



DATE: April 21, 2022
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager

CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT APRIL 2022

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

- **Biden Administration Focuses on Transit Infrastructure Projects**

The Biden administration provides funding to major bus and rail projects in six states as part of a spending blueprint it delivered to Congress in early April.

The new projects that the U.S. Department of Transportation included in its budget request would be in New York, New Jersey, Los Angeles, Seattle, the San Francisco Bay Area, Memphis, Tennessee, and San Antonio. The projects are well into their planning stages and could be ready for federal funding next fiscal year. However, the Gold Line extension from Pomona to Montclair, a shovel-ready project, was not included in the funding mix because the Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority is currently prohibited from seeking federal funding for the project.

According to Federal Transit Administration [budget documents](#),¹ approving projects in the pipeline allows the opportunity to advance the projects quickly, minimizing cost escalation. Approved projects would require local matching sources of funding and Federal dollars.

The new projects approved for funding are:

- **New York and New Jersey:** The construction of rail tunnels underneath the Hudson River between the two states. The new tunnels would alleviate [a chokepoint in Amtrak's Northeast Corridor](#)² leading into New York's Penn Station. They would be part of a \$12 billion effort called the Gateway Project to increase capacity there. The Biden Administration recommended \$100 million for the project.
- **New York City:** A [1.5-mile segment of the Second Avenue subway](#)³ on the east side of Manhattan to East Harlem. The Biden Administration recommended \$400 million for the project, including three new stations. The extension would bring the line from

¹ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/2022-03/FY23-Annual-Report-on-Funding-Recommendations.pdf>

² <https://www.governing.com/archive/gov-tunnels-amtrak-infrastructure-newyork.html>

³ <https://new.mta.info/project/second-avenue-subway-phase-2>

96th Street to 125th Street. First proposed nearly a century ago, the project has been controversial because of its enormous cost. The New York Times estimated that the most recent segment of the subway cost \$2.5 billion a mile, the most expensive transit project in the world.

- **Seattle:** An upgrade converting a busy bus line to bus rapid transit in the Seattle area. The Administration recommended \$60 million for improvements along a route between downtown Seattle and the University of Washington's campus. [The RapidRide J Line](#)⁴ would include upgraded bus stops, off-board fare collection, traffic priority signals, bus-only lanes, and bike lanes.
- **San Francisco Bay Area:** An extension of BART subway service six miles from the Berryessa station through downtown San Jose to Santa Clara, part of an effort to better connect Silicon Valley to San Francisco. The Biden Administration recommended \$200 million for the project, a partnership between the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and BART, the Bay Area Rapid Transit District.
- **Memphis, Tennessee:** A bus rapid transit line in Memphis connecting downtown with the University of Memphis and the medical district. The Biden Administration recommended \$46 million for the improvements.
- **San Antonio:** An 11.7-mile bus rapid transit line to connect downtown, the airport, and several dense commercial and residential areas. The Biden Administration recommended \$158 million for the project.
- **Southern California:** A 6.7-mile light rail extension in the Los Angeles area. The [East San Fernando Valley project](#)⁵ would include 11 stations, new vehicles, a storage and maintenance facility, and overhead wires. The Biden Administration recommended \$250 million for the project.

In addition to the new projects, the Biden Administration proposed speeding up payments to projects that have already received funding from the FTA through its Capital Investment Grants (CIG), an umbrella category of grants that cover most of the federal government's spending on local transit construction.

According to the FTA, speeding up payments to agencies that already have full funding grant agreements would potentially lower financing costs and allow FTA to better manage the overall program in the future, given the increasing number of projects and demand for funds.

Locally, the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority's West Valley Connector Bus Rapid Transit Project received \$112.8 million in Small Starts Grant through the CIG program. As a result, payments through the CIG will now be accelerated. Funding from the Biden Administration covers approximately one-third of the WVC's estimated \$262.67 million Phase 1 capital cost.

⁴ <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/transit-program/transit-plus-multimodal-corridor-program/rapidride-roosevelt>

⁵ <https://www.metro.net/projects/east-sfv/>

Paralleling the Interstate-10 Freeway, the West Valley Connector (WVC) Project, a 100% zero-emission Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System, will become part of the growing network of transit services in the West Valley (the most congested corridor in San Bernardino County), providing riders with direct connectivity between the Metrolink San Bernardino Line at the Rancho Cucamonga transit center and the Metrolink Riverside Line at the Pomona Downtown Transit Center.

Phase 1 of the WVC Project is 19 miles long. It will upgrade a portion of existing Route 61, which runs along Holt Boulevard, adding approximately 3.5 miles as center-running, dedicated bus-only lanes. Phase 1 will also feature 21 stations (including two stations in Montclair); the purchase of 40-foot zero-emission buses; and improved bus transit connection to Ontario International Airport (ONT), the Ontario Convention Center, civic centers (Ontario, Montclair, and Pomona), educational centers, employment hubs, healthcare service facilities, and other activity centers along the route. Headways will be 10 minutes in the peak commute period and 15 minutes off-peak.

The City of Montclair will explore future grant opportunities to provide shuttle connections between Montclair’s WVC stations and North Montclair, including the Montclair Transcenter and Montclair Place. In addition, Montclair’s proposed San Antonio Creek Corridor Trail will also provide pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between the WVC corridor in Montclair and the Montclair Transcenter and Pacific Electric Trail.

Image 1 below shows the WVC route when both Phase 1 (Pomona to ONT) and Phase 2 (ONT to Victoria Gardens) are completed.

**Image 1
WVC Route**

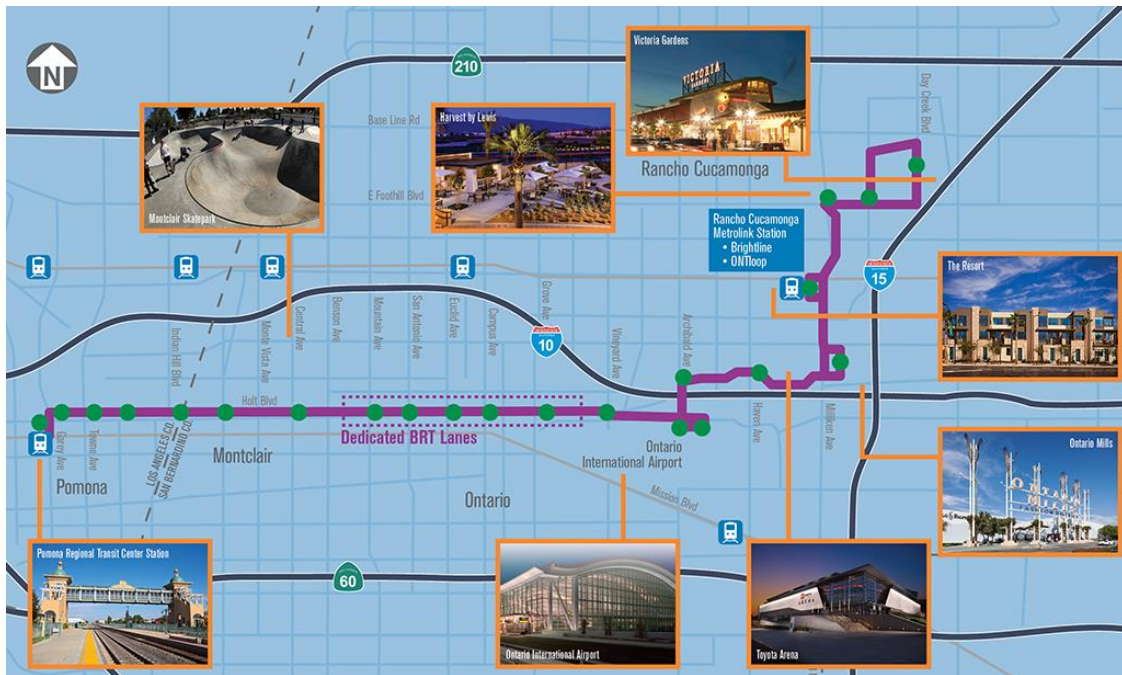


Table 1 below identifies CIG projects in the Los Angeles area that are currently in the pipeline for CIG grants.

**Table 1
Capital Investment Grants
Los Angeles Area**

Inglewood	Inglewood Transit Connector	PDF ⁶
Los Angeles	East San Fernando Valley (ESFV) Transit Corridor Phase 1 Project	PDF ⁷
Los Angeles	Restoration of Historic Streetcar in Downtown Los Angeles	PDF ⁸
Los Angeles	West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor	PDF ⁹
Los Angeles	Westside Subway Section 1	PDF ¹⁰
Los Angeles	Westside Subway Section 2	PDF ¹¹
Los Angeles	Westside Subway Section 3	PDF ¹²
Monterey	SURF! Highway 1 Busway and BRT	PDF ¹³
Sacramento	Downtown Riverfront Streetcar Project	PDF ¹⁴
San Bernardino	West Valley Connector BRT Project	PDF ¹⁵
San Carlos	Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project	PDF ¹⁶
San Diego	Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project	PDF ¹⁷
San Francisco	Transbay Downtown Rail Extension Project	PDF ¹⁸
San Francisco	BART Transbay Corridor Core Capacity Project	PDF ¹⁹
San Jose	BART Silicon Valley Phase II Extension	PDF ²⁰

A complete list of nationwide projects currently eligible for CIG grants [is available here](#).²¹

⁶ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/grant-programs/capital-investments/inglewood-transit-connector-project-development-profile>
⁷ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/grant-programs/capital-investments/east-san-fernando-valley-esfv-transit-corridor-phase-1-project-0>
⁸ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/downtown-los-angeles-streetcar-project-profile>
⁹ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/grant-programs/capital-investments/west-santa-ana-branch-transit-corridor-profile>
¹⁰ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/westside-purple-line-extension-section-1-project-profile-1>
¹¹ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/westside-purple-line-extension-section-2-project-profile-2>
¹² <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/westside-purple-line-extension-section-3-project-profile>
¹³ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/grant-programs/capital-investments/surf-highway-1-busway-and-bus-rapid-transit-project-profile>
¹⁴ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/downtown-riverfront-streetcar-project-profile>
¹⁵ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/west-valley-connector-brt-project-profile>
¹⁶ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/caltrain-peninsula-corridor-electrification-project-1>
¹⁷ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/mid-coast-corridor-project-profile-0>
¹⁸ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/transbay-downtown-rail-extension-project-project-development>
¹⁹ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/transbay-corridor-core-capacity-project-profile>
²⁰ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/grant-programs/capital-investments/bart-silicon-valley-phase-ii-extension-project-profile>
²¹ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/current-capital-investment-grant-cig-projects>

- **Metrolink Adding Trains Back Into Service**

Starting on April 4, 2022, Metrolink restored twenty-four trains and added 2 new trains to its service schedule — representing the first major restoration of train service since Metrolink reduced service by approximately 30% due to steep ridership declines at the beginning of the pandemic. The service update also makes four Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains available to all Metrolink ticket holders, adding Saturday and Sunday service on the Ventura County Line.

On March 24, 2020, Metrolink reduced its schedule by approximately 30 percent following a 90% drop in ridership at the outset of the pandemic and associated stay-at-home orders. Metrolink surveys fielded in April 2020, and February 2021 found that approximately three-fourths of those continuing to ride Metrolink were essential workers. As more office workers return to their workplaces after telecommuting for two years, and with gas prices at record highs across southern California, Metrolink has recently recorded significant ridership growth in its weekday and weekend ridership. Metrolink is at approximately 30% of its weekday ridership compared to pre-pandemic levels. Following the additional service on April 4th, the agency anticipates that the percentage will grow to about 44% by midsummer. In addition, Metrolink has recovered nearly 70% of its pre-pandemic ridership on the weekends.

The remaining service that would bring Metrolink to 100% of its pre-pandemic service levels will be restored by October 2022. Key schedule highlights include the following:

- **91/Perris Valley Line:** Two added trains with midday service to Los Angeles and a reverse morning trip to Riverside County.
- **Antelope Valley Line:** Six added trains and schedule updates, increasing weekday travel flexibility.
- **Orange County Line:** Two added trains offering more weekday morning service.
- **Riverside Line:** Four added trains offering increased flexibility for weekday travel.
- **San Bernardino Line:** Six added trains, including later evening trains, plus a new Sunday service.
- **Ventura County Line:** Six added Metrolink trains, including weekday morning and evening trains, plus four [Amtrak Pacific Surfliner](#)²² trains available to all Metrolink ticket holders - including on Saturday and Sundays.

An overview of Metrolink’s full schedule can be found here: [schedule update](#).²³

Metrolink is an affordable option, with ticket prices ranging from \$0.50 to \$26.50 — depending on the distance traveled. The average fare for a one-way trip is \$6.60. Discounts are available for youth, students (including college students), seniors, persons with disabilities, and active military. Children ages five and under always ride free with a paying adult, while children 17 and under ride free with a paying adult on the weekends.

²² <https://metrolinktrains.com/codeshare>

²³ <https://metrolinktrains.com/scheduleupdate>

Metrolink provides a variety of ticket and passes options to offer riders more flexibility. One-way and round-trip tickets are suitable for infrequent riders. The 5-Day Flex Pass provides five round-trip tickets at a 10% discount that are good for 30 days, perfect for those who telecommute part-time. The Monthly Pass offers unlimited use between the rider's selected station pairs, ideal for those who ride the train more frequently. Added benefits of the Monthly Pass include a 38% discount on round-trip tickets, unlimited weekend use, and access to all Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains, with some limitations. People can ride everywhere Metrolink travels for a flat \$10 rate each day on weekends and holidays. View Metrolink's complete list of fare options at metrolinktrains.com/tickets.²⁴

Metrolink cleans its trains multiple times daily and uses an electrostatic sprayer to mist hospital-grade disinfectants throughout all trains. Touchpoint cleaning is performed on seats, arm and headrests, rails, grab bars, tables, trashcans, and restrooms throughout the day. In addition, each train car is equipped with two hand sanitizer stations - one by each door.

Federal law requires wearing face coverings on public transportation, including Metrolink stations, platforms, and trains.

Metrolink operates 538 miles of track and 62 stations across Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. It serves as an essential link in the region's mobility network, enabling people to connect to their jobs and explore all the region offers. Before the pandemic, Metrolink had nearly 12 million annual boarding from people who chose to ride the train to avoid gridlock, removing an estimated 9.3 million vehicles from the roads and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 130,000 metric tons each year.

• **Governor Gavin Newsom's New Proposals**

Gas Tax Rebate

Last month, in his State of the State Address, Governor Gavin Newsom proposed a [gas tax rebate](#)²⁵ to help Californians defray their costs at the gas pump. The plan would give up to \$800 to every registered vehicle owner, with debit cards in the mail as early as July.

Since announcing his plan, several [competing proposals](#)²⁶ have been submitted by State Legislators. Of these, [A.B. 1616 \(the "California Emergency Relief Fund"\)](#)²⁷ appears to be the only bill likely to gain significant traction. A.B. 1616 proposes to offer \$400 rebates to every taxpayer instead of every registered vehicle owner and is expected to receive a committee hearing on or about April 18.

²⁴ <https://metrolinktrains.com/ticketsOverview/ticket-info/ticket-types/>

²⁵ <https://www.abc10.com/article/news/politics/gas-tax-rebate-newsom/103-02381cef-dc1f-459b-8338-f095b4790527>

²⁶ https://calmatters.org/economy/2022/03/gas-money-rebates/?utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm_campaign=ce621437ad-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-ce621437ad-151172040&mc_cid=ce621437ad&mc_eid=4181c00a62

²⁷ https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1616&utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm_campaign=ce621437ad-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-ce621437ad-151172040&mc_cid=ce621437ad&mc_eid=4181c00a62

Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court

Governor Newsom and State Legislators are making [mental health reform](#)²⁸ a significant objective for the state. [S.B. 1338 \(the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment \(CARE\) Court Program\)](#)²⁹ was revealed in early April, codifying Governor Newsom's plan [to develop a framework](#)³⁰ for courts to force people with serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders into treatment. Governor Newsom [wants lawmakers](#)³¹ to approve CARE Court as part of the state budget, which could take effect as early as July.

Under Governor Newsom's proposal, [CARE Court](#)³² would make it easier to compel 12,000 mentally ill homeless people into treatment centers via a special judicial proceeding, but with a one-year limit that could be extended only by further proceedings.

The CARE Court would tailor an individualized plan for each person found to need intervention, offering various services, including psychological treatment and placement in housing programs managed by a team of medical and non-medical personnel. Each of California's 58 counties would have to participate in the CARE Court program.

Many of the state's local leaders support the Governor's proposal, arguing it will address a portion of California's homelessness problem and help fix the state's broken and costly mental health care system—a system they say merely cycles homeless people struggling with mental health and addictions through jails, hospitals, and psychiatric centers, only to send them back out on the streets without rehabilitating them, mainly because treatment is voluntary. Civil rights advocates, however, are skeptical, arguing the problem of homelessness is caused by the cost of housing and that homelessness will not be solved strictly through treatments for mental health or substance abuse problems. CARE Court, they say, would be a reversal in California's move away from its [notorious era of institutionalization during the 20th century](#).³³ During that era, California maintained an extensive network of state mental hospitals. As a result, people deemed to be dangerous to themselves or others were committed, often for decades, with some receiving severe forms of treatment.

In the mid-20th century, the concept of involuntary commitments came under fire, with critics saying that the hospitals were more like prisons than treatment centers. As a result, their patients were denied basic civil rights and lost the right to self-determined care.

²⁸ https://calmatters.org/newsletters/whatmatters/2022/04/lawmakers-mental-health-reform/?utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm_campaign=ce621437ad-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-ce621437ad-151172040&mc_cid=ce621437ad&mc_eid=4181c00a62

²⁹ https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1338&utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters+&utm_campaign=ce621437ad-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-ce621437ad-151172040&mc_cid=ce621437ad&mc_eid=4181c00a62

³⁰ https://calmatters.org/health/2022/03/newsom-california-mental-illness-treatment/?utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm_campaign=ce621437ad-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-ce621437ad-151172040&mc_cid=ce621437ad&mc_eid=4181c00a62

³¹ https://www.capradio.org/articles/2022/04/04/heres-what-we-know-so-far-about-gov-newsoms-care-court-proposal/?utm_campaign=CHL%3A%20Daily%20Edition&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=208916766&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9wJAzF_VQOEYDUOF21C8sSmqJIUzvXM9YYJ1artlHjSKRmrnAH89ayn9S_rd9G3eC8WQ2oSX1RImB7-AnitqXwOyVY0A&utm_content=208916766&utm_source=hs_email&utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm_campaign=ce621437ad-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-ce621437ad-151172040&mc_cid=ce621437ad&mc_eid=4181c00a62

³² <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Fact-Sheet-CARE-Court-1.pdf>

³³ <https://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/california/a-brief-history-of-mental-health-care-in-california/103-537434252>

When Ronald Reagan became California's governor in 1967, he signed into law the [Lanterman-Petris-Short Act](#),³⁴ establishing an elaborate process that would have to be followed for involuntary commitments, limiting them to the profoundly disabled. The Act had the support of State Legislators who wanted to reduce California's hefty costs for patient hospital care. However, the state failed to provide adequate financial support for local public mental health service providers, which continued to function to treat mentally ill and indigent patients. Without sufficient funding, local public health service programs could not offer a continuum of care programs, and, under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act, mentally ill patients refused treatment. State hospitals set up to treat mentally ill patients either closed, converted to other uses, or were razed. As a result, California has seen an explosion of homelessness in the state over the past few decades, and many of those living on the streets suffer from severe mental illnesses.

The Newsom Administration acknowledges that CARE Courts would compel treatment and notes that the program would prevent people from being placed in more restrictive settings, such as conservatorships or prisons.

Who would CARE Court serve?

The state estimates between 7,000 and 12,000 Californians would be eligible for CARE Court, a small fraction of the state's total homeless population.

The most recent [Federal Homelessness Count](#)³⁵ conducted in January 2020 found that [California had approximately 161,000 people experiencing homelessness](#)³⁶—increasing by 10,270 from year-to-year (January 2019 to January 2020).

A CARE Court [fact sheet](#)³⁷ says the program “is not for everyone experiencing homelessness or mental illness.” Instead, it “focuses on people with schizophrenia spectrum or other psychotic disorders who lack medical decision-making capacity—before they get arrested and committed to a State Hospital or become so impaired that they end up in a Lanterman-Petris Short Mental Health Conservatorship.”

How would CARE Court work?

CARE Court would be a referral-based program. It would allow first responders, law enforcement, behavioral health providers, and family members to refer people struggling with addiction and mental illness.

Under the plan, a judge would appoint the person under referral to a public defender and order a clinical evaluation to determine whether the person meets the criteria for the program. If the

³⁴ <https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/publications/understanding-the-lanterman-petris-short-lps-act>

³⁵ https://shou.senate.ca.gov/sites/shou.senate.ca.gov/files/Homelessness_in_CA_2020_Numbers.pdf?msclkid=1092ba5fb90611ec908fddc6c260e56d

³⁶ <https://www.caprario.org/articles/2021/03/19/californias-homeless-population-rose-7-to-161000-ahead-of-the-pandemic-new-report-finds/>

³⁷ https://www.chhs.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CARE-Court-Framework_web.pdf

criteria were met, the judge would order a “CARE plan” that would outline treatment and medication for up to 12 months. The plan would be developed by county behavioral health specialists, the participant and a newly established position called a “supporter,” who would help the participant “understand, consider and communicate decisions,” giving them the tools to make self-directed choices for the greatest extent possible.

A CARE Court judge would review the plan, hold status hearings, and could extend treatment for up to an additional 12 months.

The program would include “a housing plan” for participants who need it. It would, however, be up to the judge to order a local government to provide housing, as not all participants are expected to be homeless. Some advocates for homeless people say there should be a stronger guarantee on housing.

If a participant does not complete their CARE Plan, the judge would have the authority to refer the individual to a conservatorship. If the referral had been from jail or prison and the person failed to complete the program, the judge could order the participant back to incarceration.

Will forced treatment under CARE be effective?

Some health advocates argue that treatment cannot be compelled for someone who is not ready to accept help. People may be taken off the street, but the results may not show improvement. Critics point to a [2014 study from the National Institutes of Health](#),³⁸ which concluded that empirical evidence does not support the use of coercive treatment and that more research is needed.

The Newsom administration states that California’s behavioral health treatment has evolved and can effectively and humanely treat mental illness and addiction. Under CARE, treatment will not be like California’s history of overcrowded state hospitals handing out extreme treatments like lobotomies and forced sterilizations. Instead, intensive psychosocial support, housing, and medication will be provided to keep those being treated connected to their families and communities.

How will CARE be funded?

The Newsom administration argues that state funds that are now spent cycling people through hospitals, jails, and courtrooms — processes that do not address underlying mental health and addiction problems — could be spent on CARE Court. However, California’s 58 county governments would be responsible for providing mental health treatment for CARE Court participants, and historically those services have been underfunded.

³⁸ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24562319/>

County public health officials are willing to collaborate to assist participants but caution that the behavioral health infrastructure is just starting to come out of decades of inadequate funding and support, and housing programs remain elusive. CARE Court, they say, could increase caseloads for county public guardians and conservators who are funded entirely with county general fund dollars.

In response, the Newsom administration plans to propose new spending in the 2022 May Budget Revisé to pay for the cost of CARE Court, including public defenders, bailiffs, and administrative expenses. California could also pay for CARE Court's treatment and housing costs from the [\\$12 billion Governor Newsom approved for homeless housing and supportive services in last year's state budget](#),³⁹ including \$3 billion to create 22,000 behavioral health-housing beds for people struggling with mental health disorders. The Newsom administration could also propose using funds generated by [Proposition 63 \(the "Mental Health Services Act"\)](#),⁴⁰ which levies an additional 1% income tax on personal incomes above \$1 million. According to state officials, Proposition 63 is expected to produce \$3.8 billion in 2022.

The Governor could also draw from the \$2 billion in additional homeless aid he proposed for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget if the Legislature approves the spending plan in June.

Governor Newsom expects to release more CARE Court details in late April.

• U.S. House of Representatives Passes Cannabis Decriminalization Bill

The U.S. House of Representatives voted to legalize cannabis in all 50 states earlier this month. The vote for [H.R. 3617 - the Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement \(MORE\) Act](#)⁴¹ was 220 to 204. The vote is considered symbolic because the law is not expected to receive enough votes in the Senate to pass the 60-vote threshold.

Key provisions in the MORE Act include the following:

- Would create the Office of Cannabis Justice to oversee the social equity provisions in the law.
- Would open the door to research, better banking and tax laws, and help fuel economic growth as states are looking for financial resources.
- Replaces statutory references to *marijuana* and *marihuana* with *cannabis*.
- Requires the Bureau of Labor Statistics to regularly publish demographic data on cannabis business owners and employees.
- Establishes a trust fund (Opportunity Trust Fund) to support various programs and services for individuals and businesses in communities impacted by the war on drugs.

³⁹ <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/07/19/governor-newsom-signs-historic-housing-and-homelessness-funding-package-as-part-of-100-billion-california-comeback-plan/>

⁴⁰ <https://mhsoac.ca.gov/the-act-mhsa/?msclkid=60eca218b90811ec9e098bdc951a7753>

⁴¹ <https://www.congress.gov/bills/117th-congress/house-bill/3617>

- Imposes a 5% retail tax (increase to 8% over three years) on the sale of cannabis products produced in or imported into the United States, and an occupational tax on cannabis production facilities and export warehouses. Tax revenue would go to the Opportunity Trust Fund.
- Makes Small Business Administration loans and services available to entities that are cannabis-related legitimate businesses or service providers.
- Prohibits the denial of federal public benefits to a person based on certain cannabis-related conduct or convictions.
- Prohibits the denial of benefits and protections under immigration laws because of a cannabis-related event (e.g., conduct or a conviction).
- Establishes a process to expunge convictions and conduct sentencing review hearings related to federal cannabis offenses.
- Directs the Government Accountability Office to study the societal impact of state legalization of recreational cannabis.
- Directs the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to study methods for determining whether a driver is impaired by marijuana.
- Directs the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to study the impact of state legalization of recreational cannabis on the workplace.
- Directs the Department of Education to study the impact of state legalization of recreational cannabis on schools and school-aged children.

The time may not be ripe for federal rescheduling; however, reforms continue to make headway across the nation. Eighteen states have now legalized adult recreational use of cannabis, and another 37 states allow for the medical use of cannabis.

For years, cannabis reform efforts have been centered at the state and federal levels. However, 37 states now have legalized some form of cannabis, so regulation concerns are shifting to localities. The single biggest issue facing legalized cannabis markets is the lack of local licenses. Most states that have legalized the use of cannabis have left it up to local governments, which have been slow to act. In California, for example, an estimated 25% of the state's cities and counties have legalized commercial cannabis. However, low licensing rates and high taxation, and burdensome regulation have resulted in a robust market for illegal cannabis sales and a legal industry struggling to compete.

- **Beware! Cybersecurity Threat**

Earlier this month, California local governments received from the state's Homeland Security Advisor and California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) a joint statement specifying that evolving federal intelligence indicated the Russian Government, in response to U.S. and NATO support of the Ukrainian nation, is exploring options to conduct potential cyberattacks against the United States and its critical infrastructure. U.S. intelligence on Russian intentions against Ukraine has been exceptional, suggesting that warnings related to potential cyberattacks against U.S. targets should be regarded as serious threats.

Spearheading the state's cybersecurity efforts is the California Cybersecurity Integration Center (Cal-CSIC), a component of CalOES, whose primary purpose is to reduce the likelihood and severity of cyber incidents that could damage or disrupt California's economy, its critical infrastructure, and public and private sector computer networks.

CalOES is unaware of any immediate, credible cybersecurity threats to the state. Nonetheless, each government sector must remain vigilant by respectively assessing their cyber resiliency and mitigating any gaps, increasing overall situational awareness, maintaining contact with cybersecurity professionals for alerts regarding the emergence of any critical threat situations, and direction on appropriate actions.

The Biden Administration has prioritized strengthening cybersecurity defenses to prepare for potential cyber threats from foreign players. By Executive Order ([Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity](#)),⁴² the Administration has launched public-private action plans to shore up the cybersecurity of the electricity, pipeline, and water sectors and has directed Departments and Agencies to use all existing government authorities to mandate new cybersecurity and network defense measures. Internationally, the Administration brought together more than 30 allies and partners to cooperate to detect and disrupt ransomware threats, rallied G7 countries to hold accountable nations who harbor ransomware criminals, and has taken steps with partners and allies to publicly attribute malicious activity.

The reality, however, is that partners in the public and private sectors must act to protect critical services on which they and their residents and customers rely.

Practical steps the City is taking include the following:

1. Mandate the use of multi-factor authentication on systems to make it harder for attackers to get in;
2. Deploy modern security tools to look for and mitigate threats continuously; Regularly check with cybersecurity professionals to make sure that systems are patched and protected against all known vulnerabilities, and change passwords across City networks to ensure that any previously stolen credentials are useless to malicious actors;
3. Back up data on a regular schedule, and maintain offline backups beyond the reach of malicious actors;
4. Run internal I.T. exercises and drills to ensure quick responses to minimize the impact of any attack;
5. Encrypt data so it cannot be used if it is stolen;
6. Educate employees about common tactics that attackers will use over email or through websites, and encourage employees to report if their computers or phones have shown unusual behavior, such as unusual crashes or are operating very slowly;

⁴² <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/05/12/executive-order-on-improving-the-nations-cybersecurity/?msclkid=0b1adc39bb8611ecb2abebf9ab2cdc76>

7. Receive [Law Enforcement California Cybersecurity Integration Center](#)⁴³ alerts and advisories.
8. Follow recommendations on [Shields Up | CISA website](#),⁴⁴ operated by the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).
9. Follow additional best practices at [Security | CDT \(ca.gov\)](#)⁴⁵ — the California Department of Technology Office of Information Security.
 - a. Report breaches to the following entities:
Cal-CSIC: Report cyber incidents to Cal-CSIC at (833) REPORT-1 or email calcsic@caloes.ca.gov.
 - b. CISA: [Report Incidents, Phishing, Malware, or Vulnerabilities | CISA](#).⁴⁶
 - c. FBI: Report cyber threats to [Cyber Crime — FBI](#)⁴⁷ and [Internet Crime Complaint Center \(IC3\) | Home Page](#).⁴⁸
10. Follow critical infrastructure guidelines posted at [Critical Infrastructure Sectors | CISA](#)⁴⁹ and [Law Enforcement Critical Infrastructure Protection](#).⁵⁰
11. Implement other local policies to deal with cybersecurity and other threats to data systems.

Individuals can protect themselves against cybersecurity threats by following these guidelines:

1. Be on high alert: Never open an email attachment from someone you do not know, and be wary of forwarded attachments from people you know. It is always safer to enter the URL than click on a link or attachment.
2. Choose a strong password. Passwords should be 12 to 15 characters long with special characters or symbols strategically placed. Have different passwords for each online account. Keep track of passwords by using a reputable password manager.
3. Keep antivirus software up to date. Set up antivirus software to update automatically. Automatic updates will help prevent hackers from accessing personal computers, laptops, or smartphones and be alert to websites and downloads that could be suspicious.
4. Use only trusted Wi-Fi resources. Free Wi-Fi is convenient, but hackers can use it to intercept internet communications. Before joining a publicly available network, confirm that the Wi-Fi connection is associated with a government agency or a business that can be trusted. If in doubt, use a personal Wi-Fi hotspot or your smartphone's network connection.

⁴³ <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/law-enforcement/california-cybersecurity-integration-center>

⁴⁴ <https://www.cisa.gov/shields-up>

⁴⁵ <https://cdt.ca.gov/security/>

⁴⁶ <https://www.cisa.gov/uscert/report?msclkid=0bbb129ebb7211ecaef7d60f446c6704>

⁴⁷ <https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/cyber>

⁴⁸ <https://www.ic3.gov/>

⁴⁹ <https://www.cisa.gov/critical-infrastructure-sectors>

⁵⁰ <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/law-enforcement/critical-infrastructure-protection>

5. Do not give out personal information. Be particularly wary of any request to provide information such as date of birth, Social Security number, or bank account. Keep personal details private.
6. Verify your credit status. Look at personal accounts regularly for any suspicious activity or unauthorized charges and set up notifications through your bank or a banking app to track your credit card transactions and alert you to account activity.
7. Order free copies of your credit reports. A credit report is a summary of your personal credit history. Three national credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) collect and update this information. The information in your credit report can affect your buying power. It can also affect your chance of getting a job, renting or buying a place to live, and buying insurance. Credit bureaus sell the information in your report to businesses that use it to decide whether to loan you money, give you credit, offer you insurance, or rent you a home. Some employers use credit reports in hiring decisions. The strength of your credit history also affects how much you will have to pay to borrow money.

The credit bureaus must:

- a. Make sure that the information they collect about you is accurate.
- b. Give you a free copy of your report once every 12 months.
- c. Give you a chance to fix any mistakes.

Below are the only ways to order your free credit reports:

- a. Visit [AnnualCreditReport.com](https://www.annualcreditreport.com).
- b. Call 1-877-322-8228.
- c. Complete the [Annual Credit Report Request Form](#)⁵¹ and mail it to:

Annual Credit Report Request Service
P.O. Box 105281
Atlanta, GA 30348-5281

For additional information, go to [Free Credit Reports | Consumer Information \(ftc.gov\)](#).⁵²

● **CalRecycle Bottle Recycle Redemption Increase Plan**

For a limited time, Californians looking to recycle their cans and bottles for money could soon earn double the cash. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery ([CalRecycle](#)⁵³) has announced a proposal, subject to legislative approval, to allot \$100 million into a program to double the state's California Redemption Value for cans and bottles.

⁵¹ <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/sites/www.consumer.ftc.gov/files/articles/pdf/pdf-0093-annual-report-request-form.pdf>

⁵² <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/free-credit-reports?msclkid=ffb965e3bb8711eca6240d9ed799f6ca>

⁵³ <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/>

The current rate for recycled cans and bottles is 5 cents for each beverage container under 24 ounces and 10 cents for each container 24 ounces or greater. The CalRecycle proposal would double the redemption value. The plan would also direct \$155 million to expand mobile recycling and reverse vending machine locations for consumers to cash in their bottles and cans. In addition, the proposal would boost redemptions and expand recycling sites using \$330 million of surplus unredeemed container deposits that grew with a record increase in beverage purchases during the pandemic. As a result, Californians recycled 18.5 billion bottles and cans from July 2020 through June 2021, a roughly 800 million container increase from the previous fiscal year.

Targeted investments would create more opportunities to recycle in areas without recycling centers and offer double California Redemption Value (CRV) refunds to get surplus deposits back to Californians.

The CalRecycle plan includes:

- \$55 million to boost returns in rural and underserved communities with state-funded mobile recycling programs.
- \$100 million to add about 2,000 reverse vending machines through grants to high schools, colleges, and retailers obligated to redeem containers in-store.
- \$100 million to double consumer refunds with bonus recycling credits once new mobile recycling and reverse vending machine programs are in place.
- \$50 million to maximize the quality of recycled beverage containers. Improved container quality will allow for the recycling of more plastic bottles.
- \$25 million for new infrastructure and technology to support redemptions and administration costs.

CalRecycle states that the effort is designed to move the current 70% recycling rate toward the 100% range. In addition, Californians appear committed to recycling, as indicated by the return of 18.5 billion bottles and cans last year.

Over the next few months, the Legislature will have the opportunity to review CalRecycle's proposal and collaborate with Governor Newsom's office during the ongoing budget process.

Maximizing the reuse and recycling of all materials sold in California is considered critical to the state's larger effort to build a clean, circular-use economy.

On top of creating new redemption opportunities and jobs across the state, the \$330 million in investment will help California achieve the following:

- Meet its 80 percent beverage container recycling goal; and
- Provide clean materials to help reach the state's recycled glass and plastic minimum content goals.

By ensuring that products sold in California can be collected, recycled, and remanufactured, California can meet its waste reduction and climate goals while bringing more green jobs and green industries to local communities.

California's ambitious recycling efforts include several historical achievements:

- The [Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act of 1986](#)⁵⁴ set a financial value on beverage containers to encourage recycling and reduce litter.
- Californians have recycled more than 445 billion bottles and cans since 1986 — making California the leading force nationally in recycling and conservation.
- Californians recycled 18 billion ([68 percent](#))⁵⁵ CRV beverage containers in 2020.
- [A.B. 1311](#)⁵⁶ provides greater flexibility for redemption, including more flexible operating rules.
- Local [pilot projects](#)⁵⁷ allow communities to design customized takeback programs to meet their region's unique needs.
- California is the world leader in establishing plastic minimum recycled content goals. [A.B. 793 \(the Beverage Container Postconsumer Plastic Minimum Content Standards law\)](#)⁵⁸ sets a standard for recycled content for plastic beverage containers. The law requires beverages sold by a beverage manufacturer to have a post-consumer plastic recycled content standard of 15 percent beginning January 1, 2022, increasing to 25 percent in 2025 and 50 percent in 2030.

Visit the following links to locate the nearest [certified recycling centers](#)⁵⁸ or [retailers required to redeem CRV deposits in-store](#).⁵⁹

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- **City Clerk's Annual Conference**

On April 7, 2022, City Clerk Andrea Myrick participated in a seminar at the City Clerks Association of California (CCAC) Annual Conference in Burlingame, California. During this year's conference, following a two-year pandemic-induced hiatus, city clerks shared best practices, experiences, and cautionary tales of what can go wrong with new technology, especially with remote and "hybrid" meetings—public meetings that allow remote and in-person participation. Other topics discussed at the conference included leading change in

⁵⁴ <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/bevcontainer/>

⁵⁵ <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/Docs/Web/119043>

⁵⁶ <https://a02.asmdc.org/press-releases/20211005-gov-signs-ab-1311-wood-provide-new-flexibility-recycling-centers>

⁵⁷ <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/bevcontainer/recyclers/pilot2018/>

⁵⁸ <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/RecyclingCenters/>

⁵⁹ <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/InStoreRedemption>

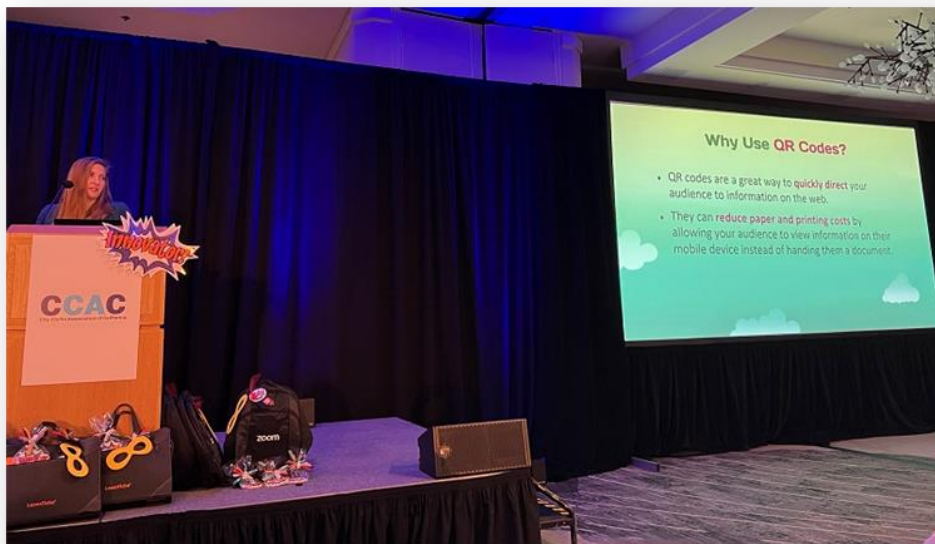
your organization, advanced records management concepts, and changes in the state's election process since 2020.

During a session called “Celebrating Innovations in Government: Let’s Not Waste This Crisis,” several city clerks presented innovations implemented in their cities over the last two years to improve public access to City services during the pandemic. City Clerk Myrick’s presentation educated city clerks about creating and using Quick Response (QR) codes, which she recently implemented to provide the public with immediate access on their smartphones to the complete agenda packet during council meetings. She also shared the City’s [virtual speaker card form](#)⁶⁰ for remote participants in public meetings.

Innovations shared by other city clerks during the session included:

- The cities of Beaumont and Sacramento created completely virtual candidate nomination processes, eliminating the need for lengthy face-to-face meetings;
- Laguna Beach’s use of a virtual timer for public speakers on Zoom; and
- Sacramento implemented a virtual City Hall receptionist using an iPad.

City Clerk Myrick would like to thank City Clerks Kerry Bigelow of Chula Vista and Mindy Cuppy of Sacramento for inviting her to share Montclair’s innovations in the City Clerk’s Office and contribute to the education of city clerks throughout the state.



City Clerk Myrick presenting her QR Codes slide show to conference attendees

⁶⁰ <https://www.cityofmontclair.org/public-comment/>

- **Current Job Opportunities**

The City is looking for qualified individuals to fill the following positions:

- Fire Engineer - application period is continuous
- Firefighter (Paramedic) (Entry-Level) - application period is continuous
- Learning Leader - application period is continuous
- Maintenance Worker - application period closes 5/3/2022
- Police Cadet - application period is continuous
- Police Dispatcher (Entry-Level) - application period is continuous
- Police Dispatcher (Lateral) - application period is continuous
- Police Officer (Entry-Level) - application period is continuous
- Police Officer (Lateral) - application period is continuous
- Reserve Police Officer Level III and II - application period is continuous
- Recreation Leader - application period is continuous
- Senior Learning Leader - application period is continuous
- Senior Recreation Leader - application period is continuous
- Senior Recreation Specialist - application period closes 4/28/2022
- Substitute Learning Leader - application period is continuous

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: <https://www.cityofmontclair.org/employment-opportunities/>.

- **New Hires**

The City is excited to announce the hiring of the following employees:

- Alejandro Santamaria, Police Officer Trainee, Police Department (1/3/2022)
- Joseph Puckett, Maintenance Worker Part-Time, Public Works Department (1/3/2022)
- Juliana Martinez, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (2/1/2022)
- Emily Marin, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (2/7/2022)
- Jennifer Hernandez, Police Dispatch Supervisor, Police Department (2/28/2022)
- Brenda Saravia, Police Dispatch Supervisor, Police Department (2/28/2022)
- Michael Sanchez, Fire Engineer, Fire Department (2/28/2022)
- Anthony Vasquez, Fire Engineer, Fire Department (2/28/2022)

- Jezelle Bryan, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (3/16/2022)
- Ricardo Jimenez, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (3/16/2022)
- Angela Vong, Accounting Specialist, Finance Department (3/21/2022)
- Josafhat Cardenas-Borboa, Police Officer Trainee, Police Department (3/28/2022)
- Isaac Mendez, Police Officer Trainee, Police Department (3/28/2022)
- Elizabeth Escalante, CSR/Office Specialist, Finance Department (4/4/2022)
- Billie Salazar, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (4/4/2022)
- Amanda Romano, Receptionist/Office Specialist, Fire Department (4/11/2022)

- **Thank You**

The City would like to thank the following individuals whose service to the people of the City of Montclair recently ended:

- Robert Boyens, Police Officer, Police Department (12/9/2021)
- Mayra Cano, Senior Recreation Specialist, Human Services Department (12/30/2021)
- Howard Brown, Facility Coordinator, Human Services Department (12/31/2022)
- Daniel Melling, Police Officer Trainee, Police Department (1/1/2022)
- Steven Griffin, Police Sergeant, Police Department (1/6/2022)
- Dillon Rezendes, Police Officer, Police Department (1/9/2022)
- Caleb Taylor, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (1/31/2022)
- Juliana Martinez, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (2/9/2022)
- Tyler Garcia, Learning Leader, Human Services Department (2/11/2022)
- Adrian Martinez, Reserve Police Officer, Police Department (2/24/2022)
- Roxanna Ramirez, Police Dispatcher, Police Department (3/2/2022)
- Jeffery Wheeler, Maintenance Worker, Public Works Department (4/5/2022)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- **City of Ontario’s 2022 State of the City Business Address**

In mid-March, Economic Services and Housing Manager Thailin Martin and Economic Promotion Coordinator Amber Cruz attended Ontario’s 2022 State of the City Business Address at the Ontario Convention Center. Ontario Mayor Paul S. Leon and the Ontario City Council hosted nearly 600 business leaders from various business, development, real estate, education, and non-profit agencies.

The theme of the event was “all things Ontario.” Two video productions highlighted how the Ontario Mayor and City Council are approaching investment, safety, innovation, and opportunities for their community. The event provided information on current and future developments in Downtown Ontario, Ontario Ranch, the Arena District, and Piemonte. Both videos emphasized the overall quality of life for Ontario residents, businesses, and visitors.

After both presentations, attendees had the opportunity to participate in a networking forum. City staff attended the networking forum with the intent to engage with local developers and real estate representatives for new development and leasing opportunities.



Economic Services and Housing Manager Martin (left) and Economic Promotions Coordinator Cruz (right)

- **Village at Montclair Ground Breaking Ceremony**

On April 5th, Mayor Javier John Dutrey, Mayor Pro Tem Ruh, Council Members Tenice Johnson and Corysa Martinez, and City staff had the honor of attending Village Partner’s Ground Breaking Ceremony of their upcoming development, the Village at Montclair.

The Village at Montclair is a mixed-use neighborhood development in the sphere of a transit-oriented district. The parcel extends approximately 6 acres and is located in a prime spot adjacent to the Montclair Transcenter/Future Gold Line Station on Arrow Highway and

adjacent to Montclair Place. With unparalleled access to the Station through an on-site tunnel, this project integrates convenience and quality of life to create a unique transit community. The vision for this project embraces a 360-unit multifamily residential community. The future development is one small part of an exciting redesign and redevelopment process of the entire downtown area, oriented towards walkability, sustainability, and community.

Visit <https://www.villagepartners.com/montclair> to learn more about Village Partners and the Village at Montclair.



- **New Businesses — Welcome to Montclair!**

The City of Montclair welcomes the following new businesses: Aqua Ridge Senior Living, Al Pastor Taqueria, Betsy African Store, and Tokyo Kitchen!

Aqua Ridge Senior Living

Located at 9631 Monte Vista Avenue, Aqua Ridge offers a senior living community with a variety of studios and one-bedroom apartments to choose from. The new Aqua Ridge facility offers studio apartments with memory care, a full calendar of fun and engaging activities, and assessment care before move-in. For more information about Aqua Ridge, visit their website: <https://aquaridgeseniorliving.com/>.



Aqua Ridge Senior Living ribbon-cutting hosted by the Montclair Chamber of Commerce

Al Pastor Taqueria

Al Pastor Taqueria, located at 9453 Central Avenue, is a fast-casual restaurant that brings the authentic flavors of Mexico. Al Pastor Taqueria's staff is committed to serving the freshest and finest ingredients every time you order from their menu. Stop by to order build-your-own street tacos, burritos, quesadillas, salads, loaded fries, and crispy potato tacos. For more information, visit their website at <https://www.alpastortaqueria.com/contact-us>.



Tokyo Kitchen

Tokyo Kitchen (TK), located at 8851 Central Avenue, Unit J, has finally reopened under new ownership and management! Although the interior was remodeled, the restaurant offers the same hibachi-style dining experience. TK features a unique atmosphere inspired by Japanese culture and cuisine. TK chefs offer an entertaining experience with all meals from the menu. For more information, go to <https://www.tokyokitchentk.com/>.



Tokyo Kitchen ribbon-cutting hosted by the Montclair Chamber of Commerce

Becy African Store

Located at 9537 Central Avenue, Becy African Store provides customers with African goods. Visit their store to find an array of African goods and more! To learn more, visit <https://becymarket.business.site/>.



Becy African Store ribbon-cutting hosted by the Montclair Chamber of Commerce

- **Economic Development Monthly Business Newsletter**

The Economic Development Department is pleased to share its monthly business newsletter promoting current and future Montclair businesses and entrepreneurs with resources for growth and expansion. From its strategic location, Montclair is at the core of Southern California’s economic revival and boasts diverse business sectors, quality housing, and ample recreational amenities that offer residents and businesses alike a high quality of life.

The E-Newsletter shares business resources and free training offered through our resource partners.



To sign up for the newsletter, go to <https://www.cityofmontclair.org/newsletter/>, and view past editions at <https://www.cityofmontclair.org/economicdevelopmentnewsletter/>

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- **Fire Incident Report – March 31, 2022**

On March 31, 2022, Battalion Chief Ryon Dierck and Montclair Fire units responded to an unknown fire at the corner of 3rd Street and Silicon Avenue. While en route, Battalion Chief Dierck observed a large smoke column coming from the reported location and requested a second alarm assignment. First arriving units found a scrap metal recycling yard involved, with fire and numerous explosions taking place. These explosions were from thousands of propane cylinders stored for recycling. The compressed cylinders were exploding with debris fields going as far as 700 feet. Fire apparatus from Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County, Ontario, and Chino assisted in extinguishing the fire. Battalion Chief Ryon Dierck established command and coordinated the mitigation of the incident.



While investigating the area, on-site responders found leaking compressed chlorine and acetylene cylinders, and an evacuation order was issued for the area from Silicon Avenue to Ramona Avenue and State Street to Mission Boulevard as a precaution against the highly hazardous chlorine gas. Due to this issue, requests for hazardous materials teams from San Manuel Fire, Rancho Cucamonga Fire, Ontario, Chino, and the Ontario bomb squad. After the hazardous situation was contained, the evacuation order was lifted.



The Montclair Police Department provided road closures and their mobile command trailer and were able to get a portable bathroom trailer from Ontario Police. This incident lasted until the early evening, and the investigation continued the next day. Members from OSHA and the EPA were on scene to help coordinate the extensive clean-up of the facility. Montclair Code Enforcement Red Tagged the property with the Montclair Police patrolling the area to maintain security.

The incident was broadcast on live television. Montclair Fire Department would like to thank all City of Montclair personnel and other Fire agencies who responded and cooperated with the fire incident.



Aftermath of Industrial Fire Incident on March 31, 2022



- **Fire Incident at Mission Boulevard and Ramona Avenue**

The Montclair Fire Department recently responded to a fire in the vegetation on the North West corner of Mission Blvd. and Ramona Ave. The fire had spread to the northeast corner into a commercial lot. The fire was controlled and extinguished with the help of San Bernardino County Fire, Los Angeles County Fire, Chino Valley Fire District, and the Ontario Fire Department. While Montclair Fire Department was on this fire, Rancho Cucamonga Fire District provided station coverage for the City of Montclair. We want to thank these Departments for their hard work and help.



- **Visit to Emergency Communications Center in Rialto**

On April 14, 2022, Deputy Chief Dave Pohl and personnel from Chino Fire went to the Emergency Communications Center in Rialto, where all fire and emergency medical calls are dispatched. In addition, the two agencies provided food and drinks for the dispatchers in appreciation for all their work.



- **Fire Training Activities**

The Montclair Fire Department crews are constantly training to be ready to respond to any emergency incident. Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Barron built a “Palmer Dollhouse” for a fire behavior class. This dollhouse shows the effect of ventilation, fire attack, flow path, and air tract management on a smaller scale than a full-sized residential structure. A photo is shown below.

- **Little League Opening Day**

The Montclair Fire Department attended Montclair Little League’s opening day on Saturday, March 5, 2022. We wish everyone the best of luck this season!



Mayor Dutrey, Mayor Pro Tem Ruh, Fire Captain Mistretta, and members of the community.

- **Montclair Fire Department Badge Pinning Ceremony**

The Montclair Fire Department held a Badge Pinning Ceremony Saturday, March 19, 2022. The Badge Pinning included (front row) Engineer Michael Sanchez, Captain Stanley Boehm, Firefighter / Paramedic Jacob Chapman, (second row) Firefighter/ Paramedic Jared Gross, Captain Dominic Mistretta, Engineer Anthony Vasquez, Battalion Chief Ryon Dierck, and Deputy Chief Pohl. Deputy Chief Pohl did the Badge Pinning ceremony. The ceremony was delayed due to Covid restrictions. We want to congratulate everyone on their promotions and the new hires. The pinning ceremony is a tradition to introduce these hard-working gentlemen into the Department in their new positions. It is also done to introduce these new members to the community. These gentlemen will wear these badges with pride and ensure that their service to the community will be up to its standards.



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- **COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test Distribution for Montclair Residents**

On Wednesday, February 23, 2022, the Human Services Department, in partnership with San Bernardino County, distributed free COVID-19 rapid antigen tests to Montclair Residents in a drive-thru format in parking lot B at the Montclair Civic Center. Participants who showed proof of Montclair residency received two test kits per residence.

- **Senior Lunch Drive-Thru Celebration of February Birthdays**

On Wednesday, February 23, 2022, the Montclair Senior Center held its monthly birthday party during the Senior Lunch Drive-Thru. Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ruh and City Council Member Benjamin Lopez distributed lunches and monthly newsletters.

The celebration theme was “Candyland” and included sweet decorations of large lollipops, giant gingerbread men, and jumbo gumdrops. In addition, senior lunch participants with birthdays in February received a special certificate of recognition from the offices of San Bernardino County Fourth District Supervisor Curt Hagman and Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, a birthday card from the office of Congresswoman Norma Torres, and a Gingerbread house gift box with a bag of packaged cookies, two chocolates, and a toothbrush.

A collage of photos is shown on Page 36.

- **Senior Lunch Drive-Thru Celebration of March Birthdays**

On Wednesday, March 30, 2022, the Montclair Senior Center held its monthly birthday party during the Senior Lunch Drive-Thru.

The celebration theme was “Spring Flowers and Gnomes” and included a decorated canopy with floral garlands, a gorgeous garden backdrop, and gnome figures aligned the curbside. In addition, senior lunch participants with birthdays in March received a special certificate of recognition from the offices of Supervisor Hagman and Assemblymember Rodriguez, a birthday card from the office of Congresswoman Torres, and a garden gift bag including a hand trowel, seed packet, and miniature gnome.

Photos are shared on Page 37.

- **Montclair Receives Clean California Local Grant for a Pilot Segment of the Proposed San Antonio Creek Trail**

On March 2nd, Governor Newsom announced 105 local projects were approved for \$296 million in Clean California Local Grants (CCLG) for underserved communities throughout the state.

Proposals included a wide range of community enhancements, such as litter removal, landscaping, art installations, walking and bike paths, and other complete streets features that enhance safety and access to transportation. In addition, the 105 community projects will generate an estimated 3,600 jobs. The latest piece of Governor Newsom’s Clean California initiative is a sweeping \$1.1 billion multi-year clean-up effort led by Caltrans to remove trash and create thousands of jobs to engage communities to transform public spaces into points of pride.

Congratulations to the Montclair project team on its successful application and award of \$4,174,097 to complete a pilot segment of the San Antonio Creek Trail! Montclair and San Bernardino are the only two cities in San Bernardino County to receive a CCLG award. The project includes improvements to Sunset Park.

According to Governor Newsom, “Clean California is a historic investment transforming unsightly roadsides throughout our state into places of community pride for all Californians.” The announcement of nearly \$300 million for CCLG projects demonstrates the state’s commitment to remove unsightly litter from local streets and highways, improve public spaces, create thousands of jobs, and revitalize neighborhoods.

Grant recipients must complete their projects by June 30, 2024. In addition, the Governor’s California Blueprint proposes an additional \$100 million to fund another round of Clean California local projects.

The CCLG awarded local projects in addition to the \$312 million for 126 beautification projects along state highways [announced last month](#).⁶¹ Since launching Clean California in July 2021, Caltrans has removed nearly 7,400 tons of litter from the state highway system, which is enough to fill 134 Olympic-size swimming pools. In addition, they have hired 623 new team members as part of Clean California, including 498 maintenance workers who collect litter and remove graffiti.

For a [list of projects](#)⁶² and more information about Clean California, visit [CleanCA.com](#).

- **Military Banner Presentations**

On Monday, March 14, 2022, Community Activities Commission Chair Diane Wells presented two military banners to recently discharged Veterans who had banners displayed in Montclair. In addition, banners are displayed on several thoroughfares in Montclair, including Central and Monte Avenues and Holt Boulevard. Banners were presented for Daniel H. Flick, U.S. Marines (presented to his family), and Oscar Pedroza, U.S. Army.

Congratulations to our Veterans, and thank you for your service to our country!



⁶¹ <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2022/02/11/governor-newsom-announces-312-million-for-new-clean-california-projects-to-beautify-and-revitalize-public-spaces-across-the-state/>
⁶² <https://cleancalifornia.dot.ca.gov/local-grants>

- **Montclair After-School Program Prepares for Summer Session**

The Montclair After-School Program (MAP) hosted its annual spring break training in March to prepare for the upcoming summer session. Staff participated in curriculum, leadership, and physical education training. This year's theme is Running Wild Montclair, designed to take students on an imaginative journey in the great outdoors. In addition, MAP will be hosting an intramural kickball league.

MAP's summer session will run May 30-June 24 and will be open to all students in the Ontario-Montclair School District and operate at Kingsley, Lehigh, Mission, Monte Vista, and Serrano.

Thank you to Assistant Senior Learning Coordinators John Sio for hosting a specialized leadership training according to the philosophies of legendary coach John Wooden and Manny Gutierrez for conducting a thorough demonstration of the skills required for kickball.

A photo collage is shared on Page 38.

- **Easter Eggstravaganza and Pancake Breakfast**

The City's Easter Eggstravaganza and Pancake Breakfast took place on Saturday, April 16 at Alma Hofman Park. Approximately 1,000 children and adults attended. City representatives included Mayor John Dutrey, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ruh, Council Members Corysa Martinez, and Tenice Johnson. Children enjoyed playing games and winning the candy-filled eggs. In addition, the Easter Bunny was available for pictures (sponsored by the Women's Club of Montclair). Attendees also enjoyed taking their pictures at the Easter photo booth station.

An estimated 375 breakfasts were served, including pancakes, sausage, orange juice, and coffee. The breakfasts were cooked and provided by the Kiwanis Club of Ontario-Montclair members.

Special thanks go to the Information Technology Division for setting up and printing the bunny photos; volunteer Chris Paez for taking on the role of the Easter Bunny; the Montclair Police Officers Association, and the Montclair Fire Fighters' Association for donating and presenting the children's opportunity gift baskets; members of the Kiwanis Club of Ontario-Montclair, Women's Club of Montclair, Montclair Public Works, the Community Activities Commission, and numerous community volunteers for their tireless work during the event; and the Human Services Department for coordinating the event.

Photos are shared on Page 39.

- **Senior Center Reopening on May 2, 2022**

After being closed for more than two years, we are excited to announce the Montclair Senior Center is reopening for in-person dining on May 2, 2022!

The Senior Center closed for in-person activities in mid-March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and for all staff, program participants, and community health and safety.

The Montclair Human Services Department quickly organized and implemented a drive-thru and delivery senior lunch program continued to serve a nutritious and hot lunch to seniors, Monday-Friday.

During the most restrictive months of the pandemic, Human Services Staff have made creative efforts to help seniors maintain socialization and reduce isolation. For example, staff would provide daily word search puzzles every lunch, host weekly events like Wacky Wednesdays, and share Community Shout-outs. Other activities included: a weekly phone call to check in with seniors and share resources as needed, transportation to appointments by the Golden Express, monthly drive-thru birthday celebrations, and distribution of a monthly newsletter featuring local resources, the senior lunch menu, recipes, and health topics.

As the COVID-19 restrictions lifted and vaccinations became available, the Senior Center prepared to reopen in August 2021; however, as the Delta variant cases increased over that summer, the reopening was postponed for the health and safety of all.

In preparations for the Senior Center reopening, curbside service and home deliveries will phase out after Friday, April 29, 2022. However, for those who prefer their meal “to-go,” we will still provide a walk-in/pick-up option by reservation on June 30, 2022. “To-go” meals must be picked up between 10:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please call (909) 625-9483 the day before pick-up to place an order.

Meals on Wheels will try to accommodate those seniors who need a meal delivered, but they are in need of drivers for Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Please contact Sue Yoakum at (909) 986-5522 if you are available from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (approximately) and would like to volunteer.

We look forward to seeing familiar, and new faces return to the Senior Center for in-person dining beginning May 2, 2022. Additional activities and programming will expand, but we will be offering crafts and Bunco for now.

For updates, please visit the Senior Center webpage at www.cityofmontclair.org/senior-center or call the Senior Center front desk at (909) 625-9483.

The Senior Center is looking for fully vaccinated volunteers to help with the food distribution events and senior lunch. We cannot run our in-person programming without your help! If you are interested, please contact Celeste Dunlap at (909) 625-9462.

- **Arbor Day Celebration — April 29, 2022**

The community is invited to celebrate Arbor Day and the City’s renewed designation as a Tree City USA at Sunset Park on Friday, April 29th, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Three new fruit trees will be planted in the fruit park and the first 200 attendees will receive giveaway seed packets. Hope to see you there!

A flyer for the event is shown on page 40.

- **Save the Date — Memorial Day Program on May 30, 2022**

Join us on Monday, May 30 at 6:00 p.m. for the Community Activities Commission’s 22nd Annual Memorial Day Program. The Program will be held in the Memorial Garden, adjacent to City Hall, and will include the dedication of six new plaques to our Veterans’ Memorial Wall. The Memorial Wall pays tribute to deceased Montclair residents from all service branches. More event details will be announced soon.

- **Save the Date — Country Fair Jamboree on June 4, 2022**

The 8th Annual Country Fair Jamboree will be held on Saturday, June 4, from noon to 6 p.m. at Alma Hofman Park. More event details will be announced soon.

Any employees interested in volunteering at the Jamboree should contact Senior Recreation Specialist Emily Gomez-Medina at Ext. 482.

ECS:scg

APRIL 2022		
<i>Day</i>	<i>Event & Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
Thurs. 21	Monthly Food Distribution Event Civic Center (City Hall) Parking Lot	8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Mon. 25	Planning Commission Meeting City Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Fri. 29	Arbor Day Celebration Sunset Park – 4361 Orchard Street	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

MAY 2022

<i>Day</i>	<i>Event & Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
Mon. 2	Council Workshop — San Antonio Creek Trail Conceptual Plan City Council Chambers	5:45 p.m.
	City Council Meeting City Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Wed. 4	Community Activities Commission Meeting City Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Fri-Sun 6 - 8	Yard Sale Weekend	
Mon. 9	Planning Commission Meeting City Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Mon. 16	Real Estate Committee Zoom Webinar / Teleconference	6:00 p.m.
	Code Enforcement/Public Safety Committee Zoom Webinar / Teleconference	6:30 p.m.
	City Council Meeting City Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Thurs. 19	Monthly Food Distribution Event Civic Center (City Hall) Parking Lot	8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
	Public Works Committee Zoom Webinar / Teleconference	4:00 p.m.
Mon. 23	Planning Commission Meeting City Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
Mon. 30	Memorial Day Program Memorial Garden at City Hall	6:00 p.m.
	Memorial Day City Hall Closure (City Hall reopens Tuesday, May 31, 2022)	

Agendas that include instructions for all participation options 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 www.cityofmontclair.org/events/, <https://www.cityofmontclair.org/community-events-programs/>, and www.cityofmontclair.org/news/

Senior Drive-Thru Birthday Party February 2022



Senior Drive-Thru Birthday Party March 2022 *“Spring Flowers and Gnomes”*







Easter Eggstravaganza & To-Go Pancake Breakfast

April 16, 2022



Presented by

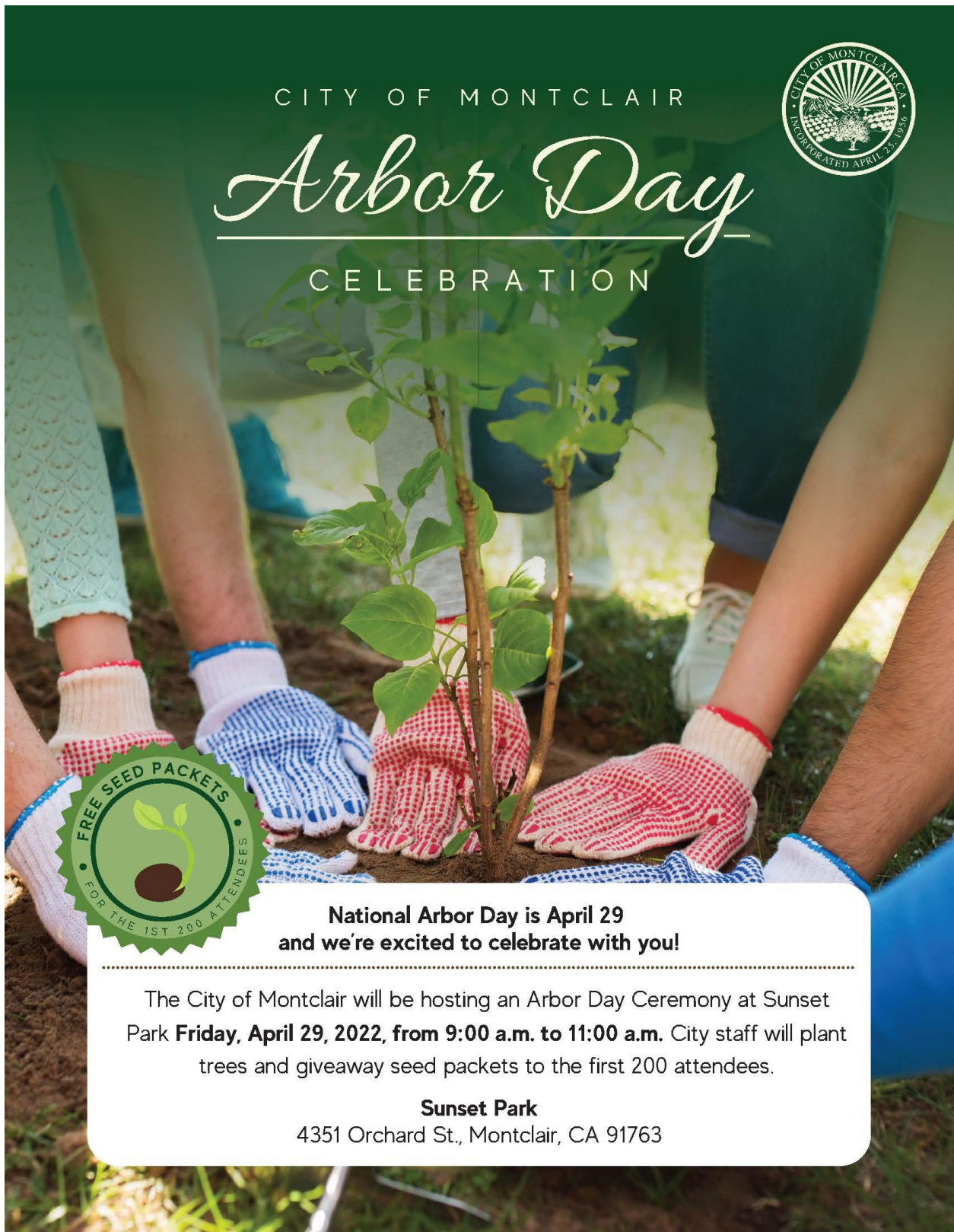


CITY OF MONTCLAIR



Arbor Day

CELEBRATION



**National Arbor Day is April 29
and we're excited to celebrate with you!**

The City of Montclair will be hosting an Arbor Day Ceremony at Sunset Park **Friday, April 29, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** City staff will plant trees and giveaway seed packets to the first 200 attendees.

Sunset Park
4351 Orchard St., Montclair, CA 91763