

Volunteer Recognition Program Review

Elk Grove

2011 implemented “Mayor’s Volunteer Awards,” for those who go “above and beyond.”

The selection criteria:

- Demonstrates exceptional commitment to volunteerism by helping with a special project or ongoing activities
- Demonstrates exemplary leadership, creativity, cooperation, and hard work in service to others
- Serves as a role model by inspiring others

A selection committee is formed and meets to evaluate the nominations.

Westlake Village

Holds an annual reception before a Council meeting for the volunteers and during the meeting recognizes them with a gift. i.e. something with the City logo on it such as a folding camp chair, an umbrella, a coffee mug, and small soft cooler.

San Carlos

Holds an annual volunteer recognition dinner and invites all Commission members and on-going volunteers as well as the chair/president of each local service organization (i.e. Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, etc.). It started off well-attended, but after 6 years, the City is exploring a change in format.

Pleasant Hill

Holds an annual volunteer reception in December for on-going volunteers like commissioners, PD volunteers, and senior van service volunteers (not one-timers). It's catered (with wine) and the City gives them a gift and the Mayor says a few words. Funding is in the Community Relations budget (a division of the City Manager's Office) and is approximately \$5,000 per year.

El Cerrito

Holds two events, both buffet dinners, for a total cost of between \$3,200 to \$4,800 depending on venue, usually held at the community center with a BBQ, sides and desert. It comes out of the Council event budget. One is for volunteers (senior center, recreation etc.) and the other for Commissioners. (They have 106 Commissioners being recognized.)

Santa Fe Springs

Holds an annual recognition for all the City's volunteers, where they receive certificates. The event is coordinated by the library.

Santa Cruz

Holds an annual volunteer appreciation event organized through the HR department. A reception is held before a council meeting and Council members thank the volunteers. Volunteers come in to the meeting and the council members read a small description of each volunteer and an award is presented to them.