



DATE: February 27, 2025
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager

CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 2024 – FEBRUARY 2025

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

- Potential Funding Shortfall to Extend the Gold Line to Montclair**

After more than five years of construction, the 9.1-mile extension of the Gold Line (renamed A-Line) light rail system from Azusa to Pomona (Phase 2B) reached a major milestone when, in early January 2025, the Foothill Gold Line Extension Construction Authority (Authority), announced the project achieved substantial completion on time and within budget. Reaching substantial completion means that the Phase 2B project has effectively been turned over to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.A. Metro) for final testing, training and preparation for passenger service.



The Phase 2B design-build contract was assigned in October 2019, and major construction began in July 2020. According to the Authority, the construction-design team logged more than 2.6 million work hours over the five-year construction period, and completed the project with an excellent safety record.

Los Angeles County's Measure M half-cent sales tax provided the majority of funding for the Phase 2B project. Other funding sources included nearly \$100 million of residual funds from Los Angeles County's Measure R half-cent sales tax that were not used to complete the Pasadena to Azusa segment of the Gold Line. Additionally, the project was awarded a nearly \$300 million grant through the California State Transportation Agency's (CalSTA's) Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program in 2018, and [\\$126 million from the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments \(SGVCOG\)](#)¹ to complete the La Verne to Pomona segment of Phase 2B.

Funding from the SGVCOG allowed the Authority to extend the light-rail system from La Verne to Pomona, while still preserving the option to extend the system to Claremont and Montclair. The SBVCOG used discretionary funds L.A. Metro provided from Measure M—funds that were to be designated for local street and highway projects in SBVCOG communities. Members of the SBVCOG recognized that the Gold Line extension has regional benefits particularly in its promised ability to move cars off clogged freeways as drivers transition to rail transit. Linking the Gold Line with Metrolink's San Bernardino Line would also provide transit riders with more choices. The Gold Line is also an economical choice, offering riders the ability to take riders to their destinations for \$1.75 per ride.

Phase 2B originally included stations for Claremont and Montclair. However, due to increases in cement and steel, the latter due to tariffs imposed by the first Trump Administration, bids on the Phase 2B [extension to Montclair came in \\$570 million higher than expected](#)², causing the Authority to remove Claremont and Montclair from the design-build project. The Authority designated the Claremont to Montclair segment as Phase 2B2 and, over the last several years, sought to secure funding for the Phase 2B2 Project. That funding was secured in 2024 when L.A. Metro, using state funding, awarded \$798 million to extend the Gold Line to Claremont. The San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) has secured \$80 million to complete construction to Montclair. However, as the Construction Authority awaits a bid on the Phase 2B2 Project, new concern is being raised on the effects of a new round of tariffs imposed by the current Trump Administration on imported steel. Earlier in February 2025, President Trump imposed a 25% tariff on all steel imports. Costs associated with the tariffs are expected to be calculated into the bid on the Phase 2B2 Project.

L.A. Metro's final evaluation of the Phase 2B Project is expected to last through August 2025. After evaluation, the Gold Line could open for passenger service early this summer. The Gold

¹ <https://www.dailybulletin.com/2019/08/08/gold-line-foothill-extension-receives-126-million-enough-to-complete-the-line-to-pomona/>

² <https://www.dailybulletin.com/2018/11/13/gold-line-board-oks-extension-only-to-la-verne-2nd-phase-to-montclair-needs-more-funds/>

Line currently operates between Azusa and Long Beach on 48.5 miles of track, making it the longest light rail system worldwide. Once the Phase 2B section to Pomona is operational, it will be 57.6 miles long.

The \$1.7 billion Phase 2B project includes four new completed stations in Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne and Pomona. The project also built 19 bridges—four over city streets and the rest clearing waterways; 21 at-grade crossings; 10 miles of sound walls; and four new parking lots.

The construction crews from Kiewit-Parsons, a joint venture (KPJV), overseen by the Authority, were confronted by a number of obstacles during the construction period, including the COVID-19 pandemic and unusual weather patterns—the latter which included two record summers of extreme heat and two record winters that produced atmospheric rivers that brought record breaking rain to the area.

The four-station, Phase 2B extension is expected to increase Gold Line ridership by over 11,000 daily weekday boardings. L.A. Metro is, however, re-examining ridership numbers and does not have an updated estimate. As of November 2024, the Gold Line carried an estimated 70,425 average weekday boardings, up from around 61,000 average weekday boardings in November 2023 following the end of the pandemic.

The 3.2-mile leg from Pomona to Claremont and Montclair (Phase 2B2) is now being readied for construction. Once completed in 2030, the Gold Line will grow to more than 61 miles and will become the first L.A. Metro rail line to cross into San Bernardino County—a cross-county connection often promoted as providing a rail transit alternative for Inland Empire commuters who usually drive the crowded I-210, I-10 and SR-60 freeways. Until Phase 2B2 is completed, Inland Empire residents can take advantage of the Pomona station's close proximity to western San Bernardino County cities including Montclair, Ontario, Upland, Chino, Chino Hills and other cities. The below schematic shows the Gold Line Phase 2B and Phase 2B2 Project cities and their respective station stops.



In addition to the Gold Line, rail transit riders will continue to have access to Metrolink's commuter rail network, including the San Bernardino Line, which goes from San Bernardino to Los Angeles, with stops at Union Station in Los Angeles, Cal-State Los Angeles, El Monte, Baldwin Park, Covina, Pomona, Claremont, Montclair, Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, Rialto, San Bernardino and Redlands.

L.A. Metro studies project that in addition to an increase in ridership for the Gold Line light rail system, including Claremont and Montclair adding as many as 8,300 daily riders, Metrolink's San Bernardino Line is also projected to gain more than 2,000 daily passengers. Together, the two systems will offer rail transit riders options that can take them to the San Gabriel Valley, Foothill Cities, Pasadena, Los Angeles, and Long Beach.

Extension of the Gold Line to Montclair is also expected to advance employment opportunities, particularly for the Inland Empire's logistical centers which, in turn, will increase demand for bus services provided by Omnitrans and Foothill Transit—services that will extend rail transit rider “first-and-last mile” access in the region.

- **Metrolink Breakthrough**

Metrolink, Southern California's regional passenger rail system, has again implemented significant adjustments to its San Bernardino Line schedule, effective January 27, 2025. Recent changes were designed to relieve train congestion on the San Bernardino Line—Metrolink's heaviest travelled rail corridor, and are intended to improve on-time performance and service reliability for customers. Minor modifications to four Ventura County Line trains also took effect January 27.

Changes follow last October's ambitious reworking and expansion of Metrolink's train schedules on its various corridors. Metrolink has since learned, through customer feedback, that the new modifications are necessary to address “cascading delays” on the San Bernardino Line due to limited track capacity. Train track capacity refers to the maximum number of trains that can operate safely and reliably in each direction over a given segment of track during a given period. Track capacity is also influenced by the efficient use of assets and resources, the management of flow and operations, and the overall basic rail track infrastructure—in this case the lack of additional rail track for train operations within the rail corridor used for operation of the Metrolink San Bernardino Line.

As part of the October 2024 changes, Metrolink introduced 32 new weekday trains, accounting for a nearly [23% system wide service expansion](https://metrolinktrains.com/news/metrolink-news/metrolink-debuts-significant-service-increase-with-more-midday-options-on-oct-21/)³ with more midday and late-evening options. Eighteen of the new trains were added on the San Bernardino Line – Metrolink's busiest and most popular segment – including 10 roundtrips between Los Angeles and Covina that shortened train intervals at LA Union Station to 30 minutes throughout much of the day.

³ <https://metrolinktrains.com/news/metrolink-news/metrolink-debuts-significant-service-increase-with-more-midday-options-on-oct-21/>

However, despite extensive planning and modeling, when the increased volume was introduced in a real-world setting, customers experienced recurring delays and cancellations caused by train congestion on the line. According to Metrolink, the primary challenge to operate the current, higher volume schedule is track capacity on the San Bernardino Line.

To resolve these issues while still delivering an enhanced level of service for San Bernardino Line users, Metrolink has now incorporated the following changes:

1. The 10 Covina roundtrips will be discontinued and replaced by five roundtrips between LA Union Station and the Montclair Station, where travelers with connections in San Bernardino County can transfer to and from many local transit providers. This change further enhances transit service capacity at the Montclair Transcenter, which is generally considered the premium high quality transit station between Union Station in Los Angeles, and San Bernardino.
2. In addition to the five trains operating roundtrip between Montclair and Los Angeles, Metrolink will continue to operate 17 roundtrips between San Bernardino and Los Angeles, along with one roundtrip connecting the Redlands-Downtown Station and Union Station.
3. The two limited stop “Express” trains between Redlands and Los Angeles will now serve all station stops, benefiting more communities and riders.
4. A late-evening train from Los Angeles to San Bernardino will be reinstated in response to customer feedback following its exclusion in October 2024.
5. The schedule for the Arrow Line between San Bernardino and Redlands has been updated to better align with the new San Bernardino Line schedule
6. The impacted Ventura County Line trains will see only slight schedule adjustments to improve service. The full schedule can be viewed at metrolinktrains.com/scheduleupdate⁴.

In light of the recent on-time performance challenges, Metrolink is offering a 25% discount on monthly passes systemwide through February.

Metrolink regional passenger rail service operates through an interconnected network over 545.6 total service miles and 67 stations across Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and San Diego counties. Metrolink also operates the Arrow service, a nine-mile extension of the San Bernardino County Line linking the cities of San Bernardino and Redlands.

⁴ <https://metrolinktrains.com/ticketsOverview/discounts/current-promotions/qsp-discount-2025/>

- **EXPRESSLANE FASTRACK SET TO MANAGE CONGESTION**

Effective March 17, 2025, the maximum toll rate on Metro FasTrak® ExpressLanes will be increased from \$2.80 per mile to \$2.90 per mile. Metro has indicated the toll rate adjustment is necessary to continue to manage congestion and provide a safe, reliable, and predictable commute.

Minimum toll rates of \$0.35 per mile during peak hours and \$0.10 per mile during the off-peak hours will remain unchanged.

Drivers with FasTrak® accounts receive the following benefits:

- Toll-free travel for high-occupancy vehicles.
- No per-trip process fees.
- Tolls automatically debited from a pre-paid account.
- Participation in the Low-Income Assistance Plan for eligible members.
- Access to other FasTrak® facilities throughout California.
- Other FasTrak® reward programs, where available.

Drivers using FasTrak® ExpressLanes are advised that the system uses an occupancy detection system that uses cameras to detect the number of persons in a vehicle and compares it to the transponder switch setting, if the transponder has that capability. The Occupancy Detection System will correct for a transponder with an incorrect setting when it detects that there are not enough passengers present to qualify for free travel. Cameras will detect car seats, passengers and small children in the rear seats of a vehicle.

The cost of using ExpressLanes without a valid FasTrak® account and transponder at the time of travel is \$8 plus the posted toll rate. If a vehicle enters an ExpressLane without a valid FasTrak® account and transponder, a notice of toll evasion violation is mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle with a demand for payment of the toll amount plus the \$8 processing fee, which must be paid within 30-days to avoid additional penalties. If the balance due is not paid within 30-days, the fees will increase and may result in a DMV registration hold and/or collections action.

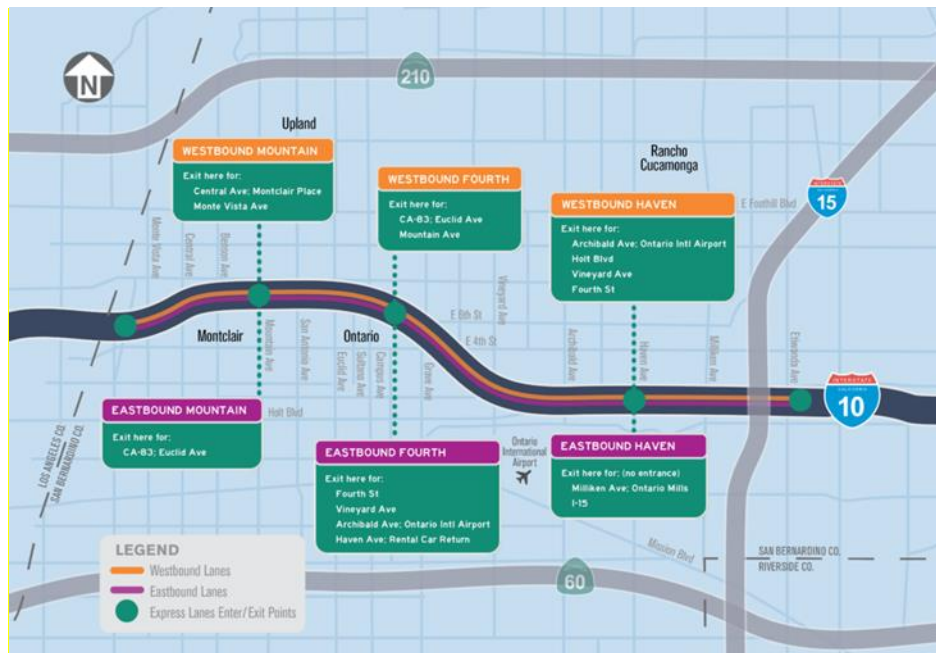
ExpressLanes operate seven days per week, 24 hours per day. Peak hours are Mondays through Fridays, from 5am to 9am and from 4pm to 7pm. Non-peak hours are Mondays through Fridays, from 9am to 4pm and 7pm to 5am; as well as all day Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Metro ExpressLanes operate in the center lanes of the I-10 and I-110 Freeways, as demonstrated in the following chart.



Metro ExpressLanes corridors on the I-10 and I-110 Freeways

SBCTA has not officially announced if the increase will affect the SBCTA ExpressLanes on the I-10 Freeway that opened in 2024. SBCTA-operated ExpressLanes are demonstrated in the following chart.



SBCTA-operated ExpressLanes on the I-10 Freeway

Metrolink has announced a new pilot train schedule that started Monday, October 21, 2024. The new, added services have increased train frequency during the weekdays and improve connections between trains and other public transit systems.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- **New Employees**

Welcome to the following new employees:

- **Ethan Abbruzzese**, Firefighter (Paramedic), Fire Department
- **Charlene Adame**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Brandon Burns**, Police Officer, Police Department
- **Jolene Christian**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Cinthia Estrada**, Customer Services Representative/Office Specialist, Human Services
- **Estevan Gonzalez**, Firefighter (Paramedic), Fire Department
- **Vivian Govea**, Senior Recreation Leader, Human Services
- **Violet Hays**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Arthur Hernandez**, Firefighter (Paramedic), Fire Department
- **Jocelyn Herrera**, Customer Service Representative/Office Specialist, Finance Department
- **Marla Jarvis**, Customer Services Representative/Office Specialist, Human Services
- **Karina Luna**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Gia Marin**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Domonek McDaniel**, Maintenance Worker, Public Works
- **Sarah Mercado**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Vanessa Murray**, Senior Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Evelyn Ortiz**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Leonardo Perez Jr.**, Firefighter (Paramedic), Fire Department
- **Drago Reyes-Carreón**, Maintenance Worker, Public Works
- **Jennifer Rodriguez**, Customer Service Representative/Office Specialist, Administrative Services Department
- **Arad Tatarian**, Police Officer, Police Department
- **Jonathan Turcios**, Firefighter (Paramedic), Fire Department

- **Internal Appointments / Promotions**

Congratulations to the following current employees who have been internally promoted or appointed to new positions:

- **Anthony Del Rio**, Police Sergeant, Police Department
- **Ryan Dierck**, Acting Fire Chief, Fire Department
- **Julio Guzman**, Administrative Specialist, Administrative Services Department
- **Krystal Rabino**, Customer Services Representative/Office Specialist, Public Works
- **Amanda Romano**, Administrative Specialist, Fire Department
- **Kaitelyn Santillan**, Senior Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Angela Vong**, Payroll Analyst, Finance Department

- **Employees Whose Service to the City Has Ended**

The City would like to thank the following individuals who have concluded their service with the City of Montclair:

- **Amanda Abrego**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Jezebel Barraza**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Jose Becerra**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Adam Bien**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Daisy Chavez**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Jolene Christian**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Samantha Corona Gutierrez**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Eric Duran**, Police Cadet, Police Department
- **Anita Garcia**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Sharon Giang**, Administrative Specialist, Community Development
- **Natalie Panuco**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Sandra Pineda**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **David Pohl**, Fire Chief, Fire Department
- **Ricardo Rodrigo**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Anjelina Romero**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Minerva Rosa**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Angelique Rosales**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Maria Rubalcava-Delgadillo**, Police Officer, Police Department
- **Molly Salmeron**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Dailynn Santoro**, Police Officer, Police Department
- **Rashad Spence**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Isaiah Torres**, Learning Leader, Human Services
- **Valerie Verduzco-Lizarraga**, Learning Leader, Human Services

- **Montclair Job Opportunities**

The City is hiring qualified individuals to fill the following positions:

Current Recruitments

Applications are continuously accepted and reviewed for the following positions:

- **Building Official** – Community Development
- **Firefighter (Paramedic) (Entry-Level/Lateral)** – Fire Department
- **Senior Police Dispatcher (Lateral)** – Police Department
- **Police Dispatcher (Entry-Level)** – Police Department
- **Police Officer (Entry-Level/Lateral)** – Police Department
- **Reserve Police Officer Level II and I (Part-Time)** – Police Department
- **Police Cadet (Part-Time)** – Police Department

- **Senior Recreation Leader (Part-Time)** – Human Services
- **Recreation Leader (Part-Time)** – Human Services
- **Senior Learning Leader (Part-Time)** – Human Services
- **Learning Leader (Part-Time)** – Human Services
- **Substitute Learning Leader (Part-Time)**– Human Services

For an up-to-date listing of all job opportunities available at the City of Montclair or to apply for a job, please visit the Employment Opportunities page on the City's website at <https://www.cityofmontclair.org/employment-opportunities/>.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



Montclair Housing Corporation

The Montclair Housing Corporation (MHC) was formed in June 1994 as a nonprofit, public-benefit corporation organized for the purpose of increasing, improving, and preserving affordable housing in the City of Montclair. Formation of the MHC ensures that the Agency's units remain affordable to persons whose incomes do not exceed the low-to-moderate income levels as defined by state law.

City Staff are responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the Montclair Housing Authority-owned single-family and multifamily rental units. All the properties are rented to low-to-moderate income families with tenants undergoing a comprehensive tenant screening process.

The MHC has a contract with JD Property Management to assist with management of all MHC properties. JD Property Management staff are responsible for responding to all tenant and rental property inquiries.

Rental Information

- If you are interested in a single-family home or a two-or-three bedroom unit, please contact On-site Property Manager, Nancy Garcia.
- If you are interested in a one-or-two bedroom unit, please contact On-site Property Manager Leticia Castro.
- For additional information regarding JD Property Management, please contact Property Supervisor Orlando Cintron.

Please keep in mind that the MHC does not hold an applicant waitlist. Units are rented on a first come first served basis depending on availability.



Montclair Housing Corporation

Carla Becerra
City of Montclair Housing Specialist
(909) 625-9412
cbecerra@cityofmontclair.org
Monday - Thursday 7 A.M. - 6 P.M.

Leticia Castro
City of Montclair On-site Property Manager
(1 or 2 bedroom units)
(909) 526-1934
thepatioapartments@gmail.com
Monday - Friday 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Nancy Garcia
City of Montclair On-site Property Manager
(single-family home)
(2 or 3 bedroom unit)
(909) 526-1935
ngarcia_amherst@hotmail.com
Monday - Friday 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

JD PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC.

Orlando Cintron
JD Property Management
Property Supervisor
(714) 751-2787 Ext. 216
ocintron@jdproperty.com
Monday - Friday 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- **Reeder Ranch Park**

Residents will be excited to hear that the construction of Reeder Ranch Park is approximately 95% complete. Staff is working through the final details for installing utility services such as power and water. Once utility tie-ins are completed and the property has been thoroughly cleaned, staff will prepare plans for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the park to the public sometime in April or May of this year!



Reeder Ranch Park includes a 2,500 square foot recreational building and office space, community center with a stage, natural playground, picnic areas, walking trail, fitness stations and shaded picnic tables. Visitors will be able to enjoy exploring additional amenities for sports activities or just fun family gatherings. This project will be completed thanks to the \$5.1 million grant from the California Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program. Construction of the park is estimated to be \$6.5 million, with the remaining costs of the project covered by the 2021 Lease Revenue Bond Proceeds.

- **Alleyway Improvement Project**

The Public Works Department is excited to bring improved water drainage and road surfaces to alleyways throughout the City. The contractor has improved 11 of the 13-targeted alleyways in the Alleyway Improvement Project. This Capital Improvement Project first began by removing the existing pavement and the alleyway driveway entrances. Crews replaced the concrete and asphalt and created new drainage and gutters. The newly constructed pedestrian ramps at the alleyway driveway entrances were built in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including new traffic legends.

When paving is complete for the two remaining alleyways, the contractor will do a final cleaning and touchup of all 13 alleyways.

- **Installation of the Civic Center Generator**

The City of Montclair was awarded \$300,000 in Cal OES grant funds to prepare and respond to Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS) or other natural disasters. The City currently does not have an emergency backup generator for the City Hall campus. The American Red Cross uses the City's gymnasium as an emergency shelter during disasters, and the Senior Center is a designated cooling center for the San Bernardino County west end, providing residents with a place to escape the heat. Both facilities have large refrigerators and freezers that store perishable food items to give commodities to residents through food distribution programs. Staff has been working on an emergency generator adjacent to the Recreation Center. The new backup generator will allow City Hall and the Recreation building located at the Civic Center to continue operating during a PSPS.



The generator will be connected to the main switchgear, providing power to all buildings within the Civic Center through an automatic transfer switch. An electrical contractor installed the automatic transfer switch. The fire riser was relocated within the fire riser room to make room for the automatic transfer switch conduits and pull boxes. Trenching for the piping required to install the new generator was completed last year before a concrete contractor poured the concrete pad. The pad measures 18'x36' and took 30 days to cure. The generator is expected to be delivered in March. Once installed, the generator will be contained within a block wall enclosure.

- **Installation of HVAC Control System**

After a three-month process, a new HVAC Control System called iVu was installed at the Civic Center to replace an obsolete model. New features include computer software that allows the user to program the unit to run temperatures on a scheduled system.

- **Installation of HVAC unit at Fire Station 151**

Last year, the U.S. Department of Energy approved the City's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program Equipment Rebate Voucher application. The HVAC systems at Fire Station 151 were too weak to operate during the hottest months of the year, causing frequent blackouts. A contractor installed two new units on December 4, 2024. Fire crews can expect the station to be cool and comfortable this summer.

- **Storm Drain Cleaning**

In early January 2025, the Public Works Sewers Division began storm drain cleaning for the season. From January 2025 to February 2025, the crew cleaned over 80 storm drains throughout the City, ensuring that they were cleared of sediment, organic matter, and floatables.



- **Wind Storm Clean Up Projects**

On January 8, 2025, Montclair was hit with a wind storm that scattered debris throughout the City. Public Works crews were sent out to solely pick up debris for the day at over 20 locations. On January 21, 2025, a larger wind storm hit Montclair, damaging City signage and trees and scattering a large amount of debris. Public Works crews split up into teams to clean each portion of the City. Debris, tree limbs, whole trees, and palm fronds were collected from over 75 locations, and eight signs were removed and replaced.

- **Flashing Stop Sign Solar Panel Cleaning**

On January 24, 2025, Public Works crews began cleaning all Flashing Stop Sign solar panels. Crews will complete this process twice per calendar year. Staff cleaned over 180 stop signs until the task was completed on February 21, 2025. This cleaning ensures the proper operation of all Flashing Stop Signs around the City, creating safer pathways for residents.

- **Skim Patching – Del Mar Avenue**

On February 20, 2025, the Public Works Street Division completed a skim patching project on Del Mar Avenue at Moreno Street. The crew covered over 460 square feet of the street with asphalt to fill numerous potholes



- **Hazwoper Training**

From February 3, 2025, through February 13, 2025, Public Works Operations Assistant Manager Alex Cardona and Maintenance Leadworkers Richard Herrera, Philip Mendez, and Alex Perez attended four days of Hazwoper training in San Bernardino. Hazwoper stands for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response. At this training, staff learned proper emergency procedures that will be useful during a disaster or emergency.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- **New Cal OES Engine Acquired by the Fire Department**



The Montclair Fire Department is proud to announce the arrival of a new Office of Emergency Services (OES) fire engine, a custom-built apparatus provided by the state of California. This new addition enhances our ability to serve the community while also supporting statewide emergency response efforts. Through a partnership with the state, the Montclair Fire Department provides personnel to staff the engine when deployed to major incidents, such as wildfires, natural disasters, or other large-scale emergencies. While the OES engine is available for local emergency response, it remains part of California's mutual aid system. If called upon by the state, our department will deploy the engine and crew to assist where it's needed most. This collaboration strengthens our ability to protect Montclair while contributing to the safety of communities across California. We are honored to be part of this vital emergency response network and committed to serving both locally and beyond.

- **Chief Pohl's Retirement**

After 34 years of dedicated service, Fire Chief David Pohl has retired, leaving behind an impressive legacy of leadership and service to the community. Chief Pohl was a founding member of the Urban Search and Rescue Team and served as the department's Training Committee Chairman. He played an instrumental role in instructing and assisting with department training on Swift Water Rescue and Rapid Intervention Crew tactics. Chief Pohl also led the department's Wellness and Fitness Program and served as a Hazardous Materials Specialist, representing the Fire Department on the West End Hazardous Materials Team. His impact on the department and our community will be felt for years to come.



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- **Save the Date for the Following Upcoming Events!**

Easter Eggstravaganza and Pancake Breakfast

The City's Easter Eggstravaganza and Pancake Breakfast is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at Alma Hofman Park. The Eggstravaganza will include games, activities, Easter eggs, and candy for children 12 years and younger. Children are invited to bring their own baskets from home to win candy filled eggs as game prizes.

The Easter Bunny will arrive and pose for socially distanced photos (\$3 per photo or \$1 to take your own photo). The pancake breakfast provided by the Ontario-Montclair Kiwanis Club, will be offered for \$5 per plate, and will include 2 pancakes, 2 sausages, and orange juice, while supplies last.

For more event details please contact Jordi Ubaldo, Community Services Supervisor at (909) 625-9489.

Memorial Day Program

Join us on Monday, May 26 at 6:00 p.m. for the Community Activities Commission's 25th Annual Memorial Day Program. The Program will be held in the Memorial Garden, adjacent to City Hall. More event details will be announced soon.

Country Fair Jamboree

The 11th Annual Country Fair Jamboree is scheduled to take place on Saturday, June 7 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Alma Hofman Park. More event details will be announced soon. For information please contact Jordi Ubaldo, Community Services Supervisor at (909) 625-9489.

- **Holly Jolly Holiday**

On Thursday, December 5, 2024, at the Montclair Youth Center, children of all ages were delighted with the annual lighting of the City Christmas Tree and the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Holly Jolly Holiday event sponsored by the Montclair Community Activities Commission. Music from the Montclair High School Jazz Band led by Director Anthony Caro and a quartet of Christmas carolers had everyone in the Christmas spirit. The community enjoyed free photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, complimentary refreshments, multiple family photo opportunities, an area to write letters to Santa, and the newest attraction of snow play and sledding area for the families to enjoy.

This annual community favorite event brings hundreds of people out each year to celebrate the joy and magic of the season as approximately 1,000 guests attended, including Mayor Pro Tem Tenice Johnson, City Council Members Bill Ruh and Corysa Martinez, Council Member-Elect Xavier Mendez, Senator Susan Rubio, representatives from the offices of Congresswoman Norma Torres, Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez, County Supervisor Curt Hagman, and many City employees.

Special thanks go to the Montclair Community Activities Commission (CAC), the Public Works, Information Technology, Human Services, and Police Departments,

Montclair High School Key Club volunteers, Montclair Water Polo Team, and the Women's Club of Montclair, for helping create a memorable event for the community. Photos are shared on page 26.

- **Holiday Home Decoration Contest**

At the December 16, 2024 City Council meeting, the Community Activities Commission (CAC) recognized the winners of the 26th Annual Home Decoration Contest. Eighteen homes were judged at the December 11, 2024 CAC meeting, and three winners were selected:

5045 Kingsley Street - Christmas Magic

Owned by the Rodriguez Family

9015 Helena Avenue - Magic! Musical Lights

Owned by the Murray Family

9091 Ramona Ave - Bright Lights of Christmas

Owned by the Polanco Family

Photos are shared on Page 27.

- **Holiday Food and Toy Basket Program**

On Tuesday, December 17, 2024, many City staff members and volunteers participated in the City's annual sorting of food and toys.

On Wednesday, December 18, 2024, Montclair families in need received generous baskets of donated toys and food. Donations from City staff members, businesses, and members of the community helped provide baskets for 122 families. We also received a special donation of turkeys from the office of Congresswoman Norma Torres, San Bernardino County Supervisor Curt Hagman, and Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County.

As always, it was wonderful to see the appreciation from the families that received the baskets. Special acknowledgement goes to the volunteers from the Fire, Police, Public Works and Human Services Departments, as well as staff from OMSD Health and Wellness Services, Best Buy, TopGolf Ontario, and business and community members, for giving their time and energy to make the holidays so much brighter for the less fortunate families in our community. Photos are shared on page 28.

- **Military Banner Presentation**

At the City Council meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, the Montclair Community Activities Commission (CAC) presented military banners to four honorably discharged Montclair veterans whose banners had been displayed throughout the City of Montclair. Commissioner Ferrero read the script detailing the information about each individual and then the City Council presented the banners to the veteran or their family representative. This free CAC program is open to all Montclair residents who are serving our Country in the military. For more information about the CAC's Military Banner Program please contact Community Services Supervisor Jordi Ubaldo at (909) 625-9489. Below are those veterans who received their banner, their branch of service, and their years of serving our Country. We thank them for their dedicated service.

<u>Veteran</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Dan Patrick Benavidez	Marine Corps	2020-2024
Alfred Daniel Lopez	Marine Corps	2018-2024
Mario Amado Monsibais	Marine Corps	2019-2023
Christopher Tanner	Army	2019-2024

Our sincere appreciation goes out to these and all veterans for their service to the United States of America! Photos are shared on page 29.

- **Montclair After-School Program (MAP) Activities**

On November 5, 2024 the Montclair After-School Program (MAP) crowned a new champion for the Montclair Athletic Conference Flag Football League. MAP teams from Buena Vista, Elderberry, Kingsley, Lehigh, Monte Vista and Ramona competed in a five game season and playoffs to determine a champion. Congratulations to the Buena Vista Wolves! Thank you to all the players and coaches for a great flag football season.

From December 16 to December 19, 2024, MAP hosted The Great Gingerbread Build for students and their families at Buena Vista, Elderberry, Kingsley, Lehigh, Monte Vista, and Ramona Schools. Approximately 350 students and their families participated in festive family fun that included: building gingerbread houses, games and refreshments.

Photos are shared on page 30.



On Thursday, March 6, 2025 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., MAP will host its annual Art Show. This year's theme is Caffe'd' MAP, join us for a cup of creativity, conversation and community. The event will include student art displays, art classes, quick crafts, opportunity drawings and more!

- **Montclair Youth Center (MYC) Activities**

On Friday, February 7, the Youth Center hosted a Super Bowl themed party. About 60 students attended the party and enjoyed wings, nachos, and the vegetable/fruit bar. Participants played tailgating themed party games, pool/air hockey tournaments, and basketball/volleyball games in the gym.

On Tuesday, February 11, the City of Montclair Youth Center & OMSD Health & Wellness Services Department hosted an interactive presentation, Beef to Besties, Turning Conflict into Connection. Approximately 50 MAP students from Vernon Middle School participated in the event. The presentation was conducted by OMSD Master Level Intern Rebecca James. Students participated by sharing moments of frustrations and were guided with examples of coping techniques. The workshop included pizza, an icebreaker facilitated by Recreation Coordinator Emily G. Medina, presentation and a time for games, air hockey, ping-pong and pool. Thank you to Clinical Supervisor Sarah Diebold of OMSD Health and Wellness Services Department for coordinating these efforts with the Montclair Youth Center team.

The Montclair Youth Center (MYC) is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., and Tuesday from 12:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. for youths in grades 7 to 12 who live in Montclair or attend a Montclair School (Proof required). A Youth Center registration form is required to be a Youth Center participant, and you can stop by the Youth Center to pick up an application. The Montclair Community Center is open for teens to play basketball and volleyball, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. and hosts a cooking club every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

Photos are shared on page 31 & 32.

Other upcoming events at the Youth Center

- February 28: Field trip to Montclair Main Event
- March 24-28: Celebrating March Madness

- **Youth Sports Leagues**

Youth Basketball League – Winter 2024

The City of Montclair's Youth Basketball League is back! On Saturday, January 4, eighteen teams consisting of 174 players from grades 1-8 and 20 volunteer coaches took to the court at the Montclair Community Center where players are learning basketball skills, making great

memories, and having fun! Game days are every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. through March 1. All are welcome to attend the free games and support the players.

The coach's game took place on February 8 in the Montclair Community Center, which was filled with families supporting their coach by loudly cheering them on! An opportunity drawing was held at halftime with awesome basketball swag, as well as a shooting challenge for all players to win a free popcorn and drink. Thank you to all of our volunteers for dedicating your time, effort and knowledge to our community!

Youth Basketball League – Summer 2025

The Youth Basketball Summer League is just around the corner! Online and in-person registrations begin Monday, March 17 at 7:30 a.m. through Friday, April 18 or until the League is full. In-person registration will be held at the Montclair Recreation Center and online registration will be available at webtrac.cityofmontclair.org

The League is open to boys and girls born in 2011–2018.

- Division A – Children born 2011–2012
- Division B – Children born 2013–2014
- Division C – Children born 2015–2016
- Division D – Children born 2017–2018

The League fee is \$40 which includes a jersey and medal. Register as soon as possible, space is limited!

Games will be played at the Montclair Community Center Gymnasium beginning June 9 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for six weeks ending on Saturday, July 19, 2025. Volunteer coaches are needed for all Divisions.

For more information, please contact Recreation Coordinator Randy Franklin at (909) 625-9481.

Youth Volleyball League – Spring 2025

The Youth Volleyball Spring League begins soon! Games will be played at the Montclair Community Center Gymnasium beginning April 5 on Saturdays for six weeks ending on Saturday, May 17, 2025. Volunteer coaches are needed for all Divisions.

For more information, please contact Recreation Coordinator Randy Franklin at (909) 625-9481.

- **Senior Center Activities**

Veteran's Day Dance

On Wednesday, November 13, 2024 the Montclair Senior Center hosted a Veteran's Day Dance, which was attended by over 100 guests, including Representative Sophia Siquieros from the office of Congresswoman Norma Torres and Nayda Bahena from the office of State Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez. The Senior Center was adorned with patriotic decorations and included a photo booth. Each Veteran received certificates from the City of Montclair, Congresswoman Norma Torres, Senator Susan Rubio, Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez, and San Bernardino County Fourth District Supervisor Curt Hagman. The dance featured food, photo opportunities, live DJ, and fellowship.

Photos are shared on page 33.

Hot Cocoa & Cookies Christmas Sing Along

On Tuesday, December 3, 2024 the Senior Center hosted a Hot Cocoa & Cookies Christmas Sing Along where participants enjoyed cookies and sang Christmas carols with a special visit from Santa Claus; over 40 participants attended this event.

December Senior Birthday Celebration

On Wednesday, December 11, 2024 the Senior Center celebrated December birthdays in the Community Center with over 100 attendees. The "Santa's Workshop" themed birthday party featured Bingo and a visit from Santa Claus as well as several photo opportunities. Senior Birthday Honorees received certificates of recognition or cards from Congresswoman Norma Torres, Senator Susan Rubio, Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez and Supervisor Curt Hagman. Photos are shared on page 33.

Jazz In January

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025 the Senior Center hosted a live jazz performance. Senior participants were immersed in the sweet and smooth sounds of jazz during their lunch program. Photos are shared on page 33.

January Senior Birthday Celebration

On Wednesday, January 29, the Senior Center celebrated January birthdays in the Community Center with over 130 attendees. The "New Year's Celebration" themed birthday party featured a DJ, dancing and several photo opportunities. Senior Birthday Honorees received certificates of recognition or cards from Congresswoman Norma Torres, Senator Susan Rubio, Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez and Supervisor Curt Hagman. Photos are shared on page 34.

Paint and Fun with Memo’s Canvas

On Thursday, January 17, 2025 the Senior Center hosted a Paint and Fun event, a free painting class instructed by Memo’s Canvas. Twenty seniors were guided step-by-step in creating their own canvas painting while also enjoying light refreshments.

Scam Stopper Event

On Friday, January 31, the Senior Center hosted a Scam Stopper Event to learn how to protect yourself from scammers, what to look out for and how to report them. This event was presented by Senator Susan Rubio’s office and the Contractors State License Board. Over 100 participants attended this event. Photos are shared on page 34.

Blissfully Ever After (Vow Renewal) Event

Valentine’s Day was celebrated two days early at the Senior Center where over 50 attendees gathered on Wednesday, February 12, to witness five senior citizen couples renew their wedding vows. The heartfelt ceremony was officiated by Pastor Josh Matlock, a Chaplain with the Montclair Police Department. The full event featured the vow exchange, a first dance, a video presentation, and a celebratory dinner. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal featuring herb chicken with all the trimmings and a tiered wedding cake for dessert. The honored couples celebrated in a beautifully decorated space featuring a pastel floral garden theme that allowed for many memorable moments for photo opportunities. All attendees embraced the joyous occasion, by dancing to their favorite songs provided by the DJ and all seemed to cherish the love-filled atmosphere throughout the entire three hour event. We appreciate our generous sponsors of the event including the City of Montclair, Alpha Care Medical Group/Astrana Health and the San Bernardino County Department of Aging and Adult Services – Public Guardian. The couples who participated in the Vow Renewal at the Blissfully Ever After included:

<u>Couples</u>	<u>Years Married</u>
Paul & Alice Cheung	46 years
Jose & Barbara Flores	42 years
Miguel & Alicia Guerrero	53 years
Rudy & Maria Quintana	45 years
Jaime & Guadalupe Rincon	45 years

Photos are shared on Page 35.

Tax Prep Services

The City of Montclair is partnering with the San Bernardino County Transitional Assistance Department (TAD) for tax preparation services. Services are free and will be available by APPOINTMENT ONLY at the Montclair Senior Center from 8:30 to 11:30 AM on February 20 and April 10 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. To schedule an appointment, please call (877) 410-8829.

Senior Center Excursions

Join the Montclair Senior Center on day trips to your favorite local destinations!

- Thursday, March 13: Fantasy Springs Casino
Fee: \$40 (lunch not included)
Last day to register is March 10 or when capacity is reached
- Thursday, April 10: Bowers Museum & Downtown Disney
Fee: \$40 (lunch not included)
Registration begins March 3 and the last day to register is April 7 or when capacity is reached

Space is limited, registration and payment is taken at the Montclair Senior Center. For more information visit the Montclair Senior Center or call (909) 625-9483.

Other Upcoming Special Events at the Senior Center

- February 26: Senior Birthday Party; Theme: The Month of Love (RSVP Required).
- March 12: St. Patrick's Day Dance (RSVP Required).
- For a complete list of upcoming senior activities and more information, please see the Senior Newsletter at www.cityofmontclair.org/senior-newsletter or call (909) 625-9483.

MARCH 2025

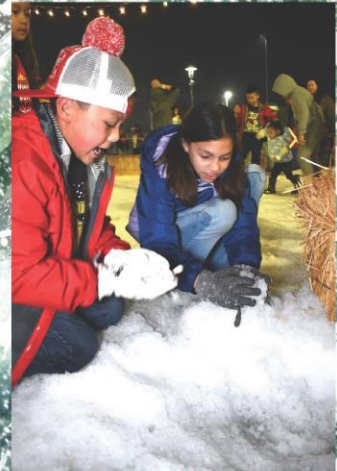
<i>Day</i>	<i>Event & Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
Mon. 3	Mid-Year Budget Review	5:30 p.m.
Mon. 3	City Council Meeting Montclair Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Wed. 5	Community Activities Commission Meeting Montclair Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Tues. 10	Planning Commission Meeting Montclair Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Wed. 17	City Council Meeting Montclair Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Thur. 20	Monthly Food Distribution Montclair Community Center	9:30 a.m.
Mon. 24	Planning Commission Meeting Montclair Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Wed. 26	Senior Mobile Pantry Program by Feeding America Montclair Recreation Center	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Sat. – Sun. 29 – 30	Free Montclair Chamber of Commerce E-Waste Event Parking Lot at Alma Hofman Park	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Agendas for meetings include instructions for all participation options and can be viewed on the City's website at least 72 hours before each (regular) meeting at: www.cityofmontclair.org/agendas/.

More event details can be found on the City's website at: <http://www.cityofmontclair.org/events> .../[community-programs/](http://www.cityofmontclair.org/community-programs/), and .../[news/](http://www.cityofmontclair.org/news/).



Montclair
**JOLLY
JOLLY**
Holiday
December 5, 2024



2024 Holiday Home Decoration Contest Winners



Christmas Magic
5045 Kingsley Street



Magic! Musical Lights
9015 Helena Avenue



Bright Lights of Christmas
9091 Ramona Avenue

2024 Holiday Food and Toy Basket Program





Military Banner Presentation

January 21, 2025





Great Gingerbread Build

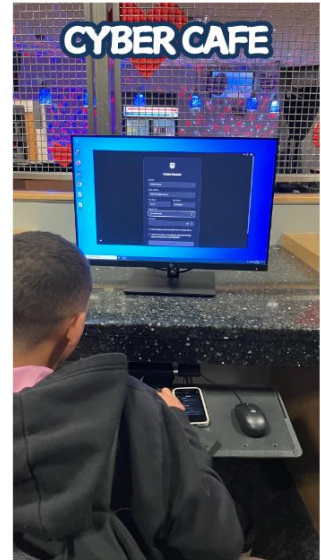


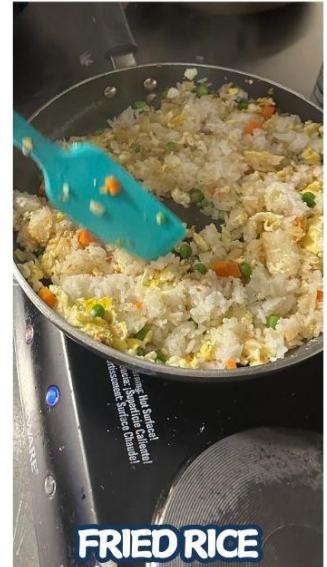
Festive

Family

Fun!







Veterans Day Event November 13, 2024







Senior Birthday Party! December 11, 2024 "Santa's Workshop"



Jazz In January! January 14, 2025



Senior Birthday Party January 29, 2025 “New Years Celebration”



Scam Stopper Event January 31, 2025



Blissfully Ever After Vow Renewal February 12, 2025

