



Press Release

City of Artesia, California

Contact: Jeremy Bates

jbates@cityofartesia.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor's State of the City Address and Annual Report Highlight City's Accomplishments

The City of Artesia has completed and published its 2020 Annual Report, and to highlight the City's many accomplishments over the past year and success in handling 2020's many challenges, Artesia Mayor Ali Sajjad Taj issued a virtual 2020 State of the City Address. The Mayor's full address, as well as the City's Annual Report, are available for viewing at www.cityofartesia.us.

In his address, the Mayor highlighted many points of progress and achievement for the City over the past year, despite the many challenges the City and community as a whole have had to navigate in 2020. Some highlights from the Mayor's address included:

- The City allocated nearly \$10 million to reserves this year, just under 100% of the City's operating budget
- The City continues to be completely debt free and has approved a balanced budget for the seventh year in a row while maintaining or expanding service levels
- The City received nearly \$1 million in grant funding in the last year alone, and \$12 million since 2013
- Crime has decreased 30% in the last five years
- The City has created numerous flexible permitting programs to assist businesses in safely staying open during COVID-19
- The City's Senior Wellness and Grocery Delivery Programs have delivered groceries to countless seniors and checks on over 100 seniors each week
- The City has put on many virtual events to help the community mark holidays safely, and hosts a virtual recreation center to provide activities for kids in the community

The Mayor also spoke to the many awards the City has won over the past year, the success of the City's events and community programs, progress on sustainability goals, and more. Under the guidance of the City Council, the City Manager and City staff work hard to improve the quality of life for all Artesians, and look forward to many more accomplishments in the year ahead.

###

Located in southeast Los Angeles County, Artesia is a diverse, vibrant city with nearly 18,000 residents and a dynamic business community. The City of Artesia, a leader in sustainability practices and winner of four Beacon Spotlight awards between 2018 and 2020, is focused on serving the community with sound governance, 21st century infrastructure, and a commitment to public safety. To request services or share a question, visit our [Service Request page](#). To stay updated on our projects and events, visit us at CityofArtesia.us, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram @OfficialCityofArtesia, and subscribe to our YouTube channel @CityofArtesia.