

Diamond Bar CONNECTION

January 2018

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Civic-Savvy Students



After participating in the City's inaugural Youth in Government event on December 2, a dozen middle and high school students now have a better understanding of the structure and function of Diamond Bar City government, the role and responsibilities of an elected official, and the opportunities that exist for citizen civic involvement. Highlights of the hour-and-a-half event included teen participants personally meeting and talking with elected officials and City staff, and sharing perspectives and ideas in small groups to craft policies aimed at addressing locally-significant challenges, such as transportation, public safety, and economic development. Special thanks to the students who participated in the City's 2017 Youth in Government event: **Anieka Noor Akbar, Fiona Freeman, Dongjin Kim, Jeremy King, Brian Lee, Joel Mwathi, Marisa Ruiz, Caden Scaccia, Phoebe Scaccia, Lillian Shin, Katie Torres, and Khirra Torres.**

General Plan Update: Joint Meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council on January 30



The process of comprehensively updating the Diamond Bar General Plan continues to move forward, with the current stage involving the study of three alternatives for potential land use configurations.

At the center of these alternatives is the establishment of a new Town Center. Alternative 1 proposes that the Center be located at Diamond Bar Boulevard and Golden Springs Drive, while Alternatives 2 and 3 propose that it be located on a portion of the golf course, with the remaining portion designated as public park land.

Buildout assumptions for the year 2040 were used to evaluate and compare the projected impacts of each of these Alternatives in terms of new development, population, and jobs.

The results of this evaluation as well feedback from the community and the volunteer members of the General Plan Advisory Committee will be the focus of the third joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council taking place on Tuesday, January 30 starting at 6:30 p.m. at Diamond Bar City Hall, located at 21810 Copley Drive.

What: Joint Meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council

When: Tuesday, January 30, 6:30 p.m.

Focus: General Plan Update: Evaluation of Land Use Alternatives

Where: Diamond Bar City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive

Recommendations made at this meeting will guide City staff and consultants in finalizing a Preferred Land Use Plan that will form the basis of the updated General Plan's land use map and policies.

Diamond Bar's existing General Plan was adopted in 1995. In addition to addressing the seven state-mandated elements of Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise, and Safety, Diamond Bar's General Plan Update will also include elements for Community Character and Placemaking, Community Health and Sustainability.

For more information, including the existing Diamond Bar General Plan, meeting and outreach documents, and a copy of the Land Use Alternatives Report, visit www.diamondbarca.gov. Also on this website, residents can learn about opportunities to participate and provide input and can sign up to be notified by email of upcoming events and meetings.

Winter Snow Fest at Pantera Park

Heaps of snow – 100 tons to be exact – will make for a fun and memorable time at Pantera Park when the City hosts its annual Winter Snow Fest on Saturday, January 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Children and grownups alike are invited to don their favorite pair of gloves and boots and enjoy hours of sledding, snow play, and winter-themed games and crafts.

Adding to the fun will be local performers and talent groups providing nonstop entertainment, and food vendors selling a variety of meals, snacks and beverages.

Access to snow play areas is free. Wristbands for unlimited sledding are \$5, and cards good for four games and/or crafts are only \$1 each.

Free, continuous shuttle service will be offered to and from the immediate neighborhood and Pantera Park throughout event hours.

A few reminders:

- This is a cash-only event.
- Sleds are provided; no personal sleds permitted.
- Only service dogs are allowed at City-sponsored events.

For more information, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/wsf or call the City's Parks and Recreation Department at 909.839.7070.



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Bumblebee Place

21076 Golden Springs Drive
www.bumblebeeplace.com
 909.233.8112 hello@bumblebeeplace.com
 Open Play Hours: Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Friday 10 a.m. - 7p.m.

This indoor playground and party center offers both open play hours during the week and party packages on the weekend. Playground equipment and toys are designed to accommodate children of various ages. Both daily admission tickets and monthly membership cards are available. Also on site is a parents' lounge where adults can have coffee, read a book, or socialize with other parents.

Have a moment? Visit the City's official YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/DiamondBarCA to check out a quick promotional video clip.

City Monitoring Future of Tres Hermanos Ranch

Lawsuits in Progress

The City of Diamond Bar continues to keep a watchful eye on City of Industry's actions as they relate to the purchase and development of the 2,445-acre Tres Hermanos Ranch.

Located on the eastern edge of Diamond Bar and along both sides of Grand Avenue, Tres Hermanos Ranch consists of largely undeveloped land historically used for ranching, farming and cattle grazing. Approximately 695 acres are located within Diamond Bar and 1,750 acres are in Chino Hills.

Tres Hermanos Ranch is presently owned by the Successor Agency to City of Industry's former redevelopment agency. The governing body of this Agency is Industry's City Council. City of Industry is attempting to purchase the Ranch for less than half of the property's appraised value and for development plans that are inconsistent with the City's General Plan.

Documents obtained through public records requests appear to indicate the following actions have taken place:

- May 2016 – City of Industry enters into a master lease with San Gabriel Valley Water and Power LLC to develop a 450-megawatt solar facility that could potentially cover the entire property.
- August 2017 – The Oversight Board of the City of Industry's Successor Agency meets to consider the sale of Tres Hermanos to the City of Industry for \$100 million, based upon an appraisal for the property. Industry's City Manager, who also sits on the Oversight Board, made a motion to instead sell the property to his own City for \$41.65 million.

In October 2017, the cities of Diamond Bar and Chino Hills filed lawsuits in Sacramento County Superior Court challenging City of Industry's alleged attempt to purchase the Tres Hermanos Ranch on the grounds that it violates the State's Redevelopment Dissolution Act, which was enacted in 2011 and governs the disposal of real property assets of former redevelopment agencies.

Both cities each filed a second lawsuit in November 2017, this time in Los Angeles County Superior Court and challenging the alleged attempted purchase with the intent of turning it over to a private entity to develop a massive solar facility that will generate tens of millions of dollars for Industry.

Specific issues cited in the lawsuits include violations of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by attempting to purchase the property and entering into a lease for development of the solar facility without conducting any environmental review, failure to comply with State planning and open meeting laws.

More information, including court filings and documents obtained through public record requests, is available at www.diamondbarca.gov/treshermanos.



City Considering Hotel Tax Ballot Measure

The City continues to study the possibility of putting before Diamond Bar voters a ballot measure this November to increase the transient occupancy tax, also known as hotel tax, as a means of generating additional revenue for City services.

Hotel taxes, paid by visitors who stay in Diamond Bar hotels, currently amount to approximately \$950,000 annually; the increase being considered could potentially generate an additional \$450,000.

This revenue is an important General Fund resource, which pays for a variety of government services that include public safety, parks and facilities maintenance, street improvements, and traffic management and safety projects.

For more information, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/TOT or contact the City Manager's Office at 909.839.7010.



MAKING PUBLIC SAFETY A PRIORITY... A federal court order of 2011 and subsequent voter-approved initiatives aimed at reducing prison overcrowding have shifted some felony offenses from state imprisonment level to county jail and county probation level, and downgraded some drug and property crimes from felonies to misdemeanors greatly adding to the demands on law enforcement. Here in Diamond Bar, more than 30 percent of the City's annual operating budget is allocated to public safety.

Freeway Construction Project Underway at Grand Avenue

Restrictions in Place

Motorist are advised that closure of the westbound on-ramp at Grand Avenue and right-turn-only restriction on the westbound exit ramp to Grand Avenue are scheduled to continue into late next month.

The restrictions are necessary for Caltrans to carry out the construction of a new westbound on-ramp as part of the improvements related to the SR-57/SR-60 Confluence Project.

Detour signage is in place, and recommends the following:

- Traffic exiting westbound Grand Avenue off-ramp will be restricted to make right turns only onto northbound Grand Avenue towards Industry/Walnut. Traffic will not be permitted to make a left turn to travel towards Diamond Bar/Chino Hills.
- Traffic on southbound SR-57 (Orange) will be detoured at Sunset Crossing Road and will be directed to Diamond Bar Boulevard, Golden Springs Drive to Grand Avenue.
- Traffic on westbound SR-60 (Pomona) will be detoured off the freeway at Diamond Bar Boulevard and will be directed to Golden Springs Drive to Grand Avenue.
- Traffic on northbound Grand Avenue will be detoured to Golden Springs Drive to Brea Canyon Road to the westbound on-ramp.
- Traffic on southbound Grand Avenue will be detoured to Baker Parkway to Brea Canyon Road to the westbound on-ramp.

The Confluence Project is designed to improve traffic operation on Grand Avenue from Golden Springs Drive to the interchange at SR-60 (Pomona), increase capacity at the Grand Avenue Interchange, improve traffic operation on the freeway mainline, reduce traffic weaving and increase weaving distance and improve safety.

Additional project-related details are available on the City website at www.diamondbarca.gov/5760 or by contacting the City's Public Works Department at 909.839.7040 or publicworks@diamondbarca.gov. Information about the road closures and restrictions can be accessed on the Caltrans QuickMap online at quickmap.dot.ca.gov or by hotline at 1.800.427.ROAD (7623).



2017 Photo Contest Winners Named



This photo contest entry "That Spark in His Eye" by youth photographer Zachary Shimokawa topped the Youth-Pet category and garnered the highest score, making him the 2017 Through My Lens Grand Prize Winner.

A young girl enveloped in a field of wild yellow flowers, a dog with a musing gaze surrounded by the glow of bright white lights, and a crowd looking cozy while enjoying an outdoor movie under a vivid blue night sky are among the 20 images that took the top spots in the City's 2017 Through My Lens Photo Contest.

The winning images were selected from more than 100 entries that were judged and scored on theme consistency, originality, creativity, composition, and visual appeal. The winners are:

Youth Division – People

Winner: Reyenne Ramos-"Brahma Pride"

Honorable Mention: Aaron Colina-"Snow in Diamond Bar? Finally!"

Youth Division – Pets

Winner: Zachary Shimokawa-"That Spark in His Eye"

Honorable Mention:Lyndsay Golondzinier- "Tucker"

Youth Division – Places

Winner-Zachary Shimokawa-"Beauty of My Backyard"

Honorable Mention-Reyenne Ramos-"Never Forget"

Youth Division – Nature

Winner: Samyuktha Vellaiyan-"Asthetically Beautiful Blossoms"

Honorable Mention: Shivaani Vellaiyan-"Morning Dew"

Youth Division – Digitally-Altered

Winner: Patrick Zhaung-"Abstract Long Exposure"

Honorable Mention: Sammy Elsharhawy-"On Top of The World"

Adult Division – People

Winner: Huanxi Liu - "Surrounded and Enchanted"

Honorable Mention: Samuel Seung-"Morning Stroll Through The Park"

Adult Division – Pets

Winner: Min Seop Moon-"Oh Happy Day"

Honorable Mention: Christina Ying- "500 Days of Summer"

Adult Division – Places

Winner: Bruce Davis-"Movies Under The Stars"

Honorable Mention: Jet Long-"A Photographers Painting"

Adult Division – Nature

Winner: Tawny Moreno-"In The Garden"

Honorable Mention: Bruce Davis-"Follow One Course Until Successful"

Adult Division – Digitally-Altered

Winner: Tom Zeller-"Diamond Bar's Grand Gateway"

Honorable Mention: Hector Carmona-"Snap, Crackle and Pop"

Contest winners were awarded certificates of recognition by the Diamond Bar City Council during its regular meeting of December 19, as well as cash prizes by the Diamond Bar Community Foundation, photo contest co-sponsor.

All the winning images can be viewed online on the City website at www.diamondbarca.gov/photogallery.

School Happenings

Story contribution by the Walnut Valley Unified School District

Save the Date for Inaugural Arts & Technology Showcase



Walnut Valley Unified School District will present an Arts and Technology Showcase on February 24 from 12-8 p.m. at Walnut High School.

The premier event will feature visual arts exhibitions and music ensembles across all grade levels, drama and theatre performances, dance teams, student films and digital media, and a technology maker's fair.

Food trucks will be on site along with face painting, instrument petting zoo, scavenger hunt, live art demonstrations, giveaways, and other fun activities.

The event is free and open to the public. Additional information will be available at www.wvusd.k12.ca.us.

Bridal Show Slated for February 25

Calling Brides-to-Be and Vendors

Early bird registration closes January 31; vendor applications due February 1

For its fifth consecutive year, Diamond Bar Center will showcase all things wedding during the Bridal Show 2018 taking place Sunday, February 25.

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., brides- and grooms-to-be are invited get ideas and inspiration for weddings ranging from classic to trendy, visit with dozens of wedding vendors, and enjoy samples and giveaways. Various door prizes will be awarded throughout event hours.

Event admission requires advance online registration, and is free for brides and grooms. For everyone else, admission is about \$7.50 in advance, and \$9.50 on the day of the event.

New this year, everyone who registers for the event before the end of this month gets 30-minute early admission and is entered for a special raffle.

Wedding-related product or service providers interested in operating a booth at this Bridal Show have only until February 1 to secure a spot. Limited space is available.

Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue. For more information, to download the vendor application, or to register for the event, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/bridalshow. Questions may be directed to bridalshow@diamondbarca.gov or 909.839.7065.

The 5th Annual
BRIDAL SHOW
@ DIAMOND BAR CENTER

Outstanding Volunteer Award Program Open for Nominations

Good deeds and volunteer work contribute greatly to the quality of life in the community. The individuals performing these acts are relatives, neighbors, classmates, coworkers, and fellow church members. They are school age, working age or retirement age. They volunteer alone, or as a husband-and-wife or parent-and-child duo.

If you know individuals whose positive actions deserve to be recognized, the City is interested in hearing from you.

Every year in April, during its Birthday Party Celebration, the City honors several individuals with its Outstanding Volunteer Award. To be eligible, nominees can either have made a single noteworthy contribution that made

a difference in the lives of Diamond Bar residents, or have a record of longstanding volunteer service to the community

Nominations are accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2, and can be made online at www.diamondbarca.gov/ovan or via a paper form available at City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive, or the Diamond Bar Center, 1600 Grand Avenue.

Considered the City's largest annual event, the City Birthday Party celebrates the anniversary of Diamond Bar's cityhood. Diamond Bar was incorporated as a General Law City on April 18, 1989. This year, the Birthday Party will be held on Saturday, April 14.

Drop-in Pickleball Added to Recreational Offerings for Seniors



Adults age 50 and older looking to take up a fun sport that is known to make players healthier and happier are invited to try out the City's new Pickleball Drop-In Program.

The popular hybrid sport of tennis, badminton and ping-pong is now available as a free, drop-in activity every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon at the Maple Hill Park tennis courts. Registration is not required.

Pickleball is played with a solid paddle made of wood or composite materials and a lightweight perforated ball, similar to a whiffle ball. Equipment is available for use, but players may bring their own if they prefer.

Maple Hill Park is located at 1309 S. Maple Hill Road. For more information, contact the City's Parks and Recreation Department at 909.839.7070.

Senior Co-Ed Softball Team Recruiting New Players

The Diamond Bar Softball Team is actively recruiting new players age 50 or older for the 2018 playing season.

This team is part of the Inter-City Senior Co-ed Softball League, which is made up of men and women mostly in their 60s and 70s. League rules mandate at least three of the 15 players on every team be women. New players will either join an existing group or form a new one.

The playing season runs April through November, with practice beginning in February. Games are played weekday mornings at 9 a.m. or 10:15 a.m. and run approximately an hour and 15 minutes.

For more information or to join the team, call 909.839.7068.



Check Before You Burn

If your home has a fireplace, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) reminds you wood burning is not allowed when a mandatory no-burn day is called between November 1 and February 28.

This ban is part of the AQMD's "Check Before You Burn" initiative, which was created in 2011 to reduce air pollution caused by burning wood that contributes to poor air quality and may lead to potential health issues.

To find out if a no-burn day is in effect, call the 24-hour Check Before you Burn toll-free information line at 866.966.3293. You may also sign up receive email notifications by visiting www.aqmd.enviroflash.info.



City of Diamond Bar
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909.839.7000 ■ 909.861.3117 Fax
www.DiamondBarCA.gov ■ PublicInfo@DiamondBarCA.gov

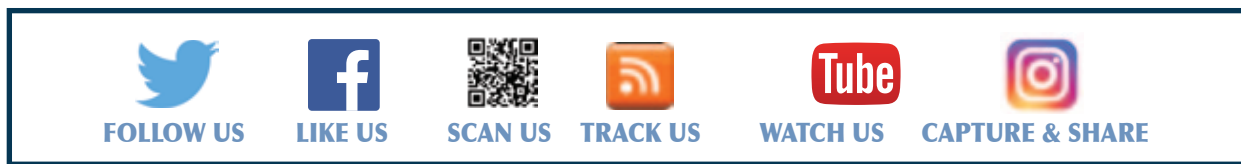
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Elected Officials

Mayor Ruth M. Low
Mayor Pro Tem..... Carol Herrera
Council MemberJimmy Lin
Council MemberNancy A. Lyons
Council MemberSteve Tye
City Manager Dan Fox

Postal Customer

Published by the City of Diamond Bar, Diamond Bar CONNECTION contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and mailed monthly to all residences and businesses in Diamond Bar. Every effort is made to ensure that the information printed in this publication is correct. If you find typographical errors or become aware of any inaccuracies, please let us know by calling 909.839.7056.



Find it Fast Phone Directory



City Services	909.839.7000	Walnut Valley Unified	909.595.1261
City Council	909.839.7010	Utilities:	
Building & Safety	909.839.7020	So Cal Edison (electric)	800.611.1911
City Clerk's Office	909.839.7010	So Cal Gas (gas)	877.238.0092
City Manager's Office	909.839.7010	Spectrum (cable TV, internet)	855.757.7328
Community Development	909.839.7030	Frontier (phone, FiOS)	800.921.8101
Facility Reservations	909.839.7070	Walnut Valley Water	909.595.7554
Finance	909.839.7050	Waste Disposal:	
Human Resources	909.839.7018	Valley Vista (businesses)	800.442.6454
Library	909.861.4978	Waste Management (residents)	909.599.1274
Neighborhood Improvement	909.839.7030	Public Safety:	
Planning	909.839.7030	Animal Control	909.623.9777
Post Office	909.860.2469	Fire (LA County)*	909.629.9671
Public Information Office	909.839.7055	Police (LA Co. Sheriff)*	909.595.2264
Public Works/Engineering	909.839.7040	Vector Control	562.944.9656
Parks and Recreation	909.839.7070	24-Hour Hotlines:	
Senior Services	909.839.7068	Building Inspection	909.839.7027
Transit Information	909.839.7045	Employment Opportunities	909.348.8300
Voter Registration	562.462.2748	Field/Weather	909.348.8310
Business Information:		Graffiti Removal	800.794.7384
Business Licenses	909.839.7030	*For emergencies, dial 9-1-1	
Chamber of Commerce	626.810.8476		
School Districts:			
Pomona Unified	909.397.4700		

January 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 New Year's Day City Offices Closed	2 Street Sweeping	3 Street Sweeping	4 Street Sweeping	5 Street Sweeping	6 Street Sweeping
7	8 Street Sweeping	9 Street Sweeping	10 Street Sweeping	11 Street Sweeping	12 Street Sweeping	13
14	15 Street Sweeping	16 Street Sweeping	17 Street Sweeping	18 Street Sweeping	19 Street Sweeping	20 Winter Snow Fest (Details on page 1)
21	22 Street Sweeping	23 Street Sweeping	24 Street Sweeping	25 Street Sweeping	26 Street Sweeping	27
28	29 Street Sweeping	30 Joint GPAC and Planning Commission Meeting Street Sweeping	31 Street Sweeping			

Calendar Key

- City Council Meeting*- starts at 6:30 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting*- starts at 7 p.m.
- Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting*- starts at 7 p.m.
- Traffic & Transportation Commission Meeting*- starts at 7 p.m.

Street sweeping is taking place somewhere within the city; see neighborhood signage for your street's designated day and time.

*City Council meetings take place at the AQMD/Government Center (21865 Copley Drive), while City Commission meetings are held at Diamond Bar City Hall (21810 Copley Drive). Additional event and meeting details are available at DiamondBarCa.gov/eventcalendar