

March 2025

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Wilderness Park Recovery Efforts Move Forward with Major Funding

The Bobcat Fire of September 2020 left lasting damage on the San Gabriel Mountains, including the hillsides above Wilderness Park. Heavy rains in 2021 and 2023 worsened conditions, sending over eight feet of debris into the park, burying picnic tables and covering trails. While the park remains closed, the City of Arcadia has made progress in recovery efforts, but more work remains.

Secured Funding for Debris Removal

A total of \$6.2 million has been secured for debris removal, including:

- \$4.7 million from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), approved on February 6, 2024
- \$1.5 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), obligated on November 1, 2024

With this reimbursement-based funding, the Public Works Services Department is developing a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for debris removal, set for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Bridge Damage & Restoration Delays

Despite progress, restoration is delayed due to severe damage to the Los Angeles County-owned bridge leading into Wilderness Park. While LA County Public Works recently completed their sediment removal project, they are now prioritizing the Santa Anita Dam restoration due to impacts from the Eaton Fire, further postponing bridge repairs.

Recognizing that Wilderness Park has been closed for several years, the City of Arcadia is exploring alternative options to continue debris removal. Arcadia's Public Works Services Department plans to work with an engineering firm to explore alternative debris removal solutions. Once the park is cleared, the City can focus on restoring its facilities.

Additional Funding Secured

The City of Arcadia has also received \$2.8 million in insurance funds. These funds will help restore park infrastructure. Additionally, the City is pursuing grants for mitigation measures, such as infiltration basins, to protect the park from future debris flows.

While challenges remain, securing funding is a major step toward restoring Wilderness Park for future generations. Stay informed on the progress at ArcadiaCA.gov/WildernessPark.

Overnight Parking Enforcement Resumes March 1, Fee Waivers Available for Eaton Fire Victims

Those displaced by the Eaton fire and needing to park in Arcadia overnight may be eligible for a parking permit fee waiver for the remainder of the year. Each displaced household may receive up to two permits.

How to Apply for a Fee Waiver

- Impacted households must apply in-person at the Cashier's Office at Arcadia City Hall
- Required Documents: Utility bill from the last three months showing proof of residence in the impacted area and corresponding identification (driver's license, passport, etc.) as proof of impact.

Don't wait, apply for a permit as soon as possible, as parking enforcement will resume on Saturday, March 1. Those who qualify but have already purchased a permit may be eligible for reimbursement.

If you have any questions, please call [\(626\) 574-5465](tel:626-574-5465) or email parkingpermit@ArcadiaCA.gov.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Workshop

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) is developing a regional Community Wildfire Protection Plan to assist the region in preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from future wildfires. Please join the SGVCOG at one of the community workshops to participate in this planning process. Learn more and register at www.sgvkog.org/cwpp.

An in-person workshop will take place at the Arcadia Public Library, on Tuesday, March 11, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

BE WILDFIRE READY!

PROTECTING OUR FUTURE, TOGETHER

COMMUNITY INPUT WORKSHOPS

We want to hear from you!

TUESDAY MAR 11 5 - 7 PM	West & Central SGV	Arcadia Public Library <i>20 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91006</i>
WEDNESDAY MAR 19 5 - 7 PM	East SGV	La Verne City Council Chambers <i>3660 D St, La Verne, CA 91750</i>
WEDNESDAY MAR 26 5 - 7 PM	Virtual	Register Online: https://tinyurl.com/wildfire-planning

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments is developing a regional Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and invites all SGV residents and businesses to share their wildfire priorities!



Mayor Presents 2025 State of the City: Rising Together

Mayor Michael Cao is excited to present the 2025 Arcadia State of the City: Rising Together. Join us as he reflects on the past year, celebrates our successes, and looks ahead to the future. This year's guest speaker is Michael Sagely, a pilot for the LA County Fire Department and former U.S. Army pilot, who will deliver an inspiring message on service, resilience, and the role of aerial operations in emergency response.

Thursday, March 20, 2025

Le Méridien, 130 W. Huntington Dr.

4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP by March 6, 2025, by calling [\(626\) 574-5113](tel:626-574-5113) or emailing Recreation@ArcadiaCA.gov.

RISING TOGETHER
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(626) 574-5113
Recreation@ArcadiaCA.gov
ArcadiaCA.gov/StateoftheCity

Arcadia's Draft Inclusionary Housing Ordinance - Public Hearings Tentatively Scheduled

The City of Arcadia is taking steps to encourage and facilitate the production of affordable housing units in the City through its proposed Inclusionary Housing Ordinance. The Ordinance would require a percentage of below-market rate housing units in all new residential projects comprised of 10 or more units. Affordable units would be integrated into proposed residential development projects, with the same look and feel as the market-rate units, except that they are only available to qualifying renters or owners.

The Draft Ordinance, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and a detailed presentation on Inclusionary Housing can be viewed now at Arcadiaca.gov/IHO. The Draft Ordinance is tentatively scheduled to be considered by the Arcadia Planning Commission on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Arcadia City Council Chambers located at 240 W. Huntington Drive, Arcadia. Following that, it is anticipated that the Draft Ordinance will be considered by the City Council on Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

Share your thoughts on the Draft Ordinance by emailing your comments to the Development Services Department at DSD@ArcadiaCA.gov.

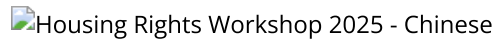
Housing Rights Workshop

The Housing Rights Center is hosting a free, virtual housing rights workshop for Arcadia residents on Wednesday, March 19, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Topics will include:

- Fair housing laws and protections for families with children
- Disability accommodations
- Eviction process, rent increases, new housing laws update, and more!

Both tenants and landlords can attend, and Mandarin interpretation will be offered. [Register for the Housing Rights Workshop.](#)





Safety Spotlight: In-N-Out Recognizes Arcadia Police Officers

In-N-Out recently surprised the Arcadia Police Department with a special gesture of appreciation. Representatives from In-N-Out presented officers with a thin blue line thermal cup, which allows them to enjoy a free drink every time they visit. Thank you, In-N-Out, for this thoughtful token of gratitude!



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