

# We Create Community



## Junior Beach Runners Program Wins Helen Putnam Award of Excellence

The City of Long Beach's Junior Beach Runners (JBR) program has received a 2017 Helen Putnam Award for Excellence from the League of California Cities. The award was announced at the League's annual conference in Sacramento.

The League's annual awards program honors cities that deliver the highest quality and level of service in the most effective manner possible. JBR was recognized in the category of Health and Wellness with an emphasis on "innovative planning efforts that encourage healthy lifestyles."

"Junior Beach Runners is a great partnership between our Parks, Recreation and Marine, and Health and Human Services Departments that furthers the City's healthy active lifestyle goals," said Mayor Robert Garcia.

With the goal of helping to reduce obesity and improve physical fitness among children in the city, the Long Beach Departments of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) and Health and Human Services (LBDHHS) along with Run Racing, the operators of the annual JetBlue Marathon in Long Beach, designed the JBR program in 2007 to be administered in Long Beach school WRAP (Winners Reaching Amazing Potential) sites, and city parks.

"LBDHHS's' Healthy Active Long Beach program, funded through the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant (SNAP-Ed), is proud to be a part of the Jr. Beach Runners Program. Over the past 10 years we've worked



collaboratively with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Marine to educate youth on the importance of healthy eating and being active and provide JBR families with resources to support healthy lifestyles," said Lara Turnbull, Healthy Active Long Beach Project Director.

JBR has changed the lives of over 4,000 youth and their families for the better since the program

began in 2007. Beginning as a single 12-week program in 2007 with 200 youth, JBR is now serving 600 youth per year in three 8 or 12 week sessions," said PRM Director Marie Knight.

JBR encourages youth participants and their families to embrace daily physical routines and healthy eating habits. Kids are motivated to challenge themselves and attain new personal best levels in running, fitness tests and various physical activities. Interactive nutrition education sessions, that include healthy food preparation and information on the importance of eating fruits and vegetables, equip participants with the knowledge and skills to make healthy decisions related to eating and physical activity.

For more information about the Junior Beach Runners program, visit [www.longbeach.gov/health/healthy-living/individual/schools-and-parks](http://www.longbeach.gov/health/healthy-living/individual/schools-and-parks).

# Davenport Park Walking Path Opens to the Public



*Cutting the ribbon on the new Davenport Park Walking Path are L-R: Parks, Recreation & Marine (PRM) Park Planning Officer Meredith Reynolds, PRM Recreation Superintendent Ashleigh Grisct, PRM Manager of Maintenance Operations Hurley Owens, Parks and Recreation Commissioner David Zanatta, a community member, Councilmember Al Austin, Mayor Robert Garcia, a community member, PRM Deputy Director Stephen Scott, three community members*

A grand opening ceremony for the new walking path at Ed “Pops” Davenport Park at 2910 E. 55th Way was held on September 30.

The new 2,200-foot-long, decomposed granite path activated the development of Phase II of Davenport Park, which began in 2016 to build the park out to Paramount Avenue on the park’s western border. Once completed, the combined 11.5-acre park space will provide a much-needed neighborhood park in a park deficient area of north Long Beach.

The new walking path connects to the existing walking path at the Ed “Pops” Davenport Park to form a 2/3 mile-loop. It is envisioned that the new park space could include multi-use athletic fields, meandering walkways, a reconfigured park entrance controlled by a new traffic light and additional parking.

The walking path, which cost approximately \$238,000, is funded by the Public Works’ Proposition A and the General Capital Project funds.

The park was named in memory of Long Beach Police Officer Corporal Ed “Pops” Davenport. During a distinguished 40-year career, Corporal Davenport worked in patrol, motors, special investigations, and was a special weapons and tactics team (SWAT).



## *Davenport Park Development Timeline*

- 1947: The land for Davenport Park was a Long Beach landfill and was later developed for industrial uses.
- 2001: The former Long Beach Redevelopment Agency acquired the 5.92-acre site portion with North Long Beach Project Area funds.
- 2004: North Division Police Station opens in Scherer Park. Davenport Park was created as mitigation for the use of the parkland.
- 2006: The agency acquired the westerly 5.6-acres with North Long Beach Project Area funds to extend the Davenport Park to Paramount Blvd.
- 2006: Phase I of Davenport Park opened with a soccer field, two half-court basketball courts, a playground, picnic area, and restrooms.
- 2017: The new walking path activates Phase II of Davenport Park development.

# Local Volunteers Make Coastal Cleanup Day A Success



On Saturday, September 16, El Dorado Regional Park and Nature Center staff organized **695** volunteers who removed over **2,255** pounds of trash from our local beaches at the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual statewide Coastal Cleanup Day event.

Staff partnered with the California Coastal Commission and volunteers to clean Alamitos Bay Marina, the Sea Scout Base (near Mother's Beach), the Peninsula, Belmont Pier, and Cherry Beach.

Joining in the effort as site captains were the Aquarium of the Pacific, Seal Beach Yacht Club, the Long Beach Marine Institute, and Clean LB.

This annual statewide event draws over 65,000 volunteers in a joint effort to clean up our waterways and coastline.

## El Dorado Nature Center Turtle & Tortoise Show

El Dorado Nature Center hosted a Turtle and Tortoise Show on September 16 that was sponsored by the California Turtle and Tortoise Club.

Visitors were able to see California Desert Tortoises, box turtles and many other species up close, and get information about turtle and tortoise care and adoption programs.



## Keep Up On The Latest City News With LinkLB

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Parks, Recreation and Marine offers updates on many programs and services including:

- ◆ Animal Care Services
- ◆ Marina Reader Newsletter
- ◆ Adult Sports Leagues
- ◆ Department News Releases
- ◆ El Dorado Nature Center
- ◆ Recreation Classes

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YOUR CONNECTION TO LONG BEACH

# Beach Peninsula Rebuilding Project Restores Beach and Protects Homes



Parks, Recreation & Marine's Beach Maintenance team recently added and shaped sand to build out the beach to 75-80 feet from the shoreline at the City's east beach and Peninsula area. From September 1 through March 15 the team completes three major re-nourishments to build up coastal areas in the Peninsula to protect public and private property from the effects of erosion.

Staff operated heavy equipment to transport 10,000 cubic yards of sand daily to build out and contour the beach to provide additional protection in the event of a large swell, high surf and the stormy season. They also constructed sand berms as far away from homes as practical to keep the berms high enough to be effective, yet low enough to provide a view.

In Long Beach the tides push sand in the eastern beaches westward where it accumulates near 54<sup>th</sup> Place. Staff cleans and moves the excess sand from 54<sup>th</sup> Place to the beach near 72<sup>nd</sup> Place.

Staff limited the impact on the community to by restricting the hours of operation to between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.



*Heavy equipment moves sand from the west beaches to the east beaches to build out the shoreline and to create protective berms.*



*Tidal flow in Long Beach causes eastern beaches to erode.*

## By the Numbers: Maintenance Operations Bureau - September 2017

### Community Service Workers (CSW) program

Number of persons enrolled in the program for August.....	73
Total number of CSW Hours for August.....	1,947
Total number of hours worked at Beach Maintenance.....	200
(Litter pickup on beachess, parking lots, Belmont Pool, Ocean Blvd., Peninsula)	
Total number of hours worked at Marine Maintenance.....	404
(Litter pickup at Belmont Pier, maintenance building, and custodial work)	
Total number of hours worked at El Dorado Park areas.....	634
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility sites including Tree Farm and Night Crew)	
Total number of hours worked at Tree Farm.....	154
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility)	
Total number of hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands.....	863
(Litter and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon)	
Total number of hours worked at special clean-ups.....	72
(Neighborhood clean-ups, graffiti paint-outs and community events)	

Work orders completed.....	509
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 August, 2017	
Parks and Street Island Potable.....	44,737.....\$168,338
Parks and Street Island Reclaimed.....	67,759.....\$117,825

# SCAN Health Plan Volunteers Gives Back for 40th Anniversary

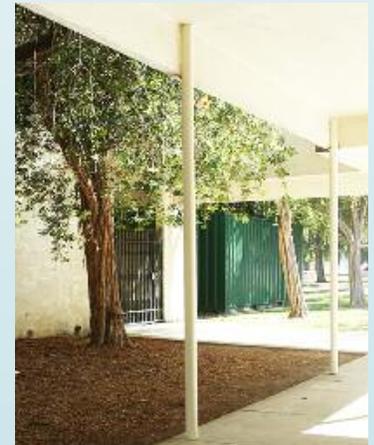
On September 23, Parks, Recreation and Marine hosted the SCAN Healthcare Volunteer Day at El Dorado Park West.

More than 100 SCAN employees volunteered in celebration of their 40th year in Long Beach by painting inside the community center, and around the building. They also painted 70 trashcans, two backstops, walls located on the roller hockey rink, five storage containers and a concession stand in a matter of two hours. The community center and park look amazing, and the participants who use the center on a daily basis are enjoying the fresh new look.

“Before”



“After”



Mayor Robert Garcia, Councilmember Roberto Uranga, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine and the Office of Sustainability cordially invite you to attend the

# GRAND OPENING

*of the new*

## Willow Springs Wetlands Restoration Project

October 21, 2017 at 10 a.m.

Located at 2755 Orange Avenue



Call (562) 570-3150 for more information.



## Know Your Long Beach Parks: Livingston Drive Park



Since 1923 the area that is now Livingston Drive Park has evolved from a parking lot to a vibrant neighborhood park that gives children a place to play.

The 2.07-acre Livingston Drive Park is a section of a Pacific Electric Railway right-of-way on Livingston Drive between Granada Avenue and Second Street. In the '1920s the City acquired

the northern most block, between Granada Avenue and Argonne Avenue.

In 1954 the City leased the land to the Bay Shore Congregational Church for a parking lot. In 1963 a 100 feet wide by four block long adjacent area was acquired. It was planted with ice plant and reserved for future street widening. After street widening plans were abandoned in 1970, in 1979 the western most block was sold for the development of a bank and small shopping center at the corner of Second Street and Livingston Drive.

In 1989, a group of neighbors organized and raised funds to match the City for the construction of a pre-school aged children's playground (ages 3-5) in the block between Park Ave. and Argonne Ave.

At the time, the Long Beach matching funds capital improvement program paid for 50 percent of approved cap-



ital projects proposed by community entities. For the Livingston Drive proposal, the City committed \$150,000 towards the proposed \$300,000 renovations. The new park opened in 1990.

In 2007, Belmont Shore residents organized the Tot Lot Committee (TLC) to raise funds for the replacement of the playground equipment, which was then the oldest in the City, and an expansion of the playground to include a toddler area (2-3 years old) and a school aged children's area (5-12 years). This was completed in January 2009.



### Livingston Drive Development History

- 1923: City obtains land along Livingston Drive between Granada and Argonne Avenues
- 1954: Leases to Bay Shore Congregational Church for a parking lot
- 1963: City acquires the 100 foot-wide, four-block long area and added landscaping. Plans were in development to incorporate the land into future street widening
- 1970: Street widening plans were abandoned and western most block was sold
- 1979: A bank and small shopping center opened at Second Street and Livingston Drive
- 1990: Neighbors teamed with the non-profit Partners of Parks to raise matching funds to construct a pre-school aged children's playground (ages 3-5) in the block between Park and Argonne Avenues
- 2007: A Tot Lot Committee raised funds to replace the playground equipment, then the oldest in the City, and expand the playground to include areas for ages 2-3 and 5-12 years
- 2009: Playground equipment replacement project was completed

**Wall Art by Allyson**

Thank you to Allyson Jones Wong for donating her professional services to create this lively piece of artwork on the wall at the Animal Care Services kennels to welcome visitors.



**Employee of the Month: Paola Maldonado**



Administrative Analyst III Paola Maldonado works for the Business Operations Bureau, and as the Department's lead Budget Analyst. she makes sure we get the resources the department needs to achieve its missions and mandates.

Paola is a success story for the City of Long Beach in so many ways. She started with the City in 2000 as a Clerk Typist III, and was promoted over the years to Assistant Administrative Analyst and Personnel Analyst working in both Civil Service and at the Port, and finally came to PRM as an Administrative Analyst III eight years ago. Along the way, she met her husband, Alfonso Maldonado, an Engineer with the Long Beach Fire Department. They have two kids, Adriano and Gianna, and are a very active and close family, enjoying fitness and sports activities as much as possible in their free time.

Paola's primary responsibility is to prepare the budget to be presented and adopted each year, and then to watch to make sure we don't overspend or underspend, which is just as bad! She keeps the train moving each year towards these goals, all of us on it, and makes sure we get to the station on time. Now, if that was all we gave her to do, it would be a pretty big job, but this year, the City is implementing a new integrated Financial and HR System. The first part of it was deciding all of the information we wanted in it, figuring out how to classify it, and then entering the new classification in the new system. This was a long process and would have been a big task during a slow period, but many of the steps coincided with key Budget Development tasks from its initial development, right up to the recent budget adoption. What makes this an extraordinary achievement is how she kept up with her already full workload and worked with the analyst team to move the project forward. She made all of her deadlines for both enormous tasks, and all of the other everyday items she completes to keep the Bureaus and the Department running.

Paola absolutely shows the PRM Way! She jumped in to a project that once implemented, will bring the City and the Department better systems. She has done it with all the good humor she has shown with the rest of her duties, and has worked through any problems looking for the best answer, not just the quick and easy way. Paola is a leader not just in our Department, but across the City as well.

**By the Numbers:  
Community Recreation Services  
August 2017**

Permits to Gather.....	243
Reserved Picnic Sites.....	58
Number of Contract Classes.....	150
Facility Use Permits Issued.....	59
Field Use Permits Issued.....	79
El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes.....	573
El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries.....	14,580
Adult Sports League Participants.....	10,964
Visits to City Pools.....	34,954
Youth and Teen Participants.....	62,611
Senior Citizen Participants.....	32,287
Visits to El Dorado Nature Center.....	29,286

# October - November 2017 Calendar of Events

## October

Sat. 14:	9:30 a.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 18:	9 a.m.	Senior Citizen Advisory Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
Th. 19:	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
	4 p.m.	SNP Mobile Pet Vaccination Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer
Fri. 20:			
Sat. 21:	10 a.m.	Wetland Warrior Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
	10 a.m.	Australian Plants and their Stories	Rancho Los Cerritos
	10 a.m.	Grand Opening Event for Willow Spring Walking Path	Orange Ave. Btw. Willow and Spring Sts.
Sun. 22:	1:30 p.m.	*Timeless Space and Values Lecture / Program	Rancho Los Alamitos
Sat. 28:	Varies	* Eight – week M/W Swim Lessons begin	King Park Pool
	Varies	* Eight – week M/W Swim Lessons begin	Silverado Park Pool
Mon. 30:	Varies	* Four – week M/W Swim Lessons begin	Silverado Park Pool
Tue. 31:	Varies	* Four – week Tu/Th Swim Lessons begin	King Park Pool

## November

Th. 2:	4 p.m.	SNP Mobile Pet Vaccination Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer
Sat. 4:	10 a.m.	Grand Opening Event for the Bixby Dog Park	130 Cherry Avenue
	10 a.m.	*First Saturday Stewards Trail Clean up Event	El Dorado Nature Center
	Varies	* Eight – week M/W Swim Lessons begin	Belmont Plaza Pool
Sun. 5:	1:30 p.m.	*“The Future Today” Lecture Program	Rancho Los Alamitos
Mon. 6:		Winter Class Registration Begins	
Th. 9:	2:30 p.m.	Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Yacht Club
Sun. 12:	8 a.m.	Audubon Bird Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Tue. 14:	7 p.m.	*Family Nighthlife Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 15:	9 a.m.	Senior Citizen Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
	6 p.m.	Commission on Youth and Children Meeting	Parks, Recreation & Marine Admin
Th. 16:	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
	9:30 a.m.	*4 wk. Bubble, Fizz Boom! Preschool Program Begins	El Dorado Nature Center
	4 p.m.	SNP Mobile Pet Vaccination Clinic	Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park
Sat. 18:	10 a.m.	Wetland Warriors Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
	10 a.m.	Hypertufa Planter Workshop	Rancho Los Cerritos
	7:30 p.m.	*Tellastration Storytelling Event	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 22:		Trees in the Bay Lighted	
Th. 23:		Thanksgiving	
Fri. 24:		City Holiday	
Mon. 27:	Varies	* Four – week M/W Swim Lessons begin	Silverado Park Pool
Tue. 28:	10 a.m.	*8-wk. Tu./Th. Pre-School In Nature (Cozy Critters) Begins	El Dorado Nature Center
	Varies	* Four – week Tu/Th Swim Lessons begin	King Park Pool
Wed. 29:	10 a.m.	*8-wk. Tu./Th. Pre-School In Nature (Cozy Critters) Begins	El Dorado Nature Center

\*Call for registration and fee information.

## NATIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER!



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