



City of **DOWNEY**
Future Unlimited

2012-2013



CITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
REPORT TO THE
CITY COUNCIL



Dn. Mario A. Guerra
MAYOR

SEIZING OUR FUTURE

Dear Mayor, Members of the City Council, Downey Residents and Friends:

In January 2012, the Downey City Council adopted five overarching priorities to guide the budgeting process and service planning for fiscal year 2012-13. These five priorities were:

- Fiscal Responsibility
- Economic Vibrancy
- Efficiency and Adaptability
- Quality of Life, Neighborhoods & Infrastructure
- Public Information and Engagement



Fernando Vasquez
MAYOR PRO-TEM

During the five months between adoption of the Priorities and adoption of the FY 12-13 budget, the City faced its worst fiscal crisis to date. But through the steadfast leadership of the Council and the extreme efforts of department heads and City staff, the City weathered that fiscal crisis without major impacts to service. The Council's unwavering commitment to the five priorities enabled staff to prioritize resources and ensure that staff delivered highest quality programs and services, aligned with the City Council's top goals and objectives



Luis Marquez
COUNCILMEMBER

While overcoming a budget deficit of \$11 million and the loss of nearly a quarter of our full time employees, staff were able to accomplish 90% of the 91 milestones set by the City Council for Fiscal Year 2012-13. The nine outstanding milestones were delayed simply due to budgetary reasons. It wasn't without deep sacrifices by all, from an effective 4% pay cut for all employees, to staff at all levels performing two or three jobs at once, the Council's example of servant leadership inspired staff to provide seamless service to Downey residents and businesses alike.



Roger C. Brossmer
COUNCILMEMBER

In my first full fiscal year as City Manager of the City of Downey, some of the highlights included achieving a budget that ensured reserves were maintained at \$19 million and the reorganization of multiple City Departments to ensure more efficient operations and better service to the community. With the Council's guidance, we also unveiled a completely new, cost-effective alternative to the City's former paint-up/fix-up program; made significant progress on the Tierra Luna/Promenade project; began construction on "The View" housing development and on a new housing development at Gallatin and Lakewood; unveiled the City's Veteran's Memorial and opened the Downey Gateway development. I thank the City Council for their laser-focus on the City Council's established priorities, which enabled staff to accomplish the City's short and long-term goals.



Alex Saab
COUNCILMEMBER

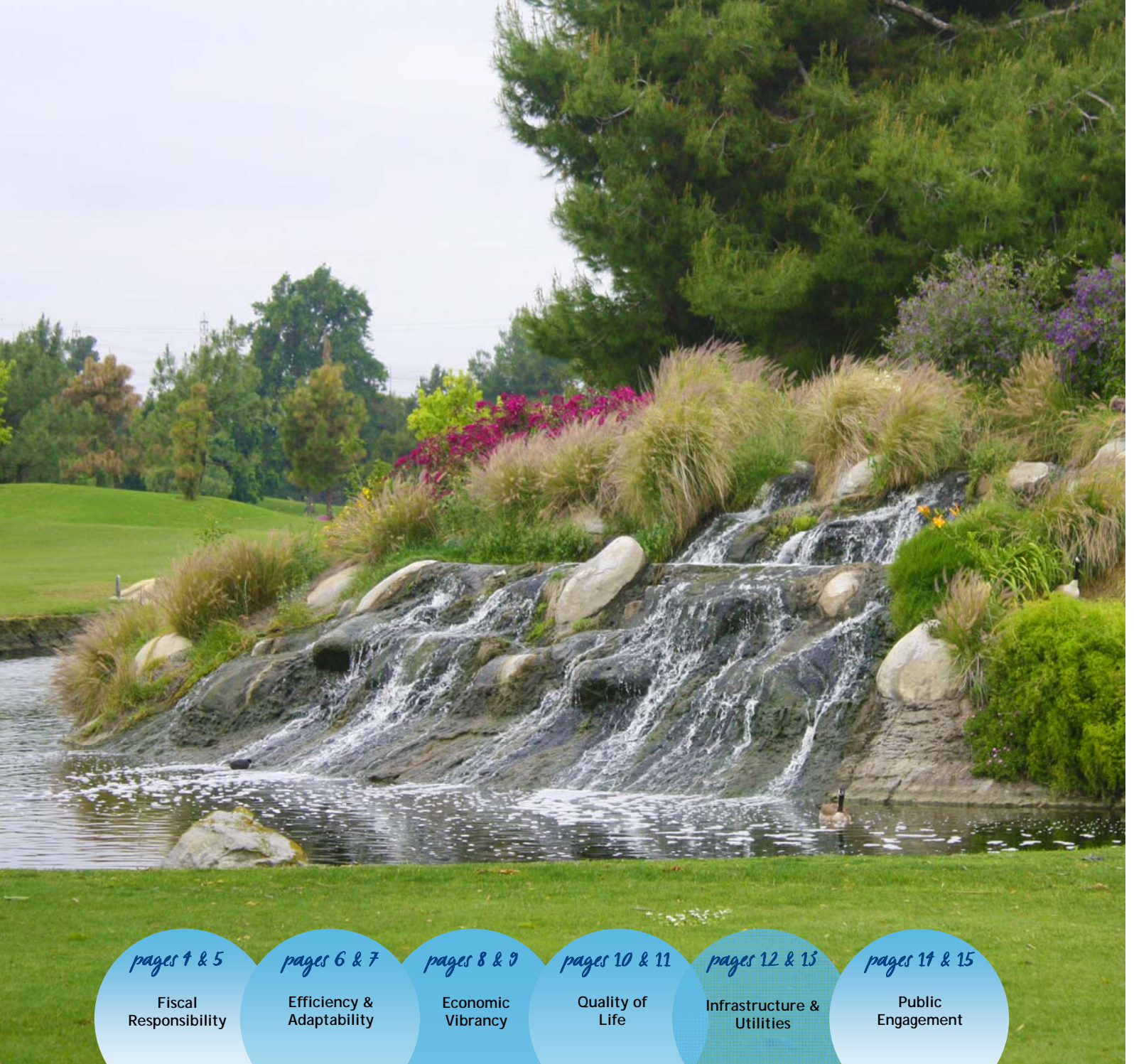
As Downey enjoys its status as a newly-minted "All American City," I look forward to working closely with the City Council and staff on the successful implementation of the next fiscal year's priorities.

Sincerely,

CITY OF DOWNEY

Gilbert A. Livas

City Manager



pages 4 & 5

Fiscal
Responsibility

pages 6 & 7

Efficiency &
Adaptability

pages 8 & 9

Economic
Vibrancy

pages 10 & 11

Quality of
Life

pages 12 & 13

Infrastructure &
Utilities

pages 14 & 15

Public
Engagement

Mission

Continuously improve the quality of life for which the City of Downey is known by providing the best possible service to residents, businesses and each other in a professional, ethical, and responsible manner.

Fiscal Responsibility

Cost Reductions

Throughout the year, staff endeavored to cut costs wherever feasible, and to make adjustments to fees to offset the cost of providing services. In February, 2012, staff developed best practices for bulk and consolidated purchases, which was adopted by ordinance of the City Council. An outsourced billing service for ambulance service recovered \$1.1 million more in lost revenue in 2012 than in 2011, more than tripling the City's investment. Temporary lease agreements adopted by the Council generated additional revenue as did the voter-adopted updated UUT ordinance, which demonstrate UUT revenues are up.

Sound Financial Practices

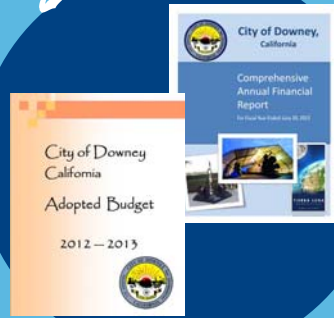
The budget subcommittee members met regularly throughout the year to review financial statements and budget status. With the help of the subcommittee's oversight, the City Council was able to announce the cancellation of two employee furlough days, from 8 to 6 days. A full-scale mid-year budget review resulted in additional cost savings to the City. Staff has begun acquiring software to enable mid-and long-term financial forecasting to better predict municipal cash flows.

Sustainable Employment Practices

A supplemental employee retirement program resulted in long-term cost savings of more than \$4 million while approved changes in employment memorandums of understanding have fundamentally changed the City's pension contributions and required employee cost-sharing. The outsourcing of the City's employee health benefits with CalPERS further reduced costs and eliminated the uncertainty in the city's former self-funded health program. Finally, the implementation of a two-tier retirement system ensures the city can operate sustainably in the long term.

Doing More With Less

The positive view of the drastic cuts in Fiscal Year 2012-13 is that of right-sizing the organization and refocusing on only those most essential programs and services that local government should provide. Guided by the Council's priorities, City staff (from front line employees to middle managers and department heads) have viewed every service, program and operation through the lens of fiscal responsibility and efficiency, reducing positions, eliminating equipment and supplies. The positive attitude of City staff is a direct compliment to the support and leadership of the department heads, who in turn look to the Council for their encouragement and support.



A+ RATING
MOODY'S
AND
STANDARD
& POOR'S

11
ORDINANCES

78
RESOLUTIONS

62
AGREEMENTS

39
CONSTRUCTION
CONTRACTS



IDENTITY
BRANDING + PROGRAMMING

City of Downey
**PARKS AND
RECREATION
MASTER PLAN**

24
PUBLIC
HEARINGS

34
COUNCIL,
BOARDS,
SUBCOMMITTEES

66
SERVICE
CONTRACTS



Grants

AWARDED AND IMPLEMENTED GRANTS

- OLDA/SAFETEA-LU: Rancho Transit Station Specific Plan
- FEMA/SAFER: 9 firefighters
- Lowes/Keep America Beautiful: Furman Park drought-tolerant garden
- State Homeland Security: Technical training for Urban Search and Rescue
- Assistance to Firefighters (AFG): Diesel Exhaust Systems and Mobile Data Computers (MDCs)
- Cal GRIP: Sobriety checkpoints
- So Cal Municipal Athletic Association: Minor field improvements at Columbus H.S.
- LSTA: Adult Literacy Program
- Byrne/JAG: Crime Impact Team & Neighborhood Preservation
- Compass Blueprint Grant for Civic Center Master Plan



AWARDED GRANTS

Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program

- Firestone Blvd. Raised Median (Patton Rd. - Marbel Ave.)
- Paramount Blvd. Raised Median (Firestone Blvd. - Imperial Hwy.)
- Paramount Blvd. Raised Median (Firestone Blvd. - Florence Ave.)
- Florence Ave. at ORSR/Tecum Rd. Traffic Signal Modification
- Bellflower Blvd. at Foster Rd. Traffic Signal Modification
- Woodruff Ave. at Foster Rd. Traffic Signal Modification
- Firestone Blvd. at Woodruff Ave. Traffic Signal Modification
- Lakewood Blvd. at Florence Ave. Traffic Signal Modification
- Imperial Hwy. at Downey Ave. Traffic Signal Modification

Federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP)

- Florence Ave. Bridge Replacement at the San Gabriel River
- Florence Ave. Bridge Rehabilitation at the Rio Hondo River

2013 Metro Call for Projects

- Florence Ave. Bridge Replacement at the San Gabriel River (local match to HBP grant)
- Citywide Bus Transit Traffic Signal Priority System

Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program

- Bicycle Master Plan (in conjunction with the City Manager & Community Dev. Depts.)



Efficiency & Adaptability

One Stop Shop

The One-Stop Shop experience at City Hall has been in place since March, 2013. The addition of the Code Enforcement Division to the Community Development Department and the informal Business Ombudsman position have been useful to our business community. This is based upon feedback from our customer service surveys and comments from our local businessmen and women. It is now possible for a new and/or existing business to come to City Hall and have all their City-required needs met. During the next fiscal year, the currently informal position (filled by an Associate Planner) will be formally created as an official Business Ombudsman position.

Business License Survey

From April to May 2013, Code Enforcement conducted a survey of businesses to ascertain the number that did not have current business licenses and determine proper reporting. The goals were to ensure proper fire and life safety inspection, appropriate contribution toward shared infrastructure costs, and tracking for municipal code compliance.

Approximately 960 field staff hours were worked to compile the information, and approximately 2600 businesses were visited (not including home-based businesses or multifamily residential properties). Of all businesses surveyed, 96% had irregularities in fees or stated gross sales. Notices were issued to 490 businesses for expired or non-existent licenses.

Housing Rehabilitation Rebate and Grant Program

The Rebate Program offers a reimbursement of up to \$10,000 to assist lower-income households with projects that address code enforcement violations, health and safety issues, structural deficiencies, general incipient physical conditions, or conditions which have a negative or devaluing impact to surrounding properties. The Grant Program replaces the former "Senior Paint and Fix-Up Program" by granting up to \$10,000 to qualifying senior households for exterior painting, rectifying health and safety concerns, or improving interior and exterior access to physically disabled households. Another component of the Grant allows for the purchase of building and painting supplies when used in conjunction with a community service project organized by a bonafide community service organization.

Outsourcing Information Technology

The City's Information Technology (I.T.) support staff provide a wide range of assistance for all City departments and divisions. With the severe budget cuts leading to layoffs and early retirements in spring 2012, the City outsourced the IT division beginning July 1, 2012. The only remaining employee, the I.T. Manager, was given the task of ensuring a seamless transition from in-house IT staff to a contract IT services staff that would support the day to day technological needs of the City. By implementing an automated IT helpdesk solution, the IT manager is able to prioritize the response of help desk technician, maintain and service City servers and network devices and assist with database systems and custom reporting needs. The outsourcing of IT systems is estimated to have saved the City more than \$150,000 during Fiscal Year 2012-13 annually.



900
CUSTOMER
SATISFACTION
SURVEYS

400
CITY STAFF
RECEIVING
TECHNOLOGY
TRAINING

2,100
PERMITS ISSUED
11,750
COUNTER VISITS

150
PUBLIC
INFORMATION
INQUIRIES

13
SUPERVISORY &
MANAGEMENT
SKILLS TRAINING
SESSIONS
PROVIDED

60,000
OVER-THE-
COUNTER
TRANSACTIONS

10,300
BUILDING
INSPECTIONS
CONDUCTED

Technology

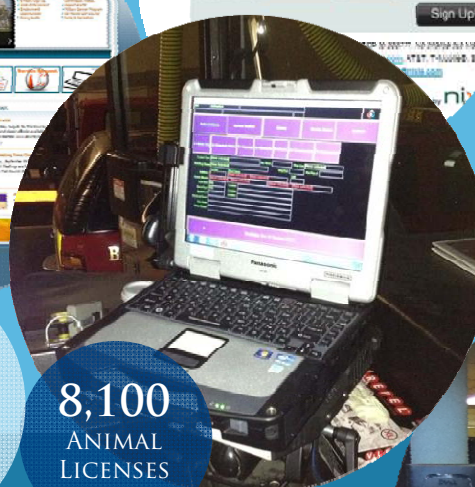


Social Media

From Facebook to Twitter to specialized tools such as Nextdoor.com, the City of Downey has been expanding its use of social media to better connect residents to their city government. The City Hall Facebook page boasts more than 1,600 "likes" and nearly 4,000 "check ins" and has been used to celebrate the winners of the Holiday Home Decorating contest and Space Shuttle Naming contest; to alert residents to upcoming special events and construction projects; and to highlight community services such as library events, ribbon cuttings, youth commission projects and more. The City's Twitter feed has nearly 500 followers, interested in the latest updates on traffic and construction, breaking city news and upcoming city events. Other Downey pages are run by the Neighborhood Watch program, the Columbia Memorial Space Center Facebook, and the Healthy Downey Partners.

Implementing Technology

- LexisNexis for e-reporting of traffic collisions
- Use of BookMyne smartphone app for Library
- Laserfische for all city ordinances and resolutions (enable public & staff online access)
- Staff trained in online posting of agendas for commissions and boards
- Partnership with the Golf Channel for new website and mobile app for Rio Hondo Golf Course
- Electronic resource list for inter-departmental resource sharing
- Implementation of new ActiveNet registration system for Space Center and Parks and Recreation
- Implementation of cloud-based Library catalog hosting system to reduce infrastructure and IT support costs
- Digital distribution and updates of all Downey Municipal Code updates
- Saved over 50% by switching to AV Capture All for online broadcast of City Council meetings



96.4%
CUSTOMER
SATISFACTION
OF VERY
GOOD/ GOOD

8,100
ANIMAL
LICENSES

200
CITY
COUNCIL
AGENDAS
PROCESSED

7,250
BUSINESS
REGISTRATIONS

Economic Vibrancy

The View

After two and half years of work to obtain all financing and project approvals, construction began on The View housing development project in March 2013. The 50-unit project is scheduled to open in Spring 2015. The development will include 50 rental units consisting of two and three bedrooms, a community center and garden, computer lab and controlled access gates. The \$19.5 million project is being built on 2nd Street just east of Downey Avenue.

Finding of Completion from DOF

On May 15, 2013 the Downey Successor Agency received a Finding of Completion letter from the Department of Finance. The Agency is authorized to wind down all functions and affairs of the Downey Redevelopment Agency as required by California legislation under Assembly Bill 26 (ABx1 26). The letter grants certain privileges to the Successor Agency and opens the opportunity for the City of Downey to recover over \$11.5 million in assets from the former redevelopment agency.

Stay Gallery - Downey Art Vibe

In June 2012, the Downey City Council entered into a five year lease agreement for 11140 Downey Avenue for a new community art gallery operated by the Downey Art Vibe. The City agreed to use the set-aside "Art in Public Places" fund to pay for the first two years. The deal also requires the Downey Art Vibe to pay the rent for the remaining three years, to develop a business plan to ensure sustainability and to offer monthly gallery exhibits, small plays, comedy nights, live music, poetry readings and spoken word, along with workshops in painting, drawing, photography, videography, sculpture, Photoshop, video editing and more. At least 90 percent of the exhibited art must be from Downey-based artists. In October 2012, the gallery opened under the name *Stay Gallery* thanks to two months of volunteers working to make extensive tenant improvements.

Local Vendor Preference Ordinance & Bulk Purchasing Best Practices

In order to promote and assist local businesses, the City Council increased the credit for local businesses in their bids relating to the purchase of supplies, services and equipment (non- professional services and non-public works contracts) from 3% to 10%. The intent of this program is to reduce the competitive disadvantage to local responsible vendors whose business, sales office, or place of manufacture is located in the City of Downey. At Council's direction, staff developed bulk purchasing guidelines which were codified in February 2013. The City's amended Purchasing Ordinance now includes language which encourages City Departments to consolidate purchases and to take advantage of bulk purchasing so that the City receives the most favorable cost savings.

7,250
BUSINESS
REGISTRATIONS

436
NEW
BUSINESSES
OPENED

340
PLANNING
APPLICATIONS/
ENTITLEMENTS



25
REHABILITATION
GRANTS ISSUED





Gallatin & Lakewood Condominiums

In ongoing efforts to help the City recover from the economic downturn, much focus has been on the former automotive dealership property at Lakewood and Gallatin. Staff had spent several years working with potential developers to redevelop the property. In Fiscal Year 2012-13, the Planning Commission and City Council approved a General Plan Amendment allowing for the construction of 46 townhomes within seven buildings on the 2.6 acre site. All of the buildings have been designed with a Spanish Colonial Revival architectural style, which is a rebirth and update to the architecture that dominated the early Spanish colonies of North and South America. This includes the use of light colored stucco siding, wood elements, flat or red clay tile roofs, recessed entries, semi-circular arcades, tall single/double hung windows awnings, and wrought iron decorative elements.

7
SINGLE FAMILY
HOMES BUILT

46
CONDOMINIUMS
BUILT

1,120,100
SQ. FT.
DEMOLISHED
PREPARING FOR
FUTURE
DEVELOPMENTS

The Promenade at Downey

The Promenade at Downey is a contemporary dining, retail, shopping and entertainment destination. The \$170 million development is a 1.5 million-square-foot mixed-use development expected to generate more than 3,300 permanent jobs, 1,200 of them in medical office space, and \$4.2 million annually in sales, property and hotel occupancy taxes. The project will include two big-box stores, 13 "junior anchor" retail stores, a 16-screen movie theater, up to 500,000 square feet of office and medical clinic space, a 150-room hotel, four stand-alone restaurants, a food court and a gym. Reinventing the Downey/NASA site that was home to the Apollo capsules and Space Shuttle program, the Promenade features a pedestrian-oriented paseo that honors the City's vast contributions to aerospace history.



Quality of Life

Alternative Crime Prevention Measures

Downey Gang Detectives participated in the first **Regional Crime Task Force Operation** specifically targeting parolees in our area under the new AB109 realignment. The task force made several arrests for weapons, narcotics, and other violations. Additionally, task force members identified several parolees who gave false addresses as their place of residence.

The City's 119th **Neighborhood Watch** group was added in August by the residents of the Golden Park area. Approximately 45 residents attended the Neighborhood Watch meeting that was held on Saturday, August 25th, at Golden Park. Members of the Police Department provided an introduction to Neighborhood Watch and crime prevention tips.

The Police Department held its second **"Save our Seats"** operation. The program was created and implemented by the Department's auto theft/ burglary investigator as a way to help Downey residents increase the chances of having their 3rd row seats recovered should they be stolen.



Treasure Island Park

Through a \$400,000 grant from the California Resources Agency, in-kind assistance from the Los Angeles Conservation Corps and an equipment grant from First Five LA, the City was able to break ground on the Treasure Island Park Improvement Project on July 19, 2012 and reopen it on June 1, 2013. Park improvements included installation of a new decomposed granite walking path; new trees, drought-tolerant turf and native landscaping; re-grading to retain water runoff on-site; irrigation system improvements; lighting improvements; new benches, picnic tables and trash receptacles; nature interpretive signs and new ADA-accessible playground equipment. Additional project partners included Amigos de los Rios, Rails to Trails, The Children's Nature Institute, and The Better World Group.



In conjunction with the **National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative** the Police Department, in partnership with the L.A. Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), CERT members and Downey Police Explorers, collected close to 300 pounds of potentially dangerous, expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Many potentially dangerous syringes were also collected during the event.



Veterans' Memorial

On November 12, 2012, the City unveiled its official new Veteran's Memorial entitled "Eternal Flame." The memorial features a ten-foot-tall, stainless steel, abstract eternal flame within a fifteen-foot diameter pentagonal pool. There are five raised pedestals with large brass coins inset on top of each pedestal acknowledging each branch of the United States Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard). The pool and pedestals are faced with absolute black granite tile with a six-inch interior waterline.



Columbia Memorial Space Center - Great Balls of Fire Exhibit

From June through September 2012, visitors to the Columbia Memorial Space Center were able to see real meteors, up close and personal, while visiting the travelling "Great Balls of Fire" exhibit. The exhibit highlighted the impact that these 'Great Balls of Fire' have had on human existence and addressed questions such as 'If there was a dinosaur killer in Earth's past, is there a human killer in our future? What are asteroids, comets, and meteorites and where do they come from?' Helping visitors decipher fact from popular culture, the exhibit discussed the threat of a catastrophic impact from an asteroid or comet and the reality of most extra-terrestrial impacts on earth.



270
COLUMBIA SPACE
CENTER FIELD
TRIPS

26,000
COLUMBIA
SPACE CENTER
PATRON VISITS



130
SPACE CENTER
SPECIAL EVENTS

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Downey Fire Department sponsors the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program, which educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area. The program provides training in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search-and-rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. In Fiscal Year 2012-13, 50 new CERT volunteers were trained.



4,500
FIRE
INSPECTIONS
CONDUCTED

9,575
EMERGENCY
RESPONSES

2,500
WATER BARRELS
GIVEN TO
COMMUNITY

5
MINUTES
EMERGENCY
RESPONSE
TIME



Infrastructure Improvements

Florence-Studebaker Improvement Project

In June, 2012, the City completed the long-awaited construction project for the Florence and Studebaker Intersection Improvement Project. This project involved pavement rehabilitation on Florence Avenue from the San Gabriel River Bridge to the I-5 Freeway, Studebaker Road from the I-605 Freeway on/off ramps to Florence Avenue, and Little Lake Road from Florence Avenue to the I-605 Freeway Southbound on ramp. The work included asphalt pavement resurfacing and reconstruction, construction of high stability asphalt concrete pavement to support high truck traffic volumes and loads, construction of concrete improvements including curbs, gutters, cross gutters, driveway approaches, curb ramps and sidewalk; adjustment of manholes, water valves and survey monuments to grade; installation of traffic loop detectors, replacement of traffic striping and pavement markings; and traffic control.

260,463
LINEAR FEET
PAVEMENT
STRIPPING

225
TONS OF
ASPHALT
PLACED ON
THE
STREET



633,829
SQ. FT.
GRAFFITI
REMOVED

63,104
SQ. FT. STREETS/
ALLEYWAYS
PATCHED

63,104
SQ. FT. STREETS/
ALLEYWAYS
PATCHED



10
TRAFFIC SIGNALS
REPAIRED OR
UPGRADED

544,500
SQFT
LANDSCAPED
AREA TREATED
FOR WEEDS

166
STREET LIGHTS
REPAIRED

1,723
POTHoles
FILLED

63,104
SQ. FT. STREETS/
ALLEYWAYS
PATCHED

154
RESIDENTIAL
STREET SEGMENTS
SLURRY-SEALED

9

CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECTS

1,522
STREET SIGNS
REPLACED OR
REPAIRED

\$6,900,000
CIP PROJECTS

636/ 21
TREES
TRIMMED OR
PLANTED



Utilities

Maintaining a Clean Water Supply

The City of Downey is completely dependent upon groundwater - meaning the City pumps water using wells that pull the water from aquifers deep beneath the City. Reliance on local groundwater instead of more expensive imported Colorado River and State Water Project water has allowed the City to maintain some of the water rates in the region. The high quality and pleasant taste of Downey water is a direct result of the fact that the City does not need to treat or disinfect its water. However, not treating the water means that maintaining clean groundwater is essential. Maintaining clean groundwater in sufficient supply requires a two-pronged approach: ensuring the rivers that recharge the City's groundwater are free of pollutants and implementing low impact development and infiltration measures that minimize potentially polluted runoff. The City provides reliable, continuous, high-quality water service with a round-the-clock crew to maintain City's physical infrastructure, manage City's system to meet all health and safety laws and regulations, perform water quality monitoring and reporting programs, implement a backflow prevention program for water safety and to provide support to field operations and other City departments.



165
TONS OF DEBRIS
REMOVED FROM
CULVERTS, CROSS
GUTTERS, CATCH
BASINS

5
MILES OF
RECYCLED WATER
DISTRIBUTION
PIPING
MAINTAINED

732
ACRES-FEET OF
RECYCLED
WATER
DELIVERED

544,500
SQFT
LANDSCAPED
AREA TREATED
FOR WEEDS

16,363
ACRE-FEET OF
POTABLE WATER
DELIVERED

400
WATER SERVICE
LINES AND/OR
METERS
REPAIRED/
REPLACED

Public Engagement



Healthy Downey

A community collaborative that focuses on health and nutrition, creating a sustainable approach to wellness that will positively impact current and future generations through forming partnerships with committed stakeholders. There are three main areas of focus of the Healthy Downey Initiative: community empowerment and education; family, individual and citywide engagement; and Evaluation and Sustainability. By supporting the community in making healthy choices, engaging youth and families in schools, sports and community activities, sharing resources, and advocating with stakeholders, the Healthy Downey Partners seek to measure, collaborate and educate themselves on successful community-based health initiatives and to establish performance measures that will evaluate the Healthy Downey Initiatives' impact and sustainability. Staff support for Healthy Downey is partially funded by a Kaiser Permanente grant.

Library Hosts Renowned Authors

On October 6, 2012, the Downey City Library hosted author Heather C. Nelson for a discussion of her charity memoir, My Work of Heart. In early 2012, Ms. Nelson was chosen as one of the Long Beach Post's 40 Under 40, a prestigious honor given to locals who positively impact the city through their innovative work. Copies of her book were available for purchase and signing.

In May 2012, award-winning author Reyna Grande spoke to a packed audience at the Downey City Library on her memoir, The Distance Between Us. Her autobiography was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Grande has also written Across a Hundred Mountains and Dancing with Butterflies, which received an International Latino Book Award.

Inspiration Relocation and Naming Contest

On July 2, 2012, the City moved and unveiled the original full-size Space Shuttle Mock-Up from its warehouse location in Downey Studios to an exhibition tent just north of the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

On September 25, 2012, the Downey City Council announced the winner of the Space Shuttle Mock-Up naming contest - Bea Jensen - and her suggested name, *Inspiration*. The Council christened the space shuttle in honor of Dr. Mary Stauffer, a local well known philanthropist dedicated to supporting academic excellence.



15
HEALTHY
DOWNEY
COMMUNITY
PARTNERS

6
HEALTHY
DOWNEY
SPONSORED
EVENTS

120
PRESS
RELEASES

150
PUBLIC
INFORMATION
INQUIRIES

1,020
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

71,353
PARKS & REC
ATTENDANCE

44,500
LIBRARY
COMPUTER
USERS

8,600
LIBRARY
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

3,050
CHILD, TEEN &
ADULT SUMMER
READING
PARTICIPANTS

440,000
LIBRARY
BOOKS
CHECKED
OUT

12,104
PARKS & REC
CLASS
REGISTRATIONS

375,000
LIBRARY
PATRONS THIS
FISCAL
YEAR

Volunteers Plant Drought Tolerant Garden

To increase community outreach regarding sustainable gardening, the Green Task Force and Keep Downey Beautiful joined with hundreds of volunteers to implement a Lowe's Gardens Grant at Furman Park. Unveiled in July 2012, the entry area at Furman Park had eye-catching drought-tolerant landscaping installed just in time for the city's Twilight Summer Concert series. Along with Lowe's employees, who delivered new plants to the Furman Park site and assisted in the first day of installation. The project demonstrates the water and cost savings of low-water plantings, reduces sprinkler and stormwater runoff and freshens up what was a bland, mostly-mulch planter at the entrance to the park.

Taste of Downey Arts & Wine Festival 2012

In September 2012, the City hosted the third annual Taste of Downey, which for the first time featured an art show and a beer-and-wine garden. The art show, which the Downey Art Vibe curated, featured 12 prominent local artists, a performance by local singer Amanda Brown (accompanied by local pianist Christine Pohlen) and nearly 30 Downey eateries. More than 700 guests attended the event, which had been relocated from the Civic Center turnaround to the front of the Downey City Library and the Downey Theater.

25th Anniversary Kidsday Celebration

May 12, 2012 marked the silver anniversary of the Downey KidsDay Hall of Fame and Festival. This annual event recognizes and celebrates the thousands of school-aged youth in our community. Hundreds of volunteers staffed the carnival booths and interactive games, there were musical performances by local youth school bands and individual youth performers, City Fire Demonstrations and numerous vendors at the information and environmental fair. Booths provide resources to families regarding youth sports involvement, fitness/wellness activities and community service providers. In addition to the 2K Fun Run, for the first time ever, a 10K bike ride and a 2K family bicycle tour was hosted in cooperation with the Cruz Cycling Club.



Events

- Kidsday Event
- Concerts in the park
- Aquatics program
- Recreation classes
- Senior first Mondays
- North Pole Calling
- Holiday toy drives
- Youth in Government
- Veteran's Day

Downey Theater Events

- Eddie Money
- Arturo Sandoval
- Grandeza Mexicana Dance Academy
- "Ticket to Ride" Best Beatles Songs
- The Four Tops
- Ricky Nelson Remembered
- The Swing Dolls: From ABBA to Swing
- Bryson Lang, Comedy Juggler
- Downey Symphony Orchestra
- National Circus of the People's Republic of China
- A Peter White Christmas
- Alley Cats "America's Premier Doo-Wop Group"
- So. Cal Dance presents the Nutcracker Ballet
- Los Lonely Boys
- Miss Downey Pageant



Contact Us



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