COMMUNITY PROFILE

The City of Glendale is the third largest city in Los Angeles County with a population of about 205,341 residents. The City is located northeast of Los Angeles in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains and lies among three major freeways. Glendale is noted for its excellent residential areas, schools, shopping facilities, libraries, parks, hospitals, and business environment. In 1906, the City was incorporated and consisted of 1,486 acres. Numerous annexations have taken place since then to bring the City to its current size of 30.6 square miles.

It has been estimated that Glendale is the third largest financial center in the State. The City's economy is dominated primarily by retail and service industries. Wholesale and manufacturing also play a minor role. The City has a very successful redevelopment program, which has revitalized the downtown. The Central Glendale Redevelopment Project Area currently includes about five million square feet of office space. The Glendale Galleria is one of Southern California's largest and highest sales tax generating malls.

Glendale experiences the benefits of a culturally diverse community. Over 60 different languages are spoken in the City's schools. Caucasians (non-Hispanic or mid-Easterner) make up the largest ethnic portion of the community. The other largest groups include mid-Easterners, Hispanics, and Asians. Income levels also vary greatly, with a median family income of about $39,600 per year. The City has strong neighborhood identification, with a total of 23 active neighborhood associations.

Glendale is run by the Council-Manager form of government. Five Councilmembers are elected at-large and serve 4-year staggered terms. Elections take place every other year during odd numbered years on the first Tuesday in April. The Mayor's position is filled by one of the Councilmembers, who vote each year to decide who will hold this honor. The Mayor is responsible for presiding at Council meetings and has ceremonial responsibilities, in addition to his or her other Council duties. Other elected officials include the City Clerk and City Treasurer. The City Manager and City Attorney are appointed by the City Council. The City Manager or City Manager's representative appoints other City positions. The City government organization consists of 1,881 full-time employees who are divided into 15 divisions; each led by a division manager.

Glendale prides itself on the quality of services it provides to the community. It is a full-service City, which includes a water and electrical department. The City operates its own power plant capable of serving the electrical needs of the entire City, although the majority of power is currently imported from other areas for cost savings. Water comes primarily from the Metropolitan Water District, along with a small portion from local wells.

Glendale's residents enjoy a total of 34 City parks and nearly 5,130 acres of publicly owned open space. In addition to parks, other City maintained facilities and recreational activities are available for the public's use and participation. Some of the most popular facilities include the Civic Auditorium and historical buildings such as the Casa Adobe, Verdugo Adobe, Tea House and the Doctor's House. The City is very proud of its history and has received its Certified Local Government Status in historical preservation.

The City's Fire Department operates from a total of nine stations. The main station, Station 21, includes the Verdugo Communications Center, which is co-operated with the cities of Burbank and Pasadena. The Fire Department also operates a hazardous waste facility where residents can dispose of their household hazardous wastes on designated days.

Glendale has always been a community where residents and visitors feel safe. This is largely the result of its dedicated Police force. The Police Department works closely with the community to control criminal activity. Over 260 Neighborhood Watch groups currently exist. In addition to the main police station, Glendale operates a satellite station in the Glendale Galleria shopping mall.

Glendale provides well-maintained streets and a variety of transportation services. The City operates a Dial-A-Ride service for the elderly and handicapped. The City also has a downtown shuttle known as the "Beeline". The fare for the shuttle is 25 cents and is available for everyone. The Glendale Railroad Depot was purchased by the City of Glendale in 1989 and has been preserved and converted into the Glendale Transportation Center to serve as a connecting point for several modes of transportation. The City is also part owner of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport, now Bob Hope Airport, located within the boundaries of the City of Burbank.

The City owns its own landfill, is half-owner of the area's sewage treatment plant, and performs refuse collection for the City's residents. As a result, it is very concerned about limiting the amount of refuse that must be disposed of. Glendale operates a curbside recycling program and was one of the first cities in the country to offer a multi-family residential curbside recycling program.
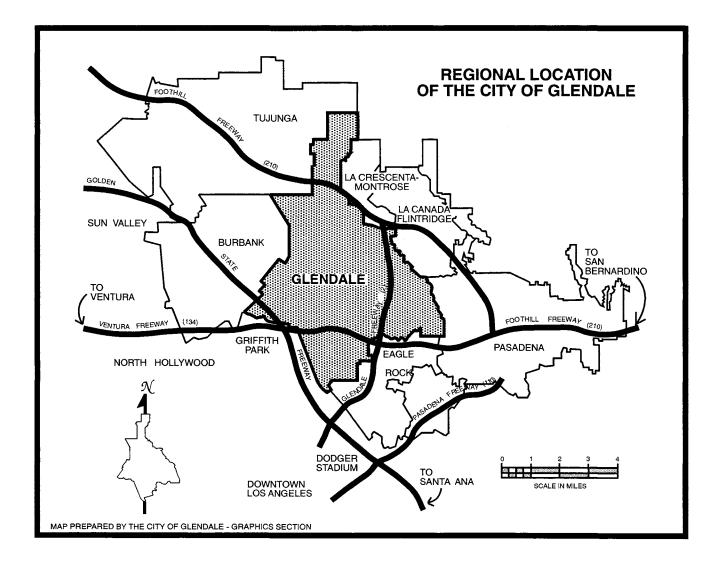
The City operates a Central Library, five branches and a bookmobile. The Central Library is 92,000 square feet and houses over 400,000 volumes, including a very comprehensive business collection. The Brand Library, the largest branch, located in the former Brand mansion, includes an art gallery and a nationally recognized art and music collection.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The City of Glendale enjoys a mild climate with an average high temperature of 77 degrees. The average rainfall in the City is 17.82 inches per year.

REGIONAL LOCATION

The City is located northeast of downtown Los Angeles. It is bounded by the cities of Los Angeles (Tujunga, Eagle Rock, and Los Feliz), Burbank, Pasadena, La Canada Flintridge. It includes portions of the San Gabriel, Verdugo and San Rafael Mountains and is transversed by the Golden State (5), Glendale (2), Ventura (134) and Foothill (210) freeways.

REGIONAL LOCATION OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE

MAP PREPARED BY THE CITY OF GLENDALE - GRAPHICS SECTION