

# Budget surplus enhances city services



Unlike most cities and counties, the City of Riverside is looking at a \$3.5 million budget surplus from Fiscal Year 2009-10.

Thanks to the prudent spending plan approved by the City Council, monitoring of expenditures by department heads, and higher-than-projected sales and property tax revenues, Riverside is in the unique position of adding funds to this year's services and projects.

On Aug. 24, the City Council approved a plan to use the surplus revenues to augment services provided by the following departments:

- **Police:** \$1 million to fund recruitment and filling of vacant sworn positions.
- **Parks and Recreation:** \$600,000 to support construction of additional parking at Andulka Park, community center staffing at La Sierra and Hunt parks, and utility and maintenance costs for recently expanded facilities throughout the City.
- **Public Works:** \$900,000 to enhance services provided by the Streets, Landscape Maintenance and Traffic divisions, and to construct parking for residents using the Orange Terrace Community Center.
- **Dales Senior Center:** \$500,000 to expand the existing Dales Senior Center at White Park into a full service facility for local residents.
- **Library:** \$300,000 to purchase library materials including books for the seven current branch libraries and the Arlanza and Hillcrest libraries which will open soon.
- **Museum:** \$250,000 to complement a \$40,000 grant from the Riverside Museum Associates in order to replace the roof and paint the Heritage House.

The City Council has established \$40 million, approximately 21 percent of the total general fund budget, as the reserve fund target. By continuing a combination of saving and conservatively estimating tax revenues, city officials estimate that the year-end general fund reserve will remain at the \$40 million level for FY 2010-11.



*City of Arts & Innovation*

*ExploreRiverside.com*