



## Perris Press Release

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### City Hall Campus Beautification Project Completed

Perris Public Works employees recently finished a major beautification program on the City Hall Campus, an effort that included planting hundreds of trees, plants and bushes and constructing a new drainage system to remove rain water after storms.

The planting of pear and olive trees, rose bushes and dwarf hedges marks the latest in a series of recent improvements to the City Hall Campus. Construction crews earlier this year completed a series of traffic circles that creating one contiguous parking lot out of three formerly separated parking areas, reducing congestion and improving traffic flow throughout the campus.

Last year, the City's iconic fountain underwent a major restoration and the water is flowing from it once again.

Public works employees Arturo Garcia, Jose Zelaya and Juan Lemus completed the landscape improvements. Those include the planting of four olive trees, two pear trees, one palm tree, 150 red and white rose bushes, 100 dwarf bushes that will eventually become hedges and 30 climbing vines on a trellis. The new storm channel is made out of river rock and will move water from the City Hall Campus to nearby storm drains.

"We want to make the campus look as beautiful as possible," Garcia said. "A lot of people come to City Hall every day for a variety of reasons and we want to make a good impression on all of them."

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch was succinct in his assessment of the new landscaping.

"It looks beautiful," he said.

Busch said that in addition to the eye appeal of the new plants, they are drought tolerant. The City partnered with the Toro Company about three years ago on a demonstration garden that reduced irrigation consumption by 30 percent. The new plants follow in that environmentally friendly footprint.

"Our staff did an absolutely great job," Busch said.

Perris City Councilwoman Joanne Evans said the new landscaping looks amazing and with the new traffic circles, getting into and out of City Hall is a snap.

"You're seeing a major difference—things look super," she said. "I want to personally thank the staff for their commitment to making the City look good."

Perris City Councilwoman Rita Rogers said the new landscaping will bloom just in time for spring.

"For most people, the first time they encounter their local government is when they make the trip to City Hall, so it's important to leave a great first impression," she said. "I am so pleased our staff did such a wonderful job."

Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough said that because the City Hall Campus also includes a gym, tennis courts and a municipal part, it is used by all sorts of people—from children to families to business owners and developers. The new traffic flow improvements and landscaping give the campus increased functionality and make it more aesthetically pleasing, he said.

Yarbrough also said City staff workers completed the landscaping work themselves, without the aid of contractors or outside companies.

"It's nice to know we did it ourselves," he said. "It's important to know that our staff is part of the team that comes up with solutions that benefit everyone in this City."



Perris Public Works Employees Jose Zelaya and Arturo Garcia plant a tree on the City Hall Campus. Recent beautifications to the campus included the planting of more than 150 trees, rose bushes and hedges.



Perris Public Works employee Arturo Garcia inspects a recently completed storm drain at the City Hall Campus, part of the recently completed beautification project..