



# CITY OF LA PALMA

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **La Palma Budget Approved for FY2013-14**

*La Palma, Calif.* – On June 4, 2013, the La Palma City Council adopted the 2013-14 Fiscal Year total fund budget of \$20.5 million, which includes a General Fund operating budget of \$8.6 million. To balance the City's General Fund budget, a one-time use of \$265,000 of reserves was authorized by the City Council; which represents less than 2% of the City's available \$13.6 million General Fund reserves.

Since the 2010-11 Fiscal Year, the City has successfully reduced the General Fund operating budget by over 15% while maintaining critical community services. Unfortunately, the adopted budget does eliminate several full-time positions from the City's workforce, which has been reduced from 65 employees in Fiscal Year 2010-11, to just 57 full-time positions authorized next Fiscal Year. With these personnel reductions and the minimal use of reserves, it is projected that the City's General Fund reserve balance will remain in excess of 100% of operating expenditures by the end of the 2013-14 Fiscal Year. Some noteworthy expenditures and service changes included in the budget, are:

- \$1.1 million for various water and sewer system improvements
- \$1.0 million for arterial and residential street rehabilitation projects
- \$175,000 for replacement of playground equipment at Central Park
- Closure of the Community Development public counter in the afternoon, services available by appointment
- Closure of The Hub facility (adjacent to the new Walmart Neighborhood Market)

Mayor Steve Hwangbo said, "We started this budget process much earlier this year and we had many difficult discussions. In no way is this budget perfect, but it is going to be a work in progress and I expect staff to continue working on more opportunities to fill the budget gap. This budget year is going to be a transitional year because of the many issues facing the City and looking forward, we need to find a budget that is sustainable – without the use of reserves for Fiscal Year 2014-15."

The adopted budget and a variety of other financial documents are available for review on the City's website [www.cityoflapalma.org/finance](http://www.cityoflapalma.org/finance) or at La Palma City Hall.

***About the City of La Palma***

Ranked by Money Magazine in both 2007 and 2011 as one of America's Best Places to Live, the City of La Palma is a 1.9 square mile general law city in northwest Orange County, consisting of 15,568 residents and 482 commercial and industrial businesses. The City was incorporated in 1955 under the name of Dairyland and has 57 full-time and 35 part-time employees.

***Contact Information***

Laurie Murray  
Administrative Services Manager  
City of La Palma  
7822 Walker Street  
La Palma, CA 90623  
Tel: (714) 690-3338  
Fax: (714) 523-2141  
Email: [lauriem@cityoflapalma.org](mailto:lauriem@cityoflapalma.org)

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