



# City of EL MONTE

SUMMER 2015

## El Monte Continues Tough Stance on Illegal Fireworks



All Legal Fireworks will Contain this seal from the State Fire Marshal

The City of El Monte wants all residents to know that using or possessing dangerous illegal fireworks will not be tolerated this Fourth of July and will result in fines, or possible arrest.

The City will continue strict enforcement of an ordinance passed by the City Council in 2013 that issues an immediate \$1,000 fine to those caught using illegal fireworks. The ordinance will also make property owners liable for illegal fireworks used on their property, as well as parents whose children are caught violating the new rules. Should offenders not pay their citations, a lien will be placed on their property taxes and the City will receive payment at that time.

## El Monte will also be stepping up code enforcement of trash and debris violations after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

The City encourages residents to support local nonprofits by purchasing Safe and Sane fireworks at various firework stands throughout El Monte. Many local nonprofits count on the stands to serve as a major fundraiser for their organizations.

Over the past few years, there has been overwhelming community concern over the use of illegal fireworks, which has led to serious injuries, property fires and an overburdened El Monte Police Department. Last year, the El Monte Police Department confiscated more than 46 tons of illegal fireworks during 41 sting operations in several cities; resulting in 45 felony arrests.

Anybody currently in possession of illegal fireworks can turn them in, no questions asked, at any local fire station.

Any use, possession or sale of illegal fireworks can be reported to the El Monte Police Department at (626) 580-2100.

**Tips that lead to police enforcement of illegal fireworks will be rewarded with a \$50 gift card.**



## City Hosts Job Fair to Put El Monte Residents Back to Work



Calling all job seekers! Join the City at the Annual El Monte Free Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, June 19 at the Grace T. Black Auditorium (3130 Tyler Avenue, El Monte, CA).

One of the largest job fairs in the San Gabriel Valley, the El Monte Free Job Fair will be a one-stop venue with more than 50 employers ready to hire. Organizers estimate that there will be thousands of jobs ready to be filled and several Fortune 200 companies will be in attendance. Last year's successful event attracted more than 3,000 participants.

For more information, please contact the City of El Monte Administration Office at (626) 580-2001.

# Join Us for the 2015 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8**

Refreshments: 5:30 p.m. | Program: 6:30 p.m.

Grace Black Auditorium | 3130 Tyler Avenue, El Monte

PRSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
El Monte, CA  
PERMIT #442

**POSTAL PATRON**

El Monte CITY HALL  
11333 Valley Blvd.  
El Monte, CA 91731



## El Monte Hires New City Manager



The City Council appointed long-time Assistant City Manager, Jesus Gomez, to serve as El Monte's new City Manager. The decision was made at a special City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 26.

"El Monte is a city that is rich with family-oriented tradition, steeped in community pride, and is experiencing an unprecedented amount of development investment," Gomez said. "I look forward to continuing to implement the Council's vision for El Monte, working closely with the community to ensure El Monte continues to thrive."

Gomez has served the El Monte community since November 2009, and was appointed to the position of Assistant City Manager in 2010. Under his oversight of the City's economic development plan, El Monte has been able to attract more than \$800 million in new development projects, investments that include a new Hilton Garden Inn hotel, the Santa Fe Trail Plaza retail center, the Garvey Square mixed-use development, and the Gateway Project, a 14-acre mixed-use development adjacent to the El Monte Bus Station and the historic Downtown El Monte area.



## Your City at Your Service

**The City is dedicated to providing first rate service to all residents.** If you need to report property in disrepair, including overgrown weeds, call El Monte Code Enforcement at (626) 580-2080, email [CodeEnforcement@elmonteca.gov](mailto:CodeEnforcement@elmonteca.gov) or submit a request through the City's ELMO system online.

Summer months are best spent outdoors and we hope this summer will find you at one of the City's 10 community parks. To report a necessary repair at any City park, please call (626) 580-2250.

Crime in El Monte is decreasing thanks in part to a team of dedicated citizen volunteers. We need your help to keep El Monte safe and crime down. To report any suspicious activities, call (626) 580-2100.



## Community Honors Fallen Soldiers at Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

The community celebrated the memories of our Country's fallen soldiers at the City's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 25. The ceremony, held at Tony Arceo Memorial Park, was in honor of the men, women and families of those who served our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice in protecting our freedom.

The event featured keynote remarks by US Army Captain Joseph P. Davis. The ceremony also included a tribute to POWs and MIAs, the presentation of a Memorial Day wreath, a 21-Gun Salute and a performance of "Taps."



## Residents Encouraged to Become Civically Engaged by Applying for City Commissions

The City Council encourages all residents to become civically engaged in the community and one of the best ways to do that is to serve as a City Commissioner!

Current City Commissions include: the Community Affairs Commission; the Cultural Affairs Commission; the Planning Commission and the Veterans and Homeless Affairs Commission. Each Commission will be composed of 10 members.

Residents interested in serving on one of the City's commissions are encouraged to fill out and submit an application, which can be found and downloaded from the City's official website located at [www.ci.el-monte.ca.us](http://www.ci.el-monte.ca.us). Residents can also pick up an application at El Monte City Hall or contact City staff for the application.

No person may serve on more than one commission at the same time.

For more information, or to request an application, call (626) 580-2001.

## Construction Begins on Garvey Media Center in El Monte Five-Story Project to Serve as Catalyst for Redevelopment in Area

The City, joined by representatives from developer Asia Pacific California Inc. and residents, broke ground on the Garvey Media Center on Thursday, April 2, 2015. The development, located at 9133 Garvey Avenue, will encompass approximately 98,000 square feet of floor area and will be home to a brand new five-story professional office building, a print shop and a warehouse.

The glass-adorned building will serve as the new corporate headquarters for Asia Pacific California Inc., a newspaper publisher serving California. The property will also feature Chinese-inspired gardens, a koi pond and a tea house. The project is estimated to create approximately 350 construction jobs and 170 full-time jobs. Construction will be completed by the end of 2017.



The proposed development project aligns with the City's vision to transition the Flair Business Park into a first-class professional office district. The City's goal is to attract businesses that build on the City's emerging financial and trade sector, international business with Pacific Rim connections, and other specialty niche markets.

# El Monte Promise Foundation Launches Scholars Savings Program to Help Students Afford College

The El Monte Promise Foundation launched the Scholars Savings Program to help local students afford college.

The Scholars Savings Program is an opportunity for families to become engaged in financing their children's pursuit of higher education by opening a 529 college savings account. Students in grades one through four will be eligible to receive an incentive donation with each monthly deposit that their families make.

During the launch event, Alejandra Ceja, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, praised the commitment of local educators and community members to their children's future.

"El Monte is a shining example of what other communities need to do across the country to make sure that other students in other communities have the same access to college," Ceja said. "We want other community leaders to step up to the plate and answer our call to action. We need more communities like El Monte to invest in education."

The Promise Foundation works closely with partners and the community to help students open Scholars Savings Accounts because studies show a child with a college savings account in their name is 7 times more likely to go to college. Additionally, El Monte City School District and Mountain View School District will implement financial literacy education standards, which are aligned with the Common Core State Standards, to reinforce the importance of saving for college.

For more information on the El Monte Promise Foundation services or to donate, please visit [www.promisenow.org](http://www.promisenow.org) or contact the Project Manager Christina Davila at 626-782-2753.



# Take Advantage of FREE Bulky Item Pick Up



Please keep our neighborhoods, streets, and alleys free of unwanted furniture, appliances, and other bulky items. If an item

won't fit in your trash container, you may contact your refuse service provider and request a bulky waste pick up.

Each single family home in El Monte is entitled to the FREE pick up and disposal of 20 bulky items each year. This service is provided by Valley Vista Services. Bulky waste pickups take place on trash day and must be scheduled at least one day in advance.

Items accepted include: sofas, tables, chairs, desks, mattresses, appliances, tires, tree branches (bundled), carpets (rolled and tied), and electronics.

Items not accepted include: construction debris, hazardous waste, and business waste.

To schedule a free bulky waste pick up, please call Valley Vista Services at (800) 442-6454.

## El Monte Events

### City Council and Successor Agency Meeting

**Date & Time:**  
Tuesday, June 16  
7 p.m.

**Location:**  
Council Chambers  
11333 Valley Blvd.  
El Monte, CA 91731

### El Monte Free Job Fair

**Date & Time:**  
Friday, June 19  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Location:**  
El Monte Community Center  
3130 N. Tyler Ave.  
El Monte, CA 91731

### El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce/DEMBA Annual Installation and Awards Dinner

**Date & Time:**  
Thursday, June 25

**Location:**  
Courtyard by Marriott  
Baldwin Park Towne Center  
Baldwin Park, CA 91706

### Family Adventure Shuttle Travels to Santa Fe Dam

**Date & Time:**  
Saturday, June 27  
10 a.m. Departure – 4:30 p.m. Return  
\$6 per person

**Location:**  
El Monte Trolley Station  
3650 Center Ave.  
El Monte, CA 91731

### City of El Monte Relay for Life

**Date & Time:**  
Saturday, June 27 – Sunday, June 28  
9 a.m. Opening Ceremony

**Location:**  
Mountain View High School  
2900 Parkway Drive  
El Monte, CA 91731

### City Council and Successor Agency Meeting

**Date & Time:**  
Tuesday, July 7  
7 p.m.

**Location:**  
Council Chambers  
11333 Valley Blvd.  
El Monte, CA 91731

### State of the City

**Date & Time:**  
Wednesday, July 8  
Refreshments: 5:30 p.m.  
Program: 6:30 p.m.

**Location:**  
Grace Black Auditorium  
3130 Tyler Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731

### Chalk it Up

**Date & Time:**  
Wednesday, July 15  
3:15-6:15 p.m.

**Location:**  
Arceo Park  
3125 North Tyler Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731

### City Council and Successor Agency Meeting

**Date & Time:**  
Tuesday, July 21  
7 p.m.

**Location:**  
Council Chambers  
11333 Valley Blvd.  
El Monte, CA 91731

### City Council and Successor Agency Meeting

**Date & Time:**  
Tuesday, August 4  
7 p.m.

**Location:**  
Council Chambers  
11333 Valley Blvd.  
El Monte, CA 91731

### City Council and Successor Agency Meeting

**Date & Time:**  
Tuesday, August 18  
7 p.m.

**Location:**  
Council Chambers  
11333 Valley Blvd.  
El Monte, CA 91731



# Make a SPLASH this Summer with El Monte's Aquatic Programs!

Monday, June 15 kicks off the Summer 2015 Aquatic Program in El Monte. This year's program will feature many fun activities the whole family will enjoy!

This year the Aquatic Center will be hosting three popular **Dive-in Movies**.

**Friday, June 26** Surf's Up | **Friday, July 24** Wreck it Ralph | **Friday, August 21** Big Hero 6

The fun starts at 7:30 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are \$5; or \$6 at the door. Tickets are expected to go fast!

The popular **Learn-to-Swim Program** features classes for ages 6 months and up and are great for all swimming levels. Class space is limited and pre-registration is strongly advised.

**Summer recreation swim** in the outdoor pool will be offered Monday through Friday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. through Aug. 21. Don't miss our family nights on Tuesday & Thursday nights from 7:30 to 9 p.m. All visitors must pay a \$2.50 entry fee (\$1.50 for those 17 and under).

Other aquatic activities include the Sharks Aquatics Club, Arrow Dive Club, lap swim, senior lap and exercise program, Learn to Dive lessons, and Aeroaquatics (land and aquatics program). A Junior Lifeguard Program will also be offered for \$175 and will take place from June 29-July 23.

For more information on any of the aquatic center programs, call (626) 580-2213.



## Don't Miss Summer Concerts in the Park

Join the City of El Monte for the **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Rockin' Wednesdays** concert series. We have a great line up this year to help keep music alive in El Monte. Each concert takes place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Arceo Park.

- July 15\*** Mariachi Divas  
\*Chalk it Up | 3:15-6:15 p.m.
- July 22** Fresh
- July 29** Hector Dominguez and Mariachi
- August 5\*** Steel Rod  
\*El Monte Police National Night Out

## Drop In for Free Summer Fun!

Starting Monday, June 22, the City will offer an exciting **FREE** five-week Summer Program at the following locations: Arceo, Gibson Mariposa, Lambert, Mt. View and Zamora parks and Cogswell School. Summer activities include: games; sports; arts & crafts; and weekly field trips Monday through Friday. Field trips offered for a nominal fee; see recreation site for costs. A free summer lunch program is available. For more information, please call (626) 580-2200.

## Officials Open El Monte's First Bike Lane

*Milestone celebrated with community bike ride during Earth Day festivities*

In conjunction with its Earth Day celebration, the City celebrated the grand opening of its first Class II bike lane with residents, visitors, and business stakeholders on Saturday, April 25. The highlight of the ceremony was a 1.3-mile community ride in the newly-installed bike lane that runs on Tyler Avenue, between Garvey Avenue on the south and Valley Boulevard on the north.

Also held at Arceo Park, the City's Earth Day celebration featured numerous eco-friendly activities including free paper shredding, e-waste collection, a donation drop-off to benefit homeless military veterans, a new/used book donation drop-off to benefit school age youth, a smart gardening workshop, t-shirt decorating/fashion show and fun games for kids.



## Emily Ishigaki Children's Day Parade & Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 17  
Begins at Valley Mall  
10:15 a.m.

### City Council

**André Quintero**  
Mayor

**Bart Patel**  
Mayor Pro Tem

**Juventino "J" Gomez**  
Councilman

**Norma Macias**  
Councilwoman

**Victoria Martinez**  
Councilwoman

**Jerry Velasco**  
City Treasurer

**Jonathan Hawes**  
City Clerk

### City Directory

#### City Hall Services

City Manager's Office..... (626) 580-2001  
City Council ..... (626) 580-2001  
City Attorney ..... (626) 580-2010

#### Economic Development

Administration ..... (626) 580-2090  
Code Enforcement ..... (626) 580-2080  
Economic Development  
Department ..... (626) 580-2249  
Valley Vista Services ..... (800) 442-6454

#### Finance

Administration ..... (626) 580-2023  
Business License..... (626) 580-2031  
Water ..... (626) 580-2024

#### Human Resources

Administration ..... (626) 580-2040

#### Parks & Recreation

Administration ..... (626) 580-2200  
Aquatic Center ..... (626) 580-2213  
Community &  
Senior Services ..... (626) 580-2210

#### Museums

El Monte Historical Society ..... (626) 580-2232  
La Historia ..... (626) 279-1954

#### Public Safety

Administration ..... (626) 580-2101  
Emergency Fire/Police..... 911  
Fire Department  
L.A. County ..... (626) 974-8371

Information/Patrol ..... (626) 580-2110  
Community Relations..... (626) 580-2186

#### Public Works

Administration ..... (626) 580-2058  
Transportation  
Division ..... (626) 580-2217  
MTA Bus Passes ..... (626) 580-2242  
Dial-a-Ride..... (626) 307-3224  
Trolley Information..... (626) 943-1200  
MTA Bus Information ..... (800) 266-6883

El Monte Library  
(Tyler/Asher) ..... (626) 444-9506  
Norwood Library  
(Peck/Emery) ..... (626) 443-3147  
Animal Control ..... (626) 962-3577