MAYOR’S REMARKS

Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail Dedication

Tuesday, April 27, 2021; 4:30 PM

At Nutwood near GG Post Office

*(SCOTT WILL CALL YOU UP AS THE FIRST SPEAKER)*

* Thank you and good afternoon, everyone.
* Isn’t it just a perfect day for a bike ride or a walk? Or a dedication?
* Since 2014, when the City introduced a much shorter version of the Medal of Honor Bike and Pedestrian Trail at our Re:Imagine Garden Grove Open Streets event, this project has become even nearer and dearer to my heart.
* And, I know I can say the same for the community.
* For everyone that tried out the trail at the open streets event, that first short ride or walk was very exciting, and created the anticipation of seeing the trail continue to grow.
* This trail, besides being a fun and relaxing way to exercise outdoors, holds tremendous significance for our community.
* It environmentally re-purposes the former Pacific Electric Railway of the early 1900’s, that transported riders to a number of Southern California cities aboard the iconic bright red streetcars.
* Trees and irrigation added throughout the trail are part of the City’s 40-year Urban Forest Management Plan to bring more natural beauty, form, and structure to our urban surroundings.
* Funding for the project was made possible through two Caltrans Active Transportation grants that the City was awarded in 2015 and 2017.
* And most importantly, the name of the trail honors Garden Grove’s revered Medal of Honor recipients: Commander Donald A. Gary; Corporal Tibor Rubin; and Master-At-Arms Michael A. Monsoor.
* I’m very happy and grateful to see members of the Rubin and Monsoor families sharing this special moment with us here today. Thank you!
* So, as you can see, I have a lot of reasons to be excited about the completion of this trail!
* And there’s even one more reason that I’ve waited for this occasion to share.
* And that is, the future creation of a mural to be added to the Nelson Street leg of the trail, that pays homage to those beloved red cars and other iconic images of our local history.
* I hope that occasion will be one we can share with our entire community!
* Nevertheless, this trail **is** for the community, and I hope that generations of Garden Grove residents and visitors will continue to enjoy it for many years to come.
* As you can see, despite the challenges over the last year, our efforts to continue re-imagining new alternatives to accessibility, transportation, and other healthy lifestyle activities, keep moving forward.
* Thank you to everyone who made this project possible, and to everyone attending today’s dedication!