



CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

August 2021



CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Over the past several months residents have made great strides on getting vaccinated and we started to see the benefits of that work with the reopening of our economy and our ability to return to many of the activities, programs and services we enjoy. Even with all that good work, as a community, La Verne has still not reached the CDCs recommended threshold.

With the number of positive COVID cases on the rise and several mandates being reintroduced now it is as important as ever that our community gets vaccinated. There are still many locations where you can get your vaccination. It is the only way to get back to the normal way of living. Below is a link for those still in need of getting vaccinated.
[link](#)

Bob Russi, City Manager

To receive this newsletter automatically every month, please sign up for e-subscribe by clicking [here](#).

CALENDAR

August 7 - 6:30 PM
Movie in the Park-SCOOB!
Heritage Park

August 15 - 6:30 PM
Concert in the Park-Cold Duck
Heritage Park

August 16 - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
City Council Meeting via Live Stream
City Website at cityoflaverne.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL

At the July meetings, the City Council:

- Initiated procedures for establishing and implementing by-district voting for City Council elections
- Authorized an employment agreement for Anthony Ciotti to serve as Interim Fleet Manager
- Approved the purchase of a Type III fire engine
- Authorized MOUs with LVCEA, LVPOA, and LVPMMMA, and updated the benefits resolution for Middle Management, Professional, and Confidential Employees.
- Adopted a salary chart for full time and part time employees, effective July 4, 2021
- Agreed to reopen D Street to vehicular traffic
- Approved installation of a garden and peace pole at Mills Park in memory of Dr. Garbis Der-Yeghiayan
- Approved a Resolution stating a vote of no confidence in LA County District Attorney George Gascón

ADMINISTRATION

Tonight is National Night Out!

Join us for National Night Out, August 3rd from 4:30-7:30 PM at Las Flores Park, 3175 Bolling Avenue. FREE Kid's face painting and Fingerprinting. Also, games, a DJ, community vendors, and K9 Dino. Come out and help us "Stuff a Squad Car" with school supplies for the local kids in need. Your donations are appreciated.



La Verne Girls Little League Softball Advances to Regionals for the First Time in History!

On July 17, 2021 the La Verne Little League Softball Majors Team made history for La Verne and captured the Little League California State Champion Title earning themselves the opportunity of a lifetime to represent not only the city of La Verne but also represent Southern California. No matter what, they're winners here in La Verne!

Council Prioritizes Children's Health with Ban on Sales of Flavored Tobacco

On Monday, July 19th, the La Verne City Council unanimously passed an ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco within the City. Flavored tobacco has been shown to increase the likelihood that someone, especially children, will try tobacco products and remain long-term users. In fact, 81% of minors and 86% of young adults who have used a tobacco product report that their first tobacco product was flavored. The new La Verne ordinance also formally expands the definition of "smoking" to include electronic smoking devices and vaping devices.

D Street Reopens to Traffic

With stores and restaurants at full capacity as currently allowed by the County/State and the impending return of University La Verne students to campus, the La Verne City Council unanimously decided to reopen D Street for the benefit of its various storeowners and residents on Thursday, July 22nd. Restaurants may still request the extended use of their sidewalk and parking areas for continued outdoor dining.

The City acknowledges the ever evolving COVID-19 situation and associated health and safety restrictions from the County of Los Angeles and California Governor, and so we will remain adaptable in an effort to continue to support and help our local businesses thrive.

White Avenue Undergrounding

Throughout the rest of the year, the City will be working to place overhead utility lines on White Avenue between Cobblestone Lane and the Metro tracks underground to mitigate any potential fire hazards as well as keep our City looking clean.

New Finance Director Hired

Please join us in welcoming Marla Pendleton as the City's new Finance Director! Marla has numerous years of municipal financial experience, having previously worked for the County of Riverside and the cities of Palm Springs and Lawndale. We are confident she will serve the community well and look forward to her bringing her unique insights and skills to this role.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Summer Concerts in the Park Program for August!

The La Verne Heritage Foundation and the City of La Verne are proud to announce that they are bringing back FREE Summer Concerts in the Park series on Sundays beginning on August 1st with the Answer and on August 15th with Cold Duck. The community is invited to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and their appetite to listen to some music, eat some tasty treats, and relax under the stars in the warm summer air. The concerts will be held at Heritage Park (5001 Via De Mansion) beginning at 6:30 PM

Movie Night at the Park

Join the La Verne Police Officers Association and the Community Services Department on Saturday, August 7th at 6:30 PM at Heritage Park (5001 Via De Mansion) where we'll be showing **SCOOB!** The movie will start at approximately 8:15 PM. For more information, contact the Community Services Department at 909-596-8700.

Recreation Swim is back!

The Community Services Department is bringing back Recreation Swim starting on Friday, July 16th. Recreation Swim will run every Friday from 2:00-4:00 PM through August 20th. The cost is \$4.00 per person. Please contact the Community Services Department if you have any questions.



Senior Lunch Program

Our senior curbside lunch program will shift to a walk-in program (still pickup only) beginning Thursday, August 26th. Seniors will have to come into the Community Center to pick up their weekly meals versus driving up to the front doors. Moving to a walk-in lunch program will allow staff to open the Center to other programs and classes. The County does not plan on returning to a congregate meal format until the end of the year.

Excursions

The City of La Verne will restart its City excursions this September! The City's first trip will take you to BOTH the Sawdust Arts Festival and Pageant of the Masters. The Sawdust Festival features the art of 168 Laguna Beach artists and makers in an eclectic handcrafted outdoor village where visitors can enjoy shopping, music, art and much more. Then it's off to the Festival Art Show before the Pageant where you can create art in the workshops,

dine and enjoy a live concert! The Pageant of the Masters show starts at 8:30 PM and is a 90-minute theatrical performance where famous works of art are brought to life onstage, complete with music by a full orchestra! Register online by visiting: [excursions](#)

Community Center AND Veterans Hall Reopening

The Community Center is currently open Monday-Wednesday from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM and Friday from 11:30 AM to 4:00 PM. These hours are designated for those participating in classes, meetings, events, or Friday Bingo.

We have welcomed Jazzercise, Woodcarvers, and Bridge back thus far but look forward to expanding the classes and services we offer in the coming months. There is a new check-in process upon arrival at the Community Center that requires anyone entering the building to sign in. Veterans Hall is now open for gymnastics classes during the week. Masks are required per County guidelines.

Mt. SAC senior classes will begin the week of August 23rd, and we will then update our hours of operation to Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM and Fridays from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. At Veterans Hall we have gymnastic classes and VFW meetings with rentals also beginning on the weekends in August.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Design Award: Interior Design- MJ's One Stop Barbershop

MJ's is a local La Verne barber that was founded by Majed Jajieh. As a child Majed always dreamed about owning his own business, and at 25, he enrolled into barber school with the intentions of opening up his own barber shop. He eventually achieved his dreams and opened up two barbershops, one in Covina and the other in Azusa. Majed decided to open a third location here in La Verne because of its close proximity to his son's elementary school. The concept for his interior design stemmed from his other two locations and his goal to design a shop that La Verne residents would love and appreciate when they visit.

Congratulations!



Planning Commission Vacancy

The City of La Verne is looking to fill an unscheduled vacancy on the City's Planning Commission for the term running through June 2022. The Planning Commission is made up of five members who are appointed by the City Council and acts as an advisory body to the City Council. The vacancy notice can be found here: [vacancy notice](#)

Commission members provide recommendations concerning conservation, land use, recreation, streets and highways, transportation, public services, facilities, public buildings, community design, housing and tree planting to name a few. Apply online at cityoflaverne.org/csapplication by Thursday, August 12th at 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Basic Fire Safety

La Verne Fire wants to remind you to install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Smoke detectors should be inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Have a fire escape plan with your family in the event of a fire and practice the plan twice a year. Remember, if a fire occurs in your home, GET OUT, STAY OUT, and CALL 911.

What is the most important fire rule?

Get down, get low, get out! Smoke is poisonous; get underneath it on your hands and knees, and crawl to the nearest safe exit. Shut the doors behind you to stop the spread of fire and smoke. Shout "Fire! Fire!"

Ways to prevent fire incidents:

- Avoid unattended or careless use of candles.
- Keep BBQ grills at least 10 feet from the house.
- Do not disable smoke or CO detectors.
- Do not smoke indoors.
- Do not leave your cooking unattended.



Teach kids about fire safety:

- Teach children about smoke detectors: Why they are installed, how they work, and the sound that they make.
- Plan escape routes.
- Practice opening windows.
- Use escape ladders.
- Touch doors and check for heat before opening.
- Use your hands, not your eyes.
- Stop, drop and roll.

Green Light Given to Critical Fire and Emergency Services Study

City Council authorized the execution of an agreement with AP Triton to provide a Standards of Cover and Community Risk Analysis (SOC/CRA) on the City's fire and emergency medical services. This comprehensive study will provide essential data and insights that will assist City leaders in determining next steps for the La Verne Fire Department. Learn more: cityoflaverne

PUBLIC WORKS

Gold Line Street Closures Notices – D Street



Foothill Gold Line

-Glendora to Pomona-

KIEWIT-PARSONS, A JV

NOTICE: Full Street Closure

D ST. AT RAILROAD CROSSING NORTH OF ARROW HWY (CITY OF LA VERNE)

AUGUST 9 - NOVEMBER 1, 2021 (REVISED DATES)

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Crews will be rebuilding the railroad crossing on D St. north of Arrow Hwy., (La Verne), as part of the 9.1-mile Foothill Gold Line light rail project. Construction activities include underground utility work, median construction, new track installation, roadway paving, new curb & gutter and the construction of the right turn pocket from westbound Arrow Hwy. to northbound D St. This work requires a **full closure of D St. at the railroad crossing for approximately 3 months**. NOTE: Crews will be returning to D St. to finalize the crossing for two weeks during the first quarter of 2022.

WHEN

Beginning Monday, August 9th and continuing daily thru November 1st, 2021, D St. will be fully closed to all traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) at the railroad crossing 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Arrow Hwy. (just south of the crossing) and Bonita Ave. (north of the crossing) will remain open and accessible by way of detour routes, see map below.

- Crews plan to work daily from 6:00 AM - 11:00 PM. Overnight work and Sunday shifts may also be required.

TRAFFIC ADVISORIES

- D St. will be fully closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic at the railroad crossing just north of Arrow Hwy. and south of 2nd St.
- Access to homes and businesses on D St. within the closure area north and south of the railroad crossing will be maintained at all times, as well as access to the University of La Verne, Old Town, 1st St., 2nd St.

PLAN YOUR ROUTE AND BE PREPARED

- A detour route (see map below) will be in place during the closure and signage will be posted to direct motorists and pedestrians. Please follow detour signs.
 - ✓ D St. will be fully closed to all traffic at the railroad crossing between Arrow Hwy. and 2nd St.
 - ✓ E St. (northbound and southbound) will serve as the main detour route, see details below.
 - ✓ Arrow Hwy. (eastbound and westbound) will remain open to thru traffic with reduced lanes.
 - ✓ Bonita Ave. (eastbound and westbound) will remain open to all traffic.

NOTE TO RESIDENTS /

BUSINESS OWNERS

- Noise from construction equipment will be produced near the active work zones.
- Bus stops may be temporarily relocated, for more information:
 - Foothill Transit Bus: (800) RIDE-INFO/ (800) 743-3463 or foothilltransit.org
 - Metro Bus: (323) GO-METRO/323) 466-3876 or www.metro.net



STAY SAFE

Please obey all posted construction signs and do not enter the construction work zone.
Para información en español por favor llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a (626) 513-5788.

QUESTIONS?

Project Construction Questions Hotline: (626) 513-5788 Email: CommunityRelations@Kiewit-Parsons.com
General Project Questions: (626) 471-9050 Email: PublicAffairs@Foothillgoldline.org

Stay ahead of construction, sign up for alerts: www.foothillgoldline.org

*Construction schedules are subject to change for various reasons, including, but not limited to, weather conditions and unforeseen delays.

E Street-Closure Notice



Foothill Gold Line

-Glendora to Pomona-

KIEWIT-PARSONS, A JV

NOTICE: Full Street Closure

E ST. AT RAILROAD CROSSING (CITY OF LA VERNE)

APRIL 12 - AUGUST 9, 2021 (EXTENDED)

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Crews will be fully rebuilding the railroad crossing on E St. north of Arrow Hwy., (La Verne), as part of the 9.1-mile Foothill Gold Line light rail project. This work requires **a full closure of E St. at the railroad crossing for approximately 4 months** which includes underground utility protections and relocations performed by Walnut Valley Water District & Puente Basin Water Agency.

WHEN

Beginning Monday, April 12th and continuing daily thru August 9th, 2021, E St. will be fully closed to all traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) at the railroad crossing 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Arrow Hwy. (just south of the crossing) and Bonita Ave. (north of the crossing) will remain open and accessible by way of detour routes, see map below.

- Crews plan to work daily from 7:00 AM - 12:00 AM. Overnight work and Sunday shifts may also be required.

TRAFFIC ADVISORIES

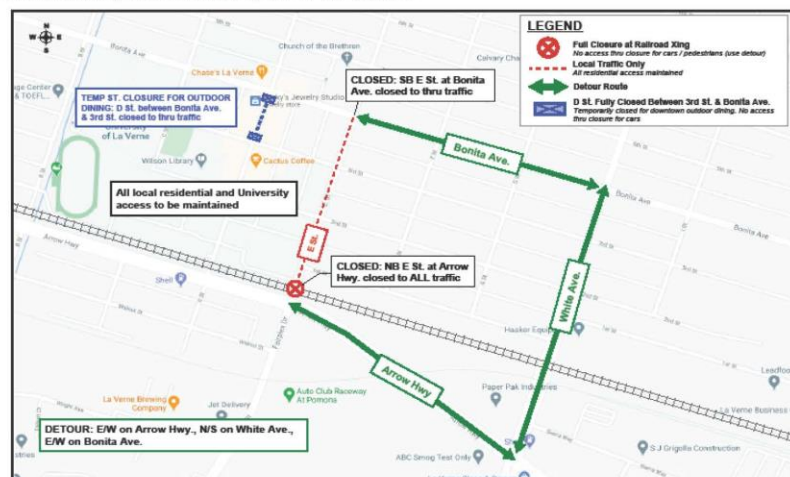
- E St. will be fully closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic at the railroad crossing just north of Arrow Hwy..
- Access to homes and businesses on E St. within the closure area north and south of the railroad crossing will be maintained at all times, as well as access to the University of La Verne, 1st St., 2nd St., and 3rd St.

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 - ✓ E St. will be fully closed to all traffic at the railroad crossing between Arrow Hwy. and Bonita Ave.
 - ✓ White Ave. (northbound and southbound) will serve as the main detour route, see details below.
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Old Timer's Potluck Picnic

Join us on Saturday, August 28th at 5:00 PM at Las Flores Park, 3175 Bolling Ave. Look for us under the trees at the Evelyn Hollinger Memorial redwood grove behind the aquatic center. Bring something to eat & share! [Click here](#) to visit the historical society website for additional information.

LIBRARY

Select In-person Services

The La Verne Library has reopened for select in-person services including book checkout, public computer usage for up to 1 hour and free Wi-Fi. The Library is open on:

- Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- Closed Sunday and Monday

For more information, please visit LACountyLibrary.org/La-Verne-Library

