



# News Release

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Montebello Investigating Hazardous Spill**

Source Has Yet To Be Determined

**Montebello, CA** – At approximately 4 a.m. on June 16, a passing motorist reported an unknown substance on the surface of Montebello Boulevard to the Montebello Fire Department. The City immediately mobilized its Public Works department to investigate. The surface spill appeared in the center of the roadway on Montebello Boulevard just south of Olympic Boulevard. The substance on the roadway had a strong odor petroleum but its exact makeup has yet to be determined. By 9 a.m. Public Works crews had the spill area contained and nearly all liquid on the surface removed. Clean up and containment is ongoing. One lane of traffic in each direction on Montebello Boulevard is projected to be reopened after 3 p.m. today.

“At this time we do not know or understand the exact source of this petroleum product and we are actively investigating,” said René Bobadilla, city manager. “Our City crews did an excellent job containing and capturing the material in the spill area which occupied a very small area of the street, an approximately 20 foot circumference.” Bobadilla added that an investigation into the exact source of the material has begun and the street where the spill occurred will be excavated to explore further. “Every effort will be made to identify the responsible party and source of this leak. Once this is accomplished any and all liability issues will be established and any further threat to public health via site contamination will be determined. At this time, it’s too early to know all the specific or potential impacts.”

Residents in the local area are advised to review the City’s social media and public news sources for information and updates as the investigation proceeds. Bobadilla reaffirmed there’s no evidence at this time to indicate there are any immediate health threats or concerns, but more details will be shared as the City’s investigation or findings are determined.

All county and regional agencies have been notified and all utility agencies have been contacted in compliance with noticing requirements. It is anticipated the pipeline repair and clean-up will be completed by midnight, June 16, barring any further issues.

*The City of Montebello was founded in 1920 and is located eight miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. Its history dates back to the days of the Franciscan missionaries and today boasts a full array of services including police, fire and one of the region’s largest public transportation systems, [Montebello Bus Lines](#). The city’s multi-cultural resident population is approximately 65,000 covering a footprint of approximately four square miles. For more information visit [www.cityofmontebello.com](http://www.cityofmontebello.com) or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).*

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