



# San Gabriel

## Our History • About the City • the Community We Serve & Our Philosophy

### Our History

The City of San Gabriel — *Birthplace of the Los Angeles Region* — is a unique, special place. The events that have taken place in San Gabriel for 238 years, and the kaleidoscope of peoples and cultures who have called San Gabriel home, have shaped our community into a rich, fascinating modern city. With the founding of the Mission San Gabriel Archangel in 1771, San Gabriel became the heart and soul of the Los Angeles region and this great Valley that bears its name. The Mission San Gabriel, “Pride of the California Missions,” has long been a center for culture and art, and is the fourth of the California Missions built in Father Junipero Serra’s chain of twenty-one California Missions.

Diversity is not new to San Gabriel. From its earliest days, San Gabriel has been a place for peoples of different cultures, beliefs and values to come together. The community was created when Father Junipero Serra, a Spanish priest, and the Gabrielino-Tongva Indians came together to build a magnificent Mission in 1771, located in the mid-west portion of the City within the City’s historic core, known as the San Gabriel Mission District. The District contains City Hall, San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, and several other historic buildings and sites, which exhibit Spanish, Native American and early American history. Since its founding, San Gabriel has opened its doors to people of all races and cultures. One of our community’s greatest strengths is its diversity.

This enduring and rich history have allowed the City to grow with pride, vision and imagination. By 1852, after American occupation, San Gabriel had become one of the first townships in the County of Los Angeles. When the 1860 census was taken, there were only 586 persons listed. The City of San Gabriel was incorporated as a City on April 24, 1913 with a population of 1,500.

### About the City

A general law city under the laws of the State of California, San Gabriel follows the Council / Manager form of government. Home to a population of over 42,000, San Gabriel is 4.09 square miles, and with a diverse population of Asian, Hispanic, Caucasian and other ethnic groups.

The City is governed by a five-member City Council who are elected by the citizens of San Gabriel. The City follows the general laws of the State of California and local laws and policies adopted by the City Council. Under the direction of the City Manager and the City management team, City employees see to it that these laws and policies are carried out in a courteous and professional manner. Citizens wishing to suggest changes to City laws or regulations may write to the City Council or appear in person at council meetings held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 425 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel.

Strong municipal services and specialized programs, such as one-stop development permitting and redevelopment assistance, distinguish San Gabriel as one of the region’s leading communities. The San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel Unified School District, San Gabriel Police Department, San Gabriel Fire Department and the City’s many programs, including the local government youth education programs and senior and children’s programs, are success stories and testimonies to the City’s vitality.

San Gabriel is located eleven miles east of the Los Angeles Civic Center. San Gabriel is adjacent to the communities of Alhambra, San Marino, Temple City and Rosemead.

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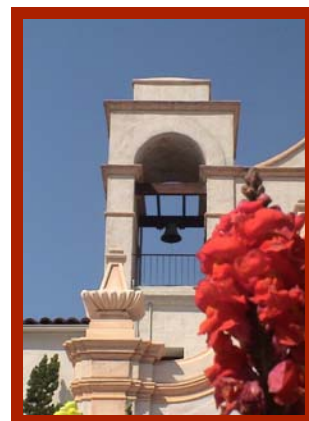
## The Community We Serve

The City of San Gabriel is a service organization. This means we view our citizens, both residents and businesses, our co-workers, and anyone having business with the City of San Gabriel, as valued customers whom we are here to serve.

The primary mission of the City of San Gabriel is to provide effective and responsive public services which enhance the safety and quality of life in the community. The City's most important goal has been, and continues to be, providing excellent customer service. As an organization, the City of San Gabriel accepts the responsibilities of meeting increasingly complex public expectations for quality service.

San Gabriel is a place of unique homes and neighborhoods — with substantial commercial land; connected to regional transportation, and possesses a rich and diverse demographic base. Two important areas reflecting and representing the community's rich cultural and economic diversity are the San Gabriel Mission District located in the City's historic core to the north, and Valley Boulevard at the southern end of the City.

In serving a population of over 42,000, we continue the ideals and vision of the people who came before us and recognize our responsibilities in ensuring that San Gabriel will continue to be a great place to live, work and visit.





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## City of San Gabriel Philosophy

As City employees, we are proud to say that **WE ARE THE CITY OF SAN GABRIEL**. We take pride in ourselves, our organization and our community. Our mission is to deliver the best and most cost-efficient municipal service to the residents of San Gabriel and create a community that future generations will be proud of and enjoy.

### ***We value our customers***

We see residents, businesses and other city departments as valued customers.

We are committed to providing high quality and timely services.

We have a strong commitment to the community, the organization and individual professions.

We conduct ourselves professionally.

### ***We value courtesy and mutual respect***

Our actions recognize human feelings and the importance of the individual.

We believe in teamwork to get the job done.

We believe in participative management.

We respect loyalty to our community, the organization and to each team member.

We encourage ideas that improve the mental and physical health of the employees.

We are united in our efforts to support, respect and encourage individual talents and contributions.

### ***We value a progressive approach***

We want decisions that evolve to meet the community's changing needs.

### ***We value creativity***

We have a bias for action.

We believe in taking reasonable risks.

We encourage innovative employees.

### ***We value an enthusiastic workforce***

We encourage actions which keep employees motivated and competent.

We support employee education and training.

We encourage employees to enjoy their job.

### ***We value integrity***

We believe in honest, open and fair dealings with others.

We respect individual as well as community diversity.

We consistently seek to maintain public trust.

### ***We value an open and non-bureaucratic government***

We keep the public informed of what we do.

We share ideas and information with employees to make the organization effective.

We are helpful, courteous, respectful and cooperative with the public and each other.

We support City policy and uphold the values of the democratic process.