

[To be placed on City letterhead and posted on the City's website along with the Slide Deck & Executive Summary]

For Immediate Release:

CONTACT: Phone #

GARDENA RESIDENTS SHOW INTEREST IN MAINTAINING PUBLIC SAFETY, GANG PREVENTION AND SENIOR SERVICES

Gardena, CA – April 1, 2019

A City of Gardena Community Issues Survey conducted early March 2019, by the highly respected opinion research firm Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (FM3 Research) shows a majority of residents feel the City is generally headed in the right direction. 78% of respondents believed the City of Gardena has a significant need for additional funding to provide critical local services including public safety and senior services.

Gardena Police Department currently dedicates officers and resources to help keep gang members and drug dealers from nearby communities out of the city. In 2018, the City of Gardena responded to more than 27,000 911 emergency calls, including nearly 4,000 medical emergencies.

Said City Manager Edward Medrano, "The City seeks to continue providing public safety and gang prevention services including the juvenile justice program that provides counseling and mentoring to help keep at-risk kids in-school, on the right path and out of gangs. Keeping police officers on the street to protect neighborhood safety, and making sure local firefighters and paramedics respond quickly to 911 emergencies is one of the City's highest priorities."

Residents also identified several other local priorities that they would like to see addressed, including:

- Keeping public areas safe and clean
- Repairing streets and potholes
- Maintaining firefighters and paramedics
- Protecting local drinking water supplies
- Maintaining 911 emergency response times
- Maintaining vital city services

"The City seeks to maintain the quality services senior citizens and families rely on like free hot meals served at the senior center, and cultural and recreation programs," said **<Senior Services Manager>**, "An additional source of locally-controlled funding will make it possible to continue the City's affordable supervised day care program for residents with dementia and Alzheimer's Disease, giving Gardena's working families peace-of-mind knowing that their parents and grandparents are safe."

For questions regarding survey methodology, contact John Fairbank with FM3 Research at (310) 463-2230.

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