



# Diamond Bar CONNECTION

April 2018

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## Celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day on April 21

From paper shredding and electronics recycling to a mulch giveaway and a smart gardening and composting workshop, it will be all things environmental when the City hosts its annual Earth and Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

There will be plenty to see and do at this outdoor event, including:

**Smart Gardening and Composting Workshop** – Learn how to spruce up your lawn or garden with plants and flowers that are water-thrifty but big on curb appeal, and how to turn kitchen waste into nutrient-rich compost at this workshop that takes place 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Attendees have a chance to purchase a compost bin at a reduced price of \$40 (conventional bin) or \$65 (worm bin with half-pound of worms). Only cash or check payment is accepted. Participation in the workshop is free, but pre-registration is required.



**Paper Shredding** – Bring up to five grocery bags or two boxes of household financial documents, personal medical records and other sensitive documents for on-site destruction and proper disposal. Please make sure bags or boxes contain only documents and no batteries, binders, plastics or metals; folded, enveloped, stapled or paper-clipped papers are OK.

**E-Waste and Textile Recycling** – Have obsolete or broken electronics or clothing, shoes or linen that are too worn or damaged to donate? Bring them to the event to have them recycled.



**Garden Mulch** – Come ready with your gloves, shovel, and containers to collect and take home up to 80 gallons of mulch for your home garden areas.

**Children's Fun Area** – Free earth-themed arts and crafts, and the chance to learn about, observe and touch more than 10 species of ocean animals inside the Long Beach Aquarium on Wheels will be part of the kid-friendly offerings at this event.



Event-goers will also have the opportunity to check out displays of electric and plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles, view the winning entries of this year's Arbor Day Poster Contest, and visit various information booths to pick up giveaways and information about special programs to save money while conserving energy, water and preventing air pollution.

South Coast Air Quality Management District is located at 21865 Copley Drive. For more information or to register for the smart gardening workshop, visit [www.diamondbarca.gov/greenDB](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/greenDB) or contact the City's Environmental Services Division at 909.839.7015 or [greenDB@diamondbarca.gov](mailto:greenDB@diamondbarca.gov).



In what is an annual tradition, the anniversary of Diamond Bar's incorporation will once again bring the community together on Saturday, April 14 for a fun-filled, family-friendly celebration.

The 29th City Birthday Party takes place at Pantera Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and features a variety of carnival rides, games and inflatables, entertainment by local groups and solo acts, food and information booths, a business showcase, giveaways, and the recognition of several volunteers as part of the City's Community Hero Award programs.

New this year, a Kiddie Land area will cater to children ages 8 and younger with several inflatables, activities, and entertainment on stage that includes puppet and magic shows. Other event highlights include:

**Heritage Display** – Did you know that the land where Diamond Bar is situated was once known as Rancho Los Nogales, founded in 1840 by Jose de la Luz Linares thanks to a grant issued by Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado of Mexico? And that Diamond Bar Ranch was established by Frederick E. Lewis II in 1918, and at one point was one of the most respected ranches in Southern California? Stop by to check out a short video, view displays of photographs, memorabilia, and artifacts that tell the story of Diamond Bar's ranch days, and take part in activities reminiscent of life in the 1800s and 1900s such as rope making, blacksmithing, and gold panning.

**Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Area** – A number of public safety agencies, including Los Angeles County sheriff's and fire departments, will team up to provide information, resources and giveaways aimed at improving personal safety, reducing property crime, preparing for emergencies, including earthquakes and wildfires. Come meet our local law enforcement, firefighting, and emergency medical response personnel, pick up a free pine tree seedling ready for planting, enter the "Shakey Quakey School House" that simulates shaking, falling and objects, and sounds typical during an earthquake, learn about crime prevention techniques, and have an identification card of your child made with fingerprints, height, weight and other identifying information documented for your records.

Event admission is free; however, there are nominal fees for carnival rides (\$10 unlimited access), Kiddie Land (\$5 unlimited access), and games and activities (\$1 card for any four). This is a cash-only event, and that bills larger than \$20 cannot be accepted.

Free and frequent shuttle service to and from Pantera Park will be available from surrounding neighborhood streets, starting at 10:30 a.m. and continuing until the end of the event.

Pantera Park is located at 738 Pantera Drive. For more information, call 909.839.7000 or visit [www.diamondbarca.gov/bday](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/bday).

**Join Us for a Fun Birthday Bash!**

## New Recreation Event on May 2 Offers Free Class Previews

From mommy-and-me classes for toddlers to organized sports programs for youth and early morning workouts for adults, the City's year-round recreation offerings run the gamut from the fiercely fun to the mellow meditative.

And on Wednesday, May 2, residents are invited to preview a sampling of City recreation classes and programs during its inaugural Connect with Rec! event.

This fun, family-friendly event will be held at the Diamond Bar Center from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and feature performances and free, drop-in demonstrations classes

that include yoga, tai chi, summer day camp, and a docent-led hike.

Children activities, giveaways, and information on all the programs, classes, excursions and special events sponsored by the City will also be available.

Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue. For more information, visit [www.diamondbarca.gov/specialevents](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/specialevents) or call the Parks and Recreation Department at 909.839.7070.

### WHAT'S INSIDE

**2** Welcome Boost to New Shopping Center



**3** Ramps Set to Open



**4** Deadlines Approach For Art Contests







March 2018

CITY OF DIAMOND BAR  
**BUSINESS  
OF THE  
MONTH**

## Chipotle Mexican Grill

235 S. Diamond Bar Blvd.  
[www.chipotle.com](http://www.chipotle.com)  
909.396.0666  
Open: Monday to Sunday  
10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m.



This national fast food chain features a simple menu of four items – burritos, bowls, tacos and salads – that are made to order using fresh, local ingredients. Filling choices include a variety of meat and meat-free options such as chicken, steak, braised tofu Sofritas, beans, rice, and fajita vegetables. Toppings include salsa, guacamole, cheese, and sour cream. Chipotle's app gives diners the ability to reorder recent meals, receive offers and deals, store gift cards, and pay using Apple or Android Pay.

## New Shopping Center Continues to Grow



The shopping and dining experience at Diamond Ranch Shopping Center got a welcome boost last month with the opening of Ross.

With a 27,000 square-footprint, the off-price retailer that carries apparel, accessories, and home goods, now co-anchors the shopping center alongside Sprouts Farmers Market which opened its doors in October 2017. They join recently-opened Chipotle Mexican Grill and Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, as well as a host of other well-established retailers and service providers.

The opening of these new stores and restaurants are part of the extensive redevelopment taking place in the shopping center spurred by the vacancy left by closure of the Kmart store in December 2015.

Improvements made to the main driveway entrance and parking lot areas included new lighting and landscaping, as well as the incorporation

of aesthetic elements that are in harmony with Diamond Bar's Citywide Design Guidelines.

Spaces are still available for a third anchor store, a fast-food restaurant with a drive-thru and three retail tenants.

### And next door...

The nearby McDonald's restaurant is set to reopen

early this month after being closed since December 2017 for a complete remodel. In addition to a new modern look and expanded drive-through service, the renovations also bring more technology into the ordering and dining experience with digital menus and ordering kiosks.

## General Plan Advisory Committee to Meet April 19



Residents are invited to attend the next Diamond Bar General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) scheduled for Thursday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive.

At this meeting, the GPAC will:

- Go over the General Plan structure, format, and content organization
- Review the Preferred Plan that incorporates the Sprouts Farmers Market and Smart & Final shopping center areas on Diamond Bar Boulevard as the future town center location
- Start discussing key policies for designation of areas that provide for a variety of land uses and lifestyles, such as neighborhood mixed-use and transit-oriented mixed-use.

Formed by the City Council in September 2016 and composed of 15 Diamond Bar residents, the GPAC is an ad-hoc advisory committee whose role is to represent the diverse interests, opinions and expectations of the community at large. Chief among its responsibilities is the review of reports and studies, and the consideration of public input at each key step in the general plan update process in order to make recommendations to the planning commission and city council.

A general plan is a comprehensive, long-range policy document required by State law that guides Cities and Counties in managing development, housing, transportation, environmental quality, public services, and parks and open spaces for a period of 20 to 25 years.

Diamond Bar's General Plan was adopted in 1995, and while some of its elements have been amended since, this is its first comprehensive update. The updated Diamond Bar General Plan and its accompanying Environmental Impact Report is anticipated to be completed in late 2019.

The April 19 meeting and all general plan update-related meetings are open to the public, and Diamond Bar residents and business owners are encouraged to attend.

More information, including a project description, FAQ section, schedule, and copies of related presentations and reports prepared to date, are available online at [www.diamondbargp.com](http://www.diamondbargp.com). Questions or comments about the plan and update process are welcome at any time by emailing [generalplan@diamondbarca.gov](mailto:generalplan@diamondbarca.gov) or calling 909.839.7032.

## Free Marketing and Promotion Workshop on April 11

If you own or manage a business in Diamond Bar, and either do not have or want to update your marketing plan, you will want to sign up for a free workshop taking Wednesday, April 11 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Diamond Bar Center, located at 1600 Grand Avenue.

The workshop "Marketing & Promotion: Finding Your Niche" will be presented by a retired professional

who marketed, managed, and sold many of the country's largest food brands. Among the topics that will be covered are customer targeting, messaging, and advertising, as well as free or low-cost ways to create and build awareness, generate sales, and encourage repeat business.

This workshop as well as one-on-one counseling is available free of charge to existing and aspiring entrepreneurs as part of a new City-sponsored program created in partnership with Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE).

SCORE was founded in 1964 and is a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Its volunteer members are working and retired business owners, executives and managers who receive specialized training and are certified in mentoring methodology.

For more information and to register for the April 11 workshop, visit the East San Gabriel Valley SCORE website at <https://eastsangabrielvalley.score.org>.





# Community Survey: Share Your Priorities for Keeping Diamond Bar Safe and Desirable

The City maintains a high quality of life by providing a variety of essential services that keep the city safe and well-maintained, including robust law enforcement and emergency services, and regular maintenance projects to keep roads in good repair, and parks and public spaces clean and safe for everyone's enjoyment.

As you may know, the City has been considering an increase to the existing transient occupancy tax - also known as a hotel tax - to help fund essential city services. This potential hotel tax, which would only be paid by visiting hotel guests, could generate up to \$450,000 annually in locally-controlled revenue without increasing taxes for Diamond Bar residents.

Community input will be an important component as we examine this potential funding solution.

Funding from a hotel tax could support vital city services, which include:

- Augmenting neighborhood Sheriff protection and public safety programs to help prevent property crimes like home and car burglaries
- Maintaining local roads and preventing potholes
- Providing safe places for children to play
- Supporting City-run parks and recreation programs enjoyed by children and adults alike

All funds from a potential revenue measure would be subject to annual general financial audits and could only be used to support city services in Diamond Bar.

As the City continues to explore local funding options, we want to hear from you. To preserve essential city services that protect our quality of life, we are seeking the feedback of the Diamond Bar community to ensure that our priorities align with those of our residents. To learn more and participate in our community survey, visit [www.DiamondBarCA.gov/TOI](http://www.DiamondBarCA.gov/TOI).



## City to Offer Limited-Time Home Security Equipment Grant Program

Sometime this spring, as part of its Let's Talk Public Safety Program, the City will make available a limited number of special discounts to Diamond Bar households interested in purchasing a home security device from Ring.

An agreement with Ring, approved by the City Council at its regular March 6 meeting, provides for matching discounts of \$25 from both the City and the home security technology company, on three products - a video doorbell (2 or Pro), a spotlight camera (battery-operated or hard-wired), and a floodlight camera.

The prices for the products, after the discount, are \$149 for the video doorbell 2, \$199 for the video doorbell pro, \$149 for the spotlight camera (battery-powered or hard-wired), and \$199 for the floodlight camera. Interested households may purchase only one of the products at the \$50 discounted rate, and Ring offers a \$30 discount for up to two additional products.

Home security equipment, motion-sensor lighting, sturdy windows and doors, heavy-duty deadbolt locks, and landscaping that does not create hiding places are all effective "target hardening" techniques that make your home less enticing to would-be burglars.

Additional home "target hardening" tips, and information about this limited-time home security equipment grant program are available on the Let's Talk Public Safety (LTPS) webpage of the City website at [www.diamondbarca.gov/LTPS](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/LTPS).

Created by the City in fall 2016, in partnership with the Los Angeles County sheriff's and fire departments, LTPS is aimed at engaging with the community and raising awareness about all things public-safety related, from emergency preparedness to crime prevention.

## First Two Ramps of New Interchange Scheduled To Open



March 31 is the target date for the opening of the first two ramps of the new partial interchange

at Lemon Avenue - the westbound on-ramp, and eastbound off-ramp.

Concurrent with the opening of these ramps is the permanent closure of the eastbound off-ramp at Brea Canyon Road.

The eastbound on-ramp at Brea Canyon Road is also set to be permanently closed, but will remain open until construction of the new eastbound on-ramp at Lemon Avenue is completed and open in late spring or early summer.

When completed, interchange at Lemon Avenue is anticipated to considerably improve traffic flow and safety in the vicinity of the Golden Springs Drive and Brea Canyon Road intersection as it will decrease the number of heavy trucks that currently mix with vehicles in the area by creating a more direct route for delivery trucks that use the freeway to get to and from manufacturing and warehousing businesses in Industry.

Project construction is being managed by The Ace Project. For more information and construction notices, visit [www.theaceproject.org](http://www.theaceproject.org) or call 888.223.1426.

## Did You Know?

The history of the Lemon Avenue interchange project dates back to 1968 when a freeway agreement was executed between the State and the County of Los Angeles. A lack of financial resources and other setbacks, however, caused the project to be shelved.

In 2004, the Cities of Diamond Bar and Industry in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation began working to move the project further. A combination of local, state and federal dollars are funding the project.

## Annual Brush Clearance Inspections Start May 1

Homeowners whose property is located on or near a hillside are reminded that the County of Los Angeles Fire Department will begin conducting its annual brush clearance inspections on May 1.

Fire department personnel will be checking to ensure that properties meet the state-mandated brush clearance requirements as outlined in the Fire Code. Key among these requirements is the creation of defensible space, which involves hazardous vegetation management and brush clearance from a 100-foot perimeter around homes in High Hazard areas, and up to 200 feet in Extra Hazard areas for effective fire protection. Properties found not in compliance with the County's brush clearance requirements at the time of inspection will be issued a correction notice requiring immediate compliance.

The goal of defensible space is to reduce the chance of homes being destroyed by wildfire - either from direct flame contact or radiant heat - by creating a buffer between properties and native brush or ornamental landscape to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and provide a safe area for firefighters to operate in while battling a wildfire.

Clearing dead or dying palm fronds from trees, maintaining ground cover at a maximum height of 18 inches, removing any vines or climbing plants from any structure, and pruning back trees to provide a five-foot minimum separation from the roof are some of the steps that should be taken to prepare properties for the greatest chance of wildfire survival.

Additional tips and guidelines to prepare your property to pass the upcoming brush clearance inspection can be found in the Fire Department's wildfire action plan and supplemental brochure available online at [www.fire.lacounty.gov](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov).



# No Update on Tres Hermanos Ranch



There are no updates on the future of the Tres Hermanos Ranch property despite the more than four months that have passed since the Cities of Diamond Bar and Chino Hills separately filed the first or two lawsuits challenging the City of Industry's attempt to purchase the undeveloped land with the alleged intent of turning it over to a private entity to develop a massive solar facility.

Located on the eastern edge of Diamond Bar and along both sides of Grand Avenue, Tres Hermanos Ranch covers 2,445-acres of largely undeveloped land historically used for ranching, farming and cattle grazing. Approximately 695 acres are located in Diamond Bar and 1,750 acres are within Chino Hills.

To learn about the project and read about the various legal violations, including the California Environmental Quality Act, Gift of Public Funds, and Brown Act, that form the basis for the lawsuits, visit [www.diamondbarca.gov/treshermanos](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/treshermanos). Also on this page, you can sign up to be notified by email and/or text when new developments are posted.

## Deadline Drawing Close for Two Art Contests

Two contest opportunities for young artists to show off their artistic talent have mid-April deadlines.

### Congressional Art Competition

Thursday, April 12 before 5 p.m. is the deadline for high school students to enter up to three original art pieces to the Congressional Art Competition. Artwork may be a photograph, painting, computer-generated art, two-dimensional collage, or a single or mixed media drawing, and must be no larger than 26 inches x 26 inches x 4 inches.

Contestants will be invited to a special local exhibit of all submitted artwork and awards ceremony, and one winner will be selected to have their artwork displayed in the United States Capital for an entire year. They will also receive two free round-trip tickets to Washington D.C. for an exclusive reception in their honor.

Artwork, together with a completed student release form, should be submitted to Representative Ed Royce's Rowland Heights office located inside the Diamond Plaza at 1380 Fullerton Road, Suite 203, or his Brea office located at 210 W. Birch Street, Suite 201.

Additional contest rules and the student release form are available online at <https://royce.house.gov/students> or by contacting Stephanie Hu at [stephanie.hu@mail.house.gov](mailto:stephanie.hu@mail.house.gov) or 714.255.0101.

### Arbor Day Poster Contest

Friday, April 13 before 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for fifth graders who live or go to school in Diamond Bar to use any art medium of their choice to create a poster depicting the theme "Trees are Terrific: For our Health and Happiness."

Artwork must be hand-drawn on letter-size paper (8 1/2 x 11 inch), and may be in color or black and white, and created using crayons, colored pencils, markers, watercolors or any other medium. Glue, stickers, and glitter are not allowed.

The top three entries will be selected and displayed at the City's Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration taking place Saturday, April 21, and the artists will receive a Target gift card (\$50 for first place, \$25 for second place, and \$15 for third place)

Posters may be dropped off at, or mailed to, Diamond Bar City Hall located at 21810 Copley Drive. A completed entry form must be affixed to the back of the artwork.

Complete contest rules and the entry form are available online at [www.diamondbarca.gov/greenDB](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/greenDB) or by contacting the City's Environmental Services Division at [greenDB@diamondbarca.gov](mailto:greenDB@diamondbarca.gov) or 909.839.7015.



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[www.DiamondBarCA.gov](http://www.DiamondBarCA.gov) ■ [PublicInfo@DiamondBarCA.gov](mailto:PublicInfo@DiamondBarCA.gov)

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#### Elected Officials

Mayor ..... Ruth M. Low  
Mayor Pro Tem..... Carol Herrera  
Council Member .....Jimmy Lin  
Council Member .....Nancy A. Lyons  
Council Member .....Steve 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.

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## Find it Fast Phone Directory



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

APRIL 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3 	4	5	6	7
8	9 Street Sweeping	10 Street Sweeping	11 Free Business Marketing Workshop (details on page 2) Street Sweeping	12 Street Sweeping	13 Street Sweeping	14 City Birthday Party (details on page 1)
15	16	17 	18	19 General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting	20	21 Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration (details on page 1)
22	23 Street Sweeping	24 Street Sweeping	25 Street Sweeping	26 Street Sweeping	27 Street Sweeping	28
29	30					

### 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](http://DiamondBarCa.gov/eventcalendar)