

Diamond Bar City Council  
League of Woman Voters of the Mt. Baldy Area  
Observer Report by Kathleen O. Bresnan  
June 5, 2018 – April 16, 2019

The City of Diamond Bar is a general law city incorporated on April 18, 1989. It is governed by the city council/city manager form of government. The City Council worked to achieve the city goals pertaining to traffic mitigation, fiscal responsibility, economic development, communication with residents, and capital improvement projects. The capital projects focused on street maintenance, traffic management and safety, transportation, infrastructure, public works improvement, and parks and recreation improvements, Council highlights follow.

**City Council Members:** Carol Herrera, Mayor; Steve Tye, Mayor Pro-Tem; Council Members Andrew Chou, Ruth Low, Nancy Lyons

**City Staff:** Dan Fox, City Manager; David DeBerry, City Attorney; Tommye Cribbins, City Clerk  
Regular Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday every month at 6:30 p.m. I attended 15 of the 21 meetings.

In June 2018 the City Council approved the 2018-2019 City Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program including the employee compensation plan, investment policy and a Street Beautification Fund.

In September 2018 the Council approved the purchase of the Adaptive traffic control system to reduce traffic delays and travel time on Grand Ave, Diamond Bar Blvd, and Golden Springs Drive. In September the Council adopted a resolution amending the city's conflict of interest code to include new employees also.

Measure Q increased the Transient Occupancy Tax from 10% to 14%.

On February 5, 2019 during a special meeting held at 5:30 p.m., prior to the regular Council meeting, the Diamond Bar City Council unanimously voted to approve a settlement agreement regarding the future of Tres Hermanos Ranch. It resolved six pending lawsuits filed by the Cities of Diamond Bar and Chino Hills against the City of Industry. It created a newly re-constituted Tres Hermanos Conservation Authority, and it paved the way for the purchase and sale agreement that transfers the Tres Hermanos Ranch from the City of Industry to the Conservation Authority. The purchase and sale agreement will limit the use of the Tres Hermanos property to "open space, public use or preservation". This new Conservation Authority will have a seven-member governing board with seats filled by two Diamond Bar Councilmembers. Diamond Bar will contribute about \$1.2 million toward the purchase and share the property maintenance cost.

After 3 years, on February 5, 2019, the Council passed a motion that the General Plan Advisory Committee conclude its work and that all remaining General Plan work be done under the umbrella of the Planning Commission and the City Council Public Hearings. The process will reach its conclusion no later than December 2019.

On February 19, 2019, the City Council adopted Resolution 2019-04 amending the City budget review estimates and appropriations; also, a new fund for Tres Hermanos Conservation Authority was established.

At the April 2<sup>nd</sup> City Council meeting the staff presented a comprehensive 2018 Public Safety Annual report that included the Fire Department and law enforcement.

The City Council meetings start on time in the spacious and comfortable AQMD building with all the Council members usually in attendance. The Council members are attentive, informed and involved. When the members disagree on issues, the tone remains professional. The staff provides reports and recommendations and responds to Council and citizen questions during the Council meetings and study sessions.

Mayor Carol Herrera is diligent about soliciting public comments during the Public Comments time. Agendas are posted 72 hours before scheduled meetings on the DB City website.