

2021 Employee of the Year Nominee, Curtis Jordan

It is an honor to nominate Curtis Jordan for City of Burbank's 2021 Employee of the Year. In February 2014, Public Works hired Curtis as an exempt Utility Worker in our Fleet Section. His skills and commitment were quickly recognized and there was an opportunity to transfer him to the Landfill in May 2014. His assignments included trash removal from the slopes and performing State mandated storm water sampling. Curtis took full ownership and quickly familiarized himself with the entire storm water manual. This piqued his interest in the full Landfill operations, and he began independently studying the Landfill's regulations and Operations Manuals. His dedication, knowledge, attention to detail, and genuine caring for the Landfill and the City resulted in a promotion to Landfill Supervisor in June of 2016.

Curtis continued to produce exemplary work and increase his Solid Waste education. He completed an intensive week of Manager of Landfill Operations (MOLO) training passing the six-hour test that followed. Curtis has since completed over 80 trainings and webinars associated with Solid Waste operations, several on his own time. His latest training was once again an intensive three-day course and test for certification on Transfer Station Operations. Curtis has also fostered a creative and collaborative environment at the Landfill as is evident by the artwork created by staff from discarded items and proudly displayed in common areas. Others have also noted Curtis' team-minded approach, commitment and caring. He was a key component of our success in mediating the mudflows by providing staffing and large equipment to aid in the effort. Curtis has provided collaborative support to Parks and Recreation at the Starlight Bowl by placing K-rail and grading the parking lots each season, and cleaning mud, debris and rocks off the driving range after each rain helping to ensure the success of the Golf Course. During the La Tuna Fire Curtis used the water truck to save the turbines and a BWP water tank that was in jeopardy of having an internal coating melt. Curtis then raced up to the landfill and closed numerous valves shutting down the turbine's feeder pipe and preventing a methane explosion.

Curtis' latest accomplishment is the implementation of innovative operational changes at the landfill. In coordination with the Solid Waste section, he and his team implemented changes to reduce facility operating costs, maximize landfill life by improving airspace utilization, streamlined processes, and improved the efficiency and safety. He oversaw the changes and as a result the Landfill's lifespan has been increased by over 70 years and an estimated annual savings in operations of \$70k. All of the benefits realized by the implementation of these changes lead to long-term sustainable financial savings for Burbank. Through his positive attitude and collaborative efforts, Curtis demonstrates his passion to improve on a daily basis. His commitment to his employees and the City are evident in his accomplishments. Curtis has performed beyond any expectations to make significant life changing contributions for the community that will be beneficial for generations to come.