grove Live (FOGG Live), returning Friday, September 26, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Village Green Park in Downtown Garden Grove. This popular tasting event brings together top local restaurants, live music at the Garden Amp, family activities, and a lively community atmosphere. Admission is free, with tickets required for food tastings.

The 2025 lineup now includes an expanded mix of cuisines with the addition of Pho Red Bo, Mornings Coffee Garden Grove, Shawarma House, Brothers Products, Chubbi Tea, Henry's Bar & Grill, Estrada's Grill, Amarith Farmhouse, Bò No Nabe, Luv Fish, Tomy's Fast-N-Fresh Burgers, Los Cotijas Taco Shop, Kaju Soft Tofu Restaurant, SmoKING Ribs, Claws and Cream, and Jerusalem Roastery.

Guests can choose from several tasting options, with each ticket valid for one tasting or \$3 towards your favorite drink. Choices include the Fun Pack with 5 tastings for \$15, the Foodie Pack with 10 tastings for \$30, and the Family Pack with 20 tastings for \$45. The VIP Lounge Pack offers 16 tastings, exclusive appetizers, and lounge access for \$75. Guests must be at least 21 years of age to redeem alcoholic beverage tickets.

The new offerings join returning favorites such as Los Sanchez, Sabroso! Mexican Grill, Apollo Burgers, Barrio, Carolina's Italian Restaurant, Phin Smith, Phuc Long, Smoke Queen BBQ, Azteca Restaurant and Lounge, and Nova Kitchen and Bar.

New to this year's event, Art in the Dark is a blacklight-reactive street art and UV exhibit with interactive installations. Guests can also join the fun by purchasing a seat in the inaugural FOGG Live Paint and Sip experience to create their own blacklight masterpiece. Early bird Paint and Sip tickets are \$30 through September 25, and \$45 on the day of the event. The event also features The Glow Zone, a blacklight play area with oversized LED lawn games, glow booth carnival games, blacklight crafts, UV tattoos, and more.

Foods of Garden Grove Live is part of the City's Foods of Garden Grove initiative, which spotlights more than 150 restaurants representing the city's cultural diversity. The initiative supports small businesses and offers a virtual food tour of Garden Grove's vibrant dining scene, including Little Saigon, OC Koreatown, Latin eateries, and Michelin Guide honorees.

Get tickets and see the latest event updates at www.ggcity.org/fogglive.

###



Contact: Johnathan Garcia
Community Services Department
(714) 741-5280/Johnathang@ggcity.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media

Monday, September 15, 2025



**ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO TEST
ALERTOC**

The City of Garden Grove will participate in the Orange County Sheriff's Department 15th annual regional test of its emergency mass notification system, AlertOC, on September 17 at 10:00 am. The test will send a test emergency alert to residents' mobile devices and home phones, and replicates a large-scale, multi-jurisdictional emergency that requires thousands of calls to be made simultaneously across Orange County.

Disasters, such as the state's historic wildfires or earthquakes, often occur rapidly, forcing evacuations and road closures to neighborhoods. AlertOC is a critical link for residents to receive immediate information about any required actions, such as evacuating their homes.

Residents are encouraged to sign up at AlertOC.gov and also visit ReadyOC.org for emergency preparedness resources, including templates for family plans, checklists to build emergency kits, and more. Registration of cell phones and alternative numbers dramatically increases the ability to reach the greatest number of community members within minutes. This enables landlines, cell phones, and e-mail addresses to be incorporated into a single notification system.

###



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:
Amanda Cross
Community Services Department
(714) 741-5168

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Follow the City of Garden Grove on Social Media



OLDER ADULTS INVITED TO RESOURCE FAIR AND VACCINE CLINIC

The City of Garden Grove invites older adults to attend the H. Louis Lake Senior Center's Resource Fair and Vaccine Clinic on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue. Admission and parking are free.

Attendees can explore programs and services from community partners, including the Fair Housing Foundation, Council on Aging, Orange County Social Services Agency, Community Legal Aid SoCal, and others. Activities include opportunity drawings and music. A free lunch will be available for the first 100 older adults who register.

On-site vaccinations will be available for shingles, RSV, Tdap, hepatitis B, flu, pneumonia, and COVID-19 through a partnership with Albertsons Pharmacy. Attendees should bring an insurance or Medicare card. Co-payments will not be charged unless required by the health plan. Individuals with Kaiser or Kaiser Medicare coverage are not eligible for vaccines at this event and should obtain them through their Kaiser medical office.

To register, call the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at (714) 741-5253, during office hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information about the center, visit ggcity.org/seniorcenter.

Elder Adult Resource Fair

**“Rockin’ Resources for the Golden
Years!”**

When

**Wednesday, September 24th
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Where

**Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840**

Come connect with organizations in our
community with the essential services
and support you need to thrive.

We'll also have a vaccine clinic, opportunity
drawings, and music. Free lunch for the first 100
older adults registered!

For more information or to register,
call (714) 741-5253.



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
September 25, 2025

1. Calendar of Events
2. Agenda for the October 2, 2025 Garden Grove Planning Commission Meeting.
3. Meeting minutes for the September 18, 2025 Garden Grove Planning Commission Meeting.
4. Meeting minutes for the August 21, 2025 Garden Grove Planning Commission Meeting.
5. Notice of Cancellation of the September 25, 2025 Garden Grove Zoning Administrator Meeting.
6. League of California Cities articles from September 17, 2025 to September 25, 2025.
7. Orange County Fire Authority Station Open Houses 2025, October 11, 2025



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 25, 2025 – October 31, 2025

Thursday	September 25	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC CANCELLED
Friday	September 26	5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Foods of Garden Grove Live Village Green Park, 12732 Main Street
Thursday	October 2		\$2 Coaches Casual Dress Day
Thursday	October 2	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	October 3		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Thursday	October 9	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Thursday	October 9	6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission, CMC
Tuesday	October 14	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	October 16		\$2 Holiday Drive Casual Dress Day
Thursday	October 16	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, CMC
Friday	October 17		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure
Thursday	October 23	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting, CMC
Tuesday	October 28	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, CMC Housing Authority Meeting, CMC Sanitary District Meeting, CMC Successor Agency Meeting, CMC City Council Meeting, CMC
Thursday	October 30	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Halloween Luncheon – Fairy Tales & Fables CMC, AB Room
Friday	October 31		City Hall Closed – Regular Friday Closure



A G E N D A

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION

OCTOBER 2, 2025 - 7:00 PM

COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER
11300 STANFORD AVENUE

Meeting Assistance: Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability, to address the Planning Commission, 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).

Agenda Item Descriptions: Agenda item descriptions are intended to give a brief and general description of the item. The Planning Commission 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.

Documents/Writings: Any revised or additional documents/writings related to an item on the agenda distributed to all or a majority of the Planning Commission within 72 hours of a meeting, are made available for public inspection at the same time (1) in the Planning Services Division Office at 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840, during normal business hours; and (2) at the Community Meeting Center at the time of the meeting.

Public Comments: Members of the public who attend the meeting in-person and would like to address the Planning Commission are requested to complete a yellow speaker card indicating their name and address, and identifying the subject matter they wish to address. This card should be given to the Recording Secretary before the meeting begins. General comments are made during "Oral Communications" and are limited to three (3) minutes and to matters the Planning Commission has jurisdiction over. Persons wishing to address the Planning Commission regarding a Public Hearing matter will be called to the podium at the time the matter is being considered. Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Commission, in lieu of doing so in person, may submit comments by emailing public-comment@ggcity.org no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. The comments will be provided to the Commission as part of the meeting record.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS ASHLAND, BEARD, CUEVA, FLANDERS, LARICCHIA,
LINDSAY, RAMIREZ

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

- A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – [September 18, 2025](#)
- C. PUBLIC HEARING(S) (Authorization for the Chair to execute Resolution shall be included in the motion.)
 - C.1. [INTERPRETATION OF USE NO. IOU-007-2025](#)
[CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-162-2025](#)

APPLICANT: MOONKYU LIM

LOCATION: WEST SIDE OF VALLEY VIEW STREET AND SOUTH OF LAMPSON AVENUE, AT 12491 VALLEY VIEW STREET

REQUEST: A request for Interpretation of Use approval to determine the compatibility between indoor playground facilities and the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone, and to allow indoor playground facilities in the C-1 zone subject to a Conditional Use Permit. Also, a request for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a new 10,132 square-foot indoor playground facility to operate within an existing inline multi-tenant shopping center. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Interpretation of Use No. IOU-007-2025 and Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-162-2025 pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

C.2. [CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-283-2025](#)

APPLICANT: HIEU NGUYEN

LOCATION: NORTH SIDE OF GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD, EAST OF GALWAY STREET, AT 9757 GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD

REQUEST: A request for Conditional Use Permit approval to allow the operation of a new 1,449 square-foot "tattoo, general" business within an existing multi-tenant commercial shopping center. In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-283-2025 pursuant to the recommended Conditions of Approval.

D. ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

D.1. [ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION NO. IFC-002-2025](#)

APPLICANT: PHI VAN NGUYEN

LOCATION: WEST SIDE OF PINE, NORTH OF LAMPSON AVENUE, AT 12411 PINE STREET

REQUEST: A request for the Planning Commission to review and approve an Item for Consideration, a tree removal application for the address located at 12411 Pine Street, per the revised Tree Ordinance adopted by City Council on November 12, 2024.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Item for Consideration No. IFC-002-2025 for City Tree Replacement and Removal Application No. 605398.

- E. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- F. MATTERS FROM STAFF
- G. ADJOURNMENT

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION
Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Ashland
Commissioner Beard
Commissioner Cueva
Commissioner Flanders
Commissioner Laricchia
Commissioner Lindsay
Commissioner Ramirez

Absent: Flanders

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Lindsay.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC – None

August 21, 2025 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed.

Motion: Lindsay Second: Cueva

Ayes: (5) Ashland, Beard, Cueva, Laricchia, Lindsay

Noes: (0)

Absent: (1) Flanders

Abstain: (1) Ramirez

PUBLIC HEARING – SITE PLAN NO. SP-162-2025

Applicant: WILLIAM JAGER

Date: September 18, 2025

Request: A request to construct a five-story, thirty-four (34) unit apartment building and associated site improvements on an approximately 0.50-acre lot. The proposal includes three (3) affordable units for "very-low-income" households and three (3) affordable units for "moderate-income" households. Inclusion of the six (6) affordable units qualifies the project for a density bonus, concessions, waivers, and reduced parking pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law. In conjunction with

the request, the Planning Commission will consider a determination that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Action: Resolution No. 6123-25 was approved.

Motion: Lindsay Second: Ashland

Ayes: (5) Ashland, Beard, Cueva, Lindsay, Ramirez

Noes: (1) Laricchia

Absent: (1) Flanders

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION - PRESENTATION ON THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT: Staff gave a presentation and discussion on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Commissioner Lindsay mentioned concerns with AB 130 Infill Exemption and prior site uses. Staff stated that AB 130 projects must prepare a Phase 1 environmental assessment, and if potential hazard exist, a Preliminary Environmental Assessment, including soils testing, must be prepared. If results identify reasonable probability to cause harm, the soil must be remediated to the approval of the Department of Toxic Sustenance Control (DTSC) and the Orange County Health Department before pulling permits. AB 130 also requires Native Tribe notification.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

The new Planner, Christian Farmer, was introduced to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Lindsay stated concerns about how Harbinger is transporting chassis across Knott Street. Staff stated that they will look into it.

Commissioner Laricchia requested an update on the project at 9th Street and Stanford Avenue, and mentioned the lots maintenance. Staff indicated that they will follow-up with code enforcement.

Commissioner Lindsay also requested project updates for the next meeting.

MATTERS FROM STAFF: Staff provided an update of the housing units permitted during the current RHNA cycle, and indicated that JADUs count towards RHNA. Staff gave a brief description of the upcoming items for the October 2, 2025 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:07 p.m.

Carol Sebbo
Recording Secretary

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION
Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Ashland
Commissioner Beard
Commissioner Cueva
Commissioner Flanders
Commissioner Laricchia
Commissioner Lindsay
Commissioner Ramirez

Absent: Ramirez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Lindsay.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC – None

June 5, 2025 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed.

Motion: Beard Second: Flanders

Ayes: (4) Beard, Flanders, Laricchia, Lindsay

Noes: (0)

Absent: (1) Ramirez

Abstain: (1) Ashland, Cueva

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT NO. A-045-2025

Applicant: CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

Date: August 21, 2025

Request: A City-initiated Zoning Text Amendment to Title 9 of the Garden Grove Municipal Code (GGMC) to add definitions, special operating conditions, and parking standards to allow Substance Abuse Treatment Centers as a conditionally permitted use for properties zoned M-1 (Limited Industrial). In conjunction with the request, the Planning Commission will also consider a recommendation that the City Council determine that

the proposed Amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Action: Resolution No. 6124-25 was approved.

Motion: Beard Second: Lindsay

Ayes: (5) Ashland, Beard, Flanders, Laricchia, Lindsay

Noes: (1) Cueva

Absent: (1) Ramirez

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION - PRESENTATION ON THE THE GENERAL PLAN, ZONING CODE AND MUNICIPAL CODE: Staff gave a presentation and discussion on the general plan, zoning code, and municipal code.

Commission Laricchia ask where the City is in meeting its RHNA, and staff stated that they will follow-up, including if JADUs are included in the RHNA. Staff clarified that HCD only looks at the number of building permits issued for RHNA.

Commissioner Cueva requested clarification on the City's ability to act on residential projects. Staff explained that, under state housing law and the Housing Accountability Act, the City must approve qualifying housing projects that meet applicable standards.

Commissioner Lindsay commented about future code amendments addressing conflicts with current building code standards, and staff stated that they will take that into consideration in the next code update.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

None

MATTERS FROM STAFF: Staff stated that the September 4, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting would be cancelled, and gave a brief description of the upcoming items for the September 18, 2025 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:47 p.m.

Carol Sebbo
Recording Secretary



NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
OF THE
GARDEN GROVE
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled.

DATED: September 18, 2025

DAVID DENT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR



Sweeping Brown Act changes advance to Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk

Sep 17, 2025

Cal Cities will publish an in-depth explainer on SB 707 soon

By Johnnie Piña, legislative advocate (governance)

Cal Cities is urging Gov. Gavin Newsom to veto proposed changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act. The bill passed last week and would dramatically overhaul local government meeting requirements.

While Cal Cities supports modernizing the Brown Act — and the author did incorporate language from Cal Cities' [sponsored legislation](#) — the measure would create a host of operational, fiscal, and legal challenges for cities. [SB 707 \(Durazo\)](#) also raises major, unresolved technical and implementation questions while providing little in the way of flexibility or resources.

Among other things, SB 707 would create new remote public comment, translation, and outreach requirements. It would also create new exemptions from certain teleconferencing requirements and extend sunseting Brown Act laws.

The bill would apply many of these mandates unevenly due to its overlapping definitions of legislative bodies. For example, roughly 100 smaller cities would be exempt from the new rules. However, 100 cities of the same size would need to comply simply because they are in larger counties.

Taken together, these mandates would create significant new costs — from expensive audiovisual equipment and translation services to staff training, staff time, website redesigns, and facility modifications. Cities are already facing fiscal strain due to state budget pressures, flat revenues, and new unfunded mandates. Unlike other mandates, Brown Act obligations are not eligible for state reimbursement, meaning cities must absorb the full cost of compliance.

Adding to the imbalance, the state itself is exempt from the very rules it seeks to impose. The Legislature, state boards, and commissions are not bound by the same translation, hybrid access, or posting requirements that cities would face.

The measure would also amend the Brown Act to impact all legislative bodies. These changes center around teleconferencing, compensation agenda items, and what the presiding member of a legislative body may do during a Zoom bombing, among many other changes.

Cal Cities is currently preparing an in-depth explainer on the bill's many proposed requirements, which will be distributed soon. For more information, including how to oppose the measure, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#) or use Cal Cities' [veto request sample letter](#).

The Governor has until Oct. 13 to sign or veto the measure.



The Cap-and-Trade deal includes money for major city priorities — with more funding fights ahead

Sep 17, 2025

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

The Legislature passed a sweeping update to the Cap-and-Trade Program (now Cap-and-Invest) with a two-thirds majority on Saturday. Gov. Gavin Newsom has until Oct. 13 to sign or veto the two measures, [AB 1207 \(Irwin\)](#) and [SB 840 \(Limón\)](#).

The Cap-and-Trade Program generated roughly \$30 billion over the last decade, often distributed to cities and others as grants for transportation, air quality, affordable housing, safe drinking water, and organic waste. Cities should submit a [letter](#) encouraging the Governor to sign these bills, which will guide investment priorities in future budget years.

"Cal Cities applauds the Legislature and the Governor for extending the Cap and Invest program, which invests in local projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, make our communities more climate resilient, and support good-paying jobs," said Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. "The package is a worthy start, but there's more work to be done."

"Cal Cities looks forward to working with the Legislature and Governor next session to establish greater funding certainty for transportation, infrastructure, and housing programs and prioritize investments in local priorities that were not included in this plan, such as organic waste recycling, climate adaptation infrastructure, and advanced clean fleets programs."

What's included in Cap-and-Invest?

Cap-and-Invest would fund some, but not all, [of Cal Cities' priorities](#). However, the new framework provides flexibility for key funding areas in budget discussions going forward. AB 1207 would create structural changes to the program, including reauthorizing it through 2045. SB 840 would provide a framework for funding distribution that would take effect next fiscal year. As part of that framework, the Legislature could allocate \$1 billion annually at its discretion to areas not explicitly funded by SB 840 — including, but not limited to, Cal Cities' remaining priorities on local clean transportation, organic waste infrastructure, and sea level rise and flood infrastructure improvements.

Below is the full breakdown of how the funding will be distributed, which falls into three tiers and is contingent upon how much money is available in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF):

Tier 1

First, the GGRF will set aside approximately \$500 million to offset the homeowner fire prevention fees in the state responsibility areas, manufacturing product credits, and \$3 million for the Legislative Counsel Climate Bureau.

Tier 2

Next, the GRRF will fund the following priorities:

- \$1 billion high-speed rail
- \$1 billion for the Legislature's discretion as part of the annual budget, similar to the program's previous discretionary funding

Tier 3

After the first and second tiers are fully allocated, the remaining money (for a total of \$1.9 million) would be continuously appropriated as follows:

- \$800 million for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program
- \$400 million for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program
- \$250 million for community air protection programs and for financial incentives to reduce mobile and stationary sources of criteria air pollutants or toxic air contaminants
- \$200 million for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program
- \$200 million for CalFire for healthy forest and fire prevention programs
- \$130 million to the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund

Funding to the Tier 3 areas would be proportionately reduced if the [state's carbon allowance auctions](#) do not generate enough money. In future budget years, Cal Cities will fight for key priorities that were not identified in this framework. For more information about the investments to date, please visit the California Climate Investments [webpage](#).



Advancing Equity Advisory Committee

applications due Sept. 26

Sep 17, 2025

By Meghan McKelvey, senior member services manager, and Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor

Cal Cities is [accepting applications](#) for the Advancing Equity Advisory Committee through Sept. 26. Relaunched in 2024, the committee will help cities build more equitable communities as well as translate Cal Cities' diversity goals into intentional and consistent practices at all levels of the organization.

The Advancing Equity Advisory Committee consists of 40 members representing caucuses, divisions, and departments, as well as five at-large members and five Board of Directors representatives. Each appointment serves a one-year term, starting during the Annual Conference and Expo in October. Meetings are tentatively scheduled for Jan. 30, March 20, June 5, and Aug. 28 via Zoom.

In the upcoming year, members can expect to help roll out an in-progress, updated equity roadmap, which focuses on ensuring members are connected to resources and educational opportunities.

Cal Cities is looking for involved members to provide a diverse set of viewpoints. The application includes basic demographic information and brief, open-ended questions about a candidate's interests and experiences. If this work is important to you, we encourage you to apply.



The 2025 legislative session ended on Saturday. Here's what cities need to know

Sep 17, 2025

By Brian Hendershot, Cal Cities Advocate managing editor. Additional contributions by Cal Cities Advocacy Team.

The Legislature finished up its work mid-afternoon on Saturday, with mostly beneficial results for cities. Lawmakers managed to [stabilize a jittery Cap-and-Trade market](#) and Cal Cities' eight remaining sponsored measures — including housing element reform — breezed through to the Governor's desk.

However, Cal Cities' work is far from over. The Governor has until Oct. 13 to sign or veto the hundreds of bills on his desk. Here are the top bills cities should consider advocating for or against over the next four weeks.

Environmental Quality

The bulk of the immediate post-session media coverage was understandably focused on changes to the state's Cap-and-Trade Program. The two-bill deal is a bit of a mixed bag. It funds some, but not all, [of Cal Cities' priorities](#). However, the new framework provides [flexibility for key funding areas](#) in budget discussions going forward.

But lawmakers also sent a host of other bills to the Governor's desk, including the Cal Cities-sponsored [AB 996 \(Pellerin\)](#). The bill would help coastal and bay cities meet the already-required sea level rise plans that must be completed by 2034. It joins [SB 454 \(McNerney\)](#), another sponsored measure that would help fund local efforts to remove forever chemicals from water supplies.

"PFAS has been used in thousands of products during the past eight decades, so forever chemicals have contaminated a substantial portion of our water," [said McNerney](#), whose bill sailed through without a single no vote.

Also awaiting action is [SB 415 \(Reyes\)](#), which would [clean up](#) a controversial warehouse siting and design law [from last year](#). The measure would address many of the concerns raised by Cal Cities.

Cal Cities is urging the Governor to sign all four measures.

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

The final vote counts for [AB 650 \(Papan\)](#) and [SB 79 \(Wiener\)](#) followed a now well-established trend. AB 650 passed unanimously, and SB 79 squeaked through with just the bare minimum number of votes.

Sponsored by Cal Cities, AB 650 would significantly improve the housing element review process by encouraging local jurisdictions to begin planning earlier and providing greater clarity and certainty to a difficult and complex process.

SB 79 would force cities to approve higher-density residential projects near specific transit stops with limited environmental review and public engagement. Strong city opposition made for a tight fight, but several lawmakers moved to support the bill after securing concessions in one of its [many revisions](#). With the Governor likely to sign SB 79, stakeholders have already begun floating the idea of clean-up legislation next year. Cal Cities is asking the Governor to sign AB 650 and veto SB 79.

Community Services

Cal Cities' sponsored community services bills already landed on the Governor's desk in advance of the weekend vote fest.

For the second year in a row, Newsom has the opportunity to reverse years of legislative inaction on recovery housing oversight. [AB 424 \(Davies\)](#) would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to notify individuals when their complaint has been received, when the investigation concludes, and the outcome of the investigation. [AB 492 \(Valencia\)](#) would require DHCS to notify a city if the department approves a new license in its jurisdiction.

"We've been working on this issue for over a decade, and I do think we're seeing more progress than we've seen in the past 10 years," Caroline Grinder, Cal Cities legislative advocate, told the *Orange County Register*. "It does seem like we're building momentum."

Also awaiting the Governor's signature is [SB 456 \(Ashby\)](#). The measure would provide a narrow exemption from state contractor license requirements for muralists working on public and private art projects.

Revenue and Taxation

[SB 346 \(Durazo\)](#), Cal Cities' sponsored short-term rental reform, is awaiting the Governor's signature. The bill would require short-term rental facilitators, at the request of a city, to provide the property address of a short-term rental listing to a city. It would also give cities audit authority for transient occupancy taxes collected and remitted by short-term rental facilitators. On Monday, *Politico* reported that Airbnb plans to spend an *additional* \$1 million strengthening its ties with Newsom and Democratic lawmakers. While not aimed specifically at SB 346, a spokesperson did say it will back candidates who "champion home sharing and tourism." For many cities and legislators alike, SB 346 is simply about playing by the rules. "While short-term rentals support visitation and bring revenue to our communities, they also can cause negative community impacts, including upward pressure on the availability and affordability of workforce housing," [said Truckee Mayor Jan Zabriskie last week](#). "In Truckee, we manage short-term rentals in order to better balance these competing interests."

Also on the Governor's desk is [AB 330 \(Rogers\)](#). The measure would extend the sunset date on the Local Prepaid Mobile Telephony Services Surcharge Collection Act to 2031. Currently, 102 cities and 2 counties use the act to help fund emergency services. Cal Cities is urging the Governor to sign the bill.

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

Two measures supported by Cal Cities cleared their final legislative hurdles with zero no votes. [AB 620 \(Jackson\)](#) would allow cities to rent zero-emission vehicles, rather than buy them, when complying with the Advanced Clean Fleets regulation. (Newsom vetoed a similar measure last year.) The Cal Cities-sponsored [AB 476 \(González, Mark\)](#) would help reduce metal theft and improve enforcement. Although the measure's enhanced charges for repeat offenders were struck, new reporting requirements and restrictions for scrap metal recyclers are still in place. In less good news, [AB 538 \(Berman\)](#) also skated through to the Governor's desk. The measure would require cities to obtain certified payroll records from a contractor and make them available when requested. Local agencies do not maintain such records, and the bill makes no effort to

give cities enforcement powers to seek them out. Cal Cities is urging the Governor to veto the measure.

Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations

After almost turning it into a two-year bill, legislators sent [SB 707 \(Durazo\)](#) to the Governor's desk. The measure would create new remote public comment and translation requirements, new exemptions from certain teleconferencing requirements, and extended sunseting Brown Act laws — including a teleconferencing law set to expire in 2026.

Lawmakers also sent [AB 339 \(Ortega\)](#) and [SB 827 \(Gonzalez\)](#) to Newsom. AB 339 would require cities to give unions no less than 45 days' written notice before contracting services within the scope of the job classifications represented by the recognized employee organization. The bill's impractical, unclear language would impose considerable costs, create new legal liabilities, and slow down public services.

SB 827 would make changes to existing ethics training requirements and require certain local agency officials to receive at least two hours of fiscal and financial training at least once every two years. Cal Cities urged the author to apply those same ethics standards to lawmakers, which she refrained from adopting. As such, Cal Cities is asking the Governor to veto the bill.

Public Safety

A host of measures aimed at improving home hardening and other property-level wildfire mitigation efforts passed out of the Legislature. Cal Cities is asking Newsom to sign all four: [AB 1 \(Connolly\)](#), [AB 888 \(Calderon\)](#), [SB 326 \(Becker\)](#), and [SB 616 \(Rubio\)](#).

Cal Cities is also urging the Governor to sign two police officer education bills. [AB 992 \(Irwin\)](#) would require police officers hired on or after Jan. 1, 2031, to obtain specified college degrees, including modern policing, within 36 months of obtaining their basic certificate from the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST). [SB 385 \(Sevarto\)](#) would repeal the requirement that the POST adopt standards based on the report to the Legislature by November 2025.

Additionally, Cal Cities is requesting the Governor's signature on [SB 701 \(Wahab\)](#). The bill would make it a crime to create, sell, or operate a signal jammer and increase penalties for operating a signal jammer in connection with criminal activity — especially if it results in significant injury or death.

What's next?

Once the Legislature passes a bill, Gov. Gavin Newsom has 30 days to sign or veto the measure. This means he has until Oct. 13 to sign the hundreds of bills that passed over the weekend. Cal Cities has already prepared dozens of sample sign/veto letters for the measures above: More will become available over the next few days. To learn more about Cal Cities' remaining priority measures, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#).



Two Cal Cities recovery housing bills await Governor's decision

Sep 24, 2025

Cal Cities' "political heft" pushed the reform forward

By Caroline Grinder, legislative advocate (community services)

Two recovery housing bills sponsored by Cal Cities, [AB 492 \(Valencia\)](#) and [AB 424 \(Davies\)](#), are on Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk. Cal Cities is urging the Governor to sign both measures, which would strengthen oversight of the state's addiction treatment system and give cities additional tools to protect their residents.

AB 492 and AB 424 are part of a four-bill, sponsored legislative package introduced in response to an [audit](#) of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The audit revealed that DHCS routinely failed to investigate complaints, conduct timely site visits, or shut down illegal operations, leaving patients and communities at risk.

"The political heft of the League of California Cities has helped push the reform agenda forward this session," said columnist Teri Sforza, writing for the [Orange County Register](#). "It has thrown its weight behind four bills, two of which are progressing toward the finish line."

What would these bills do?

AB 424 would require DHCS to notify individuals when their complaint has been received, when the investigation concludes, and the outcome of the investigation. Currently, complainants do not receive updates and must file a public records request just to learn the outcome of their complaint – a process that can take over a year. By improving communication, AB 424 would help cities stay informed and support a more transparent oversight process.

"AB 424 is a critical step towards fixing California's substance use disorder treatment system," said Asm. Laurie Davies [at a Cal Cities press conference earlier this year](#).

"Bad treatment experiences should be investigated and corrected quickly. The public shouldn't be kept in the dark as to whether or not corrective actions are being taken or if the complaint was received."

AB 492 would require DHCS to notify a city if the department approves a new license in its jurisdiction. Currently, municipalities often learn of facilities *after* a problem arises, making it difficult to integrate programs effectively into communities.

What about the other recovery housing bills?

The Assembly Appropriations Committee held the two other measures, [SB 35 \(Umberg\)](#) and [SB 329 \(Blakespear\)](#), due to high cost estimates. SB 35 would have established strict timelines for investigations into unlicensed sober living homes, allowed counties to partner with DHCS on site visits more quickly, and required follow-up visits. SB 329 would have required DHCS to meet specific timelines when investigating complaints against licensed facilities.

Although these measures stalled, Cal Cities will continue pressing for reforms that hold providers accountable and protect residents.

“We’re disappointed that commonsense legislation to protect residents and hold providers accountable once again failed to advance,” said Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman. “Cal Cities has been at the forefront of this fight for more than a decade, and we remain committed to securing comprehensive reforms that strengthen state oversight of recovery housing facilities.”

[What’s next?](#)

This marks the second consecutive year that sponsored recovery housing bills authored by Asm. Valencia and Davies have reached the Governor’s desk. After years of legislative inaction, this sustained progress represents the most movement on the issue in over a decade. With both bills now on the Governor’s desk, Cal Cities is focused on ensuring these reforms become law — and building momentum for the next legislative session.



City input needed for rollout of state's plastic pollution prevention law

Sep 24, 2025

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

Cities can provide input on the rollout of California's plastic pollution prevention law, [SB 54 \(Allen, 2022\)](#), to the Circular Action Alliance through November. The group is hosting a [webinar series](#) for cities, counties, and other stakeholders as part of the implementation process.

The Circular Action Alliance is an organization representing producers — approved and regulated by CalRecycle — tasked with phasing [out single-use packaging and foodware](#) in California. Costs incurred by local governments must be recovered by producers, who are ultimately responsible for the program.

The alliance will develop a plan and budget over the next year. Local government input will be essential to the program's success.

To kick off the series, the alliance is hosting an [introductory webinar](#) on the Circular Action Alliance and SB 54's background specifically for cities and counties. After the introductory webinar, the alliance will host a [series of consultations](#) — 11 webinars throughout October and November. The series is intended to gather input on how the program will be implemented, in coordination with local governments, including covered costs and materials, local government reimbursement cost collection analysis, and other compliance strategies.

Championed [by Sen. Ben Allen in 2022](#), SB 54 is a landmark law that requires producers, by 2032, to take responsibility for plastic and packaging materials by:

- Changing the design of products to be recyclable and compostable.
- Ensuring materials can be safely reused, recycled, or disposed.
- Covering the costs of implementing SB 54 in local waste management programs.
- Funding a statewide mitigation fund.

For more information about the Circular Action Alliance, please visit circularactionalliance.org/california. For information about CalRecycle's oversight and regulations on SB 54, go to calrecycle.ca.gov/packaging/packaging-epr/.



Top 10 tips for a great annual conference experience

Sep 24, 2025

By Cal Cities Education Staff

The [2025 Annual Conference and Expo](#) is almost here! To help ensure you get the most out of your time in Long Beach, we've compiled a few tips for first-timers and conference veterans alike.

1. Review the conference schedule and plan your must-see stops

There's never a dull moment at the annual conference! If you're attending with a group, divide the educational sessions up to maximize the conference's benefits. Remember to bring a stack of business cards! You never know who you might meet.

If this is your first time attending the conference — or if you need a refresher — join Cal Cities staff for an attendee orientation at 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 8 before the official conference kick-off.

To view the conference details online, check out the [online program](#). You can read all about the sessions by clicking the session title or "show details." Review [session materials](#) before the conference so that you're ready to engage with the speakers and get the most out of the conference. Sessions are uploaded as they come in, so please check back for updates.

2. Know when and where to pick up your badge (And wear it!)

The annual conference officially starts at 1:15 p.m., but registration opens at 8:00 a.m. Our advice? Come early and beat the crowds! Registration is in the convention center foyer. (Look for a line of people near the giant stairs!) It's also the best place for answers to any questions you may have on-site.

If you registered for a pre-conference event, double-check your email for details on how and where to pick up your badge before the conference. Give yourself extra time to pick up your conference badge before arriving at your first event.

Don't forget: Wear your badge at all times during the conference! If you don't have your badge, security may not let you enter the convention center!

3. Set up your mobile app in advance!

The Cal Cities mobile app has everything you need to know about the conference. You can view the full program, build a custom schedule, import events into your calendar, view exhibitor information, and more. Find the Cal Cities mobile app by searching “League of California Cities” or “Cal Cities” in the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#).

Already have the app? Make sure to download the conference guide! Just select “Find Guides” on the bottom right of your screen and search for “2025 Annual Conference and Expo” to start building your personal conference schedule.

Be sure to allow push notifications to receive timely updates at the conference!

4. Plan your route to the Convention Center

Conference shuttles are available for attendees staying at the Hilton Long Beach, Residence Inn Long Beach Downtown, and the Best Western Plus Hotel. Courtyard by Marriott guests should plan to walk to the Best Western for pickup. To view the full list of shuttle times, review Cal Cities’ [shuttle schedule](#).

If you are planning to drive to the convention center, note that the main parking lot along Shoreline Drive can be accessed via Linden Avenue. Visit the [Long Beach Convention Center webpage](#) for directions and additional parking options.

5. Connect with peers at your department meeting or regional event

The annual conference is a chance to wrap up old business and prepare for the year ahead. During department meetings, city officials in similar professions gather to discuss pressing issues, hear timely legislative updates, and brainstorm solutions for their work on unified department goals. Check the conference schedule for the exact time and locations of all department meetings.

Want to deepen regional connections? Many of Cal Cities’ regional divisions meet during the annual conference to share and reflect on issues impacting their region. For information about division events, review the conference schedule or contact your [regional public affairs manager](#).

6. Find exhibitors and Cal Cities Partners in the expo

Don't forget about the second half of the conference — [the expo floor](#)! With over 250 exhibitors, this year's expo floor will be brimming with opportunities to discover city-focused services and organizations for a wide range of mundane and unusual city challenges.

While you're there, be sure to check out the winners of this year's [Helen Putnam Awards for Excellence](#). The annual program honors and promotes the outstanding work of member cities throughout the state that have made unique contributions to community residents and businesses, which have resulted in lower costs or more effective delivery of services.

You will also find the Cal Cities Pavilion in our expo hall. Stop by to say hello and learn how to get involved!

7. Join the CitiPAC Denim and Diamonds fundraiser

The 2025 theme for the annual CitiPAC fundraiser is “Denim and Diamonds,” so pack what you need to sparkle! Festivities begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at [Ovation Square](#). Everyone is welcome, and we hope you will consider making a donation.

8. Make sure your city is ready for the General Assembly

Each year, members can propose new Cal Cities legislative policies through the [annual resolution process](#). Cal Cities did not receive any general resolutions by the Aug. 9 deadline, but petitioned resolutions may still be introduced during the conference. The General Assembly will convene on Friday, Oct. 10, at 8:30 a.m., if a petitioned resolution is introduced and qualified.

9. Review the Cal Cities event and Meeting policies

Cal Cities is committed to ensuring a safe and respectful environment for all participants and staff at Cal Cities events and meetings. Please take a few minutes to review the [event and meeting policies](#), and help us maintain a safe and respectful environment for all our attendees!

10. Pack the essentials!

Last, but not least: The annual conference includes a lot of walking, and conference room temperatures may vary. Pack comfortable shoes, chargers for mobile devices, and a jacket, as conference rooms may be cold to some.

[Reminder! Online registration closes Sept. 26!](#)

Full conference registration for city officials is \$725 and includes access to general and concurrent sessions, the expo, CitiPAC, and diversity caucus receptions, Wednesday’s host city reception, and some meals. Registration often sells out prior to the deadline, so be sure to sign up now if you haven’t already!

Cal Cities strives to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact [Event Registration Specialist Megan Dunn](#). Every effort will be made to honor requests submitted.

Scammers may contact you claiming to be the housing bureau/service for the conference. Cal Cities does not use a housing service. Only trust emails from [@calcities.org](#) or the official hotel you book with.



Sweeping Brown Act changes advance to Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk

Sep 17, 2025

Cal Cities will publish an in-depth explainer on SB 707 soon

By Johnnie Piña, legislative advocate (governance)

Cal Cities is urging Gov. Gavin Newsom to veto proposed changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act. The bill passed last week and would dramatically overhaul local government meeting requirements.

While Cal Cities supports modernizing the Brown Act — and the author did incorporate language from Cal Cities' [sponsored legislation](#) — the measure would create a host of operational, fiscal, and legal challenges for cities. [SB 707 \(Durazo\)](#) also raises major, unresolved technical and implementation questions while providing little in the way of flexibility or resources.

Among other things, SB 707 would create new remote public comment, translation, and outreach requirements. It would also create new exemptions from certain teleconferencing requirements and extend sunseting Brown Act laws.

The bill would apply many of these mandates unevenly due to its overlapping definitions of legislative bodies. For example, roughly 100 smaller cities would be exempt from the new rules. However, 100 cities of the same size would need to comply simply because they are in larger counties.

Taken together, these mandates would create significant new costs — from expensive audiovisual equipment and translation services to staff training, staff time, website redesigns, and facility modifications. Cities are already facing fiscal strain due to state budget pressures, flat revenues, and new unfunded mandates. Unlike other mandates, Brown Act obligations are not eligible for state reimbursement, meaning cities must absorb the full cost of compliance.

Adding to the imbalance, the state itself is exempt from the very rules it seeks to impose. The Legislature, state boards, and commissions are not bound by the same translation, hybrid access, or posting requirements that cities would face.

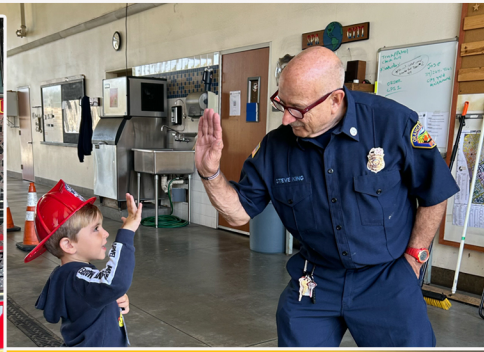
The measure would also amend the Brown Act to impact all legislative bodies. These changes center around teleconferencing, compensation agenda items, and what the presiding member of a legislative body may do during a Zoom bombing, among many other changes.

Cal Cities is currently preparing an in-depth explainer on the bill's many proposed requirements, which will be distributed soon. For more information, including how to oppose the measure, contact your [regional public affairs manager](#) or use Cal Cities' [veto request sample letter](#).

The Governor has until Oct. 13 to sign or veto the measure.

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY STATION OPEN HOUSES 2025

Saturday, October 11 • 9 am - 12 pm



Participating Fire Stations:

Aliso Viejo

Station 57 - 57 Journey

Buena Park

Station 61 - 7440 La Palma Avenue

Cypress

Station 17 - 4991 Cerritos Avenue

Dana Point

Station 30 - 23831 Stonehill Drive

Garden Grove

Station 81 - 11301 Acacia Parkway

Irvine

Station 4 - 2 California Avenue
Station 26 - 4691 Walnut Avenue
Station 27 - 12400 Portola Springs
Station 36 - 301 East Yale Loop

Ladera Ranch

Station 58 - 58 Station Way

Laguna Niguel

Station 39 - 24241 Avila Road

Lake Forest

Station 19 - 23022 El Toro Road

Los Alamitos

Station 2 - 3642 Green Avenue

Mission Viejo

Station 24 - 25862 Marguerite Parkway

Rancho Mission Viejo

Station 56 - 56 Sendero Way

Rancho Santa Margarita

Station 45 - 30131 Aventura

San Clemente

Station 59 - 48 Avenida La Pata

San Juan Capistrano

Station 7 - 31865 Del Obispo

Santa Ana

Station 75 - 120 West Walnut Avenue

Seal Beach

Station 48 - 3131 North Gate Road

Stanton

Station 46 - 7871 Pacific Street

Tustin

Station 37 - 15011 Kensington Park Drive

Villa Park

Station 23 - 5020 Santiago Canyon Road

Westminster

Station 64 - 7351 Westminster Boulevard

Yorba Linda

Station 10 - 18422 East Lemon Drive

*** The OCFA Agency Open House will be held in Spring 2026 ***