

We Create Community

CITY OF LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION
& MARINE

OCTOBER 2023 | VOLUME 12
ISSUE 10

DAVENPORT PARK PHASE II EXPANSION PROJECT UNDERWAY



A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the start of the Davenport Park Phase II expansion project on August 29, 2023.

The project will expand the existing 5.5-acre park to 11.5 acres, and include a multi-use sports field, fitness stations, outdoor seating areas, site furnishings, a walking trail, and additional parking. Other amenities include shaded picnic areas and drought-tolerant landscaping with updated lighting, and bike racks. There will be a connecting path to the existing Davenport Park.

The project was made possible by a \$3.7 million grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, \$1.2 million from park impact fees, \$1.7 million from Measure A, and \$3.5 from Measure A Bonds. Construction is expected to be completed by summer 2024.

For the latest project information on Davenport Park, visit longbeach.gov/davenportphaseii.

Davenport Park is located on 2910 East 55th Way and was named in memory of Long Beach Police Officer Corporal Ed "Pops" Davenport. This park was the site of a landfill until 1947 when it was developed for industrial uses. The former Long Beach Redevelopment Agency acquired the northern 5.92-acre section of the land in 2001 for development as a park. An opening celebration was held on August 26, 2006. Improvements included a multi-use field, two half-court basketball courts, play equipment, walking trail, picnic area, restroom and parking lot. The park's development was also mitigation for the Police Station built in Scherer Park in 2004, a park restricted to open space use by prior receipt of federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. On April 24, 2006, the Redevelopment Agency acquired 5.6-acres of former landfill to the west of the existing park with North Long Beach Project Area funds to eventually extending the park to Paramount Blvd.

Director's Corner

BRENT DENNIS, DIRECTOR, LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



October 1st marks the beginning of each fiscal year for the City of Long Beach. Our Parks, Recreation, Marine, and Animal Care Services team is advancing into the month with an appreciative

heart as our operating budget has some very important funding enhancements. Our very popular Be S.A.F.E. program's eleven sites are now all structurally funded within our department's annual budget. Animal Care is also receiving some strategic funding to help address issues of overcrowding, medical procedures, and increased capabilities for expanding spay and neutering. Pool lifeguard staff is seeing important hourly pay increases to address recruitment and retention challenges so we can keep our aquatic centers open and safely supervised by certified lifeguard teams. Park capital improvement projects for the next 12 months will bring much needed repairs, renovations, and construction of new park and recreation amenities for the benefit of residents across the City. Our department continues to work closely with Public Works throughout the design and construction process to realize important park improvements and new development projects.

The Long Beach Animal Care Services team, with the amazing support of community rescue partners and passionate volunteers, continues to successfully place scores of dogs and cats into foster care and adoptive homes. We are thankful for the opportunity before City Council meetings for pet adoption presentations. Our monthly presentations, primarily of harder to place larger dogs, have resulted thus far in a 100% adoption success rate. We appreciate Mayor Richardson's enthusiastic support of these monthly presentations.

The El Dorado Frontier, a popular family attraction located in El Dorado Regional Park, will be offering fun Halloween weekends at their Pumpkin Market through the end of the month. The 5th Annual Pumpkin Market will run September 30-October 29, Friday: 2 – 6 p.m., and Sat.-Sun: 11 a.m. -6 p.m. with Live Music on Sat. & Sun. from 1p.m.-5p.m. Halloween events and various "trunk or treat" special gatherings will be popping up at various parks and community centers throughout the month. Hoping everyone's Halloween is both fun and safe.

Hundreds of new trees have been planted in parks this past month to follow up on necessary removals of dead and disease-weakened trees. Crews of the Conservation Corps of Long Beach have partnered with our department to help re-forest our parks with more native and drought tolerant species of new trees. As the seasons change, our parks begin to show glimpses of autumn colors in the deciduous tree foliage. The 2024 City Budget has allocated funds for the development of a citywide urban forest master plan along with \$1.0 million funding identified for additional planting of new trees in the parks and public spaces in alignment with this master plan.

The Park Ambassador program is entering its fifth month with noticeable improvement in the cleanliness and welcoming qualities of our park restrooms. The second shift team of ten Ambassadors have been very visible as they traverse the City to tend to the 55 free standing park restroom facilities with extra attention to the deep cleaning, graffiti abatement, vandalism repairs, and the day's end locking of the restrooms and mini parks after the 10 p.m. park closure time on a nightly basis. This new additional maintenance staffing model will greatly enhance the park visitor experience.

We hope to see the month of October bring increased fall sports activation and beautification of our parks and beaches! Parks Make Long Beach...Parks Make Life Better!



39TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP DAY



3,800 LBS OF DEBRIS WERE REMOVED FROM LOCAL BEACHES BY VOLUNTEERS ON COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

PRM El Dorado Park Nature Center staff invited the community to get involved and make a positive impact on the local environment by participating in the 39th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 23.

Volunteers made a difference at Junipero Beach, Belmont Pier, the Peninsula at 72nd Place and Ocean Boulevard, Mother's Beach and the Seal Beach Yacht Club. A total of 1,638 volunteers registered and removed over 3,800

pounds of debris at the five sites in only three hours. City staff provided educational materials to the community to inform the public about marine debris issues and inspire local environmental stewardship.

Thanks to the Long Beach Container Terminal for providing reuseable buckets and to the Los Angeles Waterkeeper Alliance, Algalita Marine Research and Education group that fight against plastic pollution, and the Seal Beach Yacht Club for serving as site captains for each of the five cleanup sites.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE-BE A WETLAND WARRIOR HELP SAVE OUR WETLANDS



Only five percent of California's once vast coastal wetlands remain today.

Join the 3rd Saturday Wetland Warrior team and explore and help protect the critical habitat at Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve, at Boathouse Lane and Los Cerritos Channel. Two hours of time can save wildlife. Wear sturdy shoes.



Upcoming cleanups are scheduled for October 21 and November 18 from 10 a.m. – noon. Meet in the parking lot in front of the rowing center. The parking fee is waived.

Spaces are limited and advance volunteer registration is required. Call 562-570-1745. In the event of rain, the cleanup will be canceled.

PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The Marine Bureau has successfully worked towards achieving several goals in the Parks, Recreation and Marine Strategic Plan throughout the months of July, August and September.

GOAL: SAFE ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC SPACES
A total of 20 swim line buoys were replaced from Junipero Beach to 72nd Place. The buoys contribute to safe enjoyable swim areas.

Kid's Zone Ordinance signage was installed at playground areas at Alamitos Beach, Junipero Beach, Colorado Lagoon, Mother's Beach and Bayshore Beach.

Staff replaced the sidewalk at Colorado Lagoon Playground.

GOAL: COMMUNITY TRANSPARENCY
An electronic message board was installed at Marine Stadium.

GOAL: SAFE ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC SPACES / PARTNERSHIPS / SUSTAINABLE PARK ECOSYSTEM
Beach Maintenance staff build and additional half-mile of beach berms fortifications and ten stormwater runoff channels to safeguard life and property during Tropical Storm Hilary.

Beach Maintenance staff has removed 5,000 tons of debris to date in 2023.

The Marine Bureau Landscape contractor remove downed trees, limbs and branches to mitigate safety hazards and scheduled new plantings at Bixby Annex Park, Mother's Beach, Bluff Park, Marine Stadium Alamitos Bay Marina are becoming established.

300 trash receptacles are maintained and cleaned daily in beach areas.

GOAL: SAFE ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC SPACES / PARTNERSHIPS / FINANCIALLY SECURE AND RESILIENT OPERATIONS
A 94 percent occupancy rate was maintained for slips in the three City Marinas.

GOAL: SUSTAINABLE PARK ECOSYSTEM
A \$200,000 grant from the California Department of Boating and Waterways is being used to remove 51 abandoned and derelict vessels from Long Beach waterways.



GOAL: PARTNERSHIPS / FINANCIALLY SECURE AND RESILIENT OPERATIONS
In August 2023, in partnership with the Department of Public Works, staff opened the Gaucho Beach concession at Alamitos Beach. Gaucho Beach joins Saltwater Deck at Junipero Beach and Louisiana Charlies' at Mother's Beach as active beachfront concession operations.

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

FREE YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUES



COED BASKETBALL Born 2010-2019

BOYS BASKETBALL Born 2010-2019

GIRLS BASKETBALL Born 2010-2019

Register online starting November 27, 2023
at teamsideline.com/longbeach.
Leagues start January 27, 2024
at Long Beach Parks.

Call your local park for
practice schedule information.
\$10 uniform and team photo fee.

LBPARKS.ORG



LBACS & EL DORADO NATURE CENTER HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN FURRY FRIENDS AT HOWL-O-WEEN



El Dorado Nature Center and Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) will host a family-friendly Howl-o-ween

Festival on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the El Dorado Nature Center, 7550 E. Spring Street.

Residents will enjoy a hare-raising adventure trick-or-treating along the Nature Center trails, hear spine tingling tales from the South Coast Storytellers, meet animal education groups, and enjoy crafts, face painting and bounce houses at the Ohhh-possom Patch. Food will be available for purchase at onsite food trucks. Parking for the event is free and a \$5 donation per entry to Partners of Parks Friends of El Dorado Nature Center is encouraged.

Festivities will also take place across the parking lot at Long Beach Animal Care Services (7700 E. Spring St.),

where people can participate in spooktacular activities such as the animal education village, "Bark-o-Treat," and a Día de los Muertos pet memorial in remembrance of the spirits of pets passed. Those interested in participating in "Bark-o-Treat" should bring two bags of unopened dog treats, one to donate at the check-in table and the other to drop one treat in the dog kennel candy buckets. Adoption fees for all pets will be waived during the Howl-o-ween event to encourage the responsible, mindful adoption of animals in need of a home.

While this is a family-friendly event where costumes are encouraged, four-legged furry friends should be left at home. The last Nature Center trail and Animal Shelter entries will be at 5 p.m. For more information call (562) 570-1745.

LEARNING HUBS

LBParks.org



Free hubs provide a safe space with high-speed internet for students to participate in enriching after school activities, academic support, sports, fitness and more.

HOUGHTON PARK (562) 570-1640	ORIZABA PARK (562) 570-1427
MCBRIDE PARK (562) 570-1605	VETERANS PARK (562) 570-1695

Learning Hubs are open Monday-Friday: 3-6 p.m.

PRM TEEN ACADEMY SUPPORTS WELLNESS AND FUTURE SUCCESS



Participants of the program will engage in recreational and social activities have access to resources in areas such as mental health, financial literacy, educational opportunities and job pathways. Applications and waivers can be signed by parents will be available during normal hours at all six PRM Teen Centers.

Teen Academy members will gain work experience by committing 10 hours each month working alongside Recreation staff planning and implementing different recreation programs.

Monthly workshops include October, Human Relations and Cultural Awareness; November, Giving Back and Community Service; December, Financial Literacy; January, Self-Care and Mental Awareness; February, College and Career Pathways; March, Job Readiness; April, Physical Health; May, Our Human Experience; and June Graduation.

More information about teen center programming is available on the PRM Youth and Teen Center Programs webpage.

The Teen Academy is made possible by the Long Beach Recovery Act, a plan to fund economic and public health initiatives for Long Beach residents, workers and businesses critically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Academy aligns with the City's Race & Reconciliation Initiative to connect teen centers with workforce development services and the Parks, Recreation & Marine Strategic Plan goal (4-1-D) to partner with youth organizations to provide job training to young adults.

Parks, Recreation and Marine is once again offering it's Teen Academy for teens ages 13 to 18.

The Academy provides teens with experiences, activities and resources that support their wellness and future success. The Teen Academy runs through June 2024, weekdays from 3 to 7 p.m., at PRM's six teen centers:

- Admiral Kidd Park (2125 Santa Fe Ave.)
- Cesar Chavez Park (401 Golden Ave.)
- Freeman Community Center (1205 Freeman Ave.)
- Houghton Park (6301 Myrtle Ave.)
- McBride Park (1550 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.)
- Silverado Park (1545 W. 31st St.)

ANIMAL CARE SERVICES PET ADOPTION EVENT



Show your appreciation for pit bulls at the Pit Bull Appreciation event on Saturday, October 21 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at LBACS.

Pit Bull Appreciation Day is a no-contact community dog event features Pit Bull-centric and dog-friendly non-profit groups local organizations, dog adoptions, pet illustrator, doggy photo booths, training demos, a Day of

the Dead pet memorial altar, photo contest, food, merch and more!

Help us build community around the dogs we love. All breeds, mixes, and sizes are welcome! 10 feet of space is required between dogs, and six-foot or shorter leashes. No retractable leashes please. Your attendance means

that you agree to be responsible for your safety and the safety of your dog. Please respect others' space and keep you and your dog safe.

Admission is free however an entry donation is suggested to help pay for the free resources and community support provided by animal support groups in attendance.



AUGUST EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH SOKRY SAO AND SEREY HONG



Congratulations to Recreation Specialists Sokry Sao and Serey Hong from

the Long Beach Senior Center (LBSC) on being named the employees of the month for August 2023.

Mr. Hong and Sokry work so strongly as a team at the Long Beach Senior Center (LBSC) that they can practically finish each other's sentences. Working the afternoon and evening shifts they have a birdseye view of all our activities and stay one step ahead of our programs. Together they facilitate the pool, ping pong and pickleball clubs, prepare activity spaces for programming, and are the liaisons with evening and weekend reservations. Last summer, Mr. Hong and Sokry added in a beautification project in addition to their daily duties. The LBSC library had been closed for several years and book donations kept piling up. In their evening hours they removed everything from the library, cleaned the walls, patched, and painted the room so the floor could be replaced. They proceeded to create a warm welcoming environment along with the rest of the

LBSC team. While this one project might be enough for many, they carried on and beautified the first floor hallway and the auditorium. They are an asset to the LBSC team!



SOKRY AND SEREY'S EFFORTS HELPED CREATE A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT IN THE SENIOR CENTER LIBRARY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT.

Sokry has worked with the department since 2000 in the WRAP program in Long Beach schools, the USDA Summer Food, Mobile Recess Programs, special events and almost every park site.

Mr. Hong has worked with PRM since 2006 with WRAP, Summer Food and the Long Beach Senior Center.

LBSC staff is happy to be on the same team as these two hard-working staff members.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRM AUGUST EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH, LEFT: SOKRY SAO AND RIGHT: SEREY HONG

HOMELAND CULTURAL CENTER AT MAC ARTHUR PARK

Explore and share traditional and contemporary cultural traditions with

Homeland Cultural Programs. Homeland Cultural Center is a uniquely welcoming multicultural environment. Programs are offered year-round in traditional ethnic and urban contemporary arts.

Homeland Cultural Center at Mac Arthur Park Programs:

- Popping & Break Dancing - Mon. & Tue. 6-10 p.m.
- AIM Urban Poetry Workshop - Tue. 7-9 p.m.
- Drums - Tue. 4-6 p.m.
- Aztec Dance - Wed. 7-9 p.m.
- Bokator (Martial Arts) Th. 7-9 p.m.
- Afrikan Drum/Dance - Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Music Improvisation - Sat. 4-6 p.m.
- Hmong Arts - Sun, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Micronesia Arts - Sun. 2-6 p.m.
- Movie Makers Workshop - Sun. 1-3 p.m.
- Free programs. Call (562) 570-1655

CITY OF LONG BEACH

MARINE BUREAU BOAT AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

VIEWING 8 A.M. BIDDING BEGINS 9 A.M.

Alamitos Bay Marina Office
205 N. Marina Drive

CASH, CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED

(562) 570-3215 or visit
<https://bit.ly/3xSsUtr>




OCTOBER 2023 CALENDAR

Mon. 16	8 a.m.	Mon./Wed. Swim Lesson Registration (10/30-11/22)	Silverado Park Pool
Tue. 17	8 a.m.	Tu./Th. Swim Lesson Registration (10/31-11/21)	King Park Pool
Wed. 18	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 19	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 20	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat. 21	10-10:45 11 a.m.-2 p.m. 2-6 p.m.	Free Bilingual (Spanish) Storytime RSVP: www.rancholocerritos.org/upcoming-events Pet Supplies Plus Adoption Event Howl-O-Ween Festival	Rancho Los Cerritos 2086 N. Bellflower Blvd. El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 23	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 24	10-10:30 a.m.	Free Storytime RSVP at www.rancholocerritos.org/upcoming-events	Rancho Los Cerritos
Wed. 25	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 26	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 27	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat. 28	9-10 a.m.	El Dorado Regional Park Cleanup	Past El Dorado Frontier in Area III
Mon. 30	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 31		Halloween	

NOVEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

Wed. 1	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 2	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 3	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat. 4	10 a.m. – noon	1st Saturday Stewards Volunteer Cleanup	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 6	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 7		Election Day Holiday	
Wed. 8	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 9	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 10	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat. 11	7:30-9:30 p.m.	Tellabration Storytelling Event Aged 12 & Up.\$5	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 13	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 14	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed. 15	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 16	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 17	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat. 18	10 a.m. – noon 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Volunteer Wetland Cleanup Pet Supplies Plus Adoption Event	Jack Dunster Reserve 2086 N. Bellflower Blvd. El Dorado Nature Center
Sun. 19	8-10 a.m.	Morning Bird Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 20	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 21	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed. 22	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 23		Thanksgiving	
Fri. 24		City Holiday	
Sat. 25	9-10 a.m.	El Dorado Regional Park Cleanup	Past El Dorado Frontier in Area III
Mon. 27	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 28	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed. 29	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 30	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites

Free Mobile Recess Programs September 5-December 22

Register on Site

Monday and Thursday	2-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday and Friday	3-5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	3-5:30 p.m.

Grace Park, 361 E. Plymouth Street
Rose Park, corner of Orizaba Avenue and 8th Street
Hudson Park 2335 Webster Ave.

Visit www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/youth-programs/mobile-recess for more information

LBUSD Students Free Community Learning Hubs ages 5-14, through June 14, 2024 Register online

Monday-Friday 3-6 p.m. **Houghton, McBride, Orizaba and Veterans Parks**

To enroll, visit your desired location. Academic support with high-speed internet, sports, fitness and more. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. Visit www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/youth-programs/community-learning-hubs for details.

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

WWW.LBPARKS.ORG

2760 STUDEBAKER ROAD
 LONG BEACH, CA 90815
 PHONE: 562.570.3100
 FAX: 562.570.3109



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