

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
December 23, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council FROM: Scott Stiles, City Manager
Members

I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES

None.

II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

- A. BELGRAVE CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT READINESS
Bill Murray provides information on the status of the Belgrave Channel and planned improvements should funding be made available.
- B. HOUSING AUTHORITY AS HOUSING SUCCESSOR ANNUAL REPORT
Karl Hill provides the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Housing Successor Annual Report.

III. ITEMS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, OUTSIDE AGENCIES, BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS

- A. Notice from the OCTA regarding a public hearing and approved amendment to the Renewed Measure M Local Transportation Authority Ordinance No. 3.

IV. RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (PINKS)

- A. CITIZEN COMPLAINT – PINK 3714
A copy of the letter sent to Sharon Choi who had questions about the Redflex contract with the City is attached for your review.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

- NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information.
- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
Items of interest are included.



SCOTT C. STILES
City Manager

BELGRAVE CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT – PROJECT READINESS

December 21, 2015

Page 2 of 2

cross section with an 8' depth. The proposed channel will be a concrete vertical wall channel that is 22' wide and 10' deep. The construction cost estimate is estimated at \$7.4M. The high price tag is, in part, related to the reinforced concrete construction shoring required to build a vertical wall channel and the poor soils in the area.

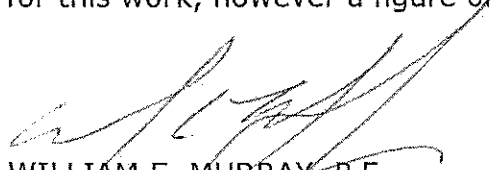
The preparation of plans and special provisions were effectively completed in 2013. The greatest reason the project has not been constructed is that no funding source has been identified.

The following items need to be acquired prior to going out to bid:

- Environmental clearance
- OC Permit to connect to their channel
- Department of Fish & Game Permit
- Corps of Engineers Permit
- Regional Water Quality Control Board 401 Permit

Because permits have expiration dates and regulating agency(s) standards change over time, the staff has not sought any of the above permits. Many of these permits can take more than a year to acquire.

Finally, it should be noted that entire Belgrave Channel requires upgrading as well as the City's feeder lines into the Channel. A cost analysis has not been prepared for this work, however a figure of \$50 million would likely cover the costs.



WILLIAM E. MURRAY, P.E.
Public Works Director

INVITE: grand re-opening, S 1/23 @5pm

From : Pam Haddad <pamha@ci.garden-grove.ca.us>
Subject : INVITE: grand re-opening, S 1/23 @5pm
To : Bao Nguyen <baon@ci.garden-grove.ca.us>

Mon, Dec 21, 2015 02:05 PM

Grand Re-Opening
of St Columban's Madigan Library

5pm Mass followed by wine/hors d-oeuvres reception

Interested? Please RSVP by 1/8.

Pamela Haddad
Council Liaison
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840
714.741.5104 office
714.741.5044 fax

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Scott C. Stiles
Dept: Director
Subject: HOUSING AUTHORITY AS
HOUSING SUCCESSOR ANNUAL
REPORT - FISCAL YEAR 2014-
2015

From: Karl Hill
Dept: Community Development
Date: December 21, 2015

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the City Council and Housing Authority Commission the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Housing Successor Annual Report.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In 2014, the Governor signed into law SB-341 requiring Housing Successors to conduct an annual report of their housing activities associated with the assumed assets and functions of the Former Agency. The required report is attached and includes all of the sections required by the statute. Additionally, the report will be formally placed on the City Council and Housing Authority agenda to receive and file at the January 26, 2016 meeting. Furthermore, as required, this report and its attachments are being provided to the Housing Successor and will be posted on the City's website by December 31, 2015.



KARL HILL
Interim Community Development Director



By: Monica L. Covarrubias
Project Manager

Attachment 1: 2014-2015 Housing Successor Annual Report

**HOUSING SUCCESSOR ANNUAL REPORT
REGARDING THE
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING ASSET FUND
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15
PURSUANT TO
CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 34176.1(f)
FOR THE
GARDEN GROVE HOUSING AUTHORITY, AS HOUSING SUCCESSOR**

This Housing Successor Annual Report (Report) regarding the Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund (LMIHAF) has been prepared pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 34176.1(f) and is dated as of December 8, 2015. This Report sets forth certain details of the Garden Grove Housing Authority's, as housing successor (Housing Successor), activities during Fiscal Year 2014-15 (Fiscal Year). The purpose of this Report is to provide the governing body of the Housing Successor an annual report on the housing assets and activities of the Housing Successor under Part 1.85, Division 24 of the California Health and Safety Code, in particular sections 34176 and 34176.1 (Dissolution Law).

This Report is based upon information prepared by Housing Successor staff and information contained within the independent financial audit of the Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund within the City of Garden Grove Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for Fiscal Year 2014-15 (Fiscal Year) as prepared by Macias Gini & O'Connell, certified public accountants (Audit), which Audit is separate from this annual Report; further, this Report conforms with and is organized into sections I. through XI., inclusive, pursuant to Section 34176.1(f) of the Dissolution Law:

- I. **Amount Received by the City per HSC Section 34191.4:** This section provides the total amount of funds received by the City in repayment of reinstated City/Agency loans per Section 34191.4.
- II. **Amount Deposited into LMIHAF:** This section provides the total amount of funds deposited into the LMIHAF during the Fiscal Year. Any amounts deposited for items listed on the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) must be distinguished from the other amounts deposited.
- III. **Ending Balance of LMIHAF:** This section provides a statement of the balance in the LMIHAF as of the close of the Fiscal Year. Any amounts deposited for items listed on the ROPS must be distinguished from the other amounts deposited.
- IV. **Description of Expenditures from LMIHAF:** This section provides a description of the expenditures made from the LMIHAF during the Fiscal Year. The expenditures are to be categorized.

- V. **Statutory Value of Assets Owned by Housing Successor:** This section provides the statutory value of real property owned by the Housing Successor, the value of loans and grants receivables, and the sum of these two amounts.
- VI. **Description of Transfers:** This section describes transfers, if any, to another housing successor agency made in previous Fiscal Year(s), including whether the funds are unencumbered and the status of projects, if any, for which the transferred LMIHAF will be used. The sole purpose of the transfers must be for the development of transit priority projects, permanent supportive housing, housing for agricultural employees or special needs housing.
- VII. **Project Descriptions:** This section describes any project for which the Housing Successor receives or holds property tax revenue pursuant to the ROPS and the status of that project.
- VIII. **Status of Compliance with Section 33334.16:** This section provides a status update on compliance with Section 33334.16 for interests in real property acquired by the former redevelopment agency prior to February 1, 2012. For interests in real property acquired on or after February 1, 2012, provide a status update on the project.
- IX. **Description of Outstanding Obligations under Section 33413:** This section describes the outstanding inclusionary and replacement housing obligations, if any, under Section 33413 that remained outstanding prior to dissolution of the former redevelopment agency as of February 1, 2012 along with the Housing Successor's progress in meeting those prior obligations, if any, of the former redevelopment agency and how the Housing Successor's plans to meet unmet obligations, if any.
- X. **Income Test:** This section provides the information required by Section 34176.1(a)(3)(B), or a description of expenditures by income restriction (Income Test) for five-year period, with the time period beginning January 1, 2014 and whether the statutory thresholds have been met. However, reporting of the Income Test is not required until 2019.
- XI. **Senior Housing Test:** This section provides the percentage of units of deed-restricted rental housing restricted to seniors and assisted individually or jointly by the Housing Successor, its former redevelopment Agency, and its host jurisdiction within the previous 10 years in relation to the aggregate number of units of deed-restricted rental housing assisted individually or jointly by the Housing Successor, its former Redevelopment Agency and its host jurisdiction within the same time period. For this Report, the ten-year period reviewed is July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2015.
- XII. **Excess Surplus Test:** This section provides the amount of excess surplus in the LMIHAF, if any, and the length of time that the Housing Successor has had excess surplus, and the Housing Successor's plan for eliminating the excess surplus.

XIII. **INVENTORY OF HOMEOWNERSHIP UNITS.** This section provides an inventory of homeownership units assisted by the former Agency or the Housing Successor, that are subject to covenants or restrictions or to an adopted program that protects the former Agency's investment of moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 33334.3(f), including information regarding any inventory loss since February 1, 2012, and information about outside entities with which the Housing Successor contracts for monitoring and administrative services relating to its inventory of assisted homeownership units.

XIV. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE GARDEN GROVE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR FY 14-15 PER HSC SECTION 34328:**

This section provides a summary of the Housing Authority's activities during the prior year.

This Report is to be provided to the Housing Successor's governing body by December 31, 2015. In addition, this Report and the former redevelopment agency's pre-dissolution Implementation Plans are to be made available to the public on the City's website: <http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/finance/econdev/RedevelopmentAgencyDissolution>.

I. **AMOUNT RECEIVED BY THE CITY PER HSC SECTION 34191.4**

A total of \$0.00 was received by the City in repayment of reinstated City/Agency loans per Section 34191.4.

II. **AMOUNT DEPOSITED INTO LMIHAF**

A total of \$127,075 (2014-15 City of Garden Grove CAFR) was deposited into the LMIHAF during the Fiscal Year. Of the total funds deposited into the LMIHAF, a total of \$0 was held for items listed on the ROPS, [or received pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34191.4(b)(3)(B) or (C).]

III. **ENDING BALANCE OF LMIHAF**

At the close of the Fiscal Year, the ending balance in the LMIHAF was \$314,555 (2014-15 CAFR), of which \$0 is held for items listed on the ROPS.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES FROM LMIHAF

The following is a description of expenditures from the LMIHAF by category:

	Fiscal Year
Monitoring & Administration Expenditures (2014-15 CAFR)	\$73,992
Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Services Expenditures	\$0
Housing Development Expenditures	\$0
➤ Expenditures on Low Income Units	
➤ Expenditures on Very-Low Income Units	
➤ Expenditures on Extremely-Low Income Units	
➤ Total Housing Development Expenditures	
Total LMIHAF Expenditures in Fiscal Year	\$73,992

The administrative expenditures total less than five percent of the statutory value of real property owned by the Housing Successor and of loans and grants receivable held by the Housing Successor.

V. STATUTORY VALUE OF HOUSING ASSETS OWNED BY HOUSING SUCCESSOR IN LMIHAF

Under the Dissolution Law and for purposes of this Report, the “statutory value of real property” means the value of properties formerly held by the former redevelopment agency as listed on the housing asset transfer schedule (HAT) approved by the Department of Finance (DOF) as listed in HAT under Section 34176(a)(2), the value of the properties transferred to the Housing Successor pursuant to Section 34181(f), and the purchase price of property(ies) purchased by the Housing Successor. Further, the value of loans and grants receivable is included in these reported assets held in the LMIHAF.

The following provides the statutory value of assets owned by the Housing Successor (2014-15 CAFR).

	As of End of Fiscal Year
Statutory Value of Real Property Owned by Housing Authority	\$4,852,253
Value of Loans and Grants Receivable	\$16,531,747
Total Value of Housing Successor Assets	\$21,384,000

VI. DESCRIPTION OF TRANSFERS

The Housing Successor did not make any LMIHAF transfers to other Housing Successor(s) under Section 34176.1(c)(2) during the Fiscal Year.

VII. PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

The Housing Successor does not receive or hold property tax revenue pursuant to the ROPS.

VIII. STATUS OF COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 33334.16

Section 34176.1 provides that Section 33334.16 does not apply to interests in real property acquired by the Housing Successor on or after February 1, 2012; nevertheless, this Report presents a status update on the project related to such real property.

With respect to interests in real property acquired by the former redevelopment agency *prior* to February 1, 2012, the time periods described in Section 33334.16 shall be deemed to have commenced on the date that the Department of Finance approved the property as a housing asset in the LMIHAF; thus, as to real property acquired by the former redevelopment agency now held by the Housing Successor in the LMIHAF, the Housing Successor must initiate activities consistent with the development of the real property for the purpose for which it was acquired within five years of the date the DOF approved such property as a housing asset on the HAT.

The following table provides a status update on the real property or properties housing asset(s) that were acquired prior to February 1, 2012 and compliance with five-year period that commenced on August 30, 2012, the date of the letter issued by DOF approving the these properties as housing assets on the HAT:

12912 7 th Street	05/07/2007	n/a	Currently being rented to income eligible tenant.
11361 Garden Grove Blvd.	07/30/2008	n/a	Currently being rented to income eligible tenant.
12931 9 th Street	04/06/2010	n/a	Currently being rented to income eligible tenant.
12892, 12942 Grove St., 10936 Acacia Pkwy, no situs	03/11/2011	04/29/2017	No status at this time [vacant].
12291 Thackery Dr.	01/10/2008	04/29/2017	No status at this time [vacant].

12661 Sunswept Ave.	1992	n/a	This property was acquired with Low-Moderate Income Housing Funds of the former Agency in 1992 and was included on the DOF-approved LRPMP to be returned to the City for governmental use. The existing Buena Clinton Family Resource Center (FRC) was built and operates on this property; the FRC provides services to families residing in the surrounding low and very-low income neighborhood.
12602 Keel Ave.	04/25/1989	n/a	This property is subject to an Affordable Housing Agreement dated 6/25/1990 with Orange County Community Housing Corporation and is encumbered with recorded affordable housing covenants (HAT).

The following provides a status update on the project(s) for property(ies), if any, that have been acquired by the Housing Successor using LMIHAF on or after February 1, 2012:

Address of Property	Date of Acquisition	Deadline to Initiate Development Activity	Status of Housing Successor Activity
*			

*The property previously listed here has been removed pursuant to a letter from the Department of Finance dated June 26, 2015 regarding real property included on the Housing Asset Transfer form.

IX. DESCRIPTION OF OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 33413

Replacement Housing: Whatever unmet obligation that existed according to the 2010-2014 Implementation Plan for the former redevelopment agency, if any, this obligation has been superseded and is being met pursuant to that certain *Stipulation to Substitute Party and for Entry of Interlocutory Judgment (Judgment)* approved by the Superior Court, County of Orange, State of California in the action *Marina Limon, et. al., v. Garden Grove Agency for Community Development* attached as Exhibit A.

Inclusionary/Production Housing: Whatever unmet obligation that existed according to the 2010-2014 Implementation Plan for the former redevelopment agency, if any, this obligation has been superseded and is being met pursuant to that certain *Stipulation to Substitute Party and for Entry of Interlocutory Judgment (Judgment)* approved by the Superior Court, County of Orange, State of California in the action *Marina Limon, et. al., v. Garden Grove Agency for Community Development* attached as Exhibit A.

The Judgment and the former redevelopment agency's Implementation Plans are posted on the City's website at:

<http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/finance/econdev/RedevelopmentAgencyDissolution>

The Successor Agency, Housing Successor, and City are pursuing affordable housing development opportunities to meet the requirements set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

X. EXTREMELY-LOW INCOME TEST

Section 34176.1(a)(3)(B) requires that the Housing Successor must require at least 30% of the LMIHAF to be expended for development of rental housing affordable to and occupied by households earning 30% or less of the AMI. If the Housing Successor fails to comply with the Extremely-Low Income requirement in any five-year report, then the Housing Successor must ensure that at least 50% of the funds remaining in the LMIHAF be expended in each fiscal year following the latest fiscal year following the report on households earning 30% or less of the AMI until the Housing Successor demonstrates compliance with the Extremely-Low Income requirement. *This information is not required to be reported until 2019 for the 2014 – 2019 period, which is the first of the five-year periods added by Section 34176.1.*

XI. SENIOR HOUSING TEST

The Housing Successor is to calculate the percentage of units of deed-restricted rental housing restricted to seniors and assisted by the Housing Successor, the former redevelopment agency and/or the City within the previous 10 years in relation to the aggregate number of units of deed-restricted rental housing assisted by the Housing Successor, the former redevelopment agency and/or City within the same time period. If this percentage exceeds 50%, then the Housing Successor cannot expend future funds in the LMIHAF to assist additional senior housing units until the Housing Successor or City assists and construction has commenced on a number of restricted rental units that is equal to 50% of the total amount of deed-restricted rental units.

The following provides the Housing Successor's Senior Housing Test for the 10-year period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2015:

Senior Housing Test		07/01/2005 – 6/30/2015
# of Assisted Senior Rental Units		0
# of Total Assisted Rental Units		159
Senior Housing Percentage		0%

XII. EXCESS SURPLUS TEST

Excess Surplus is defined in Section 34176.1(d) as an unencumbered amount in the account that exceeds the greater of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or the aggregate amount deposited into the account during the Housing Successor's preceding four Fiscal Years, whichever is greater.

The following provides the Excess Surplus test for the preceding Fiscal Years of the Housing Successor:

	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12	FY 2011/12	FY 2013/14	FY 2014/15
Beginning Balance	N/A		(\$405,232)	\$191,355	\$252,996
Add: Deposits	N/A	\$124,080	\$743,360	\$89,909	\$135,552
(Less) Expenditures	N/A	(\$529,312)	(\$146,773)	(\$28,268)	(\$73,992)
Ending Balance	N/A	(\$405,232) *	\$191,355	\$252,996	\$314,555

**FY 11/12 Ending Balance does not equal CAFR Cash Balance. Variance reflects a short-term interfund loan.*

The Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund does not have an Excess Surplus.

XIII. INVENTORY OF HOMEOWNERSHIP UNITS

This section provides an inventory of homeownership units assisted by the former Agency or the Garden Grove Housing Authority, as Housing Successor, that are subject to covenants or restrictions or to an adopted program that protects the former Agency's investment of moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 33334.3(f).

This inventory includes: [At this time the inventory is not confirmed to be complete; the inventory will be completed in 2016.]

(A) The total number of homeownership units assisted by the former Agency:

9852 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA
11861 Winton St., Garden Grove, CA
10330 Belinda Ct, Garden Grove, CA
10301 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA
12741-12831 Arbor Ct. & 12752-12852 Arbor Ct., Garden Grove, CA
13143 Michael Monsoor Ct., Garden Grove, CA
10852 Sonoma Ln., Garden Grove, CA
13100 Mendocino Ln., Garden Grove, CA
10803 Sonoma Ln., Garden Grove, CA
10811 Sonoma Ln., Garden Grove, CA
10853 Sonoma Ln., Garden Grove, CA
10831 Sonoma Ln., Garden Grove, CA

(B) Summary of Lost Units.

a. The total number of homeownership units lost to the Housing Successor's portfolio between February 1, 2012 up to June 30, 2015, along with the reason or reasons for those losses:

	Property Address	Reason for Loss
FY 2011-12	11861 Winton St., Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner
FY 2013-14	9852 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner
FY 2014-15	12741-12831 Arbor Ct. & 12752-12852 Arbor Ct., Garden Grove, CA	Covenants expired
FY2014-15	10831 Sonoma Lane, Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner

b. Total losses between 2/1/12 to 6/30/15:

	Property Address	Payoff Date
FY 2011-12	11861 Winton St., Garden Grove, CA	3/27/2012
FY 2013-14	9852 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA	1/6/2014
FY 2014-15	12741-12831 Arbor Ct. & 12752-12852 Arbor Ct., Garden Grove, CA	N/A
FY2014-15	10831 Sonoma Lane, Garden Grove, CA	5/8/2015

c. Reason for loss from portfolio of each such unit:

	Property Address	Reason for Loss
FY 2011-12	11861 Winton St., Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner
FY 2013-14	9852 Orangewood Ave., Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner
FY 2014-15	12741-12831 Arbor Ct. & 12752-12852 Arbor Ct., Garden Grove, CA	Covenants expired
FY2014-15	10831 Sonoma Lane, Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner

d. Funds returned to the Housing Successor as part of an adopted program that protects the former Agency's investment of moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund. This includes repayments of all Single Family Rehab and First Time Homebuyer loans including principal, interest, and equity sharing payments between February 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015.

\$ 92,164.77

(C) The number of homeownership units lost to the Housing Successor's portfolio in fiscal year 2014-15 and the reason for those losses.

a. Total losses to portfolio in FY 14-15:

10831 Sonoma Lane, Garden Grove, CA

b. Reason for loss from portfolio of each such unit:

10831 Sonoma Lane, Garden Grove, CA	Loan paid off by owner
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c. Funds returned to the Housing Successor as part of an adopted program that protects the former Agency's investment of moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund. This includes repayments of all Single Family Rehab and First Time Homebuyer loans including principal, interest, and equity sharing payments during FY 2014-15.

\$ 57,664.77

(D) State whether the Housing Successor has contracted with any outside entity for the management of the units and, if so, the identity of the entity.

The City's Neighborhood Improvement Division administered a majority of the former Agency's Single Family Rehabilitation Program and First Time Homebuyer Program. The Neighborhood Improvement Division does have an existing agreement with Amerinational Community Services, Inc., a Minnesota Corporation relating to certain, but not all, aspects of administration of the former Agency's Single Family Rehabilitation loans and First Time Homebuyer loans that provided second lien mortgages for homeownership units. These consulting services include assistance with oversight and administration of amortized loan payments, if any, due; with tracking and calculation of loan balances in the event of payoff; and, other administrative activities for these outstanding Single Family Rehab and First Time Homebuyer loans.

XIV. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT GARDEN GROVE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR FY 14-15 PER HSC SECTION 34328

The Housing Authority can provide rental assistance to 2,337 households per month through Section 8 vouchers. The lease up rate by month for FY 2014-15 was as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of units leased</u>
July	2275
August	2285
September	2277
October	2284
November	2289
December	2298
January	2296
February	2294
March	2293
April	2272
May	2289
June	2279

Additionally, the Housing Authority also administers a Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program for the City's Neighborhood Improvement Division funded with HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. During FY 2014-15, the Housing Authority provided a total of 62 Tenant Based Rental Assistance vouchers.

During FY 2014-15, there were no terminations of Section 8 vouchers of victims of domestic violence.

Exhibit A

Limón v. Garden Grove Agency for Community Development
Case No. 30-2009-00291597

Stipulation to Substitute Party and for Entry of Interlocutory Judgment

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE

MARINA LIMON, *et al.*,
Plaintiffs and Petitioners,
v.
GARDEN GROVE AGENCY FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, a municipal
entity, *et al.*,
Defendants and Respondents.

GARDEN GROVE MXD, LLC, and
MCWHINNEY REAL ESTATE SERVICES,
and DOES 21 through 40,
Real Parties in Interest.

) Case No. 30-2009-00291597
)
) **STIPULATION TO SUBSTITUTE**
) **PARTY AND FOR ENTRY OF**
) **INTERLOCUTORY JUDGMENT**
)
) Complaint Filed: August 10, 2009
) Dept.: CX-102
) Judge: Robert J. Moss

Plaintiffs Marina Limon, Alfredo Cordero, Celia Gonzalez, Jackquelyn Bodenstedt as
executor of the Estate of Randolph Maynor, José Sanchez, Raymond Kent Creamer, Ana Rosa
Olea, Elidia Gonzalez, Ivan Torres, Javier Ibarra ("Individual Plaintiffs"), and the Kennedy
Commission (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), along with Defendants, the City of Garden Grove, the
City of Garden Grove as Successor Agency to the Garden Grove Agency for Community

1 Development ("Successor Agency"), the Garden Grove Housing Authority as Successor Agency
2 to the Garden Grove Agency for Community Development ("Housing Successor") and the
3 Garden Grove City Council (collectively, "Defendants"), hereby enter into this stipulation to
4 substitute party and for entry of judgment ("Judgment"). Plaintiffs and Defendants (collectively,
5 "Parties") settled the above-captioned matter through Voluntary Settlement Conferences before
6 Judge Gail Andler, Department CX-101, on September 20, 2013 and February 28, 2014. The
7 Parties stipulate as follows:

8 1. On September 20, 2013, the Parties entered into a settlement on the record in open
9 court in Department CX-101 that resolved the above captioned matter conditioned upon the
10 settlement of the issue of attorneys' fees. On February 28, 2014, the Parties reached agreement
11 on attorneys' fees. The terms of the settlement are as follows:

12 2. The term "Low Income Households" shall have the meaning set forth in Health
13 and Safety Code section 50079.5.

14 3. The term "Very Low Income Households" shall have the meaning set forth in
15 Health and Safety Code section 50105.

16 4. The term "Low Income Rent" shall be rent affordable to lower income households
17 as set forth in Health and Safety Code section 50053(b)(3).

18 5. The term "Very Low Income Rent" shall be rent affordable to very low income
19 households as set forth in Health and Safety Code section 50053(b)(2).

20 6. Within the timeframe described in Paragraph 9, below, the Successor Agency or,
21 at its discretion, the Housing Successor (hereinafter "Successors"), shall develop replacement
22 housing. Pursuant to this paragraph funds held in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset
23 Fund, as defined in Health and Safety Code section 34176, shall be available for development of
24 the replacement housing pursuant to this Judgment. The Successors shall develop or cause to be
25 developed twenty five (25) additional new construction dwelling units as replacement housing for
26 the Travel Country Recreational Vehicle Park ("Park") to address Plaintiffs' claims for
27 development of replacement housing pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 33413. No less
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1 than twelve (12) of the units developed pursuant to this paragraph shall be covenanted to be
2 leased at Very Low Income Rent and restricted to occupancy by Very Low Income Households;
3 the balance of thirteen (13) units shall be covenanted to be leased at Low Income Rent and
4 restricted to occupancy by Low Income Households.

5 7. In addition to the dwelling units described in Paragraph 6, within the timeframe
6 described in Paragraph 9, below Successors shall develop or cause to be developed thirteen (13)
7 additional dwelling units, either as new construction or Substantial Rehabilitation (as defined
8 below), as replacement housing for the Park to address Plaintiffs' claims for development of
9 replacement housing pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 33413. No less than seven (7)
10 of the units developed pursuant to this paragraph shall be covenanted to be leased at Very Low
11 Income Rent and restricted to occupancy by Very Low Income Households; the balance of six (6)
12 units shall be covenanted to be leased at Low Income Rent and restricted to occupancy by Low
13 Income Households.

14 8. The Successors may reduce the number of dwelling units required to be developed
15 pursuant to Paragraph 7 (but not Paragraph 6) by one dwelling unit for each dwelling unit offered
16 to a household listed on Exhibit A or B hereto that is rejected by such household provided that a
17 household's rejection of a unit under this section will not disqualify that household from
18 eligibility under Paragraph 11. In order to reduce the unit count, (1) a displaced household must
19 receive an offer of affordable replacement housing after a determination (provided to the
20 displaced household in writing) by the operator of that housing that the displaced household
21 is eligible for occupancy of the replacement housing with respect to all of its qualifications and
22 restrictions, including but not limited to income, family size, rental history and credit score, (2)
23 the offer of affordable housing must be either hand delivered to the displaced household as
24 evidenced by a proof of personal service, or through regular and certified U.S. mail, and (3) the
25 displaced household must be allowed ten (10) business days after receipt of the offer to accept or
26 reject the offer.

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1 9. The Successors shall develop, rehabilitate, construct or cause the development,
2 rehabilitation or construction (as applicable) of the dwelling units described in Paragraphs 6 and
3 7 ("Replacement Units") within four years from entry of judgment in this case.

4 10. "Substantial Rehabilitation" shall have the same meaning as contained in Health
5 and Safety Code section 33413.

6 11. In accordance with Health and Safety Code section 33411.3, all residents displaced
7 by the Redevelopment Agency shall have priority in occupancy of the Replacement Units
8 developed pursuant to this Judgment. Successors shall provide for such priority in any agreement
9 for development or administration of the Replacement Units, and shall maintain a list of eligible
10 persons and families displaced by the Redevelopment Agency.

11 12. Defendants shall provide notice to Plaintiffs' counsel upon (1) entry into an
12 agreement for development of Replacement Units, and (2) completion of construction of any
13 replacement dwelling units, no later than ten (10) days after issuance of a certificate of
14 occupancy. The number of required replacement dwelling units shall not be reduced pursuant to
15 Paragraph 8 unless the Successor Agency shall have provided notice (including a copy of the
16 offer) to Plaintiffs' Counsel within five (5) business days of making an offer of affordable
17 housing to a displaced household. Notice to Plaintiffs' counsel pursuant to this paragraph shall be
18 delivered by electronic mail and first class mail to: Public Counsel, Shashi Hanuman, Directing
19 Attorney, Community Development Project, 610 South Ardmore Avenue, Los Angeles,
20 California 90005, shanuman@publiccounsel.org. Parties shall cooperate in the exchange of
21 information relating to any offers.

22 13. Successor Agency shall pay additional relocation amounts to Individual Plaintiffs
23 based on rents paid in 2003 as initiation of negotiation rents, pursuant to the California Relocation
24 Assistance Act, 25 Code of California Regulations, § 6104, as set forth in the "Total Payment"
25 column of Exhibit A hereto.¹ Successor Agency shall pay additional relocation amounts to all

26 ¹ The parties note that in order to protect the privacy of the individual plaintiffs and displacees,
27 Exhibits A and B hereto reference each household by space number only. Parties have reviewed
28 and agree that the relocation amounts, household names, and corresponding space numbers in
Exhibit A, as previously exchanged by their respective counsel of record are correct.

1 other former residents of the Park whom they determined to be eligible for relocation assistance,
2 based on rents paid in 2005 as initiation of negotiation rents; pursuant to the California Relocation
3 Assistance Act, 25 Code of California Regulations, § 6104, as set forth in the "Total Payment"
4 column of Exhibit B hereto.

5 14. Pursuant to action of the California Legislature in Stats. 2012, Ch. 5 (Assembly
6 Bill No. 26, 2011-2012 1st Ex. Sess.) (the "Dissolution Act"), effective June 29, 2011,
7 redevelopment agencies throughout California began a dissolution process. The Dissolution Act
8 provides that the city "that authorized the creation of each redevelopment agency" became the
9 "successor agency" to that redevelopment agency, by operation of law, unless the designated
10 successor entity elected not to serve as the successor agency. California Health and Safety Code
11 sections 34173(a), (d). The Garden Grove City Council adopted resolutions electing to serve as
12 the Successor Agency to the dissolved Redevelopment Agency pursuant to Health and Safety
13 Code section 34173, and designating the Garden Grove Housing Authority as the Housing
14 Successor pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 34176. City of Garden Grove Resolution
15 Nos. 9072-11 (July 12, 2011) and 9089-12 (Jan 17, 2012). As prescribed by the Dissolution Act,
16 the amounts the Successor Agency is obligated to pay pursuant to the terms of this Judgment shall
17 be included as an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency on each applicable Recognized
18 Obligation Payment Schedule ("ROPS"), as defined in California Health and Safety Code section
19 34171(h) and in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 34177(l), (m), and as set forth
20 below.

21 15. The Successor Agency shall include in the ROPS due to be completed and
22 approved by the oversight board of the Successor Agency no later than October 3, 2014, the
23 entire amount of relocation assistance due pursuant to Paragraph 13.

24 16. The Successor Agency shall include in the ROPS due to be completed and
25 approved by the oversight board of the Successor Agency no later than October 3, 2015 (ROPS
26 2015-16B), amounts for Replacement Units that will be expended during the January 1, 2016
27 through June 30, 2016 period. The amounts to be expended during this ROPS 2015-16B period

1 shall be appropriate to complete development of the Replacement Units for occupancy within
2 four years from entry of the Judgment.

3 17. The Successor Agency shall pay \$795,000 in attorneys' fees to Public Counsel.
4 This amount shall bear interest at the rate of 7 percent per annum, from the date of entry of this
5 Judgment, pursuant to Article XV, Section 1, of the California Constitution. The entire amount of
6 attorneys' fees shall be placed on the ROPS due to be completed by the oversight board of the
7 Successor Agency no later than October 3, 2014 (ROPS 2014-15B).

8 18. Parties agree that the obligations contained herein are obligations of the Garden
9 Grove Agency for Community Development ("Redevelopment Agency"), now dissolved, prior to
10 enactment of the Dissolution Act. Consistent with Health and Safety Code § 34173(e), Successor
11 Agency's liability for amounts owing pursuant to this Judgment shall be limited to the extent of
12 the total sum of property tax revenues the Successor Agency and the Housing Successor receive
13 pursuant to the ROPS process and the value of the assets received by the Successor Agency and
14 the Housing Successor. The Successor Agency shall continue to list the obligations of this
15 Judgment on each ROPS until all obligations required by the Judgment are satisfied.

16 19. Jackquelyn Bodenstedt as executor of the Estate of Randolph Maynor is substituted
17 as a plaintiff in this action in place of plaintiff Randolph Maynor, by reason of his death.

18 20. The Parties agree that the Court shall have continuing jurisdiction to enforce the
19 terms of this settlement and Judgment pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section
20 664.6.

21 21. This Stipulation may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which
22 when so executed shall be deemed an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one
23 and the same agreement.

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Dated: ^{April} March 2, 2014

PUBLIC COUNSEL
CALIFORNIA AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAW PROJECT
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

By: 
SHASHI HANUMAN

Attorneys for Plaintiffs/Petitioners *Marina Limon, Alfredo Cordero, Celia Gonzalez, Jose Sanchez, Raymond Kent Creamer, Ana Rosa Olea, Elidia Gonzalez, Ivan Torres, Javier Ibarra and The Kennedy Commission*

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: 
MARINA LIMON

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: 
ALFREDO CORDERO

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: 
CELIA GONZALEZ

Dated: March , 2014

By: _____
JACKQULYN BODENSTEDT AS EXECUTOR
OF THE ESTATE OF RANDOLPH MAYNOR

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Dated: March __, 2014

PUBLIC COUNSEL
CALIFORNIA AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAW PROJECT
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

By: _____
SHASHI HANUMAN

Attorneys for Plaintiffs/Petitioners *Marina Limon, Alfredo Cordero, Celia Gonzalez, Jose Sanchez, Raymond Kent Creamer, Ana Rosa Olea, Elidia Gonzalez, Ivan Torres, Javier Ibarra and The Kennedy Commission*

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
MARINA LIMON

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
ALFREDO CORDERO

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
CELIA GONZALEZ

Dated: March 27, 2014

By: 
JACKOULYN BODENSTEDT AS EXECUTOR
OF THE ESTATE OF RANDOLPH MAYNOR

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Dated: March 25, 2014

By: Jose Sanchez
JOSE SANCHEZ

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: R. Kent Creamer
RAYMOND KENT CREAMER

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: Ana Rosa Olea
ANA ROSA OLEA

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: Elidia Gonzalez
ELIDIA GONZALEZ

Dated: March 28, 2014

By: Edwardo I Torres
IVAN TORRES

Dated: March 25, 2014

By: Javier Ibarra
JAVIER IBARRA

Dated: March , 2014

By: THE KENNEDY COMMISSION

Dated: March , 2014

STRADLING YOCCA CARLSON & RAUTH
By: Allison Burns
ALLISON BURNS

*Attorneys for Plaintiffs/Petitioners Defendants
Garden Grove Agency for Community Development (by
and through its successor agencies), The City of Garden
Grove, The Garden Grove Housing Authority and The
Garden Grove City Council*

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
JOSE SANCHEZ

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
RAYMOND KENT CREAMER

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
ANA ROSA OLEA

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
ELIDIA GONZALEZ

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
IVAN TORRES

Dated: March __, 2014

By: _____
JAVIER IBARRA

Dated: March 27, 2014

By: 
THE KENNEDY COMMISSION

Dated: March 27, 2014

Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth
By: _____
ALLISON BURNS

*Attorneys for Plaintiffs/Petitioners Defendants
Garden Grove Agency for Community Development (by
and through its successor agencies), The City of Garden
Grove, The Garden Grove Housing Authority and The
Garden Grove City Council*

1 Dated: March __, 2014

By: Mattie Fetal
THE GARDEN GROVE HOUSING
AUTHORITY AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO
THE GARDEN GROVE AGENCY FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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3
4 Dated: March __, 2014

By: Mattie Fetal
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE AS SUCCESSOR
AGENCY TO THE GARDEN GROVE AGENCY
FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

5
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7 Dated: March __, 2014

By: Mattie Fetal
THE GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

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Exhibit A
Additional Relocation Payments to Plaintiffs

SPACE	Relocation Base Rent	2003 Rent	Differential	Total Payment
1	955	800	155	\$6,510.00
35	416	410	6	\$252.00
38	665	410	255	\$10,710.00
45	418.5	400	18.5	\$777.00
60	630	420	210	\$8,820.00
82	655	400	255	\$10,710.00
93	695	490	205	\$8,610.00
94a	392.4	470	-77.6	0
114	423.73	540	-116.27	0
118a	523.31	450	73.31	\$3,079.02

\$49,468

Exhibit B
Additional Relocation Payments to Non-Plaintiff Displacees

SPACE	Relocation Base Rent	2005 Rent	Differential	Total Payment
2	587.95	575	12.95	\$543.90
14	331.19	565	-233.81	0
22	705	575	130	\$5,460.00
23	720	590	130	\$5,460.00
41	670	540	130	\$5,460.00
53	394.3	625	-230.7	0
57	695	565	130	\$5,460.00
74	695	565	130	\$5,460.00
75	344.1	555	-210.9	0
80a	715	585	130	\$5,460.00
85a	680	550	130	\$5,460.00
88a	402.97	590	-187.03	0
92a	698	615	83	\$3,486.00
98	650	520	130	\$5,460.00
100a	685	555	130	\$5,460.00
104	339	515	-176	0
105	695	565	130	\$5,460.00
107	675	545	130	\$5,460.00
109	336.3	550	-213.7	0
111a	675	545	130	\$5,460.00
115	670	540	130	\$5,460.00
116	690	560	130	\$5,460.00
119a	385.37	545	-159.63	0
120	705	575	130	\$5,460.00
122	669.29 (Section 8)	575	0	\$0.00
126	541.23	525	16.23	\$681.66
129	356.3	565	-208.7	0
130	695	565	130	\$5,460.00

92,071.56



RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2015 DEC 21 A 11: 37

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeffrey Lallway
Chairman

Lori Donchak
Vice Chair

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Andrew Do
Director

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Michelle Steel
Director

Tom Tait
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Frank Ury
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Gregory T. Winterbottom
Director

Ryan Chamberlain
Ex-Officio Member

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Darrell Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

December 18, 2015

The Honorable Bao Nguyen
Mayor, City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove CA 92840

RE: Notice of Measure M2 Ordinance Amendment

Dear Mayor Nguyen:

On December 14, 2015, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) held a public hearing and approved an amendment to the Renewed Measure M Local Transportation Authority Ordinance No. 3 (also called Measure M2 {M2}). The amendment ensures the programs promised to the public in Measure M are kept by addressing two programs that currently have funding gaps: Project U's Fare Stabilization Program for seniors and persons with disabilities, and Project R's High-Frequency Metrolink Service Program.

The amendment closes out a completed project - Project T (Gateway(s) to high-speed rail) and allocates its remaining balance of \$219 million (in escalated dollars) to Project U, in the amount of \$69 million to cover the funding shortfall, and to Project R, in the amount of \$150 million to supplement ongoing Metrolink service expansion. This amendment allows OCTA to move forward towards fulfilling voter commitment and delivering the M2 Program as a whole.

In accordance with the M2 Ordinance, the amendment was approved by the Measure M Taxpayers Oversight Committee prior to the public hearing. In addition, a public meeting was also held prior to the public hearing, on November 19. With the public hearing and amendment process complete, the Board approved the amendment on December 14, 2015. The amendment will take effect on January 28, 2016.

A copy of the revised pages from the Renewed Measure M Local Transportation Authority Ordinance No. 3 and Transportation Investment Plan as a result of the amendment is enclosed for your reference.

Mayor Nguyen
December 18, 2015
Page 2

Measure M has been a critical element of Orange County's efforts to fund a broad range of needed transportation projects. Through our partnerships with the cities, the County of Orange, the California Department of Transportation, and other agencies, OCTA has been successful in keeping our commitments made to the voters. Your continued support and active involvement in the delivery of the Measure M Program is appreciated.

Should your agency have any comments or questions on this amendment, please contact Tami Warren, Measure M Program Manager, Program Management Office, (714) 560-5590.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Lalloway
OCTA Chairman

JL:tw

c: Board of Directors
Members, Orange County City Councils
Orange County City Managers
Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

December 21, 2015

Sharon Choi
20892 Queens Park Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

Bao Nguyen
Mayor

Steven R. Jones
Mayor Pro Tem

Christopher V. Phan
Council Member

Phat Bui
Council Member

Kris Beard
Council Member

Dear Ms. Choi,

On behalf of the Mayor, we have received your letter concerning the City's Red Light Camera Program. We appreciate and share your concern with this traffic safety program.

At the October 27, 2015 City Council Meeting, the council voted to continue in its current contract with Redflex Traffic Systems, Inc. This decision was based solely on the camera system's demonstrated ability to reduce accidents within the city.

In addition to implementing a red light camera program, the City of Garden Grove has increased yellow times at its most dangerous intersections to improve traffic safety. The yellow times currently implemented exceed those required in the State of California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

The City of Garden Grove will continue to be proactive in addressing traffic safety, implementing new technologies where prudent. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please contact me at (714) 741-5185. And if I can be of any additional assistance in the future, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Dan Candelaria
City Engineer

RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2015 DEC -4 PM 2:00

December 1, 2015

Mayor Bao Nguyen
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Re: Photo Enforced Ticket
Citation #GG090188PE

Dear Honorable Mayor Nguyen:

Hello, my name is Sharon Choi. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen. I would like to ask a few questions.

My first question is, why does Garden Grove continue to renew the contract with Redflex Traffic Systems, Inc.? Garden Grove and Los Alamitos are the only two remaining Orange County cities that use the red light cameras.

My second question is, is your decision to renew the contract motivated by the annual revenues that your city has experienced since the installation of the cameras in 2007?

According to an online article posted by Voice of OC, on June 23, 2015, "Revenues rose in the first three years of the program's implementation, from \$774,000 during the 2007-08 fiscal year to a peak of \$924,000 in 2009-10. In 2011-12, revenue took a nose dive to \$510,000, and has since increased to an average of \$750,000 in annual revenue each year."

My husband received a Notice to Appear on November 1, 2015. The letter claimed that my husband committed a violation of disobeying a red light. I have referenced the citation number above for your records. We were quite astounded to see that the fine for this infraction was \$544.00 (\$490.00 fine plus \$54.00 traffic school).

Continued
Page 2 of 3
December 1, 2015

I do not know how often the machines are calibrated and/or maintained. I would believe that are many regulations that Redflex or the city need to abide by. However, my husband was clearly not speeding through the intersection, as his speed was 27 miles per hour. I do not claim to be an expert in this area, however, is it possible that the changing of lights (from yellow to red) could be in need of adjustment or fine-tuning?

I am not a proponent of the use of camera-enforced citations. A camera cannot replace the judgment or discernment of an actual officer. Is this the type of traffic enforcement that your city will continue to employ? The majority of your constituents most likely do not support the use of photo enforcement.

I am writing to you because I am a homemaker, raising our two children in Huntington Beach, California. My husband is a civil servant; a firefighter. Although we do not live in Garden Grove, we are frequent patrons of the numerous Korean restaurants, cafes and markets within. In fact, on the day of the notice, my husband was traveling with our family friends to have dinner at a restaurant on Garden Grove Boulevard.

Kindly revisit the contract with Redflex, and tender a 30-day notice to discontinue their services. This company has been under federal investigation for actions that are not looked upon lightly.

“Once the largest red light enforcement company in the nation, Redflex has since come under national scrutiny after an investigation by the Chicago Tribune exposed that the company paid \$2 million in bribes to a politically connected former Chicago city official named John Bills.”

In the meantime, a \$544.00 burden has been placed on my family—right before the holiday season. We have two children in high school, one a year away from college. We certainly prefer not to pay the fine, however, we are law abiding citizens of this state.

Continued
Page 3 of 3
December 1, 2015

I would greatly appreciate a response from your office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Choi', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Sharon Choi

Weekly Memo 12/23/15

NEWSPAPER

ARTICLES

Knots of Love: Yarn goes from artwork to warmth for Garden Grove's homeless

By CHRIS HAIRE
2015-12-22 11:57:01



From public art display to blankets and hands, this yarn goes a long way.

The Garden Grove Police Department, Costa Mesa nonprofit Knots of Love and the First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove recently turned kaleidoscopic yarn used as an art display to create blankets, caps, beanies, and jackets for the city's homeless.

Around 30 homeless people received a mix of the 11 blankets, 17 caps and beanies, a shawl and seven jackets earlier this month, said Cheryl Raine, the pastor at First Presbyterian.

In October, Knots of Love covered trees, statues, waste containers and bus shelters with the yarn for the open-streets event. After the nonprofits workers took down the yarn, they cleaned it and knitted and crocheted.

Raine said she knows about 250 homeless people in Garden Grove by name, for whom the church provides showers, hot food, snacks and coffee.

"They were very appreciative," Raine said. Warm clothing "is critical, because they are out in the elements."

The Police Department, which directs the homeless to the church, called Raine up and asked if First Presbyterian wanted to partner with Knots of Love to provide the warm clothing.

Even though it is generally warm in Southern California, the weather has been cold of late. Raine said the day the church gave out the caps and blankets, on Dec. 8, it was about 35 degrees in the morning.

"If you can keep your head warm, it goes a long way on cold nights," she said.

Contact the writer: 714-704-3707 or chaire@ocregister.com

GARDEN GROVE

Holiday schedule: City Hall and the Senior Center will be closed from Dec. 24 to Jan. 3. Trash collection will not occur on Christmas or New Year's day; those customers will get service the following days. Beginning Dec. 28, the city will pick up Christmas trees for free. Tree pickup lasts until Jan. 8.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 18, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

College help: Garden Grove Unified School District's Cash for College workshop will be at 6 p.m. on Jan. 11 at Garden Grove High. The free workshop is open to all Orange County high school seniors; students will receive help filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and other documents. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. in Room 333. Bring your personal documents.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 19, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

District election: The city has set up a Web page dedicated to its process of creating district maps for future elections. The city, which in settling a California Voting Rights Act lawsuit in September opted to move to district elections by November, is now figuring out the configuration of the five districts. The elections page is under the "Open Government" tab of the city's website.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 21, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Meeting Center: The Community Meeting Center, at 11300 Stanford Ave., will likely re-open at the end of January or in early February after being refurbished. When it does, the City Council will again hold its meetings in its regular council chambers inside the center - until about April, when renovations to that room will begin. The chambers will re-open around June.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 22, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Food delivery: On Sunday, the Garden Grove Elks Club, with the help of several other local groups, delivered holiday meals to 200 families in the area. Families received hams, potatoes, pies and more. Children also received toys. Among the groups that helped the Elks were the Emblem Club 279 and Boys Scout Troop III.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 23, 2015



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

CONTACT: Erin Webb (714) 741-5313
Planning Division

Christine M. Fabiani (949) 903-3738
Founder, Knots of Love

Pastor Cheryl Raine (714) 534-2269
First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove

Monday, December 21, 2015

RE-PURPOSED YARN PROVIDES WARMTH TO HOMELESS IN GARDEN GROVE

On Tuesday, December 8, the Garden Grove Police Department, a local non-profit organization called Knots of Love, and the First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove provided hand-made blankets and clothing for the homeless population in Garden Grove.

In 2013, Knots of Love, in partnership with the City's "Re:Imagine Downtown" campaign covered trees, statues, waste containers, and bus shelters in Civic Center Park with multi-colored knit and crocheted yarns as part of a temporary art display. Yarns taken from the Civic Center display were cleaned and re-used to create colorful blankets and shawls for the homeless. Eleven blankets, 17 caps and beanies, seven jackets, and a shawl were presented to the First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove for distribution to those in need.

Based in Costa Mesa, CA, Knots of Love donates hand-knitted and crocheted caps to individuals undergoing chemotherapy; burn victims; brain surgery and head trauma patients; and individuals with Alopecia. For more information, go to their website at www.knotsoflove.org.

-more-

Holiday Giveaway

2-2-2

The First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove, located at 11832 South Euclid Street, is the only church in Garden Grove that offers showers to the homeless, serving about 70 people every Tuesday and Thursday. Hot meals are offered on a daily basis except on Fridays, when church volunteers go to local parks to hand-deliver sacked meals. Volunteers are always needed, and donations are accepted Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. To volunteer, contact Pastor Cheryl Raine at (714) 534-2269.

###



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:
Lt. Robert Bogue (714)741-5786
Garden Grove Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Wednesday, December 23, 2015

POLICE OUTREACH OFFERS SAFETY, SUPPORT TO FLOOD CHANNEL HOMELESS

The cold, December day started early for about 20 members of the Garden Grove Police Department, en route to the Orange County Flood Control Channel on the east side of Brookhurst Street, at 13th Street. With El Niño's dangerous release of record rainfall likely to hit soon, the flood control channel was the place to be—and not to be.

Certainly not for a number of homeless, living within the channel's cold and dark underground tunnels. Vast water highways that once fed by El Niño's unrelenting storms, will carry hundreds-of-thousands of gallons of rain water and debris through a dangerous, high-speed course.

At the channel, the officers, part of the Garden Grove Police Department's Homeless Task Force, are met by members of the department's Community Liaison Division, along with representatives from five local social service agencies. For all of them, this would be one of many efforts to locate, identify, and offer shelter and services to those willing to accept help. This time, however, with a driven urgency to beat El Niño.

Abutting the channel lie miles of homes, many of whose owners had complained to police about transients jumping the walls to steal exotic fruits from their backyard trees. Other concerns came from adjoining businesses about accumulated trash, much of which was piled at the entrance to the tunnels.

Police Outreach Offers Safety, Support To Flood Channel Homeless
2-2-2

Within moments, police officers scaled down the rocky embankments and into the dry channel. Identifying themselves as the Garden Grove Police Department, they removed cardboard boxes blocking the tunnel entrances to make entry into the dark passageways.

Meanwhile, the social services group and bilingual community liaisons were setting up a temporary staging area where the transients would be personally interviewed and offered services, ranging from temporary shelters to Veteran's assistance.

One by one, occupants were led out of the tunnels by the officers and escorted to the staging area. Other transients in known areas were also brought to the area to be provided help and services.

Many of the individuals were identified as "regulars" whom despite having already received services, returned to the streets, mainly as a result of drug addiction.

Of the dozen homeless that were brought to the area and offered services, only two accepted assistance. Several were arrested for trespassing.

With the tunnels now unoccupied, the channels would be cleared out of all trash and debris by County crews in preparation of the Godzilla storms.

#

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

December 23, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
2. Letter from Operation Gratitude thanking the City for their donation of \$295.00 which was collected from the City Clerk's office proceeds for Iced Coffee.
3. Letter from the City of Lancaster regarding their concerns of a gas storage facility leak by the Southern California Gas Company in the Porter Ranch area.
4. League of California Cities, "CA Cities Advocates" dated December 18, 2015.



GARDEN GROVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 23, 2015 – January 22, 2016

	December 23- December 24		Spark of Love Toy Drive Drop off Location: Garden Grove Fire Stations
Wednesday	December 23	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED
	December 24- January 1		City Hall Closed – Holiday Season
Wednesday	December 30	10:00 a.m.- Noon	New Year's Eve party hosted by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, Senior Center Dining Room
Tuesday	January 5	6:00 p.m.	Traffic Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED
Thursday	January 7	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED
Friday	January 8		City Closed
Tuesday	January 12	5:30 p.m.	Reception for Anyang Korea Sister City Exchange Students, Courtyard Center
		6:00 p.m.	Study Session, Courtyard Center Activity Room
		6:30 p.m.	Successor Agency Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting, Courtyard Center
Thursday	January 14	9:00 a.m.	Main Street Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
		9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 rd Floor Training Room
		6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Meeting Courtyard Center
Monday	January 18		City Hall Closed
Thursday	January 21	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
Friday	January 22		City Hall Closed



OPERATION GRATITUDE
SENDING CARE PACKAGES TO U.S. MILITARY



December 7, 2015

2015 DEC 11 P 2:42

City Of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Dear City of Garden Grove,

On behalf of **Operation Gratitude** and the Military recipients of our care packages, I thank you for your generous donation of \$295.00. Your contribution will enable us to send over **100,000 'chock full' Care Packages** this year to the tens of thousands of brave men and women still deployed overseas in harsh and remote areas; to their children anxiously awaiting their return; and to New Recruits, Veterans, First Responders, Wounded Warriors and their Care Givers.

With the help of supporters nationwide since 2003, we have sent more than **1.3 Million Operation Gratitude Care Packages** containing snacks, hygiene products, entertainment and hand-made items, and personal letters from appreciative Americans. These expressions of love and concern from fellow citizens offer our Military & Veterans a much-deserved **"Thank You For Your Service"** and are always greeted with enthusiasm and great appreciation.

As one Private First Class wrote:

"It's Christmas morning over here in Kuwait, and your box is the only present I got to open today and let me tell you -- I was all smiles and teared up a couple times with what those wonderful, beautiful kids wrote. It's hard being away from my wife and two daughters but your words and gifts and support make it a little easier. I got so excited over the Beanie Baby and I LOVE the hand-knit scarf--very touching. Please keep doing what you're doing. It means the world to all of us over here on this side of the world! And the individual label made it really heartfelt and special! I thank you very much for what you all do. God bless and Merry Christmas!"

To read all the current letters of thanks from our troops and to see their photos with your Operation Gratitude care packages, please **"Like" us on Facebook:** www.facebook.com/OperationGratitude and **"follow" us on Twitter:** www.twitter.com/OpGratitude and **Pinterest:** <http://pinterest.com/opgratitude>.

I hope you saw the coverage of our **One Millionth Care Package** celebration and delivery—all made possible by your support. Please join us as we March to the 2nd Million Care Packages!

Every single donation we receive furthers our mission of saying "Thank You" to those who serve. Many companies have matching gift programs that will match your donation, or maybe even double or triple it! Please check with your Human Resources/Personnel office to learn if your donation is eligible.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and wonderful patriotic spirit. The recipients of your generosity will remember your kindness forever. And I will always be appreciative of your support and encouragement for **Operation Gratitude.**

Fondly,

Carolyn Blashek, President

P.S. To receive email updates on Operation Gratitude's progress, please email me at: opgrat@gmail.com or sign up directly on our website: www.OperationGratitude.com. Thank you for your continued interest.

Operation Gratitude has been granted non-profit status under Section 501 (c) 3 of the IRS Code. Your contribution to this organization is fully deductible in accordance with applicable law for federal income tax purposes as no goods or services were provided in exchange.



RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2015 DEC 21 A 11:38

R. Rex Parris	Mayor
Marvin E. Crist	Vice Mayor
Ken Mann	Council Member
Angela E. Underwood-Jacobs	Council Member
Raj Malhi	Council Member
Mark V. Bozigian	City Manager

December 16, 2015

Mayor Bao Nguyen
P.O. Box 3070
Garden Grove, CA 92842

Mayor Nguyen:

I am writing to share with you a matter of great concern in Los Angeles County. In short, Southern California Gas Company is responsible for a massive gas storage facility leak caused by their own negligence in both the development and operation of one of their sites. As a result, many of the residents in and around the vicinity of the site, located in the Porter Ranch area of the San Fernando Valley, are becoming ill. Adding insult to injury, Southern California Gas Company is currently petitioning the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to approve a rate increase, which would pass along the staggering repair and recovery costs to all of its ratepayers – many the very victims of the company's negligence.

My goal is to bring awareness to my fellow Mayors throughout the State of California. I would hope that you are as disturbed by this as I am. The frequent practice of large utility companies failing to take full responsibility for their actions throughout our communities should not be acceptable among local leaders. I am certain you agree that, as mayors, it is incumbent on us to ensure that our citizens are protected from such injustices. While this disaster may not have occurred in your community, many of your constituents will nevertheless be financially responsible for mitigation if these costs are passed through in the form of higher rates.

It is imperative that we stick together to defend all of our communities. Please take a moment to review the attached letter sent to the CPUC. I hope you too will be compelled to lend your support and request that the CPUC deny any attempt by Southern California Gas to pass along repair and mitigation costs to its ratepayers. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

R. Rex Parris, Mayor
City of Lancaster, CA



R. Rex Parris Mayor
Marvin E. Crist Vice Mayor
Ken Mann Council Member
Angela E. Underwood-Jacobs Council Member
Raj Malhi Council Member
Mark V. Bozigian City Manager

December 4, 2015

California Public Utilities Commission
San Francisco Office (Headquarters)
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you as the Mayor of the City of Lancaster, regarding the Southern California Gas Company's Porter Ranch gas storage facilities leak. As you are aware, more than a month ago, a massive escape of natural gas into the atmosphere was identified as the source of ongoing harmful effects to citizens living in the Los Angeles – Santa Clarita area; the immediate symptoms being dizziness and headaches, which may ultimately result in more severe health issues for those households exposed to this environmental disaster. In full disclosure, in addition to voicing my concerns regarding my constituents having to pay for this disaster; I am also an attorney representing 300 homes in a lawsuit regarding this matter.

As Mayor of the City of Lancaster, a neighboring community in the northern Los Angeles County region, I am incredibly dismayed and appalled by Southern California Gas Company's (SCG) lack of due diligence in securing an Environment Impact Report prior to installing natural gas utility infrastructure beneath the Porter Ranch community. Undeniably, SCG's actions were remiss, and yet, the company is exasperating the situation further by delaying to resolve this detrimental issue, which is estimated to continue for at least another four months.

The scenario above is reason enough for all of us to be deeply concerned about the business practices of SCG, particularly given the unstable state of our environment, as evidenced by accelerating climate and health issues. However, upon learning that SCG additionally plans to pass along the costs associated with this gas leak, which resulted from **SCG's** negligent behavior, to local ratepayers; and upon reviewing the California Public Utilities Commissions' (CPUC) history of allowing the cost of such agency blunders to be passed to and absorbed by the faultless citizen ratepayers; I am moved to request that the CPUC issue an Order Instituting Investigation (OII) into the management of Southern California Gas's Porter Ranch gas storage facilities, and disallow SCG from passing along **any of the costs associated with correcting and mitigating this gas leak** to its ratepayers.

SCG's pending request to raise rates to finance the upgrading of its natural gas storage facilities is simply a means for the company to avoid taking responsibility for its unethical implementation of the Porter Ranch utility project. SCG is essentially asking citizens to turn the other cheek and accept another slap from "big business" by being both the victims and the scapegoats.



R. Rex Parris Mayor
Marvin E. Crist Vice Mayor
Ken Mann Council Member
Angela E. Underwood-Jacobs Council Member
Raj Malhi Council Member
Mark V. Bozigian City Manager

This is a shameful common practice of utility companies who garner enough shareholder earnings to cover their management and operational errors, but refuse to do the right thing. One such case was the 2010 San Bruno pipeline explosion, which resulted in PG&E Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Company passing on \$1.6 billion in penalties, fines and remedies mandated by the CPUC to ratepayers.

According to a release from last month, for the first nine months of 2015, Sempra Energy's (Southern California Gas parent company) earnings were \$980 million. Therefore, beyond the sheer immorality of forcing ratepayers to pay for SCG's negligence, it isn't even financially necessary in order to fix the existing problem.

Unfortunately, ratepayers have little to no personal recourse in matters such as these. Their voices go unheard or ultimately ignored, if they are even granted the knowledge of all the debauchery which impacts their rate increases. Fortunately, I know there are still community leaders who object to such conniving practices and, instead, support due diligence, as well as fairness for citizens.

Please do the right and just thing – hold Southern California Gas Company responsible for its failure to follow proper protocol. By not implementing an Environmental Impact Report in the first place, SCG has endangered citizen lives and compromised environmental integrity. Don't let them create more harm by making others pay for their horrific mistakes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Rex Parris".

R. Rex Parris, Mayor
City of Lancaster, CA

Dec. 18, 2015
Issue #105

IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 3: Submit Your Ideas for the League's Annual Conference Sessions
Just 100 Spots Left for January New Mayors and Council Members Academy

Federal Update: Internet Tax Freedom Act, 2016 Appropriations
*Permanent Extension of Internet Tax Freedom Act on Hold,
But Cities Should Remain Vigilant*

Congress last week moved to make the Internet Tax Freedom Act (ITFA) permanent when a conference committee included it in an unrelated Customs Reauthorization Conference Report. Cities and other stakeholders responded in force and were able to avoid the passage before the winter break. Instead a temporary extension of the ITFA will be included in the annual Appropriations Omnibus bill that will be passed this week. The omnibus bill extends the ITFA through October 2016. *For more, see Page 2.*



California City Solutions: Santa Clara's Library Offers Sustainable Programs to Enrich Community Health

This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2015 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called California City Solutions. The city of Santa Clara's Sustainable U was submitted in 2015 for the Health and Wellness Programs award category.

Santa Clara's library set out several years ago to offer free educational programming built around sustainable living. Through funding from the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), administered by the state librarian, the library developed Sustainable U, a series of sustainable programs and resources that partner with local educational institutions, farms, fisheries and other libraries to increase the health, wellness and viability of the community. *For more, see Page 2.*



Registration Open for 2016 Municipal Law Symposium, Feb. 5

The 2016 Municipal Law Symposium will focus on the challenging issues public agency attorneys face in the areas of water and public works. Panels will focus on: water rights, drought, and enforcement; water issues related to CEQA and land use; alternative water supplies, including storm water, groundwater, and recycled water; water and public works finance issues including those related to Proposition 218; and conflicts of interest, including an update on the new FPPC Regulations and conflict of interest issues relevant to public works projects. *For more, see Page 3.*

While this action relieves some of the pressure on the Senate to pass a permanent extension, cities need to remain vigilant. The provisions remain in the Customs bill, and have already been approved by the House. It could come up for a vote with little notice after the Senate reconvenes on Jan. 11.

If your city has a letter in process, email remains the best way to contact California Sens. Barbara Boxer and Deanne Feinstein to urge them to oppose the Customs bill, officially known as the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015. Cities can use the [League's letter](#) as a sample, and sent the emails to ellen_freedman@feinstein.senate.gov, eric_haren@judiciary-dem.senate.gov and sean_moore@boxer.senate.gov.

Congress Approves 2016 Appropriations Bills

As mentioned above, Congress this week approved the 2016 Appropriations Omnibus Bills. As part of that agreement, Congress will delay the implementation of what is known as the Cadillac tax, an Affordable Health Care Act (ACA) tax on high-cost employer-paid health insurance plans. Instead in the Omnibus spending bill approved by the House and sent to the Senate, the excise tax has been delayed for two more years.

Under the bill, the tax would not be effective until 2020, instead of its scheduled 2018 implementation date. The tax is supposed to generate revenue for the ACA. In addition, under the agreement, the medical device tax is suspended for two years and the tax on health insurers is suspended for one year.

Sustainable U has two foundational goals:

- To teach and understand why sustainable living is an important and viable option for the community thereby creating a healthier community; and
- To create awareness, inspiration, and access for a sustainable lifestyle, thereby transforming the library into a hub for sustainability in the community beyond the life of the grant.

Creating a communication plan launched the process and staff structured it by divided the large topic of sustainable living into a number of smaller, manageable parts.

The plan sets out to:

- Develop a seed library to give community members a free opportunity to create their own garden and make a connection from the ground to the plate;
- Host a series of programs to be held at the library to encourage thought and conversation around sustainable living. These programs focused on the many aspects of sustainable living. The library paid attention to creating a rotation of hands-on programming, as opposed to speaker focused programming, to inspire the public;
- Partner with local farms to bring fresh organic produce and seafood to busy families, turning the library into a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and Fishery (CSF) pickup location;
- Partner with local libraries and city organizations to increase awareness of sustainability;
- Organize a volunteer fair to support giving back within the community and community involvement; and
- Develop a publicity campaign to tie the many different faces of Sustainable U into one cohesive message.

Along with executing the plan, the project coordinator is also responsible for building relationships and new partnerships outside of the library. Partnerships include: Santa Clara Adult Education, local farmers, Vegglution, Santa Clara University, Master Gardeners, Metro Newspaper, local libraries, city offices, Nissan Leaf, Silicon Valley Power, and Bay Area cycling groups. All of these contacts further advance the library's goal of becoming a vital hub for the local community.

In a one-year period, the library held 22 programs for all ages. Programs covered topics such as water conservation, green transportation, cooking at home, planting, and urban homesteading. The library provides courses to teach skills that can be used at home, such as learning to make jams, pickles, and simple breads. Children of all ages learned how to transform the ever popular meal of pizza into a healthier version by making their own dough and using fresh vegetables.

The *Biking in the Library* endeavor brought awareness to alternative transportation. A partnership with the nonprofit organization Bay Area Bike Mobile, a part of the MTC Climate Initiatives Program, and the Santa Clara Police department, invited patrons to bring their bicycles to the library for free tune-ups and bike safety lessons. A *library2library* bike ride was designed in partnership with San Jose, Sunnyvale, and Mountain View libraries. Community members from all four cities rode 16 miles visiting local libraries and learning about the unique benefits each offered.

Working with local farmers in the Central Coast through the CSA program, *Eating with the Seasons*, the library became a farm box pickup location. Pick-up day coincides with the library's evening family story time in order to expose more families to the health benefits of eating locally. During the program *Sustainable Seafood*, the library developed another new partnership with *Local Catch Monterey Bay* (Now "Real Good Fish"); a local CSF devoted to sustainably caught seafood.

Additionally, the first seed library was created in Santa Clara when the library began soliciting and cataloging seeds for its patrons to use. A partnership formed with seven bay area library systems to create an initiative called *Silicon Valley Grows*.

Over 300 hundred patrons attended the library's first Volunteer Fair, which featured 27 different nonprofit organizations. Patrons signed up to work with teenagers, animals, parks and a variety of volunteer opportunities learning that anyone can make a difference in their community.

Library staff created a bed of living succulents, arranged in a dynamic display of boxes that read GROW to provide an example of drought tolerant plant solutions. The sign was placed at the library's entrance enabling patrons to touch and feel what can grow with little water.

One of the goals of Sustainable U was to educate the public about why sustainable living is an important and viable option for the community. The new partnerships formed with the CSA farmers and fisheries enabled the library's patrons to have convenient access to fresh, local food. More than 350 different types of seeds were circulated through the Santa Clara Seed Share with 4,000 individual seeds sown in local gardens. During the Silicon Valley Grows program the selection of Trail of Tears black beans meant that participating households throughout the Bay Area were growing, harvesting, and saving one seed for the community to share in coming years.

More than 1,200 patrons visited the library for Sustainable U programs and 80 percent of patrons reported learning new information from those programs. Programs such as the healthy pizza class, bee keeping, backyard chickens and bread making helped the library gather statistics on children participating in Sustainable U. One hundred percent of the children in the pizza making class said they would use what they learned at home, 75 percent said they would share what they learned with friends or family, and 95 percent over the age of five reported learning something new about chickens or bees after attending Sustainable U programs.

Sustainable U was featured on the city's February 2015 calendar and also won a California Library Association PRExcellence award. LSTA viewed Santa Clara as a model seed library and flew staff from two southern California libraries to learn about Santa Clara's program. The Silicon Valley Grows program will begin a spring seed set of programs this year increasing from seven to 12 participating libraries.

Program attendance and enthusiasm was greater than expected. The attitude of other city departments changed as the city manager's office saw the success of Sustainable U and began to look into creating a Santa Clara community garden. Sustainable U became one of the library's most successful campaigns, with 76 percent of patrons reporting that they would use what they learn beyond the Sustainable U grant and in their daily lives.

Titled "Ensuring Integrity in 21st Century California: Water & Public Works in Our Arid State," the symposium will be held on Feb. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. View information and register [online](#).

This annual event is co-sponsored by the Municipal Law Institute of the League of California Cities®, McGeorge School of Law, the County Counsels' Association and the State Bar of California Public Law Section.

Submit Your Ideas for the League's Annual Conference Sessions

Proposals Due by Jan. 8

The League of California Cities® is inviting members, partners and stakeholders to submit session proposals for the 2016 Annual Conference & Expo. The event will be held Oct. 5-7 at the Long Beach Convention Center. This is a great opportunity to engage city officials and local government stakeholders on important ideas and issues.

Session Proposal Submission Information

Submissions, non-commercial in nature, from any individual, group, business or organization, on any topic are welcome. Ideas from 2015 may be re-submitted for review by the 2016 Planning Committee. The committee will consider the educational value of each proposal and the extent to which it presents new and/or significant information. Please avoid submitting product and vendor commercialization sessions.

Session proposals are due Jan. 8.

The League only accepts session proposals [submitted through the League website](#). The submission form limits the number of words allowed in the title and description of each proposal. The League recommends that individuals interested in submitting proposals carefully review and edit their descriptions before submitting them through the online form.

Please contact [Katie Sacco](#) with any questions.

Just 100 Spots Left for January New Mayors and Council Members Academy

Registration is still open for the League of California Cities® New Mayors and Council Members Academy scheduled for Jan. 20-22 at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento. There are just 100 spots left so if your city has a newly elected mayor or council members make sure they have an opportunity to acquire all the skills they need to hit the ground running.

This conference is a must attend for newly elected officials, and for veterans who would like a refresher course on the basic legal and practical framework in which city officials operate. Delve into critical training on important, fundamental topics for local government taught by subject matter experts and seasoned elected officials. View the 2016 New Mayors and Council Members Academy announcement and schedule [online](#).

Conference registration includes admission for the following:

- Two and a half days of important educational sessions, with pertinent information for newly elected city officials, including AB 1234 Ethics Training;
- Wednesday lunch and reception, Thursday breakfast and lunch, and Friday breakfast; and
- Electronic access to all program materials.

Registration

Jan. 6 is the deadline to register.

For more information and to register, please visit the League's [website](#). If you have any questions, please contact [Caitlin Cole](#) at (916) 658-8248.

Like the League of California Cities on [Facebook](#) and follow on twitter at [@cacitieslearn](#) to get updates and useful information about upcoming conferences.
