smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
01.19.22
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Malibu High construction project reveals increasing tension between school district and Malibu

Malibu staff request could cause "irreparable delay" in $160 million project to rebuild MHS district COO warns.



Courtesy image

MALIBU: Plans for Malibu High School could be derailed by a request to delay the process.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Neither Santa Monica nor Malibu are accustomed to speedy construction projects. Taking into account an alphabet soup of regulatory agencies; complicated federal, state, county and municipal rules; well-organized and civically engaged citizen groups; seven-, eight-, and nine-digit dollar amounts; and challenging topographical and geological environment, the timeline for most projects to go from inception to completion is almost uniformly a multiyear slog.

But in the case of the $160 million Malibu High School (MHS) campus remodel, there could be another factor at play: the rocky relationship between the Santa Monica school district and the City of Malibu.

At its most recent meeting on Thursday night, Jan. 13, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) Board of Education — following a request from Malibu City staff — delayed approving long-awaited plans to remodel the MHS campus, and instead voted to conduct personal outreach to Malibu city leadership, essentially with the goal of clearing the air between the two governmental bodies.

The conversation began as the school board conducted a hearing to approve the environmental impact report (EIR) for a four-phase campus remodel project at MHS, which Malibu taxpayers first approved by a wide margin in 2018's $195 million Measure M bond.

Citing a desire for Malibu's high school and middle schools (which have shared a campus since 1992) to have "unique and separate identities" — together with a pressing need to "remove hazardous buildings and structures" known to include polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs — the district set about thereafter developing a site plan that would reroute school buses; update facilities, particularly the school's aging theater and pool;

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 11

CA Senate Majority Leader now in the running for Third District Supervisor

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

In a Tuesday, Jan. 18, press release that opened with the dateline "VAN NUYS, CA—" California State Senator Bob Hertzberg announced he was the latest candidate to throw his hat into the ring in the race for Third District Supervisor.

Robert "Bob" Hertzberg, a veteran politician who is currently CA Senate Majority Leader and formerly the CA State Assembly Speaker, has already made his identity as a resident and representative of the San Fernando Valley front and center to his campaign.

"We in the Valley know what it means to have an 818 area code. And the fact is, the San Fernando Valley is simply too big to not have a voice on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors," Hertzberg

SEE **HERTZBERG** PAGE 6



ROBERT HERTZBERG

Microsoft buys game maker Activision Blizzard for about $70B

MATT O'BRIEN
Associated Press

Microsoft is paying nearly $70 billion for Santa Monica based Activision Blizzard, the maker of Candy Crush and Call of Duty, to boost its competitiveness in mobile gaming and virtual-reality technology.

The all-cash $68.7 billion deal will turn Microsoft, maker of the Xbox gaming system, into one of the world's largest video game companies. It will also help it compete with tech rivals such as Meta, formerly Facebook, in creating immersive virtual worlds for both work and play.

If the deal survives scrutiny from U.S. and European regulators in the coming months, it also could be one of the biggest tech acquisitions in history. Dell bought data-storage company EMC in 2016 for around $60 billion.

Activision has been buffeted for months by allegations of misconduct and unequal pay. That was addressed Tuesday by Microsoft

SEE **ACTIVISION** PAGE 7



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City of Santa Monica

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361**

SUBJECT: **Recommendation to the City Council on Adoption of Amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City of Santa Monica Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapters 9.01 to 9.52, for Consistency With the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element of the City's General Plan**

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider adoption of resolutions recommending to the City Council that the City Council adopt amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City of Santa Monica Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapters 9.01 to 9.52, for consistency with the goals, policies and programs set forth in the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element of the City's General Plan

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022 AT 5:30PM**

LOCATION: **In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal, but participants may also join the teleconference via** https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/wzfyhtvq or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 8568177 #)

California State law requires that communities prepare and update the Housing Element of the General Plan every eight years. The Housing Element serves as the City's guide for addressing the housing needs of all segments of Santa Monica's population. Housing needs are determined by the California Housing and Community Department (HCD), which decide the numerical housing targets for each regional council of governments. Each council of government across the State then further allocates the regional housing number (known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation – or RHNA) to every city and county within its jurisdiction. The RHNA is a targeted housing number - cities and counties must plan for the RHNA and show that under current land use and development standards, there is capacity to accommodate for this number of housing. For the proposed 6th Cycle 2021-2029 Housing Element, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) determined that the City's draft RHNA allocation is 8,895 units, more than 5 times than the last cycle. The significant increase in the City's RHNA housing number is indicative of the severity of the current housing crisis. As part of the proposed 2021-2029 Housing Element, Santa Monica must demonstrate to the State that there is available capacity within its jurisdictional boundaries to meet its targeted RHNA number.

On October 12, 2021, per State requirements, the City Council adopted its 2021-2029 Housing Element, which is available online at www.santamonica.gov/housing-element-update. The adopted Housing Element sets forth a series of goals, policies and programs to be implemented over the next 8 years of the 6th Cycle. For consistency with these goals, policies and programs, the City proposes this first phase of amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City's Zoning Ordinance. This first phase includes implementation of the following Housing Element Programs:

- 1A - By-Right Approvals for Housing Projects
- 1B - Streamline the Architectural Review Process and Ensure Design Review Objectivity for Housing Projects
- 1D - Reduce Minimum Parking Requirements for Housing Projects
- 1F - Revise the Downtown Community Plan Development Standards to Support Housing Projects
- 1J - Rezoning by Revising Development Standards to Ensure that Housing Projects are Feasible and Incentivized Over Commercial Development
- 2C - Update the City's Affordable Housing Production Program to Increase the Number of Affordable Housing Units at all Income Levels
- 4A - Zoning Ordinance Amendment to Permit Multiple-Unit Housing in Non-Residential Zones Where Not Currently Permitted

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@smgov.net. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

Additionally, public comment can be made by telephone by calling 1-408-740-7256 (Meeting ID: 602163510 and Passcode: 4215 followed by #) when the caller queue opens for the item on which you wish to comment. Remarks from the public made by telephone will be limited to up to 3 minutes per item. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Jing Yeo, Planning Manager**
Re: Housing Element Phase 1 Zoning Amendments

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element, please see the City's website: https://santamonica.gov/housing-element-update, or email housingupdate@smgov.net. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Felony charges are 1st in a fatal crash involving Autopilot

TOM KRISHER AND STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

California prosecutors have filed two counts of vehicular manslaughter against the driver of a Tesla on Autopilot who ran a red light, slammed into another car and killed two people in 2019.

The defendant appears to be the first person to be charged with a felony in the United States for a fatal crash involving a motorist who was using a partially automated driving system. Los Angeles County prosecutors filed the charges in October, but they came to light only last week.

The driver, Kevin George Aziz Riad, 27, has pleaded not guilty. Riad, a limousine service driver, is free on bail while the case is pending.

The misuse of Autopilot, which can control steering, speed and braking, has occurred on numerous occasions and is the subject of investigations by two federal agencies. The filing of charges in the California crash could serve notice to drivers who use systems like Autopilot that they cannot rely on them to control vehicles.

The criminal charges aren't the first involving an automated driving system, but they are the first to involve a widely used driver technology. Authorities in Arizona filed a charge of negligent homicide in 2020 against a driver Uber had hired to take part in the testing of a fully autonomous vehicle on public roads. The Uber vehicle, an SUV with the human backup driver on board, struck and killed a pedestrian.

By contrast, Autopilot and other driver-assist systems are widely used on roads across the world. An estimated 765,000 Tesla vehicles are equipped with it in the United States alone.

In the Tesla crash, police said a Model S was moving at a high speed when it left a freeway and ran a red light in the Los Angeles suburb of Gardena and struck a Honda Civic at an intersection on Dec. 29, 2019. Two people who were in the Civic, Gilberto Alcazar Lopez and Maria Guadalupe Nieves-Lopez died at the scene. Riad and a woman in the Tesla were hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries.

Criminal charging documents do not mention Autopilot. But the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which sent investigators to the crash, confirmed last week that Autopilot was in use in the Tesla at the time of the crash.

Riad's defense attorney did not respond to requests for comment last week, and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office declined to discuss the case. Riad's preliminary hearing is scheduled for Feb. 23.

NHTSA and the National Transportation Safety Board have been reviewing the widespread misuse of Autopilot by drivers, whose overconfidence and inattention have been blamed for multiple crashes, including fatal ones. In one crash report, the NTSB referred to its misuse as "automation complacency."

The agency said that in a 2018 crash in Culver City, California, in which a Tesla hit a firetruck, the design of the Autopilot system had "permitted the driver to disengage from the driving task." No one was hurt in that crash.

Last May, a California man was arrested after officers noticed his Tesla moving down a freeway with the man in the back seat and no one behind the steering wheel.

Teslas that have had Autopilot in use also have hit a highway barrier or tractor-trailers that were crossing roads. NHTSA has sent investigation teams to 26 crashes involving Autopilot since 2016, involving at least 11 deaths.

Messages have been left seeking comment from Tesla, which has disbanded its media relations department. Since the Autopilot crashes began, Tesla has updated the software to try to make it harder for drivers to abuse it. It's also tried to improve Autopilot's ability to detect emergency vehicles.

The company has said that Autopilot and a more sophisticated "Full Self-Driving" system cannot drive themselves and that drivers must pay attention and be ready to react at anytime. "Full Self-Driving" is being tested by hundreds of Tesla owners on public roads in the U.S.

Bryant Walker Smith, a law professor at the University of South Carolina who studies automated vehicles, said this is the first U.S. case to his knowledge in which serious criminal charges were filed in a fatal crash involving a partially automated driver-assist system. Tesla, he said, could be "criminally, civilly or morally culpable" if it is found to have put a dangerous technology on the road.

Donald Slavik, a Colorado lawyer who has served as a consultant in automotive technology lawsuits, including many against Tesla, said he, too, is unaware of any previous felony charges being filed against a U.S. driver who was using partially automated driver technology involved in a fatal crash.

The families of Lopez and Nieves-Lopez have sued Tesla and Riad in separate lawsuits. They have alleged negligence by Riad and have accused Tesla of selling defective vehicles that can accelerate suddenly and that lack an effective automatic emergency braking system. A joint trial is scheduled for mid-2023.

Lopez's family, in court documents, alleges that the car "suddenly and unintentionally accelerated to an excessive, unsafe and uncontrollable speed." Nieves-Lopez's family further asserts that Riad was an unsafe driver, with multiple moving infractions on his record, and couldn't handle the high-performance Tesla.

Separately, NHTSA is investigating a dozen crashes in which a Tesla on Autopilot ran into several parked emergency vehicles. In the crashes under investigation, at least 17 people were injured and one person was killed.

Asked about the manslaughter charges against Riad, the agency issued a statement saying there is no vehicle on sale that can drive itself. And whether or not a car is using a partially automated system, the agency said, "every vehicle requires the human driver to be in control at all times."

NHTSA added that all state laws hold

SEE **CRASH** PAGE 5

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 290 CALLS ON JANUARY 17

Encampment 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:14 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 200Blk Broadway 12:32 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 800Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:34 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:47 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1700Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:48 a.m.
Fight 2000Blk Olympic Blvd 1:31 a.m.
Battery 1600Blk Ocean Ave 2:50 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 500Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:40 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1700Blk Wilshire Blvd 5:57 a.m.
Battery Now 26th St / Pico Blvd 7:11 a.m.
Construction Noise 3000Blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:16 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk 16th St 7:16 a.m.
Burglary 2800Blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:24 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 7th St / Arizona Ave 7:46 a.m.
Burglary 1300Blk Harvard St 7:50 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk 16th St 8:03 a.m.
Speeding Centinela Ave / Colorado Blvd 8:08 a.m.
Animal Related Incident Santa Monica Pier 8:16 a.m.
Construction Noise 1500Blk 6th St 8:20 a.m.
Person With A Gun 2200Blk Colorado Ave 8:38 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2800Blk The Beach 8:42 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800Blk Stanford St 8:48 a.m.
Burglary 800Blk 5th St 9:00 a.m.
Construction Noise 900Blk 23rd St 9:15 a.m.
Petty Theft 300Blk Civic Center Dr 9:16 a.m.
Construction Noise 3100Blk 5th St 9:28 a.m.
Construction Noise 2400Blk 3rd St 9:43 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1300Blk 16th St 9:54 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1100Blk 12th St 10:06 a.m.
Burglary 1300Blk Harvard St 10:12 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 10:35 a.m.
Burglary 900Blk Montana Ave 10:39 a.m.
Construction Noise 400Blk Raymond Ave 10:42 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800Blk Wilson Pl 10:44 a.m.
Construction Noise 1200Blk 9th St 10:45 a.m.
Burglary 300Blk California Ave 10:46 a.m.
Petty Theft 2400Blk Pico Blvd 10:52 a.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2600Blk Barnard Way 10:56 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 800Blk 6th St 10:57 a.m.
Battery 1300Blk 20th St 10:59 a.m.
Person With A Gun 800Blk 14th St 11:00 a.m.
Construction Noise 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:21 a.m.
Burglary 1300Blk 16th St 11:42 a.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk 20th St 11:59 a.m.
Found Senile Person 1800Blk Ocean Ave 12:02 p.m.
Construction Noise 400Blk 20th St 12:10 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 600Blk Bay St 12:20 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 800Blk 20th St 12:23 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1300Blk 15th St 12:24 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2700Blk Montana Ave 12:49 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1800Blk Ocean Ave 12:53 p.m.
Burglary 2000Blk Main St 12:55 p.m.
Construction Noise 1900Blk 20th St 12:56 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1900Blk Wilshire Blvd 1:22 p.m.
Public Intoxication 800Blk Montana Ave 1:25 p.m.
Missing Person 1200Blk 10th St 1:25 p.m.
Construction Noise 400Blk 20th St 1:31 p.m.
Speeding 14th St / Michigan Ave 1:36 p.m.
Identity Theft 1100Blk 3rd St 1:40 p.m.
Battery Now 2200Blk Wilshire Blvd 1:43 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 600Blk Bay St 1:48 p.m.
Fraud 800Blk 11th St 1:56 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1000Blk 17th St 2:08 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400Blk 21st St 2:13 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 2:25 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Main St / Pico Blvd 2:33 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1900Blk 6th St 2:39 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Main St / Pico Blvd 2:43 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Main St / Pico Blvd 2:50 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:55 p.m.
Found Property 2900Blk 2nd St 2:56 p.m.
Encampment 800Blk 5th St 3:16 p.m.
Petty Theft 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:43 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk The Beach 3:49 p.m.
Found Property 2300Blk Pearl St 3:54 p.m.
Construction Noise 1500Blk California Ave 4:14 p.m.
Found Property 2600Blk Barnard Way 4:39 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 5th St 4:43 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 4th St 4:50 p.m.
Overdose 1100Blk Idaho Ave 5:00 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000Blk 18th St 5:06 p.m.
Lost Property 1500Blk Broadway 5:12 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400Blk Ocean Front Walk 5:16 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1700Blk Ocean Ave 5:30 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1900Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:38 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 300Blk Santa Monica Pl 6:08 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 5th St / California Ave 6:12 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 17th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:25 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2600Blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:30 p.m.
Assault 100Blk Broadway 7:58 p.m.
Encampment 1500Blk 17th St 8:25 p.m.
Burglary Now 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 8:28 p.m.
Battery 2800Blk Pico Blvd 8:37 p.m.
Encampment Barnard Way / Ocean Park Blvd 8:57 p.m.
Speeding 10th St / Montana Ave 9:12 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 6th St / Montana Ave 9:29 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 5th St / Broadway 9:32 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1100Blk 11th St 10:09 p.m.
Grand Theft 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:49 p.m.
Petty Theft 2800Blk Neilson Way 11:46 p.m.
Encampment 33rd St / Pico Blvd 11:58 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 32 CALLS ON JANUARY 17

EMS 400Blk Idaho Ave 12:37 a.m.
EMS 2600Blk Kansas Ave 12:50 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 3rd St 1:22 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk Oak St 1:47 a.m.
EMS 1600Blk Ocean Ave 2:51 a.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 3:52 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Beverley Ave 5:09 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 6:49 a.m.
EMS 7th St / Arizona Ave 7:45 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 23rd St 8:33 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 2nd St 10:37 a.m.
EMS 00Blk Sea Colony Dr 11:20 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 11:29 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 10th St 11:54 a.m.
EMS 1900Blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:39 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk Kansas Ave 12:46 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:50 p.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 1:24 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2700Blk 3rd St 1:51 p.m.
Hydrant Shear Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 1:56 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk Pico Blvd 2:02 p.m.
EMS 700Blk Ocean Ave 2:38 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Main St / Pico Blvd 2:50 p.m.
EMS Berkeley St / Arizona Ave 3:00 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 3:14 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk Idaho Ave 5:00 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Neilson Way 5:08 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:06 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk 5th St 7:18 p.m.
EMS 100Blk Broadway 8:03 p.m.
EMS 2700Blk Barnard Way 8:32 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 11th St 10:24 p.m.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

SMPD officers responded to a "Suspicious Circumstances" call near 20th and Ocean Park Blvd. The reporting party expressed that someone flashed a gun in his waistband. The accused party also flagged down an officer in the area for assistance. Upon speaking with the accused, officers determined he was in possession of a loaded firearm along with additional ammunition. SMPD officers ultimately arrested Paul James Squire, a 36 year-old male from Santa Monica, for carrying a loaded firearm in public. The firearm was booked into evidence, while Squire was transported to the Santa Monica Jail where he was issued a citation and ordered to return to court on February 18.

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #22.05.SMS – DSA #03-121129 – HVAC Mechanical Facade Project at Rogers Elementary School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$250,000.00 - $300,000.00** and includes Addition of roof mounted metal screen and ladder at Building A. Site work including addition of trench drains w/ drywells at HVAC equipment enclosures at Buildings D, E, F, G, H, & J. Possible hazardous materials abatement at areas of work and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be submitted electronically as per the instructions included in the bidding documents on or before 2/17/22 no later than 2:00 PM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 2/3/22 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4172.

Mandatory Job Walk: 1/27/22 @ 4:00pm

Job Walk location: Rogers Elementary School located in Santa Monica, CA – All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the front of the school administration building, 2401 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Bidders will be escorted onto the campus from that location. Due to COVID-19 all attending contractors must not have a temperature (temperatures will be taken), bring and wear face masks/coverings at all times while on the site and adhere to social distancing safety requirements during the meeting or they will be asked to leave the property.

Electronic Bid Submittal Deadline: 2/17/22 at 2:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

White House soft-launches COVID-19 test request website

ZEKE MILLER AND MATT O'BRIEN
Associated Press

The Biden administration on Tuesday quietly launched its website for Americans to request free at-home COVID-19 tests, a day before the site was scheduled to officially go online.

The website, COVIDTests.gov, now includes a link for Americans to access an order form run by the U.S. Postal Service. People can order four at-home tests per residential address, to be delivered by the Postal Service. It marks the latest step by President Joe Biden to address criticism of low inventory and long lines for testing during a nationwide surge in COVID-19 cases due to the omicron variant.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said the website was in "beta testing" and operating at a "limited capacity" ahead of its official launch. The website will officially launch mid-morning Wednesday, Psaki said.

There were isolated reports Tuesday afternoon of issues relating to the website's address verification tool erroneously enforcing the four-per-household cap on apartment buildings and other multi-unit dwellings, but it was not immediately clear how widespread the issue was.

At points Tuesday more than 750,000 people were accessing the website at the same time, according to public government tracking data, but it was not immediately known how many orders were placed.

She added that the administration was anticipating a "bug or two," but had IT experts from across the government working to get the site ready.

Biden announced last month that the U.S. would purchase 500 million at-home tests to launch the program and on Thursday the president announced that he was doubling the order to 1 billion tests.

But Americans shouldn't expect a rapid turnaround on the orders and they will have to plan ahead and request the tests well before they meet federal guidelines for when to use a test.

The White House said "tests will typically ship within 7- 12 days of ordering" through USPS, which reports shipping times of 1-3 days for its first-class package service in the continental United States.

Officials emphasized that the federal website is just one way for people to procure COVID-19 tests, and shortages of at-home test kits have shown signs of easing as more supply has hit the market.

Since Saturday, private insurance companies have been required to cover the cost of at-home rapid tests, allowing Americans to be reimbursed for tests they purchase at pharmacies and online retailers. That covers up to eight tests per month.

The technical bugs that embarrassed President Barack Obama's administration with the 2013 rollout of the HealthCare.gov website should not be a problem for the COVID-19 test kit website in part because it is so much simpler, said Alex Howard, director of the Digital Democracy Project, an open government watchdog group. Howard said the new website is also simpler than the Vaccines.gov website – for finding nearby vaccine clinics and pharmacies – that was already successfully launched by the Biden administration last year.

Howard said the task of requesting someone's address is a straightforward one, especially when compared with the Obama-era health insurance website that involved shopping for different health plans and authenticating a secure transaction. The

SEE **TESTS** PAGE 6

Letter to the Editor

Paul Chang
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A National Shame Hiding in Plain Sight

THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING DEMANDS OUR ATTENTION

In well-appointed homes, on farms, in factories and in restaurants in the U.S., thousands of people, even children, work long days cleaning homes, picking crops, making products, and washing dishes, busing tables and serving customers.

They toil for little or no pay for heartless employers unconcerned for their safety or health and, in some cases, ready to use threats or worse to keep them obedient. These are the faces of labor trafficking in the U.S., tens of thousands of people condemned to modern-day slavery in our cities and towns.

Ridding the nation of this scourge is difficult. Investigations need overlapping financial, economic and criminal actions to unravel the many bad actors involved.

The U.S. Department of Labor has a central role in eliminating slavery here and abroad. We work tirelessly to prevent, protect and prosecute those responsible. The department's Wage and Hour Division recently engaged in a public dialogue on the topic of human trafficking, and we encourage everyone to read these engaging ideas from diverse range of stakeholders.

In December 2021, the White House released the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking. The plan re-emphasized the three pillars to address human trafficking – Prevention, Protection, Prosecution – and added Partnerships as the nexus to enable crosscutting approaches and institutional effectiveness. The plan aims to address the root causes of human trafficking by taking action against the systemic injustices that communities, including underserved populations, experience.

If you are or know someone who is a victim of labor trafficking, please contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline by phone at 1-888-373-7888, or by texting "HELP" or "INFO" to BeFree (233733).

Anyone with questions about workers' rights can email the Wage and Hour Division or call 866-4US-WAGE to speak confidentially with a trained professional. We are able to communicate with callers in more than 200 languages.

Learn more about the Department of Labor's efforts at: Fighting Human Trafficking: The Legacy of the El Monte Sweatshop | U.S. Department of Labor Blog (dol.gov)

Paul Chang, US Department of Labor, Western Regional Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

LA mayor nominates 1st woman as city's fire department chief

A 22-year Los Angles Fire Department veteran was nominated Tuesday to become the first woman to lead the department.

Deputy Chief Kristin Crowley would become the first female fire chief for the nation's second-largest city if the nomination by Mayor Eric Garcetti is confirmed by the City Council.

Council President Nury Martinez joined the mayor in announcing the selection at a news conference.

"This is a moment for so many little girls across our city ... for many of them who think you can't be what you can't see," Martinez said. "And today the picture changes."

Crowley, who currently holds the jobs of acting administrative operations chief deputy and fire marshal, said that keeping the department operationally ready would be her number one priority.

Her nomination came as the fire department deals with issues ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic to claims that its female employees face bullying and harassment.

"We will focus on firefighter safety, physical health and overall emotional well-being," Crowley said. "As the fire chief I vow to create and support and promote a culture that truly values diversity, inclusion and equity within the entire organization."

Harassing behavior will not be tolerated, said Crowley, who was a firefighter, paramedic, engineer and battalion chief in the steps of her career leading up her joining the department's command staff.

Garcetti recounted how Crowley and her wife, who had just retired from the Fire Department, helped a family member leave Malibu Canyon during the disastrous 2018 Woolsey Fire and then battled flames for 16 hours, saving nine out of 10 homes on that street.

"If that isn't heroism in action I'm not sure what is," the mayor said.

Crowley would replace Ralph Terrazas, who became the department's first Latino chief in 2014 and promoted Crowley several times.

Terrazas plans to retire March 26, ending a 38-year career that included the department responding to the coronavirus pandemic by running city sites that have administered millions of COVID-19 tests and vaccinations.

The department has about 3,400 uniformed personnel and 106 fire stations serving about 4 million people across 469 square miles.

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WINNER

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US faces wave of omicron deaths in coming weeks, models say

CARLA K. JOHNSON
AP Medical Writer

The fast-moving omicron variant may cause less severe disease on average, but COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. are climbing and modelers forecast 50,000 to 300,000 more Americans could die by the time the wave subsides in mid-March.

The seven-day rolling average for daily new COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. has been trending upward since mid-November, reaching nearly 1,700 on Jan. 17 — still below the peak of 3,300 in January 2021. COVID-19 deaths among nursing home residents started rising slightly two weeks ago, although still at a rate 10 times less than last year before most residents were vaccinated.

Despite signs omicron causes milder disease on average, the unprecedented level of infection spreading through the country, with cases still soaring in many states, means many vulnerable people will become severely sick. If the higher end of projections comes to pass, that would push total U.S. deaths from COVID-19 over 1 million by early spring.

"A lot of people are still going to die because of how transmissible omicron has been," said University of South Florida epidemiologist Jason Salemi. "It unfortunately is going to get worse before it gets better."

Morgues are starting to run out of space in Johnson County, Kansas, said Dr. Sanmi Areola, director of the health department. More than 30 residents have died in the county this year, the vast majority of them unvaccinated.

But the notion that a generally less severe variant could still take the lives of thousands of people has been difficult for health experts to convey. The math of it — that a small percentage of a very high number of infections can yield a very high number of deaths — is difficult to visualize.

"Overall, you're going to see more sick people even if you as an individual have a lower chance of being sick," said Katriona Shea of Pennsylvania State University, who co-leads a team that pulls together several pandemic models and shares the combined projections with the White House.

The wave of deaths heading for the United States will crest in late January or early February, Shea said. In early February, weekly deaths could equal or exceed the delta peak, and possibly even surpass the previous U.S. peak in deaths last year.

Some unknown portion of these deaths are among people infected with the delta variant, but experts say omicron is also claiming lives.

"This is omicron driven," Shea said of the coming wave of deaths. The combined models project 1.5 million Americans will be hospitalized and 191,000 will die from mid-December through mid-March. Taking into account the uncertainty in the models, U.S. deaths during the omicron wave could range from 58,000 to 305,000.

Yet, it's become increasingly clear that the risk from omicron is lower than from previous variants. New evidence from nearly 70,000 patients in Southern California suggests omicron is causing milder illness than delta.

A study, posted online and cited during a recent White House briefing, found patients with omicron had a 53% lower risk of hospitalization with respiratory symptoms, a 74% lower risk of ICU admission, and a 91% lower risk of death. The study, which has not yet been peer reviewed, comes from researchers at Kaiser Permanente and University of California, Berkeley.

"It's hard for me to say straight out it's good news," said study co-author Sara Y. Tartof, a Kaiser Permanente research scientist. "Maybe there's good news in the sense that if you are infected your chance of becoming severely ill are decreased, but from a societal perspective it's a very heavy burden for us. It remains a serious situation, and we need to maintain practices and behaviors we know protect us."

Overburdened hospitals could also contribute to more deaths, said Marc Lipsitch of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and scientific director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's forecasting center.

"In places with extremely short staffing and overloads of patients, as the medical professionals have been telling us, the quality of care begins to suffer," Lipsitch said. "That may also lead to higher death rates, but that's not in any of the models that I'm aware of."

Associated Press writer Heather Hollingsworth in Mission, Kansas, contributed.

CRASH

FROM PAGE 2

human drivers responsible for operation of their vehicles. Though automated systems can help drivers avoid crashes, the agency said, the technology must be used responsibly.

Rafaela Vasquez, the driver in the Uber autonomous test vehicle, was charged in 2020 with negligent homicide after the SUV fatally struck a pedestrian in suburban Phoenix in 2018. Vasquez has pleaded not guilty. Arizona prosecutors declined to file criminal charges against Uber.

Dazio reported from Los Angeles. AP News Researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this report.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Grammy Awards move ceremony to Las Vegas site in April

The 2022 Grammy Awards will shift to an April show in Las Vegas after recently postponing the ceremony due to rising COVID-19 cases because the omicron variant.

The awards will be broadcast live from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on April 3, according to a joint statement released Tuesday from the Recording Academy and CBS. The show postponed its original date on Jan. 31 at the newly renamed Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles after organizers' determined there were "too many risks" because of the virus's latest surge.

For the Grammys, it was attempting a back-to-normal show with a live audience, but the decision to postpone the ceremony came after "careful consideration and analysis with city and state officials, health and safety experts, the artist community and our many partners."

This is the second consecutive year the Grammys has been rescheduled due to the spread of the coronavirus. Last year, like most major award shows, the Grammys were postponed because of virus concerns.

It was a big night for Beyoncé and Taylor Swift, but the live performances that set the Grammys apart from other awards shows were staged separately with no significant crowds, many of them pre-taped.

The show was moved from late January to mid-March and held with a spare audience made up of mostly nominees and their guests in and around the Los Angeles Convention Center, next door to its usual home, the arena then known as Staples Center.

The multitalented Jon Batiste is the leading nominee for this year's honors, grabbing 11 nods in a variety of genres including R&B, jazz, American roots music, classical and music video.

Justin Bieber, Doja Cat and H.E.R. are tied for the second-most nominations with eight apiece.

The Grammys' move has created another shift for upcoming awards shows – the CMT Awards will move from its originally scheduled ceremony date from April 3 to a later date that month.

JONATHAN LANDRUM JR. AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

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HERTZBERG

FROM PAGE 1

was quoted as saying in the statement provided by his campaign.

Hertzberg joins a well-qualified field of candidates for the open seat, which will be vacated by current Third District Supervisor Sheila Kuehl at the end of this year. Other hopefuls include former Santa Monica Mayor and current Assemblymember Richard Bloom, West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath, and State Senator Henry Stern. LA County Controller Ron Galperin recently dropped out of the race, announcing he was instead focusing on a run for California controller.

But Hertzberg's announcement also declared his willingness to represent other "corners" of the newly expanded Third District, where new district boundaries meant losing territory like Los Feliz and parts of Hollywood, and picking up a broader section of the Valley including more conservative Chatsworth and Porter Ranch.

"While I've spent most of my life in the Valley, I've also lived and worked in nearly every corner of this district," Hertzberg was quoted as saying. "On the Board, my goal will be to bring people together, build coalitions, and solve problems for our uniquely diverse and dynamic county. The people deserve nothing less."

Representatives for Hertzberg's campaign were not immediately able to provide details about Hertzberg's connection to the Santa Monica/Venice/Pacific Palisades "corner" of the Third District.

When district maps were dramatically redrawn in 1991, the Third District began to resemble what it is today; Santa Monica had previously been part a coastal district closely resembling today's U.S. Congressional District 33. In the past 30 years, no San Fernando Valley resident has represented the Third District on the Board of Supervisors.

Since Kuehl's election in 2014, Santa Monica — Kuehl's city of residence — has enjoyed an outsized influence over the 431-square-mile territory. Previous Third District Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, who held the role for 20 years (there were no term limits at the time), was a Fairfax resident and was known for policies that were popular on the westside and in the Santa Monica Mountains.

Candidates Bloom, Horvath, Stern and Hertzberg are all Democrats, with Hertzberg considered especially politically moderate among them.

In his announcement, Hertzberg also provided a list of more than 100 politicians, organizations and "community leaders" who endorsed his candidacy, including high-profile elected officials like former California Governor Gray Davis (a Democrat), current LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger (a Republican) and a handful of unions including iron workers and probation officers.

In a Dec. 16 email in which Kuehl alleged the redrawn Third District map was fueled by politics, the Supervisor predicted that a moderate politician would seize the opportunity to enter the race for a newly moderate district, undercutting her progressive policies.

"The result of this last-minute marauding is that my District becomes far more centrist (as in, bye-bye any reform to our justice system), a much easier district for a man who's been salivating to run for the office but found himself in need of an electorate more closely tailored to his politics," Kuehl wrote at the time. "He will likely follow some who innocently jump in but the damage is done to the District."

A spokesperson for the Supervisor confirmed at the time that Kuehl was not referring to Stern when she made that prediction; the same spokesperson was not immediately able to confirm on Tuesday whether Kuehl was referring to Hertzberg when she made those remarks.

In 2018, Hertzberg was among the legislators named in 18 alleged cases of sexual harassment that were said to have occurred between 2006 and 2017; Hertzberg was accused of making a staffer uncomfortable by holding her too closely, dancing and singing with her. At the time, Hertzberg issued a response, reportedly saying that he hugged people "as a way to connect" with them, but apologizing to those whom his hugs made uncomfortable.

Candidates have until March 11 to file paperwork formalizing their campaigns, with the 2022 primary set to take place on June 7. Election Day will be Nov. 8, 2022.

emily@smdp.com

TESTS

FROM PAGE 4

challenge of hosting a website application under high demand is also a "solved problem" in the private sector, he said.

"My expectation is the U.S. Digital Service and any vendors they work with will be able to pull this off," he said. "It's the least hard part of this."

Two tech companies that frequently work with the federal government – Microsoft and Accenture – on Tuesday referred questions about the website to the Postal Service. Amazon, a major cloud provider for U.S. agencies, didn't respond to requests for comment.

Howard said the trickiest part of the project is not the website but the physical distribution of kits.

"I don't recall the last time the federal government sent something like this to everyone that wasn't a tax document," he said.

Likely challenges include multiple people ordering from the same apartment building address, or how to handle people who try to game the system and order extra.

"I would like my fellow Americans to be a more trustworthy lot," said Howard, but given other debates over COVID-19 protocols and responds, "that's not going to fly very well."

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

ACTIVISION

FROM PAGE 1

CEO Satya Nadella in a conference call with investors.

"The culture of our organization is my No. 1 priority," Nadella said, adding that "it's critical for Activision Blizzard to drive forward on its" commitments to improve its workplace culture.

Activision disclosed last year it was being investigated by the Securities and Exchange Commission over complaints of workplace discrimination and in September settled claims brought by U.S. workforce discrimination regulators. California's civil rights agency sued the Santa Monica-based company in July, citing a "frat boy" culture that had become a "breeding ground for harassment and discrimination against women."

Activision's longtime CEO Bobby Kotick will retain his role. Microsoft said he and his team will maintain their focus on driving efforts to further strengthen the company's culture and accelerate business growth.

Wall Street saw the acquisition as a big win for Activision Blizzard Inc. and its shares soared 25% in afternoon trading Tuesday, making up for losses over the past six months since California's discrimination lawsuit was filed. Shares of Microsoft slipped about 2%.

Last year, Microsoft spent $7.5 billion to acquire ZeniMax Media, the parent company of video game publisher Bethesda Softworks, which is behind popular video games The Elder Scrolls, Doom and Fallout. Microsoft's properties also include the hit game Minecraft after it bought Swedish game studio Mojang for $2.5 billion in 2014.

The Redmond, Washington, tech giant said the latest acquisitions will help beef up its Xbox Game Pass game subscription service while also accelerating its ambitions for the metaverse, a collection of virtual worlds envisioned as a next generation of the internet.

The acquisition also would push Microsoft past Nintendo as the third-largest video game company by global revenue, behind Playstation-maker Sony and Chinese tech giant Tencent, according to Wedbush Securities analyst Daniel Ives.

"Microsoft needed to do an aggressive deal given their streaming ambitions and metaverse strategy," Ives said. "They're the only game in town that can do a deal of this size with the other tech stalwarts under massive tech scrutiny."

Meta, Google, Amazon and Apple have all attracted increasing attention from antitrust regulators in the U.S. and Europe, but the Activision deal is so big that it will also likely put Microsoft into the regulatory spotlight, Ives said. Microsoft is already facing delays in its planned $16 billion acquisition of Massachusetts speech recognition company Nuance because of an investigation by British antitrust regulators.

Microsoft is able to make such a big all-cash purchase of Activision because of its success as a cloud computing provider. But after years of focusing on shoring up its business clients and products such as the Office suite of email and other work tools, Ives said Microsoft's failed 2020 attempt to acquire social media platform TikTok may have "really whet the appetite for Nadella to do a big consumer acquisition."

Pushback against the deal was immediate from consumer advocacy groups.

"No way should the Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Justice permit this merger to proceed," said a statement from Alex Harman, competition policy advocate for Public Citizen. "If Microsoft wants to bet on the 'metaverse,' it should invest in new technology, not swallow up a competitor."

White House press secretary Jen Psaki had no comment on Microsoft's announcement at her briefing Tuesday, but emphasized the Biden administration's recent moves to strengthen enforcement against illegal and anticompetitive mergers.

Started in 1979 by former Atari Inc. employees, Activision has created or acquired many of the most popular video games, from Pitfall in the 1980s to Guitar Hero and the World of Warcraft franchise. Kotick, 59, has been CEO since 1991.

Microsoft said it expects the deal to close in its 2023 fiscal year, which starts in July. The Activision business unit would then report to Phil Spencer, who has led Microsoft's Xbox division and will now serve as CEO of Microsoft Gaming.

Kotick survived a number of executive shakeups at Activision last year after a series of controversies stemming from allegations of a toxic workplace culture. A shareholder lawsuit in August said the company failed to disclose to investors that it was being investigated in California and that it had workplace culture issues that could result in legal problems.

Activision reached a deal in September with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to settle claims that followed a nearly three-year investigation. The agency said Activision failed to take effective action after employees complained about sexual harassment, discriminated against pregnant employees and retaliated against employees who spoke out, including by firing them.

Microsoft has also been investigating its own practices toward sexual harassment and gender discrimination, opening an inquiry last week sought by investors at its annual shareholders meeting in November. The company committed to publishing a report later this year on how it handles harassment claims, including past allegations involving senior leaders such as co-founder Bill Gates.

AP writer Darlene Superville in Washington contributed to this report.

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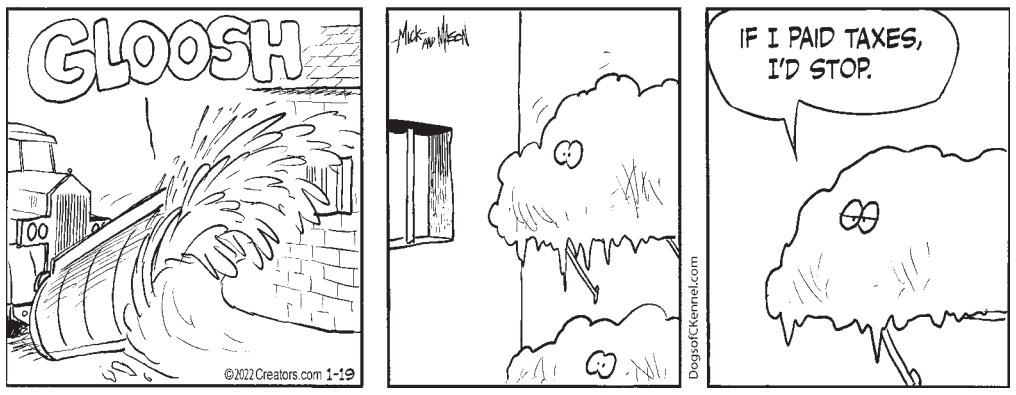
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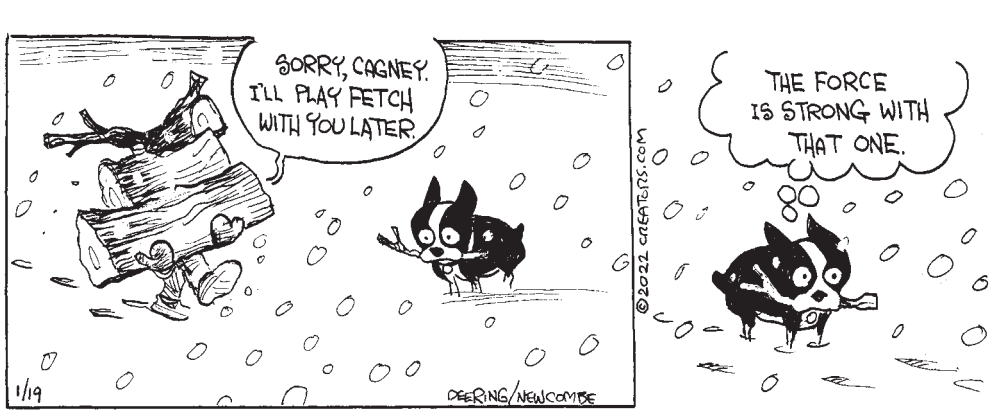
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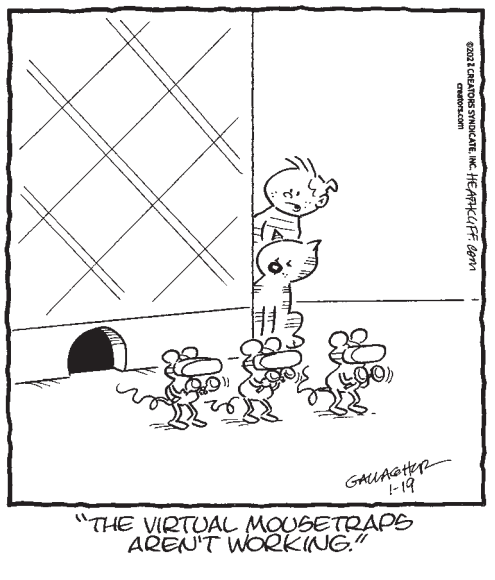
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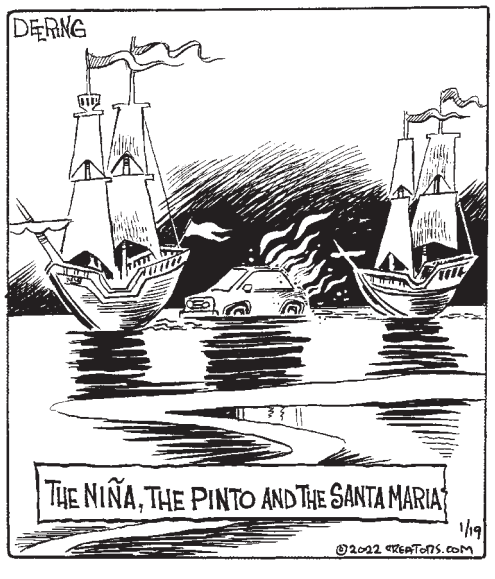
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By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.6°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
WNW swell eases. Clean but slow through the AM high tide. Wind looks reasonably light for the afternoon low tide window.

THURSDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 0.5-1ft Shin to knee high
WNW swell drops off further through the day. Clean but shutdown for most through the AM high tide.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 61.
Wednesday Night: Clear, with a low around 51.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 70. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/01/19	Wed	03:13 AM	2.15	L
2022/01/19	Wed	09:22 AM	5.88	H
2022/01/19	Wed	4:40 PM	-0.73	L
2022/01/19	Wed	11:13 PM	3.69	H
2022/01/20	Thu	03:51 AM	2.13	L
2022/01/20	Thu	09:56 AM	5.63	H
2022/01/20	Thu	5:10 PM	-0.53	L
2022/01/20	Thu	11:45 PM	3.79	H
2022/01/21	Fri	04:35 AM	2.13	L
2022/01/21	Fri	10:33 AM	5.24	H
2022/01/21	Fri	5:39 PM	-0.22	L
2022/01/22	Sat	12:19 AM	3.93	H
2022/01/22	Sat	05:26 AM	2.13	L
2022/01/22	Sat	11:15 AM	4.68	H
2022/01/22	Sat	6:09 PM	0.20	L
2022/01/23	Sun	12:57 AM	4.12	H
2022/01/23	Sun	06:31 AM	2.08	L
2022/01/23	Sun	12:06 PM	3.98	H
2022/01/23	Sun	6:41 PM	0.70	L
2022/01/24	Mon	01:40 AM	4.36	H
2022/01/24	Mon	08:00 AM	1.89	L

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POWERBALL
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9 24 35 46 65
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 62 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/14
5 8 13 22 48
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 347 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/15
1 26 34 42 45
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/17
5 20 26 27 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/18
MIDDAY: 3 4 2
Draw Date: 1/17
EVENING: 1 2 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/17
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:46.04

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ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some of the best arrangements you'll make are with people who could just as easily be your competition or opposition. Look for common ground with people whose goals at first seem at odds with your own.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You look at your own behavior and determine how it is contributing to a less-than-optimal circumstance. You can change whatever part of you needs changing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You cannot be simultaneously caught up in the past and also in tune to what is going on around you. Love the relationship you have, not the one you think should be. There is no "should be"; there is only what is.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Traveling isn't about getting somewhere; it's about the act of going. The feeling you get from hurling yourself into the unknown is an exhilaration that persists no matter the destination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your praises will be sung. Is it uncomfortable? They're only saying the truth. Don't argue, just allow yourself to be celebrated, then move the subject along to all the people who helped you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). To become more acceptable to yourself and more attractive to others, you'll rid yourself of a bad habit or addiction. These days, restraint is one of the most essential elements of your self-care.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Agendas of those around you will clash with your own. Nip it in the bud. If it's not going to work out, it's better to know early on. Assert yourself with quiet confidence, and all will be quickly sorted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The hurdles between where you are and where you want to be only matter to the degree you allow them to matter. If you keep your eyes on your lofty goal, you won't even see them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Stars shine on sales, purchases or trading. Many problems are solved on the way to pleasing the customer. Keep your ear to the ground; there's some truth to the rumbling rumors.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The one who is dragging their feet and taking forever to get a job finished will not deliver what's needed in the time frame you agreed upon. This is just a glitch. Put your back-up plan in place.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're an explorer. You'll travel to interesting places that happen to be in close proximity and can only be accessed through a bright and curious state of mind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll get the sneaking suspicion that someone wants something from you but isn't saying what. Your feeling is right. Kindly and gently call people out. Make it safe for them to be direct with you.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

S	C	R	A	M	■	A	H	E	M	■	A	M	O	F
O	H	A	R	A	■	L	O	V	E	■	M	A	Z	E
D	O	N	T	I	■	A	B	I	T	■	I	G	O	R
A	C	T	I	N	G	R	O	L	E	S	■	I	N	N
■	■	■	S	L	U	M	■	■	O	U	N	C	E	S
O	R	A	T	O	R	■	C	U	R	I	O	S	■	■
P	O	S	■	T	U	N	A	S	■	T	A	P	E	D
T	O	P	S	■	S	I	R	E	N	■	H	E	M	I
S	K	E	E	T	■	C	A	R	O	L	■	L	I	P
■	■	R	E	G	R	E	T	■	F	A	U	L	T	S
L	A	S	S	I	E	■	■	B	U	R	P	■	■	■
A	L	I	■	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	L	I	N	E
P	O	O	L	■	G	O	O	P	■	E	A	S	E	L
A	N	N	E	■	N	I	L	E	■	S	T	O	R	M
Z	E	S	T	■	S	L	E	D	■	T	E	N	D	S

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

9	4	5	6	8	7	1	2	3
3	6	2	1	4	5	7	8	9
1	8	7	3	2	9	6	4	5
5	1	6	9	3	4	8	7	2
8	9	4	2	7	1	3	5	6
2	7	3	8	5	6	9	1	4
4	5	1	7	6	3	2	9	8
7	3	8	5	9	2	4	6	1
6	2	9	4	1	8	5	3	7

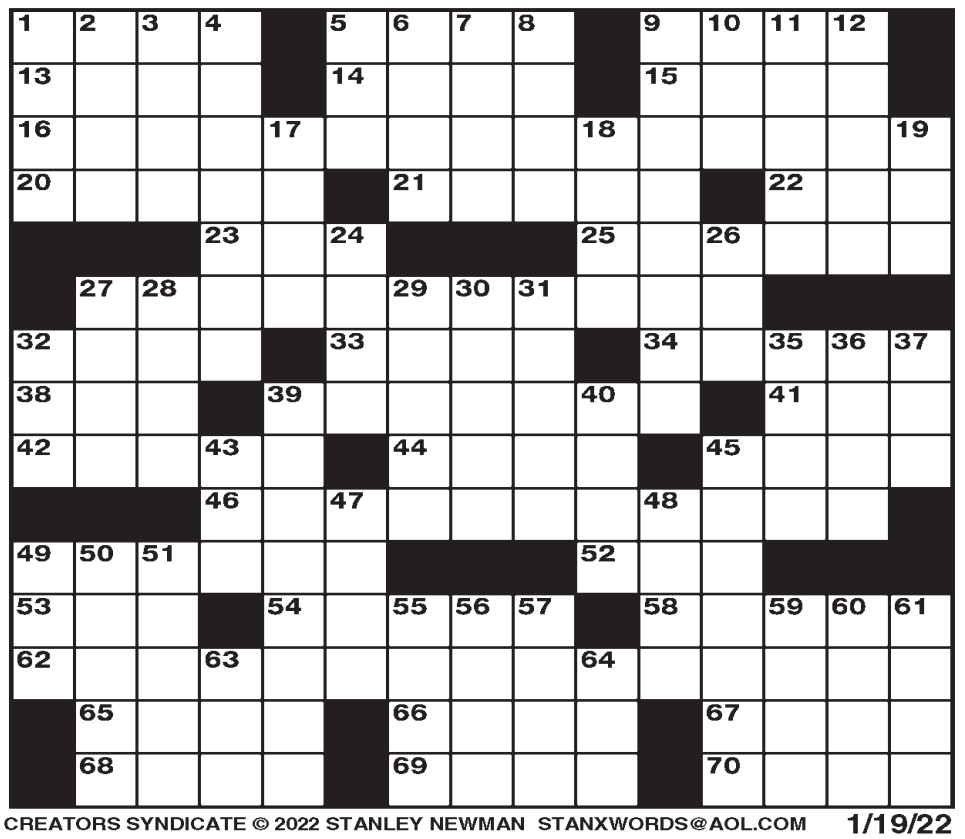
7	4	8		5				
					6	1		
	9		4		7		8	
	1				9			4
		6		4		9		
4			1				3	
	6		5		2		7	
		4	8					
				7		3	1	2

Newsday Crossword

ILL-FITTING SUITS by Bruce Venzke
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 When summer begins
5 Two-wheeled vehicle
9 GOP rivals, for short
13 Unwrap
14 Dry as a desert
15 Huge in scope, as a film
16 Small shovels for planting seeds
20 Hard as granite
21 Video chat app
22 Get __ for effort
23 UK reference set
25 In new condition
27 Gems in a heist film
32 Book leaf
33 Opposed to, nonstandardly
34 Establish, as a scholarship
38 What basketballs contain
39 Kept from scoring
41 Feel regret about
42 Rome's __ Fountain
44 Encounter
45 Hourly charge
46 Venues for stand-up routines
49 2.5 dozen
52 Solo of *Star Wars*
53 Grass sold in rolls
54 Internet commerce
58 In the vicinity
62 Marinated salad veggies
65 100-yard race
66 In the vicinity
67 Baby chick's sound
68 Swelled heads
69 What grows on cornstalks
70 Scattered, as seeds

DOWN
1 Runs for one's health
2 Get __ the crack of dawn
3 Notorious Roman emperor
4 Article's afterword
5 Legal prohibition
6 Part of the eye
7 Twist in a garden hose
8 Feeling tense
9 Was contingent (on)
10 Federal ecology org.
11 "Golden touch" king
12 Segment of a play
17 Watched closely
18 Twirled like a top
19 Unhappy
24 Face on older watches
26 Admiral's employer: Abbr.
27 Beauty salon sweeping
28 Fiend of folklore
29 Best competitive effort
30 Extracted, as ore
31 Tonally accurate
32 Portion of butter
35 Not colorful
36 Inning-ending plays
37 Itty-bitty
39 Gene-splicing companies
40 Engrave with acid
43 '70s tape machine
45 Practice for a relay race
47 Ancient legend
48 Frilly needlework
49 Air Marshals' agcy.
50 Big crowd
51 Suitcase attachment
55 Top-tier
56 Scandinavian furniture chain
57 Shakespearean king
59 Three-layer cookie
60 Slow-cooked entrée
61 Airer of NFL and NBA games
63 Prefix meaning "equal"
64 Day fractions: Abbr.



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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | JAN 19

REGULAR MEETING PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY TV: Cable Channel 16
LIVE STREAM: https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica or https://www.smgov.net/video
TELECONFERENCE: https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/rrduxyqy
DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 1249662 #

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 4th & Ocean)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

LIVE BAND KARAOKE AT HARVELLE'S
Come Sing With The Band. The famous "Live Band Karaoke" show comes to Harvelle's every Wednesday at 9 p.m. $2 Tacos $4 PBR Beers $6 Well Drinks. Harvelle's Blues Club, 1432 4th Street

THURSDAY | JAN 20

THE SANTA MONICA COLLEGE JOURNEY
Want to save money while exploring careers and majors and gaining opportunities to transfer to schools you've only dreamed of? Community College might be the right option for you! Find out why Santa Monica College (SMC) is the # 1 in transfers to the UC's and beyond. Register for this workshop at: shorturl.at/rxEK3. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

ONLINE OPENING RECEPTION FOR "PAINTING OVER THE PANDEMIC"
The Santa Monica College (SMC) Emeritus Art Gallery will present "Painting Over the Pandemic," a special exhibition of works by Emeritus painters organized in collaboration with drawing and painting instructor Adam Harrison. A free, live Zoom Virtual Launch Event will be held online from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A link at smc.edu/emeritusgallery – available shortly before the event begins – takes guests directly to the exhibition's opening reception.

FRIDAY | JAN 21

"ART + TRANSFORMATION"
The Santa Monica College (SMC) Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery will host the "Art + Transformation" through March 1. The exhibition – presented in conjunction with the Prison Arts Collective (PAC) – is part of a collaborative, multidisciplinary project involving students and faculty in the SMC Art Department and SMC Dance Department. The exhibition features a free walkthrough and dance performance, and the project also includes weekly discussions, programs, and activities. Details about the walkthrough, dance performance, and other activities are listed under the exhibition name at smc.edu/Barrett.

SATURDAY | JAN 22

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 2nd & 4th)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PICO FARMERS MARKET
Pico Blvd. & Cloverfield Blvd.
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SUNDAY | JAN 23

MAIN ST. FARMERS MARKET
2640 Main St. (In The Victorian Parking Lot) 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

POSTPONED | SNOWY PLOVER BEACH WALK
Due to the surge in COVID cases the Snowy Plover Beach Walk will not take place January 23, and will be rescheduled for a later date. Follow the Beach House on social media or sign up for our newsletter for updates.

SUSPENDED | TOURS OF THE MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Due to the current surge in COVID-19 cases, the Guest House will remain closed to the public. Tours will resume at a later date. Sign up for their newsletters or follow them on social media for the latest updates.

Submit your events for What's Up Westside

editor@smdp.com

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5364

Water sports

C O R A L T C T N O I S O R E
S G A L F S U M M E R O A E L
S D R A O B E L D D A P T V L
S Y R R E L A X F L O A T I A
Y S A Y D O S L N I A I A R B
N M N B R E G A O W N K G Y Y
C A B F V O E F A N O S E N E
H D F O S C E P O L O R R N L
R D L W O H T H G I L E D U L
O G I A V T I N T H C A Y S O
N M P R I P S Y T E F A S T V
I T P A R A S A I L C G T N C
S S E S T A R F I S H A O E A
E A R S C U B A H E A T R V V
D M S F U N S H A R K S M E E

Bays
Boots
Cave
Coral
Dams
Deep
Delight
Drown
Erosion
Event
Fins
Flags
Flippers
Float
Gloves
Heat
Lake
Mast
Ocean
Paddleboard
Parasail
Polo
Race
Raft
Regatta
Relax
Rips
River
Safety
Scuba
Sharks
Starfish
Storm
Summer
Sunny
Swim
Synchronised
Theory
Tube
Volleyball
Yacht

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Home grown in Australia

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Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

and otherwise bring the campus into the 21st century.

In 2019, the campus plan was completed.

By 2020, the district signaled it was preparing an EIR to begin tackling the project in earnest. That report was completed in the fall of 2021, at which point a public comment period opened and public meetings were conducted to bring the community up to speed on proposed plans at the 87-acre site, which will hold classes for about 460 MHS students.

At the time, public agencies including the City of Malibu, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, and LA County sheriff's, fire, and public works departments weighed in with questions and concerns.

But whereas presenters at Thursday's meeting reported other agencies were satisfied with their correspondence with the district, Malibu sent two staff representatives to request a delay in proceedings.

One of Malibu's two separate requests came from LaTanya Kirk Carter, who is on the team negotiating Malibu's intended separation from the SMMUSD. Kirk Carter stated that her team was "concerned, though, that the EIR has some incompleteness, in that it does not contemplate a separate Malibu Unified School District." The four-phased EIR does not include any area where a contemplated Malibu Unified School District headquarters would be located, which Kirk Carter called a "glaring omission."

The other delay request came from Malibu planner Reneka Brooks, who read a letter from Planning Director Richard Mollica. Mollica's letter stated in part that Malibu requested a delay due to insufficient time to review responses to Malibu's concerns, which appear in the current, updated EIR.

"The City was made aware of the final EIR this past Monday, January the 10th, 2022, and does not have sufficient time to assess the adequacy of their response," Mollica's letter read. "However, after conducting a cursory review of the school district's responses to our comments, most concerns remain unresolved."

Project staff stated the final draft EIR had been provided to the City of Malibu on Dec. 28, 2021, and the "read" function on the email indicated a city staffer had accessed the information on that date — "a 17-day notification timeline, which does exceed the 10-day requirement," according to principal planner Addie Farrell, who works on the team contracted by the school district to put together the EIR.

The interaction was just the latest chapter in a rocky relationship between the SMMUSD and City of Malibu, which has of late sat on opposing sides of a sometimes bitter negotiation for Malibu to achieve school district independence and break away from the SMMUSD.

The request for additional time came during a recent trend of high staff turnover at Malibu City Hall, where anywhere from one-third to one-half of the City's planning department staff has recently departed the City's employment, according to reporting from Malibu-based news radio station KBUU News. Since October 2020, Malibu has also seen a majority of its senior staff — including its planning director, city attorney, city manager, city clerk and assistant city manager — depart.

Board members said it would be in the District's best interest to delay moving forward to preserve good relations between the two factions.

"I am concerned that a fellow government entity reached out to us," Board Member Jon Kean said. "I get how frustrating this is for our staff, I get how frustrating that you guys did everything right. You sent them everything in time.

"It was over the holidays. COVID is raging — COVID is happening in Malibu just like everywhere else," Kean continued. "I'm trying to extend a little bit of grace for them getting at us at the 11th hour."

Kean asked district staff if a three-week pause would damage the project or cause an "irreparable delay"; SMMUSD Chief Operations Officer Carey Upton said it would.

"Everything now is becoming an irreparable delay. I mean, this is one of the challenges we're having with the planning department with Malibu," Upton said, stating that District and Malibu City staff could not agree on the timing for various documents to be approved.

"If we miss construction in November, then we're kicking it — we're not going to open, you know, August of [20]24, which has been our goal. And, in some ways, some of the delays that the Planning Commission is now putting in front of us, we're talking about a delay of more than a year … not opening until 2025. So, it's actually critical that we encourage — both move this forward and encourage — the fact that we have to sort of hit these marks; otherwise, we're going to be another year, and in some ways not be able to afford this project because of escalation." In other words, delays could mean growing costs that make the current plan unattainable.

Board Member Laurie Lieberman said she would approve a delay to the Board's Feb. 3 meeting.

"This project is gorgeous, and I know you've done a completely thorough job here," Lieberman told District staff. "I mean no disrespect to any of you or to the project or to anyone, but I personally feel sitting on this board, given the contentiousness over how we treat the City of Malibu and its residents — even without that, I would say, I don't understand how we don't extend the courtesy — whether it was the City of Santa Monica or the City of Malibu, in a situation like this where they've asked for it. And if you add that [contentious relationship] into it, that only makes me feel more strongly."

Of seven SMMUSD Board members, only Craig Foster — the sole Malibu resident on the board — spoke up in favor of ignoring Malibu's request and continuing on with the EIR approval.

In lieu of moving forward immediately, Foster said he felt strongly that the relationship between the District and City of Malibu would need to be mended.

"If we take those weeks, what I want to have happen is that there is a serious — and I mean serious — conversation about the level of cooperation between the City of Malibu Planning Department and our staff to get this project built. It cannot be that every direction we turn is too damn hard.

"The people of Malibu voted for this, our staff is working on it, we have a responsibility to the people of Malibu, the Malibu Planning Department has a responsibility to the people of Malibu," Foster continued. "And if this needs to be a political process, it will be a political process."

In the end, the Board voted unanimously, 7-0, to approve the delay, while also performing outreach to Malibu. Board members were to send a letter to Malibu City Council encouraging closer contact as the process continued, and Superintendent Ben Drati was directed to reach out to Malibu Interim City Manager Steve McClary to establish a better working relationship.

Speaking to the Daily Press later, Foster said the board meeting was "a bad night out for me and a frustrating delay," but spoke optimistically about the process moving forward.

"So, my hope is, ultimately, the Superintendent and the Malibu City Manager will be able to step in when the two staffs can't find a way to see eye to eye, resolve it quickly in whichever direction it needs to go, and then we move forward and keep the building as safe, inexpensive and rapidly-arriving as possible," Foster said.

emily@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds
FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074
or email cindy@smdp.com

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	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services		

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 22SMDP0013Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Oue Appoline Barkis Traore Suchy for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Oue Appoline Barkis Traore Suchy filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Oue Appoline Barkis Traore Suchy to Appoline Suchy court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 3/25/2022 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - . The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,1725 Main Street Santa Monica CA 90405A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.Date:1/7/2022

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: File Number 2021263472 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/6/21. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Lashed By Rovetti 12600 Braddock Dr 205 Los Angeles, CA 90066. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Rachel Rovetti 12600 Braddock Dr 205 Los Angeles, CA 90066If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/Organization California This Business is conducted by: An Individual The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 11/2021 Registrant/ Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Rachel Rovetti Title: Owner Rachel Rovetti This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/06/21 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish, 01/07/21, 01/10/21, 01/17/21, 01/24/21

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