Santa Monica Airport to Close Forever
On December 31, 2028
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The Santa Monica City Council announced at a news conference on January 28, 2017 that an agreement was reached with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) that secures the complete closure of Santa Monica Airport on December 31, 2028. It returns the airport to local control and enables the city to take immediate action to shorten the runway to 3,500 feet, substantially reducing jet traffic.

This agreement comes after a longstanding legal battle and multiple court cases between the City of Santa Monica and the FAA, and concludes all litigation between the parties.

“This is a historic day for Santa Monica,” said Mayor Ted Winterer. “After decades of work to secure the health and safety of our neighborhoods, we have regained local control of airport land. We now have certainty that the airport will close forever and future generations of Santa Monicans will have a great park.”

At the news conference, Mayor Winterer, City Manager Rick Cole and Interim City Attorney Joseph Lawrence shared the terms of the settlement:

• Closure of Santa Monica Airport to all aeronautical use forever as of December 31, 2028;
• The airport’s runway shall have an operational runway length of 3,500 feet;
• U.S. Government acknowledgement that the City of Santa Monica has the right to establish its own proprietary exclusive fixed-base operation (FBO) services;
• Airport property released from all deed restrictions;
• Consent Decree; and
• Settlement of all legal disputes between the city and the federal government about the airport.

“No compromise is perfect, but we never wavered from course guided by the City Council and the will of our community,” Cole noted. “Today’s historic Consent Decree agrees to an operational runway of 3,500 feet, which we plan to implement immediately. This will significantly reduce jet traffic flying over our neighborhoods and stops commercial charters until we close operations in 2028.”

“I congratulate the city council, city manager, city attorney, and all of the city staff who have doggedly pursued a successful strategy and brought an end to a decades-long effort,” said Assemblymember Richard Bloom. “Today’s settlement is a watershed moment in Santa Monica history that benefits the city and many surrounding communities.”

For more information on the Santa Monica Airport and its history, including the litigation, visit smgov.net/airport.
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. All city offices are closed on alternate Fridays as part of the city’s commute trip reduction plan to improve air quality (March 3, 17 and 31, and April 14 and 28).

A LIMITED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS to Career Online High School are being offered by the Santa Monica Public Library. This nationally accredited program allows adult students age 19 and older to earn a high school diploma while gaining career skills in one of eight employment fields. For more information, please visit smpl.org/cohs.aspx or call 310.458.8308.

UTILITY USERS TAX (UUT) EXEMPTION PROGRAM eligibility limits for Santa Monica seniors 62 and older and residents with disabilities have been updated to reflect a 1.9% increase in the regional Consumer Price Index for December 2013 - December 2015. For FY 2016-17, the annual gross income limits are $29,178 for single-person households and $33,436 for households of two or more. For more information about or to apply for the UUT exemption, please visit wiseandhealthyaging.org/benefits-enrollment-center, call 310.394.9871 or email info@wiseandhealthyaging.org.

A CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ON CANNABIS LICENSING AND REGULATIONS will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, to consider whether the sale of recreational cannabis should be allowed in Santa Monica. Council will also review potential local regulations for both recreational and medical cannabis-related businesses. Currently, no such businesses are operating within Santa Monica and the city will not begin accepting applications until a review of necessary local regulations is completed. Public comment is invited and may be made in person or in writing (see City Council contact information on the back page). Visit smgov.net/marijuana-licensing for more information.

ETERNAL MEADOW OPENING CEREMONY & THE THIRD ANNUAL LIVING HISTORY TOUR

On Saturday April 1, Woodlawn Cemetery, Mausoleum & Mortuary will celebrate the opening of Eternal Meadow, a newly developed green burial section that offers an eco-friendly interment option. In keeping with the city’s commitment to sustainability, green burial has minimal environmental impacts as no metals, cement vaults or embalming fluids are used. This new section was designed as a naturalistic meadow featuring California native grasses, wildflowers and nectar sources for pollinators and endangered Monarch butterflies.

The 11 a.m. program will feature guest speakers and light refreshments, as well as Woodlawn’s third annual presentation of the Living History Tour. Costumed guides, portraying noted personalities interred at Woodlawn, will share their stories and contributions to history and society during tours of our landmark facility. Please join us for this very special event! For more information, please call 310.458.8717 or email woodlawn.cemetery@smgov.net.
We’ve had an incredible year of getting things done in Santa Monica. After decades of planning, major infrastructure projects were completed and City Council identified five strategic goals to focus on. Watch our video summary on the web and find out how the city works for you. To join the conversation, connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and share your thoughts about what makes Santa Monica a community that works together to tackle even the most difficult issues. #SaMoWellbeing
IT'S IN OUR FUTURE: GET READY FOR THE MODERNIZED CITY YARDS

Have your daughters participated in the Rosie's Girls program? Have you learned a new skill by participating in the Trades Intern Program? Perhaps you’ve been to a City Yards open house event? Have you dropped off old papers and documents for shredding or disposed of household hazardous waste? Have you collected compost, worm bins or donated goods at the Citywide Yard Sale? Currently, these programs and services are among the many activities occurring at Santa Monica's City Yards, located at 2500 Michigan Avenue.

Exciting changes will soon be happening here. The City Yards Modernization Project seeks to redesign operations to be more efficient and safe, and paramount consideration will be given to reimagining the public experience and further expanding public programs and services.

The City Yards is where essential and important facility and infrastructure maintenance services launch daily to all areas of Santa Monica. The modernization project envisions a better site that's more beautifully and conveniently organized. The new City Yards will look less industrial, feel more open, accessible and less confusing, and it will feature more integrated services and transparency. Overarching project goals are to recognize the site as a valuable asset to the community and to make it a space where everyone can take pride in local public works.

Consistent with Santa Monica's sustainability goals, the City Yards redevelopment will be designed and built purposefully and with strict environmental sensitivity. The reality is that it sits over a former landfill, and the project aims boldly to achieve two innovations: Envision Platinum certification and EcoDistricts certification. You can visit architecture.smgov.net for more information about these rating systems. The design-build team and city staff want to hear from residents, local businesses and civic advocates. So stay tuned—community input meetings will be announced soon! In the meantime, please reach out to architecture@smgov.net to get on the project’s email listserv for updates and to join the conversation.

Take a look at the host of activities carried out by the City Yards crews:

• refuse, recycling, green and food waste collection
• small business and household hazardous waste processing
• city vehicle maintenance
• street maintenance
• street sign and sidewalk repair
• traffic signal and parking meter repair
• facilities and custodial services
• water and wastewater administration
• fire department training center maintenance
COMMUNITY UPDATE

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS — AND WIN A BLOCK PARTY!

Last October, the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) participated in "National Coffee with a Cop" Day. The event provided an opportunity for officers to personally interact with the community in a neutral space over a cup of coffee, offering community members an opportunity to get acquainted with the men and women working in their local law enforcement agency in a positive environment.

In Santa Monica, officers’ daily interactions with the public have led to the conclusion that many residents do not know their neighbors. It is well known that the more unified the community, the stronger it becomes. So SMPD Chief Jacqueline A. Seabrooks has brought the focus of the national event down to the neighborhood level with the launch in late January of a citywide “Meet Your Neighbors” program. The key is simple engagement and community-building through a coffee date, ice cream social or other friendly gathering with the folks who live in your neighborhood.

To encourage participation, SMPD will host a block party for the randomly selected winner of a drawing held in June. To be eligible for the drawing, the individual neighbor gatherings must be registered at santamonicapd.org. We’re also asking participants to tag us in photos of their community events posted on social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. For more information, please call SMPD’s Community Affairs Division at 310.458.8474 or email community.affairs@smgov.net.

CONTEST INFORMATION

Our challenge to you is to step out of your comfort zone and get to know the people on your block - your neighbors.

SIMPLY REGISTER & POST PICTURES

@SantaMonicaPD
#NeighborlySM

REMINDERS

Engaging your neighbors can take any form you wish — big or small, simple or challenging.

To be eligible for the SMPD hosted block party, your event must be registered online at www.santamonicapd.org.

Complete the follow-up questionnaire after your event.

Take lots of pictures & HAVE FUN!!

A RANDOMLY SELECTED WINNER WILL RECEIVE A BLOCK PARTY HOSTED BY SMPD

Community Engagement Kit available by calling 310.458.8474 or by visiting www.SantaMonicaPD.org.
Dear Community Members:

Following statements made by the President and various other governmental officials concerning the enforcement of immigration laws, there have been an increasing number of questions raised regarding the Santa Monica Police Department’s official position on immigration enforcement.

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) has a decades old policy and practice of leaving the enforcement of immigration violations to the federal authorities. This policy has been in effect because, similar to other municipal law enforcement agencies, we are sensitive to the principle that effective law enforcement depends on a high degree of cooperation between the SMPD and the public we serve. SMPD officers understand that the U.S. Constitution guarantees equal protection to all persons within its jurisdiction, in this case, to include the City of Santa Monica. Furthermore, we understand that all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure in the knowledge that contacting law enforcement will not make them vulnerable to deportation. One of the primary reasons SMPD does not enforce immigration violations is to encourage those undocumented community members who are crime victims or witnesses to feel more at ease when coming forward to report occurrences of crime to the police. By not enforcing the immigration laws, SMPD encourages willing participation in our community safety efforts by those who might not otherwise come forward for fear of having to disclose their immigration status and risk deportation. As has traditionally been the case and will continue to be, SMPD officers do not inquire as to a person’s documented status; the only exception to this practice is if the person’s immigration status is materially relevant to another criminal offense or investigation, such as human trafficking, terrorist threats, etc. Any detention or arrest by an SMPD officer must be based on a reasonable belief that the individual being detained or arrested is involved in criminal activity. Because SMPD is committed to eliminating bias from its policing activities, enforcement actions are not based solely on factors such as race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, immigration or socioeconomic status. We believe that our entire community is safer because we do not enforce immigration violations; as a result, SMPD will not change its commitment to its long-standing policy and practice of not enforcing immigration violations.

The Santa Monica Police Department leaves the enforcement of the provisions of Title 8 of the United States Code (USC) relating to illegal entry to officers and agents from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement (DHS/ICE). We direct those who wish to report possible immigration violations to the local DHS/ICE office. SMPD does not, nor will it, independently conduct sweeps or other concentrated efforts to detain those suspected of being undocumented. SMPD traditionally has not participated in federal immigration operations as part of any detention team unless in direct response to a specific request for assistance and then only on a temporary basis or for officer safety reasons. This, too, will not change.

If DHS/ICE or any other law enforcement agency makes a request for support services such as traffic control or peacekeeping efforts during a federal operation, consistent with our commitment to providing interagency mutual assistance/mutual aid, we will provide the requested support services. Additionally, in those cases where a person has been arrested for a crime and is identified as having been previously deported, SMPD will release the arrestee to the custody of DHS/ICE if presented with a federal warrant mandating such release.

By maintaining its long-standing practice of not enforcing immigration laws, the Santa Monica Police Department continues to enhance community safety by ensuring the focus remains on equitable treatment, police-community cooperation, and enhancing community safety.

Sincerely,

JACQUELINE A. SEABROOKS
Chief of Police
Join Us at Virginia Avenue Park
APRIL 29, 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
2201 VIRGINIA AVENUE

“How do I know if my child is ‘ready’ for kindergarten?”
“What can I do to help my child prepare for this new beginning?”
“Where can I find resources to support my child’s lifelong learning?”
“What are local experiences I can share with my child?”
These are common questions asked by parents when their children approach school-age.

Research by scientists, economists, and educators overwhelmingly tells us that positive experiences during a child’s early years create the foundation for relationships and wellbeing throughout the rest of his or her life. In fact, a child’s development begins before birth and lasts through the transition to self-sufficiency into adulthood. It is crucial that all children have high-quality and nurturing learning experiences in their earliest years to develop and thrive socially, emotionally, verbally and physically. Kindergarten readiness means that a child has developed a balance of the skills needed for the classroom.

While most of Santa Monica’s children are on track for kindergarten, data from the Early Development Instrument (EDI), a standardized measurement tool used across the globe, revealed that 20% of entering kindergarteners were vulnerable in one or more developmental areas. This finding led to development of the “Building Blocks for Kindergarten” campaign to support parents, educators and caregivers in working together to ensure that all children have access to and preparation for lifelong learning.

The Arts & Literacy Festival is a place where families can learn even more about preparing their children for kindergarten. Presented by Virginia Avenue Park and the Pico Branch Library, the festival promotes the Building Blocks campaign and aligns with the city’s Learn + Thrive strategic goal. This fun, local event offers the chance to share positive experiences with your children and explore the ways in which young children can be nurtured for success in school and lifelong learning.

Interactive activities include a “secret garden” where participants can meet and interview beloved book characters.

FOCUSED ON OUR CHILDREN’S SUCCESS

Santa Monica Cradle to Career Initiative (SMC2C)

A collaboration between the City of Santa Monica, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, Santa Monica College, service providers and community members, SMC2C seeks to address two key questions: How are Santa Monica’s children doing? What can we do to help them succeed? The initiative grew out of a community dialogue after two local tragedies, a fatal, gang-related shooting in a city park and a highly visible teen suicide. For more information, visit santamonicaacradletocareer.org, where you can also find the Youth Wellbeing Report Card and EDI data.

Building Blocks For Kindergarten Campaign

This campaign, developed by the SMC2C Initiative, brings together early childhood advocates, providers and educators from both the public and private arenas with parents so that all children have an equitable opportunity to be kindergarten-ready.

Learn + Thrive

Lifelong learning has been a Santa Monica priority for many years. In 2015, the City Council identified “fostering a community partnership to Learn + Thrive” as one of its five strategic goals for the city. Building on work already accomplished by SMC2C and through the wide range of cultural, art, educational and recreational classes, story times and workshops offered by the city’s Community and Cultural Services Department and its five-star public library, “Learn” focuses on moving the dial on kindergarten readiness through cross-sector coordination and collaboration. To learn more, visit beta.smgov.net/strategic-goals.

Library Story Times

The Santa Monica Public Library offers many opportunities for early childhood development, such as baby, toddler and preschool story times in both English and Spanish. There are 18 story times offered each week at the five branch libraries. Visit smpl.org for schedules and details.
BRINGING A "WILD" BEACH TO SANTA MONICA'S SHORES

The City of Santa Monica has partnered with The Bay Foundation (TBF) to launch the Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project, which aims to transform approximately three acres of existing sandy beach into a healthy, beautiful coastal ecosystem—a more wild and natural beach. The project's goals are multifaceted, addressing not just coastal hazard risks (e.g., sea-level rise and erosion) but also the protection and enhancement of public beach access, recreation and natural shoreline surroundings (including bird habitat)—all while creating a beautiful, different kind of beach.

The designated area is west of the bike path near the water, parallel to The Beach Club and Annenberg Community Beach House, about 1.5 miles north of the Santa Monica Pier. Late last year, TBF staff installed a low-lying, 3-foot-tall sand fence, both for protection and to designate the project area, performed baseline monitoring for the study, and seeded the space with native vegetation right before the rain. The restoration area—which will eventually show native coastal strand species such as flowering sand verbena and beach evening primrose—is open along the water’s edge. The design both minimizes disturbance to the foredune habitat complex and encourages visitors to interact with it through normal recreational activities or by simply enjoying and learning about local native plants.

Learn more about the Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project, see beautiful artistic renderings, and watch for volunteer and educational outreach events at santamonicabay.org/santa-monica-beach-restoration-pilot.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Attendees can get active with the city’s police and fire departments as part of the Active Zone. The Santa Monica Farmers Market will hold both a cooking demonstration and a seasonal vegetable treasure hunt.

Bookmaking crafts, flower arranging and learning about your child’s health and development are all part of the day’s events. You can even enroll your child in preschool with SMMUSD.

Bring a picnic lunch, refillable water bottle and blankets or chairs for you and your family to enjoy free musical and theatrical performances.

Walking and biking to the festival are encouraged.

Virginia Avenue Park is served by Big Blue Bus Route 7. There is limited additional parking available at Venice Family Clinic (2509 Pico Blvd). The park is wheelchair accessible and welcomes persons of all abilities. For special accommodations, please call 310.458.8688 (TTY 310.917.6626).
TRAVEL SMARTER

1 ... 2 ... 3 ... 4 ... YOU’RE SEEING BICYCLISTS MORE AND MORE!

Santa Monica recently installed its first bike counter on Main Street in front of City Hall. The eye-catching sign is connected to nearby sensors in the bike lanes that tally bicyclists traveling both north and south on the street. The counter displays real-time daily and yearly counts of cyclists. You can watch as you ride by to see yourself get counted! (If you happen to be walking by, the reverse side of the counter displays wayfinding information that makes navigating the city on foot more convenient.)

Bike counters have been installed in cycle-friendly communities around the world, including Long Beach, San Francisco, Portland, the UCLA campus, Copenhagen and Montreal. The counter complements other exciting new additions to the city’s mobility efforts, such as the Colorado Esplanade and the reconstructed California Incline—both with protected bikeways—the popular Breeze Bike Share, and fun activities such as last spring’s COAST Open Streets event and frequent Kidical Mass family bike rides. The visual feedback provided by the new counter encourages cycling by displaying to bikers that their choice to bike counts, while providing important data to city staff and decision-makers.

The data collected is available online at smgov.net/bikecounter. As of February 7, 2017, the counter—which resets each January 1—was at 19,547 cyclists. Let’s see how quickly we can reach 1,000,000!
It was a very busy and successful 2016 for the City of Santa Monica, and others have noticed! We’re proud to report that the recently completed California Incline Bridge Replacement and Colorado Esplanade projects garnered three awards from both statewide and national professional associations.

The Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA), which annually recognizes exceptional public works projects in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange and Riverside counties, honored the California Incline and Esplanade projects with its prestigious BEST Awards (Building Excellence Shaping Tomorrow). These awards recognize excellence, innovation and cooperation among managing local agencies, consultants and contractors in the management and administration of public works projects. The Incline project was honored in the transportation category, while the Colorado Esplanade received its recognition in the facilities category.

In addition, the California Incline project was also recognized for outstanding achievement in the practice of construction management, earning the Project of the Year award from the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) in the transportation/bridge category.
You Asked, We Listened!

Big Blue Bus Route 5 Service Extended to Downtown Santa Monica

Big Blue Bus customers shared important feedback and we listened! On February 19, 2017, our service was adjusted to better connect customers with where they live, work and play. The changes make it easier, safer, and faster to incorporate Blue into your lifestyle.

One significant change is the extension of Route 5 back into Downtown Santa Monica. Many customers informed us that they valued and preferred commuting exclusively on Route 5 for trips to and from Downtown. The route will now connect to five Metro Expo Line stations:

1. Palms (weekdays only)
2. Expo/Bundy
3. 26th Street/Bergamot
4. 17th Street/SMC
5. Downtown Santa Monica

The extension of Route 5 (see map on next page) is one of many ways BBB has altered its service to better meet the needs of customers. Additionally, we have increased service to Santa Monica College on Route 7, and to UCLA on Rapid 12 and Route 17. We have also made schedule adjustments on many routes for improved timeliness. For a complete list of BBB route and schedule changes, visit bigbluebus.com/servicechange.

Your feedback is important to us as it allows us to better enable you to travel car-free and enjoy a better quality of life. To share your feedback with BBB, give us a call (310.451.5444) or visit bigbluebus.com. You can also share comments by submitting a Government Outreach (GO) ticket at smgov.net/go or by using the “GO SMGov” app on your mobile device. We look forward to hearing from you!

This Is the Big Blue Bus: Our Commitment to Service

Motor Coach Operator (MCO) Tarsha Ayers was on modified duty just before Christmas, staffing the customer service line, when she got an unexpected call—a mother’s plea for help. Conney Loften had dropped her two sons, one in 7th grade, the other in 8th, at a bus stop to catch Blue to school as she does every day. Ms. Loften had told her boys to ride Route 3 to the stop on eastbound Century Boulevard and International Road, where she would be waiting to meet them after school. But Route 3 was on detour and would not be serving the stop. The boys never made it there.

Mom panicked. Her boys were missing. It was every mother’s worst nightmare. Tarsha heard Ms. Loften’s plea for help and wasted no time. Running to dispatch, her wireless headset still on her head and connected to the distressed mom, she alerted her supervisor. They activated a team of all southbound Route 3 and Rapid 3 MCOs in the LAX area. Barely minutes had passed, and the search for Ms. Loften’s boys was on.

MCOs Kimberly Jackson, Erwin Escalante and Steven Kushner, driving in the area activated by Tarsha’s alert, stopped by the bus stop at Century and International where Ms. Loften was waiting, to reassure her that every Big Blue Bus driver in the area had their eyes set for her sons. Tarsha stayed on the line with Ms. Loften. And finally, news came through: The boys had been found. Tarsha told Ms. Loften exactly where her sons were waiting for her, just a few stops away.

Ms. Loften tearfully expressed her gratitude: “When people are concerned about your children and help you, it is a blessing you cannot even describe. The worst feeling is when you kids are missing. How Tarsha and Big Blue Bus helped me is something I will never forget. Thank you all!”

Experiences like this are why we do what we do at Big Blue Bus. Our team of professionals aims to serve each and every one of our customers with dedication, care and compassion. With a special acknowledgement to Ms. Loften and her boys, we thank all of the parents and others in the commuting community for trusting Big Blue Bus to get you and your loved ones safely to school, work or home.
Big Blue Bus Route 5

OLYMPIC BLVD – CENTURY CITY

Weekdays Only/
Solo días de semana

Metro Rail Station/
Estación de Metro Rail

Timepoint/Punto de Tiempo

not to scale

OLYMPIC BLVD – CENTURY CITY

Main
Ocean Ave
2nd
Manning
Westwood Blvd
Century Park West
Ave of the Stars Motor
Century Park East
Sepulveda
Bundy
National
Olympic Olympic
Constellation
Palms
Blvd
Pico
National
Santa Monica Blvd
Pico
26th
17th
4th
5th
Colorado
Civic Center
Civic
Center
5th
4th
2nd
City Hall
Ocean Ave

3rd Street Promenade & Santa Monica Place

CENTURY CITY

Westfield Century City Shopping Center

RANCHO PARK

Westwood Blvd
Sepulveda
USC Annenberg School Center

CHEVIOT HILLS

Manning
Rancho Palms
Fox Studios
Bundy Station
-Expo Line

PALMS

26th Street/Bergamot Station
-Expo Line

Downtown Santa Monica Station
-Expo Line

SANTA MONICA

Bundy Station
-Expo Line

17th Street/SMC Station
-Expo Line

New Roads High School

26th

Beverly Hills
High School

not to scale
he City of Santa Monica hosted Parks Day, Come Play! on February 25, 2017, to celebrate improvements and changes at several of our local parks. These include the grand opening of Ishihara Park, the dedication of the Stewart Street Park name-change to Gandara Park, the reopening of the northeast quadrant of Reed Park, and the completion of the Stormwater Harvesting Project at Los Amigos Park. Although the event has come and gone, these parks (and all the others across the city) are waiting for you to enjoy every day. Come see what’s new!

Ishihara Park  (2909 Exposition Boulevard.)
With areas for exercise, discovery, group gatherings and gardening, this park offers many amenities:

- accessible play and exercise equipment (playground includes swing, teeter-totter, merry-go-round, sand area and sculptural boulder)
- the Learning Garden, a communal spot to learn and acquire gardening skills, and grow citrus, herbs and vegetables
- BBQ grills and picnic tables
- bike track and natural log play for kids
- free City Wi-Fi
Continued from previous page

**Los Amigos Park** *(500 Hollister Avenue)*

The northwest portion of the park houses the majority of the Stormwater Harvesting Project that lies beneath a new baseball field. Stormwater and dry-weather discharges from a Los Angeles County storm drain, located along 5th Street in Santa Monica, will be diverted into a pre-treatment system before entering an underground cistern for storage. The cistern is as large as three connected school buses. After passing through an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system, treated water will be delivered to the adjacent park restrooms for indoor flushing, as well as for park irrigation.

**Gandara Park** *(1819 Stewart Street)*

The former Stewart Street Park was renamed in honor of Santa Monica native, World War II hero and Medal of Honor recipient Joe Gandara and now features a dedication plaque in his honor. At the time of his death in 1945 from enemy fire, 20-year-old Army Private Gandara was passed over for awards and medals despite his acknowledged heroism. In addition to the Medal of Honor award made in 2014 by President Barack Obama, Private Gandara was also given numerous other posthumous awards, including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart and Presidential Unit Citation. Find the stainless steel plaque dedicated to his memory along the edge of the walking path across from the basketball court.

**Reed Park** *(1133 7th Street)*

The renovated northeast quadrant of Reed Park includes many exciting new additions:

- walking path and enhanced lighting
- accessible fitness equipment
- outdoor performance space adjacent to Miles Playhouse
- seating and chess tables

Learn more about all of Santa Monica’s parks at santamonicaparks.org.
AWARD-WINNING CITY GOVERNMENT

The City of Santa Monica earned a host of awards and honors in 2016 from national and state agencies and organizations for its wide-ranging programs, services and civic improvements. Our residents are owed a great deal of the credit for their ongoing support of and commitment to a dynamic and sustainable city.

PUBLIC WORKS
ARCHITECTURE SERVICES DIVISION

CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION
• National Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Award, Innovation Winner, Phase 1 - Stormwater Management Program – Water Environment Federation
• Real Time Beach Signs – American Public Works Association, Southern California Chapter

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
• Green Power Leadership Club – EPA Green Power Partnership
• LEED Gold - Interior (OSE Office Space) – US Green Building Council
• Beacon Spotlight Award Gold Level (Agency Energy Savings) - Institute for Local Government
• Beacon Spotlight Award Platinum Level - Sustainability Best Practices - Institute for Local Government
• LEED Platinum Certification (Pico Branch Library) – US Green Building Council

PUBLIC LANDSCAPE DIVISION
• Tree City USA – Arbor Day Foundation
• Society of Municipal Arborists Accreditation – Society of Municipal Arborists

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
• Best Farmers Market in LA – Saveur Magazine
• 2016 Readers Choice Travel Award (Farmers Market) – Los Angeles Magazine
• Top 5 Farmers Markets in Nation - USA Today
• Best Farmers Market in America - MSN - The Daily Meal
• 2015 Urban Designer Award (Civic Center Village) – AIA, California Chapter
• Gold Nugget, Attached Residential Community of the Year (Civic Center Village) – Pacific Coast Builders
• Gold Nugget, Multifamily Housing over 60 Units per Acre (Civic Center Village) – Pacific Coast Builders
• Best Master Plan (Civic Center Village) – Westside Urban Forum

INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT
• Technology Solutions Award – Public Technology Institute

POLICE DEPARTMENT
• National Medal of Valor, awarded to Officers Jason Salas and Robert Sparks – White House - President Obama

BIG BLUE BUS
• AdWheel Award – American Public Transportation Association (APTA)

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES
• Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Prize – Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
• Best Swimming Pool – The Argonaut Best of the Westside Readers Poll 2015
• Best Public Pool – LA Weekly Best of LA 2015 Readers Poll

LIBRARY
• Five-Star Library – Library Journal
• PRExcellence Award – California Library Association
• Distinguished Service Award – Santa Monica History Museum
• Community Support Award – Chrysalis at Westside Coalition

FINANCE
• Investment and Debt Policy Certification – Association of Public Treasurers, United States and Canada
• Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (for the FY 2015-17 Budget) – Government Finance Officers Association

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MOBILITY
• Planning Best Practice (Breeze Bike Share) – Los Angeles Chapter, American Planning Association
• Transportation Planning Award (Pedestrian Action Plan) – Los Angeles Chapter, American Planning Association
• Sustainability: Active Transportation (Breeze Bike Share) – Southern California Association of Governments
WHAT’S HAPPENING, SANTA MONICA?

A UNIQUE PUBLIC AMENITY: ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE

The Annenberg Community Beach House is a public facility that fronts the famed Santa Monica State Beach along the Pacific Coast Highway, with no membership required to take advantage of its rich history, beautiful location and year-round arts and recreational programming.

Combining historic charm with modern elegance and beachfront views, the Beach House also has private event space available to rent for events such as corporate retreats and conferences, wedding ceremonies, receptions, and other social activities. It also offers an ideal backdrop for film, television and photo shoots. To learn more about Beach House event services, call 310.458.4934, email beachhouseevents@smgov.net or visit annenbergbeachhouse.com/plan-your-event.

Coming Soon to the Beach House!

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 11 A.M. – 2 P.M.
JULIA MORGAN LEGACY DAY
As part of the celebration of the visionary architect, “Julia Morgan: Women Designers Then and Now” explores her milestone achievements, as well as the advancements, continued challenges and opportunities for change in the field of design. The Morgan-designed Guest House and pool will be on view.

For all of these events, please RSVP online at annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 6:30 P.M.
THE CAMERA OBSCURA POETS READ
Writer-in-Residence Dinah Berland presents a group reading with the 15 poet-participants of her eight-week workshop, in which they met to read great works and write poems in dialogue with each other on the themes of empathy and difference.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 6:30 P.M.
TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES FESTIVAL TALK WITH KIMBERLY TRUHLER
The film and fashion historian will delve into stories behind the style of movies featured in the 2017 Turner Classic Movies Film Festival—the stars, costumes and designers, and their legacies. The film fest runs from April 6 to 9 in Hollywood, but this preview is available only at the Beach House!

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 6:30 P.M.
RED HEN PRESS PRESENTS: JANE MEAD, DOUG MANUEL, SAFIYA SINCLAIR (pictured)
Jamaican poet Safiya Sinclair’s work uses the English of colonization to explore love, exile and identity, while Jane Mead’s poems range across the western landscape, giving urgent voice to the concerns of ecology. The debts of a vivid past and an uncertain future power Douglas Manuel’s shamanic and incantatory poems.
ON THE PIER: S.T.E.A.M. MACHINES AND FREE FUN, ALL DAY LONG!

Sunday, March 5, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

S.T.E.A.M. Machines is an all-day expo hosted by Heal the Bay and the Santa Monica Pier Corporation. The day is devoted to science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics, including the LA regional Rube Goldberg Machine Contest.

NASA’s Jet Propulsion Lab, the Columbia Memorial Space Center, the Pier Aquarium and other innovators will be on hand with exhibits and hands-on activities. The Goldberg contest begins at 11:30 a.m., with middle school, high school and college teams facing off as their innovative, whimsical contraptions attempt to complete the task of applying a Band-Aid through a complicated series of steps. Judges from JPL, SpaceX and others will proclaim the winners, who advance to a national competition.

Come for the competition and stay for the ice cream churned with pedal power! Be sure to visit the Aquarium below deck for the chance to operate an underwater ROV (remotely operated vehicle). Find event updates at santamonicapier.org/steam.

EARTH DAY AT THE AQUARIUM

Saturday, April 15 & 22

For Heal the Bay, every day is Earth Day, but in honor of the 47th annual worldwide observance on April 22, we’ll celebrate for a solid week this year. Heal the Bay’s Nothin’ but Sand clean-up on Saturday, April 15, runs from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on the north side of the Santa Monica Pier. All clean-up participants will be rewarded with free admission to the Aquarium, which opens at 11 a.m. that day. On the following Saturday, April 22, special activities throughout the day will commemorate the official day to celebrate our planet, during the Aquarium’s regular hours of 12:30 to 5 p.m. Make a biodegradable planter, enjoy a special Earth Day story time at 2 p.m., and visit a wildlife station on the west end of the Pier. At 3 p.m., join us for “Who Pollutes?”—an interactive lesson in keeping our waterways and ocean healthy. Call 310.393.6149 or visit healthebay.org for details.

Photo by Natalie Burdick

Photo by Lillie Grossman

Photo by Natalie Burdick
11TH ANNUAL SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ARTWALK

Saturday, March 18, 12 to 5 p.m.

The Airport ArtWalk showcases the artist studios and multiple creative venues that occupy the Santa Monica Airport’s converted hangars. Featuring art and ceramic demonstrations, theater and art workshops, live music and food trucks, the ArtWalk offers a fun-filled day of artistic exploration for the whole family. The event is free and open to all.

For more information, visit smgov.net/airportartwalk or find us on Facebook @ArtWalk.

MARCH IS WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

A City Council proclamation on February 28 has launched a month-long observance of Women’s History Month, with a variety of events scheduled in March at venues across the city, co-sponsored by the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women. Film screenings, health screenings and workshops—most of them free—are among the scheduled activities. Find the full schedule and contact/RSVP details on Facebook @smcosw or on the city’s website at smgov.net/cosw.

Saturday, March 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“OUR GIRLS ROCK” is a Parent Connection Group workshop that seeks to honor African-American women of the past and empower the young women of today. Thelma Terry Building, Virginia Avenue Park, 2201 Virginia Avenue (free admission).

Thursday, March 2, 5:30 p.m.

EQUAL MEANS EQUAL, a movie screening and discussion. Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard (free admission).

Friday, March 24, 1 p.m.

“THE FIRST WOMAN TO … ” This WISE & Healthy Aging event features trailblazing women who made a difference being the first to ... Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street (free admission).
"THE WONDER ROOM" AT TONGVA PARK

Wednesday, April 5, 7:30 to 9 p.m.

The beautiful Tongva Park, on Main Street between Colorado and Pico, is a popular and award-winning public space. Each year, the City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division presents a series of cultural programs in the park that are informal, intimate experiences developed specifically for its geography. The 2017 season offers three events spread over five days and nights in the spring. The first of these is “The Wonder Room,” in which an extraordinary group of L.A.-region artists creates simultaneous, multiple-performance events in the “rooms” of Tongva Park. Dates and times for the other programs—a new dance work commissioned for the park, and an exciting day of diverse programming for kids and families—will be announced on smgov.net/tongvapark. All events are free and open to the public. Join our email list at smgov.net/artssignup. #ArtSaMo

Tongva After Dark photos by Kristina Sado

MILES MEMORIAL PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS

April 21 – May 21

SANTA MONICA REP’S THE FOREIGNER BY LARRY SHUE. For details, email boxoffice@santamonicarep.org, or call 844.486.2844.

The Miles is located at 1130 Lincoln Boulevard. Join our email list at smgov.net/artssignup. #ArtSaMo
Have you ever considered the life expectancy of a sports field? The City of Santa Monica has a preventive maintenance program to address the problems that come with aging athletic fields, but there comes a point when upkeep of existing turf is not enough. And so the main field at Clover Park recently was fully reconstructed after ten years of nearly continuous use by baseball and soccer groups. Public Landscape Division staff replaced 120,000 square feet of worn-down turf with healthy new grass. The renewed field, which opened in early February, is expected to last ten years. Staff recently also replaced the worn-out rubberized safety surface at Euclid Park, and it is expected to last 15 to 20 years.

In other park news, visitors to Palisades and Tongva parks should keep an eye out for the Downtown Santa Monica hospitality ambassadors in their blue shirts! They’re now available daily to answer questions and provide other assistance to the public.

Learn more about Santa Monica’s public spaces by following us on social media! We are on Facebook and Instagram.
The heavy rains that we welcome for drought relief also cause a significant amount of debris to flow through our storm drains or wash ashore, winding up on the shoreline of Santa Monica State Beach. It’s the job of the city’s Public Landscape Division crews to remove it. Even before the recent big storms, the division had made adjustments in its procedures so that clean-up occurs on a regularly scheduled basis rather than “as needed.”

Combined with measuring the amount of trash and debris collected, division staff spend over 70 hours per month on its removal. In January, a whopping 100 pounds was collected! While we can’t stop the trash from ending up at the beach—litterbugs must do their part!—the city is committed to finding ways to continually improve its services and keep Santa Monica’s beach clean, healthy and safe for all to use.
Over an eight-week period beginning in mid-January, the City of Santa Monica began replacing over 1,200 high pressure sodium (HPS) street light fixtures with light-emitting diode (LED) street light fixtures. Replacing the existing HPS street lights with LED street lights will reduce energy consumption by approximately 57%. The project should be completed by mid-March.

Siemens Corporation was contracted by the city to purchase and install the new LED street lights. Using multiple trucks at various locations throughout the city during the installation process, each replacement should take place rather quickly, causing minimal traffic disruption. The LED lights are dark-sky friendly, limit upward glare, and have been specified to minimize any potential effects to human sensitivity.

Funding for the project was provided through an On-Bill Financing (OBF) loan from Southern California Edison (SCE). Repayment of this 0% interest loan is made to SCE by an amount equal to or less than the estimated energy savings. Once the loan is paid off, the city will realize significantly lower electricity costs. The project also creates a permanent reduction in energy use by the city, and the better quality light may enhance public safety.

Contact Senior Sustainability Analyst Garrett Wong at 310.458.2238 for more information about this project.

NEW LED LIGHTING SAVES ENERGY AND DOLLARS

FREE PAPER SHREDDING

Saturday, April 29, 2017

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica

Electronics Recycling
Also Available
Open to Santa Monica Residents
Limit: 25 File Boxes, Maximum 12” x 17” x 9”

Resource Recovery & Recycling Division
smgov.net/r3events 310.458.2223

Resource Recovery & Recycling Division
Compost Giveaway

Saturday
March 4
7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
or while supplies last
City Yards,
2500 Michigan Ave.

Residents may fill (5) large burlap sacks with compost
310-458-2223,
smgov.net/r3events

bags donated by: groundwork
Honey-drizzled Grilled Apricots and Pistachio Ricotta

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**

6 apricots
6 heaping tbsp. ricotta cheese
1/4 c. pistachios, unshelled + 2 tbsp. for garnish
2 tsp. cinnamon
2 tsp. honey, plus extra for drizzle

Chop pistachios and set aside. Preheat grill or grill pan over medium heat.

Slice apricots in half and remove pit. Place apricots face down on grill for 3-4 minutes, or until tender and grill marks form. Turn over and grill on opposite side for 1-2 minutes, until soft. Remove from grill and set aside.

In a bowl, combine ricotta, cinnamon, all but 2 tbsp. pistachios, and sweetener until well combined. Stuff each apricot half with ricotta mixture and top with remaining pistachios and drizzle with extra honey (or maple syrup may be used).

**ENJOY THESE GREAT BANDS** at the Sunday Main Street Farmers Market this spring—and be sure to check for new market-related events, including cooking demos, on Facebook @Santa Monica Farmers Markets.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Band</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>The Roustabouts</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
<td>Praties</td>
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<td>March 19</td>
<td>Eric Kufs</td>
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<td>(LA Marathon Day)</td>
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<td>March 26</td>
<td>Par Avion</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Del Rey Community Jazz Band</td>
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<td>April 9</td>
<td>Rusty Steel Band</td>
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<td>April 16</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>Idle Hands</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Jeffery Michaels</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please join us every fourth Saturday of the month at the Virginia Avenue Park Farmers Market for **Preserving the Seasons** classes with the Slow Food Preservers of Los Angeles. Each month features a different recipe for preserving seasonal produce from the market, from pickles and jams to sauerkraut and other preserving techniques. Classes are held in the park’s Thelma Terry Center from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon, and they are FREE (reservations required). To sign up, please visit SMFMS.eventbrite.com or find us on Facebook @Santa Monica Farmers Markets.

**SEE YOU AT THE FARMERS MARKETS!**

**WEDNESDAYS**
Arizona Ave @ 2nd St
8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

**SATURDAYS**
Arizona Ave @ 3rd St
8 a.m.–1 p.m.

**SUNDAYS**
Virginia Avenue Park
8 a.m.–1 p.m.
2640 Main St
8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Whether you want to “green up” your home or business, or ensure your child’s safety in the car and your family’s safety in an emergency, the city can help. These and other services are available in Santa Monica—and they’re all free!

1. Water Use Consultations – The Office of Sustainability and the Environment offers on-location consultations to help you trim your home or business water bill every month. Call 310.458.8474 to schedule an appointment.

2. GoSaMo TMO – Are you still worried about your business meeting its Average Vehicle Ridership targets? Want to personalize your trip to your workplace or get from the beach to the shopping center and restaurants without using your own vehicle? The GoSaMo Transportation Management Organization (TMO) provides free transportation advice and resources to all Santa Monica employers, employees and residents. Just call 310.319.9866 for assistance—we’re happy to help!

3. TAP Older Adult Workshops – Anyone 62 years old or over is eligible for discounted fares using a Senior TAP Card on Big Blue Bus (BBB), Metro busses/rail lines and other TAP transportation agencies. BBB-hosted workshops help with the application process, including snapping your ID photo and issuing a temporary TAP card so you can immediately receive the discount. They are held at 1 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 – 4th Street. Call 310.451-5444 for more information.

4. Child Safety Seat Fitting – The Santa Monica Police Department’s nationally certified technicians can help parents/guardians with child car seat fit and installations, available by appointment only on Friday mornings. These appointment slots fill quickly, so it’s best to plan ahead; please call 310.434.2627 at least two weeks in advance.

5. Computer Classes - The Santa Monica Public Library (601 Santa Monica Blvd.) offers free instructional classes on various topics including using the Internet and the library’s electronic resources. Classes are held at both the Main Library (up to 12 students per class) and branches (up to 8). Seating is on a first-arrival basis. For more information and class schedules, visit smpl.org/computerclasses.aspx or call 310.434.2608.

6. SM Alerts - This City of Santa Monica notification system allows public safety officials to disseminate vital information to thousands of subscribers in a short period of time, keeping the community informed in event of an emergency. You choose how and where you’d like public safety officials to contact you—phone, email, or text, at home, work, school or other location—to receive key information on where to go and what to do to keep you and your family safe. Sign up at smalerts.net.
MESSAGE FROM NEW SUPERINTENDENT DR. BEN DRATI

Dear Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District students, staff, parents and communities:

I am humbled and delighted to join you as your superintendent. I have great respect and appreciation for the trust you’ve bestowed on me to serve as steward over the most important job in the world, aside from parenting, and that is the education of our children.

I want to thank the SMMUSD school board members for the great care and sensitivity they exercised in selecting me through a rigorous and thorough interview process, which included a validation visit at Santa Barbara Unified School District.

You will have many opportunities to learn more about me and for me to know more about you in the months to come. What I would like to leave you with at this juncture are my commitments to myself and how I will work, and that is to:

1. Keep the interests of children as my highest priority and goal. And, to shape our system so that our system works to support all of our students instead of them having to fit into our system.
2. Work collaboratively with the Board of Education to lead our district well.
3. Value and support the work of teachers who teach our students.
4. Appreciate the work of our classified staff and to treat them as vital partners in the work of our district.
5. Lead and mentor the management team to be effective leaders of schools and the entire district.
6. Respect and partner with our parents as they raise their children.
7. Listen with empathetic ears and to look for and find those who may not feel like they have a voice.
8. Serve as a worthy ambassador for Santa Monica and Malibu to the outside world.

In closing, I want to commend the communities of Santa Monica and Malibu for not settling and daring to be greater than what you are now for the sake of all students. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your superintendent. I take this responsibility with great care.

If you’d like to learn more about how tourism contributes to our local economy, please join Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT) at Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel on Friday, May 12, for this year’s Travel & Tourism Summit!

SMTT’s purpose is to promote the city as a conference, business and leisure travel destination. Led by an 11-member board of directors and funded by the City of Santa Monica’s general fund and the Tourism Marketing District assessment, SMTT also acts as the marketing representative for local businesses and the community as a whole. For more information, please visit santamonicatourism.com.

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 12, 2017

SANTA MONICA 8th Annual Travel & Tourism Summit
In addition to its regular slate of craft and movement workshops, the Camera Obscura invites the art-curious to join Art Lab Studio Resident Grace Hwang for weekly workshops through mid-April (see box below). Hwang is a multidisciplinary artist and educator whose movement practice is fueled by improvising new forms through ensemble work and rule-based play. Often working with artists of different disciplines, her work in the form of teaching, performance, exhibition and experience-making has been featured at Portland Art Museum, Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, and MOMA New York’s Education Center, among other venues. Her current work reflects upon the 1992 Los Angeles riot/uprising through movement and the “art of the archive.”

Grace Hwang Wraps Up Her Residency on Saturday, April 15, With a Free Event

Join Grace for a presentation of work created during her 15-week tenure as the Camera Obscura Art Lab’s Studio Artist in Residence, including performances by her lab students, and selections from her previous works. Light refreshments provided. RSVP to COALGraceHwang.eventbrite.com.

Saturday Workshops With Grace

These workshops begin at 11 a.m. Each has a $5 participant fee. Register for any of them by visiting smgov.net/reserve and searching on the keyword “Grace.”

MARCH 4 – PAPERMAKING WITH NATURAL AND FOUND MATERIALS
This introduction to papermaking will allow participants to create (and take home) sheets of paper with prepared pulp made from a variety of natural and recycled materials including plant fiber, denim/cotton, and objects collected from the beach.

MARCH 11 – INTERCULTURAL DUMPLING MAKING PARTY
Grace invites dumpling-makers from all cultures to demonstrate their delicious traditions. Dumpling students and observers are asked to pay $5 toward ingredients. Dumpling experts, please email us at camera@smgov.net—we’d love your participation!

MARCH 18 – MATERIALS AND MOVEMENT STUDIO
Materials and Movement is a hybrid between a dance studio and art studio; a space to dance your drawings and draw your dances. Utilizing prompts, props, text and images, movers of all types will generate their own movement phrases. Participants will apply choreographic strategies influenced and inspired by authentic movement, Augusto Boal’s Theater of the Oppressed games, and Liz Lerman’s Dance Toolbox.

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE
Saturday Workshops With Grace

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

MARCH 25 – SHARING/MAKING ARTIST BOOKS & ZINES
Drawing on the rich tradition of artist-created books, zines and paper ephemera, this workshop delves into the creation of participants’ publications, from one-off text sculptures to one-page zines. Bring your own books/zines to show, and the artist will bring her collection of artist-made printed material for inspiration.

APRIL 8 – LIVING IN OUR LANDSCAPE: WALKING WITH EACH OTHER, WITH GUEST ARTIST MARYAM HOSSEINZADEH
Grace has invited fellow artist Maryam Hosseinzadeh to lead a workshop in response to her ongoing residency theme of memorializing and sharing experiences. Join Maryam for a group walk in the parts of Santa Monica’s downtown and Pier that can be seen from the Camera Obscura. Participants can reflect on and share their perspectives, thoughts and memories of the surrounding landscape and their histories in the neighborhood. Both longtime and newer residents are invited to participate; contributions will be recorded and edited by Maryam into an audioscape that will be featured in the Camera Obscura tower for future visitors. Participants with mobility issues are welcome to attend a post-walk conversation at the Camera and as much of the walk as they wish.

Also at the Art Lab

WATERCOLOR JOURNEY WITH TIMOTHY KITZ
March 5 and 26, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., $30 + $5 materials fee (per class)
March 12, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., $60 + $10 materials fee
Watercolorist and urban sketcher Timothy Kitz presents watercolor classes open to all levels; the March 12 class is a plein air intensive. He shares tips on medium and technique with demos and exercises to hone your compositional vision, knowledge of color values, mixing and brush work. Drop-ins are welcome, but a heads-up at 310.458.2239 is appreciated.

SECOND SATURDAY FREE CRAFT LOUNGE & KNITTING HANGOUT March 11 and April 8, 11 a.m.
Drop-ins welcome! Artists and crafters are invited every month to come work on their projects, with company. We will have sewing machines and art supplies available for sharing, and tables to spread out your work on—get our living room messy rather than yours!

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/artssignup.
ince its debut in 2003, Santa Monica Reads has been building a community of readers who appreciate its wide range of thought-provoking selections. We’ve read best-sellers like Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* and R.J. Palacio’s *Wonder*, local writers including Raymond Chandler (*The Lady in the Lake*) and Christopher Isherwood (*The Berlin Stories*), and literary award winners such as Jonathan Safran Foer (*Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*) and Emily St. John Mandel (*Station Eleven*).

Now—in our fifteenth year!—Santa Monica Public Library heads in a completely new direction with Alison Bechdel’s groundbreaking graphic memoir, *Fun Home*.

First released in 2006, Bechdel’s comics-format, autobiographical book quickly became a best seller and award winner, and eventually served as the source material for a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical of the same name. A portrait of the author’s youth and her complicated relationship with her father, *Fun Home* upends many readers’ expectations of what comics are supposed to be or how an autobiographical tale should be told. Join us as we explore this intelligently written and densely layered marriage of words and illustrations, and celebrate the burgeoning genre of the graphic novel. Santa Monica Reads 2017 runs from February 25 to March 30, and features a number of book discussions and special events across the city. We’re eager to share and discuss *Fun Home* with you! Visit [smpl.org/citywide_reads.aspx](http://smpl.org/citywide_reads.aspx) for more information.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON NEXT PAGE**
Santa Monica Reads Schedule

BOOK DISCUSSIONS
Trained facilitators lead discussions of *Fun Home*. Discussion participants are encouraged to share their thoughts about this year’s selection and its themes, or may simply listen in to learn more about the book.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, February 27</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Barnes &amp; Noble Bookstore, 1201 Third Street Promenade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 4</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 7</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 15</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 16</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Santa Monica Bay Woman’s Club, 1210 Fourth St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 20</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Earth, Wind &amp; Flour Restaurant, 2222 Wilshire Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 25</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 29</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hi De Ho Comics, 1431 Lincoln Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 30</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.</td>
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SPECIAL EVENTS

**An Afternoon With Alison Bechdel**
Saturday, February 25, 2 p.m.
Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.
The author discusses *Fun Home* and her other work, her storytelling process, and her plans for the future. A book sale and signing follows.

**Comics & the Art of Visual Communication**
Sunday, February 26, 2 p.m.
Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.
American cartoonist and comics theorist Scott McCloud offers a fast-moving lecture on comics, visual communication, and how we learn through images. A book sale and signing follows.

**Movie: Persepolis (2007)**
Tuesday, February 28, 7 p.m.
Montana Avenue Branch, 1704 Montana Ave.
An Oscar nominee for Best Animated Feature, this gripping film about a young Persian woman growing up in the midst of the Iranian Revolution is based on the graphic memoir by Marjane Satrapi. (96 min.)

**Cartoon Your Story Workshop Series**
Fridays, March 3, 10, 17 and 24, 3:30 p.m.
Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.
Artist and onetime illustrator for *The Simpsons* and *King of the Hill* Carlos Nieto III leads a four-week workshop that teaches the basics of storytelling in a graphical format.

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<tr>
<td>The Big Kids’ Table: Comics Craft</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 8, 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Cartoon Self</td>
<td>Saturday, March 11, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Movie Musical: Annie (1982)</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 21, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women to Watch Out For Panel Discussion</td>
<td>Saturday, March 25, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bechdel Test—Women in Film</td>
<td>Saturday, March 25, 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.</td>
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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:

March 7 (special meeting) and 28
April 18 (special meeting) and 25

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.

The City Clerk’s File
From the City’s Records & Elections Department

LOBBYIST REGISTRATION PROGRAM
Since its launch in September, the city’s Lobbyist Registration Program—established by city ordinance in March 2016—has added 37 names to its rolls. Anyone (other than city contractors and those seeking city contracts through bids or proposals) paid to contact City Hall officials for the purpose of influencing legislation or administrative actions must register with the City of Santa Monica. Visit smgov.net/lobbyists for full details.

OTHER NEWS
More historical City Council documents have been made available to the public with the launch of a public portal on the Records and Elections website.

We’re pleased to report that the city’s Passport Acceptance Facility (smgov.net/passports) was found to be in full compliance with federal regulations following a recent site inspection.