



# QUARTERLY City Manager's Report

Winter 2026

## City Manager's Message



Happy New Year! We hope our fabulous community had a wonderful holiday season with joy, peace, and rest. Our Fountain Valley Team is ready to kick off the year with positive vibes.

At the December 2 City Council Meeting, the City Council re-organized and in 2026, Vice Mayor Jim Cunneen will be our Mayor, and Council Member Patrick Harper is our Vice Mayor. Mayor Jim Cunneen will focus on four (4) key priorities for our community, like a baseball diamond analogy that reflects teamwork, momentum, and progress. They are:

- First Base: Fitness Valley**
- Second Base: Foodie Valley**
- Third Base: Friendly Valley**
- Home Base: Forever Valley**

For details on the Mayor's four (4) key priorities, visit [HERE](#).

Our team is excited to work along-side the Mayor and the City Council in meeting the community needs through community outreach, city events, and public meetings. Join us in March for the citywide strategic planning session as we set new goals for the next three years. We are stronger together so let's collaborate and reach new heights as a community.

Maggie Le, Fountain Valley City Manager

## Administration

### Mayor's Breakfast on February 18

Join us for the first Mayor's Breakfast on February 18 at MemorialCare Health System, 17390 Brookhurst Street, at 8 a.m. [Read More](#).

**Mayor's Breakfast**  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026 8 A.M. - 9 A.M.

Join Mayor Jim Cunneen on Wednesday, February 18, as he hosts guest speaker Dr. Leah Phan from MemorialCare for the first Mayor's Breakfast of 2026.

<p><b>Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by the Mayor</li> <li>• City Highlights</li> <li>• Presentation by Dr. Phan</li> </ul>	<p><b>Location</b></p> <p><b>MemorialCare Health System (Red Building)</b> 17390 Brookhurst Street Free parking available. See attached map.</p>
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Breakfast is provided at no cost. If you would like to support the Fountain Valley Community Foundation, please consider donating \$2.

## Follow us on Social Media!



## State of the City 2026 on March 5, 2026

We are excited to announce the 2026 State of the City address and dinner, scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2026, at Freedom Hall, 16801 Euclid St. The theme of the 2026 State of the City is “Stars, Stripes and FV Proud” in alignment with the USA’s 250<sup>th</sup> birthday. We will have keynote speakers, a public safety panel discussion, and performances from Fountain Valley High School/Los Amigos High School. The surplus revenues of the events will go to the Fountain Valley Kiwanis Club.

Last year, we raised over \$14,000 for the Rotary Club, and we aim to surpass that total. We look forward to a great event in March 2026! Join us for an unforgettable night with an opportunity to experience our Foodie Valley [Read More](#).

## NEW Mile with the Mayor

Join us for a new Mile with the Mayor on March 14 at 9 a.m., June 13 at 9 a.m., and September 19 at 9 a.m. Meet at City Hall, 10200 Slater Avenue, and connect with the Mayor and City Hall’s department heads (i.e Fire and Police Chiefs).

## Representative Tran Advances \$11 Million to Improve Infrastructure & Public Safety Across the Region

U.S. Representative Derek Tran has advanced nearly \$11 million in federal funding for infrastructure and public safety improvements across the region — including \$2 million dedicated to the City of Fountain Valley, which is the second highest amount of all the projects that were submitted [Read More](#).

## Charter City Update

At the January 20 City Council Meeting, the City Council voted 4-0-1 (Council Member Kim Constatine abstained) to prepare a community survey to include questions on charter matters for consideration in the 2028 Presidential election. For information on charter discussions, visit [HERE](#).

## Community Development

### Euclid & Heil, 16300 Euclid St.

Development of an 18.09-acre parcel into a new

residential development. The previous submittal was for a 3.29-acre parcel with a 304 unit, 5-story apartment building, a 0.73-acre parcel with an 83 unit, 5-story affordable senior apartment building, and a 14.07-acre parcel for 183 3-story townhomes and 36 2-story triplexes. Status: Project approved by Planning Commission on 6/25/25 and the Affordable Housing Agreement was approved by the City Council on 10/23/25. The Mass Grading Permit was issued on 12/23/25 and grading of the property should occur soon.

New 19,702 square foot, two-story, multi-purpose building located at 16835 Brookhurst St. Status: Scheduled to open April of 2026.

### First Chinese Baptist Church, 16835 Brookhurst St.

New 19,702 square foot, two-story, multi-purpose building located at 16835 Brookhurst St. Status: Scheduled to open April of 2026.



### OakPointe: Fountain Valley

The 15-new single-family home project developed by Bonanni Development at Talbert Ave and Newland St, at the former Courreges Ranch property is nearing completion. For more information, visit [HERE](#).

### 8550 Warner Avenue Project (Parkside FV)

Notice is hereby given that the City of Fountain Valley, as lead agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and supporting Initial Study for the 8550 Warner Avenue Project (Parkside FV).

The 2.119-acre project site is located at 8550 Warner Avenue, Fountain Valley, California (Assessor’s Parcel Number 167-361-17). The site is situated on the south side of Warner Avenue approximately 500 feet east of Newland Street. The project involves the construction of a three (3)-story, 72-unit apartment complex with 10 units set aside for very-low income households, and a one (1)-story amenity building.

The MND is available for a 30-day public review period beginning January 14, 2026, and ending February 13, 2026. The MND can be found on the Project’s webpage [HERE](#). Written comments on the MND for the proposed project must be received no later than February 13, 2026. Send comments by mail to: City of Fountain Valley, Planning and Building

Department, 10200 Slater Avenue, Fountain Valley, California 92708, Attention: Steven Ayers, Principal Planner or by email to [planning.building@fountainvalley.gov](mailto:planning.building@fountainvalley.gov).

The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider the MND and Project on March 25, 2026, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 10200 Slater Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.



SOUTH / WEST AERIAL VIEW

## New Eateries in 2026

- Bingz Crispy Burger, former Plant Power Fast Food/Carl's Jr., 18976 Brookhurst Street
- Jan Noir, 17071 Bushard Street
- Pho Ha Noi, 18380 Brookhurst Street
- Linglong Soup Dumplings, 18420 Brookhurst Street
- Pickle Banh Mi, 9394 Warner Avenue
- Popeyes, 10061 Garfield Avenue

## Recreation & Community Services Department

### Parks Master Plan – Survey Out Now!

The City of Fountain Valley is in the process of completing our first-ever **Parks and Community Services Master Plan!** Quality of life has long been a priority in Fountain Valley, and we invite you to help design what that looks like today and into the future. As the City continues to evolve, as recognized through the recently updated General Plan, we hope you will join us in identifying the Parks, Programs, Services and Facilities that will keep Fountain Valley a “Nice Place to Live!”. We need YOUR input to ensure that it reflects the diverse needs and desires of our community. Your input will shape this living document and will provide a roadmap for our commitment to the

preservation and enhancement of our parks, facilities, and recreation offerings in Fountain Valley.

We appreciate your participation in completing the survey, which can be found at [www.myFVparks.com](http://www.myFVparks.com) in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. It will only take 10-15 minutes to complete, responses will remain confidential, and the final data will be shared with the community. Help shape the future of Fountain Valley and complete the **[SURVEY](#)** now!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at [FVrecreation@FountainValley.gov](mailto:FVrecreation@FountainValley.gov).

We are excited about many new opportunities in 2026 and encourage the community to follow us on social media and/or sign up via [Notify Me](#) to stay current on city matters in the new year.

## Fire Department

### Welcome our New Fire Chief, Chris Nigg!

The City of Fountain Valley has appointed Chris Nigg as its new fire chief on January 12, 2026. The Mayor and the City Council welcomed Fire Chief Nigg and completed the swearing in at the January 20 City Council meeting. Nigg brings more than 20 years of fire service experience and has served at every rank, from firefighter through fire chief. Most recently, he served as fire chief for the City of La Verne, where he led operational modernization, strategic planning, and fiscal management efforts. Nigg is recognized for his regional leadership as president-elect of the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association. He holds a master's degree in emergency services from California State University, Long Beach, and is an executive chief fire officer certified by the California State Fire Marshal's Office through State Fire Training Read More.

I would also like to thank Acting Fire Chief Tim Saiki for his tireless efforts in 2025, particularly during the unexpected passing of Fire Chief Bill McQuaid, as well as for his leadership of our Fire Department during the most challenging times. Tim, along with our fire department leaders, has stepped up and gone above and beyond to provide stability for the department.

## Human Resources

### Active Recruitments

- Dispatcher – Lateral
- Human Resources Technician
- Equipment Operator I – Water (Sewer & Storm Drains)
- Equipment Operator II – Streets
- Irrigation Technician
- Maintenance Worker II – Water
- Recreation Coordinator
- Recreation Leader

[More...](#)

## Police Department

### Welcome our New Police Chief, Craig Heredia!

The City of Fountain Valley has appointed Craig Heredia as its new police chief, bringing 30 years of law enforcement experience, executive leadership and a strong commitment to community-focused policing to the Fountain Valley Police Department. He will begin his role on February 17 [Read More](#).

### 'You Are Not Alone' Program

The Fountain Valley Police Department developed a You Are Not Alone Program (YANA), an outreach program specifically intended for seniors who live alone and would benefit from a daily check on their welfare. YANA is designed to provide a measure of security and well-being to help senior residents feel safer while continuing to live independently [Read More](#).

## Public Works

### 2026 Water Awareness Poster Contest

Calling all young artists! The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) is now accepting entries for the 2026 Water Awareness Poster Contest. For more than 35 years, this annual contest has encouraged Orange County students to use their creativity to explore the importance of our most precious resource. This year's theme will showcase how "Water Connects Us All." All Orange County students in grades K-12 are invited to illustrate how we can protect our water supply and highlight the many ways water brings our community together. A total of 40 winners will be selected across four grade levels. The deadline to submit all entries is March 11, 2026.

To view the full contest rules and submission instructions, you can visit the MWDOC Poster Contest page at [www.mwdoc.com](http://www.mwdoc.com) and [www.fountainvalley.gov](http://www.fountainvalley.gov).



### Successful Grant Funding Secured by Engineering Staff

Congratulations to our engineering staff for successfully securing an additional \$2,039,000 in funds, after two (2) years of negotiations with OCTA. These additional funds will cover OCTA's fair share of:

- Road pavement Impacts resulting from the I-405 Improvement Project, and
- Costs associated with the Mt. Baldy Waterline Replacement Project

As part of this agreement, the city has agreed to accept the operation and maintenance responsibilities for City facilities and to accept the Freeway Maintenance Agreement (FMA) upon OCTA's completion of all project punch-list items by December 31, 2025.

The Engineering Team also received \$2.64 million in federal grant funding. On December 4, 2025, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Council approved the FFY 2026-27 and FFY 2027-28 SCAG STBG/CMAQ Funding Grant Awards. This action includes a funding grant allocation award approval in the amount of \$2.64M to the City of Fountain Valley for the Rehabilitation and Resurfacing of Talbert Avenue from the Eastern City Limit to Ward Street.

Kudos to Kyle Knoke, Kyle Hilton and Ryan Damon on a job well done! It is their dedicated, steadfast effort in identifying, pursuing, and applying for this grant opportunity that helped the city secure this much-needed grant funding.