

We Create Community



2015: An Award Winning, Playful, Nautical, Pet Friendly, Green Year

In 2015 Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine's (LBPRM) programs improved the lives of all residents.

Awards and Recognitions

The California Parks & Recreation Society (CPRS) honored the Orizaba Park Community Center with an Excellence in Facility Design award for design, community involvement, and accessibility. CPRS honored Jim Danno and Kathleen Irvine as Champions as of the Community for their historical preservation efforts in the Willmore City neighborhood.



The Department's Beach and Marine Maintenance Divisions were named Organization of the Year by the Aquatics Capital of America for their efforts to make Long Beach "The Aquatic Capital of America."

The Trust for Public Land's 2015 Park Score Index rated Long Beach highest in Southern California for expenditures for parks and acreage allotted for green space. Long Beach ranked 16th among 75 large U.S. cities.

Long Beach was honored as a 2015 Playful City USA, a national designation that recognizes cities and towns for creating more playable, kid-friendly communities.



New Facilities

Bluff Park re-opened in February after grass and native landscaping was re-established in the heavy-use area.

Dock 10, a 500-foot long dock opened in February and replaced a 300-foot long deteriorated wood dock in Rainbow Harbor.

LBPRM completed three projects to support families and dogs playing together. The .14-acre Jackson Street Dog



Park opened on Jackson Street east of Orange Avenue at Walnut Street. At Rosie's Dog Beach, colorful



metallic sculptures of dogs were installed to delineate the 4.1-acre beach dog park boundaries.

A one-acre expansion area at El Dorado Dog Park provides space for off leash play during maintenance periods.

The three-acre Jenni Rivera Memorial Park opened in July. The park includes a 125-foot-long mural in tribute of Ms. Rivera's life and love of her hometown, Long Beach. She was a Latin Grammy nominated singer and songwriter. She died in a plane crash in 2012.

The "Camp Bixby" playground opened in September at Bixby Park with accessible play equipment 2 to 5 year-olds and 5 to 12 year-olds. The fitness loop, located near Junipero Avenue and Ocean Boulevard includes a walking path and six stations with fitness equipment.



Parks, Recreation and Marine 2015 - A Year in Review



A new scoreboard at Chittick Field was installed in August. It will be used to keep scores and time for football, soccer, and track and field events. The California Resources Corporation is recognized on the scoreboard for their significant contributions to the Chittick Field renovation project.

A Master Plan for the development of Houghton Park was approved in 2015 by the Parks and Recreation Commission, and includes increased parking, a new community center, integrating two jogging/walking loops, moving the children's play area, and widening and reinforcing paths.

The 2.8-acre NAACP Freedom Park, located at 2300 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. opened on September 29. The park is the first park in the United States to be named in honor of the organization that has stood for freedom and justice for all.

Ground broke for the DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration Project in December. The project will develop 39 acres of wetlands, riparian and upland habitat; and walking, biking and equestrian trails along the Los Angeles River from DeForest Park to Del Amo Blvd. Flood control components and connections to the Los Angeles River Bikeway are part of the project.



The Houghton Park Fitness Zone opened in November. The Zone offers nine exercise stations, many of which accommodate mobility issues. The Zone was supported by the Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy Eating Active Living Kaiser Permanente grant.

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Recreational Opportunities for all Residents

In March, the Junior Beach Runners (JBR) participated in the 1st Annual Fitness Challenge at Chittick Field. A total of 100 youth participated in a zig zag run, arm crawl, spider web crawl, mini hurdles and tire pull.



For the sixth year in a row, the Department and the Long Beach Convention and Visitor's Bureau promoted opportunities to "stay and play" in Long Beach during the summer with the "100 Days of Summer" campaign.

In April the Long Beach City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission reduced the youth admission fee to City pools \$1 per visit.

The Beach Streets Uptown open street event closed Atlantic Avenue from Wardlow Road to Houghton Park for cyclists, skaters and pedestrians on June 6.



Houghton and Scherer Parks hosted community fairs. The event was funded by LA Metro to encourage transit, bicycle and pedestrian travel.

"Summer Music = Family Fun," was the theme of the 106th season of the Long Beach Municipal Band. The concert season began on June 30 and was held at Bixby, Whaley, El Dorado and Los Cerritos Parks, and Marine Stadium.

The Department's BE S.A.F.E. program (Summer Activities in a Friendly Environment) helped to keep neighborhoods safe by offering extended hours for recreation programs from June 22-August 28 at Admiral Kidd, Drake, Houghton, M. L. King Jr., Seaside, Scherer, and Silverado Parks.

The Homeland Cultural Center Dance Fest showcased African drum and dance, Aztec dance, Cambodian dance and martial arts, Micronesian music and dance, pop-locking, hip-hop and Hmong traditional arts on July 19 at the Scottish Rite Event Center.

Residents "invested in themselves," at Parks, Recreation and Marine's free "Early Registration and Recreation Class Expo" on August 1 at the El Dorado Park Community Center. Dozens of instructors provided class demonstrations and answered questions from potential students.

In July and August a total of 125 youth competed in the Long Beach Sea Festival Richard R. Miller Novice Swim and 30 youth competed in the Richard R. Miller Novice Dive Meet. The top performers qualified for championship events in the LA84 program.

On October 10, over 150 Long Beach Junior Beach Runners participated in their fall kickoff event at the Aquarium of the Pacific Kids One Mile Fun Run. The youth ran with more than 2,000 other young runners, and many wore new running shoes donated from Molina Healthcare Inc.

Parks, Recreation and Marine 2015 - A Year in Review

Clean, Safe, Beautiful Recreation Open Space



El Dorado Nature Center staff coordinated volunteers to help keep our shoreline clean and safe. At the Earth Day Cleanup in April, more than 400 volunteers at four coastal locations picked up 1,000 pounds of trash. At the California Coastal Cleanup Day in September, 1,009 volunteers at seven sites removed 3,217 pounds of debris.

LBPRM

operated Cesar Chavez Park as a 24-hour shelter serving 2,200 visitors during a two-day power outage. Marine Bureau staff managed communications with Downtown Marina customers.



Long Beach Animal Care Services invited Rebecca Dmytryk, president of Wildlife Emergency Services, to present workshops on living with urban coyotes in August at El Dorado Nature Center and El Dorado Park West.

Effective October 1, 2015, all dogs over the age of six months are required to be spayed or neutered. The law will reduce the number of impounded animals at shelter.



Partnerships

Parks, Recreation and Marine celebrated its 10th year of partnering with Signal Hill Petroleum and Partners of Parks to present "Movies in the Park." Signal Hill Petroleum donated \$27,500 to the Partners of Parks (POP) organization to support the program. A total of 29 movies were screened in parks throughout the City over 10 weeks in July and August.

Over 1,000 youth from LBPRM Day Camps and Summer Fun Day programs enjoyed a performance of "Singing in the Rain" at the Carpenter Center. Musical Theater West provided free tickets, LA Supervisor Don Knabe assisted with transportation, and former Parks and Recreation Commissioner Sarah Sangmester helped to coordinate the event.

Long Beach Animal Care Services repurposed City Hall as "Kitty Hall" in September, to encourage shelter cat adoptions and promote awareness of Long Beach Animal Care Services. A total of 14 cats were adopted at the event.

Long Beach Animal Care Services invited Rebecca Dmytryk, president of Wildlife Emergency Services, to present workshops on living with urban coyotes in August at El Dorado Nature Center and El Dorado Park West.



Technology

Long Beach Animal Care Service's new Twitter feed helps reunite pets with their owners. The Twitter handle #LBLostFoundPets is updated every 30 minutes as animals arrive in the shelter or are picked up by officers in the field. Residents who find a lost pet can also tweet using the hashtag.

By the Numbers for November 2015: Community Recreation Services

Permits to Gather	71	Visits to City / City Operated LBUSD Pools	14,063
Reserved Picnic Sites.....	11	El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries	11,524
Number of Contract Classes.....	135	El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes.....	532
Facility Use Permits Issued.....	53	Youth and Teen Participants.....	42,047
Field Use Permits Issued.....	56	Senior Citizen Participants	11,552
Adult Sports League Participants.....	8,224	Visits to the El Dorado Nature Center	20,066

PRM Staff Prepared for El Niño Storm



Trash boom shows its effectiveness in holding debris.



The Marauder pulls trash out of the harbor and marinas.

The first 2016 El Niño storm of 2016 on January 5 and 6 dropped about two inches of rain in Long Beach, and Parks, Recreation and Marine staff were ready to face the challenges that came with it.

Beach Maintenance crews kept a watchful eye on the sand berms and fortified areas with rocks. They assisted the Department of Public Works by preparing sandbags for their use in responding to calls in flooded areas.

The storm left a total of 16.5 tons of debris that was picked up at Rainbow Harbor, Rainbow Marina and Shoreline Marina. Staff cleared 217 tons of debris from the beach.

Marine Bureau and City Lifeguard staff worked with Rainbow Harbor commercial businesses to use Dock 10 outside of the Harbor area to minimize movement through the area protected by the trash boom, and lessen the release of debris into the waterways.

Marine Maintenance staff identified leaking roofs at two Alamitos Bay boat owner restrooms and in Basin Seven. Facility Maintenance staff repaired leaky roofs at the Maintenance crew facility, Department Administration and the El Dorado Nature Center men's restroom. Staff are also addressing a fallen fence at Coolidge Park



Crews had work cut out for them on the beach.



Jorge Acevedo, Everado Sanchez, and Carl Lindsay clear debris from at El Dorado Park West roof.

Grounds Maintenance handled downed trees at Houghton, Los Cerritos, Pan American, Whaley, El Dorado Regional Park and El Dorado West. In preparation for the storm season, staff worked to improve habitat and storm water flow in park streams and lakes.



Before: Overgrown bulrush at El Dorado East Regional Park Lake



After: Cleared area will improve water flow.

Staff temporarily closed the El Dorado Nature Center trails during the storms for safety reasons including slip-py mud, flooding, and downed branches.

Community Recreation Services staff emailed Adult Softball league players about game rescheduling, and after school programs sites focused on indoor rainy day fun.

With more El Niño rains likely in the near future, staff will be even more prepared after these recent experiences.

Know Your Long Beach Parks: Trolley Park

At only .15 acres, Trolley Park is one of the smallest parks in Long Beach, yet provides lots of scenic greenery at the corner of Second Street and Redondo Avenue.

In April 2007 the City Council approved the recommendation of former Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal that the small parcel be named Trolley Park.

Trolley service began in July 1904 from downtown Long Beach with tracks on Redondo Avenue, Ocean Avenue and tracks cutting east and west along sections of 3rd Street, 2nd Street and Broadway. The name, Trolley Park is significant to the Bluff Park Neighborhood since the triangle park space is the former trolley turn-about. Trolley service along these routes ended in 1940.



Residents Enjoy Snowy Fun at Drake and Houghton Parks



Parks, Recreation and Marine hosted snow day events at Drake and Houghton Park in December.

“Winter in Willmore” is an annual holiday tradition at Drake Park that celebrates the season with snow sledding , climbing walls, crafts, face painting, gingerbread house making, music, pictures with Santa, food and fun for the entire family.

This year’s event was held on December 19, and was coordinated by the Willmore City Heritage Association.

Houghton Park’s snow day event was also held on December 19. Kids and families enjoyed sliding down snow hills, moon bounces, games and visits with Santa.



Animal Care Services Update



Long Beach Animal Care Services officers go above and beyond for the animals in their care. A wonderful example is the tale of Taylor the dog, so named after the officer who loved him. Taylor came in as a stray and he acted aggressively, with behaviors that needed correcting. Officer Lindsey Taylor instantly connected with him and began the extra work needed to help find his perfect match. Not many people come in looking to adopt a dog with behavior

issues. Officer Taylor would often take him out to play and meet new people so he could learn to trust again. She pitched his story to various rescue groups and answered every email about him. Most people, upon hearing his needs, would no longer be interested. After a long stay at the shelter, Taylor's options were running out. Another email came through the system asking about him. Officer Taylor explained his situation and received a reply that

the party wanted to meet Taylor. The family came to meet Taylor and fell in love. The father was the first man Taylor connected with at first glance since arriving at the shelter, and he also loved the family. It was meant to be. Taylor also got along well with their other dogs, even though he was selective about dogs at the shelter.

Live Love Animal Rescue also assisted with the adoption. The adopting family kept his name, and Taylor is happy at his new home with his new dad, mom and dog siblings.



Taylor the dog with his adoptive dad and Officer Lindsey Taylor

By the Numbers Maintenance Operations Bureau - December 2015

Community Service Worker Program:

Total Enrollment:	100
Total Queensway Bay hours (Water cleanup, debris and litter pickup):	32
Total Beach Maintenance hours (Litter pickup):	107
Total Marine Maintenance hours (Litter pickup):	540
Total El Dorado Park hours (Litter pickup, and custodial).	430
Total Tree Farm (Litter pick up custodial and facility).	39
Total Los Cerritos Wetlands hours (Litter pickup and vegetation removal):	349
Special Cleanups: City clean-ups, graffiti paint-out:	716
Total hours for the month of December	2,213
Work orders completed:	157
Restrooms cleaned on daily:	172
Facilities cleaned and stocked daily:	28

Park acres maintained:

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

Water Use

Parks and Street Island Potable.	26,484 CF.	\$101,994
Parks and Street Island Reclaimed.	40,041 CF.	\$69,434

Longview Park Development Update

Longview Point at Willow Springs Park received some upgrades in December funded from grant funds that remained from previous work done at the park. The four-acre Longview Point opened to the public in December 2012 and is the highest point of the 47-acre Willow Springs Park.

The upgrades include a walking labyrinth, two vista seating areas, and a resurfacing of the watershed map. These new amenities used mostly material reclaimed from the property, including dumped cement and stone pieces. Approximately 250 new native, drought tolerant plants were added, and drip irrigation was augmented to support their establishment. Several invasive trees were removed.

A 107-year old Southern Pacific Railroad Depot was moved to Willow Springs Park in January 2015. The historic building will be renovated for use as a visitor's center. For the transport, the building was partially deconstructed and is now back together in one piece. A foundation has been built and the building has been tied to the foundation. A basic roof structure and roof membrane were installed to make the building water tight. A sidewalk surrounding the building was also completed.



Marine Bureau Update: Annual Beach Parking Permits

The 2016 Annual Beach Parking permit is available online at <http://longbeachparking.spplus.com/>. 2015 permit holders are advised to retain their 2015 sticker and to continue to display the sticker. The 2015 stickers will be valid through January 2016 until permit holders are able to renew their Annual Beach Parking permit.

Overnight Monthly Parking Permit will also transition to the new website on January 4, 2016.

The **Annual Beach Parking** permits cost \$155 for a 12-month pass, (senior rate is \$75 for a 12-month pass), and are valid between the hours of 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the following lots:

Pier Point Park, Marina Green, Marina Mole Road (Metered spaces only), Alamitos Beach, Junipero Beach, Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier, Granada Beach, La Verne,

54th Place, Bayshore, 72nd Place, Colorado Lagoon, and Marine Park.

The **Overnight Parking** permit is valid only in the Alamitos Avenue Beach, Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier, 54th Place, Junipero Beach and LaVerne Avenue parking lots. Permits are valid between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. only. The cost varies, and is based on the lot and if purchased monthly or annually. (\$33 monthly, \$336 annually if paid in advance)

Persons interested in purchasing these permits may register on line at <https://www.thepermitstore.com/Those> without internet access may register by calling (805) 624-6672 between the hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

January - February 2016 Calendar

January

Mon. 18		Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
Wed. 20	10 a.m.	Wetland Warriors Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
	6 p.m.	Commission on Youth and Children	2760 Studebaker Road
Th. 21	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Low Cost Pet Clinic	Scherer Park
	6:30 p.m.	L.A. County Parks & Recreation Assessment Meeting	Bixby Park
Sat. 23	10 a.m.	"Monarchs and Friends" Butterfly Event	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 25		Spring "Recreation Connection" Published	
	6:30 p.m.	L.A. County Parks & Recreation Assessment Meeting	Whaley Park

February

Mon. 1:		Spring Class Registration Begins	
Th. 4:	4 p.m.	Low Cost Pet Clinic	Scherer Park
Th. 11:	2:30 p.m.	Marine Advisory Commission	Long Beach Yacht Club
Sat. 13:	9:30 a.m.	Low Cost Pet Clinic	Rose Park, Orizaba & 8th Street
	11:30 a.m.	Low Cost Pet Clinic	Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Avenue
Mon. 15:		President's Day Holiday	
Wed. 17:	9 a.m.	Senior Citizen Advisory Commission	Long Beach Senior Center
Th. 18:	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Low Cost Pet Clinic	Scherer Park

*Call for registration and fee information.


REGISTER NOW FOR
SPRING 2016
RECREATION CLASSES!

Hundreds of classes are starting in March for pre-school through adults 50+ offered by Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine.

ADAPTIVE RECREATION • ART • COMPUTERS
 DANCE • DOG TRAINING • FITNESS
 ENRICHMENT • MUSIC • SAILING
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Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine
 2760 Studebaker Road - Long Beach, Ca 90816-1697
 Phone: 562.570.3100 Fax: 562.570.3109



E-mail: LBParks@longbeach.gov

Web Site: www.LBParks.org

Web Site: www.lgb.org