

# ***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.