

We Create Community

CITY OF LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION
& MARINE

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NEW PLAYGROUND OPENS AT ADMIRAL KIDD PARK



A new playground at Admiral Kidd Park opened

on August 19, replacing the equipment that was destroyed in a fire in 2021.

The new nautical-themed children's play area features a zip-line, friendship (multi-user) swings, harness swings, an all-inclusive multi-user "SwayFun" feature, an accessible path

to the playground, shade structures and upgrades to the lighting surrounding the walking paths.

Approximately \$486,000 was raised by Partners of Parks with financial support from eight sponsors, including Marathon Petroleum's Los Angeles Refinery and Amazon.com Services LLC. A total of \$1.98 million in Measure A infrastructure funding and grant funding also supported the project.

Director's Corner

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



With Autumn approaching, I am confident you will discover oodles of opportunities within the month of September to experience and enjoy the many programs, special events, and fantastic

facilities that our Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services Department and team offers. As the City of Long Beach celebrates Labor Day, I am always reminded of the dedicated, passionate, and hard-working Department team members who hope you take a bite of the fruits of their labor.

The Summer of 2023 was simply AMAZING! Ten weeks of fun-filled camps, movies and concerts in the parks, and countless unique Long Beach events and celebrations all made for a memorable season. As the youth of our community head back to school, our After School programming kicks off to offer more fun and engaging experiences. We also said thank you to our summer seasonal Community Recreation Services team members who returned to school after their incredible contributions and leadership.

The new Admiral Kidd Park playground that was celebrated in late August has elevated the joy factor in that west side park. A special thanks to Partners of Parks for their funding of

the equipment, complete with a popular zip-line and showcasing one of our most accessible playgrounds in Long Beach's urban park system. The Port of Long Beach made a significant contribution to the playground environs with beautiful landscaping, trees, and innovative environmental features such as bioswales.

In terms of new park development, at the closing of August we had a cool groundbreaking on a very hot afternoon in Davenport Park. The second phase of park construction has commenced, and the improvements will include a major sports field, exercise loop pathway around the park, fitness equipment, and other park amenities. Summer of 2024 is the projected completion time frame for this important park on the north side of Long Beach. Park funding was comprised of Measure A and a State of California Land and Water Conservation grant.

By the end of September, our citywide commitment to safety and aesthetics through increased attention to our park trees, will see the conclusion of an initial phase of dead tree removal and trimming in all nine Council District parks. For the first time in recent memory, funding for the removal of dead, dying, and diseased trees along with necessary tree trimming on high priority trees near playgrounds, outdoor fitness areas, parking lots, walkways, trails, and facilities was included in the 2023 Department budget. Biologist surveys of trees are being conducted where work occurs to assure that no harm or disturbance of nesting birds. The 2024 City Budget has funding identified to address the planting of new trees in the parks where trees have been removed.

The Park Ambassador program is entering its fourth 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 52 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 September bring increased activation and beautification of our parks and beaches! Parks Make Long Beach...Parks Make Life Better!

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

LOS ANGELES DODGERS FOUNDATION SUMMER DREAMTEAM PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH



Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation Dreamteam Program grant brought

Coed Youth T-ball, Coach Pitch, Baseball and Fastpitch Softball Programs to Local Youth this Summer.

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine provided youth T-ball, baseball and fastpitch softball programs for the 6th year in a row this summer through a \$62,430 grant from the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation Dodger Dreamteam program (LADF). A total of 1,364 Long Beach youth ages 5 through 18, participated at 22 City locations, and played 60 t-ball games, 66 coach pitch games, 144 baseball games and 84 softball games.

Dodgers Dreamteam players received free uniforms, sports equipment, personal protective equipment, and resources that address basic needs, education and health-care. Participants were able to access free LADF programs like Dodger Days, Fitness and Nutrition Clinics, Coaches Trainings, Player Development Trainings and College and Career Accelerator Workshops. All participants of the T-Ball and Coach Pitch divisions received a team photo and medals. The grant also assisted with field maintenance needs and provided a Dodgers Dreamteam Coordinator and certified Dodgers Dreamteam coaches.

For more information about the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, visit dodgers.com/LADF.

EL DORADO NATURE CENTER SPONSORS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Make a difference in the lives of plants, animals and people and join others in clean up efforts that protect our natural world.

1ST SATURDAY STEWARDS Help us maintain the beauty of the Nature Center by cleaning the stream, pulling weeds, clearing the trails or spreading mulch. Wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. Saturdays, October 1, November 5, 10 a.m.-noon.

3RD SATURDAY WETLAND WARRIOR CLEANUP AT COLORADO LAGOON Help protect the critical habitat at Colorado Lagoon Marine Biological Reserve. Two hours of time can save wildlife. Wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. Meet near the bike racks along Appian Way. Parking fee waived. Saturdays October 15, November 19, 10 a.m. - noon.

4TH SATURDAY EL DORADO REGIONAL PARK CLEANUP Join fellow park-lovers to clean up fishing line and other debris from our beautiful park and lakes.

Youth under 18 must bring an adult. Meet at the parking lot on the left just past El Dorado Frontier in Area III. Saturdays, September 24, October 22, November 26, 9 -10 a.m.

ADOPT-A-BEACH Individuals, families, civic or non-profit organizations, and businesses, can join the Adopt-A-Beach program and protect our coastline. We provide everything you need! Call El Dorado Nature Center at (562) 570-1745 to make arrangements or for more information.

2023 CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP DAY You can take an active role in keeping our coastline clean and healthy. Cleanups will take place at beaches throughout the city. For more information and group registration, call (562) 570-4876. Saturday, September 23, 9 a.m. - noon.

SISTER CITIES LONG BEACH AND YOKKACHI, JAPAN CELEBRATE 60 YEAR RELATIONSHIP



L-R: SPEAKER RYONA HIGUCHI, YOKKACHI CITY ASSEMBLY; YOKKACHI MAYOR TOMOHIRO MORI, LONG BEACH MAYOR REX RICHARDSON; LONG BEACH 3RD DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER KRISTINA DUGGAN AND MICHAEL VAUGHN, BOARD CHAIR, SISTER CITIES OF LONG BEACH UNVEIL COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE

The year 2023 marks the 60th Anniversary of the Sister Cities relationship

between the City of Long Beach and Yokkaichi, Japan. On August 12, a re-dedication of the Yokkaichi Friendship Garden on 7th and Frederation at Recreation Park cele-

brated the unique connection. The event featured Kokoro Taiko drummers, a martial arts demonstration along with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque, a gift from Yokkaichi to Long Beach.

PRM STAFF PREPARATION AND RESPONSE TO TROPICAL STORM HILARY



Over the weekend from August 20-21 Long Beach experienced over two inches of rain, winds

up to 38 miles per hour and swells up to 6 feet. Tropical Storm Hilary brought Southern California it's first ever tropical storm watch. Leading up to the storm and in the cleanup that followed PRM staff worked to minimize potential damage and dangerous situations.

Staff monitored, rebuilt, and fortified 2,960 linear feet of protective berms, hauling over 160,000 cubic feet of sand. Heavy equipment operators were on extended shifts and nine staff were on standby on Saturday for a full day of berm fortification, and 10 staff on Sunday to continue prep and to tend to the berm and projected surf. Staff also focused efforts to build a berm around Lifeguard Headquarters.

Beach storm drains were operational. Staff worked to cut trench drains as this storm came early in the season and staff did not have the opportunity to open beach drains.

Four trees were lost in parks including one in Livingston Drive Park, two in El Dorado Regional Park and one in El Dorado Park West.

PRM Staff were prepared and ready to support a shelter at Silverado Park, including the showers at the pool, through Tuesday if needed.

On August 21 PRM reopened parks, open spaces, sports facilities, trails, trailheads, basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, golf courses, dog parks, playgrounds, skate parks, public park parking lots and picnic areas that were temporarily closed at noon on August 20 due to the impacts of the rainstorm. The El Dorado Regional Park remained closed until August 21. The Movie in the Park scheduled at College Estates Park and the Summer Food Service at Grace Park, Lincoln Park or Seaside Park did not take place due to saturated ground conditions.

Thanks to all staff for their hard work and dedication in keeping PRM facilities, grounds and the public safe.

SPEEDO SWIM UNITED PROGRAM YOUTH MEET 4X OLYMPIC MEDALIST CULLEN JONES



LEFT: KING PARK POOL WATER SAFETY CLINIC WITH CULLEN JONES, MIDDLE: KING PARK POOL, RIGHT: SPEEDO JUNIOR NATIONAL SWIM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Youth at King Park Pool had the opportunity to meet four-time Olympic medalist, Cullen Jones, USA Swimming DEI and Lexus partner, who conducted a water safety clinic as part of the Speedo Swim United program on August 4. The youth learned about Cullen's Olympic journey and the impetus he had to succeed from nearly drowning

at an early age. Cullen also brought along his Silver and Gold Olympic medals to share with the participants. The youth had the opportunity to be spectators at Speedo Junior National Swim Championships in Irvine later that day. The Department thanks the Boys and Girls Club of Long Beach for their support and looks forward to more Speedo engagements to benefit Long Beach youth.

INTERNATIONAL LIFEGUARD APPRECIATION DAY SHOUT OUT TO ALL OUR POOL LIFEGUARDS



KING PARK



SILVERADO PARK



BELMONT PLAZA

LIFEGUARDS KING POOL, L TO R: GERARDO GARCIA MORALES, DAMRIZ OLEA, MATTHEW HERNANDEZ, SILVERADO POOL, L TO R: ADRIAN BUENROSTRO, TERRA GAMBOA, JOSUE BARBA, YAHAIRA HERNANDEZ, BRYAN WILLIAMS, BELMONT POOL, L TO R: PHILLIP WHICKER, JP SUTTON

International Lifeguard Appreciation Day was celebrated on July 31 to thank

our hard-working pool guards for keeping our community safe and for teaching our community how to swim.

DID YOU KNOW? Long Beach Pool lifeguards are highly trained. They all must pass a rigorous swim test and have three different certifications totaling over 80+ hours of training! These include Lifeguarding with CPR AED for

Professional Rescuers and First Aide Administering Emergency Oxygen, Water Safety Instructor, and First Aide for Public Safety Personnel.

Drowning is the leading cause of death for Children 0-4 and is second only to auto accidents for children 5-17. Our aquatics team has saved multiple lives in the last several years and performed dozens of rescues and treated hundreds of minor injuries.

SUMMER'S SEND OFF WITH JOURNEY USA FREE CONCERT



Hundreds of people came to El Dorado Park West on August 25 to enjoy a free concert

by the band Journey USA and have some fun before the summer ended and school started up again. The evening began with a Kid's Zone at 5 p.m., and was followed by the concert from 6-8 p.m. The sounds of iconic hits and chart-toppers like "Don't Stop Believin'," "Wheel in the Sky"

and "Faithfully" had the crowd up on their feet dancing and singing along.

The concert capped off a great summer of free family fun including "Be S.A.F.E." recreation programs, Movies in the Park, the Long Beach Municipal Band season, and performances by the Long Beach Community Band and bands at El Dorado Nature Center.

COLORADO LAGOON MODEL BOAT SHOP A 75 YEAR TRADITION



The Model Boat Shop at Colorado Lagoon is a beloved 75-year old tradition in Long Beach.

This summer a seven-week session was offered from for June 20 - August 4. A total of 65 youth learned to saw, sand and paint model boats. They also experienced the thrill of sailing their creations in the Lagoon at the end of the program.

The Model Boat Shop opened in 1948 and was operated by Rod Ogilby and Clyde W. Ellerman. Clyde operated it from

1961 to 1978 followed by Clyde's daughter Jo Ann Pike who had attended the program since age of six and ran the program beginning in summer 1982 until her retirement in 2019. After a hiatus during the COVID-19 Pandemic, PRM aquatics staff Peter Beck, Isabella Morgan and Caitlynn Cruz brought the program back to great success. For more information, call 562-570-1888.



JUNE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH JUAN RODRIGUEZ

Congratulations to Gardener II Juan Rodriguez on being selected as the PRM June Employee of the Month.

Juan has been instrumental in enhancing the Freeman Teen Center and transforming it from what one teen who'd never been inside had described its appearance as the "Juvenile Detention Center" to a building that is now attracting more and more teens to recreate in a clean inviting space. Juan, with assistance from his supervisor Clemente Cerrillos, planted and nurtured plants that brought the front of the Center back to life. It is especially important in a teen center to give the participants a sense of pride and appreciation of the space.

Juan was instrumental in power washing the front of El Dorado Park West on Night 1 of the Rec University staff training and making it clean for the 200 people in attendance. Juan's attention to detail and putting park patrons and training attendees first kept him onsite until the job was complete. This is a great example of Juan's dedication and of Bureaus working together for the community.



JULY EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH PRM PAYROLL TEAM

A worthy team was recognized as the Employees of the Month for July 2023.

Shertrell Collins, Renita Green and Crystal Murphy make up the Parks, Recreation and Marine Payroll / Personnel team who together have a combined 30 years of service.

From orienting new staff, handling Worker's Compensation claims, assisting staff with questions to processing thousands of time sheets each year, the team works hard to ensure that all PRM staff have what they need to be successful in their jobs. Congratulations to this dedicated group!

THE DYNAMIC TRIO, CONGRATULATIONS TO JULY EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH L TO R: RENITA GREEN, SHERTRELL COLLINS AND CRYSTAL MURPHY



PRM COMMUNITY SERVICE AUGUST BY THE NUMBERS COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS PROGRAM



NUMBER OF PERSONS WORKING: 24

62 HOURS WORKED AT EL DORADO PARK AREAS

20 HOURS WORKED AT LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS

131 HOURS WORKED BEACH MAINTENANCE

261 CSW HOURS WORKED FOR JUNE

SEPTEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

Sat.	16	10 a.m.–noon Times Vary 3-5 p.m.	Volunteer Wetland Cleanup 5th Annual Ranchos Walk Pet Adoption Event – Music, photos, fees waived	Jack Dunster Reserve Visit www.rancholosalamitos.com Long Beach Animal Care Services
Sun.	17	8-10 am. 11 a.m.–2 p.m.	Morning Bird Walk, free program, parking \$8 Pet Supplies Plus Adoption Event	El Dorado Nature Center 2086 N. Bellflower Blvd.
Mon.	18	8 a.m. Varies M-F	Mon./Wed. Swim Lesson Registration (10/2-10/25) Free After School Recreation Program	Silverado Park Pool Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	19	8 a.m. Varies M-F	Tu./Th. Swim Lesson Registration (10/3-10/26) Free After School Recreation Program	King Park Pool Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	20	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	21	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	22	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	23	8 a.m. 8 a.m. 9 a.m.–1 p.m.	Saturday Swim Lesson Registration (10/21-12/9) Saturday Swim Lesson Registration (10/24-12/2) California Coastal Cleanup Day	Belmont Plaza Pool King Park Pool Call 562.570.1745 for locations.
Mon.	25	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	26	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	27	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	28	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	29	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites

OCTOBER 2023 CALENDAR

Mon.	2	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	3	10-10:30 a.m.	Free Storytime RSVP at www.rancholocerritos.org/upcoming-events	Rancho Los Cerritos
Wed.	4	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	5	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri.	6	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	7	10 a.m.–noon	1st Saturday Stewards Volunteer Cleanup	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon.	9	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue.	10	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed.	11	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th.	12	8 - 9:30 a.m.	Free Bird Walk RSVP at www.rancholocerritos.org/upcoming-events	Rancho Los Cerritos
Fri.	13	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat.	14	10 a.m.–noon	Volunteer Wetland Cleanup	Jack Dunster Reserve
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	

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

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