

JANUARY 2025 EDITION



# AVA'K

## BULLETIN

## A Building Partnership

In December, the Tribe and the city of Highland launched the Holly Circle Drive pavement improvement project to effectively address the severe damage and deterioration of a hillside residential roadway off Orange Street. This initiative



Severin Family of Holly Circle Drive

is part of a robust 20-year effort to enhance local infrastructure, made possible

through a strong partnership between the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the cities of San Bernardino and Highland, and San Bernardino County.

This collaboration began with the construction of sound walls and median improvements along Victoria Avenue at a cost of \$5.5 million. Following our success with this initial project, a more ambitious project was completed between 2018 and 2019 at a cost of \$10.7 million. This project restored paving from the ground up and added essential storm drains, curbs, gutters and new street lighting along Victoria Avenue from Lynwood Drive to Third Street, while also completely restoring roads in nearby neighborhoods.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we look forward to upcoming traffic construction improvements. Notably, the Tribe is working with the city to evaluate the installation of swing-arm gates at Citrus Street and Mirada Street to manage and limit cut-through traffic. This initiative will better enable San Bernardino Police Department officers to conduct enhanced patrols and traffic control in the service area, under a contract that has been in place for 15 years.

The restoration of Holly Circle Drive, along with these strategic infrastructure initiatives, reflects our unwavering commitment to addressing community infrastructure and public safety needs.

Stay tuned for updates on our progress and the benefits these improvements will bring to the community!

## New Year, New Opportunities

As we welcome the New Year, we want to take a moment to reflect on 2024 and acknowledge the growing engagement of our neighbors with the city of Highland, Tribal, and agency partners—all aimed at enhancing the overall quality of life within our local community.

The Tribe is pleased to sponsor social events where residents can meet and speak with public agencies, city partners and representatives of San Manuel. We have found it invaluable to hear directly from residents, particularly regarding feedback on the city of San Bernardino Police Department's traffic mitigation plans. The Public Affairs team at San Manuel works to ensure that residents and our agency partners are aware of collaborative efforts to manage traffic and support other

quality-of-life initiatives. To foster stronger connections, government representatives and agency partners organized two community events that were met with enthusiastic participation, allowing us to build direct relationships with you.

Thanks to these initiatives, over 700 households have subscribed to our regular email updates, ensuring you stay informed about developments at Yaamava' Resort & Casino at San Manuel and significant community events, such as the grand opening of the Highland Senior Center. Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to build on this momentum.

We plan to continue organizing enjoyable and informative events, including engaging activities for the entire family—potentially hosting movie nights at a new location—while providing opportunities for neighbors to connect with San Manuel and local agencies.

Let's work together to create an even stronger sense of community in the year ahead!

**Wishing you all a safe and joyful New Year!**

## Highland Senior Center Grand Reopening

The Highland Senior Center, located on the grounds of Patton State Hospital, has served the needs of our community's seniors for over 100 years. Recently, the center underwent significant renovations funded by a \$500,000 grant from the Tribe and celebrated a ribbon cutting this fall. Officials, including San Manuel Chairwoman Lynn Valbuena and San Manuel Tribal Council Secretary and center Board Member Audrey Martinez attended the celebration.

The center serves over 10,000 seniors monthly, offering fitness classes, meals and social activities, along with a food pantry that operates twice weekly. Every room has new flooring and fresh paint; the restrooms now meet ADA standards. The kitchen has new appliances for serving hot meals. These upgrades will help the center apply for more grants for meals and other services for homebound seniors.

**If you want more information on the Highland Senior Center, please call (909) 862-8104 or email them at [highsenctr@aol.com](mailto:highsenctr@aol.com).**



**If you would like to be added to the regular email updates, please write to us at [neighborhood@sanmanuel.com](mailto:neighborhood@sanmanuel.com), so we can include you on the list.**



# NON-EMERGENCY CONTACTS

The San Bernardino Police Department regularly patrols neighborhoods, while the San Manuel Department of Public Safety provides security for the Reservation and Yaamava' Resort & Casino at San Manuel. They work together to create a safe environment for our shared community.

You can report non-emergency matters in the Eastern District—which includes the Kiika' neighborhood—through the Go SB City mobile app, available on Apple App and Google Play:



**APPLE APP STORE**



**GOOGLE PLAY**

**Residents can report issues, including graffiti and illegal dumping. To do so:**

1. Select “City of San Bernardino” on the GO SB City app homepage
2. Scroll to “Police”
3. Click “Contact Eastern District Commander”
4. Report Issue

**AS ALWAYS, IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 9-1-1.**



**WE VALUE YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS.**

Call the neighborhood hotline number/email:

(909) 425-3483 | [Neighborhood@sanmanuel.com](mailto:Neighborhood@sanmanuel.com).