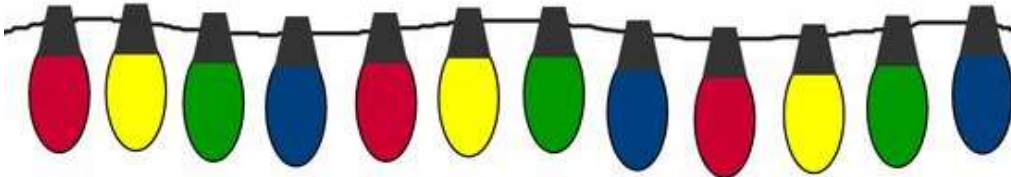




CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2021



Happy Holidays!

CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays to our residents and business owners!

As part of the countdown to Christmas, the 22nd Annual Winter Wonderland event will be on Saturday, December 11th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Heritage Park. It's the one day a year that children and families can enjoy snow in La Verne!

And of course, Santa will make his annual tour through the neighborhoods of La Verne beginning at 7:00 AM on Christmas morning (December 25). This year, volunteers will bring back the tradition of distributing candy bags to each home on Christmas morning.

We hope you enjoy the City's December festivities, and wish you a safe and joyous holiday.

All the best,

Bob Russi, City Manager

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

CALENDAR

December 11 - 9:00-1:00 PM
Winter Wonderland,
Heritage Park

December 20 - 6:30 PM
City Council Meeting, in-person
and via Live Stream
City Website at cityoflaverne.org

December 27 - Holiday observed
City Hall, City Yard, and Community
Center closed.

December 28 - 6:30 PM
Youth & Family Action Committee
*Meeting via the City's YouTube
channel at*
www.cityoflaverne.org/stream.

**January 3, 2022 - City Council
Meeting Cancelled**

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL

At the November meetings, the City Council:

- Recognized the families of La Verne’s military members, highlighting the service of Thomas J. Lopez, Army Specialist
- Recognized four Eagle Scout projects in La Verne
- Presented a proclamation declaring November 2021 as Native American Heritage Month
- Approved position changes in the Fire Department, including a temporary Administrative Captain assignment and an Ambulance Operator classification
- Approved an ordinance establishing five City Council districts for a by-district electoral system

ADMINISTRATION

Council Adopts District Map for June 2022 Election



ADOPTED COUNCIL DISTRICT MAP

June 2022 Election
Districts 1, 3 & 4

March 2024 Election
Districts 2 & 5

Learn More
MapLaVerne.org/
Selected-Map

The City Council held their fourth districting hearing on November 15th, where they adopted Ordinance No. 1106 and 1107, establishing a five council district electoral system. Once the ordinances have been codified, the City will be sending out notices alerting voters of the changes.

Learn more about the City's new electoral process here: june2022election

Special December Hours – City Hall and Community Center

City Hall and the Community Center will be closed on Monday, December 27th in observance of the Holiday. City Hall will be open normal operating hours, 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM, from December 28th through the New Year. On December 23rd and December 30th, the Community Center will only be open for senior curbside meals. On those dates, the Center’s hours will be from 8:00 AM-12:30 PM.

Gold Line Long Term Street Closures – A Street & White Avenue

A Street - Closure

Crews from the Foothill Gold Line will be rebuilding the railroad crossing on A Street north of Arrow Highway as part of the 9.1-mile Foothill Gold Line light rail project. Work began on Monday, November 22nd and will continue daily through March 22, 2022 from 6:00 AM to 11:00 PM. See notice below for route change information.



Foothill Gold Line

-Glendora to Pomona-

NOTICE: Full Street Closure

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

NOVEMBER 22, 2021 - MARCH 22, 2022

KIEWIT-PARSONS, A JV

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Crews will be fully rebuilding the railroad crossing on A St. north of Arrow Hwy in the city of 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 A St. All of this work requires a **full closure of A St. at the railroad crossing for approximately 4 months**. NOTE: The duration of the closure is due to KPJV replacing a City of La Verne sewer line.

WHEN

Monday, November 22, 2021 and continuing daily thru March 22, 2022, A St. north of Arrow Hwy, 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 2nd St. (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

- A St. will be fully closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic at the railroad crossing north of Arrow Hwy.
- Access to homes on A St. within the closure area will be maintained at all times, as well as access to 1st St. and 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.
 - A St. will be fully closed to all traffic at the railroad crossing between Arrow Hwy and 2nd St.
 - Wheeler Ave. (northbound and southbound) will serve as the main detour route, see details below.
 - Arrow Hwy (eastbound and westbound) will remain open to all traffic.
 - 2nd St. (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.



LEGEND

- Full Closure at Railroad Crossing: No access this closure for southbound lanes through
- Local Traffic Only: All residential access maintained
- Detour Route: Green arrows

DETOUR: EW on Arrow Hwy., NS on Wheeler Ave., EW on 2nd St.

CLOSED: SW A St. at 2nd St. closed to thru traffic.

CLOSED: NS A St. at Arrow Hwy. closed to ALL traffic.

All local residential access to be maintained.

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.

White Avenue - Closure

Crews will be rebuilding the railroad crossing on White Avenue north of Arrow Highway as part of the 9.1 mile light rail project. Southern California Edison, Frontier communications, and SoCal Gas (third party utility groups) will be completing their required work at the railroad crossing during this closure. This work requires a full closure of White Avenue at the railroad crossing for approximately 5 months. Work began on December 6th and will continue daily through April 30, 2022. See notice below for route change information.



Foothill Gold Line

-Glendora to Pomona-

NOTICE: Full Street Closure

WHITE AVE. AT RAILROAD CROSSING NORTH OF ARROW HIGHWAY (CITY OF LA VERNE)
DECEMBER 6, 2021 - APRIL 30, 2022

KIEWIT-PARSONS, A JV

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Crews will be rebuilding the railroad crossing on White Ave. north of Arrow Hwy. in the city of 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, and new curb & gutter. Additionally, Southern California Edison, Frontier Communications and SoCal Gas (third party utility groups) will be completing their required work at the railroad crossing during this closure. **This work requires a full closure of White Ave. at the railroad crossing for approximately 5 months.**

WHEN

Beginning Monday, December 6, 2021 and continuing daily thru April 30, 2022, White Ave. will be fully closed to all traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) at the railroad crossing north of Arrow Hwy. 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Arrow Hwy. (south of the crossing) and Foothill Blvd. (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

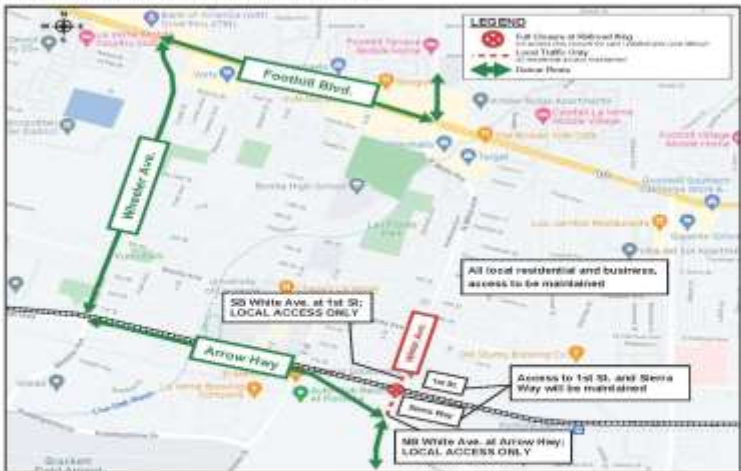
- White Ave. will be fully closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic at the railroad crossing between Arrow Hwy. and 1st St.
- Access to homes and businesses on White Ave. within the closure area north and south of the railroad crossing will be maintained at all times, as will access to 1st St. north of the crossing and Sierra Way south of the crossing.

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.
 - ✓ White Ave. will be fully closed to all traffic at the railroad crossing between Arrow Hwy. and 1st St.
 - ✓ Wheeler Ave. (northbound and southbound) will serve as the main detour route, see details below.
 - ✓ Arrow Hwy. (eastbound and westbound) will remain open to thru traffic.
 - ✓ Foothill Blvd. (eastbound and westbound) will remain open to thru traffic.

NOTE TO RESIDENTS / BUSINESS OWNERS

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

ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act

On Monday, December 6th, City Council held a study session to discuss the eligible uses and City plan to expend the \$7.6 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund allocation. City Council supported the recommendation to allocate \$3.1 million to address the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 and serve the hardest hit communities and families. This includes small business grants and business assistance (\$1.3 million); outdoor recreation improvements to promote healthy childhood environment (\$1 million); housing rehabilitation (\$500 thousand); and homeless, outreach and diversion programs (\$300 thousand). The \$2 million investment in City water infrastructure was supported by Council, in addition to the \$2.5 million to support one-time government capital improvement projects and programs. Council requested staff to explore other funding sources for capital projects and spending some of the ARPA allocation to provide premium pay to City staff, including police and fire, for their much appreciated service during the pandemic.

Santa Came to Old Town

The Holiday Stroll returned to Old Town on Saturday, December 4th with photo opportunities with Santa, the tree lighting, caroling, and a reading of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. Many of the Old Town merchants had special offers. Mark your calendars and plan on attending this special event in 2022.



City Hall Tree Lighting Ceremony

The annual City Tree Lighting Ceremony was held before the City Council meeting on December 6th. Mayor Hepburn illuminated the City tree in front of City Hall and spectators enjoyed carols sung by the Bonita High School Chamber Choir followed by a special visit from a very busy Santa Claus.

Also, the City Hall foyer Christmas tree was again decorated with ornaments made by preschoolers from the City's Veterans Hall and Oak Mesa preschools. This year's theme is "Oh, The Places You'll Go!" Thank you to our preschool teachers for their hard work planning ornaments and trimming the tree!



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Winter Wonderland



The 22nd Annual Winter Wonderland will take place on Saturday, December 11th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Heritage Park. Children can enjoy three snow runs, two snow play lands, art and crafts, a cup of hot cocoa and special treat at “Mrs. Claus’ Cozy Kitchen,” and of course, visit Santa at the gazebo! Don’t forget your cameras! Kids should dress for snow: mittens, gloves, boots, and jackets. Sliding saucers will be provided. There will also be food and refreshments for purchase and craft vendors for early Christmas shopping.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Spark of Love

La Verne Fire is gearing up with our Spark of Love 2021 Toy Drive. Gift card and toy donations will be accepted at any LVFD stations. SOL campaign will be November 14th–December 17th. All toys must be new and in its original packaging. LVFD will not be able to accept stuffed animals, unwrapped toys, or used toys. When making donations, please adhere to LA County Health Department and CDC guidelines by wearing a face mask when inside of the building and maintain proper social distancing.



Fire Chief Paves Way Forward for Fire Department and Station 3 Reopening

On Monday, November 8th, La Verne Fire Chief Christopher Nigg presented an overview of his assessments of the Fire Department’s operations as well as recommendations to help better serve the community. His recommendations include hiring 12 ambulance operators. Another aspect of this plan includes reclassifying firefighter positions to include new captain and engineer positions, and moving heavy firefighting apparatus closer to the City’s expansive wildfire threat. This would enable the City to safely reopen Fire Station 3 on Esperanza Drive with a paramedic fire engine while still utilizing the current number of firefighter personnel. Reclassifying the two positions will provide the Department with immediate succession planning and career growth depth within the organization. Fire Station 2 on Wheeler Avenue would remain staffed with a paramedic fire engine and Fire Station 1 on Third Street would be staffed with a paramedic quint ladder truck. This truck would service the majority of the City’s multi-level buildings, including the University of La Verne. Read more: [fireservicesupdate](#)

Mountain Lion Safety Tips

With mountain lions and other wildlife present in our beautiful foothill community, please keep the following safety tips in mind:

- 🌄 Do not walk pets at dusk or dawn
- 🔊 Make your presence known with loud noises
- 🐾 Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended
- 🚫 Do not approach a mountain lion or its cubs
- 🗣️ If a mountain lion behaves aggressively, wave your arms slowly and speak firmly in a loud voice

La Verne residents can report mountain lion encounters or incidents to the Inland Valley Humane Society & S.P.C.A. Emergency Dispatch at (909) 594-9858.

PUBLIC WORKS

Drought Update

On October 19th, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation expanding California's drought emergency to include all 58 counties in the state. This was due to California experiencing its second-driest year on record in addition to near-record low levels within the state's water storage reservoirs. This new proclamation encourages residents to voluntarily reduce water usage by 15% compared to 2020 water usage. Newsom also authorized California's water regulators to ban wasteful water use. Wasteful uses of potable water include:

- Washing sidewalks, driveways, buildings, structures, patios, parking lots, or other hard surfaced areas, except in cases where health and safety are at risk.
- Use that results in flooding or runoff in gutters or streets.
- Individual private washing of motor vehicles, except with the use of a positive shut-off nozzle.
- Irrigating turf and ornamental landscapes.
- Decorative fountains or the filling or topping-off of decorative lakes or ponds, with exceptions for those decorative fountains, lakes, or ponds which utilize recycled water during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall of at least ¼ inch of rain.
- Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians.
- Street cleaning or construction purposes, unless no other source of water or other method can be used or if necessary, to protect the health and safety of the public.



For water saving tips and current rebate offers, visit

www.socialwatersmart.com

www.bewaterwise.com

www.saveourwater.com

SB 1383

California state law SB 1383 becomes effective January 1, 2022. One of the law's requirements is that all properties in the state must have organics collection services.

Residential customers are required to place food waste (produce, dairy, bread, pasta, rice, grains, coffee grounds, meat, fish and poultry) material into the green bin, combining them with landscape trimmings.

Commercial property occupants with existing organics bins can continue organics recycling activities. Those who don't have organics recycling must sign up for service or obtain a waiver. To request an appointment for waiver assessment, email recycling@cityoflaverne.org. High food-generating businesses, as defined by the law, must participate in a food donation program and accompanying recordkeeping activities.

SB 1383 also requires cities to provide containers in certain colors for specified materials with labels for proper sorting, assess and ensure adequate capacity for organics recycling and food rescue operations, expand outreach and education, procure products that are made from processed organics, monitor contents of carts and bins for contamination, inspect eligible properties for compliance with container and signage requirements along with food donation program participation, enforce all aspects of the state law and to keep extensive records on all aspects of the program. Visit: [sb1383](#) for additional information.

Christmas Tree Recycling



Residents may recycle their trees during the first three weeks following Christmas on their scheduled trash collection day from **December 27th through January 10th**.

Trees will be collected at the curb and may be picked up by special trucks. After the three-week period, you may cut your tree and place the pieces in your green waste cart with the lid completely closed.

- Trees longer than six feet must be cut in half.
- Please remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments and tree stands.
- Flocked trees cannot be recycled. They will be picked up by the trash truck.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Tilt it Up!

If you're wondering what's going on down on White Avenue across from The Derby Room at Fairplex (formerly The Finish Line), big things are happening. An 83,000 s.f., four tenant, concrete tilt-up industrial building was recently approved by the City, with demolition of the existing structures underway. It is an exciting new economic use, and will greatly improve the streetscape along one of the city's most important gateway avenues. We expect that construction will begin after the first of the year!



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vintage Gifts and Music

Join the LVHS for a holiday gathering on December 11th from 2:00 -5:00 PM at Third & “G” Streets. The Bonita High School Band will perform at 4:45 PM. Join the fun and boost the band. Vintage keepsakes or stocking stuffers can be found at the Treasure tables. Refresh yourself with hot spiced cider and a cookie or two. Then stop by the baked goods table and purchase some sweet holiday treats to share. Visit the LVHS website at: [lvhswebsite](#) for more information and other events.

LIBRARY

Hours of Service

The 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

*Happy Holidays from the
City of La Verne!*

