



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Montebello Awarded \$300,000 for Housing Planning from the State of California

Montebello, CA – Montebello today announced that it has received \$300,000 in grant funding from the Local Early Action Planning Grants Program (LEAP) under the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Previously, the city received \$310,000 in SB2 Planning Grant funding thanks to support from California Senator Bob Archuleta (D). When combined, these grant funds will significantly reduce the projected costs of the city’s General Plan Update by more than half.

“We put focus and energy into updating a critical element of city planning that needed it and was neglected for too long,” said Rene Bobadilla, City Manager. “We were able to demonstrate strong commitment to the State of California which helped in securing these vital grant funds.” The city’s diligence and speed resulted in creating a certified housing element within a six month timeframe, a plan element that hadn’t been updated since 1997. Revisions and updates resulted in meeting all state criteria and with the HCD’s support and collaboration, the housing element quickly gained formal approval.

Montebello’s comprehensive General Plan Update is estimated to cost approximately \$1,050,000. This LEAP grant funding will be used to off-set these costs with a focus on eligible activities (e.g. the Downtown Montebello Specific Plan and Zoning Code updates) associated with the larger planning effort. Funding provided by the LEAP is intended to assist cities in the preparation and adoption of planning documents and process improvements that accelerate housing production and facilitate compliance to implement the sixth cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). This funding will be used for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of plans that streamline housing approvals and accelerate housing production within the City of Montebello.

About Montebello

The City of Montebello was founded in 1920 and is located eight miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. Its history dates back to the days of the Franciscan missionaries and today boasts a full array of services including police, fire and one of the region’s largest public transportation systems, [Montebello Bus Lines](#). The city’s multi-cultural resident population is approximately 65,000 covering a footprint of approximately four square miles. For more information visit www.cityofmontebello.com or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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