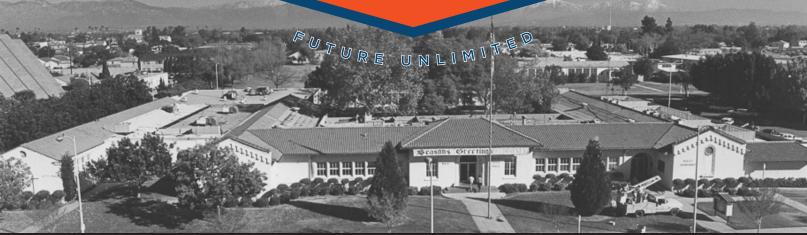


Cityof Downey CALIFORNIA







2015-16 CITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

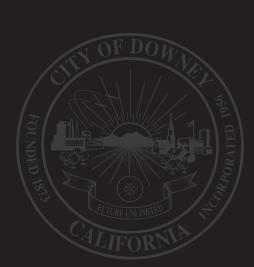




ALEX SAAB Mayor



FERNANDO VASQUEZ Mayor Pro Tem





ROGER C. BROSSMER Council Member



LUIS H. MARQUEZ
Council Member



SEAN ASHTONCouncil Member



Cityof **Downey**

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

I am pleased to transmit to you the fourth annual report on the Council's Goals and Priorities. The Fiscal Year 2015-2016 goals were established at a special workshop of the City Council in January 2015.

This report memorializes the hard work and accomplishments of the City Council, staff, volunteers, residents and businesses.

Following the establishment of the Council's five enduring policy guidelines in 2012, the City Council members have annually adopted goals and priorities which inform the annual budget process.

These five overarching policy goals are:

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

This past fiscal year we served as a Host Town for the Special Olympic's Team Ireland and hosted our first Ride & Stride Event which brought over 12,600 riders from all over Los Angeles County.

With the Council's support and guidance through this fiscal year, we have enjoyed many successes, as outlined in the following pages. Most specifically, we've seen over 27 new businesses open at our new *Promenade at Downey. This has brought* great excitement from our residents and neighboring communities, and many more will be opening throughout 2016.

This December 17, 2016, the City of Downey will mark a significant milestone celebrating the 60th Anniversary of its incorporation! This past fiscal we have been celebrating 60 years of accomplishments, community and success with a STEM Science Festival, launching the 60th Anniversary "Downey Reads," "Storytime with the Mayor," Downey 4th of July Freedom Fest, just to name a few. In addition, the Downey City Library's "Book Your Summer" Program will be incorporating Downey History programs.

In 60 years, much has changed, but we have only just begun. Downey is a city of good taste and gracious living with a future unlimited.

Respectfully submitted,

Gilbert A. Livas City Manager

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Chosen by the National Municipal League as a finalist in the All America City Contest, Downey received signal honors in 1958 for good government and citizen interest.

December 17, 1958 - Progress of a New City Second Anniversary Report

Award

For the second year in a row, Downey was awarded the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-15 Budget.

The GFOA Award recognizes the City's efforts in producing a comprehensive budget document that excels in four major categories: as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. Downey's FY 2014-15 Budget met the highest principles of governmental budgeting and is a reflection of the City's commitment to ensuring fiscal responsibility, one of the top five priorities set by the City Council.

CSMFO Excellence in Budgeting Award

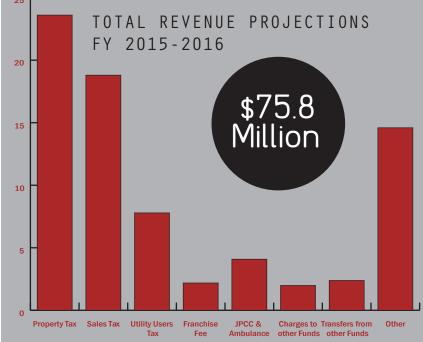
The City of Downey earned the Excellence in Budgeting Award for the second year in a row. The CSMFO budget Awards Program recognizes agencies whose budget documents are considered to be of the highest quality, according to statewide standards and requirements. The Excellence in Budgeting Award represents significant accomplishment by a government and its leadership in meeting high standards and setting an example by encouraging others in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence. The award recognizes the achievement of Downey's goal of ensuring fiscal responsibility, showing that the Council takes every measure possible to make sure taxpayer dollars are spent wisely.

GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Grant-Funded Phase 1 Civic Center Park

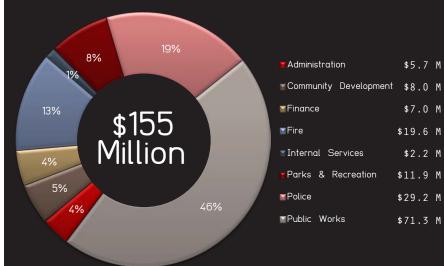
Phase 1 of the Civic Center Master Plan, which includes a central park for the downtown area, is now open to the public! The grant-funded public gathering space between City Hall and the Library features outdoor furniture, new walkways, droughttolerant landscaping, lighting, and space for annual events such as the tree lighting ceremony each December. The immediate access between the Library and park will enhance service to the public and offer an opportunity to provide a coffee and snack cart as a public-private partnership. The park funds were made available through the California Department of Housing.



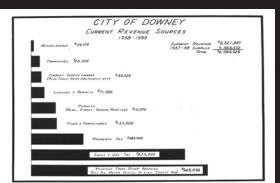




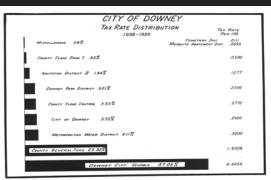
FY 2015-16 TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES



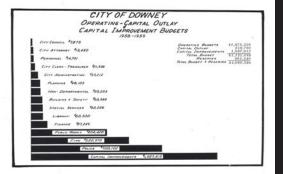
















FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- Balanced budget
- Develop 10-year financial projection and address long-term liabilities
- Develop a reserve/savings policy and a reserve spending policy
- Update city's purchasing policy



AWARDED **GRANTS**

7,/87.21 5,890.93

8,902.88

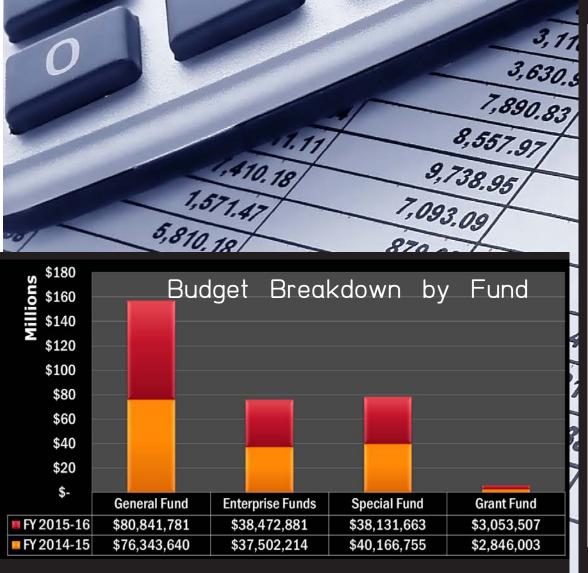
5,910.89

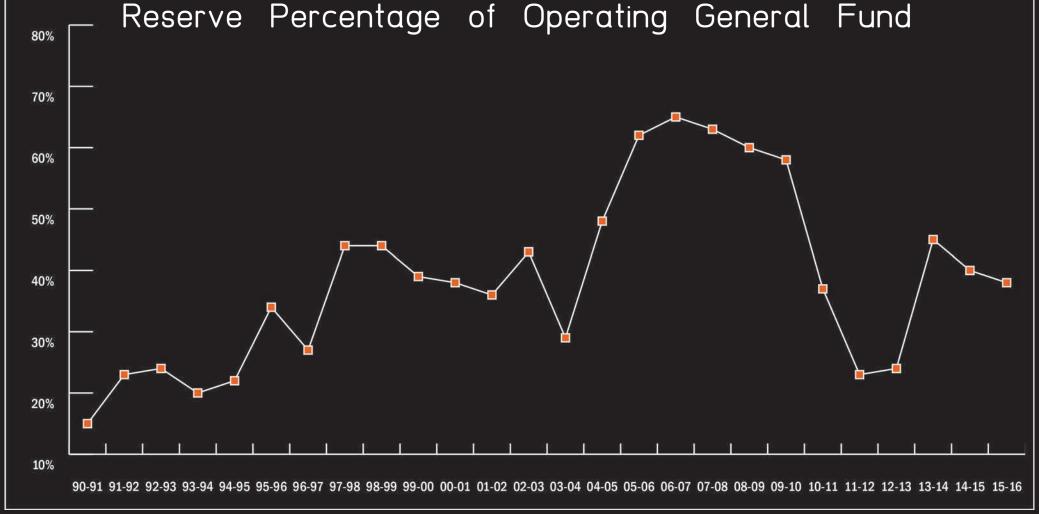
1,780.27

2,981.28

\$30 Million

Over \$30 million in grants were secured for various projects and programs in the City.





ECONOMIC VIBRANCY

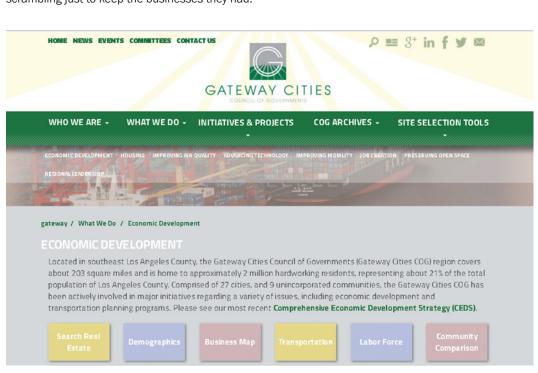
"Kevin. William & Mary have been extremely professional and informative. They are the reason why Downey is a stellar city." Resident

The Promenade at Downey

One of the biggest retail development projects ever in Downey, the construction of the Promenade at Downey hit full stride this past fiscal year. Among the early-openers were Cinemark Theaters, Lazy Dog Café, Floor & Décor, Mod Pizza, Promenade Dental Group and WalMart. Expected soon are Benihana, Ulta, Home Goods and several other exciting retail opportunities. This development was secured during the largest economic recession since the Great Depression, and is an example of how Downey's advance planning allowed for the development of retail project when most public agencies were scrambling just to keep the businesses they had.

Economic Gateway Platform

In partnership with the Gateway Cities COG, a new economic development website was expanded for the Southeast Los Angeles Cities, including Downey. The site features fresh information highlighting the region and incorporating a suite of interactive tools from GIS Planning. Downey and the 27 other cities in the Gateway can now connect their websites together to create a portal and share content. Economic development news and data on the COG Gateway website is shared among cities and vice versa creating a communication network for promoting Southeast Los Angeles to site selectors and business owners.



















ECONOMIC VIBRANCY

CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- Customer-Friendly: bring in an outside evaluator and/or use best practices from other cities
- Address the issue of garage conversions
- Bring in high-end restaurants and grocery stores
- Assist in the development of Rancho Los Amigos South Campus
- Define/communicate City's identity
- Create Specific Plan for the Imperial Highway Corridor
- Expand Downtown Downey's Vibrancy
- Promenade Roll-out

















Downey Nissan Grand Re-Opening

Downey Nissan is constructing a new, 49,000 square foot dealership on the northwest corner of Firestone Boulevard and Old River School Road. The new facility is larger than the existing one and will include a showroom, office space, repair shop, and a vehicle display area. The proposed development will further the beautification of Firestone Boulevard, and include a new signalized intersection at Arnett Street.

Champion Dodge Grand Re-Opening

The City provided modest sales tax revenue incentives to Champion Dodge, and the dealership outperformed everyone's expectations. Its wide-ranging success necessitated a new showroom and offices, so in late 2015, the dealership demolished its existing 5,000 square foot showroom and offices. A modern, new 16,000 square foot showroom with expanded offices is currently under construction and expected to be completed by the end of Summer 2016.

Centerpointe Townhomes

In May 2016, KB Homes broke ground on the new Centerpointe Town Homes at the site of the former Gallatin Medical Center on Paramount. Coincidentally, the project kicks off KB Homes' 60th anniversary celebration at the same time that Downey is celebrating its 60th anniversary of incorporation. This new development, after the vacant land lay unused for more than a decade, will feature 117 new, market-rate homes. The project features recreation space for residents, energy and water efficient appliances and fixtures. All units will be pre-wired for solar and electric vehicle chargers. New residents will likely move in starting late 2017.

Vallarta Market Grand Opening

Thanks to advance planning and the City's hard-working economic development team, another long-vacant site has a new use: the former Beaches market has become the Vallarta Market. Inside, shoppers can pick up the usual grocery fare along with aguas frescas, freshly-baked pastries and cakes, house-made tortillas and salsas, select premium meats from the on-site butcher and enjoy a hot meal in-store. Complete with an adjacent new Starbucks that has an outdoor seating area and drive thru, the once-blighted property is now bustling with energy.

EFFICIENCY & ADAPTABILITY

"I was thankful for how helpful Paul was during my visit. It was an overwhelming task to come to the city for info. but Paul made it very easy and was friendly while helping."

It's Alive! City becomes its own Voice over Internet Provider

All city facilities received new state-of-the-art network and telephone communication system upgrades. The City became its own telephone operator on the final "go live" date for the telecommunications system in November 2015. This has resulted in the cost savings of \$100,000 per year and improved efficiencies in communication, live chat, voicemail, and enhanced public service.

We're connected! Increase Broadband **Access in Underserved Neighborhoods**

The Downey City Library officially bridged the broadband gap in underrepresented communities this year when it went live with CENIC, an internet connection 20 times faster than its current connection. Now, for \$3 less each month, Library users can access an incredibly fast internet from the 18-station computer lab at the main branch. Coming in 2016-17 will be a new WiFi network that will no longer be limited to 2 hours per person per day, allowing for online test taking and tutorials, access to streaming-based training and online education, and faster connections for research and schoolwork. Through the City's own stateof-the-art Fiber Optics Communication Network, the Downey City Library intends to establish new branches, too - Virtual Libraries! Library patrons will sign onto the internet with their library card and access e-books and databases, review their library accounts, check out books online, search the catalog, and best of all, access the internet all for free as a service of the Downey City Library. Information access is the key to a well-informed

Downey ALERTS

The City of Downey partnered with Everbridge to upgrade the former City Alerts system and keep residents, city staff and emergency personnel safe and informed during emergency situations.

Downey Alerts will notify residents about a variety of events, ranging from severe weather warnings, to more routine announcements, such as road closures and water utility maintenance. Messages are sent to residents on their preferred contact paths-cell phone, SMS, home phone, email, fax, pager and more—to ensure real-time access to potentially lifesaving information. Residents listed in the City of Downey's 911 database will be automatically subscribed to emergency alerts by phone. The new system will also allow citizens to self-register, provide additional contact information or opt out. This is another way the City demonstrates and follows through on its commitment to ensuring public safety, as well as its priority to adapt, remain efficient, and engage the public.

Quick Reference Codes on Council Agendas

Increasing efficiency, the City Clerk's office has begun generating quick-reference codes, or QR Codes, for placement on the City Council agendas. This allows a smartphone user to scan the code and immediately be directed to the entire agenda packet with all supplemental materials and information, without having to scroll or navigate multiple click-throughs. The quick and easy access to the entire agenda packet and supplemental materials also enhances public engagement and transparency, while reducing copying and printing













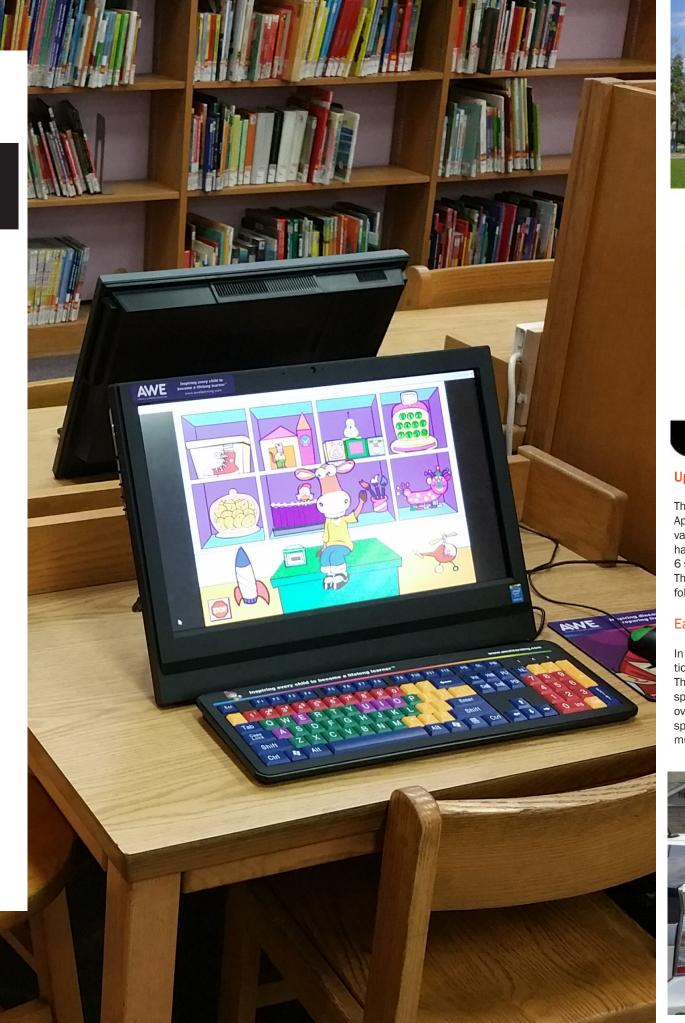




CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- Online bill pay and mobile device-friendly website
- Disseminate and ingrain organizational values
 create a plan for talent growth & succession
- Emphasize diversity
- Upgrade technological capabilities









13





Updated City of Downey Smartphone App

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The City of Downey has changed its "MyDowney" App to the "City of Downey App" and expanded its services! The new update allows residents to report various concerns to City staff such as; unsightly property conditions, graffiti, hazardous material, illegal dumping and potholes. Residents can follow the 6 step reporting process to alert maintenance staff of concerns in the City. The new app allows residents to provide details and contact information for follow up questions.

Early Literacy Computer Stations

In spring 2016, the Downey City Library was granted two Early Literacy Stations from the California State Library, with just a 20% match from the City. The computers, which are housed in the Children's Room at the Library, are specifically designed for patrons ages 2-8, with color-coded keyboards and over 4,000 localized learning activities. The interactive and engaging content spans math, science & nature, social studies & geography, reading, art & music, writing & computer skills, and reference areas.



QUALITY OF LIFE

"I want to thank both the staff at the Columbia Memorial Space Center and at City Hall for their support...We could not have organized such a large event for our community were it not for your staff." Assemblymember Garcia

ASPIRE/DUSD STEAM WORKS

The Summer of 2015 marked the first summer partnership between the Downey Unified School District and the City's after school ASPIRE program. Funded by the district, the STEAMWORKS partnership provided science, technology, engineering, arts and math instruction to more than 850 students over 4 weeks, with the over-arching goal of preventing summer learning loss and ensure grade level readiness in the fall. Targeted invitations were sent to students based upon higher-risk criteria such as English language learners, free lunch program eligibility, or foster youth status. STEAMWORKS programs were held at Rio Hondo Elementary, Gauldin Elementary, and Sussman Middle School. Morning staffing was provided by the district, with the City-managed staff of 78 instructors providing supervision and activities for the afternoons. Lessons and activities were grounded in the new Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). In addition to thematic programming centering on STEAM principles, students received daily lunch, daily afternoon snack, activities, and enjoyed field trips. The elementary theme was "Wonders of Water" and daily activities included investigations into related questions (an NGSS theme), such as "how ducks stay dry in water?" and "how do clouds make rain?" In middle school, the NGSS investigation standard served as the theme, and teamwork principles stressed in Common Core were emphasized in activities, such as learning to dust for fingerprints and understanding the science of blood.

Library's "Book Your Summer" Breaks Attendance Records

In the Summer of 2015, the rebranded "Book Your Summer" reading program at the Library reached out to new stakeholders, including adults, seniors and "pre-readers" - children ages 0-3 years old. By streamlining the sign up and goals process, participation in the summer reading saw a 14% increase in readers over last year's numbers, and the largest number of people registered in the last ten years. Through support from the Friends of the Downey City Library and local businesses, Book Your Summer participants earned chances to win one of three Amazon Kindles, passes to local attractions and a grand prize of a \$500 gift certificate to Disneyland for one lucky winner - all for logging their reading minutes. The rebranded summer programs also enjoyed record breaking attendance at Monday performances. An innovative partnership with the Downey Civic Theatre created a much richer atmosphere and allowed the entire family to attend, building longlasting memories. Other changes included essay writing, drawing and movie viewing. The Library also introduced a bit of "maker space" tinkering with a create-your-own stop motion movie workshop with the guidance of Library staff.























QUALITY OF LIFE

CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- Public Safety increase residents' confidence in City safety (address petty crime/quality of life)
- Address Homeless Population/encampments
- Infrastructure maintenance (roads, sidewalks)
- Facility maintenance (parks, library)
- Transportation Connectivity (business centers, park & ride, Metro Green Line)
- Plan (and communicate plan w/ residents) to manage and maintain infrastructure

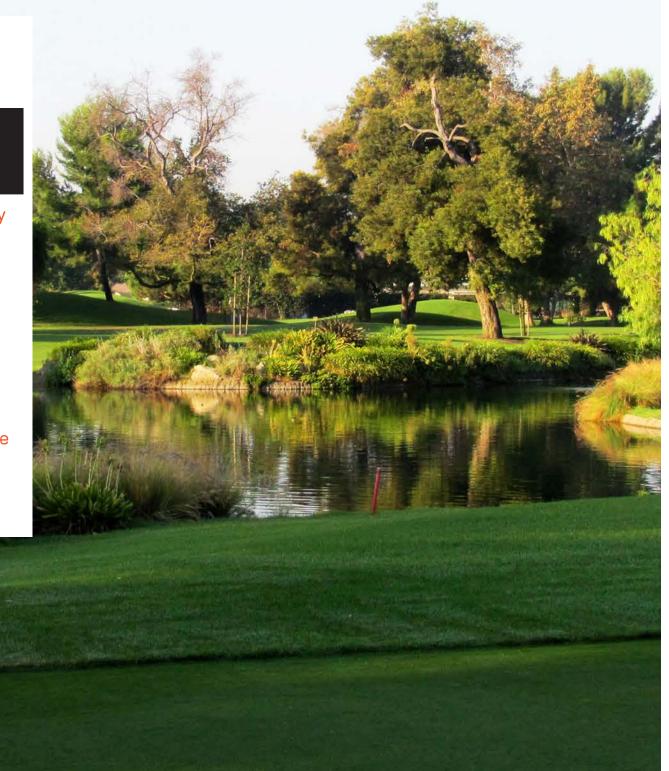




Z5 Community Events



Space Center Field Trips





Habitat for Humanity

The City of Downey, the Partnership Housing and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles have partnered on a new community project that will bring six affordable homeownership opportunities to the city. The groundbreaking was held in May 2016, with the promise of many ways for local residents, businesses and community organizations to support the project by donating funds, volunteering, as well as promoting or applying for homeownership opportunities. The project is comprised of six, two-story townhomes with three bedrooms and two bathrooms, drought tolerant landscaping, energy efficient heating systems, insulation made from recycled content, low-flow plumbing fixtures and solar ready systems. Mortgage payments made by partners in the program contribute to funding for future builds, in turn empowering more families and individuals to realize their dreams of homeownership. Partner homebuyers must also contribute 500 hours of sweat equity building their homes and volunteering with Habitat LA. Community information sessions for prospective homeowners were held at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center, St. Mark's Church and St. Raymond's Church. Partnership Housing and Habitat LA are seeking applicants who are low income, but able to make affordable monthly mortgage payments. Downey is proud help achieve Habitat LA's Building a Greater Los Angeles goal of investing \$100 million by 2020 into revitalizing neighborhoods and increasing access to affordable homeownership opportunities.

Golf Course Upgrades

Named "Best Overall Golf Course" by Southland Golf Magazine in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties for 2015. The Rio Hondo Golf Course and Event Center is a hidden gem in Downey. Southland Golf also named the course the best value in the region, the second best 18th hole and the best 19th hole (restaurant/café) and the third-best scenic view. Rio Hondo received this recognition after comparison with notable courses including Trump National, Bel-Air Country Club and Sherwood Country Club. This past fiscal year, the City invested in repainting the 680 linear feet of out-of-bound curbs across the golf course and replaced the more than twenty-year-old pumps serving the course's lakes and fountains. More than 10 years after the complete renovation of the Rio Hondo Event Center, a few items had seen their share of wear and tear. Minor improvements were undertaken that make a big difference in the appearance of the event space, from flagstone patio paving improvements and re-sealing to the installation of additional outdoor electrical outlets for sound and new evening event lighting. These little touches have increased the lifespan and the community's enjoyment of the event center.















NEIGHBORHOOD & INFRASTRUCTURE

"Jason. I wanted to extend a warm thank you to you and your team for working so efficiently and promptly in resolving our tree issue." Resident

Rio San Gabriel Park Playground Equipment

Funded through the generous support of the Kiwanis Foundation, the nearly two decade old playground equipment at Rio San Gabriel Park was replaced with new, ADA Accessible equipment in the fall of 2015. The park saw 95,937 visitors with 58,628 reservations in the past fiscal year.

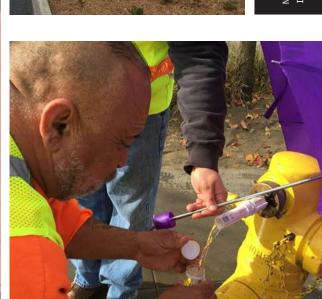
Firestone Bridge Completion - Over the San Gabriel River

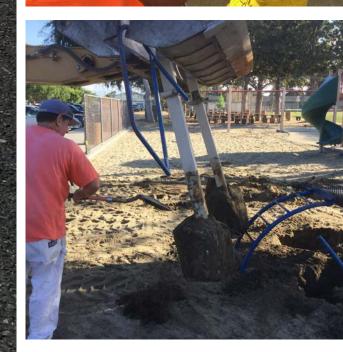
In late 2010, Los Angeles County bridge engineers performing routine maintenance found that additional repairs were needed on the heavilytravelled Firestone Boulevard bridge over the San Gabriel River. A 20-ton maximum load limit was placed on traffic crossing the bridge until repairs could be performed. Tens of thousands of cargo trucks and heavy vehicles needing to cross the San Gabriel River or access the I-605 Freeway from the City of Downey were re-routed to Florence Avenue or Imperial Highway for nearly 6 years, until the County provided funds to complete the repair project. Through a partnership with the City of Norwalk, which shares the bridge, the repairs were completed and additional amenities installed - including decorative faux brickwork, ornamental bridge towers, new lighting, and new city entry monument signs.

Replacing infrastructure dating back several decades, the City installed new heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems at the Downey City Library and the Downey Civic Theatre. Though there were some minor temperature discomforts, the project took less than three months and resulted in a more energy efficient system that provides better climate control throughout the buildings. The project also replaced technologically outdated control systems, allowing adjustment of equipment remotely to











accommodate weekend and evening operations.



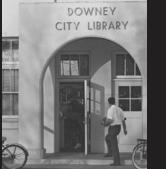
















EIGHBORHOOD 8 NFRASTRUCTURE











PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

"Parks & Recreation staff was so helpful during the Rooftop Concert. As a member of the Soroptomist International of Downey, your staff helped in setting up for the event."

Coffee with the Mayor

Beginning with Mayor Luis Marquez in 2015 and continuing with Mayor Alex Saab this year, the Mayor's office has hosted "Coffee with the Mayor" to provide an opportunity for informal interactions between the community and the City's elected officials. By meeting with neighbors over a cup of coffee, the Mayor's goal is to learn of concerns and successes from individuals throughout the city, and take this information back to help shape City policy.

Coffee with a Cop

Coffee with a Cop is on a mission to improve trust and build relationships - one cup of coffee at a time. The idea began with the City of Hawthorne, California in 2011, based upon the concern that the framework of trust necessary for community policing had been waning. "Coffee with a Cop" restores the opportunity for positive interactions between community members and uniformed officers, outside of the crisis situations that typically bring law enforcement officers and community members together. The Downey Police Department's first Coffee with a Cop took place on April 20, 2016.

Rock & Ride for Veterans

In honor of Veterans Day, the City of Downey hosted the first-ever "Rock 'n Ride" event, including a 32-mile and a 6-mile bicycle route, vendors, live bands, food trucks, and tributes to veterans. Local Veterans groups, including Save the Brave and the Living Tree Foundation, raised funds and awareness of the unique challenges faced by returning service members. Hundreds of Downey residents and supporters turned out to honor local veterans and share in the event.

If I Were Mayor Contest

Mayor Alex Saab invited all youth in Downey in kindergarten through 12th grade to enter the "If I Were Mayor" contest. The contest encourages children to share ideas on how to make Downey a better place to live. Aimed at promoting civic knowledge and good local government, the contest provides youth the opportunity to reflect on the important role of civic pride and participation. Winners will be recognized with an official city certificate and mentioned in the Downey Patriot. Entries may be an essay, artwork or a digital photograph.

























PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- Park Master Plan Improvements
- Communicate City Brand/Logo
- Special Olympics
- Rooftop Concerts
- Rock & Ride for Veterans











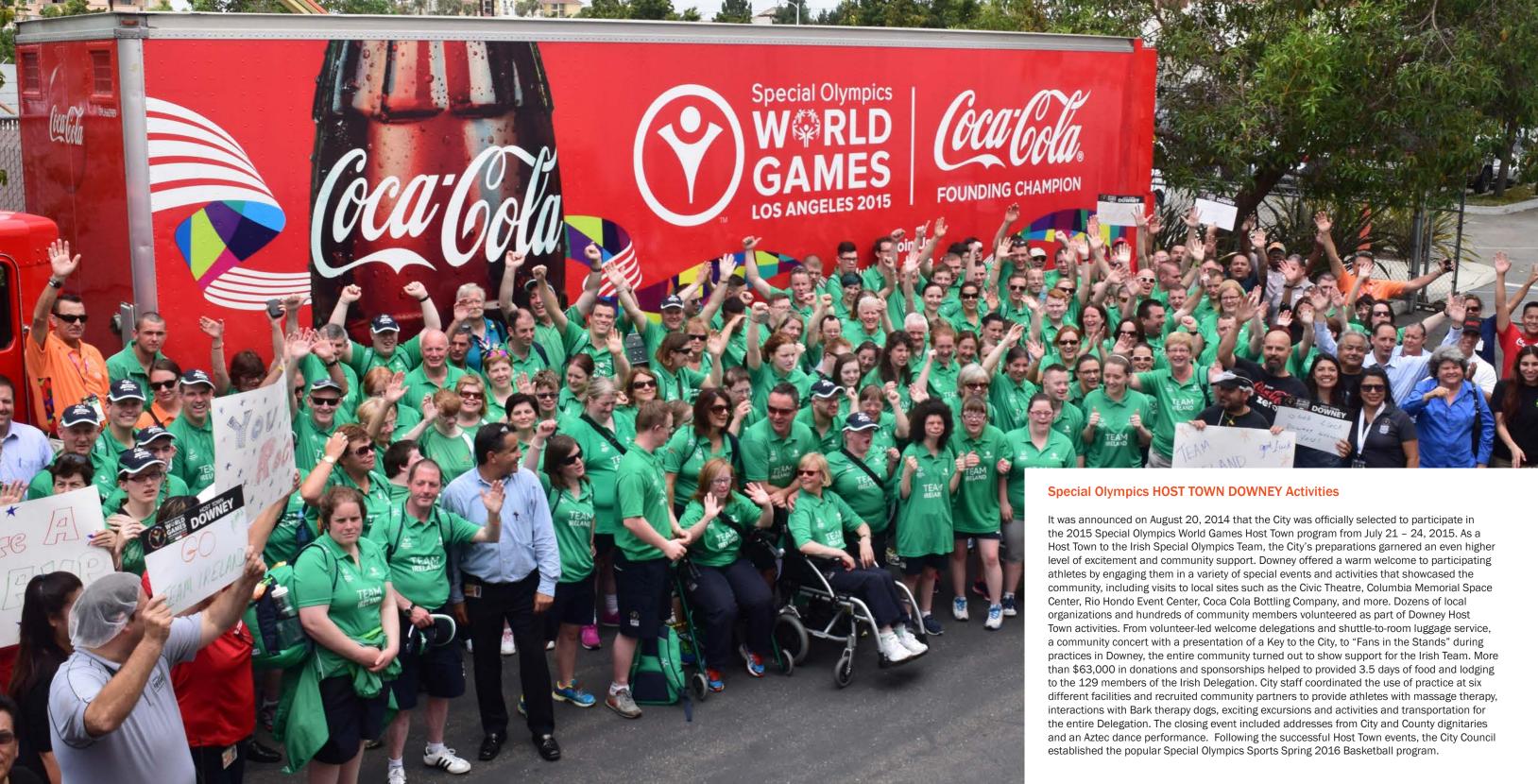














Come explore a safe, fun, car-free space for walking, biking, skating, jogging, and strolling through our community. It's the perfect way to **Discover Downey!**

Sunday, May 1st 2016 10am to 2pm



Map Key

Activity Hubs

PR Park & Ride

Open Streets Route 🖨 Parking Lot

Car Crossing

Hospital

please call (562) 904-7238 or visit DowneyRideAndStride.com









SATSUMA





f @CITYOFDOWNEY @DISCOVERDOWNEY





On Sunday, May 1, 2016, the City of Downey joined legions of bicycle-friendly cities and hosted it's own Ciclavia-style Open Streets event. Named Downey Ride and Stride, the four hour event featured more than five miles of closed streets, including major Southern California thoroughfares such as Imperial Highway. Along the route were numerous stops bustling with music, games, vendors, food, and much more. Participants included pedestrians as well as community members on scooters, bicycles, wheelchairs, skateboards, wagons, strollers and rollerblades.

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The event was funded through a grant from Metro, and included additional support from Kaiser Permanente, Downey Adult School, Satsuma Landscape & Maintenance, Downey Dog Obedience Group, Inc., and PIH Health. The Discovery Sports Complex featured a Kidslavia celebration of KidsDay, with information booths, food booths, carnival games a scouting village and entertainment. Admission to the Columbia Memorial Space Center was FREE, with rocket launches, robotics demos, and an inflatable shuttle as special entertainment. The intersection of Downey and Alameda Street was transformed into a community art center, with local artists' work on display, live creative performances, demonstrations, live musical entertainment, free craft projects, bicycle decorating, speed face painting, henna tattoo art, caricatures and a community mural.

At the Downey Transit Depot was a POP! Fitness Hub with fitness demonstrations, futsal games, dodgeball games, healthy resources and golf tips for beginners. The popular mid-point of the route was Foodie Fest, with ten food trucks featuring gourmet burgers, modern twists on sushi and comfort foods like grilled cheese and pizza, and sweets including pastries, cakes and shaved ice. The Lakewood and Stewart & Gray intersection included a mobile skate park, an action-packed BMX show with live demonstrations from the Downey Fire Department and an environmental faire. Downtown Downey featured fresh market vendors, and roaming entertainers traversed the entire route, including the Mango-and-Dango dance group and Off the Chain Bike Bus.











greatSERVICE

greatDEDICATION



32,Ø19
DIAL-A-RIDE
TRIPS



371,625
LIBRARY PATRON
VISITS



\$201,700,281
BUILDING PERMIT



35,975 Traffic Citations



67,497
COLUMBIA
MEMORIAL SPACE
CENTER VISITS



23,060 DOGS & HUMANS PLAYED AT RSG DOG PARK



\$44,777,55Ø

APPROPRIATED IN
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT FUNDS



REPORTED CRIMES
INCIDENTS



179,775

BARBARA J. RILEY COMMUNITY & SENIOR CENTER ATTENDANCE



596
TLC 5K
PARTICIPANTS



14
HEALTHY
DOWNEY EVENTS



3,912
ARRESTS



2,004,311 PARK VISITS



12,600

RIDERS IN OUR INAUGURAL RIDE & STRIDE EVENT



Z,428

PUBLIC WORKS SERVICE



11,211
EMERGENCY RESPONSES



CITY OF DOWNEY

11111 BROOKSHIRE AVENUE

DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90241

WWW.DOWNEYCA.ORG



