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Keeping Santa Monicans Housed

RENT RELIEF FOR TENANTS AND LANDLORDS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Many tenants and landlords in Santa Monica and around the state and country have been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, and California have all taken action to protect residential tenants from eviction, and help their landlords recover deferred rent.

Eviction protections are now in place for residential tenants through September 30, 2021. California law permanently protects tenants from eviction for nonpayment of rent due to hardships resulting from the pandemic if tenants submit hardship declarations and pay 25 percent of rent due from September 2020 through September

2021 by September 30, 2021. This means that landlords may not ever evict tenants for nonpayment of rents that came due during the protected period for those tenants who filed the required hardship declarations and paid the 25 percent rent due. However, starting on November 1, 2021, landlords may sue to collect the unpaid COVID-19 rental debt in small claims court. Landlords may also file eviction actions starting on October 1, 2021, for nonpayment of rent for periods not covered by California law. These dates may be extended further, and updates are provided at santamonica.gov/coronavirus-eviction-moratorium.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



MORE THAN \$7 BILLION IN STATE MONEY IS AVAILABLE TO PAY UNPAID RENT AND UTILITY COSTS

- Both tenants and landlords can apply – it's not too late. Funds are available until the money runs out.
- The statewide eviction moratorium protecting tenants from nonpayment of rent expires on **September 30, 2021**.

APPLY NOW: housing.ca.gov or (833) 430-2122
NEED HELP? Call 3-1-1 or email 311@santamonica.gov

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City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street
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Santa Monica, CA 90407-2200

RENT RELIEF FOR TENANTS AND LANDLORDS IMPACTED BY COVID-19 (CONTINUED)

State law also provides for much-needed rental assistance to California tenants and landlords. On June 28 Governor Newsom signed into law AB 832, which provides for the distribution of federal rental assistance funds, reported to be over \$7 billion, to help qualifying tenants and small landlords with rent and utilities. Both tenants and landlords are eligible for relief in the amount of 100% of unpaid rents that accrued starting April 1, 2020. Tenants and landlords who already received some rental assistance can still apply to get the remainder of up to 100% of unpaid rent, and tenants can apply to get future rents. The rental assistance, however, is triggered only if the landlord or tenant applies. More information about rental assistance is available at housing.ca.gov.

Additionally, from October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, state law prohibits a court from issuing a summons (the document needed to officially start a case against a tenant) in eviction lawsuits based on nonpayment of rental debt that accumulated due to COVID-19 hardship, unless the landlord can show that they applied for rental assistance and the application was denied. State law also “masks” or shields any record of eviction based on nonpayment of rent, from appearing on a tenant’s record. Rental assistance is available regardless of the applicant’s immigration status.

City protections remain in place through September 30, 2021, and bar no-fault evictions (except for a limited exception for owner-occupancy evictions in single-family homes), as well as evictions for unauthorized occupants, animals, and nuisances.

The information provided here applies to residential tenancies in Santa Monica. Those seeking information about commercial tenancies in Santa Monica can visit <https://bit.ly/3w6BwYR>. For additional questions, contact the City Attorney’s Office at **(310) 458-8336** or consumer.mailbox@smgov.net.



SANTA MONICA'S NEW PUBLIC SAFETY REFORM AND OVERSIGHT COMMISSION BEGINS WORK

Earlier this year, City Council adopted an Ordinance to create a new Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission to:

- promote, in partnership with the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD), the best practices in community-oriented policing for the fair treatment, safety, and wellbeing of all, and to;
- provide a body to work with SMPD and experts to develop, recommend, and help implement proposed reforms for handling complaints regarding SMPD conduct, including proposed reforms for the intake, review, and investigation of, and oversight of disciplinary decisions and policies relating to, such complaints.

In April, the Santa Monica City Council selected the following eleven members, including two young adults, to serve on the Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission (PSROC):

George Brown: Public Safety Reform Advisory Committee Member; Black Agenda for Santa Monica; and Contributor, *Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights’ New Era of Public Safety Report*

George Centeno: Retired Chief of Police, Los Angeles International Airport Police; former Santa Monica Police Department

Jaime Cruz: Pico Neighborhood Partnership; youth advocate

Derek Devermont: Former Social Services Commissioner

Miranda McLaughlin-Basseri (young adult): Santa Monica College student; External Vice President, SMC honor society



Craig Miller: Founder, AIDS Walk Los Angeles; Santa Monicans for Democracy

Greg Morena: Former Santa Monica City Councilmember; Audit Sub-Committee (resigned June 2021 due to relocation)

Samantha Mota (young adult): Climate Action Santa Monica

Lana Negrete: Director, juvenile diversion nonprofit; SMMUSD Parent Teacher Association Council (resigned June 2021 due to appointment as City Councilmember)

Manju Raman: Vice Chair, Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition; Board Member, Santa Monica Police Activities League

Angela Scott: Former Arts Commissioner; Public Safety Reform Advisory Committee; Santa Monica Black Agenda; Committee for Racial Justice

The commission is already hard at work, preparing an initial set of recommendations for City Council regarding the events of May 31, 2020, and the recommendations received from the OIR Group about ways the City can improve its response to large-scale public demonstrations, as well as on broader issues of policing. It is challenging work, and each commissioner has demonstrated their dedication to these efforts and commitment to their community. As Commissioner Samantha Mota states, “I applied to serve as a PSROC member to ensure structures within the city, such as SMPD, are credible, transparent, and held accountable; this was an opportunity to make a difference in my community and make my dreams a reality.”

For more information about the Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission, visit santamonica.gov/public-safety-reform-and-oversight-commission.

STREET SWEEPING UPDATE

Starting **August 30**, follow your local street signs for the weekly street sweeping schedule. Street sweeping parking violations will be enforced. Please ensure you move your vehicle to avoid a parking ticket.

Remember:

There is no street sweeping on national holidays like:

September 6 (Labor Day),
November 25-26 (Thanksgiving),
December 24 (Christmas Eve),

December 25 (Christmas Day),
December 31 (New Year’s Eve), and
January 1 (New Year’s Day).

For questions, call **3-1-1** or email 311@santamonica.gov.

NEW INVESTMENTS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

The City's four pillar approach to addressing homelessness includes: prevent homelessness; address behavioral health needs; maintain access to safe, fun, and healthy open spaces; and advocate for regional capacity. Here are recent actions taken by the City of Santa Monica to advance these strategies:

EXPAND THE SUPPLY OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The Santa Monica Housing Authority received over 100 permanent housing rental subsidies for people experiencing homelessness as part of the American Rescue Plan. These federally funded housing vouchers will help move people out of local shelters and into housing. In addition, Congressman Ted Lieu's office helped the City secure \$2 million in federal funds for the development of new affordable housing on City-owned land, which will include housing for people experiencing homelessness

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH THERAPEUTIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

In line with principles of public safety reform, the City will partner with LA County Department of Mental Health (DMH) to pilot an alternate dispatch model this fiscal year for non-violent mental health-related calls for service. This means that a therapeutic van staffed by behavioral health professionals and individuals with lived experience in mental health crises can be deployed to calls that would be better served by connections to supportive resources than by the criminal justice system offering a safer, more specialized response, and freeing up first responders to focus on public safety priorities.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY OUTREACH TEAM

Funding was renewed for three multidisciplinary outreach teams to continue efforts in the areas with the densest concentration of homelessness in Santa Monica. Each street-based team consists of mental health clinicians, substance use disorder specialists, housing case managers, licensed medical practitioners, and a peer with lived homeless experience. The work of these street-based teams contributed to an 8% reduction in homelessness last year by offering street-based support services and treatment for physical and behavioral health issues directly to people living on the streets. These teams collectively contact over 1,400 people every year.

SANTA MONICA FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

City Council also approved funding for the Fire Department's Community Response Unit. This unit will assign a Paramedic and EMT to respond

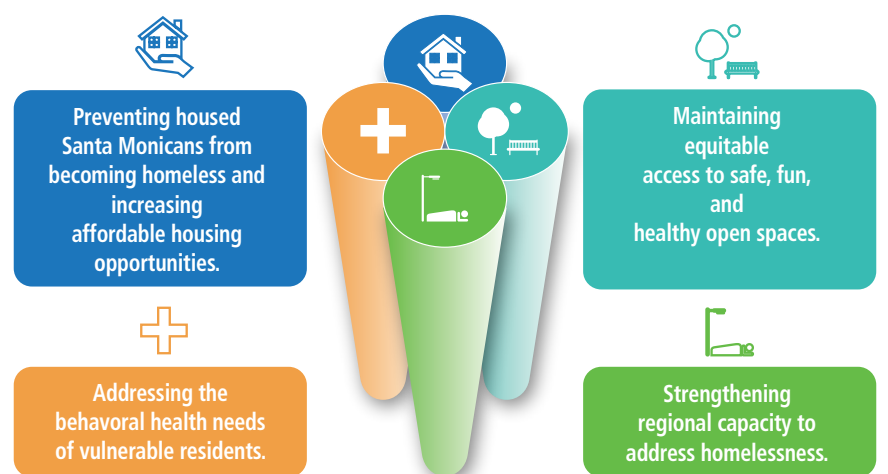
specifically to less urgent calls, such as assisting a person experiencing homelessness and allow for most efficient use of community resources such as a fire engine or ambulance transportation. The Paramedic and EMT would rule out acute medical conditions and connect people experiencing homelessness to resources such as mental health support and substance abuse counseling.

EXTENSION OF THE REED PARK AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The budget also kept dedicated Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. Ambassadors in Reed Park who maintain the park restrooms, answer questions for park patrons, and provide social service referrals. This extra support keeps the restrooms clean and usable for all and provides extra eyes on the space to promote a safe and accessible park experience.

These local efforts add to the regional efforts to address homelessness in LA County through expanded outreach, housing and services, while working to mitigate the impacts of unsheltered homelessness in Santa Monica. For more information about addressing homelessness in Santa Monica, visit weare.santamonica.gov/addressing-homelessness. For an update on efforts happening across LA County, visit Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority at lahsa.org.

4 Pillars for Addressing Homelessness



CITY COUNCIL SELECTS DAVID WHITE AS SANTA MONICA'S NEXT CITY MANAGER

On July 22, 2021, the Santa Monica City Council announced their selection of David White to serve as Santa Monica's next city manager. White is currently the deputy city manager for the City of Berkeley, where he oversees internal service departments, public safety reform, economic recovery, and special projects. Before joining the City of Berkeley's executive team in May 2019, he served as city manager in Fairfield, California for five years.



"David has a keen understanding of the central issues our like-minded cities face and has demonstrated that he has the experience and spirit of can-do inclusion we need to lead Santa Monica at this critical time," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich. "We are thrilled to have found a candidate so aligned with our community's values and impatiently await his arrival so we may begin our collective work."

In Berkeley (population 120,000), White has led priority work efforts that require significant community and organization-wide collaboration. He championed re-imagining public safety, including a new model of civilian oversight of Berkeley's Police Department. With an extensive background in finance both as an investment banker and as Fairfield's finance director, White is well-suited to see Santa Monica through our economic recovery.

As the city manager of Fairfield (population 115,000), White built back that city's organization after the Great Recession. There, he also advanced a citywide strategy to address homelessness, oversaw a large capital project portfolio, and prioritized fiscal health and community engagement. Before serving as city manager, he spent ten years in leadership capacities in Fairfield, including assistant city manager, finance director, and senior project manager for economic development.

"I am excited and humbled to serve the City of Santa Monica as its City

Manager," said White. "Santa Monica is a wonderful community and I am eager to engage and work closely with the City Council, staff, residents, and businesses implementing City Council's top priorities -- achieving a clean and safe Santa Monica, addressing homelessness, and ensuring an equitable and inclusive economic recovery."

White, a native Los Angeleno, grew up in Studio City and graduated from UCLA with a bachelor's degree in psychology and anthropology. He holds a master's degree in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. White will be relocating to Santa Monica with his wife and daughter and looks forward to "coming home" to Southern California.

As City Manager, White will oversee a total City budget of \$705.5 million and a workforce of 1,923. City Manager White's employment contract, including an October 11th start date, was approved at the July 27 Council Meeting.

LANA NEGRETE APPOINTED AS NEWEST COUNCILMEMBER

On June 29, 2021, the City Council appointed Lana Negrete to City Council. Councilmember Negrete

was born and raised in Santa Monica and is the owner of the Santa Monica Music Center. As a mother, she has long been active in the local PTA and cares deeply about education and youth empowerment, particularly through the arts. Negrete is among the 70% of Santa Monicans who are renters. As part of her application for the City Council seat, Negrete expressed a desire to work towards solutions to address homelessness and to work with the full Council to "work together as a collective to create sustainable solutions to the city's issues, expand programs that need further expanding and to thoughtfully address the concerns of all residents from all corners of the city."



Go to santamonica.gov/council for the upcoming City Council meeting schedule including information about how to join the next meeting and submit comments.

THE SMARTEST CARD IS YOUR SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, and the Santa Monica Public Library (SMPL) wants to make sure you and your family are among the majority of Americans that carry the smartest card of all – a public library card. Join us in celebrating Library Card Sign-Up Month by visiting a SMPL location and signing up today.

Fall also means kids and teens are headed back to school and a library card is one of your child's best tools to stay prepared for school. Access to library services and materials for youth is even easier because cardholders ages 0-18 aren't charged overdue fines when they return materials late.

Stop by the Main Library, Montana Avenue Curbside, and Pico Curbside to sign up for your free library card and discover the programs, resources, and services the library has that supports reading throughout the year:

- Borrow materials (books, DVDs, CDs, and more)
- Download eMedia (eBooks, eAudiobooks, magazines)
- Learn a new language (using Mango Languages)
- Connect with a tutor online (using Brainfuse/Help Now)
- Stream music and movies (using Hoopla)
- Get your high school diploma and career certificate online (through the Career Online High School program)

Have a card, but haven't been to the library in a while? Come see one of our friendly staffers to update your account. The Main Library is open for in-person services. The Montana Avenue and Pico Branches continue to offer curbside pickup and the book returns are open at all SMPL locations.

At the Ocean Park Branch you can literally open the door with a swipe of your library card. To participate in this service, sign up for Self-Service Hours at smpl.org/SelfServiceHours. Look for increased services and expanded hours coming to a Branch near you in the Fall.

For information on hours and services offered at each Santa Monica Public Library location, visit smpl.org/reopening. Have questions? Visit us in person at the Main Library, online at smpl.org, email reference@santamonica.gov, or call **(310) 458-8600** during Main Library open hours.

We look forward to seeing you in the library soon!



CREST FALL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



CREST Club and CREST Enrichment are in back-to-school mode. CREST Club provides 4th and 5th graders with homework assistance, enriching activities, organized games, special events, and field trips between school dismissal and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday when school is in session. Fees are \$375 per month. Walk-in registration is now open at the Youth Office at Reed Park (1133 7th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403). Please submit completed enrollment packets and registration forms (including full payment information) during office hours, by mail or fax. Forms will be processed in the order received during regular business hours. Incomplete packets will delay registration. Assistance is available over the phone at **(310) 458-8540**. For AM Care options, contact SMMUSD's Child Development Services at **(310) 399-5865** or visit smmusd.org/CDS.

CREST Enrichment is returning this fall with in-person classes at all 7 elementary school

sites: Edison, Franklin, Grant, McKinley, Muir/SMASH, Roosevelt, and Will Rogers. The fall session begins the week of September 20 and runs for 10 weeks. Site flyers will be distributed with each school's newsletter during the first week of school. Registration is open until September 17.

The City of Santa Monica continues to place the highest value on the health and safety of our community. The programs will operate in accordance with CDC and LA County Public Health Guidelines for Day Care for School Aged Children to keep everyone safe during this time. All staff and participants will be pre-screened for COVID-19 symptoms. Temperatures will be taken using infrared touchless thermometers as part of the check-in process.

Financial Assistance is available. Staff is accepting applications now. Families who have not reapplied for Financial Assistance for the 2021 - 2022 school year must reapply. For the latest information on CREST programming, visit smgov.net/crest or email crest.mailbox@smgov.net.

FALL AT THE ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE

THE POOL

Recreation swim continues weekends through September from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Semi-Private Swim Lessons at the Beach House pool are continuing from Saturday, September 11 through Sunday, October 31. Classes are available on Saturday or Sunday mornings with classes times at 9:15 - 9:45 a.m., 9:50 - 10:20 a.m. and 10:25 - 11:00 a.m. The first four-week session begins on Saturday, September 11 and Sunday, September 12. The second session begins on Saturday, October 9 and Sunday, October 10.

STANDUP PADDLE BOARD CLASSES

Standup Paddle Board classes return to the Beach House in September. Classes will be led by experienced and qualified instructors who will teach the basics of Standup Paddling. Classes will be held each Saturday from September 11 through October 2.

MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE TOURS

The Santa Monica Conservancy continues tours of the Marion Davies Guest House, sharing the unique history of the site and the fascinating individuals who shaped the Beach House legacy.

PLANNING AN EVENT?

Buy Local, Play Local, Plan Local! From meetings and retreats to weddings and celebrations, the Annenberg Community Beach House sets the scene: board shorts to board room or a reason to gather with family and friends. We offer a combination of historic Hollywood glamour and modern coastal California style. Visit annenbergbeachhouse.com/plan-your-event or call at **(310) 458-4934**.

COMING IN NOVEMBER - LABYRINTHS!

Howlett, a leading labyrinth maker will create labyrinths in the sand and on the Beach House site. He is recognized as a passionate speaker and inspiring teacher on the practice of drawing, building, and walking labyrinths. Stay tuned for more about this new restorative experience.

For the latest information about events, classes, and fees, visit annenbergbeachhouse.com, sign up for the newsletter, follow us on social media, or call **(310) 458-4904**.

The Annenberg Community Beach House at Santa Monica State Beach is operated by the City of Santa Monica. The Beach House is made possible by a generous gift from the Annenberg Foundation, at the direction of Wallis Annenberg, and in partnership with the City of Santa Monica and California State Parks. Additional funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.



ART OF RECOVERY PROJECTS SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS AND INSPIRE CONNECTION

Over the last year and a half artists and organizations have adapted, created, and shared their work to inspire thought and connection. The City's new Art of Recovery initiative harnessed the arts to play a major role in recovery efforts by putting artists to work to implement projects that strengthened and connected Santa Monica. Over 200 artistic ideas were submitted, 30 of which will be fully realized by the end of the year.

Projects spanned a range of mediums, locations and intentions. Large scale projects provided a boost to commercial corridors and included a "Very Gay Mural" on The Pier celebrating Pride Month, a Black History Month exhibit featuring three artists on Third Street Promenade, and painted k-rails on Main Street by eight artists that created a colorful and safe al fresco dining area. Other projects, such as Santa Monica Repertory Theater's *Shine Online* storytelling project that is collecting 100 stories about Santa Monica from residents, Suchi Branfman's film *UnDanced Dances through Prison Walls* featuring dances choreographed by incarcerated dancers, and *Rose River Memorial*, an exhibition and collective memorial of felt roses, made by community members, each honoring someone from Los Angeles lost to COVID-19, created new connections. The range and breadth of projects reflects Santa Monica's creative community and diversity. The City is proud to be able to support artists' visions.

In addition to offering funding, Art of Recovery created an ecosystem of support for artists and projects, offering learning, networking, and opportunities for artists to work across sectors. This helped to build capacity and sustainability among local arts producers, with the ultimate goal of providing more community access to artistic experiences.

The Art of Recovery initiative has been funded for the next year and will continue to provide resources and support to enable artists to create in Santa Monica. For more information on the Art of Recovery initiative, visit santamonica.gov/arts/artofrecovery.



EXPERIENCE ART OF RECOVERY IN SANTA MONICA

- The Broad Stage presents the opera *Birds in the Moon*, outside in Lot 27, September 1 - 4.
- *Recovery Justice: Being Well* exhibit, 18th Street Arts Center (Airport Campus) through September 10.
- Artist Paula Goldman's *#SMHopes* is a collection of post-pandemic hopes and dreams from people of all ages featured online and on banners citywide.
- Santa Monica Repertory Theater's *SHINEOnline* aims to gather and share 100 stories about Santa Monica told by Santa Monicans through online workshops and performances.



SANTA MONICA FARMERS MARKETS

Downtown Santa Monica

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Arizona Ave. and 3rd Street Promenade

Main Street

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., 2640 Main St.

Virginia Avenue Park

Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Pico Blvd. and Cloverfield Blvd.

WHAT'S IN SEASON AT THE SANTA MONICA FARMERS MARKETS

The Santa Monica Farmers Markets have remained open during the pandemic and have continued to spread simple joys of buying locally grown seasonal fruits and veggies. By "eating the rainbow" across all seasons, our farmers market community not only supports the local farmers, but also supports well-rounded, heart-healthy eating.

SO, WHAT'S IN SEASON RIGHT NOW?

Fruits: Apples, avocados, beets, blueberries, grapes, grapefruits, lemons, oranges, nectarines, passion fruit, peaches, pears, persimmons, plums, raspberries, sapote, and strawberries.

Veggies: Asparagus, basil, brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, celery, collards, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mushrooms, okra, onions, peas, peppers, potatoes, spinach, squash (summer and winter), tomatillos, tomatoes, and turnips.

Visit any of the four weekly markets to score some of these fruits and veggies before they sell out! You can stay in-the-know with farmers market happenings by following [@SMFMS](https://twitter.com/SMFMS) on social media for a recap of seasonal fruits and veggies, farmers/vendor updates, and all things farmers markets.

VAX UP AND MASK UP TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Santa Monica and LA County have experienced a significant increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations over the last month due to the aggressive and more contagious Delta variant. With 4 million L.A. County residents not yet vaccinated, we need everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated and all of us, regardless of vaccination status, to wear face masks when indoors, and stay home if feeling unwell.

GET VACCINATED!

Thank you to over 80% of Santa Monica residents who are already vaccinated! To find a COVID-19 vaccine near you, visit:

- www.VaccinateLACounty.com
- www.VacunateLosAngeles.com
- www.Vaccines.gov

If you don't have internet access, can't use a computer, or you're over 65, you can call **(833) 540-0473** for help finding an appointment, connecting to free transportation to and from a vaccination site, or scheduling a home-visit if you are homebound.

COVID-19 TESTING AND MASKING UP

While the COVID-19 vaccine is the most powerful tool, staying home when feeling unwell, getting tested, and wearing masks when indoors are also

highly effective and greatly reduce the chance you may get infected and hospitalized from the Delta variant. To slow the spread, ensure that you get tested and stay home if you are experiencing cold-like symptoms (even if vaccinated), and follow L.A. County's new indoor mask mandate requiring face masks indoors regardless of vaccination status.

To report a concern about public health compliance, please contact **3-1-1** or **(866) 311-7266**, email 311@santamonica.gov or submit a request at santamonica.gov/311. Violations can also be reported directly to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health at **(888) 700-9995** or by emailing EHMail@ph.lacounty.gov.

COVID-19 continues to be a dynamic situation. For the latest information, visit publichealth.lacounty.gov and santamonica.gov/coronavirus.



COVID-19 Vaccine Questions? GetVaccineAnswers.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS



DON'T WAIT, VACCINATE!

The most powerful step to prevent COVID-19 infection is getting vaccinated. With a highly infectious COVID-19 strain spreading rapidly, it is important to sign up now for the COVID-19 vaccine at vaccines.gov. Thank you to more than 80% of Santa Monica residents who have already been vaccinated and our entire community's ongoing commitment to everyone's public health and safety.

SAFE VENDING IN SANTA MONICA

When visiting the Santa Monica State Beach, please look for the **V** when enjoying food and drinks from approved Santa Monica vendors and avoid purchasing food and drinks from vendors with an open flame on the Santa Monica Pier. The **V** means that a vendor is fully trained on important public health and safety rules like food refrigeration, hand washing, and COVID-19 protocols. We are committed to supporting safe vending in Santa Monica and thank you for your partnership to keep our community safe. For more information about Santa Monica's vending program, visit santamonica.gov/vending.



A City Of Santa Monica approved decal

CHILDCARE IN SANTA MONICA

In search of care for your young child? Santa Monica providers are open! Visit santamoniacradletocareer.org/childcare for a list of local licensed childcare providers.

NEW EV CHARGERS

The City's first universal DC fast charging EV stations are now open at 1654 5th Street! The EV chargers are powered by 100% renewable electricity and support the growing need for EV charging in Santa Monica - especially for residents of multi-family buildings without charging access at home. For information and locations for EV chargers across Santa Monica, visit smgov.net/departments/ose/categories/transportation/electric_vehicles.

DROUGHT RESPONSE

We know water conservation is top of mind with Governor Newsom's recent executive order asking Californians to voluntarily cut water consumption by 15%. Because of you, Santa Monica has made great strides in conserving water. Learn more about water in Santa Monica and get conservation tips at santamonica.gov/water.

INTRODUCING "PAY BY LICENSE PLATE" - A NEW WAY TO PAY FOR PARKING

The roll out of a new payment method has begun with three mid-city public parking lots: Mid-City Lot 7 (1217 Euclid St.), Mid-City Lot 8 (1146 16th St.), and Mid-City Lot 12 (1211 14th St.). Now, by using your unique license plate number, you are good to go once you have completed payment. Using a license plate provides more security for the customer, reduces confusion over use of stall numbers, reduces use of paper tickets and receipts, and helps our parking enforcement teams with compliance efforts. If you have any questions, email parking@santamonica.gov.

MOST LOVED SANTA MONICA BUSINESSES 2021

Thank you to our entire community for voting in this year's Most Loved Santa Monica Business Contest. Over 70,000 votes were received, and a recap of our winners is included here. Remember, when you make a purchase from a Santa Monica business, \$7 out of every \$10 stays local, and given the real impacts of COVID-19 on our local business community, this year it is as important as ever to celebrate and support our local businesses and workers. Revenue generated from local businesses contributes to library services, our parks, public safety, clean streets and so much more. Your local purchases fund essential city services too!

Thank you to our partners for your work to create and promote this program including Buy Local Santa Monica, Downtown Santa Monica Inc., Main Street Business Improvement Association, Montana Avenue Merchants Association, Pico Improvement Organization, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, Santa Monica Daily Press, the Santa Monica Pier, and Santa Monica Travel & Tourism. For more information, visit santamonica.gov/buylocal.

Congratulations to our Most Loved Santa Monica 2021 Winners!

Food + Drink Category: Bay Cities Italian Deli & Bakery (Cheap Eats; Sandwiches), Broadway Baker (Bakery), Caffe Luxxe (Coffee Shop), Father's Office (Burgers), Dagwood's (Pizza), Dolcenero Gelato (Frozen Dessert), FIG (Happy Hour), Fritto Misto (Italian), Gilbert's El Indio Restaurant (Mexican), Harry's Berries (SM Farmers Market), Huckleberry Café (Breakfast/Brunch), JINYA Ramen Bar (Ramen), Kye's (Vegetarian), Lunetta All Day (Outdoor Dining Patio), The Misfit Restaurant + Bar (Bar/Lounge), Rustic Canyon (Fine Dining), SUGARFISH by Sushi Nozawa (Sushi Bar), Wally's Wine World (Wine List)

Automotive Category: Joy Automotive Service & Repair (Auto Repair), Lexus Santa Monica (Auto Dealership), Lincoln Car Wash & Detail (Car Wash), Stoke's Tire Service (Auto Tire Service)

Fitness Category: Blue Republic CrossFit Gym (Fitness Studio), Physical Therapyworks (Physical Therapy), Santa Monica Yoga (Yoga/Pilates Studio)

Shopping Category: Accents Jewelry (Jewelry), Andrew's Cheese Shop (Gourmet Foods), Assistance League Thrift Shop (Clothing Boutique);

Vintage/Resale), Co-opportunity Market (Grocery), Helen's Cycles (Bike Shop), Love at First Site (Pet-Friendly), GOODS (Home/Furniture), Puzzle Zoo (Kid-Friendly), SM Homeopathic Pharmacy (Pharmacy/Drug Store), Ten Women Gallery (Gifts; Gallery/Art Store), ZJ's Boarding House (Surf/Skate Shop)

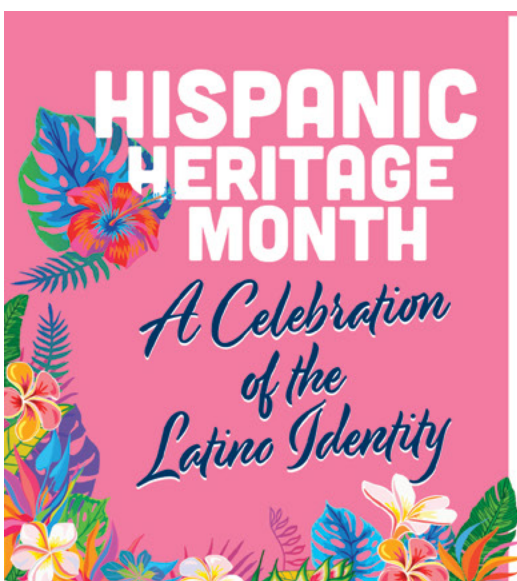
Neighborhood Favorites: Aero Theatre (Montana Ave), Bob's Market (Legacy - 30+yrs), Broadway Baker (Mid-City), Chez Jay Restaurant (SM Pier/Ocean Ave), Co-opportunity Market (Sustainable/Green Biz), Dolcenero Gelato (Main St), Fairmont Miramar - Hotel & Bungalows (Hotel), Le Petit Chez Mimi (New Biz), McCabe's Guitar Shop (Cultural Venue), Santa Monica Brew Works (Independent Biz), Sewing Arts Center (Pico Blvd), Thyme Cafe and Market (Ocean Park Blvd), Ye Old King's Head (Downtown SM)

Personal Care: bombshell (Hair Salon), Burke Williams (Massage), Corrective Skin Care (Skincare), Modern Nail (Nail Salon), Pico Barbershop (Barbers), Tao of Wellness Acupuncture Clinic (Med Spa)

Services Category: Ali Mogharei DDS (Dentist), Barry Snell CPA (Accountant), Diane Dorin of Compass (Real Estate Agent), Law Offices of Joel Koury (Lawyer), Santa Monica Education Foundation (Charity/Non-Profit), Tao of Wellness SM (Acupuncture/Chiropractor), UCLA SM Medical Center (Doctor)

2021 COVID Categories: ArcLight Cinemas SM (Most Missed during COVID), Enterprise Fish Co (Fond Farewell), Ice at Santa Monica (Outdoor Fitness), The Gourmandise School (Most Creative Adaption to COVID)

Let's Buy Local, Santa Monica! It's one of the easiest and most expedient ways to support our community's economic recovery and help save local businesses.



City of Santa Monica presents / La Ciudad de Santa Mónica presenta

Hispanic Heritage Month	El Mes de la Herencia Hispana
A Celebration of the Latino Identity	Una Celebración de la Identidad Latina
September 15th - October 15th	15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre

To join in the celebration, visit santamonica.gov/HispanicHeritageMonth
Para unirse a la celebración, visite santamonica.gov/HispanicHeritageMonth



6 THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU RIDE

You have probably already noticed a few changes to the shared mobility services offered in Santa Monica. On July 1, Santa Monica's second shared mobility pilot program launched with four permitted companies and a mix of five device types to serve a range of transportation needs in the community.

- Lyft will continue to operate Class 1 e-bikes
- Spin will operate 2 and 3-wheeled stand up scooters
- Veo will operate 2-wheeled stand up scooters and Class 2 e-bikes, and
- Wheels will operate 2-wheeled sit-down scooters



To sign up to ride, download any of the companies' mobile app or scan the QR code on the mobility device you want to ride. All four companies offer discounted rates for qualified riders. Contact the company's customer service for more information on how to qualify. Bird and Lyft e-scooters will no longer be allowed to operate in the City.

The second pilot program will continue to learn about how to optimize performance and safety, regulate and enforce, and test various new and unique features to help and keep the community safe,

including on-device turn signals and sidewalk riding detection technology.

As Santa Monica welcomes residents and visitors back to our public spaces, many people are unfamiliar with the important rules of the road and we want to make sure the public is ready to ride. Here are six things you need to know before you go!

- 1. Ride on the street! Not the beach bike path, Promenade, parks, or sidewalk.** The only exception to this rule is the Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes offered by Lyft and Veo, which are allowed to be ridden on the beach bike path.
- 2. Shared mobility devices aren't for kids.** You must have a valid license or permit to operate an e-scooter (stand-up or sit-down). You do not need a valid driver's license to ride a Class 1 or Class 2 e-bike.
- 3. Park respectfully.** There are over 170 drop zones throughout Santa Monica. If you can't find one, make sure to park upright and to the edge of the curb so you don't block access. Think about wheelchair users and community members who need a clear path.
- 4. Wear a helmet.** Helmets can save your life. They are required for people under age 18. They are also strongly encouraged for adults over age 18.
- 5. No tandem riding.** It's against the law to have two riders on one shared mobility device.
- 6. Don't sip and scoot.** Riding under the influence is dangerous and against the law. If you are enjoying a drink, we suggest walking, taking the bus, or catching a ride to reach your next destination instead.

For more information, visit santamonica.gov/categories/getting-around/ways-to-get-around.

OUTDOOR DINING, FITNESS, AND RETAIL

The City Council voted to extend the outdoor dining program beyond the COVID-19 public health emergency. Parklets, sidewalk dining, outdoor fitness, and other outdoor expansions like retail will continue for another year based on community feedback and support for the creative and fun outdoor spaces. City staff will work simultaneously to standardize a longer-term permit process for these popular programs. For more information, visit santamonica.gov/Temporary-Use-of-Outdoor-Areas.



BY THE NUMBERS

- 90 Parklets, including 14 using temporary materials borrowed free of charge from the City
- 86 Outdoor Expansions on Private Property
- 5 Outdoor Expansions on the Santa Monica Pier
- 10 Outdoor Expansions on the Third Street Promenade
- 41 Sidewalk Dining Areas



RESIDENT, PATRONS & VISITOR SURVEY RESULTS

- Residents and other patrons are more likely to walk (65%) than drive (62%) to a parklet.
- 96% of residents and patrons chose "I prefer to eat and shop outdoors. Please allow outdoor operations to continue." compared to the 4% who chose "I prefer parking spaces. Do not allow outdoor operations to continue."



BUSINESS OWNER SURVEY RESULTS

- 79% said that the parklet increased sales, 74% said the parklet increased awareness of their business, and 90% said it allowed them to stay open during the pandemic.
- 83% said they prefer a parklet in front of their business to 17% who prefer on-street parking.

HELP SANTA MONICA SHINE

Schedule 3 FREE Bulky Item Pick-Ups Every Year.

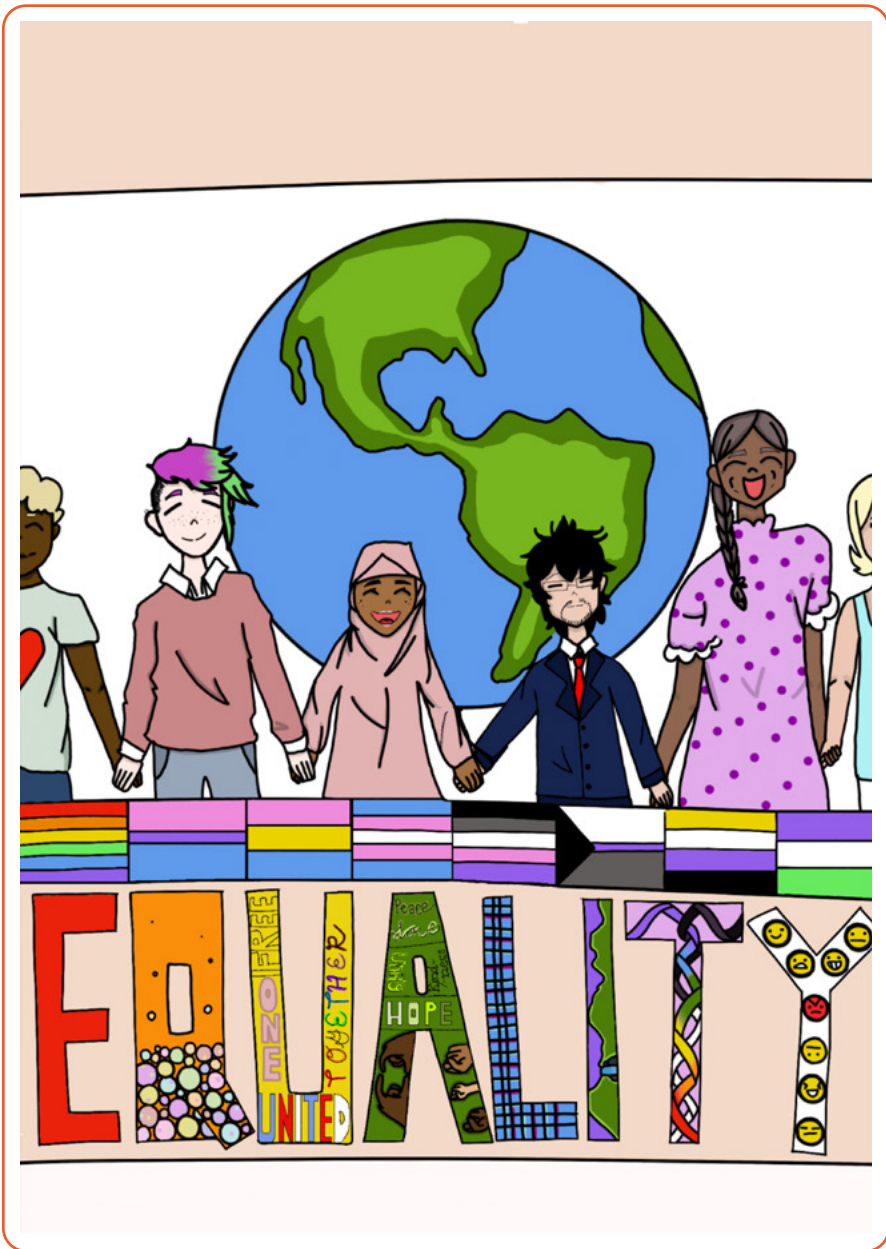
A Clean, Green City Takes ALL of Us!



If an area needs service or to schedule a pick-up:
santamonica.gov/311 | Call 3-1-1 | 311@santamonica.gov



PROGRESS ON EQUITY AND INCLUSION WORK WITHIN THE CITY ORGANIZATION



Melinda from Lincoln Middle School created this beautiful work of art. Thank you Melinda for sharing with the Santa Monica community.

In November 2020, the Racial Equity Committee (Committee) began working on six citywide goals to advance equity and inclusion within the City of Santa Monica organization based on feedback from staff. The Committee comprises of Equity

and Inclusion Officers from each city department and is led by the Equity and Communications Coordinator and the Special Assistant to the City Manager on Equity and Community Recovery. Committee members have examined City policies and practices as well as researched and reviewed best practices by organizations in both the private and public sector to inform their work. Here's an update on the Committee's progress:

- 1. Equity Plan:** Meaningful change takes time. To make sure we do things well, a team of staff is developing a multi-year equity plan outlining the city's vision for achieving equity. The plan will include policy changes and resource needs and will be presented to the City Council later this year.
- 2. Equity Toolkit:** To ensure that staff have a shared understanding of equity terminology and guidance on incorporating equity into their daily work, the Committee developed a glossary of equity terms and definitions as well as drafted a list of equity questions that staff should ask themselves before making decisions. The glossary and equity questions are anticipated to be complete this fall, and the Racial Equity Committee will train staff on how to use these tools.
- 3. Hiring Process:** Because equity and inclusion are City values that inform our work, the Committee drafted a list of recommended standard diversity, equity and inclusion questions that will be included in all City job interviews. Additionally, a list of questions drafted by the Committee is being used for the City Manager, Police Chief, Assistant Director of Labor Relations, and Fire Chief recruitments.
- 4. Implicit Bias and Cultural Competency Training:** Everyone comes to discussions about equity from different perspectives and levels of understanding based on their personal experiences. This committee is developing foundational implicit bias training and cultural competency curriculum for staff and is creating continuing education courses to deepen staff knowledge of these topics to ensure we are an inclusive organization with staff who are able to connect with and understand people who are different from them.
- 5. SaMo Mentoring Initiative:** After hearing staff feedback about the need for professional development opportunities, the Committee drafted an informal mentoring program, the SaMo Mentoring Initiative, aimed at supporting retention and career advancement for staff of all backgrounds. The program will launch soon.
- 6. Performance Evaluations:** To ensure we are providing staff with the tools they need to be inclusive of others, to evaluate inequities and address them, and that those in leadership roles are taking steps to make equity a foundational consideration in their programs, communications, and activities, the Committee is developing recommendations for diversity, equity and inclusion standards to include in employee performance evaluations.

For ongoing updates about advancing equity, visit santamonica.gov/equity.

SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIZES HOUSING FOR HISTORICALLY DISPLACED HOUSEHOLDS THROUGH NEW PILOT

The Santa Monica City Council made changes to Santa Monica's Affordable Housing Production Program and Housing Trust Fund that gives affordable housing waitlist priority to households displaced from Santa Monica in the 1950s and 1960s due to urban renewal policies. This follows a March 2019 Council decision to explore a historical displacement policy to provide housing access to former residents who were displaced by the creation of the Civic Auditorium in the Belmar Triangle neighborhood and I-10 freeway in the Pico neighborhood, both of which disproportionately impacted low-income communities and communities of color. The pilot program is part of the City's commitment to equity and inclusion and builds on the work of City staff who are part of the Government Alliance on Race and Equity.

"With this pilot, we strive to reach former residents or their descendants who were wrongly displaced from our community and to bring them back to Santa Monica through our affordable housing program," said Santa Monica Mayor Sue Himmelrich. "If you or your family lost your home during this period, we urge you to apply for below market housing opportunities and to work with us as we look to craft a permanent program."

The new pilot program will provide priority in City-funded housing and inclusionary housing for up to 100 households or descendants of households (children or grandchildren). With the adoption of the pilot, the City of Santa Monica's affordable housing waitlist priority is now as follows:

- First priority** (current) – Santa Monica households who have been or will be displaced from their homes due to a natural disaster, a government action, removal permit eviction, owner occupancy, Ellis Act, or a mobile home park closure.
- Second priority** (newly adopted) – Households or descendants of households displaced from the Historic Belmar Neighborhood in what is today the Civic Center or along the I-10 freeway.

- Third priority** (current) – Households who either live in Santa Monica or work at least 25 hours per week in Santa Monica.

Throughout the pilot, City staff will test and evaluate outreach strategies, applicant demand, the availability of historical documentation, verification processes, compliance with governing legislation, and the administrative resources required to implement a broader program.

If you or a member of your family was impacted by the construction of the Civic Auditorium or the I-10 freeway, the City encourages you to learn more at santamonica.gov/housing-BMH. Pilot program applicants will be referred to affordable housing opportunities once eligibility has been completed.

Separate from adopting the pilot program, Council reduced the minimum number of work hours required to qualify for waitlist prioritization as a Santa Monica worker from 36 hours per week to 25 hours per week. This change removes a qualification barrier for Santa Monica workers who are not employed full-time.



A FOCUS ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND EQUITABLE HOUSING ACCESS GUIDES SANTA MONICA'S HOUSING ELEMENT



This summer, the Santa Monica City Council provided input on the draft Housing Element update, which will guide housing production over the next eight years (2021 - 2029) once adopted in October. The Council directed staff to transmit to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) a draft Housing Element that complies with the State requirement that the City plan for 8,895 housing units, of which 69% must be affordable, over the eight-year cycle of the plan.

After significant community engagement, previous feedback from City Council, and direction from the Planning Commission, Housing Commission, and Rent Control Board, the following four key principles were selected to guide the plan:

- **Housing Production** - provide incentives to increase housing production, especially affordable housing production
- **Housing Stability** - ensure that existing residents are protected from displacement
- **Location** - incentivize and locate housing close to daily services and amenities like parks and schools in addition to places around the city that have historically not accommodated housing, especially affordable housing

- **Equitable Housing Access** - expand access to housing opportunities and overcome patterns of segregation by planning for housing, including affordable housing, in areas that historically excluded diverse housing opportunities

“Our City Council has embraced the concept of 100% affordable housing on city-owned land, a concept that can be a foundation for robust affordable housing production for all communities, particularly those with high land costs,” said Mayor Sue Himmelrich. “This Council understands that our community is more diverse because of our leadership in the production of affordable housing, and our direction is intended to help make that possible while also complying with state mandates on housing production overall.”

Staff successfully submitted the draft Housing Element to HCD on July 1, 2021. Once HCD completes their review of the draft, comments and revisions will be incorporated and presented back to the community, Planning Commission, and City Council later in September, with adoption of the 6th Cycle Housing Element by October 2021. To review a copy of the draft Housing Element, and to find out about upcoming hearings, go to the project website at santamonica.gov/housing-element-update.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

Our team continues to make investments in our public spaces and facilities. Here are a few updates you'll see around town.

PIER IMPROVEMENTS

The Pier Improvements Project is well underway. The first phase of the project, which includes the construction of new decking and retrofitting the substructure in the western part of the parking deck, is scheduled for completion in September 2021.



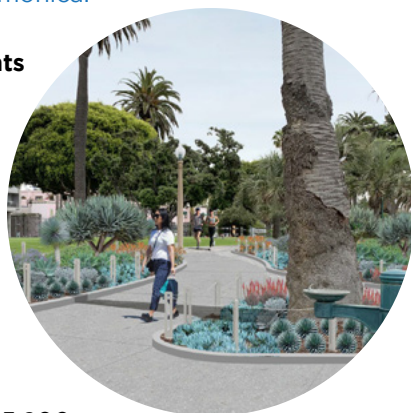
PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

• Marine Park Playground Upgrades

Preliminary concepts for a new inclusive and universally accessible playground that will replace the existing 20-year-old play equipment at Marine Park were presented and reviewed by the community this summer. The meeting summary, presentation, video, and concept fly-through videos can be found at santamonica.gov/marinepark.

• Tongva Park Pedestrian Improvements

Construction kicked off to install an ADA-compliant pedestrian path connecting Tongva Park to Chez Jay. These improvements will allow the historic restaurant - Tongva Park's official food and drink vendor - to serve park patrons quickly and easily.



• Palisades Park Petanque Court Repurposing

Construction to convert the Palisades Park Petanque Courts, approximately 5,200 square feet of underutilized recreational space, to a drought-tolerant garden began in late summer.

SUSTAINABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

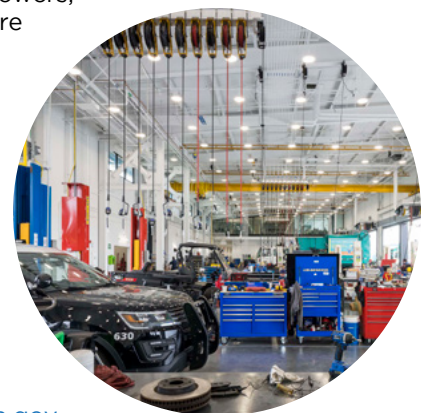
This project is approximately 55% complete with full completion expected in August 2022.

- The building structure of the below ground Advanced Water Treatment Facility is complete and installation of the treatment processes, such as mechanical equipment and piping, are underway.
- The high walls of the 1.5 million gallon subterranean stormwater harvesting tank are complete and roof construction is underway.
- Work at the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility is ongoing with the addition of a new reverse osmosis system to treat brackish groundwater, stormwater, and urban runoff.
- City staff has obtained a recycled water permit and is currently preparing the new Recycled Water Ordinance to utilize recycled water for dual-plumbed buildings, cooling towers, and irrigation uses, as well as for future groundwater injection.



CITY YARDS MODERNIZATION

- Construction of the Fleet Building is now complete, facilitating the efficient maintenance and repair of City vehicles, including police and fire emergency vehicles. Construction of the new Operations Center building commenced in July and will be completed in approximately 18-20 months.



For more information, visit santamonica.gov.

LONG JOURNEY TO EARLY EDUCATION



When the Santa Monica Early Childhood Lab School opens this fall at the Santa Monica Civic Center, a 32-year mission by Betsy Hiteshew and Irene Zivi will have come to fruition. With each woman now in her 90s, “I am thankful that we lived long enough to see it happen,” Irene quips.

Established through an unprecedented partnership between Santa Monica College, the City of Santa Monica, Growing Place — which will operate the lab school — RAND Corporation and SMC Foundation, the school will serve up to 110 children each year, including at least 15 percent from low-income families.

The lab school was not the first time Betsy helped pioneer such an initiative. She founded SMC’s Early Childhood Education program after joining the college’s faculty in 1971. Even after her retirement in 1997, one regret lingered. SMC had no affiliated school to enhance childhood learning while providing vital training to student educators. That regret turned into resolve when Betsy met Irene through their involvement in the volunteer Early Childhood Task Force. Committed to advocacy and community organizing since 1960, Irene made early childhood education a priority while chairing the Santa Monica Women’s Commission. Despite the hurdles they faced, the duo remained confident in their ultimate success.

“In Santa Monica, you don’t have to argue too much about how important education is,” Irene says. “What was hard, though, was getting the money.”

Once the community’s support for key bond measures and some City capital funding accomplished that, construction began on the Lab School in 2018. The school will enable students in SMC’s Early Childhood Education Department to put their classroom training into immediate practice. They will be exposed to the full range of early childhood development and care.

“I can only imagine how happy I would have been to have such a facility for our students when I was teaching at SMC,” Betsy says.

For more information, go to growingplace.org/lab-school.



Betsy & Irene



SHARING AN OPEN MAIN ST.

Celebrate the Reopening of Our Neighborhood
Main St. between Hill & Ashland and Ashland & Kinney

Reconnect with your friends and neighbors
Revisit favorite restaurants and shops, or explore new ones
Enjoy family-friendly activities and art displays

Sept. 18-19, 2021 • Oct. 16-17, 2021



UPCOMING ZERO WASTE EVENTS

Free to All Santa Monica Residents

PAPER SHREDDING, E-WASTE, AND MATTRESS RECYCLING EVENTS

Residents can bring paper for shredding and electronic waste, mattresses, and box springs for recycling.

Where: City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave.
When: Saturday, September 18 and Saturday, December 11 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Know Before You Go:

- There is a paper limit of five file boxes (approx. 12” x 17” x 9” each).
- There is no limit on e-waste, mattresses, and box springs.
- These are contactless events. Place your paper boxes and other recyclables in your trunk or back of your truck, and we will do the rest!



COMPOST GIVEAWAY

Pick up compost for your fall garden!

When: Saturday, October 16 and Sunday, October 17 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Where: City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave.

Know Before You Go:

- *Limit:* First come, first served while supply lasts. You may pick-up compost on both days if you need more!
- *What to bring:* You must bring a bag, bucket, or other container to transport your compost (required). You may also bring your own gloves and shovel (optional).
- *What will be provided:* Disposable gloves and shovels to use (disinfected after each use).

These events are free and exclusively for Santa Monica residents only. All residents must bring a Photo ID showing a Santa Monica address or other proof of residency to participate.

Questions? Email recycling@smgov.net or call (310)458-2223.

SANTA MONICA IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS – HIRE LOCAL, WORK LOCAL

Many local businesses see the advantages to hiring local. In fact, in a recent Santa Monica Business survey, 84% of businesses said they prefer to hire local. Pacific Park, KC Chocolatier, Shin Hair Salon, Perry's Café, Casa Martin, Ryan Edwards State Farm Insurance, Coco Food Delivery are just a few of the over 60 different Santa Monica employers who have posted jobs on the City's new Hire Local Jobs Board at santamonica.gov/hirelocal. Jobs have ranged from start-ups to food service to retail to hospitality to education with the largest percentage from restaurants.

A frequent user of the Hire Local Jobs Board, Bianca Smith, Site Director for Chrysalis Santa Monica says, "There are so many benefits to local hires for both the employer and employee, but also the consumer. Hiring local means investing in the community and in the individuals that live there. Local hires have a knowledge base of the community and are more inclined to spend their resources there too. Taking out a commute in someone's day adds to their overall mental well-being. That benefit alone to an employer should be substantial. Having a happy and healthy work-base equates to less sick days and higher retention, and employers can spend less time and money on recruitment."

These are only a few of the many benefits of hiring local. There are environmental benefits of hiring local too! Local hires have shorter commutes and greater ability to walk, bike, and take public transportation to work. This results in lower air pollution and greater community health.

Features of the job board include a biweekly email sent to over 800

contacts featuring the latest job postings. It also features employment resources including local training and job search services for job seekers. To post a job opening in Santa Monica or to sign up for the biweekly jobs email, visit santamonica.gov/hirelocal.

This work is part of the City of Santa Monica's Economic Recovery Task Force to accelerate local efforts to recover from COVID-19. This builds on work over the last year to make sure job seekers are ready to work, including the *Ready to Work Webinar* where local employment agencies, community and educational partners shared information about local employment and educational services. A seven part *Calling All Chefs Entrepreneur Workshop Series* with local chefs was also organized to bring broader awareness to how local chefs started their careers including what it takes to start and grow a food business, overcome obstacles, and build a local business. An 8-part webinar series titled *Calling all Trades: Jobs for a Green Economy* was also organized. Experienced educators and trades professionals shared challenges, successes and an insider perspectives about careers in the trades. A full list of local employment preparation, job search, career training classes and programs, and tech trainings are listed on the website at santamonica.gov/hirelocal.



WE LOVE YOU, SANTA MONICA!

It has been a tough year, and we know there are real challenges in front of us. As part of our economic recovery efforts and work to promote an authentic Santa Monica, we asked Santa Monicans to take a moment to share your love letter to Santa Monica: *when did you meet this city, how did you fall in love with Santa Monica, and why are you so passionate about this place?* Here are a few letters we received from community members, and we'd love to hear from you too! Be creative - type it, write it, record it, paint or snap a picture - just tell us what makes our community so special and why you love living here. Read more and add yours today at santamonica.gov/loveletters.

My lovely and unforgettable Santa Monica!!

It seems like yesterday when back in December of 1980 I met you for the first time. I must say, it was love at first sight and I could not resist your lovely weather, clean streets, diverse population, friendly environment and more than anything, your vibrant and healthy environment. Who would have thought, that a humble, naive and very curious young man from Mexico City would end up staying right here with you for the next 41 years!!

I was destined to live here under your sunny sky and always exciting surroundings. I'll never forget you my lovely beach city and I'll always call you in my own humble way:

MY TRUE HOMETOWN FOREVER!!

Jaime Garcia

In the 1970's Santa Monica offered our family education services for an autistic twelve year old boy who grew up to work in one of its grocery stores, and live in one of Community Corp's apartments.

MSM

*Queridísima Santa Monica,
Gracias por todos estos años felices.
Te llevo en el corazón.*

Beatriz

I moved to California from Boulder, CO in 1975 because I got so tired of the long winters. I am also a visual artist and wanted to live in a larger city that had museums and galleries. It was one of the best decisions of my life! I have been active in the feminist art movement for over 45 years and have many women artist friends who are intelligent, fun, adventurous and bring a lot of joy to my life. The climate here is fantastic and I really enjoy walking in Palisades Park. I can't imagine living anywhere else at this point.

Ann Isolde

We just moved to Santa Monica last month. We just retired but have a teen daughter. We left suburban living in the IE to be right in the middle of things, near the ocean and the full urban experience. We know SaMoHi will be good for our teen, and the lifestyle will be a joy for her and keep us active. We love the progressive vibe, diversity and open feeling. Our family is multiracial and we feel at home. The beautiful beach and great weather don't hurt either!

Alicia Fernandez

We came to California in 1979. I was nine months pregnant and we had a child that was almost three. A friend I met in NYC told us of a Doctor that does office deliveries and that his office was in Santa Monica. Our first child was born with MidWives and an office delivery sounded perfect. So, we had to move to Santa Monica. My husband not wanting to upset a very pregnant woman, agreed with the Santa Monica move. We took our son to the beach on our first outing and our son exclaimed "what a big sandbox." Poor child he was only familiar with what the small parks offered in Manhattan. Certainly no comparison. We bought a car and drove around looking for apartments. My husband really wanted to find something before the baby came. We stayed at the CalMar Hotel on 2nd Street which had little apartments and a pool. As we were driving around we saw a woman on a motorcycle wearing a crocheted lace bikini. This is not actually what I needed to see being a very full 9 months pregnant. It did not deter us and the August sun and the lovely surroundings changed our minds completely. That coupled with you do not argue with a nine month pregnant woman! I LOVE SANTA MONICA, crocheted bikinis and all.

Linda

I moved to Santa Monica for the open and active beach lifestyle in my early twenties as a progressive child of the sixties born originally on the east coast and leaving a conservative community in the valley. It felt like a healthy interesting progressive community of people with city vibes and lifelong learners. I loved the walking lifestyle of the city with nature easily accessible.

When I had children I discovered the wonderful schools district and staff who were family friendly and excellent to all learning styles. As I've grown older and am now a senior citizen more handicapped than not, there is a difference in how even each sidewalk tile and road is considered, maintained, and corners are ramped. I notice as I exit our neighborhood perimeter.

Santa Monica welcomes very young as well as a active creative community. Engaged elders of Santa Monica (like the League of Women Voters) continue to advocate for each member of the community and help to advocate for our Santa Monica "stay-cation lifestyle".

Santa Monica Gem

I first moved to Santa Monica, three years ago, after my late wife Kathleen died in Monroe, NC.

I am now living with a college friend who I have known for 40 years.

She has lived here for 35 years!

Santa Monica has the wonderful beach community vibe along with a strong historical base of both community and culture.

It is filled with wonderful shops, restaurants, galleries and hotels. It is the quintessential vacation destination!

I will never leave this community,

Much Love & Respect.

Ross Rylance

SANTA MONICA VOTES ON THE GUBERNATORIAL RECALL ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 14

The early mail-in voting period for the Governor's Recall Election is underway and ends at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14. Ballots have been mailed to registered voters, so check your mailboxes and registration status to make sure you receive a ballot to vote. Ballot Drop Boxes located at the Ocean Park and Montana Libraries, Virginia Avenue and Marine Parks and the Downtown Expo Station are open to accept ballots and parking is available at all locations. Remember to sign your ballot envelope to assist with the counting process and to track the status of your ballot at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov. If voting in-person, please follow current Los Angeles County regulations regarding face coverings. Election results will be available by mid- to late October. Visit lavote.net or call **(800) 815-2666** for more information on your voter registration, the nearest Ballot Drop Box or Vote Center location.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

September 4: 11-Day Vote Centers open and Conditional Voter Registration available. Visit lavote.net for a list of locations and wait time tracking.

September 7: Last Day for LA County to mail Vote-By-Mail Ballots. Check your voter registration status and mailing address and track your ballot to make sure you receive a ballot.

September 11: 4-Day Vote Centers open

(Reed Park, Civic Center Parking Structure's SMI Room and Santa Monica College) and Conditional Voter Registration available. Visit lavote.net for a list of more locations and wait time tracking.

September 14: Election Day – All Vote Centers and Ballot Drop-Boxes open until 8 p.m.

September 21: Last day for LA County to accept Vote-By-Mail Ballots by mail. All ballots must be postmarked by September 14.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE RESUMES PASSPORT SERVICES



Need a new passport to travel this winter? Limited passport services are available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall again. Here's what you need to know about applying for a passport at the Clerk's Office:

WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

Appointments are only available Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Applications will only be accepted from adults applying for a first-time or replacement passport, and minors applying for first-time or renewal passport.

WHAT SERVICES ARE NOT AVAILABLE?

Photo services are currently not available. You must provide one passport photo, taken within the last six months, with your application.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- Processing fees to the City may be paid by money order, cashier's check, or credit card (subject to a 2.95% fee). No cash will be accepted.
- Processing times are currently 12-18 weeks for regular service and 6-12 weeks for expedited service. Please keep this in mind when applying for visas and making travel arrangements.
- Face coverings must be worn at all times while in City Hall.

To make an appointment or for more information, visit smgov.net/passports or call **(310) 458-8211**.

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND REOPENING INFO

City Council Meetings

September 14, September 28, October 5, October 12, October 26, and November 9 at 5:30 p.m.

City Council will be held via teleconference during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Latest info: santamonica.gov/latest-city-council-meeting-information

Boards and Commissions

This list includes all scheduled meetings as of our printing deadline. Times, locations, and meeting dates may change due to COVID-19 protocols and/or reopening schedules. For the latest updates and information regarding all Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces, go to smgov.net/boards or call **(310) 458-8211**.

Airport Commission

September 27, October 25, and November 22 at 4 p.m.

Architectural Review Board

September 20, October 18, and November 15 at 7 p.m.

Arts Commission

November 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Clean Beaches & Ocean Committee

November 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Housing Commission

September 16, October 21, and November 18 at 6 p.m.

Landmarks Commission

September 13 and November 8 at 7 p.m.

Library Board

September 9 and November 4 at 7 p.m.

Personnel Board

September 23, October 28, and November 25 at 4:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

September 1, September 8, September 22, September 23, October 20, November 3, and November 17 at 5:30 p.m.

Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission

September 9 and October 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation and Parks Commission

September 16, October 21, and November 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Rent Control Board

September 9, October 14, and November 11 at 7 p.m.

Sustainability, Environmental Justice and the Environment

September 20, October 18, and November 15 at 7 p.m.

City Facility Reopening Information

City facilities will continue to reopen with restrictions on a rolling basis. Facility improvements to ensure a safe reopening for the community and efforts to make necessary changes to programming due to modified operating hours, staff reductions, and infection control guidance are in progress. Conditions may change based on current COVID-19 public health requirements. For the latest updates, visit santamonica.gov/coronavirus-reopenings.

Seascope is a publication of the City of Santa Monica, designed to inform the community about City programs and services. Info is up-to-date as of the 8/18 printing deadline. Please email comments to manager@santamonica.gov or mail to:

Seascope
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street, Room 209
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Para obtener una copia en español de *Seascope*, envíe un correo electrónico a manager@santamonica.gov. Una copia digital puede ser enviada por correo electrónico inmediatamente; proporcione su dirección de correo completa para una copia impresa.

Seascope is printed on recycled paper. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Seascope is available in alternate formats by calling the City Manager's Office at (310) 458-8301 (TDD/TTY (310) 917-6626).