

# LCF Vista

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

SUMMER 2020

## Coronavirus Update

The City of La Cañada Flintridge continues to closely monitor the quickly moving re-opening, restrictions, and other developments regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The City's highest priority is keeping our community safe. As specific details regarding re-opening strategies, in accordance with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's guidelines, become available, residents can find up-to-date information on the City's website at [CityOfLCF.org/coronavirus](http://CityOfLCF.org/coronavirus).

City Hall has been closed to walk-in traffic by the general public. Appointments can be scheduled with City staff so that residents and businesses may continue engaging with the City. Our online portal "ConnectLCF" ([CityOfLCF.org/ConnectLCF](http://CityOfLCF.org/ConnectLCF)) can facilitate most business transactions.

The City also has established a special e-mail address to respond to concerns or questions from the community regarding the City's response to the current crisis. Please feel free to e-mail us at [CovidResponse@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:CovidResponse@lcf.ca.gov).

In lieu of in-person public meetings, the City now offers options for remote participation in ongoing scheduled meetings. Residents can view agendas at [CityOfLCF.org/Agenda-Minutes](http://CityOfLCF.org/Agenda-Minutes).

For City Council meetings, the City encourages the public to participate remotely by watching live video streamed meetings on Spectrum Cable (Channel 3 East of ACH or Channel 16 West of ACH) or via the City's website ([CityOfLCF.org](http://CityOfLCF.org)). E-mails to [CCPublicComment@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:CCPublicComment@lcf.ca.gov) during the meeting will be monitored in real time, acknowledged and included as part of the official record.

We understand your concerns about the spread of COVID-19. Our community is in this together. As you go about your daily life, please take precautionary measures to protect not only your health, but also the health of your neighbors.

Now, more than ever, the La Cañada Flintridge community must support each other. We encourage you to check-in on your elderly family members and neighbors, and those with underlying health conditions; these groups are the most vulnerable to serious illness from the coronavirus and, if their caregiver gets sick, may need additional help from others.

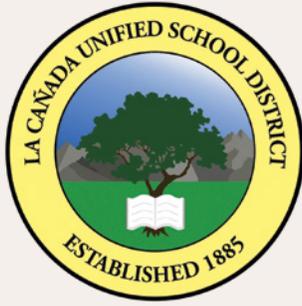
We also ask that you keep our local businesses in mind. When you need to shop and dine, please do it locally to support our businesses who are also being impacted by the uncertainties of this situation.

Resources for current, reliable information about the coronavirus include:

- ▶ The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health: [PublicHealth.LACounty.gov/Media/Coronavirus](http://PublicHealth.LACounty.gov/Media/Coronavirus)
- ▶ The Centers for Disease Control: [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](http://CDC.gov/Coronavirus)
- ▶ The California Department of Public Health: [CDPH.ca.gov](http://CDPH.ca.gov)

The City also has information available on our website [CityOfLCF.org/coronavirus](http://CityOfLCF.org/coronavirus) and on our social media accounts: [Facebook.com/CityOfLaCanadaFlintridge](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfLaCanadaFlintridge) and [@TheCityofLCF](https://twitter.com/TheCityofLCF) on Twitter. Please call us at (818) 790-8880 should you have any questions.

City Council and City staff continue to respond diligently to changes surrounding this unprecedented event. This crisis is likely to continue several weeks or even a few more months before it resolves. We ask for your patience, understanding, cooperation and help in supporting one another during this time.



## La Cañada Unified School District

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The La Cañada Unified School District is accepting applications to fill an unscheduled vacancy for one (1) member of the LCUSD Governing Board.

#### Timeline:

- **Friday, May 29, 2020** - Application period opens with applications available at [LCUSD.net](http://LCUSD.net).
- **Friday, June 12, 2020** - Applications due to the LCUSD District Office (4490 Cornishon Avenue) no later than 5:00 PM.
- **Week of Monday, June 15, 2020** - Interview of Applicants held during Special Meeting(s) of the LCUSD Governing Board.
- **Tuesday, June 30, 2020 (or earlier)** - Appointment made to fill unscheduled vacancy of the LCUSD Governing Board.

#### Requirements:

Applicants must reside in the boundaries of the La Cañada Unified School District and must be registered voters in the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

# Utility-Initiated Power Shutoffs: **What to Expect**

In an effort to reduce wildfire risks, the California Public Utilities Commission has granted authority to Southern California Edison (SCE) to shut off power temporarily during high fire-risk situations. These Utility-Initiated Power Shutoffs (UIPS) may be implemented by SCE due to high winds, low humidity or other extreme weather conditions.

In advance of a Utility-Initiated Power Shutoff event, SCE will meet with city staff and first responders to inform them about the UIPS protocol, including the location of circuits in their jurisdictions that may be shut off. SCE will alert potentially affected customers through a first notification of a possible UIPS two days in advance, a second notification of an impending UIPS one day in advance, a third notification of an active UIPS upon confirmation of the decision and a fourth notification upon restoration of power.

SCE customers may sign up for UIPS alerts at [sce.com/OutageAlerts](http://sce.com/OutageAlerts). Customers who rely on medical equipment for their health and safety may register at [sce.com/MedicalBaseline](http://sce.com/MedicalBaseline). For more information or in the event of an outage, please visit [sce.com/safety/wildfire/psps](http://sce.com/safety/wildfire/psps) or call (800) 655-4555.

## How to Stock an Outage Supply Kit

Planning ahead and gathering supplies can increase your safety and comfort in the event of a Utility-Initiated Power Shutoff. Some items you may wish to keep on hand include:

- Batteries and back-up charging device
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Analog telephone
- Bottled water
- Battery-operated radio
- Non-perishable food
- Cooler

For more information, please visit [sce.com/outage-center/preparing-for-outages](http://sce.com/outage-center/preparing-for-outages).

## How to Develop an Emergency Medical Back-Up Plan

- Work with the hospital or medical company that supplied your life-support device to access special emergency services.
- Contact the Los Angeles County Fire Department to join their list of customers with special medical needs.
- Keep a fully charged cell phone or spare battery pack on hand.
- Keep emergency phone numbers, including your doctor and medical equipment company, in an easy-to-access location.
- Create a plan for leaving your home in the event of a lengthy outage and share this plan with your family and friends.

For more emergency plan tips, please visit [RedCross.org](http://RedCross.org).

# City Manager's Annual Report

The City of La Cañada Flintridge's annual achievements were cataloged in the 2019 City Manager's Annual Report, submitted to the City Council on February 18, 2020. The report compiled and summarized activities for each of the City's departments: Administration; Finance; Community Development; and Public Works.

Highlights from the 2019 report include:

- The City awarded contract for and completed the resurfacing of the eight (8) F.I.S. tennis courts on Cornsion Avenue, operated by the City under a Joint Use agreement with the La Cañada Unified School District.
- On March 19, the City's leadership gathered to dedicate a new City Hall on the site of the former Sport Chalet corporate headquarters building at One Civic Center Drive.
- The City Council unanimously approved a lease agreement with Citizens Business Bank, which joined the LCF Chamber of Commerce, as tenants in the new City Hall.
- The City launched a new website, [CityOfLCF.org](http://CityOfLCF.org), which serves as an accessible platform to inform and educate residents about City services, departments, news, events and more.
- The City received the "Project of the Year" award from the American Public Works Association for its new City Hall Renovation Project.

## 2019 By the Numbers



**696** Parking Permits Issued



**55,010** LCF Free Shuttle Service Rides



**276** Summer Beach Bus Program Riders



**1,454** Business Licenses Issued



**2.73** Miles of Street Resurfacing

To see the report in its entirety, visit: [bit.ly/LCF-AR2019](http://bit.ly/LCF-AR2019)

..... 47<sup>th</sup> Annual .....

## Memorial Weekend FIESTA DAYS

*(POSTPONED)*

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, the 47th Annual Memorial Weekend Fiesta Days, hosted annually by the La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce, was postponed. On Memorial Day weekend, we honored the brave men and women who served from the safety of our homes. Thank you for understanding; we will reunite for Fiesta Days festivities Labor Day weekend. Please check the Chamber of Commerce's website for periodic updates at [LaCanadaFlintridge.com](http://LaCanadaFlintridge.com).

## Music-In-The-Park Summer Concert Series

*(CANCELLED)*

This year, due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, it is uncertain on which date we will be able to commence the Summer concert series. At this time, all concerts for the month of June have been cancelled. The City continues to coordinate with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health for guidance on when large assemblies and gatherings will be safely permitted again. When additional information about the concerts is available, the City will update its website at [CityOfLCF.org](http://CityOfLCF.org).



# Pickleball Gathers Momentum

Since the City of La Cañada Flintridge launched a pilot pickleball program last September, residents have enjoyed playing and connecting with fellow fans of the fitness fad.

“Pickleball is yet another resource for outdoor recreation,” said City Division Manager Arabo Parseghian. “It’s well-suited to the needs of seniors. This is consistent with the opportunities for improving and enhancing resources identified by the Parks and Recreation Commission’s Senior Needs Assessment.”



A paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping pong, pickleball originally was championed to the Parks and Recreation Commission in December 2018 by several residents. After hearing from a pickleball expert, reviewing various court possibilities and deciding to proceed

with a temporary court option, the City launched its pilot program on September 28, 2019.

Over the past nine months, pickleball enthusiasts have practiced their sport on the basketball court next to the La Cañada Flintridge Skate Park, at 4490 Cornishon Avenue. The City furnished participants with a portable net, eight paddles and numerous balls.

Although pickleball can be played on any concrete or asphalt surface, a tennis court surface is preferred. One standard tennis court can accommodate four pickleball courts.

By tracking the number of participants at the temporary court, the City has gained a better understanding of the community interest and need. Based on this data, the Parks and Recreation Commission will research and recommend alternatives for a permanent court location.

For more information, please contact Arabo Parseghian at [aparseghian@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:aparseghian@lcf.ca.gov).

**NOTE:** Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, all City recreational facilities have been closed since March 19, 2020. As of Friday, May 15, the City has reopened trails, parks and tennis/pickleball courts with the exception of play equipment within parks. The City will continue to announce plans for reopening recreation facilities as information becomes available.

## A New Trail in LCF: Sister Cities Friendship Trail

For equestrians and hikers who prefer low incline trails, the Descanso Trail may not be the right fit; but that is changing this year. The City of La Cañada Flintridge is paving a new route that will provide an alternative to the steep incline section at the beginning of the Descanso Trail.

The Descanso Trail, which connects people from north of Foothill to Cherry Canyon, includes steep switchbacks that begin near the trailhead. To ride on that section of the trail, equestrians must first dismount, and for some hikers the beginning incline portion can be challenging.

The new route named “Sister Cities Friendship Trail”, will begin at the same trailhead (located at Descanso Drive) and connect to the Descanso Trail beyond the steep switchbacks. The route will have an overall elevation increase of 120 feet with a gradual incline not exceeding an eight percent slope. In comparison, the existing Descanso Trail entrance has a fifteen percent incline along a narrow passage.

**“In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.” - John Muir**

“The Descanso Trail is great for those who enjoy a challenging hike, but we want to make sure that the whole community has the opportunity to use it,” said Paddy Taber, Senior Management Analyst II with the City’s Public Works Department. “We expect that the new, easier trail will allow more people in the community access to Cherry Canyon.”

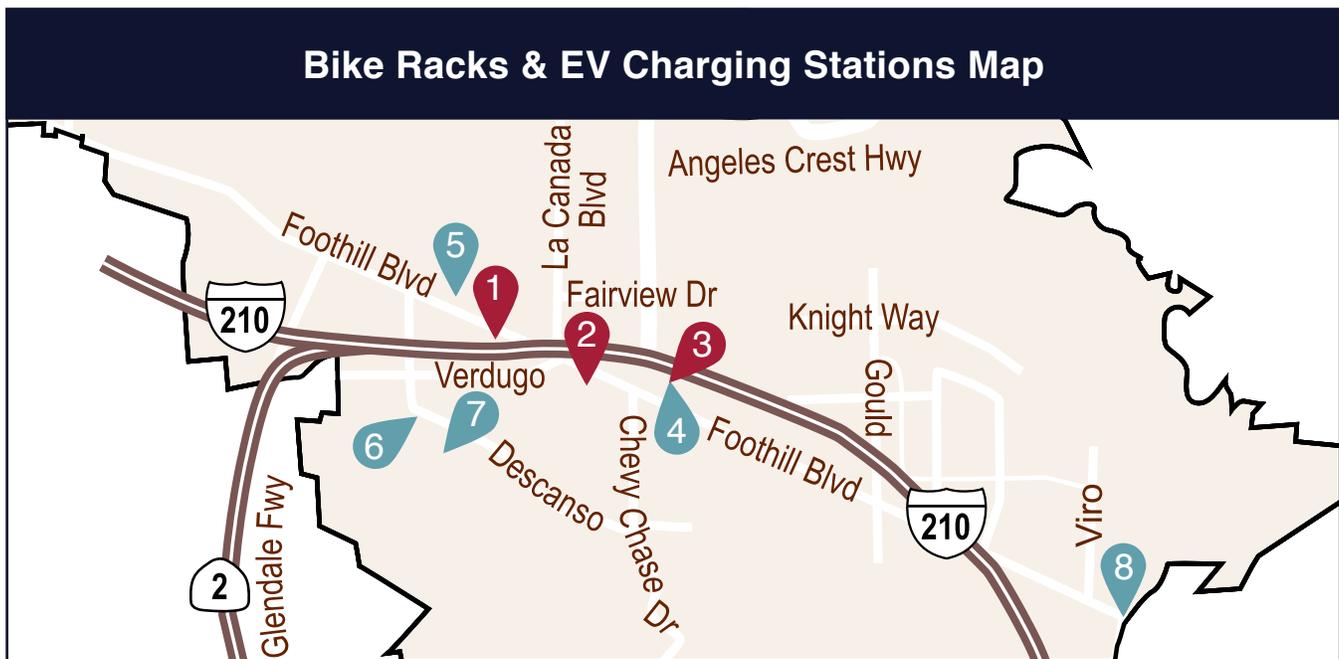
As a tribute to the City’s thriving relationship with its Sister City Villanueva de la Cañada in Spain, and any future Sister Cities, the new trail will be named the Sister Cities Friendship Trail.

The proposed trail project will be presented to the City Council as a Capital Improvement Council Consideration Item in the FY 2020-21 budget. If approved, the project is expected to be completed and dedicated in late spring 2021.

# New Bike Racks and EV Chargers in LCF Make it Easier to GO GREEN

Last year, the City of La Cañada Flintridge received a \$50,000 grant from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to install new bicycle racks and electric vehicle (EV) charging stations throughout the City. In March 2020, the City completed the installation project, bringing residents 20 new bike racks and 4 new EV charging stations.

The City installed the new racks and charging stations at various locations with high foot traffic. With more bicycle racks now available, the City hopes residents will consider biking to places more often. Ultimately, the new installations will help improve air quality and congestion in the City by enabling greener transportation options for residents.



## EV Chargers

\$2 for the first 3 hours, then \$5 for each hour thereafter.

Site Location	Number of Stations
<b>1 City Park and Ride Lot</b> 1300 Foothill Blvd (Overpass lot across from Memorial Park)	2
<b>2 Lanterman Auditorium Public Parking Lot</b> 4491 Cornishon Avenue	1
<b>3 Town Center</b> City Hall public parking lot (One Civic Center Dr.)	1



## Bicycle Racks

Site Location	Number of Racks
<b>4 City Hall</b> One Civic Center Dr.	2
<b>5 Winery Channel Trailhead</b> Foothill Blvd. & Indiana Blvd.	2
<b>6 Descanso Trail</b> On Descanso Dr. between Fairlawn Dr. & Leycross Dr.	2
<b>7 Descanso Gardens</b> Visitor Center (1418 Descanso Dr.)	12
<b>8 Gould Canyon Trailhead</b> Foothill Blvd. & Oak Grove Dr.	2



City of La Cañada Flintridge  
One Civic Center Drive  
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

PRST STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 137  
Pasadena, CA

Postal Customer  
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011



## Mayor Rotation and New Council Members

On Tuesday, April 7, in addition to its annual reorganization, the La Cañada Flintridge City Council welcomed two new City Council members: Keith Eich and Rick Gunter. Councilmembers Eich and Gunter join newly selected Mayor Michael Davitt, Mayor Pro Tem Jonathan C. Curtis, and returning Councilmember Terry Walker on the five-member City Council.

The City Council also recognized outgoing Mayor Leonard Pieroni and Mayor Pro Tem Gregory C. Brown. Pieroni was first elected March 2015 and Brown was appointed July 2017. The City thanks them for their outstanding and dedicated service.

### CITY INFORMATION

The City Council meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers, One Civic Center Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011.

City Hall will be closed on Friday, July 3, for Independence Day.

#### City Council

Michael T. Davitt – Mayor  
Jonathan C. Curtis – Mayor Pro Tem  
Teresa “Terry” Walker  
Keith Eich  
Richard B. Gunter III

#### City Staff

Mark R. Alexander - City Manager  
Carl Alameda - Assistant City Manager  
Adrian R. Guerra - Interim City Attorney  
Jeffrey Wang - City Treasurer  
Patrick DeChellis - Director of Public Works  
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development  
Rebekka Hosken - Director of Finance  
Tania Moreno - City Clerk

#### City Hall

One Civic Center Drive,  
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

Administration: (818) 790-8880

Finance: (818) 790-8880

Community Development: (818) 790-8881

Public Works: (818) 790-8882

Building and Safety: (818) 790-8651

City Hall Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Fri: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Building & Safety Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM, Fri: 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Website: [www.CityOfLCF.org](http://www.CityOfLCF.org)

### WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay current on news and events by “Liking” and “Following” the City of La Cañada Flintridge on social media.



facebook.com/  
cityoflacanadaflintridge



twitter: @thecityofLCF



youtube.com/thecityofLCF

#### Contact Your City Council

Jonathan C. Curtis – [jcurtis@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:jcurtis@lcf.ca.gov)

Michael T. Davitt – [mdavitt@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:mdavitt@lcf.ca.gov)

Keith Eich – [keich@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:keich@lcf.ca.gov)

Richard B. Gunter III – [rgunter@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:rgunter@lcf.ca.gov)

Terry Walker – [twalker@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:twalker@lcf.ca.gov)

City Hall is currently closed to walk-in traffic. To book an appointment, please call (818) 790-8880. For instructions on how to participate remotely in City Council Meetings, please visit [CityOfLCF.org/Agenda-Minutes](http://CityOfLCF.org/Agenda-Minutes).

