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Central Basin Violated Meeting Laws, Then
Hired Law Firm Linked to Scandal to Sue Fired GM

Central Basin board members sued former GM after firing him in closed session, using tainted law firm and violating conflict-of-interest laws.

By Brian Hews

Dr. Alex Rojas, the former General Manager of Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin), was fired by the board last year under circumstances many observers—and legal experts—have called outright illegal. Rojas has since filed a lawsuit to regain his job, arguing that the board violated public agency rules, government code, and state laws in removing him from his post.

Now, in a twist, the same

board members who fired him are asking a judge for permission to countersue Rojas in the same case.

LCCN has obtained court documents filed May 14, 2025, showing Central Basin Board members Nem Ochoa, Joanna Moreno, and Juan Garza (OMG) asked a judge for permission to file a cross-complaint against Rojas—alleging he breached his contract, misused public funds, and personally benefited from more than \$120,000 in improper payments.

And, in a stunning move, OMG approved, with Directors Gary Mendez and Jim Crawford also approving, the hiring of the Buchalter law firm. Buchalter was itself a defendant in a 2013 whistleblower corruption lawsuit involving a secret

[See LAWSUIT, page 4]



CERRITOS CITY HALL MONUMENT GETS FINAL TOUCHES

2,500 POUND MONUMENT: Technicians put the finishing touches on the over two-ton monument, back right, outside the Cerritos Sheriff’s Station/Community Safety Center. Photo by Brian Hews.

By Brian Hews

In February, the City of Cerritos unveiled a striking new tribute to first responders—a collection of bronze sculptures, granite memorials, and a 9/11 monument—installed in a newly created public gathering space at Cerritos City Hall.

Elected officials, community members, and the Cerritos City Council gathered outside the Cerritos Sheriff’s Station/Community Safety Center to honor the service and sacrifice of public safety personnel. The dedication included musical performances, a moment of silence, and remarks from City Council members and dignitaries.

The City partnered with artist Gary Alsum and the National Sculptors’ Guild to create and install the memorial. Alsum is a nationally recognized sculptor known for his bronze figurative works that pay tribute to military service members, first responders, and civic heroes. His pieces are noted for their emotional realism and depictions of courage and sacrifice.

The centerpiece of the tribute includes three bronze statues: a firefighter in the act of a rescue, a deputy sheriff, and a sheriff’s K-9 handler with his canine partner.

Also featured is a granite memorial pillar honoring Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department Detectives Donald William Schneider and Carl Eugene Wilson, who lost their lives while serving in Cerritos in 1973. This past week, the

[See MONUMENT, page 2]

Assault on Democracy: Calif. Sen. Padilla
Handcuffed at Homeland Security Presser



SENATOR ALEX PADILLA, D-Calif. (above) attended a press briefing in Los Angeles yesterday where DHS Secretary Kristi Noem was speaking about immigration raids and protests. Padilla attempted to ask a question, “I am Senator Alex Padilla. I have questions for the secretary,” but was forcibly removed, pressed face-down, and handcuffed by federal agents in the hallway. Later on Fox News, despite video showing he identified himself, Noem was caught in a bald-faced lie when she said “he did not identify himself.” There are also pictures of Noem with Padilla during her nomination process.

Pico Rivera Approves First Step Toward
New Digital Billboard on I-605

By Brian Hews

In a move aimed at boosting city revenues and expanding advertising opportunities for local businesses, the Pico Rivera City Council on May 27 voted to introduce and waive the first reading of an ordinance approving a Development Agreement with Outfront Media for the construction of a new digital billboard along the I-605 freeway

at 3900 Baybar Road.

The agreement, if finalized, will net the City a \$35,000 implementation fee upon permit issuance and a guaranteed minimum annual payment of \$100,000 for the first ten years. If the developer opts to extend the lease another decade, the minimum annual payment increases to \$110,000. These revenues will be credited to the

[See PICO RIVERA, page PB]

Bellflower’s Permit Reform Draws Regional
Attention for Speed and Accountability

Bellflower’s programs cut red tape, speed up construction timelines, and attract attention from cities seeking smarter permit solutions.

By Brian Hews

As cities across California struggle with housing delays and bureaucratic red tape, the City of Bellflower has quietly carved out a reputation for getting projects moving—without sacrificing oversight or safety. Thanks to its streamlined self-certification process and a flexible Owner-Builder program, Bellflower is now being looked at as a model for cities seeking to modernize their permitting systems.

Under Bellflower’s self-certification program, licensed architects and engineers can move forward with construction faster by certifying that their submitted plans comply with all applicable codes and regulations. But contrary to common belief, the city doesn’t simply approve these projects and step aside.

Bellflower City Manager Ryan Smoot told Los Cerritos Community News, “The licensed professional submitting the project certifies with the City that the project as designed meets all of the necessary codes and requirements. Once the project is submitted and fees

are paid, the permit is issued—at their own risk—and City staff still conducts its usual reviews and plan checks through various departments.”

According to Smoot, this includes inspections during construction and reviews by external agencies when necessary. If problems are found in the field, the city issues a courtesy list of items to be corrected—but the responsibility remains squarely with the licensed professional to resolve any code violations before final sign-off.

“The process is intended to allow the licensed professional and contractor to start construction as quickly as possible and accept the professional responsibility for any corrections during the inspection process,” Smoot said.

Bellflower also stands apart for its adoption of the California Fire Code rather than the more restrictive LA County Fire Code. Fire plan reviews are conducted locally through a contractor, adding to the city’s control over timelines. While the number of projects submitted under self-certification has been relatively small, the program is gaining interest—especially in the wake of recent wildfires that have spurred rebuilding efforts across the region.

“We have had a significant increase in inquiries about the program related to the recent fires,” Smoot said. “We’ve also

[See BELLFLOWER, page PB]

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Pasadena Chalk Festival Brings the Streets to Life



OLD PASADENA will transform into a vibrant “Museum Without Walls,” on Father’s Day from 10:00am - 7:00pm. Drawing by Yuji Baba. Photo by Johnny Perez.

By Brian Hews

Each summer, Old Pasadena transforms into a vibrant “Museum Without Walls,” where asphalt turns into canvas and hundreds of artists use nothing but chalk and imagination to craft jaw-dropping street murals. This year is no different and will occur Father’s Day from 10:00am - 7:00pm.

The 2024 Pasadena Chalk Festival, held at The Paseo at 300 E. Colorado Blvd., once again dazzled thousands with a breathtaking blend of whimsy, skill, and emotional resonance.

From clever cartoons to painstaking recreations of fine art classics, the festival’s chalk murals ran the gamut: cute characters mingled with soul-stirring tributes, surreal landscapes gave way to powerful statements, and the occasional light-hearted joke in color made even the most serious art lovers smile. The sheer range of styles—from hyperrealist portraits to pop-art explosions—demonstrated the remarkable diversity and talent of Southern California’s creative community.

“Every summer, we put together this event so that hundreds of skilled artists can create large, colorful chalk murals in a wide variety of styles and subject matter,” organizers told Los Cerritos Community News. “We’re always amazed by the talent and heart our artists bring to the pavement.”

Despite the summer heat, festivalgoers

came in droves, snapping photos, chatting with artists, and even casting votes for their favorite creations. Attendees also enjoyed live music, art-themed vendors, and a popular Silent Auction that showcased framed versions of some of the weekend’s most celebrated designs.

Importantly, the Pasadena Chalk Festival isn’t just about the art—it’s also about impact. Proceeds from merchandise and the auction go to support Light Bringer Project’s arts education initiatives, which serve local youth year-round.

“All funds raised support the arts education programs of Light Bringer Project,” organizers said. “We thank everyone who showed up, braved the heat, and supported our mission. This event doesn’t happen without our participating artists, volunteers, sponsors—or the amazing art lovers who make it all worthwhile.”

Planning Your Trip from Cerritos

From Cerritos area, it’s a straight shot up the 605 and 210 freeways:

Driving Directions:

Take the 605 North to the 210 West, exit at Lake Avenue, and head south. Turn right on Colorado Boulevard. The Paseo and festival entrance will be on your right. Parking: Ample parking is available at The Paseo’s garage or nearby public lots.

The Pasadena Chalk Festival is free to attend and suitable for all ages. For more information on next year’s event or to support arts education, visit lightbringer-project.org.

La Mirada Public Hearing: Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps

The City of La Mirada will hold a Public Hearing on June 24 to consider the adoption of the updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map for Local Responsibility Areas (LRA).

The updated map, released by the California State Fire Marshal on March 24 identifies areas in Los Angeles County at moderate, high, or very high risk for wildfire hazards.

To comply with California Government Code Section 51179, the City of La Mirada must adopt these maps by ordinance within 120 days of their release.

In accordance with California Government Code Section 51178.5, fire hazard zones are determined based on fuel load, slope, fire weather, and other relevant conditions such as wind patterns.

These designations help communities plan and prepare for potential wildfire threats.

The City Council will consider adopting the new LRA map via local ordinance during its regularly scheduled meetings on June 24 and July 8, 2025.

Meeting agendas and related documents will be available online at www.cityoflamirada.org and at La Mirada City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Blvd., beginning the Friday before each meeting.

Public comments are encouraged and may be submitted via email to malfonso@cityoflamirada.org or by mail to City Hall through June 24, 2025.

MONUMENT from page 1

memorial was further expanded with the installation of a second granite monument—over two tons in weight—set into place with a crane. The concrete base was finalized on Friday.

“Cerritos is honored to join with our community to recognize the commitment of our public safety officials,” Cerritos City Manager Robert A. Lopez told *Los Cerritos Community News*. “We are proud to offer this memorial as a symbol of their bravery in the face of danger and of maintaining a safe environment in which to live.”

The memorial is located at the Cerritos Civic Center outside the Sheriff’s Station and Community Safety Center at 18135 Bloomfield Avenue. On-site parking is available. In the event of inclement weather, future ceremonies will be held inside the Cerritos City Council Chamber, adjacent to the memorial.



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Artesia Councilmember Ramoso Joins Other Area Mayors in Call to End Occupation and ICE Raids



ARTESIA COUNCILMEMBER MELISSA RAMOSO with Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass joined other local Mayors and elected city leaders from across L.A. County at a press conference at L.A. City Hall calling to end the ICE raids/sweeps. The group also called to end the Marines and National Guard occupation, below.



La Mirada City Council Reorganizes; Ed Eng Named Mayor



NEW MAYOR: La Mirada City Council (L-R) Councilmember John Lewis, Mayor Ed Eng, Councilmember Michelle Velasquez Bean and Councilmember Steve De Ruse.

LCCN Staff Report

The La Mirada City Council conducted its annual reorganization on Tuesday, June 10, selecting Ed Eng as Mayor for the 2025-26 term. Councilmember Anthony A. Otero was selected to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem each serve one-year terms.

Ed Eng was first elected to the City Council in 2015 and re-elected in 2020 and 2024. This will be his third term as Mayor. He has been a resident of La Mirada since 1990 and is a bestselling author, business professor, Board

advisor, and former senior executive at a Fortune 500 company.

Mayor Pro Tem Anthony A. Otero was elected to the City Council in 2020 and re-elected in 2024. This will be his second term as Mayor Pro Tem. He has been a resident of

La Mirada since 2007 and is currently a Police Captain-Commanding Officer.

Also serving on the City Council are Michelle Velasquez Bean, Steve De Ruse, and John Lewis.

For more information, call La Mirada City Hall at (562) 943-0131.



NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING

The ABC Unified School District Board of Education will consider an action item regarding the potential consolidation and reconfiguration of some ABCUSD schools at the June 17, 2025, meeting.

- To date, the Board has taken the following steps regarding the consolidation and reconfiguration of schools:
- May 20, 2025 - Accepted a report from SchoolWorks with recommendations to consolidate and reconfigure ABCUSD schools.
 - June 3, 2025 - Conducted a Public Hearing to receive input from students, families, staff, and the community regarding the potential consolidation and reconfiguration of ABCUSD schools.

- The recommendation to consolidate and reconfigure schools:
- Reconfigure District Middle Schools to Include Grades 6, 7, and 8 as a measure to avoid potential middle school consolidation in the future.
 - Consolidate four elementary schools (Aloha, Furgeson, Juarez, Stowers) to address declining enrollment and the transition of 6th-grade students to district middle schools.
 - Reconfigure Whitney High School to include out-of-district students to offset declining enrollment and include 6th-grade students, effectively creating a Whitney Middle School.

The Board will now consider the consolidation and reconfiguration of ABCUSD schools:

Tuesday, June 17, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
ABC Unified School District
District Office
16700 Norwalk Boulevard
Cerritos, CA 90703

Or, watch the meeting on the Board Meeting Broadcast Channel on YouTube at ABCUSDBoardMeetings.

La Mesa Directiva de Educación del Distrito Escolar Unificado de ABC considerará un punto de acción con respecto a la posible consolidación y reconfiguración de algunas escuelas del distrito ABCUSD en la reunión del 17 de junio de 2025.

- Hasta la fecha, la Mesa Directiva de Educación ha tomado los siguientes pasos con respecto a la consolidación y reconfiguración de escuelas:
- 20 de mayo de 2025 - Aceptó un informe de SchoolWorks con recomendaciones para consolidar y reconfigurar las escuelas de ABCUSD.
 - 3 de junio de 2025 - Llevó a cabo una audiencia pública para recibir comentarios de estudiantes, familias, personal y miembros de la comunidad sobre la posible consolidación y reconfiguración de escuelas de ABCUSD.

- La recomendación para consolidar y reconfigurar incluye:
- Reconfigurar las escuelas secundarias del distrito para incluir los grados 6, 7 y 8 como una medida para evitar una posible consolidación de escuelas secundarias en el futuro.
 - Consolidar cuatro escuelas primarias (Aloha, Furgeson, Juárez y Stowers) para abordar la disminución en las inscripciones y la transición de estudiantes de sexto grado a las escuelas secundarias del distrito.
 - Reconfigurar Whitney High School para incluir estudiantes de fuera del distrito con el fin de compensar la disminución en las inscripciones y estudiantes de sexto grado, creando así una escuela secundaria, Whitney Middle School.

La Mesa Directiva de Educación ahora considerará la consolidación y reconfiguración de las escuelas del distrito ABCUSD:

Martes, 17 de junio de 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Distrito Escolar Unificado de ABC
Oficina del Distrito
16700 Norwalk Boulevard
Cerritos, CA 90703

O, vea la reunión en el canal de transmisión de la Mesa Directiva de Educación en YouTube en ABCUSDBoardMeetings.



RALPH’S EMPLOYEES happy about the strike authorization and better wages.

45,000 Authorize Strike at Southern California Ralphs, Albertsons, Vons, and Pavilions Stores

This week, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) local unions representing 45,000 grocery store workers, announced an overwhelming membership vote in favor of authorizing their bargaining team to call for an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) strike to protest Kroger and Albertsons’ labor violations throughout negotiations that have prevented workers from getting the fair contract they deserve. Kroger and Albertsons are the parent companies of Ralphs, Vons, and Pavilions grocery stores.

“The results are in, and we have overwhelmingly voted to authorize an Unfair Labor Practice strike at Ralphs, Albertsons, Vons, and Pavilions throughout Southern California. For four months, we’ve negotiated with Kroger and Albertsons, offering

solutions to the staff shortage crisis that hurts store operations, working conditions, and customer service. The companies have dismissed our proposals and claimed that our concerns were ‘anecdotal’, downplaying the real challenges we and our customers face daily.

Grocery shoppers are also feeling frustrated by major grocery chains like Kroger and Albertsons, and recent reports show why. Consumer Reports caught Kroger overcharging customers by 18.4%, while the Economic Roundtable’s “Bullies at the Table” study shows 92% of workers have witnessed this practice.

Negotiations are scheduled to continue on June 25, 26 and 27.

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LAWSUIT from page 1

\$2.75 million slush fund run out of Central Basin. Director Art Chacon voted no, Director Leticia Vasquez was absent.

In 2019, Buchalter and its insurance carrier agreed to pay \$750,000 as part of a \$2.25 million settlement after a secret fund designed to funnel taxpayer money to politically connected insiders was found.

That fund was established during illegal closed-session meetings in 2010 and 2012, according to the lawsuit, and confirmed in sworn testimony by former disgraced General Manager Art Aguilar.

“We didn’t want anybody to know what we were doing, which is very difficult for a public agency,” Aguilar admitted in his deposition—testimony that underscored the board’s blatant violation of the Brown Act and financial transparency laws.

Now, the same law firm that once helped manage a secret, off-the-books slush fund is back—this time trying to go after Rojas. In essence, a firm that paid Central Basin to settle a corruption lawsuit is now representing the agency to silence a former general manager who’s alleging additional misconduct and retaliation.

Director Leticia Vasquez told LCCN, “The Central Basin Board, GM Elaine Jeng, and Central Basin lawyers were all informed that Buchalter was a party in the 2019 settlement. They also were all provided with a copy of the lawsuit. Nevertheless, the board majority voted to hire them.”

But the backdrop of the Rojas countersuit raises serious legal and ethical concerns.

Rojas was fired during a closed session without proper public reporting—a

violation of the Brown Act, Government Code § 54950 et seq., which requires that actions taken in closed session by public agencies must be disclosed, otherwise known as “reporting out.”

Under the Code, public agencies are required to report final actions, including contract approvals or employment terminations, along with the votes or abstentions of each member. In Rojas’ case, no such disclosure occurred.

The firing also violated an employment agreement Rojas had negotiated and also a clause that gave Rojas six months to respond to allegations of corruption before he could be terminated.

Additionally, under Gov. Code § 54956.9, closed-session discussions about pending litigation are permitted, but any action taken—such as retaining outside legal counsel—must be reported once the contract is finalized and secrecy is no longer necessary.

In Central Basin’s case, the District not only failed to report Rojas’ firing but illegally voted to flip the legal narrative by hiring Buchalter and then filing the countersuit.

The problem with the countersuit is Central Basin’s firing of Rojas was tainted from the start.

Legal experts note that any cross-claims based on that firing are compromised by the fact that the termination itself is void under the Code when the Central Basin Board did not disclose Rojas’ termination.

“It’s like illegally evicting someone and then suing them for breaking the lease,” one municipal law observer told LCCN.

Additionally, there are serious violations of California Government Codes and conflict-of-interest laws related to OMG and the countersuit.

Under California Government Code

§87100, no public official shall make, participate in making, or use their position to influence a governmental decision in which they know or have reason to know they have a financial interest.

Furthermore, Government Code §1090 prohibits public officials from having a financial interest in contracts made by them in their official capacity. However, litigation is not technically a contract; initiating legal action that personally benefits the voting board members—especially when they are named parties—triggers conflict-of-interest red flags.

In this case, OMG, all named as respondents, should have recused themselves from any vote authorizing litigation where they are directly involved. The decision to sue Rojas should have been made solely by the remaining four uninvolved board members: Gary Mendez, Jim Crawford, Art Chacon, and Leticia Vasquez.

Noting the vote of Director Chacon as a “No” when they initially hired Buchalter and Director Vasquez’s disdain for the firm, the countersuit authorization would not have passed.

Yet OMG voted to initiate and authorize the countersuit in which they are named, which is invalid under both §87100 and §1090 and potentially voidable in court.

“They should have recused themselves,” said a local attorney familiar with public ethics law. “When you’re the one being sued, you can’t use your public office to vote yourself into a defense strategy. It’s basic conflict-of-interest law.”

The court must now decide whether to allow the countersuit—essentially asking whether the District can legally go on the offensive despite violating the rules in the first place.

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Major Valley View Ave Rehab. Project in La Mirada

The City of La Mirada has announced it is accepting sealed bids for a major public works project that will rehabilitate a key corridor through the city. Capital Improvement Project No. 2018-06 will focus on the full pavement rehabilitation of Valley View Avenue from Imperial Highway to Rosecrans Avenue, a critical stretch that sees high daily traffic volumes and serves as a connector between multiple cities.

The scope of the project includes more than just resurfacing. According to city documents, the work will encompass sidewalks, curb and gutter replacement, cross gutter installations, ADA-compliant curb ramps, utility adjustments, fresh traffic striping, and the installation of new traffic signal detector loops.

Contractors interested in bidding must access the full project specifications and documentation via American Reprographics Company (ARC). Plans can be downloaded for free by visiting the ARC Southern California website. For assistance, ARC's Costa Mesa office can be contacted at (949) 660-1150 or via email at costamesa.planwell@e-arc.com

Sealed bids must be delivered to the La Mirada City Clerk's office no later than 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025. Bids must be submitted using the official forms provided in the project's plans and specifications packet. Late submissions or improperly formatted bids will not be accepted.

City officials emphasized that they reserve the right to reject any or all proposals, modify bid scopes, or waive minor technicalities during the selection process.

For local contractors and infrastructure firms, this project represents one of the more significant public works opportunities in Southeast L.A. County this summer.

Pre-Registration for La Palma's 43rd Annual Fitness Run for Fun

It's time to lace up your running shoes and show off your patriotic spirit—La Palma's 43rd Annual Fitness Run for Fun returns Thursday, July 4, offering a festive and health-focused way to kick off Independence Day celebrations.

Now in its 43rd year, the event welcomes participants of all ages and abilities, featuring competitive 5K and 10K races, a non-competitive 5K walk, and the ever-popular Yankee Doodle Dash for children ages 2 through 12. Runners, walkers, and spectators alike are invited to come out and celebrate community and country at this time-honored tradition.

Online pre-registration is currently open and will remain available until Wednesday, July 3. The cost to participate in the 5K Run/Walk is \$48.70, while entry

into the 10K Run is \$59.30. Children participating in the Yankee Doodle Dash can register for \$11.60. For those looking to fuel up after the race, tickets for the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast are available for \$10.

The event begins bright and early on the Fourth of July and will culminate with an awards ceremony at 9:30 a.m. at the Central Park Pavilion. The top three finishers in each race category will be awarded cash prizes. All participants who cross the finish line will receive a finisher medal in recognition of their achievement.

After crossing the finish line—or cheering on family and friends—attendees can enjoy a hearty pancake breakfast served by the Kiwanis Club, a long-standing community tradition in La Palma. The breakfast and awards ceremony provide a festive atmosphere for reconnecting with neighbors and kicking off a full day of holiday festivities.

As a reminder to residents and visitors, full and partial street closures will be in effect until approximately 10 a.m. to ensure the safety of race participants and spectators.

For more information or to register online, visit www.cityoflapalma.org/run or contact the La Palma Community Services Division at 714-690

Bellflower Summer Streetfest

Get ready for six nights of live music, dancing and family fun! Bellflower's Summer Streetfests concert series is back with

a lively lineup of bands, food, crafts, local vendors and games provided by Bellflower Recreation in Motion (B.R.I.M.). Admission is free and open to the public.

Concert Schedule:

Thursday, June 19: Under Cover Live
Thursday, June 26: Anything for Salinas
Thursday, July 10: Stone Soul Thursday,
July 17: The Trip **Thursday, July 24:** Suave **Thursday, July 31:** 80z All Stars

Summer Streetfests take place from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Bellflower Boulevard between Flower Street and Mayne Street. Don't forget to bring a lawn chair! Parking is available in the nearby structures at City Hall or on Bellflower Boulevard and Mayne Street

Cerritos Library's Summer Reading Program Turns 50

The community is invited to the Cerritos Library's Summer Reading Program 50th Anniversary Celebration from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Saturday, June

21. The free celebration will include special programs for all ages and the event will take place outside of the main entrance of the library in the esplanade. Cerritos Library is located at 18025 Bloomfield Avenue.

The event is generously supported by Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and the Friends of the Cerritos Library. The Summer Reading Program has encouraged thousands of children, teens, and adults to read during the summer and awarded those who completed the required

reading with a new book of their choice and a custom tote bag. This year's theme is "Reading is Always in Style."

For more information, please call the Cerritos Library Children's Help Desk at (562) 916-1343 during the library's operating hours of 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

A list of activities taking place on June 21 will include the following while supplies last: Activities for Adults and Teens:

- Bookmark Decorating
- Mosaic Art
- Rock Painting Activities for Families:

- Balloon Twisting
- Caricatures
- Drone Flying for Kids
- Face Painting
- Petting Zoo and Pony Walk
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From the Mayor’s Desk: June 13, 2025

By Cerritos Mayor
Frank Aurelio Yokoyama

The City of Cerritos prides itself in being a welcoming community for businesses and visitors.

With establishments like the City-owned Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA), our beautiful Library and parks system, and private business at the Cerritos Auto Square and Cerritos Industrial Park, quality entertainment and services are plentiful. And they’re only continuing to grow.

Our unique shopping centers, restaurants, and industrial areas are vital to the City’s long-term success, and in direct alignment with Strategic Plan Goal Number 4: Strengthen Economic Development.

The Cerritos City Council is pleased to have recently welcomed to town Da Vien coffee, joined in a ribbon cutting this past Monday at TP Tea, and is looking forward to the upcoming grand re-opening of 24 Hour Fitness. We’re also excited by the recent announcement of five new stores at Los Cerritos Center: Alo, Aritzia, Gorjana, Korheim, and Pop Mart.

These businesses, and countless more, are vital to our local economy, and continue to be a focal point during

the City Council’s ongoing budget process. As I shared in last week’s column, sales tax revenue makes up about one-third of the City’s overall revenues and just over 40% of our General Fund. This is why it’s important that the City continue to explore new business opportunities and ensure current businesses can prosper. That is done in part through strong partnerships, business-friendly practices and long-term strategies, and by celebrating these organizations for their valuable services.

In addition to the City’s participation in ribbon cuttings, each month we are pleased to feature a long-time business for our Business Spotlight Program. These businesses have chosen Cerritos as their home and their stories highlight the benefits of locating in Cerritos.

We’re not only proud to have a thriving business community, but thankful to the customers who drive their success. Cerritos residents and visitors should expect top-notch service, quality products, and feel encouraged to return. We’re grateful for your patronage and appreciate your feedback as we explore new service opportunities.

During my State of the City address, I will talk more about recent business growth in Cerritos, and highlight new partners and strategies that will positively impact our economy for years to come. I hope you’ve made plans to join us on Tuesday, June 24 at 11:30 a.m. at the CCPA, and I ask that you continue to do your part to support the local economy.

City of Criminals? Spare Us, Kristi Noem. L.A. Balances a \$14B Budget. You Can’t Even Fund a Prison Without a Loan.

Kristi Noem thinks Los Angeles is a “city of criminals.” That’s rich—coming from a governor whose entire state has fewer people than our parking tickets.

And they way she treated Senator Alex Padilla yesterday shows she will treat anyone like a criminal.

Last week, Noem took a break from shooting puppies in her political memoir to parachute into a Fox News segment, where she called Los Angeles a “train wreck” and a “city of criminals,” citing ICE raids and her apparent belief that anyone holding a leaf blower or sewing a hem in the garment district must secretly be a cartel kingpin. The irony? She made those remarks while overseeing a South Dakota state budget barely scraping past \$7 billion—half of what Mayor Karen Bass juggles every year in L.A., often while the city is literally on fire.

Let’s get this straight. In 2023, Los Angeles reported 30,574 violent crimes—on a base population of 3.8 million. That’s a rate of roughly 795 per 100,000 residents. Not ideal, sure. But in that same year, crime across L.A. actually dropped: aggravated assaults, rapes, shootings—all trending downward. And homicides? Down 14% in early 2024. You know what we call that in the budget world? A return on investment.

Meanwhile, South Dakota, with its population of 880,000, logged 2,626 violent crimes in 2023—yielding a rate of 289 per 100,000. Lower, yes, but also not surprising when the most dangerous place in town is probably a combine harvester. And yet, while South Dakota struggles to fund basic services (Gov. Noem is scrambling

to cover \$2 billion in projected prison upgrades), she has the audacity to lecture Los Angeles—a city with more people, more complexity, and more economic output in one freeway interchange than South Dakota produces in a fiscal year.

Here’s the kicker: most of the so-called “criminals” ICE has been targeting in L.A. are working. They’ve been here for years. They wash your cars, fold your laundry, staff your hospitals, sew your clothes. They pay taxes, raise kids, and send them to school. If being poor and brown is now the new standard for military deployment, then Kristi Noem’s South Dakota better start watching its own trailer parks.

Bass, for all her challenges, is managing a nearly \$14 billion budget shortfall while still keeping public safety afloat, expanding housing programs, and pushing back against federal overreach. Noem? She’s proposing a prison budget ballooning past \$600 million while warning about the dangers of Los Angeles like she’s never left the set of *Yellowstone*.

Let’s be clear: Kristi Noem didn’t call in Marines because L.A. is dangerous. She did it because it’s useful theater. And if rounding up dishwasher dads and sewing-machine moms under the cover of a Marine deployment is her idea of leadership, then it’s no wonder South Dakota can’t afford its own infrastructure without an IOU from Washington.

Keep your budget lectures and your boot-stomping slogans to yourself. And please keep your lying, anti-democratic butt out of our city.

The Only Non-Immigrants in America Are American Indians – Everyone Else Is a Guest

The American Indians are the original inhabitants of America. Everyone else is an immigrant. The Spanish colonized the Southwest from the 1600s through the 1800s, building infrastructure and settlements that eventually became cities such as Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and other major cities in the Southwest. Spanish settlers who intermarried with the local American Indian population formed a new mixed-heritage group – Mestizos – that became the Mexican people, with both American Indian and European genetic ancestry.

The ‘Mexican’ or Latin American population that later immigrated here have genetic ancestry connected to the original Native American Indian people. As more Anglo-European settlers moved west and settled into the Southwest, they eventually wanted to control the region with their Republican government and came into conflict with the Spanish/Indigenous population.

The conflict escalated into a war – the Mexican-American War – that resulted in the defeat of the Mexican army under General Santa Anna, who (contrary to popular myth) did not surrender at the Alamo, which occurred in 1836 in San Antonio, not in 1848 or in Laredo. With the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico ceded nearly half its territory to the U.S., including present-day California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

It was a huge loss for Mexico, but the Mexican population who remained in the Southwest were accepted as new citizens of the Republic and retained their property after the change in government. The original Spanish ‘land grants’ and property deeds remained intact and were adopted into the legal systems of the United States. Santa Anna accepted a payment of \$15 million for the forfeited Southwest territory, with the Rio Grande River established as the border.

It’s helpful to keep this history in mind as we now explore the issue of immigration. Anyone who is not an American Indian is

an immigrant. Those Mexican people who intermarried with the Spanish colonists and who retain partial American Indian genetics have a legitimate historical claim to rights to land in the Southwest.

Others of us who don’t have American Indian ancestry are really uninvited guests, who have perhaps overstayed their welcome. Of course, we who later immigrated here have made important contributions to the development of the Southwest. But even though we have made contributions that we can be proud of, we are obliged to respect the original people here and honor their original control of this property.

Those who have immigrated here should have the right to apply for citizenship. If they are productive and contributing to the economy, they should have the right to stay, and pay taxes. Rather than ‘raids’ and forced deportation, we are obliged to give them the opportunity to apply for citizenship, learn English, and pass the citizenship test, so that they become fully integrated into the new government here.

Raids and aggressive deportation procedures are a huge expense. We are also losing valuable workers who support our economy and who are vital to our success. This proposed solution for collecting the citizenship application fee and costs is income producing, rather than an unnecessary expense and cruelty of separating families and punishing ‘illegal’ immigrants who have lived here for years and greatly benefited our economy.

We label them ‘illegal,’ but actually, the only people with an undisputed historical claim to this land are the American Indians. Let’s keep our perspective and view our situation in the rightful historical context. Let’s be respectful of the important contributions of all immigrants as we find peaceful and economically beneficial solutions that can empower our future.

– Lydia E. Ringwald

Find our paper at these convenient locations:

AAA 18642 S. Gridley	Cerritos Senior Center 12340 South St.	7822 Walker St
ABC Adult School 12254 Cuesta Dr.	Cevitas Coffee 14218 Rosecrans Ave	La Palma Community Center 7822 Walker St
ABC District Office 17215 Studebaker Road Suite 290 Cerritos, CA 90703	CTA Travel 12750 Center Ct Dr S.	La Palma Intercomm. Hospital Liberty Park 9211 Studebaker Rd,
ABCFT 19444 Norwalk Blvd.	ContunEM 6430 South St	Long Beach Memorial 2801 Atlantic Ave.
Aikan Sushi 12155 South St	Don Knabe Park At the Tennis Center	Manila Sunset 13347 South St
All Cerritos Parks	Foggia Deli 5522 Del Amo Blvd.	Massage & Stone 13247 South St.
Amor Y Tacos 13333 South St	Grocery Outlet 15745 Imperial Hwy,	Medipost 13299 E South Street
IHOP Towne Center 12741 Towne Ctr. Dr.	Grove at Cerritos 11000 New Falcon Way	Norwalk Arts/Sports 13000 Clarkdale
Artesia City Hall 18747 Clarkdale Ave.	Goodyear Auto 19404 Norwalk Blvd.	Norwalk SR. Center 14040 San Antonio Dr.
Artesia Library 18801 Elaine Avenue	Gardens Casino 11871 E Carson St.	Norwalk City Hall 12700 Norwalk Blvd,
Artesia Cemetery 11142 Artesia Blvd.	Hawaiian Gardens City Hall,	Olive Lawn 13926 La Mirada Blvd
Artesia Christian Home 11614 183rd St, Artesia	Rec. Center, Library 21815 Pioneer	11832 E Carson St
Artesia Senior Apts 10427 Artesia, Bellflower	Heritage Park 18600 Bloomfield	Pico Rivera Chamber 5016 Passons Blvd
Ave. 3 12612 South Street	Holy Family Church, Artesia 18708 Clarkdale	Pico River City Hall and Sheriffs 6615 Passons Blvd
Bellflower City Hall	IHop La Mirada 15140 La Mirada Blvd	Rosewoods 10769 South St.
Bellflower Terrace Apts. 9920 Flora Vista	Imperial Healthcare Center 11926 La Mirada Blvd	State Farm 12616 South St
Belmont Place Apts. 9830 Belmont St., Bellflower	Coffee Place 13295 South St.	LAFD Station 30 19030 Pioneer Blvd
Ramona Senior Ctr. 9843 Ramona St. Bellflower	Kindred Hospital 14900 Imperial Hwy.	Silverlake Ramen 11103 183rd St
Bellflower Friendship Manor 9550 Oak St.	Knabe Park	Sophia Hair Salon 13243 South St.
Cassidy’s Cafe 15010 La Mirada Blvd	Kristens Beauty Salon 13952 Valley View Ave	Sukos Sushi 14156 Rosecrans Ave
Cerritos Chamber 13259 South St.	La Casa de Concinera 15711 Imperial Hwy,	Tacos San Pedro 11832 E Carson St
Cerritos College	UCI/Lakewood Regional 3700 South St.	Tour Le Jour 13359 South St
Cerritos City Hall	La Mirada City Hall, Library, Resource Center, Sheriff’s	VI Pharmacy 12610 South Street
Sheriff’s/Community Center	Splash! La Mirada 13700 La Mirada Blvd	WRD 4040 Paramount
Cerritos Library 18125 Bloomfield Ave	LA Nails 13239 South St	
Cerritos Park East 13234 E 166th St.	La Palma City Hall	
Cerritos Medical Center 11911 Artesia Blvd.		



A Message From La Mirada Mayor Ed Eng - Let's Celebrate Summer In La Mirada!

Summer in La Mirada is more than a season—it's a celebration of everything that makes our city special: a vibrant community, rich traditions, and unforgettable moments shared together. Our summer programs are second to none, and this year promises even more opportunities to connect, have fun, and build lasting memories.

Whether you're enjoying music under the stars, cooling off with the kids, or connecting with neighbors at a weekend market, there's something for everyone this season. Here's how La Mirada is bringing summer to life:

We'll start with the ever-popular Concerts Under the Stars, lighting up Thursday nights now through August 7 at La Mirada Regional Park. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy an incredible lineup of musical performances including Latin jazz and soul, top hits from pop girl royalty, The Smiths and Morrissey tribute, arena rock, 70's disco music, hits from the

80's and 90's, and country. Night Market vendors will be selling delicious food, fresh produce, and handcrafted items beginning at 5 p.m., with live entertainment beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Then, gather with neighbors for one of La Mirada's most cherished traditions—the annual Independence Celebration on July 3 from 4 to 9:30 pm. Expect great music, delicious food, and a breathtaking fireworks finale that brings our entire community together. Come celebrate our country's independence with live performances from country band Dawson, and Latin pop and salsa band Tabu. The event will conclude with a patriotic program and a fireworks display at 9 p.m. A variety of food and drink options will be available for purchase.

For families with young children, the 'Ready, Set, Summer' drop-in program is a perfect way to keep the kids active and entertained this summer. The free program for children ages 6 to 12 offers fun-filled activities, including outdoor games, arts and crafts, water play, and more on weekdays through August 8 from 12 to 4 p.m. at Frontier, Gardenhill, and Windermere Parks.

Looking for some indoor magic? Disney's Frozen at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts is sure to delight

audiences of all ages with beloved songs and spectacular staging. This must-see production features beloved songs from the Academy Award-winning animated film, including "For the First Time in Forever" and "Let it Go," along with new music written exclusively for the stage. Experience the excitement through June 29.

Throughout July, we're proud to celebrate National Parks and Recreation Month with themed events like Movies in the Park on July 12, Family Camp on July 18, and even a Swim-In Movie Night featuring Moana 2 on July 26. Visit the City's website cityoflamirada.org for the full list of activities.

We'll also take time to honor those who've served. Join us for Veterans Appreciation Night on July 10 at 6:30 p.m. - a special concert dedicated to recognizing our local heroes. Help us honor our Hometown Heroes who deserve to be recognized by submitting a nomination to the Community Services Department. Nomination forms are available on the City website and at the La Mirada Resource Center.

Want more music? Stroll in the Park returns on July 24, blending great tunes with a lively night market atmosphere at Creek Park from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Enjoy live performances from the Johnny Cash

tribute band The Mighty Cash Cats, British Invasion band Classic Rock Junkies, and Salsa band Latin Soul. Night Market vendors will be selling a variety of food options beginning at 5 p.m.

We also invite you to connect with our Public Safety Team during National Night Out on August 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at La Mirada Regional Park - a meaningful evening that strengthens the bond between residents and those who protect them. This great event is being held along with the summer concert.

Of course, no La Mirada summer is complete without a trip to Buccaneer Bay! Splash! is open daily with slides, a lazy river, and water adventures for all ages. The La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center is open daily through August 17 and weekends through September 1. Buccaneer Bay is fun for all ages, featuring an interactive play area for kids, five water slides, a six-lane mat-rider slide, a relaxing lazy river, and more! Don't forget to purchase a season pass and enjoy unlimited visits all summer long.

And every Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the La Mirada Civic Center, the La Mirada Farmers Market offers the perfect spot to pick up local produce and treats while catching up with neighbors.

These events aren't just summer activities—they're reflections of La Mirada's heart. Thank you for being part of what makes this community so vibrant and connected.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook [@cityoflamirada](https://www.facebook.com/cityoflamirada) and Instagram [@lamiradagov](https://www.instagram.com/lamiradagov) to stay informed on all things La Mirada.

Wishing you and your families a summer filled with joy, laughter, and La Mirada pride!

*Warmly,
Ed Eng
La Mirada Mayor*

Church In Downey Raided by ICE

Two churches in Downey yesterday became the latest flashpoints in a controversial wave of immigration raids sweeping across Southern California, as federal agents targeted parishioners in full view of pastors, schoolchildren, and shocked community members.

Agents with ICE conducted operations at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church and Downey Memorial Christian Church on the morning of Wednesday, June 11, sparking widespread outrage among local officials and faith leaders.

According to reports by NBC4 Los Angeles, an elderly man was arrested in the parking lot of Our Lady of Perpetual Help while dropping off his granddaughter for school. At Downey Memorial, Pastor Alfredo Lopez and his wife, Senior Pastor Tanya Lopez, witnessed ICE agents detain another man in the church parking lot. When the pastors requested identification, agents reportedly refused and declared that "the whole country is their property," while pointing weapons at the clergy.

"This is a man of faith standing on church property, and that's what he was told—with guns in our faces," said Pastor Lopez during a press conference. "That's a very clear message, and as a man of God, I can tell you: that is not allowed here."

Video obtained by NBC4 shows agents in tactical gear chasing workers at the Galaxy Car Wash in Downey. The incident, which was captured on surveillance cameras, resulted in at least two additional arrests. Agents also targeted locations at Home Depot and L.A. Fitness in what Downey officials say is part of a broader federal operation that has so far resulted in over 330 arrests across Los Angeles County.



Happy July 4th La Mirada!

TNT® FIREWORKS sales benefit these La Mirada Non-Profit Organizations:

La Mirada Rotary Club	La Mirada High School
La Mirada Kiwanis Club	La Mirada Baseball Association
La Mirada VFW Post 9148	La Mirada Girls Softball Association
Knights of Columbus	La Mirada Youth Football
Temple Beth Ohr	La Mirada Seahorses
Methodist Men's Club	La Mirada Little League
Calvary Chapel	

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Lakewood Resident Bertha Martinez Turns 100



ORIGINAL LAKEWOOD resident Bertha Martinez celebrated her 100th birthday on May 30 at the same home she and her husband moved into with their young children in 1950. Mayor Todd Rogers (right) along with (from left) Council Members Steve Croft, David Arellano and Jeff Wood presented Bertha with a special city proclamation in honor of her milestone achievement. Congratulations and happy birthday, Bertha!

Cerritos' 52nd Annual
Let Freedom Ring
Celebration on July 4

LCCN Staff Report

You're invited to join the City of Cerritos in celebrating our nation's independence on Friday, July 4, from 4 to 9 p.m. **at the Cerritos Civic Center.** The City's 52nd Annual Let Freedom Ring Celebration will feature entertainment, food trucks, game booths, rides, and a Formal Ceremony

& National Bell-ringing at 6:30 p.m. The event culminates with a fire-works show at 9 p.m. Bring a blanket or chair to view the fireworks. Barbecues and picnicking are prohibited. Discounted all-day ride wristbands, available for \$45 through 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 3, can be purchased at the Recreation Services Division counter at Cerritos City Hall while supplies last. Individual tickets are \$2 each, 20 tickets are \$35, and 50 tickets are \$60. All ticket sales are final. No refunds. For more details about the celebration, call the Recreation Services Division at (562) 916-1254.



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Create, Plant, and Maintain a Pollinator Garden

By Melinda Myers

June is National Pollinator Month—a perfect time to dig in and support the bees, butterflies, birds, and other unsung heroes responsible for pollinating about 75% of the food we eat. While the European honeybee often gets the spotlight, native bees, moths, wasps, beetles, flies, bats, and hummingbirds are equally critical to sustaining our ecosystem.

Unfortunately, many pollinators are in decline due to habitat loss and widespread pesticide use. But even a small garden or container of flowers can make a difference.

Ditch the Chemicals

The first step in creating a pollinator-friendly space is reducing—or ideally eliminating—pesticides. If a chemical solution is necessary, opt for the most eco-friendly product available, and always follow label directions carefully to avoid harming pollinators and the broader environment.

Design for Shelter and Diversity
Pollinators need more than just flowers—they need protection from predators and the elements. Incorporate trees, shrubs, and ground covers that offer nesting sites and safe havens for different life stages. Leave patches of bare soil for ground-nesting bees and allow some leaf litter to remain for butterflies and bumblebees.

Plant for All Seasons

Choose a mix of native plants, herbs, and pollinator-friendly flowers

that bloom throughout the growing season. Early-season plants like spring bulbs and wildflowers provide vital en-

ergy when resources are scarce, while late-bloomers like asters and sedum fuel pollinators preparing for winter.

POLLINATORS FLOWERS



Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea



Beebalm
Monarda



Goldenrod
Solidago



Sunflower
Helianthus



Zinnia
Zinnia



Trumpet Creeper
Campsis radicans



Lupine
Lupinus



Zinnia
Zinnia



Scarlet
Beeblossom
Gaura coccinea



Trumpet Creeper
Campsis radicans

Go Big with Blooms

Mass plantings of flowers like columbine, sweet alyssum, salvia, bee balm, cosmos, phlox, zinnias, liatris, and cupheas offer stunning visuals and efficient feeding grounds for pollinators. For shady spots, fuchsias, begonias, and impatiens do the trick. Even a simple window box can provide nourishment.

Choose the Right Flowers

Avoid overly showy double blooms. Though beautiful, they often lack nectar and pollen and are harder for pollinators to access. Native plants are generally superior, as pollinators have evolved alongside them and benefit more from their nectar and pollen.

Herbs Are for Pollinators, Too

Let some of your herbs like thyme, oregano, and borage flower—you'll soon see bees and butterflies stopping by. And if swallowtail caterpillars nibble your parsley, dill, or fennel, let them feast; they'll repay you with a showy transformation.

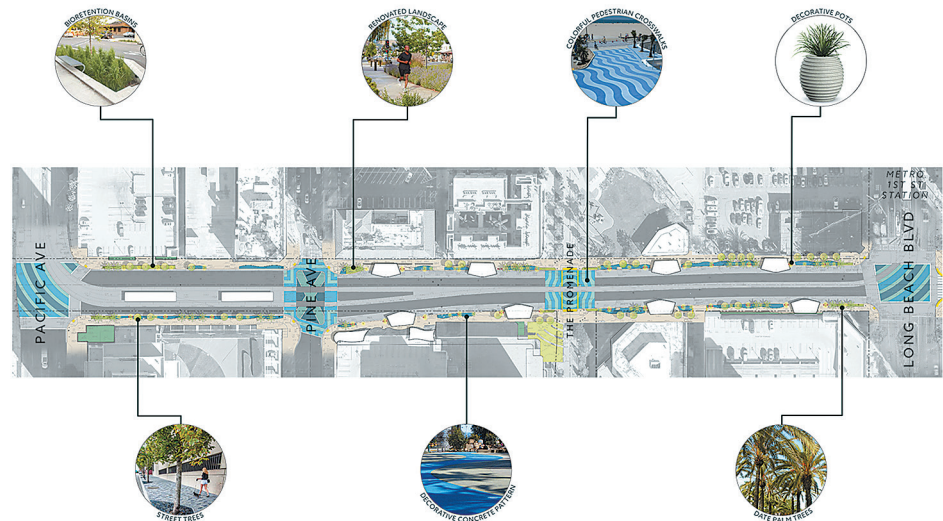
Don't Forget Water

Pollinators need water to thrive. Offer puddles, fountains, birdbaths, or even a damp sponge. Shallow containers of damp sand with a pinch of sea salt make ideal butterfly watering stations. Add flat stones for basking, and keep your camera ready to catch your garden visitors mid-sip.

If you build it, they will come. With a little planning and patience, your garden can become a sanctuary—both for pollinators and for you.

Melinda Myers has authored over 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses: How to Grow Anything*.

County Allocates \$1.5 Million for Historic Blue Line Rail Car Installation in Long Beach



THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to allocate \$1.5 million to a pedestrian-friendly makeover of a four-block section of 1st Street in Downtown Long Beach.

This week, with the leadership of Supervisor Janice Hahn, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to allocate \$1.5 million to a pedestrian-friendly makeover of a four-block section of 1st Street in Downtown Long Beach. The planned centerpiece of the project will be Blue Line Rail Car #100, the first rail car to operate on the Los Angeles Metro Blue Line when it opened in 1990.

“In 1990 the Blue Line ushered in the future of transportation in LA County. Today this transformation of 1st Street is ushering in the future of Downtown Long Beach while paying homage to our proud history of visionary projects that make life better for our communities,” said Hahn.

The project, administered by the

City of Long Beach, will transform a four-block section of 1st Street in the downtown core into a pedestrian-friendly mobility corridor connecting the newly redeveloped Civic Center at Pacific Avenue eastward toward the East Village Arts District at Elm Street. Construction is expected to begin late this year and to last 9 months.

Construction of the Blue Line—Los Angeles County’s first light rail line—was made possible by Proposition A, a half-cent sales tax that Hahn’s father, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, fought to place on the ballot. Voters approved the measure in 1980. Kenneth Hahn later lobbied for the Blue Line, connecting Long Beach with Los Angeles, to be built first.



Summer Reading Program

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Saturday, June 21, 2025

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SRP 50 Rock Decorating • Tote Bag Decorating

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Thank you to the Friends of the Cerritos Library for generously sponsoring the event, with support from Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn.



18025 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos CA 90703

L.A. County Sups. Condemn Manhandling of Senator Padilla Sup. Hahn

Los Angeles, CA -- Yesterday Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn issued the following statement after U.S. Senator Alex Padilla was shoved to the ground and handcuffed at a Department of Homeland Security press conference: “This administration is out of control! They are shoving to the ground and handcuffing a United States Senator. The entire Trump Administration is unhinged. Senator Padilla is just as much of the Federal Government as they are. The Trump Administration is abusing their power. They are using force on immigrants in our neighborhoods, their family members, and now on a sitting Senator. Senator Padilla wasn’t interfering with one of their operations. This was at a staged press conference in front of the cameras -- all for show.”

Sup. Solis

Los Angeles County Chair Pro Tem and First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis issued the following statement after U.S. Senator Alex Padilla was shoved to the ground and handcuffed at a Department of Homeland Security press conference: “What happened to Senator Padilla is outrageous and unacceptable. The Trump administration has crossed every line of decency and constitutional respect. Beyond targeting and profiling immigrants — they’ve now physically targeted elected public officials who are holding them accountable. I stand with Senator Padilla and all those who have been subjected to this kind of treatment.”



Artesia

Assault, Non-Aggravated: Domestic Violence
6/9/25 – 11800 blk. 1/2 167th St, Artesia
Assault, Felony: ADW, Peace Officer – Hands, Feet, Fist, Etc.
6/8/25 – 18600 blk. Pioneer Blvd, Artesia

Bellflower

Assault, Aggravated: ADW – Knife
6/8/25 – 9200 blk. Park St,
Burglary, Residence: Day, Entry By Force
6/6/25 – 16400 blk. Cornuta Ave,
Theft, Petty: From Bldgs (Church, School, Restaurant)
6/5/25 – 9500 blk. Artesia Blvd

Cerritos

Vehicle Burglary
6/5/25 – Cornuta Ave & Flora Vista St,
Vehicle Burglary
6/8/25 – 20100 blk. Harvest Way,
6/7/25 – 11500 blk. South St,
6/6/25 – 18400 blk. San Gabriel Ave,
Burglary, Residence: Night, Entry No Force

6/6/25 – 17000 blk. Jeanette Ave.
Burglary, Residence: Day, Entry By Force
6/6/25 – 12000 blk. Bingham St,
Burglary, Residence: Day, Entry No Force
6/6/25 – 16300 blk. Millstream Ln,
Grand Theft Vehicle: Automobile/ Passenger Van
6/6/25 – 200 blk. Los Ctr,
6/5/25 – 18800 blk. Studebaker Rd,
6/5/25 – 500 blk. Los Ctr,
Grand Theft Vehicle: Automobile/ Passenger Van, Attempt
6/5/25 – 11200 blk. 183rd St,
Theft, Petty: Shoplifting (From Dept Store, Mkt, Etc.)
6/7/25 – 11100 blk. 183rd St,
6/6/25 – 300 blk. Los Ctr,
Assault, Non-Aggravated: Obstruct/ Resist/Battery Peace Officer
6/7/25 – 11300 blk. South St,
Assault, Aggravated: ADW – Peace Officer, Other Dangerous Weapon
6/7/25 – 5100 blk. N Clark Ave,
Assault, Aggravated: ADW – Hands, Feet, Fist, Etc.
6/6/25 – Deerford St & Woodruff Ave,
Theft, Petty: Shoplifting (From Dept Store, Mkt, Etc.)
6/5/25 – 5900 blk. Del Amo Blvd,

La Mirada

Notable Arrests
June 02, 2025 - June 08, 2025
Notable Arrests
• Seven suspects were arrested throughout La Mirada for various warrants and narcotics violations.
Robbery
• A robbery occurred on the 13900 block of Imperial Hwy. This incident is still under investigation.
Grand Theft
• Electronic keypads were reported

stolen on the 16500 block of Knott Ave.
• Copper cables were stolen on the 14700 block of Industry Cir.
Vehicle Burglary
• A daytime vehicle burglary occurred on the 14800 block of Telegraph Rd.
Grand Theft Auto
• A trailer was reported stolen on the 14200 block of Firestone Blvd.
• A pickup truck was stolen on the 15000 block of Elmbrook Dr.
• An overnight theft of a sedan occurred on the 16500 block of Blackburn Dr.
• A vehicle theft was reports on the 14200 block of Firestone Blvd.

Lakewood

Aggravated Assault
• 6/1/25, 10:00 PM – With a deadly weapon (other), 9400 block Rose St
• 6/1/25, 7:10 AM – Domestic violence, 8800 block Maple St
• 5/31/25, 5:40 PM – With a deadly weapon (other), 15300 block Blvd.
• 5/30/25, 8:00 AM – Domestic violence, 9100 block Alondra Blvd
• 5/29/25, 11:25 AM – Domestic violence, 16400 block Cornuta Ave
Vehicle Burglary
• 5/30/25, 11:00 PM – Auto/passenger van, 10400 block Artesia Blvd
Grand Theft
• 5/30/25, 5:07 PM – From boat, plane, private residence, or yard, 8500 block Park St
Non-Aggravated Assault
• 5/29/25, 1:40 AM – Domestic violence, 9400 block Flower



By DAVID OUELLET

Aluminum

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Solution on page 15

Solution: 8 letters



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OUTLOOK ON NEW FOOTHILL AREA RELEAGUING

Artesia Could See More Sports Fighting For Playoff Spots In Future New Conference

By Loren Kopff

This is the first in a series of area schools involved in the upcoming Foothill Area releguing that will begin for the 2026-2027 school year. The 20 schools involved, in what will be a new conference are from the current 605 League, Del Rio League, Gateway League and Mid-Cities League. The name of the new conference and potential leagues will be determined during the 2025-2026 school year. This is the third time since the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year that area schools have been involved in releguing.

When Artesia High, and two other area schools, broke off from the old Suburban League after the 2017-2018 school year to form the 605 League with the addition of three other schools, it was meant to create more competitive equity in its athletic program. In the past seven years, the Pioneers have seen some success while other sports continued to struggle.

Now, those struggling sports will have a chance to do something that was not possible in the former Suburban League, or even the 605 League-compete for a CIF-Southern Section playoff berth.

Artesia athletic director Matt Soriano, who hasn't been in his position as long as the other athletic directors, wasn't as skeptical when the process began leading up to the May 1 Foothill Area releguing vote.

"To be honest, I don't think I had the most positive favoritism towards a 20-team league", said Soriano. "As a new A.D., I just heard, 'oh, it's time to revote

for bylaws and see if anyone's open to releguing'".

The initial buzz amongst the athletic directors was to simply keep the 605 League together and not add other schools. But all six proposals which were brought to the table last month involved a 20-school conference.

"We kind of sat down as A.D.'s and said, 'hey, we like the six of us staying together in most sports' even though we would get killed by Cerritos and Whitney in some tennis events or golf events," said Soriano. "We're competitive in every other sport, and I like the six of us about it."

The 2018-2019 school year had mixed feelings around the 605 League with Artesia winning two league titles and sharing one of the major sports in the inaugural year.

The most notable one was the

football team where the Pioneers won all three league games and advanced to the Division 12 championship game. Since then, the program has finished in second place and earned a playoff spot.

Boys soccer won its first 605 League title in 2019 and the softball team tied Cerritos High for first place that spring. Since then, the Pioneers have won 11 league titles, six coming from boys soccer,

three from boys basketball, and one each from girls flag football and girls soccer.

Soriano went to the first meeting with the plan of just moving for football only because he thought that's how Orange County schools did their releguing.

"We sat down as A.D.'s and said if we're going to support something, I need to know number one, we're all in this, or if we're going to be against this, we're all against it," said Soriano. "The one commitment we couldn't have was that Glenn would still field a football team."

With the new 20-school conference, Artesia may not face ABC Unified School District rival Cerritos in league competition, but the program figures to be in a desirable place for playoff contention every season.

"We were not the best team in [the 605 League], but every school had a chance to qualify for the playoffs every year," said Soriano. "And I think that's the way we wanted it to be. There were years where we won on the last play on a double reverse against Pioneer to qualify for the playoffs. There were years that Glenn was up there in the top two; there were years where they weren't in the top two. Pioneer didn't get an automatic bid this [past season] but they went to the [CIF-Southern Section] finals. The 605 League gave people what they wanted out of it, football-wise."

Soriano says other than boys basketball and some of the other major sports, which has been near or at the top of the league consistently, the other sports aren't nowhere near the other schools. Part of that reason, which the league has looked at and voted together as a league, is some schools in certain sports have a lower level team.

Since the 605 League was formed, the Artesia girls volleyball program has finished no higher than third place while the other two fall sports, boys water polo and girls tennis have finished in fourth place or below. In fact, of the major sports, the Pioneers have finished in fourth place 18 times, fifth place 10 times and last place nine times.

Boys basketball and the two soccer programs have done quite well as has the softball program and should be grouped in with the upper to 'middle of the pack' schools once the new conference begins. Sports like boys tennis, boys volleyball, boys water polo, girls basketball and girls tennis are projected to be situated in the last of the three or four leagues in two years and be with other fifth and sixth place teams from the Del Rio League, Gateway League and Mid-Cities League. It should be noted that in a six-team league, the top three get an automatic playoff berth.

"It is going to be every sport on a per sport basis," said Soriano. "So, just like in Orange County, your football team may be in this league, but your basketball teams will be in a different league. The model, I think, that makes the most sense... is if there are 20 teams in every place but football, you do four leagues of five [teams]. That would make the top three all get an [automatic] berth. Technically, you would get 12 automatic spots out of your 20 teams."

Soriano believes that the new conference will benefit Artesia in a lot of the sports that aren't mentioned on an everyday basis. For example, Artesia's girls basketball team most likely wouldn't have to play Cerritos, Pioneer or Whitney twice every season in league competition.

"I'm not even saying it will help us get wins, it will just help the games be more competitive," said Soriano. "The big part about it is we have to sit down as a group and decide...I guarantee the first year is going to be based on CIF rankings. But they talk about some relegation or promotion. If you're in the middle league, hey, you won and you get to move up to the top league. I would prefer to see two teams [go] up and down every time."

He continued to add that since this will be a conference, divided into three or four leagues, technically by the rules, the conference can do whatever it wants regarding the movement of teams to other leagues every year instead of going off power rankings.

This upcoming school year will be a stressful one for the athletic directors and principals for the 20 schools. When the 605 League was formed, there were four school districts involved and transportation, while difficult at times, wasn't as big as an issue as it will be in two years. The scheduling of sporting events will be a nightmare, especially during the winter season as your traditional girls-boys basketball doubleheaders could be compromised.

"When we started meeting as the 20 schools, that was the whole 605 League's contention; is how do you guys do it," asked Soriano. "La Mirada kind of looked at me and was like, 'well, when we ask for a bus, my district gives us a bus'. Well, my district doesn't. Every bus that we took as a sports team was an overtime payment to a bus driver. My transportation [bill] is huge, and that's with me sending boys and girls basketball to the same place."

Another issue that schools will have to navigate through is the splitting up of cheerleaders during basketball games or other school functions. Soriano was quick to mention that Artesia decided to have its senior prom on a Thursday night in the middle of league. He worked with the other five athletic directors to have the games off that Thursday so the players could go to the prom and admitted he doesn't know if he can get that same commitment from the other 14 schools that will be part of the new conference.

One bright area of the new conference will be schools reuniting with old rivals from previous leagues. It's a fact that Artesia will face Bellflower High, La Mirada High, Mayfair High and Norwalk High in many sports. Those four schools were in the Suburban League prior to 2018.

"I don't come from a time when all the rivalries [happened]," said Soriano. "I know I can just look up scores and see the main ones; the football, the soccer and basketball. We had some battles with Mayfair, but some of it is if we wanted to renew rivalries and things like that, we would have called them earlier and played non-league [games]."

"We, as a 605 League, didn't even want to play Gahr in anything anymore, even though they're a part of a school district that had three of us in it," he continued. "It took a long time for Cerritos football to say [they'll] play Gahr. When we were playing Gahr and the scores weren't very close... if Gahr is with us, then it should say that we should be competitive with them, and I think that's the point of a conference."





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BELLFLOWER from page 1

seen a lot of interest in how we’ve adopted and locally manage the California Fire Code. All of this plays into our goal of getting development done as quickly as possible with minimal interruption from the City’s processes.”

Despite the program’s streamlined nature, Smoot emphasized that oversight remains intact. “The City conducts its usual review of the submitted plans and performs the standard inspections during construction,” Smoot said. “Any deviations from code are the responsibility of the professional and contractor to be corrected in the field.”

So far, there have been no major issues. “We have not seen any major problems,” Smoot said. “Some projects have needed corrections in the field, but that’s expected. Overall, professionals who use the program know what they’re doing. If they’re willing to take it on, we don’t see a reason to get in their way.”

The City also offers a robust Owner-Builder permit option for homeowners who want to act as their own contractors—a program that has been structured to protect both the city and the property owner. Applicants must submit notarized declarations, show proof of ownership, and assume full responsibility for code compliance, subcontractor licensing, and insurance.

LEGAL NOTICES-YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW!

CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
RESOLUTION NO. 9963

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that pursuant to the California Mitigation Fee Act (the Act) contained in Government Code Sections 66000 et seq., before increasing certain fees, the City must establish a reasonable relationship between the amount of the fee and the cost of the public facility for which the fee is imposed. A Public Hearing will be held before the City of Santa Fe Springs City Council to consider the following:

RESOLUTION NO. 9963: A Resolution to amend Resolution No. 9947 and Resolution No. 9933, approving an update of the City’s Fire Services Fee Schedule, Community Services and Parks and Recreation Fee Schedule, Police Services Fee Schedule and amending and revising the City’s Master Fee Schedule.

THE HEARING will be held before the City of Santa Fe Springs City Council in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, on **Tuesday, July 1, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** At that time, anyone wishing to speak in regards to this matter will be given an opportunity to be heard.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to attend the Public Hearing and express opinions upon the items listed above. If you challenge the nature of these proposed actions in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Fe Springs City Council at, or prior to the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS may be submitted in writing to the City Clerk at City Hall, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 or, otherwise, e-mail the City Clerk at cityclerk@santafesprings.gov. Please submit your written comments by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the City Council meeting. You may also contact the City Clerk at (562) 868-0511.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 6062a, this notice was published twice on June 13, 2025 and June 20, 2025.

FURTHER INFORMATION on this item may be obtained at the City of Santa Fe Springs, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, California 90670 or by telephone or e-mail: (562) 409-7520, gustavohernandez@santafesprings.gov. Copies of the amended and revised fee schedules and Master Fee Schedule are available for public inspection during regular business hours, at the office of the City Clerk and on the City’s website at www.santafesprings.gov.

Gustavo Hernandez, Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Santa Fe Springs, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter Newspaper 6/13/25

Bellflower’s approach is drawing attention not only from builders but from other municipalities. A January 2025 motion by the Los Angeles City Council cited Bellflower as one of the few cities already implementing reforms like self-certification to help speed up housing and commercial development. The motion called on L.A. departments to study Bellflower’s practices alongside those in San Diego and New York.

With California’s housing crisis intensifying and pressure mounting on local governments to streamline approval processes, Bellflower’s system shows what’s possible when policy favors accountability over delay.

Contact Brian Hews at editor@cerritosnews.net or follow [@cerritosnews](https://twitter.com/cerritosnews). [bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social)

PICO RIVERA from page 1

City’s general revenue account and used to fund public improvements.

The digital billboard, to be built adjacent to the San Gabriel River Freeway, is part of a broader redevelopment effort that began in 2020 when the property was first entitled for industrial use. CenterPoint Properties acquired the entitlement from Project Dimensions, Inc. and completed construction of a 41,000 square foot cross-docking warehouse on the site in 2024. That same year, CenterPoint entered into a ten-year lease agreement with Outfront Media to install the billboard.

The proposed billboard will stand 65 feet tall with a 14-by-48-foot digital display—well within Pico Rivera’s maximum size limits of 75 feet in height and 1,200 square feet per sign face. It replaces a static billboard currently on the property and includes strict restrictions on advertising content. Prohibited ads include adult material, firearms, and



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tobacco products. Additionally, 5% of the billboard’s total screen time will be reserved for civic messaging and emergency alerts.

Importantly, the digital billboard must adhere to state and federal standards regarding lighting and brightness—critical factors for any signage visible from freeways. Under the California Outdoor Advertising Act and corresponding Caltrans regulations, the sign may not exceed **0.3 foot-candles above ambient light levels**, ensuring that it doesn’t cause glare or driver distraction. The billboard must also include ambient light sensors that automatically adjust brightness throughout the day. Furthermore, the billboard will be connected to the National Emergency Network, enabling authorities to override content to display alerts such as AMBER alerts or evacuation orders.

These requirements are reinforced by Pico Rivera’s own municipal code, which mirrors state guidelines. “Digital billboards shall not operate at brightness levels of more than 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light,” according to the staff report. The billboard’s base must also be free of graffiti and designed not to create a safety hazard or attractive nuisance.

The project has been years in the making. In 2021, the City amended its zoning code to permit digital billboards by development agreement. In 2022, it sold a portion of Baybar Road to CenterPoint for \$1 million after formally vacating the right-of-way. By 2025, the Planning Commission approved the proposed development, clearing the way for Council action.

Environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) found no unmitigable impacts, and a Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted following public review.

Council is expected to vote on final adoption of the ordinance at a future meeting. If passed, the ordinance will take effect 30 days later.

Contact Brian Hews at [\[editor@cerritosnews.net\]](mailto:editor@cerritosnews.net)(<mailto:editor@cerritosnews.net>) or follow [@cerritosnews](https://twitter.com/cerritosnews). [bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social)

LEGAL NOTICES-YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW!

NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-970
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA
ADDING ARTICLE 46 (MIXED-USE OVERLAY ZONE (MU-O) OF CHAPTER 2 (ZONING) OF THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE.

Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia will consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 25-970, adding article 46 (Mixed-Use Overlay Zone (MU-O)) of Chapter 2 (Zoning) of Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) to the Artesia Municipal Code. The following is a summary of the proposed Ordinance:

- The Ordinance establishes a Mixed-Use Overlay (MU-O) Zone, Article 46 of Chapter 2 of Title 9 to the Artesia Municipal Code to implement, in part, the City of Artesia 6th Cycle Housing Element of the Artesia General Plan, to incentivize new mixed-use infill development and to facilitate affordable multi-family housing for very-low and low-income classifications and establishes a Community Benefit Program.

Please note that the above is a simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk’s office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.

Date: June 13, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-967
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA AMENDING
CHAPTER 7 OF TITLE 1 AND CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE 5 OF THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL
CODE RELATING TO THE ABATEMENT OF PUBLIC NUISANCES

Notice is hereby given that on June 9, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia adopted Ordinance No. 25-967 making certain amendments and additions to the Artesia Municipal Code related to the abatement of public nuisances. The following is a summary of the Ordinance: The Abatement of Public Nuisances Ordinance introduces several updates aimed at modernizing and strengthening administrative procedures for abating public nuisances. Key changes include:

- **Updated Definitions:** Amended the definition of “Responsible Persons” to encompass individuals or entities with ownership, control, or legal responsibility for a property or business involved in a code violation (Chapter 7 of Title 1).
- **Enhanced Service and Enforcement of Administrative Citations:** Strengthened enforcement procedures by clarifying service requirements for responsible persons residing at the subject property, eliminated a newspaper publication requirement for serving administrative citations, and authorized violations to be prosecuted as infractions or misdemeanors unless otherwise specified (Chapter 7 of Title 1).
- **Streamlined Notice Procedures for Public Nuisances:** Revised the Service of Notice process for nuisance abatement to consolidate multiple notice procedures into a single, consistent method, eliminating two previously conflicting notice procedures (Chapter 1 of Title 5).
- **Clarified Hearing Procedures for Public Nuisances:** Revised language related to the review and decision process of the Hearing Officer and the issuance of orders of abatement to improve clarity and better protect the City’s interests (Chapter 1 of Title 5).
- **Abatement of Nuisance Prior to City Action Procedures:** Clarified provisions that allow Responsible Persons to abate nuisances prior to City action, encouraging voluntary compliance, and standardized language regarding property entry via warrant to ensure consistency and to safeguard the City (Chapter 1 of Title 5).
- **Updated Cost Recovery Provisions:** Added a provision where the City may recover administrative costs and expenses related to nuisance abatement through special assessment or abatement lien (Chapter 1 of Title 5).

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Manalo, Ramoso, Trevino, Taj, Ahir; Noes: None

Please note that the above is simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk’s office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.

PUBLISHED: June 13, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-969
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA AMENDING
SECTION 9-2.3453 (SPECIFIC PLAN ZONES) OF ARTICLE 34.5 (SPECIFIC PLAN
ZONES (SP)) OF CHAPTER 2 (ZONING) OF TITLE 9 (PLANNING AND ZONING) OF
THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE

Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia will consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 25-969, making certain amendments and additions to the Artesia Municipal Code related to the adoption of amendments to the Artesia Live Specific Plan. The following is a summary of the proposed Ordinance:

- The Ordinance amends the description of the Artesia Live Specific Plan by eliminating a reference to a seven-story building associated with an older, withdrawn development project. Instead, it provides new information regarding the height (six stories) of a new development project.

Please note that the above is a simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk’s office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.

Date: June 13, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

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LEGAL NOTICES-YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW!

CITY OF COMMERCE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 25-02
CEQA EXEMPTION SECTION 15301 – CLASS 1, EXISTING FACILITIES

500 CITADEL DRIVE

Pursuant to California Government Code §§ 65090 and 6061, **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A PUBLIC HEARING** to be held on June 24, 2025, before the City Council of the City of Commerce to consider an appeal of Conditional Use Permit No. 25-02 which was approved by the Planning Commission on May 21, 2025. The request is to allow a hotel use in the City's Unlimited Commercial ("C-2") zoning district at 500 Citadel Drive in the City of Commerce. Pursuant to Chapter 19.09, Table 19.09.010A of the Commerce Municipal Code (CMC), a hotel use requires the review and approval of a CUP upon the required findings of CMC 19.39.420.

UNITE HERE Local 11 ("Local 11") appealed the Commission's approval and submitted an appeal letter on June 4, 2025. In the letter of appeal, Local 11 argues that the Commission's approval erred in providing the aforementioned approval. Local 11 stated that the Class 1 Existing Facilities exemption is inappropriate, and the City should consider a more robust CEQA review where it can properly assess the Project's VMT and GHG impacts, which could be lessened via project-specific mitigation imposed through an adequate CEQA review, such as a mitigated negative declaration ("MND").

Said hearing will be held before the City Council of the City of Commerce in the Council Chambers, 5655 Jillson Street, Commerce, CA 90040 on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., at which time proponents and opponents of the pro-proposed appeal for Conditional Use Permit No. 25-02 will be heard.

Per Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the above-listed item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing meeting and during the comment period described in this notice in written correspondence delivered to the city office, at, or prior to, the public hearing.

City Manager
Ernie Hernandez

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CITY OF LA MIRADA

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE
FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 6:30 p.m. on June 24, 2025, the City of La Mirada will conduct a public hearing to consider the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. The public hearing will be held in City Council Chambers at 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California 90638.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to comment on this item at the public hearing. In addition, written comments may be submitted to the City prior to the hearing, mailed to 13700 La Mirada Blvd., La Mirada, California 90638, Attention: City Clerk. Please reference hearing title and date of hearing in any correspondence.

If you wish to challenge the above in court, the challenge will be limited only to those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk at, or prior to, the public hearing described in this notice.

The agenda report for this item will be available at 5 p.m. on June 19, 2025, and a copy may be obtained. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at (562) 943-0131.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter Newspaper 6/13/25

Notice is hereby given that the City of La Mirada Fiscal Year 2025-26 Appropriations Limit as provided in Article XIII B of the California Constitution is available for review in the Finance Department, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California.

The Appropriations Limit may be examined at La Mirada City Hall on weekdays, Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and on Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall is closed on alternating Fridays.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter Newspaper 6/13/25

Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia will consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 25-968, making certain amendments and additions to the Artesia Live Specific Plan. The following is a summary of the proposed Ordinance:

- Amendments and additions to the Artesia Live Specific Plan include changes to the development standards, reflecting a new mixed-use building six stories high, consisting of 83 residential units, with a 1,600-square-foot rooftop restaurant including alcohol sales.

Please note that the above is a simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk's office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.

Date: June 13, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number: 2025114677
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: LIFEKIT KIDS, 11549 GONSALVES ST., CERRITOS, CA 90703, LOS ANGELES COUNTY.
REGISTERED OWNER: MUCHWELL LLC, 11549 GONSALVES ST., CERRITOS, CA 90703.
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY.
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 06/2025.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.) / S / MUCHWELL LLC; CEO; ROSSELL ROBLES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 06/05/2025.
In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Busine 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27/25

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Cerritos City Council** will conduct a public hearing at a regular meeting on **Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** on the following matter: **Review and consideration to waive full reading of and adopt A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS AND THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE CERRITOS REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE ANNUAL COMBINED FINANCIAL PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26, APPROPRIATING THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURES SET FORTH THEREIN, AND APPROVING THE PAY SCHEDULES FOR PERSONNEL EXPENSES AS SET FORTH IN THE EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION TABLES AND CLASSIFICATION STEPS. *Review and consideration to waive full reading of and adopt A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS AND THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE CERRITOS REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE ANNUAL INVESTMENT POLICY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26.** This public hearing will be conducted in person in the **Cerritos City Council Chamber, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703.** The public hearing will also air live on Cerritos TV3 and will be streamed over the City of Cerritos website at cerritos.gov. A copy of the related agenda report will be available for download from the website on the Friday prior to the public hearing. Public comments can be provided during the meeting or via email to city_clerk@cerritos.gov or by hard copy to the Office of the City Clerk no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email or hard copy document. All written correspondence received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline will be distributed to the legislative body prior to the meeting and retained with the official meeting record. If you challenge the above-mentioned item and related actions in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence received in the Office of the City Clerk by the submission deadline, prior to the public hearing. Any person interested in this matter may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 916-1248 for additional information and/or appear at the hearing in person or by agent and be heard. /s/Cynthia Nava, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF BELLFLOWER
ORDINANCE NO. 1448

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT SPECIFIC PLAN (“TODSP”) BY MAKING CLERICAL CHANGES

Pursuant to Government Code Section 36933(b), Ordinance No. 1448 is summarized as follows:

Ordinance 1448 would resolve clerical issues with Ordinance No. 1442. Since the proposed changes relate only to formatting and do not change the content of the TODSP document that City Council approved, in essence, Ordinance No. 1448 is only a “clean up” of “clerical errors.” Adoption of Ordinance No. 1448 does not materially affect the TODSP document, it will only confirm the final TODSP document by superseding Ordinance No. 1442 – Exhibit C.

Ordinance No. 1448 had its first reading on May 27, 2025, its second reading on June 9, 2025, and was duly passed, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Bellflower at its Regular Meeting of June 9, 2025, by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Council Members – Koops, Morse, Sanchez, Santa Ines and Mayor Dunton

Effective Date: July 9, 2025. For a copy of Ordinance No. 1448, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (562) 804 1424.

Approved as submitted above:
Karl H. Berger, City Attorney

ATTEST:
Mayra Ochiqui, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/13/25

CITY OF LA MIRADA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2018-06
VALLEY VIEW AVENUE PAVEMENT REHABILITATION
FROM IMPERIAL HIGHWAY TO ROSECRANS AVENUE

Notice is hereby given that the City of La Mirada, California invites sealed bids for the furnishing of all labor, materials, equipment, and services for Capital Improvement Project No. 2018-06, Valley View Avenue Pavement Rehabilitation from Imperial Highway to Rosecrans Avenue. Work includes pavement rehabilitation of Valley View Avenue between Rosecrans Avenue and Imperial Highway including related work such as sidewalks, curb and gutters, cross gutters, curb ramps, utility adjustments, traffic mark-ings and detector loops in the City of La Mirada.

Project Documents are available online from American Reprographics Company (ARC). Bidders may obtain free copies of the Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents online by visiting the ARC Southern California website: https://customer.e-arc.com/arcEOC/PWELL_Main.asp?mem=29. Look under PUBLIC PLANROOM and click GO, then search for City of La Mirada from the dropdown list titled “in all compa-ny”. You can also contact ARC at (949) 660-1150 or costamesa.planwell@e-arc.com to request Plans and Specifications.

Sealed bids shall be delivered to the City Clerk at or before 11 a.m. on July 10, 2025. Bids must be submitted on the blank forms, prepared and furnished for that purpose and included in the Plans and Specifications. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or delete portions of any or all bids, or waive any informality or irregularity in the bid or the bid procedures.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter Newspaper 6/13/25

ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE CALLING FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ABC Unified School District will receive up to but not later than **11:00 AM** on the **27th day of June 2025** sealed bids for:

Bid # ABC – 1679 Custodial Supplies

All bids shall be made and presented on a form furnished by the District. Bids submitted conform to the terms and conditions stated on said form. Bids shall be received in the Purchasing Department at 16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos, CA, 90703.

Bids and specifications may be obtained from the Purchasing Department at the above address on June 6, 2025 or later.

Los Cerritos Community News June 6, 2025
June 13, 2025

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 6/6 and 6/13/25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
SUZANNE ESTHER GREEN AKA SUZANNE E. GREEN
CASE NO. 25STPB05195
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of SUZANNE ESTHER GREEN AKA SUZANNE E. GREEN.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JOSEPH R GREEN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JOSEPH R GREEN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent’s WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 07/08/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 2D located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
MARK BREUNIG - SBN 175937
BREUNIG LAW, INC.
554 E STREET
LINCOLN CA 95648
Telephone (916) 672-2042
6/6, 6/13, 6/20/25
CNS-3933561#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ES-TATE OF
William J. Swain, Jr.
CASE NO. 25STPR05715
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be inter-ested in the will or estate, or both, of: William J. Swain, Jr.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Gwenda P. Swain in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Gwen-da P. Swain be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent’s WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Es-tates Act with full authority . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking cer-tain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to inter-ested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 6/20/2025 at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 99 located at 111 N. HILL ST. LOS ANGELES CA 90012
STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objec-tions or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative ap-pointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in sec-tion 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Lisa N. Neal, SBN 205465
Rutan & Tucker, LLP
18575 Jamboree Road, 9th Floor
Irvine, CA 92612
Telephone: (714) 595-3327
5/30, 6/6, 6/13/25
CNS-3930904#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF REBECCA FLORES
Case No. 25STPB05777
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of REBECCA FLORES
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Jesus G. Flores in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Jesus G. Flores be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on June 20, 2025 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 29 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner:
MOLLY PITRUZZELLI ESQ
SBN 271279
TRUST LAW PATNERS LLP
275 E CALIFORNIA BLVD
CN117091 FLORES May 30, Jun 6,13, 2025





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