

City of San Gabriel

GRAPEVINE

Summer 2015

Conservation efforts continue in response to drought

In an effort to meet the new state conservation goals, the City of San Gabriel has launched a multi-department effort to reduce water usage.

Mo Nakatsui's front yard stands out as one of the most lush and beautiful landscapes on his street. But it's not because he has the typical sprawling green lawn. Instead, Nakatsui's yard overflows with bright purple flowers, desert willows, hawthorn, heavenly bamboo and other drought-tolerant plants.

The change is so beautiful, he said, that it has generated a lot of interest.

"We've been getting a lot of people stopping by and asking us about what we did," he said.

Nakatsui's decision to rip out his lawn last year has not only beautified the view from Manley Street, but it has also saved him time and money. He said he only has to water the plants twice a week for 10 minutes at each station and he rarely has to do any trimming – and definitely no mowing.

"It started when I retired in December of 2013, so I wanted to try to reduce my workload as well as reduce cost of living," Nakatsui said.

With California in its fourth year of a historically severe drought, Nakatsui is not the only one looking for ways to save and conserve. Residents, businesses, water agencies and municipalities across the state have been scrambling to reduce their water usage, especially since Governor Jerry Brown proclaimed a state of emergency and imposed mandatory reduction targets.

In an effort to meet the new state conservation goals, the City of San Gabriel has launched a multi-department effort to reduce water usage.

"Everyone has to adjust their water use as a result of the extreme drought situation in California, and the city is no exception," Public Works Director Daren Grilley said. "We are changing our practices across all departments to conserve water. We urge residents and businesses to do all they can to use water responsibly."



All departments within the city have limited vehicle washing significantly and all city staff members who are out in the field have committed to reporting any water wasters they see. The Community Development Department is reviewing all building and plumbing codes to ensure they align with the state and local requirements, and is also reviewing landscaping requirements to encourage use of drought-tolerant plants.

The Public Works Department has begun converting city landscaping and medians to drought-tolerant plantings, has ceased washing sidewalks, has reduced turf watering at all facilities and parks and plans to replace all toilets and urinals in City Hall with waterless and low flow models. The Community Services Department has reduced the days the Smith Park wading pool is open from seven days a week to three.

The five water agencies that service residents and businesses in San Gabriel have also called for increased conservation efforts based on their state reduction targets. San Gabriel County Water District must reduce use by 20 percent, Sunny Slope Water Company is working to reduce customer use by 25 percent, California American Water must reduce

their consumption by 28 percent, Golden State Water Company is aiming to reduce its water use by 12 percent and San Gabriel Valley Water Company must reduce by 16 percent.

All five companies have restricted outdoor watering to two days a week, with no watering on Wednesdays or the weekends. For many customers, over using could lead to warnings, fines or surcharges.

In addition, all five companies said that if their customers don't meet the reduction targets they will have to move to the next stage of conservation measures, which will include even heavier penalties, such as flow restriction or shutting off the water completely. In some cases, the next stage could lead to other more drastic restrictions such as limiting new water hookups in the city.

For the most part, the water companies said that San Gabriel residents have been receptive to the conservation efforts and have reduced their usage so far. For example, San Gabriel County Water District customers have already saved 14 percent, officials said.

However, more effort is still necessary to meet the new state reduction goals. For conservation tools and tips on how to reduce water use, visit www.bewaterwise.com or www.saveourwater.com.

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Conservation Corner

Here are some tips to help conserve water, courtesy of the Metropolitan Water District. Rebates for water saving tools, such as turf removal and high efficiency toilets, can also be found at www.bewaterwise.com.

Indoor:

- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.
- Fix household leaks promptly.
- Spend only five minutes in the shower.
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth.
- Buy water saving devices like high efficiency toilets and clothes washers.

Outdoor:

- Water your lawn one to two days a week instead of five.
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads and repair promptly.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- Install a smart sprinkler controller that adjusts watering based on weather, soil type, amount of shade and plant type.
- Water your plants in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation and ineffective watering due to wind.



San Gabriel Summer Nights

Summer Event Highlight

Free Outdoor Concert

Louie Cruz Beltran and his Jazz Ensemble

Thursday, July 23, 6:30pm (626) 308-2865



San Gabriel Mission Playhouse
A World of Arts and Culture



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

710 Freeway environmental study released

For decades, the debate over the 4.5 mile gap in the 710 Freeway from Alhambra to Pasadena has heated up the San Gabriel Valley. Now, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) has finally released a long awaited draft environmental study (EIR/EIS) on looking at four potential projects to fill it, making the long debate closer to a conclusion.

The four options on the table for the SR-710 North Study are a freeway tunnel, transportation system and demand management (TSM/TDM), a light rail line and a bus rapid transit line. The tunnel would connect the two "stubs" in Alhambra and Pasadena with either a single or double bore tunnel, which could allow or prohibit trucks and could also include express bus service and tolls. The transportation management (TSM/TDM) option would include several intersection improvements in San Gabriel that aim to reduce traffic demand in peak periods. The TSM/TDM improvements will be included in each of the other three plans as well. Metro is also considering a "no build" option.

The draft environmental document does not name a preferred alternative for the project. Metro hosted several public hearings on the draft EIR/EIS and solicited comments online and by mail. The 120

day comment period has been extended to Aug. 5. A final EIR will be released next year. The final decision on the project will ultimately be made by the Metro Board of Directors and Caltrans, according to Metro.

The City of San Gabriel has historically supported the completion of the freeway in some way as a method to relieve traffic congestion on city streets. Since the release of the environmental study, city staff members have attended several of Metro's public hearings, read through the draft EIR and determined the direct impacts of each alternative to San Gabriel. The city also solicited input from the community on the issue.

Staff members determined that the TSM/TDM alternative would have the most tangible benefit to the city, as it would facilitate improvements at three San Gabriel intersections. However, staff also stated that the freeway tunnel would reduce congestion in regional traffic flow. Supporting the tunnel option was also an important way to support neighboring cities like Alhambra that have to deal with traffic impacts



Photo: Walt Mancini

from the lack of a freeway.

On June 16, the City Council discussed the SR-710 North Study and heard a presentation from Project Manager Michelle Smith from Metro. The Council voted to support the dual bore tunnel alternative in conjunction with the TSM/TDM improvements to complete the 710 Freeway gap.

To view a copy of the draft EIR/EIS, visit: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist07/resources/envdocs/docs/710study/draft_eir-eis/.

For more information on the SR-710 North Study, visit: <http://www.metro.net/projects/sr-710-conversations/>.

Infrastructure Spotlight

Las Tunas Drive project on track for completion in July

The city's largest street paving project in nearly a decade is on track for completion in July. The project includes rehabilitation of nearly a mile of roadway from Muscatel Avenue to San Gabriel Boulevard. The old, crumbled pavement was recycled on site to provide a new base pavement, saving the city time and money. The project also includes construction of the city's first bike lanes as well as stormwater bio-filtration units to comply with new water quality regulations.



Infrastructure Bank loan approved: Design of Del Mar Avenue repairs underway

After more than a year of work, the city has secured a loan from the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) to fund design and construction of pavement repair on Del Mar Avenue. The work will be coordinated with sewer repairs funded by the Sewer User Fee and Development Impact Fees. Construction will begin in early 2016 and is expected to be completed in 2017. Project updates will be provided regularly in future Grapevine editions and other city publications.



New sewer lift station up and running

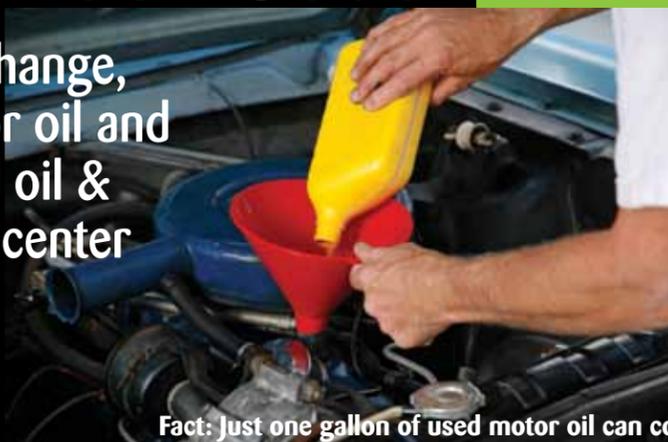
Most sewer lines operate by gravity, but in order to direct flows around the new Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) railroad trench, a new sewer lift station had to be installed near City Hall. This station will pump wastewater from most of the northwest portion of the city into a new sewer line that runs deep under the new railroad trench at Ramona Street and on to the County Sanitation District for treatment. The station, which went into operation in June, was paid for and constructed by the ACE Construction Authority and will be owned and operated by San Gabriel Public Works.

For more information on these projects, contact Public Works Director Daren Grilley at 626.308.2825 or dgrilley@sgch.org.



Recycle Your Used Motor Oil & Filters

After each oil change, take used motor oil and filters to a used oil & filter collection center for recycling.



Drop off items during business hours only. Do not mix oil with any other fluids or substances. Contact the oil & filter collection centers for business hours and quantities accepted. For more information, or for collection centers in other areas, call 1-888-CleanLA or visit www.888CleanLA.com.

Used Oil & Filter Collection Centers in San Gabriel:
O'Reilly Auto Parts, 965 East Las Tunas Dr., 451-9853
Mission Express Lube, 918 South San Gabriel Blvd., 285-0808

Fact: Just one gallon of used motor oil can contaminate one million gallons of fresh water.



Community Services Strategic Plan approved

On May 5, the City Council approved the first-ever Community Services Department Strategic Plan.



Entitled "Playing to Our Strengths: A Five-Year Strategic Plan for the Community Services Department," the plan was developed through a community-based effort, addressing "real-life" community needs and aspirations.

Over a period of eight months, the Strategic Plan team, City Council, Community Services Commission, City staff, key community stakeholders and residents participated in the development of the plan with the guidance of consultant Kevin J. McArdle. The goal was to create a plan that was visionary and bold, while realistic and achievable.

The strategic plan was part of the recent reorganization of the Community Services Department, which created a new focus on the recreation and human services needs of our residents and the park and open space needs for our community.

The new plan is designed to evaluate the department's

current programs and services, identify opportunities for the future, develop a vision and mission statement, and develop key strategic directions, goals and action steps to guide and direct the department's efforts for the next five years.

Key features of the plan are as follows:

Vision

San Gabriel will be the leader in community services, recreation and the arts within the region. As a truly unique, united and enriched community, San Gabriel residents are proud of the amazing quality of life they enjoy every day.

Mission

Creatively enriching the lives of every person in San Gabriel through exceptional programs and services, inviting spaces and community connection.

Strategic Directions

Create New Innovative Programs and Services to Engage the Entire Community

Connect the Entire Community to Enhance Quality of Life

Embrace and Celebrate Community Diversity

Plan and Create New and Enhanced Open Spaces, Parks and Community Facilities

Develop Innovative Resources and Tools to Achieve our Mission

Look for new and exciting programs and opportunities from the Community Services Department in the coming months.

To view a copy of the full strategic plan, visit www.sangabrielcity.com/csstrategicplan. For more information about the plan or the process, please contact Community Services Director Rebecca Perez at rperez@sgch.org.

En Breve...

La Ciudad aumenta los esfuerzos de conservación a raíz de la sequía

Todos en San Gabriel y en todo el estado de California hemos tenido que efectuar cambios en el estilo de vida para ayudar a conservar agua al estado iniciar el cuarto año de la históricamente grave sequía. La Ciudad ha tomado varios pasos para reducir el uso de agua en la municipalidad, incluyendo reducir el lavado de vehículos y fomentar la jardinería tolerante a sequías. Las cinco agencias de agua que le prestan servicio a San Gabriel han indicado que si los residentes no conservan lo suficiente se exponen a un aumento de penalidades, multas y cobros. Para obtener sugerencias sobre cómo podrá conservar agua, visite www.bewaterwise.com. Para más información referente a los esfuerzos municipales, favor de comunicarse con Daren Grilley a dgrilley@sgch.org.

San Gabriel participa en la Noche Nacional de Salida (National Night Out)

Los residentes de San Gabriel tendrán la oportunidad de pasarse una noche al aire libre con sus vecinos durante el 32º evento anual titulado Noche Nacional de Salida [National Night Out] de las 6:30-9:30 p.m. el martes 4 de agosto. Para más información sobre cómo participar en el Programa de Vigilancia Comunitaria [Neighborhood Watch] y en la Noche Nacional de Salida, favor de comunicarse con Stacy Gutiérrez de la Oficina para la Prevención del Crimen del Departamento de Policía de San Gabriel al 626.308.2846 o SG551@sgpd.com.

Disfrute los parques de San Gabriel este verano

Julio es el mes en que los iParques Mejoran la Vida! [Parks Make Life Better!] y la Ciudad invita a todos los residentes a usar y disfrutar nuestros parques y programas de recreación este verano. Las actividades recreativas le ofrecen alternativas positivas a los jóvenes, promueven las artes, fomentan las conexiones sociales y dan aliento a un aprendizaje vitalicio. Para más información sobre los programas veraniegos, favor de llamar al 626.308.2875 o comunicarse por correo electrónico a tboecking@sgch.org.

San Gabriel celebra la Semana de Obras Públicas

El jueves 21 de mayo, el Departamento de Obras Públicas de San Gabriel patrocinó su recepción anual en celebración de la Semana Nacional de Obras Públicas. El evento de este año tomó lugar en Vincent Lugo Park y exhibió muchas de las responsabilidades del Departamento de Obras Públicas de San Gabriel destinadas a mantener la infraestructura municipal. Para más información, favor de llamar al 626.308.2825 o comunicarse por correo electrónico a ppeana@sgch.org.

簡介

加州乾旱本市加強節水措施

隨著加州進入第四年連續乾旱，所有聖蓋博居民和整個加州都開始改變生活方式以節約用水。本市已經起步開始減少用水量，包括減少洗車次數以及鼓勵耐旱園林綠化。為聖蓋博市提供水源的五大水區表示如果居民不能節約足夠的用水量，居民將會面臨高額的罰款和收費。欲知節水知識，請訪問 www.bewaterwise.com。欲了解更多本市的節水努力，請聯繫 Daren Grilley，電話626.308.2825或電郵 dgrilley@sgch.org。

聖蓋博將參與“全國打擊犯罪夜”(National Night Out)

聖蓋博居民將有機會在第32屆“全國打擊犯罪夜”，8月4日星期二從傍晚6:30到晚上9:30 和鄰居一起度過歡樂的戶外時光。若想加入Neighborhood Watch 和參與今年的“全國打擊犯罪夜”，請聯繫聖蓋博警察局防止犯罪小組 Stacy Gutierrez，電話626.308.2846或電郵 SG551@sgpd.com。

這個暑假請享受聖蓋博的公園

七月份是“公園讓生活更美好!”月(Parks Make Life Better!® Month)。這個暑假，本市鼓勵居民們多使用我們的公園設施和報名參加休閒班。休閒活動可為青年人帶來愉快的時光，培養藝術氣息，加強社交能力和鼓勵積極的態度。欲知更多暑假活動，請聯繫 Tom Boecking，電話626.308.2875或電郵 tboecking@sgch.org。

聖蓋博慶祝“工務局開放週”(Public Works Week)

聖蓋博工務局在5月21日星期四當天慶祝“全國工務局開放週”並舉行一年一度的工務局開放日。今年的活動在Vincent Lugo 公園舉行並向居民介紹了聖蓋博工務局在維持市內基礎設施方面的各項職能。欲知詳情，請聯繫Patty Peña，電話626.308.2825或電郵 ppeana@sgch.org。

Celebrate Parks Make Life Better!® Month

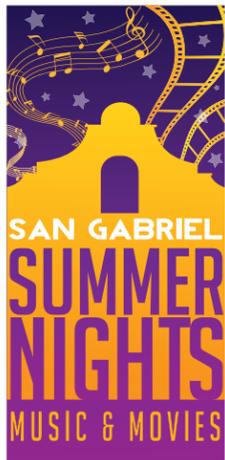
Earlier this month, the City Council proclaimed July as Parks Make Life Better!® Month, in conjunction with the state and national declaration. In doing so, the Council encouraged residents to use and enjoy our city's parks and recreation programs.

In celebration of Parks Make Life Better!® month, the Community Services Department, along with the Mission Playhouse and Community Development,

will host the Summer Nights series, a slew of outdoor concerts and movies every Thursday this summer.

At the July 16 event, the Community Services Department and the San Gabriel Library will celebrate with a special concert by The Happy Crowd and movie "Despicable Me 2." There will also be face painting, a balloon artist and activities for kids that will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Vincent Lugo Park.

For more information on these and other events throughout the summer, visit www.sangabrielcity.com or contact Community Services Manager Tom Boecking at tboecking@sgch.org or 626.308.2875.



July 16	6:30 p.m. Dusk or 8:30 p.m.	Family Concert, <i>The Happy Crowd</i>	Vincent Lugo Park
		Movie in the Park, <i>Despicable Me 2</i>	Vincent Lugo Park
July 23	6:30 p.m.	Havana Nights Concert, <i>Louie Cruz Beltran</i>	Mission Playhouse Plaza
July 30	6:30 p.m.	Kollaboration at the Park Concert, <i>Various Artists</i>	Vincent Lugo Park
August 6	Dusk or 8:30 p.m.	Movie at the Playhouse, <i>The Bullfighters—a Laurel & Hardy film</i>	Mission Playhouse Plaza



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- 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

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 mas información, llame a la Oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad a 308.2805.

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News Briefs

Public Works open house saw record attendance

On Thursday, May 21 the San Gabriel Public Works Department hosted its annual Open House, in celebration of National Public Works Week. This year's event took place at Vincent Lugo Park and showcased the various responsibilities San Gabriel Public Works handles to maintain the city's infrastructure. The newly reorganized department also maintains the city's parks, and having Vincent Lugo Park as the backdrop this year made for a fun and energetic event.

The open house saw record attendance, including the general public and classes from La Casa de San Gabriel Pre-school, McKinley Elementary and Mission Elementary.

The open house featured tours with exhibitions and demonstrations of the Public Works functions, including the city's newly purchased Vector sewer truck and Athens Services' trash and sweeper trucks. Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) offered information on the ongoing railroad project, the San Gabriel County Water District offered water conservation tips for residents and the Athens Services crew served tri-tip, ribs and hot dogs.

Mark your calendars for Public Works Day next year on May 19, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Peña at 626.308.2825 or ppena@sgch.org.



32nd annual National Night Out event Aug. 4

San Gabriel residents will have the opportunity to spend an evening outdoors with their neighbors during the 32nd annual National Night Out event from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 4.

Neighborhood Watch groups will host block parties, cook-outs and other family-oriented activities throughout the city. Members of the police and fire departments, members of the armed forces and other city and local officials will pay each party a visit as well. The event will be a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and have a fun evening with friends.

Neighborhood Watch is one of the most popular crime prevention programs in the community and the National Night Out event has become an important tradition that brings groups together each year to give crime a "going

away party." This will be San Gabriel's 21st year participating in the event, which involves more than 38.1 million people nationwide.

National Night Out is intended to increase awareness of crime and drug prevention, generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts, strengthen neighborhood relationships and police-community partnerships and send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

For more information about joining Neighborhood Watch and participating in this year's National Night Out event, contact Stacy Gutierrez at the San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office at 626.308.2846 or SG551@sgpd.com.

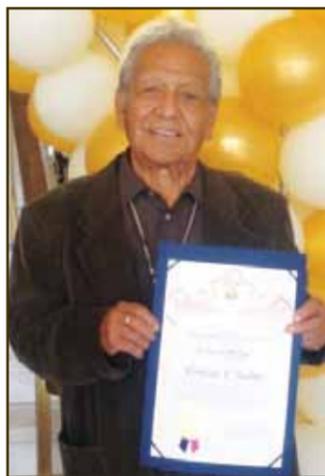
Outstanding Older American recognized

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors honored San Gabriel resident Ernest Salas at the 50th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Awards on May 21.

Salas received the award for his leadership and dedication to the San Gabriel community. He has spent many years involved with the Kizh Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians and is currently their spiritual leader. Salas has spent countless hours sharing his knowledge of Native American artifacts and the history of San Gabriel with youths in the community, visiting museums, participating in city events and visiting San Gabriel schools.

Salas was also named the 2015 Outstanding Older American by the San Gabriel City Council on April 21. As part of that honor, Salas served as grand marshal for the annual San Gabriel 4th of July Parade this year.

For more information on older adult programs, contact Recreation Coordinator James Lara at 626.308.2875 or jlara@sgch.org.



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