



# LCF Vista

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

Fall 2023

## FY 2023-24 Budget Reflects Strong Financial Standing

At the June 20 meeting, the La Cañada Flintridge City Council adopted the Annual Budget & Financial Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24.

Notable items in the adopted budget include:



A General Fund operating budget with more than \$19.5 million in total revenues and expenditures;



\$368,800 in additional funds for Public Safety, including an additional Special Assignment Deputy and a home security camera rebate program;



More than \$701,700 to a range of community groups whose services and activities contribute to the quality of life in La Cañada Flintridge;



\$460,725 in direct support to the La Cañada Unified School District, including the cost of the school resource officer and crossing guards, on top of hundreds of thousands of dollars allocated in maintaining joint-use fields and facilities;



More than \$23.5 million in capital projects to improve the City's roads, sidewalks and construction of additional phases of the sound wall;



Funds for the FIS pickleball conversion and various other elements of the City's physical environment.

"We are pleased with the adoption of the Annual Budget & Financial Plan for FY 2023-24, which reflects the City's strong financial position and the City Council's priorities," stated Director of Finance Alex Kung. "This budget reflects our dedication to delivering exceptional programs and services that meet the needs of our residents and businesses. It enables us to maintain our core services while also investing in the future of our community."

The budget also includes an allocation of \$2.53 million in resident programs, projects and services, such as programming at the YMCA of the Foothills for local senior citizens. This funding will be derived from multiple sources, including \$1.23 million from the structural surplus, \$1 million from General Fund reserves and \$222,000 from repurposed ARPA Funding.

"La Cañada Flintridge strives to deliver the best programs and services for its residents and businesses," noted City Manager Daniel Jordan. "The FY 2023-24 Budget embodies the City's commitment to La Cañada Flintridge's continued prosperity."

To view budget hearings, visit [cityoflcf.org/city-clerk/agenda-minutes](https://cityoflcf.org/city-clerk/agenda-minutes).

# Help Protect Local Waterways

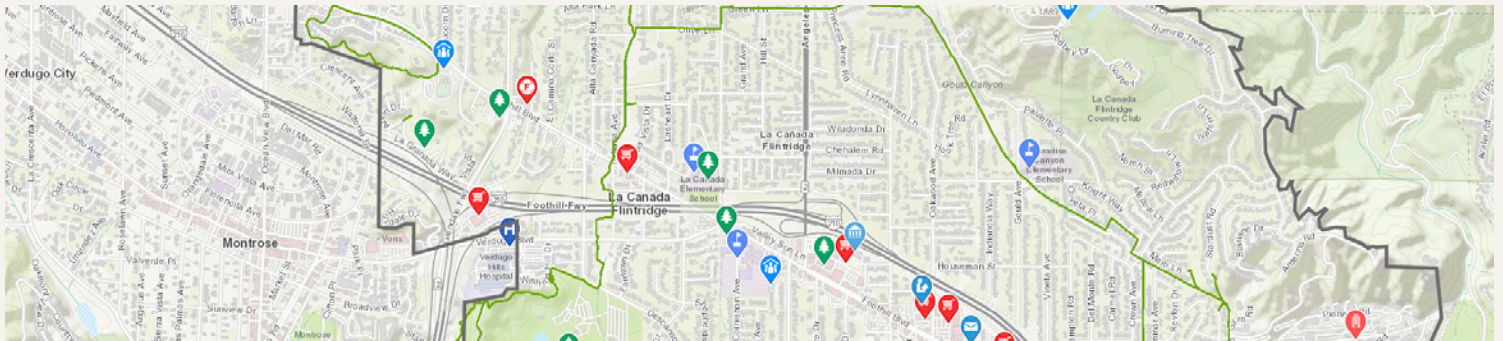
With warm weather in full effect, many are enjoying the outdoors and recreational spaces within our community. When outdoors and in shared spaces, knowing how your practices impact the surrounding environment is important.

To help eliminate pollution in our City, keep these tips in mind:

- Do not litter. Place trash in the appropriate waste container.
- Do not discharge pool water directly into a natural waterway.
- Pick up after your pets. Place pet waste in a sealed bag to prevent spillage.
- Report illegal dumping and discharge by calling the Countywide hotline at 1-888-CLEANLA.
- Set your waste containers out every week for collection day.

To learn how to properly discharge pool water or report illegal dumping, visit [cityoflcf.org/public-works/storm-water-management](http://cityoflcf.org/public-works/storm-water-management).

## LCF's GIS System Reaches New Heights



### What is the La Cañada Flintridge Geospatial Hub?



Connects people, locations and data using interactive maps



Provides information on future capital improvement projects



Includes overviews of City projects and zoning information



Allows residents to submit non-emergency capital improvement requests

In April 2023, the City of La Cañada Flintridge partnered with Esri Incorporated to present an update on its geographic information system (GIS) software, the La Cañada Flintridge Geospatial Hub, at the 24th Annual Complete Streets & Technology Conference. A global leader in GIS software, location intelligence and mapping, Esri's sophisticated software helped generate the City's GIS portal.

The creation of the state-of-the-art software is part of the City's initiative to leverage GIS to enhance capital improvement projects by allowing for the sharing of more transparent zoning information with the public.

To access the La Cañada Flintridge Geospatial Hub, scan the QR code



# LCF Welcomes a New City Manager



On June 19, Dr. Daniel Jordan walked through the doors of City Hall as its newest staff member. No stranger to One Civic Center Drive, the new city manager previously served as the City's finance director for nine years, leaving in 2017 to assume the director of finance position for the City of Westlake Village and to serve as the city

manager for the City of Duarte for the past three years.

We spoke to Dan about his new role and his goals for the community moving forward.

## **VISTA: How does it feel to be back in the City of LCF?**

**DAN:** Being so familiar and comfortable in this community, it feels great to be back. I have deep-rooted ties to this City—I went to high school here, all three of my kids have gone to La Cañada schools and I previously worked for the City—so LCF has been a huge part of my personal and professional life. I feel extremely fortunate to be here.

## **VISTA: As someone who has previously served in roles as a finance director and a city manager, what are some of the most valuable lessons you will take from past experiences and utilize in LCF?**

**DAN:** La Cañada takes pride in its fiscal health—strong reserves, the ability to withstand changes in the economy, positive or negative—and this sense of fiscal responsibility is something that has been instilled in me since my time as a finance director here. When I served as interim city manager in Westlake Village and as city manager in Duarte, I learned how important it is to immerse yourself in the community by attending meetings, talking to residents, getting to know the community groups and being very engaged overall. These are lessons from past experiences that will also serve me well in LCF.

## **VISTA: What do you see as some of the biggest challenges facing the community?**

**DAN:** LCF is a thriving community—it's safe, the residential areas are second to none, and the schools are incredible. Some of the challenges I see are the results of those successes: there's a need for more space and recreational uses, more people want to use recreational spaces than there is room to accommodate and traffic congestion can be an issue due to the geography of our community. As in most communities, an additional challenge is reconciling community concerns and quality of life with the desires, laws and policies of the broader region and the state. Uniting these two sides is always a challenge.

## **VISTA: What are your short and long-term goals for LCF?**

**DAN:** Right now, I'm on what I call an 'active learning' tour. I'm talking with department heads, staff, community groups and council members and making a concerted effort to get to know them and discover what they like about the community and what they feel could be improved. This will help us continue to build upon the successes that have already been achieved and help us do our jobs better.

Longer term, I'd like to take the information from those discussions and, together with the City Council and the community, formulate a broad strategic plan with milestones and a timeline to execute it.

## **VISTA: What message would you like to impart to residents in the community?**

**DAN:** I'd like residents to know that my door is always open. Please feel free to call, email or come into city hall with any questions or concerns.

Learn more about Dr. Jordan's background and experience by scanning the QR code



## Residents Invited to Enjoy *Sushi Tuesdays*

The La Cañada Flintridge One City, One Book Committee announced *Sushi Tuesdays*, a memoir by local author Charlotte Maya, as their 2023 book selection. Maya's memoir depicts lessons, struggles and intimate moments as she comes to terms with her husband's suicide.

The committee—whose mission is to foster a love of reading by picking a title that appeals to a wide range of citizens—invites the community to a discussion and Q&A with Maya on Sunday, October 29, 2023, at 3 p.m. at the La Cañada Flintridge County Public Library (4545 N. Oakwood Avenue).

# In the Summertime

It was a fun-filled summer in the City of La Cañada Flintridge! Residents honored the nation's service members at Fiesta Days and gathered weekly at Memorial Park to enjoy LCF's Music-in-the-Park summer concert series.

## Fiesta Days

The 50th Annual Memorial Weekend Fiesta Days, hosted by the La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce, was held May 27-29. The three-day event featured traditional festivities that honored veterans and paid tribute to fallen service personnel. The event started with a French toast breakfast, vintage car show, farmers market and LCF Tournament of Roses Association Open House. Over the course of the weekend, residents enjoyed a family movie night, a performance from the LCHS Jazz Band, a fireworks show and the YMCA of the Foothills Fiesta Days 1-mile Family Fun Run/Walk, 5K and 10k. A memorial service was also held in Memorial Park, followed by the Fiesta Days Parade.

## Music-in-the-Park

The City's annual summer concert series reached a crescendo of success as it came to a close, leaving behind many music-filled memories. As the sun sets on this year's concert series, the City thanks residents for their support and attendance, which made each event a resounding success. Equally deserving of praise are the talented bands that took the stage and entertained attendees with their performances each Sunday.

For more information on events held by the LCF Chamber of Commerce, visit [www.lacnadaflintridge.com](http://www.lacnadaflintridge.com).



## LCF Selects New Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem



At the July 18 City Council meeting, the LCF City Council reorganized and selected Rick Gunter as Mayor and Michael T. Davitt as Mayor Pro Tem. The City Council annually selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and one to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Mayor Gunter is a Southern California native and long-time LCF resident. In 2011, Mayor Gunter was appointed to the La Cañada Flintridge Planning Commission, where he served for 8 years—as chair for half that time. He was elected to City Council in March 2020.

Mayor Pro Tem Davitt has lived in La Cañada Flintridge since childhood. Mayor Pro Tem Davitt's public service began in 2003 when he was appointed to the City's Planning Commission. He has served on the City Council since 2011.

The City thanks outgoing Mayor Keith Eich for his contributions over the last year; he will continue to serve on the City Council as a Council Member.

# Public Works Round Up

## Street Improvement Projects

The City has two street/sidewalk improvement projects in the works: the 2023 Citywide Concrete Repair to fix damaged sidewalks, curbs and gutters and the 2023 Citywide Street Resurfacing project that will resurface various roads throughout the City.

## Sister Cities Friendship Path (alternate entrance for Descanso Trail)

As of August 2023, the City began work to enhance the Sister Cities Friendship Path's accessibility by creating an alternative trail entrance route from the Descanso Loop. Completion of the project is set for October 2023.

## Traffic Improvement Projects

Many traffic improvement projects in LCF are beginning or ending construction, including:

- Citywide Pedestrian Crossing Upgrade Project,
- Foothill Boulevard and Berkshire Place Bridge over Flint Canyon Channel and
- Foothill Boulevard Traffic Signal Improvement.

Each of these projects looks to remove, replace or install materials like traffic signals, guardrails and rapid flashing beacons needed to improve the safety of these busy areas and intersections.

## I-210 Soundwall Phase III Project

In partnership with Caltrans and Metro, LCF completed the planned program construction of the Soundwall Construction on the I-210 Freeway, Phase III Project, which consists of three soundwall segments along Interstate 210. By completing these three soundwall segments, noise levels due to the I-210 through La Cañada Flintridge have been reduced for the benefit of the community.

## I-210 Soundwall Phase IV Project

LCF and Caltrans started construction of the I-210 Soundwall Phase IV project to reduce exposure to traffic noise on the north and south sides of the I-210 Freeway, spanning 4,994 linear feet to include four new segments. Construction is set to be completed by Fall 2024.

Visit the dedicated City project page by scanning the QR code



## Get Active With Active LCF

ActiveLCF is officially live! ActiveLCF, a new, interactive recreation software, gives users access to a simplified reservation system for parks, athletics fields and facilities.

Through ActiveLCF, applicants can submit online permit requests, check a permit status, access required documents and respond to comments from LCF staff.

All recreational facilities that require reservations and permits must be requested through the ActiveLCF portal.

To learn more about the software and to view user guides and how-to videos, visit [cityoflcf.org/activelcf](http://cityoflcf.org/activelcf).



## Neighborhood Watch Keeps a Close Eye on Safety

The Neighborhood Watch Program, a partnership between the City and Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station (CVSS), aims to increase safety and security in local neighborhoods through proactive education, communication and action. The City's Community Liaison, retired CVSS Deputy Eric Matejka, trains neighborhood watch groups to achieve these goals. The programming includes a review of neighborhood and community crime trends and the distribution of handouts and tips to keep your home safe. Neighborhood watch groups are making their neighborhoods safer by working together in conjunction with the City and the Sheriff's Department to reduce crime and improve quality of life.

If you would like to initiate or revitalize a watch group in your neighborhood, contact Community Liaison Personnel Eric Matejka via email at [ematejka@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:ematejka@lcf.ca.gov) or leave a message at (818) 583-4311.

If you see something, say something. Report suspicious activities to the Sheriff's Department (818) 248-3464.



## LCF's Pickleball Plan in Full Swing

On March 21, 2023, the La Cañada Flintridge City Council approved a joint use agreement with the La Cañada Unified School District to convert the Skate Park into a pickleball facility. This agreement accommodates the growing interest in the sport and the desire for diverse recreational opportunities.

Renovations commenced in May with the demolition of the skate park. The project involves converting the existing Skate Park into three (3) pickleball courts. The City is required to go through a formal bidding process. The staff is currently in process of developing plans, specifications and bid documentations. The estimated completion of the project is early/mid 2024.



For more information on pickleball and facility efforts in La Cañada Flintridge, visit [cityoflcf.org/pickleball](http://cityoflcf.org/pickleball)

## CITY INFORMATION

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

City Hall will be closed on Monday, October 9, for Columbus Day.

### City Council

Rick Gunter – Mayor  
Michael T. Davitt – Mayor Pro Tem  
Kim Bowman  
Keith Eich  
Teresa "Terry" Walker

### City Staff

Daniel Jordan - City Manager  
Adrian R. Guerra - City Attorney  
Kelly Wine - City Treasurer  
Tania Garcia - City Clerk  
Patrick DeChellis - Director of Public Works  
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development  
Alex Kung - Director of Finance  
Arabo Parseghian - Director of Admin. Services

### 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


### Public Safety

Sheriff's Station: 818-248-3464  
Fire Station 82: 818-790-4686  
Fire Station 19: 818-249-1562

City Hall Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Building & Safety Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., Fri: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Website: [www.CityOfLCF.org](http://www.CityOfLCF.org)

## WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Stay current on news and events by following the City of La Cañada Flintridge on social media.

 [Facebook.com/ CityOfLaCanadaFlintridge](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfLaCanadaFlintridge)

 [Twitter.com/TheCityOfLCF](https://twitter.com/TheCityOfLCF)

Sign up for the LCF Bulletin (monthly e-newsletter) by scanning the QR code



### Contact Your City Council

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