

**Employee of the Year
2026 Nomination – Daniel Zacariaz**

I am honored to nominate Daniel “Danny” Zacariaz for the City’s Employee of the Year award.

Danny was born and raised in Burbank, and as a lifelong resident, he understands the high level of service our community expects. As an employee, he takes pride in ensuring that standard is met for all of Burbank.

Danny joined the City as a Laborer in 2006 and has since been promoted through the roles of Skilled Worker, Motor Sweeper Operator, and Street Maintenance Leadworker before becoming Public Works Supervisor in 2021. In this role, he manages the street maintenance crew, oversees street sweeping, weed abatement, homeless encampment and illegal dumping cleanup, and alley maintenance.

Danny also manages the Citywide maintenance contract, working closely with the vendor to ensure high-quality upkeep of landscaping in the downtown area, Magnolia Park, City facilities, Metro stations, parking structures, and in medians throughout the City. This year, Danny and his team took particular pride in partnering with the contractor to upgrade medians across the City, including at City Hall's parking lot, downtown, and near the studios. These upgrades included planting improved vegetation, installing mulch and groundcover, and upgrading irrigation systems. Many of the plants were repurposed from other locations where they had become overgrown or were no longer needed, saving the City money while preventing the waste of healthy plants. Danny's attention to the City's landscaping helps keep the community looking clean and inviting.

In February 2025, Danny played an essential role in mitigating mudflows along Bethany Road following the Bethany Fire. Anticipating heavy rain, he worked with the street crews to implement street closures, construct diversion walls, and place sandbags to redirect water and debris away from homes and driveways. Throughout the storm, Danny and his team monitored the mudflows and coordinated closely with the Emergency Management Administrator, adjusting mitigation efforts in real time as conditions changed. Once the rains subsided, he managed the trucks and personnel needed to clear mud and debris, deploying sweepers for final cleanup.

This emergency management response is critical to resident safety and ensures a swift return to normalcy. Given recent events such as the Walnut Fire, which may produce similar hillside mudflows, this expertise will continue to be vital going forward.

**Employee of the Year
2026 Nomination – Daniel Zacariaz**

Danny lives, works, and spends his free time in Burbank. He is married with five children and enjoys bike riding, playing softball, and coaching his youngest son's baseball team. Danny takes genuine pride in the work he does to keep his community clean and safe for his fellow Burbank residents. Danny is known for his exceptional responsiveness to residents and fosters positive working relationships with his team and the public alike. Selecting Danny as Employee of the Year would honor his outstanding dedication to Burbank and highlight him as a shining example of what passion and reliability can accomplish for our community.