MESSAGE FROM MAYOR GLEAM DAVIS
10 MILESTONES THAT SHAPED OUR CITY IN 2018
GREENS FESTIVAL CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH
64 NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES OPEN AT THE ARROYO IN SANTA MONICA

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR GLEAM DAVIS

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WHERE WE STAND: POLICIES AND PRIORITIES

COMING TOGETHER TO HELP

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PUBLIC MEETINGS
Throughout California, rising rents, increasing demand and limited supply have made housing unaffordable for many. Santa Monica residents however have long fought to make housing accessible. Our diversity is preserved by voter initiatives to regulate rent increases, expand affordable housing options, incentivize landlords and raise the minimum wage. Additionally, Community Corporation of Santa Monica (“Community Corp”), a non-profit dedicated to restoring, building and managing affordable housing for people of modest means, has been at the forefront of tackling this immense issue. Collectively, these efforts help Santa Monica residents stay in their homes as integral members of our community.

Recently, Community Corp opened The Arroyo on Lincoln Boulevard. The newly constructed, LEED Platinum-certified building provides 64 affordable homes in downtown Santa Monica. Owned and managed by Community Corp, The Arroyo is more than a building. Its residents receive various on-site services, such as after-school homework assistance, health and wellness classes, and computer skills training, as well as offering open space with recreation equipment. The Arroyo provides a place for its residents to live and thrive.

The construction of The Arroyo was made possible by the Affordable Housing Production Program, a City policy that requires local developers to directly contribute to the building of affordable housing. Thanks to this program, the site was developed with no City funding. Through new approaches and ambitious policies over the last two decades, Santa Monica has dedicated 38% of new multifamily housing to exclusively serve low and moderate-income households. This is a remarkable achievement that we are proud to say sets our City apart from others in the region.

### How much can a household earn and still be eligible for low and moderate-income housing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAMILY SIZE</th>
<th>ANNUAL INCOME</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 person</td>
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<td>3 persons</td>
<td>$43,650</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$48,450</td>
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Dear Santa Monica Community,

I am honored to serve as your mayor in 2019. Serving the community during such a dynamic time in the City’s history is a wonderful opportunity to elevate Santa Monica’s priorities. In the year ahead, we have much work to do to continue Santa Monica’s transformation into a Sustainable City of Wellbeing.

To collaborate successfully, the City is committed to initiating thoughtful dialogue with you to understand what is important to the community, and to improving communication between you and City Hall. We know from the results of the 2018 resident satisfaction survey that there are high satisfaction levels with city services overall – with library services, trash and recycling collection, parks and beaches, and tree trimming receiving the highest marks. We also learned that residents reported concerns in the areas of public safety, homelessness, parking and traffic. As Mayor, I’m committed to leading Council on addressing each of these issues, and ensuring we make tangible progress in 2019.

Yet the City Council cannot solve these big issues alone. We need your help. We must encourage each other to respectfully discuss difficult topics – and focus on a collective search for solutions.

In our City and across the globe, we live in an era of rapid communication where information, real or fake, circulates around the clock with astounding speed and volume across multiple mediums. It’s often difficult for local government and concerned residents to compete and break through this constant flow of information and rumor that feeds the 24/7 news cycle, social media and real life. Yet we remain clear on our commitment to transparency and providing factually sound information to the community. It is our job to make sure our constituents understand what City Hall is doing and why we are doing it. That is why we are revamping the City’s website and have an active presence on social media.

We want you to know about our data-driven approach to decision making, programming, and service delivery. Our new performance management program tracks the City’s success and effectiveness through hard data. And we want you to know how we are using a new Framework that unites our work efforts to achieve outcomes that create a stronger community for us all. I encourage everyone to visit smgov.net/PerformanceManagement and to view our “Santa Monica’s Framework for a 21st Century Government”, which explains our approach here smgov.net/framework.

Finally, I hope to see you in our community! Join me at my monthly Let’s Read with Gleam story time at our libraries. The next one is on February 19 at the Main Library at 6 p.m.

With great commitment and care, intense focus, reliable data, and a collaborative spirit, I predict 2019 will be a year of accomplishments and advancements in Santa Monica. Let’s achieve this the Santa Monica way, by taking care of each other and honoring our differences. As Mayor, I look forward to listening and learning in 2019.

Keep in touch – follow me at @SaMoMayor on Twitter; say hello to me at a community event, or reach out by emailing council@smgov.net.

Gleam Davis
Mayor
The City of Santa Monica recently published the results of its Resident Satisfaction Survey. This survey, conducted biennially since 1998 (the last survey was conducted in 2015), provides input from residents on how well the City is delivering services, and helps identify priority focus areas.

“Santa Monica’s unique quality of life is supported by consistently delivering excellent services to our residents,” said City Manager Rick Cole. “The excellent satisfaction ratings for our vital services such as fire response, water supply, trash collection, and libraries are heartening. We also take note of the rising concerns about crime and homelessness and are focused on tackling those head-on.”

This past summer, a random sample of residents received a letter inviting them to participate in the survey. Residents who received a letter then answered survey questions electronically or over the phone.

87% of residents who responded rated Santa Monica as a “pretty good” or “excellent” place to live, and 78% responded they are satisfied with City services overall. As far as specific services, Trash and Recycling (86%), Library Services (82%), and Water Services (82%) all scored high.

The survey also confirmed that Santa Monica is an active and vibrant community. 62% of respondents noted they volunteer for a community/charitable organization at least once per month. Attendance at City-sponsored events is also high, with 61% of respondents participating in events at the Pier (including the Twilight Concert Series), and 15% participating in the COAST Open Streets Festival.

Residents, through the survey, also identified areas of improvement, all of which the City is currently working to improve. These include addressing the traffic services (41%), providing homeless services (27%), and regional homelessness crisis (21%).

The Resident Satisfaction Survey gives the City a pulse on whether our service delivery is meeting expectations, as well as providing vital information on areas that require adjustment,” said Tim Dodd, Santa Monica’s Chief Performance Officer. “This important data informs our performance management program, which is designed to help us focus resources on programs and services that contribute toward our sustainable City of wellbeing.”

For more information about the Resident Satisfaction Survey or to download a copy of the Executive Summary, visit santamonica.gov.
In 2018, the City and its State advocates pursued advancement of Council policies and priorities in Sacramento by actively monitoring or taking a position on 82 pieces of legislation, many of which tie in directly to outcomes in the City’s Framework for a Sustainable City of Wellbeing.

For more information about the City’s Framework for a Sustainable City of Wellbeing, visit smgov.net/framework.

**HEALTH**

- The 2018-19 state Budget resulted in more than $600 million in new funding to address homelessness, focused on planning, prevention and emergency aid.
- SB 1045 establishes a new category of conservatorship for a person who is chronically homeless and incapable of caring for their own health and wellbeing due to a serious mental illness and substance use disorder, as evidenced by highly frequent emergency department use, jail detention, or frequent detention for evaluation and involuntary treatment.

**PLACE AND PLANET**

- SB 100, signed into law by Governor Brown, establishes the 100% Clean Energy Act which increases the Renewable Portfolio Standard to 60% by 2030 and sets the state on track to meet its goal of 100% clean energy by December 31, 2045.
- Executive Order B-48-18, issued in January 2018, sets a Zero Emission Vehicle target of 5 million vehicles in California by 2030 and calls for the construction and installation of 200 hydrogen-fueling stations and 250,000 zero-emission vehicle chargers by 2025.

**LEARNING**

- The 2018-19 State Budget directs $78.4 billion in funding to K-14 schools, a 66% increase in annual funding from seven years ago.
- The Budget also increases funding for the state’s university and community college system with no tuition or fees hikes and established the state’s first-ever online community college.

**SAFETY**

- AB 2989 sought to create a new classification in the CA Vehicle Code exempting motorized scooters from several key safety measures that currently apply, including a prohibition on sidewalk riding and the requirement that operators have a valid CA Driver’s License. The City of Santa Monica successfully negotiated amendments to the bill that removed the most egregious language that would have severely impacted public safety and local control. The bill signed into law by Governor Brown removes the helmet requirement for users 18 years of age and older.
- AB 2938 allows for a tax exemption until January 1, 2025, on the gross receipts from 500 bicycles purchased by the City of Santa Monica in 2015. This measure signed into law by Governor Brown will allow for smoother integration of the City’s Breeze bikes with the bikeshare programs of neighboring cities, further encouraging active transportation in the region, decreasing vehicle trips and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This legislation is also expected to save the City more than $100,000.

**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

- SB 946, signed into law by Governor Brown, decriminalizes street vending and prohibits a municipality from prohibiting or regulating vending without the adoption of a local licensing program. The bill was written in response to actions taken by the federal government to establish rules for the deportation of undocumented immigrants convicted of a crime. With street vending deemed a criminal offense in many jurisdictions and largely practiced by immigrant communities, the change in federal policy opened many of these individuals up to deportation proceedings.
Los Angeles County is on the road to recovery from the Woolsey Fire, the worst wildfire in LA County’s modern history. In any emergency, neighbors helping neighbors is key to an effective response. The Woolsey Fire was no different. City of Santa Monica employees across departments stepped up and provided support to our neighbor jurisdictions battling the unprecedented event. Personnel rapidly deployed to fight the blaze and facilitate safe evacuations from Malibu through Santa Monica. Staff worked in partnership with City of Malibu and local partner agencies to communicate information about smoke advisories, host a community meeting for wildfire evacuees and provide City of Malibu a back-up Emergency Operations Center while they were evacuated. Everyone worked together to accomplish a common mission: serve those impacted by the disaster.

In response to the disaster, the City of Santa Monica, Beverly Hills and Culver City fire departments came together as Strike Team 1075A which jointly sent five engines to assist in the efforts. Both Battalion Chief John Nevandro and Captain Mike Fitzgerald from the Santa Monica Fire Department lead the Strike Team that spent the first 60 hours of deployment providing structure protection to endangered homes and successfully saved all of the homes they were assigned to. After a total of 7 days on the fire, more resources from out-of-state became available and the brave men and women of the Santa Monica Fire Department and Strike Team 1075A returned back to their respective cities.

Be prepared for the next emergency. Take 10 minutes to review your household’s emergency plans to be ready if the disaster occurred in Santa Monica.

- Sign Up for Santa Monica Emergency Alerts cityofsantamonica.bbcportal.com
- Get Air Quality Alerts aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-alerts
- Find Out What to Include in an Evacuation Kit smgov.net/Departments/OEM/Programs/I_ve_Got_7.aspx
- Discuss Evacuation Locations with Friends and Family ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family
- Donate to Help Woolsey Fire Victims lacounty.gov/lacountyrecovers/donations
- Learn More about Woolsey Fire Recovery lacounty.gov/lacountyrecovers
2018 was quite a year for Santa Monica! From welcoming new Police Chief Cynthia Renaud, announcing a shared mobility pilot program, to doubling down on the City’s homelessness efforts, let’s take a moment to look back at 10 milestones that shaped our City in 2018.
City Doubles Down on Homelessness

The City has long prioritized reducing homelessness, and this past year, Outreach Teams working across Santa Monica made strides in addressing this critical issue by connecting more than 700 people experiencing homelessness to direct services. The Santa Monica Homelessness Steering Committee (SMHSC), comprised of more than 200 individuals who live or work in Santa Monica, had its first meeting in February to discuss proposed strategies that address the impact of homelessness on the community. In the same month, we welcomed Alisa Orduña as Senior Advisor on Homelessness. Since joining the City’s leadership, Orduña has actively engaged the growing array of Santa Monica stakeholders participating in developing and implementing solutions in the City’s ever-accelerating homeless efforts. Last but not least, the City has distributed more than 70,000 Homelessness toolkits answering questions about what to say, what to do, how to get involved as well as providing information about the 20+ non-profits working on this important issue every day.

Shared Mobility Pilot Program Includes Bird, Jump, Lime and Lyft

The City of Santa Monica announced the selection of Bird, Jump, Lime and Lyft as the four operators to participate in our Shared Mobility Pilot Program, which kicked off in September. This pilot program builds upon the City’s existing Breeze Bike Share system, and expands Santa Monica’s commitment to be a truly multi-modal community that offers residents and visitors sustainable and convenient transportation options. Each of the four selected operators began the pilot with an initial allocation of 750 devices each, totaling 1,000 e-bikes and 2,000 e-scooters.

New Police Chief Cynthia Renaud

In March, the City announced Cynthia Renaud as Santa Monica’s new Chief of Police. Renaud served as Chief of Police for the City of Folsom, California for the previous seven years, where she led the police force in both property and violent crime reduction during her tenure. Chief Renaud previously served in the Long Beach Police Department for 20 years before taking the chief post in Folsom. As our new Police Chief, her goals include lowering crime, positively impacting homelessness, and fostering relationships with both our residential and business communities. Renaud replaces former Police Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks, who retired last year after a 36-year career in law enforcement.

North Beach Playground Grand Opening

The City’s North Beach playground opened in September, joining the ranks of four other beachside playgrounds for sand-side fun. Located north of the Santa Monica Pier and east of the beach trail at Montana Avenue, the playground features a universally accessible design that inspires activity, mobility and imagination. Children using a wheelchair, and children with physical, cognitive, vision and hearing disabilities can enjoy the floating rocks, sound columns, and a stone abacus that connects with the sensory play elements of touching, feeling and hearing. The playground includes separate play areas for children 2-5 years old and another for children 5-12 years old. Both play areas are highlighted by barrier-free equipment such as a two-mast space net, a bird nest basket swing, and a sensory garden.

Expanded Ban on Single-Use Plastics

The Santa Monica City Council approved a revision to the 2007 Non-recyclable Plastic Food Service Container Ordinance that expands the list of banned plastics to include single-use plastics for prepared foods.
This includes: straws, lids, utensils, plates, bowls, trays, containers, stirrers, cups and lid plugs. This vote aligns with the City’s sustainability goals and longstanding commitment to the environment, which includes a goal to achieve zero waste through diversion, composting and recycling by 2030. Santa Monica was one of the first cities to ban polystyrene food service containers in 2007 and single-use plastic bags in 2011.

Big Blue Bus Celebrates 90 years

Big Blue Bus (BBB) celebrated its 90th Anniversary this year! BBB started in 1928 with just eight buses, which were garaged and operated out of a gas station on Lincoln and Pico. Today, BBB is known industry-wide for its innovative technology, energy-efficient vehicles and exceptional customer service. Read more about this exciting milestone on page seven.

Introducing We Are Santa Monica

The City launched a new initiative to invite neighbors, local nonprofits, businesses and community organizations to create a stronger community for all. We Are Santa Monica focuses on every aspect of our community wellbeing, from homelessness, diversity and inclusivity, to lifelong education. In addition to releasing multiple resources, We Are Santa Monica spotlights 17 inspirational people who have made a difference in our community. Go to weare.santamonica.gov to learn more and get involved!

Santa Monica Prevails Against AirBnB and HomeAway

The U.S. District Court for the Central District of California ruled in favor of the City of Santa Monica in litigation against internet platforms AirBnB and HomeAway. The Court denied AirBnB and HomeAway’s motion for a preliminary injunction halting enforcement of the City’s Home-Sharing Ordinance. The Court held that the platforms are not likely to prevail on their claims that the City’s Home-Sharing Ordinance is unlawful under the federal Communications Decency Act (“CDA”), the First Amendment and the California Coastal Act. This decision permits the City to resume enforcement of its local law. This is a win for the City, as it allows us to take reasonable steps to protect residential units from conversion into de facto hotels, while also allowing individuals to share their homes with guests for compensation in authorized circumstances.

Council Approves Renewable Energy Tiers

In October, the Santa Monica City Council approved the selection of 100% renewable energy as the default product for all residential electricity customers, beginning in February 2019. Using electricity through renewable electricity sources is the most substantial action the City can take to achieve carbon neutrality, and aligns with its goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 or sooner. The Clean Power Alliance (CPA) of Southern California, a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, will provide three renewable energy options: 100%, 50% and 36%. The 100% renewable energy tier will be applied to Santa Monica residents and businesses who do not opt out or select another option. By sourcing renewable energy from the CPA, Santa Monica can reduce the City’s emissions by as much as 20%, and is one step closer to achieving carbon neutrality.

The Arroyo Opens 64 new affordable homes in Santa Monica

The Community Corporation of Santa Monica opened 64 new affordable homes. Although affordable housing issues are complex and there’s no magic solution, this housing complex reflects our ambitious policies to address this important issue affecting our entire region.
SERVING A COMMUNITY

Officer Enrique Helps People Experiencing Homelessness in Santa Monica

Enrique was born in Mexico City and moved to Santa Monica at the age of 13. He grew up near Santa Monica College, which he attended after graduating from Santa Monica High School. He’s loved the feeling of community and diversity here since day one, not to mention the City’s beauty and proximity to the ocean. He says he can’t imagine working anywhere else.

Enrique is a Santa Monica police officer, and he says his work is his way of giving back to the community and making it a better, stronger, safer place. Still, he says, police officers are sometimes misunderstood. The first thing Enrique would like people to understand is that there’s more to his work than just writing tickets and making arrests. In fact, as a member of the police department’s Homeless Liaison Program, there’s a lot more to it.

THE HOMELESS LIAISON PROGRAM

The Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) is a team of eight police officers and one sergeant, and their main focus is to do outreach with the City’s homeless population. Enrique and his team get to know the people living on the street and refer them to services like housing, food stamps, or even getting an ID card. They also work to get in touch with family members who may have insight on specific factors that can help the team determine which services they should refer individuals to.

The HLP team also takes mental health into account in a big way. The program is assigned its own Department of Mental Health clinician, who rides along with the officers and performs in-the-field evaluations. This relational and mental health approach is an innovative, holistic twist on “policing homelessness”, and one that’s meant to address the issue in more permanent and humane ways.

Enrique says the work does take time and patience, and that sometimes progress doesn’t look like progress. He tells the story of an individual who’d been arrested by his patrol partner, Liz, on several occasions. This individual had been homeless for 15 years, and Liz had steadily worked to build a relationship with him and connect him to services. Liz was met with resistance time and again. The person wasn’t interested in services, and so the cycle of arrests continued. But with each arrest, something began to shift. During his stays in jail, this person was, ironically, able to actually receive the services he so desperately needed. Each arrest meant more services and eventually, this man had a foundation of health and support to build on. Today, that man has managed to work his way out of homelessness, thanks to those arrests that amazingly put him on the right track.

Enrique gives props to his partner for her loyal work and says it’s moments like these that are the most satisfying. “Once they get housed, it gives us a sense of closure, or success – that we were actually part of getting somebody indoors after 10, 15 years of living on the street.”

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN THE COMMUNITY

Enrique recommends using common sense when interacting with people experiencing homelessness. If someone seems to be in need of physical or psychological help, don’t attempt to manage it yourself. Instead, call the police department, and they can send someone out to do an evaluation.

Remember, addressing the regional homelessness crisis takes all of us. There are 53,000 individuals experiencing homelessness countywide, and every month, 13,000 more people lose their housing. For more tips, check out the Homelessness Toolkit, a practical guide on what to say and what to do about this regional crisis impacting our community. Visit weare.santamonica.gov/addressing-homelessness/#download-the-resources.
PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS GET CONNECTED AT SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY’S RESOURCE FAIR

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anta Monica’s Main Library hosted six “pop-up” Resource Fairs in partnership with the City’s Human Services Division, local service providers, and government agencies. The Resource Fairs take place in the second floor Multipurpose Room and provide an opportunity for “one-stop shopping” for homeless individuals in need of housing, healthcare and other services.

The Resource Fairs are part of the Library’s efforts to build relationships and connect homeless individuals to vital services provided by organizations such as The People Concern (formerly OPCC), Chrysalis, LA County Department of Social Services, and LA County Department of Mental Health. One of the newest agencies is SHARE! Collaborative Housing, a public-private partnership providing affordable, permanent supportive housing to low-income and disabled people in single-family residences throughout Los Angeles County.

Since the first Resource Fair in October 2017, 310 people have received information and referrals from 15 service providers specializing in public benefits, counseling, case management, housing assistance, employment services, healthcare, and services for transitional-aged youth. Attendance at the Resource Fairs is growing, with 79 individuals connecting to services at the most recent event in November 2018.

The Library also offers regularly scheduled office hours with a representative from The People Concern for those seeking support due to homelessness. Individuals can walk in or make appointments with an outreach worker to learn about and sign up for services in a confidential setting.

Connecting our most vulnerable patrons with critically needed services is an integral part of the Library’s role in serving the community.

On Wednesday, January 23, more than 250 volunteers participated in the City’s annual Homeless Count. Thanks to all who helped measure progress toward addressing homelessness! Results will be announced at a City Council meeting later this Spring.
BIG BLUE BUS CELEBRATES 90 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Big Blue Bus (BBB) proudly celebrated its 90th anniversary in December. BBB could not have achieved this milestone without the support of its loyal customers and staff.

Dedicated and entrepreneurial-driven employees have been at the heart of the agency from the beginning. In 1921, a group of jitney operators established the Bay Cities Transit Company, which was later awarded a franchise from the City of Santa Monica to provide all local public transportation service. In 1928, the City launched its first official municipal bus line along Pico Boulevard with its signature blue and white buses.

Ninety years later, BBB continues to provide safe, reliable and affordable transportation for 13.3 million riders annually in Santa Monica and the Westside of Los Angeles. BBB currently operates a fleet of 195 vehicles that run on renewable natural gas and serve 20 routes across 58 square miles. Additionally, BBB provides expanded late night service (Blue at Night), as well as on-demand service for seniors and persons with disabilities (MODE).

Looking to the future, BBB will continue to stay on the cutting edge of transit technologies and practices. Later this year, BBB will receive its first battery electric bus; real-time signage and solar lighting will be installed at 200 high-volume bus stops; and even more amenities and services to improve safety and customer experience will be implemented.

BBB is excited to continue providing customers excellent service. Watch BBB’s 90th Anniversary video, which celebrates its rich history, its staff and most of all, its customers. bigbluebus.com/Newsroom/News/90th Anniversary-Video.aspx

Happy birthday, Big Blue Bus!

VOTE IN OUR 5TH ANNUAL MOST LOVED SANTA MONICA BUSINESS CONTEST

Who Do You Love This Year?

From most loved bike shop to favorite farmer, Santa Monica is putting the call out to discover and celebrate the Most Loved Businesses in Santa Monica. Which local business can you not live without? Who puts a smile on your face when you drop in?

The winners will be announced in an upcoming “Santa Monica’s Most Loved...” issue of the Santa Monica Daily Press and at an awards ceremony at City Hall. They will also be celebrated throughout the year through the Buy Local Santa Monica campaign and by community business partners. So tell us who you love and be entered to win some fabulous prizes, including gift certificates from our local businesses, Buy Local SM gear and more!

The Most Loved SM Businesses contest is now in its fifth year and was created as a way to help celebrate Santa Monica’s businesses and to recognize best practices in customer service and community engagement. The contest has grown by leaps and bounds. Last year, nearly 3,500 people voted for their Most Loved SM Businesses.

Results will be tabulated once the contest closes in early March. Everyone who votes and enters their email will be entered to win a raffle prize. Winners will be notified in early May, along with the announcement of the Most Loved SM 2019 Business Winners and Runners-Up. To view last year’s results, visit BuyLocalSM.com/most-loved.

To vote, or for more information on the Buy Local Santa Monica Campaign, visit buylocalsantamonica.com. Vote throughout the month of February and share your favorites on social media with the hashtags #MostLovedSM and #SantaMonica. Make sure to tag us @BuyLocalSM on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
GREENS FESTIVAL CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Join Virginia Avenue Park (VAP) and Parent Connection Group (PCG) on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. as they celebrate Black History Month with the annual Greens Festival. This year’s festival theme is Young, Gifted and Black, and will feature cooking demos with celebrity chefs, a community Greens cooking contest, a Black History exhibit, musical performances, book readings and more!

The first Greens Festival four years ago was envisioned by Janeen Jackson, then co-chair of Parent Connection Group at VAP. She and her fellow members wanted a unique way to celebrate black history through food and cultural activities. Borrowing from other Greens Cooking events, they designed an event that integrates healthy Soul Food cooking with cultural history education. Greens recipes are contributed mostly by Pico community participants and range from Southern to African to Caribbean traditions. Winning recipes are demonstrated by the community member alongside a professional African American chef at the festival during the weekly Farmers Market. Additionally, the Greens festival features live music, book readings and cultural crafts that celebrate the history and diversity of the Black community in Santa Monica.

PCG serves as a resource for African American/Black families at Virginia Avenue Park. Established in 2014, PCG supports families as they navigate the City and school district, while celebrating and sharing black history and culture with the larger community.

This year’s event is presented in collaboration with the VAP, PCG, Pico Branch Library and the Santa Monica Farmers Market. If you’re interested in volunteering, please contact Virginia Avenue Park at 310.458.8688.
A big thanks to Santa Monica residents for letting us know about an important correction to our January 2019 edition of Seascape. An article incorrectly stated that electric leaf blowers are allowed but in fact, all leaf blowers are banned in Santa Monica.
Fireside at the Historic Miles Memorial Playhouse

Now in its 10th year, the annual Fireside at the Miles performances have become a wintry Santa Monica tradition. Tickets are $10 for general admission, and $5 for youth age 18 and under, adults age 55 and over and students of any age. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and shows run from 8 to 10 p.m. For a complete line-up and tickets, please visit smgov.net/fireside.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1
The Gregory Poree Band / World Jazz

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2
A Groundhog Day Musical Extravaganza with Julie Pusch

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Natalie Jacob Jazz Band

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Suchi Branfman and Special Guests / Dance, Movement

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Nick Mancini Collective / Jazz Combo featuring Vibraphone

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Angela Todaro / An Evening of Contemporary Dance

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22
Angela Wells Quartet / Jazz

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Amy Raasch / The Animal Monologues
City Council Meetings

The Santa Monica City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Upcoming Council meetings:

FEBRUARY 12 AND 26

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

Public Meetings

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

Disabilities Commission
FEBRUARY 4, 6:30 P.M.
AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Architectural Review Board
FEBRUARY 4 AND 18, 7 P.M. AT CITY HALL

Planning Commission
FEBRUARY 6 AND 20, 7 P.M. AT CITY HALL

Landmarks Commission
FEBRUARY 11, 7 P.M. AT CITY HALL

Santa Monica Library Board
FEBRUARY 14, 6:30 P.M.
AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Arts Commission
FEBRUARY 18, 6:30 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Commission for the Senior Community
FEBRUARY 20, 1:30 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Housing Commission
FEBRUARY 21, 4:30 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Commission on the Status of Women
FEBRUARY 21, 7 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Recreation and Parks Commission
FEBRUARY 21, 7 P.M. AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Airport Commission Meeting
FEBRUARY 25, 7 P.M. AT CITY HALL

Social Services Commission
FEBRUARY 25, 7 P.M. AT KEN EDWARDS CENTER

Personnel Board
FEBRUARY 28, 4:30 P.M. AT PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY