

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar



City Issued Top Credit Rating

In a long-term cost-saving measure, the Diamond Bar City Council earlier this year directed City staff to initiate the process of converting existing variable rate lease revenue Bonds to a fixed rate mode.

As part of this conversion process, Standard & Poor's paid the City a visit in the month of October to obtain an overview of the City's history, financial health, and its variable rate Bonds.

This visit resulted in S&P issuing the City a AA+ rating, the highest possible for a lease revenue Bond transaction.

The Bonds the City is looking to convert to a fixed rate were originally issued in December 2002 to help finance the construction of the 22,500 square foot Diamond Bar Center, as well as other public improvements within the city.

To date, the average interest rate on these variable rate Bonds since issuance – including all bank remarketing and interest rate cap fees – has been approximately 3.10 percent.

By choosing to convert to a fixed rate, the City is taking advantage of long-term fixed interest rates currently at historic lows, while eliminating interest rate risk and volatility for the remaining 22 years that the debt will be outstanding.

It is anticipated that the sale of the fixed rate bonds, administered by De La Rosa & Co., Inc. will close December 1, 2011. At this time, the City will begin to pay fixed annual lease payments.



City Hall is Relocating

Preparations are underway for Diamond Bar City Hall to start year 2012 in its new permanent location at 21810 Copley Drive, with the relocation of files, furniture, and equipment scheduled to take place during business hours on Thursday, December 29 and Friday, December 30.

During these two days, public counter services such as recreation class registrations, transit pass sales, and planning

and building permit issuances will be temporarily transferred to the Diamond Bar Center, 1600 Grand Avenue.

Additionally, because the City's servers and network infrastructure will be down starting at 7:30 am on Thursday, December 29 until 7:30 am on Tuesday, January 3 when their relocation to the new facility is finalized, staff will not have access to their email, and neither staff nor the public will be able to process online transactions via the City website.



Anyone wishing to register for a class, purchase a transit pass, or obtain a planning or building permit is encouraged to do so before December 29 or after January 3.

As an added courtesy to transit customers, City Hall will be extending its "Late Night" transit pass sale an additional evening, meaning City Hall will remain open until 7 pm on both Tuesday, December 27 as well as Wednesday, December 28.

An open house to give members of the public an opportunity to tour the new City Hall is planned for mid-February 2012. Construction activity will continue on the first floor through late spring 2012, with the County branch library scheduled to relocate mid-summer.

For more information about the relocation or the Open House event, contact the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055 or visit www.DiamondBarCA.gov/CivicCenter.

Reserve Your FREE Copies

New editions of the City's popular Tabletop Calendar and Services Guide and magnetic Street Sweeping Schedule will be available later this month.

Produced this year as an 18-month publication, the Guide highlights the winning entries of the City's fourth annual "Diamond Bar Through My Lens" community photo contest, while providing answers to some of the most popular inquiries regarding City amenities, services, and regulations.

The 5 x 5 square inch street sweeping schedule notes the days when residential streets are swept as well as the days when service is delayed by a day due to an observed holiday.

Diamond Bar residents or businesses who would like to have one or both of these items mailed to them should call 909.839.7026 or submit their request online by visiting www.DiamondBarCA.gov/guideandschedulerequest no later than Wednesday, December 28.

After this date, copies of these items will only be available for pickup at City Hall and the Diamond Bar Center. For more information, contact the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7056.



October 2011 Business of the Month



See's Candies
Specialty Candy Shop
1117 S. Grand Avenue
909.396.4509
www.sees.com

Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm
Sunday, noon - 5 pm

Incorporated in November 1921, See's Candies is a specialty candy shop with over 200 locations and more than 100 varieties of candies and chocolates.

Holiday Diamond Ride



Residents age 18 and older have until Sunday, January 2 to take advantage of free cab rides from their home to a Diamond Bar shopping center and back home, as part of the City's annual Holiday Diamond Ride program. Proof of Diamond Bar residency (driver license or utility bill) will be required to book a trip, which can be arranged by calling 800.578.6555.

As a reminder, keeping shopping dollars in town benefits the community as a whole because one percent of all sales tax dollars come back to the City to help pay for services that include public safety, park maintenance, and recreation.

Tiny Tot Registration



Applications are now available for parents who wish to enroll their pre-school aged children in the winter session of the City's Tiny Tots program which runs Tuesday, January 3 through Friday, March 23. The popular 11-week enrichment program for ages 3 to 5 is aimed at encouraging intellectual, physical, and social growth for a positive transition into kindergarten. Participants age 3 are taught colors, shapes, numbers, and the alphabet; while lesson plans for ages 4 and 5 include letter recognition, math concepts, and kindergarten readiness.

More details, including registration cost, are available on page 5 of the Recreation Guide included with this issue.

Holiday City Office Closures

City offices will be closed Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 in observance of the Christmas Day holiday, and Monday, January 2 in observance of the New Year's Day holiday. These holidays will not result in a delay in refuse collection service; however street sweeping will be delayed by one day the week of December 26.

Free Curbside Holiday Tree Collection

Waste Management customers can take advantage of free curbside tree collection Monday, December 26, 2011 through Friday, January 13, 2012.

Trees should be free of stands, decorations, lights and tinsel (flocking is okay), and placed at the curb on collection day.

For more information, contact Waste Management at 800.266.7551.

December 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 <small>Christmas Holiday City Offices Closed</small>	24
25	26 <small>Christmas Holiday City Offices Closed</small>	27	28	29	30	31

Calendar Key

- City Council Meeting* - starts at 6:30 pm
- Planning Commission Meeting* - starts at 7 pm
- Traffic & Transportation Commission Meeting* - starts at 7 pm
- Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting* - starts at 7 pm
- Transit Late Night - City Hall open until 7 pm
- Street Sweeping Week
- Candy Cane Craft Fair - 9 am - 2 pm at the Diamond Bar Center

*All meetings take place at the AQMD/Government Center, 21865 Copley Drive. Additional event and meeting details are available at www.DiamondBarCA.gov.

Ring in the New Year at the Rose Parade!

Grandstand seats are still available for those who want to ring in the New Year at the 123rd annual Tournament of Roses Parade on Monday, January 2, 2012*.

This trip is open to all ages and includes roundtrip transportation, reserved grandstand seating, continental breakfast, an official City of Diamond Bar seat cushion, a Rose Parade program, and a return-trip snack.

Trip reservations costs \$84 per person and can be made by calling 909.839.7070 or visiting www.DiamondBarCA.gov/recreationreservations. The bus departs from City Hall, 21825 Copley Drive, at 6 am and returns at 2 pm.

**The annual Rose Parade is always held on January 1, except when this date falls on a Sunday in which case it's held on January 2. Including 2012, January 1 has fallen on a Sunday 18 times in the Rose Parade's history.*

Street Sweeping Reminder



Just a reminder that during the months of December and January, streets are swept weekly to handle the increase in debris due to the winter season. Signs indicating parking restrictions on street sweeping days are posted at key locations throughout neighborhoods. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 909.839.7040.

Winter Energy Efficiency Tips

With the cold season now underway, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency offers the following tips to help households increase their energy efficiency and save money while keeping warm:

Maintain your heating equipment. Dirt and neglect are the top causes of heating system failure. If your heating equipment is more than 10 years old, schedule a checkup with a licensed contractor. Air filters should be checked every month and replaced, at minimum, every three months.

Use a programmable thermostat. Control your home's temperature while you're away or asleep by using one of the pre-programmed settings. When used properly, programmable thermostats can result in an annual savings of up to \$180 in energy costs.

Seal air leaks in your home. High humidity levels or excessive dust issues are indications of air leaks. Sealing these leaks with caulk, spray foam, or weather stripping can help improve your comfort and reduce energy bills.

Additional tips to help cut energy costs this winter are available at www.energystar.gov/heatingtips.



Need Sandbags?

During the rainy season, sand and sandbags are available at most County fire stations for residents with flooding concerns. These stations include 119 (20480 Pathfinder Road) and 121 (346 Armitos Road) in Diamond Bar. Sites are self-service; please bring a shovel or pail to fill sandbags. There is a 25-bag limit per household. To confirm availability of supplies, call Fire Station 119 at 909.598.4290 or Fire Station 121 at 909.396.0164.

City Receives Top MISAC Award

The Municipal Information Systems Association Awards Diamond Bar Once Again!

For the fourth consecutive year, the operational efficiencies of the City's Information Systems Department has been recognized with the highest level of peer-reviewed achievement a City can achieve – the Excellence in Information Technology Practice Award.

This highly-coveted award was created in 1999 by the Municipal Information Systems Association of California (MISAC) to recognize public agency efforts that exceed industry practices. This year, only 21 Cities statewide earned this distinction.

The criterion for the Excellence in Information Technology Practice Award is updated annually to keep up to date with the changing standards, and encompasses areas that include budgeting and strategic planning, customer satisfaction, Internet policies, project management and application development, disaster preparation and recovery, and network security.

Among its responsibilities, the City's Information Services Department maintains a high level of uptime on servers to ensure residents and businesses have constant access to the City website,



and that online credit card transactions such as transit pass sales and recreation class registration are safe and secure.

Council Members

Ling-Ling Chang
Ron Everett
Carol Herrera
Jack Tanaka
Steve Tye

City Manager..... James DeStefano



21825 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
909.839.7000 ♦ 909.861.3117 Fax
www.DiamondBarCA.gov
info@diamondbarca.gov

Postal Customer

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #3339
Chino, CA

Find it Fast Phone Directory

City Services	909.839.7000
City Council	909.839.7010
Building & Safety	909.839.7020
City Clerk's Office	909.839.7010
City Manager's Office	909.839.7010
Community Development	909.839.7030
Community Services	909.839.7060
Facility Reservations	909.839.7070
Finance	909.839.7050
Human Resources	909.839.7015
Library	909.861.4978
Neighborhood Improvement	909.839.7030
Planning	909.839.7030
Post Office	909.860.2469
Public Information Office	909.839.7055
Public Safety Services	909.839.7075
Public Works/Engineering	909.839.7040
Recreation Services	909.839.7070
Senior Services	909.839.7068
Transit Information	909.839.7045
Voter Registration	562.462.2748

Business Information:	
Business Licenses	909.839.7030
Chamber of Commerce	909.860.1904

School Districts:	
Pomona Unified	909.397.4700
Walnut Valley Unified	909.595.1261

Utilities:	
So Cal Edison (electric)	800.611.1911
So Cal Gas (gas)	800.427.2200
Time Warner (cable TV)	888.892.2253
Verizon (telephone)	800.483.5000
Walnut Valley Water	909.595.7554
Waste Disposal:	
Valley Vista (businesses)	800.442.6454
Waste Management (residents)	909.599.1274

Public Safety:	
Animal Control	909.623.9777
Fire (LA County)*	909.629.9671
Police (LA Co. Sheriff)*	909.595.2264

24-Hour Hotlines:	
Building Inspection Hotline	909.839.7027
Graffiti Hotline	800.794.7384

*For emergencies, dial 9-1-1



Find us



Follow us



Scan Us



Track us



Watch us

Published by the City of Diamond Bar, City News contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and mailed monthly to all residences and businesses in Diamond Bar. Every effort is made to ensure that the information printed in this publication is correct. If you find typographical errors or become aware of any inaccuracies, please let us know by calling 909.839.7056.

Snapshots Around The Community



LASTING ART... As part of a special groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of construction on a future neighborhood park at the corner of Washington Street and Lincoln Avenue, several dozen of Diamond Bar's youngest residents had the opportunity to add their artistic touch to tiles that will be incorporated into the park's rock seating wall. Slated for completion early summer of 2012, the 15,000 square-foot

Washington park will feature a tot lot with rubberized surfacing, picnic tables and benches, decomposed granite walkways, and small turf area.

TEEN TERRORS... Before retreating to their lair for the evening, a few members of this year's Hall of Horrors scare crew got into character for the City's camera. These volunteers were part of a group of 50 high-school students who helped give life to the two attractions available every Halloween at Heritage Park - a 3D haunted house for ages 8 and older, and a festival for those younger than 8 years of age. In addition to taking the part of nightmarish characters, volunteers were also tasked with designing and constructing props, and operating game booths. For more Halloween photos, visit www.DiamondBarCA.gov/photogallery.



BE EMERGENCY READY

FIND US on Facebook & Twitter

REGISTER/UPDATE your phone, cell phone, or email for Emergency Alerts www.DiamondBarCA.gov

Emergency in Progress:

LOG ON www.DiamondBarCA.gov

TUNE IN to Ch. 3 (Time Warner)/Ch. 47 (Verizon FiOS)