

Duarte COMMUNITY News

Court Hearing on Duarte's Lawsuit Against Vulcan Delayed

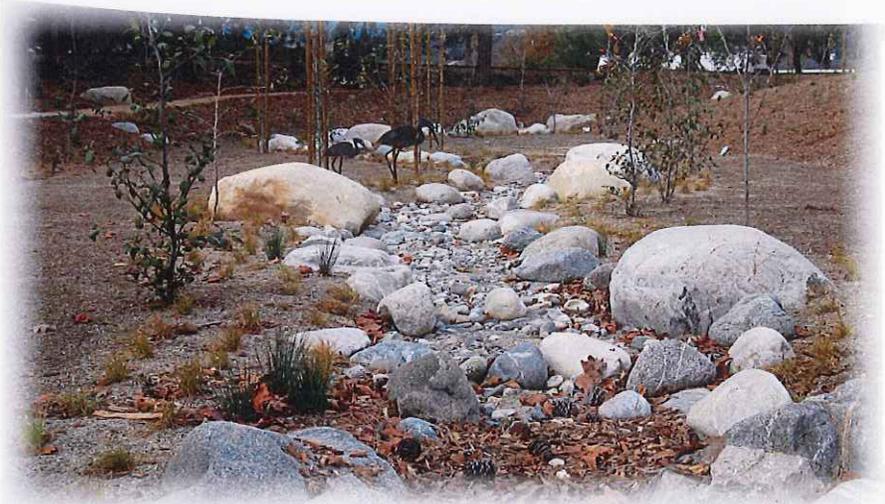
The City of Duarte's first hearing on its lawsuit against the City of Azusa, challenging its approval of the Vulcan Materials mining expansion project scheduled originally for February 15, 2011 has been delayed by the Court. The hearing is being reassigned to another judge and a new hearing date will be scheduled. Duarte's lawsuit was filed on August 3, 2010.

Duarte's lawsuit seeks to overturn the Azusa City Council's certification of the Final Environment Impact Report (EIR) as well as its approval of Vulcan's entitlements for the mining expansion project due to the Azusa City Council's violations of the Brown Act, California's "open meeting" law.

The City of Duarte filed its opening brief on December 15, 2010, exposing Azusa's numerous violations of the California Environmental Quality Act, including Azusa's insufficient analysis of air quality impacts from blasting and trucking activities, the South Coast Air Quality Management Board's direction on the location and number of air monitoring stations, proposing that a public trail be located in the middle of a protected habitat without environmental analysis, and failing to impose any mitigation measures for potential liquefaction impacts.

Duarte's lawsuit also alleges the Azusa City Council violated the Ralph M. Brown Act, California's "open meeting" law, in multiple ways when the Azusa Council adopted a "motion to table the rules of parliamentary procedure" and took a series of illegal procedural steps leading to its subsequent approval of Vulcan's Amended Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and the Development Agreement.

Additionally, Duarte's lawsuit alleges the Azusa City Council's actions approving the Vulcan mining expansion project violated Azusa's own Municipal Code and the Development Agreement law. When it approved the CUP and the Development Agreement without either (i) adopting a motion for reconsideration or (ii) following the necessary procedural steps. Vulcan and the City of Azusa submitted opposition briefs on January 14th and, with the City of Duarte, submitted its final reply brief to the court on February 3rd.



Encanto Nature Park Bioswale and Outdoor Classroom

Nature and the public got an early Christmas gift from the City of Duarte with the long awaited dedication of the Encanto Nature Park Bioswale and Outdoor Classroom on December 8, 2010. The 1,000 foot long bioswale along the western perimeter of the 12-acre City owned Encanto Park is a "naturalized" bioswale designed to look and function as a natural stream. The bioswale also naturally treats and filtrates stormwater before it flows into the San Gabriel River.

Living Green Tips

Lemons are high in vitamin C and have an anti-bacterial effect. Lemon juice consists of about 5% acid, which also makes it useful for a variety of household purposes.

An equal amount of lemon juice and water added to a spray bottle is an effective kitchen and bathroom cleaner and can also be used on walls (spot test first).



Budget Process Announced

The fiscal year 2011-12 budget preparation process is underway at City Hall. The annual City Council budget workshops are scheduled for March 8th at 6:00 p.m. and May 2nd at 4:00 p.m.

Both workshops are open to the public and will take place in the Community Center located at 1600 Huntington Drive. For additional information, contact the Administrative Services Department at (626) 357-7931, ext. 211.

Published by the City of Duarte, Duarte Community News contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and mailed quarterly to all residents and businesses in Duarte. For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at (626) 357-7931.

City Employees

City Manager.....Darrell George
 Assistant City ManagerKristen Petersen
 Public Safety DirectorBrian Villalobos
 Parks and Recreation Director.....Donna Georgino
 Community Development Director.....Craig Hensley
 Deputy City ManagerKaren Herrera
 City ClerkMarla Akana

Elected Officials

Mayor.....Tzeitel Paras-Caracci
 Mayor Pro TemLois Gaston
 Councilmember.....John Fasana
 Councilmember.....Margaret Finlay
 Councilmember.....Phil Reyes

Fitness Center Spring Membership Sale & Aquatics Program

It is time to get into shape. Save 20% during the Spring Sale at the City of Duarte Fitness Center. The sale prices are available March 23 through April 1. During the sale, Duarte residents can enjoy one full year of aquatics, exercise, and aerobics for only \$100. Non-resident rates start as low as \$140, and there are no monthly fees or dues. The Fitness Center is located at 1600 Huntington Drive, next to City Hall.

At the Fitness Center you can choose from a wide variety of activities including strength training equipment, Stairmasters, treadmills, bikes, and Elliptical Trainers. The Fitness Center also has two courts available for either racquetball or wallyball. Aerobic classes are offered at various times daily. For more information call the Duarte Fitness Center at (626) 357-6118.

JO's Track And Field Meet

The Department of Parks and Recreation will once again host the annual Junior Olympics Track and Field Meet on Saturday, April 2, 2011, at Duarte High School Stadium. Boys and girls born 1994-2002 from Andres Duarte, Beardslee, Maxwell, Royal Oaks, Valley View and Northview Schools will participate in the event.

This meet will act as a qualifying meet for the SCMAF San Gabriel Valley Track and Field Championships in May. Contact your school for more information on participating or call (626) 357-7931.



Duarte Recreation Classes

The Duarte Recreation Department offers classes for adults, teens, children and families. Spring recreation classes to be offered will include Acting, Babysitter Training, Ballet, Ballet Fitness, Belly Dancing, Cheerleading, Chess, Computer Training, Cooking the Fun & Healthy Way, Folklorico, Golf, Guitar, Hip Hop Dance, Homework Helper, Hustle Dance, Kidz Love Soccer, Mini Picassos, Polynesian Dance, Racquetball, Salsa Dance, Scrapbooking, Skateboarding, Tennis, Tumbling, Vocals, Watercolor Workshop, Yoga and Zumba. Registration for the spring session of classes begins March 14. Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$25. Classes begin the week of March 28. For information on how to register, contact the Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.

Multi-family Recycling Programs, Sign up Now!

The City of Duarte and Burrtec Waste Services have been working together to design and implement recycling programs for many of the City's multi-family buildings. Properties that qualify for these programs include apartments, condos, and townhomes in which residents share a common refuse bin. These programs are being offered as part of a state grant, which is available for a limited time only.



This comprehensive recycling effort includes site assessment, specialized recycling receptacles, resident education, and ongoing monitoring. Property managers are encouraged to contact the City for more information, and to begin the process. The result will be a smaller trash bill, conservation of natural resources, and less material sent to landfills.

At this time, participation in this recycling program is voluntary, and includes all necessary assistance and education materials at no cost to the property. In the very near future, such programs will be required under Assembly Bill 32, which will impose mandatory recycling upon all commercial properties state-wide. Sign up now to take advantage of this program while it's being implemented under a state grant. If you are an interested property owner, contact the City at (626) 357-7931, ext.221.

Youth Recreation Mini-Soccer

Beginning March 14, the City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will begin taking registration at Duarte City Hall and at all local supervised playgrounds for youth mini soccer leagues. The fee is \$20 per child and includes a T-shirt.

Practices are scheduled to begin the week of March 29. Boys and girls born in 1997 - 2001 (in a grade no higher than 6th) will play in separate boys and girls leagues. Practices will be conducted during the week, after school, and will be held at local supervised parks. Games will be held on Saturdays at Otis Gordon Sports Park. This fun and exciting 6 on 6-player league is perfect for all skill levels. For more information call (626) 357-7931.

Otis Gordon Restrooms to Open in March

Otis Gordon Sports Park, one of the City of Duarte's most popular parks since its opening in 1995, will receive much needed permanent restrooms. The 5-acre facility, used by senior citizen softball leagues, the Recreation Department for its summer t-ball, spring youth mini soccer, and adult softball programs, plus many outside groups including DYAC, and the Hawks, will see this improvement in March of this year.

The next phase of the long awaited restroom project was recently awarded at the January 4, 2011 City Council meeting. The contract for site preparation and grading was awarded to Perry C. Thomas Construction in the amount of \$27,428 for the installation of the water, electrical and sewer lines. The next step will be to install the prefabricated restroom facility built by CXT Concrete Buildings. Prefabricated restroom buildings have been previously utilized by the City at Beardslee and Encanto Parks.

The recommended restroom facility will be a customized CXT Kodiak, similar to those found at National Park sites. Restrooms are anticipated to cost approximately \$130,000 including installation. Once the restroom is in place, a separate and final contract will be awarded for the construction of a new sidewalk from the baseball side of the park and tot lot to the new restroom.

For more information, contact Community Development at (626)357-7931, ext. 233.

**Departments
(626) 357-7931**

	Extension
City Manager's Office	221/223
Community Development	230/235
Parks and Recreation	201
Administrative Services	211

Fitness Center	(626) 357-6118
Teen Center	(626) 303-0863
Senior Center	(626) 357-3513
Public Safety	(626) 357-7938
Transit	(626) 358-9627

Graffiti Removal (626) 836-3654

Utilities

Charter Cable	(866) 499-8080
Gas Company	(800) 427-2200
Cal Am Water	(888) 422-5269
SCE	(800) 655-4555
Verizon	(800) 483-4000
Burrtec Waste Disposal	(800) 325-9417

*Home Improvement Grants
Available Starting March 6*

Starting in March, the City of Duarte is offering grants to qualified residents interested in completing eligible exterior improvements to Duarte homes.



Finalists for this application period will be determined via a lottery process. The deadline to submit pre-qualification applications is April 28, 2011. Pre-qualification applications are also available in Spanish.

Additional information can also be obtained by calling (626) 357-7931, ext. 235 or 262.

Cesar Chavez Volunteer Day

The 7th Annual Cesar Chavez volunteer Project, sponsored by Duarte's Promise: The Alliance for Youth and Westminster Gardens, will kickoff at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at Westminster Gardens located at 1420 Santo Domingo in the City of Duarte.

A continental breakfast and lunch provided by Westminster Gardens and bottled water donated by Cal-American

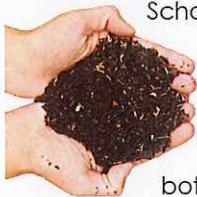


Water Co. will keep volunteers well fed and refreshed as they complete a variety of beautification projects on the campus. For more information or to volunteer for the project call

Duarte's Promise; The Alliance for Youth at the Duarte Teen Center at (626) 303-0863 or email Gary Smith at gsmith@accessduarte.com.

*Composting Workshop
Announced For March 12*

Residents are encouraged to attend a free Smart Gardening workshop hosted by Los Angeles County Public Works, the City of Duarte and the Los Angeles Regional Agency on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at Mt. Olive Alternative School located at 1400 Mt.



Olive Drive beginning at 10:00 am. No reservation is needed for the simultaneous workshops offered in both English and Spanish.

Beginning workshops last about 1 1/2 hours and provide hands-on instruction on composting, worm composting, grass-cycling, and water-wise and fire-wise gardening. Residents can also purchase a backyard composting bin at a discount immediately following the workshop.

Mt. Olive School is also the site of the award winning "MOOSE" project teaching Duarte youth new ways to think about the environment and green careers. Tours of the project will also be available during and after the workshops. For additional information, call the City of Duarte (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

9th Annual Ground Hog Job Shadow Day



More than 130 Duarte High School students and business professionals will have the opportunity to spend a day both teaching and learning about a variety of jobs and careers in the working world during the upcoming 9th annual "Groundhog Job Shadow Day" slated for Wednesday, February 16, 2011. The program is sponsored by the City of Duarte, Duarte's Promise: The Alliance for Youth, the City of Hope, the Duarte Unified School District and Cal American Water.



Students will shadow adult mentors as they go about their normal work day in careers including banking, healthcare, education, printing, real estate, automotive repair, retail, food industry and utilities, among others. City of Hope, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, JPL, RCS Heating and Air Conditioning, LA County Fire Department, SCE Federal Credit Union, YMCA, Royal Coaches, LA County Library, the Foothill Unity Center and Cabrera's Restaurant are among some of the business and industry participants. For more information or to become a sponsoring worksite, call Duarte's Promise at (626)357-7931, ext. 267.

Go Green in Duarte!

Duarte residents are encouraged to apply for the second annual Green Home Awards designed to recognize homeowners who have maintained the beauty of their homes while excelling in water conservation efforts. Applications are available at Duarte City Hall or on-line at www.accessduarte.com and must be submitted by Wednesday, March 30, 2011. Judges will visit the applicant's homes during the month of April and the winners will be recognized during a Duarte City Council meeting in May.

The Duarte Green Home Awards program is co-sponsored by California American Water. For more information on this program, please call (626) 357-7931, ext. 203.



Employee Spotlight

Manny Perez

Manny Perez, Senior Maintenance/Irrigation Technician, has worked for the Field Services Division in the City of Duarte for 13 years. As a Senior Maintenance/Irrigation Technician, Perez maintains City irrigation systems, repairs sprinklers, valves, mainlines, adjusts irrigation controllers, trims trees, patches potholes, repairs signs, and maintains equipment. He also enjoys improving parks where the youth of the community come to play.



His interest and hobbies include working on cars. An interesting fact about Perez is that he was able to get started with the City of Duarte while enrolled in Duarte High School ROP. He continued his education, worked part-time for the Duarte Fitness Center, and then was able to apply for a custodian position.

George Dang

George Dang, Recreation Supervisor, has worked for the Parks and Recreation Department in the City of Duarte for 7 years. As a Recreation Supervisor, he is responsible for overseeing playground programs and special events in the summer and organizing youth sport leagues. Throughout the year, he has the opportunity to work with an incredible department where fun and safe recreational activities for the community are provided. He also loves working in a community that is proud of its City and supportive of the youth.



His hobbies and interests include food, snowboarding, and new technology. An interesting or extraordinary fact about Dang is that he will travel for food and has been to over a dozen food festivals. He has eaten interesting foods like 1000 year old eggs, bugs, snakes, and durain-a fruit so smelly, it's banned from airplanes and hotel rooms.

Duarte's Calendar of Events

February 2011

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

March 2011

Sat	M	T	W	Th	F	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bird Walk
7:15 a.m., Duarte Historical Museum | Economic Development Commission Meeting
6:30 p.m., Community Center | Public Services
7:00 p.m., Community Center |
| Cesar Chavez Volunteer Day
9:00 a.m., Westminster Gardens | Groundhog Job Shadow Day
7:30 a.m., Community Center | SGV Youth Summit 2011
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Garvey School
2720 Jackson Street, Rosemead 91770 |
| City Hall Closed
President's Day | Mayor's Youth Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Teen Center | State of the City/School District
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.,
Maryvale Family Resource Center |
| City of Hope Nutrition Classes
2:30 - 4:30 p.m., City of Hope
Dept. of Supportive Medical Services | Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Community Center | Traffic Safety Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Community Center |
| Compost Workshop
9:30 a.m., Mt. Olive Alternative School | Planning Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Community Center | Youth and Family Master Plan Meeting
6:30 p.m., Teen Center |
| Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Community Center | Public Safety Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m., Community Center | |

For more information on the Community Calendar, visit our website at www.accessduarte.com or call City Hall at (626) 357-7931



The City of Duarte wants your feedback on our publication. This publication is prepared by City employees to inform residents and businesses of our latest news. Please contact the Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221 or by email at herrerakaren@accessduarte.com with your comments, ideas, and/or photos. Please consider the environment and recycle.

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