

HUNTINGTON PARK

California

CITY OF PERFECT BALANCE



SPRING 2013

City Manager's Message

I am very pleased to join the City of Huntington Park as your new City Manager. For nearly 17 years, I have been at the forefront of initiatives that create and support significant growth. I'm proud of my record to turn around problematic and challenging city operations in order to regain the respect of the people they serve. I have developed bold, new ideas to help strengthen core services provided to residents, project-managed new infrastructure initiatives, instilled financial discipline despite periods of instability and change.

As your new City Manager, I look forward to creating a sustainable vision for our City combined with practical reality. I have been recognized for my capacity to harness the enthusiasm and talents of my team to address critical issues of concern and identify appropriate resources available to help us stretch budgets and achieve management objectives within city management environments.

This kind of experience is not developed overnight. Any success I've had has been hard won, and my commitment has been tireless. Yet the greatest reward is seeing an idea take root in people's imaginations that produces better and more responsive city services and support. This remains one of my greatest motivations. It is a skill I'm

eager to demonstrate to the residents of Huntington Park as I meet the challenges we face in this community.

I am always excited about tackling new opportunities and in my role as your City Manager, I look forward to transforming our city's services into a vital, responsive operation that delivers strong productivity, exemplary customer service and excellent results in public safety.

I look forward to working with all residents, local business and community leaders to enhance the wonderful neighborhood of Huntington Park and provide you with the best possible services and support to improve our quality of living. I urge you to stay in touch with us by using our new and improved website and I am always available to discuss and collaborate on your ideas to improve our City. I thank you for your involvement and support as I and my team work to earn your trust and respect.

René Bobadilla
City Manager



City Launches New Website

A key mission of Huntington Park is to provide a high level of operational transparency by allowing residents easy access to public documents and city information. In August of last year, we redesigned and launched a brand new website: www.huntingtonpark.org. All information on the new site is available in both Spanish and English with the click of a mouse.

Visitors can quickly and easily submit requests for city services using the "Service Request" button found on any page. Residents may also pay parking fine and utility bills from the comfort of their home or computer. Among other services also available on the new site are:

- A bid page where the public can see request for proposals (RFP) open for bid.

- City Council meeting agendas, meeting minutes and videos of proceedings.
- Navigation (How Do I...?) that allows visitors to quickly and easily find the subject of their choice.
- Names, phone numbers and email addresses of city officials, staff and departments.
- March 5 election information.
- Mobile device friendly from most smart phones.

Not only is the website attractive and easy to use, it has already received acknowledgement from Sunshine Review, a national, non-profit organization dedicated to increasing government transparency. Sunshine Review (sunshinereview.org) recently evaluated

our new website and awarded it a grade of A+. Their evaluation was based on its transparency checklist, which includes features that should be publicly accessible on a government agency's website.

Please visit www.huntingtonpark.org and let us know what you think.



www.huntingtonpark.org

CLICK ON "NOTIFY ME" ON THE HUNTINGTON PARK WEBSITE TO RECEIVE THE LATEST CITY NEWS VIA EMAIL.

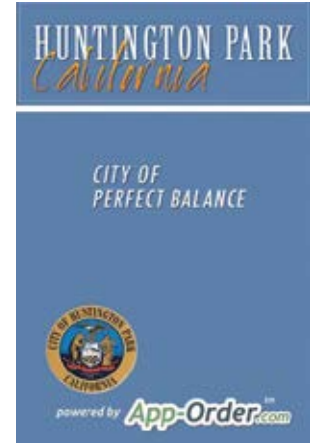
Wipe Out Graffiti From Your Phone

Seen some graffiti lately? Help keep our community clean with the free “myHuntingtonPark” mobile app. Available for both iPhones and Android user phones, “myHuntingtonPark” is an easy-to-use application that lets users submit service requests for graffiti removal straight from their smart phone.

The app also allows users to upload a photo of graffiti from their phone. The app then uses

GPS to immediately find the location where the graffiti is and immediately notifies the City Public Works department. Sometimes crews can get out and remove the reported graffiti *the same day*.

Please download this free app by visiting either the Android or Mac app stores online and search for “myHuntingtonPark” and look for these images:



Residents Come Out for Town Hall

For the first time in a long time, Huntington Park’s new city officials held a town hall meeting and invited the public and residents to hear about the latest developments that are unfolding. On Feb. 20, about 90 people filled the auditorium at the Lucille Roybal-Allard Elementary School on Saturn Avenue. City Manager René Bobadilla, along with the Chief of Police Jorge Cisneros and other city staff, provided an overview of city operations, departments, and services. Among some of the more popular topics covered was a detailed explanation of how local property taxes are structured and how the money is used, issues with the city’s water system, including

the need for expensive repairs to one of the city’s main wells, and plans for the city’s future development.

Guests enjoyed coffee and donuts and were allowed to ask questions of the city’s staff following the presentation. “I was very pleased with the turnout we had,” said City Manager Bobadilla. “My goal is to host town hall meetings at different locations around town as often as four times a year. This is an important opportunity for us to listen to residents’ concerns and provide more transparent information about work that is going on inside city hall.”



Residents gather for Huntington Park town hall meeting at Lucille Roybal-Allard Elementary School.



City Manager René Bobadilla addresses the audience.



Police Chief Jorge Cisneros answers resident questions.

A “Sweet” Grand Opening

City of Huntington Park proudly welcomes Winchell’s Donuts to town by celebrating the grand opening of the new Winchell’s Donut House on Friday, February 15, 2013. Winchell’s is located at 6101 Pacific Boulevard (on the corner of Randolph Street and Pacific Boulevard).

Winchell’s offers a wide variety of donuts and other bakery products as well as specialty coffees, cappuccinos, teas, juice, and more. Stop by and enjoy a sweet treat or a cup of coffee and say hello to our newest downtown neighbor.



Welcome Winchell’s!



Huntington Park City Council and City Manager welcome the city’s newest business

Your Tax Money – Where Does It Go?

One of the biggest concerns residents have is the cost of their local property taxes. At the Feb. 26 town hall meeting, City Treasurer and Finance Director, Julio Morales, provided the public with a detailed overview of how and where tax money is used. “There’s a broad misunderstanding among residents that our city benefits 100% from the property tax revenues we collect. This is simply not the case,” says Morales. “We want people to understand that both property taxes and sales taxes are distributed among multiple different state, local and agency sources. The reality is the City of Huntington Park receives only a small portion of the tax that is collected.”

It is also important to note that many of the things that taxes pay to support are voter approved expenses. Our Huntington Park city management and city council does not get to say how taxes are divided, directed or shared. The state, the county and voters make this determination. The following charts outline how your tax dollar is shared and where the money goes. This information is publicly available and can also be obtained by making a request through the Finance Department located in Room 116 at City Hall, or by calling (323) 584-2657 for more information. A complete list of property tax rates for all cities within Los Angeles County is also available for residents on the city’s website by visiting: www.huntingtonpark.org.

City	City 1% share	City Voter Approved	Total City Tax Rate	Schools/ Others	Total Tax Rate
Huntington Park	0.0735%	0.2100%	0.2835%	0.2279%	1.4379%

From this table you can see that the current property tax rate paid by residents of Huntington Park is 1.4379%. From this amount, they city receives only 0.0735% to help pay for and maintain all city services. Our city receives only about 1/5 of the total property tax (.28 of the total 1.43 collected). To understand how this amount is distributed and used, please look at this breakdown:

Huntington Park Property Tax Distribution For Every \$1.00	
LA County Share	25.85 cents
LA Unified School District	19.60 cents
Educational Revenue Augmentation Funds (ERAF) As directed by the State of California	15.78 cents
LA County Fire Departments Huntington Park is serviced by LA County Fire Dept.	15.47 cents
City of Huntington Park Operating Revenue, City services, etc.	07.56 cents
Los Angeles Community College District The largest community college district in the U.S.	02.66 cents
Various Other	13.08 cents
TOTAL =	\$1.00 dollar

The same misperceptions exist regarding local sales taxes. The following breakdown shows how our city receives only a small share of this tax as well:

Sales Tax Distribution for Huntington Park	
State of California	5.00%
Los Angeles County	1.00%
City of Huntington Park	1.00%
LA County Health Services	0.50%
Local Public Safety	0.50%
Metropolitan Transit Authority	0.25%
Total Sales Tax Rate =	8.25%

Upcoming Events

City Council Meeting
6 PM, Monday, April 1
City Hall

Orangeline Development Authority
3PM, Thursday, April 4
City Hall

Carnaval Primavera Festival
Friday-Sunday, April 5-7
Downtown Huntington Park
Pacific Blvd.

Skateboard Art Contest
1 p.m. Saturday, April 6
Salt Lake Park
3401 E. Florence Ave.

Friends of the Park Meeting
6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9
Huntington Park Community Center

City Council Meeting
6 PM, Monday, April 15
City Hall

Walk for Hunger
Southeast Churches
8 a.m. Saturday, April 20
St. Matthias Church
3095 E. Florence Ave.

Senior Valley View Casino Trip
8 a.m. Thursday, April 25
Huntington Park Community Center

Open Mic Night
6:30 p.m. Friday, April 26
Huntington Park Community Center

Month of the Child Celebration
1 p.m. on Saturday, April 27
Raul R. Perez Memorial Park
6208 Alameda St.

Friends of the Park Meeting
6 PM, Tuesday, May 14
Huntington Park Community Center

Low Cost Pet Vaccinations
4:30-7:30PM Thursday, May 16
Huntington Park Community Center

Huntington Park Art Festival
11AM, Saturday, May 18
Salt Lake Park

Memorial Day Ceremony
4PM, Thursday, May 23
Raul R. Perez Memorial Park
6208 Alameda Street

Relay for Life of Southeast Cities
9AM, Sat. & Sunday, June 22/23
Salt Lake Park

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A Message from the Police Chief

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Huntington Park Police Department I want to thank our local residents and business owners for the cooperation and participation in keeping our streets safe. We believe that teamwork between the community and the police department is essential and can be achieved through effective communication. I'm very pleased to report that our City ended the year with a 10% reduction in Part 1 crime. I sincerely appreciate the role everyone in this department and our community has played to achieve this significant safety improvement.

I encourage all residents to regularly visit and check in with us using our website for news, updates, information, or simply to communicate with us or express your concerns by visiting www.huntingtonparkpd.org. There you will find many useful tools to help us assist you with concerns, whether it be to contact us, file a complaint, get crime information, or find phone numbers and important forms.

Thank you for supporting and partnering with the Huntington Park Police Department to continue making our community, families and neighborhoods safer. I look forward to working with all residents.

Jorge Cisneros
Chief of Police



Motel To Become Beautiful Family Residence

Last January 23, Huntington Park Mayor Andy Molina and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Director, Dr. Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W., broke ground to begin construction on converting a former rundown 55-room motel into 24 new affordable apartments for low income families and transition age youth - ages 18-24.

Fifteen of the new residences will be reserved for transitional age youth, including former foster kids, who are currently being cared for by the county Department of Mental Health. The goal is to provide these individuals with stable, safe and healthy homes so they can continue to improve their lives through continuing education, employment or other paths to independence. This is the first housing of its kind in Huntington Park created to care for these underserved neighbors. "We know our community needs secure, stable housing for less fortunate families and youth," said Mayor Molina. "It's hard to stay in school or hold a job if you don't have a roof over your head. We are excited to see this project take shape."

The affordable housing is located at 6337 Middleton Street and will include 10 studio apartments, 6 one-bedroom, 4 two-bedroom and 4 three-bedroom apartments, including a two-bedroom manager's unit. Each space will feature new appliances, carpeting and central air conditioning. A semi-subterranean parking lot is provided for the residents. Construction is expected to include an elevated deck and courtyard above the parking area. There will also be a playground, landscaping, bench seating and BBQ areas for residents to enjoy and use. Many more features are expected to be included including "green" items such as dual-pane windows, solar water heating and drought resistant landscaping. This structure will be a beautiful replacement to a longstanding eyesore in our city.

"I'm proud to be here to celebrate this important partnership," said Dr. Southard. "It's very difficult to help people work through their mental health challenges if they don't have healthy, stable homes. I'm even more excited to come back here a year from now for the grand opening and see firsthand how this type of project truly changes lives for the better."

Free Used Oil and Oil Filter Collection Event

**Bring in your used oil filter and
receive a new one FREE!***

Residents are welcome to bring in used motor oil and oil filters in exchange for free prizes.

Locations/Dates/Times:

AutoZone 2901 E. Florence Ave. Huntington Park, CA 90255 (323) 589-1877 Sat. & Sun., April 6th and 7th, 2013 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Used oil must be stored properly in a clean, uncontaminated container. Empty plastic used oil containers also accepted.

For proper disposal of contaminated used oil and other household hazardous waste, please visit the SAFE Center at 2649 E. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles.

Zero Waste-You Make It Happen!
(888) Clean LA
www.888Cleanla.com

Funded by a grant from the California Integrate Waste Management Board. *Free oil filters will only be given away during this event. Limit three per resident.

