



CITY OF LA PALMA

NEWS RELEASE

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Community Volunteers Needed for Citizen Committee on La Palma's Sustainability and Future

LA PALMA, Calif. – The City of La Palma is at a critical crossroads in its 60 year history. The Great Recession and the loss of the City's largest sales tax producer have caused municipal revenues to decrease; while pensions, insurance, and other costs are increasing. In response, the City Council has reduced the City's workforce 20%, from 65 employees to 52 (pre-1985 staffing levels), including the elimination of two department directors. In addition, the City has been forced to suspend its signature event, La Palma Days. Unfortunately, these reductions are not nearly enough to achieve a balanced sustainable budget for the City.

The La Palma City Council does not believe that it is prudent to consider any additional significant budget changes without further input from the community. Therefore, the City Council is establishing a citizen committee to allow more opportunities for the public to discuss and provide possible solutions that are acceptable to the residents. The *Citizen Committee on La Palma's Sustainability and Future*, will meet at least monthly, starting in August 2015; and is tasked with providing concrete recommendations to the City Council by February 2016.

The Committee will be comprised of 11 community members. Each City Council Member will appoint two (2) Committee Members while the Mayor will appoint three (3). Any resident, business owner, or person who works in La Palma can apply for consideration. More information and application materials are available at the City's website, www.cityoflapalma.org/sustainability or at La Palma City Hall. All completed applications must be returned to the City Clerk's Office by 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 7, 2015.

About the City of La Palma

Ranked by Money Magazine in 2007, 2011, and 2013 as one of America's Best Places to Live, the City of La Palma is a 1.9 square mile general law city in northwest Orange County, consisting of over 15,568 residents and approximately 300 commercial and industrial businesses. The City was incorporated in 1955 under the name of Dairyland and has 52 full-time and 35 part-time employees.

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