



CITY OF LA PALMA NEWSRELEASE

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La Palma Celebrates “Year of Awards”

LA PALMA, Calif. – On April 29, the City of La Palma, in conjunction with the La Palma Chamber of Commerce, held its annual State of the City luncheon at the La Quinta Inn & Suites at the Centerpointe complex in La Palma.

Mayor G. Henry Charoen said 2007 was the “Year of Awards,” with La Palma being named America’s 16th best small city to live in by Money Magazine and the 2nd highest rated city in California. Additionally, the Recreation and Community Services Department received two awards from the California Parks and Recreation Society for the Operation: A Bit of Home program and the new staff-created departmental logo and motto, “Creating Unity in Community”. Also, the Finance Department received an 8th consecutive Certificate of Achievement from the Government Finance Officer’s Association and the Public Works Department received an award from the American Public Works Association for their community outreach activities. Finally, the City received three risk management awards from the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority.

The Mayor also highlighted the City’s current economic development efforts, strong financial stability, continued infrastructure investments, and decreasing crime rates. “For 52 years, La Palma has worked hard to create a sense of place for its residents and businesses,” said Mayor Charoen. These efforts involve enhanced cultural diversity efforts, extensive involvement with the community’s youth, and the new “Lunch with the Mayor” program.

For 2008, Mayor Charoen identified several goals consistent with the City’s vision, including: upgrading arterial blockwalls, providing residents with trees to encourage a park-like feel in

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residential neighborhoods, implementing a 7-year pavement management plan, upgrading key intersections, modernizing the La Palma Avenue bridge over Coyote Creek, establishing a sister city program, providing city documents translated in various languages, implementing a multicultural summer concert program, and improving overall communication with the public.

In closing, Mayor Charoen said, "Even though we were the 2nd best small California city, I want to be number one. In order to do this, we need the community's help. It took the dedication and involvement of all of La Palma's citizens and supporters to get us to this point and we are going to need their continued efforts to reach that higher goal of being number one."

About the City of La Palma

The City of La Palma is a 1.9 square mile general law city in northwest Orange County, consisting of 16,081 residents and 482 commercial and industrial businesses. The City was incorporated in 1955 under the name of Dairyland and has 65 full-time and 53 part-time employees.

Contact Information

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

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