



# BEVERLY HILLS

IN FOCUS

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## City-School District Partnership Thrives

For 30 years, Beverly Hills residents have been the beneficiaries of a unique partnership between the City and the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD). The alliance speaks directly to the City's commitment of investing in the future of the community.

The longevity of its partnership with BHUSD is a source of pride for the City.

and recreational facilities – an agreement that gives the City a wider array of amenities that can be used to help fill the community's recreational needs.

In light of Beverly Hills' limited open space, this is an important contribution to the well-being of the community: the City depends on BHUSD facilities, buildings and athletic fields to further its mission



In an effort to develop and expand its technology infrastructure, the City will also provide the Municipal Access Network to all five school sites, along with Internet-based security cameras at key points around each campus. Both agencies are exploring a joint contractual arrangement to achieve economies of scale on common services, such as technology equipment and procurement.

This very close relationship between the City and District is fortified by a contractual document called a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) which spells out the relationship between the financial support provided by the City as it relates to the benefits received by the City and the community at-large. Over the term of the JPA, the City will annually provide in the range of \$10 million each year for the next four years with one-time funding of nearly \$3 million for capital projects and other services. The

*The City depends on BHUSD facilities, District buildings and athletic fields to further its mission in providing residents with recreation and green spaces for camping, sports programs, concerts, adult programs, aquatic classes and pre-schools.*

In exchange for funding and services, BHUSD allows the City to use its educational

in providing residents with recreation and green spaces for camps, sports, concerts, adult programs, aquatic classes and pre-schools. In addition, the District's computer labs, fitness rooms, and auditoriums along with school library facilities which supplement the City's library system, are an added benefit to the community. For its part, the City continues to provide funding to the District and in-kind services, such as school resource officers, traffic control officers, motorcycle officers and crossing guards.



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# BEVERLY HILLS - IS GREEN

## New Buildings Go Green

**W**ith the recent adoption of a key initiative, the City is paving the way for Beverly Hills to become even greener. A new, landmark green building policy neatly dovetails into the City's desire to encourage community participation in protecting the environment for the future.

The policy is modeled after the U.S. Green Building Council's

takes green building a step farther by requiring energy-saving techniques that go beyond California state standards.

The City will require all new buildings to exceed the State's energy efficiency requirements by 15 percent and at least 2.5 percent of the building's energy demand must be met by solar power. The new program is expected to save, on average,

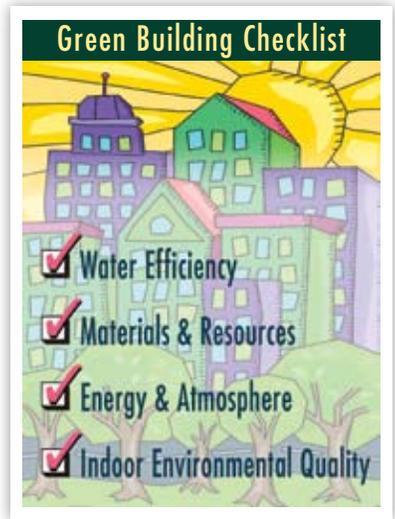
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*While other communities have adopted similar policies, the City's Green Building initiative is unique in that it will touch every square foot of new development.*

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Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. Beverly Hills' policy

over 30 percent on water usage and 30-55 percent on energy consumption in buildings.



While other communities have adopted similar policies, the City's Green Building initiative is unique in that it will touch every square foot of new development.

A community that proactively fosters sustainable development enhances its own social and business environment. This new initiative is now a component of the City's community-wide campaign to promote environmental benefits throughout Beverly Hills. Embracing green programs means the City is serious about its commitment to environmental sustainability – and its responsibility to future generations of Beverly Hills citizens.

**Beverly Hills' Green Initiatives**

- Energy efficient buildings
- Water conservation
- Smart irrigation
- Recycling
- Solar parking meters
- Reduced use of plastic bags
- Conservation of natural resources
- Reduction of waste generated by construction projects

To find out more about the City's green efforts, go to [www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org).





## ▶ BEVERLY HILLS - IS SERVICE ORIENTED

### Employee Spotlight - Fire Captain Greg Barton

**B**ehind the City's outstanding services stands a team of dedicated staff members. With an impressive Class 1 Fire Department rating (awarded to only 32 Fire Departments in the nation out of 37,000) by the Insurance Services Office – the highest level of fire protection given by the agency – the City of Beverly Hills' Fire Department is more than ready to serve.

#### **The job:**

Fire Captain for Engine Company 1, Greg works in concert with the community, leading some of the department's most successful training programs for residents and businesses.

#### **Community impact:**

The Fire Department has trained more than 85,000 residents in CPR, offered numerous classes in Disaster Assistance Response Training (DART) for school faculty, staff and students, and earned Beverly Hills the status of being one of only three cities in the state to be named a National Firewise Community.

#### **Pipeline to the people:**

He embodies the Fire Department's willingness to go the extra mile; fire-fighters regularly donate off-duty time to the community. They check in on elderly residents; serve as role models, as well as educators, for Beverly Hills children; and excel at protecting lives and property against fire and other disasters.



#### **All in a day's work:**

Along with promoting fire safety and emergency preparedness, the 91 members of the department, working in three fire stations, also provide fire prevention and suppression services, emergency medical and ambulance transportation services, and respond to hazardous materials incidents.

#### **On a personal note:**

Greg is a 13-year veteran of the Fire Department who last year received the prestigious National Firewise Leadership Award for his leadership and innovation in helping the community reduce the threat of wildfire.



## BEVERLY HILLS - RE-DEDICATES

### Facelift for Arnaz Park

**J**ust in time for summer, the newly renovated Arnaz Park now welcomes residents with several upgraded amenities – picnic tables, a water feature, a spiffy tot fire truck, and new landscaping. The improvements, which also include replacement of the park’s irrigation system, are part of an overall, mini-park renovation effort kicked off in 2000. Best of all, most of the funding for the park improvements came from state grants.

Neighbors won’t have to wait until summertime to enjoy the new features at Arnaz Park – they got a sneak-peek during a re-dedication ceremony in late May.



## BEVERLY HILLS - MUST CONSERVE

### Think Outside the Sink

**F**ollowing two consecutive years of below-average rainfall, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has made it official: California is undergoing a statewide drought. The City of Beverly Hills has always recognized the importance of water conservation – and now, conservation is critical. Residents and businesses throughout the state are being called upon to safeguard our most precious natural resource.

With mandatory water rationing on the horizon, City officials urge the Beverly Hills community to do its part in water conservation efforts. Here are a few simple things you can do to save several gallons of water a day:



- ◆ Fix leaky faucets
- ◆ Water your yard before 8 a.m.
- ◆ Wash only full loads of laundry
- ◆ Install a “smart” sprinkler controller

As a city, Beverly Hills reduces water consumption by using “smart” irrigation controllers at parks, offers rebates on water-wise appliances and operates a water leak detection and repair program. For more information and ideas for conserving water, visit the City’s website, [www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org).



## ▶▶ BEVERLY HILLS - IS COMMUNICATING

### Residents Gain Access to City Hall with New Website

**S**peedier service, more information and direct access to the people you need to reach – that’s what Beverly Hills residents and businesses can expect from the City’s new high-performance website. If you haven’t already checked it out, log onto [www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org) and experience the new features and functions that make interaction with your City government a breeze!

Look for these new elements in the City’s website:

▶ *Ask Bev:* A high-tech citizen request system which allows residents to send in questions, suggestions, complaints or kudos at any hour of any day and track

their communications with City staff. It’s an easy, efficient way to deal directly with those who can supply answers and provide quality services.

▶ *Video on Demand:* Offering great City programming to watch on your computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

▶ *e-government:* links allow residents and businesses to conduct city business online, including summer class registration, building inspections, and payment of parking tickets.



Future plans for the website include a cyber City store, which will provide Beverly Hills branded merchandise. So, go ahead, explore the site! For more information, please visit the City’s website at [www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org).



## ▶▶▶▶ BEVERLY HILLS - IS REACHING OUT

### Students Test-Drive Local Government

**B**everly Hills students got a taste of government in action recently when they took on the roles of city policy-makers during the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Youth in Government Day. The event, sponsored by the City of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Unified School District, brought 20 students from four schools to City Hall for an up-close look at municipal government.

Each student spent time shadowing a City official and then assumed that role for a mock City Council meeting.

Youth in Government Day was designed as a hands-on lesson in local government to spark student interest in City operations and hopefully foster a lifelong engagement in community issues.





# BEVERLY HILLS - IS VISIONARY

## City-School District Partnership Thrives

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new agreement represents a 20 percent increase over last year.

Throughout its longstanding partnership with the BHUSD, the City has recognized the important role that excellent schools play in the overall health of the community and remains committed to working closely

with the District. In essence, the strong partnership between the City and the BHUSD is a long-term investment in the community and future of Beverly Hills.

More information can be found on the City's website at [www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org).



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*On the cover, pictured are BHUSD students from Youth in Government Day: (left to right) Carly Stone (El Rodeo), Nathan Ong (Hawthorne), James Schneider (Beverly Vista), and Arezu Hashemi (Horace Mann).*

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