



NEWS RELEASE

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Montebello Celebrates 100 Year Anniversary

Montebello, CA – Today marks the 100th anniversary of the City of Montebello's founding on October 16, 1920. The City's rich history dates back to when the region was home to the Tongva (Gabrielino) Tribe. On September 9, 1771, Franciscan missionaries founded the original San Gabriel Mission now marked by a small monument on the edge of the Rio Hondo River. Montebello's prime location is a key part of its storied and colorful history. What began as an assembly of several Spanish Ranchos, including Rancho San Antonio, Rancho La Merced, and Rancho Paso de Bartolo, later transformed into an agricultural community established and fed by the waters of the Rio Hondo River. This was until oil was discovered in 1917, igniting an industrial spark creating the path of development to Montebello's present-day thriving community.

Montebello is located eight miles southeast of the core of Downtown Los Angeles and is considered part of the Gateway Cities in the southeast region of Los Angeles County making it an ideal location for travel, industry, business, and housing. Today the City is home to approximately 65,000 residents who reflect a diverse melting pot of cultural heritage. Montebello is brought to life with cultures ranging from Asia, South America, and the Middle East, all while exhibiting a strong sense of pride in its Spanish and Mexican roots.

The City's Mayor, Salvador Melendez, stated, "It's amazing to be a part of this moment in history, to represent a new generation of leaders, families and residents across Montebello. Our City has seen, as Los Angeles has, tremendous change and evolution, and despite the challenges that we've all had to face in 2020 so far, I look forward to continuing the progress and momentum that's been generated. On behalf of all our residents, I'm excited and happy to kick off our centennial year and look forward to all the potential our past, present, and future combined have to create an even better Montebello."

The City kicks off its 100 year celebration with a Centennial Caravan, on Saturday, October 17, in lieu of its annual parade. This will be the first in a series of celebratory events planned throughout the next 12 months. This kick-off caravan will allow residents to view a procession of vehicles decorated to recall Montebello's eras in history. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the caravan will travel throughout the City's streets to greet residents and the public in a safe and socially distanced manner.

About Montebello: Founded in 1920 and located eight miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles, the City's 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](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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