

City increases efforts in community engagement

INSIDE GRAPEVINE

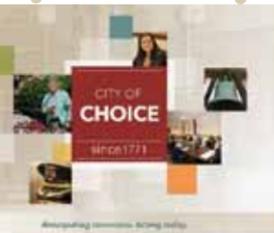
Protecting our urban forest 2



Join in the fun festivities 3



City budget adopted 4



"Social media is one of the most powerful tools we have to connect with residents."

A local resident peruses the Internet for things to do nearby. He stops on a post about the San Gabriel Certified Farmers' Market. He never knew the city had a farmers' market, but it sounds like fun so he heads to Vincent Lugo Park and enjoys an evening walking through the market, grabbing some local produce and dinner.

The resident posts a message about his experience on his own social profile, encouraging others to attend the city event he just discovered. His new relationship between the city and a local resident was made possible by San Gabriel's recently launched Weibo account, a Chinese social media site that is a hybrid of Twitter and Facebook. The new Weibo account joins a host of social media communications tools already employed by the city, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The city launched the account in August in an effort to engage Chinese speaking residents and build relationships with the Chinese community. Essentially overnight, the account gained more than 1,800 followers and was flooded with positive comments and "likes" regarding the city's efforts to reach out to the entire San Gabriel



community. To follow the city on Weibo, visit www.weibo.com/sangabrielcity.

"Social media is one of the most powerful tools we have to connect with residents," Public Information Officer Lauren Gold said. "Chinese speakers make up a significant part of our community, so it is essential for us to reach out to them through the social media channels they use and in the language with which they are most comfortable."

The Weibo account is just one of the city's many recent efforts to connect with and engage San Gabriel residents and improve government transparency to the public.

This summer, the Finance Department launched SG Connect, which provides free public wireless Internet connection at city parks and facilities. The new program fulfills a key goal in the city's Information Technology Master Plan and will also improve productivity among city employees and offer a great service to the public. Residents can easily get free Wi-Fi on any device by choosing "SG Connect" in the Wi-Fi list and then agreeing to terms of service.

Also this summer, the Fire Department launched a new emergency notification system called SG Alert. The web-based system will be an important emergency communications tool for the city when an incident occurs. It also includes information to help residents prepare for an emergency before it happens.

Residents can sign up at www.sangabrielcity.com/sgalert and decide what kinds of notifications they want to receive, what time they want to receive them and whether they want a text message, email or phone call.

Finally, newly hired Chief City Clerk Gloria Molleda has already launched several initiatives to improve the City Clerk's Department, including beginning to transfer all of the city's documents onto laser fiche. Once the process is completed, all city resolutions, ordinances and other documents will be on the city website, making them more

easily accessible to residents.

"I think it's important to have government transparency," Molleda said, "and to make as much information available to the public as possible."

For more information on these programs, contact Public Information Officer Lauren Gold at 626.308.2800, ext. 4624 or lgold@sgch.org.



City to host Turkey Trot Nov. 21

On Nov. 21, San Gabriel will host the 40th Annual Turkey Trot, inviting runners, joggers and walkers to take on a 10K, 5K or 1K race and make some room for Thanksgiving dinner. The races will begin at Vincent Lugo Park, wind through the surrounding picturesque neighborhoods and then finish back at the park. Vincent Lugo Park is located at the corner of Wells and Ramona Streets.

Register online at www.sangabrielcity.com or in person on the day of the event beginning at 7:15 a.m. The registration fee pays for a T-shirt, race entry, refreshments, awards and raffle prizes. Register by Oct. 23 for a reduced rate and to have your name included on the commemorative T-shirt.

For more information, contact the Community Services Department at 626.308.2875.



Silent Sundays Series

Fall Event Highlight

The Mark of Zorro

Silent Movie Screening with Live Organ Accompaniment

Sunday, November 29, 2:30pm (626) 308-2868



For a complete list of events:
www.missionplayhouse.org
 320 South Mission Drive,
 San Gabriel, CA 91776

Infrastructure Spotlight

The urban forest



When we talk about infrastructure, it is usually about streets, sewers or buildings. But just as important is the city's green infrastructure, the urban forest of trees that line the streets

and make our parks and neighborhoods beautiful.

The Public Works Department is fortunate to have three certified arborists with decades of experience caring for trees and protecting this urban forest. The city maintains close to 8,000 street trees and approximately 400 park trees, consisting of 109 different species.

Though many often take them for granted, trees provide tremendous benefits in health, aesthetics and economics. Trees produce oxygen and act as filters to remove carbon dioxide and pollutants from the air and water. Trees add shade and diminish the sun's harmful effects and also reduce the energy needed to cool homes and buildings. Trees also add beauty and value to the landscape, improving neighborhood property values.

During the state's unprecedented drought, many trees have become casualties of water saving efforts. But like other infrastructure, trees require careful planning and routine maintenance to ensure they will survive and also thrive. Saving water is important, but it's also essential that the city and residents provide proper watering to help establish young trees and sustain older trees. Newly planted trees should have the base of the tree watered on a weekly basis, enough to fill the basin at least twice. For mature specimen trees, the area under the canopy of the tree should have slow, deep watering once a month.

The city waters trees located in parks and on arterial streets such as Las Tunas Drive, Valley Boulevard and San Gabriel Boulevard. Although the city does perform pruning on street trees, there is not nearly enough staff or equipment to irrigate all of those trees. Instead, the city relies on adjacent homeowners and property managers to help.

Please help the city keep the urban forest healthy and vibrant for generations to come. By providing occasional slow, deep watering during the warmer months, we can reduce the stress on trees and make them more resistant to insects and diseases.

For more information, contact Public Works Parks & Facilities Manager John Gonzalez at 626.308.2878 or jgonzalez@sgch.org.

New Valley developments to provide amenities

The Valley Boulevard skyline will undergo a significant transformation starting this fall, with a slew of new construction projects underway and on the horizon.

In September, Hazens Real Estate Group hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the Sheraton San Gabriel Hotel at 303 E. Valley Blvd. The five story, 288 guest room hotel will include a steakhouse, another restaurant and retail space. It is scheduled to open in 2017.

A second hotel, a Hyatt Place, will rise at Valley Boulevard and Del Mar Avenue, at the site where Norm's Restaurant formerly stood. The hotel will include 222 hotel rooms, 55,872 square feet of retail space and 87 residential condominium units. The hotel is scheduled for completion in 2018.

In addition to the hotel projects, several other mixed use developments are in the works, including the Province project at 400 W. Valley Blvd., the Meihua Plaza project at 810 W. Valley Blvd., The One project at 101 E. Valley Blvd. and a 10,000 square foot commercial building at 500 E. Valley Blvd. These projects are scheduled to break ground within the next year. Together, they will create almost 90,000 square feet of brand new retail, office and restaurant space and over 200 new housing opportunities, not to mention a significant number of temporary construction jobs and permanent jobs as new businesses open.

In addition to providing new shops and homes, these projects will result in improvements to the infrastructure serving them, improvements the whole neighborhood can benefit from. For example, sewer lines serving several of the projects will be upgraded, streets fronting the developments will get repaved, new traffic signals will be installed and existing ones improved, new sidewalks, curbs and gutters will be built and pedestrian amenities like street trees, benches, outdoor dining areas and improved street lighting will be installed.

"It's going to be a busy year for San Gabriel development, especially on Valley Boulevard," Community Development Director Arminé Chaparyan said. "Ultimately, these projects will enhance Valley Boulevard, drawing in new residents, businesses and tourists."

Residents are encouraged to keep updated on these upcoming projects by checking the city's website and social media pages and to keep in mind that there may be some delays on Valley Boulevard during this time. City staff is developing a coordinated strategy to minimize the construction impacts on our residents over the coming two years.

Once completed, these new developments will bring new revitalization to Valley Boulevard, attract businesses, generate tax revenues for the city, create jobs and bring in dollars to local businesses from visitors and tourists.

For more information on upcoming projects, contact the Community Development Department at 626.308.2806 or visit www.sangabrielcity.com.

Join the holiday season festivities in SG

The holiday season is almost upon us, and for San Gabriel residents that means a host of fun festivities are just around the corner.

Community members can kick off the holidays at the city's 39th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at Plaza Park. The event begins at 6 p.m. and will feature ornament making with the Women's Division of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, entertainment by Dewey Elementary School, the Jefferson Middle School Choir and Advanced Orchestra, refreshments and, of course, an appearance by Santa on the Fire Department's historic Mack fire engine.

Next, residents and businesses can show their holiday cheer by participating in the city's annual house decoration contest, organized by the Community Development Department and the Women's Division of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce. The city encourages everyone to nominate a neighbor or local business for the award. Nominations are due on Dec. 14. Winners will be notified by letter and recognized with a visit from Santa and the San Gabriel Fire and Police Departments.

Finally, San Gabriel residents will get a special treat just before Christmas, as Santa rides through the city streets on the Fire Department's 1957 Mack fire



engine. Starting on Dec. 20, Santa will be out each night from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. On Dec. 20, Santa will be in southwest section of the city, on Dec. 21, he will be in the southeast, Dec. 22 in the northwest and Dec. 23 in the northeast. The railroad tracks and Del Mar Boulevard are the dividing lines for the city quadrants.

For more information on the tree lighting, contact James Lara at 626.308.2875 or jlara@sgch.org. For more information on the home decoration contest, contact Larissa De La Cruz at 626.308.2806. For more information on the Santa visits, contact Derrick Doehler at 626.308.2885.



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► **Express Cros Interstate, Inc.**
Valley Blvd. & Del Mar Avenue
Behind Arco Gas Station.



Redemption centers offer:
\$0.05 per container, less than 24oz
\$0.10 per container, 24oz or larger

Another successful National Night Out



The citywide tradition featured 43 block parties to foster community relationships with neighbors and city officials.

The 2015 National Night Out event proved once again that nobody throws a party like San Gabriel. This year's event marked the city's 21st consecutive year of participation and featured 43 block parties hosted by Neighborhood Watch groups. Over 3,500 residents citywide had the opportunity to meet their neighbors and make new friends during the event while also fighting neighborhood crime.

Also joining in the festivities were the Mayor and the entire San Gabriel City Council, the City Manager, as well as other city leaders, various state and local officials, Police and Fire Department personnel, members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and community

group representatives, who made their way around San Gabriel visiting with residents and fostering community relationships.

The National Night Out event was part of the San Gabriel Police Department's popular Neighborhood Watch Program, which is extremely beneficial in reducing crime and encouraging residents to report suspicious activity. For more information or to join the Neighborhood Watch Program, contact Crime Prevention Officer Stacy Gutierrez at 626.308.2846 or SG551@sfpd.com.



En Breve...

Celebraciones de la temporada festiva en San Gabriel

La temporada festiva está ya casi ante nosotros y para los residentes de San Gabriel esto significa que una serie de divertidas festividades están por llegar. La ceremonia anual 39a de iluminación del árbol de navidad municipal se celebrará el martes 1 de diciembre en Plaza Park a las 6 p.m. La Ciudad aceptará nominaciones para el concurso de decoraciones del hogar hasta el 14 de diciembre. Santa Claus visitará vecindarios locales en el histórico camión de bomberos del 20 al 23 de diciembre. Para más información, favor de llamar al Departamento de Servicios Comunitarios: 626.308.2875, Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario: 626.308.2806, Departamento de Bomberos: 626.308.2880.

San Gabriel intensifica sus esfuerzos de participación comunitaria

La Ciudad inauguró la cuenta electrónica en agosto con el fin de promover la participación de residentes hablantes de chino y fomentar vínculos con la comunidad china. Para seguir los pasos de la Ciudad en Weibo, favor de visitar www.weibo.com/sangabrielcity. Este verano el Departamento de Finanzas inauguró SG Connect, servicio que proporciona conexión inalámbrica de Internet gratis al público en parques e instalaciones municipales. Además de lo anterior, el Departamento de Bomberos inició este verano un nuevo sistema de notificación de emergencias. Los residentes pueden inscribirse en www.sangabrielcity.com/sgalert. Para más información, favor de llamar al Oficial de Información Pública: 626.308.2803.

Protéjase contra robos de auto

Se ha notado recientemente un aumento pronunciado de delitos contra la propiedad tanto en San Gabriel como a lo largo de la región, particularmente en centros comerciales y otras zonas de comercio. Ayude a disminuir la delincuencia en nuestra comunidad y protéjase a sí mismo contra robos de auto cerrando completamente las ventanas y cerrando con llave las puertas de los autos, nunca dejar artículos de valor a plena vista, estacionándose en zonas debidamente alumbradas y permaneciendo alerta a toda actividad sospechosa. Para más información, favor de llamar al Departamento de Policía: 626.308.2846.

Proyectos de construcción en Valley Boulevard

El horizonte de Valley Boulevard se someterá a una transformación significativa a partir de este otoño y a medida que se desempeñen una serie de nuevos proyectos de construcción. La edificación de dos nuevos hoteles y varios nuevos proyectos mixtos comenzarán en breve; por lo tanto, esté consciente de retrasos a razón de las obras de construcción. Para más información referente a proyectos futuros, favor de llamar al Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario: 626.308.2806.

簡介

聖誕節的節日慶祝活動

節日馬上就要來臨了，這意味著聖誕節居民很快就有一系列的慶祝活動。市府第39屆年度節日樹點燈活動將在12月1日星期二在Plaza公園晚6點舉辦。市府將也開始接受住戶裝飾比賽提名，截止日期為12月14日。聖誕老人會在12月20至23日坐著具有歷史意義的消防車在本地社區巡遊。如需獲取更多信息，請致電社區服務部門，電話626.308.2875，社區發展部門，電話626.308.2806，或消防局，電話626.308.2880。

聖誕節增加與社區溝通的努力

市府在8月開通了新浪微博賬號為了更方便的和講中文的住戶和社區增加聯繫，建立溝通。在微博上關注“聖誕節市”，請訪問 www.weibo.com/sangabrielcity。今年夏天財務部門啟動SG Connect免費網絡，在城市公園和公共設施提供免費無線上網。另外今年夏天，消防局推出了一個全新緊急通告系統。居民可以上網登記：www.sangabrielcity.com/sgalert。如需獲取更多信息，請致電公共信息專員，電話626.308.2803。

保護自己避免汽車盜竊

最近在聖誕節和周邊地區的財產犯罪有大幅增加，特別是在購物中心和其他商業區域。幫助我們在社區中降低犯罪率，也同時保護自己避免汽車被盜竊，請將車窗關好，車門鎖好，不要將有價值的物品放在可見的地方，將車停在有良好光線的地方，注意可疑行為。如需更多信息，請聯繫警察局 626.308.2846。

Valley Boulevard 建設項目

Valley Boulevard的天際線將在今年秋天有重大變化，有一批新項目將破土動工，有兩個新的旅館和幾個新的混合用途項目將很快動工。所以請注意施工導致的交通延時。如需獲取更多即將施工項目信息，請聯繫社區發展部門，電話626.308.2806。

Don't be a victim!

Tips on preventing vehicle burglary and theft

Recently, there has been a significant increase in auto burglaries reported in San Gabriel and throughout the region, particularly in shopping centers and other commercial areas. Unoccupied vehicles are easy targets and often contain valuable property that is attractive to thieves. Help reduce crime in our community and protect yourself from auto burglary and theft by taking these simple steps:

- ✓ Always close your windows and lock your car. Leaving your car unlocked is an open invitation for thieves to help themselves. A theft can occur even in the few moments you might be inside a business while your car is out of view.
- ✓ Never leave valuables in plain sight, even if your car is locked. A burglar will not hesitate to shatter your vehicle window if valuables are visible. Protect your property by placing items in the trunk or removing them from your vehicle altogether. Some of the most common stolen items are backpacks, briefcases, purses, duffle bags, cell phones, expensive sunglasses and laptop computers.
- ✓ Park in well-lit, high-traffic areas while at shopping malls or other public places. A frequently used parking lot means more potential witnesses, so a theft is less likely to occur. Avoid remote parking areas.
- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings and report suspicious activity to the police.

If you see something suspicious or are a victim of a crime, please report it immediately by calling the San Gabriel Police Department at 626.308.2828 or 9-1-1 for emergencies. For more information on how to protect yourself from theft, contact Crime Prevention Officer Stacy Gutierrez at 626.308.2846 or SG551@sfpd.com.



San Gabriel Valley Medical Center
AHMC Healthcare

Family Health Fair

Saturday, October 24, 2015 • 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
438 W. Las Tunas Drive, San Gabriel
Hospital Parking Lot
(corner of Broadway and Santa Anita Street)



For more information, please call 626-289-5454

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Jason Pu, Mayor
 Chin Ho Liao, Vice Mayor
 Juli Costanzo, Councilmember
 John R. Harrington, Councilmember
 Kevin B. Sawkins, Councilmember

Elected Officials

Eleanor K. Andrews, City Clerk
 John Janosik, City Treasurer

City Officials

Steven A. Preston, City Manager
 Marcella Marlowe, Assistant City Manager
 Robert L. Kress, City Attorney
 David A. Lawton, Police Chief
 Kirk Summers, Interim Fire Chief
 Thomas Marston, Finance Director
 Daren Grilley, Public Works Director/City Engineer
 Arminé Chaparyan, Community Development Director
 Rebecca Perez, Community Services Director
 Anna Cross, Mission Playhouse Director
 Gloria Molleda, Chief City Clerk

The San Gabriel Grapevine is published quarterly by the City of San Gabriel. For more information, call the City Manager's Office at 308.2805.

El San Gabriel está publicado trimestral por la Ciudad de San Gabriel. Para más información, llame a la Oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad a 308.2805.

The San Gabriel Grapevine是由聖蓋博市政府出版的季刊，如需索取進一步資料，請與市政府的行政主管辦公室聯絡，電話是 308.2805。

News Briefs

City Council adopts 2015-2016 Budget

On June 16, the San Gabriel City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Annual Budget, which is the most critical component of implementation of the city's five-year strategic plan. This year's budget process included a first-time community online budget survey, as well as continued the effort to make the data in the budget more accessible and understandable to residents, businesses and visitors.

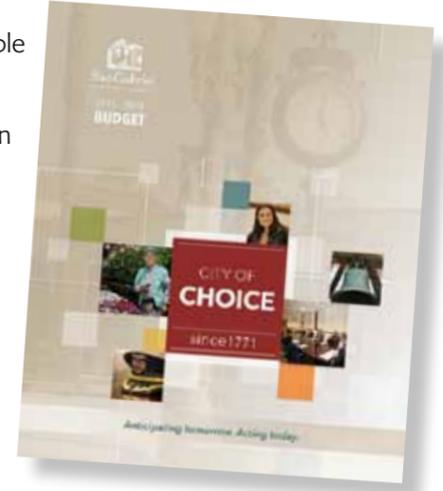
Total city revenues are anticipated to be \$52 million this year, with expenditures of approximately \$50 million. The budget also maintains a healthy general fund, is balanced, and

maintains an estimated available reserve of approximately \$3.5 million.

Approximately \$5.5 million in expenditures were prioritized by the City Council to address critical community priorities such as streets, sewers, and other critical infrastructure improvements.

The budget is available at the San Gabriel Library and on the city's website at www.sangabrielcity.com.

For more information, contact the San Gabriel Finance Department at 626.308.2812.



Welcome to new city team members

The city hired several new staff members in recent months, including new Chief City Clerk Gloria Molleda and Economic Development Manager Angelica Frausto-Lupo.

Molleda's hiring is an important step forward in the reorganization of the City Clerk's Office, which is now a stand-alone department. Molleda, as the city's first chief city clerk, will provide in-house expertise and experienced professional leadership to the new department to effectively and efficiently manage city clerk activities.



Molleda comes to the City of San Gabriel from the City of Rosemead, where she served as city clerk and director of communications for seven years.

Frausto-Lupo has 15 years of experience as an economic development professional. In San Gabriel, she will work on a variety of projects, including soliciting new businesses and working to retain the businesses already in the city. Frausto-Lupo comes to San Gabriel from the City of Whittier's Community Development Department, where she served as the business development manager for nine years.



Please join the city in welcoming these two new additions to the team.

ADVERTISEMENT



Yennis Wong
 626.316.3318
 YennisWong@BHHSca.com
 BRE# 01344042



Ronnie Garofalo
 626.688.5600
 rgarofalo@coldwellbanker.com
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