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City of Fontana Public Works Employee Proudly Fixing Maintenance Issues for 38 Years



Fontana, Calif.- If a swing breaks in any Fontana park, a shopping cart is left along the Pacific Electric Trail or a pipe springs a leak at the Heritage snack bar, who are you going to call? Well, there's a saying at the Public Works yard: "If you need something around the City, call Freddie." And who better to fix a maintenance problem than none other than City of Fontana's Maintenance Services Crew Chief, Freddie Fix?

Born and raised in Fontana, Freddie graduated from Fontana High School. As a 17-year-old working inside a factory, he immediately knew that an indoor job wasn't for him. At the age of 19, Freddie applied for a Public Works position with the City of Fontana where he knew he could spend every day where he loves the most: outdoors. Rain or shine (literally), Freddie has dedicated 38 years to responding to maintenance requests for the City.

From as north as Coyote Canyon Park to as south as Southridge Park, Freddie is responsible for helping to maintain all 42 of the City's parks, including their fields and playgrounds. "The city is

growing, the parks are growing. I'm just trying to keep our parks safe and have nice areas for our [kids] to play at," explains Freddie.

Aside from checking up on each playground once a week, his duties differ from day-to-day. Freddie assists with setting up community events, responding to work orders made through the Access Fontana app and repairing/replacing damaged items such as broken swings, slides, picnic tables, fences, lights and more. "I like to install new things...new benches, valves for drinking fountains, new trashcans...Even a trash can make the park look nice."

Outside of work, Freddie loves going to sporting events. Although his all-time favorite sports team is the Chicago Bears, you can still find him cheering on the Los Angeles teams including the Angels, Dodgers, Chargers, Rams and Kings. If he's not at an game, Freddie is strolling along the iconic Olvera Street in Los Angeles or barbecuing on a Sunday afternoon.

Life centers around his family. Freddie has been married for 36 years, and has four daughters and son, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He is also the Godfather to 13 children and baptized them at La Placita Church near Olvera Street. As a matter of fact, the best advice Freddie has ever received came from his grandfather: "Whatever you're doing, you're never done." His grandfather worked many jobs including owning a gas station, cleaning chicken ranches and working at Kaiser Steel Mill. Much like Freddie, his grandfather was a busy, hardworking man.

Freddie has been selected as the City of Fontana Employee Spotlight for the month of September based on nominations from his peers. His coworkers appreciate Freddie's dedication to the City and its residents, along with his "tremendous help" with setting up many community events.

However, if a swing does break in a Fontana park or you would like to report another maintenance issue, please submit a request through <u>Access Fontana</u>. The free app can also be downloaded through the App Store or Google Play.