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COMMUNITY PARTNERS

WORKING TOGETHER

FOR A CITY OF WELLBEING
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HUMAN SERVICES AND CULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAMS

An $8.5M Investment in People

Santa Monica is known around the world as a place of wellbeing. Underlying this image is an implicit promise: Santa Monica is a community where people matter. It’s a place where individuals of all ages and backgrounds have access to a wide range of services and opportunities that enhance quality of life and address critical needs. This promise to prioritize the health and wellbeing of people has been woven into the fabric of our community for decades.

One way the City of Santa Monica delivers on this promise is through the Human Services and Cultural Organizational Support Grant Programs, an $8.5M commitment to support a network of local partners working on the ground to provide a full spectrum of arts and social service programs for the community. This is what’s known as collective impact—the belief that the only way to effectively tackle complex social issues is by working together.

The city’s grant programs leverage financial resources from a variety of local, regional, and federal sources in order to tap into the strengths of nonprofits providing services that address critical needs in Santa Monica.

Overseen by the Community and Cultural Services Department, the multi-year partnerships formed through these grant programs are shaped by community input and a thorough assessment of current needs. Prior to each four-year grant cycle, funding guidelines are developed based on this input and presented to City Council for approval. These guidelines outline priority populations and issues, as well the process through which funding recommendations will be made. Among other criteria, proposals are reviewed based on the partner’s ability to make a measurable, positive impact within our community, meet priority areas of need, and leverage city funds to cultivate a diversified donor base.

The grants programs have evolved since the first one began in 1974, but the city’s commitment to prioritizing these types of partnerships has remained constant. Even during times of economic uncertainty, the city found ways to preserve funding, recognizing that the value and demand for services goes up when the economy goes down.

Adopted with the city’s budget in June, funding for the current grant cycle has increased by $800,000. For human services, funded partnerships include programs that will expand the city’s whatever-it-takes approach to helping at-risk youth and their families facing a cross-section of challenges at home, at school, and in life; address the recent rise in the number of people homeless and living on the streets; and assist the community’s other most vulnerable members. For arts and culture, this grant period presents a pivotal opportunity for the city to make a significant impact on the future of Santa Monica’s core creative/cultural community. Funding will help lessen the strain that the rising cost of local real estate is having on the creative sector, making it possible for both established and newer arts agencies to remain in Santa Monica and continue to provide Santa Monicans with a broad array of free and low-cost programs.

In the next Seascape, we’ll introduce you to the partners who have dedicated their careers to helping people in Santa Monica thrive, along with ways you can get involved.
Have you seen the road work going on around Santa Monica High School (Samohi)? It’s one of several dozen projects now underway on the streets, sidewalks and intersections of Santa Monica to improve safety. These projects help protect everyone who drives, walks, bicycles or rides the bus through the city.

The construction at Samohi will add a new traffic signal at 7th and Pico Boulevard, create a new one-way street to smooth school drop-offs and pick-ups, make elevated or buffered bike lanes protected from traffic, and build wider sidewalks and corners to provide more visible crossings at Pico and Michigan for students walking to school. The perimeter of Samohi will look better and be safer for everyone. The city obtained close to $1 million in competitive state grant funds to deliver this Safe Routes to School project, which should be completed in November. Approximately $340,000 in state grant funds were obtained for improvements around Edison Language Academy, and an additional $400,000 to assess each elementary and middle school for future improvements and to implement programs. In May, the neighborhood celebrated the opening of Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway traffic circles at Michigan and 9th, 10th, 12th and Euclid Streets which were funded by federal grants. The city is actively leveraging local dollars to improve student safety and connections to school.

And the city is busily preparing for next spring’s Expo Line arrival in Santa Monica. Bike lanes leading to Santa Monica’s three Expo Line stations will be highlighted with green striping, and a major transformation is underway in Downtown on Colorado Avenue. When finished later next year, the Colorado Esplanade will have vastly widened sidewalks, while creating protected two-way bike lanes, and improved vehicle flow. The light-rail trains will have the capacity to handle up to 300 passengers every six minutes; these improvements will accommodate the anticipated increase in the number of pedestrians, while separating cars and bicycles for improved safety.

Your patience in the present will lead to a smoother future for everyone!
One of life’s great uncertainties has just disappeared, at least along Santa Monica’s Big Blue Bus routes. You no longer need to wait for a bus, since a new service will let you know when your bus will arrive at your stop.

The service is called NextBus. It’s available free for computers, smartphones, tablets and even good old landlines! The real-time information is also included in transit maps provided by Google and some other major companies. NextBus uses location technology on Big Blue Buses and calculates traffic flow and each bus’s speed to let you know when it will arrive at your stop.

NextBus is available at NextBus.com/bigbluebus, or by calling 310.451.5444. Each stop has a four-digit code, available on the NextBus site. Customers can also use the service by texting “SMBBB [four digit code]” to 41411. A free iOS app is now available in the App Store, and an app for Android devices is available in the Android store. Simply search for “NextBus.”

When you know exactly where your bus is and when it will get to your stop, you’re able to finish that cup of coffee with friends and not worry about missing your ride. You won’t have to leave a meeting early just to spend valuable time sitting on a bus bench. You can now know to-the-minute when to get to the bus stop—allowing you to use your time at home, at the office and about town more efficiently. NextBus is here!
**BRIEFLY**

**CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN STREET,** is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and every other Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most city offices are closed on alternate Fridays as part of the city’s commute trip reduction plan to improve air quality: September 4 and 18, October 2, 16 and 30, and November 13. Payment and permit services are available every Friday; please call 310.458.8411 for the counter hours of your preferred service.

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS** The Santa Monica Arts Foundation is seeking nominations for its fourth annual Arts Leadership Awards, recognizing exemplary leaders who have supported the local creative community. Nominations are accepted in three categories: Arts Patron, Creative Community Innovator and Artist in the Community (Bruria Finkel Award). Guidelines and nomination forms are available at smgov.net/artsleaders. Nominations are accepted year-round, but the deadline for 2016 nominations is midnight, Thursday, December 31, 2015. 2016 award recipients will be announced in January.

**CITYTV HAS IT ALL COVERED** Where else can you see the Santa Monica Little League’s championship games, take a yoga class, laugh along with a stand-up comedian and get the latest Santa Monica news from the Mayor or the City Manager? Only on CityTV. Santa Monica Weekly is keeping the community informed with highlights from events, important safety information, in-depth interviews and on-location shows! You may have seen hosts Veronica Castro and Chris Balish reporting from the Twilight Concert Series and National Night Out. Community groups and schools are also getting their turn in front of the camera. Tune in to see Santa Monica High School’s SAMOHighlights, Santa Monica College, the YWCA’s Girls Central and Rosie’s Girls in shows that they wrote, produced and crewed. Find Santa Monica Weekly and CityTV on Time Warner Cable and FiOS channel 16, or watch online, anytime at citytv.org.

**UTILITY USER TAX EXEMPTION** This summer the income eligibility limits for the Utility User’s Tax (UUT) Exemption Program changed. If you are a senior citizen or disabled individual, you may qualify! For a single-person household, the income eligibility limit is $28,629. For a household of two or more, the limit is $32,807. If your income fits these limits, you may not have to pay the city’s UUT. For more information and to find out if you qualify, visit wiseandhealthyaging.org.

*Limits for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year adjusted according to the 0.32% increase between December 2013 and December 2014 in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).*

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**Affordable Housing—Opening the Door to Stability**

Getting placed in affordable housing is a life-changing experience. The subsidized studio apartment in Downtown Santa Monica solved one man’s housing problem. Art, a disabled Army Ranger veteran, was homeless for most of the last quarter-century. Since June, he has been a shining success story for Santa Monica’s affordable housing program.

“Having a place opens the door to stability,” he says. “It opens the door to a job, it opens the door to credit. Because having a place means I have an address, I have a telephone, I have transportation.”

Santa Monica believes affordable housing is crucial to a balanced community, which includes people of different income levels and backgrounds. But providing housing for a diverse group is an uphill battle. More than 2,800 people who live or work in Santa Monica are on the city’s waiting list for affordable housing.

A number of federal, state, county and city programs provide funding to achieve affordable rents, with households having to contribute between 30 and 40 percent of their income.

For Art, who is 56, this housing offers a safe and secure place, something he didn’t experience during his years on the street. He is putting his past experiences to good use, volunteering to help other veterans kick drug and alcohol habits and get off the streets. He hopes to one day make a living helping others.
SAFETY ZONE

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL ROLLS INTO FALL!

FALL IN LOVE WITH BIKING AND WALKING

The popularity of biking and walking to school in Santa Monica continues to grow significantly. For kids and their families, there’s no better time than right now to get out those bikes, scooters, skateboards and walking shoes to join in a number of seasonal events, including the fall Bike It! Walk It!, a Halloween-themed Kidical Mass event and more.

October 7 is National Walk to School Day. All SMMUSD elementary and middle schools will observe Bike It! Walk It! Week October 5-9. The city’s Safe Routes to School program will be supporting each school’s efforts, and offering healthy snacks and incentive items. For details on specific school activities and volunteer opportunities, please contact your school’s PTA president or Cory Keen, the city’s Safe Routes to School coordinator, at 310.458.2201, Ext. 2120.

In late October, Santa Monica Spoke will host a spooktacular Kidical Mass, a safe, fun and family-friendly bike ride, including a prize for best Halloween costume. (Date and location TBD; check santamonicasaferoutes.org for updates). Free bike-and-helmet checks will be offered, along with refreshments and pre- and post-ride activities for kids.

BE A “ROLL” MODEL

Encouraging kids to be active and to try something new can be difficult, because it requires an adjustment in daily rituals and family travel routines. That’s why activities such as Bike It! Walk It! are so important in demonstrating how fun and easy change can be. And they also support students in learning skills for greater self-reliance and better personal health that will last a lifetime.

To be a good role model for walking and bicycling, parents and caregivers need to know and use the safest walking and bicycling practices, showing children that it’s fun and rewarding to be safe. Putting the following safety tips into practice will help ensure that children get the most out of their outdoor activities, setting them up for a lifetime of good health.

When on a bike:

- always wear a helmet.
- if you have small children that must ride on the sidewalk, remember that pedestrians have the right-of-way.
- if riding in the street, remember that motor vehicle laws apply.
- always ride in the same direction as cars.
- look left, right, in front and behind before entering the street, changing lanes or turning.
- use hand signals.

When on foot:

- walk—don’t run—across the street.
- look left, right and left again for traffic when crossing any street.
- always look for moving traffic while crossing a road.
- obey “Walk/Wait” pedestrian signals at intersections.
- use crosswalks and avoid crossing at mid-block locations.

For more information, visit santamonicasaferoutes.org, call 310.458.2201, ext. 2120 or e-mail cory.keen@smgov.net.
Welcome to the 2015-16 School Year!

As we begin another exciting educational year, we welcome you to one of the most engaged, vibrant learning communities anywhere: the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Our district is committed to providing a high-quality public education to each and every student in our schools, and we are so fortunate to have community members who are as passionate as we are about its possibilities and who so enthusiastically support all of the students in our district.

Our mission statement is: **Extraordinary achievement for all students while simultaneously closing the achievement gap.** As we continue to work toward that goal, our work with both the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation is more important than ever. Our community understands that state resources are not enough to offer the creative, rigorous programs we want for our children. We are so grateful for the local support that makes our district even better. For more information or to donate to the foundation, please visit smmef.org.

It is a thrilling time in education and we are fortunate to have excellent staff, supportive parents and committed community members who are willing to collaborate and do whatever it takes so that our students have every opportunity to reach their full potential. Visit us at smmusd.org and follow us on Twitter @SMMUSD.

**ON OCTOBER 15 AT 10:15—DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON!**

Millions of people worldwide will participate in this year’s Great ShakeOut earthquake drill, an event first launched in California seven years ago to encourage citizens to practice the most important response when the earth shakes: **DROP, COVER and HOLD ON.** Participating in this year’s Great ShakeOut—October 15 at 10:15 in the morning—is a good way for your family, neighborhood watch, business or civic group to practice survival and recovery techniques wherever you are.

Register now at shakeout.org/California to be counted in this year’s drill, get email updates and more. Before the day of the exercise, consider what may happen when an earthquake strikes—plan now what you will do to prepare, so that when it happens you will be able to protect yourself and then quickly recover. Talk to your friends and neighbors and encourage them to join you in becoming better prepared.

Then, on 10/15 at 10:15, do the following: DROP to the ground, take COVER under a table or desk and HOLD ON to it as if a major earthquake were happening at that very moment—stay down for at least 60 seconds to make it most realistic. (Visit smgov.net/oem and click on “What to Do” in the menu bar for actions to be taken in different situations.)

While you’re still under that table or desk, take a look around and imagine what could have happened if a major earthquake had really struck. What would fall on you or others? What would be damaged? What would life be like after? And what will you do before the Big One becomes reality to reduce losses and quickly recover?

Find more information about the drill and emergency preparedness at shakeout.org/California.
HAVE YOU GOT 7?

As summer comes to an end, kids return to school and friends and families return from vacations, this is a great time to revisit your emergency preparedness planning. The City of Santa Monica’s Office of Emergency Management (OEM) wants to ensure that those who live, work, and play in Santa Monica are ready for disasters.

OEM recommends three basic steps for preparedness: (on the web at smalerts.net)

1. HAVE AN EMERGENCY KIT,
2. HAVE AN EMERGENCY PLAN AND
3. SIGN UP FOR SM ALERTS

Participating in the city’s “I’ve Got 7” Emergency Preparedness Pledge Drive is a fun and easy way to be sure you, your family and your emergency kit are ready when disaster strikes.

The “I’ve Got 7” drive underscores the importance of being able to respond to—and recover from—disasters, whether at home, at work, at school or on the road and participants pledge to take seven essential steps for preparedness (see below).

The I’ve Got 7 Emergency Preparedness Pledge Drive is for businesses and schools, too. Working with the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, this year’s program will truly be a community-wide effort.

For additional information, please visit smgov.net/oem and click on the “I’ve Got 7” link under programs.

SEVEN STEPS TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

1. Store enough food and water to last up to 7 days.
2. Store supplies including a radio, flashlight and first aid kit.
3. Have cash on hand.
4. Put aside clothing and bedding, especially blankets and sturdy shoes.
5. Maintain a packet of important documents, medications and special needs materials for everyone in the household, including pets.
6. Prepare a contact info sheet for family and friends, including school and work phone.
7. Participate in an emergency training program, such as the city’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class.
We are chugging along toward the opening of the EXPO light rail line which will connect our city to an expansive network of transportation options come spring 2016. With construction nearing completion, train testing has been in full swing over the past few months. This means residents and visitors need to be alert at all times, and pay attention at train crossings when walking, biking or driving.

It has been six decades since passenger trains travelled through the city, making this a completely new experience for most of us. Traffic patterns have changed, particularly along Colorado Boulevard west of 17th Street, where left turns are no longer permitted. And trains can come from either direction, and may come from both directions at the same time.

Trains are much larger and heavier than cars and buses and therefore need a much greater distance to come to a complete stop. The graphic at right compares the length of a football field to the minimum distance required for a car, bus or train travelling at 35 miles per hour to stop and is a good illustration of why you should never try to beat the train!

For more safety information, visit metro.net/safety. If you would like to have Metro representatives conduct a Rail Safety Presentation for a group of residents, an organization or a business, please contact Stacy Yamato-Jasmin, Metro Community Relations Manager at 213.922.4055 or yamatojasmins@metro.net.

### Walking Tips
- Always wait for a “WALK” signal before entering the crosswalk. Never jaywalk across tracks.
- Never walk, sit or stand on tracks.
- Do not go around lowered gates; fines start at $100.
- Never run to catch a train.

### Biking Tips
- When crossing lights and arms are activated, do not cross the tracks.
- Cross tracks at a 90-degree angle.
- Use hand signals before turning, stopping or changing lanes.
- Walk bikes on ramps and platforms.

### Driving Tips
- Never try to beat the train—it takes less than a minute for a train to pass.
- When you hear the bells and see the flashing lights, stop.
- Never make a left turn on a red arrow. This will be enforced by cameras at intersections.

Santa Monica Police Chief Jacqueline A. Seabrooks, Mayor Kevin McKeown, Fire Marshal Eric Binder and City Manager Rick Cole welcome one of the first EXPO trains into the city.

Photography by William Short
The first seven Breeze stations are on the ground and being tested by some lucky early-bird Founding Members. From now until December 31, anyone can become a Founding Member for just $99 and enjoy a full year of bike share use, including 60 minutes of daily riding time, a special gift, special promotions and a Founding Member card! Those who sign up before the official launch in November will also be invited to our launch party.

Starting in January 2016, Santa Monica residents and employees of businesses that are members of the city’s new Transportation Management Association (TMA) will still receive the $99 annual rate, while others may purchase yearly passes for $119 (30 daily minutes) or $149 (60 minutes per day).

Monthly passes for $20 or $25—including 30 or 60 daily minutes, respectively—will also be available when Breeze launches in November. New users and visitors may choose to “pay-as-you-go” at $1 per 10 minutes, or $6 an hour prorated based on total trip time.

Using Breeze is a breeze—especially if you become a Founding Member. Go to breezebikeshare.com to learn more, purchase your membership and download the free app.
HELLO TO BETTER TRAFFIC FLOW

Main Street Meets 2nd Street

The new Esplanade will improve bike and pedestrian mobility by connecting the Downtown Santa Monica Station with the Pier and other key downtown destinations. It will also improve vehicle flow by connecting Main Street with 2nd Street and eliminating one intersection. The realignment removes the original T-shaped intersection at Main Street and Colorado Avenue (see before and after maps) and says “Hello to better traffic flow!”

The construction of the new Main Street alignment is anticipated to begin in October 2015. Although much of the work will be done at night, there will be some closures of Main Street and 2nd Street as needed.

The Esplanade is scheduled for completion in spring 2016, in time for the opening of the Downtown Santa Monica Station.

TECH TALK

LOCAL DEVELOPERS "HACK THE BEACH"

The city’s Information Systems Department and Public Library joined with the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce in June to co-host “Hack the Beach,” a technology meet-up at the Main Library where new datasets were presented to local developers, along with tips and tricks for accessing the city’s open data portal. More than 50 participants learned about the city’s open data program as part of the National Day of Civic Hacking.

Attendees were exposed to the city’s Open Data Initiative, which includes the open data portals at data.smgov.net and santamonicaca.opengov.com. Discussion focused on how the city’s open data can be used to promote business development, government transparency and accountability. New datasets containing real-time Big Blue Bus schedules, citywide water consumption, real-time parking availability, and Fire Department calls-for-service were publicly unveiled at the meet-up. This is part of the city’s ongoing effort to encourage third-party development of internet-based apps and websites using open city data.
Each summer, the city’s Youth Tech Program helps open the door to the world of Information Technology (IT) for local high school students. This year, a group of 35 highly diverse teens went behind the scenes to explore how technology helps keep a city running and gain hands-on experience of what it takes to work in the booming local tech sector.

The free six-week program began with students shadowing city IT staff, learning about technology and public safety, traffic control, bus operations, and managing city assets. Participants dug into the fundamentals of hardware and network architecture, databases and more.

Students then set up shop at one of Santa Monica’s startup incubators, applying what they learned from the city as they worked alongside entrepreneurs, designers and developers to create socially responsible business concepts with real-world application. The Youth Tech Program culminated with a Pitch Night, where participants presented their concepts to venture capitalists and angel investors.

By the time the program ended, Youth Tech participants were armed with a unique insider’s view of the tech industry, giving them a leg up on the competition seeking careers in this lucrative, fast-growing field. The program is made possible by a partnership between local experts from Santa Monica tech companies, and the city’s Information Systems and Community and Cultural Services departments. Youth Tech also advances Santa Monica’s Cradle to Career goal of helping youth make the critical transition from school to college and career.

Applications for next year’s Youth Tech program will be available January 1, 2016. For information, visit smgov.net/youthtech.
SUSTAINABLE SANTA MONICA SEPTEMBER EVENTS
VISIT SUSTAINABLESM.ORG FOR EVENT DETAILS

Sept 12
Wellbeing Festival & Buy Local Marketplace
Santa Monica Civic Parking Lot, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Festivities include Santa Monica Trainer Challenge, live music, food, chef demos, free yoga and dance classes, health screenings, Red Cross Pet First Aid + more. buylocalsm.com/events

Sept 12-20
Buy Local/Give Local Week
Shop, eat and play local in support of our community! Visit participating local businesses during Buy Local/Give Local Week and a portion of the sales will go to one of five Santa Monica charities/non-profits. buylocalsm.com/events

Sept 18-19
10th Annual Alt Car Expo
Santa Monica Civic Parking Lot, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Discover and test drive the largest selection of electric, hybrid, natural gas, hydrogen and propane vehicles at this FREE event. altcarexpo.com

Sept 19
Coastal Clean-up
Santa Monica Beach near the Pier, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Hit the beach as part of the largest volunteer day on the planet.

Sept 24
2015 Green Prize for Sustainable Literature presents Paul and Anna Cummins: A Father and Daughter in Conversation
Santa Monica Main Library - MLK Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. Santa Monica’s own educator and author Paul Cummins and emerging environmental leader Anna Cummins discuss how we can envision ourselves as leaders for social justice and a sustainable planet.

Sept 26
Citywide Yard Sale
Citywide and times may vary. Register your yard sale with Resource Recovery and Recycling or search for your hidden treasure.

Sept 30
Sustainable Movie Screening
Aero Theatre (1328 Montana Ave.), 7:30 p.m. Check out sustainableSM.org to find out what this year’s sustainable movie is. It will be followed by a discussion with a panel of local experts.

All Month
Social Media Photo Contest
We want to see how you are sustainable. We will be giving away prizes to those chosen by our guest judges. To be eligible, you have to tag @sustainableSM through Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and use the hashtag #iamsustainable. More details to come, stay connected by following us:

Facebook: @SustainableSantaMonica
Twitter: @sustainableSM
Instagram: @sustainableSM
SUSTAINABLE SANTA MONICA

BUY LOCAL EVENTS HIGHLIGHT GIVING, LIVING—SANTA MONICA-STYLE!

Buy Local, Give Local Week: September 12-20

hop, eat and play to support our community! This year, our merchants’ associations and individual Buy Local SM businesses are partnering with five Santa Monica charities/non-profits to help support them. These are local causes that are important to all of us. Buy Local this week and make a difference! Last year’s inaugural Buy Local, Give Local Week raised over $5,000 in cash donations in support of Westside Food Bank, The Viking Fund, Step Up on Second and Westside Family Health Center. Find participants at these locations: Montana Avenue, Pico Boulevard, Main Street, Downtown Santa Monica and Buy Local SM businesses across the city. For more information, go to buylocalsm.com/events or facebook.com/buylocalsm.

Wellbeing Buy Local Festival—Saturday, September 12

Showcasing the services and products of Santa Monica businesses, this festival is expected to attract more than 5,000 folks to the Civic Center outdoor area! Local businesses and non-profits will offer expertise, advice and product samples promoting a healthy and happy lifestyle for all Santa Monicans. Restaurants and shops from every neighborhood will offer food and vendor booths. Festivities include music, cooking demos and interactive classes on stages, with lots of free resources and screenings. And—back by popular demand—our local fitness trainers will compete for the title of Santa Monica’s Finest Trainer!

This FREE event is organized by the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Buy Local SM Committee, the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation and City of Santa Monica. For details, visit smchamber.com or buylocalsm.com/events.
Downtown Santa Monica and the Third Street Promenade annually draw 6.3 million visitors from around the world, which is nearly as large as the populations of Chicago, Houston and Philadelphia combined. The city Public Landscape Division’s Promenade Maintenance team of 21 employees cleans and repairs this vital hub of the region’s economy and tourism to ensure that it remains attractive to visitors, residents, merchants and businesses alike.

Promenade Maintenance deploys a day and night shift every day of the year to perform work that includes sweeping and washing sidewalks, oversight of landscaping and irrigation, emptying trash cans, and maintaining amenities such as benches. They also coordinate their work with the dozens of major events and film productions that take place every year.

Since some work involves water use, Promenade Maintenance has adjusted operations due to the statewide drought. The team now uses only treated urban runoff water for pressure washing and scrubbing and has decreased its water-use frequencies. These changes will save a million gallons of potable water per year while still providing top-notch maintenance.

Last fall, with no end in sight to the current drought, Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel decided it was time to step up in a big way and do more to save water. So it did what many Santa Monica residents have done: It called on the city’s sustainability folks to get the latest tips and technologies for cutting water consumption.

After a thorough assessment of Loews’ laundry practices and needs, and with installation of new equipment, the result is a 70% reduction in the amount of water used to do its laundry, which was the 347-room resort’s biggest drain. New technology allows for recycling almost three-quarters of the water used to wash sheets, towels and other items. Within four months, Loews had saved a million gallons of water. And the savings are continuing.

The initial investment was substantial. The system that recycles, filters and disinfects the laundry water cost close to $100,000 to install, though nearly half of that pricetag was offset by subsidies from MWD and SoCalGas. Loews projects that the laundry-recycling system will pay for itself by the middle of next year.

Loews has made a long-term commitment to sustainability. The resort says its guests are more environmentally savvy than ever, and the hotel’s “green team” is continually looking for ways to conserve. Loews is a certified green business and a 2015 winner of a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award (smsqa.com).
# How To Read Your New Utility Bill

Your new utility bill has several changes which we hope will help you understand your bill more easily.

1. A summary of all activities and dates appears in the top right corner. The header will show whether your bill is a First, Final or Adjusted Bill, if applicable.

2. This section includes account info such as the name on the account and account number.

3. This section includes water meter, meter readings, and usage in Hundred Cubic Feet (HCF) and gallons (Gal). (1HCF = 748 gallons)

   **Water Conservation Info is a new addition to your bill:**
   - **Water Allowance:** The water usage assigned to meet conservation requirements.
   - **Exceedance:** The water usage over the Water Allowance.
   - **Next Estimated Allowance:** The approximate water allowance for the next ~60 days. Your actual allowance may vary depending on the number of days in the next billing cycle.

4. Here you'll find your history of water use and allowance, so you can compare consumption and track your water efficiency.

5. A complete breakdown of water charges is shown here.

6. A complete breakdown of sewer charges is shown here.

7. This section shows a complete breakdown of charges including: Refuse, Recycling and Organics service (with the number and frequency of service), Street Sweeping and other charges such as Bulk Item Collections or Additional Service of the Refuse, Recycling or Organics containers.

8. Detachable stub located at the bottom of your bill. Detach this stub and return it with your payment. The address on the front of this stub must be visible through the window on the return envelope when payment is mailed. See the back of the bill for other forms of payment and info.

9. Be sure to check this message box for important messages and announcements.

10. Note: If your account is enrolled in AutoPay, you'll see a “Do Not Pay” message here on the stub
WHAT’S HAPPENING, SANTA MONICA?

COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

SEPTEMBER 19

9 a.m. to noon

The largest volunteer day on the planet brings out thousands of volunteers to pick up trash at more than 50 locations across L.A. County, including multiple sites along Santa Monica’s beach. Heal the Bay coordinates the county’s Coastal Cleanup Day efforts. Last year more than 30,480 pounds of debris were removed from beaches, streams and other waterways and parks. Visit healthebay.org to sign up to be part of this vital annual event. Volunteers are rewarded for their efforts with a FREE visit to Heal the Bay’s Santa Monica Pier Aquarium between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. the same day.

INTRO TO PICKLEBALL

SEPTEMBER 26

9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Have you tried it? Pickleball is a paddle sport for all ages and skill levels that is quickly gaining popularity. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but it can develop into a fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. This fun sport is a combo of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. The event is free to the public and will be held at the Memorial Park Gym.
**PIER AQUARIUM CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN AND DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**

**OCTOBER 24-25**

Something fishy is going on at the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium! We’re talking about our annual weekend Fishy Fest, where kids (and adults) can check out the glow-in-the-dark fun in the mad scientist’s lab, hear spine-tingling stories about creatures of the deep, craft Dia de los Muertos masks, and then enjoy a ghoulish parade around the Pier. Hours and more details at healththebay.org, or call us at 310.393.6149.

**SANTA MONICA CELEBRATES DAYS OF THE DEAD CITYWIDE**

Many Days, Multiple Venues—Free and Open to All!!!

**Dias de los Muertos** (Days of the Dead) is a traditional Mexican holiday and a time for family and friends to honor and celebrate loved ones who have passed. Santa Monica observes the tradition with events throughout the city between mid-October and early November. People of all ages can engage in and become familiar with the many aspects of this important and rich tradition. Venues include Cafe Bolivar and Gallery, Edison Language Academy, the Main and Pico Branch Libraries, Pico Youth and Family Center, Santa Monica High School Roberts Art Gallery, Virginia Avenue Park, and Woodlawn Cemetery.

You are invited to the City of Santa Monica’s fourth annual Day of the Dead Celebration Sunday, November 1 from 1-5 p.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery. Come learn the philosophy and history of the day which will feature an opening procession, a workshop to create offerings for loved ones who have passed, a blessing with traditional music and dance, self-guided tours of the grave sites of local people of interest, and musicians performing throughout the cemetery. Bring your appetite. Fresh tamales and pan de muerto will be available for purchase.

For more information on all Dias de los Muertos events, visit smgov.net/dia.
The beautiful pool still beckons—come join us!

**SUMMER COASTS INTO FALL AT THE ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE**

**Beach House Artist-In-Residence: Rebecca Bruno**

Choreographer-in-Residence Rebecca Bruno will be creating a new, site-specific piece in the Courtyard of the Beach House, September 8-27. Tentatively titled “Elemental Forms,” her work will bring about a dialogue between dancers and the natural elements of the Beach House site—exploring the interactions between sand, water, air, sun, space and people. Join Rebecca for a free Beach Walk with a choreographer’s focus from 9 to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16. Her final presentations will take place Friday through Sunday afternoons, September 25-27. Visit [annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture](http://annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture) for more information and to make reservations.

Rebecca Bruno is an active member of the Los Angeles dance community as a performer, choreographer and producer. For the past two years, her project “homeLA” ([homela.org](http://homela.org)) has investigated dance process in interior spaces, presenting large-scale events in residences with hundreds of performers and thousands of guests.

**SUMMER into FALL**

**SUNSET SWIM**
(for adults 18 and up)
Friday, September 11
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

**POP-UP POOL DAY**
Monday, September 14
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**WEEKENDS**
September 12-13, 19-20, 26-27
and October 3-4
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**BEACH=CULTURE**

Events offer a rich variety of outstanding artistry with free concerts, performances, dance halls and readings Tuesdays, September 15, 22 and 29, October 13 and 20 and November 10, 6:30–8 p.m.

There’s much more to do at the Annenberg Community Beach House this fall—visit [annenbergbeachhouse.com](http://annenbergbeachhouse.com) or call 310.458.4904.
HAPPENING AT THE MILES PLAYHOUSE

THE COLONIALS PRESENT SHAKESPEARE’S “MACBETH”

OCT
23–25 

L.A. ROCK OPERA’S “PUSH PLAY”

GREEN LIGHT ONE-ACTS PRESENTS “GLO 2015”
Five one-act plays written and directed by Los Angeles women.

Visit milesplayhouse.org for hours and ticket info.

TONGVA PARK

TONGVA AFTER DARK
Holly Rothschild returns to present her site-specific piece, Seaclipse.

SEP 9

FAMILY SATURDAY
Native American music and storytelling by Michael Heralda.

SEP 26

TONGVA AFTER DARK
The Wonder Room offers multiple performances in the “intimate rooms” of the park.

OCT 28

Visit tongvapark.smgov.net for hours and ticket info.

Tongva After Dark photography by William Short

Visit tongvapark.smgov.net for hours and ticket info.
Get Your Creativity On at 1450 Ocean

Head over to 1450 Ocean, Santa Monica’s art lab for adults in the Camera Obscura building! Fall brings a fun mix of writing, printmaking, knitting and other ongoing art and craft opportunities. Join our email list at smgov.net/artssignup (select ‘1450 Ocean’) to get a monthly update—or check out smgov.net/1450ocean for the current schedule of offerings. Make a gift, learn a new skill, relax with friends and find a community at 1450 Ocean.

Have you ever driven along Lincoln Boulevard near the 10 freeway and wondered why a penguin is perched on the exterior sign for a dental office? The penguin, as it turns out, was originally placed there to welcome visitors to the Penguin Coffee Shop when it opened in 1959. Designed by Armet Davis Newlove Architects, the Penguin Coffee Shop joins a long list of diners and coffee shops in Southern California (Norm’s, Denny’s, Ship’s, etc.) known for their “space age” Googie architectural style in the 1950s and ’60s. In a 1989 restaurant review, Los Angeles Times’ Charles Perry gave The Penguin his vote for “the best diner around,” serving up classics without any “winking, patronizing nostalgia.”

The accompanying photograph shows The Penguin’s interior as it looked when it first opened. Design elements such as shell globe lanterns, stone walls and decorative plastic-laminate partitions added a touch of charm. The Penguin closed in the 1990s.

Photo courtesy of Imagine Santa Monica (digital.smpl.org), home of the digital collections of Santa Monica Public Library.
Enjoy these terrific seasonal events at our market locations! (Please note that while the markets operate on their normal schedule, the pumpkin and chile events last only as long as the produce does, so it’s best to arrive early.)

ALL-YOU-CAN-CARRY PUMPKIN PATCH
Wednesday, October 28, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Arizona Avenue @ 3rd Street Market

It’s hard to tell who has more fun—the onlookers or the participants—but everyone is sure to enjoy the market patch, featuring the most beautiful, bright-orange, California-grown pumpkins found anywhere. For just $5 (cash only), you can wade into the huge patch and take home as many pumpkins as you can carry down a 25-foot runway. Stack them, hold them in your teeth, balance them on your head—anything goes (but no help from friends or equipment, please). Costumes encouraged!

PUMPKIN DECORATING FOR CHILDREN
Sunday, October 25, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Main Street Market,
2640 Main Street

Free pumpkin decorating for kids at the market is back! Our locally grown, perfectly shaped orbs are the perfect canvas for glitter and googly eyes. Bring the little ones and let them create their own pumpkin masterpiece—a princess, a ghoul, a cat—to be admired by all the trick-or-treaters!

ANNUAL CHILE ROAST
Every Saturday in October, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Pico Market @ Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Avenue

Locally grown chiles—Anaheim, Pasilla and jalapeno—are roasted in a Southwestern-style chile roaster. Whether you prefer spicy or mild, we use only the most flavorful California chiles provided by several of our farmers. Come by as we fire up the giant roaster, then cook the chiles to perfection! Take home a one-pound bag of these beauties for just $3.

We’ll see you at the markets!

WEDNESDAYS
Arizona Avenue @ 2nd Street, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

SATURDAYS
Arizona Avenue @ 3rd Street, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

SATURDAYS
Virginia Avenue Park,
8 a.m.–1 p.m.

SUNDAYS
2640 Main Street,
9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

The Pico Market moves to the Virginia Avenue Park lawn and basketball courts starting Saturday, September 12, due to resurfacing of the market area. We hope to be back in our regular location on September 19 (check our website for updates).
On Saturday, June 13, 64 people attended the Civic Working Group’s third and final public workshop. It brought together all of the research, ideas and feedback from the 18-month collaborative effort to figure out how to revitalize the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium and reinvigorate its surroundings. In small groups, participants discussed the draft Guiding Principles and then reported back their ideas to the larger group.

This fall, the Civic Working Group will present to City Council a final report, including Guiding Principles and Priorities for Council Consideration, for discussion and next steps.
PICO LIBRARY IS PLATINUM!

Big congrats to the Pico Branch Library, which was recently awarded the highest rating in the LEED Green Building Certification Program—Platinum! This is the first city-owned building in Santa Monica to be awarded this rating. LEED, or Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, is a green building certification program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices.

Photography by William Short

10th Anniversary
City of Santa Monica
2015 ALT CAR EXPO & CONFERENCE

Friday & Saturday, September 18-19
10am - 5pm • Santa Monica Civic

Free Admission to Expo Floor, Ride & Drive Area, Speaker Sessions

Test-Drive in one location, the largest selection of currently available models of electric, hydrogen fuel cell, natural gas, propane and hybrid vehicles, plus info on rebates up to $10,000

Contact Platia Productions at 310-390-2930, ext. 3 for further information
www.altcarexpo.com
The Santa Monica City Council regularly meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in the Council Chamber, located at City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Upcoming Council meetings are scheduled for:

**September 8 and 29** (special meeting)
**October 13, 20** (special meeting) and 27
**November 10**

Visit smgov.net/council for more information or to check the status of future agenda items. City Council meetings are broadcast live on CityTV cable channel 16, and streamed at citytv.org. Regular meetings air on 89.9 KCRW from 8 p.m. to midnight.

All Council meetings are open to the public. Public comment may be made in person at any meeting, or prior to the meeting via regular U.S. mail, email or by fax to:

City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 209
Santa Monica, California 90401
Phone: 310.458.8201
Fax: 310.458.1621
Email all Council members: council@smgov.net

Seascape is a publication of the City of Santa Monica designed to inform residents about city programs and services. Please email editorial information and comments to seascape@smgov.net or mail to:

Carrie Lujan
Santa Monica Seascape
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Seascape is available in alternate formats by calling the City Manager’s Office at 310.458.8301 (TDD/TTY 310.917.6626).

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**LIBRARY LINES**

**COLLEGE PREP AT SMPL**

all is here, and with it comes the inevitable stress over college essays, applications and grades. Santa Monica Public Library can help! Did you know we have free college prep lectures and SAT/ACT/PSAT practice tests? We even encourage you to think about your future beyond college, with programs such as “Carve Your Own Path.”

Check out these fall programs, and contact your local branch for more details and to register for practice tests.

**Main Library**

601 Santa Monica Boulevard
310.458.8621

**The College Process from A to Z**
Tuesday, September 1, 7-8:30 p.m. with Diana Hanson of College Mentors

**Common Core, New SAT, New PSAT: How Do the Changes Affect You?**
Tuesday, September 8, 7-8:30 p.m. with C2 Education

**College Essays: Finding and Telling Your Story**
Tuesday, September 15, 7-8:30 p.m. with Diana Hanson of College Mentors

**SAT Full-Length Practice Test with Kaplan**
Saturday, September 19, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Registration is required and begins on September 1.

**Think Like a College Admissions Officer**
Thursday, October 29, 7-8:30 p.m. with C2 Education

**Beyond the Books: Extracurriculars for College**
Thursday, November 5, 7-8:30 p.m. with C2 Education

**Affording College**
Tuesday, November 10, 7-8:30 p.m. with Diana Hanson of College Mentors

**Carve Your Own Path**
Saturday, November 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. with Academic Life Coach Hayden Lee, Independent College Counselor Nick Soper and Marriage & Family Therapist Kristine Tye
This half-day seminar is for teens and parents; registration is not required.

**Montana Branch**

1704 Montana Avenue
310.458.8682

**SAT v. ACT: Which Test is Right for You?**
Tuesday, September 15, 7-8 p.m. with C2 Education

**Majors & Careers**
Thursday, October 8, from 7-8 p.m. with C2 Education

**Pico Branch**

2201 Pico Boulevard
310.458.8684

**PSAT Practice Test**
Saturday, September 19, 1-5 p.m. with C2 Education
Registration is required and begins on September 1.