

# We Create Community



## Red Car Greenbelt Grand Opening Held



*Cutting the ribbon to officially open the Greenbelt are L-R: Director of Public Works Craig Beck, Intermin Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine Stephen Scott, Parks and Recreation Commissioner David Zanatta, Councilwoman Suzie Price, Third District Resident, and Parks and Recreation Commissioner Margo Morales*

A grand opening celebration was held on March 24, for the Red Car Greenbelt located at the northwest corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Park Avenue.

The Red Car Greenbelt is a 3.66-acre project that consists of a ten-foot wide decorative concrete pedestrian walking trail and drought-tolerant native landscaping on the former Pacific Electric Right-of-Way (PE ROW), between Park Avenue and Ximeno Avenue. The project is part of the PE ROW Greenbelt Master Plan, which starts at the intersection of Park Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street and extends northwest to Loma Avenue.

The project features trailheads at the entrance on 4<sup>th</sup> Street at Park Avenue and at the entrance on Ximeno Avenue, south of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. A Bike Boulevard crosses the trail at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and connects the Greenbelt to the City's bike route network.

"The new Red Car Greenbelt is a wonderful example of an unused area being transformed into much needed

recreational open space," said Councilwoman Suzie Price. "This new park connects last year's Red Car Greenbelt built in Greenbelt Heights all the way down to the Colorado Lagoon."

The project also features pathway lighting, trail boulders for seating, trash receptacles and doggie bag dispensers, and wood grain textured concrete fencing at entries. Secondary concrete pedestrian trails along the length of the greenbelt.

The Project incorporates sustainable design features that include native shrubs, California natural grassland and coastal wildflowers. The water-efficient landscape design will exceed the efficiency goals set by the State. The green space will create shade that reduces the temperature of the surrounding area, leading to reduced energy use, and provide pedestrians and cyclist paths for improved connectivity and safety.

The \$1.15 million Red Car Greenbelt was made possible by \$450,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund; \$300,000 in Proposition A Competitive Excess Grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District; \$180,000 from the Los Angeles County Fourth Supervisory District Excess Funds Program; \$150,000 from Measure A; and \$70,000 from Council District Three FY 14 non-recurring funds.



## Jackson Park Playground Opens



*Officially opening the new Jackson Park Playground are far left Parks, Recreation and Marine Bureau Manager Ted Stevens, 8th District Community Members, Parks and Recreation Commissioner David Zanatta, Mayor Robert Garcia, Councilmember Al Austin, and Deputy Director of Public Works Sean Crumby*

A grand opening ceremony for the Jackson Park Playground at 1432 Jackson Street was held on April 6.

The project included an upgrade of the previous playground, which is the first of five Measure A-funded playground upgrades throughout the City.

The new playground equipment offers a variety of play experiences helpful in childhood cognitive development and healthy outdoor activity, including opportunities to slide, swing, spin, and climb. The modern play equipment brings an updated element to this neighborhood park, and the bright colors reflect the vibrant character of the community.

Additional improvements to surrounding concrete areas and rubber surfacing were made to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. The total project cost was \$150,000, which was made possible through Measure A funds.

“I am excited about this enhancement to Jackson Park,” said Councilmember Al Austin. “We have a new play structure for children and youth in our community, and a new reason for families to come and enjoy this great neighborhood park.”

This playground is in addition to several other new Measure A playgrounds that will be completed this year including at Drake, Los Cerritos, Veterans and Whaley Parks.



## Homeland Supervisor Jose Martinez Honored With Go Long Beach Award



Jose Martinez from Parks, Recreation and Marine’s Homeland Cultural Center was honored in March with the Long Beach Mayor’s Go Long Beach Award. “I initiated the award in 2011 as a way to recognize individuals who are making a positive impact on our City,” said Mayor Robert Garcia. Jose and eight other artists were recognized for the work that they did with the Cambodia Town Mural Project along Anaheim Street.

The Cambodia Town Mural Project shows a commitment to making Long Beach more joyful, while encouraging civic pride and supporting The Arts Council’s

mission. The group includes Federico Laguerder, Angela Willcocks, Bodeck Hernandez, Zeinab (ZYNB), Jason Keam, Rick Vilchis, Tracy Negrete, Jose Martinez, and Sayon Syprasoeuth.



*Cambodia Town Mural at MacArthur Park*

# PRM Hosts California Parks and Recreation Society Conference & Exhibition



Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) hosted the 70th Annual California Parks and Recreation Conference and Exhibition March 13-16 at the Long Beach Convention Center. With a theme of "70 Years of Inspiring Excellence," PRM staff attended educational sessions, facility tours, and sessions for recreation specialties like therapy and senior programs. More than 700 vendors showcased products and solutions for parks and recreation agencies in the Conference Expo Hall. With approximately 2,000 delegates, 300 speakers and volunteers, and 700 exhibitors, almost 2500 people visited Long Beach to enrich their professional and personal lives and also make a positive economic impact on the City.

Congratulations to the Long Beach staff and other local parks and recreation agencies for more than a year of hard work to make the 2017 CPRS conference a success. Special thanks to City Manager Pat West for greeting the attendees at the Opening Session and to Vice Mayor Rex Richardson for hosting a reception for industry leaders, elected officials and citizen commissioners from across the state.



## Congratulations to PRM's CPRS Champions of Community

Coronada King-Haywood and Victoria Leggette-Johnson of the non-profit Women In Action Reaching Out (WIARO) were the recipients of the CPRS Champion of the Community Service Award of Excellence. The award honors individuals who have improved the quality of their community through parks and recreation, and the delivery of park and recreation services, in their community.

Ms. King-Haywood and Ms. Leggette-Johnson have improved the quality of life for senior citizens living near Cesar Chavez and Silverado Parks in the City of Long Beach. After the previous senior congregant meal providers discontinued services at these parks due to Federal budget cuts, Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine reached out to WIARO to continue to accommodate the patrons. Through WIARO, Chavez and Silverado Park seniors enjoy hot or cold meals that meet USDA standards Monday through Friday from noon -1 p.m. for a suggested donation of \$1.

Ms. King-Haywood is a former teacher at the Long Beach Unified School Head Start. In 2007, she started the non-profit WIARO. As Program Director, Ms. Leggette-Johnson oversees the small non-profit organizations that WIARO serves.



L-R: CRS Supervisor Sonny Seng, Women In Action Reaching Out (WIARO) CEO Coronada King-Haywood, CRS Supervisor Heidi Mazas, WIARO Director Victoria Leggette-Johnson and Bob Simons of SVA Architecture and an awards program sponsor. Ms. King-Haywood and Ms. Leggette Johnson were honored as "Champions of the Community" for their work with the PRM senior nutrition program.

# Spring Break Fun Days

From April 2-6 parks throughout the city were open for extended hours to offer Spring Fun Days for Long Beach youth out of school for spring break. The program offered free games, crafts, movies, sports tournaments, and field trips in a safe, supervised environment.



*Campers create sand castles at Wardlow Park Fun Days*



*Crafts at Garfield School WRAP Fun Days*



*Stearns Champions Park Fun Day participants visit Fire Station 17*



*Dress Up Day at Grant School WRAP Fun Days*

The Teen Centers at Chavez, El Dorado, Houghton, McBride and Silverado Parks were full of activity during the break with everything from trips to theme parks to sports tournaments and crafts.



*Kids and families enjoy an egg hunt at MacArthur Park*



*Houghton Park teens got creative with crafts during extended Spring Break hours.*



*Teens from Admiral Kidd, Chavez and Silverado Parks enjoyed a field trip to Magic Mountain during Spring Break.*

## By the Numbers: Community Recreation Services - February 2018

Permits to Gather.....	68
Reserved Picnic Sites.....	2
Number of Contract Classes.....	1,846
Facility Use Permits Issued.....	67
Field Use Permits Issued.....	81
El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes.....	615
El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries.....	7,014
Adult Sports League Participants.....	4,216
Visits to City Pools.....	11,143
Youth and Teen Participants.....	37,632
Senior Citizen Participants.....	25,471
Visits to El Dorado Nature Center.....	31,020



Joe Rodgers



Red Meairs



Stadium and Field Signs

Joe Rodgers Stadium in Recreation Park is named for Joe Rodgers who, in the 1950's was the founder and owner of the best men's softball team in the nation, the Long Beach Nitehawks. He led the team to seven International Softball Congress (ISC) world championships. Rodgers owned the land where the Nitehawks played at Park Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Street. When the team disbanded in 1988, he donated the land and the field to the City of Long Beach. The facility was named in his honor.

In 2009, the stadium field was named for Red Meairs who had coached the Nighthawks after Rodgers retired. After earning All-Southern California honors at Long Beach City College, Red signed with the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1943, but shortly returned home to play with the Long Beach Rockets. After a tour in the Navy he played on all seven of Rodgers' ISC world title teams and managed the Nitehawks to three more world championships before 1988.

Joe Rodgers and Red Meairs were inducted into the Long Beach Softball Hall of Fame in 2004.

Red Meairs Field at Joe Rodgers Stadium is host to both Moore League and PRM Adult and Senior Softball programs.



Congratulations to PRM Senior Pool Guard Brandon Castaneda on his selection as the March Department Employee of the Month.



The Senior Guard position at PRM pool facilities is a job with challenging responsibilities. Staff who hold this position must demonstrate good judgment and lead. Recreation Leader Specialist and King Park Pool Senior Guard Brandon Castaneda epitomizes the very best of what a Senior Guard must

be. His ability to be flexible and learn quickly has made him a very reliable member of the team.

Brandon is vital to the success of the Department's aquatic programs due to his ability to work well with and empower staff while creating positive relationships with our pool users. He is a diligent problem-solver and always provides quality solutions. He has taken the initiative to earn aquatic certifications and achieve levels of safety training that far exceed the requirements for his position.

On a consistent basis he manages lifeguard and swim lesson rotations, completes and tracks monthly reports and checklists, aids in managing staff schedules, knows and provides department program information beyond just aquatics and he does all of this the PRM WAY.

### Save the Date: Earth Day Beach Clean - April 21



Join the El Dorado Nature Center staff and partners for the annual Earth Day Coastal Cleanup Day on April 21, 10 a.m. – Noon. Meet at Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier (parking at Termino and Ocean) or Cherry Beach (parking in lot at Junipero and Ocean).

Bags and gloves will be provided, or bring your own and an old bucket. This event is an opportunity to increase awareness about issues related to marine debris and the health of our coastline. Call 562.570.1745, for more information.

# Maintenance Update

The Parks, Recreation and Marine Maintenance crews use innovation and teamwork to keep our parks and beaches clean and safe.

## Beach Renourishment

The Beach Maintenance team recently replenished, the sand on the peninsula side of Ocean Blvd.; resulting from erosion due to tidal flows and storms. Staff were also able to clean-up the beach and add some sand to areas that were becoming a safety issue.



## Cherry Park Tennis Courts

Nature's elements can take a toll on outdoor fixtures. Staff recently replaced damaged plywood and removed deteriorated windscreens at the Cherry Park Tennis Courts.



## Rose Park Bench Repairs

Staff fabricated bench dividers and made repairs to the benches at Rose Park. All of the benches were repainted for a uniform look.



## San Gabriel River Jetty Cleanup

PRM and Long Beach Police Department recently cleared out three large encampments along the San Gabriel River Jetty. Police Officer Richard Armond ensured the camps were cleared out and safe during the effort. PRM Safety Officer Mark Berne completed a Job Safety Analysis to ensure a safe operation. Equipment Operator Chris King oversaw Beach and Marine Division, who safely removed debris from the rocks and onto a barge headed to the Davies Launch Ramp packer and then to the dump. Painters Robert Baxter and Charles Felder abated graffiti to restore the area to a clean, safe state.



# Alamitos Bay Marina Rehabilitation Project Set to Open

A Grand Re-Opening Ceremony for the Alamitos Bay Marina will be held on Friday, April 27 from 2-6 p.m. at the Basin Two parking lot at 6550 E. Marina Drive. The ribbon cutting ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m., with refreshments, entertainment and marina tours starting at 3:30 p.m.

The Alamitos Bay Marina Rehabilitation Project is a design-build project with Bellingham Marine Industries. The project consisted of the designing, fabrication, and installation of a completely new, "World-Class" marina, consisting of 1,655 top of the line concrete slips. Alamitos Bay Marina was originally constructed during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The wooden docks had more than outlived their 30-year useful life.

Renovations included replacing the wooden docks with state of the art concrete docks. The scope of the project included demolition, dredging and disposal, installation of new gangways, docks, and piles, seawall repair, void grouting under seawalls, rock slope renovation, installation of in-slip pump out facilities and new dock utilities including SCE upgrades, potable water, fire, electrical, telephone and sewer. Construction started in late September of 2011 and was completed in the Spring of 2018.

Funding for the project came from a variety of sources, however, the project gained momentum with the sale of \$114.0 million in Marina Revenue Bonds, within 30 minutes, achieving an investor participation of eight-times the amount available for sale, meaning investors pledged \$917.7 million towards the purchase of these bonds. Slip fees are dedicated to repayment of the bonds.

## By the Numbers: Maintenance Operations Bureau - March 2018

### Community Service Workers (CSW) program

Number of persons enrolled in the program for January.....	62
Total number of CSW Hours for January.....	1,518
Total number of hours worked at Queensway Bay.....	0
(Water cleanup, debris removal, litter pickup)	
Total number of hours worked at Beach Maintenance.....	99
(Litter pickup on beaches, parking lots, Belmont Pool, Ocean Blvd., Peninsula)	
Total number of hours worked at Marine Maintenance.....	455
(Litter pickup at Belmont Pier, maintenance building, and custodial work)	
Total number of hours worked at El Dorado Park areas.....	551
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility sites including Tree Farm and Night Crew)	
Total number of hours worked at Tree Farm.....	7
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility)	
Total number of hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands.....	217
(Litter and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon)	
Total number of hours worked at special clean-ups.....	189
(Neighborhood clean-ups, graffiti paint-outs and community events)	

Work orders completed.....	504
Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis .....	172
Facilities and Gymnasiums cleaned and stocked daily.....	28

### Park acres maintained

Park turf.....	814
Park landscape.....	2,310
Street (medians) turf.....	53
Street landscape.....	143

### Water Use:

MOB GP105 Water cost & Consumption for January 2018		
Parks and Street Island Potable.....	20,178.....	\$93,801
Parks and Street Island Reclaimed.....	1,865.....	\$11,622

# April - May 2018 Calendar of Events

## April

Sat. 14	8 a.m.	Summer Day Camp Registration Begins	Visit <a href="http://www.lbparks.org">www.lbparks.org</a>
	9 a.m.	*Family Yoga in the Garden	Rancho Los Cerritos
	10 a.m.	*Yoga in the Garden (Ages 14+)	Rancho Los Cerritos
Wed. 18	9 a.m.	Senior Citizens Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
Th. 19	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Mobile Pet Vaccination & Microchip Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park
Sat. 21	10 a.m.	Earth Day Coastal Cleanup	East of Belmont Vets Mem. Pier
Fri. 27	TBA	Alamitos Bay Marina Rebuild Opening	Alamitos Bay Marina
Sat. 28	Varies	Eight-Week Saturday Swim Lessons Begin	Belmont, King & Silverado Pools
Mon. 30		Summer "Recreation Connection" Published	

## May

Tue. 1	Varies	Four-Week Swim Tu/Th Lessons Begin	King Park Pool
Th. 4	4 p.m.	Mobile Pet Vaccination & Microchip Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park
Sat. 5	10 a.m.	*First Saturday Stewards Volunteer Cleanup	El Dorado Nature Center
	10 a.m.	Turtle and Tortoise Show	El Dorado Nature Center
	1 p.m.	Creation Station Free Youth Art Program	Rancho Los Cerritos
	2 p.m.	"Out of the Wilds/Into Garden" Native Plant Class	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 7	Varies	Four-Week Swim Mon/Wed Lessons Begin	Belmont Plaza Pool
Tue. 8	Varies	Four-Week Swim Tu/Th Lessons Begin	Belmont Plaza Pool
Th. 10	2:30 p.m.	Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Yacht Club
	3:30 p.m.	Golf Advisory Committee Meeting	PRM Administration Building
Sat. 12	9:30 a.m.	*Curated Tours of Florence Bixby Gardens	Rancho Los Alamitos
	12:30 p.m.	*Curated Tours of Florence Bixby Gardens	Rancho Los Alamitos
Sun. 13	11:30 a.m.	*Mother's Day Tea	Rancho Los Cerritos
Wed. 16	9 a.m.	Senior Citizens Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
Th. 17	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Mobile Pet Vaccination & Microchip Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park
Fri. 25	6 p.m.	100 Days of Summer Kick Off Concert	Marina Vista Park
Mon. 28		Memorial Day Holiday	

## NATIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER!



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