



El Monte NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release MA # 121508

December 18, 2008

City Hall Closed Between Christmas and New Year

El Monte, Calif. - In an emergency measure to save the City's General Fund, the El Monte City Hall and all general municipal government services will be closed from Wednesday, December 24, 2008 through Sunday, January 4, 2009. City Hall will reopen for regular business on Monday, January 5, 2009 at 7:00 a.m. as usual.

This extraordinary step is being taken to help shore up a \$4 Million gap in revenues for this current fiscal year. The city is also looking into staffing cuts and salary reductions as a means to balance the budget.

"Due to the City's severe fiscal crisis, the state of the general economy and the impact it has had on the finances of the City, we will be taking the unprecedented emergency step to immediately reduce costs by closing City facilities from December 24, 2008 through December 31, 2008." City Manager James Mussenden stated. "Phone messages will still be taken as "voice-mail" at each City Department, but emergency requests should be directed to the Police Department at 911 or the Police Front Desk at (626) 580-2100. We are sorry for the impact this decision will have on the community, but this is only the first of many changes to take place over the next six months to alleviate the burden on the General Fund. The City is hoping for a financially stronger 2009, and we wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season."

Critical and emergency staffing will continue uninterrupted during this time frame, including Police, dispatch, emergency road crews, and previously scheduled events.

El Monte, a city incorporated in 1912 and home to more than 125,000 residents, is a full-service city located in the heart of the San Gabriel Valley. It is freeway-close to all of Los Angeles, bisected by Interstate 10 and abutting Interstate 605. El Monte is home to a mega auto mall and boasts the largest single car dealership in the world, Longo Toyota.

El Monte can also be visited on the web at www.ElMonteCA.gov

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