

LA VERNE CITY COUNCIL



MAYOR
TIM HEPBURN
DISTRICT 4



MAYOR PRO-TEM
RICK CROSBY
DISTRICT 2



COUNCIL MEMBER
STEVE JOHNSON
DISTRICT 1



COUNCIL MEMBER
WENDY LAU
DISTRICT 5



COUNCIL MEMBER MESHAL
"KASH" KASHIFALGHITA
DISTRICT 3

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the January meeting, the City Council:

- Honored the 2022 Damien High School Water Polo team for their stellar season of 30 wins and 4 losses and for being crowned Baseline League Champions.
- Thanked the Hillcrest Community for their assistance with the Spark of Love Toy Drive.
- Appointed Council Member Meshal Kashifalghita to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Board.
- Proclaimed a local state of emergency regarding winter storm damages.
- Identified projects for the 2023-2024 Community Development Block Grant Program.

To see what else was discussed in the meetings, visit the City website to review the recent agendas and minutes as well as watch the video feeds. [Click here](#) to visit the website page.

ADMINISTRATION

2023 State of the City

On Monday, February 13th the La Verne Chamber of Commerce will host the State of the City where Mayor Tim Hepburn will summarize last years' accomplishments and provide a preview of the upcoming year. The presentation will be hosted at the University of La Verne Sara and Michael Abraham Campus Center from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Reserved seating for the event is not required, but highly preferred as seating is limited. Contact Leah Skinner from the La Verne Chamber of Commerce at (909) 593-5265 for reservations. Those who are unable to attend can watch the address on LVTV, where a recording will also be available on their YouTube channel.



Residents, City of La Verne partners, and community-based organizations gathered during a former State of the City.

Chamber of Commerce 2023 Scholarship

The La Verne Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications for their 2023 Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program encourages students to pursue higher education following high school. It is open to graduating seniors whose primary residence is La Verne who will be attending a vocational/technical school, a Community College or four-year college or university. The Chamber of Commerce will award multiple scholarships up to \$500 each. Applications must be submitted by 1:00 PM on March 31, 2023. Application information can be found on the Chamber's website or by [clicking here](#).



Property Tax Relief

In response to the recent rainstorm and flooding, the Los Angeles County Assessor's office is providing property tax relief for those who have a minimum damage of \$10,000 to their property. Those who are eligible for the tax relief will need to file a claim with the County Assessor by completing a [Misfortune & Calamity Relief](#) form within one year of the incident. To check on updates of the submitted claim, applicants can call the Disaster Relief Hotline at 213-974-8658.

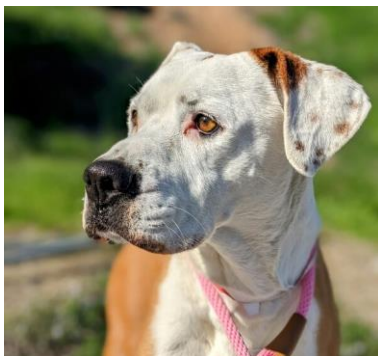
Point in Time Count

Earlier this month, the City hosted their annual Point-in-Time Homeless Count with the assistance of volunteers from the community. The count surveys how many sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness reside in the community. The survey results are sent to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which is utilized in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress. This process also helps the City plan services and programs to appropriately serve the needs of the unhoused population. During this year's count, 6 individuals were identified and 2 makeshift shelters.

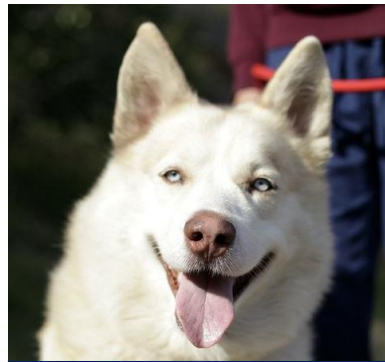


Furry Friends in Need of a Home

If you are considering adopting or fostering a new dog, visit the Inland Valley Humane Society! The Inland Valley Humane Society currently has hit critical capacity with over 150 dogs in their care and are out of space. Some of the available pets are shown below. To learn more about the foster care program, [click here](#). Call (909) 623-9777 for more information.



Sonia the American Bulldog



Roy the Siberian Husky

our kennels
are full.



Please consider adopting or
fostering to help make space for
animals in need.



LA County Economic Opportunity Grant Program

LA County's Department of Economic Opportunity is offering more than \$54 million in grants to small business and nonprofits. Grantees may be awarded between \$2,500 and \$25,000. Phase 1 is targeting microbusinesses who have been hit hardest by the pandemic. Microbusinesses are defined as those who have less than \$50,000 in annual gross revenue. Phase 2 will open the opportunity to all other small businesses and nonprofit organizations within LA County starting on February 23rd. All those who are interested should visit the Economic Opportunity Grant (EOG) Program website by [clicking here](#).

PUBLIC SAFETY

Strike Team's Return

Strike Team 1275C, led by Battalion Chief Robert Russell, was deployed to the Santa Barbara area for a few days to help with flooding, mudslides, and debris flows occurring because of the most recent heavy winter storms in the area. Our team performed damage assessment surveys, and area search and rescue duties with a regional USAR task force. Our Battalion Chief and 4 firefighters came home safely a few days later. We are honored to be able to help our fire service partners around the state when they call.



Learn More about our Volunteer Patrol Team



The City of La Verne formed the Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) Team in 1991 to assist the La Verne Police Department. This group assists with patrols, station tasks, and community activities including the You Are Not Alone (YANA) Program where RSVPs visit the homes of those who live alone on designated days and times. RSVPs play a key role in maintaining the safe community La Verne residents enjoy through their daily patrols and calls to the Police Department. RSVPs Dave Boscarino and Mike Medlock exemplified the importance of the volunteer patrol team in early 2022 as their quick response in summoning help for a juvenile in distress helped save his life.

If you are a La Verne resident 55 years or older and are interested in joining the RSVP team, contact the Police Department at (909) 596-1913 or pick up an application at the La Verne Police Department, 2061 Third Street. Applicants will need to pass an oral interview and background process, obtain approval from their doctor, pass the RSVP training course and attend the LVPD Citizens' Academy, and be willing to volunteer an average of 4 hours per week.

Expanding Communication

The La Verne Police Department has launched a new communication tool, SPIDR Tech, designed to keep the community informed when requesting police assistance and services. When reporting certain issues, callers will receive updates on responding officers, the status of the call, and other information to prepare for their arrival through text messages or email. In ongoing matters, case updates regarding investigations, filings, and closures will be sent.





Paw-trolling the Community

La Verne K9 Tupelo has started patrolling the community with her handler Officer Weinreb. Tupelo is a one-year-old blood hound that joined the team after receiving her training in Florida. Katie’s Pet Depo has graciously donated toys and other essentials for Tupelo to have a warm welcome to her new home at the station. For those who would like to donate, there is a donation box located inside of Katie’s Pet Depo. To learn more, visit the La Verne K-9 & Police Foundation’s website by [clicking here](#).

Coyote Management Plan

During the winter months, residents may see an increase in wildlife near their homes – including coyotes. To reduce the likelihood of coyotes straying onto your property, the first precaution to take is to clear the brush and dense weeds that they can hide in. Additionally, keep a close eye on pets and bring them in at night, if possible, and keep pet food tightly sealed or indoors. To learn more about precautions that can be taken, view the City of La Verne’s Coyote Management Plan by [clicking here](#).

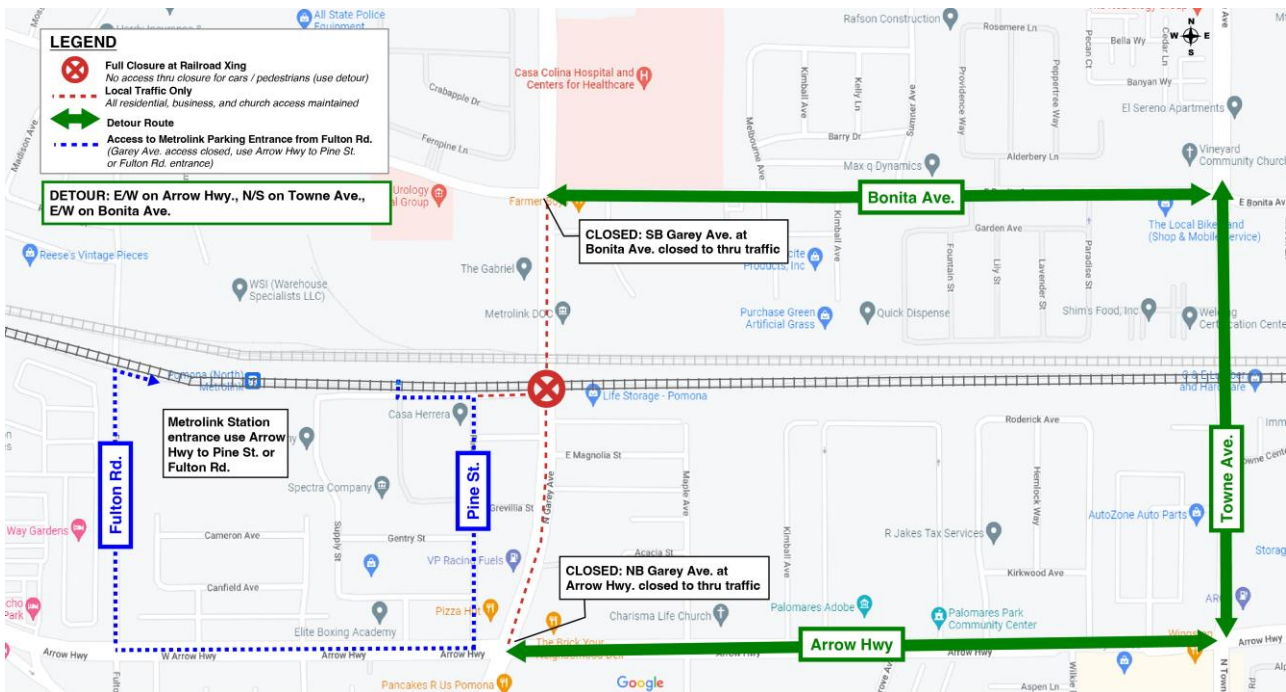


Coyote whistles are available at City Hall for pick up. The sound from the whistles will scare the coyote and push them back into wildlife areas. If you encounter a coyote that is posing a threat to people or pets, please call the Inland Valley Humane Society at (909) 623-9777 (8:00 AM to 5:30 PM) or (909) 594-9858 (for after hours). For effective tracking of coyotes in the region, sightings can also be inputted into the regional database by [clicking here](#).

PUBLIC WORKS

Garey Avenue Street Closure

Beginning February 1st, Garey Avenue will be closed for all traffic at the railroad crossing north of Arrow Highway for approximately 45 days. Refer to the map below for the planned detour route during the street closure.

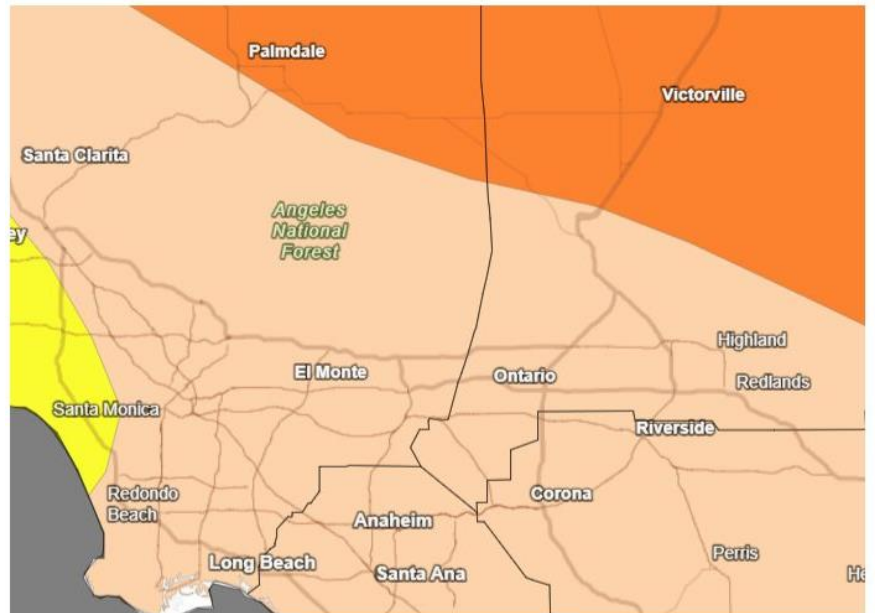


Drought Update

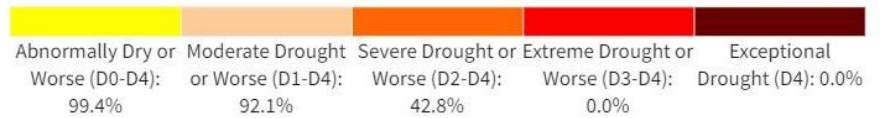
While the State has experienced a wet start to 2023, the current precipitation and flooding has not ended the current drought facing the City of La Verne. The National Integrated Drought Information System identifies the City of La Verne as under a moderate drought as of January 17, 2023 (view the map to the right for additional details).

The City continues to enforce an overall reduction of water consumption by 20% based on 2020 consumption rates. Residents are mandated to limit outdoor irrigation to one day per week for 8 minutes within the hours of 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM. Those who reside in Very High Fire Hazard Safety Zone Areas can water their landscapes more regularly to preserve the surrounding vegetation and therefore decrease the risk of wildfires, but consumption still needs to be reduced by 20%. To learn more about how to continue to conserve water, visit saveourwater.com. To learn more about the current drought and its impacts on the State of California, visit California Water Watch by [clicking here](#).

Current U.S. Drought Monitor Conditions for California: Current



U.S. Drought Monitor for CA



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA
Updates Weekly - 01/17/23

Drought.gov

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

La Verne General Plan

The City of La Verne continues to make progress on the comprehensive update to our General Plan; the last comprehensive update to the City's General Plan was completed in 1998 and this project will help ensure a successful and sustainable future for La Verne. The General Plan represents the community's view of its future, and it addresses issues that impact the entire City, such as how land is used, where buildings are built, the locations of roads and parks, safety, noise, and more.

CITY OF LA VERNE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE



On November 21, 2022, the La Verne City Council approved the City's 2021-2029 Housing Element Update and on December 21, 2022 the California State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) found the City's adopted Housing Element in full compliance with State Housing Law. As of January 2023, only half of the cities in Los Angeles County have a State-approved Housing Element. Several federal, state, and regional funding programs consider Housing Element compliance as an eligibility or ranking criteria to secure funding. With a compliant Housing Element, the City of La Verne now meets Housing Element requirements for these and other funding sources and can maintain local control of land use decisions. Now that the Housing Element is approved, the City looks forward to finalizing the update to the remaining General Plan Elements and completing the necessary environmental review. The General Plan and the associated Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the project will be made available for public review later this year and we encourage and welcome your feedback. To learn more about the project or to register your email address for future updates, please visit the project website at <https://laverne.generalplan.org/>.

AT&T Cell Tower

The Developmental Review Committee and the Planning Commission recently approved the new AT&T wireless telecommunications facility (cell tower) at the Emerald Center. The design is a fifty-five foot tall faux eucalyptus tree located behind the Big Lots. Once operational, AT&T customers should see an increase in the quality of their service reception.

Gold Line Update



The 9.1 mile Foothill Gold Line light rail project from Glendora to Pomona is about two-thirds complete as of the end of 2022 and the project remains on budget and on schedule for an early 2025 opening. To view the most recent construction highlights video, [click here](#). Throughout 2023, the remaining major construction is expected to be completed for the rail stations and tracks. To stay up to date with the Gold Line project, follow their “I Will Ride – Foothill Gold Line” Facebook page. [Click here to visit the page](#).

LA VERNE LIBRARY

Visit the Library Without Leaving Home

LA County Library Members can access free library resources including eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies and more! Students can also get virtual homework help, learn a language, and take online classes. To view the resources, [click here](#).

Smarty Pants Storytime

Enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills and having fun. Children ages 2-5 can attend this weekly story time on Fridays from 11:30 Am to 12:00 PM. To register, visit the following link: [click here](#).

Honoring African American and Black History Month

Join the La Verne Library in honoring African American and Black History month with their creative art lessons throughout the month. These in-person programs are free to the public and catered towards kids in the community. On Thursday, February 9th from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM teens aged 13 to 17 can draw self portraits in the creative style of Jean-Michel Basquiat. For kids aged 6 to 12, they can learn about artist Alma Thomas while creating a personal art piece inspired by her paintings on Wednesday, February 15th from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. To register for these programs, please [click here](#) to visit the La Verne Library website.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Sweetheart Dance for Those with Special Needs

The Community Center will be hosting a Sweetheart's Dance for individuals with special needs on Friday, February 10th from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM! Participants aged 13 and older are invited to enjoy music, refreshments, fun decorations, and a chance to party with their peers. The event is sponsored by the Order of the Alhambra and the City of La Verne. Tickets can be purchased at the Community Services office for \$6 or for \$7 at the door.

Congregate Meals

Starting in February, congregare meals will move from Tuesdays and Wednesdays to Wednesdays and Fridays. Hot nutritious lunches are served to Los Angeles County residents at 11:30 AM. Check-in begins at 9:30 AM and meals will be served on a first come, first serve basis. Anyone aged 60 years or over and their spouse, regardless of age, may attend the lunch program. A suggested donation of \$3 is greatly appreciated to help offset the cost of the meals.

City Hall Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM



City Contacts

City Hall – (909) 596-8726
Graffiti Removal – (909) 596-8787
Utility Bill Questions – (909) 596-8744
Zoning Questions – (909) 596-8706
Passport Services – (909) 596-8700
Recreation Services – (909) 596-8700
City Weed & Tree Removal – (909) 596-8741
Senior Center – (909) 596-8776
Police Department – (909) 596-1913

La Verne Website: cityoflaverne.org

Quick Links to City Website

City Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes
Public Records Request
Utility Bill Payments
Building Permits
Business License Process
Event Calendar
Program Registration

View Other Newsletters

Chamber of Commerce 1/3 & 1/17
Winter/Spring 2023 Recreation Guide
Conservation Corner
Senior

Have a request, concern, or general inquiry about the City of La Verne? Let us know by submitting a form on the following link: [click here!](#)

STAY IN THE LOOP!



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@LaVerneCity



@cityoflaverneca



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-la-verne>



City of La Verne



Text "91750" to 888777 for notifications during emergency situations including fires, earthquakes, closed roads, evacuation orders and other public safety concerns.

Subscribe to the
Newsletter



LA VERNE BRANCH LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY

Hours of Service

The library is now open the following hours:

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Thursdays through Saturdays 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- Closed Sundays and Mondays

We are committed to keeping our customers and staff safe during our in-person service hours. We ask that all customers follow the guidelines listed on our website:

<https://lacountylibrary.org/customer-expectations>.

To learn more about what the La Verne library has to offer, visit their website: <https://lacountylibrary.org/la-verne-library/>.

