

Protecting Yourself and Others During the Pandemic



COVID-19 Facts

Currently, there is no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. Without a vaccine, the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus, which is thought to spread person-to-person through respiratory droplets. COVID-19 affects all ages, but seniors and those with underlying health conditions are particularly vulnerable and have a higher risk of serious complications and death.

Safety Tips and Precautions



1 Wash Your Hands Often

Washing your hands frequently can help in preventing the spread of respiratory infections including COVID-19. To wash your hands properly, wet them under clean, running water, apply soap and lather the back, between fingers and under your fingernails for at least 20 seconds. When you can't use soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



2 Avoid Close Contact With Others

Limiting close face-to-face contact with others is the best way to reduce the spread of COVID-19. When it's essential for you to leave your home, be sure to maintain six feet of distance from people who do not live in your household. The virus can be spread by those who are unknowingly infected and not showing any symptoms, so it is important to always stay six feet apart from others. Please avoid all parties and gatherings; only leave your home when it is essential.



3 Wear a Cloth Face Covering

Face coverings offer protection for yourself and others in case either are unknowingly infected. When you must go out in public, wear a cloth face covering that covers your mouth and nose. Remember, people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus, so it's important to wear a face covering even when you don't feel sick.



4 Clean and Disinfect

The spread of COVID-19 occurs most commonly through respiratory droplets but the virus can also spread when a person touches a contaminated surface or object. To reduce the opportunity for transmission, regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects such as door knobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets and sinks.



5 Monitor Your Health

Stay alert for symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you develop symptoms, contact your doctor and get a test for COVID-19. For assistance finding a doctor, you may call the Los Angeles County Information line 2-1-1, which is available 24/7. To get a test for COVID-19, call your doctor, visit covid19.lacounty.gov/testing or call 2-1-1.



6 Beware of Contact Tracing Scams

Contact tracing is when a health care professional notifies you that you have been in contact with an infected person. Legitimate contact tracing professionals will never provide the name(s) of the potentially infected individuals you were in contact with or ask you for money, your bank account/credit card information or your Social Security Number.

A legitimate contact tracing professional will text or email you to say they will be contacting you soon. *If that text or email contains a link, it is a scam and is an effort to access your personal information; delete the text or email immediately.

Legitimate contact tracers may ask about symptoms, offer free testing, and talk about next steps.

Information sourced from The Center for Disease Control and The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

More Coronavirus Resources

cityoflcf.org/coronavirus/
publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/
cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/



For the latest updates from the City, visit
CityOfLCF.org/Coronavirus



LCF Vista

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

Fall 2020

City Adopts Lean Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21

On July 21, the La Cañada Flintridge City Council adopted the Annual Budget & Financial Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-21, a roadmap for achieving community goals in the year ahead. Despite the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City’s fiscal position remains strong.

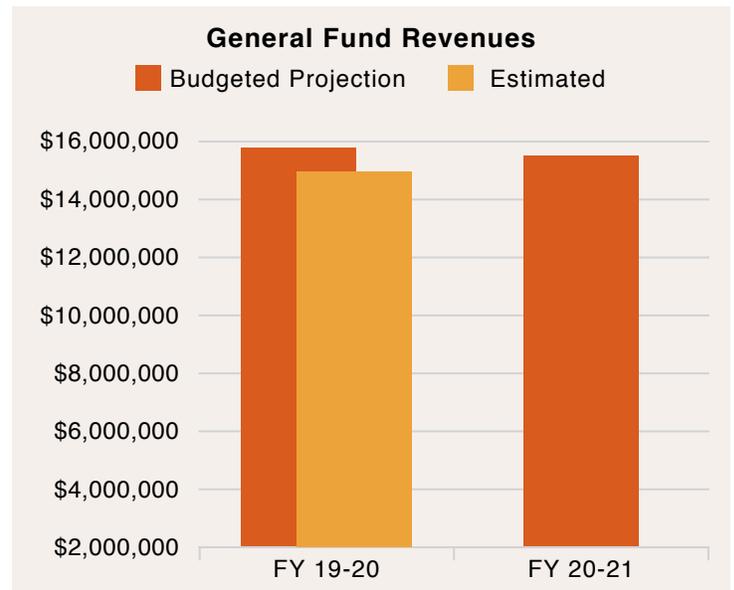
The FY 2020-21 budget will be drawn primarily from local taxes and service charges. While sales tax revenue declined by \$434,150 at the end of the 2019-20 Fiscal Year due to operational restrictions under public health directives, this category is expected to stabilize in the coming months as businesses and restaurants adjust to the “new normal.” Total net revenues decreased by \$289,525, which includes a partial offset of \$155,550 in State and FEMA COVID relief. Total General Fund revenues for Fiscal Year 2020-21 are budgeted at \$15,479,575, a 1.83% decrease from the previous year’s budget.

Reflecting this decrease in revenue, the City has tightened its expenditures and will operate at a lean \$15,135,025 (4.3% less than the previous year). Reductions were made in funding earmarked for public events as well as costs associated with travel, conferences and meetings, which were cut by 50% across all City departments. These reductions saved room for investments in community groups, emergency services, technology and more, including:

- Over \$340,000 in support to local community groups
- Technology improvements to the City’s phones, online service portal “ConnectLCF,” cybersecurity and data migration and accounts payable system
- \$50,000 toward a study of providing broadband internet in the City
- \$31,750 toward air quality monitoring of the Devil’s Gate Dam Sediment Removal project

The budget will also fund over \$2.7 million in new capital projects, including \$1 million allocated to the annual street resurfacing program, \$125,000 for the new Sister Cities Friendship Trail, improvements to Descanso Drive (also supported by LA County) and several additional improvements and infrastructure investments. In addition, funds are included for the continuation of several prior-year projects including \$1.4 million for Soundwalls Phase II and \$1.6 million for Soundwalls Phase III.

Like other cities across California and beyond, La Cañada Flintridge faces challenges surrounding the unprecedented circumstances of COVID-19. The FY 2020-21 budget sustains the service levels and investments that our LCF community expects and depends upon while making the changes necessary to adapt to our new reality.



Road Work Ahead: Upcoming Street Improvements in LCF

With numerous street improvement projects completed and several more in the works throughout La Cañada Flintridge, in the coming months, residents can expect to find repaved streets, safer pedestrian spaces and reduced noise pollution throughout the community.

See below for a list of the completed and upcoming projects:

Citywide Street Resurfacing

In late July, the City completed its FY 2019-20 Citywide Street Resurfacing project to preserve and extend the life of 22 streets throughout the City.

Miscellaneous Concrete Repairs

In late August, the City completed a series of concrete repairs including new curb ramps, asphalt patching and gutter, sidewalk and driveway reconstructions at several locations.

Foothill Blvd. Restriping Project

Beginning mid-July, the City began to repaint street striping and markings on Foothill Blvd. that had become faded. Residents saw new stripes and markings from west of Alta Canyon Road to the west City limit.

Green Alley Reconstruction

In addition to repaving several streets, the City will also complete a project to reconstruct the pavement on the public alley north of Foothill Blvd. between Alta Canyon Road and Indiana Avenue. Reconstruction is necessary when repaving is insufficient to repair a street.

Foothill Blvd. Bikeway and Greenbelt Project

The City will design and construct bicycle, pedestrian and landscape enhancements along Foothill Blvd. from the west City limits at Briggs Avenue to Alta Canyon Road. The project, also known as the Foothill Link Project, will connect

to existing bike lanes offering the first continuous bikeway between Los Angeles County's unincorporated La Crescenta and the cities of La Cañada Flintridge, Glendale and Pasadena. The project will begin in late 2020 and be completed mid 2021.

I-210 Soundwall Improvement Project, Phase II

In 2013, the City completed the construction of three sound walls (Phase I) to help reduce noise pollution. This year, the City will complete Phase II, which consists of the design and construction of a 1,200-foot segment of sound wall along the I-210 Freeway from Alta Canyon Road to La Tour Way.

LCF Invests in Public Safety with the Installation of New Flock Safety Cameras

In July 2020, the City of La Cañada Flintridge installed 39 Flock Safety cameras at strategic locations throughout the community. City staff worked with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Advanced Surveillance and Protection Unit to develop the program as part of a comprehensive crime prevention initiative. The City is also working to grow the Neighborhood Watch Program, which aims to strengthen community bonds, encourage neighbors to look out for one another and empower residents to participate more in safety practices.

Flock Safety cameras use Automatic License Plate Reader Technology (APLR) to capture license plate numbers in real time, which are instantly checked against a database of registered vehicles to identify any law enforcement tags. APLR enables law enforcement to track down in real time stolen vehicles or those matching Amber Alert descriptions. The cameras also give law enforcement a tool to track and identify vehicles that may have been involved in the



Plate	Last Visit
6TRF763	3:15 PM
Make	Seen
Volkswagen	3 of last 30 days
Color	Resident?
Yellow	No

commission of residential burglaries and other crimes and to correlate multiple crimes and locations where the same vehicle(s) may have been present. The data transmitted by these cameras can help fast-track investigations, prevent crime and be used as evidence in criminal trials.

Footage and other data captured by Flock Safety cameras is available only to law enforcement and expires after 60 days. The Sheriff's Department has a privacy policy in place to ensure that data is used only for law enforcement purposes. Unused data is destroyed.

For more information about neighborhood watch programs and other public safety tips, contact Deputy Eric Matejka by calling (818) 236-4020 or emailing: ejmatejk@lasd.org.

Coronavirus Update

The City of LCF continues to closely monitor public health guidelines to better educate the public in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and facilitate a successful recovery in our community. In compliance with County and State mandates, LCF residents are advised to continue practicing social distancing, wear face coverings in public settings, maintain safe hygiene practices and stay home when possible.

Many of our summer traditions have been canceled due to the significant public health risks posed by large gatherings. Our City is adapting to a modified way of life that prioritizes public safety while keeping our economy active and our community connected.

Beginning in March, City Hall closed to walk-in traffic and transitioned to a remote work environment. Residents, businesses and the public are able to schedule appointments with City staff and may also take advantage of the ConnectLCF portal for transactions including permits, licenses and much more. Residents are encouraged to utilize this convenient online system whenever possible at CityOfLCF.org.

City Council meetings and other public meetings continue to be accessible to the public via teleconferencing. Residents can participate in local governance from the comfort of their sofas. Please check the City website for updated agendas and instructions for tuning in or submitting comments.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, everyone should:

- Clean your hands often, either with soap and water for 20 seconds or a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Maintain distance between yourself and other people (at least 6 feet)
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces daily
- Wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people outside of the household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain

Residents are urged to continue monitoring up-to-date information from the City, County, State and Center for Disease Control and to sign up to receive emergency notifications through AlertLCF. Together, we can slow the spread of COVID-19, keep our community safe and progress toward a safe reopening of our City.

Protect Yourself From Mail & Identity Theft

With an increase in online shopping due to coronavirus-related store closures, residents must take additional precautions to prevent mail and identity theft. Seniors can be at greater risk due to their frequent contact with caregivers and other support staff who access their personal information or financial documents. It's important that all residents take action to lower their risk.

Residents should consider these steps to reduce the risk of mail theft:

- Collect your mail promptly
- Don't leave deliveries unattended
- Install a porch lock box
- Require a signature to ensure someone is home when your package arrives
- Install a wireless home monitoring system, such as Ring
- When away from home for an extended period, consider placing a mail hold with the USPS, which can be done in person at the local Post Office or by calling 800-ASK-USPS
- Request the Sheriff's Department to conduct periodic "vacation checks" of your home
- Have deliveries sent to your workplace, trusted neighbor/relative or drop box

Residents should consider the following tips to avoid identity theft:

- Review account statements regularly
- Monitor credit card expiration dates; sign new cards as soon as they arrive
- Invest in firewalls or virus-detection software for personal computers
- Never share personal identifying information such as name, date of birth or social security number with someone you do not trust, especially over the phone or online
- Secure social security cards and other personal information in a safe spot
- Purchase a document shredder and shred all items (i.e. credit card statements, utility bills, receipts, property tax statements, medical notices, etc.) that contain personal information



Creating a Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness Plan

In California, wildfires are no longer confined to the summer season; high winds, temperatures and dry conditions are present year-round making wildfires an ongoing risk—especially for communities near forests like La Cañada Flintridge.

All La Cañada Flintridge residents should have a fire safety plan in place. The Los Angeles County Fire Department has laid out a three-step plan for fire emergency preparedness. The core elements of the three-step plan are included below. To read the official Ready! Set! Go! guide and download the emergency plan worksheets, visit fire.lacounty.gov/rsg/.

- 1 Create and maintain defensible space around your home and property.** By removing vulnerable vegetation in compliance with County brush clearance requirements, sealing off structures with hardened ember-resistant materials and familiarizing your family with the water supply and utility controls in your home, you can ensure that your house will have the best chance of survival in the event of a fire.

Fire-proofing your property:

- Remove dead or dying vegetation and trees
- Remove any vegetation that comes into contact with structures
- Mow grass to a maximum height of three inches
- Store combustible materials, such as propane tanks, away from your home
- Install irrigation systems where possible in order to maintain moisture content in soil
- Landscaping tips: use stones or inorganic mulch and native plants with low wood content, like cacti and succulents, to beautify your property

Fire-proofing your home:

- Ensure that your address is clearly visible from the road
- Ensure that emergency vehicles can access your driveway
- Cover any chimneys, vents and deck/patio spaces with non-flammable materials
- Ensure your roof is made of fire retardant materials; if not, invest in re-roofing – roofs are highly vulnerable to flying embers
- Keep a fire extinguisher and tools, including rakes, hoes, shovels, buckets and functioning garden hoses, on hand
- Clean gutters regularly or install screens to prevent debris accumulation
- Install smoke detectors and test them monthly

- 2 Prepare and practice a personal wildfire action plan.** If and when an evacuation becomes imminent, your household should already have a plan in place. Be prepared to pack up and leave for a predetermined destination within minutes of being alerted to fire risk. Remember, there is no need to wait for official orders before evacuating. Evacuating early will keep you safe and help prevent traffic congestion in the event of heightened risk to your neighborhood.

Elements of a wildfire action plan:

- Assemble emergency kits with essential supplies for each member of the household
- Keep important documents and medication in an organized and easily accessible location
- Identify an emergency meeting location in a low-hazard area to gather at before evacuating
- Predetermine a safe place to shelter outside of the affected zone (i.e. a friend or family member's house or an evacuation center)
- Plan several routes from your home to the sheltering destination in case of road blockages
- Create a checklist for fire-proofing your home (closing chimneys and vents, turning off electricity, etc.) and check on neighbors if time permits

- 3 In the event of a fire, stay calm and execute your evacuation plan.** With the above elements in place, your family and property will be adequately prepared. Make sure to follow all official orders. If you are stuck in immediate danger, shelter close to the ground and alert authorities of your location.



General Election

November 3

This November, all registered voters in Los Angeles County, including La Cañada Flintridge, will have two options for casting their ballots for the General Election on November 3, 2020:



Vote Center

Voters will be able to cast their ballots at any in-person voting location throughout the County. "Vote Center" and "Flex Vote Center" locations will be determined by the County and subsequently announced.



Vote-by-Mail

In addition to in-person voting, ALL voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot and may choose to vote by mail instead of going to a Vote Center.

The changes to this year's voting options are a result of Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-64-20 issued on May 8, 2020, which, among other adjustments, orders this year's General Election to be conducted as an all mail-in ballot election. Accordingly, all registered voters in California will automatically receive a vote-by-mail ballot in the mail prior to

the election. Any registered voter may vote by mail instead of casting their ballot in person at a Vote Center on election day or "Flex Vote Center" prior to election day.

The City encourages residents who are already registered to vote to verify their address and voter registration status at lavote.net. Residents who will be 18 years of age on November 3 should register to vote now. The deadline to register to vote for the General Election is Monday, October 19, 2020.

Get out there and vote, LCF!

Timeline



For more election information or to register to vote, visit lavote.net. To find a vote center near you, visit locator.lavote.net/locations/vc.

LCF Sister Cities Association Wins Innovation in Youth and Education Award

The La Cañada Flintridge Sister Cities Association, a program established in 2016 to promote peace and intercultural understanding, particularly among youth, has been recognized with the 2020 Sister Cities International Innovation in Youth and Education award for their flourishing International Space Academy initiative.

Since 2017, LCF has partnered with sister city Villanueva de la Cañada in Madrid, Spain, to host cultural exchange programs and expand opportunities for students. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, located in La Cañada Flintridge, joined with the European Space Astronomy Centre, located in Villanueva de la Cañada, to form the International Space Academy. Under the leadership of JPL scientist

Dr. Art Chmielewski, students apply classroom knowledge to exciting real-world projects in collaboration with their international peers.

Students participating in the International Space Academy form "start-up" companies and build miniature spacecraft and launchers. Students in California work together with partner student companies at the SEK International School in Villanueva de la Cañada. Students are mentored in science and engineering, media development, marketing, public speaking and communications to increase the value of their "shares." The students present their accomplishments in weekly video calls.

"The International Space Academy is really the perfect Sister Cities

experience," said co-director Peter Lauenstein. "The students learn not only valuable technical and business skills, but also life lessons about collaboration across different cultures, teamwork and self-confidence."

LCF Sister Cities was honored with the Innovation in Youth and Education award at the Sister Cities International 2020 Virtual Annual Conference, which garnered international participation from partner cities around the world. The LCF Sister Cities Association is proud to carry this award and continue their service to the citizen diplomacy movement through education, mentorship and cross-cultural collaboration.

To learn more about LCF Sister Cities, visit LCFSisterCities.org.

47th Annual Fiesta Days Cancellation

The 47th Annual Memorial Weekend Fiesta Days celebration, hosted annually by the La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce, was officially canceled this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. In May, the Chamber tentatively postponed the event until Labor Day weekend, pending clearance from coronavirus-related restrictions. With restrictions still in place, the Chamber found it necessary to cancel the event altogether.

“Every year, our community looks forward to the Fiesta Days celebration to help remind us of our roots and all of the wonderful community members who volunteer to serve every aspect of our community’s needs,” said Chamber CEO and President Pat Anderson. “The La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce and Community Association came to the regretful conclusion that Fiesta Days will not be held in 2020. We look forward to planning an even bigger and better Fiesta Days celebration in May of 2021.”

The event, a citywide tradition since 1974, honors the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country. The Chamber of Commerce and City look forward to reuniting with the community for the event next year.



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 Monday, September 7, for Labor Day, and Monday, October 12, for Columbus 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 - City Attorney
Jeffrey Wang - City Treasurer
Patrick DeChellis - Director of Public Works
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development
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

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.

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](https://facebook.com/cityoflacanadaflintridge)

 [twitter: @thecityofLCF](https://twitter.com/thecityofLCF)

 youtube.com/thecityofLCF

Contact Your City Council

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