



## West Covina can have brighter days

Like many cities, West Covina is struggling with fiscal problems. Those problems are compounded by the state, from the elimination of redevelopment agencies, over-regulation and pension obligations.

But we can be cautiously optimistic. Growth of the housing and commercial sectors will bring in badlyneeded revenue.

The City of West Covina and its residents have a chance to make sound decisions about its future. They will have to weigh the impact of development and high-density housing. The completion of the City's General Plan is vital to help define the city's future.

Large industrial employers have a slim chance of returning to the city. If we want revenue for services, we will need to collaborate with neighboring cities to build a healthy regional economy.

It is key to restore sound leadership in City Hall. We must vet our potential leaders to avoid a continued history of wasteful litigation and mismanagement. West Covina has challenges. As informed citizens, we must strive to meet and overcome those challenges.

Joe Lara-Gardner