

### STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

CITY OF WEST COVINA STATE OF THE CITY 2021 ANNUAL REPORT







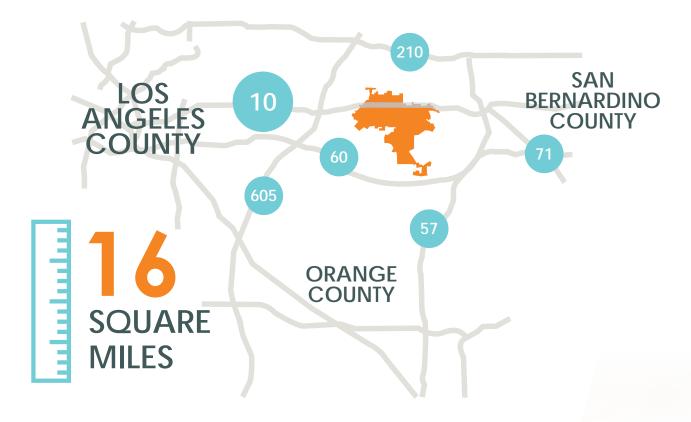
The 2021 State of the City Annual Report highlights West Covina's accomplishments, operations, services, and programs relative to the City Council's priorities:

- Achieve Financial Stability & Sustainability
- Enhance City Facilities & Infrastructure
- Enhance the City Image & Effectiveness
- Enhance Public Safety
- Enhance City Programs & Activities
- Engage in Proactive Economic Development

The 2021 State of the City Annual Report includes an overview of each departments function, the goals accomplished and goals for the upcoming year.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
10
12
14
14
14
15
16
16
17
18
20
21
22
24
27
30
31
32
35
38



### **City Facts**

Location: Los Angeles County, in the San Gabriel Valley

Year of Incorporation: 1923

Number of City Employees: 401, including 234 City Hall staff (full and part-time)

### **Demographics**

Population: 109,501

Average Household Size: 3.40 Median Household Income: \$85,626

Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units: \$578,800

Race/Ethnicity:

Hispanic or Latino	52.6%
Asian Alone	29.9%
White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino	10.8%
Two or More Races	7.6%
Black or African American Alone	4.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	0.4%

Source: US Census

### Message from the Mayor

Dear Community Members

Serving as your Mayor in 2021 was truly an honor. As we exited the worst phase of the pandemic, we were able to focus on returning to normal life. This meant we not only had the opportunity to reopen facilities, but as Mayor, I could help address issues that I felt were critical to the City of West Covina.

Public Safety has been and remains a priority for me. During my term, I supported our Police and Fire Departments to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents. I was a strong advocate for the implementation of the flock camera system in our City, a system that has proven to be a tremendous asset to our Police Department.

During my Mayorship, the City invested into our facilities and parks. There were so many wonderful projects, but park and playground improvements are ones that fill me with extreme pride. We provided a new playground for Shadow Oak Park and approved the replacement of rubberized playground surfacing at Palmview, Aroma, and Walmerado Parks. We also addressed improvements to the parking lot at Cortez Park. Another major accomplishment for the City was the addition of the Sportsplex to its list of city parks/facilities.

In 2021, we were able to reopen City Hall and other city facilities. It was thrilling to have our city facilities start programming sports, gymnastics classes, and events for our seniors. The 2021 calendar year also brought back in-person community events, such as the summer concert series, the Veteran's Day Ceremony, Halloween festivities, the Film-It West Covina festival, National Night Out, and many others.

The City made tremendous strides in 2021. Financially, the City increased its reserves to \$18 million, completed capital improvement projects to clean and beautify the City, increased staffing levels, and came together to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.

I want to thank staff for their continued dedication to our residents and community. I look forward to many more years of success for West Covina.

Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado As a general-law city, West Covina operates through the Council-Manager form of municipal government. The five City Council members are elected by-district to overlapping terms of four years and annually select one of their members to serve as Mayor.



Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado



\*District Map Date: April 2022



Mayor Pro Tem Dario Castellanos
District 4



Councilwoman Rosario Diaz
District 3



Councilmember Brian Tabatabai
District 1



Councilman Tony Wu District 5

### Message from the City Manager

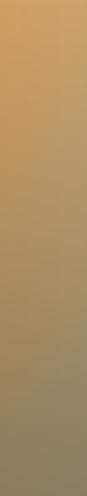
It is my privilege to present to you the 2nd Edition of the more than a year in review, it is a testament to the moments and opportunities that have strengthened our resiliency as a community while providing services that would safely enhance the lives of our residents during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

During the first half of 2021, West Covina continued to address the COVID-19 pandemic by providing our community with testing sites and distributing donated resources to our residents. We adjusted our Senior Meals Program to safely feed our seniors while keeping our centers and facilities closed to safeguard our staff and members of the public. The release of the vaccine in 2021, brought a renewed sense of hope and the ability to begin exploring the possibilities that come with a "new normal." With this, the City immediately shifted its focus to providing vaccines to our community members by setting up various vaccination sites throughout West Covina, as well as having our Fire Department provide the vaccine to our homebound residents.

As California started returning to normal, businesses were reopening, events were being held, and the City was able welcome the community back into our facilities. The Cameron Park Community Center once again allowed our youth to shoot hoops in the gymnasium and practice cartwheels in one of our recreation classes. Our seniors came back to the Cortez Park Community and Senior Center for magic nights and socials (with restrictions), and residents joined together to dance under the stars during our Summer Concert Series.

While 2020 brought unprecedent challenges for staff related to the COVID-19 pandemic; 2021 provided opportunities to remain resilient in the face of those challenges. 2020 was the year of facility closures and having to cancel programs; 2021 was the year of reopening and revamping the way in which we deliver services. It was no easy task to navigate through the myriad of mandates and protocols, but our staff did so with tenacity and courage. As we head towards a post-pandemic world filled with unknowns, we move forward with a steadfast optimism that we will rise to the occasion. I am proud to be of service to the West Covina community and I do so with a joyful heart.

City Manager David N. Carmany





Jones Mayer, as West Covina's City Attorney, strives to provide the highest level of legal representation to the City of in cooperation with the City Manager in identifying issues, crafting solutions, and implementing the City Council's decisions legally, ethically and effectively.

In 2022, our goal is to continue to provide effective legal services to the City Council, City officials, departments, agencies, boards and commissions. We aim to continue to assist the City in achieving the City Council's policies and goals, such as the establishment of a local health department, providing necessary services and resources to the community and continuing to resolve lawsuits favorably for the City.

### 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Assisted City staff in preparing necessary documents to form the West Covina Health Department.

Collaborated with City staff to draft ordinances to update Municipal Code provisions, including, but not limited to, ordinances to address recommendations

Assisted City staff with complex California Public Records Act requests.

Favorably settled several litigation matters

Continued to assist the City in navigating the COVID-19 pandemic.

from the State Auditor.

Continued to review City's financial policies to

ACHIEVING FINANCIAL

the General Fund.

and approval.

SUSTAINABILITY & STABILITY

that detect errors in a timely fashion.

Renewed the City's participation in the Los Angeles County Treasury Pool to achieve greater diversity and possibly a higher return on investments while still maintaining liquidity. Initiated the process to upgrade the City's Financial Software to increase efficiencies,

In May 2021, the City of West Covina received \$9.7M as its first allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The City of West Covina is eligible for a total of \$19.5M that must be obligated by December 31, 2024. The City established a plan for use of these funds

through the annual budget process in June.



Robbeyn Bird Finance Director

The Finance Department is dedicated to implementing strong internal controls that meet the goals of attaining fiscal stability into the future to ensure that West Covina residents receive the highest level of services.

### GENERAL FUND UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE

Increased general fund reserves at fiscal year-end, increasing unassigned fund balance to \$21M.



Since FY 2018-2019, the City's General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance increased by \$11.5M.



Generally, recovery funds may be used support public health expenditures, address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, replace lost public sector revenue, provide premium pay for essential workers, and invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) \$20,715 This grant may be used to hire additional personnel and/or purchase equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice,

and cannot be used to supplant existing funds or ongoing activities budgeted elsewhere.

California Department of Housing and Community Development, Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grant

The City will utilize the LEAP Grant to complete a comprehensive re-write of the City's Zoning

State Department of Homeland Security Grant (2019)

For police vehicle-mounted radios, multi-agency active shooter training incorporating Police and Fire, and Fire rescue equipment.

**Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program** \$119,700

\$500,000

\$71,789

\$300,084

\$709,140

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

**Tobacco Law Enforcement Grant** 

To fund the salary, benefits, and some overtime for the new Tobacco SRO position.

Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV)

Funding for public social services to respond to COVID-19 challenges.

State of California, Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Grant \$25,000

Traffic records software project.

\$19,566,027

**AWARDE** 



Lisa Sherrick
Assistant City Clerk

The City Clerk's Office provides support to the City Council, Administration, other City departments, and the public. The City Clerk's Office maintains custody, control, and storage of official City documents and records pertaining to the operation of City government. The City Clerk's Office coordinates all City elections for elective office, initiatives, referenda, and recalls. Pursuant to the Political Reform Act, the City Clerk serves as the filing officer/official for Campaign Disclosure Statements for elected officials, candidates, and committees; and for Statement of Economic Interests filed by public officials and designated employees. The department provides public information and responds to requests for documents pursuant to the provisions of the California Public Records Act. The City Clerk's Office oversees the appointment process for the City's Commissions and Advisory Boards.

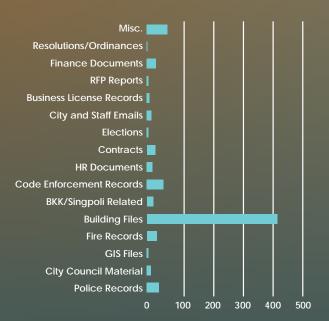
### ENHANCED CITY EFFECTIVENESS

Prepared, published, and distributed 51 agendas and agenda packets for the City Council, Successor Agency; published and posted required legal notices, and prepared minutes for those agendas.

Began the Redistricting process by getting under contract with a consultant to conduct public hearings.



### PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS





### Helen Tran

Director of Human Resources/Risk Management

The department is responsible for the administration of all personnel and risk management functions of the City. The main objectives of the Human Resources Department are as follows: carry out the directives of the City Council and City Manager in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible; provide timely and reliable information and recommendations to the City's decision makers when called upon; provide an equitable and healthy work environment for all employees; mitigate all unnecessary risk, loss, and liability for the City and its surrounding communities; and provide valuable and responsive support services to all other City Departments to enable them to complete their respective missions.

COVID-19 RELATED Over
45,000

COVID tests for Employees and Residents of West Covina

### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Hired two (2) Assistant City Managers, Finance Director, Assistant Finance Director, Deputy Director of Public Services and IT Manager.

Continued internship program, giving students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connection in professional fields they are considering for career paths by placing 14 interns in various departments.

Negotiated 3-year successor
Memoranda of Understanding
(MOU's) through June 2023 for eight
(8) bargaining units with expired
contracts.

### **NEW HIRED EMPLOYEES**

City Manager's Office

City Clerk's Office

Human Resources/

Risk Management

1

Community Development

6

Finance/IT Department

14

Public Services

Department

31

Fire Department

6

Police Department

45



### Paulina Morales Assistant City Manager/Community **Development Director**

As the development center for the City, the Community Development Department (CDD) consists of five divisions: Economic Development and Housing, Planning, Building, Engineering, and Code Enforcement. The goal of CDD is to facilitate the development process for our residents. business owners, and developers. The City encourages development and growth in our community while the CDD ensures it adheres to the City's development standards and is consistent with the City's goals to provide a quality, safe, healthy, and sustainable community for our residents and businesses.

CDD also oversees capital improvement projects for the City - enhancing the quality of life by providing necessary infrastructure for our community.

### **PLANNING**

### ENHANCING INFRASTRUCTURE

Processed over 300 administrative/staff level applications that facilitated improvements to residential and commercial projects.

Prepared and processed the Auto Plaza Overlay Zone code amendment and zone change for City Council review and adoption

Prepared and processed an urgency ordinance addressing SB 9 for City Council review and adoption.

Held 17 Design Review Sub-Committee

Held 16 Planning Commission Meetings.

- Development Code Update Process
- Housing Element Update Cycle 6

### MAJOR PROJECTS APPROVED

### **Emanate Health | Queen of the Valley**

### 1115 S Sunset Ave

Development of 58,868 SF two-story medical office building with an addition to the existing hospital building for a new 58,901 SF two-story emergency room and ICU unit. The development will include a new 4-level parking structure with 398 parking spaces.



### Chick-Fil-A

### 3041 E Garvey Avenue Developing a

new 5,001 SF drive-thru restaurant.

### **Last Mile Distribution Center**

### 1211 S. Badillo Street

Re-purposing an existing 177,440 SF building to a last mile distribution center on a 21.22-acre site.









**LENNAR** 

Asteria | 1651 E. Rowland Avenue

158 residential condominium units (66 two-story single-family residential style detached units, and 92 attached three-story townhome style units)



### **MERITAGE HOMES**

West Cameron II | 1615 Cameron Avenue



84-unit residential rowhouse-style condominium development.



### **MERITAGE HOMES**

Vincent Place | 1024 W. Workman Avenue



119 residential condominium units (47 two-story single-family residential style detached units, and 72 attached three-story townhome style units)

SID

П

### WELCOMETO THE CITY OF WEST COVINA

340 NEW BUSINESSES



Laserland 2340 S. Azusa Avenue



S'moreology 922 West Covina Parkway



Macy's Backstage

### **GROUNDBREAKING EVENTS**



Emanate Health

Queen of the Valley

1115 S. Sunset Avenue



### **BUILDING & SAFETY**

**Building & Safety Permits** 







### **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Enhancing the City Image and Effectiveness



Property inspections conducted



Administrative citations issued



Correction notices issued to residential and commercial properties



Property maintenance violations resolved

### **ENGINEERING**

### **ENHANCING INFRASTRUCTURE**

Completed construction of 4 capital improvement projects at a combined cost of approximately



657

Permits processed

512

Permits issued

Restroom Renovation at the Senior Center

Completed in January 2021



Residential Street Rehabilitation Annual Program FY 19/20

Completed in July 2021



Shadow Oak Park - Playground Improvements

Completed in July 2021

\$300 thousand



Fire Station Parking Lot 4

Completed in December 2021

\$300 thousand

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**



### Roxanne Lerma Assistant City Manager/Public Services Director

The Public Services Department looks to enhance the quality of life in West Covina through people, facilities, programs, and partnerships. Public Services is comprised of two divisions: Community Services Division and the Maintenance Division. The Community Services Division offers social and recreational programming, advocacy, senior services, preschool programs, and special events. Community Services serves as the City's liaison to numerous youth sport groups and community organizations, while helping to mediate activities such as community planning, collaboration, and senior programming. The Maintenance Division provides for the maintenance and upkeep of the City fleet, parks, streets, traffic signals, sewer system, public rights of way, trees, and City facilities. The Maintenance Division works diligently to keep city facilities operational, clean, and welcoming.

### ENHANCING CITY PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Assisted 12 CDBG-funded sub-recipients, which included food banks, fair housing services, senior nutrition, senior case management, homeless services, and subsidies for childcare

Established an Adopt-A-Senior sponsorship program. Successfully secured monetary donations to be used to provide meals for seniors currently on the meal program service.

\$276,56
in funding for
the Senior Meals
Program through
the County

Implemented a safe way to provide

AARP tax services to low-income West

Covina senior residents following all COVID safety
procedures.

Received over
\$100,000
in Proposition A Incentive
Funds for self-reporting
to the National Transit
Database

For 2020, the Senior Services
Division hosted holiday
drive-thrus for Thanksgiving,
Christmas and Valentine's
Day. Providing seniors with a
special hot meal, gifts and
entertainment.

The Senior Services Division reintroduced in-person activities for seniors with events celebrating Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, Valentine's Day, New Year's, Veteran's Day, and an Easter Egg Hunt.

The Community Services Division brought back in-person community events including the 2021 Summer Concert Series, 2021 Veteran's Day Ceremony, introduced the Let It Snow Tree Lighting Ceremony, and the Children's Christmas Parade in partnership with West Covina Kiwanis Club. In addition, for 2021 the Community Services Division worked with Plaza West Covina on the Asian Pacific Heritage Month, Summer Movie Night Flicks, Hispanic Heritage Month, and the Haunted Fiesta.

### **MAINTENANCE DIVISION**

### ENHANCING CITY FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

In late 2021, the Maintenance Division began working with the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps (SGVCC) on the Azusa Avenue Beautification Project to plant California friendly drought tolerant plants on the Azusa Avenue medians. The SGVCC is a non-profit organization that provides job training skills to at risk youth residing in West Covina and the San Gabriel Valley.

Cleaned 50 miles of sewer mains, inspected 25 miles of sewer mains, repaired damaged asphalt at major intersections, repaired lifted sidewalk at various locations, and cleaned 600 storm drain catch basins diverting debris from entering the Walnut Creek Wash.

Received over 6,000 residential service requests for issues such as potholes, tree maintenance, raised sidewalks, graffiti, trash service, and sewer issues.



ABATED GRAFFITI

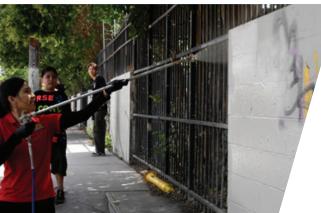


SERVICE REQUEST









### COUNCIL IN ACTION



## OLICE DEPARTMENT



Richard Bell Police Chief

### **Police Chief Message**

As your West Covina Police Chief, I am proud to serve our community. This past year has presented new challenges and opportunity; and I am happy to share this year's accomplishments with you.

The Police Department has been working on a few major goals over the past two years that were completed in 2021. Ten new officer positions were added to the Department increasing our total sworn positions to 100. Our recruitment and retention efforts yielded 18 new police lateral and recruit hires in a year.

One of our biggest efforts was the implementation of our new Mark-43 CAD/RMS system. This was a huge undertaking and needed all Departments, including Fire, Dispatch and I.T., to get this project up and running. Several other projects were implemented along the way such as the electronic citation program, mobile report writing, and the purchase of the Use of Force Training Simulator.

Fighting crime and ensuring our community members live in a safe place will continue to be a focal point. I look forward to your continued support. Together we can change things.

### EFFECTIVE USE OF A DATA AND TECHNOLOGY

Transitioned to electronic collision reporting
Electronic citation write implementation
Employee training record software
Camera software upgrade
Flock license place readers
Mark43

100 SWORN OFFICERS

FICERS

### **ENHANCE THE PROFESSIONALISM OF THE DEPARTMENT**

Implicit bias training

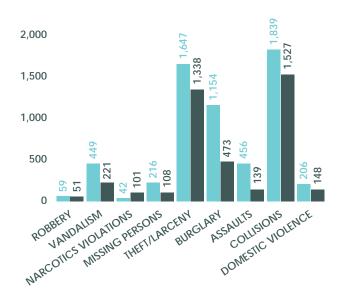
Continual review of the Police Department Policy Manual including the Use of Force policy

### STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY AND CITY RELATIONSHIPS

Increased the department's social media presence to continually keep our community members informed

Updated the department's website

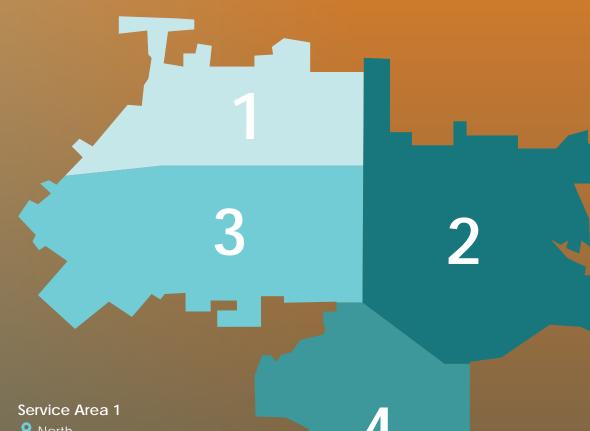
### **CRIME STATISTICS**



For more information about West Covina Police Department and their 2021 Annual Review, visit their website at www.wcpd.org



### POLICE SERVICE **AREAS**



North

Lieutenant Keith Freeman E-mail: servicearea1@wcpd.org

### Service Area 2

**?** East

Lieutenant Tim Rodgers E-mail: servicearea2@wcpd.org

### Service Area 3

Central

Lieutenant Tony Cortina E-mail: servicearea3@wcpd.org

### Service Area 4

**South** 

Lieutenant Jeff Munn E-mail: servicearea4@wcpd.org

24 Hour Voice Mail: 626-939-8600





Vincent Capelle Fire Chief

### Fire Chief Message

served the community for nearly 75 years with Integrity, Pride and Dedication. As our mission states we continue to serve with a caring and cost-effective manner. Well trained and well equipped fire service professionals are there for the needs of the community 24 hours a day 365 days a year. We continue to strive, to learn new and progressive techniques, and utilize new life saving equipment during all calls for service.

West Covina Fire Department has endured the challenges of the 2021 year from COVID-19 to wildland fire responses. With all the challenges the members of the department have continued to keep all resources available to serve the community.

I am honored to work side by side with the emergency response members and the civilian staff that keep the day-to-day operations moving forward. As a team the West Covina Fire Department can deliver to the community a standard of excellence through our values: Integrity, Pride, Professionalism, Service, Teamwork and Vision.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Purchased 3 Lucas Electronic CPR Devices through Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Purchased 2 Electronic Patient Gurney Equipment through AFG Grant

69 SWORN PERSONNEL & CIVILIAN

### **MUTUAL AID**

Towsley Fire (January)
Bobcat Fire (May)
Salt Fire (July)
Beckwourth Fire (July)
Dixie Fire (July & August)
River Fire (August)

Monument Fire (August)
Caldor Fire (August)
Windy Fire (September)
River Fire (October)
Alisal Fire (October)



### **NEW EQUIPMENT**

2 Fire Engines, 2 Rescue Ambulances, & 1 Fire Truck (Delivery expected early 2023)

CAL-OES provided Wildland Fire Engine 1609 to the Department for local and regional responses

Purchased new mobile and portable radios

### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**TOTAL CALLS** 

9,228

### FIRE STATIONS IMPROVEMENTS

Diesel Exhaust Capture System

Station 2, complete system installed

Station 1, 3, 4, and 5 have been repaired and upgraded

### **ALL STATIONS**

Emergency response alerting system installation started

### FIRE STATION NO. 1

Asbestos, mold, lead evaluation completed, and report issued Personnel moved to temporary quarters

FIRE STATION NO. 2

FIRE STATION NO. 3

Roofing Improvements

Apparatus bay door replaced

### FIRE STATION NO. 4

Parking lot replacement

Apparatus bay door opening reinforced

### 2021 ACCOMPLISH

### gional responses



### West Covina Fire Stations



29

### **COVID-19 PANDEMIC EFFORTS**

### **VACCINES**

West Covina, through the Fire Department, provided vaccines to:

Fire and Police Department, and City Staff

Homebound vaccine to West Covina residents

Residents



The City was also able to bring vaccination to West Covina:

PARTNERSHIP WITH FULGENT & LA COUNTY

PARTNERSHIP WITH EAST VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Cameron Park

Senior Center

In partnership with CVS, vaccinations were available at the following CVS:

PFIZER

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

**MODERNA** 

702 N. Azusa Avenue

2831 E. Eastland Center Drive

3670 S. Nogales Street

727 S. Glendora Avenue

### TESTING SITES

The City continued to provide convenient COVID-19 testing sites in our community:

• CORTEZ PARK

SHADOW OAK PARK



**Q** CITY HALL

### WEST COVINA HEALTH

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of West Covina initiated efforts to establish its own Health Department. The top priority in creating our own health department is the health and safety of our community members. The City submitted to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) the West Covina Health Department Overview and Summary. The City is continuing to work with the CDPH towards the establishment of a West Covina Health Department.

### **SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM**

The Senior Meals Program transitioned from congregate to meal delivery/drive-thru service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Program participation increased dramatically, serving 250 West Covina residents weekly by drive-thru and home delivery.

### LOS ANGELES REGIONAL FOOD BANK

The City in partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank distributed nonperishable food bank boxes for adults 60 years of age and older. The LA Regional Food Bank increased our inventory to 400 kits monthly, due to the pandemic.

### WEST COVINA





### **WEST COVINA** SCHOOL DISTRICTS



## Unified School District ina



### Superintendent's Message

The West Covina Unified School District is dedicated to safety, well-being, and uncompromising excellence in education and citizenship. Students at WCUSD have access to world-class opportunities and experiences, including computer science, dance, music, speech & debate, and arts enrichment. We offer a diverse choice of programs, including Dual Language in Mandarin and Spanish, International Baccalaureate TK-12th grade, and Career Technical Education (CTE) with a multiyear pathway to postsecondary education and careers. We also offer students the opportunity to enroll in the Mt. SAC Early College Academy, a fully accredited high school where students can earn two years of free, transferable college credit and an Associate Degree.

Students in WCUSD learn in state-of-the-art facilities made possible by Bond Measure ES. These facilities include updated classrooms, renovated tennis courts, the Aquatic Center/Athletics Complex, the Event Center/CTE building at Edgewood Schools, a CTE/Science building at West Covina High School, and a Performing Arts Center and Hollencrest Gym/Music Building, both scheduled to open in 2023.

### Uncompromising Excellence and Opportunities for Every Student

At WCUSD, we value partnership and work closely with staff, parents, city, and community partners to maximize student support and opportunities. We continue to maximize safety and prioritize students' social and emotional well-being through support from counselors, social workers, and nurses.

We understand that we are living through difficult times and reassert our unshaken commitment to excellence and opportunities for every student. It is an honor to serve as the Superintendent of WCUSD, and I thank our community for entrusting us with the education of our greatest treasure: our students.

### Dr. Emy Flores

Superintendent
West Covina Unified School District

The **West Covina Unified School District Aquatic Center/ Athletics Complex** is operational and supports our athletic programs and provides swim lessons for WCUSD students and community.





West Covina High School's Career Technical Education (CTE) and Science Building supports state of the art programs such as Robotics, Engineering and Architectural Design, Photography, and Digital Media and offers students access to cutting edge science labs.



Career Technical Education (CTE) programs have been implemented to prepare our TK-6 students for postsecondary success. These programs include coding, robotics, dance, and arts enrichment.



The West Covina Unified School District
Performing Arts Center will open in the Spring
of 2023 for our student and community
productions and will be home to our new
West Covina High School's Performing Arts
Academy.



We broke ground on the new Hollencrest Gym/Music Building. The anticipated completion date is summer 2023.



The West Covina Online Learning Academy (WCOLA) independent studies program allows students the flexibility to learn on their own schedule with the parent serving as a coach and teachers providing weekly assistance as students navigate our online curriculum and complete grade-level coursework.



Mt. SAC Early College Academy celebrated the graduation of its inaugural class with 16 students fulfilling the lower-division transfer requirements for transfer to university and 4 students obtaining an Associates Degree.



WCUSD is offering a variety of full-day TK-12 summer expanded learning and enrichment opportunities in June and July across the district.



The WCUSD Family Resource Center was the recipient of the **2021 California School Board Association Golden Bell Award** for its foster/homeless youth, mental health, and special education support. The award is issued to schools that create innovative model programs for student success.



## ified School District



### Superintendent's Message

The Rowland Unified School District remains focused on Innovative Learning for All for our students, families and the communities we serve. This year was like no other, and despite the many challenges, we are proud to have been accepted into the League of Innovative Schools, a coalition of forwardthinking K-12 school districts across the nation. Our District was selected based on our educational leadership, innovative vision for learning, and commitment to equity and excellence. The District is also proud that 18 of our schools, as well as our District as a whole, received the California Department of Education's Pivotal Practice Award, an award in lieu of the California Distinguished Schools Program due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2020-2021 school year. Our schools were recognized for their work with student engagement, distribution of technology, nutrition services and the social emotional well-being of students. In Rowland Unified, we pride ourselves on completely transforming teaching and learning to meet the needs of our students. Innovation is a mindset, an attitude, and part of the fabric of our District. Through working collaboratively, thinking outside of the box, gathering input and ideas from students, staff and parents, and harnessing resources effectively for our

### A National Leader in Innovation, Equity & Excellence

students and families, we are able to create, invent and provide learning experiences that help all students to flourish and meet their full potential

We look forward to welcoming our families for the opening of the 2022-2023 school year on August 8, 2022.

We Are Rowland Strong. WeAreRUSD.

### Dr. Julie Mitchell

Superintendent Rowland Unified School District

### 2022 California Pivotal Practice Award For Hollingworth Elementary

West Covina's Hollingworth Elementary School was one of 18 schools in the Rowland Unified School District to receive this state honor. The school's award was for its focus on Social Justice Education as a result of what was going on in the world during the pandemic. Social Justice Education targets many areas including civic education awareness, professional development, and social-emotional learning.



**Hollingworth Student Welcomed** by Other Students

All students learn to support and encourage each other at Hollingworth Elementary School.



Kindness Garden

The beginning of our Friendship Garden started with creating and sharing kindness rocks because Kindness Rocks!



### Mural

This student-created mural is a daily reminder that each and every student matters at Hollingworth Elementary.

### 2022 California Pivotal Practice Award for Giano Intermediate

West Covina's Giano Intermediate School California PIVOTAL PRACTICE AWARD was for the school's student engagement and focus on improving absenteeism. Weekly outreach to students and families during the pandemic were held to connect all parties with a variety of resources leading to increased attendance.





### 2022 California Pivotal Practice Award for Telesis Academy

West Covina's Telesis Academy of Science and Math was recognized with a PIVOT PRACTICE AWARD for its programs that supported students in the area of Social Emotional Well Being by implementing practices such as Mindful Mondays and Wellness Wednesdays - a platform for students to engage with their peers, acknowledge self-care, and connect with the Titan community through videos, mental exercises and self-reflection.







### WE SALUTE OUR CLASS OF 2022!







Proud of Nogales High School Class of 2022 Graduate and Questbridge Prep Scholar Juan Valdez, who is headed to Harvard University on a full-ride scholarship. He will study molecular and cellular biology.

Look out for Class of 2022 banners across West Covina, spotlighting our amazing seniors and the colleges, trade schools or military units they will





# **Unified School**



### Superintendent's Message

In Covina-Valley Unified School District we pride ourselves on having a small district culture, which allows us to give our students a personal and caring educational experience. Our team of talented educators are dedicated to ensuring that our students master academic standards, as well as develop their reasoning, collaboration, critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills on a daily basis. Our District-wide focus on student engagement and achievement flows through to the innovative programs at each of our schools.

Starting as early as kindergarten, Covina-Valley Unified students learn basic coding skills to prepare them for our increasingly technology-driven world. Our elementary and middle school students have the opportunity to enter one of our dual language immersion programs to develop language skills and cultural awareness. And our high school students have the opportunity to take International Baccalaureate, advanced placement, and dual-enrollment courses that give them the chance to earn college credit, while also completing high school graduation requirements. C-VUSD schools also offer classes in a wide range of arts, such as music, dance, visual art and theater,

### Educational Excellence for Every Student, Every Day

which foster creativity, build critical thinking, collaboration and problem-solving skills, as well as provide students with the tools and encouragement to express their passion and ideas.

The combination of a curriculum that is both rich in traditional science, technology, engineering and math classes, as well as in creative arts, prepares our students to succeed in whatever direction they choose after graduation.

Many of our students are recruited by major colleges and universities across the country, earning an excess of \$1 million in scholarships every year. We are so proud of all of our students in Covina-Valley Unified and we pledge to continue providing them with educational excellence every day to help them achieve everything they set their minds and hearts to.

### Elizabeth Eminhizer, Ed.D.

Superintendent
Covina-Valley Unified School District

### 2022 California Pivotal Practice Award For Hollingworth Elementary

West Covina's Hollingworth Elementary School was one of 18 schools in the Rowland Unified School District to receive this state honor. The school's award was for its focus on Social Justice Education as a result of what was going on in the world during the pandemic. Social Justice Education targets many areas including civic education awareness, professional development, and socialemotional learning.

### **Elementary Coding**

C-VUSD schools have integrated coding into the curriculum starting as early as kindergarten. Learning to code increases students' computational thinking, builds planning and problem-solving skills and helps develop creativity, preparing students for an increasingly technology-based future.



C-VUSD has partnered with the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence to support social and emotional learning across the District, helping students understand and manage their emotions, and foster the interpersonal skills that are vital for success in school, work and life.

### **Career Technical Education**

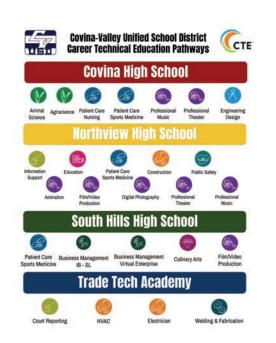
Our career technical educational (CTE) program provides students with 22 pathways, including a digital media partnership with PBS News Hour, a metal fabrication capstone and a hands-on medical program, preparing students to step into fulfilling careers as soon as they graduate.







Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence



### **Graduation Accomplishments**

This year, C-VUSD recognized 1081 graduates, including 31 valedictorians, and 119 honors students. Our graduates received numerous awards and scholarships, including a \$200,000 QuestBridge scholarship for Allana Martinez, who will attend the University of California, Los Angeles in the fall.







### Top-Performing K-8

Seven C-VUSD elementary schools were recognized as being among the top-performing public schools in California, according to U.S. News & World Report's 2022 Best K-8 Schools. Rankings are based on student proficiency and performance in mathematics and reading.



### Wellness Center and Peer Counseling Recognition

South Hills High School received a Golden Bell Award for its innovative Wellness Center and Peer Counseling program, which fosters a safe and inclusive environment for students, stresses the importance of mental health and offers students counseling courses to support their peers.





### **CITY HALL CONTACTS**

City Clerk's Office	(626) 939 - 8433
City Council's Office	(626) 939 - 8401
City Manager's Office	(626) 939 - 8401
Community Development Department	(626) 939 - 8425
Building Division	(626) 939 - 8425
Code Enforcement Division	(626) 939 - 8426
Community & Economic Development Division	(626) 939 - 8417
Engineering Division	(626) 939 - 8425
Planning Division	(626) 939 - 8422
Public Services	(626) 919 - 6966
Community Services Division	(626) 919 - 6966
Maintenance Division	(626) 919 - 6966
Finance Department	(626) 939 - 8438
Fire Department (Non-Emergency)	(626) 939 - 8424
Human Resources Office	(626) 939 - 8450
Police Department (Non-Emergency)	(626) 939 - 8501

### 2022 CITY COUNCILMEMBERS' CONTACT

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