



Live Traffic: 10W 210W 57S 605S 710N 110N 60W

Search bar with 'Search' button and radio buttons for 'This Site' and 'Web Search powered by YAHOO! SEARCH'

Mobile Edition RSS

Home News Sports Business Opinions LA.COM Weekend Info Classifieds Jobs Autos Homes Obituaries Customer Care

Most Viewed Most Emailed

- 1. Father, son killed in Montebello shooting
2. Around the Valley
3. High school grads see few jobs
4. Recall talk not going away in Baldwin Park
5. Late night shooting leaves one dead
6. Glendora to vote on balanced budget
7. Death of local teen under investigation
8. Infant rushed to hospital, dies
9. City may beef up staffing roster
10. Treacherous twists

Recall talk not going away in Baldwin Park

Article Launched: 06/22/2008 10:44:48 PM PDT

Here's a challenge for the proponents who are trying to throw three council members out of office in Baldwin Park: Anthony Bejarano Jr. said he'll happily save everyone the trouble of a recall election if his opposition can get the roughly 4,700 validated signatures needed to move forward with the process.

Blog



Get the scoop on local politics at the Leftovers from City Hall blog

"I will step down," Bejarano said. "No need for an election. I will walk away."

Game on, according to local businessman Greg Tuttle, who served the recall intention notices on Bejarano and councilwomen Marlen Garcia and Monica Garcia on Wednesday.

Even while Bejarano scoffed at the recall - calling it a blip on the radar - Tuttle remained hopeful he could get an election going as early as a year from now.

Experts say a recall election could easily run in the tens of thousands of dollars, and maybe even upwards of \$100,000.

"It's very hard," said Douglas Johnson, a fellow with the Rose Institute of State and Local Government. "Very few recalls ever make it to the ballot. It takes money and it takes a lot of lawyers."

Johnson estimated less than a quarter of recalls that start actually end up on the ballot.

Several of Baldwin Park's recall proponents are members of the Community Alliance for Redevelopment Accountability, which is opposed to the city's proposed downtown project.

CARA has received heavy support - including financial support - from some major statewide groups backing eminent domain reform.

But Tuttle has

made it clear that the recall has nothing to do with CARA.

"This is something separate, from us the voters," Tuttle said.

He doesn't live in Baldwin Park, so ... he's not a voter, though he said others involved in the recall are.

Tuttle said he's taking things one step at a time and he expects to file official recall paperwork with the City Clerk's office today.

After, he said, he will file for a political action committee, so that the proponents' major donors can start funneling in dollars for the recall effort.

It'll be interesting to see who their backers are.

Advertisement



Until then, Bejarano said he's not too concerned.

Tuttle said he has retained an attorney to help move the recall process along, though Bejarano said he can't tell from the notices served Wednesday.

Here's one of the grievances listed as a grounds for recall:

"Anthony Bejarano is more concerned about eating sushi at restaurants than taking care of the city and problems of day laborers and public safety."

Mayor Manuel Lozano said he's ready for the fight.

As for the Garcias? (Who are not related.) Marlen Garcia did not want to comment, saying she didn't want to add "fuel to the fire," and Monica Garcia didn't call back.

Rosemead just approved nearly \$80,000 to start broadcasting its council meetings online. Glendora started

Ask About this Story. Have a question about something in this story? Ask it here and get answers from readers like you.

Questions/Answers

- Questions and answers on Tribune stories from readers like you. Submit your own question. I have dry skin on eyelids... by Norma | 1 Answer
Chase ends in gunfire - SGVTribune.com ... by Jabo | 1 Answer
Professor: Slaughterhouses can be humane ... by plaidgirl89 | 2 Answers
Valinda man is shot dead on street ... by Ortega | 2 Answers
Maureen Dowd: Obama's reputation willing ... by DavidMBR | 6 Answers

More questions

More News

- High school grads see few jobs
Glendora to vote on balanced budget
Natural dispute
Recall talk not going away in Baldwin Park
Around the Valley
Road extension debated
City may beef up staffing roster
Whether mom or dad, parents all face same challenges
Buggy about books
Treacherous twists

Market Watch

Check the markets. Look up quotes. Build your portfolio. NSDQ 2391.61 -14.48 NYSE 8829.76 +0.51

Roll over for \$5 coupon and more styles. Discover a delicious new collection of business accessories.

AMEX 2253.46 +13.08
 S&P 500 1316.90 -1.03
 Crude Oil 137.07 +1.71

Quotes delayed at least 20 mins.

Get Quote

Enter symbol | Get Quote
[Symbol Lookup](#)

live streaming its meetings nearly three months ago, and El Monte has been doing it for nearly three years.

Officials from each city said that broadcasting the meetings helps promote transparency in government.

"It's not cheap," El Monte spokesman Matt Weintraub said. "But it is an absolutely fantastic way for residents to monitor what is going on in the city."

Well, maybe that explains why some West Covina residents are upset after hearing that their City Council members are looking to save a few bucks by halting the broadcasts of their meetings on TV and online.

The total savings: \$150,000.

Several residents expressed concern that this was an attempt by the city to try to prevent its residents from knowing what's going on.

City officials deny that's the motive. It has more to do with a \$2 million budget deficit, they said.

City Manager Andrew Pasmant said the city will try to find alternative ways to communicate what is happening in the city, like posting the results of the meetings online.

Meanwhile, as El Monte deals with its own budget shortfalls, it isn't considering eliminating the broadcasts of the meetings.

"Sure there are minutes," Weintraub said. "But they don't tell you everything that they want to know."

jennifer.mclain@sgvn.com, tania.chatila@sgvn.com

(626) 962-8811, Ext. 2477, 2109 www.insidesocal.com/sgvgov

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Return to Top](#)

SHARE YOUR COMMENTS **GOT A QUESTION?**

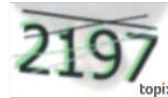
Read 1 comment »

Type in your comments to post to the forum

Name (appears on your post)

Comments

Type the numbers you see in the image on the right:



Post Comment

Please note by clicking on "Post Comment" you acknowledge that you have read the Terms of Service and the comment you are posting is in compliance with such terms. **Be polite.** Inappropriate posts may be removed by the moderator. Send us your feedback.

<p>Free Credit Report with All 3 Scores Free 3-bureau Credit Report – includes Transunion, Equifax, Experian. FreeCreditReportsInstantly.com</p>	<p>Refinance \$300,000 for Only \$965/Month \$300,000 Mortgage for only \$965/month. Save \$1,000's - No obligation. www.HomeLoanHelpLine.com</p>	<p>Refinance and Save \$1,000s \$150,000 Mortgage for \$483/month. Compare up to 4 free quotes. www.pickamortgage.com</p>
---	--	---

Ads by Yahoo!

CECARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER.
 1-800-CECARS - 1
 24 Hours a day, 7 Days a week

Test Your Knowledge About Gynecologic Health
TAKE OUR QUIZ HERE

▶ Minimally Invasive Gynecological Treatments | ▶ Find a Physician | ▶ Programs & Services | ▶ Health Conditions