WHAT’S HAPPENING, SANTA MONICA?
SICK LEAVE LAW NOW IN EFFECT

SPOTLIGHT
SANTA MONICA
WE ❤️ DOWNTOWN

SUSTAINABLE
SANTA MONICA
CLIMATE ACTION
SUMMIT

MAKING PROGRESS

Photo by Kristina Sado
# Table of Contents

**Cover Story**
- An Update on the City’s Strategic Goals: Metrics and Work Plans (Part 2)
- Jump-Start Programs

**What’s New, Santa Monica?**
- Briefly
- Park Improvements and Urban Forest Highlights
- Santa Monica Paves the Way for Zero Net Energy
- Sick Leave for Santa Monica Workers Effective on January 1
- Homeless Count 2017

**Community Update**
- Owls Offer the Long View
- Meet Santa Monica Fire Academy Grads
- Pickleball Open Play
- BBB: Join Our Team
- Become a Santa Monica Eco-Ambassador

**Travel Smarter**
- Announcing the Gosamo Transportation Management Organization
- “Kiss ‘n’ Ride” Lot for Downtown Expo Commuters
- Making Big Blue & Expo Work for You
- Helping You Find Your Way Around Town
- More Places to Park Bikes and a New Way to Deter Thieves

**Spotlight Santa Monica**
- Downtown Community Plan: How You Weighed in Over the Past Six Years

**What’s Happening, Santa Monica?**
- Celebrating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- Winter Fun at the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium
- Annenberg Beach House Winter Events
- Eighth Annual Fireside Series Returns to Miles!
- Writer-in-Residence Events

**Sustainable Santa Monica**
- Summit Brings Climate Action to Attention
- The Path to Carbon Neutrality
- Free Paper Shredding
- Cooking with Santa Monica Farmers Markets

**Learn + Thrive**
- A Better Way to Get to School—Mckinley Wins Again!
- SMMUSD Rings in 2017 with a New Superintendent
- Santa Monica’s “Most Loved” Businesses Contest Is Back!
- A Thriving Partnership: Annenberg Beach House and Santa Monica Conservancy
- Seascape’s Past: Presidential Visit at Sawtelle Soldiers’ Home
- Camera Obscura Art Lab: Santa Monicans Living Expressive Lives

**Back Page**
- Join the Conversation at the Santa Monica Public Library Fairview Branch!
- City Council Meetings
- Be Safe Around Trains
AN UPDATE ON THE CITY’S STRATEGIC GOALS: METRICS AND WORK PLANS (PART 2)

The November-December 2016 edition of Seascape highlighted progress made in three of the city’s five Strategic Goal areas: Mobility, Learn + Thrive, and Santa Monica Airport. In this issue, we offer an update on the two remaining goals—Addressing Homelessness and Maintaining an Inclusive and Diverse Community—including their identified metrics and current plans for achieving them.

GOAL: Taking a Leadership Role in Regional Efforts to Address Homelessness

Santa Monica aligns its activities, services and nonprofit investments to engage and house the most vulnerable homeless individuals living in our community. The 2016 Homeless Count identified 728 individuals on Santa Monica’s streets and in shelters, signifying a sustained 20% decrease in the population size since 2009.

A REGIONAL CRISIS WITH LOCAL IMPACTS
The count, which is conducted once a year late at night, identifies people actually sleeping in the city, but tells a limited story and may not reflect the community impact during the day. What we do know is that the number of unsheltered people—those who are literally on the streets—has gradually been increasing as the regional homeless population grows. Of the over 40,000 homeless people counted in Los Angeles County in 2016, a startling 32,781 people were living outdoors—making the county home to the largest unsheltered population in the country.

Results from a 2016 demographic survey of Santa Monica’s homeless population underscore how the regional homeless crisis impacts our community. Ninety-seven percent of respondents reported they were homeless prior to arriving in Santa Monica and 52% reported arriving from other parts of the county. The city fares better than its neighbors because of our sustained investments in effective solutions, including comprehensive services, treatment and diverse housing options. To continue our progress toward reducing the impacts of homelessness in Santa Monica, we must pair our local efforts with an expanded regional approach to help other communities provide housing and services so that people can get help in their own neighborhood.

USING LEVERAGE TO BUILD CAPACITY
To this end, the Council prioritized taking a leadership role in regional efforts to address homelessness, one of five citywide Strategic Goals. At the same time, both the city and county of LA adopted strategies to organize their larger-scale work to combat homelessness. Santa Monica is participating in the implementation of these strategies by providing technical assistance for first responder training, contributing matching funds to support rapid re-housing for homeless Santa Monica families, and supporting the expansion of Westside affordable housing projects. We are looking to our neighboring cities and communities to do their fair share to scale the regional capacity to address homelessness.

Work plans in support of this goal include: identifying opportunities for the city to combine local funds with county resources for greater regional impact; collecting additional data through surveys of homeless people in open spaces to understand where people are from; and a public education campaign to let residents and visitors know what the city is doing to address homelessness, and how they can constructively help.

The state of California has 22% of the nation’s homeless population (118,142 people). To impact homelessness locally, we must leverage our efforts regionally and help build capacity outside of Santa Monica’s borders. And, we must continually measure and assess local impacts so we can develop innovative and responsive approaches. Please join us for the 2017 Homeless Count on January 25 (see our ad here). For more information on the city’s efforts, please visit smgov.net/homelessness.

GOAL: Maintaining an Inclusive and Diverse Community

Reflecting concerns that the combination of market pressures and changes in state laws is making Santa Monica less diverse economically, this goal is focused primarily on providing affordable housing and housing assistance to those in need. As inclusivity has been a hallmark of life in Santa Monica, the loss of diversity has the potential to dramatically reshape our community.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
The goals and metrics developed to address the Council’s intent to maintain an inclusive and diverse community are: (1) percentage of Santa Monica’s households of low or moderate incomes, (2) total amount of deed-restricted affordable housing in Santa Monica, and (3) percentage of Santa Monica residents in poverty without housing assistance and other needed support services. Goals related to each metric include: (1) reducing the rate of decline in low- and moderate-income households; (2) increasing the total number of deed-restricted affordable residences; and (3) reducing the number of households in poverty without other supports.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING EFFORTS**
The city lost a significant source of affordable housing funds when the state legislature dissolved redevelopment agencies in 2012. In addition to exploring alternative sources of revenue, staff is now conducting research and analysis to provide support for underserved members of the Santa Monica community, including evaluating existing programs, potential new services, and model programs from other jurisdictions. Work plans to further develop this Strategic Goal include: providing new subsidies to rent-burdened tenants of rent-controlled apartments to help them stay housed in Santa Monica, providing incentives to apartment owners to participate in the city’s housing voucher programs, and increasing public understanding of affordable housing in Santa Monica.

**MEASURE GSH EFFECTS**
With the passage of Measure GSH in the November election, Santa Monica will have a new revenue source to support affordable preservation and production. The city anticipates that a portion of the new revenue, combined with existing, newly committed city funds, will enable Santa Monica to revive the robust affordable housing program that existed before the local redevelopment agency was dissolved. The other portion of the new revenue source is planned to support local public education.

The five Strategic Goals will continue to inform the work of your city government in the coming years as it provides essential city services to and programs for Santa Monica's residents, businesses and visitors. For ongoing updates, please visit beta.smgov.net/strategic-goals.

**ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS**
- To prevent homelessness among older adults, the Senior Taskforce coordinates legal, social service and home maintenance interventions for residents at risk of eviction due to challenges of hoarding and cognitive decline.

In the next year, staff will evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts.

**MAINTAINING AN INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY**
- The HOUSE program provides incentives to apartment owners to participate in the city’s housing voucher programs.
- An outreach program is underway to increase public understanding of affordable housing in Santa Monica.
- With funding allocated as part of the FY16/17 budget, the city is also pursuing a pilot program intended to provide rental assistance to rent-burdened households at risk of being displaced from Santa Monica.

For more information on the city’s five Strategic Goals and current status, please visit beta.smgov.net/strategic-goals.
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. All city offices are closed on alternate Fridays as part of the city’s commute trip reduction plan to improve air quality (January 6 and 20, and February 3 and 17). City Hall will also be closed on January 2 for the New Year’s Day holiday, January 16 for Martin Luther King Day, and February 20 for Presidents’ Day.

SANTA MONICA’S HOUSING AUTHORITY will accept on-line applications for its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program wait list for one day only, Tuesday, January 31, 2017, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Applicants must meet specific criteria—including employment or residence in Santa Monica and income limits—to qualify for the aid. Please visit housinglist.smgov.net for details, or call 310.458.8740.

THE CITY’S ANNUAL REPORT is now online at annualreport.smgov.net, with useful and interesting facts and information for those who want an insider’s view of the operations, accomplishments and goals of city government. Join us at this year’s State of the City on Monday, February 6 to hear more from City Manager Rick Cole and Mayor Ted Winterer about city initiatives. Details and registration at smchamber.com/sotc.

GET A FREE OIL FILTER IN EXCHANGE FOR A USED ONE on Saturday, February 11 at O’Reilly Auto Parts, 2018 Lincoln Blvd. This city-sponsored oil recycling event is one day only, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., only at this location. (One new filter per customer, please.) For more information, call the city’s Resource Recovery & Recycling Division at 310.458.2223 or email recycling@smgov.net.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY’S John F. Kennedy School of Government honored the California Healthy Nail Salon Program—a partnership that includes the City of Santa Monica—with the 2016 Roy Family Award for Environmental Partnership. This prestigious biennial award celebrates an outstanding public-private partnership project that enhances environmental quality through novel and creative approaches. Established in 2005, the salon program focuses on the reduction of carcinogenic and reproductive toxins in the workplace to protect the health of employees, customers and the environment.

CITY STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS recently traveled to Princeton, NJ, to formally accept the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Prize, one of seven awarded last fall to American communities that are making great strides in their efforts to help their residents live longer, healthier and more productive lives. Shown in the photo below with RWJF President and CEO Risa Lavizzo-Mourey (center) are Setareh Yavari, Shari Davis, Cynthia Rose, John Maceri, Julie Rusk and Ana Jara. For more information on the award, please visit rwjf.org/prize.
As part of the City of Santa Monica Public Works Department, the public landscape division maintains, manages and enhances Santa Monica’s parks, landscapes, public trees, downtown area and state beach. The past few months have brought both park turf renovation and urban forestry accomplishments, and in the months ahead, we will celebrate an annual tradition, launch a new program, and embark on more improvement projects.

Improvements to Palisades Park, one of the city’s most popular destinations, rolled out in two phases over the past six months. In each phase of the project, division staff removed worn-out turf and replaced it with new sod and new irrigation components. New edging was also installed to boost aesthetics. In all, staff replaced more than 100,000 square feet of new sod between Colorado Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard.

Both the National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) and the Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) recognized the city’s urban forestry program in 2016. Santa Monica’s program earned SMA accreditation for the first time, and—for the 35th consecutive year—met NADF “Tree City USA” qualifications.

Kicking off the new year, landscape division staff will present the revised Urban Forest Master Plan, the document that guides the city’s work and that of the Urban Forest Task Force, to City Council at its January 24, 2017 meeting. Looking ahead to spring, the division will hold an Arbor Day celebration and officially launch the Heritage Tree Program to formally recognize noteworthy public trees through community nominations.

Also in the works: plans to refurbish the stair corridor at Montana Avenue that provides access from Palisades Park to the beach.

To keep up with our activities and engage in conversation, we encourage you to follow us @santamonicapubliclandscape on both Facebook and Instagram.
2016 was a big year for sustainability in Santa Monica. Last spring, City Council approved an ordinance requiring rooftop solar systems for all new construction in the city—both residential and commercial. Then in summer, while other California cities were relaxing their water conservation requirements, Santa Monica redoubled its efforts to save water by maintaining its emergency drought measures. Finally, we exceeded the 15x15 Climate Action Plan commitment by reaching emissions reductions of 20% over 1990 levels—while achieving economic growth—and began making plans for reaching carbon neutrality by mid-century.

It should come as no surprise, then, that the Santa Monica City Council voted unanimously in October to approve a requirement that all new single-family construction in the city achieve a zero net energy (ZNE) rating, the first of its kind in the world. ZNE is a building-industry term for projects that generate enough of their own energy from renewable sources to equal what they take from the power utility over the course of a year.

The successes and challenges of these efforts have laid the groundwork for a more sustainable Santa Monica, a community that is both resilient and capable of adapting to climate change as it impacts our community. For more information about ZNE and the city’s other climate-related efforts, visit smgov.net/climate.
Santa Monica’s new paid sick leave provisions went into effect on New Year’s Day, joining the city’s minimum wage requirements for local employers that started last July 1. California employers were already required by a state law enacted one year ago to offer employees 24 hours of paid sick leave. In Santa Monica, employees will benefit from increases to 32 or 40 hours, depending on the size of the employer (see chart).

“Santa Monica cares about the health and safety of its workers and part of that is giving hard-working people the right to time away when they are sick. This is something many of us take for granted, but for a large group of workers, missing a day on the job hasn’t been an option until now,” said Councilmember Tony Vazquez. The minimum wage law is a fundamental tool to make Santa Monica more affordable, more diverse and more inclusive, all part of the city’s Strategic Goals initiative adopted by City Council last year.

Adopted following an extensive community outreach process involving the business community, residents, workers and labor groups, Santa Monica’s minimum wage schedule aligns with those previously adopted by the city and county of Los Angeles. The state of California’s new minimum wage requirements also became law on January 1.

The city has contracted with the LA County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs to enforce Santa Monica’s minimum wage law. Any Santa Monica employee or employer can call (800.593.8222), email wagehelp@dcba.lacounty.gov, or go in person to any LA County office to ask questions about an employment practice, report a problem, or file a wage claim. Services are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Armenian.

For more details on the provisions of Santa Monica’s minimum wage law, and for information on Santa Monica’s education and outreach efforts to local businesses and employers, please visit smgov.net/minimumwage.

SICK LEAVE PROVISIONS
(AS OF JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Businesses with 26 or more employees</th>
<th>Businesses with 25 or fewer employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>40 hours</td>
<td>32 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>72 hours</td>
<td>40 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Employees accrue one hour for every 30 hours worked. Employers can provide leave up front, and employer plans can be more generous.

---

SANTA MONICA WE NEED YOUR HELP!
HOMELESS COUNT 2017

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT SantaMonicaHomelessCount.com

Join Santa Monica’s Police Chief, Fire Chief, Chamber of Commerce and your community to impact homelessness.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017 | 10:30PM
St. Monica Catholic Community
725 California Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Thank you for helping Santa Monica address homelessness.
#SMHomelessCount
Two OWLs—augmented-reality viewers (that, yes, look like owls!) providing visualizations of projected sea level rise impacts along the Santa Monica coast and potential adaptation strategies—have been in place on the Santa Monica Pier since November. This public education tool is connected with two city projects that address and prepare for climate change resiliency: the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and the Local Coastal Program. OWL visualizations are based on data developed in partnership with scientists at USC Sea Grant and the USGS. As many as 10,000 people are expected to visit the OWLs during their stay, and thousands more will be able to experience the mobile OWL at mobileowl.co/samo. They are scheduled to be removed in mid-January, so make your way to the Pier to check out the OWLs while there is still time, or use the mobile app to see what scientists forecast for the future of our beach.

MEET SANTA MONICA FIRE ACADEMY GRADS

On November 19, 2016, the Santa Monica Fire Department (SMFD) graduated 15 new recruits from its 15-week-long Fire Academy.

During the academy, the recruits went through extensive training that introduced them to the foundational skills needed in the fire service. These new skills will be augmented and nurtured during the next year in their new role as probationary firefighters, each assigned to a fire crew.

Santa Monica’s latest Fire Academy graduates (L-R): Luis A. Echagarruga, Bryant Stone, Garrett Childers, James Hesketh, Michael Linares (front), Jacob Farley (back), Joshua Dirks, Robert Otani, Michael Rivera, Clinton Brown, Christopher Alexander, Dean Faddis, Daiyo Ito, Trevor Mustin, Kurt Cornejo.

Visit SMFD’s social media sites for photos and video of some of the training and drills the 2016 class participated in during the last few months.

@SantaMonicaFD @santamonicafd

santamonicafire.org
Do you want to be a City of Santa Monica ambassador, knowing that you make a difference in the lives of every single person you serve?

- Do you want to connect people to the important moments and opportunities in their lives, entrusted with getting them where they need to go?
- Are you interested in a stable, rewarding career that offers an excellent salary and benefits package?

If you answered “yes” to those three questions, then join us! Big Blue Bus is now hiring motor coach operators (MCOs), to help connect people to the places where they live, work and play.

There Are Four Important Steps to Follow Before You Can Get Behind the Wheel of a Big Blue Bus.

Step 1 – Obtain an “H6” printout from the DMV
You must obtain a copy of your driving record (known as the H6), which must be purchased in person at a DMV office, and issued within 30 days of submitting your application. H6 printouts from the DMV website or other agencies such as AAA will not be accepted. The H6 must show that you have not been at fault in three or more accidents, within the 12 months prior to the date of your application.

Step 2 – Submit your application and H6
All applications must be submitted online and received by the City of Santa Monica Human Resources Department no later than the specified closing date and time indicated on the application materials. You can scan and upload the H6 form with your electronic application. You can also email (human.resources@smgov.net) or fax (310.656.5705) your H6 printout, or drop it off at the Human Resources Department, located in City Hall at 1685 Main Street, Room 101.

Step 3 – Interview, testing and potential job offer
If your skills match our qualifications, we’ll be in touch to schedule an interview. You may receive a job offer contingent on passing several pre-employment tests, which will be administered at no cost to you. You must pass each test before moving on to the next step.

Step 4 – Orientation and training
Selected applicants are scheduled for orientation and eight weeks of paid training at Big Blue Bus. Prior to the first day of training, you must possess a California Class A or B Commercial Driver License Permit. Upon successful completion of the training program and a proficiency examination, you will be eligible to become a part-time MCO! MCOs serve a one-year probationary period.

Are you ready to drive toward a successful career as part of an award-winning organization with a proud history and bright future? Are you ready to shepherd hundreds of people as they live, work and play each day? Join us! Apply to be a Big Blue Bus motor coach operator today—visit bigbluebus.com/driveblue.
The GoSaMo Transportation Management Organization (TMO) is the City of Santa Monica's new one-stop shop for transportation resources and information, created to work with local employers, residents and visitors to reduce the number of drive-alone trips taken in and around the city through promotion of our many mobility options.

With the recent extension of the Metro Expo line into Santa Monica and 2015’s launch of the popular Breeze Bike Share program—joining Big Blue Bus and the city’s array of active transportation facilities—Santa Monica is more mobile than ever. Mobility is one of five Strategic Goals adopted by the City Council last year, aimed at improving traffic congestion, reducing harmful emissions, and making travel easier, safer and more sustainable.

The GoSaMo Transportation Management Organization is here to help you. Expect to see our reps out at public events, hosting networking and educational opportunities, and working closely with employers, neighborhood groups and other ambassadors across the city!

Need Help? The TMO can:

- Help employers meet their transportation targets.
- Help individual commuters plan sustainable trips to work.
- Help residents plan their trips around town (inside and outside Santa Monica).
- Help visitors get to the beach, shopping and restaurants from their hotel, and back.

To get in touch, find us online at GoSaMo.org/TMO, contact us at 310.319.9866 or email puja.thomas-patel@sdgworld.net.

"KISS ‘N’ RIDE" LOT AVAILABLE FOR DOWNTOWN EXPO COMMUTERS

Looking for an easy way to get a family member, friend or colleague to the Downtown Santa Monica Expo Station? To ease congestion on adjacent streets and to make commuters’ use of Expo convenient and safe, a “Kiss ‘n’ Ride” parking lot can be entered on 5th Street, just south of the station, for picking up or dropping off passengers.Big Blue Bus connects to all Santa Monica Expo stations, and, for anyone interested in a nice, “breezy” bike ride instead, Breeze Bikes are also available (in the lot and on the north side of the station).
MAKING BIG BLUE & EXPO WORK FOR YOU

TRANSFER FROM BLUE TO EXPO FOR 50¢

You've no doubt heard by now that every Big Blue Bus can take you from locations across the Westside to the nearest Expo Line station. But, did you know that you can transfer from Big Blue Bus to the Expo Line for only 50¢? Transfers provide customers with an easy and affordable way to #GoSaMo, making first-last mile connections—on both bus and rail—to complete a one-way trip.

How Do These Transfers Work?

Customers can transfer to Expo or Big Blue Bus for just 50¢ (25¢ for S/D/M*) by purchasing an “Interagency Transfer” (IAT). IATs allow customers to board one additional bus or rail line, without paying a full fare for the second boarding. Here’s how to purchase an IAT for your next trip on Big Blue Bus and Expo:

Transferring from Big Blue Bus to Expo

1. When boarding Big Blue Bus, ask the operator for a “Metro Rail” transfer.
2. Place 50¢ (25¢ for S/D/M) into the farebox.
3. You will receive a special TAP-enabled transfer (shown below).
4. Tap the transfer on the validator/turnstile when you arrive at the Expo station, and you’re ready to ride!

The total cost of your trip will be $1.75 ($1.25 on Big Blue Bus plus 50¢ transfer to Expo). You just saved yourself $1.25!

Transferring from Big Blue Bus to Expo:

Exit the train and locate a nearby ticket vending machine (TVM) at the station.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF PAYING WITH STORED VALUE</th>
<th>IF PAYING WITH CASH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase an “E-Transfer” for 50¢ (25¢ for S/D/M) at the TVM.</td>
<td>Purchase a “Metro-to-Muni” transfer for 50¢ (25¢ for S/D/M) at the TVM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow the on-screen prompts to load the E-transfer directly onto your TAP card.</td>
<td>The TVM will dispense a paper transfer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When boarding Big Blue Bus, simply tap your card on the validator to use the transfer. You’re all set!</td>
<td>Present the paper transfer to a Big Blue Bus operator when boarding. You’re all set!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Fine Print

Before purchasing an IAT, keep these details in mind:

- IATs are valid for two (2) hours from the time of purchase, and can be used to board one (1) additional Metro Bus, Metro Rail, or most other regional bus lines.
- Only one transfer may be purchased per paid fare.
- When boarding a bus using a transfer, another transfer cannot be purchased.
- Customers must pay full fare when transferring from one Big Blue Bus to another Big Blue Bus.

Plan Ahead

For help with your planning needs, visit bigbluebus.com. If you need additional assistance, please call Customer Service at 310.451.5444.

*Senior/Disabled/Medicare customers
HELPING YOU FIND YOUR WAY AROUND TOWN

The City of Santa Monica has been working on a pilot program with community stakeholders to develop a unified signage system to help folks get around Downtown and the three Metro Expo Line stations. Some 35 signs have been recently installed near the stations to direct pedestrians and bicyclists to major public destinations, and indicate the number of minutes it will take on foot or bicycle.

In Downtown, new, dynamic signs will start going up this spring to direct drivers to available public parking. It is anticipated that a permanent and comprehensive wayfinding system—creating a welcoming, intuitive and positive experience for everyone—will be established within 9 to 12 months.

MORE PLACES TO PARK BIKES AND A NEW WAY TO DETER THIEVES

Secure and convenient bike parking is a vital piece of any bike-friendly community’s amenities, which is why Santa Monica has tripled the number of available bike parking spaces since the city’s Bike Action Plan was adopted in 2011. Over the coming year, we will be installing more than 1,000 additional racks to fulfill requests we’ve received and then some. If you know of a location that needs racks, please email transportation.planning@smgov.net or tweet with the hashtag #BikeSM.

HOW TO LOCK UP SAFELY – High-security U-shaped locks are your best bet to avoid becoming a victim of theft. Lock the bike frame and rear wheel to a secure rack in a highly visible and well-lit location. If you have a quick release, you should also lock the front wheel. Never rely solely on a cable lock—such locks are easily cut by thieves.

REGISTER YOUR BIKE – As an added precaution, the Santa Monica Police Department encourages everyone to register their wheels on the free Bike Index website at bikeindex.org. The Bike Index is a national registry of bikes, using the serial number and/or make, model and color. You can also upload a photo.

LOOK UP A BIKE BEFORE YOU BUY – If your bike is stolen, simply post on the Bike Index site to increase your chances of getting it back. If a police officer, or anyone else, finds a suspected stolen bike, they can use the website to contact you and get you back on two wheels in no time. The site can also be used to help verify that a used bike you are considering buying isn’t stolen.

Follow these handy tips to make biking around town a breeze. And of course, thanks for doing your part to make Santa Monica more sustainable by using those two wheels!
How will Downtown look in the future? Who will call it home? Can it work for everyone? These questions have been hotly debated for several years within the community and answers are beginning to crystallize with the upcoming release of the final version of the Downtown Community Plan (DCP). The DCP will provide a blueprint for how Downtown will evolve over the next 20 years: It will guide property owners and tenants (businesses and residents), developers, local stakeholder groups and city departments as they work to provide the necessary services, land uses and amenities, as well as the infrastructure, to support the health and vitality of our Downtown. Without a long-range comprehensive plan, the area would continue to be governed by antiquated standards that were put in place over 30 years ago, so it’s no wonder that thousands of community members have participated in writing the next chapter for the communal “living room” of our city.

Since the process of creating the DCP began in 2011, residents have discussed many aspects of Downtown life—from art and culture and the incredible, emerging restaurant scene, to the need for more public open space, mobility options, public infrastructure and updated development controls that will preserve Downtown’s historic character and coastal atmosphere. Thousands of Santa Monicans have weighed in and have passionately advocated for a collective vision of Downtown that is inclusive, resilient, sustainable and uniquely Santa Monican. Over the last six years, what you’ve said has been gathered and documented in diverse forums ranging from Planning Commission meetings, public workshops, neighborhood meetings and City Council hearings to emails, letters and in-person meetings with the planning team.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Here’s a Snapshot of What We’ve Learned From You

WE ♥ DOWNTOWN!
Downtown Santa Monica is clearly a favored part of the city for residents, employees and visitors alike. Recent outreach and online surveys revealed that locals visit Downtown with great frequency and participate in a variety of activities that are highly social, such as shopping, dining, entertainment, coastal viewing and people-watching. This information reinforces the DCP’s approach to supporting a land use and public space strategy that would continue to provide the Santa Monica community with a high-quality, inclusive gathering space that is programmed with land uses that appeal to residents’ needs as well as to the regional visitor and employee.

LET’S KEEP IT LOCAL
One of Downtown’s inherent tensions is the degree to which it caters to the diverse needs of residents, visitors and employees. Because it is now an established residential neighborhood, as well as a local and regional entertainment center—and an international tourist destination—the challenge ahead is to ensure that it remains a place that works for everyone. We learned that locals and visitors alike prefer smaller-scale land uses that serve daily needs. Visitors want to go where the locals go. This preference is also colored by a desire to see more independent business operators and to foster local entrepreneurialism.

MAINTAIN OUR SENSE OF HISTORY
Historic preservation is important to many Santa Monicans, as many of you indicated that Downtown is attractive due to the presence of older buildings and styles of construction. Popular walking areas, such as the Third Street Promenade and neighboring 2nd and 4th streets largely retain a concentration of older, character-defining buildings, and these will be preserved through the DCP’s adaptive reuse incentives and conservation measures.

WE NEED MORE PUBLIC SPACES
Because Downtown was largely developed as a commercial district, it contains very few dedicated public spaces where groups can congregate. We heard that enhancement or creation of public space is the top priority for Downtown’s evolution. Smaller-scale public spaces, such as pocket parks, courtyards and plazas, generated more interest than larger open spaces like a central park or recreation fields. Additionally, you want to improve the quality of Downtown’s streetscapes, emphasizing their role as public spaces and the opportunity they provide to make walking more comfortable, safe and enjoyable through wider sidewalks, improved street lighting, a larger, more verdant urban forest, and street furnishings.

WALKING IS HOW WE GET AROUND
The top three ways people arrive Downtown are on foot, on a bike or in a car. However, once in the area, more than 70% get around by walking. Downtown pedestrian counts collected in 2013 and 2015 confirm that walking is trending upward, and on many streets there are more people on foot than in vehicles. To this end, you prioritized improved pedestrian crossings and sidewalks above many other infrastructure projects, and identified key pedestrian thoroughfares for streetscape enhancements, such as Wilshire, Lincoln and Santa Monica boulevards, as well as 4th Street.

THERE ARE A LOT OF IDEAS ABOUT HEIGHT
Overall, you are supportive of the building-height strategy represented in the DCP to limit height in the historic core anchored by the Third Street Promenade, and to establish higher densities near the transit station. However, on the subject of exceeding what has been Downtown’s traditional height limit of 84 feet for the past 30 years, the community demonstrated a wide range of opinions, with many supporting increased heights in return for more open space, and an equal number voicing opposition.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
What You Can Expect in the Future

The vision for Downtown’s future is written with the same optimism that penned many of Santa Monica’s success stories. Resident voices, business interests, local stakeholders and city officials all contributed to a picture of the future that includes an energetic Downtown that provides options for housing, jobs, open space and services which address local and regional needs.

DOWNTOWN IS HOME FOR MANY RESIDENTS

New residents—perhaps as many as 3,500 additional people—will call Downtown home over the next 20 years. New mixed-use housing projects, predominantly located near Lincoln Boulevard and on 6th and 7th streets near Colorado Avenue, will provide them with a variety of living options that caters to singles, roommates and family households. Increased affordable-housing requirements will ensure that Downtown welcomes households of all incomes and provides access to the compact, urban lifestyle that the area affords.

PROTECTING OUR PAST WHILE LOOKING FORWARD

These newer projects will coexist with many older buildings that will be preserved. These structures are a part of our history and their varied character gives Downtown its authentic local flavor. Incentives for adaptive reuse of historic structures will make a property owner think twice before redeveloping and, combined with additional protections, will encourage more historic landmark designations. This mix of old and new will define Downtown as a place where the past meets the present, and where the future is open to new possibilities.

PUBLIC SPACE WILL BE ACCESSIBLE WITHIN A SHORT WALK

A growing population and a changing built environment will be accompanied by amenities—like public open space—that serve a growing mixed-use neighborhood. As it evolves, new public/private partnerships and private development will continually add to Downtown’s previously limited stock of gathering spaces. The DCP’s requirement for projects to include sizeable open space means that every resident, visitor or employee will be no further than a two-and-a-half-minute walk from these areas. A suite of special allowances for existing areas will re-energize quiet corners of the district so that a network of public spaces creates an “emerald necklace” around Downtown.

DOWNTOWN IS THE CITY’S CULTURAL AND ENTERTAINMENT HEART

As Downtown grows into its expanded boundaries, expect to see new restaurants, stores and entertainment venues populate storefronts on 5th, 6th and 7th streets. New cultural facilities will begin to emerge based on DCP priorities, and we might even see a new museum added as a destination for those seeking fulfilling cultural experiences. Live music and theater, largely prohibited for decades in Downtown, will sprout up to provide nighttime activities for “date night” or family outings.

IMPROVEMENTS IN GETTING AROUND DOWNTOWN

Lastly, getting to Downtown and moving around it will be a lot easier in the future. Continued improvements to public transit that expand access to Expo Light Rail and express bus services will coincide with public infrastructure projects such as enhanced sidewalks and protected bike facilities, and with private sector innovations that will provide residents with more mobility options. Technology is amplifying the speed of this change and Downtown can provide new high-tech options alongside comfortable and familiar walking and biking experiences. Trying out shared electric and/or autonomous vehicles is one way we can simultaneously advance mobility, sustainability, congestion relief and safety. You can also expect to see a few of Downtown’s streets, such as Lincoln Boulevard, redesigned to reflect the changing character of Downtown into a more pedestrian-oriented, residential neighborhood.

What’s Ahead

Following nearly six years of public discussion, the city is ready to prepare a final Downtown Community Plan, along with an Environmental Impact Report that evaluates how changes to Downtown might affect the environment, including the transportation network and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as public services and infrastructure. The final DCP will be released in early spring 2017 and will be marked by an event to celebrate the hard work of the Santa Monica community in reaching consensus on tough issues, as well as a roll-out of the DCP to the city’s boards and commissions and City Council.
How You Weighed in Over the Past Six Years

The Downtown Community Plan public engagement process started in 2011 and was extensive, far-reaching and inclusive. Community involvement intensified in spring 2016 after a major overhaul of the plan. Sacrificing Saturdays and countless evenings, community members and local business and community organization representatives participated in a series of DCP outreach events online and across the city in classrooms, schools, libraries, parks, City Hall and at neighborhood association meetings and community events.

In 2016 alone, nearly 2,000 residents engaged in constructive dialogue through workshops, internet surveys, social media platforms, walking tours, presentations and televised discussions at the Planning Commission and before the City Council.

If you didn’t get a chance to participate, here’s a quick summary of what you missed:

Downtown Community Plan By the Numbers

- 1,200: # of people who provided feedback on priorities for Downtown through an online questionnaire
- 3: # of workshops held on the subjects of Placemaking, Preservation and Change, and Mobility
- 40: # of presentations planning staff gave to local community, businesses, and stakeholder groups, as well as to the city’s boards and commissions
- 7: # of focus groups conducted to bring various perspectives into the conversation about the future of Downtown
- 4.6M: # of impressions made on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter using #ThePlanSM
- 8,700: # of individual sessions on the downtownsmplan.net website
- 3: # of Downtown walking tours led by planning staff and Santa Monica Conservancy on its history

How to Stay Involved

Comments on the DCP are always welcome, as are ideas you might have for how to make Downtown Santa Monica an even better place. Visit us at downtownsmplan.org to leave comments or suggestions, or email us at downtownsmplan@smgov.net.

As the DCP enters its final production phase, watch for both social media using #ThePlanSM and email blasts to stay informed and involved in the process, or to learn about key Planning Commission or City Council dates to have your voice heard. Follow us on Twitter @santamonicacity and Facebook/Instagram @cityofsantamonica. Sign up for email updates at downtownsmplan.org.
WHAT’S HAPPENING, SANTA MONICA?

CELEBRATING THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. IN 2017

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Westside Coalition presents its 32nd annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King, a weekend-long event that begins with an interfaith prayer breakfast and culminates with a special program and community fair on Martin Luther King Day. The program will include education awards, entertainment and a Community Light Award presentation to the Committee for Racial Justice.

Friday, January 13, 7:30 to 9 a.m.
INTERFAITH PRAYER BREAKFAST
First United Methodist Church, 1008 11th Street (tickets $25)

To purchase tickets and for more information, please call 310.452.1116 or email office@mtolivelutheranchurch.org.

Saturday, January 14, 3 to 5 p.m.
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CELEBRATION CONCERT
SGI-USA World Peace Ikeda Auditorium, 525 Wilshire Boulevard (free admission)

Santa Monica Symphony Orchestra with Guido Lamell, music director and conductor, and Annelle Gregory, violinist.

Epitaph for a Man Who Dreamed by Adolphus Hailstork
Violin Concerto by Samuel Barber
Appalachian Spring by Aaron Copland

Monday, January 16, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FAIR
St. Monica's Church Grand Pavilion, 701 California Avenue (free admission)

Community organizations will greet visitors and provide informational materials. Door prizes. (Refreshments provided.)

All events are open to the public and free parking is available at all locations. For more information, call 310.866.9117, or visit Facebook @mikwestsidecoalition, Instagram @mikwestside and Twitter @Westsidemlk.

This celebration is sponsored by the City of Santa Monica, the public and numerous community organizations.

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery

Keynote speaker Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, newly appointed superintendent and president of Santa Monica College (SMC), brings more than three decades of education experience to SMC as a former professor, counselor and administrator. A passionate advocate for higher education focusing on a student-centered approach to leadership and decision-making, Dr. Jeffery is also a talented classical musician.
WINTER FUN AT THE SANTA MONICA PIER AQUARIUM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 & 12
FOR THE LOVE OF WHALES (12:30 to 5 p.m. both days)

Valentine's Day is approaching, but before the hearts and flowers, bring your sweetheart (and the family) to Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium to celebrate a Whale of a Weekend!

Each winter, Pacific gray whales complete one of the longest migrations of any species, traveling 10,000 to 14,000 miles round trip between the Arctic seas and the warm lagoons of Baja California, Mexico. This migration brings them past the Santa Monica Pier—sometimes within viewing distance from the west end observation deck.

Besides potential sightings, visitors can enjoy a host of whale-related activities all weekend long: feel the heft of a whale rib, check out bristly baleen and try on a layer of (simulated) whale blubber for warmth. Learn more interesting facts about these gentle giants at the Aquarium through story time, film screenings and presentations about their migratory habits. Face painting, a cetacean-centric crafts station, and a wildlife observation station at the western end of the Pier are planned for both days of the celebration.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
S.T.E.A.M. MACHINES (11:30 a.m.)

Teams of middle school and high school students will compete in the fourth annual regional Rube Goldberg Machine Contest at the Santa Monica Pier, building a contraption that completes the task of applying a Band-Aid in a most complicated and humorous way. They’ll have three opportunities to run their devices, beginning at 11:30; judges from NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, SpaceX and others will proclaim the winners, who will advance to a national competition.

This day-long, free expo, hosted by Heal the Bay and the Santa Monica Pier Corporation, is a techno-geek/nerd’s paradise with a variety of interactive science, technology, engineering, and math activities using art as the medium. And the theme continues below deck, with more S.T.E.A.M.-related activities planned throughout the day at the Aquarium.

Find the Aquarium at 1600 Ocean Front Walk, beach level beneath the historic Carousel. For more information, visit healthebay.org/event/whale-weekend-day-one and santamonicapier.org/steam or call 310.393.6149.
ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE WINTER EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8
TWO BEACH WALKS
Snowy Plovers (8:30 to 10 a.m.) - Your inner naturalist will revel in this guided walk exploring the habitat and life cycle of the small, white birds that make this stretch of beach their winter home. Binoculars provided, or bring your own!

Family Field Trip (10:30 to 11:30 a.m.) - You never know what you’ll find on this sandy field trip to the beach! Could it be grebes, beach hoppers, sand crabs or kelp? Ages 5+ with parent/guardian. Binoculars and field guides provided for extra fun!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
MUSICAL PERFORMANCE (6:30 to 7:30 p.m.)
Beach=Culture presents *Plectrum* featuring guitarist Mak Grgic and violinist Man-Wenn Lo. RSVP online at annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARION! (11 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
Join the Santa Monica Conservancy as we celebrate Marion Davies, silent-film actress, famed party hostess and the original Beach House resident. Music, dancing, stories... it’s a slice of Gold Coast era history come to life!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
WALK & SKETCH (9 to 11 a.m.)
Bring your sense of wonder and take to the sands to sketch nature’s offerings on our beautiful stretch of beach. We’ll provide the binoculars, drawing boards, pencils and newsprint, or bring your own easy-to-carry sketching tools.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
PHOTO EXHIBIT DISCUSSION AND Q&A
(11 a.m. to 12 noon)
Los Angeles: *Detailed* photographers discuss their work.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
FASHION IN FILM—THE 1960S (6:30 to 8 p.m.)
Beach=Culture presents this illustrated talk with historian Kimberly Truhler.

All activities are free of charge, but reservations are requested. Please call 310.458.4904 or visit annenbergbeachhouse.com for more information.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
In the Beach House Gallery
Open daily, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ON VIEW THROUGH FEBRUARY 19, 2017
LOS ANGELES: DETAILED

The photographic works featured in this exhibition are by nine Angeleno photographers, both native and non-native, who are drawn to very different aspects of this ever-changing city and region. Saturated surfaces, lifeguard towers, power lines, closed storefronts, abstractions from a marked landscape, architectural landmarks, intimacies of ethnic celebrations and street life—Los Angeles was made for pictures. Drawn to document places that might otherwise go unnoticed, these photographers return time after time to observe changing light, notice how people interact with space, tune their eye to the familiar and foreign aspects of their world while continually experimenting until the print captures the sliver of place and time that lingers with them and is never erased.


ON VIEW THROUGH FEBRUARY 28 THROUGH JUNE 4, 2017
THE PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Gallery reception and opening, Tuesday, February 28, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This exhibit explores materials that promote a sensory experience and narrative. It features contemporary artists seeking to stimulate conversation and increase understanding of contemporary art in the context of today’s society.


For more information about the ACBH exhibitions program, please contact Cultural Affairs Supervisor Laura Becker at laura.becker@smgov.net or 310.586.8350.
EIGHTH ANNUAL FIRESIDE SERIES RETURNS TO MILES!

Throughout January and February, Santa Monica’s historic Miles Memorial Playhouse will offer some of the area’s best talent (including local performers) at its eighth annual Fireside Series at the Miles. The mix of music, dance, storytelling, comedy, poetry and more is presented in the auditorium-turned-intimate-living-room, complete with fireplace, couches, coffee tables and candlelight. Enjoy refreshments from an organic coffee and tea bar, too.

General admission tickets are $10 ($5 for students, seniors and youth 18 and under). Each evening’s performance is from 8 to 10 p.m. This season’s schedule can be found at milesplayhouse.org (select the Fireside link on the menu sidebar). For additional information or to make a reservation, please email milesplayhouse@smgov.net.

* Writer-in-Residence Events *

Dinah Berland, in residence from January 10 to March 14, is working in her office at the Marion Davies Guest House on a chapbook of poetry titled *Fugue for a New Life*. She is also holding open-office hours every Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., leading an eight-week poetry workshop with the theme of “Poetry and the Art of Listening,” and posting weekly updates on the resident blog (beachhouseair.blogspot.com). These are her currently scheduled public events:

**Tuesday, January 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**  
Our writer leads a discussion of how poetry can “spark empathy across racial and cultural divides.”

**Tuesday, February 21, 6:30-8 p.m.**  
Dinah reads from *Fugue for a New Life*, her new collection of poetry.

Dinah will also hold a culminating event on March 7 with participants from her poetry workshop. For more information about the residency program and activities, please visit annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture.
The City of Santa Monica is committed to its sustainability efforts and combatting the effects of climate change. The success of the city’s 15x15 Climate Action Plan is proven by the reduction of emissions in the city to 20% below 1990 levels. As we begin strategizing our next Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, it is important to involve the community and hear everyone’s voice.

Santa Monica’s Office of Sustainability and the Environment (OSE) sponsored the city’s first Community Climate Action Summit on October 29 at St. Monica’s Grand Pavilion. Following a Halloween-themed Kidical Mass ride and welcome from Monsignor Torgerson, the summit offered a speaker panel on mobility, a Downtown Mobility Lab and interactive workshops on clean energy and community resilience.
Throughout the day, attendees enjoyed a green-living expo, photo booth, live mural art, graphic note-taking and music! Co-produced with Sustainable Works and Climate Action Santa Monica, the event was geared toward building awareness about the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, which will seek to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 or sooner and adapt to climate change impacts.

Want to know more? Visit smgov.net/climate to learn about climate change, our city’s climate action leadership and ways to get involved.
Warm Chickpea, Satsuma Orange & Avocado Salad

This recipe is courtesy of Emma D’Alessandro, a farmers market enthusiast and avid volunteer, educator and food blogger; find more from and about her at cravingnature.com.

SALAD INGREDIENTS
- 4 c. spinach, washed (arugula or mixed greens also work)
- 2 Satsuma oranges, peeled and divided
- 1/2 c. snap peas or snow peas, halved
- 1 avocado, peeled and sliced
- 2 tbsp. slivered almonds
- 2 tbsp. hemp seeds
- 1/2 c. cooked or canned chickpeas
- 1/2 tbsp. sesame oil
- 1/2 tsp. chili powder
- Salt and pepper to taste

CITRUS DRESSING
- 1 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil or walnut oil
- 1/2 tbsp. rice vinegar (or white wine)
- 1/2 shallot, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp. fresh-squeezed Satsuma orange juice
- 1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp. Satsuma orange zest
- 1 tbsp. chopped thyme
- Salt and pepper to taste

Add first 6 salad ingredients to a bowl. Heat sesame oil in a small frying pan over medium heat, then add chickpeas and spices, and warm for 4 to 5 minutes. Add to the salad bowl. Add all dressing ingredients together in a jar or bottle and shake. Pour over salad and serve.

Tip: If you do not want bits of shallot in your salad, use a spoon to keep them in the jar or bottle while you pour out the dressing.
At the October 20 meeting of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board (SMMUSD), the City of Santa Monica’s Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS) recognized McKinley Elementary School for its exceptional participation rates in the fall Bike It! Walk It! Bus It! celebration. McKinley is now the four-time reigning champ for highest participation in this event, with 84% of the student body either walking, biking, skating, scooting, and/or riding transit to school—the all-time highest participation rate in the district.

During McKinley’s three-day observance of this nationally recognized event, “bike trains” and “walking school buses” were organized at nearby intersections. Santa Monica police officers participated as well, riding with students and cheering for participants as they arrived on campus. Organizers and volunteers handed out granola bars and other prizes.

McKinley has fully embraced Safe Routes to School and promotes walking, biking and taking transit every Friday. This success results from the collaboration of the city’s SRTS program, SMMUSD, parent-teacher associations, parent volunteers, Big Blue Bus and local businesses. Active transportation to school helps close the achievement gap by making children ready to learn each morning. To learn more, visit smgov.net/srts.
The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District started off the new year with the arrival of Dr. Ben Drati, appointed superintendent by the Board of Education in November to begin on January 1. Dr. Drati came from the Santa Barbara Unified School District where he was assistant superintendent of secondary education since 2012. He is known as a strong, confident and collaborative leader who is deeply committed to improving the lives of all students.

“I can’t wait to get started,” Dr. Drati said following his appointment. “My first task is to go out and meet people at our schools and in the community. I am committed to keeping the interest of children as my highest priority. I will work collaboratively with the board, teachers, classified staff and parents, and commit to serving as a worthy ambassador of SMMUSD to the world.”

Dr. Drati is happy to return to the area, having lived here in his youth and graduating from Los Angeles High School in the mid-Wilshire area. He came to the United States at the age of 10 with his family from war-torn Uganda, and places an extremely high value on the importance and benefits of public education. He is relocating to the community with his wife and two sons, both in high school. Dr. Drati has a daughter who currently lives and works in the area.

Dr. Drati replaces Sandra Lyon, who left the district in July; Drs. Sylvia Rousseau and Chris King served as co-interim superintendents from July 1 to December 31, 2016. Visit SMMUSD online at smmusd.org, and on Twitter and Facebook @SMMUSD.

Santa Monica’s "Most Loved" Businesses Contest is Back!

For the fourth consecutive year, Buy Local Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Daily Press invite residents, local employees and visitors to vote for their Most Loved Businesses in Santa Monica! From most-loved bike shop to favorite Santa Monica Farmers Markets’ vendor, we want to know which businesses you can’t live without, which put a smile on your face when you drop in—in short, the ones most deserving of celebration because they’re so awesome. To vote, visit buylocalsm.com between February 1 - 29, 2017 (and find last year’s winners at buylocalsm.com/most-loved.) This year’s honorees will be announced in the spring.
A THRIVING PARTNERSHIP: ANNENBERG BEACH HOUSE AND SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY

When she became manager of the Annenberg Community Beach House in 2009, among the many exciting responsibilities Nan Friedman took on included oversight of the docent program for the venue built on the site of Marion Davies’ 1928 Beach House estate, with the estate’s original pool and one of its guest houses. Through a Request for Proposal process, the Santa Monica Conservancy was chosen to develop and maintain the program. Under the guidance of Conservancy board member Ruthann Lehrer, it’s been a wonderful journey learning and sharing the legacy of three remarkable individuals related to the Beach House: actress and philanthropist Marion Davies, the original multimedia mogul William Randolph Hearst, and architect Julia Morgan.

Each year, the Conservancy’s pool of dedicated and knowledgeable docents bring to life the rich and colorful Gold Coast era history for thousands of visitors, journalists, VIPs and special guests, with stories and personal insights. With the Conservancy, Nan has developed special events to celebrate, educate and share the site’s unique history. Along the way, they’ve met with Davies and Hearst family members and people who knew Marion personally. It is an exciting and remarkable partnership, and everyone is invited to experience the Beach House through the docents’ eyes. Join a tour, or attend a special event—“Happy Birthday Marion!” on January 15 (pictured to the left), and Julia Morgan Legacy Day on March 5. Visit annenbergbeachhouse.com for more information. See you at the Beach House!

SEASCAPES PAST: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT AT SAWTELELLE SOLDIERS’ HOME

The large crowd seen in this photograph gathered on May 9, 1901 at the Sawtelle Soldiers’ Home (today the site of the Veterans Administration West Los Angeles Medical Center), hoping to get a glimpse of President William McKinley. The presidential visit came on the heels of McKinley’s successful re-election bid. After the inauguration in March 1901, President and Mrs. McKinley embarked on a tour of western states, traveling mostly by rail and greeted by cheering crowds along the way. In Southern California, the trip culminated in a days-long La Fiesta celebration and parade.

According to the Santa Monica Daily Outlook, the president and his entourage departed Los Angeles for the Soldiers’ Home where, upon their arrival, they were driven through a large arch erected for the occasion in handsomely decorated carriages from G. G. Bundy’s Santa Monica Stables. Even though the president’s stops did not include Santa Monica, General Oscar Hugh La Grange delivered these opening remarks: “Mr. President: On behalf of officers, members and friends of the home, particularly our friends from Santa Monica, to whom you could not go, and who have therefore come to you with flowers, we bid you a cordial and hearty welcome and good wishes to the home.”

McKinley, who had enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War, addressed the assembled old soldiers with what the Outlook described as “clear and eloquent word.” His speech was repeatedly interrupted by applause. In the Grand Dining Hall where the reception took place, McKinley shook hands with many of his old comrades.
Bill Ivey, the former chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, popularized the idea that all citizens have the right to lead “expressive lives,” that the process of artmaking and nurturing creativity enriches the lives of all people. We see this at work in knitting circles, community orchestras, creative writing clubs—even in the popularity of adult coloring books! The city’s Cultural Affairs Division wants to help Santa Monicans realize the full potential of their own expressive lives. Whether it’s sugar-skull painting at Dia de los Muertos, salsa dance lessons at our Jazz on the Lawn series, interactive art-making at last spring’s COAST Open Streets event, or our ongoing series of workshops at the Art Lab at 1450 Ocean—we’re big on life expressions!

If you haven’t already done so, give one of our Art Lab workshops a try: from block printing on fabric and cultivating the expressive body, to a watercolor studio and plein air intensive—even a sweater repurposing workshop to help you be both creative and ecologically mindful! To find the updated calendar of events, visit us online at smgov.net/camera.

The Camera Obscura Art Lab at 1450 Ocean offers arts, crafts and culture classes for all adults, year-round. Join weekly printmaking, watercolor and millinery labs, workshops with a changing roster of artists-in-residence, and monthly workshops on topics as diverse as urban homesteading, sustainable reuse, fine art and jewelry. Find your community of artists and makers!

Park at Structure 6 around the corner (smgov.net/parking) or walk four blocks from the 4th Street Metro/Expo station. The Breeze Bike Share lock-up is just south of us in Palisades Park.

Visit us at smgov.net/camera or 1450 Ocean Avenue at Broadway.

Contact communityclasses@smgov.net or 310.458.2239.

View and register for classes on Facebook @1450ocean/events (click on the “tickets” link for individual workshops) or search by keyword at smgov.net/reserve.

Join our email list at smgov.net/arts signup.
CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

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:

January 10  
January 24  
February 14  
February 28

Meeting dates are occasionally changed; visit smgov.net/council to confirm the schedule 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

All communications regarding City Council agenda items will now be available for public viewing online at smgov.net/council/agendas.

LIBRARY LINES

JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT THE SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY FAIRVIEW BRANCH!

The Santa Monica Public Library Fairview Branch invites all library users to participate in community conversations with SMPL staff in January and February.

What are your aspirations for your community? What are your concerns? How would you like to see your community move forward? We want to know—and these community conversations are meant to provide a safe place for people to come together for discussion. SMPL staff want to learn more about the Fairview Branch community following its year-long closure for interior improvements. We are especially interested in hearing from Sunset Park neighborhood residents and those who visit the branch regularly.

The Fairview Branch celebrated its grand re-opening on July 16, 2016, with festivities such as Hawaiian dancing, How-To Festival workshops, and tours of the improved facility given by our staff. More than 450 community members visited throughout the day, enjoying refreshments and being welcomed by Mayor Tony Vazquez, City Manager Rick Cole and Fairview Branch Manager Ashley Kagan.

You can help to shape the new and improved Fairview Branch Library’s involvement with the community! Find details about the community conversations by visiting our website, smpl.org, by calling 310.458.8598 or emailing ashley.kagan@smgov.net. We look forward to seeing you!

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 communications@smgov.net or mail to:

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

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).