

City Administrator's Weekly Briefing

From: *Damien R. Arrula*

December 14, 2023



"Rich Heritage, Bright Future"

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Happy Holidays from City Administrator Damien R. Arrula

This time of year provides us with the perfect opportunity to reflect on our year, enjoy time with our loved ones, and look forward to what the new year will bring.

This holiday season, I'm extremely grateful for my family and the many sacrifices of our military and public safety personnel, who may be unable to be with their loved ones because they are keeping us safe.

I first want to express my gratitude for our hardworking and dedicated City staff, who were the driving force behind many of our accomplishments this year.

I'm also thankful for our supportive City Council, whose leadership and commitment to the well-being and prosperity of our community keep Placentia on a positive trajectory.

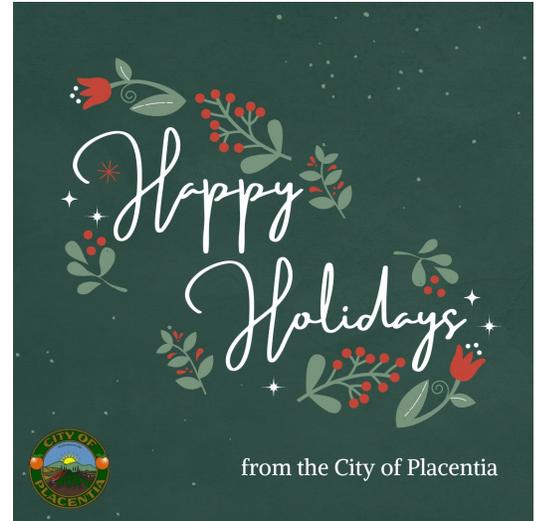
Finally, I'm grateful for you, our Placentia residents. Your sense of community, resilience, and support of your City make Placentia such a special place to live, work, and visit.

The end of the year is also a good time to think back on all that has been accomplished. It's been another year of great progress for the City of Placentia, and I'm truly honored to be the City Administrator for this great City. This year, we celebrated significant ribbon-cutting ceremonies for parks and developments, started construction of the new Public Safety Building, received a substantial upgrade to our credit rating, and reflected on the success of our public safety departments through their biennial reports.

As we enter the holiday season, I wish each and every one of you a safe, happy, and healthy time with your loved ones. May the joy of the season fill your hearts, and may the coming year bring even more opportunities for growth, prosperity, and community building.

Thank you, Placentia, for making this community the wonderful place it is. Here's to a happy holiday season and a bright and promising New Year.

- Damien R. Arrula



<p>Get the iPlacentia App:</p>  <p>Follow us on Social Media:</p> 	<p>Upcoming Meetings and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12/18-1/2 Holiday Season Closure—City Facilities Closed 1/9/24 City Council Meeting 1/15/24 Martin Luther King Jr. Day—City Facilities Closed 1/20/24 Shred and E-Waste Event 1/23/24 City Council Meeting 	<p>For additional information or questions about this Weekly Briefing, please email:</p> <p>CAWeekly@placentia.org</p>
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ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Fentanyl Awareness Information and Reduction Initiative

As a part of the City's Fentanyl Awareness Information and Reduction (F.A.I.R.) initiative in partnership with the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District and the Placentia Police Department, the City put together a video highlighting this significant issue and providing information in a public service announcement format. The video highlights our collective commitment to combatting the fentanyl crisis, providing essential education, and engaging our community to ensure that every child can thrive unhindered by the dangers of this drug. [Click here](#) to watch the video.

For more information on Fentanyl awareness, please visit www.dea.gov/fentanylawareness.



Placentia Receives Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

The City of Placentia is proud to announce that it has received its first-ever Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

The award program was established by GFOA in 1984 to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting and then recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

Budget documents must meet program criteria and excel as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communication tool to earn recognition. Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories to receive the award.

Approximately 1,800 governments, including states, cities, counties, special districts, school districts, and more, have been recognized for transparency in budgeting.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources, and practical research for more than 22,500 members and the communities they serve.



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

PRESENTED TO

**City of Placentia
California**

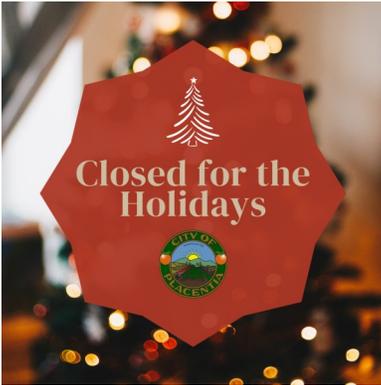
For the Fiscal Year Beginning

July 01, 2023

Christopher P. Morrell
Executive Director



ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT



City Facilities Holiday Closure

All City facilities will be closed from December 18th through January 2nd. City Hall and other City facilities will reopen on Wednesday, January 3rd.

The Police Department lobby will be closed on December 25th and 26th, and January 1st and 2nd for the holidays.

The Police and Fire Departments will remain open during the holidays. For non-life-threatening emergencies, such as a fallen tree, street flooding, or other public works issues, please call (714) 993-8111.

Shop Local for the Holidays

'Tis the season! The holidays are well under way and as you shop for that perfect gift or for a place for family gatherings, remember to shop and/or dine locally here in Placentia. There are many advantages to supporting local retailers and businesses. When shopping locally, you support local jobs, assist in funding City services through sales tax, invest in our neighborhood retail centers and promote economic development. Please don't forget the Farmers Market is also open every Tuesday evening starting at 3:00 pm at the Placentia Town Center, with special holiday crafts and accessories for the entire family. Enjoy the season and don't forget to shop locally at your favorite Placentia retailers!



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DEPARTMENT



Spark of Love Toy Drive

On Friday, December 8th, Placentia Fire and Life Safety attended the Spark of Love Toy Drive at the Honda Center in Anaheim. Fire Departments from all over Orange County collected toys to be donated to local children. Thank you to everyone who came out to the event and donated toys. The Fire and Life Safety Department was honored to participate in this annual event.





COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Placentia Tamale Festival 2023

The City of Placentia hosted the 29th annual Tamale Festival on December 7th in Old Town Placentia on the 100 and 200 blocks of Santa Fe Ave and the 200 block of Bradford Ave. The event featured live entertainment from the Darden Band, Zavala Jazz Soul Posse, and the Grammy award winning Mariachi Divas! There were over 40 vendors including food and tamale vendors, non-profit booths, business booths, a beer garden, a Holiday Tree Lighting, and a kids games area. Additionally, the Rotary Club of Placentia hosted the Santa booth, and everyone received a photo with Santa and a gift. The event was once again well attended and was very successful. The City extends a sincere thank you to the event sponsors, including GigabitNow Placentia, the Placita Santa Fe Merchants Association. For more information about future special events, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232. Please [click here](#) to watch a highlight video of the 29th annual Tamale Festival.



Community Christmas Basket (CCB) Event

The Neighborhood Services Office hosted the annual Community Christmas Basket Event on Saturday, December 9th for families in the City of Placentia. Families received a hot meal, toys from Santa, food bags to take home for the holidays, took photos with Santa Claus, and participated in crafts and activities. The Rotary Club of Placentia hosted the cookie decorating activity. The Placentia Fire and Life Safety



Department and Council Member Ward Smith assisted Santa Claus with



distributing toys and engaged with the community during the event. This event would not be possible without the generous donations and support from the Rotary Club of Placentia, Spark of Love, the Placentia Women's Round Table, and Mi Casita Restaurant. For more information on similar events, contact Neighborhood Services Office at (714) 986-2333.



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Koch Park Phase II Improvements

The City is excited to announce that Phase II of the playground renovation at Koch Park is underway! The playground is expected to be completed in January 2024. In following the Parks Initiative Plan, Phase II of the playground renovation will add to the first responders park theme by highlighting the Placentia Police and Public Works Departments. The playground will feature a custom design incorporating shades, a police tower, new slides, a police car spring rider, a backhoe digger, a dump truck, and an excavator! The City Council approved the Placentia Parks Initiative Plan on June 1, 2021, a comprehensive master list of park and building projects. Projects



were prioritized by safety, age of equipment, and funding sources. City park renovation projects are either funded through State Grants, Development Impact Fees, or Measure U funding. The City's goal is to have every City park playground renovated within 2 to 5 years. City parks will also have new amenities such as picnic tables, barbecues, benches, water fountains, and trash/recycling receptacles for residents to enjoy! For more information on the Placentia Parks Initiative Plan, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Broken Timbers Brewing Company Now Open!

The City of Placentia is pleased to announce that Broken Timbers Brewing Company has opened its tap room at 116 W. Santa Fe Avenue in the Historic Old Town District! Broken Timbers is an award-winning, woman-owned, Anaheim-based craft brewery specializing in craft beers and hard seltzers. Their newly opened Placentia location is the company's second, following an existing brewery in nearby Anaheim.

Broken Timbers joins Juniper and Morgan Brewing Company, Stereo Brewing Company, and The Bruery as breweries here in the City. The tap room directly opens onto a newly installed outdoor seating platform and street furniture on Santa Fe Avenue, allowing for year-round outdoor seating.

Please join Placentia in extending a warm welcome to the Broken Timbers Brewing Company! For more information on Broken Timbers and other business developments, please contact the Development



Services Department at (714) 993-8124 or dsd@placentia.org.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Recycle Your Holiday Tree

Real holiday trees will be accepted at your curb by Republic Services starting Tuesday, December 26, 2023, through Saturday, January 6, 2024. Be sure to take off all lights, ornaments, tinsel, and garlands, as well as the metal or plastic stand. Set the bare tree at the curb. If your tree is more than 6 feet tall, please cut it in half for safe and easy collection. No flocked trees will be accepted for recycling. If you don't take your tree down until after January 6, 2024, please cut it into pieces that will fit into your yard waste cart or dumpster with the lid closed. You can also recycle holiday wreaths and greenery in your yard waste cart or dumpster. The wreaths and greenery must also be bare, so please remove all wires, hooks, bows, and other decorations. Collected trees and greenery are turned into mulch, compost, and ground cover. If your family enjoys an artificial tree, pack it up for next year. If you no longer find a use for your artificial tree and it is still in good condition, consider donating it to a nearby organization or second-hand store. If you are discarding an artificial tree, wreath, or a flocked tree, please place it into the waste cart or dumpster, or schedule a bulky item pickup. Artificial trees, artificial wreaths, and flocked trees are not recyclable. Contact Republic Services at (714) 238-3300 for more information.



Mark Your Calendar for the Shred and Electronic Waste Recycling Events

On Saturday, January 20, 2024, and Saturday, April 13, 2024, the City of Placentia will host Shred and Electronic Waste Collection events at the Civic Center parking lot, 401 E. Chapman Ave., from 8:00 a.m. to noon. These events are free for Placentia residents and businesses.

- Shredding: Please remove paper from three-ring binders. Paper clips, staples, rubber bands, and file folders are acceptable.
- Electronics: Most items that plug into an outlet and any items with a screen will be accepted for free, but there will be a fee for major household appliances. Automotive batteries, rechargeable tools, and electronics batteries will also be accepted, but smaller household batteries will not.

For questions, contact Public Works at (714) 993-8148 or recycling@placentia.org. These events may be subject to change, so follow the City on social media and check the City's website.

Holiday Schedule for Trash Collection and Street Sweeping Services

There will be no trash and recycling collection services on the following holidays:

- Christmas Day – Monday, December 25, 2023
- New Year's Day – Monday, January 1, 2024

If your weekly pickup is on or after the holiday, your pickup that week will be delayed by one day. For instance, when the holiday is on a Monday, Monday's collection will take place on Tuesday, Tuesday's collection on Wednesday, and so on, with Friday's collection on Saturday. For additional information, please call Republic Services at (714) 238-3300 or visit www.republicservices.com/municipality/placentia-ca.

Street sweeping services will be temporarily suspended starting Monday, December 18, 2023, through January 1, 2024. Street sweeping services will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

For customer service concerns regarding the quality of street sweeping services or missed sweeps, please call R.F. Dickson Co., Inc. at 1-800-573-3222.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Yorba Linda-Placentia Active Transportation Plan

The neighboring cities of Yorba Linda and Placentia along with the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) are partnering to develop a comprehensive Active Transportation Plan (ATP). The ATP will incorporate needed pedestrian and bicycle improvements, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans, and an updated Master Plan of Trails (including equestrian trails). This bi-city ATP is needed to add and connect infrastructure for safer, more accessible walking, biking, and riding for school children, families, residents, and visitors.

Please share your thoughts on walking, bicycling, rolling, and horseback riding in Yorba Linda and Placentia and identify key destinations in the community. Share your feedback through our online map or join us at one of our upcoming community meetings in January 2024.



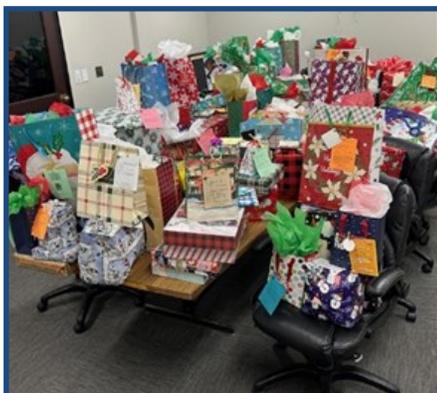
Learn more about the community meetings and the project, and provide your feedback on the interactive map before it closes on January 31, 2024, by visiting www.virtualeventroom.com/yorba-linda-placentia-atp.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crittenton Services Angel Tree Program

Throughout the month of November, we were honored to receive 150 'tags' from Crittenton Services, each completed by a child or teen under the guidance of a social worker, expressing their Christmas wishes. These tags were on two Christmas trees, providing an opportunity for City staff to select a tag and fulfill the holiday wishes of these young individuals. We were excited to report that every single tag was chosen, and every wish was fulfilled. The generosity of our City staff allowed us to provide additional gifts beyond the designated ones to support any remaining children in need.

Last Thursday the Crittenton Services' elves stopped by to collect the gifts and the presents are now on their way to bring joy to the children and families served by Crittenton Services, hopefully making their Christmas a little brighter. Participating in such a meaningful project is a great source of pride for our staff and we extend our sincere appreciation to Crittenton Services for their work in supporting families in need in our community. As the holiday season approaches, we wish each and everyone a joyous holiday and a happy New Year.





POLICE DEPARTMENT

Holiday Crime Safety Tips

With the holidays upon us, the Placentia Police Department wanted to provide some tips to prevent and avoid becoming a victim of crime as you enjoy the season and all its activities. Remember, if you see something, say something. For immediate, emergency assistance, call 911. For non-emergency matters, call (714) 993-8164. If you are not sure, call 911 and let our Dispatcher's decide where to route your call. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

A graphic titled "HOLIDAY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS" with a light blue background, snowflakes, and a Christmas tree. It contains three sections of tips: Shopping at Home & Stores, If Away on Vacation or Traveling, and Celebrate Responsibly. It also includes the Placentia Police Department seal and the text "HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY".

HOLIDAY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

SHOPPING AT HOME & STORES

- While shopping, be aware of your surroundings and park in well lit areas
- Never carry large amounts of cash, pay with checks or credit cards
- Deter pickpockets/purse-snatchers: Don't overburden yourself with packages, carry your purse close to your body, not dangling by straps, or in your cart, and ALWAYS keep it closed. Carry wallets in an inside coat pocket or front pants pocket
- Conduct ATM transactions in safe locations during daytime hours
- Use the Placentia PD SAFE EXCHANGE ZONE, located in front of the police station, to meet online buyers or sellers and conduct transactions
- Do not leave valuables or purchases in plain view inside your vehicle and ALWAYS LOCK YOUR CAR
- Do not display gifts near windows in your home
- Install a home security system
- Only shop online with companies you know and trust
- Use credit cards, not debit cards to pay for online transactions
- Do not open emails from unknown senders
- Never provide personal information in response to an unsolicited email
- Protect your devices with up-to-date anti-virus software
- Destroy boxes or conceal them before leaving them for garbage collection
- Check I.D.'s of any solicitors, delivery people who come to your door
- REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

IF AWAY ON VACATION OR TRAVELING

- Ask neighbors to keep an eye on your home, and park in the driveway occasionally
- Stop newspaper and mail deliveries
- Ask someone trusted to retrieve packages delivered to your home, or have them delivered to alternate locations/lockers
- Never hide a spare key outside
- Get automatic timers for lights
- Share vacation info on social media AFTER you return
- Check your bank accounts frequently to spot suspicious activity

CELEBRATE RESPONSIBLY

- DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE
- Use a designated driver, public transportation, or ride services

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY

The seal of the Placentia Police Department, featuring a shield with a scale of justice and a sword, surrounded by the words "PLACENTIA POLICE" and "ESTABLISHED 1958".

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Placentia Library District Weekly Summary

Placentia Library District

WINTER READING PROGRAM

December 1, 2023 - January 13, 2024

placentialibrary.beanstack.org or the **Beanstack App**

Who doesn't enjoy snuggling up with a good book when it's cold outside? The more you read, the more chances you have to win. Take a little bit of time out of your busy holiday schedule to relax, have fun, learn and read! All ages!

Age 0-13

For every 60 minutes you read (or are read to), you'll earn the chance to win one of our fabulous Kids Grand Prizes. Paper logs are available at the Information Desk for you to track your reading at home!

- Nintendo Switch Lite
- Super-Fun Marble Run
- Cosmic Space Projector
- Young Scientist Microscope Set
- Butterfly Fairy Night-Light Kit

Age 14+

For each book you read, you earn a chance at one of our exciting Teen and Adult Grand Prizes.

- Baker's Gift Basket
- Cozy Up Gift Basket
- Bluetooth Headphones



Search for books, view our program calendar and more on our website!
Visit placentialibrary.org