



City of Santa Monica NEWS

Community & Cultural Services Department | 1685 Main Street | Santa Monica, CA 90401

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Motorized Wheelchairs Now Available on Santa Monica State Beach

Santa Monica State Beach is becoming more accessible with the addition of motorized wheelchairs that make crossing the sand easier for people with disabilities or limited mobility. The City of Santa Monica purchased two motorized wheelchairs, which are available for use by the public at two locations: Perry's Café at 1200 Ocean Front Walk and Perry's Café at 2400 Ocean Front Walk.

The City has provided manual Beach Wheelchairs at the Perry's Café locations and the Annenberg Community Beach House for many years. These wheelchairs are equipped with large, wide wheels that can roll across the sand without sinking and require users to be accompanied by someone pushing them. The motorized wheelchairs enable users to propel themselves across the sand and are able to cover much more of the beach than the manual wheelchairs, which may be difficult to push through soft sand.

Both the manual and motorized wheelchairs are available to borrow at no charge. Users are asked to leave a form of personal identification and a credit card while borrowing the chair. The chairs are available at the Perry's Café locations on a first-come, first-served basis during business hours, generally 9 am to 7 pm during the summer and from 9 am to 5 pm during the winter. The phone number at the 1200 Ocean Front Walk location is 310 458-3974 and the 2400 Ocean Front Walk location is 310 452-2399. Manual wheelchairs are also available at the two other Perry's Café locations: 930 Ocean Front Walk and 2600 Ocean Front Walk, and at the Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway.



The motorized wheelchairs are designed and built by Hank Weseman, Jr., a professional speedboat racer, who was thrown head-first at 140 mph into the water and is recovering from brain-stem damage. He founded Hotshot Products in Torrance, CA to provide mobility and freedom to others with disabilities. As Mr. Weseman explains, "I designed the Beach Cruz for all of us, taking independence and ability one step further."

Perry's Café at 2400 Ocean Front Walk is served by Big Blue Bus line 1, which runs along Main Street. Short term and all day parking is available in Beach Lot 4S (2030 Ocean Avenue). The 1200 Ocean Front Walk location is north of the Santa Monica Pier. All day parking is available in Lot 3N (1150 Pacific Coast Highway).

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