

The Artesian

SPECIAL EDITION • MAY 2020

Moratoriums in Place on Residential and Commercial Evictions Due to COVID-19

In March, the Artesia City Council passed emergency ordinances placing moratoriums on residential and commercial evictions due to COVID-19, as well as limiting increases in rent and other prices. To read more about these ordinances, visit the City's website at www.cityofartesia.us.

City Applies for Second Urban Forestry Grant

This April, City staff applied for an urban and community forestry grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). If the City receives this \$650,000 grant, it will fund 300 new trees for parks and parkways and 450 fruit trees that will be provided to residents for planting on private property, subject to certain restrictions and requirements.

Last year, the City received a separate urban and community forestry grant to plant nearly 400 trees in public spaces and fund a new tree inventory and urban forest management plan. Planting trees is one of the only direct steps the City can take to reduce pollution, and the City looks forward to continuing to expand Artesia's tree canopy.

Work Continues on City's New Sidewalk Repair Program

On January 30th, the City began work on the first stage of its new Sidewalk Assessment and Repair Program, which will repair all of the City's sidewalks in order of maintenance needs and establish a regular, scheduled sidewalk repair program to keep the City's sidewalks in great condition moving forward.

Throughout this spring, repairs have been conducted on the City's largest sidewalk issues. These repairs started in the southeast portion of the City and will soon be complete City-wide. After completing work on the most pressing sidewalk problems, work will move on to medium and lower priority sidewalk issues. The City is excited to improve sidewalk usability and safety throughout Artesia and will continue looking for ways to beautify the community for Artesia residents.

Taking Care of Artesia's Seniors

Changes have been made to our senior meal program to serve seniors in a safe and convenient way during this time. Artesia seniors can now have their meals delivered through Dial-A-Ride by requesting meal delivery when placing a meal reservation. Meals can also be picked up at the Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South Street. Call to reserve your meals the day before pick-up at (562) 806-5400, ext. 218. If they are not already part of the program, seniors can now join the program too by calling the same number.

The City is determined to offer ways to assist seniors during this time difficult time. We are excited to offer a grocery home delivery service to Artesia seniors (aged 60+) during the COVID-19 Safer at Home Order. For more information, call Parks and Recreation and leave a message at (562) 860-3361 and staff will call you back. Additionally, Parks and Recreation staff have been making wellness check phone calls for seniors to provide an opportunity to check-in with staff, connect with people, and get help if needed during these challenging times. If you are interested in adding yourself or a senior you know to the phone list, please call the Artesia Park Office at (562) 860-3361 and leave a message. Staff checks messages several times a day and will get back to you.

FIND INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

WWW.CITYOFARTESIA.US •   @OFFICIALCITYOFARTESIA

New Green Building Incentive Program Passed in April

In April, the City took another step towards reducing the City's carbon footprint and improving the local environment by adopting a green building certification incentive program for new development. While new construction and building can bring about more greenhouse gas emissions, air pollutants, and trash, incentivizing green building certification can help mitigate their undesired impact on the environment. The incentive program strikes an appropriate balance by rewarding green building, but not requiring it – meaning home owners and developers are not forced to become certified if they can't afford to or otherwise choose not to. For those residential, commercial, or industrial applicants that do go through the certification process, incentives such as a 20 percent reduction in the parking requirement, 20 percent reduction in building permit fees for initial construction, and more will be available. Overall, the program will help the City provide a greener and more environmentally healthy community for residents.

COVID-19 Resources Available on City Website

The City has been actively monitoring COVID-19 updates on a local, state, and national level. Staff immediately created a COVID-19 page on the website to keep the community up to date with all of the changes that are happening and to offer the community a reliable, trustworthy source for information. With the increased amount of information available, the webpage has been broken out into several subpages to offer information in a quick, organized manner. As changes continue to happen, staff will make updates to help keep you informed. Visit our website at www.cityofartesia.us and click on the COVID-19 - Coronavirus link on the left side bar.

Respond to the Census!

61%

vs.

39%

Non-Response

Artesia's Census Self-Response Rate is **over 61%**, higher than California's as a whole! If you haven't already, respond to the Census today to make sure you and your family count!



City Plants Two New Trees at Artesia Park

On March 5th, the City planted two variations of Magnolia trees at Artesia Park to replace two dead trees. A "Little Gem" Magnolia was planted just outside the entrance to the Albert O. Little Community Center and a Southern Magnolia at the west entrance to the park. Trees play an important role in our environment and we can't wait for these trees to grow with the community!



City Staff Available for Questions and Service Requests Remotely

Even while working from home, City staff is available and answering your questions remotely. The easiest way to have a request addressed is by submitting a service request on the City's website, www.cityofartesia.us, using the link on the left sidebar of the website. You can also call City Hall at (562) 865-6262, press "0", and leave a voicemail and a staff person will have your concern addressed or call you back if necessary. Additionally, email addresses are available for certain services on the City website. Please also stay tuned to the City website for updates on City operations moving forward.