



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 29, 2018

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CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS BALANCED BUDGET WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

LA PUENTE, CA - The City of La Puente will invest more than \$27.3 million in the new fiscal year (FY 2018-19) to provide residents with important public services and a variety of capital improvement projects. The balanced budget was approved by the La Puente City Council at their June 26th meeting.

A total of \$12.9 million will be spent on operational costs for public safety, parks and recreation, maintenance services and administration – a 6 percent increase over last fiscal year. More than \$7 million of that amount is earmarked for public safety including law enforcement services, through a contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, code enforcement and animal control services. The adopted budget also includes additional funding for law enforcement services for patrol and special deployments. "We continue to provide the highest level of public safety services to our residents and businesses. We keep in mind how our actions today may affect tomorrow's needs; and our partnership with the Sheriff's Department allows us to continue creating a stable and safe community," said Mayor Violeta Lewis.

No additional full-time employees were added this year and the operating budget includes funding for all required debt, pension and retiree health payments. In addition, the budget allocates funding for several important community events including the Little League Parade, Kiwanis Car Show, and Youth Coalition Carnival.

In addition to operational costs, the City will invest \$7.9 million in several capital improvement projects (CIP), including \$1.9 million for local street improvements and resurfacing; \$650,000 for major street improvements; \$615,000 to convert street lights to energy efficient LEDs bulbs; \$1.9 million for improvements to the sewer system; \$783,600 for crosswalk improvements; and \$90,000 for design costs related to a new skate park at La Puente Park.

Finally, it is projected that the City's uncommitted reserve fund will be at \$7.1 million at the end of June 2019. This is 52.9% of budgeted expenditures. The City's Reserve Fund policy only requires the City to set aside 25% of budgeted expenditures. "The City's budget reflects responsible funding

decisions that align public services with available resources,” said City Manager David Carmany. “Even though several cities in the region are facing significant financial challenges, by being fiscally responsible the City’s budget is not only balanced, but provides for a healthy reserve fund.”

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