

CITY OF LA PUENTE

THE BRIDGE

OCTOBER 2022



LA PUENTE 2022 STATE OF THE CITY

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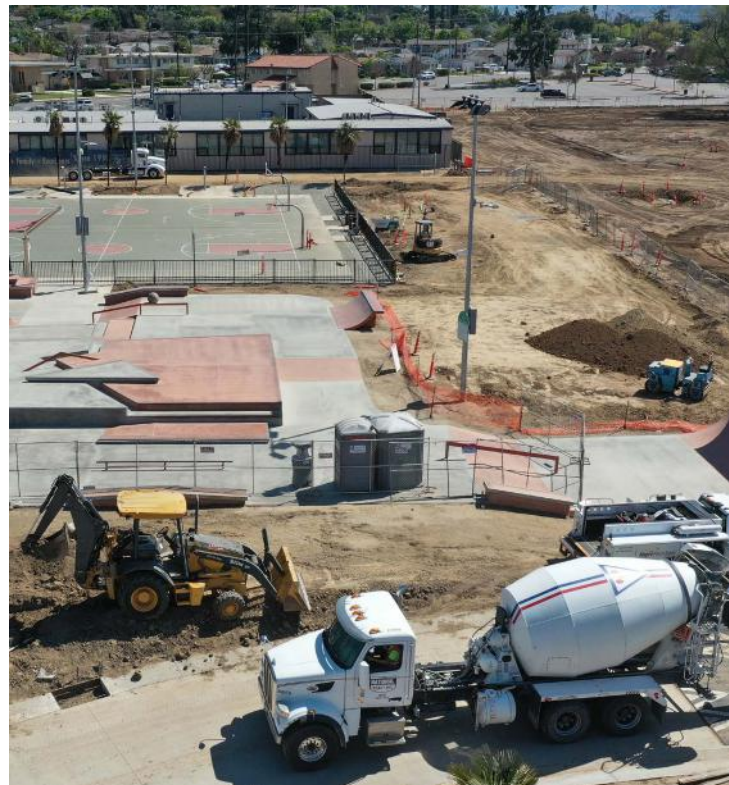


COMMUNITY OUTREACH

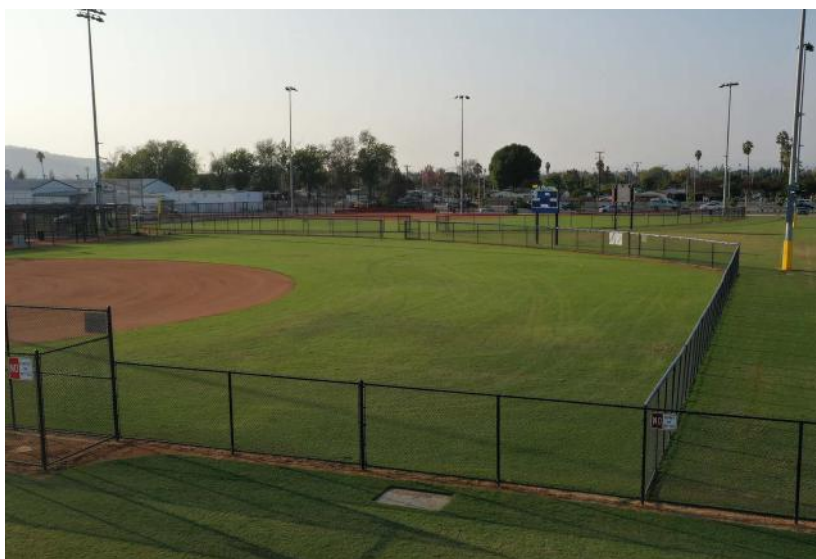
La Puente Park

The La Puente Park construction project has been a multi-year endeavor. The City's thorough planning, scheduling and construction efforts have resulted in the successful renovation of La Puente Park.

The grand re-opening of the park commenced in June 2022, with several thousand in attendance. The following sections highlight many of the amenities this 22-acre park has to offer. Enjoy a trip through the park from the comfort of your home by beholding the images captured by City staff and residents.







Maintenance and Aesthetic Renovations

1 Sewer and irrigation improvements throughout La Puente Park.

2 New maintenance yard perimeter fencing.

3 New decorative fencing surrounding the skate park, soccer field, and basketball courts.

4 New park service road which serves the maintenance yard and provides access for emergency vehicles.

5 Major electrical improvements and the incorporation of solar lighting, solar canopies and other solar amenities, effectively reducing energy costs.

6 New concrete concourse and sidewalks, providing easy access for all residents.

7 Decomposed granite paths for interior access to park amenities.

8 New planter and seat wall for visitors to relax near the east side of the park.

9 Construction underway for a vehicle storage building in the maintenance department.



10 Restroom renovations for the middle and west side restrooms.

11 Construction of adequate storage spaces for La Puente football and cheer teams.

12 To recognize loved ones lost to Covid-19, in partnership with Yellow Heart Memorial, a memorial bench was installed at the park.

Sports and Recreation Additions

- 1 New fencing for the Little League and softball fields.
- 2 Complete renovation of baseball fields.
- 3 Complete renovation of softball fields.
- 4 Construction of a new football field.
- 5 New batting cages built for softball and little league, including new electrical and lighting systems.



- 6 Complete construction of the Ian C. Calderon Skate Park, including a bowl and pump track.
- 7 Basketball court renovations, including junior backboards and pickleball courts.
- 8 Fitness circles and exercise equipment by GreenFields Outdoor Fitness.





- 9** New fitness court, including plyometrics by the National Fitness Campaign.
- 10** New playground for the toddler to 5-year-old age group, installed by Innovative Playgrounds.
- 11** Renovated and re-envisioned playground for the 5 to 12-year-old age group, installed by Innovative Playgrounds.

- 12** New athletic field lighting by Musco Lighting installed throughout the park.
- 13** Complete interior and exterior renovation of the La Puente Park Snack Bar.



- 14** The design and engineering process is beginning for a new coffee shop, which will be located in La Puente Park, near the Community Center.
- 15** Design plans are underway to construct a new 3,150 sq. ft. Activity Center building and outdoor volleyball court.
- 16** Completed construction of the new soccer field.

Public Safety Improvements

- 1 New park-wide security lighting has been installed throughout the park.
- 2 Security cameras have been installed for monitoring park activities and reducing crime.
- 3 A park-wide speaker system has been installed for general and emergency announcements.



Free Summer Lunch Program

In partnership with the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, the Free Summer Lunch Program served 9,600 meals to students in 2020 and 7,000 meals to students in 2021. In July 2022, the lunch program returned to in-person service at the Community Center and had 1,500 students participate.



Passport Services



Passport Services operates out of the Community Center. They provide both appointment and walk-in services for processing, having processed 760 passports through July. Appointments are available Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Walk-in services are available Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, you can contact the Community Center at (626) 855-1560.

Project LEAD

Project LEAD is a partnership between the City of La Puente and the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District. Project LEAD stands for “Life Experience About Democracy.” The program creates an avenue for students to engage in local government and City projects. Opportunities include, but are not limited to, participation in City events, Youth Government Day, community service projects, tree planting events, attending City Council meetings and participation in any other ongoing projects.

In collaboration with a local artist and the students at Sparks Middle School, a mural was painted on the wall along Unruh Avenue in 2021. Students were given the opportunity to assist with painting the mural, creating a lasting piece of art for students to enjoy for years to come.



On May 25, 2021, a resolution was passed designating June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month. In partnership with the San Gabriel Valley LGBTQ+ Center, the City of La Puente hosted a Pride Resource Fair and Brunch by the Bridge, on Sunday, June 12, 2022.

This inaugural event at the La Puente Community Center brought together services for the LGBTQ+ community by offering workshops, entertainment, food and resources to support and celebrate all gender identities and sexualities. This family friendly event was open to all communities and welcomed over 300 attendees.



Students Run LA

In October of 2021, the City partnered with Students Run LA, an organization that provides underserved, secondary students training for the Los Angeles Marathon. The program hosted a 5k/10k run in the streets of La Puente, which attracted 3,000 participants. Students Run LA is scheduled again for October 23, 2022.



Special Needs Programming

An adaptive special needs recreation program began in September 2022 and offers participants with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to receive sports training in basketball, soccer, and bocce. In collaboration with La Puente Softball, a special needs softball league will be created for boys and girls ages 5 to 18. A Special Olympics program is slated to begin in the City of La Puente in 2023.

A colorful poster for La Puente Adaptive Recreation Sports Training Classes. The poster features the La Puente City logo at the top, followed by the text "ADAPTIVE RECREATION" in large, bold, orange letters with a green outline. Below this, it says "SPORTS TRAINING CLASSES" in a green banner. The schedule is listed as "Tuesdays 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm" in a yellow box. The location is "At La Puente Park" in a yellow box. The sports and their dates are: "Basketball Sep 13 to Oct 11", "Soccer Oct 18 to Nov 15", and "Bocce Nov 22 to Dec 20". At the bottom, it says "Various sports training will be offered throughout the year in 5-week sessions \$20 per Session Register at La Puente Community Center." and "For more information, please contact the La Puente Community Center (626) 855-1560". There are also small icons of a basketball, a soccer ball, and a bocce ball.

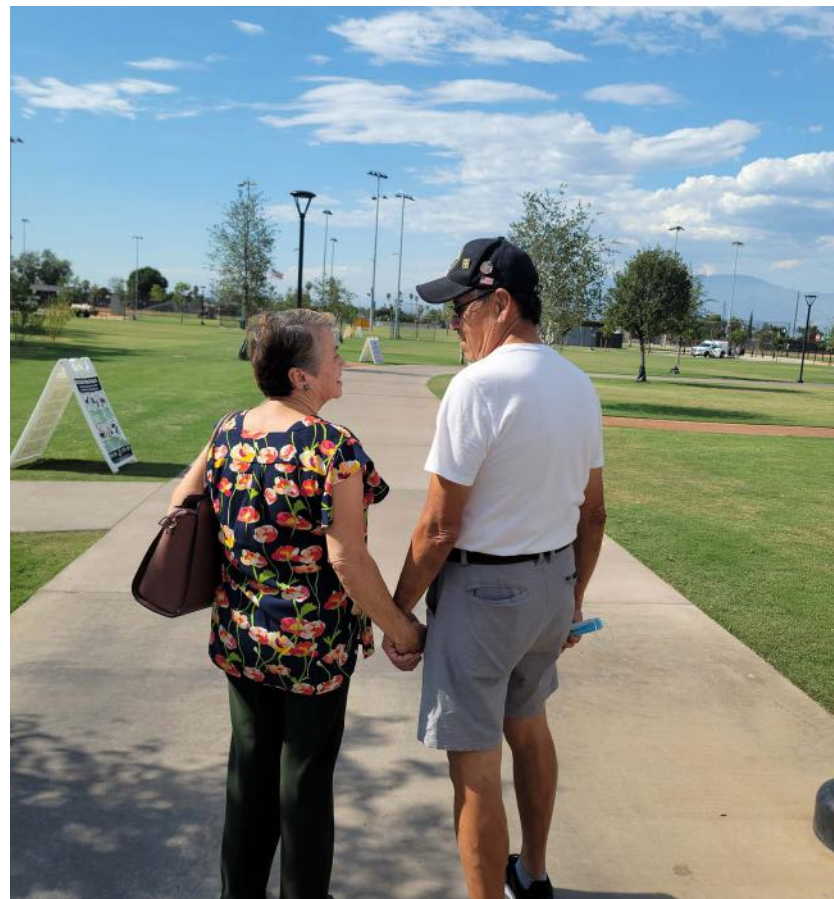
Senior Services



The Senior Center provided free lunches through a weekly drive-thru distribution in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The YWCA Lunch program is currently being held on Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., which services over 75 seniors. The program offers hot, ready-to-eat meals, as well as a packed meal to take home.

The Senior Center fully re-opened in April 2022 and began offering in-person classes and services. AARP offers Income Tax services through the Senior Center every Tuesday during tax season. The program services over 350 seniors annually. The City also sponsors AARP safety training every other month for 15 participants. Upon completion, graduates receive a discount on their auto insurance.

The City also offers numerous enriching programs for seniors to participate in. Yoga is offered on Mondays, chair Zumba is offered on Tuesdays, the T.O.P. program (Take Off Pounds) is offered Wednesdays, knitting and crochet classes are hosted Thursdays, and exercise dance is offered on Fridays. The Pool Hall, located in the Senior Center, is open daily, Monday through Friday. The Senior Center Staff are working towards hosting themed special events and service referrals in the near future.



Special Events

Drive-thru events were offered for the community in response to the restrictions placed on large gatherings by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. In compliance with the restrictions, our City's Día De Los Muertos, Veteran's Day, and Holiday Parade events took place, each attracting participation from families within the community.

In 2021, the Día De Los Muertos event and Car-Show were highly successful, bringing over 2,000 residents together, with a concert featuring 3 bands, community-based festive booths, food vendors, and a movie to end the event.

Our 2021 Veterans Day Ceremony honored 50 Veterans and their families. Dignitaries, residents, and the police community gathered to show respect for those who had served and continue serving.

The 2021 Holiday Parade returned with over 5,000 spectators along the parade route. Parade participants included 60 local and non-profit organizations. The spectacular parade concluded with the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Our Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony are held annually on the first Friday in December.

Over the past three years, the Spring Egg Hunt has brought together over 1,200 children and their families to enjoy gathering eggs and visiting with the Spring Bunny.



Summer Concerts in the Park attracted over 700 people, who enjoyed the music, food, and fun.

The 2022 Summer Movies in the Park attracted over 750 people who enjoyed the fresh air, popcorn, and a family-friendly film.

The July 3rd celebration returned in 2022 and offered a full day of food, music, games, and family fun.

In collaboration with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Industry Station, National Night Out returned in August 2022. Hundreds of people enjoyed music, food, and the opportunity to spend quality time with emergency personnel and their fellow residents.

La Puente Park re-opened to the public in June 2022. The Grand Re-Opening event had over 1,000 people in attendance to explore the many new amenities now offered at the park. Attendees enjoyed sports clinics, demonstrations at the skate park and fitness areas, as well as a guided tour of the park.



Tiny Tots Program

Tiny Tots is an activity-oriented class where children are introduced to colors, shapes, numbers, and the alphabet. Children learn while having fun with story time, music, arts & crafts, and outdoor play. Classes are offered in 2- and 3-day sessions. The Tiny Tots program has welcomed over 200 children since 2019.



Teen V.O.I.C.E.



Teen V.O.I.C.E. is a volunteer program for 13-18 year olds that will provide opportunities for teenagers looking to complete their volunteer requirements for school, church, etc. Participants can meet new friends, participate in activities, and become a part of a team that makes a difference in their community! The Teen V.O.I.C.E. Program has been active at City special events, including Concerts in the Park, Movies in the Park, LP Live, and many more!

Educational opportunities such as college application assistance, job interview skills, and environmental clean-up opportunities have also been made available.



2022 Expanded/ New Programming

The Community Services Department aimed to expand youth sports programming in 2022. Soccer, basketball, baseball, and football sports instructional classes were developed for children ages 3-13. A City-sponsored youth soccer league was launched in September 2022, offering 160 children ages 5- 12 the opportunity to play soccer for free due to a grant from the Industry Station Youth Activities League. Additionally, basketball and flag football clinics and activities are currently being developed.

For the first time in its history, the City created an Adaptive Recreation Sports Training Program, allowing individuals with intellectual disabilities to participate in sports. This program is multifaceted, offering individuals physical training and a means to hone teamwork and social development skills through sports activities.

The Community Services Department will also host several programs at the new skate park, including skate clinics, dance skate activities, and Parent-and-Me skate programs.



La Puente Live

La Puente Live started in 2015 as a collaborative effort with the City of La Puente to provide an open-air market. La Puente Live was first hosted on Main Street in Downtown La Puente. The open-air market then moved to Central Avenue and Stimson Avenue, as it grew too large to remain on Main Street.

Every Friday, throughout the entire year, La Puente Live provides a family-friendly environment for the residents of La Puente. The market has become a popular place for La Puente residents to come out on Friday night to dance, eat, shop and enjoy live bands locally in a fun, safe environment. Today, over 60% of vendors hosted by the market are residents or businesses within the City of La Puente.

To attend La Puente Live, stop by the corner of Central Avenue and Stimson Avenue on Fridays between 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., or visit www.lapuentelive.com for more information.



LA PUENTE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



In October 2020, the La Puente Community Foundation was formed with the goal of enhancing the quality of life for La Puente residents through community-based programming. The Foundation is a non-profit organization that offers events and programs for the betterment of the La Puente community. Programs are developed with the intention to generate opportunities for the community to connect with one another while developing skills and interests that will enrich their lives.



Jayson Gonzalez Baseball Clinic

In December of 2021, the Foundation teamed up with professional baseball player, Jayson Gonzalez of the Chicago White Sox Organization, to host the first-ever baseball clinic on the newly renovated fields at La Puente Park. Over 100 youth from the community participated in the clinic. The participants received coaching from professional and collegiate-level players from the Chicago White Sox, the University of Southern California, and California State University, Long Beach.



Lovie Lopez Softball Skills Classes

Since March 2022, Softball Skills Classes have been offered at La Puente Park by Former PAC-12, Oregon State University (O.S.U.) Scholar-Athlete Lovie Lopez. While attending O.S.U., Oregon State Athletics recognized Lopez as Most Inspirational Player, and she received PAC-12 honors. Lopez shares her advanced skill set and motivations with our young athletes by coordinating classes addressing her students' strengths and weaknesses.

For more information on signing up, contact the Community Center at (626) 855-1560.



Arbor Day Tree Planting

In April of 2022, the Foundation partnered with Urban Forests Council, Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, California Coastal Conservancy, and West Coast Arborists. Over 75 volunteers of all ages worked together to plant 35 trees in the newly-renovated La Puente Park. In addition, trees were planted on Puente Avenue to beautify the west side of Bassett High School.



Skateboard Demonstration and Educational Workshop

In June and July of 2022, the Foundation partnered with Sk8-Brd-Bus and Bizar World Bazar to provide professional skateboard demonstrations, educational workshops, and merchandise giveaways to the local skate community at the Ian C. Calderon Skate Park located at La Puente Park. Over 100 local skaters participated in the demonstrations and giveaway events and received skateboards, clothing, and other merchandise. These skate programs are continuous and currently available to the community.



Los Angeles Dodgers Neighborhood Camp

In June of 2022, the Foundation partnered with the Los Angeles Dodgers to host the first-ever Dodgers Neighborhood Camp in the City of La Puente. The two-day evening camp hosted baseball and softball players ages 7 to 14, where participants received a jersey and other Dodger merchandise from the clinic. The Dodgers training staff coached and instructed 170 participants. Thanks to the La Puente Community Foundation, young athletes were able to create lasting memories.



Los Angeles Galaxy Soccer Clinic

In July of 2022, the Foundation partnered with the Los Angeles Galaxy Soccer Club to host the first soccer clinic at La Puente Park, open to youth ages 4 to 11. All 80 participants received coaching and instruction from Galaxy training staff. This clinic was a foundation for youth entering the La Puente City soccer leagues.



3rd of July Event Beer Garden

The La Puente Community Foundation has partnered with the City of La Puente and local businesses to host the City's first-ever Beer Garden in La Puente Park. Over 200 people attended the Beer Garden and enjoyed ice-cold beverages, delicious BBQ, and family-friendly games. The Foundation also partnered with six local food trucks for the event, where thousands of community members enjoyed the variety of available options.



Breathe Southern California Educational Workshops

In July and August of 2022, the Foundation partnered with Breathe Southern California, a health and wellness educational non-profit organization, to provide educational workshops. These educational workshops taught attendees about common lung diseases, managing chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD), and the benefits of non-toxic cleaning. Attending community members received free spirometry tests and non-toxic cleaning supplies.



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT



Capital Improvement Projects

City-Wide Streets Improvements

Over the past several years, the City has taken the ambitious task of improving the condition of residential streets in the City. Utilizing bond proceeds from the Los Angeles County Street Funds, known as Measures M and R, and other local street and highway funds, the City has slurry sealed and resurfaced over 216 segments of neighborhood streets. The project comprised 28 miles of roads and highways, effectively investing over \$7.02 million into the community. This project also included repairs to sidewalks, driveway aprons, curbs, gutters, and new ADA curb ramps.

Valley Boulevard Improvement Project

The City completed resurfacing and restriping of Valley Boulevard from Azusa Way to the west City limit to improve travel conditions for motorists traveling through La Puente. The City allocated funds of \$1.4 million to repair the roadway and complete necessary sewer improvements along Valley Boulevard.



Amar/Elliott Parkway Improvement Project

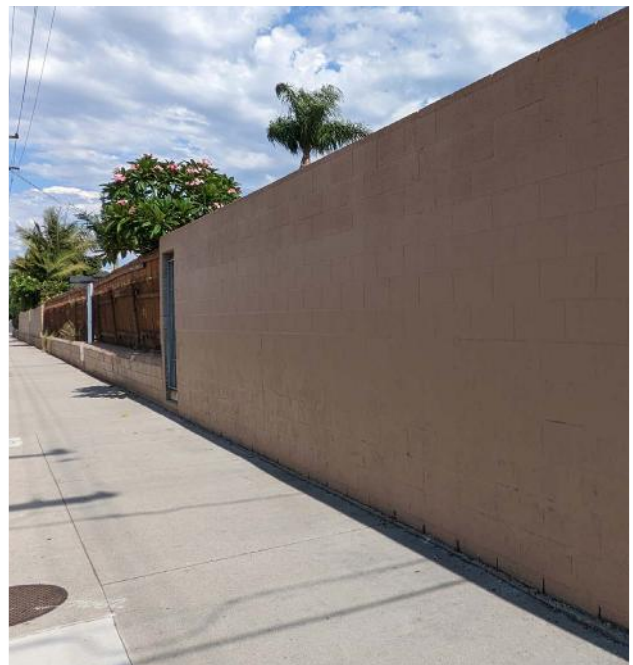
To enhance and improve areas adjacent to the City's major streets, landscaping, block wall, lighting, and sidewalk improvements were completed along Amar Road between Unruh Avenue and Elliott Avenue. With a total project cost of \$518,378, this area near the Donut Hole provides a walking path and seating area for residents and pedestrians to enjoy.

Unruh Avenue Wall Improvement Project

As a second phase to the Amar Road Project, the City recently awarded a \$420,000 contract to complete sidewalk and block wall improvements along the east side of Unruh Avenue to Flynn Street.

City Wall Beautification Project

To enhance the look of block walls along major streets, a new uniform color was selected to repaint the block walls along the City's thoroughfares.



Citywide Concrete Repairs

The City will soon be awarding a construction contract to complete Citywide Concrete Repairs throughout the City, replacing damaged sidewalks, curb and gutter, and driveway aprons.

Community Center / Park Digital Marquees

The City installed state-of-the-art digital Marquees at the Community Center and La Puente Park. These new signs will help to inform residents of the City's news, alerts, and community events.



City Street Sign Installation

Over 900 new street signs and posts have been installed throughout the City to improve the appearance of La Puente's City Streets. The new street signs have a special UV coating protecting them from the elements. These beautiful new brown and white street signs also help residents differentiate between City and County areas.

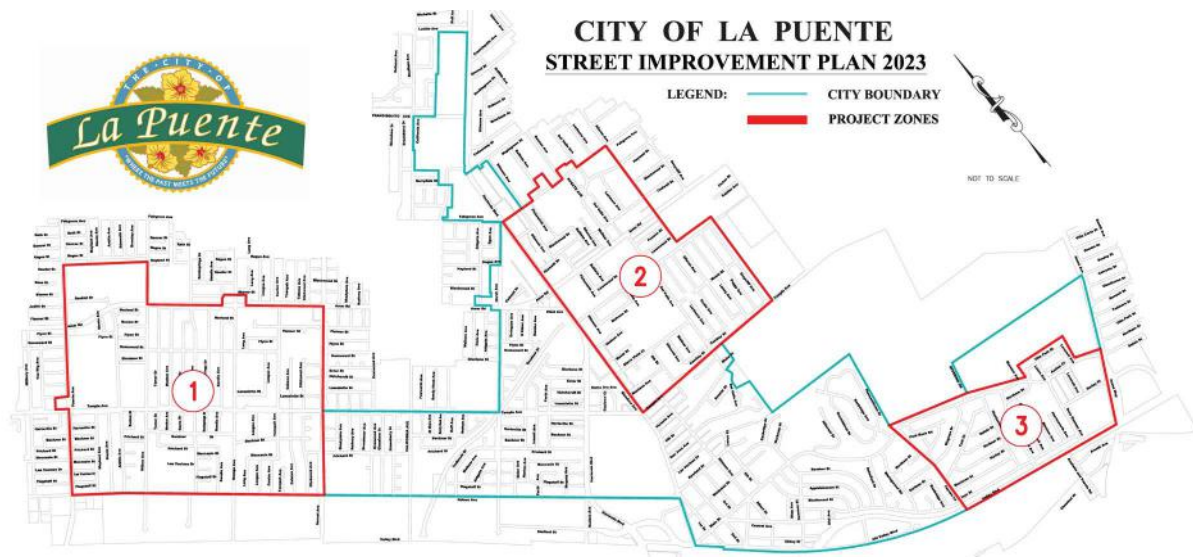
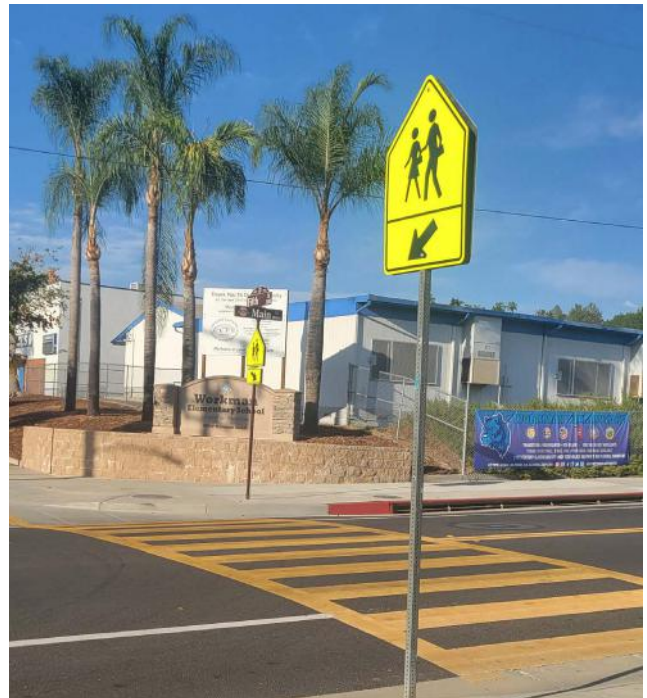


Bus Shelter Replacement/Installation Project

The City has approved a contract for \$373,806 to replace 10 Bus Shelters throughout the City, including branding with the City's logo and LED lighting. This contract will complete phase two of the bus shelter upgrades, for a total of 21 renovated bus shelters.

Highway Safety Improvement Program - Crosswalk Improvement Program Project

The City is currently out to bid on a school safety project to enhance eight crosswalk locations throughout the City. The crosswalk improvements include the installation of rectangular rapid-flashing beacons, curb extensions, advanced pavement markings, warning signs, high-visibility crosswalks, and ADA-compliant access ramps. These improvements will help enhance pedestrian safety for the following schools: LaSalette Middle School, Sparks Junior High School, Sparks Elementary School, Sierra Vista Middle School, Del Valle Elementary School, La Puente High School, and Workman Elementary School.



City Street Resurfacing Project

The next phase of improving residential streets has commenced, with project design underway for resurfacing 40 street segments in various neighborhoods. The City expects construction to begin in early 2023.



City Facility Renovations

Climate Conscious Green Energy Project

To reduce the City's energy consumption and costs, the City made energy efficiency and other related improvements to City facilities. The City Hall roof had solar panels installed, and a solar canopy at the Community Center was also installed, providing shaded parking for the community. Solar technology is utilized throughout the park to increase energy efficiency for general lighting and security. The City anticipates the Green Energy project to save the City \$2.4 million over the next 30 years.



City Facility Improvements

City facility improvements include the installation of new roofs at City Hall, the Senior Center, and the Maintenance Yard to replace the outdated structures. Additionally, the City completed the installation of water-efficient fixtures and made lighting improvements. In June 2022, the City's Green Energy project was combined with a standing agreement with Holt Architects to address aging Council Chamber infrastructure, upgrade audio/visual technology, provide robust web conferencing, and increase transparency to enhance the public's experience.

Community Development

Star of La Puente Housing Development

The City facilitated the construction of 22 new townhomes on the site of the former Star Theater property. Half of the new townhomes are currently under lease, bringing more residents to the downtown area to support the local businesses.



Arboleda Senior Apartments

Twenty years ago, the City had the vision to provide affordable living units at 1040 Unruh Avenue. Recently, City Staff realized that vision and provided 73 affordable apartment units for low-income seniors. These units possess beautiful Spanish architecture and include modern security enhancements.



La Villa Puente Apartments Rehabilitation Project

The City facilitated the rehabilitation of 121 low-income Section 8 housing units at the La Villa Puente Apartments on Main Street. The property's new owner invested over \$7.2 million in improving the apartments' living conditions and amenities. The grand re-opening revealed a modern and appreciated complex.

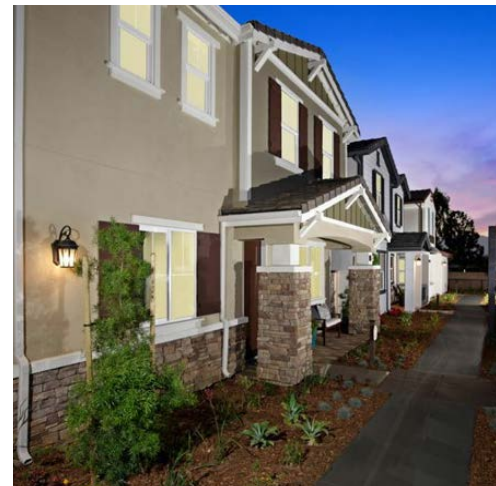


Sunny Garden Senior Apartments Rehabilitation Project

The City facilitated the rehabilitation of 91 apartments at the Sunny Garden's Senior Housing Facility. This major undertaking of construction, modernization and facility upgrades extended the affordability covenants for low income seniors for an additional 55 years thereby ensuring decades of continued affordability.

Brandywine's Bradbury Housing Development

The City facilitated the construction of 44 new single-family homes on an under-utilized property on Del Valle Avenue. Brandywine homes constructed a gated community of detached houses to provide move-up opportunities for individuals in the area who were looking to purchase a brand-new home near Sierra Vista Middle School and Del Valle Elementary school.



More than

\$1M

dedicated to
La Puente
Businesses

Business Assistance Grants

The City issued 180 business grants totaling \$700,000 to assist La Puente businesses to remain open and viable during the pandemic. Soon, with additional grant money, the outreach to businesses will surpass \$1 million dollars in assistance.

New Development

The La Puente Planning Commission has approved entitlements and building plans for the construction of a 34-unit mixed-use residential development to reinvigorate the Downtown area.



Starbucks

The City Development Services Department attracted a second Starbucks to the City's east side.

Tierra Mia Coffee

Tierra Mia Coffee arrived and now serves the residents of La Puente from its home next to In-N-Out Burger.



Popeye's Chicken

Popeye's Chicken is available in a dining room or drive-thru fashion at the Northgate Shopping Center.

PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES



The Launch of La Puente Animal Control Services

La Puente's Animal Control Services launched on July 1, 2019, fully divesting the City from LA County's Department of Animal Care & Control Services (LACDACCs). To date, the new department has saved thousands of dollars in animal care and sheltering services through service contracts with local animal-related service organizations. Our service contracts have paved the way for several collaborative service offerings to the community, such as free/low-cost microchipping and vet care.



La Puente Animal Control Contracts VIDA

La Puente Animal Control contracted VIDA (Volunteers in Defense of Animals) as the department's primary no-kill, humane shelter services. The City's service contract with VIDA has greatly reduced sheltering service costs, as well as increased the number of successful pet adoptions. VIDA has also been a consistent source of affordable pet care for La Puente's residents, including vaccinations and microchipping. VIDA's international network of over 400 adoption organizations in the US, Canada, and Mexico has allowed over 90% of our recovered stray cats and dogs to enjoy a second chance in life.



La Puente Animal Control and South Gate Cats Join Forces

Prior to this service contract, the city was utilizing LA County Sheltering Services for all recovered feral cats, which cost the city up to \$12K a month, greatly straining Animal Control's operational budget. To improve the efficiency of the department and its spending, La Puente Animal Control Services transitioned away from LA County Sheltering Services and into a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program provided by South Gate Cats. This TNR program is a humane, no-kill program that helps limit the feral cat population within the city. These changes have effectively saved the city upwards of \$10-11k a month.



The Restructuring of Public Safety Services

Following the successful re-opening of La Puente's newly renovated City Park, Public Safety Services has expanded into four sub-divisions: Animal Control, Code Enforcement, Parking Enforcement, and Park Safety. With a new, multi-tiered management system, improved training and protocols, and a streamlined workforce, Public Safety Services is better prepared than ever to serve the residents of La Puente effectively.





Industry Sheriff's Department

La Puente SAO Team

Special Assignment Officers



The La Puente SAO Team has apprehended numerous criminals around the City of La Puente and its surrounding areas by implementing the Flock and Vigilant camera systems. These systems utilize ALPR technology, or Automatic License Plate Reader technology, which identifies vehicles as lost, stolen, or wanted. These strategically placed street cameras have proven extremely helpful and vital in recovering 59 stolen automobiles within the City of La Puente and 83 stolen cars in surrounding areas. They have also led to numerous misdemeanor and felony charges, including the arrest of murder suspects.

The La Puente SAO Team has made 283 arrests in the past year, including 130 felony arrests and 118 misdemeanor arrests. Additionally, 35 firearms have been recovered within the City of La Puente, preventing their use in future crimes. In addition to patrol observations, arrests are made through direct collaboration with County Probation, Major Crimes, and Narcotics units and the Operation Safe Streets Bureau.

The SAO Team provides superior law enforcement and attends community events, local sporting events, and neighborhood watch meetings to interact with our residents.

1

Homicides have
decreased from
4 to none



2

Decrease
in rapes



3

43%
decrease in
assault victims
(89 to 51)



4

23%
decrease in
robberies



5

24%
decrease in vehicle
burglaries



6

Reduction in
Grand Theft Auto
down 24%



Although the City of La Puente has reduced crime, while crime has increased in other cities, we realize there are several commercial break-ins and thefts of catalytic converters and tailgates. Soon, we are confident that the La Puente SAO Team will crush this issue with vigilant and expanded programs. Earlier this year, the La Puente SAO Team partnered with the County SAO Team to offer several free Etch & Sketch events for the community, which aid in identifying stolen serialized parts.

P.R.O.S TEAM

Programs Re-Employment & Outreach Services Mission Statement



The City of La Puente's Community Outreach Department's mission is to advocate for and represent the dignity and rights of people who are or are on the verge of becoming homeless. Through our Programs, Re-employment, and Outreach Services, individuals are offered the tools and resources they need to lead self-sufficient lives. By offering multi-disciplinary wrap-around services, the P.R.O.S. team helps those who were once homeless become prepared for independent futures. Beyond homeless resources, we are here to provide various services and programs to all our residents, business owners, and visitors.

Workforce Development Program



The Workforce Development Program, within the City's newly developed Beautification Program, was created to better support the residents of La Puente who may require assistance in entering or re-entering the workforce. This program improves the lives of City residents as well as keeps the local economy and businesses by helping participants receive permanent positions, whether within the city or externally. 47 residents have been hired through the beautification program, and 14 have completed the program and been placed in permanent positions.

Employment services offered by the Workforce Development Program include but are not limited to:

- Public service career pathways
- Interview preparation
- Resume and cover letter assistance
- Job search and placement assistance
- Career counseling
- Career planning
- Referrals to and coordination with other programs and services
- Continuing education referrals



CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development Program

The City of La Puente, aware of the increase in countywide underemployment, aimed to assist the underserved and at-risk youth by pursuing and receiving a 3.6 million dollar grant through the CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development Program. This program aims to increase youth employment, develop youth interest in and experience towards a career, and strengthen the City's capacity to

address critical areas of climate and food insecurity. The City is partnering with local community-based organizations to carry out these goals and enrich the lives of our local youth. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact City Hall at (626) 855-1500.



Residential Program

The City of La Puente offers a City Beautification Program through the Community Outreach Department. It helps seniors, low-income disabled, and veteran residents beautify their homes through minor landscaping maintenance and home repairs. The program offers these services at minimal or no cost. For more information, contact (626) 855-1548 or email Prosteam@lapuente.org.



Outreach Services for Displaced Residents

The P.R.O.S. Team offers outreach services to help displaced individuals within La Puente find housing, food, and anything else they may need. Daily outreach is conducted, and during every contact, services are offered regardless of whether the individual accepts or rejects them. The Community Outreach Department has encountered over 2000 displaced individuals throughout the program. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority estimated 140 homeless in La Puente in July. As of the most recent La Puente homeless count conducted September 29th, 2022, the official 10pm count was 38. September 30th nine of those individuals sought help from P.R.O.S. Team bringing the count to 29. This real and amazing reduction of displaced persons in La Puente city limits is a direct result of the homeless assistance programs and coalition and wrap around services the city of La Puente has developed on its own.

- 30% of those contacted have been successful in receiving housing services.
- 40% of our total contacts have been transient status.
- 62% of the contacts have been in the form of male homeless individuals, followed by 33% female and 5% children





GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPARENCY



City Council
agendas prepared:

120



Contracts
processed:

257



Minutes
prepared:

120



Ordinances
processed:

21



Public records
requests processed:

465



Resolutions
processed:

291



City hires:

113



Staff hired
through workforce
development
program:

44

Translation Services

In May 2021, the City increased the community's accessibility to City Council meetings by providing a live Spanish translation of City Council meetings and on-site interpreters for members of the public wishing to offer public comments in Spanish.

City Debt Refinancing Saves Residents \$3.9 Million Dollars

During the Fall of 2020, the City issued Series 2020A Certificates of Participation Bonds valued at \$8,517,000. Recommendations from City Staff resulted in the disbursement of the \$8,517,000 in proceeds to the California Public Employee's Retirement System (CalPERS), paying down the City's Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL) and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities. The City can save residents an estimated **\$3.9 million** through refinancing. The City receives the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awards for Budget and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for providing consistent annual and high-quality financial documents, improving access to capital markets, reducing the City's borrowing cost, and generating the opportunity for large-scale savings.



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, also known as ARPA, was a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed to speed up the United States' recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the ongoing recession. In July 2021 and July 2022, the City received its allocations of ARPA funds totaling just over \$9.4 million. The City utilizes this funding to support areas such as business grants, local sports league subsidies, City beautification programs, community outreach, public safety, and other related COVID-19 pandemic items.



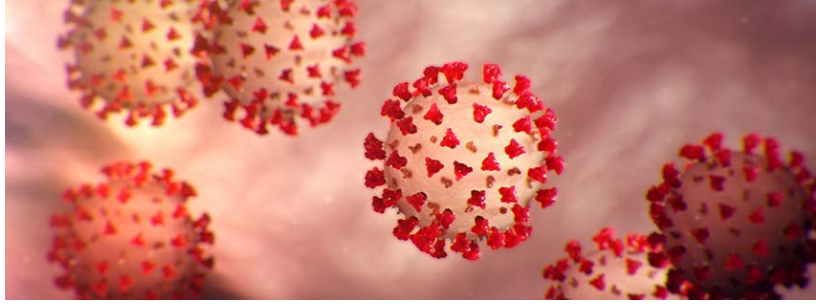
Measure LP

During the November 2018 general election, residents of the City of La Puente were asked to vote on an initiative measure placed on the ballot. This ballot measure, titled Measure LP, was a half-cent sales tax approved by 75% of voters. Measure LP has provided funding for public safety services, street and sidewalk repairs, after-school programs, senior services, graffiti removal, and many other municipal services. This measure has also allowed the City to embark on an ambitious park improvement project without incurring additional debt.



**COMMUNITY
ORIENTED POLICING
IS BEING PART OF
OUR COMMUNITY**

COVID-19



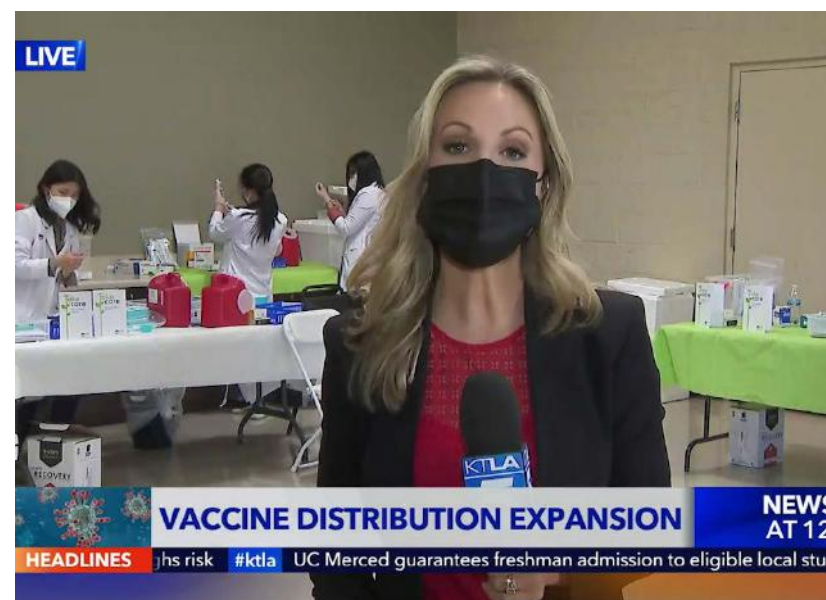
Due to COVID-19 and measures put in place at State and local levels to reduce the transmission of the virus, the City ceased in-person City Council meetings and held its first teleconference meeting on March 26, 2020. City Staff quickly transitioned City Council meetings to a combination of virtual and teleconference platforms, which provided the community with multiple ways to participate. Enhancements included infrastructure upgrades, multiple public comment options, and remote participation capabilities for City Council, Staff, and the public. La Puente was one of the first cities in San Gabriel Valley to allow in-person, socially distant public comment beginning in September 2020.

City Hall re-opened in June 2020, just three months after the pandemic's beginning, due to the implementation of health and safety measures. It is important to note that once City Hall was re-opened, it was never closed again due to COVID-19 exposures, as many other cities were. Our residents continued to be fully served. Also, due to disciplined fiscal management and budgetary oversight, the City maintained complete existing services in a modified manner. It maintained total pre-pandemic staffing levels, repurposing employees to pandemic-related responsibilities to not lay any employees off.



COVID Testing and Vaccine Clinics

In 2021, the Community Center hosted two days of drive-thru COVID testing in the parking lot, helping over 700 residents receive quick and easy test results. The Senior Center also hosted ongoing COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics in partnership with East Valley Community Health Center from March 2021-June 2021, servicing over 250 residents.



Great Plates Program

Beginning in August 2020, the City started delivering meals to those in need through the Great Plates program. This program was designed to support adults 60 and older at high risk of COVID-19 by delivering three nutritious meals daily. Additionally, the program provided \$168,000 in stimulus to local businesses and workers struggling to stay afloat during the COVID crisis. The City was able to deliver 500 meals per month through the program.



La Puente Food Bank

The La Puente Food Bank has long operated near downtown La Puente and been supported by the City both financially and with much needed refrigeration and storage equipment. Over the past three years, the Food Bank has served over 100,000 families one car at a time bringing hope, health, provision and smiles.



NeoGov

Over the past two years, City Staff has utilized NeoGov online recruitment software. This has allowed the City to implement a paperless employee onboarding process. Additionally, per state requirements, multiple training courses were administered for all employees to support overall health, safety, and wellness.



NetFile

In 2020, City Staff began working with Netfile, a paperless filing system for campaign disclosures and Form 700s, providing a fully transparent public search portal. Netfile simplifies the filing process, eliminates paper statements, and allows the public to research campaign contributions and expenditures, review campaign statements filed by candidates and committees, and examine a committee's filing history by election.

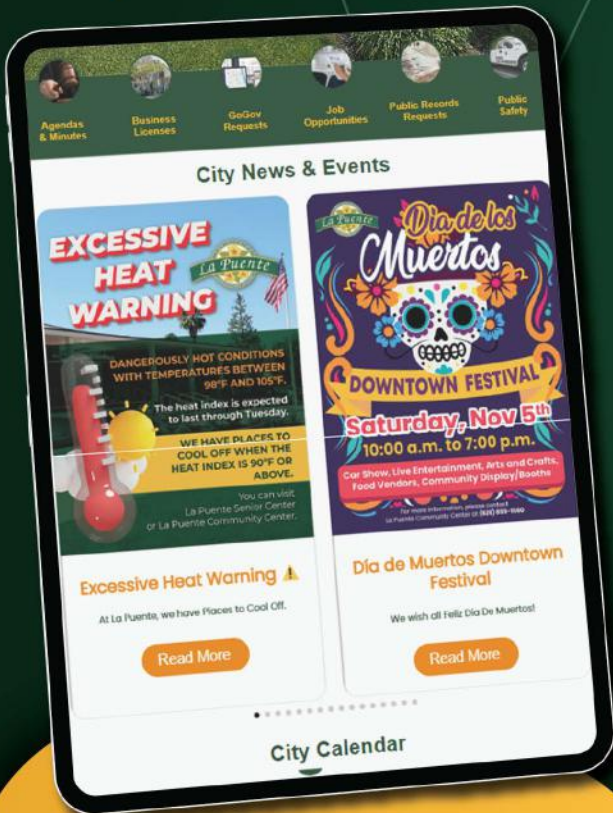


NextRequest

With the implementation of NextRequest records management system, the City's record keeping process has been streamlined. With this program, a member of the public can submit a records request via a web portal, which City staff will receive, track, process, redact and release. Once released, the requested documents are made available to the general public. The portal also doubles as a records management system that allows the public access to documents such as resolutions, ordinance, minutes and contracts.



VISIT NEW IMPRO WEB



**This year, in July,
the City launched
a brand-new
website**



www.lapueente.org



OUR AND MOVED SITE



The City's website improvements include defined branding, increased transparency, mobile-friendly design, robust social media elements, updated servers, and increased performance.

Before

WHERE THE PAST MEETS THE FUTURE



Today



www.lapuente.org