BE SAFE. AVOID A TICKET.
WEAR A HELMET.
PARK RESPECTFULLY.
HAVE A LICENSE.
ONE PERSON PER SCOOTER.
RIDE ON THE STREET.

THE eSCOOTER RULES TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO
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SHARED MOBILITY PILOT SET TO LAUNCH

Santa Monica has long been the home of innovations in transportation. Santa Monica-based Douglas Aircraft were the first to fly around the world in 1924. Modern skateboarding was developed in the Ocean Park neighborhood, aka Dogtown, in the 1970s. LA County’s first bike share system, Breeze Bike Share, launched here in 2015. With the introduction of shared electric scooters just one year ago, Santa Monica is again an epicenter of change.

The City is launching a pilot program in September for dockless shared mobility devices such as electric scooters and electric bicycles. Prior to the pilot program, operators could apply for a vending permit and operate with few conditions. The pilot program replaces the permitting system and enables more robust testing of ways to protect public safety on City streets and sidewalks.

Approved by the City Council in June 2018, the Shared Mobility Device Pilot Program seeks to:

• Ensure safety and public access by reducing sidewalk, pathway and ADA blockages.

• Educate users about proper rules and riding etiquette.

• Increase options for residents, employees and visitors to get around without a vehicle in order to manage congestion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

• Build effective systems to manage negative behaviors and increase positive benefits.

• Explore partnership methods with private operators to deliver public benefits.

Information learned during the pilot program will inform long-term solutions to expand sustainable transportation options, while protecting safety and access on public streets and sidewalks. City staff from the Departments of Planning & Community Development, Police and Public Works are working together on regular evaluation and tracking during the pilot program period. Throughout the summer 2018 and the duration of the pilot program, SMPD will actively inform users about safe and legal device use, and conduct enforcement operations. The pilot program is scheduled to sunset at the end of 2019, with Council consideration of data and long-term solutions starting mid-year.

DOS AND DON'TS OF RIDING

With the proliferation of new devices, it’s important to follow the rules of the road to keep yourself safe and avoid being cited. To date, the Santa Monica Police Department has issued over 700 electric scooter related citations and this simple guide can help you be a safe and legal rider.

To report a broken device please use the information on the device to contact the company directly. To report any device that is a safety hazard, please notify City staff at 424.744.0825. For more information about the program, visit smgov.net/SharedMobility, and please let us know your thoughts by submitting a comment at smgov.net/santamonicaworks (select Streets & Mobility, then E-Scooters and Shared Mobility Devices).

For the latest updates on the shared mobility pilot program, visit santamonica.gov/news.
On July 24, the City Council gave the green light to add green paint to 19 miles of bike lanes, and approved advancing the Safe Streets for 17th Street and Michigan Avenue to the next phase of design!

GREEN LANES
Green bike lanes popped up in Santa Monica a few years ago on Main Street and Broadway. Green lanes are a proven strategy to make streets safer by making bikes and scooters in the lanes more visible, and clarifying the use of road space for drivers. To meet the ever-growing demand for travel options, the City is painting 19 more miles of green lane markings. This project will also add video detection cameras at 20 intersections to trigger a green light for people in the green lanes when no cars are present, and will add 1,250 bike racks. Partly funded by a grant from Metro, these changes advance the community vision in the Land Use and Circulation Element and Bike Action Plan of making streets safer for people of all ages and abilities. For more information, visit smgov.net/bikelanes.

SAFE STREETS FOR 17TH STREET AND MICHIGAN AVENUE
Since the Expo Line opened, the number of people walking and biking on 17th Street has increased 1600% and 82%, respectively. 17th Street connects 4 neighborhood groups, 3 transit corridors, 2 primary bikeways and the Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway. Given this staggering demand and connectivity, the Safe Streets for 17th Street and Michigan Avenue project envisions a safer, more beautiful walking and biking connection for residents to enjoy as they go to parks, transit stops and neighborhood destinations.

The Safe Streets for 17th Street and Michigan Avenue project will add pedestrian-scale lighting to improve personal safety, curb extensions to reduce crossing, and a bikeway protected by a raised median. The 17th Street improvements will span from Wilshire Boulevard to Pico Boulevard. On Michigan Avenue from 14th to 19th Streets, the project links with reduced-scale traffic circles to reduce speeding, and curb extensions for pedestrian safety. The project will go through final design in 2019, with construction starting in early 2020. To learn more, visit smgov.net/17thStreet.
Santa Monica students went back to school a few weeks ago. We wish all students and parents a successful and rewarding year. Each new year is a fresh opportunity to try to learn new skills - like learning a new language or trying a new sport. It’s also a time to try new ways of getting to school. Did you know that walking and biking to school increase a student’s readiness to learn, while also taking cars off the road, especially in sensitive areas near neighborhood schools? How you get to school can help improve grades and make Santa Monica a more sustainable, livable and safer city.

The City’s Safe Routes to School program provides information to students and parents on safe travel behaviors to and from school. Safe Routes also constructs safety improvements in the vicinity of school campuses. A collaboration between the City, SMMUSD, Santa Monica Spoke and local private schools, the program has catalyzed more students who walk, bike, skate, scoot and take transit to school. Check it out at santamonicasaferoutes.org.

KEEPING OUR STUDENTS SAFE

What’s Happening

OCT 8-12 Bike It! Walk It! Bus It! Week

All Santa Monica elementary and middle schools will be celebrating by doing activities, holding promotions, and offering healthy snacks and prizes. For information specific to your child’s school and volunteer inquiries, please contact your school’s PTSA president or the City’s Safe Routes to School Coordinator Cory Keen at 310.458.2201 ext. 2120.

OCT 27 Halloween-Themed Kidical Mass

9 A.M. • REED PARK

- A safe, fun and family-friendly, slow-rolling 2-mile group bike ride.
- Best costume will win a prize!
- Free bike and helmet checks and instruction during the ride will be offered, along with refreshments and fun pre- and post-ride activities.

Be Safe!

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

It can be safer and more enjoyable to walk and ride together. Talk to other parents who live nearby about forming a “Walking School Bus” or a “Bike Train.”

SEE AND BE SEEN

When walking across streets or driveways, make eye contact with drivers, not your phone. Look up and pay attention to your surroundings.

When biking at night, use a front white light and rear red light.

BE PREDICTABLE

Walk on sidewalks and cross at intersections or marked crosswalks.

Always ride your bicycle in the same direction as traffic, and plan your route to take advantage of bicycle lanes or shared use paths. Use hand signals to communicate with drivers and make eye contact before turning or changing lanes.

SOME QUICK AND SIMPLE TIPS TO FOLLOW WHEN YOU’RE BEHIND THE WHEEL OR DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN:

Be A Role Model And Respect Your Neighbors

- Follow your school’s drop-off and pick-up procedures. Pull to the curb rather than letting kids out in the street.
- Slow down. The maximum speed when children are present is 15 MPH in most school zones.
- Avoid unsafe maneuvers, such as mid-block U-turns, for the wellbeing of your kids and their classmates. Be patient with others.
- Park in legal spaces and avoid double parking or blocking neighbors’ driveways. Carpool to cut down on congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

Be Aware

- Always stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and at intersections. Always be alert for children who may be crossing mid-block.
- Set aside distractions and keep an eye out for unexpected movements, especially by children.
Construction is wrapping up on safety improvements near the Edison Language Academy. Over the past summer, 11 sidewalk curb extensions and painted crosswalks were added to improve walking to the recently rebuilt campus. Curb extensions improve safety by reducing the crossing distance for pedestrians and by improving visibility for all users. The project was funded by a Safe Routes to School grant from the state, and the project implements improvements identified in the Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway and Bike Action plans, and in community outreach meetings in 2016-17. For more information about the work being done by the City’s Safe Routes to School program to improve safety for our youth visit santamonicasaferoutes.org.

The City of Santa Monica presents COAST, its annual open streets event celebrating community, art and sustainability. More than 2 miles of city streets will be closed to cars and open for people to stroll, bike and roll. Indulge in delicious food, listen to live music, enjoy world-class art and experience the community’s public spaces in a new, reimagined way.

Make this fun-filled day car-free by taking public transit or by riding a bike to the event. Check out the event details and start planning your route at smgov.net/coast.

WHEN:
Sunday, October 7, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE:
Approximately two miles of car-free streets including Ocean and Colorado Avenues and Main Street
BIG BLUE BUS AND LYFT PARTNER TO CREATE A
MORE LIVABLE SANTA MONICA

ig Blue Bus and Lyft are working together on innovative first- and last-mile, late-night, and on-demand paratransit solutions, to expand mobility options for Santa Monica residents and visitors.

MOBILITY ON DEMAND
WISE & Healthy Aging and Big Blue Bus have partnered with Lyft to provide MODE (Mobility On-Demand Every Day), a curb-to-curb, on-demand transportation program for seniors (age 60+) and individuals with disabilities (age 18+) living in Santa Monica. Members can use Lyft to travel anywhere in Santa Monica and to select medical and shopping destinations outside the City limits, for just $0.50 per ride!

For more information, visit bigbluebus.com/mode.

BLUE AT NIGHT
Big Blue Bus and Lyft have also partnered to offer Blue at Night, a late-night, weekend service that provides on-demand rides to/from all three Santa Monica Expo stations (26th Street/Bergamot, 17th Street/SMC, Downtown Santa Monica) for $3 every Friday and Saturday, from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. To request a ride during service hours, open the Lyft app and enter promo code SAMOBLUE3, then select an eligible pickup and destination location within the designated Santa Monica service area.

For more details about Blue at Night, visit bigbluebus.com/blueatnight.

TRANSIT INTEGRATION WITH LYFT
In June 2018, Lyft announced an overhaul of its rideshare app, which included direct integration with public transit services. Lyft selected Big Blue Bus as one of the first two partners to be fully integrated into the app. This partnership introduces bus service as a mobility option to many new potential customers. It also reflects a new approach as Big Blue Bus and Lyft work together to support local transportation needs, including providing late-night service and filling first-mile and last-mile gaps.

Read more at blog.lyft.com.

The new and exciting mobility projects demonstrate how public-private partnerships can help provide greater options to get around, and encourage more shared rides in our community.
Santa Monica cares about your wellbeing, and that includes your safety on our roads. In fact, the City Council has set an ambitious target to reduce traffic-related fatalities and severe injuries to zero by 2026, known as “Vision Zero.”

For this life-saving plan to become a reality, it will require participation from all of us who live, work and play in Santa Monica. We are all in this together, and a little added precaution is vital in a multi-modal community like ours. The easiest way to look out for others is to be more aware of your speed when driving a vehicle. Speeding is the leading cause of fatal and severe traffic injuries.

According to the National Transportation Safety Board, high vehicle speeds exponentially increase the likelihood and the severity of traffic crashes. In a city where 79% of residents walk on a regular basis, driving a reasonable speed can make a huge difference in improving safety for everyone. A person hit by a vehicle traveling at 40 mph has only a 10% chance of survival, while the rate jumps to 90% if that crash occurs at 20 mph. Small reductions in speed make a huge difference in everyone’s safety.

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WHERE DO AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES FIT IN OUR FUTURE?

Technology is changing the way we get around. Whether it’s using the app to reserve your Breeze bike, or comparing travel options on Google maps, we have more choices than ever. Car makers have joined the wave too, and are racing toward autonomous vehicles in partnership with software and technology companies. What does all this mean for getting around on your local streets?

The City of Santa Monica has begun researching how autonomous vehicles (AVs) will change the way people work, travel and shop, and how AVs may affect the City’s economic prosperity in the long term.

On June 5, the City hosted a panel of experts at the Main Library to explore these topics, as part of the Economic Sustainability Initiative. Whether used for personal trips, mass transit or commercial delivery, self-driving technology has the potential to transform how we move people and goods through cities. They may improve accessibility, add productive time in the day, and allow easier shipment of products. On the other hand, they may displace jobs, decrease safety for people walking, and increase vehicle miles traveled and therefore add significant congestion on our roads.

Although much remains to be discovered about AVs, researchers are increasingly clear that AVs as a personal car replacement won’t solve our congestion and environmental issues on their own. Experts agree that our cities will function better if people use AVs that are shared, powered by renewable energy and tied into existing transit options like walking and biking. Policy will need to guide toward ridesharing, renewable energy sourcing and supporting mass transit. With thoughtful policy and vision, we may be able to move people more efficiently and achieve our goals for a Sustainable Santa Monica.

The City will soon issue a request for proposals to recruit a team of experts to assist in engaging the community on major changes like AVs, discovering how these changes might affect the city, and planning how to respond. To learn more, including a recording of the June 5 program, please visit santamonica.gov/EconomicFuture.
THE SMARTEST CARD IS YOUR SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD

Whether you’re a job seeker, a student heading back to school, or simply looking for some free entertainment, Santa Monica Public Library is here to help. All you need to do is sign up for what will be the smartest card in your wallet – a library card!

For more information on the small but powerful library card, go to smpl.org, call 310.458.8600, or visit any Santa Monica Public Library location.

Five Reasons to Sign Up for a Library Card

1. IT’S FREE.
   Library cards are FREE for any California resident!

2. FINE FREE YOUTH (0-18 YEARS) LIBRARY CARD.
   The Fine Free program allows youth cardholders to have increased access to the Santa Monica Public Library and its materials at all five locations. Youth cardholders don’t pay overdue fines when they return materials late.

3. USE THE LIBRARY IN YOUR PAJAMAS.
   You can get free access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, magazines, newspapers, and reference databases on your personal device. Stream popular movies and music for free. Renew items from home.

4. SAVE MONEY.
   By borrowing instead of purchasing, the average Santa Monica Public Library cardholder saves $322 a year. Free access lets you borrow up to 50 items, including DVDs, CDs, audiobooks and magazines.

5. GET THINGS DONE.
   Need help with homework, a resume, studying for your GED or Citizenship Test or improving literacy skills? The Library is your resource. They have study rooms and meeting rooms. You can have up to 2 hours a day of free internet use with your library card at all five locations.

BUILDING & SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

A succession of improvements in Building & Safety have been implemented since early 2017, stemming from a Division reorganization intended to improve permitting processes and customer service. The primary vision is to make processes more efficient and easily understandable, and to provide the comprehensive dissemination of information early on, so customers are well-informed of the process ahead of time.

A long-anticipated upgrade to the City’s Electronic Plan Review (i.e. plan check) system went live in October 2017, which has significantly improved the functionality, efficiency and ease-of-use of the system for both City staff and our customers. More recently, over the past six months, automated public notifications have been implemented to advise customers of forthcoming project expiration dates, and many of Building & Safety’s commonly used applications have been updated to capture relevant information more efficiently and effectively.

Permit applications now include a checklist of items required upon submittal, and applications for more complex processes include a cover sheet detailing the various steps, City reviews, contact information and approvals necessary from the time of application submittal to permit issuance. A new Commercial Interior Non-Structural Demolition (aka Soft Demo) permit process was recently implemented as well to allow commercial owners to obtain a same-day permit to restore a commercial tenant space to “core and shell” for leasing and marketing purposes.

Forthcoming improvements include an informational guide to the permitting process for temporary uses and/or structures, as well as an online tool that, based on a project type description, will link an applicant to the permit application type, plan review type, plan review timelines, and any notable fees and/or requirements from City Departments and Divisions that may be unanticipated. Continued improvements are anticipated over the next year including further updated permit and informational packets, refined web services and information available on the web for easier navigation, and text message notification services for scheduled building inspections.

For more information and updates, please visit smgov.net/departments/pcd.
WHAT'S NEW IN PARKING?

Technology has enabled new space-efficient parking designs, including fully automated parking systems and mechanical tandem stackers. To facilitate the provision of required parking while minimizing the amount of precious land that it requires, the City Council amended chapter 9.28 of the Zoning Ordinance to:

• Allow automated and tandem parking with the approval of an operations plan and on-site queuing space, to ensure there are no impacts to the public right-of-way
• Require an attendant to facilitate the smooth operation of the facility, except in limited circumstances such as when tandem parking spaces are assigned to the same household
• Require supplemental short-term parking spaces for busier sites
• Protect the safety of users with generators and manual override systems

For more information, contact the City’s Transportation Planning Associate, Peter Dzewaltowski at 310.458-8292.

TMO WILL HELP YOU GET AROUND

Mobility is one of five Strategic Goals adopted by the City Council, aimed at creating multi-modal mobility options and making travel easier, safer and more sustainable. The GoSaMo Transportation Management Organization (TMO) is a one-stop shop for transportation resources and information. Since it was created by the City in 2017, the TMO has been reaching out to residents at citywide events like National Night Out and COAST Open Streets, and working with local employers to reduce the number of drive-alone work trips.

Have a transportation question or problem? The TMO is here to help, and to make getting around Santa Monica easier, safer and more sustainable. Here are some of the services the TMO provides:

• Personalized trip planning to help you get to work
• Employer trip reduction plans
• Events to encourage sustainable mobility including introduction to Breeze bikeshare, BBB, and Metro Bus and Rail (Expo)
• Answer questions and provide information on our myriad mobility options

To get in touch, visit GoSaMo.org/TMO, call 310.319.9866, or email info@gosamoTMO.org.

Did You Know?

Walkability is one of the top reasons visitors choose to stay at a Santa Monica hotel, and 83% of overnight visitors do not use a car to get around once they’ve arrived in our City. With a plethora of safe and alternative transportation options ranging from the Big Blue Bus and Metro to bike share programs and complimentary Free Ride Shuttles sponsored by local hotels, Santa Monica has a global reputation as a car-free travel destination.
preschool teacher Cassy is warm. She’s playful. She has an easy way about her. Within minutes of meeting her, it’s evident why kids and parents might immediately gravitate to her. She’s also passionate about her work with children, and that passion helps get kids ready for kindergarten – one of Santa Monica’s top priorities.

You can find Cassy on any day of the week at Franklin Elementary School Preschool. Children ages 3 to 5 file in to her classroom and begin the day with small activities, like washing their hands and writing their names. From there, the children might join Cassy in singing and dancing, or listening to her read some of her favorite books: Knuffle Bunny, The Giving Tree, or anything by Dr. Seuss.

Now, if you’re old enough to read this, all those activities might seem simple, but they’re actually crucial stepping stones in a young child’s development. Not only are they providing the foundation for lifelong learning, they’re also encouraging thousands of new brain connections that help accelerate a child’s social, physical, intellectual and emotional development.

LEARNING TO LEARN

One of Cassy’s biggest goals is to get each child to walk away from preschool well-socialized and respectful of others. These social strengths will serve them well throughout their school years and into their adult lives.

Cassy also wants kids to feel that it’s okay to not know all the answers and that fun can be had with finding them out. She teaches this by example, readily admitting when she doesn’t know the answer to a question, and then letting kids in on the process of investigating. This instills in them the skill of learning, which will help propel them through their academic careers.

Another way she encourages the skill of learning is by letting the kids take ownership. “I like to always take their lead and find out different things they’re interested in, then we use that to come up with projects,” explains Cassy. She feels this sense of ownership empowers children and encourages them to take an intellectual interest in the world around them.

FREEDOM IN EDUCATION

Talking to Cassy, it becomes evident that the sense of ownership she gives her students is the same sense of ownership Santa Monica gives its preschool teachers. She emphasizes that the City requires certain standards to be met, but educators are also encouraged to track with their kids and tailor their teaching to meet specific needs.

“I think that’s a good thing about our preschool program. They give us guidelines, but they also allow the teachers to take the lead, depending on where their students are. So you’re able to be creative and you’re not stuck in this box.”

THE PRESCHOOL TRANSITION

As a mother, Cassy knows how anxiety-inducing it can be to drop your kids off at preschool for the first time. But she also believes it’s one of the best steps a child and parent can take. Exposing your kids early on to new situations and actively encouraging their socialization will help give them the tools they need to succeed in life.

Cassy believes what you do at home matters, too. Engage your child with talking, with singing and with dancing. All of this will help encourage their development.

Parents can also download the Building Blocks For Kindergarten toolkit. This toolkit provides guidelines to help get your child kindergarten-ready, which means developing social, emotional and motor skills in those all-important first five years.

Be sure to stay in touch for more early childhood resources at weare.santamonica.gov.

We Are Santa Monica is proud to highlight standout individuals committed to creating a stronger community. Look for more great profiles in next month’s edition. To find out more, visit WEARE.SANTAMONICA.GOV.
PEACE THROUGH THE SANTA MONICA SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION (SMSCA)

The Santa Monica Sister City Association has a very simple, yet inspirational, motto: PEACE IN THE WORLD...ONE PERSON AT A TIME.

Every summer, they live that motto by offering their Student Ambassador Exchange Program to Santa Monica high school students. This exciting program involves hosting and traveling with other students from SMSCA sister cities, including Fujinomiya, Japan; Kizugawa, Japan; Hamm, Germany; and Mazatlan, Mexico. Any Santa Monica high school student may apply to serve as “goodwill ambassadors” to one of these sister cities, under the sponsorship of SMSCA. Selected students host ambassadors from a sister city in their homes for two weeks, then travel to and spend two weeks in the homes of their student guests.

SMSCA believes in developing international friendships, educating through cultural exchanges, fostering appreciation for other cultures, encouraging youth to understand other cultures, and stimulating dialog at the person-to-person level in an increasingly global environment.

Learn more about this wonderful, world-changing program, and learn about SMSCA’s other programs for children of all ages at santamonicasistercity.org.

GET READY FOR THE BUY LOCAL SANTA MONICA HEALTH + FITNESS FESTIVAL, COMING SEPTEMBER 8 TO REED PARK!

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and the City of Santa Monica are pleased to present the Buy Local Health and Fitness Festival at Reed Park on Saturday, September 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., to promote a healthy and happy lifestyle for the entire Santa Monica community.

This FREE event brings together our local businesses, services and non-profits for a fun-filled day, while raising awareness about the economic, environmental and community benefits of thinking local first. Shop at local retail pop-ups or participate in free fitness demos featuring our Buy Local SM businesses, enjoy food vendors, learn more about our community partners and meet your neighbors! Take a selfie with hospital therapy dogs, enjoy live entertainment, discover new ways to get fit, chat with doctors from the top hospitals in town, and learn about the many services and resources in the City.

For more information on this FREE festival, visit smchamber.com/wblf.
SEPTEMBER 2018 EVENTS

The City of Santa Monica offers more than a hundred events each month. Check out the whole list at santamonica.gov/events and subscribe to the City's newsletter at smgov.net/newsletter.

**Breakfast in the Garden @ Main Street**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT MAIN STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN, 9 A.M. - 11 A.M.**
Meet up with garden enthusiasts and take a peek at what's growing at the Main St. Community Garden in this local monthly gathering. smgov.net/communitygardens

**Digital Photography and Abstraction with Lisa Diane Wedgeworth**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 11 A.M. - 12 P.M.**
A digital photography workshop and discussion exploring abstraction while embracing experimentation. Bring a camera phone or digital camera, laptop and cables and install photo editing software on your device(s) if needed. smgov.net/camera

**Buy Local Health and Fitness Festival**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT REED PARK, 11 A.M. - 4 P.M.**
See page 7 for all the details. smchamber.com/wblf

**Indian Martial Art Movement with Aparna Sindhoor**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.**
Aparna Sindhoor, her students and company members introduce the basic movements from Kalaripayattu, one of the oldest martial arts in the world. Training in Kalaripayattu assists you in living a healthy life. No prior experience necessary. smgov.net/camera

**Pop-Up Pool Day**
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 AND WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 AT ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE, 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.**
No reservations are needed and all passes are only available on a first-come, first served basis. Normal pool rates and rules apply. annenbergbeachhouse.com

**Downbeat 720**
**TUESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 11 AND 25 AT MILES PLAYHOUSE, 7:20 P.M. - 10 P.M.**
Downbeat 720 is a free positive performance lab for High School Performing Artists. Whether you’re a singer, poet, M.C., dancer, actor or musician, Downbeat 720 provides a safe, structured environment to try out new material, gain confidence and perform in front of an audience of your peers. Milesplayhouse.org

**Sunset Swim**
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AT ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE, 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.**
Adults can feel like kids again. Enjoy treats like s’mores or frozen fruit bars, and big pool floaties as the sun sets at this 18+ event. annenbergbeachhouse.com

**Pancakes in the Park**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT ISHIHARA PARK LEARNING GARDEN, 9 A.M. - 11 A.M.**
Join us for some hotcakes on the griddle and explore the Learning Garden at Ishihara Park. smgov.net/communitygardens

**North Beach Playground Opening**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT 810 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY, 10 A.M.**
The City's newest universally accessible playground will open to the public. The playground will include separate playing areas for children 2-5 years old and another for children 5-12 years old. santamonicaparks.org

**Meet Me At Reed Performances: Troubadour Theater Company**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT REED PARK, 3:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.**
Pre-concert games begin at 3:30 p.m., performance at 5:30 p.m. Troubadour Theater Company performs one of their hilarious mash-ups of Shakespeare and Popular Music brought to you by Matt Walker and Beth Kennedy. smgov.net/reed

**Claiming Creativity, a Discussion with Lisa Diane Wedgeworth**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 11 A.M. - 12 P.M.**
Why is acknowledging your creative impulses are important, powerful and necessary? Come participate or simply listen as we discuss the importance of acknowledging, owning and nurturing all forms of creative expression in our lives. smgov.net/reed

**Indian Classical Dance for All with Aparna Sindhoor**
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 2 P.M. - 3 P.M.**
Aparna Sindhoor, her students and company members lead you through basic movements of Bharata Natyam, an Indian classical dance form with origins in the temples and courts of Southern India. This class is open to all ages and abilities. No prior experience necessary. Bring comfortable clothes, shoes and socks. smgov.net/reed
Bollywood Dance with Aparna Sindhoor
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 2 P.M. - 3 P.M.
Aparna Sindhoor, her students and company members go through popular Bollywood dance moves inspired by the song and dance routines of Indian cinema. No prior experience necessary. Bring clothes to move in and comfortable shoes. smgov.net/camera

Writing Public Memory with Lisa Diane Wedgeworth
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.
In this writing workshop, you’ll identify narratives driven by the cultural and social communities that inform your life and influence your artwork. Open to all who would like to explore not just their personal memories, but also those histories that are rooted in culture, race, religion, gender, etc. We all have history of place and familial stories, and they are all important. smgov.net/camera

Cultivating the Expressive Body with Jeremy Hahn
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 AT CAMERA OBSCURA ART LAB, 12 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.
This body-based practice utilizes an investigative process that draws upon meditation, visualization and movement improvisation. smgov.net/camera

September 25
National Voter Registration Day:
Register with the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall or smvote.org

September 10 – October 23
Nomination Period for Write-In Candidates:
Call the City Clerk’s Office at 310.458.8211 for information.
City Council Meetings

The Santa Monica City Council meets every month in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Upcoming Council meetings:

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 5:30 P.M.**
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 4:30 P.M.**
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 5:30 P.M.**

Meeting dates occasionally change. Visit smgov.net/council to confirm schedule and smgov.net/council/agendas to view agenda items. Meetings are broadcast live on CityTV cable channel 16, and streamed at YouTube.com/CityTV16SantaMonica. Meetings air on 89.9 KCRW, 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, CA 90401
Phone: 310.458.8201 | Fax: 310.458.1621
Email all Council members: council@smgov.net

Disabilities Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 3, 6:30 P.M AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Architectural Review Board Meeting
SEPTEMBER 3 AND 17, 7 P.M AT CITY HALL

Planning Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 5 AND 19

Commission on the Status of Women Meeting
SEPTEMBER 12, 7 P.M AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Santa Monica Rent Control Regular Board Meeting
SEPTEMBER 13, 7 P.M AT CITY HALL

Landmarks Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 10, 7 P.M AT CITY HALL

The Commission for the Senior Community Meeting
SEPTEMBER 19, 1:30 P.M AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Housing Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 20, 4:30 P.M AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Arts Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 17, 6:30 P.M AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Social Services Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 24, 7 P.M AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Airport Commission Meeting
SEPTEMBER 24, 7 P.M AT CITY HALL

For updates on regular meetings, go to smgov.net/clerk or call 310.458.8411.