



City of montebello view

COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

SUMMER 2021 ISSUE

REOPENING JUNE 21



The City's doors will officially reopen to the public, offering limited services through its phased reopening plan introduced last May. While City operations continued online or by phone throughout the pandemic, we've taken actions to implement health and safety protocols, update facility infrastructure, and find innovative ways to communicate through digital platforms like Facebook Live, our website, and social media.

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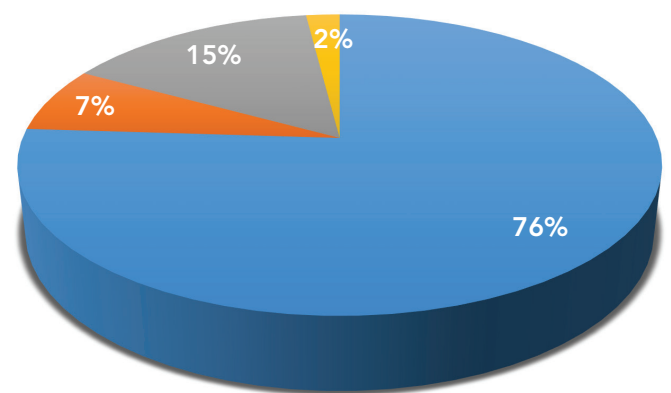
CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

René Bobadilla
City Manager

It is with a great sense of recognition and optimism I want to share with everyone your City is not only emerging from the COVID-19 health pandemic well positioned to enter our next fiscal year stronger than ever, but also with a great sense of progress as we recall the significant social unrest and economic upheaval we've all experienced. I'm very proud to share with you the diversity your City staff has reached in reflecting the mixture and backgrounds in our community and county. I want to emphasize we have a multi-cultural and diverse work force that employs many female women of color in positions of leadership. We have increased our focus on recruiting, hiring, and retaining people of color and diversity in our management, first-responder, and administrative positions across your City operations. Here are some of our work force statistics we can all be proud of:

- HISPANIC/LATINX - 76%
- WHITE - 15%
- ASIAN - 7%
- BLACK - 2%

 A gender mix of 68 percent (two-thirds) male and 32 percent (one-third) female.



Building and maintaining a diverse team is a journey that is never complete. The City of Montebello is always looking to recruit qualified and diverse talent. As this data shows, we are well on our way to achieving this and I hope that you take pride in knowing that your City staff is a reflection of our community. Residents should always feel free to refer or ask qualified candidates to apply to any of our job postings which are always available on our City website. Hiring local talent is also part of the journey.

City of Montebello
1600 W. Beverly Blvd.
Montebello, CA 90640



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>JUN 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGBTQ Pride Month PTSD Awareness Scleroderma Awareness Juneteenth (June 19) | <p>JUL 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks & Recreation Month Juvenile Arthritis Awareness 4th of July | <p>AUG 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Wellness Month City Fully Reopens |
|---|---|--|

Learn more by visiting our calendar at www.cityofmontebello.com.

REOPENING JUNE 21 *Continued from Page 1*

These efforts have enabled Montebello to develop a strategic plan to resume in-person operations in accordance with federal and state public health orders.

PHASE I - IN EFFECT NOW

Parks & Amenities

Restrooms, playgrounds, the skate park, tennis/pickleball courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, handball courts, BBQ pits, picnic shelters are open to the public with hourly restrictions, limitations, & safety protocols in place.

Youth Sport Permits

Outdoor practice, training, and fitness allowed with safety protocols in place. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health requires an online form for proposed events or competitions between more than two teams or multiple individual competitors.

Montebello Bus Lines

Bus occupancy increased to 55%. Masks required for all riders.

PHASE II - June 21, 2021

City Hall Access

Open to the public with occupancy limitations. Temperature screening, face masks, and physical distancing still required for entry. Public must check-in at north-side entrance tent.

Outdoor Activities

Organized recreational activities and classes that can be conducted outdoors, with six feet of physical distancing and within groups, are permitted. Picnic shelters available to rent.

Montebello Bus Lines

Bus occupancy increased to 65%. Masks required for all riders.

PHASE III - August 2, 2021

Council Chambers

Fully open to the public with physical distancing and max occupancy of 27 people, including councilmembers. Temperature screening and masks required for entry.

Commission Meetings

Fully open to the public with physical distancing and max occupancy of 27 people, including commissioners. Temperature screening and masks required for entry.

Indoor Park Facilities

Facilities and meeting spaces available for rent with physical distancing and occupancy limitations based on public health guidelines.

Montebello Bus Lines

Bus occupancy increased to 75%. Masks required for all riders.

For more information contact the Community Hotline, (323) 887-4540, Monday-Sunday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., or visit www.cityofmontebello.com.

MONTEBELLO CORRIDOR GRADE SEPARATION PROJECTS



The Montebello Corridor Grade Separation Project is comprised of three separate components which impact four current street level crossings with the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) within the City of Montebello.

Montebello Boulevard Grade Separation Project:

Construction of a bridge at the UPRR crossing at Montebello Boulevard and at Olympic Boulevard, creating a roadway underpass at both.

At-Grade Safety Improvements: Upgrades to the signals at the Greenwood Avenue and Vail Avenue crossings and installation of medians to prevent vehicle drive-arounds. It also includes pedestrian crossing safety enhancement measures.

Maple Avenue Pedestrian Bridge: A pedestrian bridge will be constructed over the UPRR right-of-way at Maple Avenue.

The Montebello Boulevard Grade Separation Project and the At-Grade Safety Improvements are in the final engineering and design phase. A construction contract is anticipated to be awarded in early winter 2021-2022 and construction is scheduled to begin late winter 2022 and be completed and opened to traffic by summer 2025. The Maple Avenue Pedestrian Bridge is at 35% design pending availability of construction phase funding. It is anticipated to begin construction in summer 2023 and be completed by summer 2025. The overall estimated project cost is \$208.5 million.

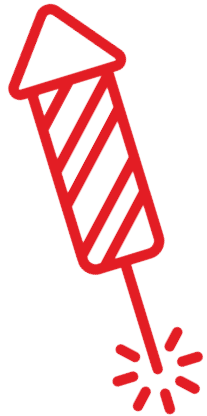
Project Benefits

These projects will eliminate crossing collisions, queuing and congestion, and reduce vehicle emissions. An average of 49 trains per day traverse Montebello and 10 collisions have been recorded at Montebello's crossings, resulting in three fatalities and two injuries. Without these improvements, growing train and vehicle traffic will result in an approximate doubling of vehicle-hours of delay at the busiest crossing, Montebello Boulevard, which carries an average of 21,000 vehicles a day.

BE SAFE THIS JULY 4TH

Did you know fireworks caused an estimated 10,000 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments during calendar year 2019? According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, children under 4 years had the highest number of injuries. The Montebello Fire Department encourages everyone and their families to be aware of the following firework safety tips this July 4th holiday:

- Safe and Sane approved fireworks are only allowed on July 4th from 12 noon - 10 p.m.
- Always have an adult present.
- Use fireworks outdoors only.
- Never use near dry grass or other flammable materials.
- Keep a safe distance & light only one at a time.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Never experiment with or "fix" fireworks.
- Have a bucket of water and a hose handy.



Montebello Police will be enforcing firework laws during the 4th of July. Violators may face a \$1,000 fine or possible arrest. Fireworks are not allowed in the City before or after the 4th of July.

DRINKING + DRIVING = DEADLY COMBO



As summer approaches and COVID-19 restrictions become less restrictive, more people will be driving to enjoy weekends in the park, family gatherings and dining out. With more commuters and vehicles on our roads it's important to remember your responsibilities as a driver.

Everyday approximately 28 people in the United States die in drunk driving accidents. That's one death nearly every hour. Driving while impaired should be avoided by following the simple philosophy of "Don't Drink and Drive." If you have to ask if you had too many drinks to drive, then you probably have. Don't take a chance; there are many other options to get home safe, like ride sharing.

Distracted driving has become another significant killer on our roadways. Thousands of people die every year in this country from this preventable tragedy. According to the Highway Traffic Safety Administration, texting is the most alarming distraction. Sending or reading a text message can take your eyes off of the road for nearly five seconds. At 55 MPH, this is like driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed. Drunk driving and distracted driving increase your chances of being involved in a traffic collision that can cause death or serious injuries. Be responsible. Please don't drink and drive, don't text and drive and don't combine the two. The life you save may be yours or someone dear.

The Montebello Police Department encourages responsible social gatherings where everyone gets to and from safe and alive.



A MESSAGE FROM
DIRECTOR OF
TRANSPORTATION
 Young-Gi Kim Harabedian
 Montebello Bus Lines

Hello Montebello Residents,

As Director of Transportation, it is an honor to serve community members, visitors, and residents of the great City of Montebello. A tremendous responsibility here at Montebello Bus Lines (MBL) is to maintain and provide a reliable, fast, and safe public transportation system for all riders to and from neighboring cities, ranging from the San Gabriel Valley to the Gateway Cities. Every single MBL employee is committed to this mission.

As we transition into the “yellow” tier of COVID-19 public health guidelines, MBL is busy planning bus schedule changes to take effect July 5, 2021. As of May 17, MBL’s bus capacity is at 55% (30 passengers per bus) and will increase to 65% by June and 75% by July 2021. MBL expects to return to full service in order to meet the high demand of ridership by fall of 2021. COVID-19 safety measures will include the continuation of thorough cleaning, face cover requirements, and physical-distancing as capacity permits. These measures will continue to ensure the safety and health of all riders and employees.

As you plan your day to travel for work, school, personal appointments – or just for fun – consider riding MBL and think ahead. You’ll spend less time behind the wheel, help reduce traffic, and improve air quality. We are here to serve the community and find ways to improve our service.

Happy Summer!



AQUATICS

Pool Opens June 28-August 13 for Recreational Swim

Fitness classes and swim lessons will be available for registration beginning on June 1, 2021.

Go online for a full list of swim lesson and aquatic class availability on our registration site:

<https://cityofmontebello.cogran.com>



SPORT & CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Youth Sports permits are now open
- **JULY 1** - City will offer contract classes in small groups like sport, fitness, swim lessons, & more
- T-ball program opens in July 2021

Go online beginning **June 1** for a full list of sport and class availability at <https://cityofmontebello.cogran.com>



CAMP QUEST SUMMER PROGRAM

Dates: June 28 – August 13 , Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily

Campers will have the opportunity to make new friends and enjoy summer activities in a safe and well supervised environment. Camp will follow Los Angeles County Department of Public Health COVID-19 guidelines and campers are required to wear a mask at all times.

Ages: 7-11 yrs. old | **Cost:** \$100 per week + One-time registration fee of \$25

Locations: Cathy Hensel Youth Center, Potrero Heights Park, Holifield Park, and Reggie Rodriguez Park

Register **June 2** | (Online Only) <https://cityofmontebello.cogran.com>

FREE SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM FOR KIDS

June 21 - August 13 | Ages 18 yrs. and under

The City of Montebello is serving free lunch to children at the parks! Distribution will be in a drive-thru pickup at a first-come, first-serve basis. No registration required. All meals are “grab ‘n’ go”; no group congregating is permitted.



Montebello City Park | 201 S. Taylor Ave.

Lunch & Snack 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

Reggie Rodriguez Park | 200 W. Mines Ave.

Lunch & Snack 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Grant Rea Park | 600 N. Rea Dr.

Lunch & Snack 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Chet Holifield Park | 1060 S. Greenwood Ave.

Lunch & Snack 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

For more information, call (323) 887-4540.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

FREE Senior Meal Distribution Program Continues

If you are a Montebello resident, age 60+ years who would like to receive a weekly meal pack, please contact the Senior Center at (323) 887-4575.

- Outdoor classes will be offered in July 2021
- Fitness, art, dance, etc.

Go online beginning **June 1** for a full list of senior programming availability on our registration site: <https://cityofmontebello.cogran.com>



UPCOMING CITY SERVICE SATURDAYS

JUNE 26 | JULY 17 | AUGUST 14

Help clean up areas around your Montebello Neighborhood by joining the effort! Ages 8+ welcome.

REGISTER AT [https://cityofmontebello.cogran.com/](https://cityofmontebello.cogran.com)



WHITTIER NARROWS DAM REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

Whittier Narrows Dam and Reservoir is a flood control and water conservation project constructed and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Los Angeles District at the Whittier Narrows in Montebello, California. Whittier Narrows Dam is a central element of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) flood control system which serves to collect runoff from uncontrolled drainage areas upstream as well as releases into the San Gabriel River. The USACE has determined, through a Dam Safety Modification Study, that this dam poses a potentially high risk to the working-class communities along Southern California’s San Gabriel River floodplain if a mega storm were to hit the area. An estimated one million people live and work along the floodplain.

Despite the slim chance of a mega storm, the USACE is taking necessary precautions to prepare for such an event. The dam will undergo a refurbishment at a cost of \$500 to \$600 million in Federal funding beginning in 2021.

City Plans: While the potential impact of construction to Montebello residents is low, the City will work with the USACE to inform residents on updates regarding the Whittier Narrows Dam Project. Stay updated on this topic through the City’s website at www.cityofmontebello.com, social media channels, and the Montebello View.



General Plan Survey Ends June 15



SCAN HERE

Time is up to give us your thoughts and opinions about what you would like the City to look like, feel like, and be like. Our General Plan Survey is available in English and Spanish, and in exchange for your opinions, your name will be entered into a drawing for cool prizes like a new iPad and gift cards from Amazon, Starbucks, and Target, or you could receive a \$50 credit towards a Recreation class of your choice. All we need is a few minutes of your time through your mobile device or desktop on www.planmontebello.com. An email is required to be entered into the prize drawings. Good luck!

DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2021

Join a Visioning Workshop **NEW**

Join your neighbors in a collaborative and in-depth planning event that harnesses the talents and input of community members to create an overall vision for the City's General Plan and the Downtown Specific Plan. Each workshop encourages attendees to "think outside of the box" while working together. No registration required. Workshops last around 90 minutes.

June 21, 2021 - Montebello Economy

- 12 noon - Virtual Noon-Talk via Zoom
- 6 p.m. - In-Person Meeting, Holifield Park Basketball Courts

June 22, 2021 - Vibrant Places

- 12 noon - Virtual Noon-Talk via Zoom
- 6 p.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom

June 23, 2021 - Mobility & Parking

- 12 noon - Virtual Noon-Talk via Zoom
- 6 p.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom

June 24, 2021 - Great Neighborhoods & Codifying the Vision

- 12 noon - Virtual Noon-Talk via Zoom
- 6 p.m. - In-Person Meeting, Senior Center

Join our effort to build a better Montebello. All Zoom information will be posted on the project website: www.planmontebello.com

CITY COUNCIL

Kimberly Ann Cobos-Cawthorne, Mayor

David N. Torres, Mayor Pro Tem

Angie Jimenez, Councilmember

Scarlet Peralta, Councilmember

Salvador Melendez, Councilmember

Christopher Jimenez, City Clerk

Rafael Gutierrez, City Treasurer

City Council Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month. Agendas, public documents and Live Stream link are posted on the City's website.

LOCAL HOTELS BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY

The City of Montebello owns two hotels, the Hilton Garden Inn and the Home2Suites by Hilton. They are located adjacent to the Montebello Golf Course and close to many tourist and business destinations. Both hotels are self-sustaining at no cost to the public.

Here's How:

Bonds were issued to construct the hotels. Similar to how a home mortgage loan works, the bonds are paid down over a period of time until they are completely paid off (approximately 20 years). The hotels generate profits, and that income is utilized to support hotel operations through a "waterfall effect."



Here's what it looks like:

City issues a bond to build the hotels. As the hotels generate income, their profits flow down.

Bond Repayment

First, income from the hotel goes back to repaying the bond.

Repairs & Maintenance

Next, a percentage goes to pay regular maintenance and repair fees to upkeep the hotels.

Capital Account

A portion then trickles down to pay any large capital improvements to maintain the hotels.

Operations

Costs to operate the hotels – staffing, utilities, etc. – are paid for using income generated from the hotels.

City General Fund

Remaining profit revenue goes to the City's General Fund!

Once the bond is fully repaid, the City will receive a larger portion of profit revenue from both hotels which benefits the General Fund. If you have any questions about this process, please call our Finance Department at (323) 887-1200.

FARMER'S MARKET
COMING TO MONTEBELLO!
AUGUST 28
MORE DETAILS COMING SOON. LOOK FOR UPDATES ON OUR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA.



1600 W. Beverly Blvd.
 Montebello, CA 90640
 (323) 887-1200

www.cityofmontebello.com



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Council Meetings now available live on Spectrum Public Access Channel 3!



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