

**The City of Gardena is a vibrant city dedicated to providing quality services to residents.** We are proud of the progress and investments made to our community over the years, including the soon-to-be-completed Community Aquatic & Senior Center and the future Mas Fukai Park improvement project.



Central to our City are community programs that touch the lives of our residents every day and maintaining public safety, including ensuring our Gardena Police Department is prepared and responsive when needed.

Maintaining services for Gardena senior citizens and families is a top priority for our city. These services include hot meals for seniors, cultural and recreation programs, and our supervised day care program for residents with dementia and Alzheimer's disease, which provide support and peace-of-mind to many families in our community.

While we are proud to provide police and public services to our residents, the costs and demand for services continues to rise. For example, in 2024, the City responded to more than 36,000 emergency 911 calls while only having an average of seven police officers on patrol at any given time. There is an ongoing need for investment in public safety among other areas in our City.

To address these issues and continue serving our residents, the City is exploring options to maintain quality services for Gardena residents.

## **Exploring Locally Controlled Funding**

To address these issues and continue providing quality services to our residents, the City is considering all options, including potentially placing a quarter-cent sales tax on an upcoming ballot next year. Funding from a potential measure could be used to:



Maintain fire and paramedic response, ensuring quick emergency services



Support public safety programs to prevent crime and homelessness



Keep public areas and parks safe, clean and graffiti free



Fund youth and senior programs to improve neighborhood safety



Maintain streets and fix potholes

## **Fiscal Accountability and Local Control**

Any potential measure would include strong accountability measures, including regular independent audits and public reporting of expenditures. All funds must stay local in Gardena for city needs, no funds can be taken away by Los Angeles County or the State.

## **Essential Purchases Are Exempt**

Groceries, prescription medicine, diapers, and certain other essential purchases are exempt from sales taxes. This helps ensure a potential sales tax measure is not a burden to those on fixed or limited incomes.

## **We are Learning by Listening**

Please share your thoughts, opinions, and priorities to help shape the future of our City. To share your input or ask questions, please contact us at [Gardena.Press@cityofgardena.org](mailto:Gardena.Press@cityofgardena.org).



**CityofGardena.org**