



City Manager Message



Greetings,

As we find ourselves already in May, it's remarkable how swiftly this year seems to be flying by.

Summer is almost here, which means the end of the fiscal year is near and a new proposed [Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget](#) is here. Over the past several months, City staff have been working hard to prepare a balance budget. This proposed budget sets the course for the next fiscal year. The budget responds to community needs, and funds critical City services such as additional resources to respond to the growing needs of our unsheltered population. The proposed budget also includes the City's sales tax Measure A and Measure P allocations. We will present the proposed budget to the City Council for their consideration on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. We welcome you to submit comments regarding the City Manager's proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 City budget through this [Budget Comment Form](#).

Last month, we welcomed our newly elected City Attorney, Marco Verdugo, and newly appointed Councilmember for District 4, Rachel Morineau. Their commitment to public service and willingness to serve will greatly contribute to our community.

In other exciting news, we are just about a year away from the opening of the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center. Earlier this month, all 22 decks were completed, and we celebrated this huge construction milestone with a topping out ceremony. Take a look at the progress being made by viewing drone footage and other information through the website <https://www.mmjvcp.com/>.

A big thank you to our Fire Department for leading an important effort this past month by hosting the San Diego County Multi-Agency Wildland Preparedness Exercise! Over the course of three days, over 750 firefighters and 200 law enforcement officers from across San Diego and Imperial counties participated in a drill to train and maintain the skills necessary to keep fires as small as possible when they do occur.

Lastly, I would like to dedicate this month's message in memory of Assistant Chief Phil Collum, who passed away in April. Assistant Chief Collum was a trailblazer in many ways. He served our community for almost 30 years with the utmost professionalism and dedication. He was true hero in every sense and the embodiment of what it means to have a "heart behind the badge." There

is no doubt his service has made our City better, and his absence will be felt throughout the organization.

Enjoy this month's edition. As always, please [contact me](#) if you have any questions or comments.

~Maria V. Kachadoorian, City Manager