



# News Release

**Statement For Immediate Release**

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## **Clarification of Greenwood Avenue Structure Fire of 02-20-2021**

**Montebello, CA** - City staff has concluded interviews and an internal review of the Montebello Fire Department's response to the Greenwood Avenue structure fire that occurred at approximately 3:00 p.m. on February 20, 2021. This statement is being released to address public confusion about the status and readiness of the Montebello Fire Department at that time.

After reviewing Verdugo Fire Communications (a joint agency communications service utilized by Montebello Fire Department and other agencies) incident log, audio files and statements from the Montebello Fire Battalion Chief on duty at the time, the following conclusions were made and confirmed:

1. All Montebello fire stations were open, apparatus were properly staffed and available for incident response.
2. Montebello Fire Engine 56 was involved in a training exercise at Montebello City Hall at the time but available for incident response.
3. Verified that Los Angeles County Fire Department Engine 103 and Squad 50 were the first units on scene and arrived within seven (7) minutes of request for aid.
4. Montebello Fire Battalion 55 and Truck 55 were dispatched and on-scene eight (8) minutes from notice of dispatch.

The incident involved multiple agencies and significant firefighting apparatus from mutual aid partners including Arcadia, Alhambra, Burbank, Downey, El Monte, Glendale, Los Angeles County, Monterey Park, San Gabriel and San Marino city fire departments. No Montebello fire stations have been or were ever closed before, during or after this incident.

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