



CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2024

City Manager's Message

Our City is at a pivotal moment as we embark on significant planning initiatives that will shape the future of our community for years to come. The General Plan update, which has been in the making for several years, is nearing completion. This process involved extensive workshops from 2017 to 2019, and the assessment of existing conditions, land use, environmental impacts, transportation needs, and much more. Community participation continued with a focus on the General Plan's Housing Element, up until its adoption by the City Council in November 2022. While community goals for the future of the City have not changed since 2019, technical studies have been updated and the Plan is scheduled to be presented to the Planning Commission on October 9 and to the City Council by the end of the year.

As we look forward to completing the General Plan, we are also preparing to launch our Strategic Planning process in 2025. This will be another crucial effort, and once again, we are counting on your participation to help guide our decisions. To kick off this process, we are conducting a community survey where we ask for your input on the current state of La Verne. Your feedback, combined with the insights of the City Council, will be instrumental in shaping the Strategic Plan, which will, in turn, influence our budgeting process over the next few years. Learn more on page 7 of this Newsletter.

We deeply value your perspective and look forward to working together to make La Verne an even better place to live, work, and play. Thank you for your continued commitment to our City's future.

Best,

Ken Domer

Ken Domer
City Manager



Picture of the Month



Fire Chief Nigg continued to provide timely updates to the La Verne community on social media regarding the Bridge Fire. At no time during its active progress was the Bridge Fire a threat to the La Verne Community.

Be the first to know City updates and news! Follow us on social media.



@CityofLaVerneca



@LaVerneCity



cityoflaverne.org/nextdoor



linkedin.com/company/city-of-la-verne



City of La Verne



Text "91750" to 888777 for Nixle updates

CITY OF LA VERNE CITY OF LA VERNE CITY OF LA VERNE

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, October 1 @ 9:00 AM

Development Review Committee
City Hall

Monday, October 7 @ 8:30 AM

Old Town La Verne Business
Improvement District Committee
Cafe Wang

Monday, October 7 @ 5:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers & via Live
Stream at cityoflaverne.org/live

Tuesday, October 8 @ 5:00 PM

Active Transportation Committee
City Hall

Tuesday, October 8 @ 6:00 PM

Ad Hoc Water & Sewer Rate Study
Committee
City Hall

Wednesday, October 9 @ 6:30 PM

Planning Commission Meeting
Council Chambers

Wednesday, October 16 @ 10:00 AM

Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
Community Center

Monday, October 21 @ 5:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers & via Live
Stream at cityoflaverne.org/live

Tuesday, October 29 @ 5:00 PM

Youth & Family Action Committee
Meeting
Council Chambers

The City of La Verne has numerous committees and commissions that consist of a board of La Verne residents and delegates from the City Council. They meet to discuss specialized topics focused on the City's development and maintaining the community we all enjoy. Meetings are open to the public and we encourage resident participation.

[Click here to learn more about our committees and commissions.](#)



Upcoming Events

Heritage Harvest Pumpkin Patch

OCTOBER 4 THROUGH OCTOBER 27

Join the La Verne Heritage Foundation for their annual pumpkin patch! There will be tractor pull rides, animals, pumpkins of every size, and great photo opportunities. The pumpkin patch is open Fridays from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM and on Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM.



5th Annual Vendor Faire with the La Verne Heritage Foundation

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 @ 3:00 PM

Join the Foundation for their 5th Annual Vendor Faire with over 40 vendors happy to share their wares and skills - just in time for early Christmas shopping! Food vendors, tractor pull rides, and music will be available.

Trunk or Treat

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 @ 5:00 PM

Inviting all trick-or-treaters to join us at our 4th Annual Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, October 12 from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM! Enjoy a fun-filled evening where kids ages 12 and under can safely trick-or-treat from creatively decorated vehicles and booths in the Community Center Parking Lot (3680 D Street). There will also be food and merchandise vendors and a DJ to keep the spooky vibes going!



Senior Movie Matinee - Hocus Pocus

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14 @ 12:30 PM

Come and enjoy a free viewing of Hocus Pocus, accompanied with light refreshments. The Community Center hosts Movie Matinees the second Monday of each month at 12:30 PM. Everyone in attendance is automatically entered into a raffle! Winners are announced at the end of each movie.



Upcoming Events

Taste of La Verne with the La Verne Chamber of Commerce

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 @ 5:30 PM

Join the La Verne Chamber of Commerce for their annual Taste of La Verne event! From 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM sample various appetizers, entrees, desserts, pastries and beverages from some of the area's finest restaurants, caterers, bakeries, and beverage companies! The event will be hosted at 2886 Metropolitan Place, the building behind Old Stump Brewing Co. [Click here to purchase tickets.](http://www.tasteoflaverne.com)



Halloween Hop For Those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 @ 5:00 PM

Get ready for a spooktacular night of fun at our Halloween Hop for those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities! Individuals age 13 and older are invited to join us on Friday, October 25 from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the La Verne Community Center for an evening filled with music, dancing, and light refreshments. Tickets are just \$6 pre-sale or \$7 cash at the door and can be purchased at the Community Services Office. Parents and guardians do not need to purchase a ticket. The event is hosted by the City of La Verne and the Order of the Alhambrians.



Pumpkin Patch Classic Car Show

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 @ 10:00 AM

Check out the beautiful display of classic cars at Heritage Park! Music, prizes, 50/50 drawing, food, hay rides, and antique farm equipment will all be part of the fun! Awards will be given to top cars. For more information, call Community Services at (909) 596- 8700.

Old Town La Verne Trick or Treating

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 @ 2:00 PM

Every year local merchants in Old Town La Verne host a safe, family-oriented, trick-or-treat candy walk for children on the afternoon of Halloween. For more information, please call City Hall at (909) 596-8706.



La Verne City Council

City Council Meeting Summation

At the September meetings, the City Council:

Proclaimed

- September 2024 National Preparedness Month, reminding residents to stay informed and be better equipped to handle emergencies; and

Hosted

- A joint study session with the Planning Commission regarding the General Plan Update and the Draft Environmental Impact Report;
- The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, who provided updates on their latest programs and informed the City Council on what's coming up in the next year;
- Fire Chief Nigg who gave an update on the Bridge Fire and the City's communication procedures;

Honored

- Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) members Marlou Faustini, Norm Faustini, Marv Weston, and Suzanne Swank for their years of dedicated service to the community;
- Police Department retirees Sergeant Weinreb and Management Analyst Dawn Finn for their dedicated service to the Police Department;

Approved

- The August 5 and September 3 City Council Meeting Minutes and Registers of Audited Demands;
- Year-end budget adjustments, the purchase of electronic surveillance collection system and maintenance agreement for LA Clear, the Incentive Program for Lateral entry Police Officers, and the contract for public safety building site improvements;
- The denial of 6 claims related to property conditions at 2118 and 2120 5th Street as they were late, the appointment of 5 residents to the Ad Hoc Water & Sewer Rate Study Committee, the salary schedule for full-time employees, and the professional services agreement with LSA Associates for the Hillcrest Gateway Project, a formal stance in support of Proposition 36, the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act;
- A lease agreement for the Warehouse Pizza outdoor patio, the appropriation of funds for the Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District Evaluation and Action Plan, a resolution ensuring the City can apply for Measure A funding, the conflict of interest code for City employees, and a class specification for Police Captain;
- A public hearing for October 7 regarding the tentative tract map for 500 Baseline Road, modifications to the City's Purchasing Policy in relation to federal procurement standards, the purchase agreement for 1816 and 1822 First Street utilizing Affordable Housing Funds, and a resolution approving the proclamation which declared a local state of emergency for the Bridge Fire; and

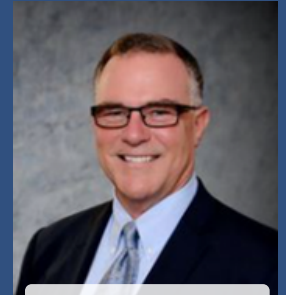
Adjourned

- In memory of Ernie Silva, a dedicated volunteer to the La Verne community and member of the La Verne Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

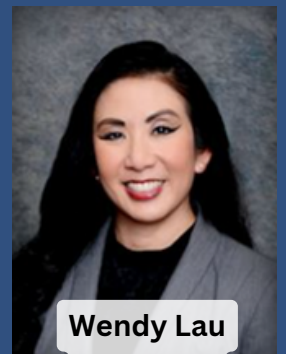
To see what else was discussed in the meetings, visit the City website at cityoflaverne.org/live to watch the video feeds of prior meetings and review the recent agendas and minutes.



Mayor Tim Hepburn
District 4



Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Johnson
District 1



Wendy Lau
District 5



Rick Crosby
District 2



Meshal "Kash" Kashifalghita
District 3

The City in Numbers

Below are highlights of services provided by City employees in August 2024.

Public Works Department



840

Square feet of graffiti removed



6.8

Thousand tons of materials collected by

Waste Management



264.5

Million gallons of water sold



297

Acres of city parks mowed



139

Water Service orders

Community Services Department



1,204

Participants involved in activities this month



92

Excursion Participants



60

Trail Trekkers Participants

Administration Department



1,119

Calls to the City Hall Main line



4

Public Meetings



14

Records Requests

Police Department



1,614

Calls for Service



219

Reports taken



31

Traffic Collisions



131

Homeless Calls

Fire Department



321

EMS calls



7

Fire-related calls



9

Motor vehicle accidents

Community Development Department

Department



12

Solar permits issued



52

Building permits issued



26

Electrical permits issued



17

Mechanical permits issued



9

Plumbing permits issued



54

Code Enforcement cases filed



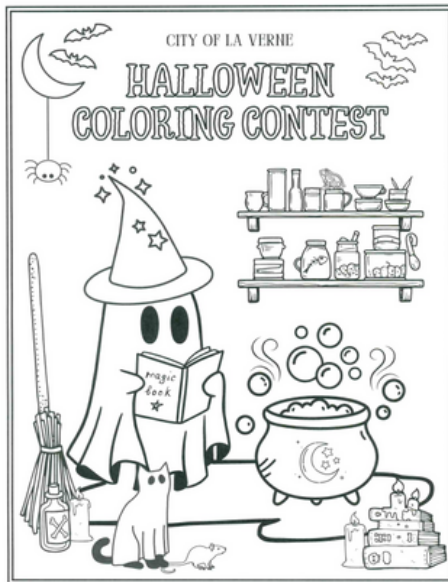
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ADU Permit issued

Halloween Coloring Contest

Calling all ghouls and goblins, ages 3 to 12, to participate in our Halloween Coloring Contest! Coloring sheets are available for pick-up at the Community Services Office or can be downloaded online at www.cityoflaverne.org. Entries can be dropped off in the Community Services Office or in the drop-box and must be submitted by **Monday, October 7**, at 6:00 PM. Please note that once submitted, entries will **not be returned**.

Prizes will be awarded to winning entries and winners can pick up their prizes at the Community Services Office. All entries will be displayed in Old Town businesses from October 16 to 31. Winners will be notified.



Pink Patch Project

The La Verne Police Department is proud to announce its continued participation in the Pink Patch Project for the 8th consecutive year. Throughout October during Breast Cancer Awareness Month the department will sell commemorative pink patches for \$10 each. All proceeds will go to City of Hope to support breast cancer research. This initiative supports not only fundraising but also vital awareness for women's health. Sales will be announced on the Police Department's social media pages.

Fire Prevention Month Tips

Every October, we observe National Fire Prevention Month, a crucial time to focus on fire safety and ensure that our homes and families are well-protected. This year's theme is "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work For You!" To maximize your safety, it's recommended that you install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Remember, smoke alarms don't last forever—they should be replaced every 10 years or if they stop responding to tests. For more tips on how to keep your home safe from fires, visit the National Fire Prevention Association website at nfpa.org.

Los Angeles County La Verne Library

Swing by the La Verne library for upcoming events and to access resources! *Advanced registration is required for events. Please visit the Los Angeles County La Verne Library website to learn more!*

Teen Trivia

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 4:00 PM

Do you have what it takes to be the Teen Read Month Trivia champion? Have fun, win prizes, and see if you are more knowledgeable about teen books and library resources than your peers! For teens ages 13 - 17.



Fuse Bead Frame

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 5:00 PM

Join us as we learn how water magically makes these beads stick together and make your own beaded frame. For ages 6 - 12 with parent or caregiver.



Strategic Planning Community Survey - Open Now!

In early 2025, City Council will begin the Strategic Planning process. The Strategic Plan will be developed through a collaborative process with the community as the Plan serves as the foundation for addressing community needs over the next few years. It combines guiding values, focused goals, and community feedback to create an actionable plan, with supporting initiatives reviewed annually during the budget process.

To ensure your voice is heard and the Strategic Plan truly reflects community priorities, it is essential to participate in the community survey. The survey will be open through October 25. Additionally, community members who complete the survey have the option to be entered into a raffle. Winners will be announced at upcoming City Council meetings and contacted afterwards. Visit cityoflaverne.org/survey to learn more and get started!



General Plan Update

The City of La Verne is excited to announce that the General Plan Update process is close to completion. The final stage of the multi-year effort, the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which carefully analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with the adoption and implementation of the General Plan Update, recently completed its public comment period, which closed on September 23, 2024.

Our team is now diligently working on developing the final draft of the EIR, which will be seamlessly incorporated into the overall General Plan Update. This comprehensive plan will guide La Verne's growth and development in the coming years, ensuring our community remains vibrant, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of our residents.

Looking ahead, the General Plan Update will be discussed at the Planning Commission on October 9 in the City Hall Council Chambers, starting at 6:30 PM. We encourage you to join us at this meeting to stay informed and engaged. Following the Planning Commission review, the General Plan Update will be presented to the City Council later this year for final approval. Stay connected and involved in shaping the future of La Verne by attending these important upcoming meetings!

RECEIVE NOTIFICATIONS!

Receive push text and email notifications when new agendas and agenda packets are posted. Visit cityoflaverne.org/notifyme to get started!





La Verne Community Emergency Response Team

La Verne CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) started a Basic Training Class (24-02) in August, with approximately 20 registered class attendees. Basic Training is an excellent way to ensure you are actively working on your emergency preparedness knowledge and skills in the event of a disaster. Another benefit of being a CERT graduate is if you'd like to join the CERT "Call-Out" team to support the La Verne Fire Department when activated, graduating from basic training is the first step! Classes cover topics such as disaster preparedness, medical operations, fire safety & utility controls, light search & rescue, disaster psychology, and terrorism. There are 8 total classes and the final class culminates in a review of all the skills learned through live exercises and/or classroom refreshers. Next class will take place in the spring of 2025. Check out www.lavernecert.org for preparedness tips and to get more information!

New in Town - Micas Restobar

Micas Restobar, Peruvian Cuisine, will be opening soon in the Heritage Plaza (formerly Mi Ranchito). If you are looking to try something flavorful and tasty, try Lomo Saltado (Beef Stir-fry over rice) or Pollo Saltado (Chicken Stir-fry over rice). They will also be serving Peruvian Staples like Ceviche and Arroz Chaufa (fried rice) and their bar will be serving Peruvian cocktails like their famous Pisco Sours. Welcome to La Verne, Micas Restobar!

Bridge Fire Spotlight & Insurance Moratorium

Bridge Fire Summary

In mid-September, you may have noticed smoke in the air and increased activity from La Verne staff as they responded to the Bridge Fire in the Los Angeles National Forest. Members from every department collaborated swiftly to protect our community from the potential threat. Northern La Verne was under an evacuation warning, with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to a level 3 threat. The team worked tirelessly to keep the community informed and finalize contingency plans. Fortunately, the Bridge Fire posed no threat to La Verne, but we want to make sure everyone is always prepared. Residents are encouraged to download the [Genasys app](#), which provides real-time updates, including evacuation information by address, during potential wildfires.

Insurance Moratorium

On September 11, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency for Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties due to fires, including the Bridge Fire. As a result, no insurer can cancel or non-renew residential property insurance due to wildfire risk for one year starting September 7, 2024, in the affected regions, including La Verne. Insurers must also rescind any wildfire-related cancellations or non-renewals issued after the emergency declaration and offer to reinstate or renew those policies.

For more information, please visit the City website at cityoflaverne.org/insurance.

Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative - Community Listening Sessions

The Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative is hosting virtual community listening sessions to gather feedback and refine strategies for addressing and preventing homelessness. These sessions will also help shape the annual funding recommendations for homeless services and housing for the fiscal year 2025-2026.



The proposed spending plan will support a coordinated system of programs funded by Measure H—a 1/4-cent sales tax approved by County voters in March 2017—and the State of California’s Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants. To learn more, please visit the [County of Los Angeles Homeless Initiative website](#).

The San Gabriel Valley listening session is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM. [Click here to register for the Zoom meeting](#).

Citrus Pest Notification

The City of La Verne is currently within a quarantine zone for [Huanglongbing \(HLB\)](#) due to nearby detections, though no cases have been found within the City itself. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is actively working to prevent the spread of this deadly citrus tree disease by conducting ongoing surveys and treatments in residential areas. Residents are encouraged to cooperate with state agricultural officials who may be inspecting and treating citrus trees in the area. Proper care of backyard citrus trees is essential to prevent the spread of HLB and the Asian citrus psyllid, the pest responsible for transmitting the disease. Community involvement is critical, and residents should report any signs of HLB to 1-(800) 491-1899.



TIPS FOR GROWING HEALTHY CALIFORNIA CITRUS



Inspect for the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) and Huanglongbing (HLB) symptoms monthly, or whenever watering, spraying or pruning your trees.



Keep ants off your citrus tree. Ants protect harmful pests like the ACP. Place ant bait around citrus trees and follow the product’s label instructions.



Be sure to dry out citrus tree clippings or double bag them before removing the plant material from the property.



Apply proper products to keep pests at bay. Ask your local nursery or garden center about which products are best.



While harvesting fruit, clip the fruit off at the stem and remove all leaves. If you’re sharing fruit with neighbors, any leaves or stems attached could unknowingly spread pests, including the ACP.



Cooperate with ag officials who may be inspecting trees in your area. If you see an agricultural official, it may mean that the ACP or HLB has been found near your home.

Living with Wildlife

The recent Bridge Fire has disrupted wildlife habitats, leading to an increase of animal activity in our area. Wildlife such as deer, coyotes, bobcats, and even bears are seeking refuge closer to residential neighborhoods, particularly near foothills and urban edges. Here's how you can protect your pets and keep your home safe:



- **Peak Activity Times:** Be especially vigilant during early mornings and late evenings when wildlife is most active.
- **Keep Pets Safe:** Always keep pets on a leash when outdoors, and avoid walking them in areas where wildlife has been spotted.
- **Secure Food and Trash:** Ensure that garbage, pet food, and other potential attractants are securely stored.
- **Encounters with Wildlife:** If you come across wildlife, remain calm, maintain a safe distance, and if necessary, make yourself appear larger while slowly retreating.

If you encounter wildlife that could pose a threat to you or the community, please contact the Inland Valley Humane Society at (909) 623-9777 for assistance.



City Hall Hours

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



City Websites

cityoflaverne.org
lvpd.org
lavernefire.org

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notifications!

cityoflaverne.org/notifyme



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
Community Center – (909) 596-8776
Police Department – (909) 596-1913



Quick Links to City Website

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



24-Hour City Of La Verne

Submit requests, concerns, or general inquiries here.



Additional Newsletters

Chamber of Commerce - Subscribe Now
Fall 2024 Recreation Guide
Conservation Corner
Senior - September 2024