



# LCF Vista

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

Summer 2021

## LCF Honors JPL With a 'Mars Red' Tribute

On February 18, 2021, LCF's own NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) successfully landed the Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover on the Red Planet. The organization's most ambitious Mars mission yet, the Rover has the goal of finding out whether life has ever existed on the planet. To accomplish this, it was imperative to land the Rover in the Jezero Crater, a basin where it is believed an ancient river existed. The steep cliffs, dunes and boulder fields of the basin made the attempt one of the most challenging landings in the organization's history.

The rover has numerous devices to assist in its mission. A drill will help it to collect core samples and a helicopter, called Ingenuity, will be tested as the first powered flight on another planet. All of the information gathered on the mission will pave the way for future human expeditions to the Red Planet.

Representing a pivotal moment for space exploration, the 203-day, 293-million-mile journey was celebrated in LCF with the illumination of City Hall in "Mars Red".

"To congratulate the men and women who worked so hard to ensure the success of the Mars Rover 'Perseverance' program, LCF City Hall was lit in Mars Red for a week following the successful landing," said Mayor Michael T. Davitt. "We are so proud to have JPL located right here in La Cañada Flintridge as an integral part of our outstanding community."

For more information on JPL and the Mars 2020 Perseverance mission, visit [mars.nasa.gov/mars2020](https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020).





# Reducing Organic Waste in LCF and the State of California

Have you heard of California Senate Bill (SB) 1383? SB 1383 focuses on recycling more yard, food and paper waste than current state laws require in order to reduce climate pollutants generated in landfills. Enforcement of the bill goes into effect on January 1, 2022.

SB 1383 will dramatically change solid waste collection from residences, schools, organizations and businesses. This is in addition to the existing laws mandating commercial recycling and commercial organics recycling, which are described on the City's website [cityoflcf.org/public-works/waste-disposal-recycling/](http://cityoflcf.org/public-works/waste-disposal-recycling/).

City staff is preparing a plan to address the new requirements and will continue to update and inform residents, schools, organizations and businesses as changes are made.

One thing that residents can do to get ready for these changes is to review waste generation and collection needs, especially if you have a large (e.g., 3 cubic yard) refuse bin. Since section 9.12.055.E. of the City's municipal code already requires all single-family residences to participate in the green waste collection and recycling program, the City's authorized haulers will provide, at no charge, up to two 96-gallon green waste carts and up to two 96-gallon recycling carts for the collection of recyclable materials.

For more information on SB 1383, visit [calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp](http://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp).

The City's authorized haulers can be reached at the following phone numbers:

Allied Waste Services/Republic Services  
(Julian Reyes, Recycling Coordinator):  
(747) 245-9152

Athens Services:  
(888) 336-6100

NASA Services  
(Jack Topalian, General Manager):  
(888) 888-0388



**ALERT LCF**  
PREPAREDNESS THROUGH AWARENESS

Receive disaster alerts and other important emergency news by signing up for Alert LCF. The system enables the City to provide you with critical information in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods.

You can receive messages however you specify, such as your home phone, mobile or business phones, email address, text messages and more.

To sign up, visit [cityoflcf.org/alerts](http://cityoflcf.org/alerts).

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## Accident Victim Meets the Officers Who Saved his Life

Earlier this year, Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station deputies patrolling La Cañada Flintridge responded to the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Angeles Crest Highway after receiving a call that a man was trapped beneath a truck.

Deputy Nand was the first on scene and saw that the man (Mike) had stopped breathing. When assisting deputies Olmos, Rostami and Valencia arrived, they coordinated with two civilian bystanders to lift the truck off the victim and pull him to safety. Mike began to breathe again and was treated by responding Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedics.

A month after recovering from his injuries, the victim and his family were welcomed by station personnel for a dinner with the

deputies who had rescued him. Mike recounted that the vehicle he was working under, trapped him and that, shortly after he was confined, he blacked out.

"Normally, the fire department gets there first," Mike stated. "But you guys came so fast."

The deputies were thankful for the two civilians who assisted their efforts to extract the victim.

"Without the bystanders' quick actions, we may not have been able to save him," Captain Todd Deeds stated. "The deputies at our station work hard every day to serve the public and we are thankful this had a happy ending."

## Padres Trail Desilting Basin

At the request of residents along Padres Trail, the City began investigating solutions to the flooding and debris problem created by uncontrolled runoff from storm flows. After considering several alternatives, the City constructed a desilting basin at the end of the Encinas Drive cul-de-sac to reduce the amount of flood waters on downstream private property and Padres Trail.

The concrete wall constructed at the base of the hillside acts as a screen, slowing the flow of runoff, which allows sediment to settle at the bottom of the basin. The basin can hold more than 1,500 cubic yards of material from the hillside above.

The City monitors the accumulation of debris and removes excess material as needed. In addition, the City stocks the basin with fish, which feed on mosquito larva. In an effort to enhance the natural surroundings, five new California Coastal Oaks were planted around the site and the area near the entrance was landscaped. The creation of a natural habitat for local wildlife is an added beneficial outcome.

During the past two winters, the Padres Trail Desilting Basin prevented discharge onto Padres Trail, which maintained safe residential access and avoided damage to the City's infrastructure. The Padres Trail Desilting Basin is now considered an essential part of the City's flood control system.





# 2020 City Manager's Annual Report

The 2020 City Manager's Annual Report was presented to the City Council on February 16, 2021. The Report highlights the efforts, activities and accomplishments of the City during calendar year 2020. While 2020 was, in many ways, a year defined by challenges, all City departments adapted to make each day productive and continued the important work of serving the La Cañada Flintridge community.

Highlights from the 2020 report include:

- During COVID-19, the City provided online City Hall services and facilitated virtual public meetings. Information Technology staff implemented new systems to further modernize City Hall, including upgrades to the online ConnectLCF platform and the introduction of the new Citizen Reporter App.
- Staff acted quickly to support local businesses facing COVID-19 impacts through the distribution of one-time grants funded by CARES act dollars and the launch of an ongoing "Shop Local" gift card stimulus program. Community members are still able to purchase \$40 gift cards redeemable at participating local businesses to receive an additional \$15 bonus card free from the City.
- Public Works staff made significant progress on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects, including restriping Foothill Boulevard and completing a \$1.4 million citywide street resurfacing program. Several additional CIP projects

were advanced to the design phase, including street and sidewalk improvements, bike paths and upgrades to local parks and trails.

- During the 2020 General Election, the City Clerk's office worked closely with County officials to ensure that every La Cañada Flintridge voter had a safe and accessible means of casting their ballot. City Hall hosted a County Flex Vote Center and ensured a traditional voting center and secure ballot dropboxes.
- Staff continued upgrades and improvements to the City's new website, implementing new features such as the "flash page," which is frequently updated to prominently display critical emergency communications messages to all site visitors. The City also produced quarterly print newsletters, distributed press releases to local media, grew its social media presence, shared notices about public meetings, job openings, emergency preparedness, public health education and other City news.
- The City continued its partnerships with community groups including the Sister Cities Association and the La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce. The City Council recently issued a proclamation celebrating the work of Sister Cities in promoting intercultural understanding and peace as well as expanding opportunities for youth in La Cañada Flintridge.

To view the report in its entirety, visit <https://bit.ly/3dz4vh1>.

## 2020 By the Numbers



**\$15,942** distributed in COVID relief grants to local businesses



**39** Flock Safety cameras installed



**2.5** miles of streets Resurfaced



**441** road maintenance requests processed



**4** "AlertLCF" messages sent to the community

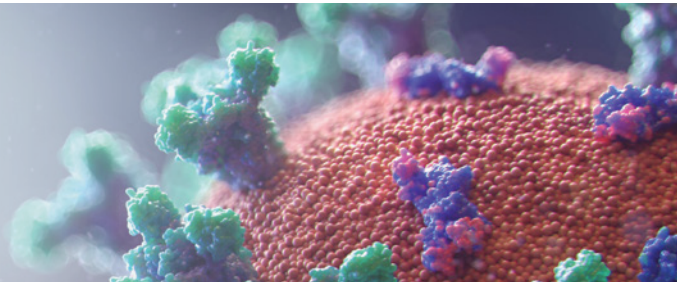


**1,185** business permits issued



**31** COVID-19 Alerts Issued (as of December 31, 2020) updating the community on current health protocols.

# COVID-19 Update



As more residents become eligible and receive the COVID-19 vaccine, guidelines continue to be released for those who are fully vaccinated. Please keep in mind, “fully vaccinated” pertains to those:

- Two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- Two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine

If you’ve been fully vaccinated, you can:

- Gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask
- Gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19

Those fully vaccinated need to continue protecting themselves and others by taking the following steps when in public, gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one household or being around someone at increased risk of illness or death from COVID-19:

- Wear a mask
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from others
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces
- Delay domestic or international travel
- Follow guidance at workplace
- Watch for symptoms of COVID-19

For more information on COVID-19 in the City of LCF, visit [cityoflcf.org/coronavirus](https://www.cityoflcf.org/coronavirus).

## Summer Events

As it is still important to avoid crowds, LCF Fiesta Days 2021 has been canceled. The City looks forward to reuniting as a community during Memorial Weekend next year to honor the brave men and women who have served our country. (As of press time, the LCF Chamber of Commerce is hoping to plan an Independence Day Parade).

The City is also hoping to plan a shortened Music-in-the-Park concert series beginning on Monday, July 5, 2021. The City's social media channels and website will have updated information as the date approaches.

## Love Your Dog, Love Our Parks

A reminder that dogs are required to be on a leash while in LCF parks, trails and fields.



## La Cañada Flintridge Commemorates the Completion of “Green Alley”

In Spring 2021, the City completed its first project funded by Measure W: the installation of a “green alley” between Alta Canyada Road and Indiana Avenue. The alley is now covered with pervious pavement to allow rainwater to pass through to the ground below.

“When City staff saw that the alley pavement was in a failed condition, they took the opportunity to improve the space, rather than keep it status quo,” said Public Works Director Patrick DeChellis. “This ‘green alley’ is not only environmentally friendly, but it also improves the space for businesses and pedestrians. It’s a win-win for everyone.”



### 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 Monday, July 5 for Independence Day.

#### City Council

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

#### City Staff

Mark R. Alexander - City Manager  
Adrian R. Guerra - City Attorney  
Jeffrey Wang - City Treasurer  
Carl Alameda - Assistant City Manager  
Patrick DeChellis - Director of Public Works  
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development  
Alex Kung - 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 following the City of La Cañada Flintridge on social media.



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



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

\*During the pandemic, the City Council meets virtually via Zoom. For instructions on how to participate remotely in City Council Meetings, please visit [CityOfLCF.org/Agenda-Minutes](http://CityOfLCF.org/Agenda-Minutes).



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